

# Utica Police Department Annual Report 2025





Russ Ciballi  
Chief of Police

To the Citizens of The Village of Utica,

As your Chief of Police, I am proud to share our department's annual report for 2025. Our mission remains to ensure the safety and well-being of our community while upholding the highest standards of professionalism and service standards.

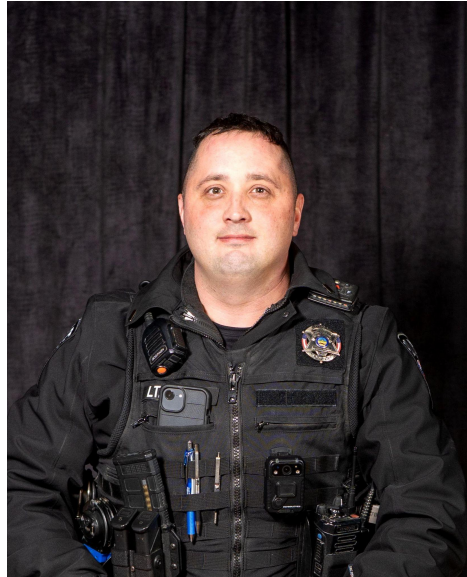
Over the past year, our department responded to 1,030 calls for service, conducted 689 traffic stops, and assisted in numerous community events. We are pleased to report continued improvements in traffic safety and neighborhood/school patrols. Our officers have also participated in community outreach programs, including school safety initiatives and public safety events.

We could not achieve these results without the continued support and cooperation of our residents. Your vigilance, communication, and partnership are vital in keeping Utica a safe and welcoming place to live. For the future, we remain committed to enhancing community engagement, leveraging technology for improved public safety, and maintaining the trust you have placed in us. Thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully,

Russ Ciballi

# Utica Police Officers



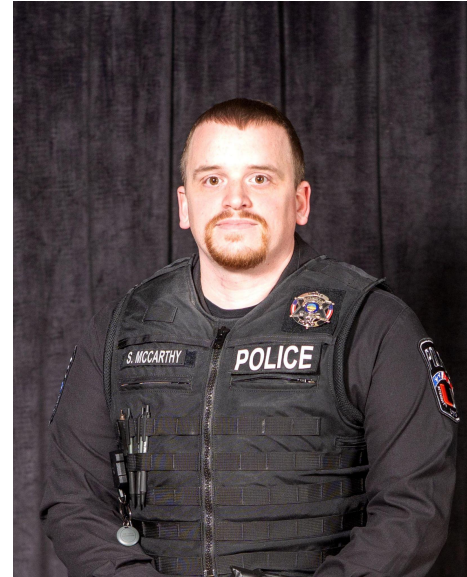
Jonathan Bell  
Lieutenant



Chad Lishness  
Officer



John Cox Jr  
Officer



Shane McCarthy  
Officer

# Department Overview

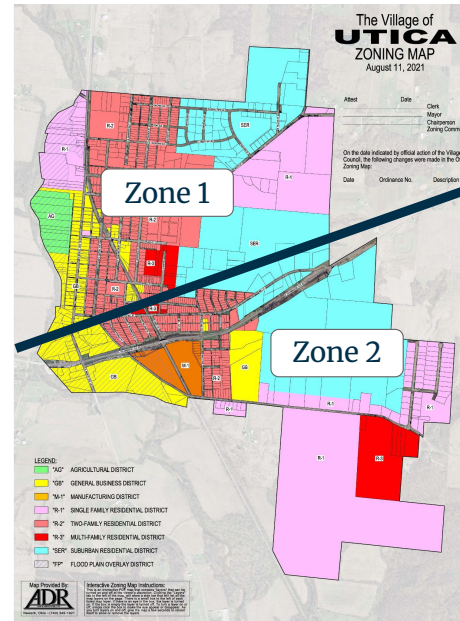
## Administration



Alex White joined the Utica Police Department in 2025 as the Administrative Assistant and serves as the department's primary administrative support. Responsibilities include managing public records requests, coordinating

vehicle releases from impound, serving as a point of contact for residents, and maintaining personnel and administrative records. Through these functions, the administrative role supports daily operations, compliance requirements, and efficient service to the public.

## Patrol Zones



The Village is divided into two primary patrol zones to ensure efficient response coverage and resource allocation.



