

Orem Police Department

Year in Review

2022 / 2023



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Have you had an interaction with one of our officers? If you have, we want to hear about them! To share your feedback with us, either scan the QR code or click on the link below.

<https://knowyourforce.com/agency/292114846114120201>

The background of the page features a large, faded watermark of the Orem Police Department badge. The badge is circular with a laurel wreath border. At the top, a banner reads "DETECTIVE". The outer ring of the badge contains the text "CITY OF OREM". In the center, there is a shield with a scale of justice and a sword. Below the shield, another banner reads "EST. 1919". At the bottom of the badge, a banner reads "POLICE" and "UTAH".

Mission Statement

The mission of the Orem Police Department is to proactively serve and protect our community with honor, respect, and accountability, to make Orem the safest place to live, work, and play.

With this Vision: To build a safer community together.

Message from your Chief of Police



Josh Adams
Chief of Police

Deputy Chief BJ Robinson



Deputy Chief BJ Robinson's career in law enforcement began in 1998 as a patrol officer with the Pleasant Grove Police Department. He later made a lateral move to the Orem PD in 2001. Deputy Chief Robinson has worked in a variety of assignments throughout the Orem Police Department to include the Special Victims Unit, Utah County Major Crimes Task Force, and as a SWAT Team Operator. Deputy Chief Robinson has had assignments as supervisor or commander within the Investigations Division, Patrol, and even served as the Director of the Utah County Major Crimes Task Force.



BJ Robinson
Deputy Chief of Police

Department Organization



Department Snapshot

Orem PD and Community Fast Facts

City of Orem Population:
95,910 (2022 Census)

City of Orem Size:
18.241 square miles

Police Department Staff:
121 Sworn and Civilian

Volunteers and Donors:
Too many to count!

Calls for Service:
56,236

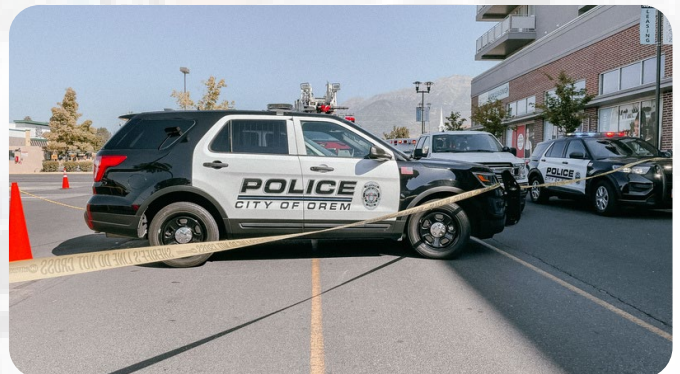
Traffic Accidents:
3,599

Crimes Against Persons:
916

Crimes Against Property:
2,798

Crimes Against Society:
1,939

(Numbers reflect fiscal year 2021/2022)



Patrol Division



Captain Scott Spieth commands the Patrol Division. This division is comprised of three Lieutenants, seven Sergeants, and 60 officers who are tasked with 24/7/365 service for the citizens of Orem. The Patrol Division is the backbone of the Orem Police Department and is responsible for emergency responses, traffic enforcement, as well as investigating misdemeanor and felony complaints. Over the course of his career, Scott has served as a Patrol Officer and as a Detective with the Utah County Major Crimes Task Force where he focused on wiretap investigations. While assigned to the Task Force, Scott was a member of the F.B.I. Transnational Organized Crime Unit. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree from UVU in Emergency Services Administration.

The mission of the Patrol Division is to ensure the security and safety of all who work, live, study, or visit the City of Orem. Accomplished through professional and timely public safety services, our officers proactively patrol assigned areas 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. The Division consists of 62 uniformed police officers including 1 Captain, 3 Lieutenants, 7 Sergeants, and 51 Police Officers. Working to enhance our level of service to the citizens, assignments within include the Traffic Unit and K9 Team.



Lieutenant Blake Fenn is a Patrol Division Commander. His duties include overseeing the operations of patrol sergeants, police officers, our K9 Unit, and the civilian personnel who work to supply our citizens with 24hr public safety and crime prevention measures. Lt. Fenn's duties include ensuring the proper staffing levels for deployment of officers across three Patrol shifts. The patrol shifts consist a Sergeant, a Corporal, and eight to nine Officers. Members of our Police Department strive to build closer bonds with the community, and are encouraged to meet and talk with people in non-enforcement roles on a daily basis.



