



# DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY 2025 ANNUAL REPORT

Duty · Honor · Courage · Integrity





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## GRAND HAVEN DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

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Nichole Hudson, Director of Public Safety



### MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

On behalf of the men and women of the Grand Haven Department of Public Safety, I would like to present our 2025 Annual Report. This report highlights the work, dedication, and professionalism of our Public Safety Officers, civilian staff, and volunteers who serve this community each day.

Grand Haven is a unique community, one that blends a strong residential foundation with a vibrant seasonal population driven by tourism, special events, and our waterfront location. Serving a city of approximately 11,000 residents and supporting a significant influx of visitors year-round requires a public safety department that is adaptable, well-trained, and committed to excellence. I am confident that our Department will continue to fulfill that responsibility with integrity and care.

Over the past year, our personnel responded to emergencies, prevented harm, supported community events, and engaged with residents in ways that extend well beyond calls for service. Their work reflects a commitment not only to enforcement and response but also to building trust, strengthening partnerships, and improving the overall quality of life in Grand Haven.

This annual report provides a brief overview of our operations, accomplishments, and challenges. It also reflects our ongoing focus on training, accountability, ethical conduct, and continuous improvement. Public safety is most effective when it is built on trust, and we remain dedicated to serving our community with transparency, professionalism, and respect.

I am incredibly proud of the men and women of the Grand Haven Department of Public Safety and grateful for the continued support of our residents, city leadership, and community partners. It is an honor to serve this city, and I look forward to continuing our work together to keep Grand Haven safe, welcoming, and strong.

*Nichole Hudson*  
*Public Safety Director*

# GRAND HAVEN

## DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY



### MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of Grand Haven Public Safety is to protect our community through professional police, fire, and medical services, while working to enhance the quality of life for all who live, work, and visit the City of Grand Haven.

### VISION STATEMENT

Grand Haven Public Safety will be recognized as a trusted, innovative, and community-driven agency that ensures safety, fosters resilience, and strengthens partnerships to create a thriving city for future generations.

### CORE VALUES

- Integrity:** We serve with honesty, fairness, and accountability in all that we do.
- Service:** We are dedicated to meeting the needs of our community with professionalism and compassion.
- Excellence:** We pursue the highest standards in policing, firefighting, emergency medical care, and community service.
- Collaboration:** We work together with residents, businesses, and partner agencies to solve problems and enhance safety.
- Respect:** We treat all individuals with dignity, equity, and respect.
- Preparedness:** We are committed to continuous training, readiness, and innovation to protect life and property.

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## DEPARTMENT INFORMATION

The Grand Haven Department of Public Safety provides comprehensive police, fire, and emergency medical services to the City of Grand Haven, covering approximately 7.36 square miles, including both land and water response services. The city has a year-round population of approximately 11,000 residents, which increases significantly during the summer months due to tourism, seasonal residents, special events, and daily visitors to the waterfront and downtown areas.

To meet the dynamic demands of both resident and seasonal populations, the City of Grand Haven adopted the Public Safety model in 1994. This model consolidates police, fire, and emergency medical services into a single, unified department. Under this framework, Public Safety Officers are cross-trained in law enforcement, fire suppression, and emergency medical response, ensuring a coordinated and highly efficient approach to community safety.

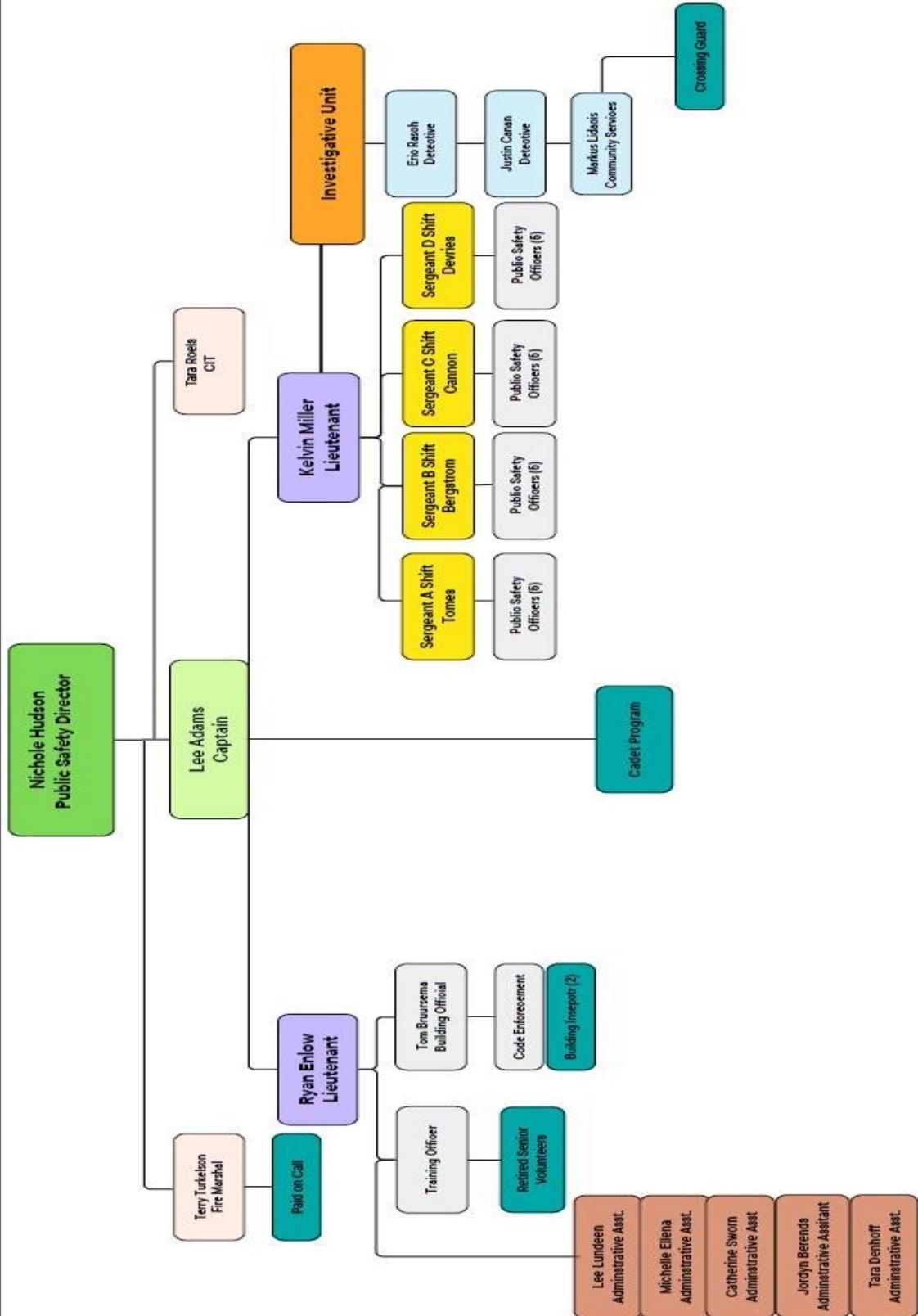
While this integrated model requires a high level of training and dedication, our personnel accept this responsibility daily in service to the community. Cross-training contributes to reduced response times, enhanced operational flexibility, and improved service delivery. Furthermore, the Department maintains the same rigorous training, certifications, and professional standards mandated by the State of Michigan for each respective discipline.

