



POLICE DEPARTMENT

Annual Report

Chief John D. Noland

2019 - issued July 2020

2019 Annual Report

A primary goal of this annual report is to inform our public about their police department. Besides responding to calls for service, conducting investigations and sometimes making arrests, what does the Sahuarita Police Department do throughout the year? A lot! This report will not capture all the work completed during this last year but it will inform our residents on key topics, services, and accomplishments. While this annual report is normally issued toward the beginning of a new year, multiple events including Covid-19 have postponed it, but here we are!

SPD Mission Statement:

Making Sahuarita a Safe Place to Live, Work, and Play.

SPD Vision Statement:

We will be recognized as a police department dedicated to Safety, Service, and Community Policing.

“The police are the public and the public are the police; the police being only members of the public who are paid to give full time attention to duties which are incumbent on every citizen in the interests of community welfare and existence.”

Sir Robert Peel 1778-1850



Photo taken at Quail Creek, Sahuarita AZ

In This Issue

- Community Policing
- Programs & Projects
- Statistical Information
- Police Training
- Policies
- Did you Know...?
- Citizen Police Academy

Table of Contents

Message from the Chief	3
Complaints and Commendations	4
SPD Organizational Chart	5
SPD Training	6
Inappropriate Use of Force in Policing	7
Community Policing	8
The Records Bureau	9
Crime Statistics	10
Some 2019 Accomplishments	11
Did you know?	12
Operation Stone Garden	13
Governor's Office of Highway Safety	13
Associated Agencies & Groups	14
Volunteers in Police Service	15
2019 Employee Awards	16
SPD Pictures	17- 26

Message From The Chief

Your Local Police Department

It's a privilege to have our annual report issued and help our residents understand more about their police department. The Sahuarita Police Department is a full service policing agency. The men and women of the SPD provide a variety of policing services 24/7 throughout the year.

In this report we touch on multiple topics about the SPD and our community. We truly understand that we work for our community and are responsible for our mission: "Making Sahuarita a Safe Place to Live, Work, and Play."



Chief John D. Noland

We consistently practice community policing and seek out community input on services, practices, and solutions to problems. Information in this report will help explain how we do this; however, in short we work with our residents, profit and non-profit organizations, and local, state, and federal partners to provide high quality service. We are not perfect and recognize this. With this acknowledgement, we are always looking to improve.

The SPD is a learning organization. We regularly seek ways to be more effective and efficient. We look for best practices that fit Sahuarita with the goal of providing high quality service. A number of years ago the SPD developed an official training plan for each position in the department. We are a training department, in that we strive toward providing employees with as much training and education as possible on the different tasks and duties of their positions. The state requires each officer receive eight hours of continuing training each year. We significantly exceed that training requirement.

This goes back to being effective and efficient. I have repeatedly told staff, and as you will read more than once in this report, that a key element of my job is to provide them quality training, quality equipment and clear policy, along with the expectation that they follow policy and make good decisions. We hire people, not robots, so when we error, we need to learn, correct, and move forward to be better in the future. As a learning organization, we are better able to serve our community. The men and women of the SPD do high quality work and often under difficult circumstances. I'm honored to work with them and be their and your Police Chief.

John D. Noland

Complaints & Commendations



The Sahuarita Police Department accepts both complaints and commendations associated with our employees and their work.

Anyone who wants to report a good or bad experience associated with a SPD employee may do so.

The SPD complaint/commendation form is available in the SPD front lobby or can be downloaded from the SPD webpage. We will conduct an inquiry or investigation on all complaints.

Those who report a complaint may remain anonymous if they chose.

The person making the complaint may be a person involved in the incident, a witness to the incident, or another person with information related to the incident.

For the SPD to conduct a proper inquiry or investigation, we need as much information as possible. While not required, providing a way of contacting those with information allows us to ask follow up questions or seek evidence of possible employee misconduct.

Complainants may request dispositions (outcomes) on any complaint.

