



Gahanna PD Community Bulletin: May 2021

Members of the Gahanna Community:

On behalf of the members of the Gahanna Division of Police, we would like to wish you all a happy, enjoyable and safe Memorial Day weekend with friends and family.

This weekend is a time of celebration, but also a time of solemn remembrance of those who served and sacrificed for our nation. Many of the Division's members are veterans of the armed forces, serving in the Gulf War, Iraq, Afghanistan, and throughout the world with many experiencing the loss of a friend or comrade. Please take a moment to reflect on the loved and lost, and the sacrifices that were made to preserve the freedoms we all enjoy.

Thank you all for your continued investment in Gahanna.

Jeff Spence
Chief of Police



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Summary of Division Activity for April

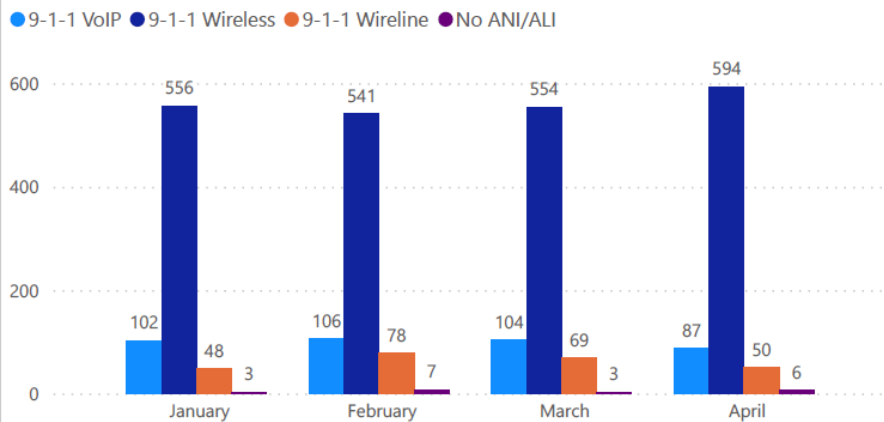
Support Services – Communications Center:

- Dispatchers handled 753 9-1-1 calls throughout the month. 9-1-1 calls received by the Communications Center were answered in an average of four seconds. One text-to-911 message was received.
- 77.2% of all 9-1-1 calls received by the Communications Center originated from cellular phones, while 13.7% were received from VOIP (Voice over Internet Protocol) telephone lines/systems.
- An additional 2,195 calls were received through the Division's non-emergency lines in April.
- 2,128 calls for service were dispatched during the month.

Gahanna 9-1-1 System Data

Month	9-1-1 Total	9-1-1 Wireless	9-1-1 Wireline	9-1-1 VoIP	No ANI/ALI	Average Answer Delay (Seconds)	Abandoned Calls	Rollover Calls	Non-Emergency Lines	Text to 9-1-1
January	710	556	48	102	3	4.00	80	0	2241	0
February	735	541	78	106	7	4.00	65	0	2141	0
March	732	554	69	104	3	4.00	70	0	2499	4
April	753	594	50	87	6	4.00	71	0	2195	1
Total	2930	2245	245	399	19	4.00	286	0	9076	5

Total 9-1-1 Calls by Month & Type



-2.5%

% Change
Year-to-Date Total
9-1-1 Calls

2930

2021 Year-to-Date
Total 9-1-1 Calls

3004

2020 Year-to-Date
Total 9-1-1 Calls

Summary of Division Activity for April

Field Services

- 267 offense and arrest reports were generated including a summary of the following incidents by type:
 - One robbery was reported with a subsequent arrest made by the Fairfield County Sheriff's Office.
 - Four theft from vehicles were reported.
 - Nine incidents of criminal damaging occurred.
 - No burglaries occurred and one breaking & entering was reported.
 - No stolen vehicles were reported.
 - Incidents of assaults (no domestic nexus) are as follows:
 - No aggravated assaults.
 - Three simple assault reports; five arrests.
 - Domestic-related responses include:
 - 11 documented disputes that did not involve a criminal offense.
 - No incidents resulted in arrests; one warrant issued.
 - No offense reports were forwarded for investigation or further prosecutorial review.
 - Drug offenses for the month include:
 - Drug/Narcotics violations – Four offense reports; six arrests; one warrant issued.
 - Drug equipment violations – One offense report.
 - No overdose responses occurred during the month.