Through this model, the Grand Haven Department of Public Safety remains well-positioned to meet the evolving needs of a growing community and its various specialized service teams.

Facilities: Public Safety Headquarters: 525 Washington Ave. Grand Haven, MI 49417

# Grand Haven Department of Public Safety

# ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



# 2025 CALLS FOR SERVICE

**9,441**

TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE



**1,930**

**FIRE**

↓ .51%



**7,511**

**POLICE**

↓ 9.6%

GRAND HAVEN



# CRIME STATISTICS

The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program divides offenses into two groups, Part I and Part II crimes. Each month, participating law enforcement agencies submit information on the number of Part I offenses they had (offenses cleared by arrest or exceptional means) and the age, sex, and race of persons arrested for each of the offenses.

## PART I CRIMES

Part I crimes are the most serious offenses and most likely to be reported to the police.

Crime	2024	2025
Criminal Homicide	0	0
CSC	8	14
Robbery	1	1
Aggravated Assault	25	18
Burglary / B&E	13	7
Larceny	77	52
Motor Vehicle Theft	14	7
Arson	1	0
Kidnapping	1	1
Intimidation / Stalking	24	14
<b>Total Part I Crimes</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>114</b>



**DOWN 30.5% from 2024**

## PART II CRIMES

Part II offenses are less serious.

Crime	2024	2025
Simple Assault	94	98
Forgery / Counterfeit	10	4
Fraud	56	40
Retail Fraud	40	33
Embezzlement	4	0
Vandalism	57	48
Weapons Offence	17	8
Sex Offences	7	8
Drug Offences	16	15
Family Offences	20	5
OWI	56	67
Liquor Violation	7	14
Disorderly	53	43
All Other Part II Crimes	1483	1089
<b>Total Part II Crimes</b>	<b>1920</b>	<b>1472</b>



**DOWN 23.3% from 2024**

<b>Total for Part I and II</b>	<b>2084</b>	<b>1586</b>
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**DOWN 23.9% from 2024**

# PERSONNEL UPDATES

## PROMOTIONS



**Kelvin Miller**  
Lieutenant  
February 3, 2025

## NEW HIRES

**Cory Collet**  
Officer  
April, 2025

**Isabel Dziadzio**  
Officer  
April, 2025

**Carolynn Sauter**  
Officer  
December, 2025

**Jamie Goins**  
Officer  
December, 2025

**Jake Roberson**  
Officer  
December, 2025

**Corey Robinson**  
Officer  
December, 2025

**Max Jacobus**  
Officer  
December, 2025

**Thomas Michmerhuizen**  
Officer  
December, 2025

**Tara Denhof**  
Admin Assistant  
August, 2025

**Scott Johnson**  
Cadet  
September, 2025

# RECOGNITION & AWARDS



## Grand Haven Department of Public Safety Physical Fitness Award

**Chief N. Hudson**

**Capt. L. Adams**

**Sgt T. DeVries**

**Ofc. M. Padding**

**Ofc. TJ Kriger**

**Ofc. N. Sheridan**

**Ofc. M. Lidacis**

**Ofc. B. Tuuk**

**Det. J. Canan**

**Ofc T. Jones**

**Ofc. T. Roels**

The physical agility test consists of multiple stations, including push-ups, sit-ups, one-mile run, equipment carry, a dummy carry up and down two flights of stairs, and a simulated hose pull.

