



As an involved part of the Tukwila community, our mission is to provide public safety services that are professional, compassionate and transparent.

As individuals and teams, we are committed to earning the public's trust with skills, professionalism and collaboration.









CHIEF'S MESSAGE

The Honorable Mayor Thomas McLeod, Tukwila City Council, and Tukwila Community,

As we reflect on 2024, we are reminded of the challenges, growth, and progress that have shaped the Tukwila Police Department's commitment to maintaining safety, transparency, and community trust. This year, we have seen both successes and areas in need of continued attention. This report summarizes key events, initiatives, and outcomes over the past year, demonstrating the Department's ongoing dedication to the Tukwila community with "Caring, Professional, Responsive" service. In 2024, we established its five -year strategic plan. In the plan, we refocused our vision, mission and core values to be current with the diverse needs of the Tukwila Community, and to be more reflective of the outstanding staff working for the Police Department. We reorganized our two proactive teams, dissolving our Community Policing Team and Anti-Crime Team, and formed the new Special Emphasis Unit. This new unit focusses on investigating crimes related to drugs, homelessness, and quality of life issues that impact our community. The school resource officers were reinstated and are serving the Tukwila youth again. At the end of 2024, we were fully-staff. One of the Department's central goals for 2024 was to strengthen relationships with the community. We recognize that public trust is vital, and through various initiatives, we aimed to increase transparency, open dialogue, and collaboration. We participated in Coffee With A Cop, Night Out Against Crime, Touch A Truck, etc. These events have allowed us to listen to residents' concerns, offer updates on crime trends, and build stronger relationships with the people we serve. We continued our focus on youth engagement with our school resource officer program, which offers our Tukwila youth an opportunity to engage with officers in a safe environment. These initiatives are essential in fostering positive relationships with our youth and preventing future involvement in crime. Our department has prioritized responding to calls involving individuals experiencing mental health crises. In partnership with local mental health professionals, we have continued to evolve our co-responder program, which provides trained clinicians to provide immediate support and resources to individuals in need. Another focus for 2024 was to continue to enhance transparency and accountability. We are committed to ensuring that our officers uphold the highest standards of conduct. While we saw a decrease in use of force incidents compared to previous years, we continue to evaluate and refine our policies to ensure de-escalation techniques are always prioritized. All incidents involving use of force are thoroughly reviewed by an internal committee, which includes volunteer community members. Additionally, community members also participated in the final Chief's interviews for selecting the future generation of law enforcement to serve the community. They also helped develop the five-year strategic plan for the Department. The safety and well-being of our police staff remain a priority. We have implemented several initiatives to support their mental health and professional development. In training and professional development, our staff participated in over 10,000 hours of training this year, including specialized courses in de-escalation, bias reduction, mental health crisis response, and reality-based training. Continuing education remains critical as we work to ensure that all personnel are equipped with the skills and knowledge necessary to serve our community effectively. The Department implemented new software tools to improve our predictive policing strategies. By analyzing crime patterns, we have been able to allocate resources more effectively and proactively address potential crime hotspots. While we have made significant strides in several areas, we recognize that there are still challenges to address moving forward. Recruitment remains an ongoing priority. Like many agencies across the country, we have faced difficulties in attracting and retaining officers. Although we head into 2025 fully staffed, we have continued to refine our recruitment strategies, focusing on hiring officers who share our values and reflect the diverse community we serve. A different challenge is the issue of homelessness. It continues to be a significant concern. While law enforcement is not the solution to homelessness, our department has worked closely with social service agencies and non-profit organizations to assist individuals in crisis, providing access to resources, including emergency housing and mental health care. As we look to the year ahead, we remain committed to building on the progress we've made and addressing the challenges that lie ahead. Our focus will include expanding community outreach efforts to better serve and connect with residents, continuing to enhance officer training, particularly in the areas of mental health crisis intervention and cultural competency, and building stronger collaborations with local government agencies and community partners to address homelessness and other social challenges.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each and every member of the Tukwila Police Department for their dedication and hard work in 2024. Together, we are making a meaningful difference in the safety and well-being of our community. We also want to extend our deepest gratitude to the City Council and the residents of Tukwila for your continued support and trust. We look forward to another year of progress, partnership, and service.





