

# 2024

## NIXA POICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT





## Table of Contents

Message from the Chief.....	2
Our Beliefs .....	3
Staffing .....	4
<b>SWORN EMPLOYEE</b> .....	5
<b>CIVILIAN EMPLOYEE</b> .....	5
2024 Budget .....	6
Operations Bureau.....	7
Support Bureau .....	13
Police Department Annual Awards .....	21
2024 HIGHLIGHTS .....	28



## NIXA POLICE DEPARTMENT

P.O. Box 395 / 715 W. Center Circle  
Nixa, Missouri 65714  
Emergency: 911 / Office: 417-725-2510 / Fax: 417-725-0915  
[www.nixapolice.com](http://www.nixapolice.com)



Dear Community Members,

As we close another year of service, the Nixa Police Department is proud to present our Annual Report—a comprehensive reflection of the hard work, dedication, and unwavering commitment our officers and staff have demonstrated in keeping our community safe. We invite each of you to take time to review this important document, which provides detailed insights into our operations, achievements, and the challenges we continue to address together.

This past year, we are proud to report a continued trend of low crime rates across our city. This success is a direct result of the tireless efforts of our officers, support staff, and community partners who work side by side every day. From proactive policing strategies to community-based outreach programs, our department remains committed not only to enforcing the law but also to building trust and collaboration with the people we serve.

Beyond crime statistics, this report also highlights our many initiatives focused on community engagement—from youth mentorship and neighborhood events to mental health outreach and public safety education. Our team consistently goes above and beyond traditional law enforcement, and we commend them for their compassion, professionalism, and integrity.

We encourage all residents to read through the Annual Report carefully. It's more than just numbers—it's a story of teamwork, transparency, and a shared vision for a safer, stronger community. Your feedback and partnership are vital to our continued success, and we look forward to building on the progress we've made together. Thank you for your ongoing support and trust.

With respect and gratitude,

Joe Campbell | Chief of Police





## Our Beliefs

### Vision

The Nixa Police Department will endeavor to be leaders in public service. Our commitment to excellence will be the driving force in all we do. Through our efforts, we will serve our community by providing the best possible law enforcement service to the community.

### Mission Statement

The Nixa Police Department exists to enforce the laws of the United States of America, the State of Missouri, and the City of Nixa. We will investigate crime and apprehend offenders. The Nixa Police Department will proactively work to prevent crime, maintain peace, and serve the needs of our community.

### Core Values

**Service-** The selfless concern for others.

**Courage-** The strength to overcome our fears.

**Integrity-** Honest and moral behavior.

**Pride-** Satisfaction derived from our excellent performance.

**Professionalism-** Competence in our skill, knowledge, and expertise of law enforcement.



## Staffing

### Command Structure

The Nixa Police Department is led by a committed Command Staff composed of the Chief of Police, a Major, two Captains, and four Lieutenants.

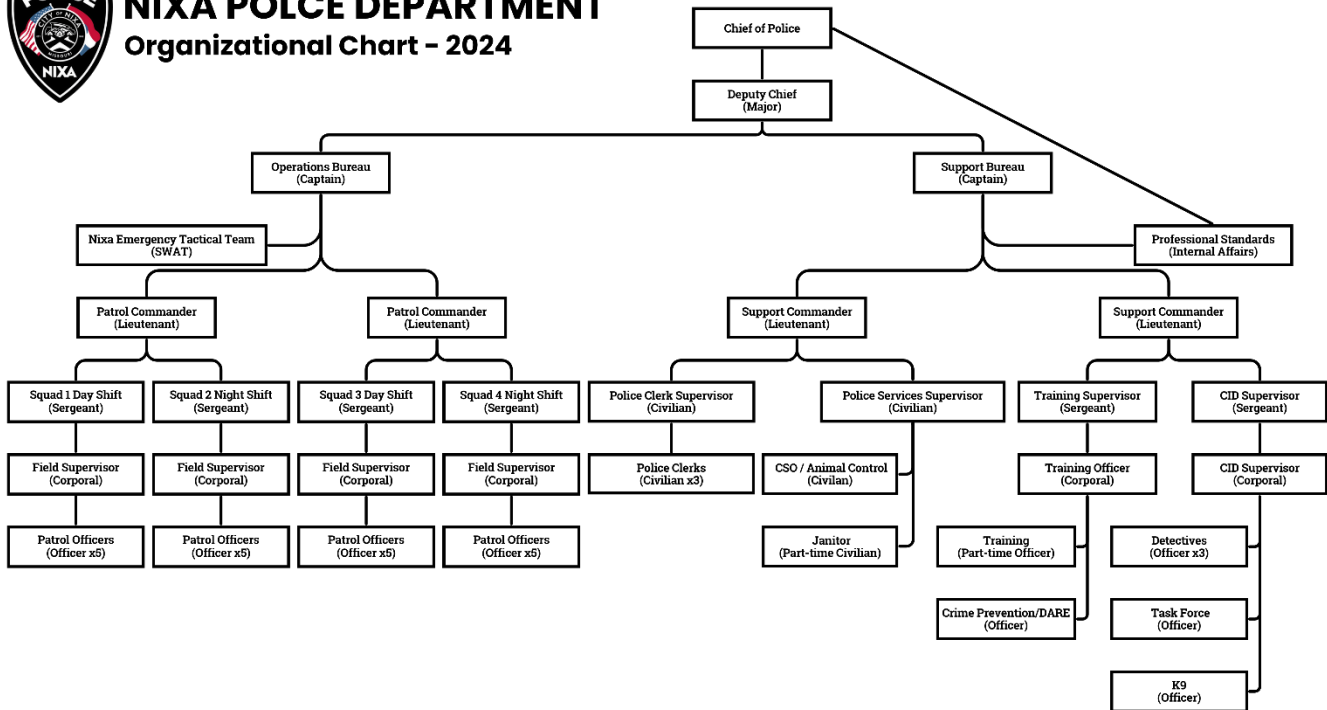
The department is organized into two primary bureaus: the Operations Bureau and the Support Bureau and is staffed by a total of forty-seven sworn officers and seven civilian employees.

