Mahoning Township Police Department 2025 Annual Report

Board of Supervisors

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Chief of Police

Frederick C. Dyroff, III

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

Chief Frederick C. Dyroff, III

On behalf of the members of the Mahoning Township Police Department, it is my pleasure to present to you the 2025 Mahoning Township Annual Police Report.

The report represents the highlights, challenges, and activities of the officers and staff of the Mahoning Township Police Department during 2025.

Engaging our citizens in all facets of the community remains the core of our policing philosophy. The Mahoning Township Police Department is committed to delivering the highest level of police services to our citizens and guests.

The men and woman of the Mahoning Township Police Department will continue to embody the Department's Core Values of Integrity, Professionalism, Teamwork, Community, and Duty.

AGENCY PROFILE

Mahoning Township PD was established in October of 1954, with its primary purpose of providing safety for children at the Mahoning Township Consolidated School. Presently, there are eight sworn officers and a full-time civilian who are responsible for the delivery of police and support service functions.

The MTPD provides 24/7 primary police services to approximately 5,000 residents, within an 8.6 square mile jurisdiction. Contained within the jurisdiction is Geisinger Medical Center, Geisinger Health Plex, Geisinger Hospital for Advanced Medicine, and Geisinger Children's Hospital. The township population is well over 10,000 people daily due to Geisinger. Collectively, the Geisinger System is boasted to be the largest rural hospital in the world.

The department is housed in a modern facility that is centrally located within the township. The facility incorporates features to accommodate the police mission, to include detention and processing facilities, and private interview room with recording capabilities, a secure evidence room, locker rooms, patrol office, supervisor's office, chief's office, as well as a lobby to greet and accommodate visitors.

The MTPD utilizes a full range of marked and unmarked police fleet vehicles, each equipped with current technology to assist in the effective use of tools to maximize the police patrol and visibility of officers. The MTPD fleet consists of four vehicles, (3) Sport Utility Vehicles, (2) of which are marked units and (1) is unmarked, and (1) marked pickup truck, to assure delivery of services in a wide variety and topographic environments.

Within the ranks of MTPD are NRA and Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) Certified Firearms Instructors, an NRA certified patrol rifle instructor, an instructor for the police expandable baton, defensive tactics, Taser, OC spray, BolaWrap, and G.L.O.V.E. Additionally, a certified instructor for civilian response to active shooters, a police sniper, a certified forensic child abuse interviewer, a PSP trained crime scene technician and photographer, a cellular technology forensic technician, and an officer who is fluent in Mandarin and trained in advanced interrogation techniques, two drone pilots, and an on-site notary.

The Columbia–Montour SWAT Team is comprised of 35 law enforcement officers and first responders from Columbia, Montour, Northumberland, and Luzerne Counties, as well as Geisinger Medical staff. The team's mission is to provide specialized emergency services during high-risk and volatile situations.

Officer Fenstermaker of the Mahoning Township Police Department is an active member of this team. Through his involvement, he receives advanced, specialized training and brings those skills and knowledge back to the department, enhancing the capabilities of our patrol officers.

Through a capital campaign, the SWAT Team purchased the former Montour Township building in Columbia County, which now serves as its administrative office, training facility, and equipment storage location. A significant portion of the funds raised for this purchase were generously donated by the Geisinger Behavioral Health Center located in Mahoning Township.

MISSION STATEMENT

"The mission of the Mahoning Township Police is to facilitate our fundamental duty to serve the public by safeguarding lives and property, protecting the weak against oppression or intimidation, and the peaceful against violence or disorder. In carrying out this mission, we respect the constitutional rights of all."

VALUES STATEMENT

Integrity. A value that is paramount to the police profession. Integrity produces an atmosphere of credibility. Where integrity thrives, the diseased root of misconduct and corruption cannot take hold.

Professionalism. Our conduct and demeanor display the highest standard of personal and organizational excellence. Professionalism is dictated by concepts like courtesy, civility, and the ability to deliver high standards of police services.

Teamwork. We value collaboration and diversity of thought. We encourage growth and development – both on a personal and professional level, and understand that the team is always stronger than the individual.

Community. We adhere to the contemporary standards of community policing and embrace each of the nine Peelian Principles. We acknowledge

symbiotic relation with the community we serve; and through this partnership we work cohesively to promote positive solutions to community concerns.

Duty. Our duty is to protect and serve the public, prevent crime, and apprehend criminals. We obey the law and enforce it unconditionally and do not swerve from our obligations.

