

# LA GRANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Memorandum



To: Andrianna Peterson, Village Manager

From: Kurt Bluder, Chief of Police

Date: June 29, 2020

Re: Monthly Report for May 2020

May was another unusual month for the Police Department. Staff continued to adjust to “policing” during a pandemic, becoming more comfortable with all the new safety measures. Administratively, the department was able to focus on projects, hiring and promoting. Below is a summary of the Police Department’s activity for the month of May.



On Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup>, the Police Department underwent an intensive cleaning. Chicago Water and Fire Restoration cleaned every room within the Police Department, including LTACC. The cleaning process required that each room be sprayed and then wiped down after ten (10) minutes. Fire Chief Vavra was able to obtain this service free of charge and staff was pleased to see this occur.

On Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, the Police Department transitioned to the new Motorola Starcom radio system. This is a statewide, interoperable 700/800 MHz radio system that meets required public safety technology standards and will alleviate coverage issues that the previous radio system experienced. The transition included system hardware and sixty (60) radios. The LTACC Joint Operations and ETS Board approved the agreement with Motorola on August 21, 2019 and the LTACC Executive Board approved the agreement on September 16, 2019. The La Grange Police Department received twenty-two (22) new radios, which were assigned to the Patrol Officers. The Police Department already owned eight (8) Starcom radios, which had been previously provided by Cook County Emergency Management. Each Officer, Investigator and Parking Enforcement Officer now has a radio assigned to him or her. The transition went very smoothly. [Starcom Overview](#)



Wednesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, was Deputy Chief Peters last day with the La Grange Police Department after twenty-four and a half years of service. A “drive-by” parade was held for Deputy Chief Peters in which friends, former co-workers and professional associates drove by the Police Department to give Deputy Chief Peters a honk and a wave. The event was held from 1 to 3 p.m. A few people stopped by the Fire Department garage bay to speak with Deputy Chief Peters but masks were worn and social distancing was practiced. The men and women of the La Grange Police Department want to congratulate Deputy Chief Peters on a wonderful career and wish him well in retirement.

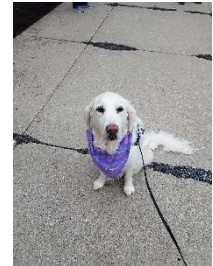


On Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners extended a conditional offer of employment to one candidate for the position of Police Officer. As part of the conditional offer of employment, the candidate must pass a psychological exam and physical exam prior to being appointed to the position of Police Officer.

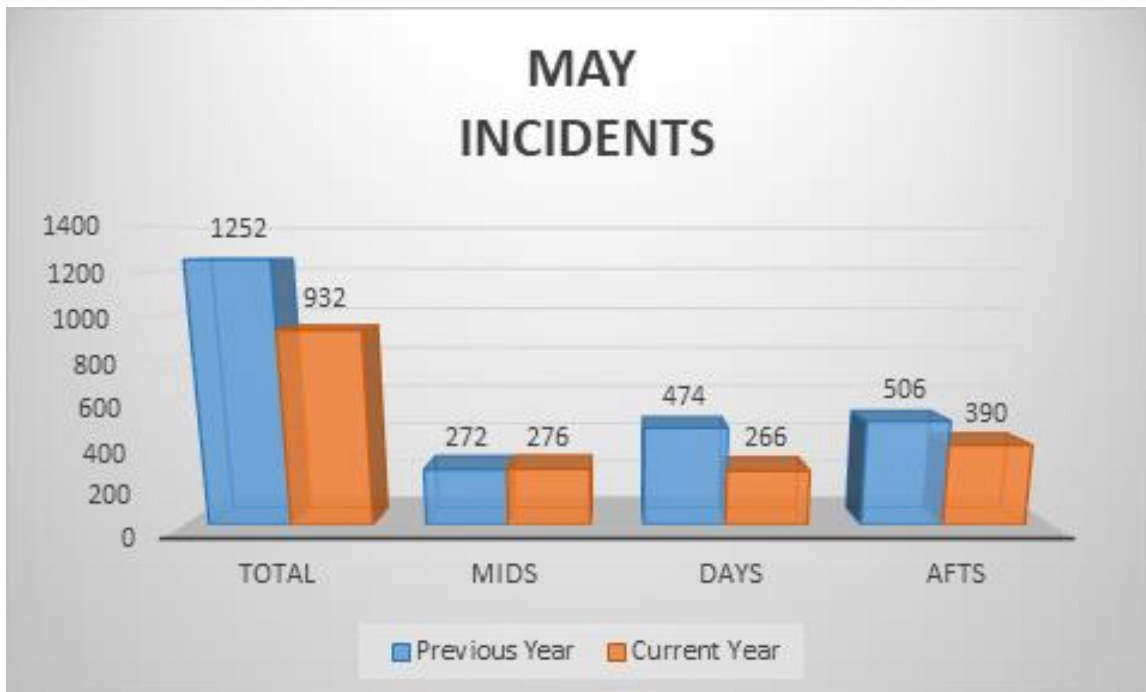
On Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners approved a new testing process for the position of Police Sergeant. IO Solutions (Oak Brook, IL) will be administering the exam. The reading list for the exam was posted on Friday, May 29<sup>th</sup>. The written exam is scheduled for the week of August 25, 2020.