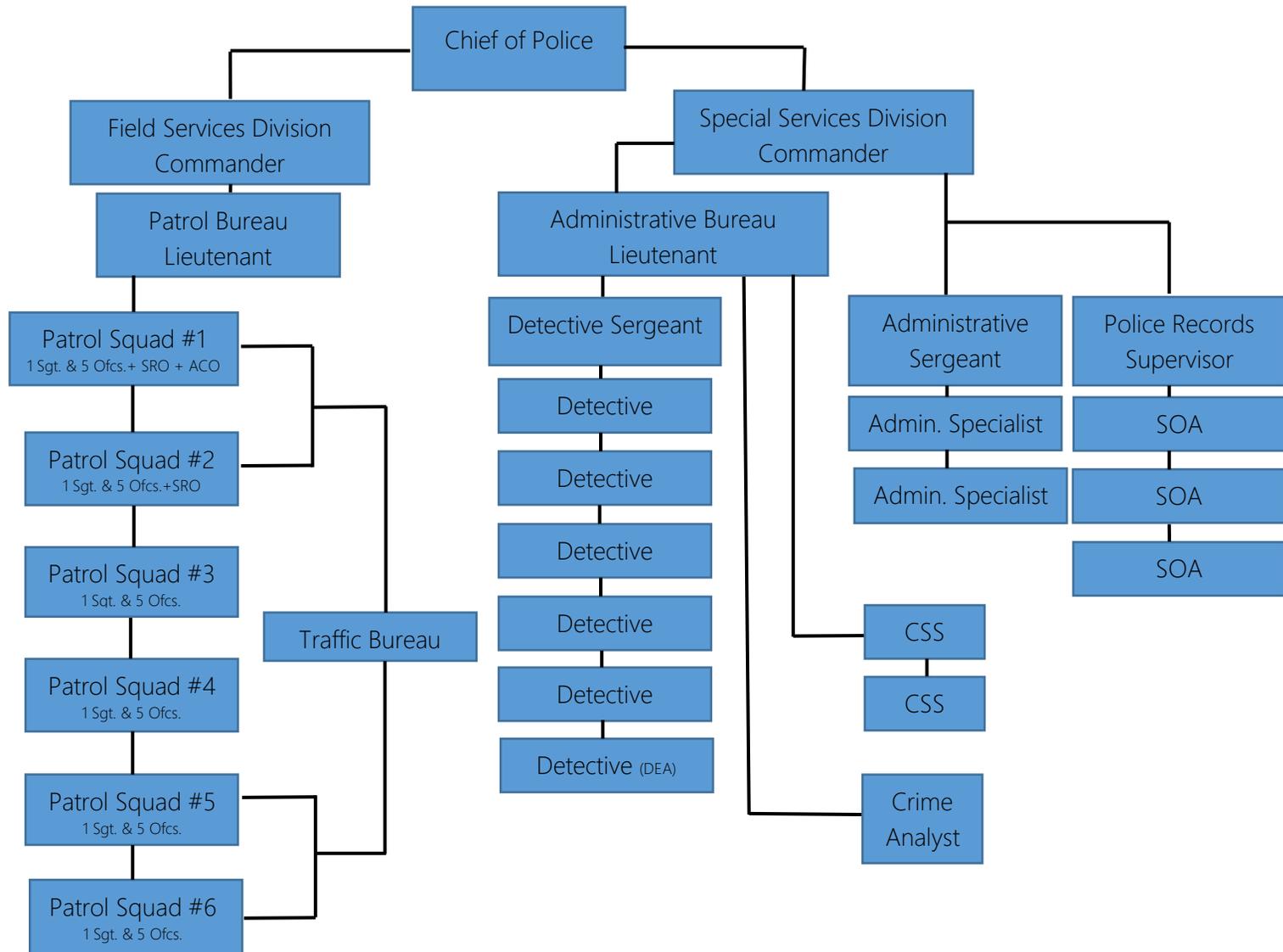
How to make a complaint / commendation:

- Contact the SPD and talk to any supervisor about what occurred. All managers, rank of sergeant or higher, must accept all complaints.
- One can complete a complaint or a commendation form which is available in the front lobby of the SPD or on our webpage. It can be submitted electronically, mailed in, or dropped off.

What is the difference between a complaint inquiry and an investigation?

- An inquiry is formal, documented, and recorded. They are designed to deal with less significant issues, or to determine the significance of a complaint
- An investigation, typically referred to as an Internal Investigation (IA) is more structured and designed for more significant violations of policy or law. The Chief of Police determines if a complaint will be addressed by inquiry or investigation.

