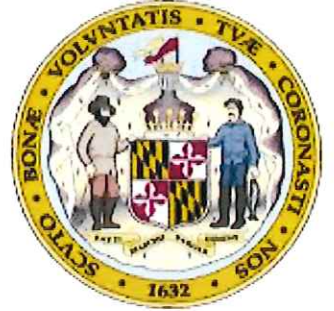




City of Brunswick Maryland



Police Department



2024 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, 2024 to December 31, 2024.

2024 Personnel:

The Brunswick Police Department began the year with sixteen officers, including the Chief. The department was allotted eighteen officers at the time. The remaining staff included two Lieutenants, two Corporals, two Detectives, a K9 officer, a narcotics investigator and seven patrol officers

Two officers were hired in January to get staffing up to 17. One of those hires was Andy Crone who had recently retired from the Frederick County Sheriff's Office after almost 21 years there. Andy was hired as the Assistant Chief/Captain. Captain Crone came with a wealth of knowledge and experience having served as the Criminal Investigations Commander for the previous five years.



A lateral officer who had left the department the previous August returned to the department in January as well.

One of our officers was injured in January and was off work the remainder of the year.

A new officer was hired in November and began the police academy in December. Within weeks of being fully staffed, an officer resigned from the police department for personal reasons leaving the department with one vacancy.

In January of 2024, Detective Cline was promoted to Corporal in charge of Special Operations.

Both administrative positions remained full time positions in 2024.

2024 Calls for Service:

During the 2024 calendar year, the Brunswick Police handled a total of 10,538 calls for service which is a decrease of 1974 from 2023. The police department began using a new CAD system during the year which may have led to a portion of the decrease in the number of calls. Self-dispatching to calls was problematic for several months. The police department averaged just under 900 calls for service per month.

7,030 calls were self-initiated patrol checks, school checks and/or walking patrols. 777 of those calls were traffic stops. 3,508 were calls for service originated from dispatch/citizens/officer observation. Of those calls for service, 454 calls required police reports.

2024 Statistical Information:

	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Call Type Counts	10,538	12,511	11,942
Adult Arrests	92	96	97
Juvenile Arrests	25	34	41
Total Arrests	117	130	138
Maryland Uniform Citations	195	234	292
Equipment Repair Orders	69	46	13
Warning Citations	866	877	730
Parking Citations	61	53	131
Motor Vehicle Accidents	147	108	110

<u>UCR Part I Crimes:</u>	<u>2024</u>	<u>2023</u>	<u>2022</u>
Criminal Homicide	1	0	0
Rape	2	3	8
Robbery	1	0	3
Assaults	82	149	96
Burglaries	9	9	11
Larcenies / Thefts	42	32	62
Motor Vehicle Thefts	2	4	2

2024 Overdose Statistics:

In 2024 the Brunswick Police responded to 10 overdoses that resulted in two fatalities. The overdoses included fentanyl, amphetamines, prescription pills, over the counter pills, cough medicine and alcohol. Narcan was used during one incident.

Three of the overdoses were intentional and all of the patients were transported to the hospital for emergency evaluations.

The first fatal overdose was a fentanyl overdose and the second was an alcohol overdose.

2024 Grants:

In 2024, the Brunswick Police received over \$205,000.00 in grant funding. Several of the grants were as follows:

2024 State Aid for Police Protection: \$139,332.00

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: \$14,418.35

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 additional gun vaults for police vehicles. The remaining money will be spent on an overt camera system that will be deployed in Brunswick as well as breaching equipment for patrol teams.

The department was awarded an additional \$9,783.20 of leftover money from the 2022 SHSP grant. This money was used to purchase Cradlepoint router devices for four police vehicles. The routers will enhance the radio signal in the vehicles and allow for better connectivity for the computers and GPS devices.

2024 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 subawards distributed to local agencies.

The overtime money was used by BPD to help offset overtime costs of a homicide that occurred in January.

2024 Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership \$1,773.80

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.