The Support Bureau, managed by one Captain, includes fourteen sworn officers and all seven civilian staff members. Two Lieutenants oversee this bureau: one is responsible for Training, Crime Prevention, K9 operations, and Investigations; the other supervises Police Services and the Police Clerk Unit.

The Operations Bureau, led by the second Captain, consists of 31 sworn officers divided into four patrol squads. Each of the two Lieutenants assigned to this bureau oversees two squads, ensuring consistent leadership and coordination.



### NIXA POLICE DEPARTMENT Organizational Chart - 2024





**54 Authorized Personnel**

## NIXA POLICE DEPARTMENT 2024 STAFFING DISTRIBUTION

Although the department experienced some staff turnover in 2024, it maintained strong staffing levels throughout the year demonstrating our continued dedication to public safety and to serving the Nixa community with professionalism and care.

### 2024 New Hires

#### SWORN EMPLOYEE

Tyler DuVall  
Natalya Gathright  
Luke Housman  
Logan High  
Jesse Jones  
Clarissa Welter

#### CIVILIAN EMPLOYEE

Vanessa Burkholder  
Torri Cloutier  
Rhonda Pullins



Total Years of Service in Law Enforcement									
Total Staffing as of 12-31-2024									
Rank	Unfilled	0-5	5-10	10-15	15-20	20-25	25-30	30+	Total
Chief of Police							1		1
Major							1		1
Captain				1			1		2
Lieutenant			1		2	1			4
Sergeant			1	2	1	1	1		6
Corporal		1	3	2					6
Officer	1	13	8	2	1			2	27
Civilian Staff		4			1	1	1		7

## 2024 Budget

The Nixa Police Department operates with a dedicated sense of fiscal responsibility, ensuring careful and mindful use of taxpayer dollars. In 2024, our department was allocated an operating budget of \$8,155,634.87, carefully distributed between personnel (\$4,808,688.50) and operations (\$3,346,946.37).

Police Department Revenue	
Revenue Source	2024
Police ¾ Sales Tax	\$2,778,175.31
Dog Impounding	\$3,695.66
Interest	\$3,779.71
Fingerprints	\$1,570.00
Police Impact	\$22,234.60
Grants	\$64,551.04
Miscellaneous Income	\$14,295.56
Restitution	\$56,857.62
Special Events	\$0.00
Insurance Claims	\$2,873.32
Surplus Sales	\$40,993.00
Donations	\$150.00
Fines - Traffic	\$38,295.00
Fines - Other	\$14,775.46
POST Distribution	\$581.20
LET - County (Police Training)	\$1,192.00
Inmate Security Fund	\$1,186.00

Capital Projects:  
 Buildings \$1,562,138  
 Building Improvements \$ 169,591  
 Equipment \$ 263,889  
 Total \$1,995,618

Our commitment to efficient spending is evident in our careful monitoring and control of expenses, including delays in vehicle deliveries, unutilized construction costs, and meticulous oversight of salary and benefits. We are devoted in our dedication to maximizing the value of every taxpayer dollar entrusted to us, ensuring that we maintain the highest standards of service while operating within our means.





## Operations Bureau

The Operations Bureau includes Uniformed Operations, Field Training, and the Nixa Emergency Tactical Team (NETT).

Uniformed Operations handle traffic enforcement and respond to emergency and non-emergency calls 24/7. Their primary goal is to keep the community safe by providing timely, professional, and effective public safety services. The Operations Bureau remains committed to protecting residents and ensuring a secure environment throughout the city.

### 2024 Workload

Total Calls for Service: 34973

Average Calls per month: 2914

Average Calls per day: 96

Average Calls per shift: 48



### Calls for Service Comparison by Year

#### CAD CALLS FOR SERVICE (CFS)

All incidents the officers respond to, or initiate are considered law enforcement specific duties.

2022 = 35862

2023= 40001

2024 = 34973

### Reports

The total number of incidents where reports were taken.

2022 = 3902

2023 = 3971

2024 = 4016

### DWI Charges

DWI charges submitted to the Christian County Prosecutor's Office

2022 = 93

2023 = 82

2024 = 69







## Felony and Misdemeanor Charges

Combination of misdemeanor and felony charges submitted to the Christian County Prosecutor's Office.

- 2022 = 1179
- 2023 = 1501
- 2024 = 1213

## Physical Arrest

This is an arrest where a person was taken into custody and transported to the Christian County Jail.

- 2022 = 472
- 2023 = 570
- 2024 = 494

## Traffic Stops

This is the total number of traffic stops completed.

- 2022 = 10038
- 2023 = 12916
- 2024 = 10416

## Warnings

These are traffic violation warnings.