SPD Organizational Chart



SPD Training in 2019

What types of training do SPD employees attend?

Over the course of the last approximate year, SPD employees have completed various types of training courses. Employees with different responsibilities receive position specific training and sometimes all employees may receive department-wide training. The SPD has employees attend training both in and out of state and has hosted different types of training, allowing other local or regional agencies to attend here in Sahuarita.

In the last year, SPD staff have attended over 2,000 hours of advanced officer training:

- Public Information Officer
- Narcan (assists w/drug overdoses)
- Background Investigation
- UAV – Drone training
- Leadership Training
- Defensive Tactics
- Taser
- Advanced CPTED
- Traffic Investigation
- Verbal Judo (de-escalation training)
- Detective Criminal Investigation
- Simunitions: Interactive shoot or don't shoot and de-escalation firearms training
- All sworn personnel received hours of legal case law and statute law update training.
- Crime Scene Investigation
- Child Abduction Response Training
- Firearms & Critical Decision Making
- Report Writing and Documentation
- Supervision Training
- Interview and Interrogation
- Domestic Violence Investigation
- Records/Adm. (ACJIS, Crim. History, Excel)
- RADAR-LIDAR (speed enforcement)
- Driver Training (Code-3 and Pursuit)
- DUI Investigation

Inappropriate Use of Force in Policing

Minneapolis and Use of Force in Policing: Chief John Noland

This is not a topic I enjoy putting out in an annual report, but I believe it is the right thing to do. I want our residents to understand how the SPD operates. Clearly, policing can be a difficult job. The US Supreme Court has acknowledged that quick use of force decisions that officers must make during fast changing circumstances are extremely complex and difficult. The application of different uses of force can be tough to watch and understand even when there is justification.

The homicide of George Floyd in Minneapolis demonstrated not an inappropriate use of force, but a criminal use of force. As a law enforcement officer for over 35 years I have worked in different cities, counties, and states. I can find no justification for what I and the nation saw captured on video; a police officer leaning on a handcuffed and non-combative man's neck and carotid artery with his knee for over eight minutes. It was a criminal use of force applied by former Officer Chauvin and a failure of officers at the scene to not stop it.

I've taught use of force training during much of my career. I've never seen what former Officer Chauvin did taught at a police academy or advanced officer training course. You won't find where it says in a lesson plan to lean on a handcuffed man's carotid artery for 8 plus minutes. This is part of why virtually all law enforcement condemned the actions on the video. Another part is because it was so clearly wrong. Law enforcement and the public recognized it for what it was.

In June of 2020, The SPD held department-wide training on a couple of unrelated topics. I took the opportunity to use some of the time to reiterate a clear message to all SPD officers associated with recent events. Mayor Murphy and Councilmember Bracco were able to attend this portion of the training. It included a critique of the George Floyd incident along with a couple of other examples of inappropriate policing actions in other states.

I frequently say that a key element of my job is to provide employees with quality training, quality equipment and clear policy, along with the expectation that they follow policy and make good decisions. I will support our officers when they have done the correct and sometimes difficult thing, even when it doesn't "look good" on video. I won't rush to judgment and will examine all available evidence. Officers will be held accountable when they error. With this, all of the officers of the SPD, your officers, were in agreement that what was done in the George Floyd video was clearly wrong and that the other officers should have stopped former Officer Chauvin.

I knew our officers understood this, but when events like this occur, it's important that law enforcement leaders punctuate expectations. Do the right thing whether someone is watching or not. Our officers train regularly in how to properly use force, how to de-escalate, how to document, and are clear on their duty to intercede when inappropriate or criminal force is being used.

Community Policing

Some Community Policing Elements

- Coffee with a Cop
- Tip a Cop
- Shop with a Cop
- Officers are assigned to specific beats
- Neighborhood Watch
- Park & Trail Patrols

The SPD is seeking to hold a Citizen Police Academy!

A Citizen Police Academy is an opportunity for residents to attend police training once a week, over multiple weeks, taught by your local police officers.

