



Frankfort Police News

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Technology Assistance in Investigations

Technological advancements are helpful in many areas of society, including assistance with police investigations. Technology can often provide additional evidence and information critical to criminal investigations. There are several ways the Frankfort Police Department utilizes technology and there are ways citizens can assist our police agency as well.

License Plate Readers

License Plate readers (LPRs) is an advancement in technology that most police agencies now utilize. There is misinformation circulating regarding the use of LPRs and their capabilities. License plate readers capture an image of vehicle's license plate number, the color of the vehicle, and its location. LPRs then cross reference this information with law enforcement databases to identify stolen vehicles, vehicles related to missing persons, and in rare cases vehicles involved in a felony investigation. The Frankfort Police Department has had success using this technology in several cases. This usually occurs when a suspect commits a crime in Frankfort and then flees outside of our jurisdiction. Through the use of LPRs our police agency is able to determine a direction of travel and at times verify the vehicle used by the suspect. In some instances, another police agency's LPR will provide a location where the suspect fled to which has resulted in the apprehension of suspects. Just like any other investigative information system, LPR usage is monitored and must be used in compliance with department policy.

Video Surveillance

Video surveillance cameras used by residents and businesses is another technology-based source of

(Continued page 2)

Crime Statistics

January through September 30th

2020 vs. 2021

Type of Crime	Number of Calls 2020	Number of Calls 2021
DUI/Traffic Arrests	48	62
Retail Theft	21	13
Identity Theft	86	172
Theft	35	31
Burglary to Vehicle	39	11
Stolen Vehicles	14	9
Residential Burglary	10	6
Business Burglary	7	11

The statistics above are indicative of crime trends for this year. The significant increase in identity theft cases are due to the Illinois Department of Employment scam. Around April 2020 many Illinoisians fell victim to the Unemployment Benefit Scam. This scam has affected approximately one million people in Illinois per state leader's estimates. The Illinois Department of Employment is investigating these cases and can be reached at (800) 814-0513. Our agency took a significant amount of case reports regarding this scam in January/February of 2021. Although the burglary to motor vehicle and stolen vehicle cases have slightly decreased, these offenses are still occurring frequently Nationwide and throughout the Chicagoland area. Please remember to lock your vehicle doors, never leave keys or key fobs inside of your car, and remove valuable possessions from plain sight. Please report all suspicious people and circumstances to the Frankfort Police Department immediately.

(Continued from page 1)

information to assist with investigations. Many residents utilize a “Ring” doorbell system to monitor their property. The Frankfort Police Department joined the Neighbors by Ring platform in 2017. Through the Neighbors platform, investigators can request video from an area where a crime occurred. Residents with a Ring doorbell can check their cameras and decide if they would like to share information with police officers.

Similar camera systems are also utilized for business and home security. Officers will typically complete a canvass of an area where a crime occurred and may ask those with security cameras to share their videos with the police department. Video surveillance can assist with identifying suspects, a vehicle description, can provide a direction of travel, and may provide a better understanding of how an event occurred. The Frankfort Police Department believes community safety is best achieved when we work together, and we are grateful for the cooperation of our residents. Obtaining information through surveillance cameras is just one way we can help deter crime and assist in apprehending offenders to improve safety.



Village of Frankfort Website

The Village of Frankfort Website has a plethora of important community information. The police subsection provides access to:

- The Police Blotter
- Crime Prevention Tips
- Online Police Report Request
- Police Events
- Social Service Resources
- Social Media Links
- FOIA requests and more!

Be sure to check out this valuable resource at: www.frankfortil.org

Excellence in Policing- Utilizing 21st Century Policing as a Guideline

This year the Frankfort Police Department has been featuring the six pillars outlined in Task Force on 21st Century Policing guidelines and recommendations. In this issue we will look at the final pillar, officer wellness and safety. Police officers encounter a great deal of stress due to various components of police work. Some notable factors are schedules, exposure to traumatic events, and the conflicts they encounter. The Frankfort Police Department has various programs in place to support officer wellness and safety. In addition, the FPD will be launching a new peer support program which will be implemented in December 2021.

- The Frankfort Police Department provides ballistic vests to both sworn and non-sworn employees who work in any enforcement capacity.
- The Frankfort Police Department provides tactical medical/self-aid kits and training to uniformed officers.
- Frankfort Officers have access to an employee assistance program that officers can utilize at no cost.
- Frankfort Police Officers are encouraged to exhibit safe driving practices through a safety award program and department policy.
- The Frankfort Police Department will be launching a peer support program at the end of 2021. Trained officers will provide confidential support to all personnel and family members.

For more information on 21st Century policing concepts go to: <https://www.ojp.gov/ncjrs/virtual-library/abstracts/final-report-presidents-task-force-21st-century-policing>



Have you heard about TRIAD?

TRIAD is a safety group for older adults. Our TRIAD group meets the fourth Wednesday of every month at 10 a.m. Each meeting there are different speakers addressing various health and safety topics. In addition, officers attend the meetings to share safety information. Information about our TRIAD meetings can be found on the village website or call us at (815) 469-9435 to get more information.



Tech Support Scams

A popular scam is the tech support scams. Victims get a pop-up on their computer, e-mail, or a phone call that claims malware, or a virus has infected their computer.

- Always keep your computer's security software updated.
- If you suspect there is a problem with your computer contact a local store or popular tech support provider you trust.
- Never provide remote access to your computer.
- Don't give credit card information over the phone unless you initiate the phone call.

Join us for our annual E.F. Bucko Costume Parade and Safety Trunk or Treat



**Saturday, October 30th
10 a.m.- 12 p.m.**



Breidert Green Municipal Lot

Businesses and organizations interested in decorating a trunk for this family-friendly event should e-mail or call the Frankfort Police Department at (815) 469-9435 or admin@frankfortil.org



Chief John Burica Retires- We Celebrate His Service and Impact on the Frankfort Police Department

John Burica joined the Frankfort Police Department in July of 1998. Throughout his career he worked in various positions to include Patrol Officer, DARE Officer, Detective, and was appointed Administrative Commander in 2003. In September of 2010 he became the Chief of Police. Throughout his career with the Frankfort Police Department John looked for ways to streamline processes and update current practices. Having served as a DARE Officer, John believed in community policing principles, and implemented new ways for officers to engage with the community. Under his leadership the police department began the Seniors on Patrol Program, Safety Trunk or Treat, and the School Resource Officer partnership with District 157C. In addition, John implemented Directed Patrol and Neighborhood Patrol Officer positions. These positions provided the Frankfort Community additional services and a more direct approach towards community concerns and investigations. Retired Chief John Burica accepted a position as the Assistant Village Administrator of Frankfort. The Frankfort Police Department is grateful to John for his dedicated service and leadership and wishes him good luck in his new role.



John Burica at his retirement celebration.

Frankfort Police
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To Receive Frankfort Area Text Alerts:
Text "FRANKFORT" to "888777"



Non-Emergency: (815)485-2500



Emergency: DIAL 911

FRANKFORT
POLICE

The Frankfort Police Department will be issuing a newsletter quarterly with up-to-date information on current crime trends, community events, and laws. To get a copy of our newsletter go to www.frankfortil.org