

# UTICA POLICE DEPARTMENT

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## ANNUAL REPORT

Created by the Mohawk Valley Crime Analysis Center



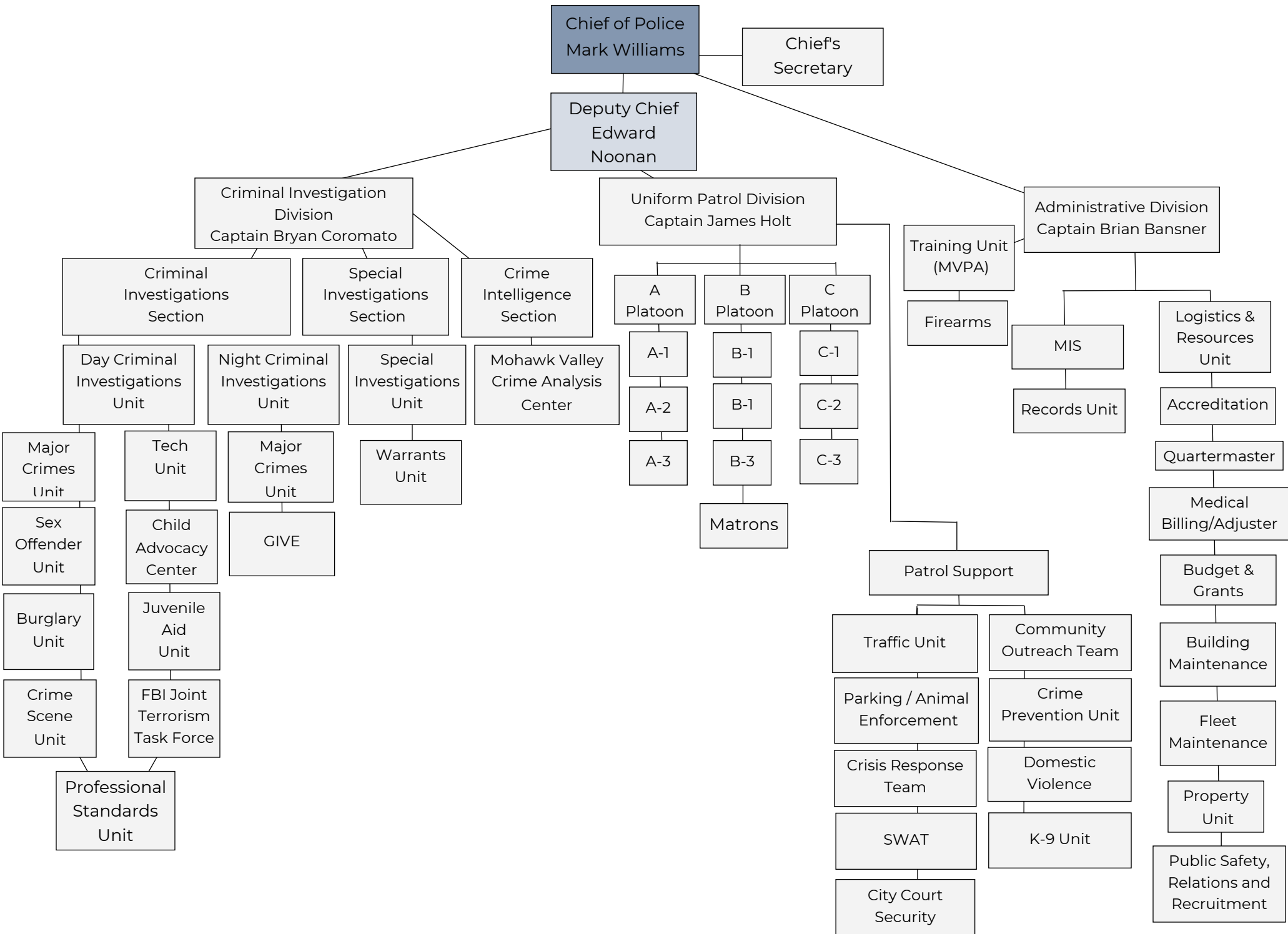
On behalf of the dedicated members of the Utica Police Department, it gives me great pleasure to present our agency's Annual Report for 2022. The core mission of your Police Department is simple and remains vibrant within the culture of our organization. How we achieve this mission is based on three primary core principles: Community Engagement, Partnerships Problem Solving Approaches to Public Safety and Quality of Life Issues.

This report highlights our department's efforts to engage and support the community and summarizes our overall commitment to make Utica one of the safest cities in the nation.

It is an honor to work with the dedicated and professional staff within the Utica Police Department and serve you each day. On behalf of our officers and professional staff, we look forward to the continued partnerships to provide the best possible service to our residents and community.

Respectfully,  
Chief Mark Williams

## Utica Police Department Organizational Chart



# Current Statistics

The Utica Police Department serves an area of 16.76 square miles and a population of approximately 64,500. Mayor Robert Palmieri was elected into office in 2011 and continued to serve through 2022.

