Annual Report

GROWTH THROUGH PROGRESS

2022

Highland Heights Police Department

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Mission Statement

The primary mission of the Highland Heights Police Department is to lead efforts within the community to preserve the public peace, protect the rights of persons and property, prevent crime and provide assistance to citizens in urgent situations. The Department is responsible for the law enforcement of all federal laws, state statutes, and city ordinances within the boundaries of the City of Highland Heights.

The Department must enforce the law in a fair and impartial manner, recognizing both the statutory and judicial limitations of police authority and constitutional rights of all persons. It is not the role of the Department to legislate, render legal judgements or punish.

The Department strives to serve the people of Highland Heights by providing law enforcement in a professional courteous manner and it is to the people, that the Department is ultimately responsible.

Value Statement

Human Life

We value life and dignity above all else. Therefore: We give first priority to situations that threaten life. We use force only when necessary. We treat all persons with courtesy and respect. We are compassionate and caring.

Cooperation

We believe that cooperation and team work will enable us to combine our diverse backrounds, skills and styles to achieve common goals. Therefore: We work as a team. We strive to understand those who disagree with us. We seek the help and cooperation of others. We seek to resolve conflicts. We rely on community support and involvement. We share our responsibility to serve the citizens of Highland Heights, Ky with many other agencies and organizations.

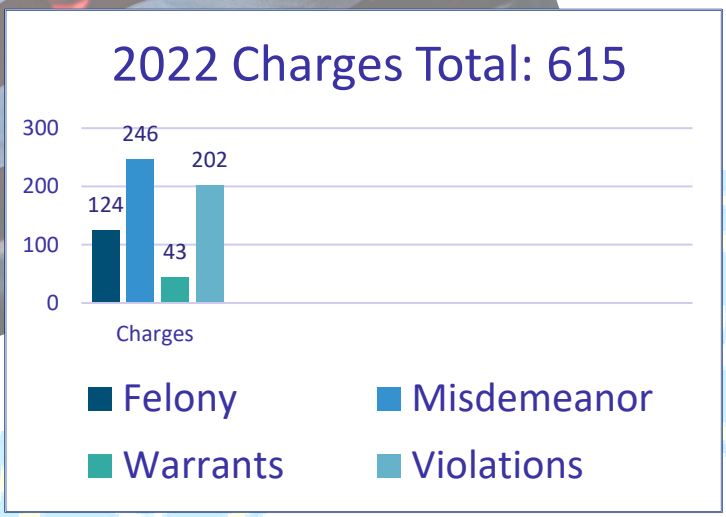
Excellence

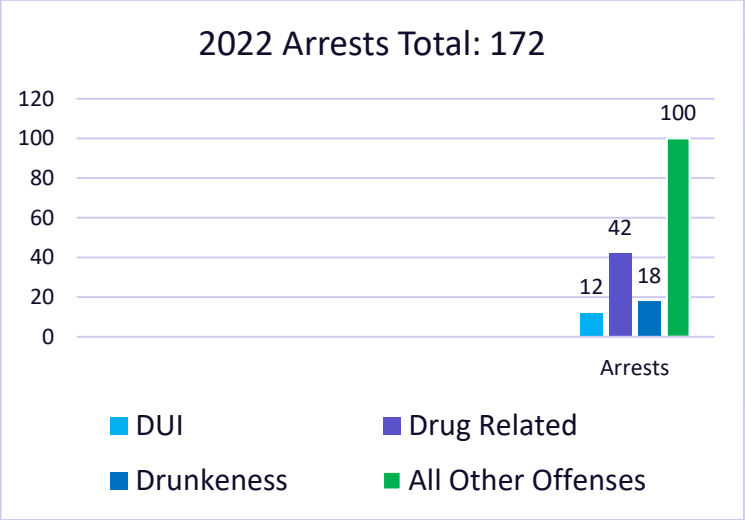
We strive for personal and professional excellence. Therefore: We do our best. We seek adequate resources in staffing, facilities, equipment, training, salaries, and benefits. We recruit and hire the best people. We are receptive to new ideas, to change. We meet state recognized law enforcement standards. We lead by example. We work towards realistic, or mutually agree upon goals.