Summary of Division Activity for April

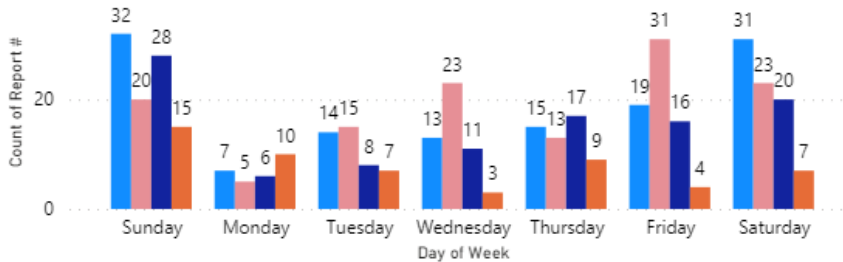
Field Services (continued)

- 36 arrest warrant entries were made during the month.
- Officers conducted 381 self-initiated traffic stops with 105 traffic violators issued citations; 18 arrests were made from the stops.
- The Division responded to 43 motor vehicle crashes:
 - No traffic fatalities occurred during the month.
 - One crash classified as serious injury suspected – 2.3% of responses.
 - Five were classified as minor injury suspected – 11.6% of responses.
 - Eight were classified as injury possible – 18.6% of responses.
 - The remaining 29 crashes were classified as Property Damage Only (PDO) – 67.4% of responses.
 - 11 crashes occurred on IR-270 – 25.5% of all responses in Gahanna.
 - Five incidents involved alcohol and/or drug impairment – 11.6% of responses involved a level of impairment.
 - One commercial vehicle was involved in a crash during the month – 2.3% of all crashes.
 - Distractions were reported in ten of the 43 reported crashes – 23.2% of all crashes involved some level of operator distraction.
- Patrol officers effected 18 arrests for impaired driving (OVI).
 - Three arrestees refused to submit to chemical testing.
 - The average blood alcohol content for the 15 arrestees that submitted to testing was .18, or just over twice the legal limit of intoxication in Ohio.
 - 5 crashes occurred on Saturdays or Sunday mornings, which was the highest concentration of crashes throughout the month.

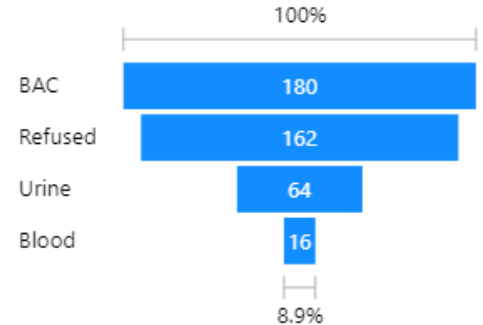
Summary of Division Activity for April

Arrests by Day of Week

Year ● 2018 ● 2019 ● 2020 ● 2021



Testing Type Total

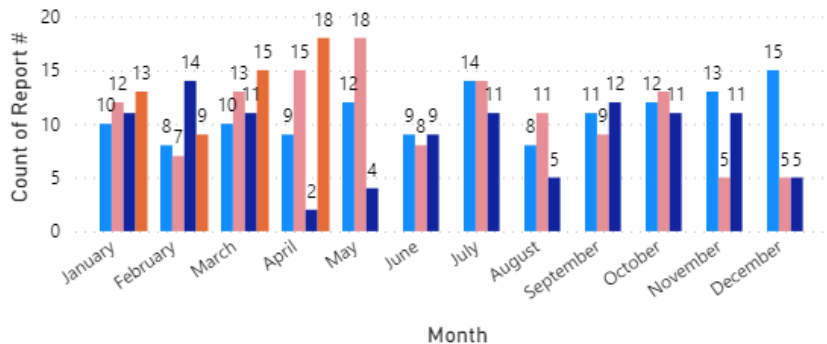


Average BAC



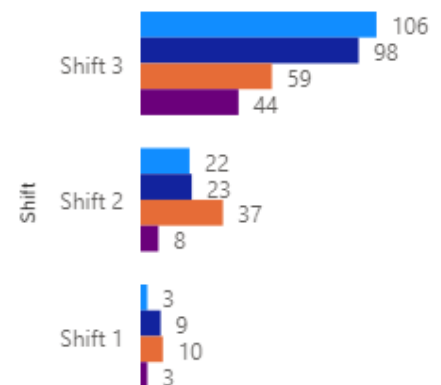
Arrests by Month

Year ● 2018 ● 2019 ● 2020 ● 2021



OVI by Year and Shift

Year ● 2018 ● 2019 ● 2020 ● 2021



Count of Report #

Investigative Services

- The Division's detectives were assigned 78 offense and arrest reports requiring investigative follow-up or other administrative action.
- Detectives obtained 14 investigative subpoenas and executed six search warrants during the month.