The gold standard is awarded to participants who score 15% higher than the established average time and required number of repetitions.

This program is an optional physical fitness incentive, designed to encourage members to maintain their physical fitness and prioritize health, wellness, and job readiness.

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature*

## Grand Haven Department of Public Safety

# Unit Commendation

*Presented to*

**A. Borrowman**

**D. Veneklasen**

**J. Laethem**

**S. Young**

**S. Browne**

**L. Meekhof**

**M. Brunner**

**M. Basch**

**R. Slominski**

*The Retired Senior Volunteer Program (RSVP) Unit is being recognized with a Unit Commendation for their dedication and unwavering commitment to the Grand Haven Department of Public Safety over many years. Their service, which is entirely unpaid, involves sacrificing personal time, and early mornings to perform essential duties like house checks, parking enforcement, special events, public relations, and clerical work. This steadfast loyalty and hard work has been instrumental to the department's operations, making a significant, lasting impact on the department and the community.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature*



Grand Haven Department of Public Safety

## Certificate of Merit

*Presented to*

# Officer Mike VanHook

*Officer Mike VanHook is recognized with the Certificate of Merit for his exceptional commitment to the community through his leadership of the "Crusade for Toys". Crusade for Toys is a partnership of firefighters and the American Legion to collect toys, clothing, and monetary donations for local children in need. For over fifteen years, Officer VanHook has undertaken this initiative, soliciting donations, ringing bells, and coordinating deliveries to the American Legion, often performing these duties entirely off-duty and without pay or formal recognition. Officer VanHook has never asked for anything in return for his time. His outstanding performance and devotion to a cause above and beyond the standard call of duty have made a significant, positive impact on the community, embodying the highest standards of the public safety profession. This award serves as a formal thank you for his selfless dedication and exemplary service.*



\_\_\_\_\_  
*Date*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Signature*

# 2025 GHDPS STAFF

## Officers

Chief Hudson	Captain Adams	Lieutenant Enlow	Lieutenant Miller
Sergeant Tomes	Sergeant Bergstrom	Sergeant DeVries	Sergeant Cannon
Fire Marshal Turkelson	Detective Rasch	Detective Canan	Officer Roels
Officer Jones	Officer VanHook	Officer Piper	Officer Padding
Officer M. Kriger	Officer Toepfer	Officer Lidacis	Officer Haggerty
K-9 Officer Sheridan	K-9 Carter	Officer Trethewey	Officer Tuuk
Officer Rymal	Officer Collet	Officer Sipe	Officer Dziadzio
Officer Sauter	Officer Goins	Officer Roberson	Officer Robinson
Officer Jacobus	Officer Michmerhuizen	Officer T. Kriger	Officer Frisch
Officer Ingersoll	Officer Langworthy	Officer Wolfis	Officer Gerger

## Building Official

Tom Bruursema

## Office Staff

Administrative Assistant Lundeen	Administrative Assistant Ellena	Administrative Assistant Sorn
Administrative Assistant Berends	Administrative Assistant Denhof	Cadet Johnson

## Volunteers

Reserve Officer Olson	RSVP Young	RSVP Browne	RSVP Brunner
RSVP Basch	RSVP Borrowman	RSVP Laethem	RSVP Meekhof
RSVP Slominski			RSVP Veneklasen

## School Crossing Guards

Crossing Guard Baker

Crossing Guard Johnson

# POLICE DIVISION

POLICE

# Section 02

## POLICE DIVISION



### POLICE DIVISION BY THE NUMBERS

In 2025, the Patrol Division  
responded to:

**7,511**  
**Total Calls for Service**

In 2025, Grand Haven Public Safety  
made:

**431**  
**Total Arrests**

**1,642**  
**Traffic Citations**

**1,375**  
**Traffic Warnings**

**58**  
**OWI Arrests**

**1,578**  
**Parking Tickets**

Patrol Operations is overseen by a Lieutenant, with direct supervision of the four road Sergeants. This leadership structure ensures effective day-to-day management, accountability, and operational oversight of patrol functions.

As senior supervisors, the Lieutenant and Sergeants are responsible for the coordination, management, and oversight of all patrol operations. This includes ensuring effective deployment of personnel, participating in special events, maintaining public safety initiatives, and fostering collaboration with local, state, and federal law enforcement partners.

Lieutenant Miller oversees Patrol Operations and is responsible for the overall supervision of patrol activities. He provides leadership to patrol supervisors and ensures operational consistency and adherence to the department policies and procedures. He works closely with command staff to ensure Patrol Operations align with and support department goals, best practices, and community expectations.

Captain Adams provides senior-level leadership and strategic oversight in support of Patrol Operations. He works closely with the Lieutenant to assist with planning, resources management, and operational priorities. He plays a critical role in operational planning and organizational leadership to enhance crime prevention and community engagement. He coordinates special events to provide patrol operations with the guidance, planning, and resources necessary to be successful. This includes working with internal staff, external partners, staffing, and risk management.

Through this leadership structure, Grand Haven Public Safety remains committed to proactive patrol services, effective emergency response, and fostering strong relationships within the community.