MTPD AGENCY MEMBERS

Last Name	First Name	Department Position	MTPD Years' Service	Years' Law Enforcement
Gerst	Matthew	Sergeant	19	20
Fenstermaker	Garon	Patrolman	12	18
Bedisky	Jason	Detective Corporal	8	15
Pander	Ryan	Patrolman	8	9
Clossen	Cody	Patrolman	7	10
Geise	George	Patrolman	5	8
Ketchem	Terry	Patrolman	2	20
Administrative				
Dyroff	Frederick	Chief	6	34
Civilian				
Wilt	Kim	Administrative Assistant	30	

YEARS' LAW ENFORCEMENT

34
20
18
15
10
9
8
20

16.75 MEDIAN VALUE

TOTAL 134 YEARS' EXPERIENCE

2025 HIGHLIGHTS

NEW EQUIPMENT

In late 2024, the department was awarded two grants through the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) and the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD), totaling $183,929 in funding. While the grant application and administration process through DCED and PCCD is complex and time-consuming, the effort has proven to be worthwhile. The department benefited from the support of the Board of Supervisors, Senator Lynda Schlegel Culver, Representative Michael Stender, and Montour County District Attorney Angie Mattis.

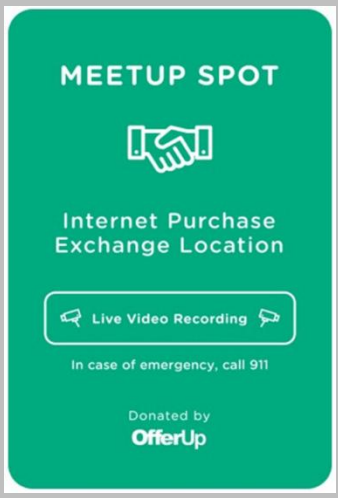
In 2025, these grants funded the purchase of new body-worn cameras, in-car camera systems with license plate reader technology, an upgraded interview room recording system, new in-car computers, and intersection cameras at the Township's two busiest intersections. The department anticipates expanding this system with cameras at an additional intersection in the spring of 2026.

DONTATION OF EQUIPMENT TO MONTOUR COUNTY SHERIFFS OFFICE

As a result of our transition to new Axon body-worn cameras (BWC), in-car cameras, and in-car computers, the Mahoning Township Board of Supervisors donated the replaced BWC units, in-car cameras, and one computer to the Montour County Sheriff's Office. The Sheriff's Office provides daily support to our department and other Montour County law enforcement agencies by assisting with calls for service and traffic stops when available, as well as transporting inmates and individuals on warrants. This donation reflects a strong show of support and cooperation by the Mahoning Township Board of Supervisors.

Chief Dyroff and Montour County Sheriff William McKenna, accepting Body Cameras from MTPD.

PROPERTY EXCHANGE LOCATION AT MTPD



To help keep the public safe during online purchase transactions, the Mahoning Township Police Department offers the police station parking lot and lobby as a safe exchange location for items bought or sold through online marketplaces such as Facebook Marketplace, Craigslist, and eBay.

Police officers do not take part in these transactions and will not verify identification, inspect items, check serial numbers, or assist with payment. The station is equipped with video surveillance, but it is not monitored 24/7. Firearm sales are not permitted on police department property, and the department assumes no responsibility for the items exchanged.

The police parking lot is available 24/7. The police lobby is open for exchanges Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., excluding holidays.

NEW AED's THANKS TO GEISINGER

The department is pleased to announce that we received funding through the Geisinger Community Engagement program, which supports local communities with health services and equipment. Thanks to this support, we were awarded funds to purchase three (3) new AEDs—one for each patrol vehicle—totaling $9,726. These new units replace our outdated, unsupported models. We sincerely thank Geisinger for their generous contribution!

PENNSYLVANIA EMPLOYER SUPPORT OF THE GUARD AND RESERVE

Mahoning Township is proud to support Detective Corporal Jason Bedisky, who has served with our police department since 2017 and the Pennsylvania National Guard even longer. In recognition of workplaces that back Guard members, the Township was named one of Pennsylvania's top twenty employers.

