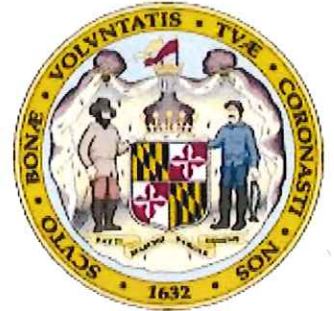




# City of Brunswick Maryland



## Police Department



# 2023 Annual Report

Kevin Grunwell, Chief of Police

Chief Kevin Grunwell of the Brunswick Police Department respectfully submits this report as an overview of accomplishments and achievements from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023.

### **2023 Personnel:**

The Brunswick Police Department began the year with sixteen officers, including the Chief and Captain. The department was allotted eighteen officers at the time. The remaining staff included two Lieutenants, one Corporal, two Detectives, a K9 officer, a School Resource Officer and six patrol officers. One officer was in the final months of the police academy which had started in July of 2022.

Recruit Zimmerman was hired in early January and began the police academy the same month. He graduated first in his class in September and completed field training and is thriving as an officer. OFC Saltzman was hired as a lateral officer and began his BPD career in April. The department was fully staffed for a brief time, however the police recruit that graduated the police academy in February resigned in June. Captain Lynch resigned at the end of July and another officer resigned mid August. The three vacancies would remain vacant the rest of the year.



A promotional process was conducted in April to backfill the vacant Corporal position. Four officers competed in the process and Brandon Smith was promoted to Corporal on May 29, 2023.

Both part time administrative positions became full time positions in 2023.

### **BPD Vehicles:**

The fleet remained the same for the 2023 calendar year with 20 vehicles. The fleet consisted of the following:

2022 Ford Utility SUV's	5
2021 Ford Utility SUV	1
2020 Ford Utility SUV	3
2018 Ford Utility SUV	5

2017 Ford Utility SUV 1  
 2016 Ford Interceptor 4

When fully staffed, the fleet consists of 2 spare vehicles. One Interceptor and one SUV, which is outfitted as a K9 spare unit. The fleet currently has seven vehicles that are leased.

There were two departmental crashes involving BPD vehicles during the calendar year. The first was a minor crash in the parking lot of DPW. The officer was in a spare cruiser and backed into a pole. The second collision was at the scene of multiple house fires and Ambulance 197 backed into a cruiser. There was minor damage to the cruiser and the county insurance covered the cost of this repair.

**2023 Calls for Service:**

During the 2023 calendar year, the Brunswick Police handled a total of 12,511 calls for service which is an increase of 569 from 2022. The calls for service increased for the second year in a row averaging approximately 1,050 calls per month.

8,614 calls were self-initiated patrol checks, school checks and/or walking patrols. 692 calls were traffic stops and 3,854 were calls for service originated from dispatch/citizens/officer observation. Of those calls for service, 561 calls required police reports.

**2023 Statistical Information:**

	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Call Type Counts	12,511	11,942	10,831
Adult Arrests	96	97	69
Juvenile Arrests	34	41	9
Total Arrests	130	138	78
Maryland Uniform Citations	234	292	191
Equipment Repair Orders	46	13	39
Warning Citations	877	730	634
Parking Citations	53	131	102
Motor Vehicle Accidents	108	110	102



<u>UCR Part I Crimes:</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>	<u>2021</u>
Criminal Homicide	0	0	0
Rape	3	8	5
Robbery	0	3	1
Assaults	149	96	82
Burglaries	9	11	11
Larcenies / Thefts	32	62	67
Motor Vehicle Thefts	4	2	2

### **2023 Grants:**

In 2023, the Brunswick Police received over \$280,000.00 in grant funding. Several of the grants were as follows:

#### *2023 State Aid for Police Protection: \$126,432.00*

The State Aid for Police Protection Fund is a formula-driven funding program used to supplement resources for police protection in local communities. State funds provide additional revenue to support the operational costs of local and county police agencies.

#### *2023 State Homeland Security Program: \$16,114.17*

The purpose of this grant is to support state and local efforts to prevent terrorism and other catastrophic events and to prepare the city for the threats and hazards that pose the greatest risk to our country. The Brunswick Police Department used grant money to purchase two additional Avon gas mask kits for police officers in the department. The remaining money will be spent on a covert and overt camera system that will be deployed in Brunswick as well as medical supplies in case of a mass casualty event.

#### *2023 Maryland Criminal Intelligence Network \$5,000.00*

The Brunswick Police Department partnered with the Frederick City Police Department to receive a grant from the MCIN Initiative. The Governor's Office of Crime Prevention, Youth, and Victim Services provides grant funding and strategic support to MCIN member sites to identify, disrupt, and dismantle criminal organizations through inter-agency collaboration and data sharing to make Maryland safer. The grant was awarded to the Frederick City Police Department with portions distributed to local agencies. During local operations, officers conducted surveillance operations targeting drug dealers and completed targeted patrol stops.

