



2014 Annual Report



DEAR RESIDENTS, BUSINESS OWNERS, AND VISITORS:

It is with great pride that I present the 2014 Village of Minooka Police Department's annual report to the Village President, Board of Trustees and all of the citizens of Minooka. I am honored to be the Chief of Police and lead a talented organization of dedicated employees and volunteers.

The Minooka Police Department remains committed to reducing crime and enhancing the quality of life through an active partnership with our community. It will be through this collaboration that we, as a community, continue to make our Village a safer place to live, work, and raise our families. This year the Minooka Police Department continued to build relationships with our community partners and remains extremely proud of all the partnerships that we have built. The Minooka Police Department received generous monetary donations through our partnerships with the Minooka Lions Club, School District 201 Student Council, Chicago Crime Scene Cleanup, Grainger, and Metalstamp. The donations from these local organizations and businesses have continued to enhance our drug prevention initiatives.

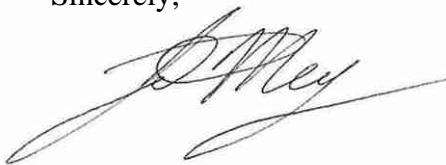
Noteworthy excellence for the department this past year, you will see in the crime statistics section as Part I Offenses continue to see an overall decrease. Reduction in offenses such as thefts and burglaries speaks volumes of our dedicated officers. These reductions also enhance why the Village of Minooka is a nice place to call home.

We continued to place a high level of importance in drug prevention. In April the Grundy County States Attorney Office and the Grundy County No Tolerance Task Force assisted the Minooka Police Department in hosting a Heroin Forum at the Minooka Community High School. The purpose of the forum was to provide information and spread awareness to the community in regards to the heroin epidemic in and around Will and Grundy Counties. The forum was a mutual effort to prevent deaths as well as to educate families and youth before the drug reaches their homes.

In October, we hosted a multi-department active shooter training exercise at the Minooka Intermediate School. We focused on improving our ability to respond to an Active Shooter incident requiring the potential of using deadly force by providing hands-on practical training. The purpose of the drill was to test response tactics to an active shooter, interoperability between multiple agencies, communications, and recovery/reunification in response to this type of event.

I am exceptionally proud of the accomplishments and successes we achieved together in 2014 along with our dedication to delivering quality service. Should you ever have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me. I also encourage you to visit the police department on the Village's website at www.minooka.com, and find us on Facebook!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Justin Meyer", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Justin Meyer
Chief of Police

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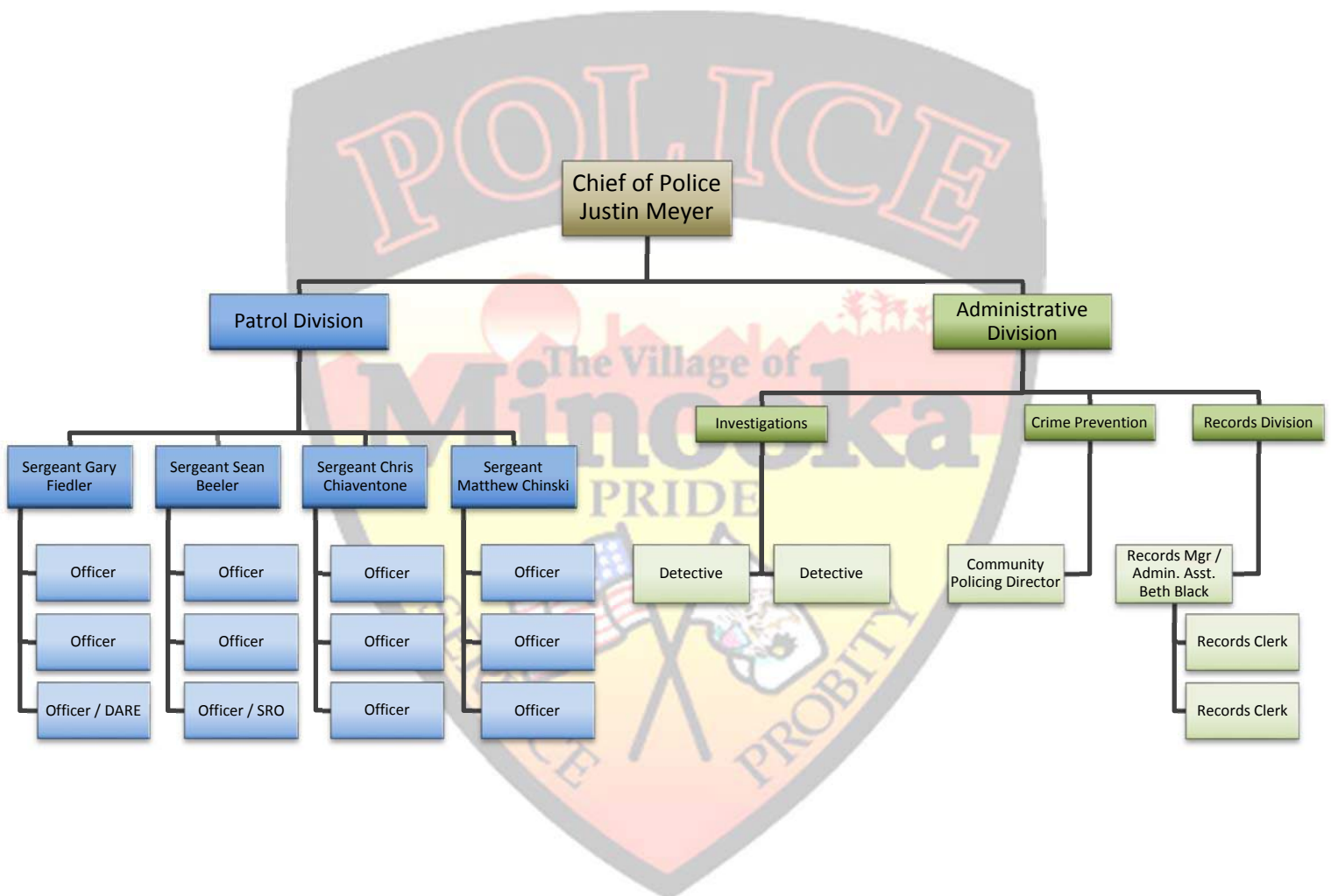
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ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND RESPONSIBILITY

The organizational structure of this department is designed to create an efficient means to accomplish our mission and goals in order to provide for the best possible service to the public.