Integrity

We believe integrity is the basis of community trust. Therefore: We are honest and truthful. We are consistent in our beliefs and actions. We hold ourselves to high standards of moral and ethical conduct. We are role models for the community.

CHARGES AND CITATIONS



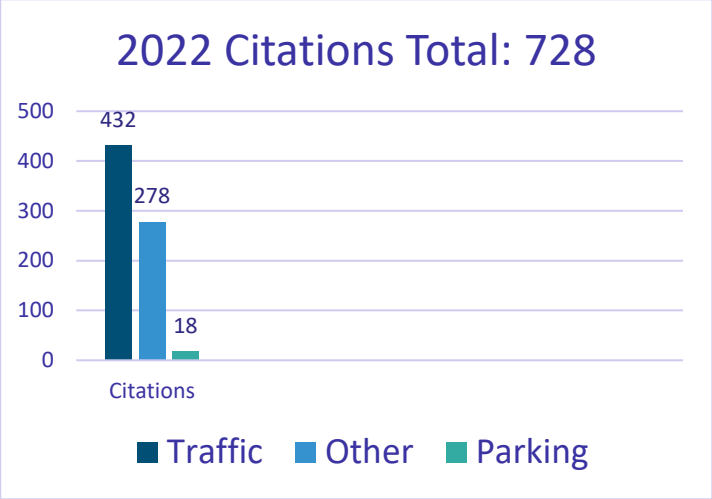


Accidents

- 165

Calls for Service

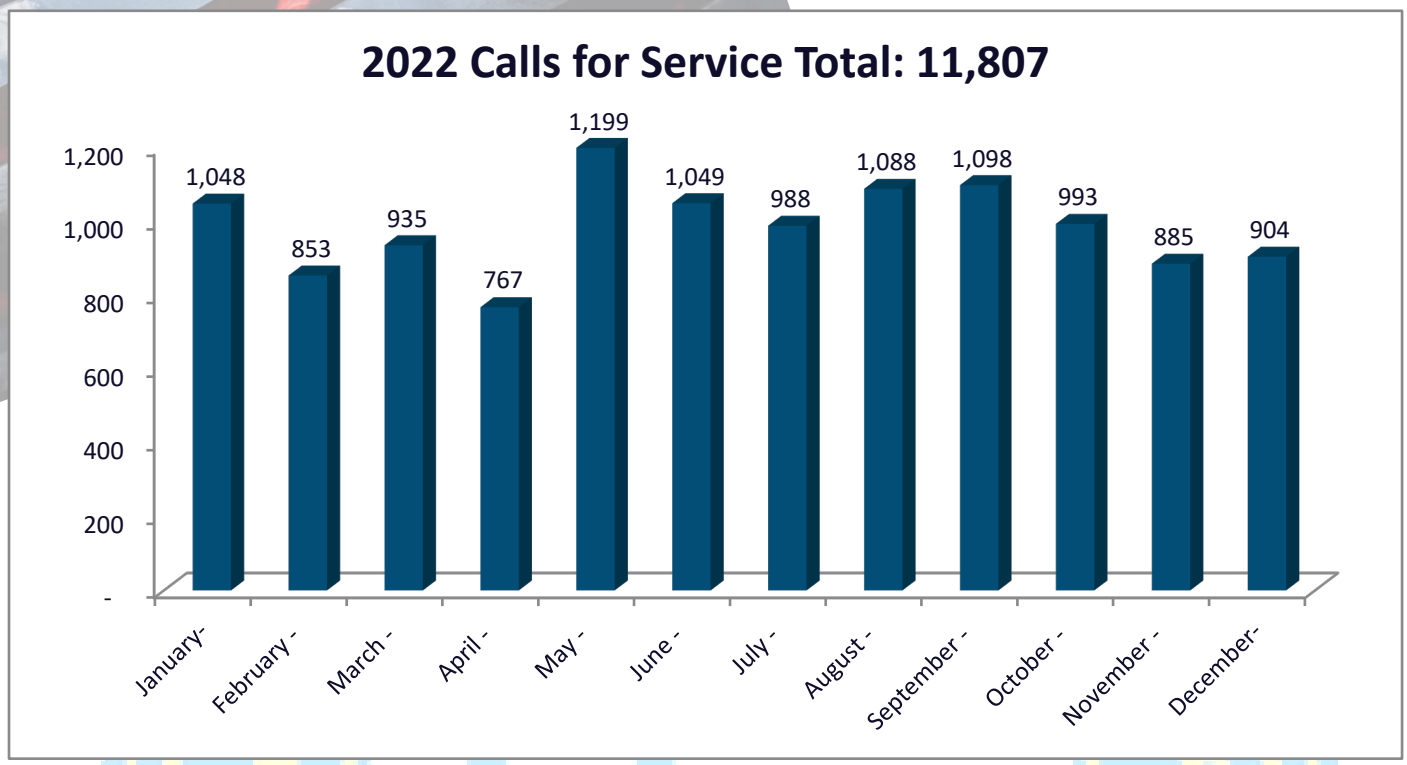
- 11,807



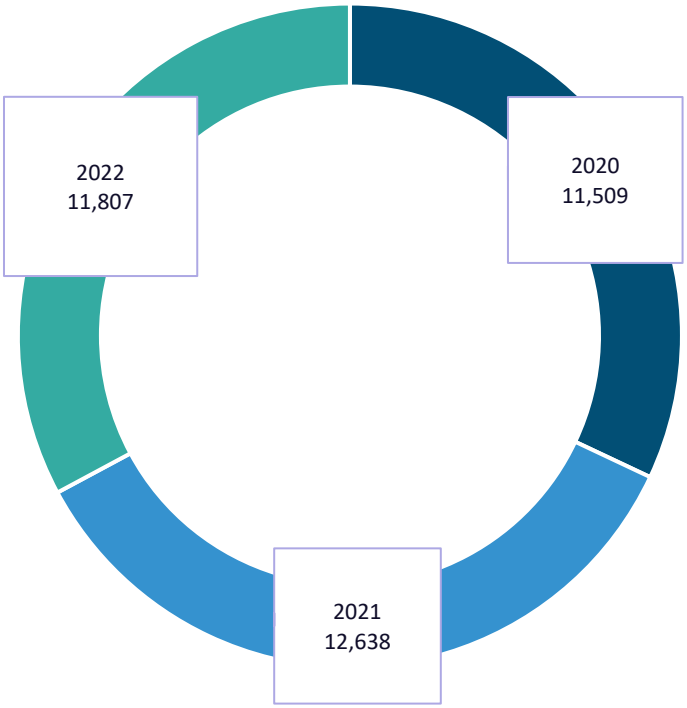
CALL BY ACTIVITY

Alarms	145
Animal Complaint	49
Area Checks	1,417
Assault	9
Assist Other Agency	183
Burglary	13
Business Checks	1,516
Disabled Motorist	264
Disorderly Juveniles	23
Disturbance	97
Domestic	107
Fight	8
Harassment	38
Intoxicated Subject	7
Missing Person	6
Neighbor Dispute	21
Parking Complaint	60
Public Contacts	59
Roadway Obstruction	44
Suspicious Subject/Vehicle	185
Theft	92
Traffic Stops	1,264
Vacation Checks	309
Vandalism	7
Vice Activity	10
Welfare Check	110
911 Hang-ups	26

