



Gainesville Police Department 2023 Annual Report





Gainesville Police Vision

Partnering world class urban policing with a globally influenced local community.

Gainesville Police Mission

- Serve the people
- Protect life, property, and rights
- Enforce the law fair and impartially
- Resolve problems

Gainesville Police Goals

1. Goal 1: Increase overall safety for the residents in the City of Gainesville by reducing, solving, and preventing crime (Plan for Better Future)
2. Goal 2: Professional development and training (Foster Greater Equity)
3. Goal 3: Strengthen community policing by improving community engagement (Be a Community Model)

Table of Contents

A message from Chief of Police, Lonnie Scott.....	4
Gainesville Police Command Staff.....	5
Gainesville Police Organizational Chart.....	6
Crime Statistics – FBI Uniform Crime Reporting.....	7
Internal Affairs Unit.....	7
Response to Resistance Review.....	9
Public Information Officer.....	9
Police Advisory Board.....	10
Operations Bureau.....	11
School Resource Officers.....	12
School Crossing Guards.....	13
Traffic Unit.....	14
K-9 Unit.....	15
Drone Team.....	16
Special Weapons and Tactics.....	16
Emergency Services Team.....	17
Negotiations Response Team.....	17
Co-Responder Team.....	18
Honor Guard.....	18
Field Service Technicians.....	19
Investigations Bureau.....	20
Criminal Investigations Division.....	20
Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force.....	20
Forensic Crime Unit.....	21
Special Investigations Division.....	22
Alachua County Drug Task Force.....	22
Administrative Services Bureau.....	23
Planning and Research Unit.....	23
Training and Education Division.....	23
Community Engagement.....	24
Logistics Division.....	25
Cadet Program.....	26
Contact Us.....	27



The Gainesville Police Department is a full-service, community-oriented policing law enforcement agency dedicated to partnering with our citizens for problem resolution.

GPD continues its mission to serve and protect the City of Gainesville through enhanced programs and citizen interaction. This collaborative effort has made Gainesville one of the most livable cities in the United States.

Gainesville is the largest city in Alachua County and the 13th largest city in the State of Florida. It serves as the cultural, educational, and commercial center of the North Central Florida region. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, there is an estimated 145,812 residents in Gainesville, out of 285,994 total residents of Alachua County.

The City of Gainesville was founded in 1854 and incorporated in 1869. Gainesville is home to the University of Florida, the state's leading research institution as one of the top 10 public universities in the nation, and Santa Fe College, a provider of excellent professional and vocational education. Gainesville also has one of the largest medical communities in the Southeastern United States.

GPD employs approximately 260 sworn police officers and 99.75 support personnel.

Gainesville Police Command Staff



Lonnie Scott
Chief of Police

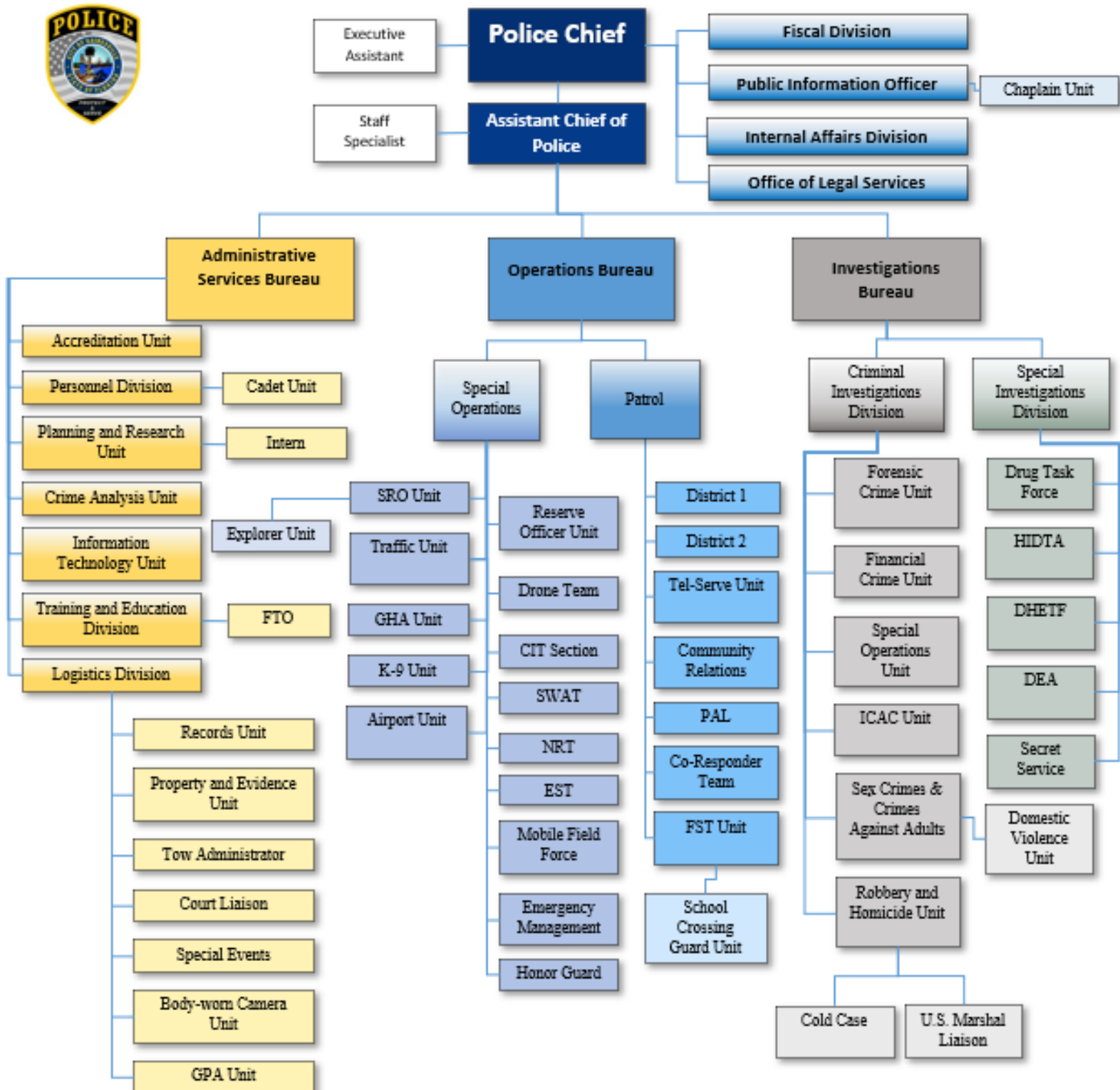


Nelson Moya
Assistant Chief of Police



Jaime Kurnick
Chief Inspector

Gainesville Police Organizational Chart



Crime Statistics – FBI Uniform Crime Reporting



The Gainesville Police Department provides UCR information as a measurement of the overall crime in Gainesville.