The Chief of Police is appointed by the Village President who has given up complete control of all Police Department operations and functions to the Chief of Police.

MINOOKA POLICE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

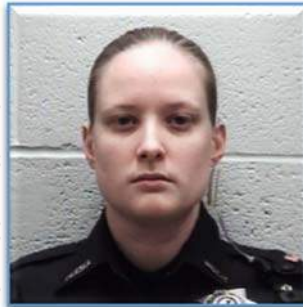
The Board of Police Commissioners is a three-member commission appointed by the Village President and Village Board. The Commissioners responsibility is to hire all police officers and promoting police officers to the rank of police sergeant.



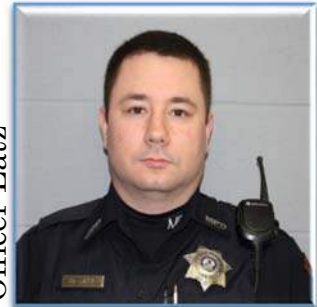
Police Commissioners
Donald Jack & Jacqueline Olin
[not pictured Greg Reigh]

This past year the commission hired two officers; Renee Parrish and Robert Latz.

Officer Parrish



Officer Latz



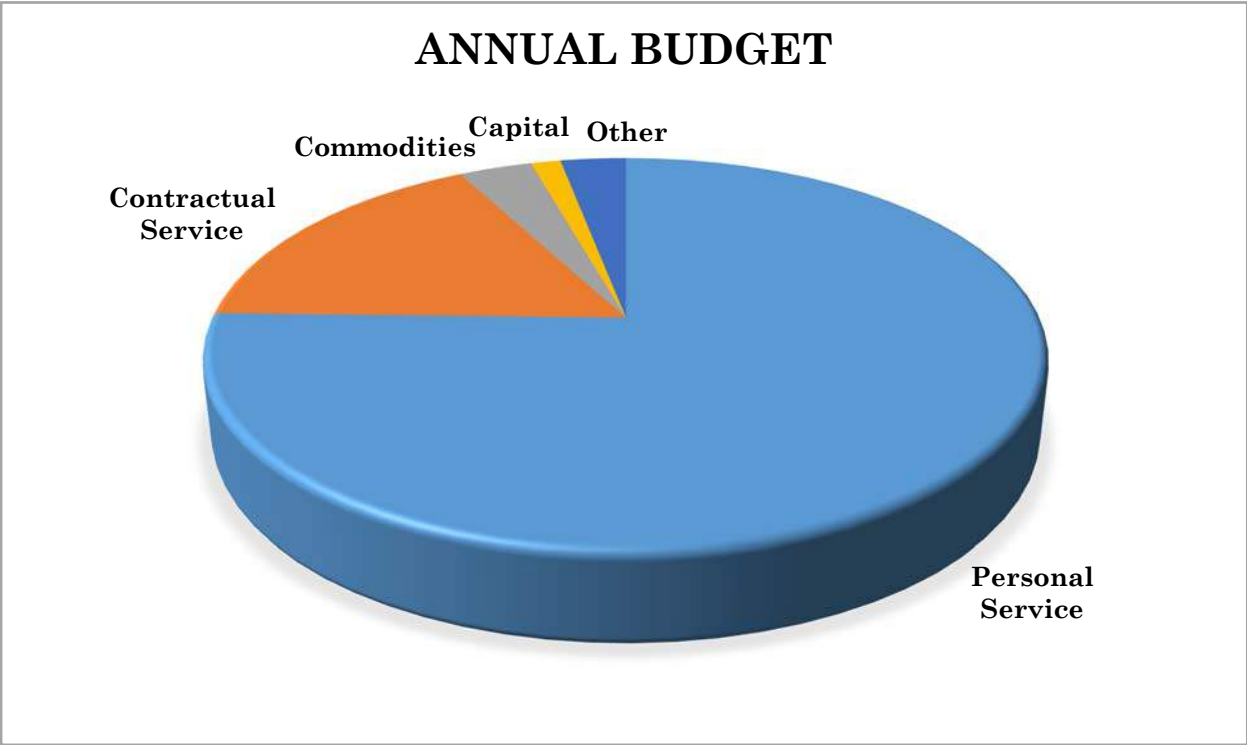
April 21, 2014
Grundy County State's Attorney Jason Helland,
conducted the ceremonial swearing in at
Minooka Village Board meeting.



The Commission also conducts all hearings on disciplinary matters through the rank of sergeant. In 2014, zero (0) complaints of misconduct were reported to this agency.

OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

The role of the Chief of Police is to provide leadership, direction, and vision to the Department in the fulfillment of its overall mission. **Chief Justin Meyer** became the department’s Police Chief in 2010. He is responsible for administering and managing the department’s annual budget of \$2,693,800.00 and overseeing both the patrol and administrative divisions.

