

THE CITY OF ROCK ISLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT



ANNUAL REPORT 2025



Presented by
Chief Timothy McCloud
Rock Island Police Department
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MESSAGE FROM CHIEF MC CLOUD



It is once again my privilege to present to you the Annual Report for the Rock Island Police Department. Serving the citizens of Rock Island for almost 32 years has been a genuine privilege and being your Chief of Police has, and will always be, my greatest honor. The dedicated men and women who make up the Rock Island Police Department work extremely hard, sacrificing every day to protect and serve this amazing community, and I am proud to stand alongside them in this noble profession.

The past year has not been without its challenges, but we are always striving to explore new crime reduction strategies, training opportunities to provide better service, and endeavoring to build and strengthen our relationships with our citizens through professionalism and through our numerous community engagement programs.

Over the past year, some of our community engagement programs have included Coffee with a Cop, Police Read-Alongs, Backpacks and Badges, Kick it with a Cop, National Night Out, the Million Father March, and fundraisers for Special Olympics such as the Polar Plunge and Cop on a Rooftop, or for Gilda's Club Quad Cities with pink badges/patches, and No Shave November. Each of these are great opportunities for our citizens to engage directly with our personnel and see us as members of the community, rather than just enforcers of the law.

In 2025, we have also taken an innovative approach to training by purchasing an interactive virtual reality training simulator and constructing our own on-site CQB (Close Quarters Battle) training facility. Both of these training improvements offer our officers increased opportunities to conduct realistic, scenario-based training in areas such as use of force, de-escalation, search and seizure, and high-risk traffic stops as mandated through the State of Illinois.

The Rock Island Police Department has also worked to reduce violent crime through a variety of partnerships including the UTH Riders Foundation and the Veterans Crisis Line in providing free gun locks to anyone who needs one. We have also begun a new Community Convener program with the YWCA in an effort to reduce violent crime. The Community Convener program, funded through the Office of Firearm Violence Prevention, has engaged many social services and law enforcement stakeholders to explore new ways to best reduce violent crime.

Additionally, after launching GVI (Group Violence Intervention) in the Spring of 2024, the Rock Island Police Department continued this proactive crime reduction initiative throughout 2025 by identifying those most at risk for being involved in gun crime and attempting to break them out of their cycle of violence. In one of the most genuinely proactive, crime-reducing initiatives, a team made up of police, probation, social services, and a trusted community member will seek out those at high risk for gun violence, and offer assistance and services in hopes to keep them alive and out of prison.

All of us at the RIPD are pledged to providing our citizens with the best service possible. I look forward to the work we will do together in reducing crime so that all who live in and visit our city feel welcome and safe.

Timothy J. McCloud

ABOUT THE ROCK ISLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT

The Rock Island Police Department was established through City Ordinance on August 4th, 1854. Over the last 172 years, the look, location, and available resources in fighting crime have evolved, but the mission has always stayed the same: provide the best possible service and protection to the citizens and visitors of the City of Rock Island.

When fully staffed, the department employs 81 sworn officers and 28 civilian personnel for a total of 109 employees. Of the sworn personnel, 52 hold the rank of Officer, ten as Detective, ten as Sergeant, and seven as Lieutenant, along with one Deputy Chief and one Chief of Police. By the end of 2025, 34% of the employees are female, and 15% are minorities. RIPD ended the year with a staffing shortage of 13 sworn personnel and one civilian employee.

Six promotions were made in 2025: Eddie Connelly, Ben Meiresonne, Kris Kuhlman, and Dy Robinson were promoted to lieutenant; and Luke Serra and Brienne Lonergan were promoted to the rank of sergeant.