FY25 Police Accountability, Community, and Transparency (PACT) Grant \$35,000.00

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

2024 Training:

Brunswick Police officers attended over 600 hours of training in 2024. Training was related to many topics to include:

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| Use of Force – De-Escalation | Firearms Training & Qualifications |
| Anti-Bias Training for Law Enforcement | Responding to Domestic Violence |
| Implicit Bias | Arrest, Search & Seizure |
| Off Duty Safety | Evidence Collection & Control |
| Investigative Skills I | Anti-Harassment in workplace |
| Constitutional Law | Leadership & Supervision |
| Leadership Under Fire | Canine Paramedicine Class |
| Cryptocurrency Investigations | Homicide School |
| Basic Crime Scene Investigator School | Basic Instructor School |
| Facial Recognition & AI tools for LE | Intermediate Cyber Investigations |
| Public Safety Leadership: The West Point Way | |

2024 Special Operations:

Criminal Investigations

In 2024, Detective Cline was promoted to corporal and became the supervisor of the Special Operations Division. One additional detective was added to the Criminal Investigations Division under Cpl. Cline, and he began overseeing the narcotics detective as well. Cpl. Cline continued to work on criminal cases while training the newly assigned detective to the unit. In January of 2024, officers responded to a death investigation that was determined to be a homicide. BPD decided to handle this investigation in-house with Cpl. Cline as the primary investigator. Within approximately

seven weeks, detectives successfully arrested the homicide suspect and spent the remainder of the year finalizing and preparing the case for trial in 2025. In addition, CID finished up assisting with the prosecution of an armed robbery from 2023, handled several critical missing person investigations, a stabbing, numerous sex offenses, frauds, and other in-depth investigations. One critical missing person involved a female who was believed to be in the company of an individual she had a protective order against. CID worked several days to track their whereabouts, and the female and suspect were eventually located. The suspect was charged and the female returned home.

Narcotics Investigations

A detective from the Brunswick Police Department continued his role as the agency narcotics investigator, working with the Frederick High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) Group. His 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 2024, only 1 drug tip was received from the public about Brunswick residences. The detective did keep himself busy with numerous other investigations that were self-initiated. Search warrants were executed on residences in Frederick County, Washington County, and Baltimore City. The detective worked with the Frederick City Police Department, the DEA task force in Washington County, ATF and the USPIIS during these cases. Numerous firearms were seized along with Fentanyl pills and large amounts of methamphetamine. Based on information obtained during the firearm's investigation, several burglaries were able to be solved in Washington and Montgomery Counties. A vehicle theft from Washington County was also solved based on information obtained during this investigation. The stolen vehicle was used during a robbery of a gun store in Washington County. With the detective's assistance, he was able to help solve 3 additional burglaries in Frederick County along with recovering several stolen firearms. The detective authored 12 parcel warrants, and 2 anticipatory warrants and arrested 5 individuals related to numerous firearms and drug trafficking charges.



Several federal investigations were initiated as well, which led investigators to sources across the country. Investigators were able to seize over 4 and a half kilograms of cocaine in the past 7 months. 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 cocaine. In addition to the

cocaine seized, over 1900 grams of methamphetamine was seized, 10 pounds of marijuana and numerous firearms including ghost guns and fully functional automatic rifles and pistols.

The narcotics detective assisted with cases in Arizona, California and North Carolina. He also assisted the other members of the HIDTA group with their investigations and operations.

K9 Unit

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 conducted one article search as well as one canine demonstration for the community.

During the year, K9 Kyro and Officer Smith conducted 8 scans which lead to the seizure of approximately 79 heroin/fentanyl capsules totaling approximately 79 grams, 44 grams of crack cocaine, and numerous items of paraphernalia including 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.



2024 Special Event Staffing:

Officers from BPD assisted with numerous community events throughout the year. Because of vacancies and an injury, 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.

2024 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 organized a "Canoe with a Cop" event which is specific to Brunswick although members of the Maryland State Police, Frederick Police Department and US Postal service participated with us.



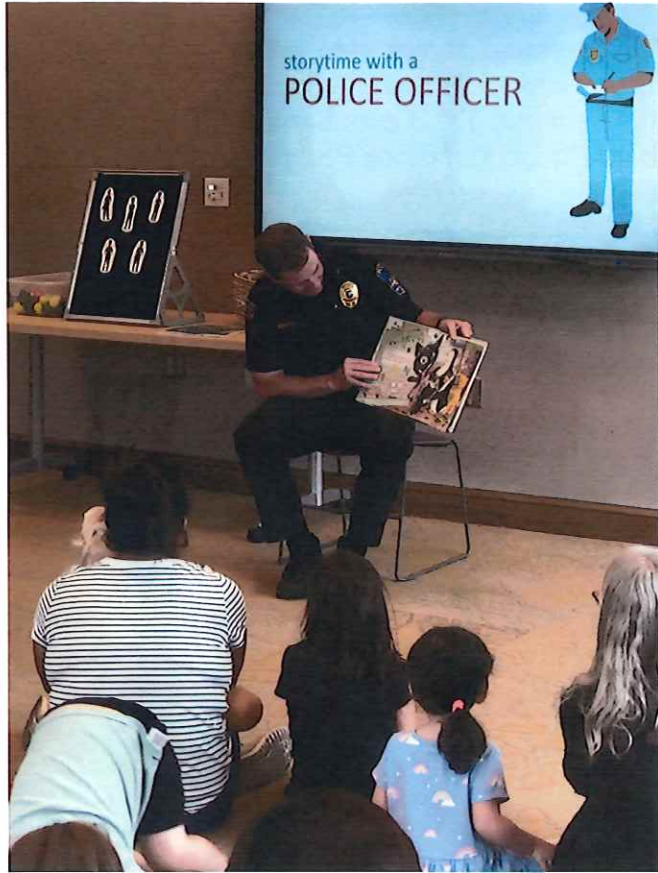
Several officers were present with their police vehicles at the local classic car shows in town.