Call by Activity	2020	2021	2022	3-year Average
Alarms	137	129	**145**	137
Animal Complaint	47	40	**49**	45
Area Checks	3,693	1,924	**1,417**	2,345
Assault	11	17	**9**	12
Assist Other Agency	451	208	**183**	281
Burglary	20	15	**13**	16
Business Checks	1,219	705	**1,516**	1,147
Disabled Motorists	191	237	**264**	231
Disorderly Juveniles	21	12	**23**	19
Disturbance	232	134	**97**	154
Domestic	113	103	**107**	108
Fight	16	6	**8**	10
Harassment	55	43	**38**	45
Intoxicated Subject	10	9	**7**	9
Missing Person	15	10	**6**	10
Neighbor Dispute	23	17	**21**	20
Parking Complaint	91	72	**60**	74
Public Contacts	164	51	**59**	91
Roadway Obstruction	51	57	**44**	51
Suspicious Subject/Vehicle	209	215	**185**	203
Theft	98	124	**92**	105
Traffic Stops	1,046	1,771	**1,264**	1,360
Vacations Checks	182	620	**309**	370
Vandalism	11	4	**7**	7
Vice Activity	5	10	**10**	8
Welfare Check	107	98	**110**	105
911 Hang-ups	16	36	**26**	26

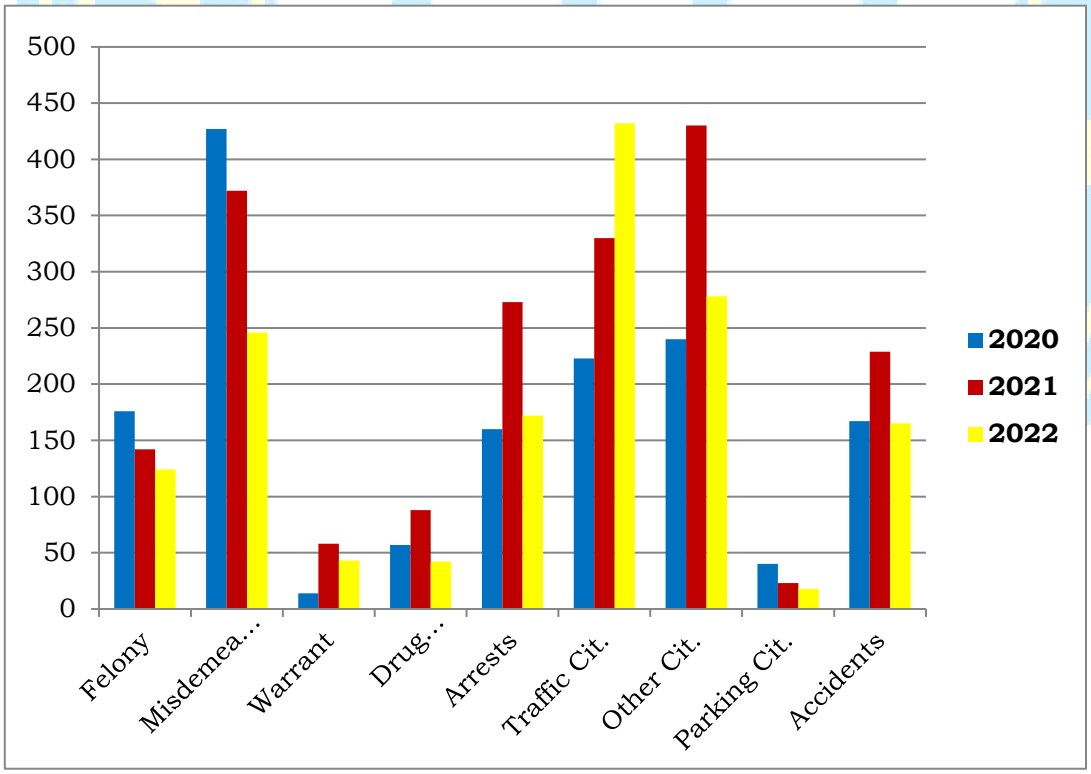


3 Year Average 11, 985



CHARGES AND CITATIONS
3-YEAR AVERAGE

	2020	2021	2022	3-year Average
Felony	176	142	**124**	147
Misdemeanor	427	372	**246**	248
Warrant	14	58	**43**	38
Drug Related	57	88	**42**	62
Arrests	160	273	**172**	202
Traffic Cit.	223	330	**432**	328
Other Cit.	240	430	**278**	316
Parking Cit.	40	23	**18**	27
Accidents	167	229	**165**	187