- 2022 = 10570
- 2023 = 12351
- 2024 = 9045



## All Tickets

This number tickets issued for traffic, animal control, and other related ordinance violations.

- 2022 = 1242
- 2023 = 1272
- 2024 = 957





## Traffic Enforcement:

Ensuring motor vehicle safety is essential to protecting lives and property. Through enforcement of traffic laws, our goal is to reduce accidents, improve safety for drivers and pedestrians, and encourage responsible driving habits.

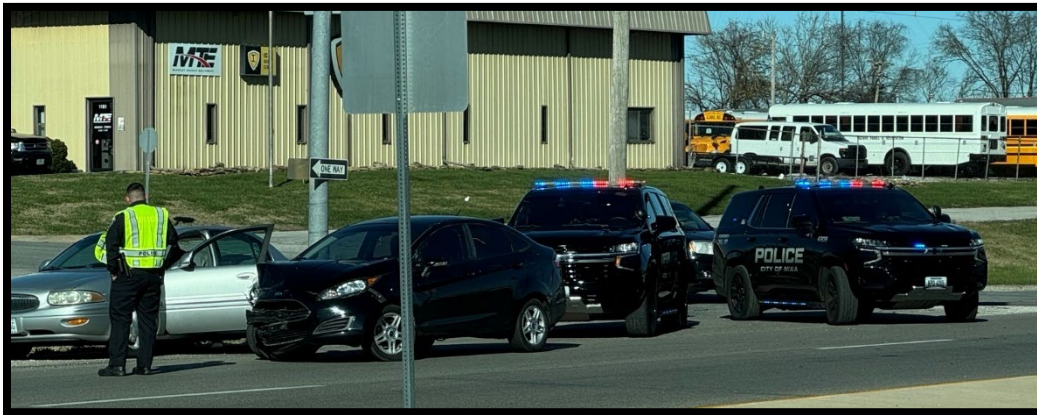
In 2024, the Nixa Police Department conducted 10,416 traffic stops, including:

- Moving violations: 4,191 (speeding, lane violations, following too closely, failure to signal, Commercial Vehicle Enforcement, and other offenses)
- Equipment violations: 2,296
- License violations: 4,373
- Investigative stops: 107



Beyond enforcement, the Nixa Police Department reports traffic crashes to the Missouri State Highway Patrol using the LETS5 system. However, accidents on private property, walk-in accident reports, and incidents that do not meet state reporting requirements are not included in these statistics.

## Crash Data:



### 2024 Crash Data (Reported to State Accident Reporting System):

- 303 vehicle crashes involving 585 vehicles
- 0 fatality
- 70 injury crashes resulting in 97 people being hurt
- 235 Property Damage only
- 40 of the 303 crashes involved a parked vehicle.



For 2024, the top three contributing circumstances for crashes in Nixa were:

- 18.43% Failed to Yield
- 17.34% Inattention
- 13.55% Following to Close

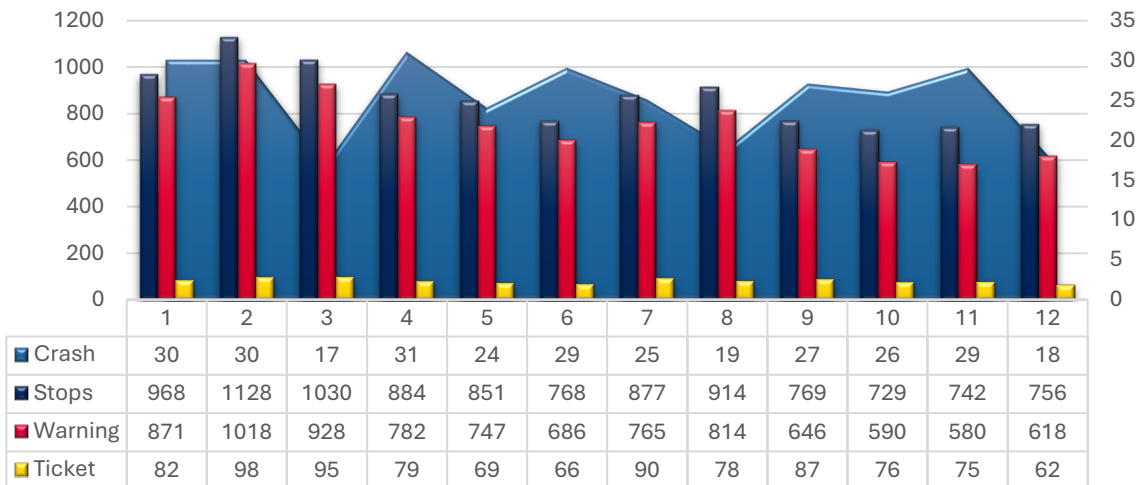
## Traffic Crash Statistics

- The majority of crashes occurred on Thursdays (17.38%) and Fridays (16.07%), averaging the highest percentages.
- The peak time for crashes was between 1 p.m. and 2 p.m., accounting for 8.2% of all incidents.
- Female drivers accounted for 50.77% (264 crashes) of the total crashes, while male drivers made up 49.23% (256 crashes).
- The age group most frequently involved in crashes was 16 to 20-year-olds, constituting 20.38% (106 crashes) of all drivers.
- The second-highest age group involved in crashes was 36-40-year-olds, representing 10.77% (56 crashes) of incidents.
- April saw the highest number of crashes at 10.16% (31 crashes) compared to other months.