### Patrol Sergeants

*Sergeant Joshua Tomes*  
*Sergeant Ashley Bergstrom*  
*Sergeant Andy Cannon*  
*Sergeant Todd DeVries*

# POLICE NUMBERS



**7,511**  
POLICE  
INCIDENTS



**74**  
ASSIST OTHER  
AGENCY



**2,858**  
TRAFFIC  
STOPS



**417**  
ACCIDENTS  
**53**  
W/INJURY



**397**  
ADULT ARRESTS  
**34**  
JUVENILE ARRESTS



**1,578**  
PARKING  
CITATIONS



**1,642**  
TRAFFIC  
CITATIONS



**1,375**  
TRAFFIC  
WARNINGS



**58**  
OWI  
ARRESTS

# K-9 TEAM

## K-9 UNIT - BY THE NUMBERS

In 2025, the K-9 Unit was involved in:

80  
Deployments

13  
Assist Other Agencies

1,244  
Hours of Training

1  
K-9 Use of Force Incidents



## K-9 UNIT

The K-9 Unit is a specialized team dedicated to enhancing public safety. One Public Safety Officer handler provides continuous patrol coverage, crime prevention, crime deterrence, and a valuable resource, making the unit a vital asset to the Department. Our Dutch Shepherd canine partner, K-9 Carter, excels in tracking, suspect apprehension, explosives detection, and locating evidence. His keen sense plays a crucial role in locating missing persons and ensuring a secure environment for our community. Through ongoing patrols, the K-9 Unit demonstrates our commitment to safety and operational excellence.

The GHDPS K-9 Unit was deployed 80 times on 68 incidents in 2025, including, but not limited to, public demonstrations, explosive sniffs, free air searches, building searches, suspect tracks, area searches, and assisting other agencies.

### K-9 Team Assignments

*In 2023, Officer Nik Sheridan was partnered with K-9 Carter.*



# ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES



## Administrative Services for Police, Fire, and Building Division

Administrative Services play a critical role in ensuring the smooth operation and logistical support of law enforcement, fire response, and building and fire code enforcement. These services allow staff to remain focused on public safety and community service.

The Administrative Office serves as the nucleus of departmental operations, supported by highly skilled and professional staff who provide both the community and the department with the resources, coordination, and administrative support necessary for effective and efficient service delivery.

Through effective resource management, Administrative Services play a vital role in supporting the overall mission of the department by providing oversight of the following key areas. Lieutenant Ryan Enlow and Captain Lee Adams oversee the Administrative Services.

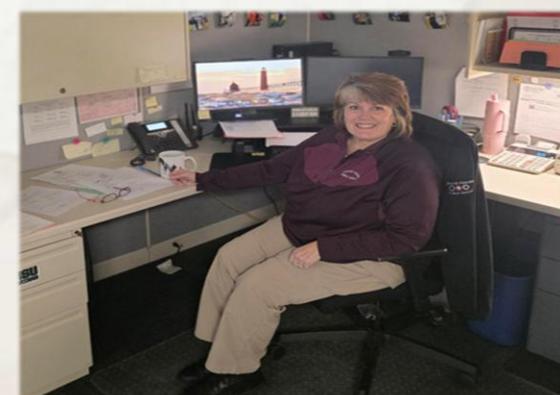
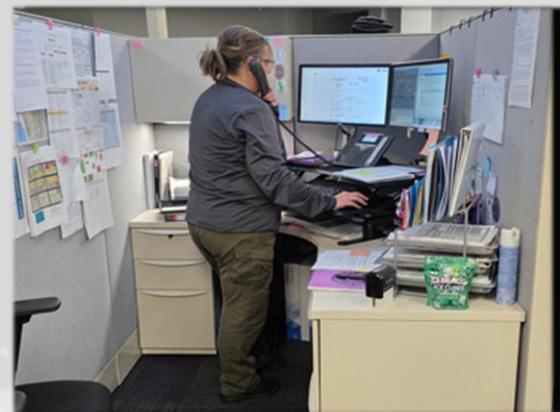
**Purchasing** – Manage the procurement of essential supplies, equipment, and services needed to support police operations efficiently.

**Property and Evidence** – Ensure the proper handling, storage, and documentation of evidence and lost or recovered property in accordance with legal and regulatory requirements.

**Fleet and Equipment** – Supervise the maintenance and deployment of police vehicles and specialized law enforcement equipment to keep officers operational and ready for duty.

**Facilities Maintenance** – Oversee the upkeep and functionality of department building and infrastructure, ensuring a safe and effective work environment.

**Training** – Manage the development and implementation of training programs to enhance officer skills, maintain compliance with law enforcement standards, and prepare personnel for evolving challenges.



## RECORDS DIVISION

The Information Center is staffed by Administrative Assistants who manage all citizen interactions in the Public Safety headquarters lobby and all phone calls.

The Administrative Services staff provides non-criminal fingerprinting services, register and issue permits for handgun purchases, conduct background checks for facility service contractors and ride-along applicants, and oversees the scheduling and documentation for the Building Division. Additionally, they manage sex offender registrations, court records and incident tracking.

Staffed by four full-time and one part-time non-sworn professionals, the Records Division is responsible for managing Police and Fire records and the Building Department with processing FOIA requests and maintaining state crime, arrest, and accident reporting. The team also provides direct service to the public, promptly responding to inquiries and report requests from citizens and authorized entities.

The Division utilizes a robust records system that allows a variety of integrated modules for enhanced data accuracy and retrieval. This system supports features such as LEIN/NCIC interfaces, gun registrations, and property look up. Additionally, the system connects to statewide resources like sex offender files and mug shots, further supporting law enforcement operations.