The Support Operations Division continued to provide a high level of service to community members, visitors, court staff and the rest of the Tukwila Police Department staff. Through the team's diligence and caring, family members were connected, property returned to owners, stolen items properly accounted for, and problems solved. The Records Unit is often the first point of contact for those seeking non-emergency assistance from the Police Department. In addition to greeting visitors coming into the Police Department lobby, answering the phones, providing officers

important information, and responding to many emails, the Records Unit processed 7,509 in-person and 1,010 online police reports, reviewed 17,711 2010 and 2011 case files and destroyed the files past their retention date, and provided statistical data for the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). The unit administered 202 concealed pistol licenses and three dealer's licenses. An important responsibility of the Support Operations Division is responding to records requests for criminal justice agencies, attorneys, media and community members. A dedicated records specialist manages the public records requests and make sure the requests are answered as efficiently as possible. In 2024, 4,692 requests were processed: 165 were finished up

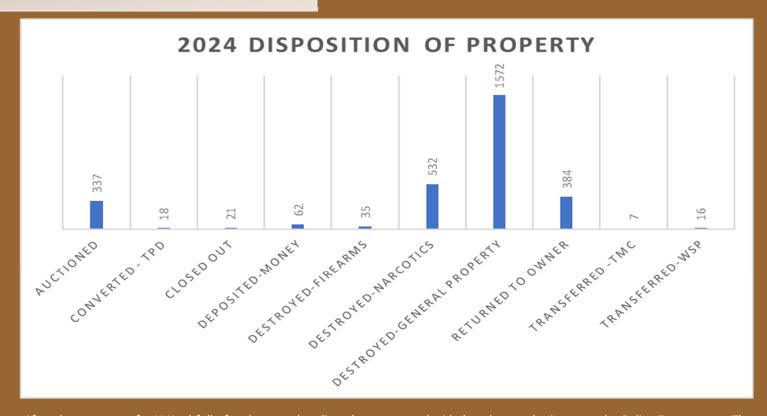
from 2023 and 4,527 new requests were received. Staff devoted more than 3,026 hours to processing these requests. Although each request is different, on average, requests were fulfilled within six days. As part of the Support Operations team, the records disposition research specialist focus in 2024 involved updating criminal history records with correct booking and disposition information; and, completing all steps required of orders to seal, vacate, destroy, and delete. All projects, associated tasks and statistics accomplished in 2024 by the records disposition research specialist are outlined below*:

Project 2024 Total SCORE Jail 965 **KCSO Process Disposition Reports** TPD Research in the Criminal History Record: Backlog Incorrect Arrest Data & Miss-308 34 342 Documents and Destruction ing Dispositions **Update Criminal His-**Case Files tory Records Create / Submit Correction New Arrests 279 1043 Notices to Washington State **Backlog Documents** 155 Patrol Submit Dispositions to **Backlog Documents** 12 Washington State Patrol Send Request to TMC to Sub-Disposition found after Re-21 26 mit Disposition Upload Project -91 **Backlog Court Dispositions** KCPAO 135 226 Tukwila Police Department's Record **Current Court Dispositions** TMC Prosecutor 48 56 79 223 Management System **Booking Photos** SCORE Jail and KCSO 181 205 223 703 - Spillman 419 Laserfiche Project Perform Quality Control Case Files 161 156 102 Orders to Seal, Vacate Mis-**Court Order Project** demeanor, Vacate Felony, Complete Orders 18 Delete, and Destroy



SUPPORT OPERATIONS DIVISION

The Evidence Unit ensured the proper security and chain of custody for property and evidence items taken in by the Tukwila Police Department. In 2024, 3,021 items of evidence and property were processed into the department, 2,984 items were destroyed, donated, converted, auctioned or released to the owner.



After the recovery of a U-Haul full of stolen merchandise, the company decided to donate the items to the Police Department. The Evidence Team was able to donate clothing and personal hygiene items to the Tukwila Municipal Courts resources room, making some brand-new items available to the community. The team participated in the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) by entering casings into the system. These casings were recovered at crime scenes or entered after test firing a firearm. The 118 Tukwila casings were matched with casings from other crimes from locations. Linking cases through NIBIN work gives officers one more way to solve cases. Those entries provided 78 NIBIN leads to other agencies throughout the region. The Evidence Team attended a week-long crime scene training, learning more about photography and processing techniques. These new skills have greatly benefited the agency when responding to crime scenes and process evidence and property.



