



2020

Report to the Community
Series IV of IV

**2020 Initiatives, Drug Task Force Data, Mayor's Court Report,
and Organizational Structure**



Bexley Police Department Report to the Community 2020

DRAFT DISCLAIMER

The 2020 Community Policing Report is being released in a series of draft sections. The final report, incorporating all sections, will be released in the fall of 2020, and will be informed in part by feedback received from these draft releases.

To submit your feedback, please visit:
www.bexley.org/policereport



Bexley Police Department Report to the Community 2020

2020 Initiatives

Body Cameras and Dash Camera Modernization

In 2019, Bexley began the process of outfitting officers with body cameras. In early 2020, the project was fully deployed, with all officers wearing body cameras during the course of their duties. Additionally, dash cameras were updated, with a new system that allows wireless digital transfer, saving officers administrative time on each shift. The move to adopt body cameras was led by police leadership, who felt it would be an important tool for transparency and accountability in policing.

Hybrid Police Cruisers

For many years, Bexley has been researching clean fleet options across all city vehicles. Police cruisers have specific requirements and capacity needs, making it especially difficult to retrofit standard passenger vehicles for police purposes. In 2019, Ford announced a hybrid police cruiser, and Bexley's 2020 cruiser replacements will consume less fuel, rely less on engines for idling, and result in a net savings to the City. Each hybrid interceptor is projected to reduce fuel consumption by 1,276 gallons per year, resulting in a savings of 22,560 pounds of CO₂, with a carbon sequestration equivalency of 188 trees.



The 2020 Police Interceptor hybrid will save 1,276 gallons of fuel per year per vehicle.



Bexley complaint liaisons Sam Marcellino and Mary Younger

Complaint Process Reforms

We believe that all citizens should have the ability to voice concerns and be provided with a response when they feel they have been treated unfairly or unjustly. In response to concerns that the complaint process can be difficult to access or can feel intimidating to citizens, we have enacted a series of complaint process reforms.

Online Complaint Filing

Citizens wishing to file a complaint against a City employee can do so online at www.bexley.org/complaint.

Complaint Liaisons

The role of a Complaint Liaison is to help citizens navigate the complaint process, answer any questions they might have, and provide resources and assistance as needed. Liaisons are third-party consultants and are not employees of the City. Liaisons are encouraged to provide guidance, information, and empathy throughout the process, but do not legally represent the complainant. To learn more about the program or contact a Liaison, please view the information sheet at www.bexley.org/complaint.

Citizen Review Advisory Board

The Bexley Citizen Review Advisory Board provides citizen review and input into unsatisfied inquiries and complaints of unlawful discrimination or bias directed at City employees, in order to ensure full transparency and accountability of the City's responsiveness to such complaints. The Bexley Citizens Review Advisory Board is an advisory board to the Mayor, and was established via executive order on June 9, 2020. The Board provides for a third-party, independent review of complaints under appeal, with all findings of the board to be published and fully available to the public. To learn more, please visit www.bexley.org/citizen-review.



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Bexley/Whitehall Narcotics Partnership

In 2019, the Bexley Police Department entered into a mutual agreement with the City of Whitehall to assist with narcotics investigations and enforcement. Under the agreement, a Bexley detective is assigned, full-time, to the partnership, under the supervision of the Whitehall Police Department Narcotics team. The team investigates suspected drug operations in the City, and cooperatively works on search and seizure operations, using the combined expertise of both agencies. In 2019, 5,473.5 grams of narcotics were seized as a direct result of operations.

Metrics from Bexley Narcotics operations	2019
Marijuana seized	2,874 grams
Cocaine (Powder) seized	1,119 grams
Cocaine (Crack) seized	454 grams
Heroin seized	106 grams
Fentanyl seized	584.5 grams
Meth seized	191 grams
Hashish seized	145 grams
Pills seized	254.5 count
Currency seized	\$88,134
Guns seized	54
Stolen Guns seized	3
Human Trafficking Cases	3
Arrests	33

Mayor's Court Report

Clerk of Courts: Ruby Arnold
Magistrate: Jason Dolin
Prosecutor: Kevin Shannon
Public Defender: Leslie Albeit

Bexley's Mayor's Court hears misdemeanor cases, including traffic citations, parking tickets, theft, among others. The court is clerked by Ruby Arnold, with an appointed magistrate, prosecutor, and public defender serving during court dates, approximately every other week. Bexley's Mayor's Court strives to treat every defendant as an individual, and to work to understand the unique circumstances of every defendant when prosecuting charges. It is of note that Mayor's Court operates completely independently of the Police Department; information on court operations is being shared in this report in order to give additional information on court processes that follow citations.

