



Zionsville Police Department

2017 Year End Report

Prepared by: Robert Knox, Chief of Police

The year of 2017 brought with it some challenges for your Zionsville Police Department. Again this year we experienced a homicide in which to date remains unsolved. The Criminal Investigations Division has remained focused on solving this case which involves many complex adversities.

This year we have had to negotiate resignations from the agency and new hires as well.

On May 2, 2017 Officer Tyler Haston resigned from the agency to pursue his studies to become a lawyer, however Officer Haston decided to remain as a reserve officer with the agency.

New hires this year were Officer Heather Plummer, Officer Mitch Tuttle (resigned in December, 2017), Officer Jack Callahan, Officer Daniel Brown and Officer Thomas Lucas. Officers Brown and Lucas are currently at the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy to receive their certification as Law Enforcement Officers. The Zionsville Police Department has made a Conditional Officer of Employment to another individual who is awaiting approval from the Indiana Public Employees Retirement Plan before they can begin their career with the agency.

According to data gathered from the computer aided dispatch system and internal records the Zionsville Police Department responded to over 20,000 calls for service for the year of 2017. This is an increase over the calls for service in 2016.

(The year end calls for service report is attached)

During the year of 2017 the Zionsville Police Department hosted the 9th annual "Teen Academy". The year's Teen Academy was the largest one yet with nearly 50 teen's participating. This year's Teen Academy was done in conjunction with the Zionsville Boys and

Girls Club and the Zionsville Park's and Recreation Department with the use of Mulberry Fields Park.

Again this year the Zionsville Police Department has a very robust presence at the annual Fall Festival with the "Safety Zone" area along with our Public Safety Partners: Zionsville Fire Department, Boone County Sheriff's Office and the Indiana State Police Department. This event is always very well attended with a lot of people stopping by the booths to meet our officers and participate in interactive displays and demonstrations. Again this year we had some of our Teen Academy graduates assisting us with the event. We were able to pass out literature on various safety topics to our citizens. Most of our officers either walked in the parade or assisted with crowd control and direction.

Another highlight was our first annual Citizens Academy which was very well attended by 20 of our adult citizens. Various topics was covered during the seven week experience including department organization, criminal investigations, OVWI enforcement, accident investigations, crime scene investigations, defensive tactics, firearm safety and emergency vehicle operations. This event was a huge success!

Officer Joshua Chapman received the Special Olympics Police Officer of the Year award for his many contributions to Special Olympics of Indiana.

Chief Knox and Mayor Haak testified this year in front of a Senate committee regarding proposed DNA bill. The bill passed and became law.

Captain Musgrave graduated from the Boone County Leadership program.

List of major activities during the year.

1. Continue to staff Zionsville Police Officers in the Zionsville Community Schools as Police Partners within the school system.
2. The Zionsville Police Departments Policy Review Committee reviewed various policies and have submitted recommendations to the Zionsville Metropolitan Board of Police Commissioners for their consideration and review. The committee is comprised of various members of the agency from different ranks.
3. The Zionsville Police Department has had three officers progress from the rank of Patrolman 1 to Patrolman 2. They all are doing a very good job.
4. Officer Tyler Haston resigned from the agency as a full time officer, stayed on as a reserve officer.
5. The Zionsville Police Department has hired five new police officers this year,
 - a. Heather Plummer to replace retired Lieutenant William Lamar
 - b. Mitch Tuttle to replace Officer Tyler Haston

