

# VILLAGE OF FOREST VIEW ANNUAL REPORT 2023

DEPARTMENT OF POLICE Chief Bianel Zarate

The Forest View Police Department is dedicated to providing proactive policing to all residents, business owners and visitors to our Village on a daily basis. The safety and security or our community and Village is the utmost concern of all members of our police department. All officers and members of our department extend respect to everyone while enforcing all laws and village ordinances.

Chief Bianel Zarate
Sergeant Marcelo Perez
Corporal Kerris Clayton
Corporal Erik Kulaga
Corporal Jorge Sanchez

#### From the Desk of Chief B. Zarate:



It is with great honor that I submit the 2023 Annual Report to the Village President, Village Administrator, Trustees and Residents of Forest View. I became Chief of Police on August 3, 2023 and already took very positive steps moving the Forest View Police Department forward.

The following was implemented since I became Chief of Police:

#### Forest View Honor Guard

The Forest View Police Department Honor Guard was established in 2023, Forest View Honor Guard participation includes: paying tribute to deceased active and retired personnel, serving as pallbearers, rifle bearers, and presenting national, State, and Forest View colors. The team also participates in parades, local and national police memorials.

#### **Quicket Solutions E-Citations**

Quicket empowers the public sector with a configurable and affordable cloudbased platform. Quicket delivers unmatched ease-of-use with its unified cloud platform for public safety. Device-flexible solutions ensure that pertinent information can capture, accessed, and analyzed in real-time from anywhere.

- E-Citation configurable format for traffic, parking, and local ordinances, written warning, and more
- Racial profiling data collection and reporting
- State / NCIC query
- Scan driver's license and ID's
- Online payment portal
- Digital Evidence management capture and associate photos, documents, videos, and voice memos
- Integrated with Court & Administrative Hearing Automatic court or hearing date assignment and transmittal

#### Ge-Tec body cams

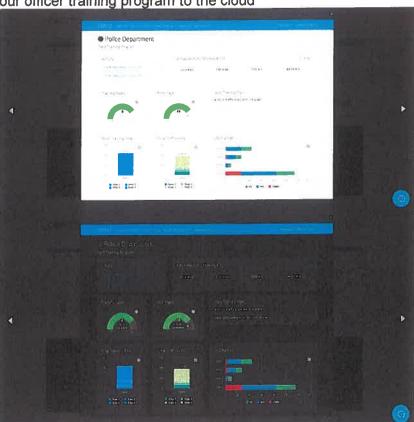
Body cams for officers to ensure the safety of the public and the officers. Body-worn cameras are widely used by state and local law enforcement agencies in the United States. They are worn principally by officers in the performance of duties that require open and direct contact with the public improving officer safety, increase evidence quality, reduce civilian complaints, and reduce agency liability.

#### Pace Schedular

This is a scheduling software platform designed for law enforcement. Pace manage our day-to-day operations, from requests and overtime, to daily line-ups and assignments.

#### **COP-FTO**

Coaching Model Police Field Training and Evaluation Process that transitions our officer training program to the cloud



#### **Flock Safety**

Flock Safety License Plate Reader (LPR) cameras provide 24/7 monitoring and assist law enforcement agencies locating stolen motor vehicles, protecting against property crime, and violent crime. These cameras have proven to be a useful tool in solving and investigating numerous crimes across multiple jurisdictions