Case Counts	2018	2019
New cases filed	559	530
Cases transfered, reactivated, or redesignated	48	43
Case Terminations By Type	2018	2019
Guilty or No Contest plea to original charge	78	26
Guilty or No Contest plea to reduced charge	20	20
Transfer to other court	10	24
Dismissed	67	89
Traffic Violations Bureau (citations paid)	308	277

Justice and Equity Initiatives: Public Defender

In 2019, Mayor Kessler appointed Leslie Albeit as public defender, making Bexley's Mayor's Court the first court in central Ohio to be staffed by a public defender for misdemeanor defendants.

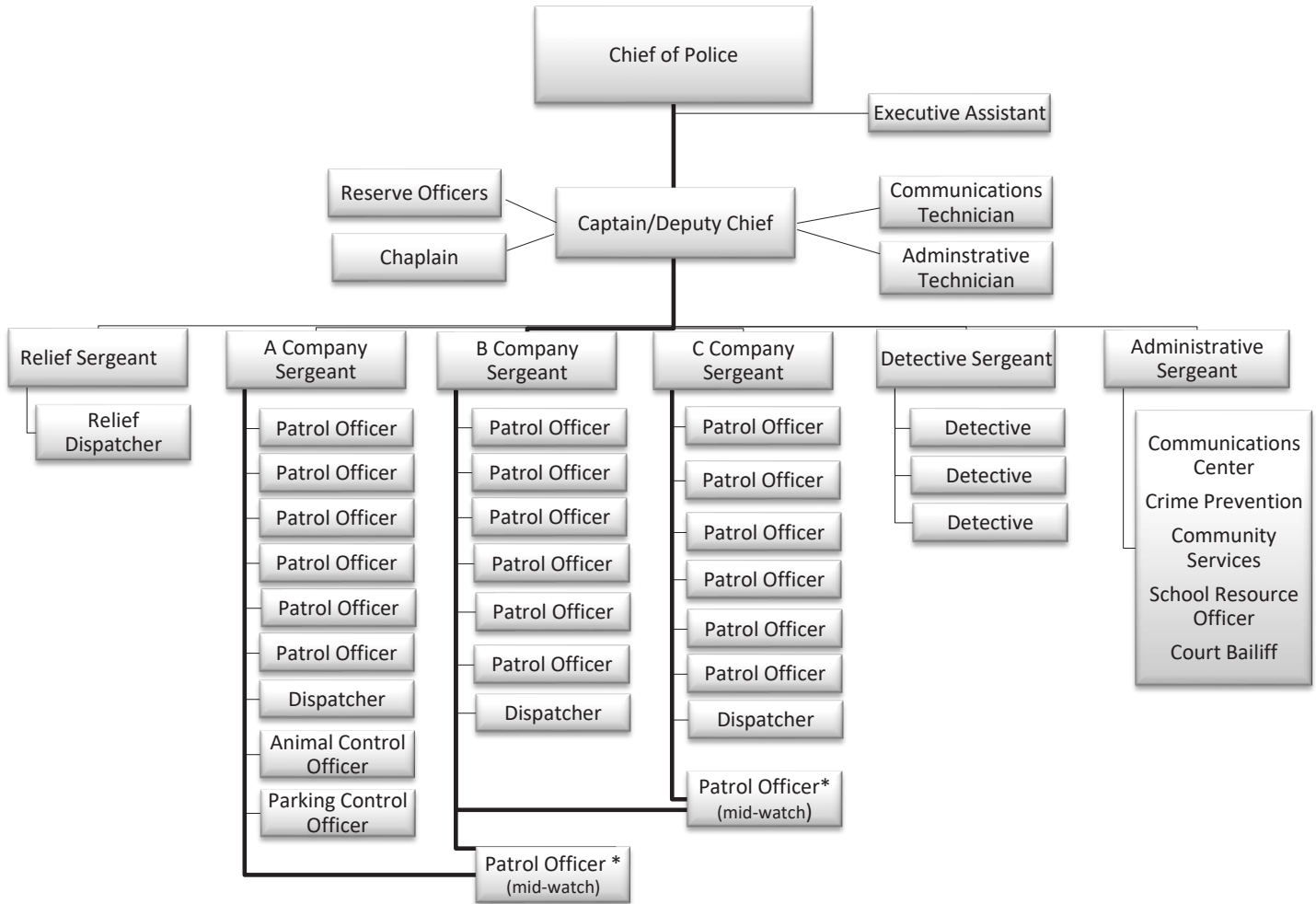
Justice and Equity Initiatives: Fee Free Court

City leadership believes that court fines and fees can create a self-perpetuating debt spiral that locks indigent defendants into the court system. Court rules are currently being modified to allow indigent defendants to opt for community service at a calculated living wage in lieu of court fines and fees. This reform is expected to be complete in 2020.



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Organizational Structure



Organizational Profile

31	Sworn Personnel	4	Full-Time Dispatchers	2	Full-Time Civilian Personnel
1	Reserve Officer	4	Part-Time Dispatchers	4	Part-Time Civilian Personnel