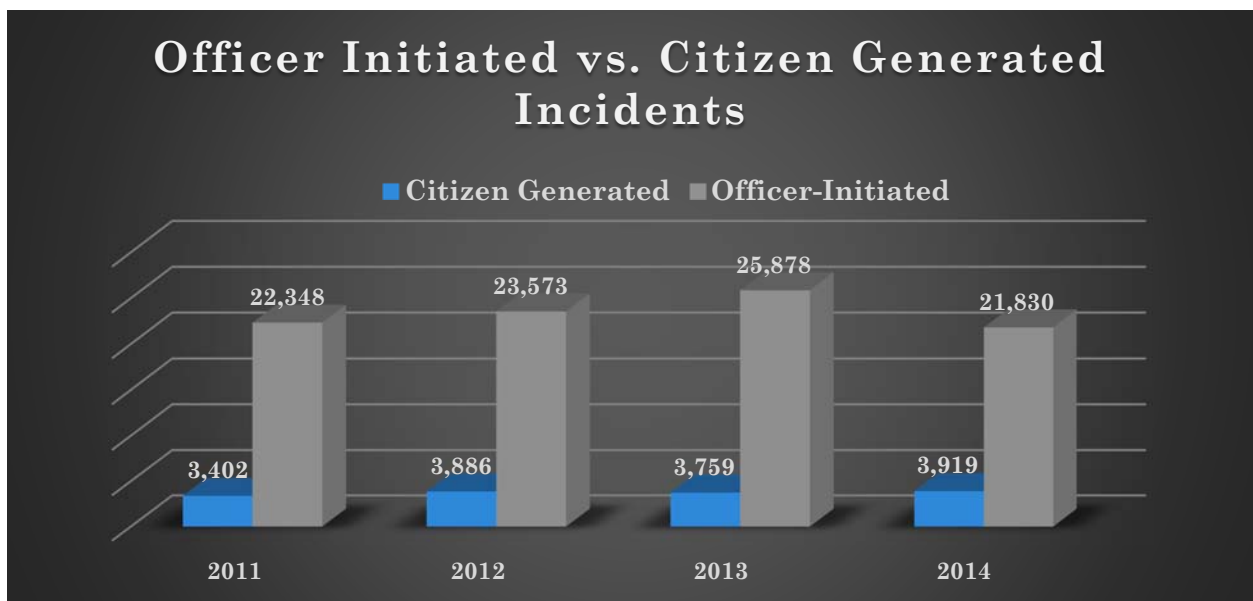
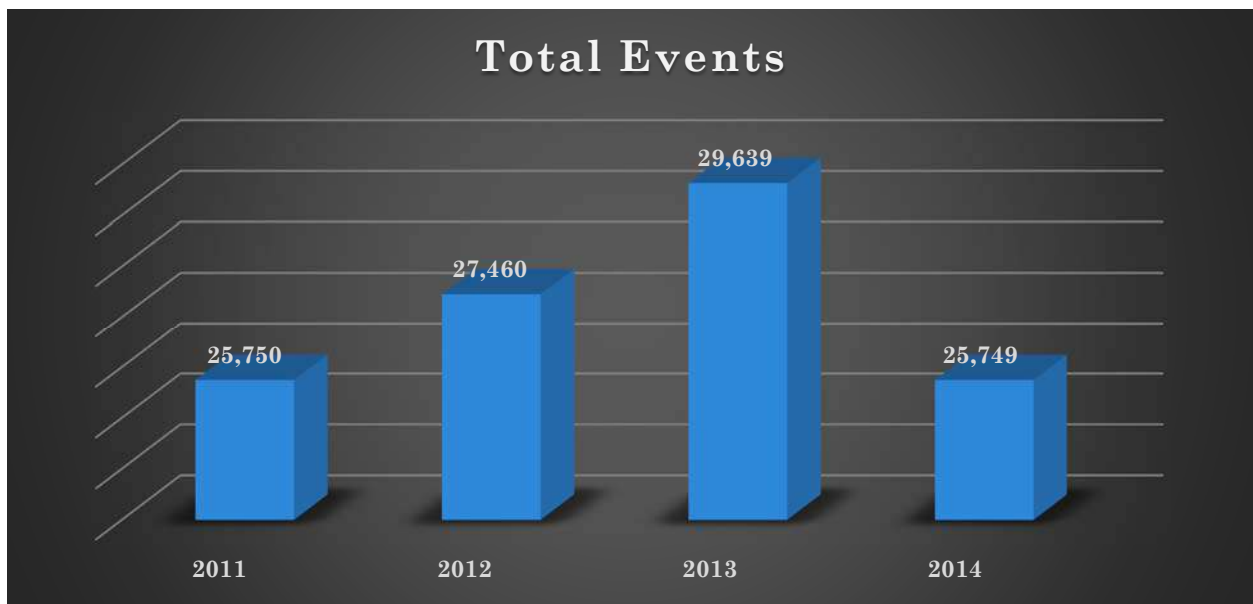


PERSONAL SERVICE	\$2,030,600.00
CONTRACTUAL SERVICE	\$453,700.00
COMMODITIES	\$91,400.00
CAPITAL	\$36,800.00
OTHER	\$81,300.00

PATROL DIVISION

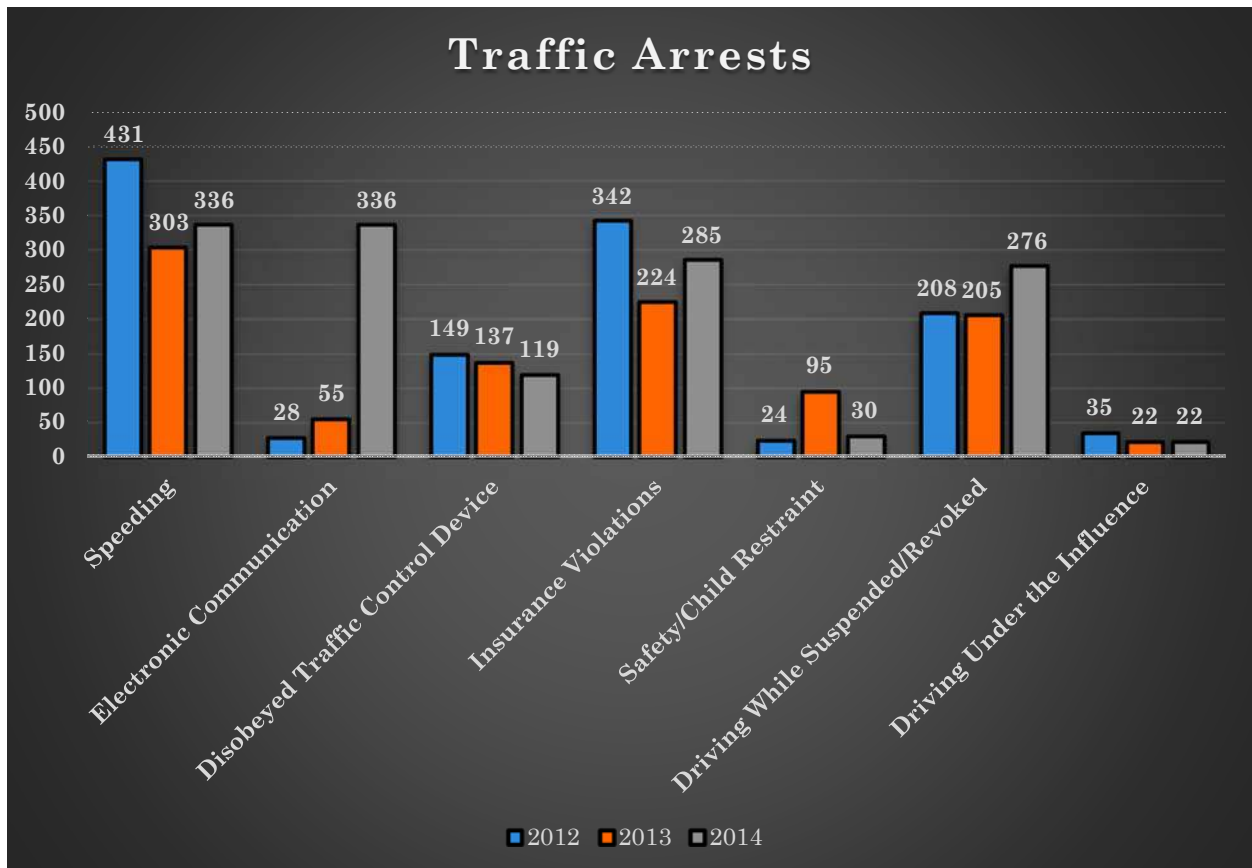
The Patrol Division is the backbone of this department. This year the patrol division initiatives included traffic enforcement, crime prevention and community involvement with an emphasis of reducing traffic crashes, reducing crime and enhancing partnerships while also responding to both emergency and non-emergency calls dispatched by Grundy County 911.