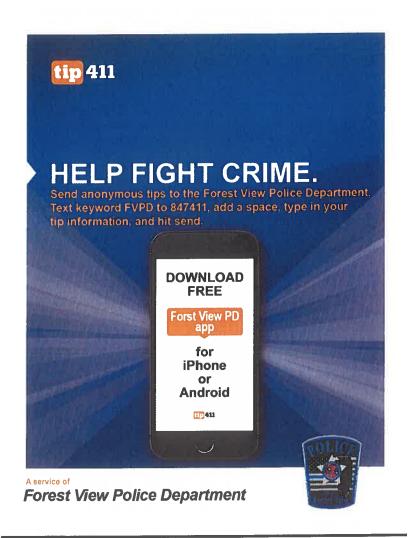


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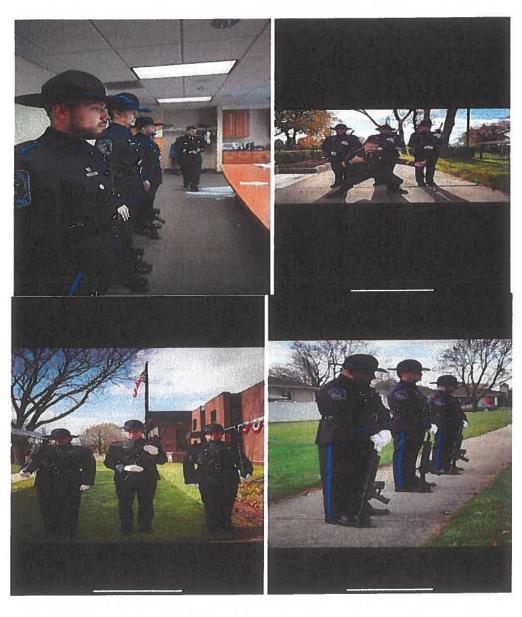
#### **Tip411 Help Fight Crime**

Send anonymous tips to the Forest View Police Department by texting keyword FVPD to 847411. 2-way anonymous tips submitted by the public through text via a custom keyword, over email, weblinks and through your social media sites.



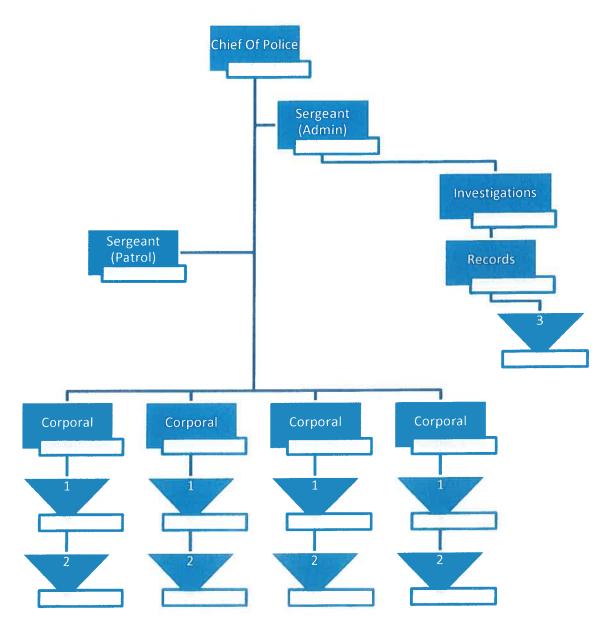
## Forest View Police Department Honor Guard 2023

When called upon, the Honor Guard team serves as a tribute to sworn personnel who have made the ultimate sacrifice. The team also pays tribute to deceased active and retired personnel. Tributes include; serving as pallbearers, rifle bearers, and presenting national, State, and Forest View colors. The team also participates in parades, local and national police memorials. Members of the team are physically fit, possess impeccable uniform standards, are in good standing with the Department, have a willingness to perform close quarter drill and ceremony, and appreciate the meaning of Integrity, Service and Pride. Initially, team members receive two weeks of training, followed by monthly in-service training. The team wears Honor Guard uniforms, which distinguishes them as members of the team.





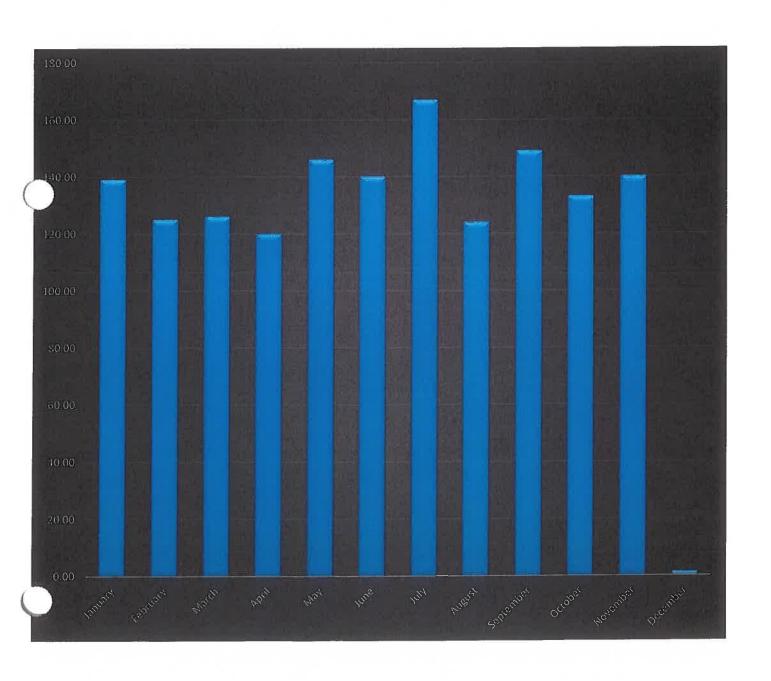
## ORGANIZATIONAL CHART - 2023 POLICE DEPARTMENT





