



## *2016 ANNUAL REPORT*

*Fairness*

*Trust*

*Professionalism*

*Dedication*



*An Internationally and State Accredited Agency*

# ***FINDLAY POLICE DEPARTMENT***

## ***MISSION STATEMENT***

The mission of the Findlay Township Police Department is to fulfill all of our job duties and responsibilities while adhering to the philosophy of safeguarding the rights and liberties of both citizens and fellow coworkers, in recognition of human dignity and the constitutional rights bestowed on all persons. We shall always treat other persons as we would expect to be treated or that we would want our loved ones to be treated under similar circumstances.

## ***VISION STATEMENT***

We will continue to be a leader and an example, both professionally and personally, to all law enforcement agencies as we provide an effective service through partnerships built in the schools and the community with the ultimate goal of detecting and preventing crime, while preserving peace, integrity and public trust.

## ***VALUES STATEMENT (FTPD)***

### **Fairness**

We will enforce the law fairly without compromise for crime, with relentless prosecution of criminals and without fear of favor, malice or ill will.

### **Trust**

We will recognize the badge of our office as a symbol of public faith and trust to be held so long as we hold ourselves to the ethics of the policing profession.

### **Professionalism**

We will conduct the business of our profession in an honest, compassionate and efficient manner, while adhering to a higher standard of personal conduct and decency.

### **Dedication**

We will hold true to our oath to uphold the Constitution of the United States of America, the laws and ordinances of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Township of Findlay.

Dear Resident:

It is with great pride that I present to you the annual report for the 2016 calendar year for the Findlay Township Police Department.

By statistical comparison, 2016 was not unlike years past in any one category. Officers patrolled a total of 178,826 miles and investigated or handled 4771 total complaints for the year. This number represents 830 more calls than in 2015. The majority of these calls were calls for service, with approximately 10% being criminal in nature. The department also conducted 1815 traffic stops in 2016 in an attempt to reduce the number of traffic accidents in the township. There were 1460 written warnings and 355 citations issued. The department violator contacts increased by 479 when compared to 2015. This can be attributed to an increase in traffic volume and diligent officer traffic enforcement.

The department has continued its status as an Internationally and State Accredited law enforcement agency as we were re-accredited again in 2016. The department is one of only eight departments in the state to hold this distinction.

The department maintains its commitment to the West Allegheny School District by providing a fulltime officer who teaches various programs to our students grade K-12. These programs are tailored to the changing threats to which our children are exposed. In 2016 our K-9 Unit conducted numerous locker searches at both the High School and Middle School. The department has also hosted the "Refuse to Be a Victim" program and partnered with the DEA to facilitate a drug take-back program where residents can turn in any unused prescription medication.

The agency continues to invest in our officer's training. Officers of the department are required to attend drivers training every two years. In the past, the department received funding. In 2016, the department will not receive this necessary funding. As with other specialized training, small departments in today's financial climate need to do more with less. We have demonstrated that we can be more self-sufficient in this area by combining resources with other agencies in the area to help manage the costs.

The department continues to train its officers in ALERRT, (Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training) by providing refresher training at various schools and office type structures. Officers with our Commercial Vehicle Inspection Team work in partnership with numerous Police Departments in the area to inspect commercial vehicles in an effort to keep our roadways safe.

As we enter 2017, the Findlay Township Police Department maintains its preparedness to face any and all challenges and remains committed to its citizens by providing a quality service to all of the residents and visitors of Findlay Township.

Sincerely,

*Jesse J. Lesko, Jr.*

Jesse J. Lesko, Jr.  
Chief of Police

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***ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY***

	2015	2016
• Total Calls for Service:	3,941	4771
• Total Arrests (Felony, Misdemeanor):	57	63
• Non-Traffic Citations issued (summary arrests):	48	75
• Traffic Citations issued:	145	355
• Traffic Warnings issued:	1191	1460
• Total Parking Complaints/Violations:	58	51
• Total Parking Citations	2	10
• Total DUI Arrests	7	12

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***USE OF FORCE REPORTS***

• Soft Empty Hand Techniques (pressure points, etc)	0
• Hard Empty Hand Techniques (joint locks, etc)	1
• Intermediate Weapon Strikes (baton strikes, OC Spray, Taser, etc)	0
• Showing of Weapons (General Use of Force)	0
• Deadly Force	0

The use of force incident was reviewed and critiqued and found to have been conducted within the policies and procedures set forth by the department and approved by all accreditation standards. Out of 81 criminal arrests and 4771 calls for service, the Findlay Township Police Officers had only used physical force one (1) time. This is a result of our extensive training and the fact that all officers act within the guidelines of the Mission, Vision and Values Statements.