Lieutenant Michael Paraskeva is a Patrol Division Commander. His duties include overseeing the operations of patrol sergeants, police officers, animal control, and the civilian personnel who work to supply our citizens with 24hr public safety and crime prevention measures. Lt. Paraskeva's duties include ensuring proper staffing levels for deployment of officers across three patrol shifts. The patrol shifts consist a Sergeant, a Corporal, and eight to nine Officers. Connecting with the community is a priority within the Police Department, and our officers strive to gain understanding of the daily challenges our citizens endure. Lt. Paraskeva also oversees the Traffic Team.



Lieutenant Phil Anderson is a Patrol Division Commander whose duties include overseeing the operations of patrol sergeants, police officers, animal control, and the civilian personnel who work to supply our citizens with 24hr public safety and crime prevention measures. Lt. Anderson's duties include ensuring proper staffing levels for deployment of officers across three patrol shifts. The patrol shifts consist a Sergeant, a Corporal, and eight to nine Officers. Lt. Anderson also oversees the operations of our department Firearms Range and is a Firearms Instructor.

Patrol Division



Patrol

No day is routine for America's Law Enforcement Officers. The average day of a Orem Police Officer is spent answering calls-for-service, traffic enforcement to include issuing traffic citations or warnings, investigating traffic collisions, making arrests, writing reports, making face-to-face non-enforcement contact with the community, and many other actions and activities throughout the day. The Police Departments' officers spend countless hours conducting proactive patrols throughout the city in business districts, high density housing areas, and our local neighborhoods in the effort to reduce crime and increase our visible presence.

Traffic Unit / Motors

The Police Department's Traffic Unit is comprised of one Sergeant and two Officers. One of the officers' primary operational duties is to target impaired drivers and alcohol enforcement. Our OPD team's mission is to provide a safer city through traffic enforcement, education, and innovation. This is sought through efficient and focused traffic law enforcement in high volume vehicle and pedestrian commute locations. The traffic team can be seen throughout the city in their primary patrol vehicles, as well as police motorcycles with weather permitting.



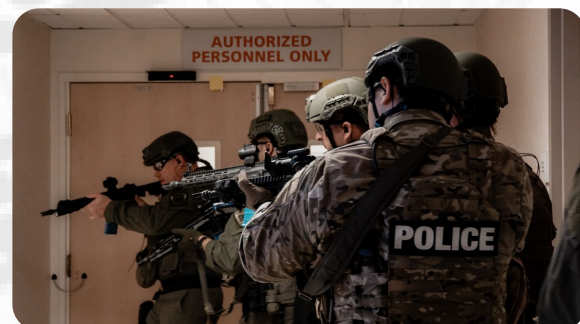
K9 Team

Our K9 Team consists of three handlers deploying two dual purpose dogs and one K9 currently in the training for deployment. The dogs are Belgian Malinois, maintained and owned at department expense. Both handler and K9 certify annually and train continuously to maintain a high level of proficiency and professionalism. The department K9 Team has proven successful in detecting the presence of drugs during traffic stops, search warrants, and aiding in the apprehension of dangerous criminals hiding from police.



Metro SWAT

The Orem Police Department partners with local agencies to combine resources and manpower with the goal of providing our communities with professional tactical emergency services of the highest quality. Provo, Orem, BYU, and UVU police departments are all member agencies of this team. Members train regularly, initially completing a SWAT school deemed "HELL WEEK", similar in nature to military basic training. Members continue on afterward and become specialists in areas such as sniper, scouts, explosive entry and breachers, and operators.



Investigations Division



Captain Mark Sorensen commands the Support Services Division of the Police Department. Beginning his police career with the Nephi Police Department, Capt. Sorensen lateralled to the Orem Department of Public Safety in 2002 and has served in a number of positions within the Police Department including: Patrol, Investigations Division, Special Victims Unit, and the Utah County Major Crimes Task Force. The Support Services Division is comprised of the Records Department, the 911 Emergency Communications Center, Volunteers In Police Services (VIPS), Evidence, Training, School Crossing Guards and Animal Control.