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. Numerous community partners participated in NNO with us to make the event very successful and the largest we have had.

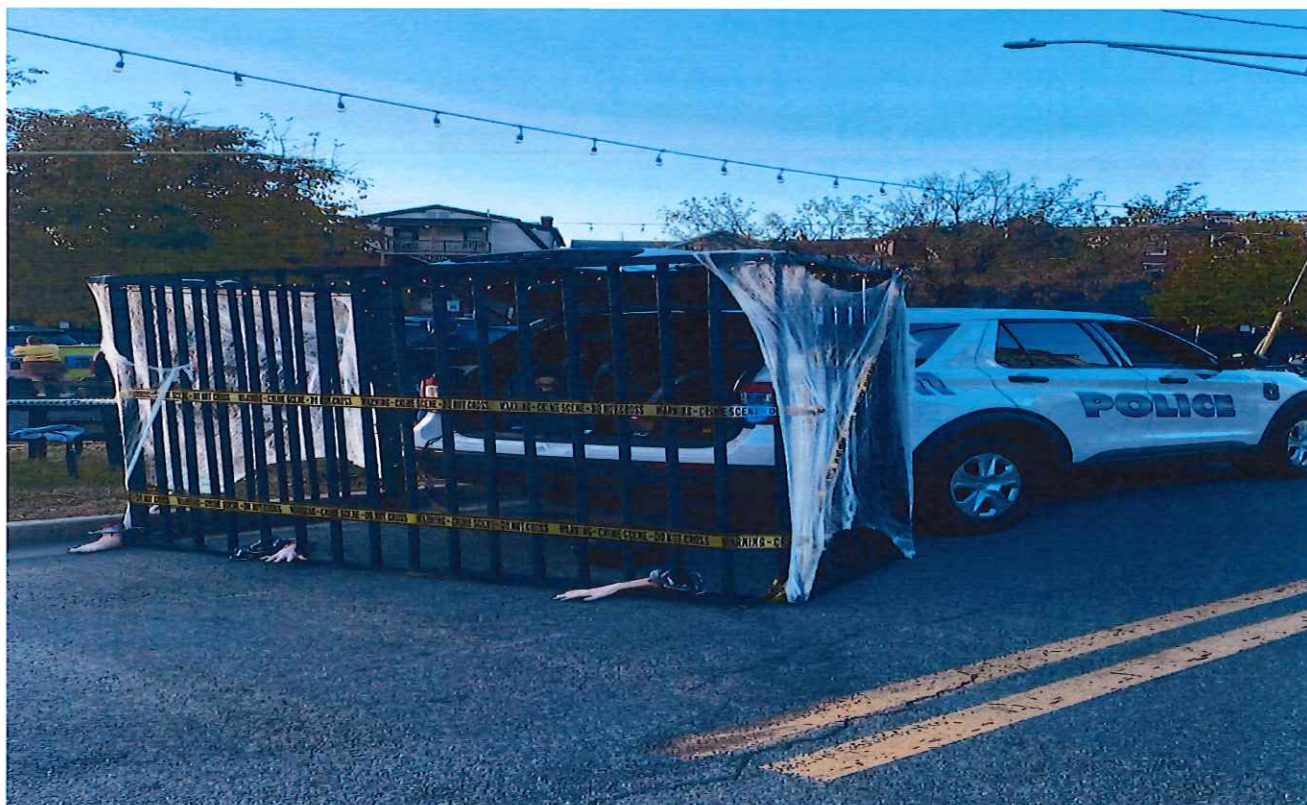
The Police Department also participated in "Faith and Blue" where we partnered with the Ebenezer AME Church and had a cookout on their property following a Sunday service. Officer's cooked hotdogs and