By streamlining record retrieval and reducing the need for physical copies, the management software helps increase efficiency, allowing staff to scan documents directly into case files for easy access and printing across the Department and providing the necessary documents to court.

### SERVICES BY THE NUMBERS

In 2025, Administrative Assistants processed:

**28,089**

**Calls into Department Main Line**

**52**

**Fingerprints**

**85**

**Permits to Purchase Handguns**

**313**

**FOIA Requests**

**40**

**Liquor License**

**122**

**Special Events Traffic Control Orders**

# POLICE/SCHOOL LIAISONS



## COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICER

The Community Service Officer is a sworn law enforcement officer assigned to schools to enhance safety, prevent crime, provide security, foster positive relationships with students and staff, and serve as a liaison between law enforcement and the school community.



The Community Service Officer (CSO) program consists of one officer assigned to all public and private schools within the City of Grand Haven. Responsibilities also extend beyond the schools to include community events, station tours, and other community-related requests.



The CSO serves these schools:

- Grand Haven High School
- Lakeshore Middle School
- White Pines Middle School
- Griffin Elementary
- Ferry Elementary
- St. John's Lutheran
- Grand Haven Christian



The Community Service Officer position plays a vital role in school safety by maintaining a visible presence, serving as a member of school administration, attending school functions, teaching prevention and safety classes, and mentoring students.



The School Resource Officer Program is a two-year specialized assignment, with an optional extension. Officer Markus Lidacis has been assigned to this position since 2024.

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Grand Haven Public Safety places community policing as a top priority and continues to build strong relationships and partnerships throughout the community. These connections are essential to fostering trust, communication, and collaboration with residents, businesses, schools, and community organizations.

As an agency, we actively engage with the community through department tours, school interactions, classroom visits for reading and educational programs, Fire Prevention open houses, and our newest initiative — the Pop-Up Party. These opportunities allow staff to connect with community members in positive, informal settings.

In addition to these programs, Grand Haven Public Safety participates in nearly 100 special events each year by providing personnel, fire apparatus, and patrol vehicles. This presence creates additional opportunities for community engagement and positive interaction with residents of all ages.

Our annual Crusade for Toys, held in November and December, raises funds and collects donations to support individuals and families in need throughout our community during the holiday season.

We also operate a clothing and food pantry as part of our *Out of the Cold* initiative. This program helps individuals experiencing homelessness or housing insecurity by providing essential items during the winter months, while also connecting them with resources aimed at improving their long-term situation.

Through these efforts, Grand Haven Public Safety remains committed to building trust, strengthening partnerships, and making a positive impact throughout the community we proudly serve.

**Fire Prevention Week Open House** — Held annually in October, the F.I.R.E. (Fire Safety, Information, and Risk Education) Open House welcomes visitors to the Department. Attendees explore fire trucks and specialty vehicles, engage with firefighters, and observe live demonstrations of firefighting equipment. Firefighters also share essential fire safety tips, reinforcing prevention measures for families. Educational materials are distributed to further promote fire preparedness. As a key community outreach event, the Open House provides an interactive, hands-on learning experience that encourages public engagement and strengthens fire safety awareness.

**Pop Up Party** — Held for the first time in the summer of 2025, the Pop-Up Party gave Public Safety staff the opportunity to connect with the community in a fun, relaxed environment. Community members were invited to cool off, enjoy music, dance, and share ice cream with our staff. The event was extremely well attended, and we look forward to bringing it back several more times in 2026 as another way to strengthen community connections and engagement.

**Special Olympics Support** - In 2025, Grand Haven Public Safety staff attended the Summer Special Olympics Games in Mount Pleasant, participating in opening and medal ceremonies and supporting local Area 12 athletes, reinforcing the department's commitment to community involvement and inclusion.



# DEPARTMENT TRAINING

## POLICE TRAINING BY THE NUMBERS

In 2025, officers and professional staff attended:

**3,660**

**Total Training Hours**

To maximize efficiency and reduce costs, training administration prioritizes the use of local resources, minimizing travel and lodging expenses whenever possible. Additionally, the department collaborates with other agencies to develop shared and combined local training opportunities.

## ANNUAL IN-SERVICE TRAINING

The Department provides monthly in-service training that covers topics such as Firearms, Defensive Tactics, Use of Force, Legal Update, as well as required firefighting pump testing and other important skills. These topics include, but are not limited to:

- Legal Updates
- Sexual Harassment
- Domestic Violence
- De-escalation
- Ethics
- All-Hazard Plan
- Hazardous Materials
- Biased-Based Policing
- Water Rescue/Ice Rescue
- Crimes Against Children
- Crisis Intervention Training
- Michigan Mental Health Code
- Pump operations

The Department continually assesses individual training needs to support employee specialization, career advancement, and overall job effectiveness. As a member of the West Michigan Criminal Justice Training Consortium, the Department benefits from pooled Public Act 302 training funds, enabling access to a diverse range of training opportunities while maximizing the return on investment.

## MCOLES CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION

In 2024, the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES) launched a three-year pilot program mandating Continuing Professional Education (CPE) for all officers. For the first year, officers were required to complete a minimum of 12 hours of CPE credits, including at least 4 hours focused on ethics in policing and interpersonal relations. All sworn employees successfully met these requirements. In subsequent years, the required training hours will increase to 24 hours annually.