Investigations Division

The Major Crimes Unit (MCU) is responsible for the investigation of felony crimes that occur within the City, including homicide, sexual assault, robbery, assault, theft, fraud, forgery, domestic violence, and crimes against children and the elderly. The unit is also responsible for investigating missing persons and monitoring registered sex offenders living in the City. The MCU detectives are on call 24 hours a day, and respond to callouts for in-progress incidents and complex crime scenes. In addition to their duties, detectives also serve as members of various multi-agency specialty teams in the region including the Valley Civil Disturbance Unit (VCDU), Valley Special Weapons and Tactics (VSWAT), Valley Hostage Negotiations Team (VHNT), and Valley Independent Investigative Team (VIIT).

Since 2020 the unit has not been fully-staffed, however, with the newly hired personnel, additional detectives have been added to the unit, bringing staffing levels to almost fully-staffed for the first time in years. The increase in staffing levels not only allows for investigation of more cases each year, it also allows detectives to attend additional training to further enhance their investigative skills. Heading into 2025, the Major Crimes Unit is more capable and better equipped to respond to investigative needs.



staffing shortages. The increase in personnel meant numerous officers coming through the PSU for training prior to attending the Basic Law Enforcement Academy and/or entering the field training program. Nine entry level officers were trained in PSU pre and post academy prior to entering the field training program. Three lateral officers were hired and trained in PSU prior to beginning field training. There were an additional five entry level officers that were hired and spent time in PSU prior to attending the academy. These five student officers graduated from the academy in early 2025. The PSU division worked throughout the year to maintain accreditation through the Washington Association of Sheriffs & Police Chiefs (WASPC). In 2024, PSU worked tirelessly on all accreditation standards being proofed for reaccreditation in the spring of 2025. Reaccreditation ensures that the Tukwila Police Department continues to meet the highest standards and remains in line with state and national policies and laws. PSU collaborated with the Puget Sound Emergency Radio Network (PSERN) in testing the regional preventative maintenance program, allowing departments to stay in compliance with our digital radio warranties. In 2024, updates of the digital radios were

provided through PSERN. Developing a comprehensive reality-based training program continued to be a goal for the training cadre. The cadre continued to evaluate and develop ways to implement this type of training in the Tukwila Police Department's yearly training schedule. Reality-based training was implemented in Patrol Tactics Training as well as Defensive Tactics Training.

Special Operations Division

In 2024, the Special Operations Division underwent a significant overhaul to improve the City's quality of life for residents, businesses, and visitors. Early in the year, the Department disbanded its Community Police Team and the Anti-Crime Unit. In their place, a new Special Emphasis Unit was created and gradually staffed with detectives. The Special Emphasis Unit's mission focuses on conducting criminal investigations beyond the scope of what patrol officers do and fostering community engagement to curb crime and reduce recidivism rates. The community engagement coordinator was also assigned to the unit and helped partner with other City departments to work on problem areas.

The Special Emphasis Unit was strategically designed to handle a variety of crimes and outreach services, including narcotics investigations, human trafficking, fugitive apprehension, vehicle theft, and assisting the city's unhoused population. While larger departments typically assign these tasks to multiple units, due to limited personnel, two units were consolidated into one, creating a single, more impactful unit.

Establishing the Special Emphasis Unit required extensive training for the selected detectives. Throughout the year, team members attended weeks of specialized training to develop skills in in-depth investigations and high-risk specialties, such as undercover operations. Notably, half of the Special Emphasis Unit comprises of SWAT personnel with extensive tactical operation experience, enhancing their ability to target dangerous offenders.

The effectiveness of the Special Emphasis Unit became evident just months after its formation. During the summer of 2024, the department received numerous reports of drug activity, overdoses, and stolen property associated with a residence in a residential neighborhood. The problem residence also located next to a school, and was the site of multiple calls that involved firearms. In response, the detectives conducted a two-month undercover operation and successfully executed a high-risk search warrant in coordination with a regional SWAT team. The search uncovered stolen property, narcotics, and firearms. The detectives also coordinated with the City of Tukwila Code Enforcement to condemn the property. This brief case summary highlights why the Special Emphasis Unit was created and demonstrates its critical role in pursuing a safer City of Tukwila for all.