COMMAND STAFF

Chief William Birkenhauer

wbirkenhauer@hhky.com

859-442-6913

Alexandria Police Department 1987 to 1989
Cold Spring Police Department 1989 to 1991
Campbell County Police Department 1991 to 2011
Highland Heights Police Department 2011 to Present
Police Chief 2014 to Present

Special Assignments

Northern Kentucky Drug Strike Force 1995 to 2010
Newport/Campbell County SWAT team 2001 to 2010
Federal Bureau of Investigation Task Force Officer 2007 to 2012
Campbell County Drug Task Force 2011 to 2014

Lieutenant Nick Love

nlove@hhky.com

859-441-8956

Cold Spring Police Department 2007 to 2009
Highland Heights Police Department 2007 to Present
Promoted to Sergeant 2016
Promoted to Lieutenant 2020

Special Assignments

Northern Kentucky Crime Scene Unit 2010 to 2020
Campbell County Drug Task Force 2014 to 2016
Newport SWAT Team 2013 to 2016
Completed the Northwestern School of Police Staff and Command-10-week course-Elected Officer in the class 2022
Academy of Police Supervision 2017
Criminal Justice Executive Development 2021

COMMAND STAFF

Patrol Sergeant Nick Blank

nblank@hhky.com

859-442-6908

Campbell County Police Department 2011 to 2014
Highland Heights Police Department 2014 to Present
Promoted to Sergeant 2020

Special Assignments

Firearms Range Instructor 2015 to Present
SIRT 2020 to Present

Sergeant Detective John Dunn

jdunn@hhky.com

859-442-6911

Campbell County Sheriff's Office 2004 to 2008
Newport Police Department 2008 to 2016
Highland Heights Police Department 2016 to Present
Promoted to Sergeant 2021

Special Assignment

Special Investigations Response Team 2018 to Present
Field Training Officer 2009 to Present
Newport FOP President 2012 to 2014
Property Room Supervisor 2021 to Present
Crime Scene Team 2018 to 2021
Commander of Campbell County Special Investigation Response Team 2021 to Present

STAFF

Officer Dave Fornash

dfornash@hhky.com

Highland Heights Police Department 1996 to 2016
Highland Heights Police Department 2016 to Present

Special Assignments

SWAT Certified Sniper 1997 to 2008
Firearms Instructor 1998 to Present
Criminal Investigations 1999 to 2001
Fire Investigation Team 2001 to 2007
Property Room Officer 1999 to Present
Field Training Officer
Technology and Management 2000 to Present
Northern Kentucky Drug Strike Force 2004 to 2007
Defensive Tactics Instructor 2004 to 2007
Taser Instructor 2006 to 2021
Perverted Justice Sting 2008
Campbell County Crime Scene Team Supervisor 2008 to 2016
National Forensic Academy 2009

Officer Patrick Feldman

pfeldman@hhky.com

Cold Spring Police Department 2018 to 2019
Highland Heights Police Department 2019 to Present

Special Assignment

Taser Instructor 2022 to Present

Officer Zach Burton

zburton@hhky.com

Covington Police Department 2013 to 2014
Northern Kentucky University Police Department 2015 to 2018
Dayton Police Department 2018 to 2020
Highland Heights Police Department 2020 to Present
Special Assignment
Taser Instructor 2020 to Present

Officer Zach Vance

zvance@hhky.com

Campbell County Police Department 2018 to 2021
Highland Heights Police Department 2021 to Present
Special Assignments
Fire Investigation Team 2022 to Present
Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) 2013 to Present

Officer Mike Rowland

mrowland@hhky.com

Firefighter-EMT Central Campbell Fire District 2000 to 2006
Southgate Police Department 2006 to 2010
Fort Thomas Police Department 2010 to 2021
Highland Heights Police 2021 to Present

