CITY OF GRAND BLANC
POLICE DEPARTMENT
2024

ANNUAL REPORT



Grand Blanc Police Department

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https://www.cityofgrandblancmi.gov/our_residents/city_departments/police/index.php

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Chief's Welcome

It is my great honor to present the Grand Blanc Police Department's 2024 Annual Report—a reflection of a year marked by dedicated service, operational excellence, and unwavering commitment to our community.

Throughout 2024, the men and women of our department demonstrated what it means to lead with integrity, courage, and compassion. From complex investigations to critical life-saving actions, our officers rose to every challenge with professionalism and resolve. I am immensely proud of the work we've done—not only in advancing public safety but in strengthening our bonds with the residents we serve.

This year, we made measurable strides in community outreach. Programs like "Shop with a Hero," "Feed the Bus," and our K-9 demonstrations brought officers and citizens together in meaningful ways, fostering trust and mutual respect. Our School Resource Officers continued to play a vital role in ensuring the safety and growth of our students through mentorship, education, and emergency preparedness training.

In 2024, we recognized several officers for exemplary performance. From dismantling an international vehicle theft ring to saving a resident from a burning home, their actions reflect the highest standards of our profession. Officer Craig Hose was named Officer of the Year, a tribute to his 22 years of outstanding service and mentorship.

We also saw the results of responsible policing in our crime statistics. Grand Blanc has maintained a remarkably low rate of violent crime, with no homicides in the past five years and a continued decline in robbery cases. These numbers are not

just data—they are the result of proactive policing, strategic partnerships, and a community that works together for the common good.

Our department remains equally committed to transparency and accountability. All 2024 use of force incidents were reviewed and found to be within policy, and our internal affairs investigations reaffirmed our standards of conduct and ethics.

I am also proud to continue representing Grand Blanc in broader law enforcement leadership roles across the region and state. It is a privilege to bring our department's values to the table and contribute to the advancement of public safety at every level.

To our community, thank you for your continued support and partnership. To the dedicated members of this department—sworn and civilian alike—thank you for your commitment, sacrifice, and service. Together, we will continue to ensure that Grand Blanc remains a safe, inclusive, and thriving place to live, work, and grow.