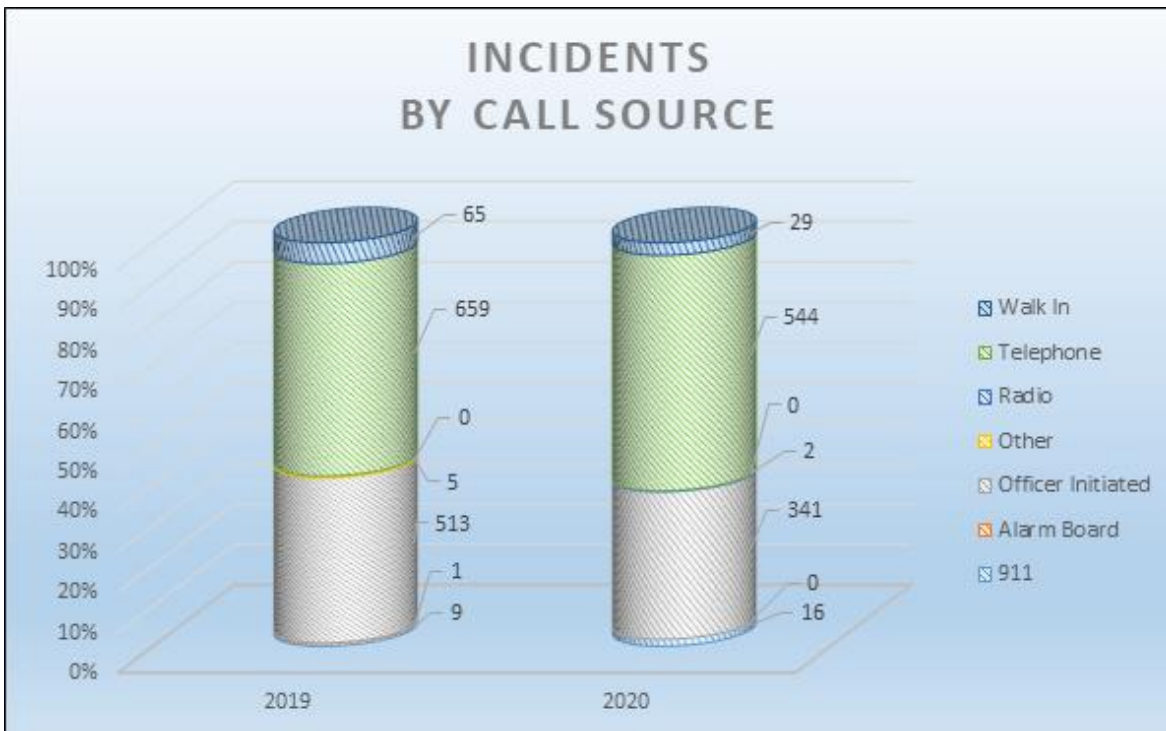
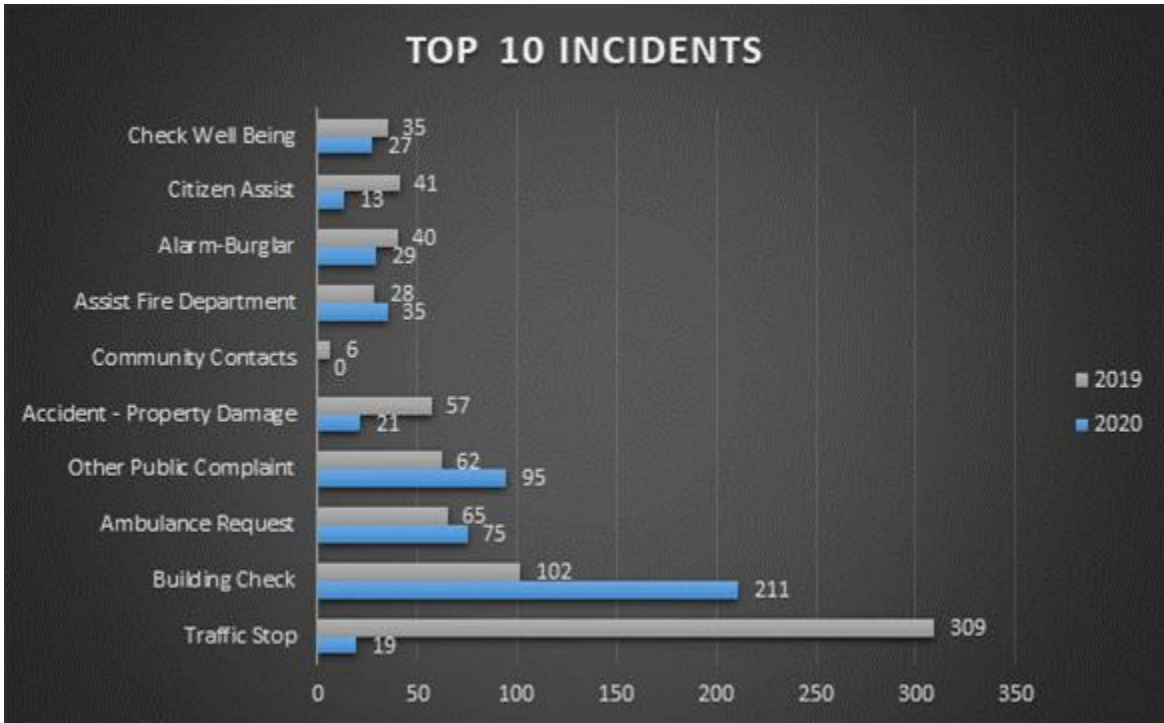