In the second quarter of 2024, the Department formally initiated efforts to reestablish staffing for the Traffic Unit. Due to previous staffing shortages in other units and a high caseload, members of the Traffic Unit had been temporarily reassigned to the Major Crimes Unit. To address this, the Department first transitioned one traffic officer back to part-time duties in the unit and later to full-time while also assigning a unit sergeant. Additionally, a police support officer was assigned to assist with non-moving traffic enforcement, focusing primarily on vehicle impounds and parking violations.

Despite having only two traffic officers during the second half of 2024, the Traffic Unit remained effective. Their primary focus was on addressing traffic violations in the Allen Town neighborhood. When not engaged in other assignments, the Unit issued over 100 traffic citations per month. The officers also managed the speed camera tickets, typically processing several hundreds monthly. Looking ahead, the department plans to add two more traffic officers to the unit in 2025.

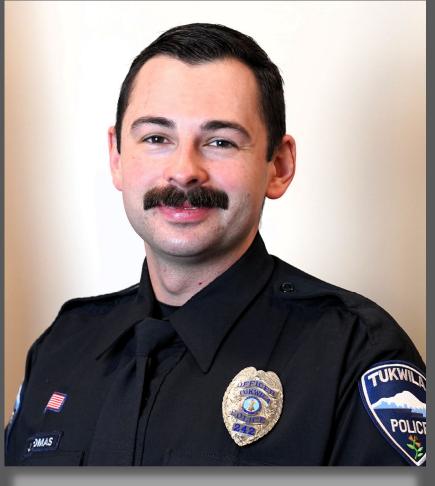
After several years without school resource officers, the Tukwila School District and the Tukwila Police Department signed an agreement to reinstate them. In September 2024, two school resource officers returned to Foster High School and Showalter Middle School on a full-time basis. These officers are the only commissioned staff working 8-hour days, ensuring their presence on every regular school day. A significant change to the SRO role was the introduction of mandatory training, as required by the Washington Administrative Code. Each SRO completed a six-month college-style course designed to prepare officers for their responsibilities in a school environment. Additionally, under the terms of the agreement between the Tukwila Police Department and the Tukwila School District, the officers must now submit monthly reports detailing their activities. While these changes have introduced additional time commitments, they have also fostered greater transparency and improved understanding of the SROs' role within community schools.











EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR
Detective Chris Thomas



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL 30 Years Of Service Police Chief Eric Drever



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL For His Service With K9 Apollo Officer Jamie Sturgill



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL 20 Years Of Service Officer Josh Vivet



LIFE SAVING MEDALS
Officer Elias Hiatt
Officer Dustin Johnson



DISTINGUISHED SERVICE MEDAL 20 Years Of Service Officer Mike Richardson



CERTIFICATE OF COMMENDATION
Officer Ryan McAdory

EMPLOYEES OF THE QUARTER



Alison Fisk MHP Co-Responder



Victor Masters Officer



Josh Vivet Officer



Stephanie Myers PDR Records Specialist



Jim Thompson Officer



Justin Wilson Officer



Erik Kunsmann Detective



Maria Garcia Officer



2024 CRIME IN TUKWILA

	2024	2023	2022
Population	21,135	21,200	22,402
Calls For Service	31,284	33,352	33,078
Crimes Against Persons			
Murder	3	2	4
Rape	31	33	20
Robbery	75	97	90
Aggravated Assault	84	55	55
TOTAL CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS	193	187	169
Crimes Against Property			
Arson	7	2	4
Burglary	181	305	319
Larceny	2504	2736	3184
Auto Thefts	619	921	319 3184 932 4439
TOTAL CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY	3311	3964	4439

COMPARATIVE TOTALS WITH 3-YEAR COMPARISON

111	9			
		2024	2023	2022
	Population	21,135	21,200	22,402
	Budget	\$24,115,636	\$21,180,021	\$18,868,518
1 1	Police Staff:			
1	Commissioned	77	77	77
	Non-Commissioned	24	24	24
	Calls For Service	31,284	33,352	33,078
1	Traffic Citations/Infractions Issued	1,790	665	737
	Reported Vehicle Accidents:			
	Injury	207	153	169
1	Fatal	0	2	0
	Non-Injury (not including hit-and-run)	437	369	438
	Injury hit-and-run	23	12	17
	TOTALS	667	536	624