With respect and gratitude,

Brian Lipe
Chief of Police
City of Grand Blanc Police Department

2024 AT A GLANCE



18 AUTHORIZED SWORN PERSONNEL



2 AUTHORIZED CIVILIAN PERSONNEL



4,024 CALLS FOR SERVICE



144 ARRESTS

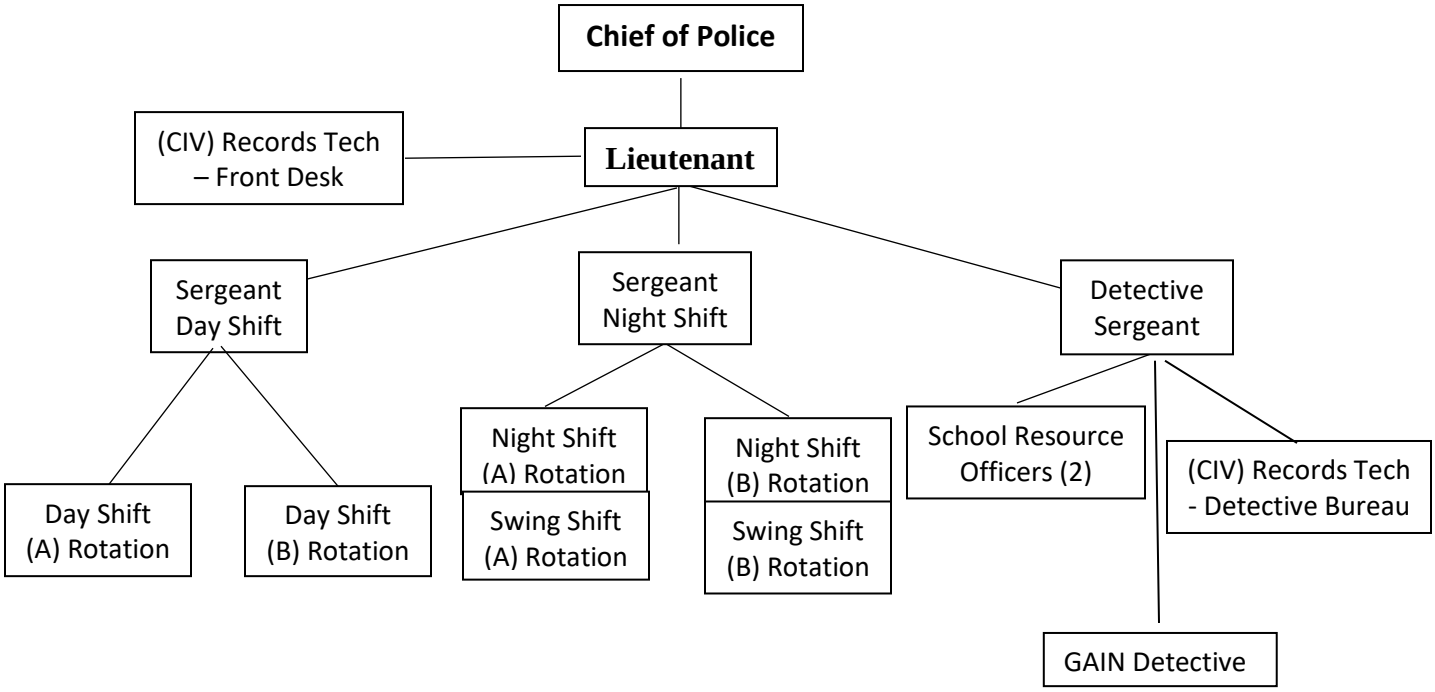


1,824 TRAFFIC STOPS



FY'24 Budget
$2,869,540

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



CHIEF'S ACTIVITIES AND OUTREACH

The following is a list of activities and positions that Chief Lipe held in 2024:

- Immediate Past President of the Genesee County Association of Chiefs of Police (GCACP)
- Trustee of the Central Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police (CMACP)
- 2nd Vice President of the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police (MACP)
- Member of the Legislative Committee for the MACP
- Co-Chair of the Greater Flint Area - Advocates and Leaders for Police and Community Trust (ALPACT)
- Board President for Voices for Children – Child Advocacy Center
- Board member for the "All Hallowed Police Officers Ball"
- President of the Grand Blanc Optimist Club
- Member of the Hundred Club of Genesee, Shiawassee, and Lapeer Counties
- Member of the American Legion Post 413 (Grand Blanc)

DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES AND OUTREACH

Officers on the Grand Blanc Police Department helped organize and/or participate in the following community engagement events/activities:

- March 23 & 24 – K-9 demonstrations at the "Pet Expo" at Dort Federal C.U.
- April 27 – Officer Friendly Day – U of M - Flint
- May 18 – "Feed the Bus" a FISH fund raising event at Grand Blanc High School
- June 7 – Flint Diaper Drive – a fund raiser for the Flint Diaper Bank
- August 6 – National Night Out at Grand Blanc Township PD
- September 7 – Ofc. Graver was a guest of State Representative David Martin at the State Capital for a 9/11 ceremony.
- September 6 – "Freedom Fest" at Grand Blanc High School
- September 13 – Cooking with the Chiefs – to support Voices for Children
- September 21 – Rib Cook Off – Sam's Club – to support Hurly Children's Miracle Network.
- October 25 – All Hallowed Police Officers Ball – a fund raiser for Voices for Children
- October 29 – "Trunk or Treat" at Genesee County 911
- November 23 – "Feed the Bus" fund raiser for FISH at Grand Blanc High School
- December 6 – "Stuff a Blue Goose" a fund raiser for the Salvation Army
- December 10 – "Shop with a Hero" at Meijer on Hill Road
- December 19 – Delivered FISH Christmas Baskets for families in need
- December 19 – "Shop with a Hero" at the Grand Blanc Walmart

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS OUTREACH

The School Resource Officers also contributed to the students and staff at the schools in 2024 by:

- Conducting several tours of the police department for classes from Brendle and Indian Hill Elementary Schools
- The SRO's conducted 8 CPR classes for staff at the schools.