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The Utica Police Department is an accredited agency and subject to regular reviews by the New York State Law Enforcement Agency Accreditation Program. Accreditation is a progressive and contemporary way of helping police agencies evaluate and improve their overall performance. It provides formal recognition that an organization meets or exceeds general expectations of quality in the field. Accreditation acknowledges the implementation of policies that are conceptually sound and operationally effective.



The New York State program became operational in 1989 and encompasses four principal goals:

1. To increase the effectiveness and efficiency of law enforcement agencies utilizing existing personnel, equipment and facilities to the fullest extent possible.
2. To promote increased cooperation and coordination among law enforcement agencies and other agencies of the criminal justice services.
3. To ensure the appropriate training of law enforcement personnel.
4. To promote public confidence in law enforcement agencies.

The Accreditation Program is comprised of a set of standards developed to further enhance the capabilities of an agency, and is divided into three categories: Administrative, Training and Operations Standards.

- Administrative standards have provisions for such topics as agency organization, fiscal management, personnel practices, and records management.
- Training standards encompass basic and in-service instruction, as well as training for supervisors and specialized or technical assignments.
- Operations standards deal with such critical and litigious topics as high-speed pursuits, roadblocks, patrol and unusual occurrences.



# Administrative Division

## Administrative Division Units

### MIS

- Computer systems maintenance, software and hardware updates, upgrades and repairs.

### Records

- Maintenance of all police records and files and servicing of public requests for information.

### Training

- Provide up-to-date training on current law enforcement trends and updates from the Municipal Police Training Counsel.

## Logistics & Resources

- Management of employee services and building/equipment maintenance.

### Accreditation

- Responsible for maintaining standards set forth for the accreditation process.

### Budget & Grants

- Management of department's fiscal resources, and application/report management of departmental grants.

### Public Safety Relations and Recruitment

- Public safety relations and recruitment's main focus was increasing the department's recruitment efforts to have more applicants for the Civil Service Exam

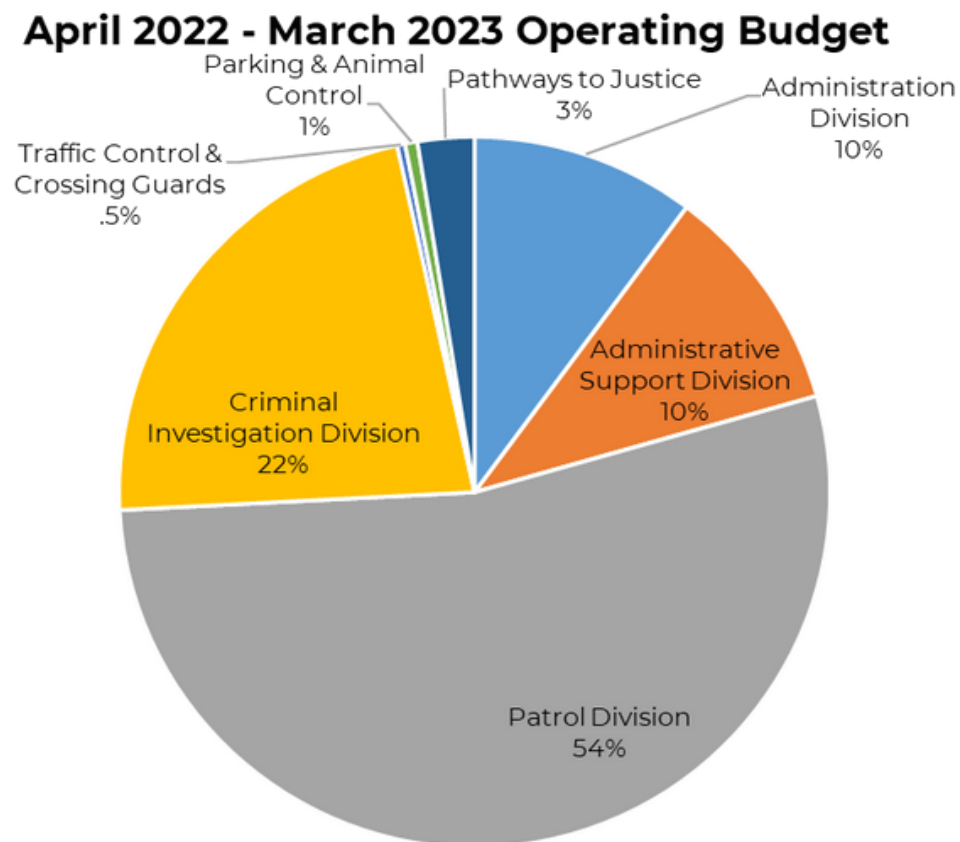


# Administrative Division

## Budget

The Utica Police Department's  
April 2022 - March 2023 Budget  
is \$19,405,105.00

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# Administrative Division

## Grants

### Most Recent Grants Awarded

Body-Worn Camera Policy and Implementation Program FY22	\$344,000.00
Justice and Mental Health Collaboration Program FY22	\$342,724.00
GIVE IX Initiative	\$279,605.00
Tactical Team Targeted Grant FY20	\$75,000.00
Explosive Detection Canine Team Grant FY20	\$50,000.00
Bulletproof Vest Partnership FY22	\$36,800.00
Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant FY22	\$32,208.00