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***VEHICLE PURSUITS***

The Findlay Township Police Officers were not involved in any vehicular pursuits in 2016.

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## ***TRUCK INSPECTIONS***

Currently, the Findlay Township Police department has two (2) officers trained to conduct Motor Vehicle Carrier Inspections. Those officers, Sergeant Thomas Downing and Officer Patrick Zilles, receive extensive training annually.

- Total number of truck inspections: 163
  - Total number of citations issued to truck drivers: 25
  - Total number of violations: 141
  - Total commercial vehicles placed out of service: 16
  - Total number of drivers placed out of service: 2
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## ***COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING ACTIVITIES***

During the 2016 calendar year, the officers of the department have either provided traffic control, crowd control or merely made their presence known by interacting with citizens through various programs such as:

- Crime Watch Program
- Business Watch Program
- Participation in the Fair in the Woodlands annual event
- Participation in the Imperial Volunteer Fireman annual Parade/Carnival
- The Christmas Light Up Celebration
- Various Montour Trail events such as the IKEA Race, Montour Trail Bike Detail, and Crop Walk, etc.
- Annual Easter Egg Hunt
- Annual Halloween Day Parade
- Participation in the annual Fishing Derby at the Leopold Lake
- Safety Seat Programs/Installations
- Women's Self Defense classes in the West Allegheny High School

The Findlay Township Police Officers conduct Vacation Home checks. To participate in this program, contact the police department at (724) 695-1300.

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## ***SPECIAL PURPOSE K-9 TEAM***

The police department employs one (1) K-9 officer, Officer Cridge. In May of 2016, K-9 Officer Axel passed away. The department secured a new K-9 Scooby, that was trained and put in service in September. Officer Cridge and his K-9's received extensive training in order to become a fully trained K-9 Officer. Officer Cridge and his K-9's received 190 hours of training in 2016. Axel and Scooby were both utilized in more than one way. The following is a summary of the activities of the K-9 unit:

- Tracking: 3
- Article search: 1
- Narcotics search: 7
- Warrant service: 1
- Area search: 0
- Building search: 1
- Apprehension: 0

The Recreation Complex and Skate Park were patrolled approximately 163 times throughout the year by the K-9 Team.

K-9's Axel and Scooby were utilized to perform locker searches at the West Allegheny High School, Middle School and Parkway West Technical School and for crowd control at the West Allegheny High School football games as requested by the school district and the North Fayette Township Police Department.

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## ***TASK FORCES***

The police department was involved with the following task forces during 2016:

- The District Attorney Narcotics Enforcement Team sponsored by the Allegheny County District Attorney (Overtime is reimbursed)
- The West Hills Area DUI Task Force (Overtime is reimbursed)

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## ***INTERNAL AFFAIRS INVESTIGATIONS/CITIZENS COMPLAINTS***

There were no Internal Affairs Investigations or Citizen Complaint during 2016.

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## ***TRAINING HIGHLIGHTS***

Each Police Officer has received approximately 100 hours of training and each Communications Officer has received approximately 50 hours of training in 2016. The training aspect of the department is one of the most important because it affords the members an opportunity to become more adept at their individual positions which ultimately provides a professional service to the public. The following is a summary of the training received by the members of the department:

## ***POLICE OFFICERS***

- All officers completed their annual mandatory in-service training required by the Municipal Police Officers Education and Training Commission
- All officers completed their annual Pressure Point Control Tactics training
- All officers completed their Krav Maga self defense training
- All officers completed their annual Taser® re-certification
- All officers completed three (3) firearms qualifications, Spring, Summer and Winter
- All officers completed their scenario based Force on Force (paintball) training
- All officers completed their drivers training (required every 2 years)
- All officers completed their Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training (ALERRT)
- CPR/AED Training
- Incident Command System Training
- Bicycle Patrol Training
- Bloodborne Pathogens Training
- Fire Extinguisher Training
- Hybrid Vehicles – First Responder Training