The Investigations Division of the Orem Police Department consists of 24 full-time detectives and 2 civilians divided into the following specialties and units: Fraud and Computer crimes, Gangs, Neighborhood Improvement Team, Property Crimes, School Resource Officers, Sex Crimes, Child Abuse, Crimes Against Persons, Evidence, and the Utah County Major Crimes Unit. Detectives are subject to “call-out” 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and therefore provide an immediate investigative element to all needed incidents within the City of Orem. Responsible for the intelligence process, this Division maintains close relationships with neighboring jurisdictions and their Investigation Units’ counterparts as crime, and the criminal elements, do not respect borders.



Lieutenant Scott Rich is responsible for the management of the Investigations Division, overseeing the daily activities of personnel assigned.



Lieutenant Jeff Bailey is the Director of the Utah County Major Crimes Task Force, where five of the Police Department’s detectives are assigned.

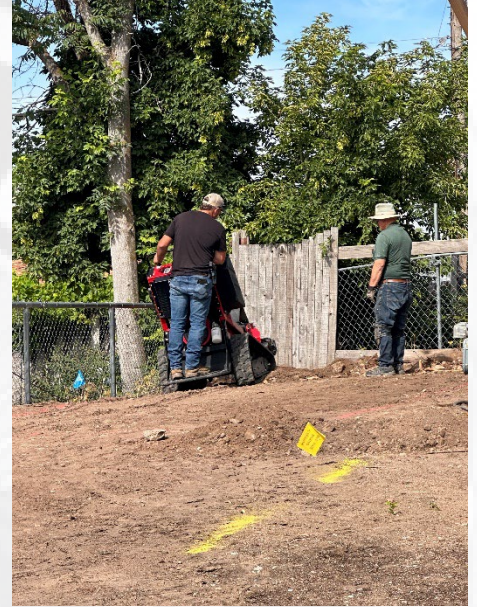
Investigations Division

General Investigations

Comprised of six detectives, these personnel handle all investigations referred and assigned to the division, ranging from frauds to homicides. Each detective is skilled in multiple specialties and deploy the latest in investigative technology to professionally and expeditiously solve cases.

Neighborhood Improvement Team Liaison Officer

The Department has one detective assigned as the liaison officer working daily with the Neighborhood Improvement Team. The NIT promotes safe and welcoming neighborhoods by increasing awareness of neighborhood codes and properties not in compliance. The team works with many offices of the city to include Police, Mental Health, Community Services and Planning and Zoning.