#### *2023 Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership \$1,254.50*

The Brunswick Police Department partnered with the Patrick Leahy BVP program to reimburse the city up to 50% of the cost of body armor vests purchased for law enforcement officers.

*22-23 Police Recruitment and Retention Grant \$34,750.00*

The City of Brunswick applied for and received the above grant with the goal of increasing retention in officers and assisting with recruiting efforts. The funds were used to provide longevity and education bonuses to officers who qualified. A military bonus was also given to new recruits with a military background. Both recruits hired in 2023 received a bonus for serving in the military.

The remaining funds in this grant were used to purchase gym equipment for the new police station. A gym was set up in the garage area of the department and is available for officer use.

Every officer in the agency except for the Chief and Captain received a bonus through this program. Despite those efforts, two officers resigned during the calendar year.

*FY24 Police Accountability, Community, and Transparency (PACT) Grant \$21,084.00*

The Police Department applied for and received the above grant to pay for their body worn camera (BWC) program for the calendar year. The grant covers the cost of the second year of a 5 year BWC program. The PD implemented their BWC program in 2022 and each officer is assigned a camera for use while on patrol.

*FY23 License Plate Reader (LPR) Technology Grant \$76,341.37*

The police department applied for and received the above grant to purchase two LPR speed trailers. The trailers will be deployed around town and come with a radar/speed sign to inform drivers of their speed as they pass the trailer. The LPR's will also capture license plate information and notify the police department if a tag or vehicle has been reported stolen. The city has already been reimbursed for the cost of this grant, however the trailers have yet to arrive.

**2023 Training:**

Brunswick Police officers attended 1,063 hours of training in 2023. Training was related to many topics to include:

- |  |                                    |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Use of Force – De-Escalation                 | Firearms Training & Qualifications |
| Anti-Bias Training for Law Enforcement       | Ethics in Law Enforcement          |
| Mental Health                                | Taser Training                     |
| Implicit Bias                                | Active Shooter classes             |
| Community Policing                           | Active Shooter recognition         |
| Racial Profiling                             | Axon Capture Training              |
| Behavioral Analysis                          | Investigating Hate Crimes          |
| Connecting Youth & Community Classes         | Leadership Training                |
| Public Safety Leadership: The West Point Way |                                    |



## 2023 Special Operations:

In 2023, Detective Cline remained the Criminal Investigator for the Brunswick Police Department. In addition to investigating criminal cases, Detective Cline conducted interviews, collected, and processed evidence, coordinated with allied agencies relating to his criminal investigations, and supplemented patrol operations when needed. He was able to obtain criminal charges in the majority of his cases. During one of his investigations, Detective Cline was able to link a suspect to the production of child pornography after the execution of numerous search and seizure warrants. The suspect has been federally indicted on felony charges. Detective Cline attended specialized trainings throughout the year to enhance his skill sets as the criminal investigator.

A detective from the Brunswick Police Department continued his role as the agency narcotics investigator, working with the Frederick HIDTA Group. His main focus is a Task Force Officer with the United States Postal Inspection Service. He also remains a Task Force Officer with Homeland Security Investigations (HSI). In 2023, only 2 tips were received from the public in reference to Brunswick residences. The detective did keep himself busy with numerous other investigations that were self-initiated. Two search warrants were executed on residences in Frederick County. The detective worked with ATF and the USPIS during these cases and numerous firearms



were seized along with methamphetamine pills. Several federal investigations were initiated as well, which led investigators to sources across the country. Investigations were completed in Arizona, Minnesota and New York using information from local targets. Based on information obtained locally, the detective was able to direct postal inspectors across the country to intercept several parcels that contained multiple kilograms of fentanyl, specifically counterfeit M-30 pills. In addition to the fentanyl seized, over 400 grams of methamphetamine was seized, 250 pounds of marijuana and numerous firearms including ghost guns and fully functional automatic rifles and pistols.

Investigators also assisted the other members of the HIDTA group with all of their investigations and operations.

The Brunswick Police Department Canine Unit assisted patrol operations as well as allied agencies with numerous drug scans resulting in narcotics seizures. Cpl. Smith

and Kyro also assisted the Frederick County HIDTA Group and Homeland Security Investigations with several search and seizure warrants as well as investigations. Cpl. Smith and Kyro assisted the Frederick Police Department and the Frederick County Sheriff's Office with two canine scans of Frederick County Public Schools to help ensure a drug free environment.

During the year, K9 Kyro and Officer Smith conducted 19 scans which lead to the seizure of approximately 850 heroin/fentanyl capsules totaling approximately 425 grams, 5 grams of crack cocaine, 3 prescription pills, and numerous items of paraphernalia including syringes and smoking devices.

Cpl. Smith conducted maintenance training with allied agencies to ensure a highly trained detection dog. Cpl. Smith and Kyro re-certified through the North American Police Work Dog Association in the disciplines of CDS Detection, Article Search and Obedience.

The Brunswick Police Department ended its School Resource Officer position after the 2022-23 school year. While still in the SRO program, OFC. Scott remained busy throughout the year with 822 calls for service during 2023. The large majority of these calls were self-initiated school safety checks. OFC Scott was contacted at his home on several occasions when a school threat popped up while school was not in session.