The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program has been the starting place for law enforcement executives, students of criminal justice, researchers, members of the media, and the public at large seeking information on crime in the nation.

The program was conceived in 1929 by the International Association of Chiefs of Police to meet the need for reliable uniform crime statistics for the nation. In 1930, the FBI was tasked with collecting, publishing, and archiving those statistics. (ucr.fbi.gov)

GPD's case closure rates remain above the national average in all reported categories.

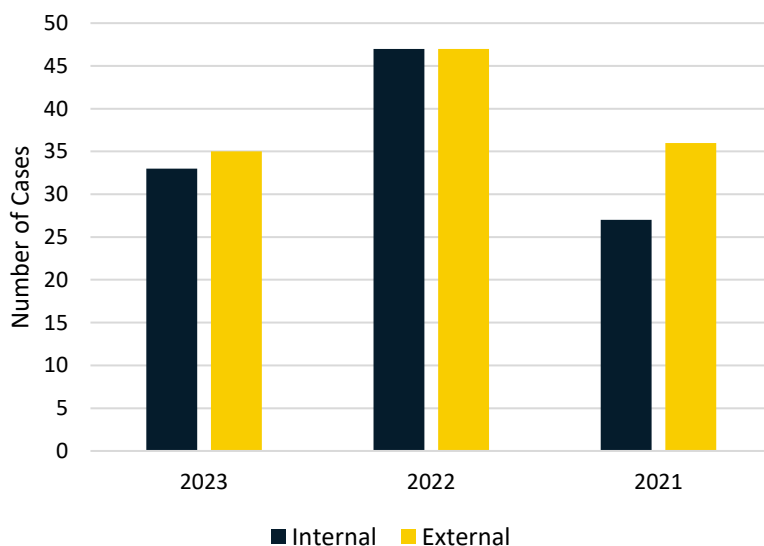
Internal Affairs Unit

In 2019, Internal Affairs moved from the GPD Headquarters to an off-campus downtown location. The Unit continued to be housed at the Wells Fargo Building at 104 N Main Street. The new site has proven to be beneficial and has been well received by both members of the public and Department members overall.

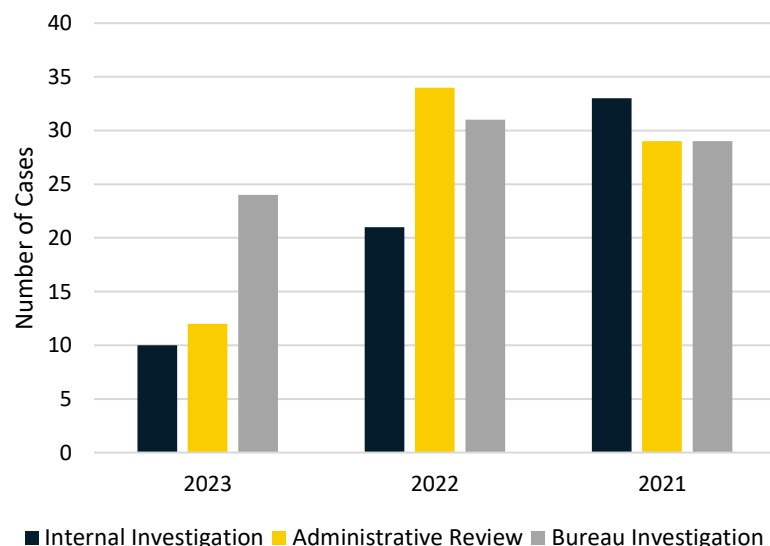
In 2017, Internal Affairs purchased IA Pro Software and implemented its use. All of the data from previous programs, both AIM and RMS, was

migrated over. The use of IA Pro continued in 2023. The IAPRO software captures an abundant amount of information and assists tremendously in creating reports and researching information. Internal Affairs data and information is the regular subject of public records requests, and the IA Pro software has reduced staff hours in preparing what can sometimes be very complicated and time intensive information.

Case Overview



Investigation Type



Internal Affairs Unit

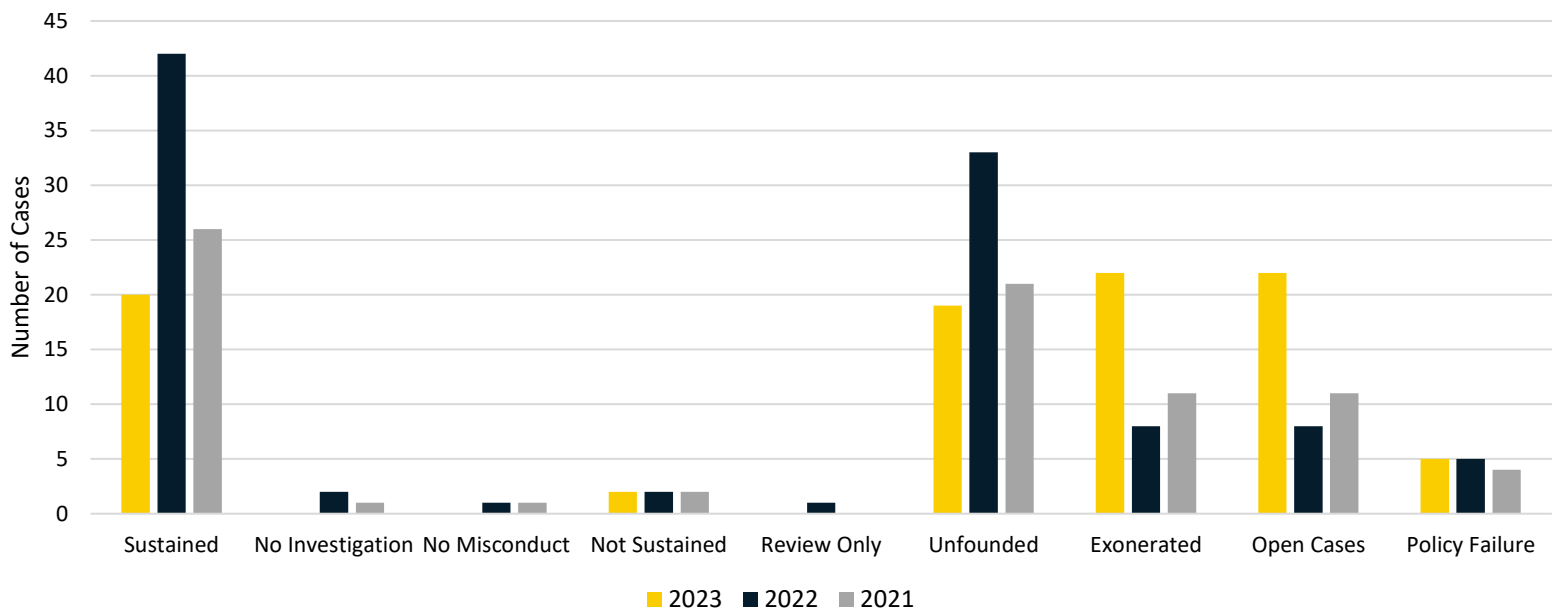
IA Pro also incorporates a viable Early Warning System. Early intervention has been shown to be effective in reducing misconduct, improving community relations, and reducing turnover. The purpose of the Early Warning System is to identify risk factors and correct behaviors through training and intervention.