### Additional Grants Managed

- Child Passenger Safety FY23
- FBI Joint Terrorism Task Force FY23
- Police Traffic Services FY23
- STOP DWI FY23
- U.S. Marshals Regional Fugitive Task Force FY23
- Adult Trust Building Program FY22
- DWI FY22
- Bulletproof Vest Partnership FY21
- Police Reform Initiative FY21
- Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant FY21
- Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant FY20
- STOP Violence Against Women FY20
- Tactical Team Targeted Grant FY19

# Administrative Division

## Training Unit

- Coordinates and administers departmental training programs.
- Administers training to police officers from outside agencies.
- Plans and develops departmental training standards and programs.
- Monitors training methods and identifies training necessary for adherence to state and federal laws, and department policies.
- Prepares and distributes training bulletins.
- Maintains records of training, standards, programs and lesson plans.
- Administers in-service and field officer training programs, firearms training and qualifications and police academy programs.

2,642 regional  
training hours



Including but not limited to:

- SWAT
- Supervisor School
- Advanced Crisis Negotiations
- Advanced Assisting Individuals
- Mountain Bike
- Officer Wellness
- Firearms Instructor
- Ghost Gun Investigations
- Force Science Deescalation
- Animal Cruelty Training
- Use of Force Summit
- Procedural Justice
- Principled Policing - Impact Bias
- Duty to Intervene
- Crisis Intervention Training

# Administrative Division

## Public Relations and Recruitment

Public relations and recruitment's main focus was increasing the department's recruitment efforts to have more applicants for the Civil Service Exam. All recruitment materials were upgraded, including having new professional photographs taken and recording videos that highlighted different members of the department. In the past, the department used traditional methods for recruitment, such as billboards, newspaper and radio ads and job fairs, but the unit wanted to make sure that they were targeting the younger generations who use social media as their main form of news consumption and communication. They worked diligently to increase social media presence, posting every day leading up to the application deadline. Applicant numbers increased by 35%. Following the written Civil Service Exam, they held mock Physical Agility Tests to assist applicants in preparing for the Physical Agility Test.

The Utica Police and Fire Departments held their inaugural Junior Public Safety Academy this past summer. Eighteen high school aged students from the City of Utica participated in a four (4) week academy-style work opportunity where they learned about a variety of police and fire-related topics. Junior Cadets were able to gain hands on experience by collecting evidence from a mock crime scene, learning how to use a fire hose, participating in daily physical activity and going on a field trip to Homeland Security. Junior Cadets received minimum wage for their employment in the Junior Academy and were eligible to receive three college credits from Mohawk Valley Community College. This program will continue to offer opportunities for the Junior Cadets to remain involved with the departments throughout the school year, including the creation of a Public Safety Club at Proctor High School in 2023. The aim of the Junior Public Safety Academy is to increase community relations with our city's youth and create a pathway to a future career in public safety.

The Utica Police Athletic League and the Thomas Lindsey Foundation accepted a generous donation from the Mary M. Schechter Memorial Golf Tournament to purchase Utica Comets Season Tickets for police officers or firefighters and city youth to attend hockey games together. They are working with the Utica City School District to pick students K-12 and their family members to attend each game with a police or fire department representative.





# Administrative Division

## Recruitment

In 2022, the Utica Police Department included video testimonies as part of the recruitment strategy. These testimonies were from current police officers speaking about why they became Utica Police officers and the various opportunities for growth and advancement within the department.

## Public Relations

After a two-year hiatus due to COVID-19, the Utica Police Department once again started to host the citizen's police academy.





# Academy Class 2023-1

In 2022, the Utica Police Department began the process of hiring officers to fill several vacancies within their ranks. After a rigorous hiring process that included physical agility testing, background investigation, polygraph and psychological evaluation, several individuals were chosen to attend the Mohawk Valley Police Academy.

In February 2023, the following officers graduated from the MVPA after completing six months of academy training and 12 weeks of field training:

- James Amuso
- Ruben Checo Collado
- Michael Cirasuolo
- Eh Khu Hser
- Cole Jaquish
- Ryan Lynn
- Jovon Mucitelli
- Jordan Rios
- Stephen Williams



The Mohawk Valley Police Academy (MVPA) is co-chaired by the Oneida County Sheriff's Office and the Utica Police Department. The current "Basic Course for Police Officers" consists of a minimum standard of over 700 hours established by the Municipal Police Training Council (MPCT). However the MVPA gives our recruit police officers over 1000 hours of police instruction on a variety of important law enforcement topics.

Staff routinely reviews the content of the Basic Course for Police Officers to ensure that the material remains relevant to criminal justice issues and best prepares officers to serve their communities. Today's Basic Course for Police Officers covers a wide range of topics including but not limited to, Ethics & Professionalism, Cultural Diversity, Bias-Related Incidents, Professional Communication, Persons with Disabilities, Crisis Intervention, Use of Physical Force & Deadly Force, Active Shooter Response and Decision Making. Today's police recruits are also mandated to complete numerous Reality Based Training Scenarios to better prepare them for the situations they will encounter on the job.

