

CUYAHOGA FALLS  
POLICE DEPARTMENT

# ANNUAL REPORT 2024



# CUYAHOGA FALLS POLICE DEPARTMENT

## MISSION STATEMENT

THE MISSION OF THE CUYAHOGA FALLS POLICE DEPARTMENT IS TO PROVIDE THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF SERVICE TO THE PUBLIC. TO INSTILL A SENSE OF SECURITY AND CONFIDENCE IN THE PUBLIC WE SERVE. TO PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF THE INDIVIDUAL, AS WELL AS THE RIGHTS OF THE PUBLIC AT LARGE. TO BE FAIR AND JUST IN THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAW. TO NOT JUST SERVE THE COMMUNITY, BUT BE A PART OF THE COMMUNITY. THESE ACTS WILL BE ACCOMPLISHED WHILE MAINTAINING A PROFESSIONAL ATTITUDE AND BY TREATING ALL STAKEHOLDERS OF THE COMMUNITY WITH THE RESPECT AND DIGNITY THEY DESERVE.



## HISTORY

IN 1922, CUYAHOGA FALLS TRANSITIONED FROM BEING LEAD BY A TOWN MARSHAL TO A FULL FLEDGE POLICE DEPARTMENT WITH A CHIEF. THE FIRST CHIEF OF POLICE WAS RUSSEL DUFFY. SINCE 1922, CUYAHOGA FALLS POLICE DEPARTMENT HAS CONTINUED TO EVOLVE AND GROW AS THE NEEDS OF THE COMMUNITY HAVE CHANGED.

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# A WORD FROM THE CHIEF



## Cuyahoga Falls Police Department

2310 Second Street  
Cuyahoga Falls, OH 44221-2583

Phone: (330) 971-8300

Fax: (330) 971-8332



**Mayor Don Walters**  
**Chief Chris Norfolk**

April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025

To the Honorable Mayor Don Walters,

I am pleased to present the Cuyahoga Falls Police Department's 2024 annual report. The annual report provides a snapshot of our accomplishments in 2024, as we position ourselves to continue serving our community in 2025 and beyond.

In February of 2024, Jack Davis retired after serving as Chief of Police for ten of his thirty-four years of service to the City. 2024 became a year of transition as new leadership was sworn in and began putting their fingerprint on both the daily operations of the agency and the long-term direction of the Cuyahoga Falls Police Department.

In 2024, we acquired numerous pieces of new equipment to enhance officers' efficiency, safety, and service to our community. Additionally, officers received over 7,000 hours of training throughout the year on topics ranging from Use of Force, de-escalation, leadership courses, and advanced investigatory technique training.

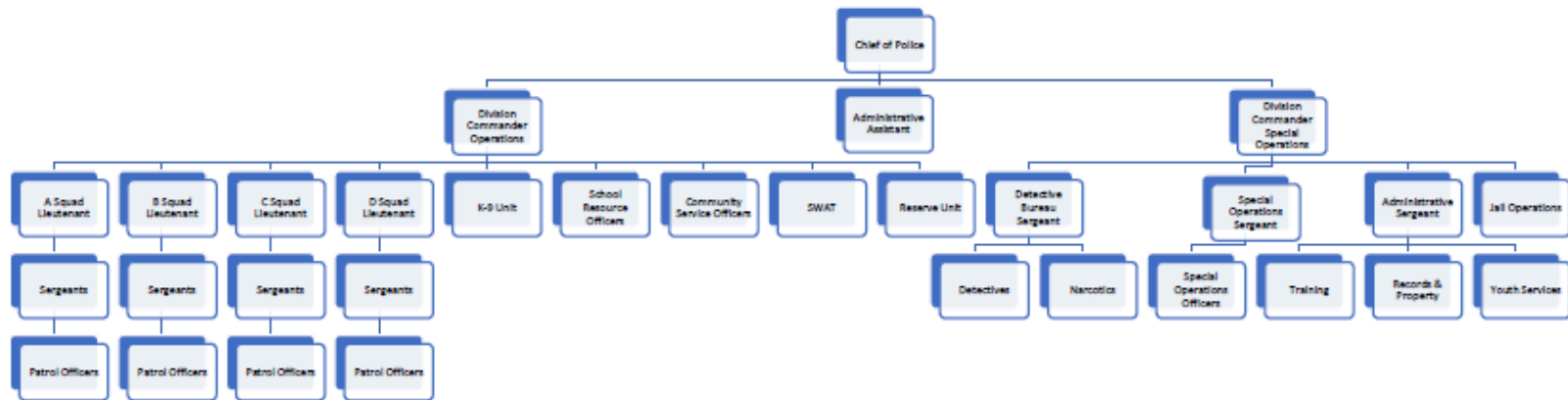
As we move forward, our agency aims to evaluate the distribution of police resources through data analysis to provide the best police services to our community. We are also taking significant steps to address officer wellness – ensuring that our staff are well cared for so they can provide the best service to the public.

Each page of this report demonstrates the commitment of our officers and civilian professionals to the mission of our organization as they strive to leave every encounter, call for service, or interaction better than they found it.

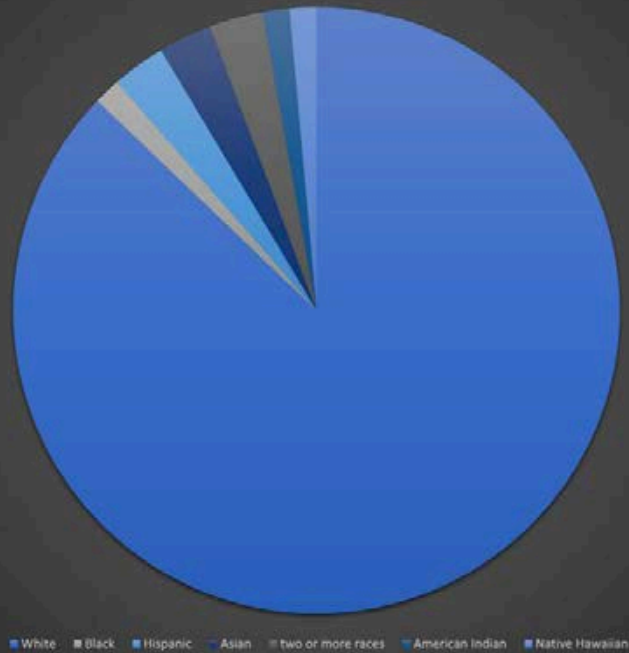
As Chief of Police, I would like to thank all the men and women of our agency for their tireless efforts each day in making Cuyahoga Falls an exceptional place to live and visit.



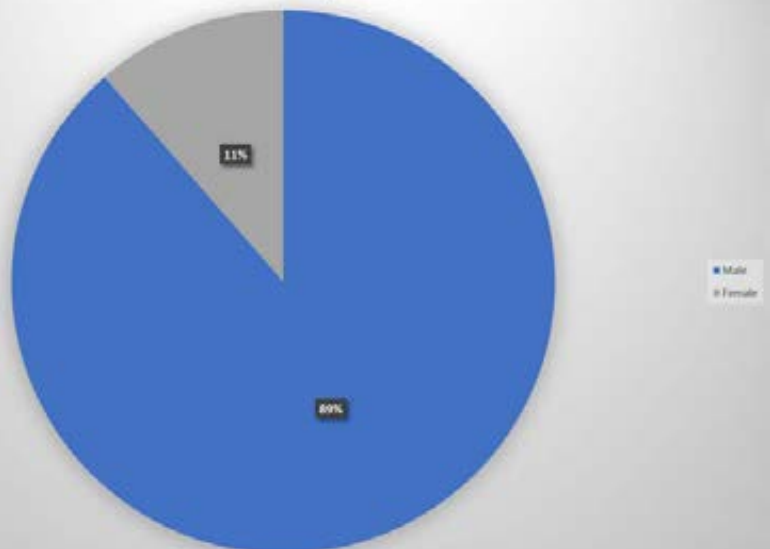
# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART AND OFFICER STATS