In addition, as part of the IA Pro Software, Blue Team is utilized. Blue Team is used in completing Use of Force reviews, Pursuit reviews, damaged vehicle incidents, Counseling/Training, Video reviews, Citizen

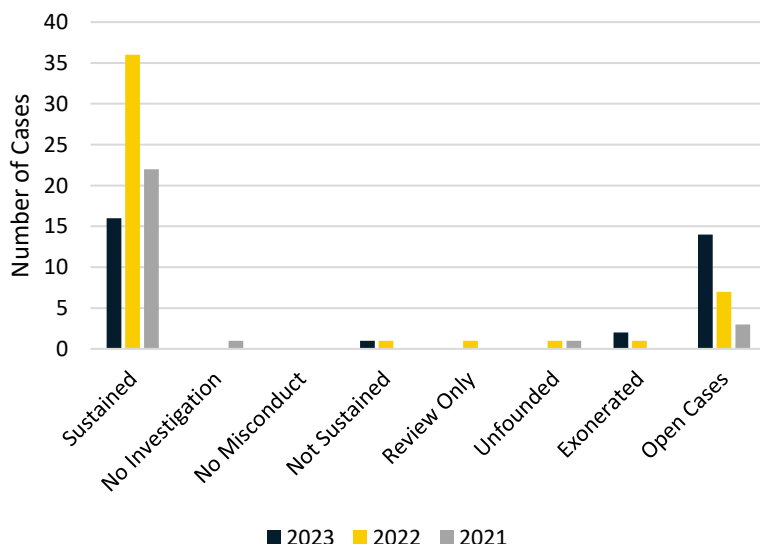
complaints/referrals and other Bureau level actions. Blue Team works hand in hand with IA Pro and compiles and houses all of the data in one easily accessible location.

There were 68 complaints filed with Internal Affairs in 2023. Of the 68 cases received, 33 originated with internal complaints and 35 came from external sources. External complaints have continued to reduce in comparison to the last year, decreasing by 12 in comparison to 2022.

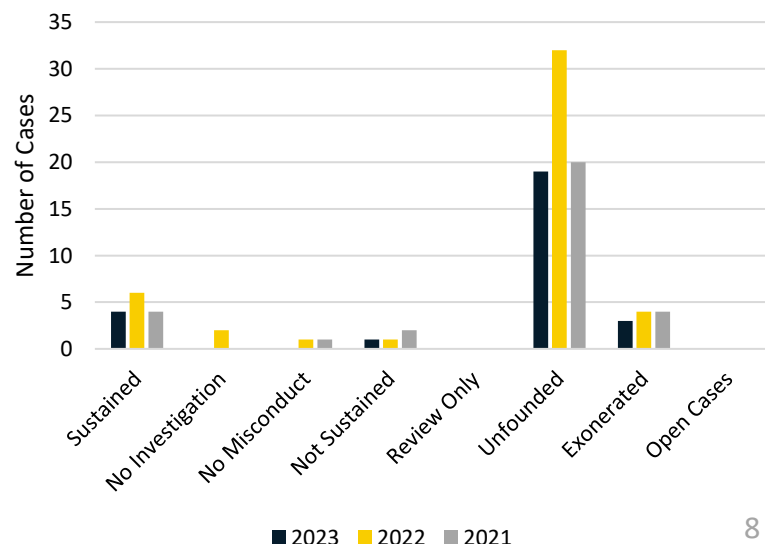
Case Disposition



Internal Complaints



External Complaints



Response to Resistance Review

The United States Constitution and Florida law allow police officers to use force to effect arrests and ensure public order and the safety of citizens and their property.

In 2014, Chief Tony Jones instituted the “3 C’s” philosophy for the Gainesville Police Department. The 3 C’s stand for Consistency, Compassion and Constitutional Policing. These concepts apply to every individual and facet of the Gainesville Police Department, but likely have the most gravity when considered in the framework of incidents involving Response to Resistance Techniques by police officers.

In 2023, GPD responded to 96,366 Calls for Service. Officers and staff wrote 18,424 incident and crash reports. Of those arrests, 1,731 were adults and 129 were juveniles. There were also 130 Gainesville Pre-

Arrest Diversion Notices and 22 Notices to Appear issued as well as 1,883 Sworn Complaints completed.

GPD officers responded to resistance a total of 56 times in 2023. Of those 56 incidents, 29 resulted in felony arrests and 7 resulted in misdemeanor charges. Additionally, 1 incident involving crowd control during a felony firearm arrest occurred and 7 instances in which a person was taken into custody for an involuntary health exam (Florida’s Baker Act/Marchman Act).

The Gainesville Police Department had no Deadly Force incidents in 2023.

Public Information Officer

The position of Public Information Officer (PIO) for the Gainesville Police Department was recently converted to a non-sworn position. In November 2023, Brandon Hatzel was hired as the PIO. The following is a list of some duties that the PIO is responsible for:

- Handles the daily requests from the media about events concerning the Gainesville Police Department and incidents being investigated.
- Conducts the majority of television, radio and print interviews regarding Gainesville Police Department issues, policies and incidents.
- Serves as a liaison and refers members of the media to appropriate members of the agency for other interview requests.
- Responds to major crime scenes to handle media requests and manage media access to those scenes.
- Assists and coordinates all press conferences initiated by the Department.
- Manages the Department’s Social Media (Facebook / Twitter / Instagram) and offers input on the website.
- Writes and directs the GPDTV show, broadcast on Chanel 12 and 4 locally, as well as YouTube.
- Provides still photography and videography services for agency events.