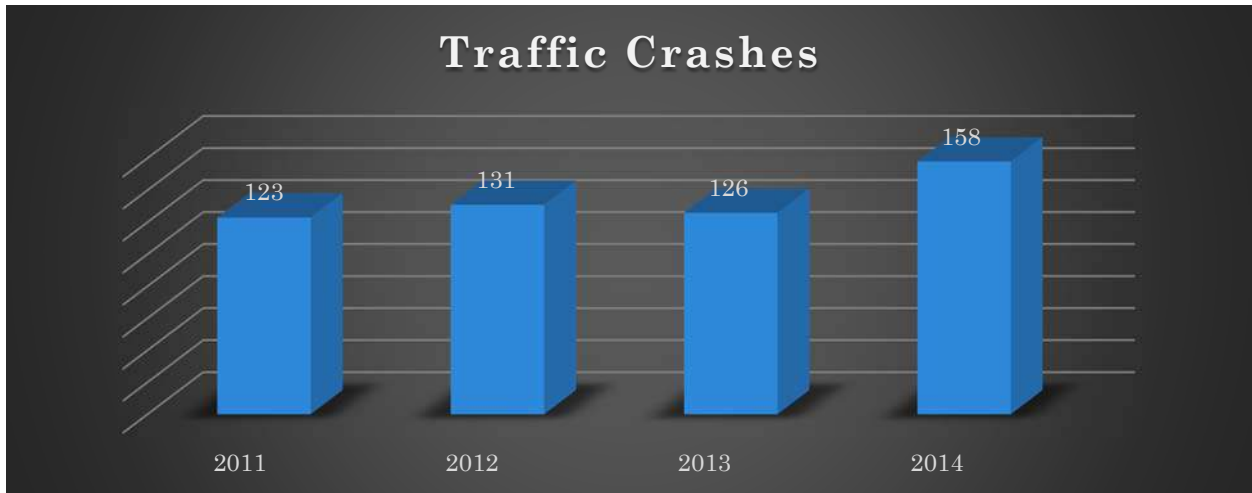
This past year the patrol division had **25,749** total events, of those events, **3,919** were Citizen Generated and **21,830** were Self-Initiated.



TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

Traffic enforcement is an important function of the patrol division. Based on traffic crash analysis, special enforcement periods and campaigns have been implemented to address certain violations. As you will see in the tables below, our primary focus this past year was to reduce crashes caused by the use of electronic communication while driving. The use of electronic devices while driving is the number one contributing factor of traffic crashes.





The top 5 traffic crash locations are:

1. Ridge Rd. at Mondamin St. with 22 crashes for the year.
2. Ridge Rd. at McEvelly with 20 crashes for the year.
3. Ridge Rd. at Twin Rail Dr. with 6 crashes for the year.
4. Mondamin St. at Wabena Ave. with 6 crashes for the year.
5. Ridge Rd. at Industrial Dr. with 5 crashes for the year.

The stretch of roadway on Ridge Rd. from McEvelly to Mondamin St. makes up 39% of the year's total crashes. The stretch of roadway on Mondamin St. from Wabena Ave. to West St. makes up 7.4%.

IDOT TRAFFIC STOP DATA COLLECTION ANALYSIS

Since 2004 the Minooka Police Department has participated in the traffic stop data collection analysis of bias-based policing. The next tables below compares the percentage of Caucasian to Minority drivers stopped and the reason why:

Percentage Stops

	2014	2013	2012
Caucasian	70%	80.43%	83.13%
Minority	30%	19.57%	16.87%

Reason for Stop

	2014		2013		2012	
	White	Minority	White	Minority	White	Minority
Moving Violation	69.41%	54.13%	69.42%	64.93%	72.41%	67.06%
Equipment Violation	17.04%	28.64%	17.03%	19.69%	17.27%	22.44%
License/Registration	13.55%	17.13%	13.55%	15.38%	10.24%	10.38%
Commercial Viol.	0%	0%	0%	0%	.08%	.12%

CRIMINAL OFFENSES

The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program requires agencies to report the occurrence of selected offenses with eight Index Crime categories.

PART I OFFENSES

Offense	2011	2012	2013	2014
Homicide	0	0	0	0
Robberies	2	0	1	0
Burglaries	12	9	11	7
Agg. Assault/Battery	15	19	14	5
Thefts	163	144	115	113
Arson	0	0	1	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	1	0	1
Forcible Rape	1	3	2	0

PART II OFFENSES

Offense	2011	2012	2013	2014
Simple Assaults	3	2	3	15
Forgery	1	1	1	2
Fraud	55	55	38	35
Vandalism	116	118	103	68
Sex Abuse	3	1	1	3
Drug Abuse Violations	75	48	39	41
DUI	52	33	22	22
Disorderly Conduct	8	10	9	5
Curfew	2	2	3	6

K-9 UNIT

In April of this year our department gained a new member, K-9 Rueger who partners with K9 Handler Officer Juras. Rueger is a Labrador-Coon Hound mix. He was purchased in Des Moines, Iowa using donated funds from the Grundy County States Attorneys Asset Forfeiture Fund.