# Mission Statement

At the Utica Police Department, our mission is to enhance the quality of life in our community by fostering a safe and secure environment through respectful, fair, and professional policing. We are committed to protecting lives and property, upholding the law, and building trust through strong community partnerships, transparency, and integrity. Together, we strive to maintain peace and safety for all residents and visitors of The Village of Utica. We are dedicated to our core values of Honesty, Integrity, Professionalism, Accountability and Excellence in Service.





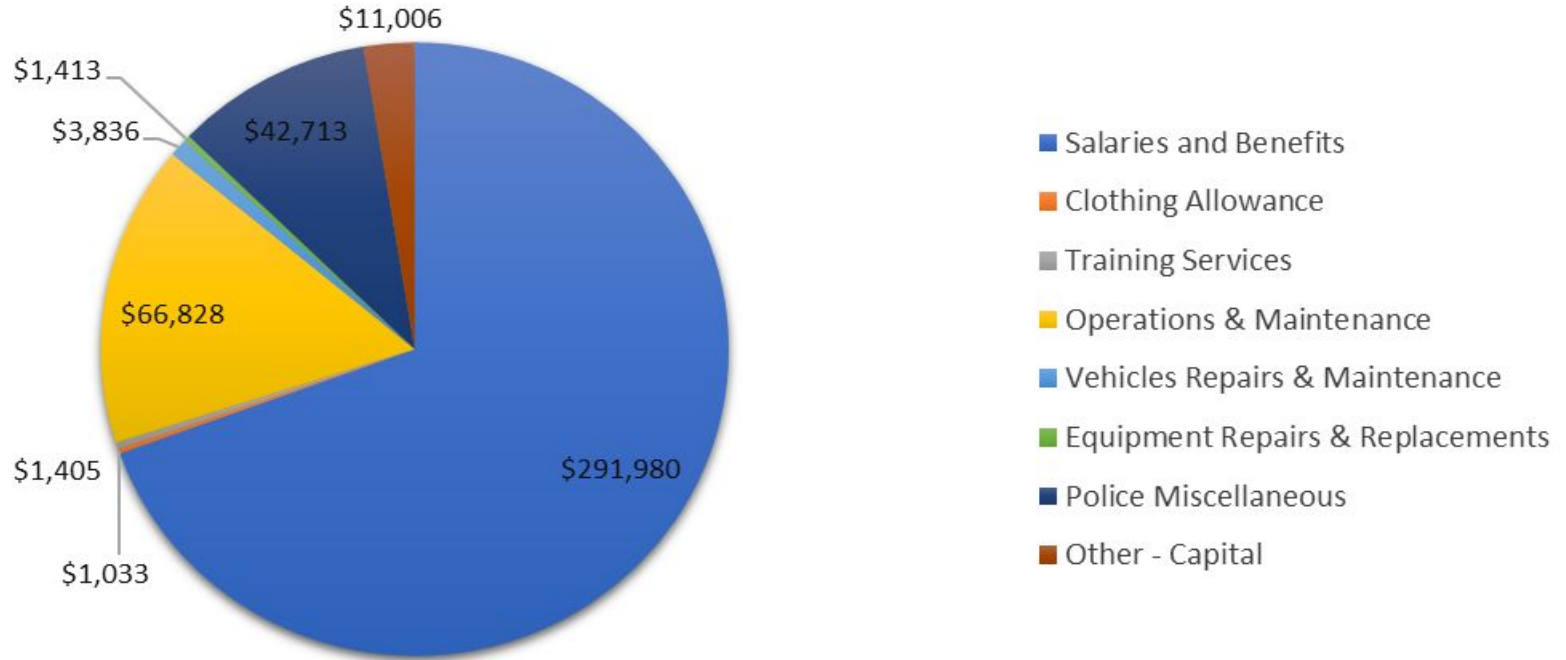
Utica  
Police Dept  
• 892-2211 •  
Water Bill Payments  
Water Deposits  
Junking Permits  
General Info