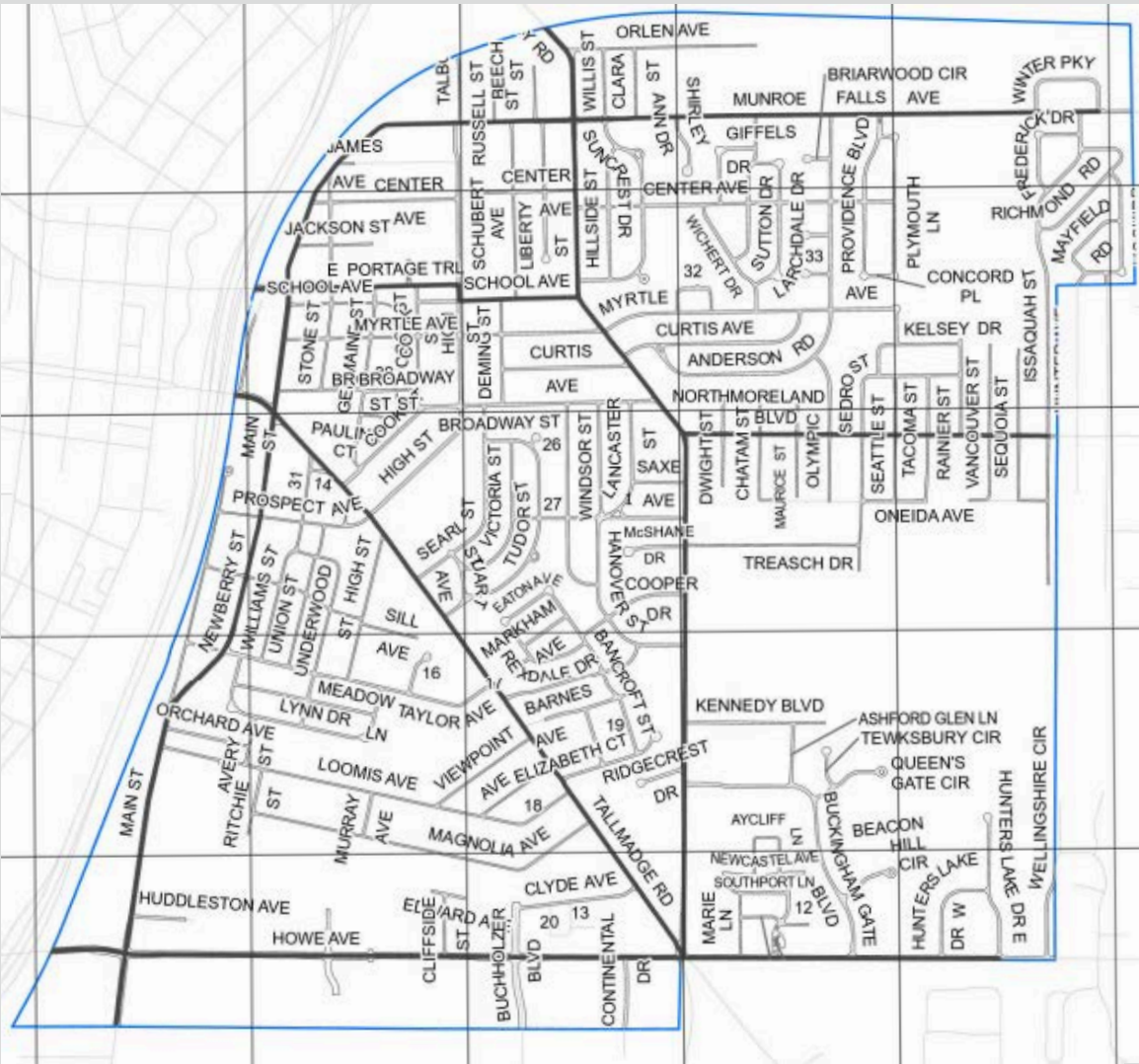
Officers by Race



Officers by Gender

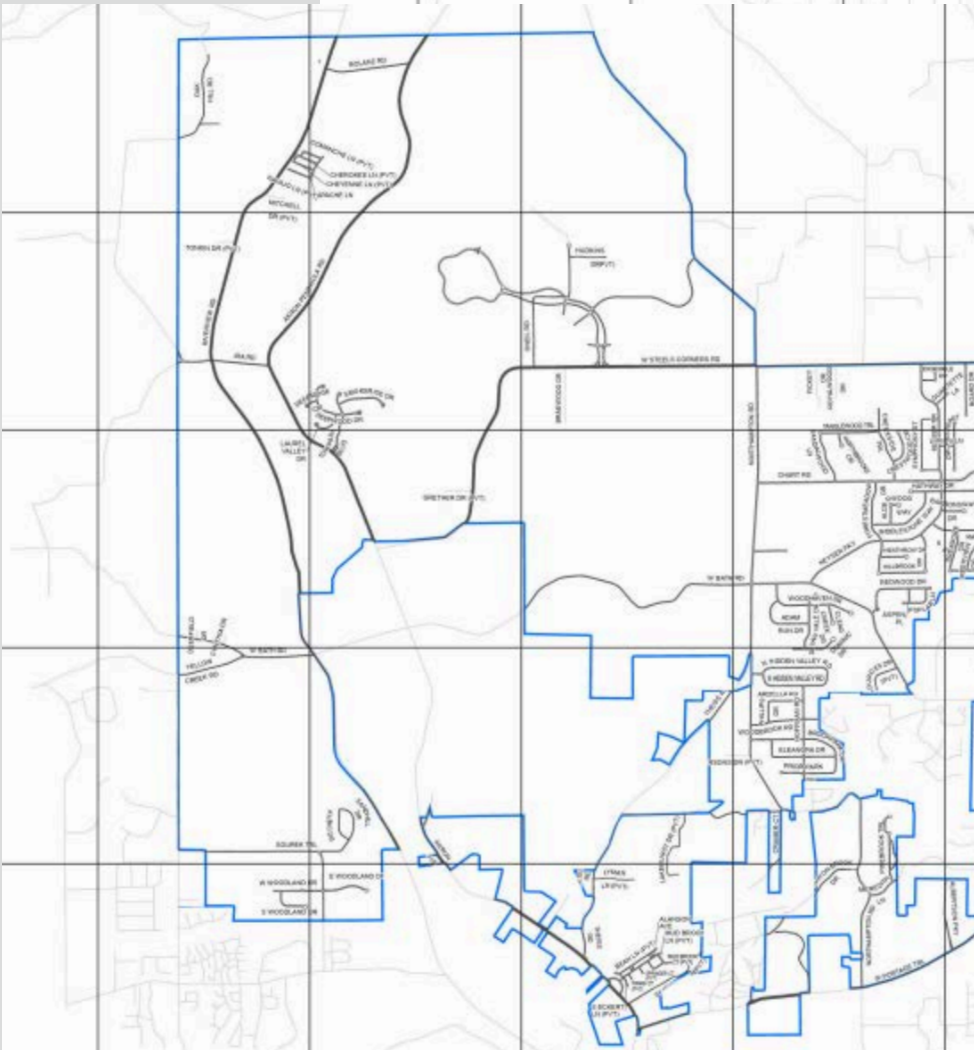


CITY OF CUYAHOGA FALLS  
DISTRICT 1



DISTRICT 2

DISTRICT 3



DISTRICT 4



[illegible]

The City of Cuyahoga Falls is separated into 5 divisions. This allows officers to patrol and increase safety across the city.



**SWORN PERSONNEL-SUPERVISORS**

CHIEF CHRIS NORFOLK

CAPTAIN GARY MERTON  
CAPTAIN CHAD LENGEL

LIEUTENANT DAN QUIOR  
LIEUTENANT CHRIS DAVIES  
LIEUTENANT DAWN MCILVAIN  
LIEUTENANT DIRKER

SERGEANT DAN RANDALL  
SERGEANT ERIC ROACH  
SERGEANT DOMINIC PERELLA  
SERGEANT BRIAN ANDERS  
SERGEANT JAMES DEEKS  
SERGEANT BRANDON GOOD  
SERGEANT DAVID HOLZAPFEL  
SERGEANT JOE BRASKIE  
SERGEANT ROBERT SCHMIDT  
SERGEANT RYAN ALESTOCK  
SERGEANT BRAD DOBNEY

**ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT TO  
THE CHIEF OF POLICE**  
KIM O’LAUGHLIN

**YOUTH SERVICES COORDINATOR**  
AMBER ANDERSON



**RESERVE OFFICERS**  
CAPTAIN FRANK HOSTERMAN  
SERGEANT CODY VANCE  
RON WOODS  
TIM COONS  
PETER KONIG  
RTICHARD KRAMER  
ASHLEY BOOTH  
AUSTIN SAMS  
CHAD RHOADES  
EDWARD KOVAC

**SWORN PERSONNEL- POLICE OFFICERS**

ANTHONY AVALOS  
BRETT BARBE  
MATTHEW BEALE  
JOSEPH BITONG  
TYLER BOUCHER  
CHRISTIAN BULLOCK  
TREVON BURGINS  
JOHN CAMPBELL  
BILLY CARPER  
JEREMIAH CARR  
PERRY CHRONISTER  
SAMUEL CONDON  
LOGAN DAVIS  
MARYSSA DAVIS  
TED DAVIS  
SAMUEL DEMARS  
ED DENNIS  
PATRICK EDMONDS  
AUSTIN ELKINS  
NAITHAN ELKINS  
TITUS FREDD  
KERI GAMBLE  
KARLA GARINGER  
LAURA GLASCOE  
TAYLOR GROVE  
JARETT HEATWALL  
CHRISTOPHER HERNANDEZ  
CODY HUDAK

CODY JOHNSON  
NICHOLAS KIRVEN  
GREGORY KOCH  
HAILEY KREUZER  
JACOB KULL  
BRYCE LAPIERRE  
BRANDON LEHNERT  
KEVIN LOHSE  
KEITH MALTBY  
TIMOTHY MCALEESE  
ANDREW MCDUFFEE  
JOEL MOLEDOR  
CORY MYERS  
DYLAN PARATORE  
DONALD PATTERSON  
ALAN PIPES  
RAMESH RAI  
BRETTEY REYNOLDS  
STACEY SHEDENHELM  
SEAN SHEETS  
MICKEY SNYDER  
KEVIN SWAB  
CHARLES TOUSSAINT  
GREGORY WILLIAMS  
DANIEL ZACHARIAS  
KAITLYN ZERBE

**RECORDS SUPPORT STAFF**  
RUTH ANDERSON  
JENNY BOYCE  
MICHELLE KROBETZSKY  
ROIANNE LISKA  
JUDI PETERHANSEN  
SHARON RAY  
MARIAH SIMPSON

**COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICERS**  
SCOTT VAN HOUTEN  
MATTHEW PUGH  
BRADLEY WEGNER  
DANIEL YU  
SKYLER HOLMES

# CHIEF CHRIS NORFOLK



Chief Norfolk was sworn in as the 12th chief of CFPD on March 1, 2024.