The following diagram shows the comparison of traffic stops, tickets, and warnings in relation to the number of traffic crashes reported in the City of Nixa to STARS. (Traffic stop information from final Traffic Stop Report)

## 2024 Stops, Warnings, Tickets, Crashes







## Use of Force

Our officers use force in a way that is **progressive and based on the situation**. The level of force can vary, from an officer's presence to physical actions, depending on what is needed to manage or de-escalate a situation.

When an encounter between an officer and a subject escalates, the officer may need to adjust the level of force to maintain control. However, **what is appropriate in one situation may not be in another**. That's why our officers are trained to assess each situation carefully and choose the response that best fits the circumstances.

## Use of Force Reporting Criteria

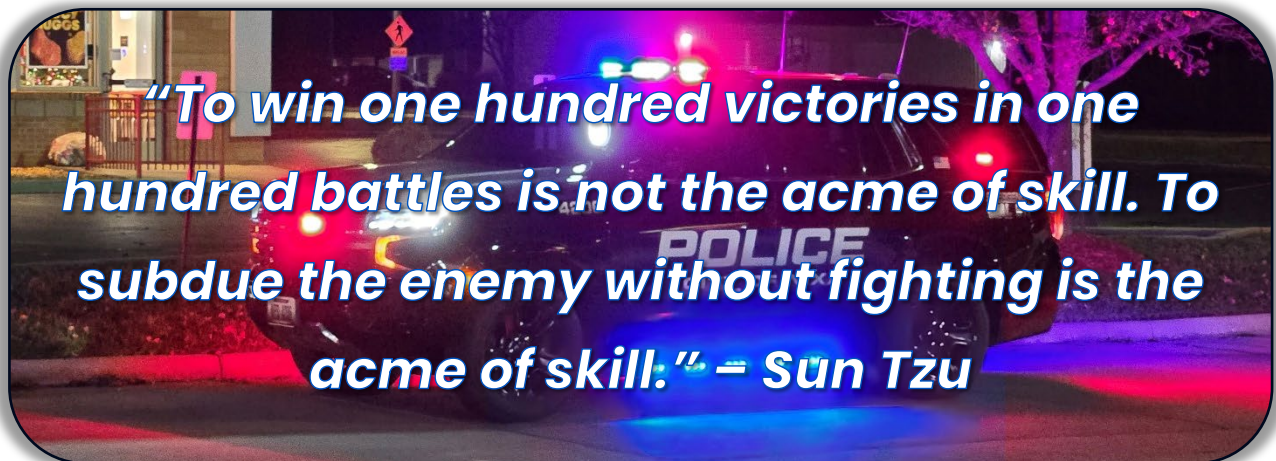
Any use of force by a member of this department must be documented promptly, thoroughly, and accurately in the appropriate report based on the nature of the incident. Officers are required to detail the factors they observed and provide a clear justification for why they believed the use of force was reasonable under the circumstances.

The following actions do not require documentation as a use of force unless unusual circumstances exist:

- A reasonable touch or firm grasp used to maintain control, guide, or escort an individual.
- The drawing or display of an authorized weapon.
- The humane euthanasia of animals.

## Use of Force Data

In the 2024 calendar year, the Nixa Police Department responded to 34,973 calls for service, resulting in 494 arrests. Of these arrests, the use of force to gain compliance from an unwilling subject was reported in 28 incidents.







## Operations Special Units

### NETT

Nixa Emergency Tactical Team (NETT)

The Nixa Emergency Tactical Team (NETT) is made up of 17 highly trained officers from both the Operations and Support Bureaus. This specialized team includes:

- 8 SWAT operators
- 4 Support members
- 3 Crisis negotiators
- 1 Team commander
- 1 Team Administrator

NETT is trained to handle high-risk situations that go beyond the abilities of regular patrol officers. Using specialized tactics, equipment, and training, they work to reduce risks and protect lives during complex incidents.



In 2024, NETT remained active, completing 1,724 hours of advanced training and responding to five critical incidents, including:

1. 2 High Risk Search Warrants for Narcotics
2. 1 High Risk Fugitive Arrest
3. 1 High Risk Search Warrant and Probable Cause Arrest of a Violent Assault Suspect
4. 1 Probable Cause Arrest of an Assault involving firearms Suspect



All 5 incidents were resolved peacefully, demonstrating NETT's expertise, precision, and commitment to handling dangerous situations without injury.



## Support Bureau

The Support Bureau provides administrative, technical, and logistical support to ensure smooth daily operations. This bureau plays a vital role in managing resources, overseeing key functions, and supporting effective policing across the department.

The Support Bureau oversees a wide range of essential units, including:

- Information Technology Support
- Criminal Investigations
- Training
- Professional Standards
- Fleet Management
- Quartermaster's Office
- Animal Control
- Social Media
- Crime Prevention
- K9 Unit
- DARE Program

Each of these units is critical to our department's success. The Support Bureau ensures they have the resources, training, and tools needed to fulfill their missions effectively.