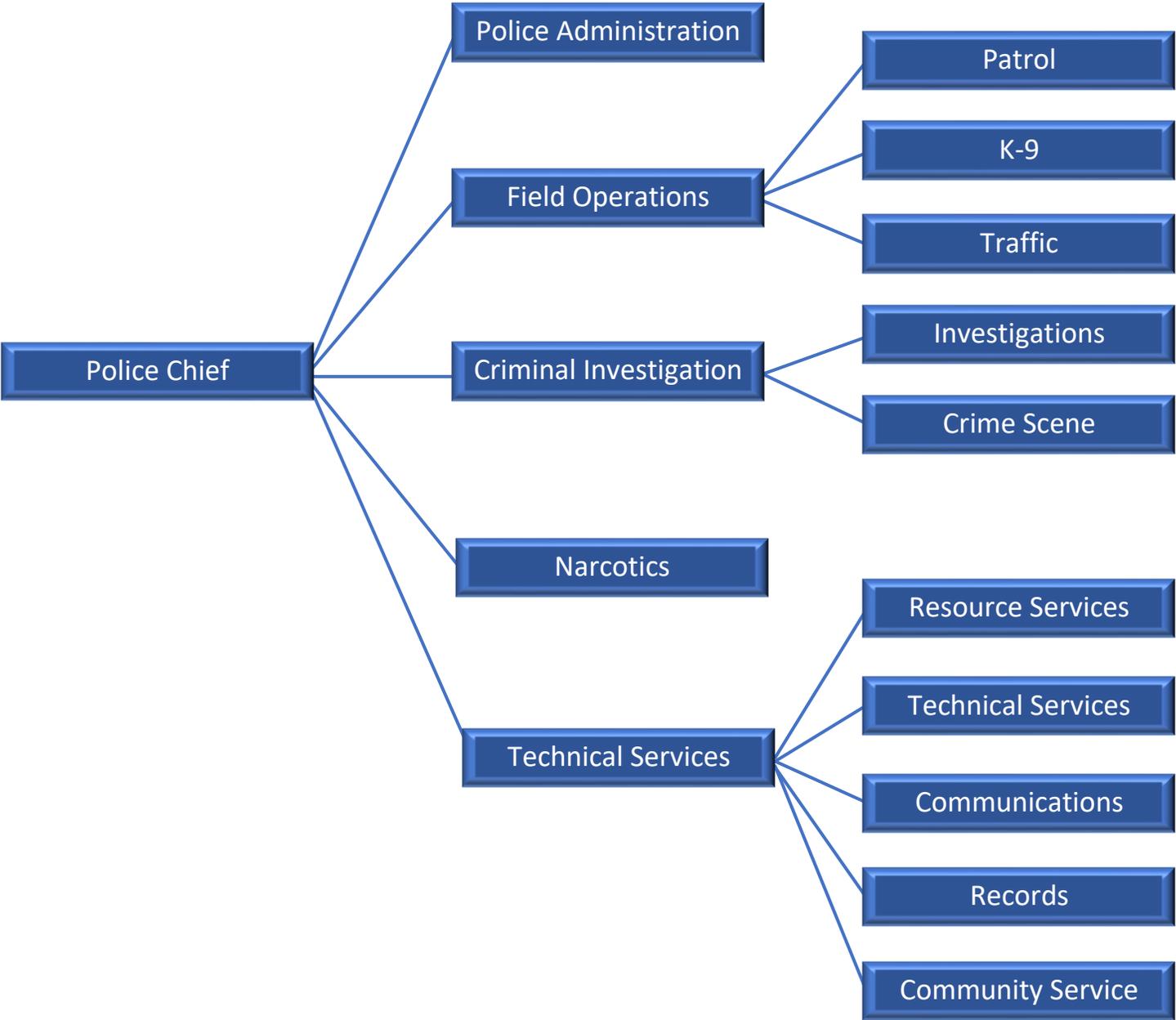


The Rock Island Police Department has been a state accredited agency since 2013 and achieved Tier 2 accreditation status through the Illinois Law Enforcement Accreditation Program (ILEAP) in January of 2014. Being recognized as an accredited police agency means the Rock Island Police Department has been rigorously evaluated in the areas of policies, procedures, and practices and has been found to be in full compliance with the professional standards of modern law enforcement as established through the Illinois Accreditation Council. Accreditation is an on-going process, with re-evaluation occurring every four years. Since achieving the initial accreditation, the RIPD has achieved re-accreditation status twice; in 2018 and 2022, and is due for re-evaluation in 2026.

MISSION STATEMENT

The Rock Island Police Department is committed to enhancing the quality of life in our community by working with the citizens to enforce laws, solve problems, build partnerships, and protect individual rights. As a community policing and problem-solving agency, we hold in great regard, the trust our community bestows upon us and we take personal responsibility in nurturing and promoting that trust. Our members will always strive to set a positive example in the community by maintaining our own high ethical values.

DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION



POLICE COMMISSIONERS

The Rock Island Police Department conducts hiring and promotions of sworn personnel through the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners of the City of Rock Island. The Commission was established to evaluate and appoint all sworn officers and to conduct promotional examinations. The Commission consists of three members, each appointed by the Mayor with the consent of the City Council, and each serving overlapping three-year terms.



Dr. John Hildreth

Commissioner since 1982

Police and Fire Commission Chairman



John Wright

Commissioner since 2020

Police and Fire Commission Vice Chairman



Greg Hass

Commissioner since 2018

Police and Fire Commission Secretary

MAJOR STAFF



Timothy McCloud
Chief of Police



James Morris
Deputy Chief of Police



Agent Timothy Muehler
Office of Professional
Standards



Lt. Ryan DeRudder
Commander
Technical Services Division



Lt. Norman Jacks
Watch Commander
First Shift Patrol



Lt. Eddie Connelly
Watch Commander
Second Shift Patrol



Lt. Ben Meiresonne
Commander
Criminal Investigations



Lt. Kris Kuhlman (redacted)
Commander
Narcotics



Lt. Dytanya Robinson
Watch Commander
Third Shift Patrol

POLICE ADMINISTRATION

The Office of the Chief of Police includes the Chief, the Deputy Chief, the Agent in the Office of Professional Standards, and Executive secretary. The Chief's office is responsible for the overall management and supervision of department personnel. The Office of Professional Standards is responsible for the investigation or review of all citizen or internal complaints, alcoholic beverage investigations, investigation of miscellaneous license applications and the preparation of operation orders.

The Agent assigned to the Office of Professional Standards reports directly to the Chief of Police. The office of the Chief of Police also oversees research, planning and budgeting.



FIELD OPERATIONS DIVISION



Field Operations, commonly referred to as the Patrol or Uniform Division, is the essence of the police mission, and these uniformed officers are the primary instrument through which our mission is accomplished. The patrol officers are responsible for preserving the peace, responding to calls for service, conducting preliminary investigations, traffic control, accident investigations, crime prevention and court appearances to provide testimony in the prosecution of cases. Patrol officers perform many specialized functions to include a K-9 handler, drone pilot, six Field Training Officers, crowd control and Police Specialists.



Comprised of members from all four divisions, the Emergency Response Team (ERT) is a tactical response unit whose primary responsibility is to respond to incidents or calls for service involving armed or potentially armed subjects or other high-risk situations requiring tactical equipment and training. The ERT is primarily used for dangerous situations such as search warrants or hostage/barricaded subjects and trains monthly to

prepare for the many possible and unpredictable incidents that may potentially arise at any given time. Working closely with this unit are several members trained as Hostage Negotiators.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM



BICYCLE PATROL UNIT

One aspect of our commitment to community policing is our bicycle patrol. Many of our officers are specially trained to perform patrol functions on police bikes, giving us the opportunity to more directly interact with citizens and to monitor areas not easily accessible by a squad car.



Formed in 1965, the Rock Island Police Department was the second police department in the State of Illinois to have a Police Honor Guard. The Honor Guard's primary responsibility is to honor the lives of the fallen officers at funerals and memorial services but also to represent the Rock Island Police Department in official functions such as parades, the Quad City Law Enforcement Officer's Memorial, and the annual Officer and Firefighter of the Year Dinner.

HONOR GUARD



DRONE UNIT



In late 2024, the Police Department was authorized to implement a small unmanned aerial system (sUAS) program - more commonly referred to as a drone program - to enhance public safety operations within the city.

The primary purpose of a sUAS program is to enhance the department's mission to safeguard the lives and property of our citizens, and to do so in strict accordance with state and federal law, Federal

Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations, and with department policy that maintains the utmost respect for individuals' right to privacy. Uses of a sUAS include monitoring special events or parades, aiding in search and rescue or natural disaster incidents, coordinating the response of emergency vehicles, crime scene photography, traffic crash reconstruction, and providing real-time imaging and direct communication during hostage/barricaded subject incidents.



TRAINING



In 2024, the Rock Island Police Department expanded the in-house training capabilities by investing in the area's only virtual reality training simulator. Using VR, our officers are able to enter into countless virtual environments and conduct realistic, scenario-based training in a 360-degree setting, where they can hone their skills in conducting room searches, de-escalation, and active-shooter incidents.