Individual officers received training in the following categories:

- Risk Management
- Emergency Management
- J-net CLEAN Computer System
- K-9 Maintenance
- Cody Computer Records Management Training
- Standardized Field Sobriety Testing Training
- Advanced Critical Incident Response Training
- Car Seat Installation Training
- Commercial Vehicle Inspection Training
- Domestic Violence Training
- Various Officer Safety Training Programs
- Crime Scene Investigation Training
- Bullying Prevention Training
- School Security Training
- DARE Training
- Interview and Interrogation Training
- Various Computer Training Classes

In 2016, the Department continued providing PAVTN training for the police officers and dispatchers. The program, Pennsylvania Virtual Training Network (PAVTN), is administered through the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police Association and involves several training videos that are completed on-line. The videos are all job related and provide our personnel with cost effective (free) and time efficient training.

## ***COMMUNICATIONS OFFICERS***

Individual Communications Officers received training in the following categories:

- J-Net CLEAN Computer System Recertification
- Computer Network Training
- Excel Computer Training
- Cody Records Management Refresher Training
- APCO Basic Telecommunicator Course
- Incident Command System Training (ICS)
- Bloodborne Pathogens Training
- CPR/AED Training
- Fire Extinguisher Training
- Emergency Medical Dispatching Training
- PA Emergency Management Training



### *D.A.R.E. PROGRAM*

During the 2016 calendar year, Officers Jeffrey O'Donnell and Jamie Sacco taught 200 lessons to students in grades K-12 in the following schools within the West Allegheny School District:

- Wilson Elementary School
- West Allegheny Middle School
- West Allegheny High School
- There was no D.A.R.E. grant in 2016. It is important to remember that there had not been any changes to the programs offered and the department and township administration utilized other sources of funding for these programs. The West Allegheny School District had decided to pay a portion of an officer's salary to ensure that the officer remains in the school teaching vital information to our children.

In addition to teaching D.A.R.E. to the students in the West Allegheny School District, the officers also performed the following activities throughout the year:

- Conducted a program on Protecting Kids on the Internet to students in grades K-12, at parent meetings and with teachers.
- Conducted Safety Programs.
- Conducted the Eddie Eagle Firearms Education Program.
- Conducted basic self defense and crime prevention techniques to prevent domestic violence, sexual assault, and date rape to high school girls.
- Formulated Block Watch and Safe House Programs.
- Developed and managed the Crime Watch and Business Watch Programs.
- With the donations from area businesses, the officers were able to develop and manage the Shop with a COP Program.
- Served on the Safe Schools Committee.
- Conducted the Child Video-Taping Program.

- Assisted with the Street Law Program at the high school.
- The officers stay actively involved with the Boy Scout and Girl Scouts.
- They serve on the Student Support Team at the Middle and High School.
- They stay actively involved with the PTA Organization.
- They utilize McGruff at most community events.
- The officers continually evaluate and assess juvenile crime throughout Findlay Township and the West Allegheny School District in order to assess possible solutions or crime prevention programs that could assist in the reduction of juvenile crime.
- The officers maintain a close working relationship with the school district and the local district magistrate in devising a plan to deal with juvenile offenders involved in minor offenses and offer community service.
- They work closely with the school district and the local district magistrate in devising plans to reduce truancy.

If you have any questions or you have any requests for assistance, please feel free to contact Officers Jeffrey O'Donnell or Jamie Sacco at (724) 695-1300.




