

Annual Report 2021

City of Belle Meade Police Department



Table of Contents

Mission Statement	1
Message from the Chief.....	1
Department Administration	3
Police Operations Section	4
Patrol Division	4
Criminal Investigation Division	5
Support Services Section	5
Communications Division	5
Calls for Service	6
Administrative Division	6
Organizational Chart.....	8
Municipal Court.....	9
Citations	9
Community Outreach	10
City Administration	11
Crime Statistics.....	12
Traffic Crashes.....	14

To save on printing costs, this report is provided in electronic format rather than the traditional printed format. Copies are available for download on the Belle Meade Police Department website at <http://www.citybellemeade.org/policedepartment>. Hard copies are available upon request.

Mission Statement

The City of Belle Meade Police Department strives to provide community-oriented law enforcement that contributes to the quality of life expected by City residents through professional, visible, and respectful efforts of well-trained Police Department employees who are dedicated to public service. In carrying out its mission, the Police Department is especially mindful of and guided by the following values:

Fairness – Consistent and equitable enforcement of the law.

Integrity – Adherence to the highest moral and ethical standards.

Respect – Respect for the views, rights, and dignity of others.

Teamwork – Working together to accomplish our mission with efficiency and safety.

Message from the Chief

To the Mayor, Commissioners, City Managers, and Citizens of Belle Meade, and the Employees of the Belle Meade Police Department:

This report highlights the many activities of the Belle Meade Police Department during 2021, as well as crime and traffic statistics. Hopefully, it will provide a clear understanding of our department's activity and community involvement.

A primary goal for our department when I made chief in March 2021 was to become more community oriented. I wanted our officers to get to know the community they serve. We implemented a community contact initiative that encourages officers to stop and talk to residents that they see out in the yard and walking on the street. We still plan on starting our Citizen's Police Academy, but the pandemic has not been cooperative thus far.

Traffic safety is another goal we have set at the Belle Meade Police Department. In 2021, a significant increase in traffic citations was issued, resulting in a considerable reduction in traffic crashes in the city limits.

Our Public Safety Security System began in July of 2018 and continues to be an asset for our police officers and detective. We also use the system to search for persons that may be involved in crime in Belle Meade, and it is beneficial to other agencies' investigations also.

Certified Child Safety Technicians continue to help parents and caretakers with the correct installation of car seats, and throughout most of this year, we were the only agency in Davidson County that helped caretakers with installation.

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve with a group of dedicated officers and dispatchers daily. The city's administration has been very supportive during my first year, leading to us accomplishing several goals. It is an honor to work for a community that supports us the way Belle Meade does!

Chuck Williams, Chief

Department Administration

Chief of Police Charles Williams

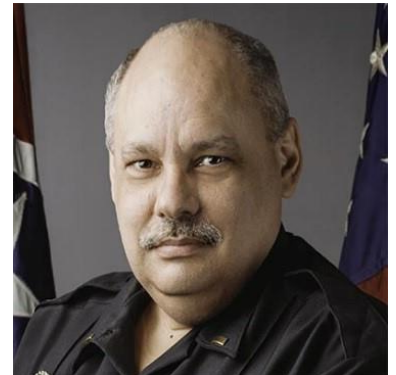


Chief Charles Williams has served with the Belle Meade Police Department for eleven years and has a total of eighteen years of law enforcement experience. He has worked his way up from a patrol officer to Chief of Police. Chief Williams was promoted from patrol sergeant to Chief after the resignation of former Chief Tim Eads who was elected Sheriff of Dickson County in November of 2020. Chief Williams is a graduate of Bethel

University and has numerous specialized police certifications.

Lieutenant Vince Higgins

Lt. Vince Higgins served in a full-time capacity with the Belle Meade Police Department for almost 30 years. He worked his way up from a patrol officer to the position of being second-in-command of the department since 2007. He also served with the Nashville International Airport Police and the Metro Nashville Park Police as a police officer. Lt. Higgins is a graduate of the Tennessee Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar as well as



numerous police leadership courses. Lt. Higgins retired from full-time service on November 1, 2021. He still serves as a part-time officer to fill in for shift shortages and will be assisting in the training of his replacement. The process to select a new lieutenant will begin in January 2022.

Police Operations Section

The Police Operations Section is the largest component of the Police Department. It is comprised of the Patrol Division and the Criminal Investigation Division. The Police Operations Sections are under the direct supervision of the Lieutenant.