Rueger graduated from the Illinois State Police academy 6-week canine program where he certified in narcotic detection and tracking. Annually, Rueger will have to be certified by the Illinois Training and Standards Board in narcotic detection.



Rueger has become an asset to the patrol division as well as to the community. Not only does Rueger supplement our patrol division and conduct routine random sniffs at the Minooka High School campuses, he has assisted several outside agencies in school searches. The K-9 unit has conducted searches for Elwood, Channahon, Morris, Grundy County, Will County, Illinois State Police, Andrew High School [Tinley Park] and Bloom Trail High School [Chicago Heights].

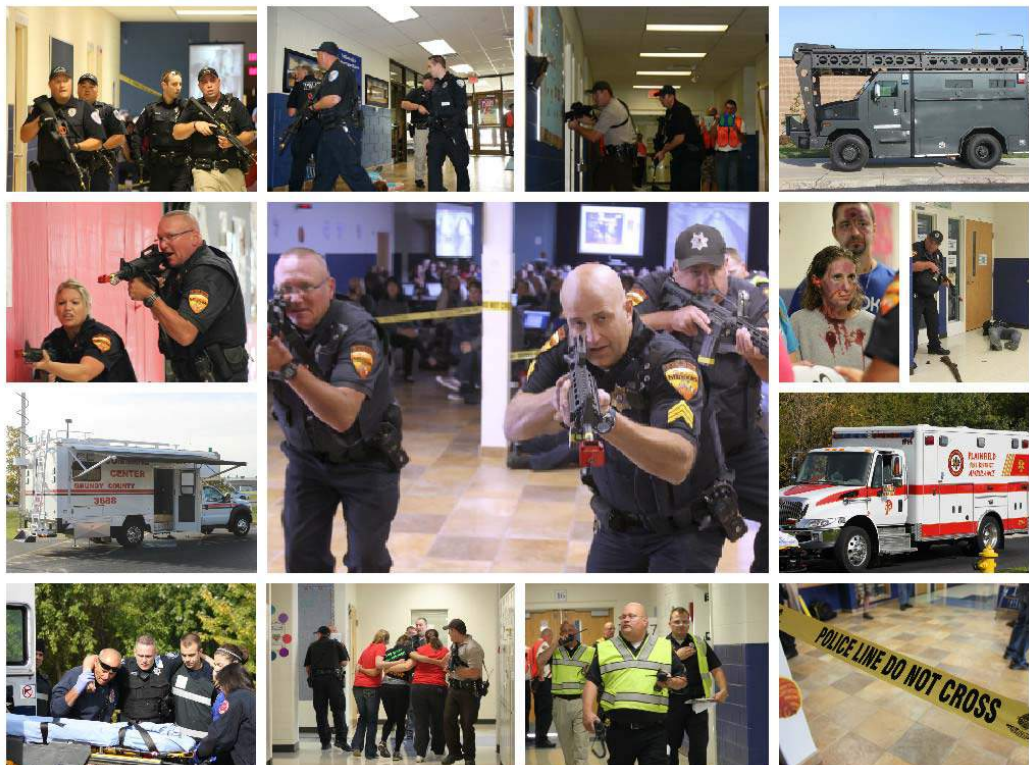
Rueger has also found time to attend community events for “meet and greets”. The community has shown tremendous support to our new K-9 unit, contributing this to our willingness to interact with the public.

TRAINING

When the officers are not patrolling, they are training. As we continue to strive to develop our organization in an effort to better serve our community. Staff development and training are key components. Personnel received a



total of 2,689 hours of training to keep current and expand their knowledge with the



goal of delivering ever improving quality of service and protection of the community.

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

The administrative division provides support for the patrol division. The division is broken down into sections such as; Investigations, Community Policing and Records.

INVESTIGATIONS

Investigations section has two Detectives. The detectives conduct follow-up criminal investigations on felony and serious misdemeanor crimes reported to the Police.

The primary goal of the investigation section is to perform additional follow up, often requiring many hours on reported crimes, to seek, gather and cultivate information regarding criminal activity, apprehend individuals committing the crimes and presentation of the case to the State's Attorney's Office for prosecution.

In 2014, the investigation section investigated 170 cases with an exceptionally clearance rate of 18.2%. Exceptionally cleared means cleared by arrest, warrant issued or the victim refused to cooperate with offender being known. The following below illustrates crimes that required further investigation.

Offense	Quantity	Offense	Quantity
Identity Theft	12	Burg./Trespass to Residence	3
Forgery	1	Burglary	2
Fraud	7	Criminal Sexual Assault	1
Thefts of \$300 Over/Under	50	Child Abuse/Neglect	6
Retail Theft	5	Agg Sexual Abuse	1
Criminal Damage to Property	45	Sexual Abuse	2
Burglary/Trespass to Motor Vehicle	23	Phone/Electronic Harassment	3
Animal Cruelty	2	Missing Persons/Runaway	2
Failure to Register Sex Offender	1	Assault/Battery	1
Other Public Service	2	Lost/Missing Property	1

INVESTIGATIVE CASES

The following are a few examples of the major cases investigated during this past year.

➤ **2014-00249 Attempted Burglary**

In February, Minooka Officers were dispatched to a call in the Grand Ridge Subdivision of a vehicle being towed from a garage and the offender fled. Detective Meece was assigned the case and began her investigation into the alleged offense. Upon completion of several interviews and evidence obtained a suspect was identified and an arrest warrant issued.

➤ **2014-00307 Animal Cruelty**

In February, Received a complaint of a dog that was found dead in a cage on County Line Rd. Detective Meece was assigned the case and began her investigation. After necropsy reports from the University of Illinois Veterinary Medicine it was determined the dog died of non-accidental starvation. An arrest warrant was issued for the offender.

➤ **2014-01175 Aggravated Sexual Abuse**

In May, Officers took a report of a minor having sexual encounters with an adult. Detective Meece was assigned the case and began her investigation. After several interviews and a victim sensitive interview conducted by a forensic interviewer and data evidence an offender was charged with aggravated sexual abuse.

