



From Blue to You

Madison Police Department Monthly Newsletter | March 2023



NEW BLUE: REIMAGINING POLICING

The Madison Police Department has four officers currently participating in the New Blue Fellowship Program.

New Blue is a non-profit organization looking to reshape the policing profession from within. The group accepts classes of officers on the pursuit of social equity and racial justice. These officers are then given the networking and funding to carry out their visions for the future of their profession.

The first fellowship class of New Blue was formed last year. It was comprised entirely of female law enforcement professionals, including Madison Sgt. Meg Hamilton and Detective Amelia Levett. Both were awarded a micro-grant to carry out a special policing project.

Meg undertook expanding police officer involvement in Restorative Justice, beyond the officer's investigation in the field that led to a citation. "At the heart of Restorative Justice is the idea of a second chance," Meg says. "Officers are in a unique position to give second chances." Her project involves Community Restorative Court (CRC) and a team of researchers, two of whom work through the University of Wisconsin-Madison.



Det. Amelia Levett

Amelia is starting a mentorship program for female officers.

Amelia's mentorship program offers women the chance to confidentially ask a mentor about career challenges like returning to the field after having a child, caregiving, navigating the demands of an on-call position, and other unique facets of a law enforcement career.

Meg and Amelia were invited to a New Blue Fellowship learning opportunity in London, England last fall. Only 14 women nationwide were selected as part of this inaugural class. Two other MPD officers were selected in this year's class. They are currently planning their fellowship projects.



Sgt. Meg Hamilton

Divine Nine Celebration

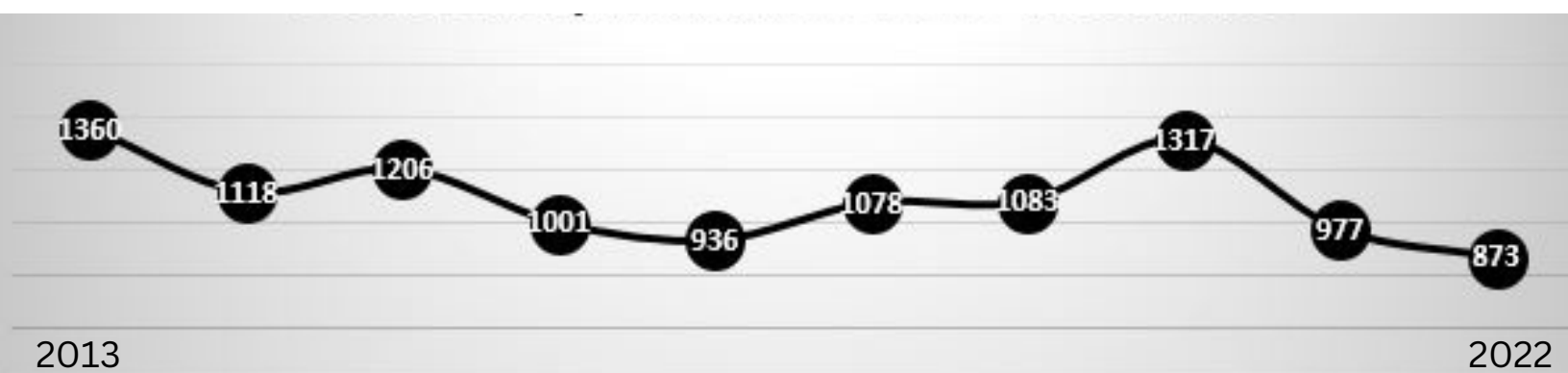
Several of the first Black officers to serve on the Madison Police Department were honored during a special ceremony in February. Certificates of appreciation were presented to Pia Kinney-James, the first Black female patrol officer and Stephanie Bradley Wilson, the first Black female commander. "Without them, there would be no us," said Captain Harrison Zanders. The event was part of a meet-and-greet between members of the MPD and area chapters of the Divine Nine. The Divine Nine consist of nine historically Black fraternities and sororities that make up the National Pan-Hellenic Council. These organizations typically have strong lifelong connections to communities of color. There are currently 2 million members worldwide, including a handful at MPD.



Police Be Our Valentine

Officers helped spread the love throughout Madison this Valentine's Day. They looked to connect meaningfully with historically marginalized communities. More than 150 cards and flowers were delivered to residents of senior care facilities, veterans and non-English-speaking seniors. "It feels great to make someone's day. And we had a lot of smiles that day," said Community Outreach officer Krista Luedtke, who helped deliver some of the cards. This is the second year for the event.

Crime Trends: Burglary/Breaking and Entering



MPD is at a 10-year low for burglary cases. The 2022 fourth quarter saw 157 compared to 242 for the same time in 2021. The above graphic shows the 10-year trend of burglaries in Madison. In 2015, our department created the specialized Burglary Crime Unit, which investigates all burglary cases. There was a spike in 2020, when multiple burglaries were reported during a summer of civil unrest. The Burglary Crime Unit is staffed by five detectives, an intelligence officer, a pawn program administrator and a detective sergeant.

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