## NEW OFFICERS

---

OFFICER CONDON STARTED  
JANUARY 29, 2024

OFFICER RAI AND OFFICER  
KREUZER STARTED JULY 15, 2024

OFFICER CHRONISTER STARTED  
SEPTEMBER 9, 2024





## PROMOTIONS

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**MARCH 6, 2024**

**RYAN ALESTOCK WAS PROMOTED TO SERGEANT, BRETT DIRKER TO  
LIEUTENANT, AND CHAD LENGEL WAS PROMOTED TO CAPTAIN,**



**OCTOBER 28, 2024  
BRAD DOBNEY WAS  
PROMOTED TO  
SERGEANT**



# RETIREMENTS



Bill Shover retired on  
January 4, 2024



Jack Davis retired on  
February 29, 2024



Dan Randall retired on  
October 30, 2024

201  
CRIMINAL  
TICKETS

2,975  
TRAFFIC  
CITATIONS

540  
PARKING  
TICKETS

87  
OVI  
TICKETS

CUYAHOGA FALLS MAYOR'S COURT



STOW MUNICIPAL COURT

1,203  
TRAFFIC  
CITATIONS

1,128  
CRIMINAL  
CHARGES



**4,828**  
*CHECK IN PATROLS*

**1,135**  
*SCHOOL CHECKS*

# Crime DEFINITIONS

**ROBBERY:** THE FELONIOUS ACT OF TAKING ANOTHER'S PROPERTY FROM THEIR PERSON OR PRESENCE, AGAINST THEIR WILL, BY VIOLENCE OR INTIMIDATION

**DOMESTIC VIOLENCE:** ACTS OF VIOLENCE OR ABUSE AGAINST A PERSON LIVING IN ONE'S HOUSEHOLD; ESPECIALLY A MEMBER OF ONE'S IMMEDIATE FAMILY

**HARASSMENT:** A BEHAVIOR THAT CREATES A HOSTILE SITUATION FOR ANOTHER PERSON BY UNINVITED VERBAL OR PHYSICAL CONDUCT

**THEFT:** THE ACT OF STEALING; WRONGFULLY TAKING THE GOODS OR PROPERTY OF ANOTHER PERSON; ALSO KNOWN AS LARCENY

**FRAUD:** WRONGFUL OR CRIMINAL DECEPTION INTENDED TO RESULT IN FINANCIAL OR PERSONAL GAIN

**OVI:** DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE OF ALCOHOL OR DRUG; ALSO KNOWN AS DUI (DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE) AND DWI (DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED); THE FOCUS IS ON OPERATING A VEHICLE WHILE IMPAIRED

**UNRULY:** A CHILD WHO DOES NOT SUBMIT TO THE REASONABLE CONTROL OF THEIR PARENTS, TEACHERS, OR GUARDIANS, BY BEING WAYWARD OR HABITUALLY DISOBEDIENT

**ASSAULT:** AN UNLAWFUL PHYSICAL ATTACK UPON ANOTHER; ATTEMPT TO OFFER OR DO VIOLENCE TO ANOTHER

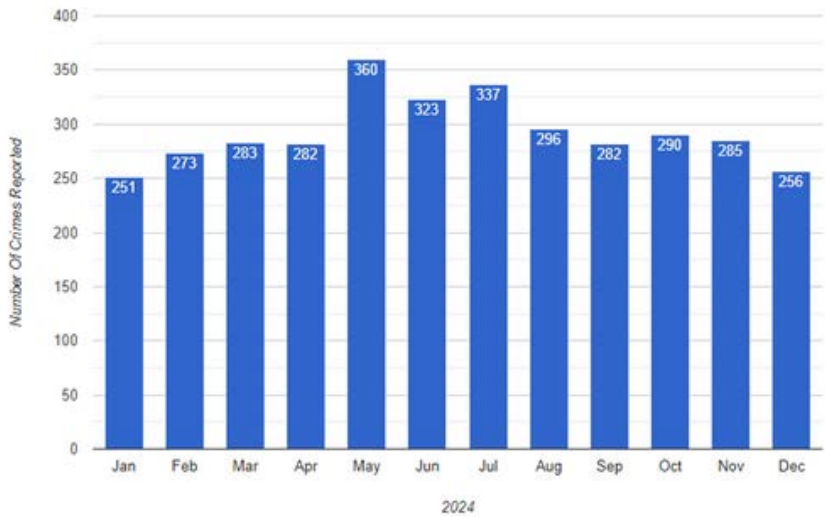
**BURGLARY:** THE FELONIOUS ACT OF BREAKING INTO AND ENTERING INTO ANOTHER PERSON'S HOUSE WITH THE INTENT TO STEAL OR COMMIT ANY CRIMINAL ACT

**DISORDERLY CONDUCT:** ANY VARIATION OR PETTY MISDEMEANORS, GENERALLY INCLUDING NUISANCES, BREACHES OF PEACE, OFFENSIVE OR IMMORAL CONDUCT IN PUBLIC

# CFPD CRIME STATS

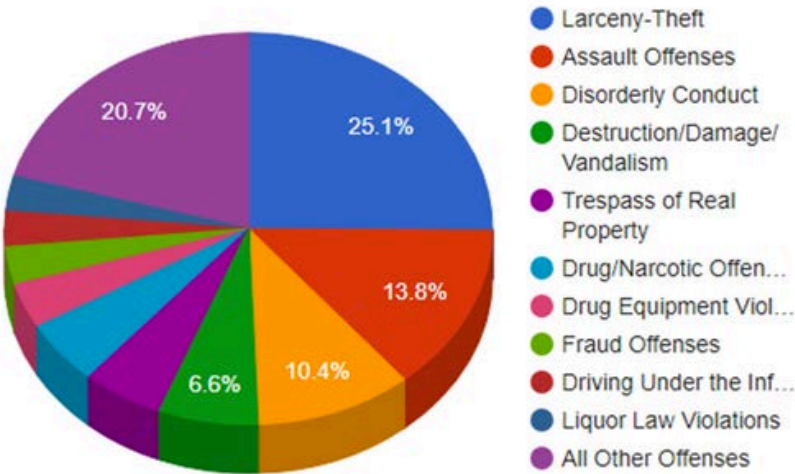
23-24 comparison	2023	2024	% of change
Violent Crime Total	137	100	-22.01%
Murder/ Involuntary Manslaughter	3	4	25%
Rape	29	15	-48.28%
Robbery	10	5	-50%
Aggravated Assault	95	79	-16.84%
Property Crime Total	1,046	1,007	-3.37%
Burglary/ B&E	85	66	-22.35%
Theft/larceny	887	884	-0.34%
Motor Vehicle Theft	74	57	-22.97%

TOTAL CRIMES REPORTED



TOP 10 CRIMES REPORTED

2024





# SPECIAL OPERATIONS



Captain Chad Lengel became the Special Operations Commander after his promotion on March 6th, 2024, taking over the position from Captain Todd Shafer, who retired on October 6th, 2024. Captain Lengel oversees the police department's Training Division, Detective Bureau, Records Division, Youth Services Bureau, Jail, National Night Out & Drug Take Back events, Training Center & Shooting Range, computer technology operations, Property & Evidence facilities, and is the department's liaison to the SECC (regional dispatch center).

The administrative sergeant works closely with Captain Lengel. Sergeant Dan Randall held this position until his retirement on October 30th, 2024. Sergeant Bob Schmidt took over the position and is the current Administrative Sergeant. This vital position helps to keep the department's operations running smoothly and takes on tasks and projects as assigned by the captains or Chief of Police.

# Operations Division

The Operations Division is the largest and most visible division of the police department and operates under the command of Captain Gary Merton Jr. Patrol is divided into four squads of uniformed officers, each supervised by a lieutenant and two sergeants. This division also encompasses SWAT, Mobile Field Force, School Resource Officers, the K9 Program, CIT, QRT, Community Service Officers, the Reserves and Specials, Recruiting, the Homeless Liaison, and most community engagements.

The Operations Division Commander is responsible for the leadership and direction of work performed by patrol. The captain assists with developing and implementing operational programs, coordinates requests for police services, and provides administrative and budgetary support to the Chief of Police.

Uniformed patrol officers are who most of our citizens and visitors will interact with as they are to assist the general public, respond to calls for service, and provide a visual deterrent to criminal behavior in the city. They will also perform proactive criminal and traffic enforcement to make the community a safer place to live and visit.