- Teaching the A.L.I.C.E. (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, and Evacuate) model for active shooter response. In 2024 the SROs conducted four training sessions for Grand Blanc and Holy Family Schools.
- Sometimes the SROs are asked to be advisors for school club groups as well. In 2024 one of the SROs took on the role of advisor for the "Mac Scholars" who are a group of African American students who have a focus on their own academics as well as the academics of other African American males.
- Taught students through the Teaching, Educating, and Mentoring programs.
- Attended Comprehensive School Threat Assessment meetings, as well as conducted security meetings for school athletic and special events.
- Conducted comprehensive school building threat assessments for several buildings within the district.
- Conducted training for members of the police

GRAND BLANC POLICE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION OUTREACH

All employees of the Grand Blanc Police Department have the opportunity to join the Grand Blanc Police Officers Association (GBPOA). Association members contribute through voluntary payroll deductions, and additional funds are raised annually through the GBPOA Golf Outing held at Warwick Hills Golf and Country Club. The funds collected are reinvested directly into the community through charitable donations and local support initiatives.

In 2024, the GBPOA proudly contributed approximately $9,515 to a variety of local causes and organizations, including:

- Several youth athletic teams in the Grand Blanc area
- Voices for Children Advocacy Center
- Genesee County K-9 Association
- The Humane Society of Genesee County
- Scholarships for two graduating high school seniors

- Financial assistance to Genesee County officers facing serious illness or injury
- Sponsorship of four local families through the FISH Christmas program

These contributions reflect the GBPOA's continued commitment to supporting the well-being of the community and those in need.

DEPARTMENT AWARDS

Detective Justin Petrowski

Certificate of Recognition

2412502454 (GAIN) - UDAA

In recognition of exceptional investigative work, unwavering dedication, and outstanding interagency collaboration, Detective Petrowski is hereby awarded a **"Certificate of Recognition**."

On June 6, 2024, while assigned to the GAIN unit and overseeing Grand Blanc Township's stolen vehicle cases, Detective Petrowski took lead on a case involving the theft of a BMW and a Mercedes-Benz from a Randy Wise dealership. The combined value of the stolen vehicles exceeded $200,000.

Through diligent investigation, Detective Petrowski learned that the BMW had been located by the Port Authority in a shipping container in New Jersey, along with several other stolen vehicles, en route to Gambia, West Africa. The BMW was successfully recovered at that time.

Detective Petrowski's meticulous approach included collecting DNA evidence from the recovered Mercedes-Benz, which led to a match in the Ohio DNA database. Working closely with Detective Corporal Power of the Doylestown Township Police Department in Pennsylvania—who is partnered with Homeland Security on a major international vehicle theft ring—Detective Petrowski was instrumental in confirming the identity of suspects through both DNA and surveillance photographs.

This collaborative effort directly contributed to the addition of the Grand Blanc Township theft to a broader federal indictment, marking a significant step in

dismantling an organized vehicle theft operation spanning multiple states and countries.

Detective Petrowski's exceptional investigative skill, attention to detail, and cooperative spirit reflect the highest standards of law enforcement and bring great credit to the Grand Blanc Police Department.

Ofc. Cord Rice

Certificate of Recognition

2443100347 - UDAA

In recognition of your initiative, perseverance, and effective investigative efforts during the recovery of a stolen vehicle and apprehension of the suspect on July 28, 2024.

After receiving a report from a distressed citizen that her vehicle had been stolen by her intoxicated daughter, Officer Rice promptly disseminated a county-wide broadcast alerting surrounding jurisdictions. Demonstrating resourcefulness and dedication, Officer Rice conducted an extensive search across multiple locations, including Burton, Davison, and Lapeer, and utilized phone tracking technology to narrow the suspect's possible location.