# Uniform Patrol Division

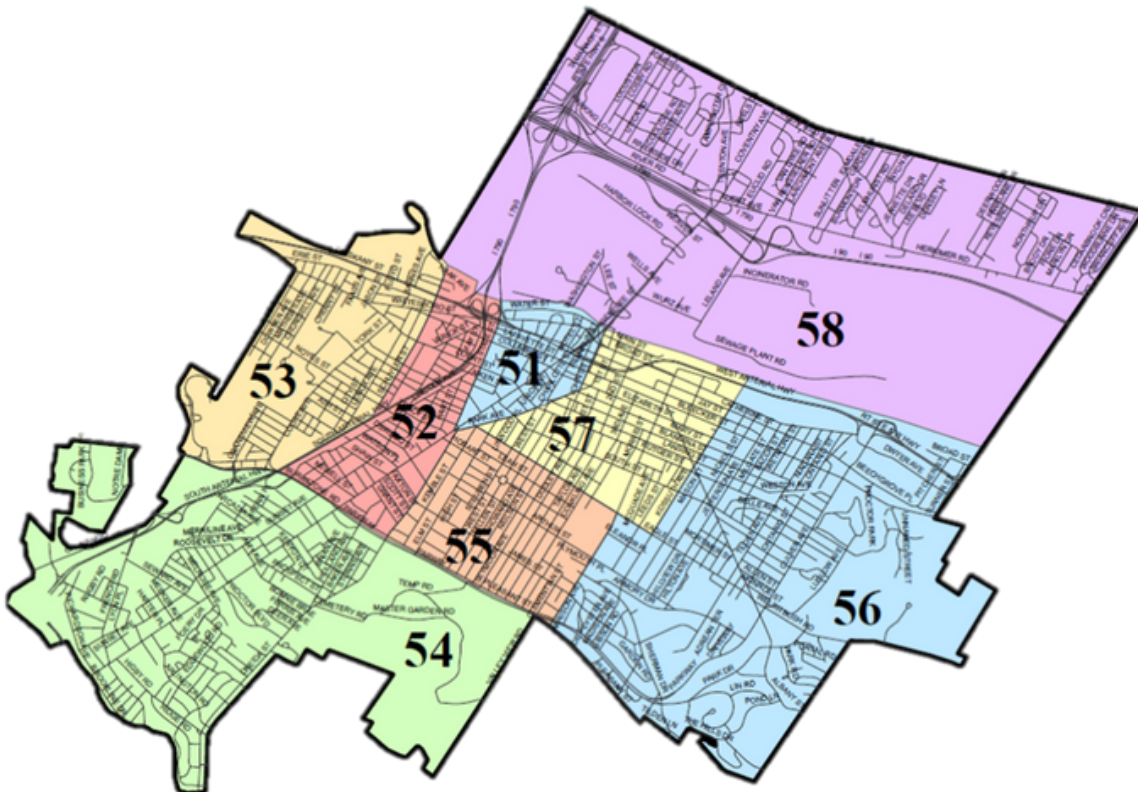
The Patrol Division is responsible for providing direct police services to the public. Its primary responsibility is to provide continuous patrol coverage and traffic control.

In order to provide for continuous patrol coverage, patrol is divided into three "platoons" (8.25 hour tours of duty) based on department needs. A lieutenant commands each of the three platoons (designated as the A, B and C platoons) further subdivided into three squads (i.e. A1, A2 and A3). Subordinate supervisory officers assigned to each squad are accountable to their respective platoon commander.

Officers have responded to more than 47,000 CAD and 911 calls during the 2022 calendar year. This does not include other incidents such as motor vehicle stops, premise checks, or other self-initiated investigations.

## Units

- A Platoon
- B Platoon
  - Matrons
- C Platoon
- Patrol Support
  - Traffic Unit
  - Community Outreach Team
  - Parking / Animal Enforcement
  - Crisis Response Team
  - Crime Prevention Unit
  - Domestic Violence Unit
  - SWAT
  - K9 Unit
  - City Court Security
  - Public Safety, Relations and Recruitment



# Uniform Patrol Division

## SWAT

The Metro SWAT team consists of 9 officers from the Utica Police Department, 4 officers from the New Hartford Police Department and 7 officers from Oneida County Sheriff's Office. In 2022 there were 7 call outs, 8 warrant requests and 5 events (Quick Reaction Force/Sniper Observation Teams). Metro SWAT operators train 2 days per month which totals 192 hours a year. In addition, the team attended NYDHSES TAC Week, NYDHSES Excelsior Challenge and active shooter drills at St. Elizabeth's Hospital and St. Luke's Hospital.

## K9 Unit

In 2022, the K9 unit expanded to four K9's with the November addition of PO Kellogg/K9 Vigo.

- PO Piersall/K9 Dak – Utilizations – 17 total
- PO Castilla/K9 Varick – Utilizations – 26 total – 22 community events / 4 scent detection
- PO Dodge/K9 Brophy – Utilizations – 55 total



# Uniform Patrol Division

## Traffic Unit

The Utica Police Department Traffic Unit is a two officer unit that plans and coordinates large events that impact traffic flow throughout the City of Utica. The Traffic Unit also conducts traffic surveys and researches, reviews and writes traffic legislation.