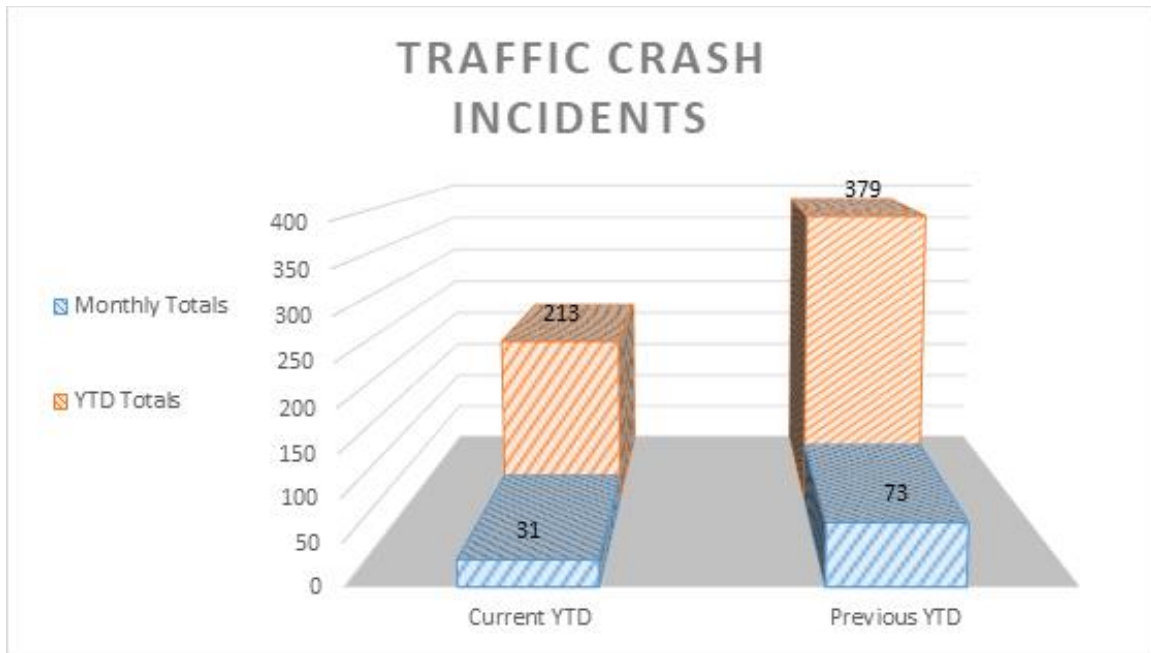
On Thursday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, Pastor Stapleton from St. John's Lutheran Church La Grange, as well as several parishioners, stopped by the Police Department to drop off some treats and thank staff for their service. A very thoughtful and touching gesture that was very much appreciated. Pastor Stapleton also brought along his comfort dog Angel who is well known to the LTACC staff.