Despite several unsuccessful attempts to locate the vehicle and suspect, Officer Rice maintained vigilance and coordination with other law enforcement agencies. Following a related hit-and-run report involving the stolen vehicle, Officer Rice continued pursuing leads and ultimately responded to a tip placing the suspect at Dort Mall in Flint. There, he successfully located and apprehended the suspect, who later confessed to the offense.

Officer Rice’s commitment to thoroughness and teamwork directly contributed to the safe recovery of the stolen vehicle and the resolution of the case. His actions reflect the professionalism and dedication expected of the Grand Blanc Police Department.

Ofc. Marcus Kelly, Ofc. Tom Barber, Ofc. Erin Hodge, Ofc. Kyle Binder

Unit Citation

2443100369 - Felonious Assault

In recognition of your outstanding teamwork, swift response, and effective investigative actions during a felonious assault investigation on August 10, 2024, the Grand Blanc Police Department proudly awards this Unit Citation for your outstanding service.

Dispatched to a high-risk incident involving a suspect reportedly armed with a shotgun, each officer demonstrated professionalism and composure under pressure. The victim provided officers with a critical photo of the suspect, which Officers Kelly and Binder used to swiftly identify and locate the individual in a nearby apartment. The suspect, matching the victim's photo and displaying signs of recent physical exertion, was safely apprehended without further incident.

Through clear communication, thorough interviewing, and well-coordinated follow-up, the officers secured a confession from the suspect, who admitted to brandishing a shotgun during a confrontation. A subsequent search resulted in the recovery of the firearm and the clothing worn during the assault—further strengthening the case.

Thanks to the diligence, quick thinking, and cooperative efforts of all four officers, the suspect was apprehended without injury to any party, and felony charges were successfully pursued. This case exemplifies the importance and impact of coordinated police work in safeguarding the community.

Ofc. Marcus Kelly, Ofc. Tom Barber, Ofc. Erin Hodge, and Sgt. Nate Guigear

Unit Citation

2443100394 - Child Abuse

In recognition of their exceptional teamwork, compassionate response, and diligent investigative efforts in protecting a vulnerable juvenile from ongoing abuse, the Grand Blanc Police Department proudly awards this **Unit Citation** for your outstanding service.

On August 23, 2024, Officer Kelly responded to a local residence following a report of potential child abuse involving a 15-year-old male. Through a calm and

thorough interview, Officer Kelly uncovered troubling allegations of emotional neglect, food deprivation, and past physical abuse. Officer Hodge compassionately assisted by ensuring the child was transported to a safe location where he felt secure.

Subsequently, on September 12, 2024, Officer Barber responded to a follow-up call from the same concerned neighbor, now observing visible signs of physical abuse. Officer Barber acted swiftly to document the evidence, notify Child Protective Services (CPS), and accompany the juvenile to Hurley Medical Center for evaluation, resulting in the child's emergency placement with CPS.

Sergeant Guigear then took initiative in coordinating closely with CPS, arranging a forensic interview and further evaluating the extent of the abuse. Through his persistent efforts, and the strong foundation laid by the responding officers, the juvenile was safely and permanently placed with his grandparents—his preferred and most supportive guardians.

This case exemplifies the highest standards of professional conduct, interagency collaboration, and commitment to child welfare. The compassionate and coordinated actions of these officers not only ensured the immediate safety of a child in need but also contributed to securing a more hopeful and stable future for him.

Detective Ryan Rouse

Certificate of Recognition

2443100466 - Child Sexually Abusive Activity/Distribution of Nude Photos

In recognition of your exemplary investigative work, professionalism, and steadfast commitment to justice during a sensitive and disturbing case involving the exploitation of a special-needs student at Grand Blanc High School on October 9, 2024.

Upon learning of a sexually explicit video posted to the social media platform X—depicting a vulnerable student in a private setting—Detective Rouse acted swiftly and thoroughly. Through careful analysis of school surveillance footage and witness interviews, you were able to identify a suspect and proceed with an effective and lawful investigation.