➤ **2014-1290,1291,1321,1322,1325,1327 Burglary from Motor Vehicles**

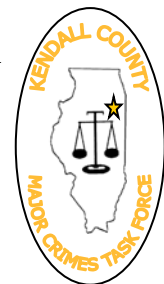
In June, Officers were receiving reports of property being stolen from motor vehicles. Detective Meece and Macdonald were assigned the case and worked together. Upon completion of several interviews and evidence obtained four juveniles were referred to the Kendall County States Attorney.

➤ **2014-01396 Fraud**

In June, Received a complaint of home repair fraud. Detective Meece was assigned the case and began her investigation. Upon completion of interviews and the offenders intentions to deceive the victim. The offender was charged with 3 counts of fraud by deception.

MAJOR CRIMES TASK FORCE

Detective Kiedra Meece and Detective Ryan Macdonald are also assigned to either the Will/Grundy Major Crimes Task Force or Kendall County Major Crimes Task Force. The purpose of these two task forces is to provide the Minooka Police Department the ability to solve major crimes through resource sharing, partnership building, joint cooperative and consistent training, and the application of investigative and enforcement methodology.



COMMUNITY POLICING

The Minooka Police Departments strategy is effective community policing. We believe through interactive partnerships with the community we serve we can work together to find solutions to problems through collaborative problem solving and improved trust. Below are programs and services we continue to offer to build that partnership to provide a quality place to live:

FUNDRAISING & EVENTS

As the community continues to support the Police Department, the Police Department continues to give back through fundraising. In 2014, together the Police Department and the community raised a total of \$18,700.00 for Special Olympics Illinois through the Illinois Law Enforcement Torch Run. The police department hosted events such as the Dunkin Donuts “Cop on Top”, Show it Off Car Show, and our annual Trivia Night.





Trivia Night continues to be our biggest fundraiser every year. In 2014 we had the largest turnout yet, packing the venue with 27 tables, the maximum amount of teams.

The Law Enforcement Torch Run recognized our Department for our fundraising efforts by presenting us the Gold Award for departments of 1-25 sworn officers.

The Police Department also showed off our athletic ability by participating in the annual “Cops vs. Coaches” event to benefit the school district 201 boosters club. Again, the Coaches took it to the Cops, defeating the Cops in Volleyball, Basketball and Dodge Ball.





Again, in November, the Police Department participated in another athletic event,



the Guns vs. Hoses football game. Proceeds were donated to the Chanooka Wish foundation, to help local families in need. The Guns defeated the Hoses for the second year in a row.

During the holiday season, the Minooka Police Department partnered with local businesses and schools for the “Project Share” food drive program by collecting over 2,500 pounds of food items.



Also, the Police Department is a local drop off location for “Toys for Tots”, collecting new and unwrapped toys for Christmas for children in need.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

After taking 2013 off, the Police Department was back in action in 2014 by participating in this national campaign that occurs on the first Tuesday in August. The purpose of this event is to promote involvement in crime prevention activities, police-community partnerships, neighborhood camaraderie, and send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

This year’s event was held at Lions Park with activities such as; Trackless Train Rides, Chalk Walk, Glow Stick Walk, D.J., Elvis impersonator, Crime Prevention Table, Emergency Vehicles on display and an assortment of Food, all donated by local businesses.

D.A.R.E.

The DARE program continues to be the primary drug prevention programs. This program was taught by Officer Denise Byrd who continues to teach approximately over 500 5th grade students each year. This 10-week program concentrates on making good decisions, consequences, drug/alcohol/tobacco awareness, and resistance.

This past year the department received \$5,000.00 from Metalstamp Inc. in Minooka to continue the drug and violence education within our community.

TRIAD

During 2014, Community Policing Director Denis Tatgenhorst and Detective Kiedra Meece continued to serve as the department's liaison for about 75 regular senior attendees. This ongoing program continues to open the communications with seniors and helps facilitate effective lines of communications with the police and senior citizens of the community.

Meeting on the second Wednesday of each month, the seniors enjoy a lunch meal and get to hear topics presented by various speakers. Topics discussed in 2014 were; New Tax Laws, Heart Health and Healthy Eating Habits, Current Scams, Slip and Fall Prevention, Assistance with Electric and Gas Bills, Social Security Benefits, Channahon Park District Programs, Severe Weather Preparedness, and Winter Driving Tips.

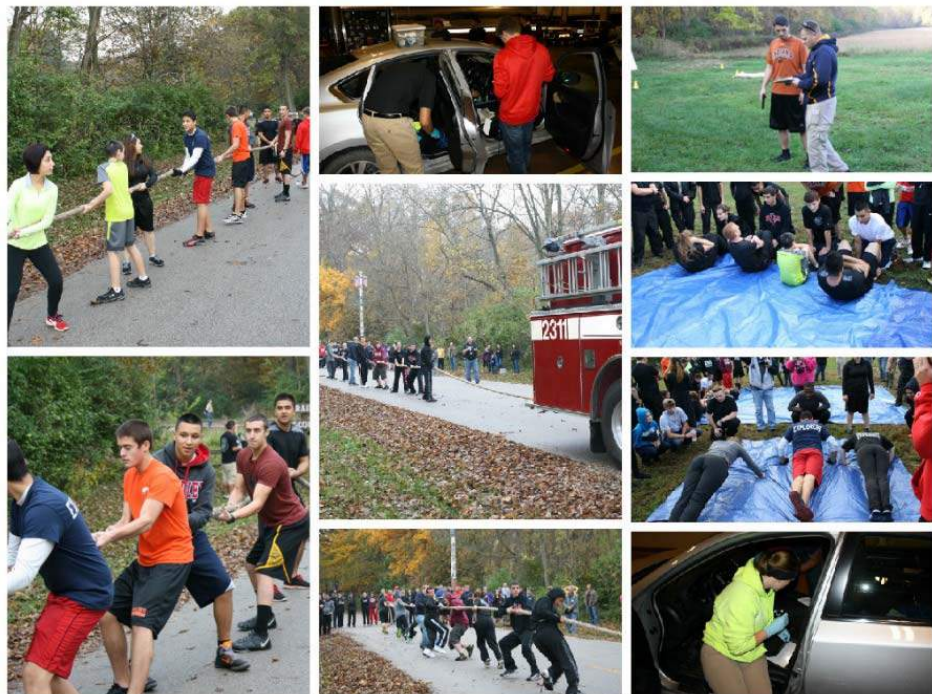
VOLUNTEER PROGRAMS

The Minooka Police Department volunteer program is intended to supplement and support the Village and Department to improve services to the community. These volunteers have proven to be a valuable asset to the Village and Police Department. In 2014, these volunteers provided **644.5** hours of their own time for village events. Each one of our volunteer programs is listed and described below.