It is the policy of the Utica Police Department to provide for the safe and orderly flow of traffic by encouraging public compliance with traffic laws through both discretionary and mandatory enforcement.

The department shall promote traffic safety through the effective use of its resources and provide information to the public and appropriate traffic engineering authorities to assist in identifying and remedying the causes of motor vehicle accidents and other traffic problems as necessary.

Beyond traffic enforcement and traffic control for special events, the UPD Traffic Unit conducts regular traffic studies to keep the city roads safe for all.



**525**  
**Hit & Run**  
**Accidents**

**415**  
**Personal Injury**  
**Accidents**

**1,976**  
**Property Damage**  
**Accidents**



# Uniform Patrol Division

## Community Outreach Team

The Utica Police Department Community Outreach Team is responsible for numerous tasks dealing with quality of life complaints and improving the relationship between the police and the community we serve. In 2022 the team attended 147 community events to include:

- Neighborhood Association Meetings
- Coffee with a Cop
- Harvest on the Hill
- National Night Out - Police/Community Relationships and Awareness Event
- School Visits
- Bank of Utica Movie Nights
- World Refugee Day
- Center for Family Life and Recovery Outreach Events
- Job Fairs
- Coordinated Homeless Response
- Recruitment Events
- ICAN Video Game Tournament
- Hoops and Dreams
- Child Safety Seat Programs
- Wilson's Cops and Kids Boxing
- Juneteenth Celebration
- Basketball Giveaway
- Build-A-Bike Program
- Special Olympics
- Road Races
- Ice Cream Giveaway - Bargain Grocery



# Uniform Patrol Division

## Domestic Violence Unit

It is the policy of the Utica Police Department to respond to every domestic incident as a serious call for service. Department members shall consistently seek to enhance the safety of victims and their children through a combination of law enforcement and referral to domestic violence service providers. The Department will further promote officer safety by ensuring that officers are fully prepared to respond to and effectively deal with domestic violence calls for service.

The Utica Police Department partners with the YWCA of the Mohawk Valley in order to provide victims of domestic violence with advocacy and services. These services include shelter, court advocacy, hotline advocacy and counseling. A YWCA employee works directly in the Utica Police Department with the assigned domestic violence officer.

**2,916**  
**Domestic  
Incident Reports  
Taken**



**1,970**  
**Victims Served**

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## Crisis Response Team

The Crisis Response Team (CRT) is a combined effort of a UPD police officer and the MCAT crisis counselor who are partnered together and co-respond together in the field.

- CRT responds to real time requests for in-field crisis response after initial UPD patrol triage
- Complete field outreach to high utilizers in the community
- Review MHL calls daily for new opportunities for outreach and to connect with individuals with mental health struggles
- CRT works with local service providers, police, probation, mental health court, Oneida County Mental Health, MVHS, etc.

**1,194**  
**Emotionally Disturbed  
Person Calls**

**798**  
**9.41 MHL Arrests**



# Criminal Investigation Division

## Criminal Investigation Division

It is the policy of the Utica Police Department to place case responsibility upon CID for certain crimes. Examples of these crimes include felony crimes, some misdemeanor crimes against persons and property, serious or unusual incidents, homicides and suspicious deaths and any other cases assigned by the Chief of Police. Personnel and cases shall be assigned within the division on the basis of expertise. Police officers assigned to conduct criminal investigations shall be titled investigators.

The United States Constitution guarantees every citizen certain rights and protections, i.e. the right to legal counsel, protection against self-incrimination, protection against unlawful search and seizure, the right to privacy, etc. Every member of the department bears a strict liability to comply with and safeguard those constitutional obligations. Members of the Criminal Investigation Division, by virtue of the nature of their specific duties, must be keenly aware of these obligations and keep current with any court decisions that may affect these rights.

## Major Crimes Unit

The Major Crimes Unit is comprised of 5 investigators. Their primary role is to investigate homicides, shooting assaults, bank robberies, and other serious crimes or investigations assigned at the discretion of the CID Commanding Officer.

Crime Type	5YA	2021	2022	Last Year % Change	5YA % Change
Homicide	7	8	3	-63%	-57%
Rape	18.2	23	23	0%	26%
Robbery	95.6	89	81	-9%	-15%
Agg Assault	215.4	216	253	17%	17%
Burglary	297.6	248	268	8%	-10%
Larceny	1633.8	1727	1731	0%	6%
MV Theft	118	241	155	-36%	31%
Violent Crime	336	336	360	7%	7%
Property Crime	2049.4	2216	2154	-3%	5%
Overall Index Crime	2385.4	2552	2514	-1%	5%

# Criminal Investigation Division

## GIVE

The goal of the Gun Involved Violence Elimination (GIVE) initiative is the elimination of shootings and homicides, or aggravated assaults, through the integrated use of evidence-based strategies that are incorporated into the four core elements of GIVE: People, Places, Alignment and Engagement.

GIVE is a DCJS funded project that allots one full-time GIVE funded officer position and one part-time GIVE funded officer position at the Utica Police Department. The initiative is a joint venture involving the Utica Police Department, the Oneida County District Attorney's Office, Oneida County Probation and the Oneida County Sheriff's Office.