# DEPARTMENT TRAINING

## YEARLY TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

To maintain certification and ensure the highest level of service, members of Grand Haven Public Safety are required to complete ongoing training and continuing education in accordance with State of Michigan standards. These requirements ensure personnel remain current on best practices, safety protocols, and evolving response techniques.

Michigan firefighters must meet the following continuing education and training requirements:

- Complete a minimum of 20 hours of continuing education every two years
- Participate in training that meets Michigan Firefighter Training Council (MFFTC) standards
- Attend courses covering new firefighting techniques and updated safety protocols
- Engage in hands-on training exercises to maintain and improve critical skills
- Document all completed training and submit records to the appropriate authority
- Stay current on changes in fire service regulations and best practices

In addition to fire training, personnel who hold EMS licensure must meet State of Michigan continuing education requirements to maintain certification:

- **Emergency Medical Technician (EMT):** 30 hours total of continuing education to renew
- **Paramedic:** 45 hours total of continuing education hours to renew

These ongoing training and certification requirements ensure that Grand Haven Public Safety personnel remain highly qualified, prepared, and compliant with all State standards while continuing to provide safe, professional, and effective service to the community.



## FIELD TRAINING PROGRAM

The Field Training Program is a crucial component in developing well-prepared and capable police officers. It helps probationary officers gain the hands-on experience necessary to work effectively in real-life scenarios. Below is a breakdown of key aspects of the program:

The program takes about 18 weeks to complete, during which time new officers undergo a structured and comprehensive training process. Field Training follows a five-step program to gradually build the skills required for the role. The officers start with a two-week in-house program to review all skill areas, policy, and procedure. Each step is designed to ensure that officers are adequately prepared to handle the various challenges they will face in the field.

In 2025, four out of five newly hired officers successfully completed the Field Training Program, showing the program's effectiveness. However, one recruit did not meet the standards, which highlights the program's rigorous evaluation process.

There are 11 Field Training Officers (FTO) within the Department. FTOs are experienced officers who play a vital role in mentoring and evaluating probationary officers. These FTOs possess in-depth knowledge of the Department's policies, procedures, rules, and regulations. Additionally, they have supervisory skills that help guide and assess the probationary officers effectively.

The ultimate goal is to ensure probationary officers can perform the full range of duties expected of them on the job, from interacting with the public to handling complex law enforcement situations. By the end of the program, they should be ready to transition to independent roles within the police force.



# CADET & CODE

Cadets at Public Safety are responsible for parking enforcement, administrative duties, assisting with local ordinances, rental inspections, and supporting special events throughout the community. The cadet program serves as an important steppingstone into a career in public service. Many of our current Public Safety Officers began their careers as cadets, demonstrating the long-term value and success of this program in developing future professionals.

In addition to their general duties, cadets play a key role in supporting Code Enforcement operations. These responsibilities include assisting with rental inspections and enforcing local City Ordinances to help maintain safe, well-kept properties and promoting the overall beautification of the City of Grand Haven. Their work directly contributes to neighborhood quality of life, public safety, and community standards.

With more than 100 special events held annually in the City of Grand Haven, cadets remain highly engaged throughout the year. They assist with event setup and teardown, including placing barricades, supporting traffic and pedestrian flow, distributing Department materials and stickers, and serving as visible, positive representatives of the Department at community events. Their presence helps ensure events run smoothly while strengthening relationships between Public Safety and the community.

Overall, the cadet and Code Enforcement support positions provide valuable operational assistance to the Department while offering participants hands-on experience in public service. These roles not only enhance daily operations and community engagement but also help build a strong pipeline of future Public Safety professionals for the City of Grand Haven.

## CADET NUMBERS

**496**

**Parking Citations**

**75**

**Reports Taken by Cadet**

## CODE NUMBERS

**251**

**Complaints Opened**



# R.S.V.P. TEAM



The RSVP program, which stands for Retired Senior Volunteer Program, plays a vital role in supporting both the Department and the community. This dedicated group of volunteers is supervised by a Lieutenant and provides invaluable assistance across a wide range of services.

RSVP volunteers conduct routine patrols for handicapped parking enforcement, perform Knox Box maintenance, complete seasonal home checks, assist with records organization, support training activities, and help staff support community events. These events include partnerships with the U.S. Coast Guard, Fire Prevention Open House, and many other programs and activities in the City of Grand Haven.

The members of the RSVP program are always willing to lend a hand and consistently demonstrate a true servant's heart for both the community and the Department. Their commitment, professionalism, and community-focused mindset significantly enhance our ability to provide high-quality public safety services. The Department is extremely grateful for their continued dedication and the positive impact they make throughout the City.

## MEMBERS

RSVP Monica Basch

RSVP Ann Borrowman

RSVP William Browne

RSVP Mary Jane Brunner

RSVP Joseph Laethem

RSVP Larry Meekhof

RSVP Ronald Slominski

RSVP Diane Veneklasen

RSVP Samuel Young

# DETECTIVE BUREAU

The Detective Bureau (DB) operates as a critical unit within the agency, with a broad range of responsibilities aimed at solving complex criminal cases and supporting collaborative efforts across different levels of law enforcement.