The PIO function at the Gainesville Police Department is an ever-changing position with the main goal of promoting the positive image of the Gainesville Police Department to the citizens of Gainesville.

Police Advisory Board



The Police Advisory Board advises the Gainesville Police Department by offering community feedback concerning public safety issues and law enforcement needs and actions. To this end the Police Advisory Board is devoted to facilitating the flow of ideas relative to police services for the continued improvement of the quality of life of its citizens.

The Police Advisory Board is tasked with the following objectives:

- To foster understanding and communication between the citizens of Gainesville and the Gainesville Police Department and to review and advise the chief in community relations between GPD and all segments
- Increase involvement by the citizens and police in community programs;
- To review and advise the Chief on staffing policy and procedures as requested by the Chief/and or City Manager.
- Work to strengthen and ensure cohesion throughout the community and the application of equal protection under law.
- To acquaint citizens with the operation of the Gainesville Police Department and its varied activities;
- Serve as a panel to discuss closed internal investigations in regard to what processes may be considered in preventing the occurrence of future activities;
- To assist in crime prevention through the distribution of material on crime deterrence;
- To generate community interest and involvement in crime prevention, to include community-oriented policing and to improve community relations.
- Other matters may be referred to the PAB from time to time by the City Manager or Chief of Police.
- The PAB also reviews all closed Internal Affairs Investigations and makes recommendations to the Chief as to their review.

The Police Advisory Board meets monthly at a publicly noticed meeting at City Hall which is attended by Assistant Chief Moya and Chief Inspector Jaime Kurnick.

Operations Bureau

The Operations Bureau is the largest component of the Gainesville Police Department. It is charged with working with the community to provide police services to the citizens of Gainesville, Florida. The Operations Bureau is composed of the Special Operations and Patrol Divisions and is commanded by the Assistant Chief.

The Patrol Division operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The primary mission of this Division is the protection of life and property, the enforcement of Florida law and City ordinances, and to protect the rights of all people. The Patrol Division is divided into two Districts.

The command staff of the Operations Bureau excels at community outreach and takes pride in their ability to work with various community organizations to assist in providing quality service. They look

forward to expanding their partnerships to include all their neighbors.

The Command Staff continues to work in partnership with representatives from other city, state and county agencies to work towards problem resolution and homeland security. Our Department continues to participate in the Regional Domestic Security Task Force and the City of Gainesville Emergency Management Team. Like the rest of the country, the Gainesville Police Department struggled with recruitment and retention of police officers due to the Coronavirus (Covid-19) Pandemic. Nevertheless, the men and women of GPD persevered to deliver exemplary services to the Gainesville Community. The following is a summation of 2023 performance measurements.

The Operations Bureau is the largest part of the Gainesville Police Department, comprising just over 53% of the sworn members of the agency.

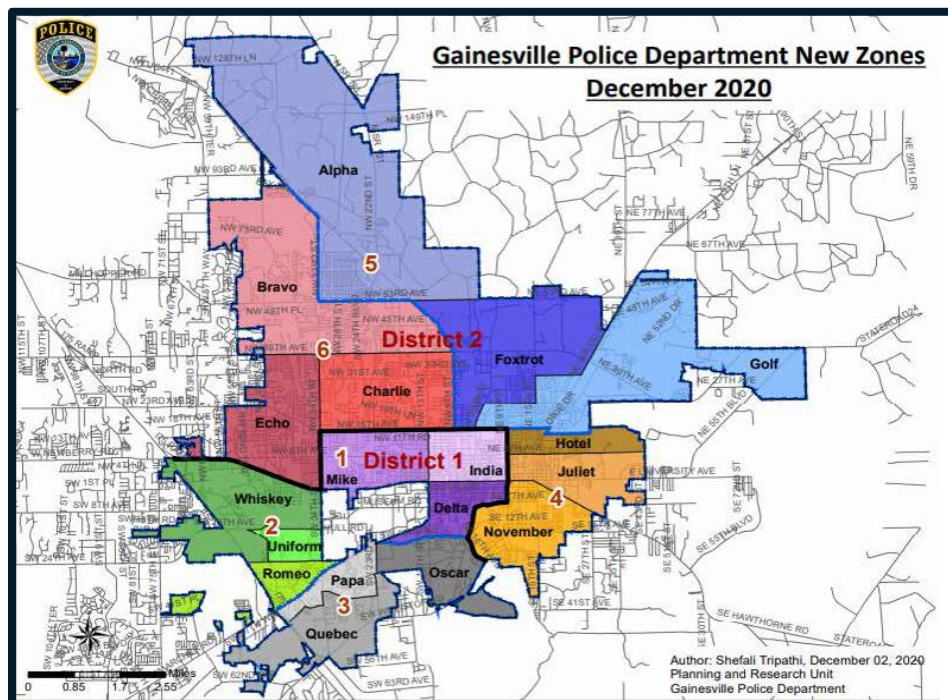
2023 by the numbers:

Calls for Service: **96,366**

Arrests: **4,423**

Written Reports (Incidents): **15,032**

Written Reports (Traffic Crashes): **4,931**



School Resource Officers



Gainesville Police Department's School Resource Officer (SRO) Team is comprised of full-time, sworn police officers at many public schools within the city. The SRO program provides an increased level of effective interaction between the Police Department, students, school officials and parents. This liaison between the Police Department and the Alachua County School District facilitates the rapid resolution of minor problems before they become significant. While SROs are fully trained police officers with arrest authority, their primary focus is not on enforcement rather on working with the school's administration to maintain a safer learning environment.

A typical day for an SRO may include:

- Consulting with school officials regarding safety issues at the school or in the community.
- Investigating the circumstances surrounding crime which may have occurred on the school grounds.
- Conflict intervention/resolution between students.
- Providing advice to a troubled student.
- Teaching law or safety related topics to students in a classroom setting.
- Building a positive rapport with the students at the schools.
- Introducing students, parents, and school staff to helpful resources.

School Crossing Guards



GPD provides Guards at all public school's crossing intersections to ensure the safety of our children. These guards act as protectors and mentors for the children.

School Crossing Guards are the first person of authority your child sees each day on their way to school, and the last on their way home.