911

POLICE  
UTICA



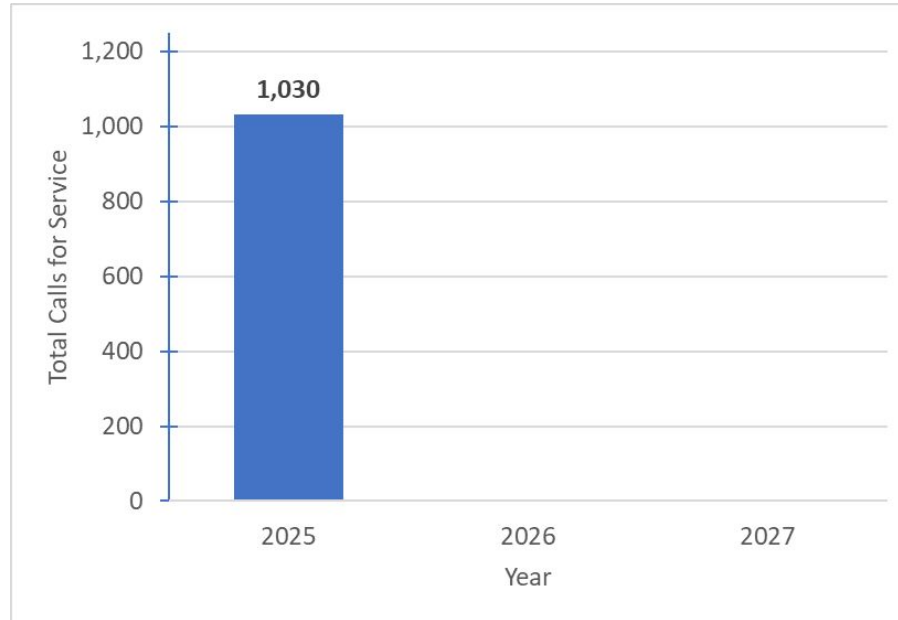
# 2025 Budget



Total Utica Police Department operating expenses in 2025 were \$420,214, representing expenditures approximately 22 percent below the approved budget.

# Calls for Service

## 2025 with Planned Year-to-Year Tracking

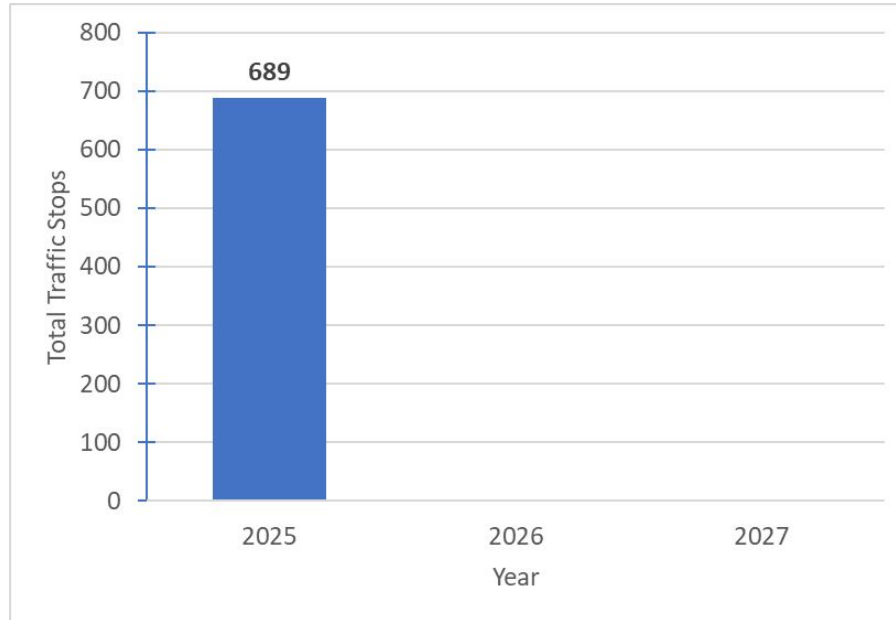


Calls for service data establishes a baseline for future staffing and resource analysis.

2025 represents the first year of consolidated data tracking. Data for 2026–2027 will be added in future reports.

# Traffic Stops

## 2025 with Planned Year-to-Year Tracking



Traffic enforcement activity remained steady during the department's first year of consolidated tracking.