## 2023 Calls for Service

January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023

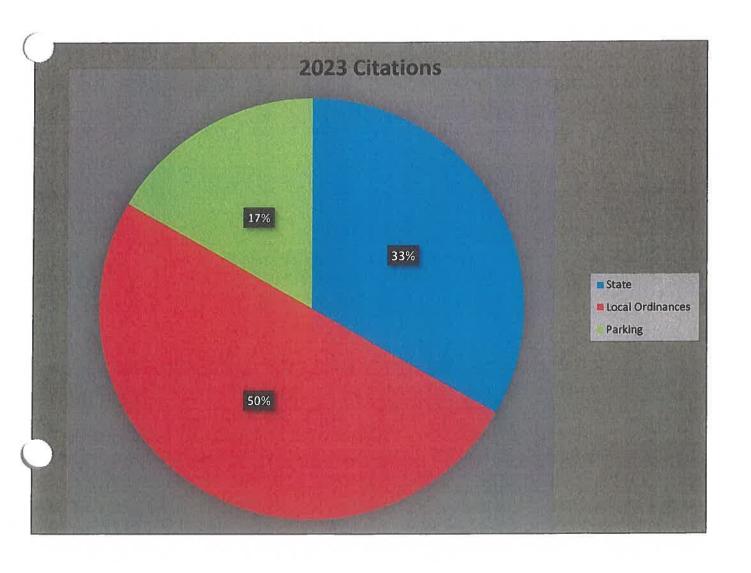




## **2023 Citation Totals**

January 1, 2023 – December 31, 2023

State Citations – 604 Local Ordinance – 910 Parking Citations- 304

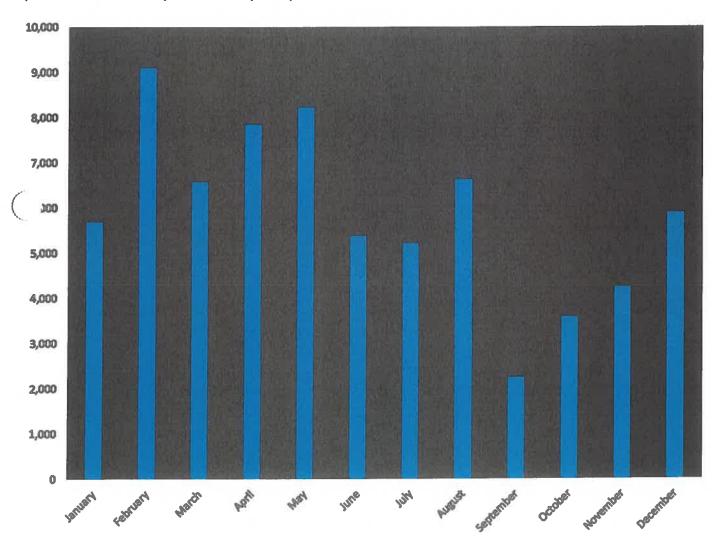




## **2023 Enforcement Revenue**

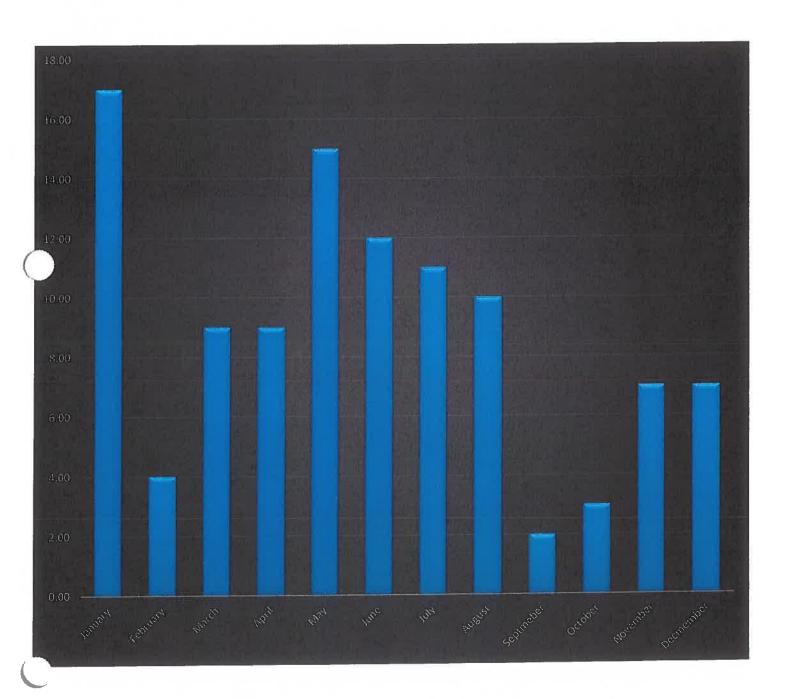
January 1, 2023 - December 31, 2023

#### (Truck Enforcement Implemented July 2023)





## **2023 Arrest Totals**



#### **Department Profile**

TOTAL EMPLOYEES: 20	FULL TIME OFFICERS:13	FULL TIME CIVILIANS: 0
	PART TIME OFFICERS:4	PART TIME CIVILIANS: 4

#### LANGUAGES SPOKEN

ENGLISH SPANISH POLISH

#### **Village Information**

#### The geographical limits of the village are shown as followed:

Eastern Border: Laramie Ave. (5200 W.)

Western Border: Harlem Ave. (7200 W.)

Northern Border: 45th street

Southern Border: 51st street

**Bordering Towns:** Stickney (north), Chicago (East and South), Lyons (West) and Summit (Southwest)

Police Agencies Forest View mostly interacts with: Burlington Northern Santa-Fe Railroad, Canadian National Railroad, Chicago, Cook County Forest Preserve Police, Cook County Sheriff's Police, Illinois State Police, Lyons and Stickney Police Departments.

#### **Patrol Operations**

Patrol is one of the most visible functions of the department. Patrol officers are the ones the community sees responding to calls for service. Our patrol division is divided into 2 groups, (A & B) with a day and night shift within each group. The patrol division works 12-hour shifts, 6am – 6pm or 6pm – 6am. all shifts are staffed 24 hours a day seven days a week.

