



Duluth Police Department

2023 Annual Report



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The Duluth Police Department strives to work with and for our community. Community safety is all our responsibility and we want to work with you to make Duluth a safe place for all who live, work and play here.

Chief Mike Ceynowa

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Mission Statement

To provide a safe Duluth for all by strengthening relationships and serving in a respectful, caring, and selfless manner.

Core Beliefs

- We recognize that our authority comes from our social contract with the community.
- People will believe that we are there to serve them if we are kind, caring and compassionate, and our actions match our words.
- People will trust us if they believe we are protecting their rights.
- Every interaction leaves a lasting impression.
- The safety of both our community and officers are paramount.

Values

Fair
Accountable
Caring
Transparent

With the slowing of retirements and resignations, 2023 brought a level of stabilization to the Duluth Police Department. Recruitment and retention will continue to be at the forefront of our minds.

This annual report showcases the Duluth Police Department's efforts in continuing to work for and with our community. We attended 259 community outreach events and look forward to attending many more.

Throughout the report you'll be provided with pictures of our staff engaging with members of our community, stories highlighting DPD's work, ways to continuously improve, and statistics from 2023.



2023 Stats

81,389

Total Calls for Service

137

Sworn Personnel

36

Professional Staff

911

Crimes Against Persons
(assault/rape/homicide/robbery)

4,014

Crimes Against Property
(burglary/fraud/theft/vandalism)

1,043

Crimes Against Society
(narcotics/disorderly conduct)

788

All Other
Reportable Offenses

*Updated categories of Crimes Against Person, Crimes Against Property, and Crimes Against Society to align with the National Incident-Based Reporting (NIBRS) Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program.

Recognition/Awards



Sergeant Meghann Jones was awarded 2023's Minnesota Association Women Police Officer of the Year.



Officer Todd Simmons was awarded the 2023 DWI Enforcer ALL-Star by the Minnesota Department of Public Safety.



The Minnesota Sex Crimes Investigators Association awarded the Duluth Police Department the agency of the year award.



DPD was awarded the '2023 Guardian of the Flame' Award by Minnesota Special Olympics.

Community Connect



Over 4,500

ice cream treats were shared with the community from May-August



1,539 miles

were biked utilizing our new E-Bikes. That's a **34%** increase.

"A DPD Officer handled a delicate situation with professionalism, genuine concern, and assistance. He made my 13 year old daughter comfortable with the reporting of ongoing harassment involving social media. She felt empowered to share the details and compile the evidence necessary to pursue an HRO. I know it's more common to hear the complaints so I wanted to extend this compliment along with my sincere gratitude. Thank you!"

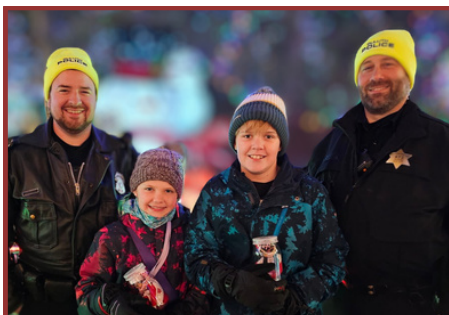
"My respect and admiration for our Duluth Police Officers grew even higher today as I witnessed two officers dealing with a young woman in Lincoln Park. She appeared to be in great mental distress. The two officers were so calm and spoke with her so kindly as well as respecting her space. Thank you Duluth Police for your compassionate treatment in helping this person. A real example of how our officers are trained in dealing with these issues."

+ 4,297

Facebook and Twitter Followers
(since 2022)

259

Community Outreach Events



Continuous Improvement/Innovation

The Duluth Police Department has always been known for its innovative approach to policing. We are committed to continuous improvement, accountability, and transparency.