Patrol Division

The uniformed officers of the Patrol Division are the most visible members of the department. Officers are assigned marked patrol cars which are all equipped with radar, as well as in-car video cameras and computer tablets. The midnight shift patrol cars are also equipped with Noptic Night Vision Devices which pick up heat signatures of persons hiding in bushes, yards, fields, etc., and display their location on the tablet screen. This technology is also useful when searching for missing persons.



The Patrol Division consists of 12 sworn officers, who are assigned to four separate shifts. Each shift is made up of a Sergeant and 2 officers.

All members of the Patrol Division bring years of experience to the department. In addition to their patrol duties, many of the officers have other duties, such as serving as Field Training Officers, instructors in various disciplines, and members of the bike patrol.

Criminal Investigation Division

The Criminal Investigation Division is staffed by Detective Tom Sexton. Detective Sexton also provides crime prevention services to the residents of Belle Meade. In addition, Detective Sexton can call on the resources of the Metro Nashville Police Department as needed to assist in any investigation.



Support Services Section

The Support Services Section is made up of the Communications Division and the Administrative Division. The Support Services Section is under the direct supervision of the Lieutenant.

Communications Division

The Communications Division is staffed by 4 full time and 2 part time Communications Officers. Each Communications Officer is certified by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and has access to both the Tennessee Criminal Portal and the NCIC system. Communications Officers provide a link between callers and officers in the field. One Communications Officer is assigned to each of the four patrol shifts. This division is supervised by Communications Sergeant Toni Tomlin.



Calls for Service

Belle Meade officers responded to 31,476 calls for service in 2021. This was a 13.2% increase over calls received in 2020. (This includes all activity).



Administrative Division

The Administrative Division consists of the Training Unit, the Accreditation Unit, the Records Unit and the Firearms Training Unit. Except for the Records Unit, all other units are staffed by patrol officers as an additional duty.

Training Unit - The Training Unit is staffed by the General Departmental Instructor (GDI), who is responsible for ensuring all sworn personnel complete the annual training requirements as set forth by the Tennessee POST Commission. Sergeant Mack Mangrum currently serves as the GDI.

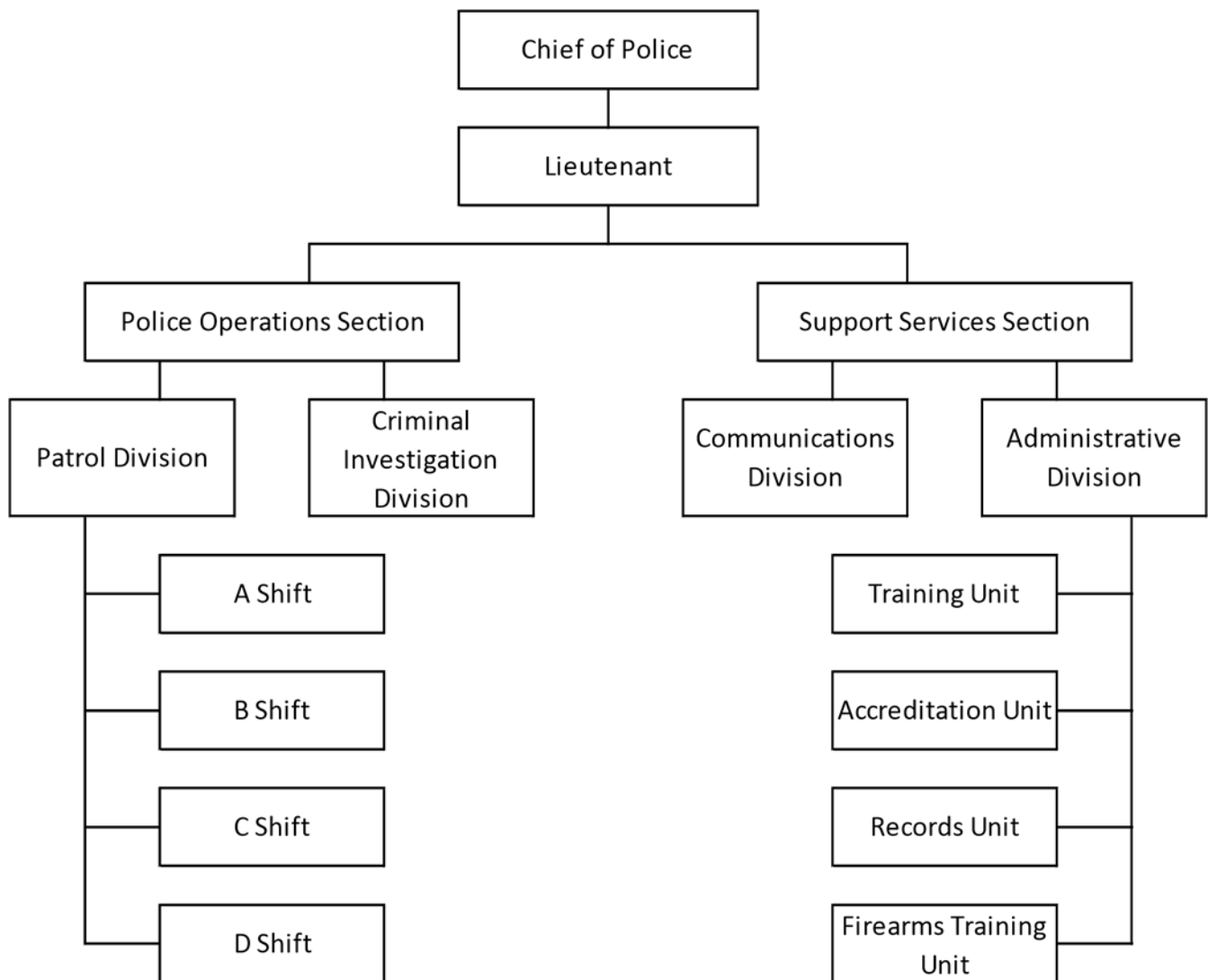
Accreditation Unit – The Accreditation Unit is staffed by the Accreditation Manager who is responsible for the Accreditation process. The department has completed the rigorous process of gaining compliance with the Tennessee Law Enforcement Accreditation program, which is administered by the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police. The Court Clerk, Kim Huffines, currently serves as the Accreditation Manager and is assisted by Chief Chuck Williams.