Special Assignments

Canine Handler Highland Heights / Southgate Police Authority 2006 to 2010
Criminal Investigations 2013 to 2021
Campbell County Drug Task Force 2013 to 2017
Campbell County Crime Scene Unit 2014 to 2021
Campbell County Fire Investigation Team 2015 to 2021
Agent/Canine Handler with Northern Kentucky Drug Strike Force 2017 to 2021

Officer Eric Schmidt

eschmidt@hhky.com

Southgate Police Department- 2002 to 2007
Campbell County Police Department- 2007 to 2022
Highland Heights Police Department- 2022 to Present

Special Assignments

Firearms Instructor 2004 to Present
Field Training Officer 2003 to Present
Less Lethal Instructor 2021 to Present
Taser Instructor 2010 to Present
Campbell County Crime Scene Unit 2015 to 2021

Officer Britt Ross

bross@hhky.com

Benham 2010 to 2013
Harlan Police Department 2013 to 2016
Campbell County Police Department 2016 to 2018
Scott County Sheriff's Office 2018 to 2019
Southgate Police Department 2020
Dayton Police Department 2020 to 2022
Highland Heights Police Department 2022 to Present

Special Assignments

Kenton County Regional SWAT 2016 to Present
Sniper School 2020
Firearms Instructor 2013 to Present
Less Lethal Instructor 2017 to Present
Designated Marksman 2015 to Present
Red Dot Optic Instructor 2022 to Present

Officer Kim Williams

kwilliams@hhky.com

Campbell County Police Department 2000 to 2013
Highland Heights Police Department 2013 to 2020
Highland Heights Police Department 2021 to Present

Special Assignments

Campbell County Dispatch 1993 to 2000
Property Room 2002 to Present
Marijuana Identification 2004
Northern Kentucky Drug Strike Force 2006 to 2010
Officer of the year 2008
Campbell County Honor Guard 2003 to 2013

Code Enforcement Officer William J Hunt

whunt@hhky.com

Southgate Police Department 2001 to 2003
Fort Thomas Police Department 2003 to 2021
Special Assignments
Field Training Officer 2005 to 2021
Campbell County Crime Scene Unit 2005 to 2012
Sergeant 2017 to 2019
Academy of Supervision 2017
Field Training Coordinator 2018 to 2021
Public Information Officer 2017 to 2021
Lieutenant 2019 to 2021
Criminal Justice Executive Management 2019

Police Clerk Mary Oergel

moergel@hhky.com

Highland Heights Police Department 2019 to Present

Police Social Worker Angie Weinel

aweinel@hhky.com

Police & Campbell County Police Departments 2021 to 2023
Highland Heights Police Department 2023 to Present

DOCJT MANDATORY TRAINING

- KENTUCKY INVESTIGATIONS
- CURRENT LEADERSHIP ISSUES MID-LEVEL EXECUTIVE CLIME
- POLICE EXECUTIVE COMMAND COURSE-PECC
- RESILENCY
- COLLABORATIVE LEADERSHIP
- CRIME SCENE
- CRIMINAL JUSTICE EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT-CJED
- MANAGING INVESTIGATIVE UNIT
- ACADEMY OF POLICE SUPERVISION-APS
- PATROL RIFLE
- CHILD ABUSE INVESTIGATION
- DEFENSE DRIVING
- STRESS AND WELLNESS
- DRUG INVESTIGATION TECHNIQUES
- BREATHALYZER RECERTIFICATION

ADDITIONAL TRAINING

- DRUG INVESTIGATIVE TECHNIQUES TRAINING
- INVESTIGATIVE TECHNIQUES
- TASER TRAINING
- PROPERY AND EVIDENCE ROOM
- DIGITAL CRIME SCENE TRAINING
- SHOOTING QUALIFICATIONS
- SEARCH WARRANT MAJOR CASE INVESTIGATION
- STREET COP TRAINING-FIREARMS INVESTIGATIONS
- CAMPUS ACTIVE SHOOTER INTEGRATED RESPONSE
- NORTHWESTERN SCHOOL OF POLICE STAFF AND COMMAND
- CHILD ABUSE INVESTIGATION
- RED DOT OPTIC INSTRUCTOR TRAINING
- INDIANA TACTICAL OFFICERS ASSOCIATION-ITOA