Core functions include:

## DETECTIVE BUREAU BY THE NUMBERS

In 2025, detectives were assigned:

**44**  
**Criminal Sexual Conduct Cases**

In 2025, the DB also assisted other city departments with:

**1,907**  
**Items of evidence and/or property**

**22**  
**Background Checks**

**155.75**  
**Pounds of medication taken in**



- Minor or Major Case Investigations
- Silent Observer Tip Management
- Surveillance and Special Operations
- Crime Analysis
- Intelligence Gathering, Reporting, and Distribution
- Cell Phone Data Extraction, Analysis, and Mapping
- Case File Preparation to Support Detectives and Prosecutors at Trials
- Evidence Coordination with MSP Crime Labs
- Coordination with Local, State, and Federal Agencies for Joint Operations and Task Force Investigations

The DB plays a key role in ensuring that investigations are thorough, evidence is properly handled, and coordination across different agencies enhances the effectiveness of solving cases. The presence of both detectives provides a balance between hands-on investigative work and data-driven insights. Detective Eric Rasch and Detective Justin Canan operate the Detective Bureau.



# FIRE OPERATIONS

## Section 03



**1930**  
FIRE/EMS  
INCIDENTS



**1,334**  
MEDICAL  
CALLS



**52**  
TOTAL  
FIRES



**16**  
BUILDING  
FIRES



**6**  
VEHICLE  
FIRES



**19**  
OUTDOOR  
FIRES



**11**  
OTHER  
FIRES



**13**  
WATER  
RESCUES



**132**  
ALARM  
CALLS

# FIRE OPERATIONS

## FIRE RESPONSE ANALYSIS

Grand Haven Public Safety serves a community of more than 11,000 residents and protects a diverse mix of residential and commercial properties. Public Safety Officers responded to approximately 1,930 calls for service in 2025, with medical-related incidents representing the highest call volume and accounting for approximately 69% of all responses.

In addition to emergency response, the Department remains committed to proactive community engagement and prevention efforts. Grand Haven Public Safety hosts community events such as the Public Safety Fire Open House, provides fire prevention education to public and private schools, and participates in a variety of public education and outreach events throughout the year.

In 2025, the most common call types included medical calls, alarm activations, personal injury accidents, and good intent calls. These activities reflect the Department's continued focus on emergency medical response, public safety readiness, and community risk reduction.



# FIRE OPERATIONS

## FIRE SUPPRESSION

The City is served by one station located at 525 Washington Avenue, which is staffed 24/7 to ensure continuous emergency response. The City is equipped with fire hydrants, providing a reliable water supply for firefighting. Additionally, mutual aid agreements with other Tri-Cities fire departments provide supplemental support as needed, depending on the type and location of an incident. We also assist those same agencies with support as needed.

Public Safety Officers function as a medical first response agency, with EMS calls prioritized by dispatchers trained in local protocols. Public Safety Officers respond to all critical medical calls, delivering initial care ahead of the arrival of an advanced life support (ALS) ambulance.

## FIRE APPARATUS

The Department operates a diverse fleet of emergency vehicles, including three engines, one 4-wheel drive pickup truck used on basic life support incidents, a multi-purpose vehicle and a cargo trailer equipped with an ATV for versatility of wildland fires or beach operations.

In conjunction with these professional services, personnel perform daily checks on the apparatus. This dual approach guarantees all emergency vehicles are always in a state of readiness, whether for emergency response or support functions.

## FIRE HOSE

In 2025, a total of 20,000 feet of fire hose, 185 feet of ladders, and four sections of hard suction were tested. This testing was conducted by the third-party provider, and the tests took place over a few days. Typically, hose testing is a two to three week project for our crews; however, by outsourcing this task to a professional service, the Department was able to keep crews in service, minimize downtime for apparatus, and ensure professional documentation of the tests.



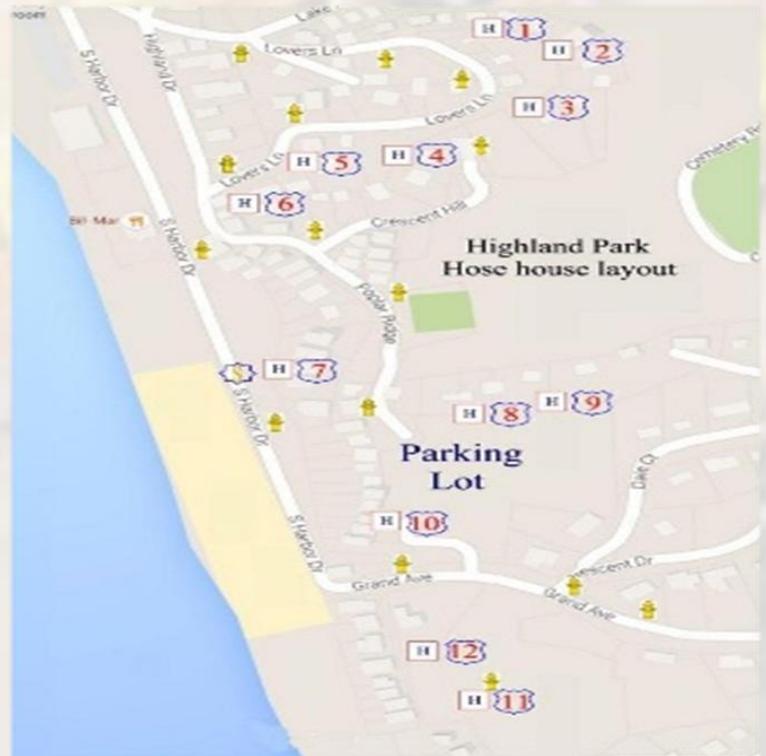
# COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

## SMOKE ALARM PROGRAM

Grand Haven Public Safety, in partnership with the State of Michigan Bureau of Fire Services, provides free 10-year lithium-ion smoke alarms to Grand Haven residents through a grant-funded initiative. We are continuing to find ways to increase awareness and participation as more residents learn about the program. This life-saving program continues to grow, ensuring more homes are equipped with working smoke alarms for early fire detection and enhanced safety.

