



## Council Update – Chief of Police

February 13, 2024

**Promotion** – Congratulations to Luke Schwarz on his promotion to the rank of Sergeant. Upon completion of training, he will oversee B Company officers.



**New Recruits** – Jonathan Shih and Teneea Heston were recently sworn in as Police Cadets. Both will attend the Ohio State Patrol Peace Officer Academy. They will graduate in July.



**Active Shooter Training** – Officer Grimes did a great job organizing and deploying the department's active shooter training held in early February. Bexley CERT members volunteered as witnesses to the "incident". The volunteers called into dispatch to report the incident. The hands-on training helped to identify the strengths and weaknesses which will assist in future training needs.

**K9 Team** – Officer Shawver and Pia continue to provide sweeps of the local synagogues. The team continues to sharpen Pia's skills through training and repetitive exercises.

**Community Policing** – Officer Adams is in the process of organizing "Coffee with a Cop" for the seniors of Bickford Bexley.

He recently met with DARN representative Michelle Hipsley and discussed ways to be involved with DARN events. Officer Adams continues to visit local businesses.

**Citizens Police Academy** – The 2024 Bexley Citizens Police Academy is scheduled to run from Tuesday, Sept. 3 - Tuesday, Nov. 12. Officer Adams will have flyers distributed soon along with using other deliverables.

**Families in Need** – The department is currently seeking 4 - 5 families to sponsor in 2024 to help with expenses such as school shopping, Thanksgiving meals, and etc.

**Detective Bureau** – January and February have been very busy for the Bureau. With the growing report of “Porch Pirates” stealing packages from Bexley and the surrounding areas, detectives have spent a lot of time patrolling and following up on leads. They were able to observe someone in the act. With the help of marked patrol units, detectives and officers were able to arrest two suspects and link them to many of the porch thefts in Bexley. Detectives executed a search warrant at one of the suspect’s home and were able to recover more stolen goods.

Detectives were also able to arrest an individual that stole an acquaintance’s debit card and then withdrew \$500 from an ATM. After some leg work, Detective Briley was able to locate the suspect, interview him, and arrest him for the theft. Detective Byrd assisted patrol officers in arresting a suspect that had warrants for OVI and felony drug possession.

Eight cases were submitted to the Franklin County Prosecutor’s Office for review and indictment. Two search warrants were executed in order to try and gain information about suspects out of a burglary. Nine items of evidence were submitted to BCI. One case was presented at Grand Jury and resulted in a true bill and will be going forward in the court system. After a rash of car window break-ins, detectives assisted by patrolling during the overnight hours.

**Animal Control** – January was a bit slower than normal, possibly due to the cold weather.

One loose dog was picked up and made it home quickly. Another loose dog was seen in north Bexley for a couple of days but I was unable to catch him. At last report, he moved on to Columbus and there have no more calls for him.

There was a raccoon in a storm drain that was reported to be acting strangely. He then disappeared into the storm drain.

It is currently breeding season for many species of wildlife, so they will be out and about more than usual for the next couple of months. One of these species out on the prowl is skunks, and we had one dog get sprayed. There have been a couple of complaints regarding stray cats but they moved along before they could be trapped.

A cruelty complaint was received from a contractor that works in Bexley. The complainant said they saw a man mistreating his dogs. This is the second time this complaint has been made, however, no one has been able to provide pictures or video of abuse. The pictures and videos I have been given show well fed dogs and a tap to one of his dog’s nose to make it move. The owner does not have traditional leashes and ties the dogs to his car while working, which is upsetting to some of the residents. I have not been able to contact him and he lives in Columbus. His home address and the complaint have been passed on to Columbus Humane. A call was received from someone that was concerned by posts she had seen on the Bexley Buzz regarding the man. She had hired this man and she said she never saw any mistreatment to his dogs.

Calls were received about dogs being left outside in cold weather. The location is outside the city’s jurisdiction, so the call was passed on Columbus Humane (who followed up on the calls). On another

incident, a Columbus resident moved and couldn't take his two dogs him. After a few phone calls, the dogs were taken to Columbus Humane.

Other calls included a barking complaint in which the owner took the dog in right away. There were a couple of leash law warnings were issued.

A case being heard in Mayor's Court was resolved. The dog owner and was able to get all of her requirements for court met. Officer Jennings will continue to work with her for the additional requirements she needs in order to get her pit bull registered in the City.

**Statistics:**

Start Date	End Date	Calls for Service	Business Check	Total	Incident & Offense Reports	Arrest Reports	Crash Reports	Total	Theft	Motor Vehicle Theft	Burglary/B&E	Robbery
1/1/2024	2/7/2024	1797	421	2,218	90	38	19	147	32	2	4	0
1/1/2023	2/7/2023	1844	273	2,117	95	22	11	128	14	10	7	0
2/8/2023	2/7/2024	18573	3566	22,139	986	375	195	1,556	279	47	68	9
2/8/2022	2/7/2023	13873	829	14,702	987	374	185	1,546	231	74	57	10