## Criminal Investigations

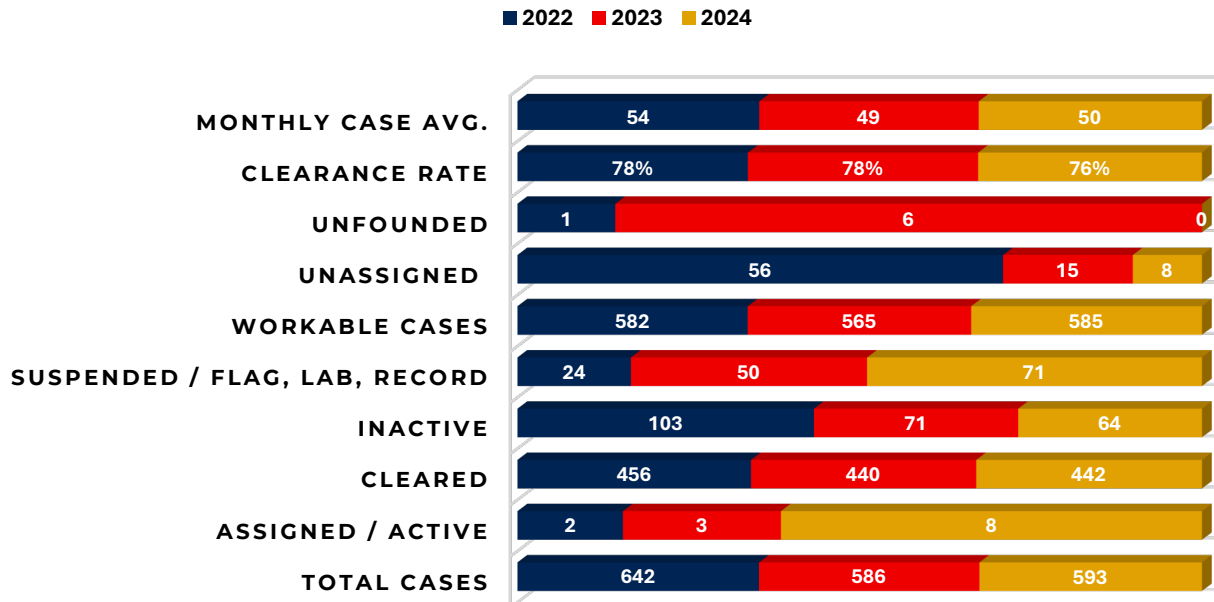
The Criminal Investigations Division (CID) is responsible for investigating crimes referred by officers or other agencies. Each case is carefully reviewed based on solvability factors, which include the presence of actionable leads that could lead to an arrest and conviction.



Cases with investigative leads are assigned to a detective for further investigation. If a case lacks sufficient leads, it remains unassigned. However, if new information becomes available later, the case may be reopened and assigned for follow-up.

In addition to the criminal cases assigned, the unit also is assigned employment background investigations for all potential police department employees.

In 2024 the unit was assigned 593 criminal cases and 19 background investigations.







## Training Unit

The Training Unit ensures that both civilian employees and sworn officers receive continuous education in compliance with Missouri Department of Public Safety requirements. Additionally, the unit oversees the Nixa Police Department's Citizens' Police Academy, fostering community engagement and awareness.



Officers licensed before January 1, 2024, are required to complete 24 hours of Continuing Law Enforcement Education (CLEE) by December 31, 2024. At least 8 of these hours must be obtained from an "Approved Provider." More information on Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) requirements can be found at <https://dps.mo.gov/dir/programs/post/>.

Each year, the department selects training programs that align with its mission and operational needs, ensuring officers maintain the necessary certifications to effectively use departmental equipment.

Beyond annual training, the Training Unit manages the department's In-House Academy, a mandatory program for all newly hired sworn officers before they begin field training. The academy covers essential skills, including proficiency in the department's report management system, policy and procedure reviews, and certification in critical tools.

In 2024, the department conducted four academy sessions, successfully preparing six new officers for field training.

## Training Hours

In addition to in-service and technology update training, sworn officers reported attending over 1500 hours of POST-Approved training in 2024 in the areas of Legal Studies, Technical Studies, Interpersonal Perspectives or Skill Development).







## Information Technology



Technology is at the core of the Nixa Police Department's commitment to efficiency, accuracy, and public safety. With over 30 software applications and a range of specialized hardware, our department has embraced Information Technology (IT) and the Internet of Things (IoT) to enhance every aspect of law enforcement. From streamlining routine processes to accelerating criminal investigations, technology has transformed how we serve the community. The shift to digital technology has significantly reduced paperwork, improved

communication, and provided real-time access to mission-critical data.

Systems like NICHE, SharePoint, and LEWEB. LETS5, and evidence library have revolutionized report management, centralizing records and ensuring officers can quickly retrieve and update information. Investigative tools such as TLO, LeadsOnline, DataPilot and LEWEB provide instant access to databases, allowing officers to make informed decisions on the spot. Digital ticketing and electronic reporting have simplified administrative tasks, ensuring that officers spend less time on paperwork and more time in the field.

Beyond data management, collaborative platforms like Microsoft Teams, OneDrive/SharePoint, and Power Automate have strengthened interdepartmental communication and multi-agency cooperation. IoT-powered security systems, such as Genetec surveillance and Motorola/WatchGuard Evidence Library, ensure the integrity of evidence and enhance case resolution. As technology continues to evolve, the Nixa Police Department remains committed to leveraging IT and IoT solutions to improve efficiency, enhance investigations, and ultimately provide better service to the community.