Traffic Unit



The main objective of the Traffic Unit is the reduction of traffic related injuries and fatalities. This is accomplished through proactive enforcement efforts, coordination with city traffic engineers, and community education programs designed to create a higher awareness of traffic safety on Gainesville's roads.

One such way was utilizing grant funds from the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) which allowed the Traffic Unit to conduct high profile education details targeting alcohol awareness, distracted driving, and the Safe Motorcycle and Rider Techniques (SMART) course.

The Traffic Unit strives daily to make Gainesville's roadways safe. They routinely analyze traffic crash data and review citizen complaints. Once an area of concern involving moving traffic violations has been identified, officers diligently and proactively address those violations especially those that contribute to traffic crashes or, which may result in damage and/ or injuries to our citizenry.

Eight members, including one sergeant, staff the Motorcycle Unit within the Traffic Unit. The motorcycle fleet is comprised of Harley Davidson Police Road Kings equipped with an Air-cooled, Twin Cam 114 cubic inch (1868cc) or 107 cubic inch (1753 cc) engine. Motorcycle Officers operate within the Traffic Unit, as a City-wide function. Motorcycles have increased visibility, accessibility, greater mobility, and ideal for traffic enforcement and special escorts.

The Traffic Unit is also responsible for the investigation of traffic homicides that occur within the city limits. Officers investigating crash scenes where serious injury or death occurs use the latest in laser technology and computer equipment to investigate and map the scene of the incident for later reference for court.



In 2023, Unit Members issued 7,487 citations, investigated 17 fatal traffic crashes, and 4,357 traffic crashes overall.

K-9 Unit



The Gainesville Police Department's Canine (K-9) Unit is assigned to our Patrol Support Bureau. Team members are among the most elite in all of GPD. When shootings, robberies, in progress burglaries or other priority calls are dispatched our K-9 teams are primary responders. Teams are regularly utilized to assist in criminal apprehensions, locate missing persons, detect narcotics and assist as back-up.

GPD is allotted 9 K-9 teams, eight of which are a part of Patrol while one team works highway enforcement with the Alachua County Combined Drug Task Force. Each Patrol team must go through a rigorous 480 hour basic handler course which prepares them for the various and unpredictable situations they will encounter. All K-9 teams must be evaluated and certified by the Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) or other certifying entity before they are deemed to be patrol ready. The teams re-certify annually to ensure that they have maintained the highest level of proficiency. Handlers and their K-9 counterparts train at least 10 hours a week to prime their patrol skills.

Notable from 2023:

- K-9 Unit members usually participate in multiple demonstration where they educated and interacted with our neighbors, to include schools and other special events.
- The K9 Unit cross-trained with several different specialty unit's last year, and plan to continue to do so in the future.
- Unit members also attended different advanced trainings during the year.
- The Unit was utilized during hundreds of arrest throughout the year and continues to be instrumental in arrests where citizen and officer safety is crucial, as well as locating missing/endangered citizens.

The Unit was instrumental in numerous robbery/burglary investigations and other on-scene tracks for violent crimes.

Drone Team



The Drone Team was formed in March of 2021. There are 9 team members who train monthly and have over 500 logged missions. Drones are utilized in various situations both law enforcement and non-law enforcement related. Examples of law enforcement incidents include search warrants, barricaded and/or wanted subjects, building clearing and homecoming parades.

Examples of non-law enforcement functions include:

- Farm Share Food Giveaway Event at Oaks Mall
- Candlelight Vigil at City Hall for COVID Deaths
- SRO Photoshoot at Ben Hill Griffin Stadium
- Assisting Gainesville Fire Rescue with a large sinkholes



Special Weapons and Tactics



The Gainesville Police Department Special Weapons and Tactics Team is an elite team of officers that are specially trained to handle threatening situations that fall outside the capabilities of patrol officers.

SWAT is used for other unusual occurrences, including barricaded subjects, hostage rescues, dignitary protection and other special assignments. Each SWAT team member is fully equipped and able to respond directly to the scene of an incident for immediate deployment. SWAT also works closely with the Department's Negotiations Response Team (NRT) in order to assist the Incident Commander at a particular situation in working toward a successful negotiated resolution. The SWAT team is made up of 25-30 officers, including five snipers, six tactical medics from Gainesville Fire Rescue and a SWAT physician. SWAT team members train religiously and work to stay in top physical form. Members are required to train 10 to 20 hours per month receiving approximately 240 hours of training per year that includes a full week of training.

Emergency Services Team

The function of the Emergency Services Team is to provide a rapid response to critical or mass casualty incidents.

EST members receive enhanced training and equipment and are designed to be rapidly deployed during large scale catastrophic or active shooter events. More and more active shooter incidents are occurring around the country, and it is vitally important that GPD have a team in place to handle the worst if it should ever visit our city. Their deployment provides for a well-managed tactical and/or medical response to critical incidents and is sometimes a needed bridge between a normal patrol call for service and SWAT/ NRT call-out. EST members are also tasked with providing effective communication skills for citizens in mental crisis and are committed to utilizing de-escalation efforts for the successful resolution of these incidents.



EST is only comprised of personnel from uniformed divisions and the team is structured so that it has a presence on all shifts and there is 24/7 coverage. It is currently one of the only teams of this nature in existence in the southeastern part of the country and was modeled after the NYPD Emergency Services Unit.

Negotiations Response Team

The Gainesville Police Department's Negotiations Response Team works in partnership with the other specialized teams of the agency such as the Special Weapons and Tactics team (SWAT) or the Emergency Services Team (EST) when dealing with high-risk situations involving armed or unarmed subject(s), and other unusual occurrences. The Gainesville Police Department's Negotiation Response Team also responds to assist members of our community when they are in times of crisis.

The Gainesville Police Department recognizes that highly skilled police negotiators have been shown to substantially reduce the risk of injury or loss of life in high-risk incidents. The Negotiations Response Team is a trained and skilled team who cares deeply for people and prides themselves in their ability to help successfully resolve calls in which they are asked to respond to. The team trains with surrounding agencies as well as the Alachua County Crisis Center.



Negotiations Response Team members are specially trained in interpersonal communication and negotiation tactics.

Co-Responder Team



The Co-Responder Team is a partnership between the Gainesville Police Department and Meridian Behavioral Healthcare to deploy a sworn uniformed police officer with a Master's level mental health clinician in the field responding to individuals with mental health and substance use concerns at their point of crisis.