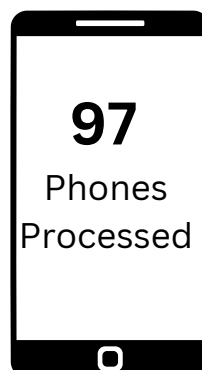
## 69 guns recovered



## Crime Scene Unit

In 2022, the Crime Scene Unit responded to homicides, serious physical injury/fatal injury motor vehicle collisions, numerous non-fatal shootings, serious assaults and several unattended death investigations. The unit two new callback members were added to the unit.

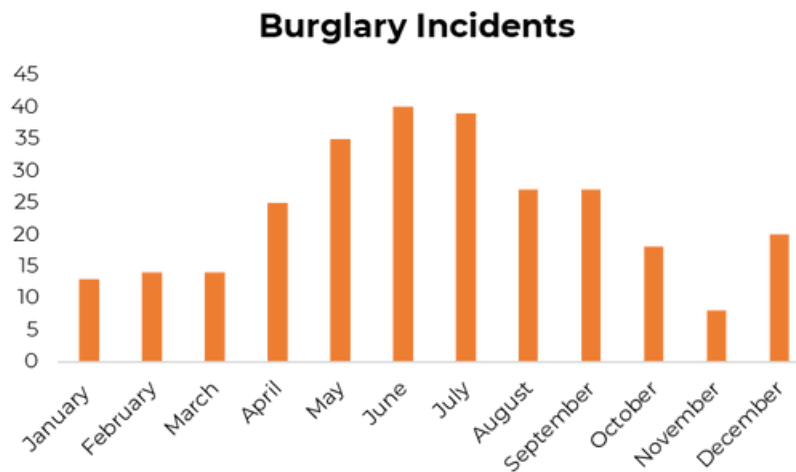
The Mobile Forensic Investigation Center continued assisting members of local, state and federal law enforcement. The unit was able to update the 3D scanner software to FARO and updated mobile forensics to Cellebrite Premium.



# Criminal Investigation Division

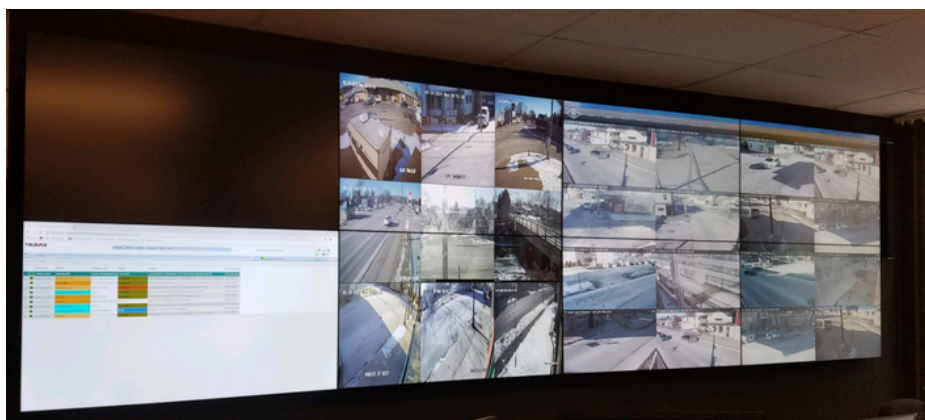
## Burglary Unit

The Burglary Unit consists of two investigators solely assigned to the investigation of burglary complaints.



## Mohawk Valley Crime Analysis Center

In 2022, The Mohawk Valley Crime Analysis Center hired three new crime analysts. obtained a new lead crime analyst and the Rome Police Department joined the center. With the hiring of so many new analysts came challenges in training and maintaining the high standards of work that are expected here at the MVCAC. The MVCAC installed Data Management Platforms (Digital Signage) at the New Hartford, Ilion, Rome and Herkimer Police Departments. The City of Utica also installed six new cameras along with a new video management system to help with the performance of real time crime analysis.



# Criminal Investigation Division

## Juvenile Aid Unit

The Juvenile Aid Unit is comprised of three investigators who deal specifically with the problems of young people. Although they are members of a municipal police department, juvenile officers are set apart from other police personnel by their emphasis on youth. The primary objective of the Juvenile Aid Unit is to prevent juvenile delinquency and provide services that will have a positive impact on juvenile behavior.

The Juvenile Aid Unit has the added responsibility of assisting guardians with juveniles in need of supervision, even if their activity does not amount to criminal conduct. The Juvenile Aid Unit investigates, processes and refers juveniles who engage in criminal acts and offenses against the community. It maintains all juvenile records, independent from the normal records keeping function of the department's Records Unit. The unit is also responsible for investigating all missing persons cases, both adults and juveniles.



369 Missing Person Cases



160 Juveniles Arrested

## Sex Offender Unit

It is the policy of the Utica Police Department to use all reasonable means to assist in the investigation of non-compliant sex offenders, to educate the public about personal safety precautions and to train designated law enforcement personnel on registration, notification, verification and community education procedures.