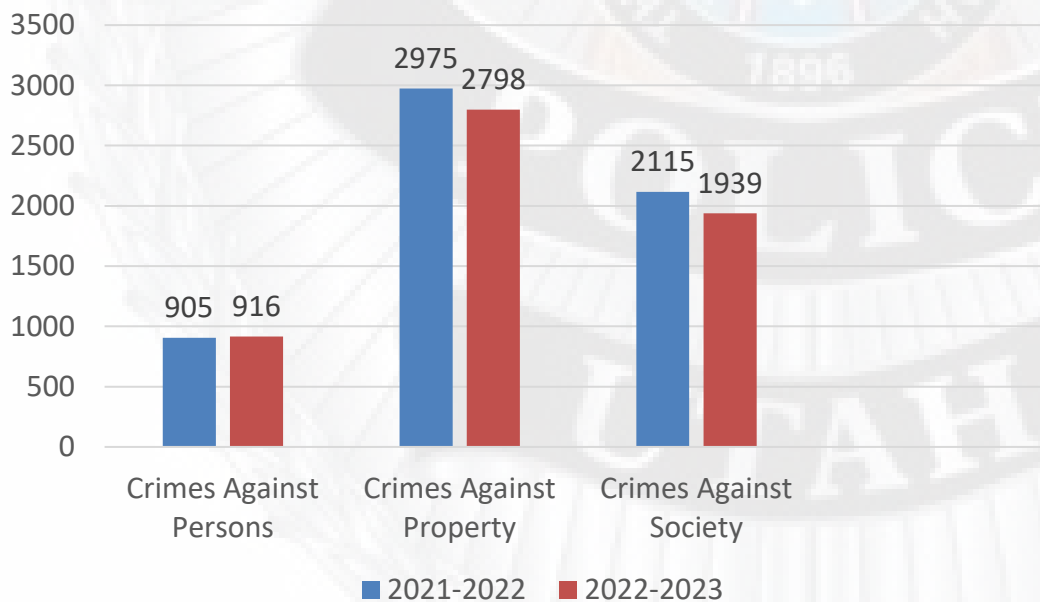
Evidence

The property and evidence sections is staffed by two full-time civilian members. Our evidence technicians play vital roles in solving cases, are responsible for the booking and maintenance of evidence related to cases, as well as found property. The technicians employ skills in the collections of DNA, fingerprints, footprint casting, and more. There are more than 25,000 active items within the Evidence Dept.

Crime Analysis

One civilian staff member is assigned to this position. This member assists all areas of the police department in various duties ranging from gathering department statistics, identification of crime hotspots, traffic accident patterns, investigating support, monthly/yearly reporting, and more.

Fiscal Year Crime Trends



**56,236 Calls for Service
& Officer Initiated
Activity
in 2022/2023**

Investigations Division

Utah County Major Crimes Task Force

The Utah County Major Crimes Task Force is a group of Detectives from multiple local and federal police agencies in Utah County, assigned to address the problems of drug distribution, gang enforcement, and any major crime as needed by a Chief of Police in Utah County. Over the years Detectives from the Task Force have assisted in most of the high profile homicide and attempted homicide investigations in Utah County. Our Police Department assigns one Lieutenant, the Task Force Director, two Sergeants and two Detectives (SET) to the UCMCTF.



Special Enforcement Team (SET)

The SET work to identify those involved in continual criminal activity with an emphasis on the use and distribution of illegal narcotics. With its goal of mitigating crime within the City of Orem, the SET work closely with our local partner jurisdictions at the local, state, and federal levels. Two Detectives comprise our SET, and they are assigned to the Utah County Major Crimes Task Force command.

Community Services Unit

The Community Services Unit is lead by a Sergeant of Police assigned to the Investigations Division, and includes the services of detectives in the unit to accomplish Community Oriented Policing activities. These include events such as National Night Out, high visibility in local schools, Orem's School Reading Program, Autism Awareness, Fraud prevention meetings with senior citizen groups and Crime Prevention with local businesses.



Special Victims Unit

SVU is comprised of one Sergeant and four Detectives tasked with the investigation of sex crimes, child abuse, adult abuse and other crimes against persons (other than sex crimes). There is one Detective assigned full-time to the FBI Cyber Crimes Task Force.

Support Services Division

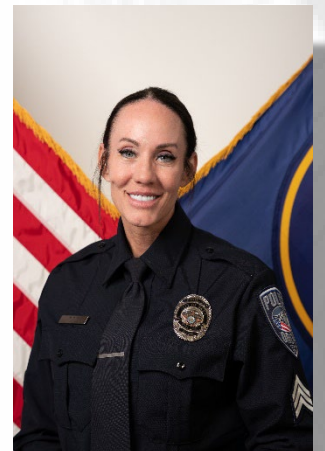


Captain Nick Thomas commands the Support Services Division. Captain Thomas started his career with the Orem Police Department in 2006 and has served in many positions during that time including: Patrol, Traffic Division, Orem Gang Unit, the Special Enforcement Team with Utah County Major Crimes, and Investigations Division. The Support Services Division is comprised of the Records Department, COP Division, Mental Health Division, Volunteers In Police Services (VIPS), Animal Control, and the Crossing Guards. He holds a Bachelor's Degree from UVU in Emergency Leadership with a minor in Criminal Justice.

The mission of the Support Services Division is to: (1) Assist the public in its efforts to provide for its welfare and safety and (2) Provide the training, support and information necessary for the other divisions of the department to perform their duties. This divisions' customer isn't only the public, but the police department as well.



Lieutenant Jeremy Jamison is a Support Services Commander assisting in the daily functions of the division. Lt. Jamison oversees public relations as the Public Information Officer (PIO), Background investigations, Internal Affairs, and training for the department.



Lieutenant Karalee Johnson is a Support Services Commander. Lt. Johnson's responsibilities include supervision of Animal Control, Records, Evidence, Parking, school crossing guards, Volunteers in Police Services (VIPS), and 911 Communications.