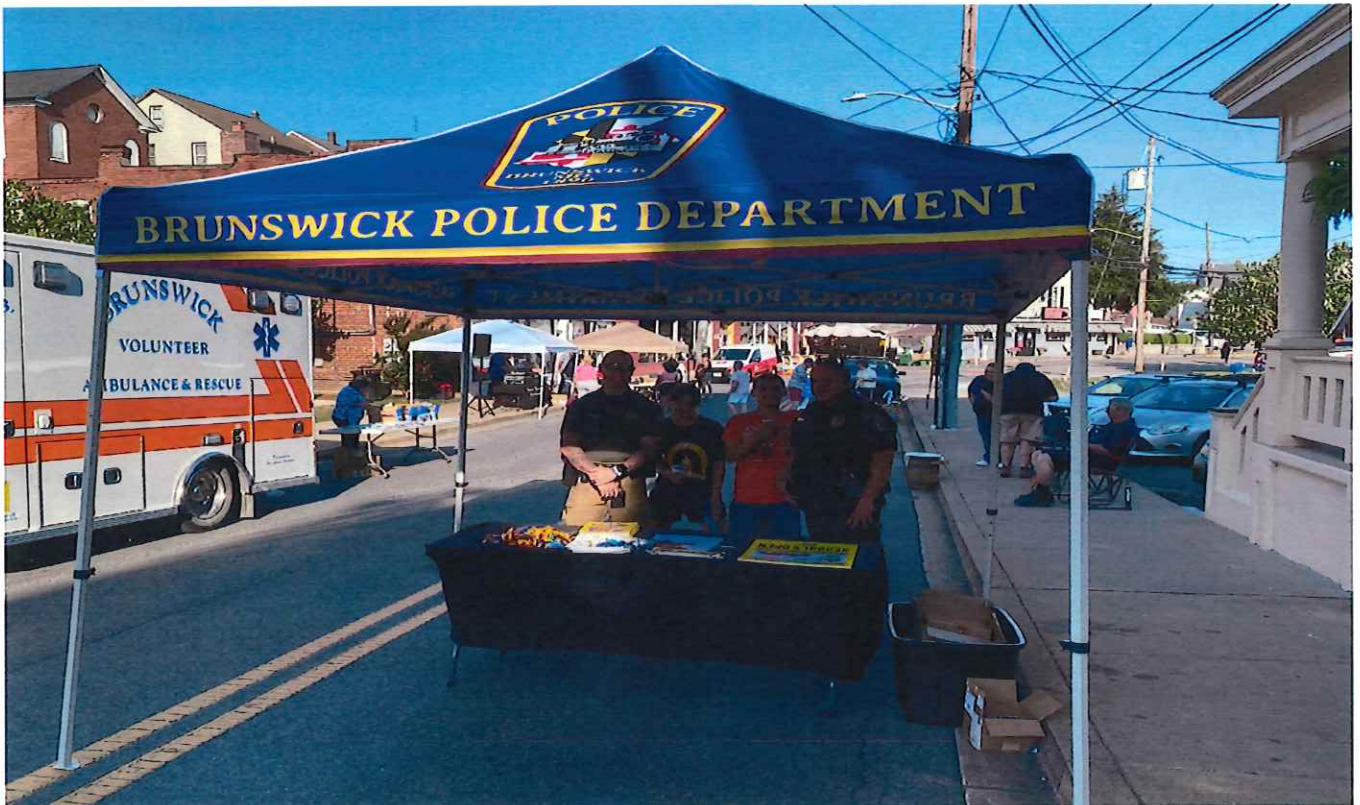
hamburgers and interacted with the church community and surrounding neighbors.

The Police Department partnered with the Frederick County Library on several events throughout the year. The police department participated in their "Touch a Truck" event where police cruisers were on display for children to see. The police department was also a destination for the library's summer challenge scavenger hunt. Chief Grunwell participated in "Storytime with a police officer" and Senior Officer Marshall assisted with a community talk and a K9 demo with our partners from the Frederick Police Department K9 Unit.



Officers also participated in the Brunswick Little League Parade, the Trunk or Treat event and a Back-to-School Block Party.