This department recognizes that sex offenders can pose a significant risk to the community and that community fear may be fueled by confusing sex offender laws and lack of understanding of law enforcement efforts to hold sex offenders accountable. This department is guided by federal and state laws regarding the registration, public notification and verification of convicted sex offenders to enforce compliance and to prevent future victimization. This department also recognizes that law enforcement agencies are responsible for maintaining registration files, verifying compliance with registration laws, investigating violations of such laws and new offenses and locating non-compliant or absconded offenders. The Sex Offender Unit is staffed by a single investigator from the agency who is responsible for over 300 registered sex offenders residing in the City of Utica.

16 Violations



5 Arrests

# Criminal Investigation Division

## Special Investigations Section

The Special Investigations Section is made up of the Special Investigations Unit and the Warrants Unit. Special Investigations is responsible for such things as street-level drug interdiction, mid-level narcotics investigations and quality of life complaints.

## The Special Investigations Unit

The Special Investigations Unit investigates street to mid-level narcotic activity and short to mid-term investigations. They are responsible for the department's narcotic testing and provide supporting documentation for local/county prosecution.

**169**  
**Overdose**  
**Investigations**

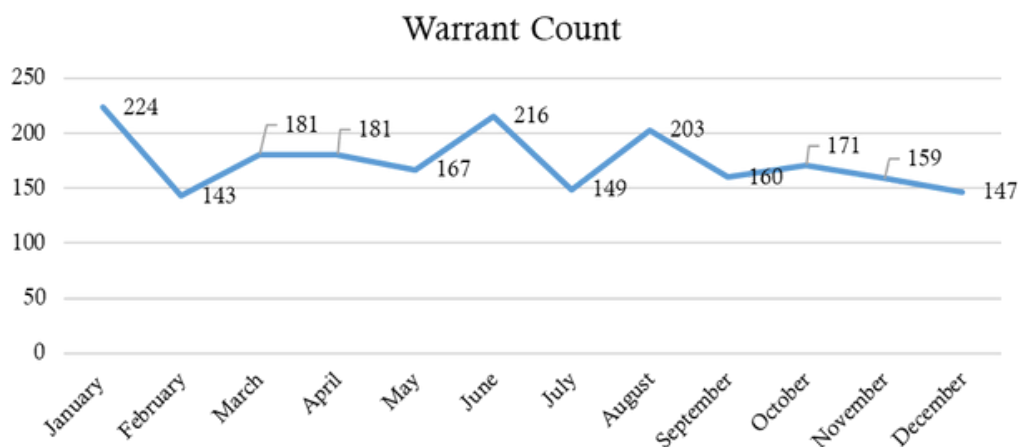
**27**  
**Search Warrants**  
**Executed**

**\$40,730.00**  
**seized**

## Warrants Unit

The Warrants Unit is responsible for recording and enforcing all Utica City Court warrants and assisting any outside agency requesting information or resources.

The Warrants Unit is staffed by two investigators and a Warrants Specialist. The unit also works in collaboration with the United States Marshals Service.



# Criminal Investigation Division

## Professional Standards Unit

The Professional Standards Unit is made up of one supervisor who works at the discretion of the Chief of Police. Their primary responsibility is to record, register and maintain staff control of all internal investigations involving police personnel. These investigations include, but are not limited to, the evaluation of use of force, civilian complaints and inquiries related to alleged police misconduct. The unit is also responsible for completing background investigations on both sworn and non-sworn employees. Conducting any necessary audits in relation to police property and evidence is also part of their responsibilities.

## Complaints/Allegations Received in 2022

Finding	Count
Sustained	35
Not Sustained	3
Exonerated	3
Pending	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>42</b>



# Criminal Investigation Division

## 2022 Use of Force Statistics

Force Used	Count
Empty Hand Control/Come Along	18
Firearm Discharge	2
Capstun	6
Conducted Electronic Device	1
Hard Hand Strike	2
Point Handgun	9
Pain Compliance	1
Gas Munitions	1
Takedown	91
Taser Announced	15
Taser Deployed	14
TOTAL	160

### Sex:

Male: 127  
Female: 39  
Unknown: 4

### Race:

Asian: 6  
Black: 94  
Black Hispanic: 1  
Unknown: 5  
White: 54  
White Hispanic: 10

### Age:

Under 20: 28  
20-29: 59  
30-39: 35  
40-49: 28  
50 plus: 14  
Unknown: 6

**3,688 Criminal Arrests**  
Force Used in  
**4.3% of Arrests**

# 2022 Additions / Events

## Additions

### Mobile Surveillance Trailer

The Utica Police Department acquired a Mobile Surveillance Trailer which is deployed for extra cameras to any large scale events, such as the Boilermaker.

### Pole Cameras

7 new pole cameras were installed throughout the city of Utica in 2022.

## Events

### Movies in the Park

In partnership with the Bank of Utica and the Thomas Lindsey Foundation, movies were shown on a projector in the park and food was also provided.



### National Prescription Take Back

The Utica Police Department took part in Drug Take Back Day, the national event encouraging persons to turn in their unneeded prescription drugs to their local police department for safe disposal.