22-00001 January 30th 2022

- Fort Thomas Police requested SIRT after a person fired several rounds at Fort Thomas Officers. There were two scenes related to this and a vehicle was searched the following day. SIRT was able to reconstruct the shooting which showed the shooter was resting his hand on the steering wheel as he fired through his windshield towards Fort Thomas Officers.
- Daniel Foster received a 15 year prison sentence

22-00002 January 31st 2022

- Southgate Police requested SIRT after a single vehicle fatality accident on 471 South where the passenger was killed but the driver was not seriously injured. SIRT completed a reconstruction and determined black ice caused the vehicle to lose control which then collided with the guardrail then overturned causing the passenger to suffer fatal injuries.
- No criminal charges were filed

22-00004 March 16th 2022

- Newport Police requested SIRT after locating two homicide victims inside a home. SIRT documented and collected evidence at the scene as well as completed a blood stain reconstruction. Newport Police located a suspect who was charged with Two counts of Murder.
- Eric Lightfoot is currently awaiting trial

22-00005 March 27th 2022

- Wilder Police requested SIRT after a shooting occurred in the parking lot of Bobby Mackey's. Multiple people had been injured as a result of two people shooting at each other in the parking lot. SIRT collected evidence, documented the scene and completed a shooting reconstruction on two vehicles. It was determined one party was the first shooter and was charged with Assault.
- Barion Graves is currently awaiting trial

22-00006 May 28th 2022

- Campbell County Police requested SIRT after locating an unresponsive 2-year-old child. SIRT collected evidence and documented the scene. After the autopsy it was determined a preexisting medical condition contributed to the child death and no charges were filed against the foster parents.

22-0007 May 29th 2022

- Newport Police requested SIRT after a fatal collision occurred on 471. SIRT documented the scene and collected evidence. There were no criminal charges filed.

22-00008 June 13th 2022

- Fort Thomas Police requested SIRT to assist with a search warrant after a person fired shots at officers. The SWAT team was also on scene and removed the person after a brief standoff. SIRT collected evidence, documented the scene and reconstructed the shooting.
- Andrew Hutchinson is currently awaiting trial.

22-00009 July 5th 2022

- Newport Police requested SIRT to assist with several search warrants after a person was shot inside a vehicle and the shooter fled into a separate location. SIRT collected evidence, documented the scene and reconstructed the shooting.
- The suspect was apprehended but the victim in not cooperating so no charges are pending.

22-00010 July 11th 2022

- Cold Spring Police requested SIRT to assist with a burglary of a car lot where multiple vehicles were taken. SIRT processed the scene as well as a stolen vehicle that was left at the scene, collected evidence and documented the scene.
- Several suspects were apprehended in Indiana in one of the stolen vehicles.

22-00011 July 25th 2022

- Wilder police requested SIRT assist in documenting a section of Moock Road where a collision occurred the day prior. The driver of a motorcycle suffered fatal injuries but did not pass away immediately. SIRT documented the scene. There were no criminal charges filed.

22-00012 August 8th 2022

- Fort Thomas Police requested SIRT assist in documenting a scene where a person fired shots at a passing vehicle. SIRT documented the scene.
- Pending criminal charges.

22-00013 August 20th 2022

- Same as CAD 22-00014

22-00014 August 20th 2022

- Newport Police requested SIRT for a Fatal hit and run collision where a person on a bicycle was struck by an unknown vehicle that fled the scene. SIRT collected evidence and documented the scene as well as completed a reconstruction.
- On August 25th Newport detectives located the fleeing vehicle in North College Hill. SIRT assisted with seizing the vehicle and returning it to Kentucky. A search warrant was then executed in order to collect evidence from the underside of the vehicle.