Your ability to manage a challenging and emotionally charged situation with discretion and composure was evident when the suspect became uncooperative. Your swift actions led to the secure recovery of critical digital evidence, the apprehension of the juvenile suspect, and a subsequent confession that uncovered further distribution of the video.

Your dedication ensured that this victim's dignity was protected, that the responsible individual was held accountable, and that justice was pursued through the proper channels, resulting in multiple charges in juvenile court.

Detective Rouse's professionalism, sensitivity, and commitment to protecting the most vulnerable members of our community reflect the highest standards of the Grand Blanc Police Department.

Sgt. Nate Guigear and Ofc. Hodge

Life Saving Award

24431000592 - Structure Fire

In recognition of their courageous and selfless actions on December 25, 2024, Sergeant Guigear and Officer Hodge are hereby awarded the **Life Saving Award** for their role in the successful rescue of a trapped resident from a life-threatening structure fire.

Responding to a call at Perry Place Apartments, Sgt. Guigear and Ofc. Hodge arrived on scene to find an active fire and learned that a female occupant was trapped inside one of the units. Despite the apartment door being obstructed and smoke rapidly filling the space, Sgt. Guigear initiated a rescue attempt by calling out to the resident and forcing the door open enough to gain entry.

With the apartment engulfed in thick, black smoke, Sgt. Guigear removed his police gear and instructed Ofc. Hodge to retrieve his firefighting equipment. However, recognizing the immediacy of the danger, he made the split-second decision to enter the burning apartment without protective gear, prioritizing the life of the resident over his own safety.

Crawling through heavy smoke and near-zero visibility, Sgt. Guigear located the victim and dragged her to safety. Ofc. Hodge, returning swiftly with assistance, helped complete the rescue by aiding Sgt. Guigear in moving the victim out of the

building. The resident was transported to a local hospital where she received life-saving medical care and ultimately survived.

The bravery, quick thinking, and decisive action demonstrated by Sgt. Guigear and Ofc. Hodge reflect the highest ideals of law enforcement service. Their willingness to place themselves in harm's way to save a life is both extraordinary and commendable.

Ofc. Craig Hose

Officer of the Year

In recognition of your exceptional dedication, professionalism, and unwavering commitment to the Grand Blanc Police Department, it is with great pride that we present you with the **2024 Officer of the Year Award**.

This award is not given for a single moment of excellence, but rather for the consistent, day-to-day embodiment of the values and standards that define our department. Over your 22-year career, you have consistently demonstrated the reliability, self-initiative, and integrity that make you not only a respected officer, but also a valued colleague and leader.

You are known throughout the department for your depth of experience, sharp wit, and ability to lighten even the most difficult moments. Your contributions go far beyond the call of duty—whether maintaining and calibrating vital department equipment, assisting with vacation checks, or continuing to support new officers as a field training officer long after officially stepping away from the role.

Officer Hose, your pride in the uniform, your commitment to the department's mission, and your willingness to serve whenever and wherever needed serve as an example to us all. You embody the very spirit of this award, and it is with sincere appreciation and admiration that we honor you as the 2024 Officer of the Year.

2024 PERSONNEL HIGHLIGHTS

10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY
Chief Brian Lipe – Hired 09/11/2014

HIRED
Ofc. Cord Rice – June 24, 2024

SEPARATED FROM EMPLOYMENT
Ofc. Jamie Ward – Resigned

Use of Force Review Process – MLEAC Accreditation Compliance

The Grand Blanc Police Department adheres to the Michigan Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission (MLEAC) standards, which require a comprehensive and Meaningful Review of all reported use of force incidents. This process is essential for maintaining accreditation and ensuring accountability, transparency, and continuous improvement within the department.

Initial Supervisor Response:

When a use of force incident occurs, the involved officer(s) must immediately notify their supervisor. If the incident results in injuries requiring hospital treatment, the supervisor is required to respond to the scene without delay to begin a formal investigation.