Some of the topics that are covered include:

- Policy
- Criminal Investigation
- Case Law
- Emergency Driving
- Use of Force
- Traffic Laws
- SPD Tour/Equipment
- Police Equipment



Usually, we can only call for help and stand by with a resident, but in this case the timing worked out! Officers helping a resident with a flat tire in 100+ degree heat!

The SPD regularly practices Community Policing. We strive to work with our residents to solve problems. Often they come up with ideas to address issues that can be used by our staff. We want to address all policing issues large and small. Of course we will investigate felonious crimes, but want our community to know we will also address misdemeanors and quality of life issues as best we can.

Some of our community policing efforts are designed at staying in contact with the community outside of calls for service. SPD staff participate in community events like Winterfest, Fiesta Sahuarita, Movie Nights, Pecan Festival, Madera Highlands Home Town Heroes, and Bicycle Rodeos. We also have School Resource Officers in our high schools connecting with teens in a positive way. We inform and educate our residents through in person events, social media, messaging boards, and Nixle alerts.

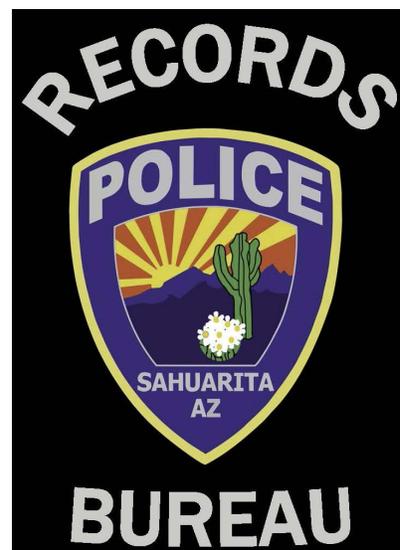
THE RECORDS BUREAU

The Sahuarita Police Department Records Bureau is comprised of three senior office assistants and one records supervisor. As a smaller agency, the Records Bureau is responsible for much more than maintaining police records for dissemination to the public and courts. We provide a variety of administrative services to internal staff and the public.

SPD Records has been a "paperless" agency since 2014. Paperless means we maintain all of our records digitally. One of Records' core duties is to maintain our Spillman Records Management System by ensuring quality control of all entered data for names, vehicles, criminal and civil charges, accident reports, warnings, dissemination entries, and much more. We also provide database training to all staff and officers.

Another core duty is disseminating case reports and associated forms to the public, other agencies, prosecutors and to the courts. We release hundreds of case reports each year. We work with all types of government agencies across the United States and adjacent countries. We process hundreds of background requests and thousands of government case report requests each year.

SPD Records fingerprints approximately 250 residents and non-residents every year, mostly people needing the service for job applications. Records staff also processes vehicle impound releases and they are the voice people hear when calling the police department administrative offices.



Internally, Records is a hub for a variety of administrative services. Records processes subpoenas, body worn camera redaction, probable cause alerts, statistical information, conducts criminal history queries, creates department forms, processes mental health orders, oversees and maintains several internal databases, website design, digital training video creation, system training, system security, notary services and PD Spanish translation assistance.

The Records Bureau is always buzzing with activity. Records staff strives for excellence every day and works hard to assist the public and officers with the administrative support they need.

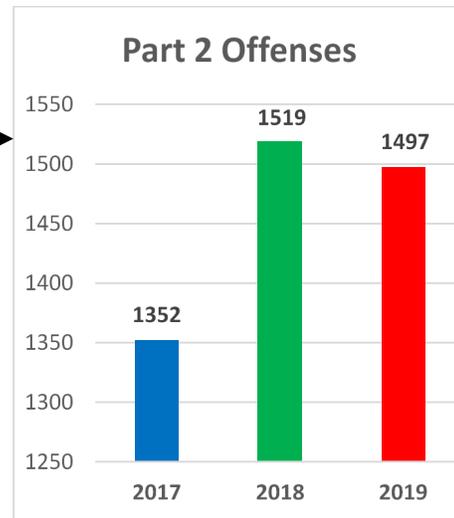
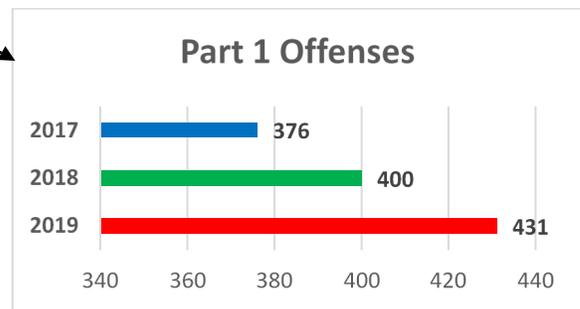
Crime Statistics