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Assistance Needed to Identify Crime Suspects



On April 10, 2021, a Gahanna resident reported that multiple fraudulent purchases were charged to her PNC checking account, totaling a loss of \$1,433.39. After investigating, detectives were able to obtain this surveillance photo of the suspect from a Walmart located in Delaware, Ohio. Detectives are still working to identify the person(s) involved.

Forgery Arrest of Armed Suspects



On March 19, 2021, Gahanna Police responded to Fifth-Third Bank on a report of a suspected forged check, passed by a person in the drive-through lane. Officers responded and were able to quickly take the occupants of the suspect vehicle into custody for the suspected forged check. While searching the vehicle, multiple firearms were recovered. Although the investigation is ongoing, the suspects were subsequently charged for drug, forgery, and firearms offenses.

Should you have information regarding the identity of these suspects, please contact the Division's detectives at 614-342-4240

Vehicle Theft



During the overnight hours of May 14, 2021 to the early morning hours of May 15, 2021, numerous thefts from vehicles occurred in the area of Kason's Way in Gahanna. Several suspects, pictured below, entered numerous vehicles, stealing items and stealing a vehicle as well. The images below are from a nearby car wash, where the suspects discarded items that had been stolen. The suspect vehicle, believed to be a dark colored Ford Edge, is pictured below, along with a Ford Fusion that was stolen from a Gahanna resident.



Should you have information regarding the identity of these suspects, please contact the Division's detectives at 614-342-4240

Gahanna Police Partner with Starfish Assignment Columbus



Gahanna Division of Police has partnered with Starfish Assignment Columbus to initiate a reading program to benefit local area schools who wish to participate. Starfish Assignment Columbus is a charity organization focused on collaboration between law enforcement, and their respective communities, to help those less fortunate. As part of this program, law enforcement officers will visit classrooms, read a selected book and present a free copy of the book to each child in the class. The program has been very popular with officers and students who have participated in surrounding communities. GPD is happy to bring this opportunity to Gahanna, where our first visit engaged the students at Shepherd Christian School.

May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month



As warmer weather has returned so have those who enjoy the open road on motorcycles. May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month. Motorcyclists have the same rights and privileges as any other motor vehicle operator on the roads. Safety campaigns are designed to increase motorist awareness of motorcycles, motorcyclist rider safety, and sharing the road.

In 2019, 5,014 motorcyclists died. This number indicates that motorcyclists continue to be overrepresented in traffic-related fatalities. Per vehicle miles traveled, motorcyclists are about 27 times more likely to die than people in passenger cars in a traffic crash.

(continued...)

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May is Motorcycle Safety Awareness Month (continued)

**LOOK TWICE FOR MOTORCYCLES
WHEN TURNING LEFT**



Motorist Awareness begins with safe driving habits and understanding some unique characteristics of motorcycle operation. Motorcycles can downshift in lieu of braking, which causes deceleration to occur quickly without a brake light display. This helps to maintain a safe distance when following. Motorcyclists will also weave within the lane of travel at times, to avoid road hazards. This may also occur so that they are more visible to traffic, as most vehicles may have up to 40 % of their field of view obstructed by the vehicle's structure.

Motorcyclists must have a specific motorcycle endorsement to operate a motorcycle in Ohio. Of the motorcycle riders involved in fatal crashes in 2019, 30% were riding without a valid motorcycle license. Licensing ensures the rider is road ready with the skills and knowledge necessary to operate safely on the roadways. Wearing a helmet, safe riding clothes and footwear and conducting a pre-ride equipment checklist improves the operator's safety. Motorcyclists also have a duty to always drive sober as driving a motorcycle takes balance, coordination, and good judgement.

Remember to always look twice for motorcycles.

Read more: <https://www.nhtsa.gov/road-safety/motorcycles>

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Thank you!

GAHANNA DIVISION OF POLICE
"To Serve and Protect"



"The Mission of the Gahanna Division of Police is to serve and protect our diverse community by building partnerships in order to provide professional law enforcement services that safeguard the lives, rights, and property of all."

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