Supervisor's Investigation Includes:

- Interviewing the arrestee and any witnesses to obtain statements regarding the use of force.
- Reviewing all available photographs documenting injuries to either the subject or officers.
- Examining any relevant recordings, including body-worn camera footage, in-car camera video, or civilian-provided cell phone video.
- Analyzing the officer's official written reports.

Once the supervisor has completed the investigative report, it is forwarded to the Patrol Lieutenant for the formal Meaningful Review.

Patrol Lieutenant's Review Process:

The Patrol Lieutenant evaluates the full scope of the incident, including:

- Officer and supervisor reports.
- All available video or photographic evidence.

- The supervisor's investigation findings.

Based on this review, the lieutenant determines whether there is a need for:

- A policy review, in the event departmental policy may be outdated or unclear.
- Additional training for the involved officer(s) or the department as a whole.
- Acquisition of new equipment that may aid in handling similar situations more safely or effectively.

Final Determination by the Chief of Police:

Following the lieutenant's review, the complete case file is submitted to the Chief of Police for final assessment. The Chief makes the official determination as to whether the officer's actions were in compliance with departmental policies, procedures, and training standards.

2024 USE OF FORCE DATA

In 2024, officers with the Grand Blanc Police Department responded to 4,024 calls for service and conducted 1,824 traffic stops. Of these numerous interactions, there were only thirteen incidents in which officers were required to use force beyond standard compliance control techniques to safely take a subject into custody.

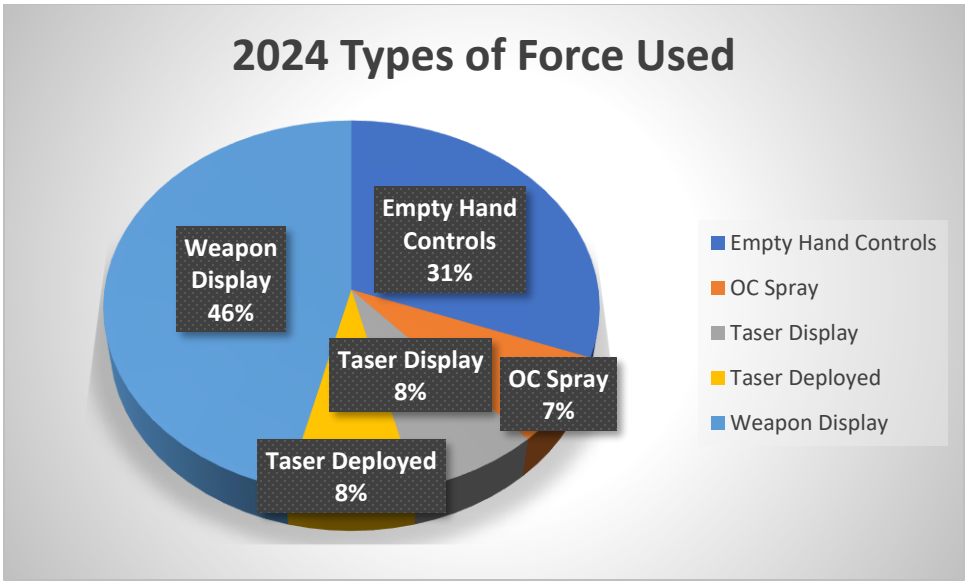
13
USE OF FORCE INCIDENTS

144
ARRESTS

9.0%
(% OF ARRESTS WHERE FORCE WAS USED)

5,848
CALLS FOR SERVICE and TRAFFIC STOPS

.2%
(% OF INTERACTIONS WHERE FORCE WAS USED)



2024 Use of Force Summary and Analysis

Summary:

In 2024, officers from the City of Grand Blanc Police Department employed force beyond standard compliance control techniques on thirteen occasions. Each instance was reviewed and determined to be within department policy, consistent with officer training, and in accordance with legal standards. These situations were dynamic and often involved potential threats to officer and public safety.

Use of Force Overview:

- **Empty-Hand Control Techniques (4 incidents):**
  Officers applied physical control measures such as wrist locks and arm bar takedowns to manage non-compliant or resistive individuals. These techniques were used effectively to gain control without escalating to higher levels of force.