CHARGES INVESTIGATED 2019 Annual Report (Calendar Year)

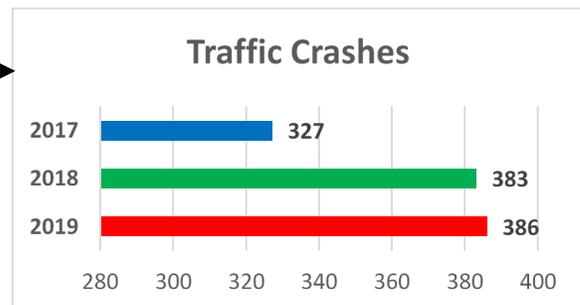
Part 1 Offenses	2017	2018	2019
<i>Criminal Homicide</i>	0	0	1
<i>Rape/Sexual Assault</i>	11	9	11
<i>Robbery</i>	3	4	7
<i>Aggravated Assault</i>	16	22	36
<i>Burglary</i>	37	38	49
<i>Larceny</i>	289	294	290
<i>Motor Vehicle Theft</i>	16	32	33
<i>Arson</i>	4	1	4

NOTE: The statistics in these charts & graphs don't capture all the interactions the SPD has with the public. For example, in 2019 alone the SPD officers had over 16,000 individual public interactions.

Part 2 Offenses	2017	2018	2019
<i>Other Assaults</i>	169	165	144
<i>Forgery and Counterfeiting</i>	14	3	6
<i>Fraud</i>	117	144	150
<i>Embezzlement</i>	5	4	4
<i>Stolen Property</i>	5	3	3
<i>Criminal Damage</i>	230	210	204
<i>Weapons Violations</i>	7	4	6
<i>Commercialized Sex</i>	0	0	0
<i>Sex Offense</i>	26	50	48
<i>Controlled Substance</i>	138	195	221
<i>Gambling</i>	0	0	0
<i>Offenses Against Family & Children</i>	32	26	16
<i>DUI</i>	33	47	68
<i>Liquor Laws</i>	29	37	46
<i>Public Intoxication</i>	1	1	0
<i>Disorderly Conduct</i>	173	213	189
<i>Vagrancy</i>	0	0	1
<i>Other Felony & Misdemeanor Offenses</i>	243	300	248
<i>Arrest for Other Jurisdictions/Warrants</i>	53	75	53
<i>Juvenile Violations</i>	37	38	39
<i>Runaway Juvenile</i>	40	44	51



Traffic Crashes	2017	2018	2019
<i>Fatal Crashes</i>	3	1	1
<i>Injury Crashes</i>	26	42	40
<i>Property Damage Crashes</i>	188	211	248
<i>Non Traffic Fatal Crashes</i>	0	0	0
<i>Non Traffic Injury Crashes</i>	8	8	6
<i>Non Traffic Prop. Damage</i>	95	118	84
<i>Other Vehicle Accidents</i>	7	3	7



Some of our 2019 Accomplishments

1. Sahuarita was ranked the 5th safest city or town in Arizona in 2019. We have been recognized as one of the top 10 safest cities or towns in the state of Arizona for several years running!
2. SPD increased the use of Nixle and social media through Facebook to communicate with residents. During 2019, we had over 100 Public Nixle Alerts and almost 200 Facebook Postings. Some of these alerts or postings advised about a significant law enforcement presence in an area, if there was or was not a current public threat, roadway closures, information on large events, media releases, and much more. You can subscribe to Nixle by simply texting "85629" to 888-777. It's free!
3. The SPD received grants amounting to hundreds of thousands of dollars that aided employees in accomplishing SPD and Town goals. Some of these grants include funding from state, federal and private organizations (The 100 Club of Arizona and The White Elephant). Some of the funding helped with Operation Stone Garden, traffic safety goals from the Governor's Office of Highway Safety, moving from the Unified Crime Reporting system to the National Incident Based Information System, purchasing police vehicles and equipment, and much more!
4. The Department was able to purchase and complete the build out of a DUI Van through a GOHS grant. The van is used during DUI checkpoints, community events, and other incidents requiring a sheltered work space in the field. We also completed additional work on our mobile command post.
5. During 2019 the SPD completed a police department remodel project that created a training room, detective work area, interview rooms, and administrative work offices within the police department. The project was completed via RICO asset drug forfeiture funds. The new work areas are used daily and the training room was used dozens of times throughout 2019 for employee training.
6. The SPD brought Verbal Judo de-escalation training to Pima County. All SPD officers attended the training. As the host agency, we were able to allow multiple other law enforcement agencies to participate
7. All officers were issued "Stop Sticks" and completed training in their use. Stop Sticks are devices that can sometimes be deployed on the roadway to stop a vehicle pursuit.

Did you know...?

- ◆ The Town of Sahuarita turned 25 years old during 2019, incorporating in 1994.
- ◆ The Sahuarita Police Department was established in 1997 and turns 25 in 2022.
- ◆ Sahuarita PD was the first law enforcement agency in Arizona with a federally licensed UAV/Drone program and has assisted multiple other agencies in developing their own programs.
- ◆ Each year, the SPD is involved and participates in numerous community events as part of it's Community Policing program. Some are below.
 - Fiesta Sahuarita
 - Fourth of July
 - Spooktacular
 - Back to School Events
 - Neighborhood Watch
 - Shop with a Cop
 - Madera Highlands Hometown Heroes
 - National Night Out
 - Winterfest
 - Special Olympics LE Torch Run
 - Coffee with a Cop
- ◆ The new hands free texting/phone law will take effect on January 1st, 2021.
- ◆ When multiple vehicles meet at the same time at a traffic circle, yield the right of way to the vehicle to your left.
- ◆ The Town of Sahuarita's population is now over 31,000 residents.
- ◆ Some of our officers volunteer for different organizations, such as the Veteran's Administration and some coach youth sports.
- ◆ It takes about a year to hire & train a rookie police officer prior to them policing on their own. They remain on probation for 12 months after the academy.
- ◆ In the early 1800s, Sir Robert Peele, two time Prime Minister of the UK, helped establish professionalized policing in the US, emphasizing Community Policing.

Operation Stone Garden

The Sahuarita Police Department participates in Operation Stone Garden (OPSG) along with other law enforcement agencies here in Pima County. The primary mission of OPSG for the SPD is to help stop the trafficking of human beings, illicit drugs, and weapons.

The SPD has participated in OPSG for several years and has helped local and federal law enforcement partners deter these crimes. SPD officers use OPSG vehicles assigned to our agency by a grant and work a variety of operations that are paid through grant funds. Officers and operations are typically within or just outside the town limits. However, occasionally they work special operations within a few miles of the town to assist other law enforcement agencies.

During 2019, officers worked dozens of OPSG deployments, helping to reduce the trafficking of human beings, illicit drugs, and weapons. OPSG patrols include use of SUVs, Pickups, ATVs, and UTVs when necessary.

Governor's Office of Highway Safety

The Sahuarita Police Department participates in special enforcement operations designed to make our streets and roadways safer. These operations are defined and paid for by the Governor's Office of Highway Safety (GOHS) grant program. We emphasize education during these details, but will also enforce traffic laws. Listed below are some of the details and goals.

- STEP (Selective Traffic Enforcement Program): These details have officers working certain areas to enforce and educate motorists on particular traffic laws (speed, right of way, seat belts, child car seats, etc.).
- DUI: Money from this grant helps us put on DUI checkpoints to help educate and encourage drivers to not drive while impaired. Officers also work saturation patrols actively looking for impaired drivers.
- Bike & Pedestrian: This grant helps officers address violations and educate motorists, cyclist and pedestrians on laws specifically related to bicycle and pedestrian safety.