**We are in an era of policing, where technology and data are becoming as vital to public safety as traditional tools like the badge and the firearm. Innovations such as computers, drones, artificial intelligence, and body cameras enhance our capabilities, but they are tools not substitutes. The human element will always remain the core of justice and the foundation of effective law enforcement.**



## K9 Team



Officer Ronald Hilburn and his partner, K9 Jack, form the Nixa Police Department's dedicated K9 Unit. Jack, a highly trained five-year-old Belgian Malinois, is a dual-purpose K9 specializing in narcotics detection, article searches, tracking, suspect apprehension, and handler protection. To maintain peak performance, both Officer Hilburn and K9 Jack undergo rigorous weekly training, ensuring they are always prepared for real-world scenarios.

In 2024, the K9 Unit completed over 250 hours of specialized training, covering key areas such as detection, tracking, building searches, obedience, and evidence recovery. Jack was deployed 20 times, with 6 patrol deployments and 14 detection-based operations, playing a crucial role in supporting officers and enhancing public safety. Through continuous training and operational readiness, the K9 Unit remains an invaluable asset to the department and the community.

## Crime Prevention Programs

The Nixa Police Department is committed to building strong relationships with the community through active participation in both national and local initiatives. These efforts provide valuable crime prevention education while fostering trust and collaboration between officers and residents. Events such as National Night Out, Nixa Sucker Days, NIXPO, Shop with a Hero, Sky High and various other community-requested programs allow us to engage with the public in meaningful ways.

In 2024, our department participated in 24 community events and provided traffic control for both the Sucker Day and Christmas Parades, ensuring these community celebrations remained safe and organized.

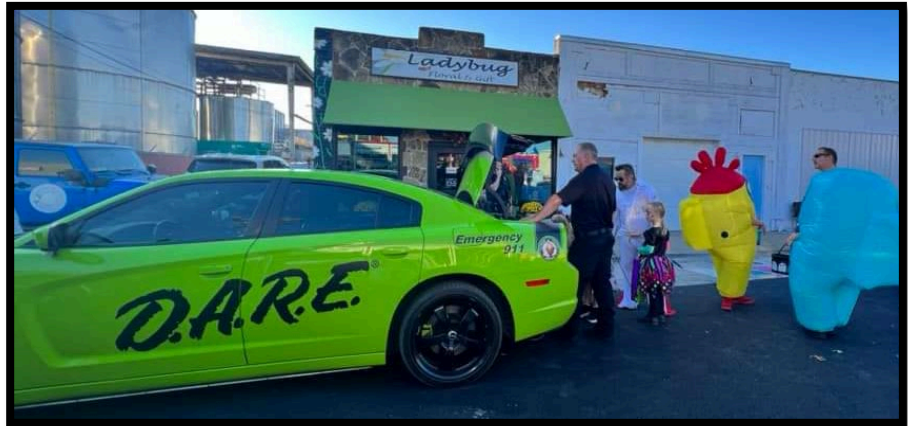


## DARE

The Nixa Police Department launched the DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program in Nixa schools in early 1991. Today, Officer Forgery oversees and manages the program, which serves students in the Nixa Public School District. During the 2022-2024 school year, DARE reached approximately 1520 students.



The program is designed to empower youth by helping them build self-confidence, manage stress, understand the consequences of their choices, and resist pro-drug influences in media. Rather than simply telling students to say “no,” DARE teaches them how—equipping them with the critical thinking and decision-making skills needed to make positive life choices.



## Fleet Management and Quartermaster



The Police Services Unit plays a critical role in maintaining the operational efficiency of the Nixa Police Department. Responsible for overseeing a fleet of 35 vehicles, the unit manages vehicle purchasing, upfitting, and maintenance, ensuring each unit is properly equipped and ready for duty. Their responsibilities extend beyond routine upkeep to

include vehicle acquisitions, safety compliance, and fleet optimization, guaranteeing officers have reliable transportation to effectively serve the community.

In addition to fleet management, the unit maintains an inventory of approximately 2,500 pieces of equipment and uniforms, ensuring officers have access to the essential tools needed for their duties. Their meticulous attention to detail guarantees that all gear is properly maintained, enhancing officer safety and operational readiness.

The Police Services Unit also manages the fleet and quartermaster budgets, carefully monitoring expenditures while identifying cost-saving opportunities. Through strategic planning and resource management, they ensure the department’s operational needs are met without compromising efficiency or effectiveness.



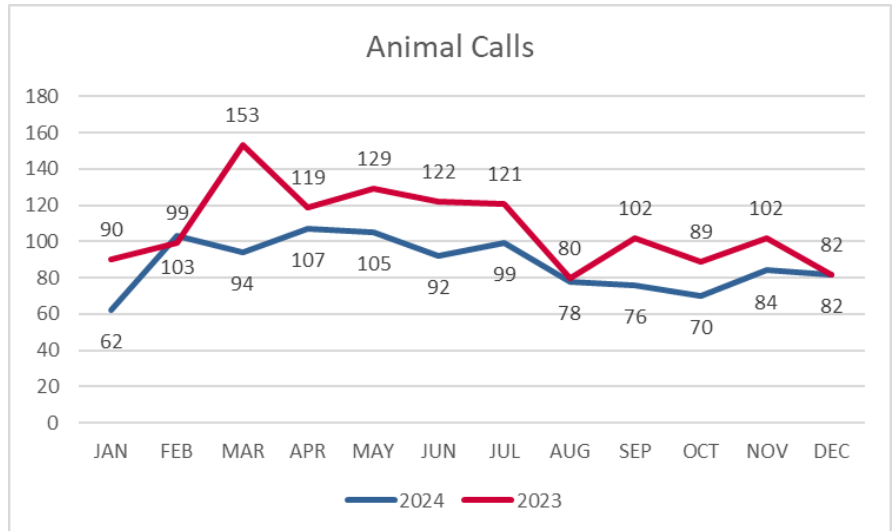


## Animal Control

The Nixa Animal Control Unit is essential in enforcing animal ordinances and safeguarding animal welfare within city limits. The unit operates Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., with 24/7 emergency availability. Outside regular hours, Patrol Officers manage animal-related calls.