A few ways we continue to work with members of our community to create a safe Duluth for all include:

- Adjust policies due to legislative action, or POST-mandated changes.
- Create efficiencies for our staff to better address public safety needs.
- Continue to have mandatory mental and physical health check-ins for all members of DPD.
- Complete the Racial Bias Audit with community input and work on implementing a few priority areas identified by DPD and the community.
- Equip and train sworn officers with cutting-edge technology and equipment.
- Increase internal communication.
- DPD's community engagement bus continued to be a popular way for our officers to meet people in their places and spaces.
- Intentional diversity recruitment efforts.
- The CORE (co-responder) Unit added 149 new clients.
- The Substance Use Response Team added 324 new clients, totaling 492 clients.
- In 2023, the Substance Use Response Team connected 198 clients to recovery support services.
- Continue to participate in the Pink Patch Project to show our support for individuals suffering from cancer.
- Expand DPD's Unmanned Aerial System Operation by adding a Drone Team.
- The Crisis Negotiations Team expanded, allowing us more opportunities to reach people who are experiencing mental health crises.
- Continue to collaborate with the school district to create a safe learning space for all.



Recruitment and Retention

2023 brought a level of stabilization to the Duluth Police Department. There were multiple efforts made to retain and recruit high-quality, professional, and diverse people who are of good character and are interested in serving with their community.

We hosted the first ever 'Women in Law Enforcement' Open House where females who are interested in the career got to meet with women of DPD, both sworn and professional staff. These individuals had the opportunity to tour the department and learn about the advancement opportunities and the different Units and Divisions we have.

Connecting and building relationships with members of our community also bridge the gap in showcasing that we welcome applicants who have the passion to serve. We attended career fairs, along with stopping by our local High Schools during their career days, to start those conversations with interested students.



2023 Swearing-In Ceremony.



Women in Law Enforcement Open House.

Community Service Officer Program

The Community Service Officer program has provided DPD with a great pool of officer candidates. These non-sworn individuals, who are in school to become police officers, help us in tremendous ways, primarily assisting us by handling calls that don't require a sworn officer. We have begun expanding their training, responsibilities, and upgrading their uniforms.

DPD also hired a designated Sergeant who is dedicated to the department's recruitment and retention efforts, and who's also in charge of the Community Service Officer Program.



Lake Superior Violent Offender Task Force

207

Total Search Warrants

150

Task Force Arrests
(Drug and Non-Drug)

42

Firearms Seized

66

Fatal Overdoses
(Task Force Area)

Members of the Lake Superior Violent Offender Task Force, along with numerous other agencies, arrested four individuals for pending charges of 1st Degree Sale of a Controlled Substance.

Search warrants were executed at two residences within the City of Duluth, and during the arrests and execution of the search warrants, 864.4 grams of fentanyl, 858.3 grams of methamphetamine, 102 M30/Mbox synthetic fentanyl pills, \$21,578 in US currency, and four handguns were seized.

During this month's-long investigation, law enforcement uncovered evidence that these four individuals, who are part of a Drug Trafficking Organization, were responsible for transporting and selling over 10-kilograms of fentanyl and 20-kilograms of methamphetamine.

668

Non-Fatal Overdoses
(Task Force Area)

6,263.02 grams powder

18,908.5 pills

Fentanyl Confiscated

29,020.63

Grams of Meth Confiscated

2024 Goals and Initiatives

- Recruitment/Retention
 - Continue to hire dedicated professionals willing to work with and for our community.
- Community Educational Campaign
 - We will be looking for community groups with vast representation to host quarterly meetings with us. We envision these conversations as an opportunity to learn about concerns from community members, a chance for us to share our perspective, and ideally find ways for community members to partner with us in improving community safety.
- Purchases to improve public and officer safety
 - Add controlled access systems to downtown parking ramps.
 - Purchase an Armored Rescue Vehicle, which allows us to better respond to violent situations or people threatening violence.
- Update Policy Manual
 - Ensures members of the Duluth Police Department are operating under best practices.
- Add two additional K9 Teams
- Update East and West COP Programs
 - No longer be separated by geographic areas but by specialties.
- Battle of the Badges Blood Drive
 - Builds camaraderie among local first responders through a friendly competition to see who can recruit the most blood donors.



Thank you for reading the Duluth Police Department's 2023 Annual Report.
We look forward to continuing to protect and serve with the citizens of Duluth
for many years to come.

www.duluthmn.gov/police



@DuluthMNPOLICE