On Thursday, May 28<sup>th</sup>, Watch Commanders Rob Wardlaw, Dave Rohlicek, Steve Ljubenko and I conducted six (6) Management Analyst interviews. The group met the week prior to review the twenty-four cover letters, resumes and applications. A decision was made to interview six (6) applicants and those were conducted virtually using "Go to Meeting." The group of applicants was narrowed to three (3) and those individuals will be interviewed in June.







### May Training Hours

Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic there was no instructor led training this month. Officers did conduct online classes but this category is used for instructor led classes/seminars.

### May Case Table

Case Date	Case Type	Case Officer	Status
05/01/2020 12:12:45	Deceptive Practice	250 - Nemecek	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/01/2020 20:52:04	Traffic Stop	242 - Comstock	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/02/2020 10:08:09	Burglary (trailer)	250 - Nemecek	Closed - Low Solvability
05/02/2020 23:04:00	Information Report	255 - Piraino	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/03/2020 13:50:07	Battery	235 - Rogers	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/03/2020 18:40:19	Ambulance	244 - Coleman	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/04/2020 08:53:07	Deceptive Practice	235 - Rogers	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/05/2020 17:05:39	Identity Theft	245 - Irizarry	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/06/2020 00:42:47	Death Investigation	251 - Niewold	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/06/2020 13:29:39	Battery	250 - Nemecek	TOT Other Agency
05/06/2020 15:53:24	Suspicious Auto	244 - Coleman	Pending
05/08/2020 08:24:25	Disturbance-Domestic	230 - Burrell	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/08/2020 11:32:49	Theft	250 - Nemecek	Closed - Low Solvability
05/08/2020 15:52:55	Disturbance-Domestic	242 - Comstock	Closed - Report Purposes Only