Support Services Division

Mental Health Unit

Our police departments' MHU is comprised of two full-time detectives and one civilian Mental Health Advocate. Together, they are responsible for the follow-up of, and often first response to, all mental health related incidents. Additional duties include activities with the police departments' Peer Support and Wellness.

Victim Advocates

The Victim Advocates Unit works to provide for the distinctive needs of victims of crime within the City of Orem. The unit is staffed by one civilian supervisor and two civilian advocates, providing crisis intervention, emotional and judicial support, and other critical services.



Records

As the first point-of-contact with citizens visiting the Orem Police Department, the department has a wide variety of duties to include the dissemination of records. Staff must maintain compliance with privacy and preservation laws for the records compiled by the police department. Additionally, they manage: entries and additions on citations, accidents forms, GRAMA requests, arrest, Subpoena Duces Tecums, audio/video requests, Uniform Crime Reporting, expungement of records, supplemental document scanning, Notary Public, search warrant transparency reports, address GeoBase updates, medication disposal, public complaints, and more.

Training

A Sergeant of Police is assigned as the Training Coordinator for the Police Department. This responsibility includes all in-service training for the sworn members of the police department, new hire Field Training of police officers, as well as the tracking and reporting of training to the Utah State Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST). This position is vital to the departments' goal of maintaining highly trained professional law enforcement to the community in which we serve.

Support Services Division



Parking Enforcement

During 2021/2022 a Parking Enforcement Team was established within the Orem Police Department to specifically address parking code violation and abandoned auto issues. This unit is comprised of two civilian members who work to educate and gain compliance with city and state parking codes.

Animal Control

Orem Animal Control is staffed by two full-time Animal Control Officers, under the direction of the Orem Police Department. Normal business hours for the Animal Control are 7:00 AM – 5:00 PM. Monday through Saturday. Our ACO are responsible for enforcing the Animal Control Ordinances of the City of Orem. These ordinances can be found in Chapter 5 of the Orem City Code. <http://online.encodeplus.com/regs/orem-ut/>

Animal Control Officers responded to 2433 calls for service during 2021/2022 including 24 animal bites.



Volunteers In Police Services (VIPS)

The Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) is a group of citizens dedicated to extraordinary community service through public education.

Originally created in 1999, the program has grown to 20 individuals serving their community. The VIPS are trained through the police department, and perform non-hazardous police services to the citizens of Orem. VIPS work as available and as well as assigned shifts to supplement the departments' resources. Some of their duties include: assisting stranded motorists, unlocking car doors, directing traffic, neighborhood patrols, assisting with lost children, crossing guard duty, specific sign ordinances, vacation checks, animal control issues, and many others.

The VIPS volunteered over 2,230 hours in service to our city in the year 2021/2022.

School Crossing Guards

School Crossing Guards are overseen by the Orem Police Department for all schools within the City of Orem. At this time there are 20 full-time crossing guards and 13 Alternatives at 34 crossings in the city. Many of our hardworking guards work multiple school to ensure the safety of our children.



Promotions



Deputy Chief
BJ Robinson



Lt. Blake
Fenn



Cpt. Scott
Spieth



Lt. Phil
Anderson



Sgt.
Dereck
Sillitoe



Sgt.
Mic Hixson



Sgt.
Ben Haight



Sgt.
Patrick Bryant

Department Awards

Description of Awards – In order of distinction

Police Medal: Awarded to any Department employee who, in the line of duty, distinguished themselves by performing courageous acts involving personal hazard, or similar acts necessary to affect an arrest to prevent the escape of a person who committed an act which seriously exposed any person to death or serious personal injury. Furthermore, the Police Medal may be awarded to performing highly creditable and unusual police accomplishments.



Distinguished Service Medal: Awarded to a Department member for exceptional accomplishments, which went above and beyond their assigned work duties or responsibilities, and furthered the goals of the department and/or enhanced the livability of the community.



Department Awards

Jim Reams Distinguished Service Medal: Awarded to any Department member who consistently delivers police service in a manner that embodies the values of the City of Orem Police Department. The Department members are to be recognized for their compassion towards others, their excellence in service, and/or shows acts of selflessness, personal courage, and devotion to the community.