22-00015 September 16th 2022

- Dayton Police requested SIRT for a reported Unlawful Imprisonment and Rape. SIRT assisted executing the search warrant, collected evidence and documented the scene.
- Charges were filed against the reporting party for Filing a False Police Report.

22-00016 September 27th 2022

- Wilder Police requested SIRT for a fatal collision. SIRT collected evidence and documented the scene. The driver of the vehicle that caused the collision was at fault therefor no charges were filed.

22-00017 October 2nd 2022

- Cold Spring Police requested SIRT for a collision with serious injuries on US 27. SIRT collected evidence, assisted Cold Spring Police searching a tractor trailer, and documented the scene. SIRT completed the Collision Reconstruction and determined no charges would be filed. The driver passed away soon after the collision.

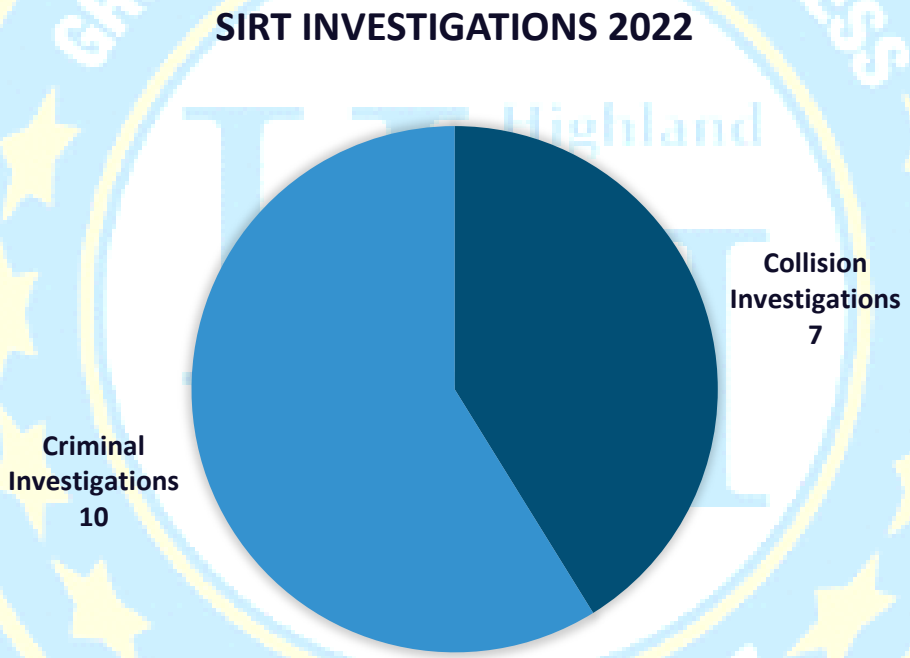
22-00018 October 17th 2022

- Newport Police requested SIRT for a fatal collision on 471. SIRT collected evidence and documented the scene. SIRT completed the reconstruction and determined no charges would be filed as the driver who caused the collision was the fatality.

22-00019 December 3rd 2022

- Newport Police requested SIRT respond to The Brass Bull for a shooting. The victim was removed from the scene but passed away before reaching the hospital. SIRT collected evidence and documented the scene. The suspect was arrested and charged with Murder.

SIRT-The Special Investigation Response Team-now has members from 11 of the 12 Police Departments in Campbell County. Many team members completed training related to crime scene or collision investigations. The team hosted specialty training and has arranged to host more training in 2023.



Newport	6 Investigations
Fort Thomas	3 Investigations
Southgate	1 Investigation
Dayton	1 Investigation
Cold Spring	2 Investigations
Wilder	3 Investigations
Campbell County	1 Investigation

CONTACT US

Our administrative office is open Monday through Friday from 8 AM to 4 PM. Please allow up to 10 business days from the date of the incident to completion of the report.

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176 JOHNS HILL ROAD
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