POLICE VEHICLE DAMAGED DURING APPREHENSON OF WANTED PERSON

On September 9, 2025, at approximately 6:15 a.m., our department assisted the U.S. Marshals Service, Montour County Sheriff's Office, and Pennsylvania State Police–Milton Station in apprehending a wanted individual at the Super 8 Hotel in Valley Township. Upon police arrival, the suspect attempted to flee and struck a department Ford Interceptor while reversing at a high rate of speed, forcing the vehicle over a small embankment. The suspect was taken into custody. No officers were injured. Suggest damage to the police vehicle exceeded $5,000; the vehicle has since been repaired and returned to service. Restitution will be sought from the suspect.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Mahoning Township Police Department Recognized for Excellence in Policy and Training

In June 2025, the Mahoning Township Police Department was recognized for excellence in policy and training for 2024—marking the fifth consecutive year the department has received this honor.

During 2025, officers responded to more than 4,600 calls for service, including criminal investigations, traffic crashes, mental health crises, medical emergencies, and community assistance calls. Maintaining clear, up-to-date policies ensures officers deliver consistent and professional service across all types of incidents.

The department earned **Gold Level recognition** from the Lexipol Connect Program for effectively sharing policies, keeping them current with changes in law, and ensuring officers receive proper training. Lexipol is a national leader in public safety policy and training.

This recognition reflects the department's ongoing commitment to best practices and to keeping the Mahoning Township community safe.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Officers of our department participated in the following events in 2025:

- Danville Halloween Parade
- Trunk or Treat events at Trinity United Methodist Church and CMSU
- Santa at Hawkins Chevrolet
- Danville Santa Parade
- Cocoa with Popo at Bason's Coffee
- Wreaths Across America
- Vacation Bible School visits at Trinity United Methodist Church
- Montour Night Out
- Susquehanna Valley Law Enforcement Camp Cadet
- Camp Dost – Camp for Pediatric Cancer Patients
- 911 Memorial Service
- Little League World Series
- William McKenna Scholarship Fund
- Memorial Day Run
- Danville Child Development Center Event

Cpl. Jason Bedisky and Sgt. Matthew Gerst working security at the Little League World Series, S. Williamsport, PA.

- Riverside Back the Blue Event
- Service 1st Duck Derby Event
- Geisinger March for Babies Event
- Danville Primary School COPS event

CAMP CADET GOLF TOURNAMENT

Sgt. Matt Gerst and Cpl. Jason Bedisky kicked off their first golf tournament at Frosty Valley Country Club on May 5th—and it was a hole-in-one! The event raised over $14,000 for the Susquehanna Valley Law Enforcement Camp Cadet program. Fantastic job, Sgt. Gerst and Cpl. Bedisky!

Officer Terry Ketchem and SPCA Officer LT. Jennifer Nields.

Officers once again participated in No Shave November, raising funds for a good cause, with donations matched by the Police Officers' Association. To date, the Association has donated more than $2,000 to charitable causes and individuals battling cancer.

This year, $500 will be donated to the Pennsylvania Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (PSPCA) in support of the George Bengal Fund to End Animal Cruelty, helping rescue and rehabilitate abused animals and hold offenders accountable.

The department continued its Ride Along program where citizens may ride with a patrol officer for a shift to learn an officer's duties on a typical day. Several people participated in the program.

DEPARTMENT TRAINING

The MTPD understands the need to train officers beyond the minimal required standards as established by the Municipal Police Officer Education Training Commission (MPOETC). Our department's level of commitment extends well beyond the minimal in-service annual training updates. MTPD adheres to the philosophy of providing officers meaningful training that will enhance both the career development of the officer and meeting the needs of the community. MTPD strongly believes that minimal training equates to minimal performance and sub-standard outcomes. Training in 2025 consisted of the following:

- Mandatory In-Service Training via MPOETC Quarterly Firearms Range Training
- Active Shooter Train the Trainer
- Non-Traffic Death and Equivocal Death Training
- Dementia and Elder Abuse Training
- Lethality Assessment Training
- Interview and Interrogation
- Street Level Policing
- Trauma Informed Care
- Alert Level 1 – Active Shooter Training
- Mental Health First Aid
- Virtual Reality Training – de-escalation, shoot – don't shoot scenarios, active shooter
- Tactical Communications
- Responding to Sexual Assault and Domestic Violence Training
- Glock Armorer Training
- Child Car Seat Technician Certification
- Less Lethal Weapons Training – BOLOWrap, GLOVE, OC Spray
- Pistol and Rifle Firearms Training
- Accreditation Training
- CODY RMS training
- Bomb Threats and Swatting Hoaxes
- Virtual Reality Training
- Monthly Caselaw Reviews
- Daily Training Bulletins

PARKING ENFORCEMENT

MTPD, in conjunction with Geisinger Security, issued a total of 3,091 parking tickets, with the vast majority issued by Geisinger Security, for a revenue of $51,215.