In 2024, the unit handled 1,052 animal-related calls, including 19 dog bite investigations. All impounded dogs were cared for at the department's facility, overseen by a Community Service Officer.

Of the 131 dogs impounded, 84 were reunited with their owners, and 46 were transferred to a rescue facility.



## Police Clerks

The Police Clerks Unit consists of four dedicated civilian employees who handle a variety of important administrative tasks that support the department's operations. Their responsibilities include front office duties, employment fingerprinting, evidence management, records retention, and distributing records for Sunshine Requests. They also assist with crime analysis, coordinating public events, crime reporting, warrant records, stolen property entries, validations, and asset and training records management.

### Records Management

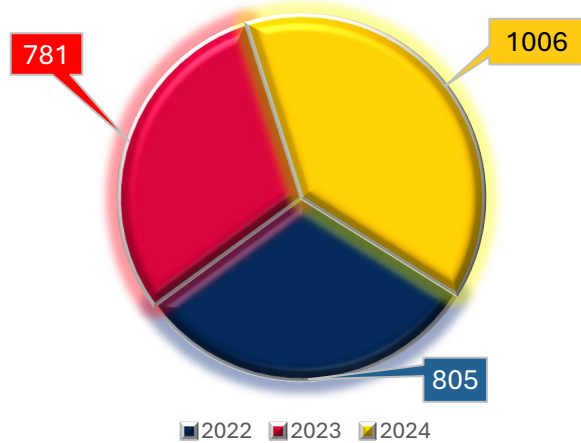
The Police Services Unit is also responsible for distributing police reports used for law enforcement purposes. In 2024, the unit processed 2592 distribution requests, with 1006 of those requests specifically related to record distributions. This highlights both the efficiency of the unit and the high demand for access to law enforcement records in our community.



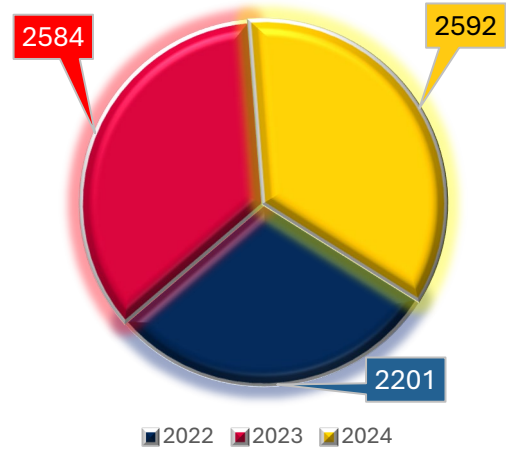




## Records Request



## Total Distributions



### Property and Evidence

The Nixa Police Department is committed to maintaining the highest standards of integrity and professionalism in evidence and property management. Our dedicated Evidence Custodian oversees a secure facility, meticulously managing the storage, inventory, disposal, and return of all items seized or recovered by the department. Their rigorous adherence to established protocols ensures the integrity of investigations and reinforces public confidence in our operations.

In 2024, the property room took in 471 items, sent 144 items to the laboratory for analysis, and successfully returned 109 items to their rightful owners.





## Police Department Annual Awards

### **OFFICER OF THE YEAR**

#### **Officer of the Year**

**An honor awarded to a Police Officer of the department by the Command Staff. This honor is awarded to an officer who has consistently exemplified the mission, vision, and values of the Nixa Police Department during the entire calendar year.**

#### **Officer of the Year – Corporal Sam Gallardo**

Corporal Gallardo received multiple nominations. Some highlights included praise for his dedication, professionalism, and exceptional contributions. Corporal Gallardo has demonstrated a commitment to continuous improvement and skill development. He successfully completed a series of specialized training courses, earning certifications as a Less-Lethal Instructor and Firearms Instructor, as well as completing Instructor Development training. These achievements not only showcase his dedication to personal growth, but also highlight his willingness to share his skills, knowledge, and expertise with others.



As one of the department's most reliable and effective Field Training Officers, Corporal Gallardo has played a pivotal role in mentoring and developing new officers. His guidance is characterized by fairness, consistency, and professionalism, as evidenced by the thorough and accurate documentation he provides.

In May 2024, Corporal Gallardo was appointed Assistant Team Leader of the Nixa Emergency Tactical Team. Following a departmental restructure, he was swiftly promoted to Team Leader in December. His tactical expertise, firearms proficiency, and exemplary leadership make him an outstanding choice to lead NETT, a role in which he continues to excel and contribute significantly to the team's success.

Additionally, upon the completion of the department's recent organizational restructure, he was promoted to the rank of Corporal. His promotion further underscores his exceptional performance and his value as a leader within our department.