## HOSE HOUSES

Hose houses were installed approximately 12 years ago to support quicker and more efficient fire response in the Highland Park area. By placing firefighting equipment in strategic locations, these hose houses allow crews to rapidly deploy hose lines without the need to carry heavy equipment up stairs and along boardwalks. Each hose house is equipped with 500 feet of 1.75-inch hose, a gated Y, and two nozzles, along with an additional 300 feet of 2.5-inch supply line. The supply line is flaked down the hill and connected to a responding apparatus to provide a continuous water supply for firefighting operations. All hose houses are securely locked to ensure all components are available for emergency use. The hose houses are inspected annually, and all hose is tested every three years in accordance with National Fire Protection Association Standards (NFPA) to ensure operational readiness and firefighter safety.



# COMMUNITY RISK REDUCTION

Fire Marshal Terry Turkelson assists with Community Risk Reduction (CRR) efforts for Grand Haven Public Safety, reporting directly to Director Nichole Hudson. His role focuses on proactive and data-informed strategies to reduce risk, enhance life safety, and ensure compliance with applicable fire codes and safety standards, in alignment with the department’s mission and operational priorities.

With nearly 25 years of fire service experience, Fire Marshal Turkelson is dedicated to proactive community engagement, fire prevention, and code compliance. He works closely with the City’s Building Official to ensure fire code compliance in both residential and commercial occupancies, helping to reduce hazards before emergencies occur.

Fire Marshal Turkelson oversees fire inspections, supports fire investigations, and assists with public education initiatives to strengthen community preparedness and safety awareness.

Grand Haven Public Safety remains committed to continually evaluating and strengthening its CRR programs. Over the past year, these efforts have supported improved compliance, strengthened interdepartmental collaboration, and enhanced risk reduction strategies to better protect residents, businesses, and visitors.

## **Key Initiatives and Improvements in 2025:**

**Junior Public Safety Academy** – A structured fire safety education program designed for students, ensuring consistent and engaging lessons across all grade levels.

**Social Media** – A multi-platform education initiative that uses social media, community events, and printed publications to provide safety messages and promote fire prevention awareness.

**Stronger Community Collaboration** – Expanding fire safety education and prevention programs through partnerships with schools, businesses, and organizations.

**Fire Code Adoption** – In 2025, the City of Grand Haven adopted the 2024 Fire Code, strengthening fire prevention standards and enhancing life safety through updated regulations and enforcement tools.

**Fire Explorer Program** – Grand Haven Public Safety launched a Fire Explorer Program in partnership with the Careerline Tech Center, providing students the opportunity to earn Firefighter I and II certifications prior to graduation, supporting workforce development, and cultivating the next generation of firefighters for our community.

By continuously assessing these programs, CRR ensures that the community remains engaged, informed, and prepared to prevent and respond to emergencies.

## **FIRE PREVENTION BY THE NUMBERS**

### 2025 Inspections:

**43 Commercial**

**16 Food Truck**

**551 Rental**



# BUILDING DIVISION

Grand Haven Public Safety oversees the City of Grand Haven's Building Division, working in close partnership with Building Official Tom Bruursema and two contracted mechanical and plumbing inspectors. This collaborative structure allows for strong communication, shared accountability, and a unified approach to ensuring compliance with building and fire codes. By working together, all entities support the City's common goal of maintaining safe, code-compliant structures while promoting efficient and fiscally responsible operations.

This partnership strengthens the plan review process by incorporating multiple professional perspectives, allowing for early identification of potential issues and proactive problem-solving. Coordinated reviews help ensure that projects meet all applicable safety standards while minimizing delays and reducing the likelihood of costly corrections later in the process.

The Building Division, in coordination with Public Safety firefighters, also assists with rental property inspections to ensure housing safety for residents. In addition, the team supports food truck inspections, special event permitting, and fire safety plan reviews, helping to protect both residents and visitors while supporting local businesses and community events.

Having Public Safety actively involved in the Building and Planning functions provides significant benefits to the City of Grand Haven. This integrated approach enhances life safety, improves regulatory compliance, and strengthens relationships between departments. The collaboration ensures that development, renovations, and community activities are supported by a comprehensive safety-focused review process, ultimately contributing to a safer, more resilient, and well-coordinated community.



## INSPECTIONS BY THE NUMBERS

**16**  
Food Trucks

**1,097**  
Building and Demo

**532**  
Electrical

**817**  
Plumbing and Mechanical

## PERMITS ISSUED BY THE NUMBERS

**16**  
Demolition

**527**  
Building

**331**  
Electrical

**155**  
Plumbing

**396**  
Mechanical

Grand Haven Department of Public Safety  
525 Washington Ave.  
Grand Haven, MI 49417  
616-842-3460