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### *POLICE DEPARTMENT WEBPAGE*

The police department currently maintains a page on the township wide website. The webpage contains links to the following areas of interest:

- Block Parent Program
- Business Watch Program
- Crime Watch Program
- Swift 9-1-1 Emergency Notification System (residents are encouraged to sign up for free)
- Anti-Bullying Programs
- Assistance to Families/Drug & Violence Prevention
- Bicycle Safety
- Boy Scout/Girl Scout Safety Programs
- Car Seat Program
- Charlie Check First (Stranger Awareness Program)
- Child ID Videotaping Program (Wilson Elementary School)
- Conflict Resolution
- D.A.R.E. Program K-4
- D.A.R.E. Program 5<sup>th</sup> Grade
- D.A.R.E. Program (Middle & High School)
- Drug Identification Programs
- Eddie the Eagle Gun Safety Programs
- Fingerprinting Services

- Girls Self-Defense Program
- Halloween Safety
- Home and Business Security Checks
- Home Invasion Prevention Programs
- Identity Theft Prevention Programs
- Internet Safety
- McGruff the Crime Dog Appearances
- Montour Trail Bicycle Patrol
- Road Rage Prevention
- Safety & International Programs for Businesses
- Seatbelt Safety
- Street Law Classes (West Allegheny High School)
- Terrorism Awareness
- Truck Safety Inspections, Enforcement Team
- Vacation House Checks
- VIN Etching Program
- Welcome Packet Program
- Wilson Elementary Student Safety Programs

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### *ROSTER OF OFFICERS*

<i>NAME</i>	<i>YEARS OF SERVICE</i>
Chief Jesse J. Lesko, Jr. (Graduate of Southern Police Institute)	30
Captain Mark T. Joyce (Retired February 2016) (Graduate of Southern Police Institute, Accreditation Manager)	27
Sergeant Thomas Downing (Retired December 2016) (Certified Motor Carrier Inspector, PPCT, Taser, Use of Force & ALERRT instructor)	25
Sergeant Michael Flaskos (Firearms, Use of Force, Taser & ALERRT Instructor, Field Training Officer, Computer Forensics Examiner)	20
Sergeant Christopher Stang (Crash Investigator, Drug Task Force Member)	17
Detective Kenneth Cox (Retired April 2016) (Criminal Investigative Function, Field Training Officer)	30
Officer John Hart (Field Training Officer, Car Seat Certified, Taser, Firearms & ALERRT Instructor, Drug Task Force Member)	26
Officer Jeffrey O'Donnell (Certified D.A.R.E. Officer, Car Seat Certified)	26
Officer Patrick Zilles (Certified Motor Carrier Inspector, Computer Forensics Examiner, Drug Task Force Member)	25
Officer James Malesky (Accreditation Function Assistant)	17

<b>Officer Michael Zacios</b> <b>(Firearms Instructor, Taser Instructor, O.C. Spray Instructor)</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Officer Neil Cridge &amp; K-9 Axel</b> <b>(K-9 Officer, Krav Maga Self-Defense Instructor)</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>Officer Miguel Amaya</b> <b>(Krav Maga Self-Defense Instructor)</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Officer Jamie Sacco</b> <b>(Certified D.A.R.E. Officer, Accreditation Function Assistant)</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Officer Michael Johnson</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Officer Russ Andree</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Officer Antonio Mascilli</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Officer Shannon Luhrman</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Officer Bryce Cochran</b>	<b>1</b>

- **Total years of experience = 291**
- **Average years of experience per officer = 15.31**
- **Age of oldest police officer = 57**
- **Age of youngest police officer = 25**
- **Average age of police officer = 40.43**

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## ***ROSTER OF DISPATCHERS***

<b><i>NAME</i></b>	<b><i>YEARS OF SERVICE</i></b>
<b>Dispatch Supervisor Linda Weible</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>Dispatcher Teresa Reaghard</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Dispatcher Cindy Sherbondy</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>Dispatcher Elizabeth Vuono</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Dispatcher Trina Tokarski</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Dispatcher Kimberly Eisenried</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Dispatcher Heather Bombard</b>	<b>1</b>

- Total years of experience = 101
  - Average years of experience per dispatcher = 14.42
  - Age of oldest dispatcher = 60
  - Age of youngest dispatcher = 31
  - Average age of dispatchers = 53.14
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The members of the Findlay Township Police Department want to thank you for all of your support over the years. Without the support of the citizens of the township, our job would be much more difficult.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact:

Chief Jesse J. Lesko, Jr. at (724) 695-1300.