Team members have a vested dedication in mental health services. They regularly attend community outreach events and provides training both internally and externally. The Team works closely with local stakeholders to provide appropriate resources. The Team started in 2018 with one officer and has since expanded to four officers, providing seven-day coverage and availability. The Co-Responder Team reports to the assigned Mental Health Liaison (Lieutenant).

Honor Guard

The Gainesville Police Department Honor Guard consists of 6 members who provide Close Order Drill and Ceremony duties for a variety of functions. Those details include Color Guards for Swearing In, Promotional, Retirement, and Awards Ceremonies for both GPD and other City entities.

The Honor Guard marches annually in the UF Homecoming Parade and other parades upon request. The Honor Guard participates in the Local Police Memorial Tallahassee, and National Police Week in Washington DC where they have competed in the Drill Competition. The Honor Guard also participates in community functions such as St. Patrick's Catholic School, at the VA Hospital for special presentations regarding VETERANS, at Santa Fe High School for static presentation, and local Little League Playoffs. The Honor Guard also conducts Funeral Services for all GPD Retirees and those killed in the Line of Duty. Members of the Honor Guard are dispatched throughout the State of Florida to attend all Funerals of law enforcement personnel killed in the Line of Duty.

While these tasks vary from joyful to solemn, the members of the Honor Guard represent the Gainesville Police Department and the City of Gainesville with great pride and attention to detail.



Field Service Technicians



A Field Service Technician (FST) is a uniformed non-sworn member of the Gainesville Police Department. FST's provide non-emergency police services to the community.

FST's work in the field providing services including traffic crash investigations, burglary investigations, forgery investigations, processing crime scenes for evidence, parking enforcement, traffic direction and school zones. FST's do not handle in-progress crimes, incidents where the suspect is on-scene, or cases where there is a confrontation between individuals. Some of the specific incidents that FST's do not handle are murder, robbery, sexual battery, abductions, narcotic violations, and disturbances.

FST's do not carry weapons of any type. FST's do not make physical arrests. FST's do issue parking citations, traffic citations, and complete sworn complaints. There is an 8-week Field Training program (FTP) with several Field Training Officers. During this time, FSTs are formally instructed and perform the duties successfully for each phase. FSTs also spend time in the Forensics Unit to receive training on how to process crime scenes. Upon successful completion of the FTP, FSTs are assigned a department vehicle with the option to take home to commute into work.

FSTs are an independent function of the Gainesville Police Department and are an essential component of the Gainesville Police Department. The FST unit consists of: FST I, FST II and FST III. Each stage has certain requirements before you can advance. You can also advance throughout the Gainesville Police Department depending on the route you choose to take in your career. FST's primarily work between the hours of 6:30 am and 8:30 pm Monday through Friday.

In 2023, 17 Field Service Technicians were dispatched to 8,325 calls, wrote 851 investigative reports, responded to 888 traffic crashes, wrote 178 traffic citations, and took 328 sworn complaints.

Investigations Bureau

The Investigations Bureau consists of the Criminal Investigations Division and the Special Investigations Division.

Criminal Investigations Division

The Criminal Investigations Division includes Criminal Investigations, the Forensic Crime Unit, the Special Operations Unit and the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force.

The Division is responsible for, but not limited to, the following types of investigations; homicide, robbery, gun violence, sex offenses, child abuse, aggravated assault/battery, burglary, grand theft, fraud, forgery, vehicle thefts, internet crimes against children, domestic violence, missing persons, burglaries, grand theft, fraud, forgery, embezzlement, arson, computer crimes and credit card crimes.

In 2016, the Sexual Crimes Unit joined forces with the Alachua County Sheriff's Office and the Florida Coalition against Sexual Violence to implement trauma-informed sexual assault investigations at our agencies. By understanding trauma and its effect on the human brain, detectives can better investigate cases involving sexual violence. GPD maintains a website, [www. ReportRapeGainesville.org](http://www.ReportRapeGainesville.org) which allows victims of sexual violence to educate themselves on their rights, report sexual violence, and access resources available to them. Investigators understand that sexual assault is very traumatic, and our investigators and officers continue training on trauma informed responses and interviewing to help in fully investigating cases of sexual violence.

We conduct checks on sexual offenders/predators to make sure that they are in compliance with state and local requirements. We are also very proud of our follow-up assistance that we provide to victims of both personal and property crimes by our Detectives and victim advocates. Currently, there are four victim advocates that work within our Criminal Investigations Division to provide immediate services and support to victims of crime.

The Criminal Investigations Division is committed to working with local, state, and federal agencies. As a result, Gainesville Police Department strives to maintain task force affiliations with the Federal Bureau of Investigations, U.S. Marshals, and the United States Secret Service. These partnerships are very beneficial for our city due to the enhanced relationships built with these federal agencies. Our collaboration allows us to investigate, track, and apprehend offenders who cross jurisdictional lines to commit offenses or avoid prosecution.

Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force

The Gainesville Police Department is proud to be the host agency for The North Florida Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC). The ICAC Task Force has one sergeant and three investigators.

ICAC was established in 2003 and is funded by federal grants authorizing the Gainesville Police Department to act as the host agency for the northern 38 counties of Florida. The purpose of the grant is to provide local law enforcement agencies with the funding necessary to combat the online exploitation and solicitation of children. As these types of crimes do not often result in 911 calls for service, funding at local levels is rarely devoted solely to such investigations. The purpose of the Task Force is to create a cooperative environment between all law enforcement agencies that operate within the member agencies' jurisdiction. On a regular basis municipal, county, state, and federal authorities employ their combined resources in joint investigations, made possible by the network created by this Task Force. In addition to human resources, the cooperation between Task Force affiliates provides opportunity for computer examinations for those agencies which otherwise do not have that option. In addition to agencies such as the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Homeland Security Investigations, and the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, the Task Force is also comprised of advocacy centers and state agencies such as the Florida Department of Law Enforcement and the Office of the Attorney General. The following counties are within the North Florida ICAC Task Force area of responsibility: Alachua, Baker, Bay, Bradford, Brevard, Calhoun, Clay, Columbia, Dixie, Escambia, Flagler, Franklin, Gadsden, Gilchrist, Gulf, Hamilton, Holmes, Jackson, Duval, Jefferson, Lafayette, Leon, Levy, Liberty, Madison, Marion, Nassau, Okaloosa, Putnam, Santa Rosa, St. Johns, Suwannee, Taylor, Union, Volusia, Wakulla, Walton, and Washington.