- **Firearm Displays (6 incidents):**
  Officers drew their service firearms in response to situations that presented a perceived threat of serious harm. These included:
  - A home invasion in progress where the suspect was believed to be armed.
  - A fleeing suspect following a traffic stop.
  - A report of individuals threatening violence with firearms inside a residence.
  - Assistance to Grand Blanc Township in multiple high-risk calls involving suicidal or armed individuals. In all cases, officers maintained a low-ready position and resolved the incidents without discharge of their firearms or injury to any party.
- **Less-Lethal Force Applications:**
  - **OC Spray (1 incident):**
    Deployed to disperse and control two individuals engaged in a physical altercation.
  - **Electronic Control Device (1 incident):**
    Used on an actively combative subject who was physically resisting arrest.

Analysis:

The department's use of force data from 2024 reflects consistent adherence to de-escalation principles and responsible decision-making under pressure. Officers responded to a variety of complex, potentially dangerous situations—particularly

those involving weapons or mental health crises—with professionalism and restraint. Several notable trends emerged:

- **Increased Mutual Aid Involvement:**
  Officers provided assistance to neighboring jurisdictions on multiple occasions, often in high-risk scenarios involving weapons. This highlights the department's ongoing commitment to regional cooperation and public safety beyond city boundaries.
- **Higher Incidence of Firearm-Related Calls:**
  Compared to previous years, officers encountered more situations involving subjects reportedly armed with deadly weapons. While this did not result in use of deadly force, it underscores the need for ongoing training in tactical response and mental health intervention.
- **Effective Use of Non-Lethal Options:**
  The limited but effective deployment of OC spray and an ECD demonstrates appropriate use of intermediate force tools in response to escalating resistance, with outcomes resolved without injury.

Conclusion:

All 2024 use of force incidents were handled in accordance with department policy and training standards. The officers involved demonstrated sound judgment and restraint, even in high-stress, potentially life-threatening situations. The department continues to prioritize accountability, transparency, and the safety of both the public and its officers through rigorous review and ongoing training.

CRIME STATISTICS

Five-Year Crime Data Summary (2020–2024) – City of Grand Blanc

Overview:

From 2020 to 2024, the City of Grand Blanc experienced consistently low levels of violent crime, with no recorded homicides during this five-year period. The overall trend reflects a stable public safety environment, with fluctuations in individual crime categories such as rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

Key Findings:

- Murder:
  There were no homicides reported in any of the five years reviewed, underscoring the rarity of the most serious violent offenses in the city.
- Rape:
  Reported incidents of rape have remained low, ranging from 1 to 4 per year. The highest number occurred in 2020 with 4 cases, followed by a decline and relative stabilization at 1 to 2 cases annually in recent years.
- Robbery:
  Robbery offenses have seen a notable decline, from 5 cases in 2020 to zero cases reported in 2022, 2023, and 2024. This represents a 100% reduction in robberies since 2020.
- Aggravated Assault:
  Aggravated assaults have shown a slight upward trend over the period, with 12 incidents in both 2022 and 2024, compared to 8 in 2021. This remains the most frequently reported violent crime in the city.

Analysis:

The data suggests that the City of Grand Blanc continues to maintain a low violent crime rate, with no homicides and minimal reports of rape and robbery. While aggravated assaults remain the most consistent category, they have not increased dramatically and appear to reflect isolated incidents rather than a systemic issue.

Conclusion:

Overall, the five-year comparison of FBI UCR statistics indicates a positive and stable public safety environment in the City of Grand Blanc. The decline in robbery cases and stable rape reports are encouraging, while continued attention to aggravated assaults will help ensure these numbers remain manageable. Continued proactive policing, community engagement, and interagency cooperation appear to be effective in sustaining public safety.

UNIFORM CRIME REPORTING STATISTICS

DEFINITIONS

Aggravated Assault: An unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault usually is accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm.

Homicide: Murder and non-negligent manslaughter: the willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another.

Rape: Penetration without the consent of the victim.