While training in a virtual reality has its benefits, nothing compares with the ability to maneuver through real-world environments. In 2025 the police department purchased and constructed our own close-quarters battle training facility, allowing officers to train using simunition-style training weapons in an on-site, safe, and fully customizable platform.



CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION



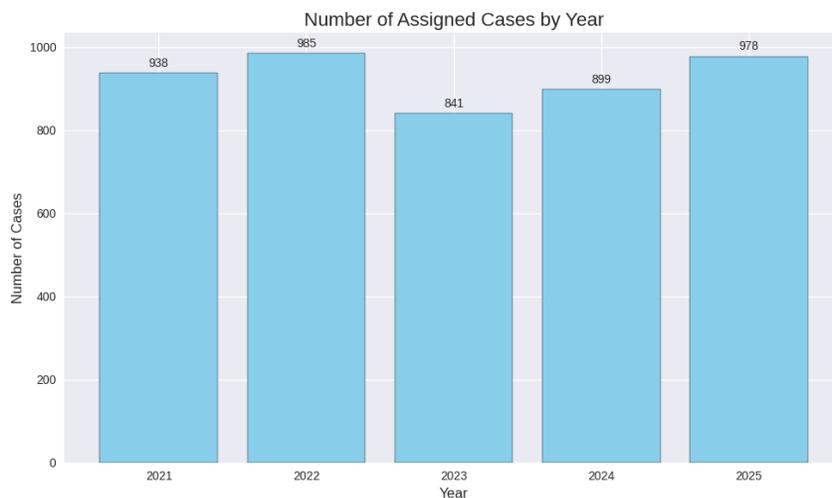
Made up of both sworn and civilian staff, the Criminal Investigations Division is responsible for the majority of the investigative functions of the police department. CID conducts follow-up investigations of felony offenses, including drug and gang related crimes, financial crimes, and internet related crimes. Additionally, the Police Department maintains two criminalists who conduct crime scene processing, fingerprint comparison, ballistics, and narcotics testing. CID normally staffs a Crime Analyst, but the position remains vacant at this time. The Analyst performs a variety of functions including tracking crime trends of burglaries, stolen vehicles, and shots fired. Additionally, our Analyst is able to conduct forensic examinations of cell phones and computers, as well as monitoring potential threats on social media.



CID also is actively involved in deterring juveniles from a career in crime. Early detection and counseling may prevent many young people from maintaining a harmful lifestyle. Detectives conduct follow-up investigations on all juvenile-related crime and work closely with other agencies such as the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Rock Island County Youth Court Services. CID also currently has a School Resource Officer assigned to the Rock Island High School.

As part of our continued community policing efforts, CID provides speakers to citizen groups and civic organizations and gives informative talks on a variety of topics that fall under the scope of criminal investigations. Furthermore, this division works closely with the Field Operations Division to conduct pro-active, preventive activities to address neighborhood concerns.

ASSIGNED CASES



NARCOTICS DIVISION

For decades, the Rock Island Police Department has maintained its own undercover narcotics investigation presence in the Quad Cities. That presence has taken many different forms over the years based on the needs of the department, the needs of the city, and the availability of resources. In addition to our own in-house undercover officers, the Rock Island Police Department has at various times entered into a partnership with other agencies such as the Metropolitan Enforcement Group (MEG), the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), and the Federal Gang Task Force (GTF).

Narcotics-related offenses are not victimless crimes, and the distribution of illegal narcotics does not exist in a vacuum. Drug crimes permeate every aspect of criminal activity, ranging from thefts and burglaries to armed robberies and homicides. As illegal drug crime rises, so does violent crime.

For 2025, the Rock Island Police Department Narcotics Division seized the following from off our streets:

SEIZED	AMOUNT
Methamphetamine	893.37 grams
Cocaine	532.91 grams
Heroin	2.29 grams
Cannabis	25,423 grams
Fentanyl	893 grams
MDMA	10.88 grams
Vehicles	1
Currency	\$156,744.77



TECHNICAL SERVICES DIVISION

The Technical Services Division is responsible for a variety of functions including reception desk services, records management, crime reporting, telecommunications, court services and community services. Additionally, the department budget is maintained through this division and manages billing, service contracts, equipment, and training needs.



COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICERS

The department has three civilian Community Service Officers, each trained to conduct animal control investigations, follow up on abandoned vehicle complaints, and address parking complaints.



COMMUNICATIONS



Our Communications Center, known as RICOMM, is responsible for receiving, monitoring, transmitting and relaying calls for emergency services to appropriate public safety agencies.

It is staffed by twelve civilian telecommunicators and one supervisor. RICOMM operates emergency and non-emergency telephones and multiple radios, and maintains computerized records of all communication transactions.

POLICE CALLS FOR SERVICE

2020	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
34,611	34,930	34,969	34,748	37,399	35,506

EVIDENCE

The Evidence Custodian, a civilian position, is responsible for custody of all evidence obtained by the department. This involves the storage, retrieval, return, destruction or auction of evidence and property when appropriate. Evidence management also includes the processing of state mandated records as required for compliance with state statutes. This includes various records and reports associated with arrests.

RECORDS

The Technical Services Division is responsible for the management of records for the entire department and the assistance of citizens contacting the front desk either in person or by telephone. Duties involve receiving reports by telephone and entering them into the computerized records management system. The division is also responsible for maintaining a central repository of reports received from the reception desk and police officers, as well as the archiving of reports, and managing requests for various reports from outside sources and members of the department. The Technical Services Division is responsible for processing arrest documents, fingerprint documents, and booking photographs (not processed through Central Booking). Additionally, this division manages all sex offender registration requirements according to state and federal standards.



RESOURCE SERVICES

As part of Resource Services, the Court Liaison is responsible for coordinating and scheduling officers for misdemeanor and felony criminal court, traffic court, and serves as a liaison between the court, State's Attorney's office, MUNICES (Administrative Hearing Officer) and the Police Department. Another responsibility is tracking alcohol-related traffic cases, reimbursement from DUI cases, and C.O.R.A. tows. The Deputy Commander of the Technical Services Division coordinates academy training and in-service training and is responsible for continually monitoring the needs of the department and staying up-to-date on changes needed in training programs.

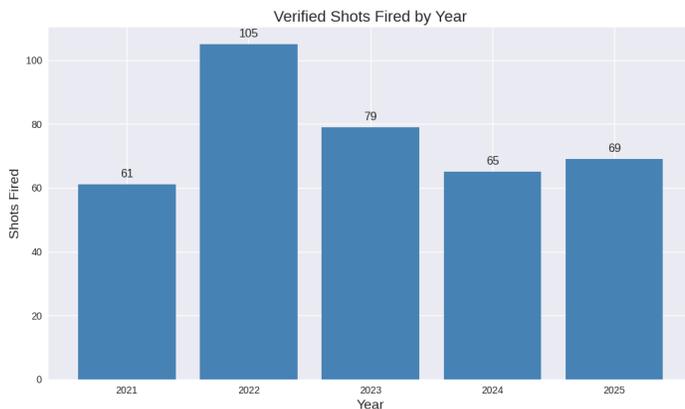
CRIME STATISTICS

Beginning in January, 2021, the FBI’s National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) became the national standard for law enforcement crime data reporting in the United States.

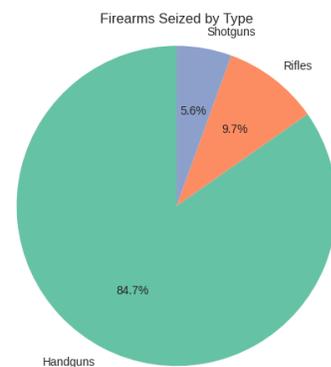
For 2025, Rock Island saw decreases in burglary offenses, narcotics offenses, and stolen vehicles. There was an increase in assault charges, weapons charges, larceny charges, robberies, arsons, and vandalism offenses with an 8.4% increase in violent crime and a 3.8% increase in property crime as compared to 2024.