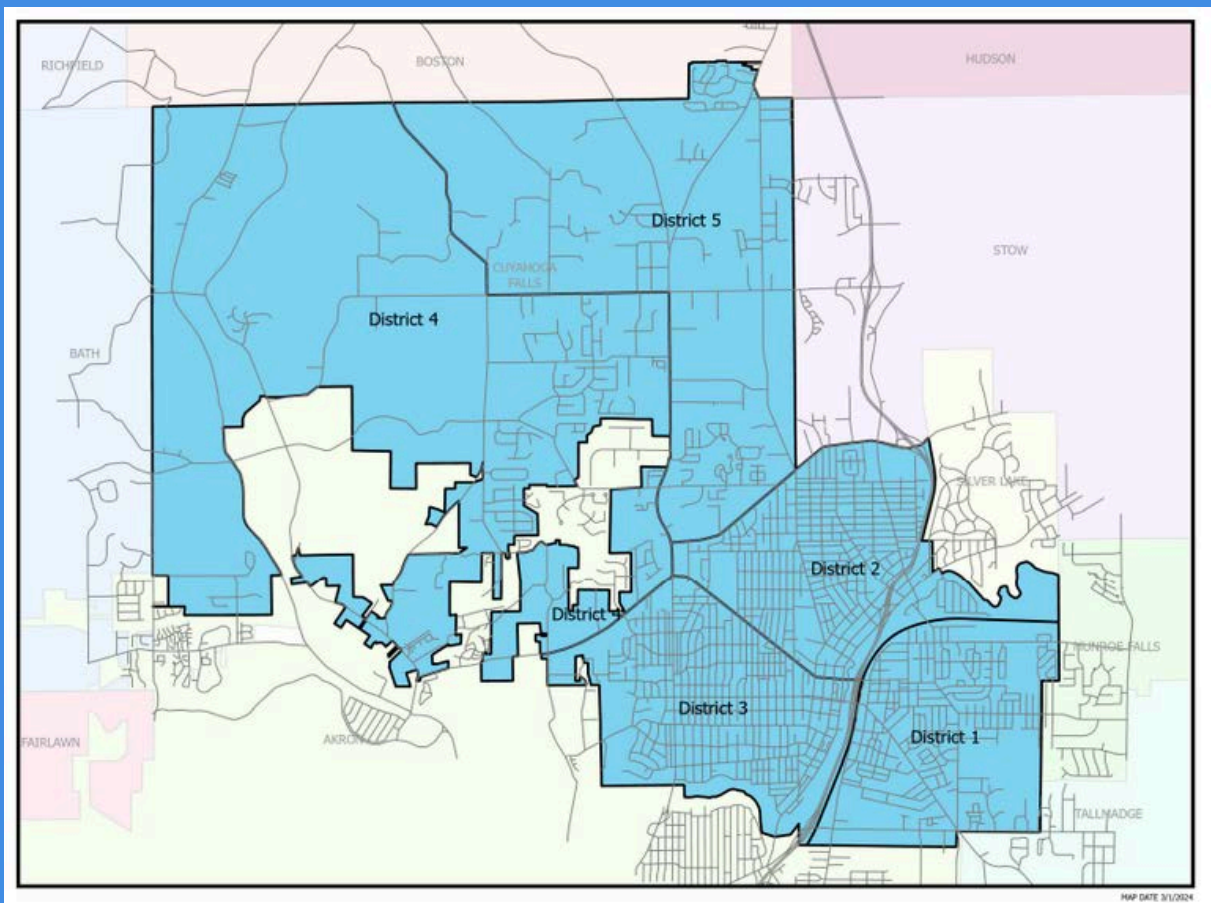
# PATROL DIVISION

A SQUAD

B SQUAD

C SQUAD

D SQUAD



# A SQUAD

MON-WED,  
EVERY OTHER THURS

6 AM TO 6 PM

7 AM TO 7 PM



A Squad is led by Lieutenant Daniel Quior, a 24-year veteran of the Cuyahoga Falls Police Department. Lieutenant Quior is the SWAT Commander and brings years of experience from several divisions of the police department, including: Detective Bureau/Narcotics, United States Marshal's Violent Fugitive Task Force, Special Operations Unit, and The Summit Metro Crash Team. Lieutenant Quior is a graduate of Class #81 of the Police Executive Leadership College, and is a recipient of the FBI-LEEDA Trilogy Award. Quior is also a CIT Officer and the QRT (Quick Response Team) Coordinator for the department, collaborating with the ADM (Alcohol, Drug Addiction, and Mental Health Services) Board to get help for those in need (and their families) from drug overdoses, alcohol addiction, and mental health crisis.

Quior is assisted by 2 sergeants on A Squad, both veteran officers with a great deal of experience in almost all divisions of the police department.

Sergeant David Holzapfel is a 20-year veteran of the police department and brings experience as a current K9 officer and SWAT Supervisor. He is also a drone operator, CIT officer, and has training in many other areas including advanced crash training, and defensive tactics. Holzapfel is currently in the process of completing the FBI LEEDA Trilogy Program. This program is dedicated to advancing law enforcement leadership through premier training, and education. In his off time Holzapfel enjoys playing soccer and travel.

Sergeant Brian Anders is a 21-year veteran of the police department and brings investigative experience to A Squad from his time in the Detective Bureau. He was also a three-year member of the Summit County Metro Crash Team. Sergeant Anders is currently the Extra Job Coordinator and department liaison for the Ohio Department of Health's Blood Alcohol Testing Certification. Sergeant Anders is a graduate of the Police Executive Leadership College Class #83, and is a recipient of the FBI-LEEDA Trilogy Award.

Supervisors on A Squad have a litany of additional responsibilities outside of overseeing patrol operations. They manage School Resource Officers, Community Service Officers, and a Court Officer, as well as Patrol Officers. They are also responsible for the Cuyahoga Falls Jail and its inmates. A Squad works closely with the Stow Municipal Court and Cuyahoga Falls Mayors Court to make sure defendants are seen in a safe, secure, and timely manner.



A Squad officers respond to a wide range of calls for service, including: Domestic Violence, Robbery, Sexual Assault, Change in Mental Status, Child Abuse, Assault, Weapons Violations, Theft, Drug Trafficking, Suspicious Persons, Missing Persons, Intoxicated Drivers, and Disorderly Conduct, among other incidents.

Officers that work A Squad have multiple responsibilities besides answering calls for service, including: Neighborhood Patrol/Community Policing, Business Checks, School Checks, Traffic Enforcement, Proactive enforcement like using GPS trackers for thefts, Bicycle Patrol, and Civilian tours, to name a few. They also work well with special task forces and neighboring agencies, utilizing mutual aid when necessary.

Several A Squad officers have specialized training in different areas and are assigned to specialized units, including: Advanced Roadside Impairment Driving Enforcement (ARIDE), the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT), Field Training Officers (FTO), SWAT, Criminal Interdiction Training, Quick Response Team (QRT) which assists overdose victims with treatment, Bicycle Unit, Summit Metro Crash Team, and a Drone Pilot. Some A Squad officers are U.S. Military Veterans and bring a wide range of leadership and knowledge to the team. Officer Karla Garinger was named the Summit County CIT Officer of the Year!

Officers on A Squad range anywhere from 20 years of service to several months. These officers bring a vast array of diversity, leadership, and experience to the squad, uniting to make an energetic group and working together to achieve the goal of protecting our citizens while providing the highest level of service to the community.



508 CRIMINAL  
& WARRANT  
ARRESTS

3,350  
TRAFFIC  
STOPS

2,200  
SCHOOL &  
BUSINESS  
CHECKS

# B SQUAD

B Squad provides professional and courteous uniformed police services to the city from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. every Friday through Sunday and every other Thursday. B Squad is led by Lieutenant Dawn McIlvain, a 12-year veteran, and two sergeants, Sergeant James Deeks, a 27-year veteran, and Sergeant Robert Schmidt, a 23-year veteran. In October, Sergeant Schmidt transferred to Special Operations and was replaced by Sergeant Brad Dobney, a 14-year veteran.

B Squad's routine duties include responding to and reporting on thousands of calls for service, being present at or near schools and businesses, traffic and criminal law enforcement, accident investigations, parking enforcement, and patrolling neighborhoods. In 2024, B squad made 508 criminal and warrant arrests, 3,350 traffic stops, performed more than 2,200 school, business, and other community-based policing contacts, and spent countless hours patrolling neighborhoods.





In addition to their routine patrol assignments, many B Squad members seek specialized training and are involved in other aspects of CFPD. Officers Gamble and Bullock are Field Training Officers (FTO). This year, Officers Shedenhelm, Carper, and Gamble became certified members of the Summit County Crisis Intervention Team. Officer Carper is a member of the US Marshal's Task Force. Lieutenant McIlvain, Sergeant Dobney, Officers Bullock, and Carper are trained in Advanced Roadside Impaired Driver Enforcement (ARIDE). Sergeant Schmidt is the FTO Coordinator and a member of the Quick Response Team. Sergeant Deeks, Officers Carper, Bullock, Demars, and A. Elkins are members of the Mobile Field Force. Officer Patterson is involved in Summit County Assist 77. Lieutenant McIlvain is a member of the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART). Sergeant Dobney is a member of the SWAT Team and Lieutenant McIlvain is the Crisis Negotiator Team Leader. Commendably, some B Squad officers have also proudly served the United States Armed Forces.

B Squad strives to provide the highest level of service to the public and takes pride in not only serving the community - but more importantly - being part of the community. To that end, aside from the accomplishments listed above, B Squad enthusiastically participated in several community events such as Coffee with a Cop, Summer of Safety Bike Event, Autism Walk, Touch a Truck, Cone with a Cop, Shop with a Cop, and various Downtown Cuyahoga Falls activities, just to name a few.



# C SQUAD

C Squad is responsible for providing uniformed police services to the city from 6pm until 6am every Monday through Wednesday in addition to every other Thursday.