- c. Jack Callahan, new PS LIT hire
 - d. Daniel Brown, new PS LIT hire
 - e. Thomas Lucas, new PS LIT hire
 - f. Conditional offer of Employment extended, 2018 PS LIT hire
6. Currently starting an Application and Hiring process for 2018 hires (one new hire will replace Officer Mitch Tuttle who resigned from the agency in December, 2017)
 7. The Zionsville Police Department completed the annual audit of the Evidence/Property Room.
 8. The Zionsville Police Department continues to enjoy outstanding relations with our Public Safety Partners at the Federal, State and Local levels.
 9. Assisted our Public Safety Partners on numerous occasions and they have assisted the Zionsville Police Department on numerous occasions as well.
 10. Investigated Homicide in the Quail Run Apartment Complex.
 11. The Chief and staff of the Zionsville Police Department meet regularly with representatives from other Public Safety Agencies.
 12. Attend monthly Pow-Wow meetings at various locations around the community.
 13. Offices attend Home Owner Association meeting when invited.
 14. Kept the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and the Metropolitan Board of Police Commissioners up to date on the work of not only the Chief of Police but the entire department.
 15. Work to keep the Municipal Services Facility (Police Department, Street Department and the Parks and Recreation Department) maintenance needs up to date along with the department heads and staff from the other departments housed in the building.
 16. Worked on the 2017-2018 budget with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.
 17. Performance Appraisals completed on officers and staff of the Zionsville Police Department.
 18. Communicated via personal contact and email with all personnel at the Zionsville Police Department to keep them up to speed on items and issues involving the Zionsville Police Department and the Town of Zionsville.
 19. Continued the Zionsville Police Departments relationship with the Local Coordinating Council (administers the Governors Drug Free Community Funds for Boone County) by having a sitting board member on the Board of Directors.
 20. Apply for grants whenever possible.
 21. Officers participated in Federally funded traffic safety projects.
 22. The Zionsville Police Department participates in and have officers assigned to the Central Indiana Law Enforcement Training Council.
 23. Zionsville Police Officers have received thousands of hours of training with very little or no cost to the agency.

24. The Zionsville Police Department sponsors a Neighborhood Watch program to the neighborhoods that wish to participate.
25. The Zionsville Police Department had supervisors complete the Public Safety Leadership Institute's course of instruction.
26. Zionsville Police Department K-9 "Jelka" recovered from very serious injuries after being struck by a truck and is back to work. 😊
27. Zionsville Police Department K-9 "Eso" had to retire due to health issues.
28. Zionsville Police Department new K-9 "Thor" and handler Officer Jacob Sherburne completed training and certification.
29. Several officers are Indiana Law Enforcement Training Board Certified Instructors in various subjects, including Physical Tactics, Firearms, Emergency Vehicle Operations and Generalist Instructors as prescribed by the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy.
30. Officers have assisted the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy as guest instructors.
31. Zionsville Police Detective assigned to the Boone/Hamilton County Drug Task Force.
32. Zionsville Police Officers assigned to the Boone County Special Response Team.
33. Zionsville Police Detective assigned to the Sylvia's Place Child Advocacy Center's Multi-disciplinary team.
34. Chief Knox is a member of the Board of Directors for Silvia's Place Child Advocacy Center.
35. Chief Knox is a member of the Advisory Board for Central Indiana Crime Stoppers.
36. The Zionsville Police Department's Criminal Investigations Division has worked many investigations with our Public Safety Partners at the Federal, State and Local levels.
37. The staff of the Zionsville Police Department has conducted many tours of the police department for local organizations and individuals.
38. Chief Knox and staff have met with Zionsville Community School officials on many occasions.
39. Chief Knox and staff participated in the VIP event at the Zionsville Library.
40. The Zionsville Police Department participated in various torch runs and events supporting Special Olympics.
41. The Zionsville Police Department's Honor Guard unit has assisted with presenting the National Colors at various events including the Zionsville American Legion, Zionsville Schools and the Boone County Court House. The Honor Guard unit has also assisted with presenting honors at various funerals during the year.
42. Multiple "Coffee with a Cop" events throughout the year.
43. Various events from citizens, Zionsville American Legion and civic organizations showing support for the Zionsville Police Department. Thank you!

In closing I would like to report that the Officers, Supervisors and Command Staff of your Zionsville Police Department continue to be the dedicated professional police force that is required to keep the Town of Zionsville one of the safest communities in the country. While the crime rate is comparative low, we at the Zionsville Police Department work very hard every day to keep it that way.

I and the rest of the Zionsville Police Department appreciate the support of the citizens, elected officials and other employees of the Town of Zionsville. The job would be much more complicated if we didn't have this level of support. I would like to communicate my sincere appreciation to the other department heads of the Town of Zionsville, Mayor Haak, Deputy Mayor Mitro, Metropolitan Board of Police Commissioners and the Town Council for their untiring assistance and support throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted:

Robert Knox

Chief of Police