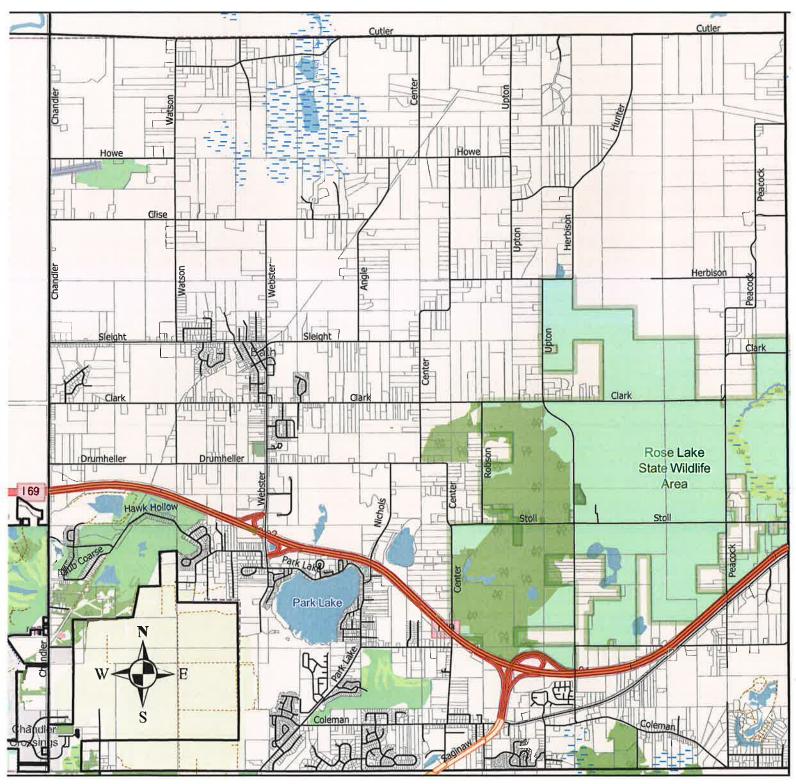
# 2021 ANNUAL REPORT BATH TOWNSHIP POLICE





Bath Township Michigan Chief Lyle Lindemulder

# **MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF**

2021 was another year of the pandemic. As stated in 2020 the pandemic has changed the way that we do law enforcement. As new variants of Covid hit our nation, our Officers were very creative in ways to have minimal contact with the public, but still be able to serve our citizens without getting sick. Although we had our fair share of the illness throughout the department, we were always here to answer the calls and serve our community.

With most of the in-person training still almost non-existent, the Officers and command staff were still able to attend more than 9 different and unique trainings during 2021. These classes were in addition to the department wide training that we complete on an annual or semi-annual basis. These in service trainings were broken into groups to avoid any exposure to a large group of the department at any one time.

Within this report you will see the numbers of all major and minor crimes along with traffic enforcement and traffic accidents. Major crimes within the township have dropped slightly from 2021. Also included is the total number of calls for service the department received for the last five years. The total number of incidents for the department recorded by our computer aided dispatch are up by about 2800. I would attribute that increase to people getting back out after being stuck inside in 2020. Our traffic warnings and citations were back up as Officers were again making more stops as people got back to normal life. With that in mind, our traffic accidents decreased by 30, which is a great thing to see.

We look forward to 2022 and the challenges that will come with it. The entire County will be changing to a new state wide radio system which will allow our county to have better communication both inside county and out. With the new year we also will add our 13<sup>th</sup> full time Officer. This will allow the department to have two officers on duty 24 hours a day most of the time.

As always, I want to give acknowledgment to the front-line Officers who are out there every day protecting our community. They put their lives on the line when needed most to make sure our community is safe and comfortable to live in or visit.

Chief Lyle Lindemulder

# **BATH TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT STAFF—2021** "TO PROTECT AND SERVE"

Chief Lyle Lindemulder November 1989

**Chief October 2017** 

Lieutenant Gary Smith **May-Oct 1993** 

March 1996 LT: 2018

Sergeant Matt Mardigian March 2002

Sgt. 2012

**Sergeant Christopher Hamilton** February 2005

Sgt. 2018

Officer Thomas Decker December 2000

Officer Michael Lapham January 2007

**K9** Partner Aiko March 2014

Officer Greg Welch **January 1995-2005** 

January 2010

Officer Marcus Siedelberg November 2012

Officer Bryan Miller February 2013

**Officer Trenton Bailey May 2015** 

Officer Matt Heffelfinger December 2020

Officer Bradley Bailey December 2020

**Administrative Assistant Kristi Colby** June 2002

Reserve Officer Clifford "Kip" Harman

January 1986 Reserve Officer John Moe **June 2013** Reserve Officer Lenny Thayer January 2018

## **2021 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	15
Robbery	0
Burglary	10
Larceny	55
UDAA (stolen vehicle)	16
Arson	0
Aggravated Assault	8
TOTAL INDEX CRIME REPORTS	104

## 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 a tremendous impact on keeping the local non-index crime rate low.