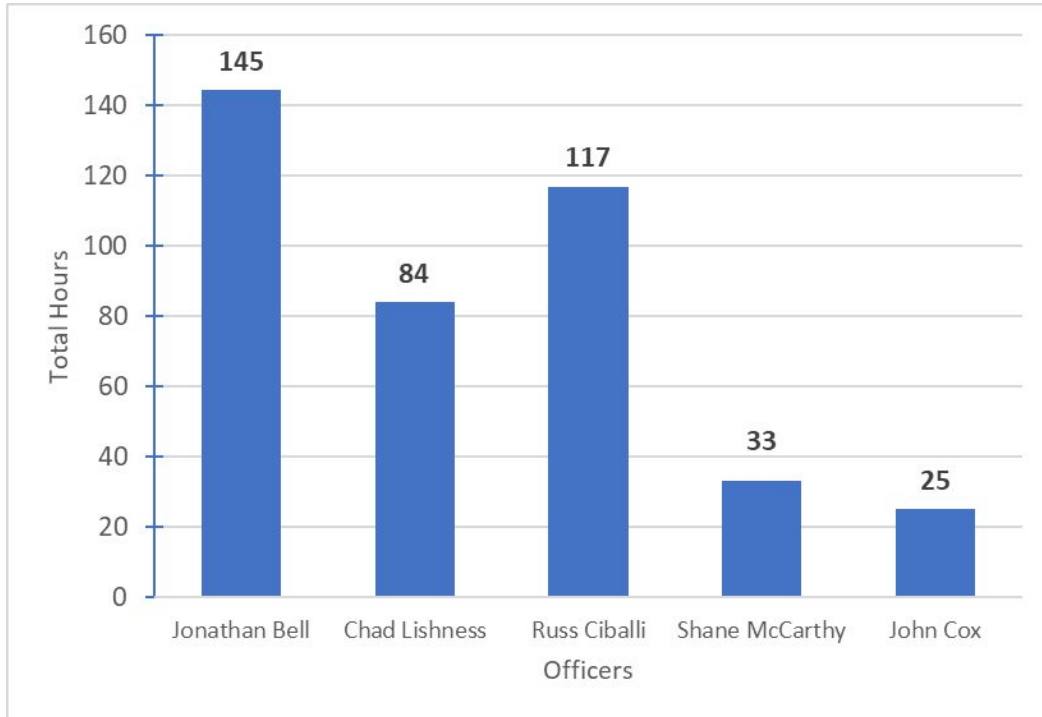
2025 represents the first year of consolidated data tracking. Data for 2026–2027 will be added in future reports.



Call Type	Count	Call Type	Count	Call Type	Count
911 - Hang Up, Misdial, etc.	58	Heat/Cold Exposure	1	Suspicious - Vehicle	1
Alarm	42	Hostage	1	Syncope / Fainting	2
Animal	44	House Check	2	Test Call	1
Area Check	23	Intoxicated - Driver	2	Theft	21
Assault	6	Intoxicated - Person	2	Traffic	689
Assist	29	Investigate Complaint	54	Traffic Detail	1
Behavioral Emergency	7	Juvenile Complaint	15	Trespassing	10
Breaking and Entering	1	Lock In/Out	5	Unconscious	2
Burglary	5	Missing Person - Adult	2	Unknown Emergency	4
Business Check	239	Missing Person - Elderly	2	Wanted Person	16
Civil Matter	26	Missing Person - Juvenile	12	Warrant Attempt	23
CPO Service	10	Motor Vehicle Accident	45	Welfare Check	51
CPO Violation	4	Non Breather	4	Wires Down	1
Damage/Vandalism	14	Open Door/Window	5	TOTAL	1733
Disturbance	46	Overdose	5		
Domestics	35	Rescue - Elevator	1		
Drug Investigation	2	Shooting	1		
Dumping/Littering	1	Shots Fired	1		
Fire/EMS	16	Sick Person	29		
Follow Up	5	Suicide Attempt	1		
Found Property	1	Suicide Threat	13		
Fraud	4	Suspicious - Circumstances	15		
Harassment/Threat	24	Suspicious - Person	40		

2025 Total Activity

# Training



In 2025, Utica Police Department officers completed a combined total of **404 hours** of training. Each officer met the minimum requirement of twenty-four (24) hours of mandatory Continuing Professional Training (CPT), with instruction focused on legal updates, ethics, use of force, leadership, officer wellness, and crisis response.



# Handle With Care

As part of our commitment to trauma-informed policing and community well-being, Utica Police Department officers participated in Handle With Care training. This initiative equips officers with the skills to recognize when a child has been exposed to a potentially traumatic event and to notify the child's school so that appropriate supports can be put in place. The program fosters stronger partnerships between law enforcement, educators, and mental health professionals, helping ensure that children affected by trauma receive compassionate, coordinated support that promotes their resilience and success in the classroom and beyond.



# Community Policing

Community policing at the Utica Police Department is not a standalone program. It is the philosophy that guides how our officers interact with the community on a daily basis. We believe effective policing is built on relationships with residents, businesses, schools, and community organizations, and that public safety is strongest when the police and the community work together.