Records Unit – The Records Unit function is covered by the Court Clerk as part of her duties. In this function, the Court Clerk is responsible for ensuring all records, reports, etc. are maintained in accordance with departmental policy and Tennessee state law.

Firearms Training Unit – The Firearms Training Unit is responsible for all firearms training and maintenance of all firearms issued by the department. This unit is under the supervision of Sergeant Mack Mangrum.

Organizational Chart

Belle Meade Police Department



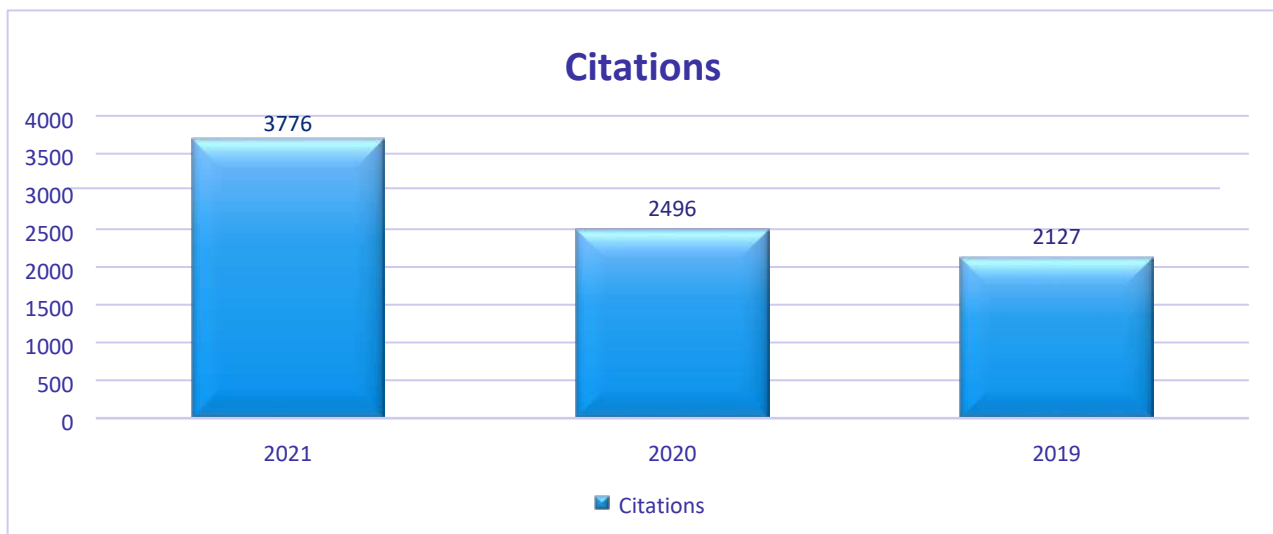
Municipal Court

The City Court of Belle Meade is presided over by Judge Mark Beveridge. The City Court hears cases concerning traffic violations and violations of other Belle Meade ordinances committed within the City of Belle Meade. Court is held on Wednesday and Thursday once a month at 8:30 AM. The City Court Clerk, Kim Huffines, is responsible for administrative responsibilities concerning the operation of the Belle Meade City Court. Judge Beveridge can be contacted through the Court Clerk's office at 615-298-1223.



Citations

Belle Meade officers issue citations into City Court for violations of Belle Meade ordinances. These citations are primarily for traffic violations, but other violations, such as curfew, may be included in these numbers. In 2021, there was a 51.2% increase over the number of citations written in 2020. Some of this can be attributed to the initial COVID restrictions for social distancing in 2020.



Community Outreach

The Belle Meade Police Department provides more than just law enforcement services. The department also offers several Community Outreach programs to better serve our community.

Child Passenger Safety Program (CPSP) - Certified child passenger safety technicians are available to give personal instruction on how to correctly install child restraint equipment in vehicles. They can also answer questions concerning the safety of your child while riding in a vehicle. Sergeant Keith Samol serves as the CPSP Coordinator.



Neighborhood Watch - The city offers an on-site coordinator and liaison for neighborhood watch groups in Belle Meade. The coordinator communicates with Block Captains who send information to residents in their group regarding BOLOs (Be on the Look Out) and about recent crimes in the city, as well as surrounding areas. The department is grateful for the extremely high participation rate in this program.

Prescription Drug Collection Program - The prescription drug collection program offers the public a means to dispose of their expired, unused, or unwanted prescription drugs anonymously and safely. The collection box is in the lobby of the Belle Meade Police Department at 4705 Harding Pike. (Entrance is located to the right of city hall main entrance). It is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Participants may dispose of medication in its original container. Loose pills should be disposed of using a clear plastic bag (provided). All medications collected from this program are destroyed by incineration. Sergeant Keith Samol supervises this program.



City Administration

The City of Belle Meade is in western Davidson County and is considered a “satellite city” of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County. The population of Belle Meade is 2,280 according to the 2019 U.S. Census Bureau. The city was chartered in 1938 as a City Manager-Commissioner form of government. The Board of Commissioners is the policy making body, while the City Manager is the Chief Administrative Officer. Beth Reardon serves as the City Manager. Lyle Patterson is the Codes Administrator/Assistant City Manager, and Leigh Mills is the Finance and Human Resources Director.



Beth Reardon

Lyle Patterson

Leigh Mills

The citizens elect five Commissioners for staggered four-year terms. The Commissioners then elect two of their members to serve as Mayor and Vice-Mayor for two-year terms.

2021 Board of Commissioners:

Mayor: James Hunt

Vice Mayor: Rusty Moore

Commissioner: Bob Weigel

Commissioner: Louise Bryan

Commissioner: Haley Dale

Crime Statistics

The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) is responsible for compiling crime statistics for the State. Crimes are placed into one of two groups. Group A includes crimes such as murder, rape, and theft. Group B includes DUI, drunkenness, and trespass. Most crimes in Belle Meade are property crimes, which fall in Group A.