Offense	2022	2023	2024	2025
Murder	11	4	2	2
Sex Offenses	5	7	12	12
Assault Offenses	957	994	942	1,012
Weapons Offenses	98	88	74	84
Burglary Offenses	169	136	309	153
Larceny Offenses	751	652	482	643
Narcotics Offenses	139	142	185	162
Motor Vehicle Theft	202	244	228	218
Robbery	14	17	5	16
Arson	8	12	6	7
Vandalism	513	732	553	617
Other	54	73	57	55
Total	2,921	3,101	2,855	2,981

VERIFIED SHOTS FIRED



2025 FIREARMS SEIZED



USE OF FORCE

The Rock Island Police Department recognizes and respects the value and integrity of every human life. When investing police officers with the lawful authority to use force to protect the public welfare, a careful balancing of all human interests is required. Therefore, it is the policy of the Rock Island Police Department that police officers shall use only that force which is reasonably necessary to defend themselves or others from bodily harm and in conformity with the statutes and Constitutions of the State of Illinois and the United States. All uses of force are documented. When a use of force meets a specific threshold as defined by policy, it is investigated by a supervisor and reviewed by the Office of Professional Standards to ensure the force used was in compliance with departmental and legal standards.

YEAR	USE OF FORCE INCIDENTS	TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE	% PER INCIDENT	OFFICERS INJURED
2021	32	34,930	0.09%	5
2022	35	34,969	0.10%	15
2023	54	34,748	0.16%	4
2024	44	37,399	0.12%	7
2025	49	35,506	0.14%	13

OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

It is essential that the public maintains confidence in the department’s ability to investigate and properly adjudicate any complaints made against its members. The department has the responsibility to seek out and discipline those whose conduct discredits the department or impairs its effective operation. The rights of the employee as well as the public must be preserved, and any investigation or hearing arising from a complaint must be conducted in an open and fair manner with the truth as its primary objective. The department accepts complaints against its members from citizens and also through supervisory oversight and fully investigates all such complaints to the appropriate disposition.

Each complaint may contain more than one allegation, depending on the potential nature of any policy violation and each allegation will receive its own disposition. When the investigation is complete, the citizen and member are given the results of the investigation. The five possible dispositions are: Unfounded, Administratively Closed, Not-Sustained, Sustained, or Exonerated. These dispositions are described below:

UNFOUNDED: The allegation is false or not factual.

ADMINISTRATIVELY CLOSED: The complainant refused to cooperate with the investigation and no further investigation can be completed.

NOT SUSTAINED: There is insufficient evidence to either prove or disprove the allegation.

SUSTAINED: The allegation is supported by sufficient evidence.

EXONERATED: The incident occurred but the action taken by the accused member was lawful and proper.

In 2025, 56 investigations were conducted with 88 separate allegations made against employees through either a citizen complaint or through a supervisor. Of those allegations, two were determined to be Unfounded, ten were Administratively Closed, and five were considered Not-Sustained. 43 allegations were Sustained, and 28 were Exonerated.

AUTOMATED LICENSE PLATE RECOGNITION

ALPR refers to Automated License Plate Recognition. ALPR uses cameras that are able to convert a license plate image into text and compare it against a known database (such as stolen vehicles or for an AMBER Alert). Officers are then alerted if a match is found, however any alert information must be verified before action can be taken. These cameras do not collect personal information, have no facial recognition capabilities, and do not collect anything tied to individuals. The cameras only cover that one specific portion of the roadway as a vehicle passes in public view. They don't track where someone shops or what homes someone visits. ALPR cameras are not "building a pattern of life".

In early 2023, the Rock Island Police Department began exploring ALPR as a resource to enhance our ability to solve and prevent crimes. We spent close to a year evaluating the Flock Safety platform before entering in a yearly agreement and before doing so, implemented an ALPR policy in February of 2023.

Rock Island maintains 21 fixed-location ALPRs, and 1 portable ALPR which can be temporarily deployed into an area of increased criminal activity, on a case-by-case basis.

Our 21 fixed cameras are only located at entry and exit points to our city (not including the southwest Rock Island area), therefore these Flock Safety cameras cannot track a vehicle as it moves throughout our city. ALPR cameras do not target minority or vulnerable populations.

RIPD's ALPR cameras primarily work in conjunction with our other Quad City municipalities and counties such as Moline, East Moline, Silvis, Milan, Coal Valley, Rock Island County, Davenport, Bettendorf, and Eldridge.

The Rock Island Police Department owns the data that is captured by the cameras. The data remains on our portal for 30 days before it is purged (unless needing to be retained for court purposes). The data is not sold by the Rock Island Police Department or by Flock Safety.