Robbery: The taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear.

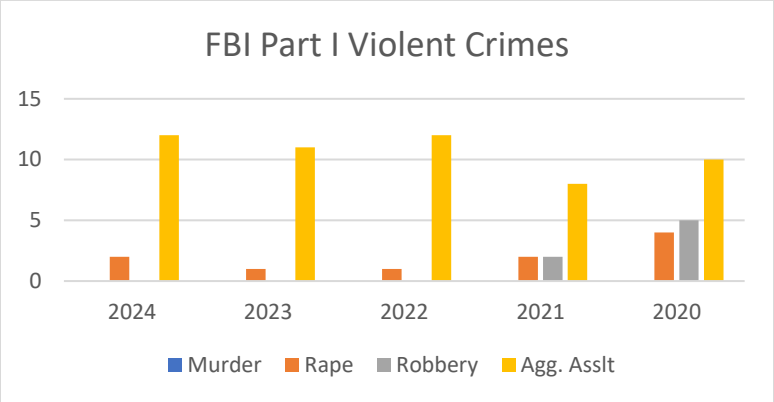
Arson: Any willful or malicious burning or attempt to burn, with or without intent to defraud, a dwelling house, public building, motor vehicle or aircraft, personal property of another, etc.

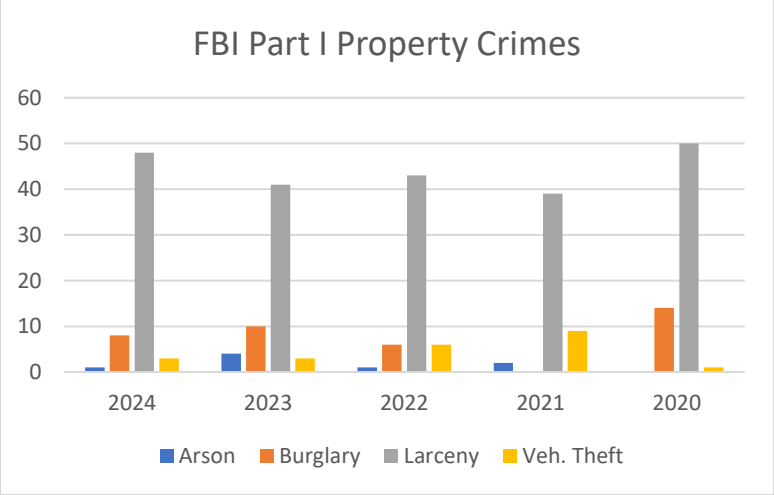
Auto Theft: The theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle. A motor vehicle is self-propelled and runs on land surface and not on rails.

Burglary: The unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft.

Larceny: Theft (except motor vehicle theft)- The unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another.

PART 1 UCR – 5 YEAR COMPARISON





2024 CITIZEN COMPLAINT / INTERNAL AFFAIRS OVERVIEW

For each calendar year, the Chief of Police completes an in-depth annual report of the department's citizen complaints / internal affairs incidents. Here is a summary of the citizens' complaints and the findings of the investigations.

Internal Affairs Complaint Analysis

In 2024, the department received three citizen complaints. Following thorough investigations, two were classified as *exonerated* and one as *unfounded*. One exonerated complaint had initially been reviewed in 2023, with no new evidence provided to justify reopening the case. The second was resolved through the review of body-worn camera (BWC) footage, which confirmed the officer's actions were consistent with department policy. The unfounded complaint involved allegations of illegal wiretapping; the investigation determined the officer had no access to such equipment. Additionally, the complainant had made similar unsubstantiated claims against other law enforcement agencies in the past, further supporting the classification.

The department also conducted one internal investigation during the year. This involved accidental damage of a department-issued cell phone due to unsafe handling. The involved officer was issued a formal written instruction to address the procedural lapse and to prevent future occurrences.

Overall, the department's handling of both citizen and internal complaints in 2024 demonstrates its ongoing commitment to professionalism, accountability, and transparency in all aspects of its operations.