The squad is led by Lieutenant Christopher Davies who has been with the Cuyahoga Falls police department for 23 years and is assisted by two Sergeants. Sergeant Dominic Perella is a 26-year veteran and Sergeant Brandon Good is a 20-year veteran. Both sergeants are tasked with supervising and coaching the 10 patrol officers assigned to the squad and assisting them in performing the various patrol duties. They are also responsible for several administrative duties including maintaining the drug take back box located in the police department lobby which is a safe location for citizens to drop off unused prescription medication(s) for disposal, preserving video from the police department security camera system and coordinating and overseeing the police reserve unit.



RESPONDING TO  
INDIVIDUALS  
IN CRISIS

RESPONDING  
TO CALLS  
FOR POLICE  
SERVICE

PATROLLING  
NEIGHBORHOODS  
& BUSINESSES

OVI  
ENFORCEMENT

PARKING  
ENFORCEMENT

PROACTIVE  
CRIMINAL  
AND TRAFFIC  
ENFORCEMENT

ACCIDENT  
INVESTIGATIONS



The officers of C squad take pride in providing quality police services to the citizens and businesses of the city. We want to be responsive to the requests and needs of our city and its stakeholders. Both citizens and businesses can make a specific request for an extra patrol if they have a concern that they would like the police department to address. Examples of these items would include an extra patrol of a private residence or business due to a recent or ongoing crime, an extra patrol of a business due to an alarm not working, concerns of drug activity or ongoing parking issues, etc. C squad officers logged 1,698 extra patrols in response to those requests in 2024.

In addition to their patrol assignments, C Squad officers are active in other aspects of the department as well. Several of our officers serve on the SWAT team, Honor Guard and the Summit Metro Crash Response Team.





# D SQUAD

D squad of the Patrol Division consists of two teams that work 12 hours shifts on the weekends, typically beginning at 6:00 p.m.

D squad is led by Lieutenant Brett Dirker, a 12-year veteran of the Cuyahoga Falls Police Department. Lieutenant Dirker is responsible for overseeing the general operations and administrative duties of D squad. Lieutenant Dirker is also the Jail Administrator for the police department.

Lieutenant Dirker is assisted by Sergeant Joseph Braskie, who has 11 years of law enforcement experience. Braskie helps oversee the recruiting program for the police department and is the Drug Recognition Expert for CFPD. Dirker is also assisted by Sergeant Ryan Alestock, who has 10 years of law enforcement experience.

Sergeant Braskie and Sergeant Alestock directly supervise the officers working D squad. Among the sergeants' duties are responding to calls with officers to provide direct supervision. The direct supervision ensures initial investigations are thoroughly handled so the department may provide the highest level of service to the citizens of Cuyahoga Falls.

D squad officers handle every type of call for service, including serious felonies, fights, domestic violence calls, intoxicated persons, crisis intervention calls, and many other criminal offenses. Officers also conduct self-initiated activity. This activity includes traffic enforcement, intoxicated driving enforcement, neighborhood and business patrols and general proactive policing to deter criminal activity.

800+  
CRIMINAL  
CHARGES

In 2024 D squad officers conducted an innumerable number of hours in neighborhood and business patrols; as well as the additional listed stats.

In October 2024 Officer Jarett Heatwall was recognized by the Summit County Prosecutor's Office as the patrol officer of the year.

The officers of D squad and their supervisors are proud to serve the citizens of Cuyahoga Falls and always look to provide the highest level of service to everyone they encounter.

215  
WARRANT  
ARRESTS



120  
ARRESTS FOR  
INTOXICATED  
DRIVING

3,200  
TRAFFIC  
STOPS







Lt. Quior is the Coordinator for CFPD for the Quick Response Team (QRT). The QRT visit individuals who have experienced a drug overdose.. The end goal is to provide resources to those individuals and help them with treatment options.

Summit County launched its first QRTs in 2017, and partners included the ADM Board; first responders from Hudson, Cuyahoga Falls, Stow, Tallmadge, Akron, Barberton, Coventry, Munroe Falls and Green; and representatives from Summit County Public Health, Oriana House and Community Health Center.

As of January 2025, Summit County has had over 4,200 individuals referred to QRT, and approximately 20% of those individuals received a treatment service as a result of the visit. Since Summit County's QRT started in 2017, 55% of the individuals who were referred to QRT sought treatment.

## *Behavioral health* **CIT**

**CFPD HAS 36 OFFICERS WHO ARE CERTIFIED IN CIT; WHO COMPLETED THE WEEK LONG TRAINING COURSE. THE DEPARTMENT ALSO HAS NUMEROUS OTHER OFFICERS THAT COMPLETED A ONE DAY TRAINING AS WELL.**

The Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) is a partnership between the ADM Board, EMS workers, law enforcement, as well as, mental health, and addiction professionals. The team works with individuals living with mental health or substance use disorder, loved ones affected by mental health or substance use disorder, and community advocates. The CIT's goal is to reduce harm to those involved in a crisis situation as well as those responding to the situation. This promotes not only officer safety but also the safety of those involved in the crisis.

Officer Karla Garinger trained all department officers on QPR during in service training. QPR stands for question persuade, refer. This is a technic used to prevent suicide and aid in getting help for those with suicidal thoughts.

A blue circular graphic containing the text '464 CIT INCIDENTS' in white. The number '464' is at the top, 'CIT' is in the middle, and 'INCIDENTS' is at the bottom.

464  
CIT  
INCIDENTS



# DETECTIVE BUREAU

The Detective Bureau is comprised of one supervisor and eight Detectives. In 2024, Sergeant Eric Roach supervised the bureau. Two of the eight Detectives are assigned strictly to Narcotics/Vice crimes.

Detectives conduct follow-up investigations of reported criminal activity, ranging from petty thefts to homicides. The Detective Bureau Supervisor reviews all reports and assigns them to a Detective for follow-up based on several solvability factors, prioritizing more serious offenses.

Detectives are responsible for collecting and analyzing evidence, interviewing witnesses, identifying and arresting the offender(s), recovering stolen property, and preparing the evidence for presentation in court. In a serious crime, Detectives are called to the scene to perform these functions and assist the Patrol Division, sometimes even after Patrol Officers have arrested the offender(s) while committing a crime.

The Detective Bureau is also responsible for collecting, analyzing, and acting on intelligence information that may expose unreported criminal activity or potential threats to the safety and well-being of the public.

Detectives are assigned to work cases according to the category and severity of the crime reported. Detectives work utilizing a team concept, and cases are assigned primarily to one of two desks: Persons Crimes (which includes child abuse, sexual assaults, assaults, and domestic violence), Robberies, Burglaries, Thefts, and Frauds (which includes credit card theft, identity theft, petty theft, and bad checks), and Homicides are assigned to specific Detectives by the Detective Supervisor.



In 2024, Detectives Kevin Lohse and Anthony Avalos worked on crimes against persons. Detectives Joey Bitong, Joel Moledor, Greg Koch, and Trevon Burgins were assigned to investigate robberies, burglaries, thefts, and frauds.

## NOTABLE CASES

- Detectives were advised of a missing person report in which a husband reported his wife missing under suspicious circumstances. After gathering relevant information and conducting numerous search warrants, Detectives interviewed the husband several times, who admitted to killing his wife and disposing of the body at an undisclosed location. Detectives working alongside several agencies conducted an exhaustive search and were able to recover the wife's remains, bringing closure to the family and solidifying the criminal case. The husband was charged with Murder, Strangulation, Domestic Violence, Tampering with Evidence, and Abuse of a Corpse.
- Detectives investigated a case in which a suspect had transferred the deed of an elderly resident's home into a fraudulent name. The suspect then attempted to sell the house. Detectives worked with public companies as well as other law enforcement agencies. After serving multiple subpoenas and compiling a comprehensive investigation, Detectives were able to put together an undercover operation to meet with the suspect to finalize the sale of the home. Once the suspect was identified and arrested, a search warrant was conducted on the suspect's residence, where additional evidence was located. The suspect was charged with Tampering with Records, Forgery, Possessing Criminal Tools, and Attempted Grand Theft. This case is pending trial.
- The Cuyahoga Falls Detective Bureau, along with Hudson Police and The State Bureau of Investigations, was able to solve a cold case Rape and Kidnapping that had occurred in Cuyahoga Falls and a Rape/ Murder that happened in Hudson back in 1987. Using a team approach, the three agencies used modern investigative techniques and newer DNA testing methods to develop a suspect. The suspect was discovered to be deceased and buried in Arizona. The body of Thomas Collier Jordan was exhumed, and DNA matched the evidence located at both scenes, confirming Jordan was the perpetrator. While the case did not end with criminal charges, it did give the victim and family of the deceased answers. It also demonstrated that victims are never forgotten. The Cuyahoga Falls Detective Bureau periodically revisits cold cases in hopes that new technology will assist in advancing those cases to a successful resolution.



Two Detectives are responsible for investigating Narcotics/Vice cases. One is assigned to the Summit County Drug Unit as a full-time member, and the other to the FBI Safe Streets Task Force as a full-time member.

These Detectives initiate their cases and assist other agencies conducting narcotics-related investigations. Unit members work closely with other law enforcement agencies and become involved in multi-jurisdictional investigations. Therefore, they have developed excellent working relationships with their counterparts in neighboring cities and counties and with state and federal agencies.

