



The Holden Arboretum Police Department
9500A Sperry Road
Kirtland, Ohio 44094

Sean O'Neil
Chief of Police
(440) 478-1291

Date: 02 January 2024
To: Ed Moydell, CEO
Re: annual review of Traffic Stops and Vehicle Pursuits

As a part of the requirements to maintain our certification through the Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services the Holden Arboretum Police Department is required to adhere to certain standards as prescribed by the Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board. One of these standards is an annual review and report on our Traffic Stops and Vehicle Pursuits, along with Use of Force Incidents. I have completed both reviews for the calendar year 2023 with the findings as follows:

Traffic Stops

HAPD initiated 85 total traffic stops for calendar year 2023. Except for one, these stops were all conducted by Officer Jake Scott, who left the department in July to join the Kirtland Police Department. Since his departure in July of 2023 there has not been a single traffic stop.

Here is a breakdown of these 86 traffic stops.

9 were for violations along the portion of Sperry Road controlled by HF&G.

- 3 for speeding;
- 3 for license plate violations;
- 2 for suspicious activity
- 1 for parked, blocking main entrance

76 were for violations along the portion of Kirtland-Chardon and Sperry Roads that the City of Kirtland has given HAPD authorization to conduct traffic enforcement.

- 48 for speed (over 45 on 35mph road)
- 19 for stop sign violation
- 4 for license plate violations
- 2 for no headlights
- 1 for driving under suspension
- 1 for illegal U-turn
- 1 for an agency assist for a distracted driver complaint

For these 85 traffic stops 23 traffic citations were issued (all by Officer Jake Scott). For the remaining stops...

- 1 was issued a written warning
- 61 were given a verbal warning

A breakdown by gender/race of the subjects stopped revealed the following.

79 of the 85 stops were for operators identified as "white" on their issued license (92.9%), 5 as "black" (5.8%) and one "Hispanic" (1.1%).

32 of the 85 stops were for operators identified as "female" on their issued license with the remaining 53 being identified as "male."

There were zero complaints with regards to traffic stops initiated by HAPD Officers for all of 2023..

Vehicle Pursuits

The Holden Arboretum neither engaged in any, nor participated in any vehicle pursuits during the 2023 calendar year.

A digital copy of this annual review/report will be kept on file with the HAPD computer files.



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Use of Force

For the calendar year 2023 the department had two Use of Force incidents. The first was a non-Holden Forests & Gardens related incident where one of our officers provided back up to Geauga County Sheriff's Deputies on an active domestic violence incident in Chardon Township. Officer Jake Scott provided lethal cover (pointing his firearm) as the Deputies attempted to de-escalate the situation involving a male (white) suspect who was brandishing a knife. The suspect male did eventually drop the knife in his hand and was taken into custody by the GSCO Deputies without incident.

The other Use of Force incident occurred in the Corning Library at the Visitor Center. An autistic boy (Asian) had become violent with his parents and was throwing items around in the library. Corporal Tony Piotrowski utilized soft-empty hand techniques (holding the boy's wrists) to restrain the combative boy, enabling him to eventually secure him in handcuffs. Using de-escalation techniques, Corporal Piotrowski was able to get the boy to calm down with no injuries incurred by either party. The boy was taken to a local hospital (with his parent) via EMS for evaluation.

Nothing from either Use of Force incident, or any other incident in 2023, indicated the need for any remedial officer training or Use of Force training for any HAPD Officers. As a matter of best practice, all our officers have gone through de-escalation training and a Use of Force/Subject control training to provide them the proper tools to perform their job duties more effectively. It is the department's intent to continue said training on an annual basis to keep in line with standard best practices.

There were zero complaints with regards to Use of Force incidents involving HAPD Officers for all of 2023.

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Respectfully Submitted,

Seán O'Neil
Chief of Police
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