POLICE EXPLORER POST 447

Minooka Police Department Explorer Post #447 is an introductory program providing first-hand experience to youths interested in a law enforcement, criminal justice or public service career.

During the 2014 year the Minooka Explorer Post lost some of its senior members to



college and the military but in turn we gained new members by allowing younger men and women into the post at age 14.

In October, Explorer Post 447 partnered with Grundy County Sheriffs Explorer Post to host an Explorer Challenge at the Rainbow Council consisting of 5 different explorer posts. The purpose of the challenge was to network with other explorer posts and team building. The challenge had competitions like, target shooting, traffic stops, obstacle course, mile and half run, physical fitness, and car searches. Upon completion of the challenge, the Minooka post came out on top overall in competition.

Moving forward with 17 solid members we are looking forward to and preparing for the upcoming Explorer State Conference held at Lewis University in August of 2015.

CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY (CPA)

In 2014, the Citizens Police Alumni Association obtained a \$5,000.00 grant from the Grainger Foundation which helped fund equipment for the police department and for the Explorer Post 447. The Alumni Association purchased air soft weapons and tourniquets with some of the grant monies.

POLICE CHAPLIN PROGRAM



The Minooka Police Department integrated the Police Chaplain Program in 2009. Since then we have been fortunate to have Pastor Carlos Garcia as a member of our department. Pastor Carlos Garcia is a non-denominational pastor who is available to meet the pastoral needs of the police department personnel and their families in addition to community members in crisis situations such as accidental deaths, suicides, and to provide any other spiritual guidance.

In 2014, Carlos attended a seminar in Naperville of area chaplains that was a time of networking and sharing ideas and experiences with a variety police departments and their communities.

SERVICES

MEDICATION TAKE BACK PROGRAM

June 19th, 2014 - The Minooka Police Department partnered with Grundy County Coroner Callahan for the Medication Take Back Program. Residents of Minooka can deposit their unwanted medication at the Village of Minooka Municipal Building. Drop offs can be made during business hours, M-F 8:00am-4:30pm. The deposit box was donated by and is maintained by Grundy County Coroner John W. Callahan. All prescription medications, patches, ointments, over the counter medications, pet medications and inhalers are accepted.

YELLOW DOT PROGRAM



Since the inception of this statewide initiative. The Minooka Police Department registered to become a distribution point for this program. This program is designed to provide vital medical information on vehicle driver/passengers. Information

contained on the medical card assists first responders in the “Golden Hour” immediately following a serious crash or unresponsive motorists.



SPECIAL NEEDS ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP)

SNAP is a free service that is designed to assist residents who may be at greater risk of becoming confused, disoriented, lost or missing. The program gives attention to family members who may have physical or mental challenges and expedites appropriate emergency responses should that person need assistance.

VACATION HOUSE CHECK

When you are preparing to leave, let us know and we will be happy to watch over your house. While you are away we will make trips to your home to check your doors and windows for security purposes. Officers will also look for anything unusual. Preventing crime is our goal.

FINGERPRINTING

In 2014, the Minooka Police Department retired our old Livescan machine due to software upgrade compatibility issues. We purchased a new Livescan machine utilizing our drug forfeiture fund. This electronic fingerprint machine gives residents the



ability to come to the Minooka Police Department to get fingerprinted for Illinois new conceal carry permits. Other fingerprinting services that are provided Monday thru Friday from 8:00am to 4:30pm are; for employment, adoption, licensing, and background investigations.



We are available to fingerprint citizens using Livescan or ink. Fingerprinting is done on a walk-in basis, Monday - Friday, 8:00am – 4:30pm. Call with questions, 815-467-2298

CHILD SEAT INSTALLATION

In 2014, Sgt. Gary Fiedler, Sgt. Sean Beeler, and Community Policing Director Denis Tatgenhorst conducted 17 Child Safety Seat Inspections/Installations. This service is always free of charge for any resident to ensure the safety of their children. In September the police department and the fire department partnered together and hosted a Child Safety Seat Inspection day.

RECORDS

The Records Section provides support service to the department, the community, and other agencies. Often times, it is the first point of contact between citizens and the Police Department. The Records Section is staffed by; full-time Records Clerk, Kristi LaMontagna, part-time Records Clerk, Victoria Sims and Records Manager Beth Black.

The Records Section is responsible for the processing, distribution, and retention of all police documents including offense/incident reports, traffic citations, warrants, and crash reports. Dissemination of information must comply with all department, state, and federal laws and guidelines, and confidentiality laws.

Additionally, the Records Section provides support to the Village. They oversee the Village Adjudication Hearings, processing all Village Ordinance Citations and Administrative Tows.

SPECIALIZED UNITS

ILEAS



The purpose of the Team is to supplement or assist any law enforcement agency in need during a crisis or emergency. The Team may also be called upon to respond to a variety of disasters or emergencies, critical incidents, or events.

Currently, the Minooka Police Department has two members assigned to the Mobile Field Force team. In 2014, the Mobile Field force assisted in two (2) incidents/events within our Region:

- Sheridan/LaSalle County Evidence Search August 3, 2014- Team was contacted by both the Dwight and Morris Police Departments to assist them in an effort to locate pieces of evidence and property from a double homicide and several residential burglaries that had recently occurred.
- Naperville Marathon November 9th, 2014- MFF members provided a crowd control, special response element working alongside members of the Naperville/ILEAS SRT components.
- As the year came to an end the members of the Team remained in a readiness state in the event any of the nationwide protests and demonstrations would have required the assistance from the Mobile Field Force.