Each shift supervisor has a supervisor, sergeant, Corporal or officer in charge. The supervisors are responsible for ensuring departmental goals are met, the supervision of on-duty personnel and enforces laws and Village ordinances.

#### **Investigations Division**

The Investigations Unit consist of detectives who investigate some of our most demanding and challenging cases. Sometimes crimes can take months or even years to solve to successfully prosecute the offender(s). Detectives regularly provide testimony in court due to their specialized training and experience.

A successful investigation requires collaboration from local, regional, county, state and federal jurisdictions. To enhance this collaboration, detectives are assigned to task forces with the following specialized units:

Major Case Assistance Team- (MCAT)
West Suburban Major Task Force – (WESTAF)
Mobile Field Force – (MMF)
Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System – (ILEAS)

#### **Community Involvement**

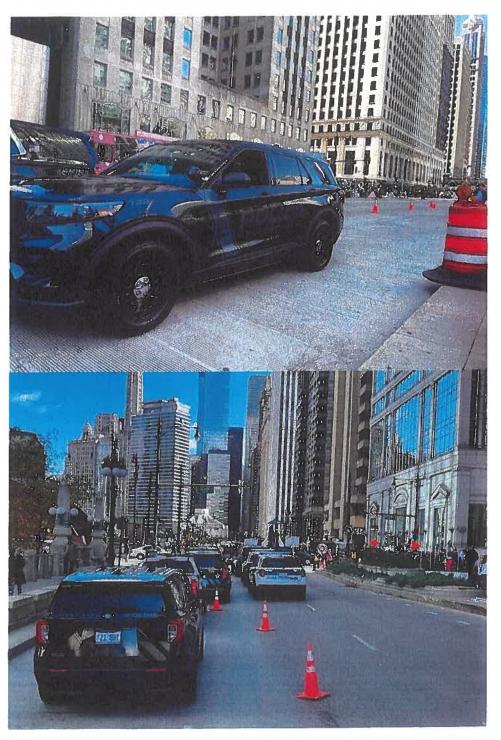
On May 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 the Forest View Police Department participated in the Illinois Torch Run for Special Olympics along with agencies across the state by raising funds with the "COP ON TOP" at the local Dunkin.

Officers along with the generous donations from the public raised more than \$3000 for special Olympics.