Case Date	Case Type	Case Officer	Status
05/08/2020 16:34:59	Kidnapping	252 - Falls	Pending
05/09/2020 00:36:10	Disturbance-Domestic	251 - Niewold	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/12/2020 08:40:37	Identity Theft	255 - Piraino	Pending
05/12/2020 17:10:50	Identity Theft	253 - Kaiser	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/13/2020 09:49:31	Identity Theft	235 - Rogers	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/14/2020 14:44:32	Deceptive Practice	248 - McDermott	Closed - Low Solvability
05/14/2020 19:02:19	Disorderly Conduct	244 - Coleman	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/15/2020 09:09:17	Theft	230 - Burrell	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/15/2020 10:39:10	Accident-Property Damage	250 - Nemecek	Closed By Arrest
05/15/2020 19:37:52	Disturbance-Neighbor	252 - Falls	Closed By Arrest
05/15/2020 21:05:19	Theft	231 - Wardlaw	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/15/2020 21:13:10	Criminal Damage	231 - Wardlaw	Closed By Arrest
05/16/2020 09:50:46	Battery	230 - Burrell	Closed By Arrest
05/16/2020 15:13:48	Disturbance - Other	253 - Kaiser	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/17/2020 08:49:17	Identity Theft	255 - Piraino	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/18/2020 00:51:02	Burglary (vehicle entered)	251 - Niewold	Pending
05/18/2020 21:17:45	Burglary (vehicle entered)	242 - Comstock	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/19/2020 09:38:00	Suspicious Activity	235 - Rogers	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/19/2020 12:24:30	Disturbance-Domestic	235 - Rogers	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/19/2020 16:23:00	Suspicious Activity	242 - Comstock	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/21/2020 17:21:59	Disturbance-Domestic	245 - Irizarry	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/22/2020 20:53:51	Disorderly Conduct	248 - McDermott	Pending
05/23/2020 03:18:48	Disturbance-Domestic	251 - Niewold	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/23/2020 08:07:00	Disturbance-Domestic	250 - Nemecek	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/23/2020 10:36:57	Missing Person	250 - Nemecek	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/24/2020 13:04:01	Theft	250 - Nemecek	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/26/2020 16:58:42	Accident-Property Damage	242 - Comstock	Closed By Arrest
05/27/2020 17:53:39	Criminal Damage	253 - Kaiser	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/28/2020 09:36:44	Criminal Damage	235 - Rogers	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/28/2020 18:02:31	Disorderly Conduct	245 - Irizarry	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/29/2020 12:29:45	Criminal Damage	235 - Rogers	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/29/2020 13:15:31	Deceptive Practice	255 - Piraino	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/30/2020 15:57:23	Property-Lost Articles	231 - Wardlaw	Closed - Report Purposes Only
05/31/2020 00:01:57	Check Well Being	228 - Herrera	Closed - Report Purposes Only

## DAYSHIFT ACTIVITIES

### ARRESTS:

Michael K Parkin, 34 years of age, from Bartlett, IL, was charged with Improper Operation of a Commercial Motor Vehicle (No CDL) and Damage to Village Property following a traffic crash

in which the trailer Parkin was pulling detached from the main unit and crashed into a residence.

Francis Hall, 58 years of age, from La Grange, was charged with Battery following an altercation in the alley of the 00 block of Washington.

#### **OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:**

The Dayshift Officers completed 8 traffic contacts during May of 2020. Shift Officers completed 16 Illinois Traffic Crash reports. The shift Officers issued 8 parking/compliance citations for No Village vehicle sticker and other parking violations. Lastly, the Officers conducted 24 Building/Business Premise Checks and Foot Patrols.

#### **TRAINING:**

Lexipol DTB's and Illinois Police Law completed

### **AFTERNOON SHIFT ACTIVITIES**

#### **INVESTIGATIONS:**

Ofc. Irizarry investigated an Identity Theft where unknown parties used the victim's personal information to open multiple accounts and place multiple charges in the victim's name.

#### **ARREST / CITATIONS:**

Ofc. Falls, assisted by S/L. McDermott, Ofc. Wolf, Ofc. Comstock, PTO King and Sgt. Wardlaw, arrested a 21-year-old male, from La Grange, for Driving under the Influence-Drugs or a combination thereof, Reckless Driving, Assault and Battery. The offender was stopped after being identified as the driver of vehicle used to strike a pedestrian. The offender was charged and released with a pending court date.

Ofc. Comstock, assisted by Ofc. Kaiser, S/L McDermott and Sgt. Coleman, arrested a 34-year-old male, from Aurora, for Driving While License is Suspended, No Valid Driver's License, Obstructing Identification, Disobeyed a Traffic Control device and Operation of an Uninsured Motor Vehicle. The subject was initially stopped due to being involved in a crash. The offender was charged and released with a pending court date.