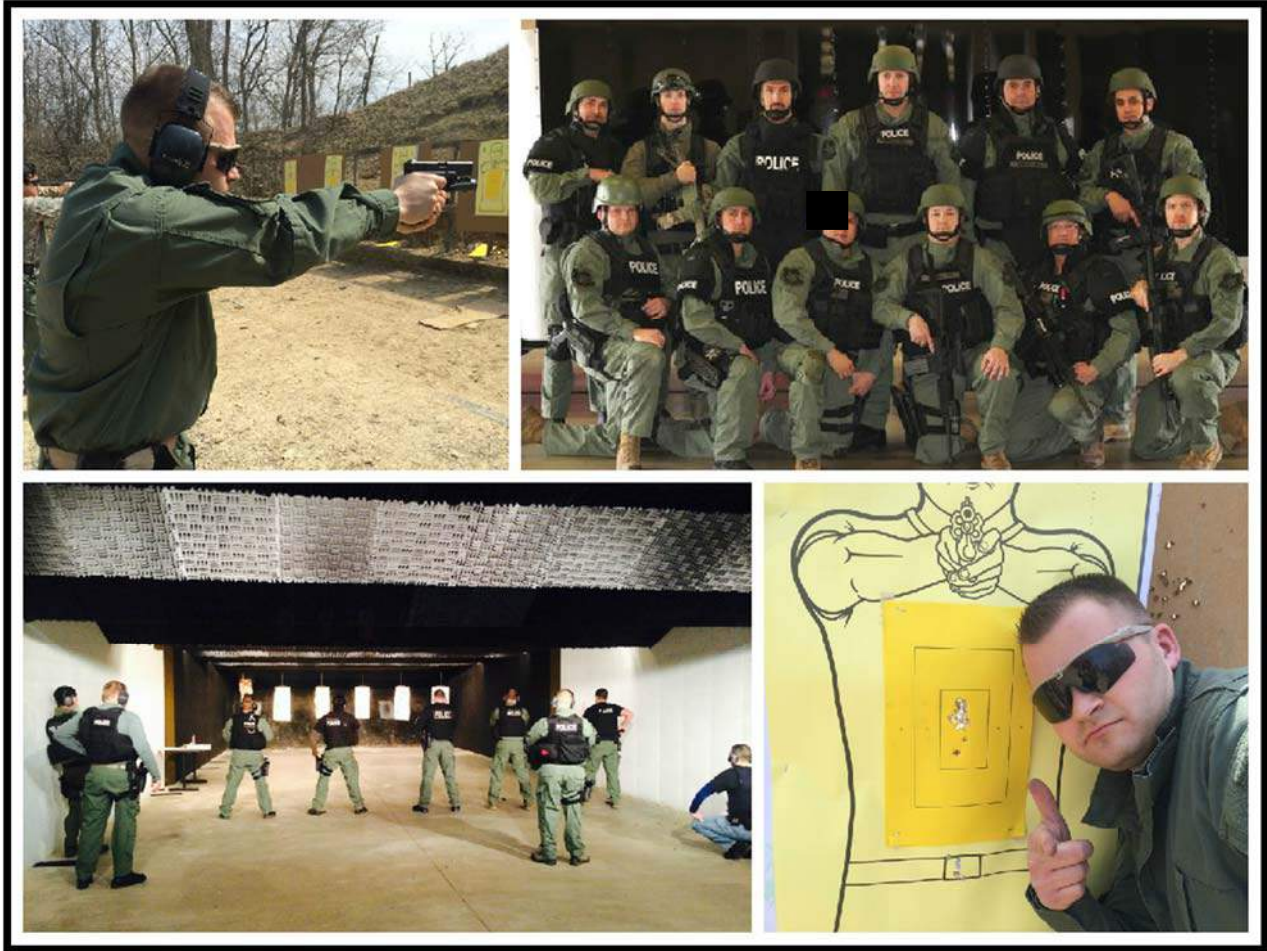
KENDALL COUNTY SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM (KCSRT)

The purpose of the KCSRT is to support Kendall County law enforcement agencies with a tactical response to critical incidents.

The team trains once a month in various marksman, entry and ground fighting tactics.

Currently, the Minooka Police Department has three members assigned to the Kendall County Special Response Team.

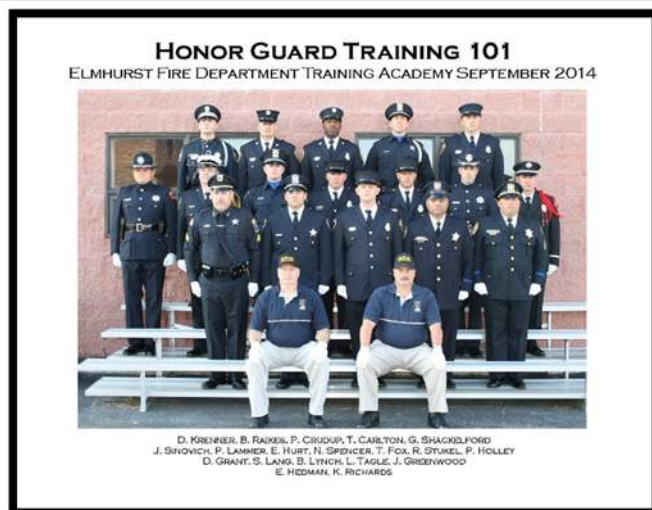




In 2014, the SRT team assisted in 10 High Risk Search Warrants, 1 barricaded subject, and 1 Vehicle takedown.

GRUNDY COUNTY HONOR GUARD

The Grundy County Honor Guard is made up of Officers and Deputies from Minooka, Morris and the Grundy County Sheriff's Office as **Minooka Officer James Sinovich** leads the team. Also, representing Minooka is Officer's **Ken Briley**, **Rob Stukel** and **Francisco Renteria**.



In May, the Honor Guard represented the Minooka Police Department and the county of Grundy by being the host honor guard at this year's Illinois Law Enforcement Memorial in Springfield.



Other notable events the honor guard participated in:

- Veterans Day School Assembly (Minooka)
- Minooka's Memorial Day Parade
- Illinois Law Enforcement Memorial (host agency)
- Grundy County Police Memorial



DEPARTMENT RECOGNITION

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH



Officer Sinovich



Sergeant Beeler



Officer Herzog



Denis Tatgenhorst



Officer Herzog



Officer Juras



Officer Sinovich



Denis Tatgenhorst



Officer Juras



Officer Latz



Officer Presler



Officer Parrish

OFFICER OF THE YEAR: JAMES SINOVICH