Narcotics Detectives build cases and act on information from other law enforcement sources, citizen complaints, and informants. They receive specialized training and use specialized equipment.



CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS





In recognizing the necessity for a highly trained, highly skilled tactical unit, the Cuyahoga Falls Police Department created a Special Response Team (SRT) in 1989. Since the team's inception, the officers who have been selected to serve on SWAT have come from all divisions of the police department and serve voluntarily in this collateral duty. Interested officers must earn their spot on the team through a rigorous selection process. The team is supported by several trained Crisis Negotiators who work in unison with on-going operations to bring a peaceful resolution to dynamic situations. Tactical Medics, who are select members of the Cuyahoga Falls Fire Department, are also integrated into the team.

Lieutenant Daniel Quior is the SWAT Commander and Sergeant David Holzapfel is the Assistant Commander. Lieutenant Dawn McIlvain is the Crisis Negotiator Team Leader, and Fire Lieutenant Konrad Lenk leads the Tactical Medics. Members of the team train regularly in a variety of advanced skills like Close Quarter Battle, marksmanship, precision rifle, breaching, and electronics. SWAT officers also train with a variety of technology, chemical munitions, and equipment that are critical to their mission. SWAT officers need to think and act quickly in high stress situations, communicate, and work together as a cohesive unit. This on-going training has given the team the ability to take control of a multitude of situations, including high-risk arrest and search warrants, armed barricaded suspects, and high risk security details. The Cuyahoga Falls SWAT team also trains with several other area teams to enhance capabilities to safely resolve critical incidents with a joint response, should it be necessary.

The Cuyahoga Falls Police SWAT Team has proven to be a valuable asset to the police department and citizens of the community by providing a professional, tactical response to critical incidents that were beyond the scope of normal patrol operations.

2024 saw the addition of 2 new SWAT Operators and specialized equipment, including an armored vehicle for officer and citizen rescue.



**In 2024 Daniel Zacharias became the second SWAT Officer to receive the SWAT Team Member of the Year Award. This award was created in honor of Retired Lieutenant Mike Gay, who was an integral member of the creation and success of the Cuyahoga Falls SWAT Team. This award is presented to the team member who goes above and beyond what is asked of them. Zacharias was recognized for his Loyalty, Leadership, and Outstanding Performance over the year. Congratulations Z!**



**SWAT OFFICER OF THE YEAR  
OFFICER ZACHARIAS**

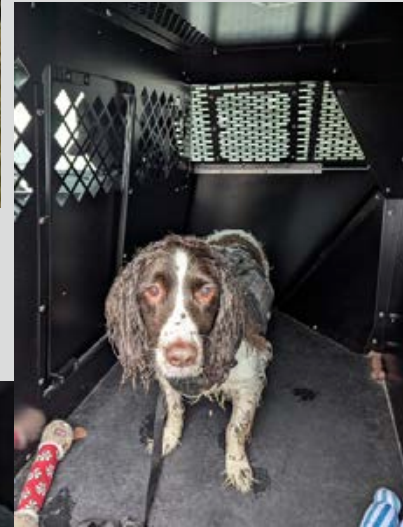
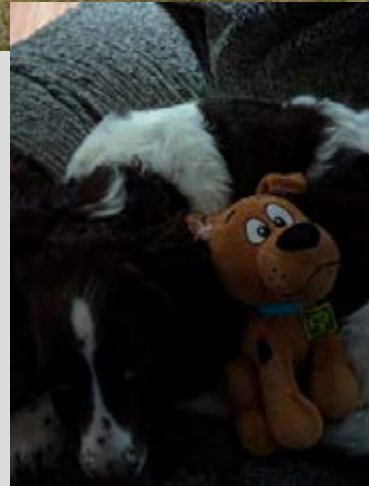
# K9

The K9 Unit currently consists of two canines; Dan-C and Figo. Dan-C, a veteran of seven years with the department, is partnered with School Resource Officer Ed Dennis. Figo works with his partner Sergeant David Holzapfel as part of the Patrol Division and just began his sixth year with the department. Both canines are certified by the Ohio Peace Officer Training Commission in multiple areas of training, including narcotics detection, tracking, article searching, building and area searching, and criminal apprehension. They each get tested along with their handler every year in these areas and are required to perform at a high level on a regular basis.

In 2024, the K9 teams saw 34 canine uses that ranged from building searches, residential searches, and tracks for suspects, lost and missing persons. These numbers are way down due to the legalization of marijuana limiting the use of our current patrol dog. The K9 Unit also assists in the yearly Citizen's Academy that showcases the K9 teams' abilities with a presentation and demonstration.

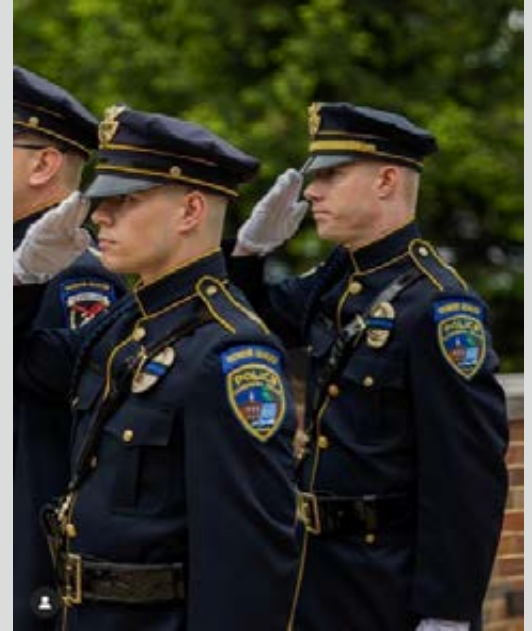
The K9 unit was very pleased to be awarded a grant from Firehouse Subs in order to fully fund a new patrol dog, equipment, and training. This dog is expected to hit the road in mid-2025.

It should be recognized that the K9 Unit has strong community support. Pet Supplies Plus donates all the dog food that the unit needs. Hudson Veterinary Hospital has always helped us with making sure to keep the dogs' health at their best. Hudson Veterinary Hospital continually works with vendors to supply our K9s with medication at no cost to the city. Having stakeholders like these helps make the K9 program so successful.





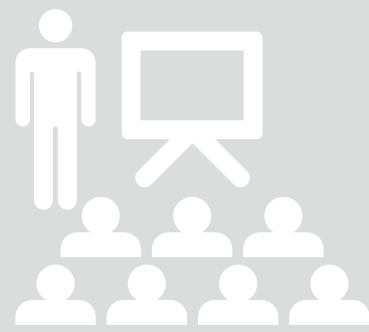
# Honor Guard



The Cuyahoga Falls Police Honor Guard serves the community by representing the police department at ceremonies, memorial services, and special events. Their presence brings professionalism, tradition, and respect to both the department and the greater Cuyahoga Falls community.



# TRAINING



The Cuyahoga Falls Training Center & Shooting Range hosted dozens of agencies in 2024 for classroom and firearms training. The Cuyahoga Falls Police Department provided our civilian employees, police officers, and detectives with approximately 7,320 hours of training in 2024. The Training Division is run by Officer Alan Pipes and Officer Dan Zacharias, who have taught our police officers and city employees countless hours of new and continued training.





# RECORDS

The Records Bureau consists of four full-time employees and three part-time employees. The Records Bureau continues to be a busy, integral part of the police department. They handle all requests from the public, the Law Department, and other agencies for copies of reports. The Records Bureau is also responsible for making sure that court subpoenas are distributed to the officers and that they have the evidence they need for court. The Records Bureau is also responsible for the processing of all property including, but not limited to, evidence, found property, contraband and seized/forfeited items. In 2024, the Records Bureau processed more than 2,762 pieces of property.



2,762  
PIECES OF  
PROPERTY  
PROCESSED

44,220  
REPORTS

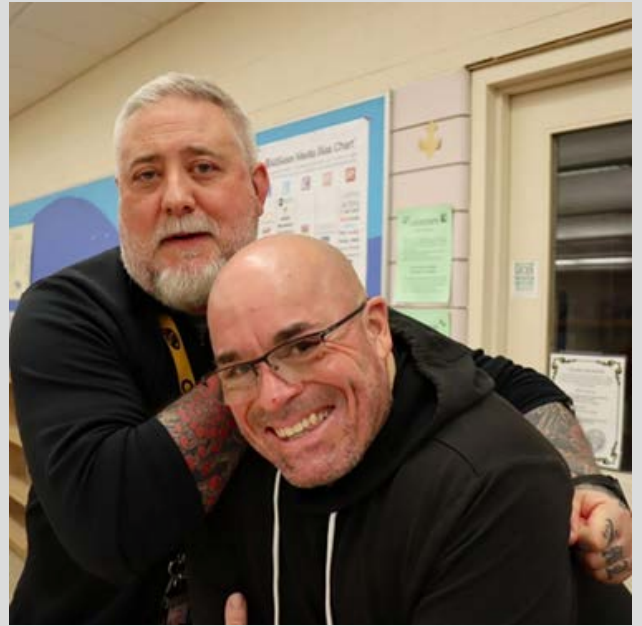
145  
BODY CAM  
FOOTAGE  
REQUESTS

2,943  
REPORT  
REQUESTS

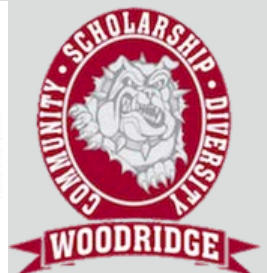
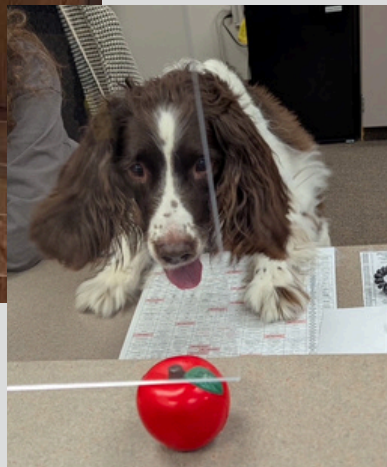
# SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

Officer Ted Davis and Officer Ed Dennis are assigned as the School Resource Officers. Cuyahoga Falls has approximately 19 schools in its jurisdiction, including two public school districts, Cuyahoga Falls and Woodridge.

Officer Davis spends most of his days in the Cuyahoga Falls City school buildings maintaining relationships with both the students and faculty and acting as a liaison between all parties. Officer Davis works closely with Ben Gessford, Cuyahoga Falls District Security Supervisor.



Officer Ed Dennis spends his shifts at Woodridge High School, Woodridge Middle School, and Woodridge Elementary School. Officer Dennis works with the students and faculty at each school to maintain a positive relationship. He also works closely with his partner, Dan-C.

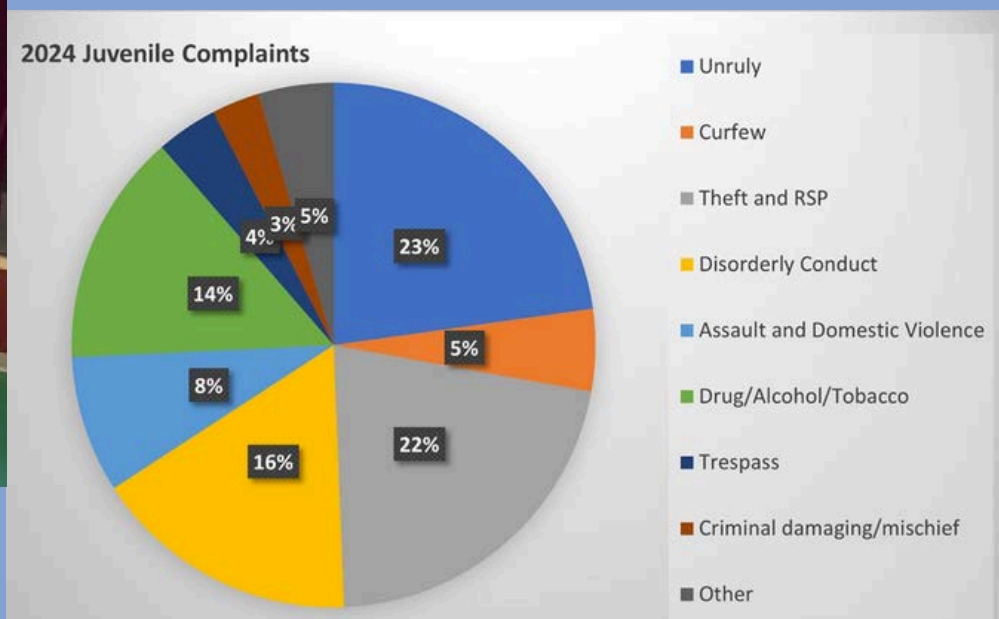


# YOUTH SERVICES

The Youth Services Bureau of the Cuyahoga Falls Police Department started their Diversion Program in 1989. The Diversion program provides an alternative to Juvenile Court by allowing juveniles with certain misdemeanor charges to enter and complete instead of appearing in Juvenile Court. The bureau acts as a liaison between parents, schools, and Juvenile Court. The program also acts as a referral service for the community, schools, parents, and juveniles to address concerns. While in the Diversion program, the juveniles address their behaviors that lead to their charges, meet with the Youth Service Coordinator, and complete community service hours. The CFPD Diversion program acts as a chance for youths to make better choices and have their crime sealed from their record. The youth does have to complete the Diversion successfully in order to have their charge(s) sealed.

Amber Anderson is the Youth Services Coordinator for the Department. As the coordinator, she identifies case of juveniles who are eligible for the Diversion program. Once eligibility is determined, a hearing is scheduled for the juvenile to come in for a meeting with their parent(s)/guardian(s). After the initial hearing is completed, the juvenile is supervised by Amber. Supervision can include meetings with the juvenile, school visits, making call to parent(s)/guardian(s), coordinating with other agencies, and verifying participation in community service, programs, classes, and school. Additionally, Amber ensures that all necessary paperwork is completed for Juvenile Court, as well as collects and disperses all restitution monies.

In 2024, 238 juvenile charges were referred to the Youth Services Bureau. Out of those cases, 77 were placed into the Diversion Program, 44 were transferred to another agency based on the juvenile's residence, and 117 cases were referred to Juvenile Court. Those juveniles involved in the Diversion program completed a total of 419 community service hours. These hours were completed working at the Rain Garden on 6th Street, working at Community Gardens by Keyser Park, river clean up, and other small projects around the City of Cuyahoga Falls.





# SAFETY TOWN

Each summer, during the month of June, the Cuyahoga Falls Police Department assists the Cuyahoga Falls Fire Department with the Safety Town program. Safety Town is offered to kids who reside in the City of Cuyahoga Falls whom are entering into kindergarten.

During Safety Town, the kids learn a lot about safety, including: bus, electrical, water, fire, gun, animal, bicycle, and pedestrian safety. Additionally, the kids learn about lockdown procedures that they will experience once they start kindergarten, stranger danger, and facts about littering and recycling.



# NOT ME, I'M DRUG FREE



Each year, Officer Davis and Officer Dennis, along with Amber Anderson teach three sessions of Not Me I'm Drug Free to the 5th grade students at Dewitt Elementary, Richardson Elementary, Price Elementary, Preston Elementary, Lincoln Elementary, Silver Lake Elementary, and Woodridge Elementary schools. The three sessions cover an overview of the dangers of drugs, how drugs can affect your health, and health choices/decision making skills.

The 5th grade students get Not Me I'm Drug Free t-shirts, provided by Western Reserve Hospital, as well as a reward card to use at different places within the City of Cuyahoga Falls. Students are encouraged to wear their shirts on the days the sessions are presented at their schools, as well as any other day!



# BUCKLE UP WITH BRUTUS



In 2024, Buckle Up with Brutus was started with third graders at Dewitt Elementary, Richardson Elementary, Price Elementary, Preston Elementary, Lincoln Elementary, Silver Lake Elementary, Woodridge Elementary, and Redeemer Christian School.

Buckle Up with Brutus is a program geared toward 2nd and 3rd graders to encourage seat belt and booster seat usage, while also showing the kids how to be good passengers in the car. Buckle Up with Brutus came about from the collaboration between the Ohio Traffic Safety Office, Students Against Destructive Decisions (SADD), and the Ohio State University.

Officer Davis did a great job teaching the material. He even got to have fun breaking eggs while showing the kids the dangers of riding in the car without their seatbelt!





# SUMMIT METRO POLICE CADET PROGRAM

Cuyahoga Falls Police Department is in a collaboration with Stow and Tallmadge Police Departments for the Summit Metro Police Cadet Program. This program is for youths who have completed 8th grade and are ages 14-20. They also must be a resident of Cuyahoga Falls, Stow, Tallmadge, Munroe Falls, or Silver Lake.

Officer Patrick Edmonds is the representative for CFPD. There were 2 cadets in the program from Cuyahoga Falls!

The Summit Metro Police Cadets are a division of Public Safety Cadets, who provide mentorship training for advisors. For more information on the program, visit [publicsafetycadets.org](http://publicsafetycadets.org)



## Benefits to Cadets

### Community

The Cadet program allows like minded students to socialize and work together in a constructive, professional setting.

### Service

Cadets volunteer with officers at a variety of community events, such as Shop With A Cop, Circle Fest, and Sunset Blast.

### Experience

Cadets will learn about multiple criminal justice professions, including dispatching, prosecution, investigation, federal agencies, and military.

### Explore

The Cadet program offers a unique way for teens to earn valuable life and job experience. Participation in the program has been shown to be useful on future job applications.

### Ride Along

The Cadet program is the only way a minor can participate in law enforcement ride alongs with on-duty officers.

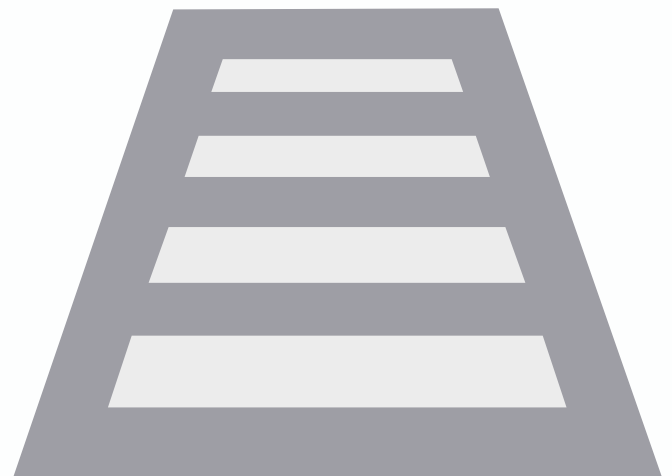


# CROSSING GUARDS



The Youth Services Bureau of the Cuyahoga Falls Police Department also oversees the city's school crossing guard program. That includes programming, scheduling, monitoring, and payroll for the city's 11 crossing guards and guard posts.