## COLUMBUS DAY PARADE 2023

On October 9, 2023 the Forest View Police Department participated in the annual Illinois Columbus Day Parade in downtown Chicago.



### **Home School 2023**

#### Halloween Trunk 'o' Treat October 31st, 2023





# Brookfield Zoo August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2023 First Responders Zoo event



#### In Service Training

The Forest View Police Department's training mission is to develop and enhance the stills and knowledge of sworn and civilian employees. Sworn officers participate in firearm and rifle qualifications annually and attend class in person as well as on-line. In 2023 Forest View Police Department employees: Sworn and civilian completed approximately 4000 hours of in-person and online training. Training classes were held at the Forest View Police Department, as well attended through North East Multi Regional Training (NEMERT), Tri-River Police Training and South West Illinois College Police Academy (SWIC). The officers and civilian staff also completed training online through Police Law Institute (PLI) and online Learning Network (PTB). Topics covered by these outlets include: Use of force, Criminal law, Search and seizure, Pursuit, Cultural diversity just to name a few.

#### **Crisis Intervention**

Approximately 16 out of 20 officers have been certified Crisis Intervention Team member (CIT). CIT officers receive their training certification from the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board (ILETSB) upon completing a 40-hour training course and then receive an 8-hour refresher class. The Forest View Police Department will be sending additional officers as they are hired.

The Crisis Intervention Team training gives officers tools needed to deal with members of the public experiencing a mental health crisis. These tools include verbal de-escalation techniques as well as other communication techniques tailored to specific mental illnesses. Using these techniques, CIT trained officers are able to create a positive outcome while reducing any use of force. Additional focus is also placed on getting the individual the necessary help while trying to keep them out of the criminal justice system when possible.

#### **Evidence Technicians**

The Forest View Police Department has two officers trained as evidence technicians. An evidence tech. is responsible for crime scene management, Photography, sketching and diagramming. Other important responsibilities include identifying, handling, packaging and submitting evidence to state crime labs.

#### **New Officers**

Full Time: Ofc. Jorge Sanchez

Marine Veteran served in operation Iraqi Freedom as a team leader. Law enforcement for 15 yrs. working with for NIU, Broadview and Wheaton PD. Sanchez has received numerous commendations and served as the FTO coordinator. Certified as a DUI instructor, FTO, Peer Support, Lead Homicide Investigator, Acting watch commander and truck enforcement. Sanchez was recently promoted to the rank of Corporal with the Forest View police Department.



Full Time: Ofc. Daniel Lepkowski

Has one year of Law enforcement with his previous department, Seneca police department located in the West suburbs. In his spare time, Ofc. Lepkowski enjoys spending time with friends and family.



Part Time: Ofc. Mark Lemus

has 2 years police experience and is currently employed as a full-time officer with the Berkeley police departments. Lemus is in good standing with no disciplinary record, Lemus is certified through the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board for Part-time employment and is current with all certifications mandated by the state of Illinois.



Full Time: Ofc. Maria Guzman

Has 11 years of police experience with the Village of Stickney police department, certified through the Illinois law Enforcement Training and Standards Board. Maria Guzman has trained in many key areas of police work most notably, as a Certified Child Advocacy Center Forensic Interviewer and Field Training Officer (FTO). Prior to becoming a police officer, Maria Guzman worked for the (FBI) Federal Bureau of Investigations from 2007-2011 as a contract language monitor assisting FBI agents with interrogations, interview, current world affairs and data facilitate interpretations. Maria Guzman graduated from the University of Illinois with a major in Criminal Justice and a minor in Psychology.







#### Looking ahead

As we look forward, ongoing and continued specialized training will be a top priority for all officers within the department. In-service training and continuing education is critical in order to stay current with all current and upcoming laws.

As Chief, I will continue to move the police department into a Community Policing Model where all members of the department will work with our trustees, residents and business owners in order to determine the biggest issues facing our community and developing an effective strategy to solve important issues.

I personally encourage any resident or business owner to approach any of our officers or command staff and raise any areas of concern that might arise. We are here to protect and serve our entire Forest View community and Village.

I personally want to thank the Village President, Village Board and Village Administrator for all the support they provide to the Forest View Police Department. In addition, I want to also thank the Fire Chief and Director of Public Works for their continued support.

There were a number of positive changes to our police department in 2023 and moving into 2024, we will continue on our path forward. I also want to acknowledge the support that I receive from Sergeant Marcelo Perez and command staff who is are definite asset to our department.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chief Bianel Zarate

Forest View Police Department