We are very restrictive in our use of ALPR, and require our officers to have a valid criminal investigation to access the system information. Through the nature of our work, police officers regularly have access to private and sensitive information that is, and must be, properly safeguarded and used only in the official course of our duties.

Additionally, we do regular audits of the system to ensure its integrity and that all searches are conducted in accordance with state law and department policy.

The Rock Island Police Department does not participate in immigration enforcement. The Illinois Trust Act prohibits local police departments from participating in civil immigration enforcement. The Illinois Vehicle Code prohibits ALPR from being used in immigration or healthcare related investigations.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT

COFFEE WITH A COP



During the Spring, Summer, and Fall months, we choose a different location within the City of Rock Island to meet with citizens and have an unscripted conversation over coffee. It's a great opportunity for our officers to engage directly with those we serve, in a casual and inviting environment.



POLAR PLUNGE

The Polar Plunge is one of the many ways the Rock Island Police Department supports and raises money for the Special Olympics. Along with other area police agencies and non-law enforcement groups, participants jump into icy waters in the middle of winter! In 2025, the RIPD Polar Plunge team took the Top Law Enforcement Team award, raising \$17,3117, all going to help the thousands of Special Olympics athletes in Illinois have access to year-round sports activities and competitions.

MILLION FATHER MARCH

The Million Father March is a back-to-school father engagement that takes place all over the country. The Rock Island Police Department participates in this opportunity each year at the Rock Island Academy to show our commitment to the educational lives of our children and to start the school year off right!



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AGAINST CRIME



In partnership with the Community Caring Conference, the Rock Island Police Department believes only by working directly with the community can we achieve a safe and thriving Rock Island. The National Night Out is a great way for us to engage with the community over food and fun, including games, a tug of war, and a K-9 and drone demo!

COP ON A ROOFTOP

Another great way to support the Special Olympics, Cop on a Rooftop is an annual event that partners with Dunkin' Donuts to help provide funding for thousands of young athletes as part of this amazing organization.



POLICE READ-ALONG

Starting in the summer of 2024, we began a new program in partnership with the Rock Island Public Library called Police Read-Along. During the summer Adventure Camp in Longview Park, officers come and spend time reading to the kids, let them see the squad car and answer all their questions!

COPS AND FIREFIGHTERS FOR CHRISTMAS



One of our most favorite times of year is when we get the opportunity to do some Christmas shopping with some amazing kids for our annual Cops and Firefighters for Christmas event. This wonderful program partners our officers and firefighters with kids from the Rock Island-Milan School District, giving us a chance to spread some holiday cheer by taking some kids on a shopping spree and treating them to a nice Christmas dinner!

BREAST CANCER AWARENESS

Each year, members of the RIPD wear special-made pink badges in October to help bring awareness to Breast Cancer. In addition to the badges, this year, we also started wearing pink RIPD patches and new apparel to help raise money for Gilda's Club of the Quad Cities.



BACKPACK AND BADGES

Launched in 2024, we held another Backpacks and Badges event, giving out 290 backpacks, fully loaded with needed school supplies for kids. The giveaways were done at Century Woods, Maple Ridge, and Heather Ridge and featured grilled food, face painting, bouncy houses, and games.

CHAPLAIN PROGRAM

On June 23rd, for the first time since 2006, the Rock Island Police Department swore in two new police chaplains. Joining Chaplain Donald Johnson are Chaplain Melvin Grimes and Chaplain Margie Mejia-Caraballo. The Police Chaplain program is an important part of promoting community engagement and officer wellness.



SUICIDE PREVENTION

In May, for Mental Health Awareness Month, we partnered with the Gray Matters Collective and installed two 988 suicide hotline signs on the Centennial Bridge and at the pedestrian entrance to the Arsenal viaduct - two high suicide-risk locations. In addition to listing the 988 suicide hotline number, both signs display a QR code which directs those in crisis to a list of mental health resources featured on the Rock Island Public Library's website.

KICK IT WITH A COP

The Rock Island Police Community Relations Commission hosted the second annual Kick it with a Cop at Hodge Park on Wednesday, September 10th. Officers interacted with citizens over hotdogs, blowing bubbles, and through a great game of kickball with lots of kids from the community.