2025 POLICE ACTIVITIES

East Central Emergency Network (ECEN) serves as the 911 center for Columbia and Montour Counties. Incidents are generated by ECEN when a call for service is received and entered into the ECEN computer-aided dispatch (CAD) system. The initial incident type assigned by the dispatcher may differ from the final classification determined by the Mahoning Township Police Department (MTPD) following an officer's investigation and report submission.

The statistics below provide a snapshot of some of the activities undertaken by MTPD during 2025. More detailed criminal statistics are available through the Pennsylvania State Police Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) website.

Mahoning Township PD Incidents	
Traffic Crashes	
Reportable	17
Non-Reportable	61
Hit and Run	29
DUI Crashes	3
Incidents (not all inclusive)	
911 Hangup	62
Alarms	53
Animal	51
Assist (police, fire, ems)	193
Child Abuse Investigations	12
Criminal Arrests	50
Death Investigations	12
Domestic	26
Driving Under the Influence (DUI)	7
Drug Possession	5
Fingerprinting (non-criminal)	20
Fraud/Scam	26
Harassment	52
House Checks	166
In-Service Training	362
Mental Health	40
Miscellaneous	40
Motorists' Assists/Lockouts	58
Patrol Actions	583
Police Information	61
Suspicious Persons/Vehicles, Circumstances	87
Thefts	31
Trespassing	16
Welfare Checks	45
Written Warnings	270

In 2025, the department prioritized traffic enforcement to improve safety for motorists, pedestrians, and cyclists. Working with the Pennsylvania State Police (Troop F, Milton), officers conducted speed enforcement on SR 54 and SR 11 through Highway Safety Network funding. Citation totals in 2025 remained consistent with 2024 and represented a 123% increase compared to 2023.

MAHONING TOWNSHIP TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT (CITATIONS)				
	2022	2023	2024	2025
JANUARY	23	6	27	23
FEBRUARY	26	39	55	45
MARCH	51	32	40	117
APRIL	23	48	82	67
MAY	27	28	133	54
JUNE	35	26	99	37
JULY	33	13	54	99
AUGUST	30	43	75	101
SEPTEMBER	11	22	68	86
OCTOBER	10	19	62	35
NOVEMBER	10	36	32	48
DECEMBER	7	6	1	3
TOTALS	286	318	728	715

The Mahoning Township Police Department is committed to fair, impartial, and professional policing. Department policy strictly prohibits bias-based policing in any form. Any allegation of bias-based profiling is taken seriously and is investigated in accordance with established procedures.

A review of departmental data, including traffic stops, citations, arrests, and body-worn camera footage, found no evidence of bias-based policing. The review confirmed that officers consistently conducted themselves in a professional and courteous manner during interactions with the public.

Bias-Based Policing Review MTPD 2025				
Race/Gender	Warnings	Citations	Total	Percentage
White Non-Hispanic Male	46	292	338	34.315%
Black Non-Hispanic Male	2	28	30	3.046%
Hispanic Latino Any Race Male	1	22	23	2.335%
Other Male	90	50	140	14.213%
White Non-Hispanic Female	47	259	306	31.066%
Black Non-Hispanic Female	2	22	24	2.437%
Hispanic Latino Any Race Female	1	12	13	1.320%
Other Female	81	30	111	11.269%
Total	270	715	985	100.000%

LOOKING AHEAD TO 2026…

Looking ahead to 2026, the department has established goals focused on reducing criminal activity within our jurisdiction through proactive and data-driven policing. This approach includes identifying and addressing emerging issues early, while continuing to engage with our community as partners in public safety. Community involvement—through reporting concerns, sharing information, and collaborating with officers—remains essential to our success.

As information sharing continues to evolve, we also plan to expand and strengthen our social media presence. Currently, the department utilizes Facebook and Crimewatch to communicate timely and relevant information, and we will continue to build upon these platforms to better serve the public.

In closing, the men and woman of the Mahoning Township Police Department remain committed to enhancing our services while building upon our existing strengths. The progress and success achieved in recent years are a direct result of the strong support we receive from our community and elected officials. Our goal, as always, is to provide professional, effective, and responsive police services to the residents and visitors of Mahoning Township. We look forward to continuing to serve you with pride in 2026.

MAHONING TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT