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Forest Park

Forest Park
Police Department
Police Department

July - August
2020

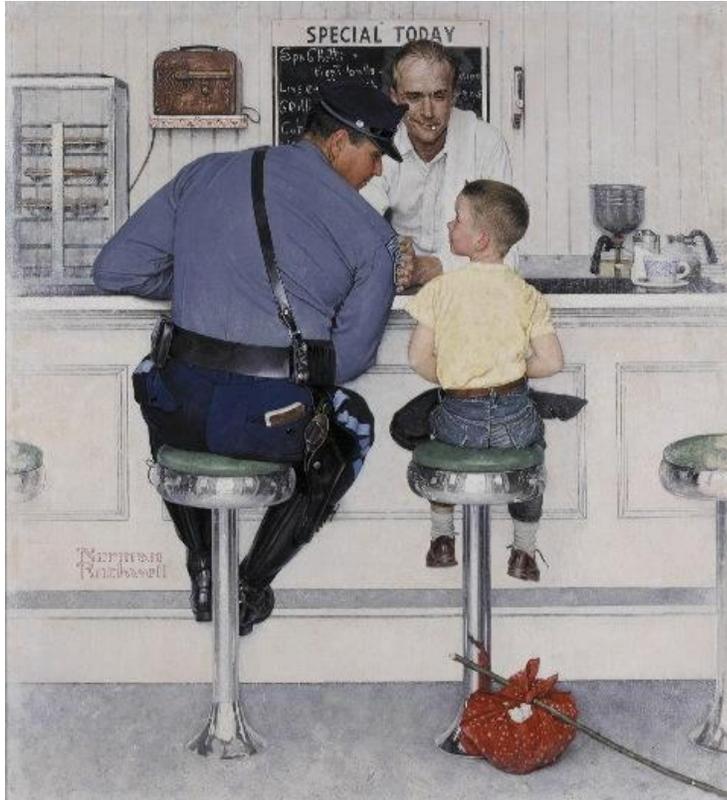
Monthly Report

Monthly Report



Criminal Investigations Division

Detectives / Tactical Response Unit / Community Policing



July and August 2020

The Forest Park Police Department's (FPPD) Criminal Investigation Division (CID) is supervised by Lt. Pete Morrissette. Three detectives are assigned to CID; Det. Jarlath Heveran, Det. Rob Bryant, and Det. Adam Stasinopoulos. Det. Mike O'Connor is the police department's Community Policing / Crime Free Housing Officer. LaShan Riggins, the Forest Park Police Department's Evidence Custodian, is a member of CID and aside from her evidence custodian duties performs administrative duties for the investigators, and assists the desk clerks, parking, and records when needed. There is a counselor assigned to the department from Amita Health Behavioral Health Clinician. This Police Crisis Services Worker position was recently filled by Evelyn Simmons. Evelyn is outsourced to the Forest Park Police Department four days a week and has office space within the CID building located at 501 DesPlaines Ave.

Police incident reports are reviewed by the investigations division every working day. Incidents that have victims wishing to sign a complaint against an offender are assigned to a detective for further

review in an effort to develop a suspect(s), conduct interviews, and gather evidence to effect an arrest and present a winnable case in criminal court. Some incidents are turned over to Evelyn Simmons should there be a need for outreach from her organization, mainly in reference to mental health concerns. Other incidents such as neighbor or landlord tenant disputes, are forwarded to Det. Mike O'Connor so he can intervene and possibly mediate or offer eviction advice. Problem properties may be deemed a nuisance by Det. O'Connor should they meet the criteria established under the village ordinance.

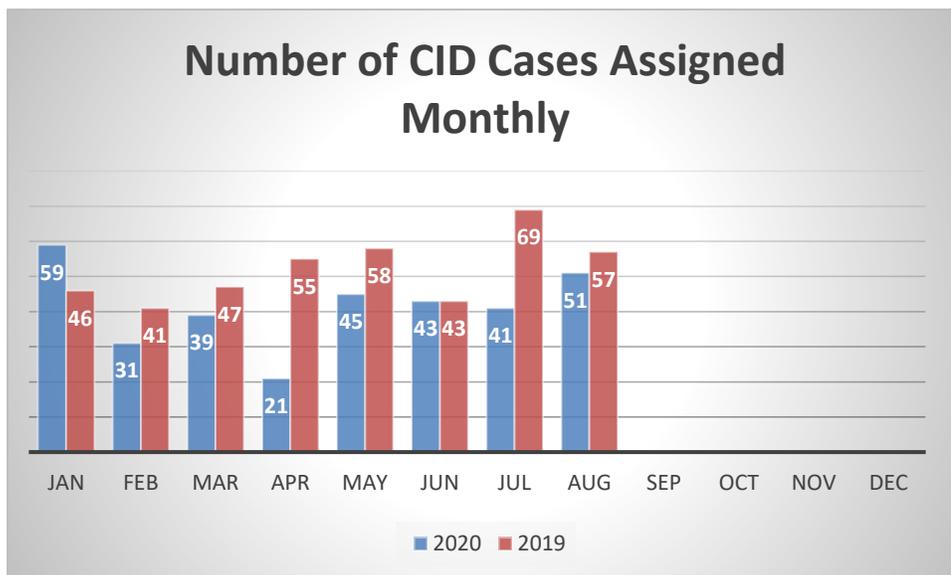
Detectives rotate on call assignments weekly so a Forest Park Police Detective is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week should the need for CID assistance arise. If a major incident is encountered during off hours, the entire CID staff could be called upon to respond if needed.

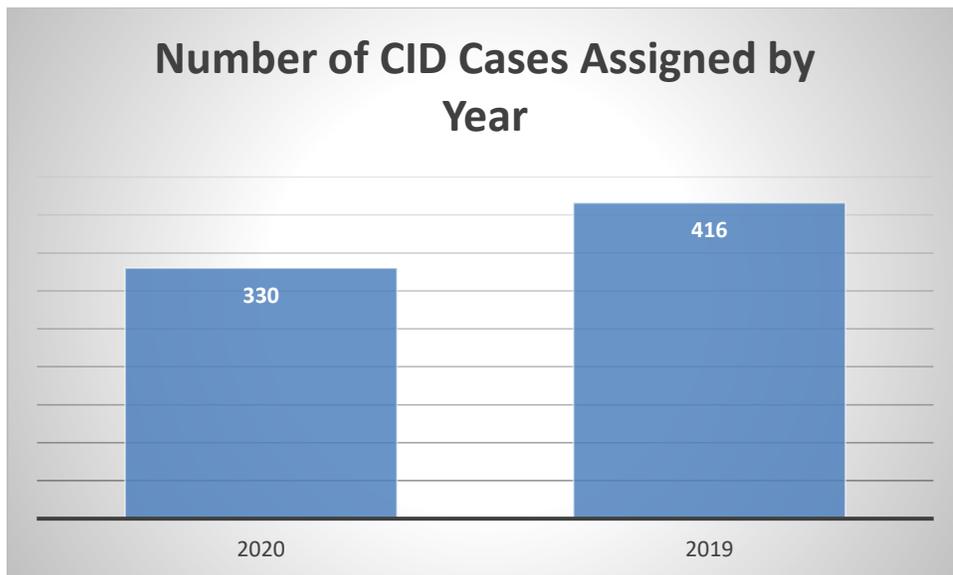
The detectives are members of the West Suburban Major Crimes Task Force (WESTAF) and are, at times, on call to assist member agencies should a homicide occur in a WESTAF jurisdiction. There were no new call outs during July and August 2020 for WESTAF.

Currently, the Forest Park PD is a member agency in the multijurisdictional West Suburban Drug and Gang Enforcement Task Force (WEDGE). Det. Stasinopoulos and Det. O'Connor are assigned to assist WEDGE. WEDGE was not active in this reporting period.

Trainings in July and August 2020 by CID personnel were all cancelled due to the Coronavirus pandemic, and detectives worked their normal duties in CID on dates they were scheduled for training.

There were 92 incidents assigned to investigators for follow-up in July and August 2020, 41 in July and 51 in August. Operations and investigations have continued to be affected by pandemic restrictions and orders placed by the Illinois Governor's Office. Courts have been limited or outright closed for business, also limiting the number of active follow-ups, interviews, and the pursuit of warrants and subpoenas for investigative purposes.





Following is a summary of notable investigations in July and August 2020:

- Detective Stasinopoulos investigated a burglary report in which a bicycle was taken from inside a garage. He observed a known burglary offender in possession of a bicycle that matched the description of the missing bicycle a couple blocks away. An investigative stop confirmed that this was the missing bicycle. The victim did not wish to sign a complaint against the offender, and the bicycle was returned. This offender has been suspected of numerous burglaries and thefts in Forest Park in recent months.
- Lieutenant Morrissette investigated a commercial burglary in which an offender had forced entry into an auto maintenance shop. Sometime after this burglary was committed, River Forest Police arrested a suspect who was in the commission of a commercial burglary there, just two blocks away from this burglary. Lieutenant Morrissette reviewed camera surveillance footage of this burglary, which showed a clear description of clothing worn by the suspect, and also showed him taking possession of a torque wrench before leaving the business. The suspect was in possession of a torque wrench when he was taken in to custody. Lieutenant Morrissette obtained felony Burglary charges against the offender.
- Detective Stasinopoulos investigated a report of a Violation of Order of Protection in which the respondent of the active order of protection had violated the order several times by text messaging the petitioner. Detective Stasinopoulos was able to make contact with the respondent and arranged for him to turn himself in on this complaint. The respondent came in as scheduled and was charged accordingly.
- Detective Stasinopoulos investigated a battery that was alleged when a customer at a vehicle rental place struck a customer service representative by punching him in the back of the head. Detective Stasinopoulos retrieved video surveillance footage confirming the incident, and arranged for a photographic lineup to be conducted. The victim positively identified the offender from the lineup. Detective Stasinopoulos made arrangements with the offender, through his attorney, to turn himself in to face charges. The offender arrived with his attorney as scheduled, and was charged with Battery.

- Detective Stasinopoulos was investigating numerous reports of vehicular hijackings and attempted hijackings, as well as other related offenses in which the same offender descriptions were found. Detective Stasinopoulos learned that two vehicles involved in a vehicular hijacking in Forest Park crashed in Chicago, and one suspect had taken himself to the hospital after fleeing the car crash. Detective Stasinopoulos coordinated investigations with Chicago and Melrose Park Police, who each had experienced similar crimes with the same possible suspects. Detective Stasinopoulos was able to identify several juvenile suspects through this investigation who are also suspected in a street robbery and vehicle theft in Forest Park. This investigation is continuing.
- Criminal Investigations Division team members assisted in fourteen missing persons reports in July and August 2020. Of these, eight were habitual juvenile runaways who returned home. Two missing persons returned home. One psychiatric patient who had fled an ambulance was found hiding in a building vestibule, and investigators located two missing persons in hospitals in the Chicago area. Detective Bryant was able to locate one missing person in Washington D.C. through a coordinated effort with police there.
- The Criminal Investigations Division reviewed nine death investigations in Forest Park in July and August 2020. Four cases were cleared on the scene and required no follow up investigation. One death was ruled a natural death, two accidental, one a suicide, and one pending toxicology testing.

Forest Park Criminal Investigations Division members are experienced and dedicated public servants who have built and continue to maintain professional relationships within the community and with neighboring agencies in an effort to quash criminal activity and to solve as many cases as possible.

July/August 2020

FOREST PARK POLICE K-9 STATISTICS

K-9 "MADISON"

Deployments:

28 JUL 20 (Narcotics Search): Ofc. Miller deployed Canine Madison on a vehicle after locating cannabis during a traffic stop. Canine Madison did not locate any other contraband inside the vehicle.

04 Aug 20 (Narcotics Search): Ofc. Miller deployed Canine Madison on a vehicle after turning a traffic stop into a consensual encounter and receiving permission from the driver. Canine Madison did not alert or indicate to the presence of narcotics on the vehicle.

06 Aug 20 (Narcotics Search): Canine Madison assisted DEA Task Force and indicated to the presence of narcotics on United States Currency that was involved in an on-going DEA investigation.

TOTALS:

DEPLOYMENTS= 3

Firearms/Range

Range Officers had two development days to prepare for the upcoming in-service/range days in the next two months.

Accident Investigation

No active crash investigations - Continued participation in WESTAF Crash Team.

LESO

An opportunity presented itself to acquire a small utility truck which was housed at a military base just outside Lexington Kentucky. It had a total of 1400 miles and is in pristine shape, having been delivered, but never used at the base which requested it. It will be used for whatever this Department needs, including an option to pick up larger LESO items not feasible to ship without putting unnecessary miles on the current Police fleet. The vehicle was acquired by the military for over \$50,000.

Also acquired were 10 brand new dual band radio scanners. These are monitor only and are set up in a few offices so the various radio bands can be monitored without using the active portable radios. Each scanner was purchased by the military for \$234 each

Special Response Team (SRT)

SRT was not activated for the months of July and August.

Special Response Team Training

Nothing to Report

Neighborhood Watch

Nothing to Report

Auxiliary Unit

July – August 2020

Summary

Due to the CORONA Virus Pandemic the monthly meeting for July was suspended.

July & August Details:

All Village Events were cancelled due to the Corona Virus.

Iron Workers Detail:

Four Auxiliary Officers worked the Iron Workers Detail after they requested officers to provide security during their elections scheduled for Saturday July 25, 2020 from 0730 to 1830 hours.

Riot/Looting Security Detail 06/2 to 06/8:

The Auxiliary Unit was utilized to address citizen and local business concerns regarding the destruction and looting attempts of properties occurring in Forest Park and the surrounding areas. Deputy Chief Gross set up this detail to help supplement the patrol division. The detail consisted of posting an auxiliary officer in uniform in a marked squad at the Walmart and Walgreens parking lots from 1800hrs to 0600hrs on the dates listed above. Their duties were to watch for looters and to call out any suspicious persons/vehicles. The detail started on Tuesday, June 2nd and continued until Monday, June 8th.

Auxiliary Training/Meeting for July & August 2020:

The auxiliary unit resumed having their monthly meetings on Wednesday August 12th at 1900hrs. The meeting was held in the roll call room where Corona Virus protocols were enforced. During the meeting we discussed the possibilities for future auxiliary details especially in the event more civil unrest occurs in and around the Chicago area.