### **2023 Overdose Statistics:**

In 2023 the Brunswick Police responded to 10 overdoses that resulted in one fatality. The overdoses included fentanyl, prescription pills, over the counter pills, a THC gummy, a vape pen, alcohol and hand sanitizer. Narcan was used during one incident.

Two of the overdoses were intentional and both patients were transported to the hospital for emergency evaluations.

The fatal overdose was ruled an accidental overdose of fentanyl, despropionyl fentanyl and ethanol intoxication. A second person overdosed at the same event, however he survived the overdose. The investigation into the overdose is still active.



## 2023 Special Event Staffing:

Officers from BPD assisted with numerous community events throughout the year. Because of vacancies, the police department was short staffed for many of the events causing available officers to be required to work each of them. BPD assisted with and participated in the Spring Festival, National Night Out, Railroad Days festival, the Veteran's Day Parade and the Holiday Parade. BPD also assisted with the city's fireworks display and numerous activities surrounding the Holiday Parade. The Police Department also assisted with several organized runs through Brunswick to include the Milt Frech Mile in honor of the former chief of police.



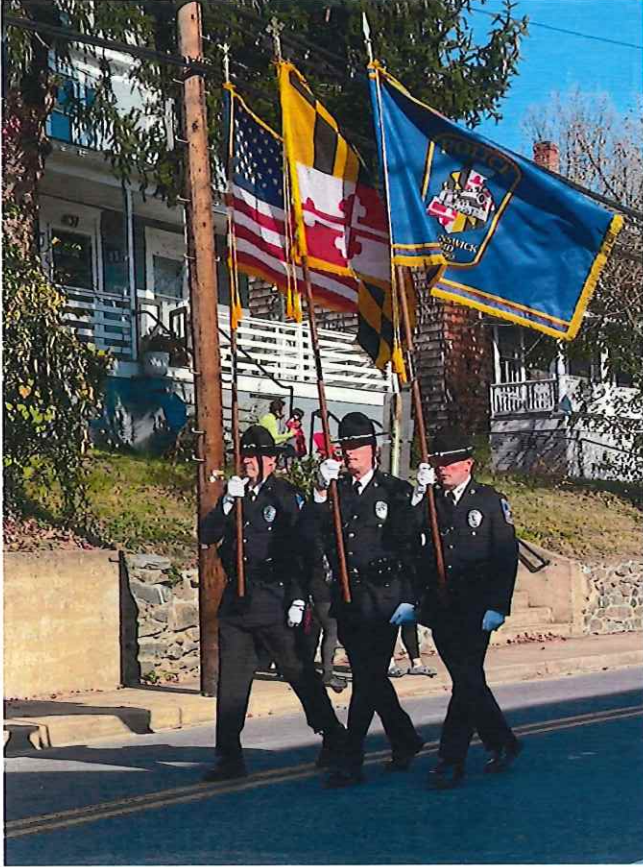
"Canoe with a Cop" which is specific to Brunswick although members of the FCSO, FPD and US Postal service participated with us. Several officers were present with their police vehicles at the local classic car shows in town. Community talks were presented including a class on Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE). Members of the police department participated in National Night Out and handed out balloons, crayon books and numerous other items as they interacted with community members. The K9 team did a demonstration during the event as well. Officers also participated in the Brunswick Little League Parade, the Trunk or Treat event and a Back-to-School Block Party.

## 2023 Community Outreach:

In addition to the above events that were sponsored by the City of Brunswick, the Police Department participated in numerous other community events. Officers participated with the Optimist Club of Frederick in their Fish with a Cop and Shop with a Cop events. Members of the department also brought back







## **BPD Honor Guard**

A Brunswick Police Department Honor Guard was created thanks to donations made by the Fraternal Order of Eagles, the Eagles Ladies Auxiliary, the American Legion and the Potomac Street Grill. The Honor Guard presented the colors at one of Brunswick High School's home football games. They participated in the Veteran's Day Parade and presented the colors at the Eagles Club state conference, which was hosted in Brunswick. They were also part of the building dedication ceremony for the Milton E. Frech Operations Center, which serves as the new police department, and houses the Department of Public Works and Planning & Zoning.

## **The Milton E. Frech Jr. Operations Center**



The Police Department moved into its new home in July of 2023 at 811 West Potomac Street. The building is named after the former Chief of Police, Milton "Milt" Frech who passed away unexpectedly in 2021. The building also houses the city's Department of Public Works and the Planning & Zoning Department. A building dedication was held on November 10, 2023.





## **2024 Goals:**

The goal in 2023 was to be more proactive and continue to engage in community activities. The agency did a great job being in the community and participated in all of the city events along with numerous other events throughout the city and Frederick County. In 2024, Community Policing will remain a high priority and the agency will continue to provide professional public safety services to all Brunswick residents and visitors. Community outreach, building positive relationships, and maintaining a high level of professionalism will remain top priorities for the Brunswick Police Department.