Our Crossing Guards do an excellent job crossing the kids to assist them in getting to school safely. The City of Cuyahoga Falls is fortunate to have Crossing Guards who have a desire to help keep the kids safe!



## RESERVES UNIT

The Cuyahoga Falls Police Reserve Unit is a volunteer unit comprised of dedicated citizens who donate their time to the police department while holding their own full-time employment separately. They receive training in police department procedures and operations, first aid/CPR, and use of various pieces of the police department equipment.

Officers of the Reserve Unit are tasked with numerous duties. The primary responsibility of the Reserve Unit is to assist the Patrol Division by patrolling city properties and neighborhoods while also responding to calls from dispatch. These calls could include lock outs, disabled vehicles, and animal calls. Additionally, they assist in overseeing the juvenile community service program, assist the Training Division, and assist with parking enforcement. Reserve Officers are influential in helping with traffic control and aiding in keeping the Memorial Day Parade safe for the citizens. The Reserve Officers also participate in many other city sponsored events and charity fundraising events; such as the Police Memorial Service, the Veteran's Day Ceremony, the City's Trick or Treat Day, and the Shop with a Cop event.

Members of the Reserve Unit have stepped up and proved themselves to be a valuable asset to the department and the City of Cuyahoga Falls.



# COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICERS

Cuyahoga Falls Police Department is fortunate to have CSOs that help handle service calls for the City.

Some of the duties and tasks completed by the CSOs:

Jail Security

Supervision of prisoners in jail; including showers, medication, and meals

Jail cleaning and observation checks

Jail logs and jail forms

Jail visitation

Jail Office and Storage Room

Vehicle lock outs

Animal calls





What a  
year

**HERE ARE HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2024**

# Battle of the **BADGES**

Battle of the Badges is a charity basketball game where the Cuyahoga Falls Safety Forces battle it out, while bringing the community together to help raise money to support the Falls Cancer Club, Inc.

On March 8, 2024, the Police Department defeated the Fire Department 58-45 to take back the trophy!



CFPD Players:  
Sam Condon, Greg Koch, Brandon Good, Brent Barbe, Tyler Boucher, Taylor Grove, Christian Bullock, Billy Carper, and Cory Myers.





# Drug Take Back Day

**OFFICER DENNIS AND DANNY ASSISTED AT GIANT EAGLE MARKET DISTRICT WITH DRUG TAKE BACK DAY ON APRIL 27, 2024. DRUG TAKE BACK DAY IS WHEN MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY CAN DROP OFF UNUSED AND EXPIRED MEDICATION TO HELP MAKE AND KEEP THE COMMUNITY SAFER.**

**THERE IS ALSO A DRUG DISPOSAL BOX LOCATED INSIDE THE LOBBY OF CUYAHOGA FALLS POLICE DEPARTMENT AND RESIDENTS MAY DROP OFF MEDICATIONS 24/7.**







# POLICE MEMORIAL EVENT

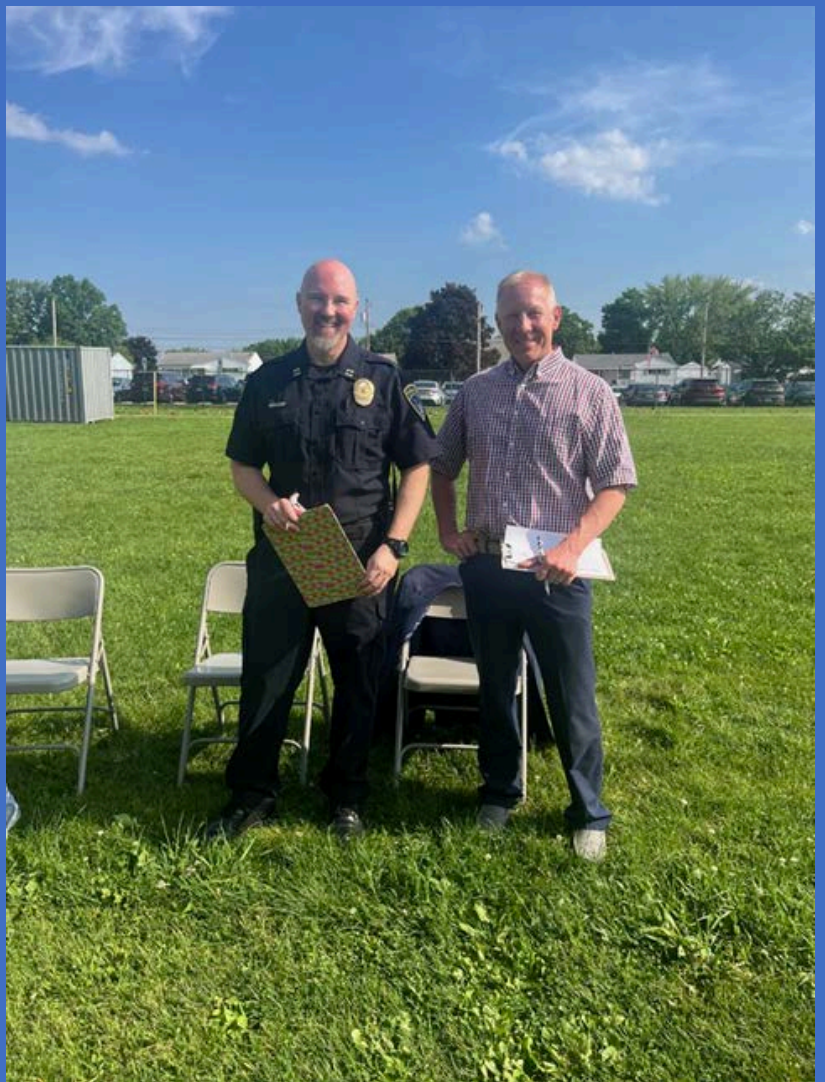
On May 15, 2024, Cuyahoga Falls Police Department and Silver Lake Police Department held the Police Memorial Service. This is an annual event by the Cuyahoga Falls and Silver Lake Police Memorial and Honor Guard Foundation, that honors members of the police department, both past and present, and encourages community awareness.





# *Relay for Life* LINCOLN ELEMENTARY

Captain Lengel along with Mayor Walters took part in the Relay for Life Event at Lincoln Elementary School on May 20, 2024. Along with other individuals, they were judges for the banner contest.





# CIT OFFICER OF THE YEAR



On May 22, 2024, Officer Karla Garinger was named as the Summit County CIT (Crisis Intervention Team) Officer of the Year! Officer Garinger helped to jump start the police department's training and response to the mental health crisis. CFPD is lucky to have passionate, caring officers like Officer Garinger!



# **MEMORIAL DAY PARADE**

**Captain Gary Merton  
represented the  
Cuyahoga Falls Police  
Department by driving a  
cruiser in the parade this  
year.**



# *Western Reserve Hospital picnic*

CUYAHOGA FALLS POLICE  
DEPARTMENT ATTENDED A  
SUMMER PICNIC HOSTED BY OUR  
COMMUNITY PARTNER, WESTERN  
RESERVE HOSPITAL ON JUNE 12,  
2024.

THIS WAS A GREAT OPPORTUNITY  
FOR THE PD TO INTERACT WITH  
THE HOSPITAL STAFF, AS WELL  
AS OTHER COMMUNITY  
MEMBERS.





# LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN

**Officers from Cuyahoga Falls participated in the Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Ohio on June 25, 2024. Sgt. Roach, Detective Moledor, and Officer Barbe stayed with an athlete to ensure that she made it across the finish line!**





The badge is a shield-shaped emblem with a blue border. The word "POLICE" is written in large, yellow, serif capital letters at the top. Below it, "CUYAHOGA FALLS" is written in a smaller, yellow, serif font, following the curve of the shield. The central image depicts a brown, multi-story building with a central steeple, likely a city hall or police station, situated next to a large, green tree. To the right of the building is a blue waterfall cascading over rocks. At the bottom of the shield, the word "OHIO" is written in yellow, serif capital letters.

# OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Cuyahoga Falls Police Officer, Jarrett, Heatwall, was recognized as Patrol Officer of the Year by the Summit County Prosecutor's Office. Officer Heatwall's professionalism when dealing with the citizens of Cuyahoga Falls was highlighted during the awards presentation on October 25, 2024. CFPD is lucky to have an outstanding officer assisting our residents!



Mayor Walters, Officer Heatwall, Chief Norfolk, and Summit County Prosecutor Kolkovich



# Christmas Tree Lighting



**CUYAHOGA FALLS POLICE OFFICERS HELPED THE RESIDENTS OF CUYAHOGA FALLS KICK OFF THE HOLIDAY SEASON AT THE TREE LIGHTING ON NOVEMBER 30, 2024.**





# Shop with a Cop

**CFPD Officers participated in the annual Shop with a Cop event on December 14, 2024. This event is possible due to local sponsors and donations.**





2024  
**UGLY SWEATER**  
*Crawl*  
A BARHOPPIN Event

 **JUSTIN GAMBLE**  
PHOTOGRAPHY