Forensic Crime Unit

Investigators respond to major crime scenes to photograph, document and collect evidence and process the scene for latent prints. Each Forensic Crime Unit Investigator utilizes a fully equipped crime scene vehicle. These vehicles contain all the equipment necessary to process most crime scenes. They have cameras and print processing equipment, shoe wear and tire impression casting equipment, additional lighting, metal detectors, portable alternate light source equipment, borescopes, trajectory kits, ladders and many other items. Investigators also utilize a large workroom where evidence can be examined more closely. In the workroom, we have individual assigned & secure lockers, large tables to examine items, chemical processing equipment for latent prints, photography workstation, and large drying lockers. The Forensic Crime Unit works closely with the Florida Department of Law Enforcement in Jacksonville for additional processing and analysis.

The Latent Print Examiner utilizes the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS). In 2023 the office received 815 latent print submissions, of which 317 were AFIS quality entries. The Latent Print Examiner made 139 identifications for the year.

The Photograph Technician stays up to date on digital cameras and digital video recordings systems. We also utilize evidence.com, an online digital evidence platform. All Sworn Police Officers and Police Service Technicians are issued smartphones. Personnel use the smartphones to take digital photographs of crime scenes to upload into our database or directly into evidence.com. Our unit is also tasked with State Attorney's Office requests. These requests can be for processing items collected, sending things to FDLE, copies of DVDs, and sharing photographs taken by our officers/PST's. The unit completed over 1,657 State Attorney's Office requests for 2023. Our crime scene investigators do a great job at the scene collecting and preserving evidence and they work together to figure out the most challenging crime scenes. They are constantly attending training classes, webinars, or learning from each other to better enhance the unit. The Forensic Crime Unit also works directly with the Criminal Investigations Division on a daily basis to prepare evidence which may be needed for the prosecution of cases by the State Attorney's Office. The unit also attends community events to provide an opportunity for the community to ask questions and understand the importance of our work.



Special Investigations Division

The Special Investigations Division (SID) is a part of the Gainesville-Alachua County Drug Task Force (GACDTF). The purpose of this division is to identify, quantify, and respond to emerging drug problems within the task force area.

Alachua County Drug Task Force



The GACDTF is a collaborative effort between the Gainesville Police Department, the Alachua County Sheriff's Office, the University of Florida Police Department, and the Florida Department of Law Enforcement. The Drug Task Force targets illegal drug activity at three levels. The Drug Task Force investigates street-level drug crimes that occur throughout the City of Gainesville and Alachua County. Detectives assigned to the street-level Narcotics Squads identify and arrest subjects who are selling drugs in neighborhoods and affecting the quality of life for the residents in the area.

The Drug Task Force also has detectives assigned to state and federal drug task forces to increase the impact of local drug cases. The Drug Task force recently became part of the Federal HIDTA initiative (High intensity Drug Trafficking Area) and the Drug Task Force is receiving Federal funding to assist in the investigation of narcotics cases.

The HIDTA Squad investigates mid-level suppliers of the street-level dealers. These mid-level dealers often extend beyond the City of Gainesville into surrounding cities and counties. The DEA Task Force investigates upper-level suppliers of drugs. Many of the upper-level drug investigations extend to other states and countries. Both task forces work toward significant State or Federal prison sentences for serious drug offenders. The investigations of mid and upper-level suppliers often develop from street-level cases made by the Narcotics Unit when working community problems.

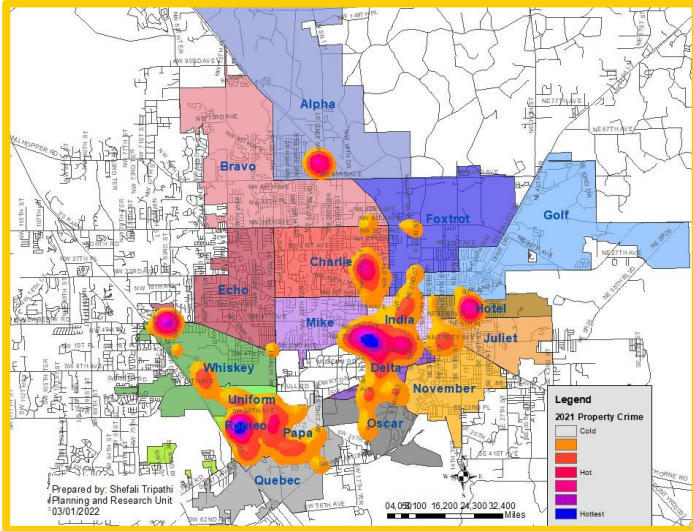
GPD's SID personnel also work as part of the Alachua County Sheriff's Office's Combined Alachua Drug Enforcement Team (CADET). The Mission of the CADET Initiative shall be to pursue, disrupt and dismantle major drug trafficking organizations (DTOs) by identifying, arresting and prosecuting individuals or networks responsible for the importation and distribution of illicit drugs in Alachua County.

In 2023, the CADET Initiative resulted in 96 arrests on a total of 238 cases. A large amount of illegal narcotics worth a total street value of \$1,007,941 was seized alongside \$406,259 in cash and assets.

Administrative Services Bureau

The Administrative Services Bureau is comprised of the Training and Education Division, the Accreditation Unit, and the Planning and Research Unit.

Planning and Research



In 2019, the unit created the first ever in-house 3-year strategic plan for GPD.

The Planning and Research unit answers directly to the Office of the Chief and comprises of a Senior Police Planner and two interns. The unit designs, plans, administers, and coordinates the delivery of department planning surveys, projects, studies, and police programs. The police planner leads annual staffing study, workload analysis, and program evaluation to statistically review program effectiveness for the Gainesville Police Department. The planning and research unit is responsible for developing and formulating goals, strategies, and action plans as part of the intermediate and long-term strategic planning for GPD's growth and community crime management issues. The unit researches and publishes complex reports and also evaluates new technology and procedures in law enforcement. The unit works collaboratively with various city departments and external agencies.

In 2019, the unit created the first ever in-house 3-year strategic plan for GPD and has subsequently published annual updates on the goals and objectives as identified in the strategic plan.

Training and Education Division

The Training and Education Division (TED) helps the facilitation and coordination of training initiatives for GPD Sworn Personnel. These changes allowed for TED Personnel to provide nearly 1,200 hours of FDLE, CALEA and City of Gainesville training to sworn and non-sworn personnel. This training included:

- Firearms qualifications and proficiency drills
- Responding to active threats
- CPR
- TacMed
- Fit Cop
- Response to resistance
- Proficiency with intermediate weapons
- Integrating Communication, Assessment and Tactics (ICAT)
- Physical Agility Course
- Pursuit and Precision Immobilization Technique (PIT)
- Secondary survival weapons, rifle and shotgun qualifications
- Patrol rifle
- New hire Mini-Academy
- AHA CPR Update
- Driving proficiency
- Firearms familiarization for GPD Forensic Unit Driver Instructor
- Firearms Instructor
- First Aid Instructor
- American Heart Association BLS CPR Instructor

Training and Education Division

TED members also attended several courses in an effort to maintain certifications and bring cutting edge training back to the members of GPD:

- Active Shooter Threat Instructor Course-FLETC
- BOLA Wrap Instructor
- AR-15 Armorer
- PIT Instructor
- GLOCK Optic Instructor
- Firearms Range Safety Officer
- Tactical Medical Instructor
- Ballistics Shield Instructor
- Tactical Pistol
- Streamlight Low-Light Shooting
- Building the 21st Century Shooter Course
- De-Escalation Techniques
- Neighborhood Policing Initiative
- Policing Across Differences Course
- How to Have a Courageous Conversation Course
- First Aid Instructor
- American Heart Association Instructor
- Defensive Tactics Instructor

GPD TED partnerships with local, state and federal agencies allow personnel to be proactive in providing training and services to sworn and non-sworn personnel within GPD, City of Gainesville personnel, future law enforcement officer and to our neighbors. Programs such as the Neighborhood Policing Initiative, Policing Across Differences and How to Have a Courageous Conversation help open lines of communication, understanding and perspective for all working and living within the City creating symbiotic environment.

Community Engagement

Each bureau in GPD is dedicated to fostering community engagement in their own ways through relevant events and programs. In 2023, the Gainesville Police Department organized over 300 community engagement events including over 30 recruitments events. Some recurring examples of community engagement are officer presence at city safety events and city commission meetings, bicycle light giveaways, meetings with the Florida Department of Transportation, and assisting UF campus police with large crowds during football games.

Some other examples of GPD community engagement events in the past year include:

- UF ROTC and NAVY Demo
- Butler Plaza Interprize SWAT Demo
- Junior Police Academy
- “Walk the Line” Pedestrian Crosswalk Detail
- Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics
- DUI PBT Detail: Do(ugh)nut
- DC Safety Patrol Trip
- RadKIDS
- Public Safety Camp
- Shop With A Cop
- Heroes and Helpers



Logistics Division

Records

The Records Section consists of 13 personnel who receive, store and share information with the public and our partner agencies. Their tasks include:

- Conducting Quality Control
- Compiling Uniform Crime Reports (UCR)
- Tracking Sexual Offender/Predator Address Changes
- Processing Public Records Requests
- Assisting with Compromised Identity Cases
- Processing Civil Expungements
- Coordinating with the FBI's Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS)
- Processing Vehicle Crash Reports

Property and Evidence

The Property and Evidence Section receives, stores, and disposes of all property and evidence that is submitted by department members.

Members of Property and Evidence are responsible for maintaining the chain of custody and disposing of evidence and property based on statutory limitations or court order. They notify property owners when items are released and ready to be claimed.

The Property and Evidence Section is also responsible for stocking, issuing, and tracking uniforms and equipment issued to department members.

Tow Administrator

The Towing Administrator is responsible for monitoring all rotation and trespass towing and addressing complaints for towing in a timely manner. The Tow Administrator maintains and controls Citizen Serve.

Court Liaison

The Court Liaison office is responsible for scheduling GPD officers and staff for necessary appearances.

The office schedules GPD officers and staff for trials, depositions, traffic hearing and other appearances in county, circuit, juvenile and the State Attorney's Office, Regional Counsel Office, Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles (DHSMV) Board of Administrative Reviews, private attorneys and court staff. The Court Liaison provides non-court related information to GPD staff, attorneys and local citizens.

Special Events

The Special Events Unit consists of an event coordinator who is responsible for coordinating police coverage for events outside of what is normally addressed by GPD's patrol and detective units.

Body-Worn Camera

The Body-Worn Camera Unit reviews body-worn camera footage and helps the records unit with any public records requests concerning these videos.

The BWC administrator plans, develops, analyzes, evaluates, advises, and improves various management control systems, programs and policies, work methods and procedures in relation to the BWC Program which includes inventory, training, deployment, system evaluation, policy and procedural review, evaluation, and maintenance of the hardware and software systems. The unit manages the inventory of the BWC and in-car cameras to including training new users and addresses any body-worn camera issues that may arise.

Cadet Program



GPD Cadets are compensated for up to 30 hours per week. This includes class time and working at GPD. The Cadet is employed in a temporary part-time status by the police department.

Expectations and standards are high. There are no benefits with this position.

A future with the Gainesville Police Department is available for those qualified.

This dynamic program has two distinct components: education and training.

This program can provide employment and college tuition for the qualified applicant. Cadets are eligible for a full scholarship at Santa Fe College and an opportunity to be trained in practical law enforcement knowledge and skills. An applicant who successfully completes the process will become a Cadet with the Gainesville Police Department and become a student at SFC. Uniforms and equipment are issued. Cadets will follow the rules and regulations outlined by the City and the Gainesville Police Department.

Education is the goal. Maintaining a 2.5 GPA with a full class load can be long and hard. When a Cadet is not in class or studying, the other hours are spent with the Cadet Coordinator or other divisions in the police department. Training is geared toward developing the Cadet's skills in many areas of law enforcement. This position involves working in the cadet program, which is designed to facilitate training, education and employment opportunities youth.

Minimum qualifications:

- Must be at least 17 years of age.
- Must be a high school senior and eligible to attend or attending Santa Fe Community College.
- Must have satisfactory academic record.
- Must be a U.S. citizen.
- Valid Florida Driver's License with good driving record required at time of employment.
- Must have good moral character.

This is an academic scholarship program and candidates must have an interest in pursuing a career in Law Enforcement. Applicants must successfully complete a polygraph examination administered by a certified Polygraph Examiner. The primary focus of this component is to assist in determining the accuracy of information provided by the applicant during the selection process.

GAINESVILLE, FL POLICE DEPARTMENT

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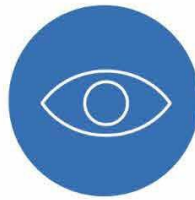


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Allows users to help your community by sharing anonymous information.



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