Utica officers focus on visibility, approachability, and proactive problem-solving in addition to enforcement. By listening to concerns, addressing issues early, and working with community partners, the department seeks to prevent crime, reduce fear, and improve quality of life while protecting the constitutional rights of all individuals.

Success in community policing is measured not only by calls for service or enforcement activity, but by trust, cooperation, and the resolution of ongoing community concerns.

# Community Involvement Officers Read to Kids at the Utica Library



# Community Involvement



# School Presence

“I have the great opportunity to spend an hour each day walking the school halls, greeting students and checking in with teachers along the way. I might stop in the cafeteria to chat with a group of kids about their day or pause in a classroom doorway to say hello (when there is no classroom activity). As I move through the building, I hope to create a calm, friendly presence by listening, encouraging, and letting everyone know I’m there to keep them safe. These daily interactions help build trust and foster a sense of community between students, staff, and law enforcement. I thoroughly enjoy being able to interact with everyone and it is the best part of my day.”

- Officer Lishness



# 2025 Events of Note

**#1** - In May 2025, Utica Police officers responded to reports of an individual operating a riding lawn mower through the village while displaying a firearm and threatening members of the public. Officers located the individual without incident and safely took him into custody.

The individual was charged with Using Weapons While Intoxicated, to which he later pleaded guilty. An Aggravated Menacing charge was amended by the court to Disorderly Conduct. No injuries were reported.

This incident highlights the department's ability to respond quickly to unusual and potentially dangerous situations while prioritizing public safety and de-escalation.

**#2** - On Thanksgiving Day 2024, Utica Police officers responded to a drive-by shooting. In May 2025, the suspect in this case was sentenced to 8.5 years in prison.

**#3** - In October 2023, Utica Police officers and the Licking County Sheriff's Office responded to a call for an unresponsive infant. In 2025, the prosecutor's office secured an 8-count indictment against the father of the deceased infant to include murder and strangulation charges. The trial was recently continued.

**#4** - In September 2025, Utica Police officers responded to a kidnapping case which is currently working its way through the court system.



Swearing In of Officer Chad Lishness

# Grants

Grant funding allowed the department to offset equipment costs without increasing local tax burden.

## Grants Approved and Paid

- Ohio Law Enforcement Body Armor Program **\$4,050**
- AED **\$2,500**

## Grants Applied For

- Public Safety Grant
- Body Worn Camera Grant
- Equipment Grant





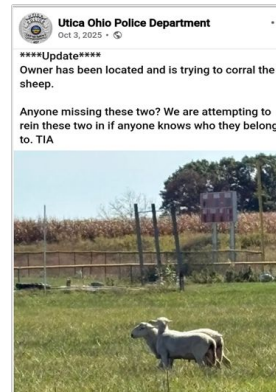
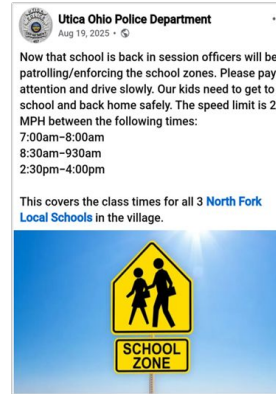
# Social Media Facebook



<https://www.facebook.com/UticaPD/>

The Utica Police Department uses Facebook to share timely public safety information, department updates, and community-related content. Social media allows the department to communicate quickly with residents and provide important alerts and information.

## Recent Facebook Posts



# Contact Us



## Utica Police Department

**IF YOU HAVE AN EMERGENCY DIAL 911!**

Non-emergency Phone: (740) 892-2841



[uticaohio.gov](https://www.uticaohio.gov)

39 Spring Street  
Utica, Ohio 43080

### POLICE ADMINISTRATION OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Thursday 8:00 AM to 3:30 PM

Russ Ciballi, Chief of Police

[rciballi@uticaohio.gov](mailto:rciballi@uticaohio.gov)

Alex White, Police Administrative Assistant

[awhite@uticaohio.gov](mailto:awhite@uticaohio.gov)

# Looking Forward: 2026

- National Night Out
- Coffee with a Cop
- Women's Self-Defense
- Citizen's Police Academy
- 4th of July Fireworks
- Homecoming Parade / Festival
- Velvet Ice Cream Festival Parade
- Christmas Walk
- Pet Parade