Associated Agencies & Groups

Listed Alphabetically

1. Arizona Attorney General's Office
2. Arizona Department of Public Safety
3. Arizona Rangers (Madera Company)
4. Customs and Border Protection
5. DEA Drug Enforcement Agency
6. Emerge (victim services)
7. FBI Federal Bureau of Investigation
8. Green Valley & Sahuarita Chamber of Commerce
9. Marana Police Department
10. Oro Valley Police Department
11. Pasqua Yaqui Police Department
12. PCWIN Pima County Wireless Integrated Network
13. Pima County Attorney's Office
14. Pima County Justice Courts
15. Pima County Sheriff's Department
16. Pima County Superior Court
17. Pima County Victim Services
18. Sahuarita Municipal Court
19. SPD Volunteers In Police Services (VIPS), & Green Valley Sheriff's Auxillary Volunteers (SAVs)
20. South Tucson Police Department
21. Tohono O'odham Police Department
22. Tucson Police Department
23. University of Arizona Police Department
24. Community groups who aid in our community policing efforts



Volunteers In Police Services VIPS



The SPD Works with a group of dedicated and Volunteers In Police Services (VIPS) that provide thousands of hours of service to our residents each year. They perform administrative, fleet, public lobby, and VIPS patrol services. We are always looking for volunteers who want to commit to the program and service our great community. The SPD provides required training, uniforms, and equipment.

One can inquire about the VIPS Program by contacting Sgt. Mike Blevins at 520-344-7017 or via email at mblevins@sahuaritaaz.gov.

Commendations



Danny Taylor



Dion Brockett



Gary Bisset



Chris Gaecke



Jerry Devinck



2019 Employee Awards

Each year the police department recognizes employee accomplishments. Some of those accomplishments might include when one attains a certain number of years in policing or achieves a number of years in a special assignment or collateral duty.

We also present end of year awards for superior work accomplished by employees. Listed below are the 2019 Employee End of Year Awards.

- **Meritorious Award:** Sgt. M. Blevins, M. Falquez, H. Iglecias, T. Johnston, J. Petersen and J. Villanueva, received this award for making significant advancements in the SPD Defensive Tactics program.

Ofc. D. Chiquete, and Cpl. V. Ramirez received this award for significant development of the Southern Arizona Organized Retail Crime Association program to help reduce retail crime.

Sgt. R. Mata, Sgt. C. Navarrete, and Det. J. Velasquez received this award for significant investigative advances in a complex case involving multiple crimes.

Sgt. S. Nied received this award for making significant advancements in the FTO program.

Records Supervisor J. Rosales received this award for managing multiple projects and programs along with producing several digital training videos.

- **Outside Organization:** Ofc. M. Dixon-MADD Award, Cmdr. E. Lopez-AZ Rangers, Ofc. R. Mohr-Timothy Graham Award, Cpl. D. Higgins-Son of the American Revolution Award.
- **Community Policing Award:** Ofc. A. Guest, Cpl. R. Petty, Ofc. V. Ramirez, Ofc. K. Wagner all received this award for consistent contributions to working Neighborhood Oriented Policing projects, making schools safer, and for participating, coordinating and helping with multiple community events in our Community Policing program.
- **Life Saving Award:** Officer Matt Fontes and Officer Jillian Jackson both received this award for separate acts on separate dates during which, each of their actions saved lives by administering CPR to persons.
- **Employee of the Year Award:** Administrative Assistant Jennifer Elias received this award for superior work in obtaining hundreds of thousands of dollars in grants to help obtain different goals of the Town and SPD, for administering a quartermaster system to better track equipment and supplies, and for a cataloging system for all SPD training.

Investigation Bureau Remodel

SPD Training Room



SPD Hosting FBI Supervisory Leaders Institute Training

Investigation Bureau Remodel



Detectives' Bull Pen



Conference Room



Interview Rooms



Records Bureau Remodel



DUI Van



Traffic & Crime Scene Trailer





SRO Allen Guest





Parks & Trail Patrol



Crime Scene Specialist Hernandez connecting with kids.



Ofc. Wagner during National Night Out. It's hard to turn down Girl Scout cookies!



Ofc. Bayer connecting with residents.

SPD Defensive Tactics Training



DUI Checkpoint



Lt. Sam Almodova retired in 2019 with 34 years of law-enforcement service.

The above DUI Check Point was one special operation Sam didn't have to coordinate!



SPD Snow Day! February 2019