### NON-INDEX CRIMES REQUIRING A WRITTEN REPORT

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY	
Negligence Causing Death	0
Non-Aggravated Assault	39
Fraudulent Activities (including Retail Fraud)	44
Stolen Property Possession	3
Damage to Property	29
Weapons Offenses	5
Prostitution & Vice	0
Drug Laws	8
OWI (Drunk Driving)	20
Public Peace/Disorderly Conduct	10

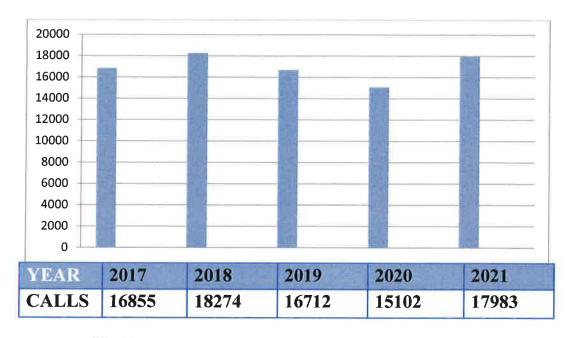
## **PART III: OTHER OFFENSES**

## OTHER OFFENSES REQUIRING A POLICE RESPONSE

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY	
Warrant Arrest	39
DWLS (Suspended License)	26
Hit and Run	38
Trespassing	211 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2
Stalking/ Intimidation	
Family Abuse/ Neglect	8
Suicides **	3
Death Investigations	11
Missing Persons & Runaways	25
Assist Other Agencies –written (232 no reports)	4
Obstruction Police/Justice	10
Lost & Found Property	14
Alarms	111
Abandoned Vehicles	43

<sup>\*\*</sup>suicidal subjects 21\*\*

## PART VI: ANNUAL COMPLAINT (INCIDENT) CALLS



Other response calls of note: 182 Check Subject; 237 Check Vehicle; 55 Animal Complaints; 98 Family/Civil/Neighbor Disputes; 51 Hang up 911; 42 Unwanted Subject; 97 Motorist Assists; 80 BOL; 55 VIN Inspections; 232 Request for Service, 132 Noise Complaints. These are many of the day-to-day type calls our Officers respond to, and are an important part of assisting the public.

PART IV: ANNUAL TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

WARNINGS	489
CITATIONS	170

#### PART V: TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

PROPERTY DAMAGE ACCIDENTS	219
INJURY ACCIDENTS	38
FATALS	0
TOTAL	257

# **2021 DEPARTMENT TRAINING**

Bath Township Police officers participated in ongoing training including:

- Defensive Tactics Training
- Firearms Proficiency
- First Responder Awareness
- Responding to people with Mental Illness
- Anti-Bias Training
- Blood/Airborne Pathogens
- HazMat Training
- LEIN Training
- Security Awareness Training
- De-Escalation Training
- Use of Force Training
- Cyberstalking

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

COURSE:
Ambush Awareness
Taser Instructor
Critical Incident Training
Honor Guard Training
Firearms Instructor Training
K9 and Training (ongoing with local area Officers)
LASO (Local Agency Security Officer) Administrative Assistant
Sex Offender MSP new system training Administrative Assistant
MiCat (MI Crash Analysis Tool) Administrative Assistant

#### **COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

Bath Township Police completed <u>7709</u> Property Checks and <u>2626</u> Business Checks. Property Checks consist of citizens registering property/vacation checks with the department. Officers stop at homes until the date given when the residents return. Business checks are when Officers stop by regularly during their patrol to ensure doors and or gates are secured. If the business is open, the Officer may go in and make contact to see how things are going. Officer completed <u>171</u> Welfare/Wellness Checks. We often receive requests from friends/family members to check on individuals. Bath Police had an additional <u>177</u> calls for Community Policing.