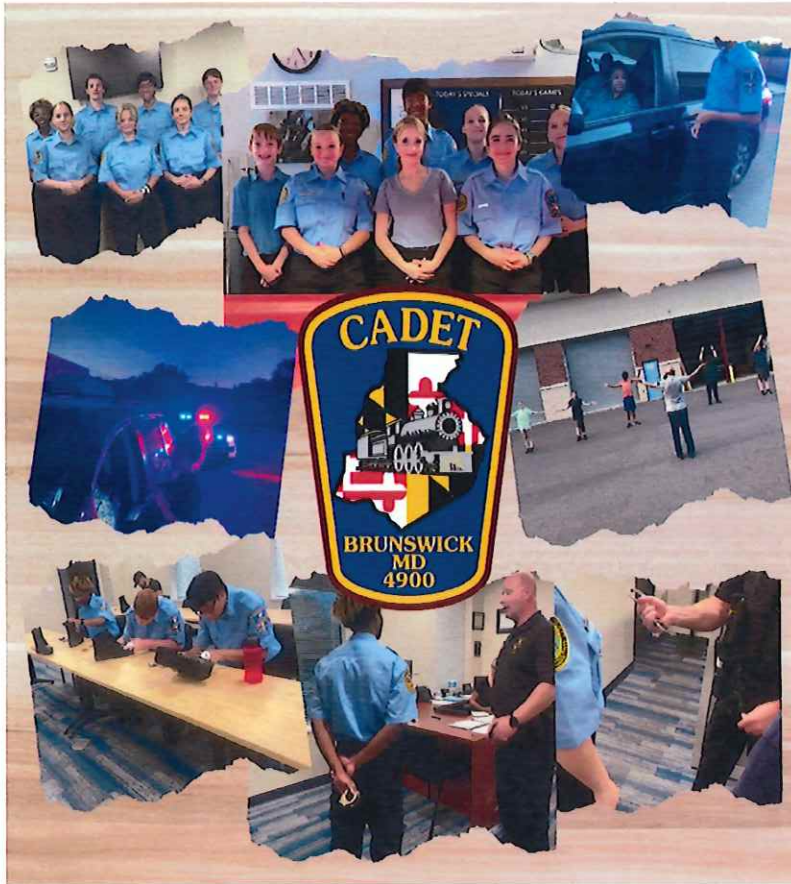


BPD Honor Guard

The Brunswick Police Department Honor Guard participated in several events throughout the year. They participated in the Veteran's Day Parade and presented the colors at the Eagles Club state conference. They also participated as a county wide honor guard for the Chamber of Commerce Public Safety Awards, a Blue Mass at Mt. St. Mary's and First Responder Night at Brunswick High School.



BPD Cadet Unit 4900



In January of 2024, BPD decided to start up their youth explorer program again. After some research, they decided that a better partnership would be found with the Public Safety Cadets organization. This program allows young men and women between the ages of 14 and 21 to learn what a career in law enforcement is truly about.

The unit number was able to be chosen by the department, and it was decided to use the late Chief Frech's radio number (4900) as a tribute to his service to the Brunswick community.

The group meets every other Tuesday for three hours. Cadets engage in classroom training, practical scenarios, and physical fitness training. At the end of 2024, the program had 16 cadets enlisted in its ranks. Officer Chad Marshall serves as the senior mentor, planning the yearly curriculum and scheduling officers and guest speakers to teach and assist with practical exercises.



BPD Vehicles:



The fleet remained the same for the 2024 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 five departmental incidents involving BPD vehicles during the calendar year. The first two incidents happened during a snow event where vehicles slid off the road because of icy conditions. A third event was another minor property damage event where an officer was backing his vehicle up so a large construction vehicle could get by and the officer's vehicle scraped a mailbox. There were two additional incidents that were not preventable from birds being hit by cars traveling on the highway.

2025 Goals:

The Brunswick Police Department accomplished its 2023 goals to be more proactive and continue engaging in community activities. The department was involved in every city event throughout the year, and several others throughout Frederick County. Officers participated in a "Behind the Badge" social media campaign allowing the community to see their faces and get to know them better as well. Lastly, the implementation of the cadet program opened a new channel for relationships between officers and the youth in the community.

In 2025, the department intends to continue its strong community-driven focus on community policing and outreach, aiming to foster trust and cooperation with citizens and visitors alike. The police department will look for new opportunities and methods to grow its outreach in the community including trainings and social media. Additionally, the police department will continue offering opportunities for advanced training to its personnel and acquiring new additional equipment to continue its commitment to providing the highest quality law enforcement services to the Brunswick community.