Sgt. Wardlaw, assisted by PTO King, arrested a 58-year-old male, from La Grange, for Criminal Damage to Property after the subject used a blunt object to break out multiple windows to a vehicle. The offender was charged and released with a pending court date.

#### **OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:**

Afternoon Shift Officers completed 21 initial case reports, 7 supplement reports and 3 arrest reports.

#### **TRAINING:**

The Afternoon Shift members completed annual Firearms Training.

Afternoon Shift members completed NARCAN recertification training.

## **MIDNIGHT SHIFT ACTIVITIES**

### **OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:**

The Midnight shift Officers completed 7 traffic contacts and investigated 2 property damage traffic accidents. Shift Officers issued 30 parking citations for overnight parking and other violations. Shift Officers conducted 189 Building/Business Premise Checks and Foot Patrols. In addition, Ofc. Niewold responded to numerous call-outs, as a member of the NIPAS Mobile Field Force, to assist with citizen demonstrations/marches, which were conducted, in various Chicago-metro communities. Sgt. Ljubenko, along with other command staff members, participated in the interviews of candidates for the new Management Analyst position.

### **TRAINING:**

The shift Officers continued completing the Police Law Institute online training along with the Lexipol Daily Training Bulletins. In addition, the shift completed conducting annual firearms qualification and training with pistol, patrol rifle and shotgun. The shift Officers also completed recertification training in the use of NARCAN

## **INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION ACTITIVITES**

### **INVESTIGATIONS:**

Inv. Kang and Inv. Fulla conducted follow-up investigation into a Burglary to Motor Vehicle case. Evidence was processed for latent prints with negative results. Due to a lack of evidence and suspects, the case was closed.

Inv. Kang conducted follow-up investigation into a Criminal Damage to Property cases where a suspect was arrested. Inv. Kang collected surveillance video and logged it into the department property evidence management system as evidence. Case closed.

### **ARREST / CITATIONS:**

None

### **OTHER POLICE ACTIVITY:**

Inv. Kang assisted Stickney PD during a Major Case Assistance Team activation in relation to a shooting. Assistance was given without incident.

### **TRAINING:**

Inv. Kang and Inv. Fulla completed annual Firearms Training.

Inv. Kang conducted department wide refresher NARCAN Training

## **AUXILIARY AND PART-TIME POLICE UNITS**

The Auxiliary Unit was inactive during the month of May due to the COVID-19 pandemic so the Police Department does not have anything to report related to their activities.

The part-time officers responded to 39 calls for service in the community. The part-time officers' activity is lower than usual because they were assigned to the parking deck and downtown area for patrol duties as well as due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

**PARKING DIVISION**

The parking division registered \$6,795 in parking fines through conventional payments, online payments or collection efforts.

**TRUCK ENFORCEMENT STATISTICS  
May 2020**

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and social distancing requirement, there are no truck enforcement statistics to report this month.

**SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES**

PATROL ACTIVITIES	May		May		2020	2019
	2020		2019		YTD	YTD
NUMBER OF CALLS TAKEN	931		1,251		5,244	5,654
ACCIDENT REPORTS TAKEN	25		62		178	279
FELONY ARRESTS	0		0		3	6
MISDEMEANOR ARRESTS	4		7		13	21
DUI ARRESTS	1		0		9	5
WARRANT ARRESTS	0		1		10	8
TRAFFIC VERBAL WARNINGS	14		202		525	1,033
COMPLIANCE CITATIONS ISSUED	1		83		228	272
TRAFFIC CITATIONS ISSUED	9		51		148	245
PARKING TICKETS - by Officers	37	40	113	890	2,515	4,540
PARKING TICKETS - by Parking Div.	3		777			
JUVENILE ARRESTS	0		0		5	4
PRISONERS HELD IN LOCK-UP	5		8		41	46

**Activity was down this month due the COVID-19 pandemic. Officers began practicing social distancing and limited contact to serious violations.**