Other Police Services: A Neighborhood Watch email goes out weekly to hundreds of residents as well as community block captains. It informs the public on police activity and alerts them to crime and potential local scams. Bath Police Administrative Assistant processed 363 pistol sales records and purchase permits.

Officer Siedelberg completed <u>20</u> inspections in 2021. There are very few officers in our area trained to do these inspections for the public. These inspections are mandatory for a crashed vehicle that has been repaired to get back on the road.

Officer Chris Hamilton serves as the Team Commander. CCSOT trains monthly to prepare for any call outs they may have throughout the year. Most, if not all of the departments in Clinton County have an Officer representing their jurisdiction on the team.

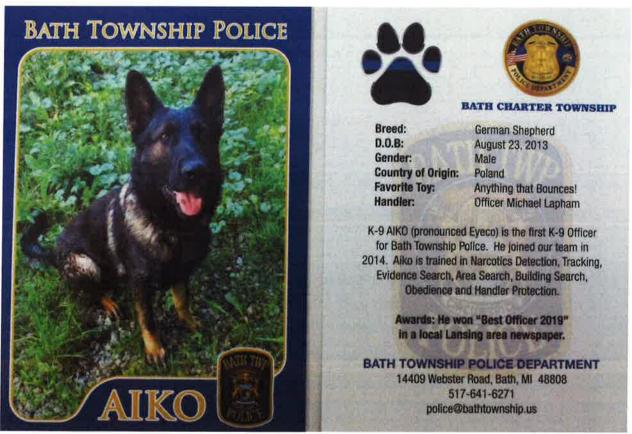
Did you know?? Our lobby has a phone that contacts Clinton County Central Dispatch. That lobby is open 24/7 to assist the public with police contact when the office is closed. Our inner office lobby (open only when office is) has a medicine disposal box. This is to help keep unused medicine off the street, out of little hands and out of our water table.

The Police Department has a new drop box in the Police 24/7 lobby. Pistol sales records, witness statements, etc., can be dropped off at any time there. It is a secure, locked and private way to drop these items off to the Police Department.

## K-9 AIKO

Officer Aiko and his handler Officer Mike Lapham, assisted with various requests including narcotics detection and seizures, tracking suspects and missing persons. The two of them also attended an annual weeklong training in Alpena, which consisted of tracking training within various environments such as woods, urban areas and large fields. The DEA also assisted with narcotics hides in various quantities that would normally not be available. Apprehension work and handler safety scenarios, legal updates and K9 first aid were also covered during the comprehensive training. Officer Aiko's ability to detect subjects and alert other Officers continues to make him a valuable asset in keeping the community safe and for the safety of the officers working with him. They are also routinely called to assist Bath Schools with numerous sweeps during the school year for narcotics. We hope to start attending more Bath community events as things continue to open back up that were cancelled these past few years.

Our AIKO K9 "Baseball Card"



# **2021 INVESTIGATION HIGHLIGHTS**

#### CRIMINAL SEXUAL CONDUCT (CSC):

Bath Township Police continued to receive a growing number of sexual assault complaints in 2021. Every complaint receives an in-depth investigation which account for the majority of Detective Miller's investigative work. Juvenile victims are interviewed with the assistance from the Voice for Clinton County's Children Child Advocacy Center (CAC) in St Johns where a certified forensic interviewer talks to them using state mandated protocol. The CAC uses a collaborative approach to helping the children with assistance from law enforcement, the prosecutor's office, victim advocates, Community Mental Health, and the Department of Health and Human Services. The success of the sexual assault investigations is attributed to the collaborative effort.

Sexual assault investigations involving adults utilize a victim-centered approach and rely on evidence collection, in-depth victim, witness, and suspect interviews. Below are some of the cases that were adjudicated in 2021.

In 2019, a jury found Sonny Broskey guilty on all (5) counts of CSC in the 1<sup>st</sup> degree for acts committed against a juvenile victim while he lived in Bath Township in 2011. Broskey was sentenced to 50-90 years in prison. In 2021, Broskey appealed the decision, arguing that his trial counsel was ineffective. The State of Michigan Court of Appeals upheld his conviction. Nathaniel Ballard pled no contest to CSC 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree after confessing to Detective Miller that he had sexually assaulted a child in Bath Township as well as a child in Crawford County. While awaiting sentencing, new assault allegations surfaced and Ballard is now also facing charges for the sexual assault of another Bath Township child.

Issac Evans agreed to a plea deal and pled guilty to CSC 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree. He was sentenced to 57-180 months in jail with the Michigan Department of Corrections.

Scott Frank pled guilty to CSC  $4^{th}$ , and received a minimum of 180 days in jail with 5 years of probation.

John Burch confessed to CSC 1<sup>st</sup> on a juvenile and is currently awaiting sentencing. Many other sexual assault complaints from 2020 and 2021 are still awaiting preliminary hearings and/or trial dates.

#### **HOME INVASIONS:**

On May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021, an off-duty Michigan State Police Trooper was out for a jog and noticed a suspicious vehicle pull into a Nichols Road residence. The Trooper, Detective Sergeant Horan, quickly contacted the neighbors of the residence that the vehicle pulled into in order to verify if anyone was supposed to be there. The neighbor, Sarah Torok, called the homeowners and found that nobody should be there. Sarah then immediately called 911 and notified central dispatch of the situation who then advised Bath Township Police, all while still keeping an eye on the suspects. After finding out that no one was supposed to be at the residence, D/Sgt Horan

surveilled the house until Bath Township Police arrived. Because of the quick actions and awareness of their surroundings, D/Sgt Horan and Sarah Torok made it possible for Bath Township Police to quickly locate and apprehend the suspects. Officer Decker, Officer T. Bailey, and Detective Miller were able to locate the homeowner's property inside the suspect vehicle and three subjects were lodged at the Clinton County Jail for Home Invasion. Jordan Jones, Trey Kiss, and Demarion Harris, were all charged and sentenced for Home Invasion 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree.

In December of 2021, juveniles from Lansing and Perry areas broke into a Bath Township residence and stole firearms...TWICE. Detective Miller, Officer Siedelberg, Officer T. Bailey, and Sgt Hamilton were all involved in the investigations and property searches of two juvenile's that were known to be in the area and were able to recover (6) stolen pistols. The cases are currently being handled by the juvenile courts.

#### CATALYTIC CONVERTER/PROPERTY THEFTS:

The theft of catalytic converters from vehicles is an ongoing issue nationwide because of the values of precious metals contained within the auto part. The crime is difficult to solve because of the lack of identifying information on the parts but Bath Township Police were twice able to catch suspects in the act. Officer B. Bailey was able to catch one suspect at a storage facility trying to saw off a converter and was able to apprehend him after a brief foot chase. Two more suspects were caught in the act of trying to saw a converter off an abandoned vehicle on I69 near Chandler Road. Officer Siedelberg and Sgt Hamilton were the first to confront the suspects and quickly found that their stories of why they were there did not make sense. Lt Smith and Detective Miller then located their getaway vehicle on the Chandler Road overpass. The vehicle, occupied by a female who also had a story which did not add up, had also been stolen out of Lansing. All three of the suspects were charged with Larceny of Auto Parts and are awaiting the court process.

In October of 2021, a landscape trailer loaded with a riding lawnmower was stolen from a storage facility in Bath Township. Thanks to surveillance video, Detective Miller and Officer T. Bailey were able to identify the suspects and obtain admissions of guilt by a male and female. The male, Jimmy Bywater, has pled guilty to a reduced charge and is awaiting sentencing. A warrant for the female is still outstanding.

#### **LAUNDROMAT BANDIT:**

In September of 2021, the theft of laundry from a local laundromat made for Facebook news. Bath Township Police were able to identify Thomas Williams as the offender from previous contacts with him. Williams initially denied the theft but eventually returned most of the stolen items. He later pled no contest to a lesser charge (larceny \$200-\$1000) and was sentenced to 12 months' probation along with a plethora of court costs and fines.

#### 2018 HOMICIDE:

On 11/16/2018, the family of Chong Moua Yang went looking for him after he did not return from hunting after dusk. He was found fatally shot in a remote part of the Rose Lake State game hunting area near the 8500 block of E Clark Road. A backpack Yang was known to carry and his firearm were not recovered at the scene and have still yet to be found. If anyone has any

information on the whereabouts of these items or has discovered similar items, please contact the Bath Township Police Department.

Bath Township Police continues to work with the family and track down all potential leads. In February of 2021, Detective Miller requested/received assistance from the FBI. The assistance from the FBI opens the door to more resources in addition to utilizing the Michigan State Police Laboratory to examine all possible evidence. This investigation is ongoing as all tips are being investigated. The victim's family has the reward up to \$20,000 for any information leading to the arrest and prosecution of those responsible for Chong Yang's death.