Commendation Medal: Awarded to any Department member for performance or achievement that went above and beyond their assigned work duties or responsibilities, meriting greater recognition than a Letter of Commendation, but not sufficient to merit a Distinguished Service Medal



Officer of the Year: Award honors a sworn officer who distinguished themselves by actions which represent the highest standards of the police profession.



Department Awards

Baker Exemplary Service Award: This is awarded to an employee who has truly performed consistent, dedicated and meritorious service of an exemplary nature for the citizens of Orem.



Civilian Employee of the Year: Awarded to a non-sworn employee in recognition and appreciation of exceptional job performance.



Civilian of the Year
Kamryn Wilson

Volunteer of the Year: Awarded to an individual participating in the Volunteers In Police Services program whose outstanding service contributes to improving the quality of life in our community.



Community Engagement

National Night Out

The Orem Police Department, along with law enforcement agencies in 16,000 communities across the nation, participate in the National Night Out. This is an annual community-building campaign which promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie.

Orem Summerfest

This is an annual tradition in the City of Orem, which includes the National Day of Prayer, Kick-Off Party, Pool Party, Car Show, Family Day, Orem's Got Talent, Pancake Breakfast, Baby Contest, Grand Parade, and a fireworks show. Our Police Department participates daily in the activities as well as providing for the safety and welfare of all attendee's throughout the week.

Picnic With Police

What is hoped to now be an annual event, this was held to raise awareness and comfort between First Responders and the our community within the Autism spectrum.

Taco-Bout It

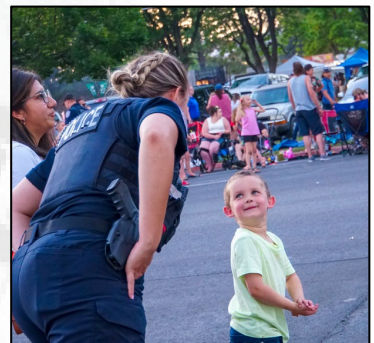
An evening with our Public Safety and Neighborhood Improvement professionals held to discuss city issues, and share a Sweet Rolled Taco.

Trunk-Or-Treat

This year the PD partnered with the City of Orem and the University Place Mall for the annual Trunk-or-Treat. Officers handed out candy and greeted all the attendee's making for a safe trick-or-treating alternative.



Community Engagement



Community Engagement

We take pride in serving our community and it's important for us to know how you feel about our work. A few years ago, we partnered with Know Your Force in order to better collect and understand your feedback. Since that time we've received hundreds of reviews that have left us with an incredible 4.4 out of 5 stars, and an 84.8% positivity rating!

"Detective D. went above and beyond on helping recover stolen motor home and trailers. Excellent detective work!!"

"Great communicator. Still gave me a ticket but.... I guess he did the job well!"

"Anytime I've had to call 911 your officers have always arrived promptly, professionally and handled the situation amazing."

These are just a few examples of what we do to watch over and keep our city safe. We thank those of you who have taken the time out of your busy day to leave us with some feedback, and we would encourage everyone to continue sharing your thoughts with us.



You can follow the QR code, or click on the link below, to be taken to a survey about our officers.

<https://knowyourforce.com/agency/292114846114120201>

Since

11/19/21

Avg. Rating

4.4

% Positive

84.8

Orem Police Department

95 East Center Street

Orem, Utah 84057

(801) 229-7070

**Figures shown may erroneously show an apparent drop in the most current data due to some cases not yet having been reported and/or recorded. For this reason, apparent decreases may not be accurate. However, any increase shown is a likely indicator of a rise in the category. The figures included in statistical reports are preliminary figures for general situational awareness and trend purposes only. They do not represent the official figures of the Orem Police Department and are subject to further analysis and revision. Additionally, they are not Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) or “crime rate” numbers and are not intended to be used as such. Rather, they are a breakdown of offenses within each case that occurred during the given time periods. Although every reasonable effort is made to verify their accuracy, the accuracy of any data is subject to the constraints of the report generation process as well as the manner and format by which they are queried. Monthly call statistics are generated the first week of the month. The figures are current as of the date generated. Numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number.*

*This Annual Report prepared and edited
by Bryson Cash, Crime Analyst.*