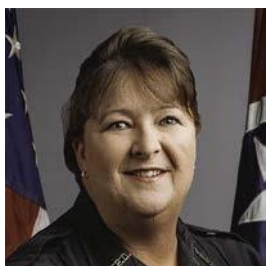
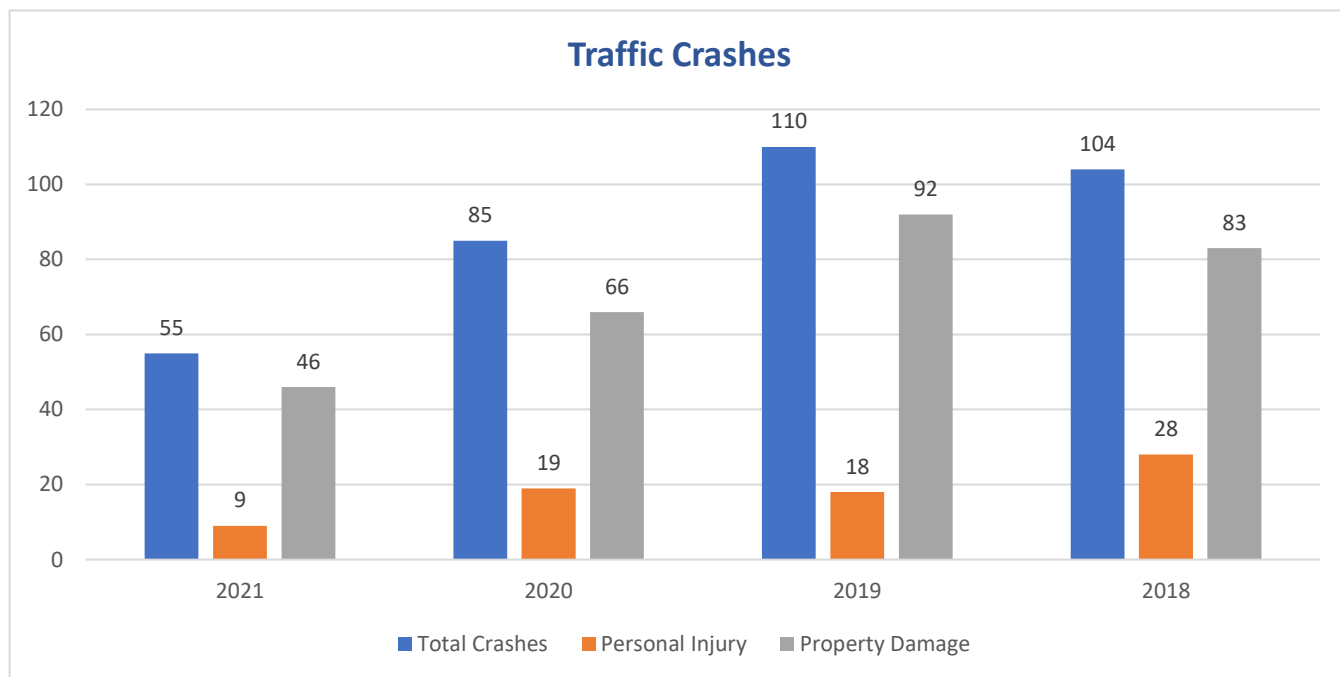
TBI Crime Overview

GROUP A OFFENSES				
Crimes Against Persons	2018	2019	2020	2021
Murder	0	0	0	0
Kidnapping	0	0	0	0
Forcible Rape	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	0	0	0	1
Simple Assault	3	0	8	2
Intimidation	1	1	1	2
Stalking	1	0	0	2
Crimes Against Property	2018	2019	2020	2021
Arson	0	0	0	0
Burglary	10	15	6	0
Counterfeiting/Forgery	0	1	0	0
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism	13	11	12	5
Extortion/Blackmail	0	0	0	0

Fraud-False Pretenses	5	3	3	4
Fraud- Credit Card/ATM	2	5	2	3
Fraud-Impersonation	7	11	5	2
Fraud-Identity Theft	0	0	4	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0
Theft From Building	3	5	1	0
Theft From Motor Vehicle	13	10	13	1
Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts	0	0	1	2
Theft-All Other Larceny	5	8	9	6
Motor Vehicle Theft	1	1	0	1
Crimes Against Society	2018	2019	2020	2021
Drug/Narcotic Violations	4	10	7	2
Drug/Narcotic Equipment Violations	4	4	4	0
Weapons Law Violation	0	0	0	2
GROUP B OFFENSES				
Offense	2018	2019	2020	2021
DUI	26	26	27	11
Drunkenness	1	1	2	1
Trespass	0	0	3	0
All Other Offenses	0	1	1	10

Traffic Crashes

In 2021, the Belle Meade Police Department investigated 55 total crashes. There were no fatality crashes, 9 crashes with injuries, and 46 property damage crashes.



Officer Dee Howell retired on February 28, 2021, after twenty-five years of service with the Belle Meade Police Department. Dee was the coordinator of the Neighborhood Watch Program as well as the instructor for the traffic court's Defensive Driving School. She was well known throughout Belle Meade and many citizens thought very highly of her. She will always be remembered by her fellow officers as a very hard worker and someone who was always willing to go the extra mile. Fortunately, Dee still drops by occasionally and pays us a visit.