### Food Drive

This year, members of the Utica Police Department, civilian staff and their families were able to raise enough money to donate over 800 lbs of food to donate to the Veteran's Outreach Center.

### No Shave November

The No Shave November fundraiser raised money that was donated to a local charitable cause.

### Shop with a Cop

The Utica Police Department, partnered with several local businesses, were able to take underprivileged children shopping for Christmas gifts and out to enjoy a pizza dinner.

### Gun Buy Back

Combined with the New York State Attorney General's Office, UPD collected working and nonworking unloaded firearms in exchange for prepaid gift cards. This event resulted in a record number of weapons recovered.

# 2022 Accomplishments

- Hamilton College/Community Partnership for Racial Justice Reform conducted a review and graded the Utica Police Department's police reform the highest in the county
- The Utica Police Department has achieved Gold level recognition for 2022 as part of the Lexipol Connect Customer Recognition Program, which recognizes law enforcement agencies for excellence in policy maintenance and training. This is the second consecutive year the Utica Police Department has been recognized
- Captain Bryan Coromato and Lieutenant Howard Brodt graduated from the FBI National Academy

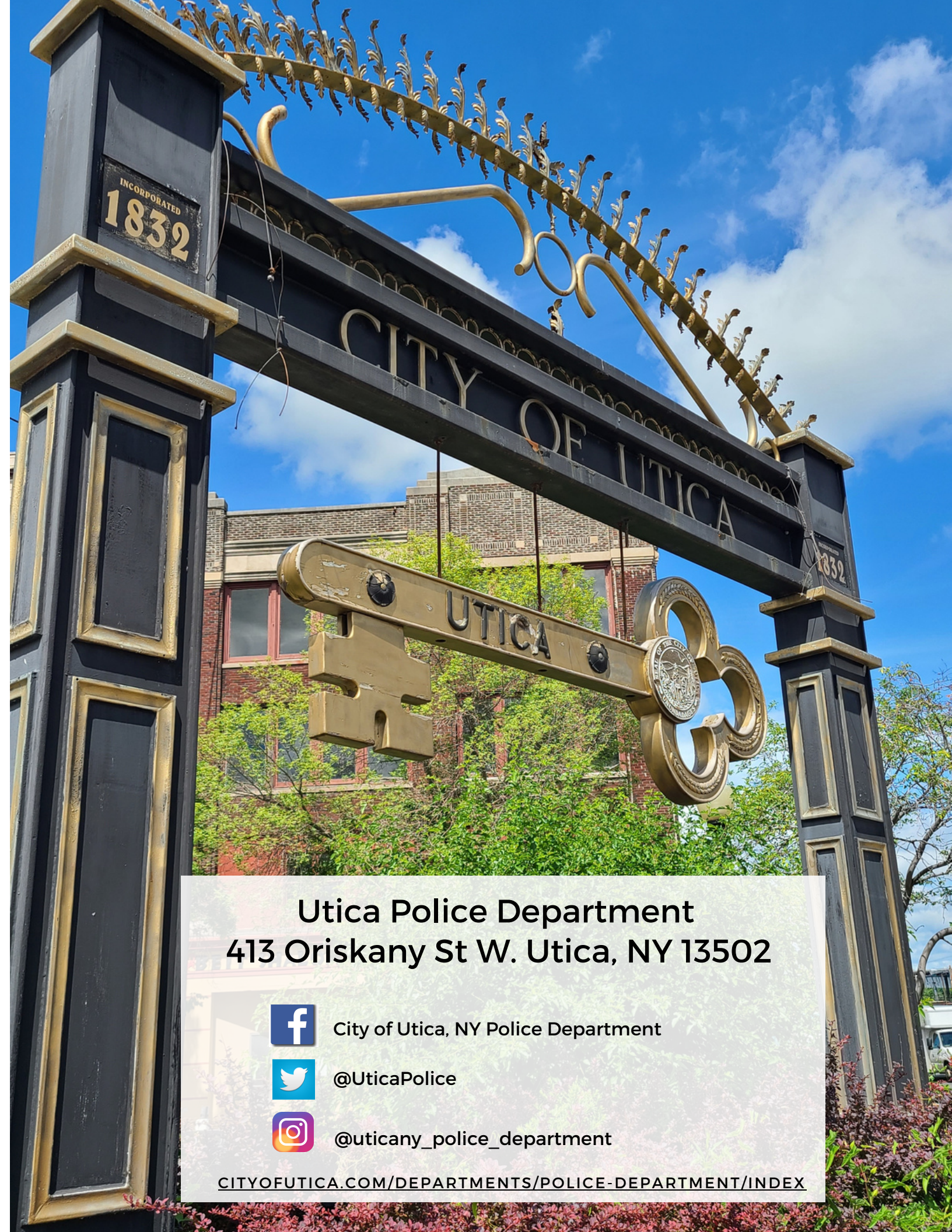


- Metro SWAT Team was recognized as the winner of the Tactical Week Challenge following a series of training sessions at the State Emergency Preparedness Training Center, operated by the State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services in Oriskany
- In an effort to further diversify the department, Eh Khu Hser became our first Karen female Utica Police Officer









**Utica Police Department**  
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City of Utica, NY Police Department



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