## Award of Life Saving

**An honor awarded for actions by an individual to provide lifesaving efforts to a person or persons who, without immediate assistance, would be in eminent risk of death.**

### Award of Lifesaving – Officer Clarissa Welter

In December of 2024, Officer Welter responded to a residence for an active overdose. Upon arrival, a subject was unconscious in the front passenger seat of a vehicle in the driveway of the residence. A family member on scene had already given one dose of Narcan, but the subject was not responding. Officer Welter ran back to her vehicle and grabbed her medical bag. Ofc Welter administered another dose of Narcan and a sternum rub. A few moments later the subject was conscious. Ofc Welter's response to the scene and her quick thinking to administer a second dose of Narcan and a sternum rub, possibly saved the subject's life.



## Award of Merit

**An award for exceptional work above and beyond the call of duty to improve the overall service of the department.**

### Award of Merit – Shane Braunm

On Christmas Day Squad 3 and the on-duty Christian County Emergency Services crew came together to cook a homemade meal for the on-duty units. Braunm took some leftovers and made a plate for a senior member of our city who is well known in the department and had recently been diagnosed with Dementia which was progressing quickly. Officer Braunm knew the citizen would likely be alone for the holidays and wanted to make sure the citizen had a holiday meal. Officer Braunm's compassion and drive to give back and his unique ability to connect is remarkable and drives home our mission to serve the community.







## **Award of Merit – Officer Clarissa Welter**

Officer Welter consistently exhibits intelligence, determination, and a commitment to exceeding the expectations of her role. In September 2024, she initiated a high-speed vehicle pursuit that extended into Aurora, Missouri, targeting a stolen vehicle driven by a career criminal wanted for aggravated felony assault. Throughout the chase, Officer Welter remained calm and professional, prioritizing the safety of both officers and the public. Her persistence and strategic decision-making led to the successful apprehension of the suspect, who was also charged with DWI.



Colleagues have recognized her exceptional dedication, teamwork, and readiness to take on critical responsibilities. Officer Welter's compassion and professionalism shine in domestic assault investigations, where she ensures victims feel supported and secure. She willingly tackles complex cases, demonstrating her commitment to justice. Her actions have significantly enhanced community safety and strengthened the department's ability to serve and protect.

## **Award of Merit – Officer Brett Ford**

A citizen commended Officer Ford and the Nixa Police Department for their response to a potential burglary in progress. The citizen reported that their child, home alone, was frightened by a neighbor who was loudly banging on the door and shouting to be let in. The citizen, unable to return home quickly from work, contacted the Nixa Police after receiving a distressed call from their child. Officer Ford and the team responded promptly, providing immediate reassurance and resolving the situation with care.



The citizen expressed deep gratitude for Officer Ford's kindness and professionalism, which alleviated their concerns. This recognition highlights Officer Ford's exceptional customer service skills and his ability to maintain a calm, respectful demeanor in stressful situations. His focus on effective, compassionate solutions underscores his commitment to serving the community.



## **Award of Merit – Officer Frank Donohue**

Officer Donohue is a vital asset to the Nixa Police Department, consistently demonstrating an outstanding attitude and professional demeanor. Known for his friendly and approachable nature, he warmly welcomes rookie officers on their first day and takes a genuine interest in building relationships with colleagues and community members. His kindness and respect have earned him widespread admiration in the Nixa community.



While Officer Donohue has not pursued a supervisory role, his leadership shines through in his support for peers. Leveraging his extensive experience, he regularly provides guidance and assists with calls for service, enhancing the department's effectiveness and fostering a collaborative environment.

## **Award of Merit – Officer Jennifer Buffington**

Officer Buffington received positive feedback from her current field supervisors who were very impressed. They praised her operations preparations and briefing skills. They noted that it was better than they had ever seen in their 20 years. The briefing was thoroughly researched and used technology efficiently for her audience. This shows her understanding of exceptional customer service skills through seeking applicable information, and conveyance of information. This type of consistent above average work standards highlights her willingness to make individual commitments and fulfill personal obligation towards her team goals. It also highlights her self-control in stressful situations by maintaining respectful demeanor and focusing on acceptable solutions. Her commitment and diligence have made a significant impact on the safety and well-being of the community.

## **Award of Merit – Officer Jeff Schissler**

Officer Schissler has demonstrated outstanding dedication to drug investigations throughout the year, going beyond routine traffic stops to secure search warrants and remove dangerous drugs from the streets of Nixa. His commitment and diligence have made a significant impact on the safety and well-being of the community.



## **Award of Merit – Officer Logan Cash**

Officer Cash has demonstrated an exceptional commitment to law enforcement through a series of commendable actions. One of those incidents was in August of 2024 when Officer Cash's vigilance and investigative skills led to the arrest of an armed and dangerous federal fugitive. Despite the suspect providing false identification and later attempting to flee on foot, Officer Cash's persistence resulted in a successful apprehension. Furthermore, her efforts led to the seizure of 140 grams of fentanyl and two illegal firearms, significantly contributing to public safety. The suspect later admitted that he had considered engaging in a shootout with officers, but Officer Cash's strong officer presence and safety tactics prevented a deadly confrontation. This is just one of many incidents that highlights Officer Cash's commitment to excellence, proactive approach to policing, and unwavering dedication to public safety.



## **Award of Merit – Officer Kathrine Murphy**

Officer Murphy has been featured multiple times on social media pages noting her positive encounters with the community. One specific post stated they had three separate encounters and noted she deserves appreciation for being a wonderful ambassador for the Nixa Police Department. Even other agencies have consistently highlighted her exceptional ability to support victims and children during the difficult process of being removed from their homes. They noted in a situation that is possibly one of the scariest moments a child could go through, Officer Murphy's compassion, connection, and dedication to the children placed them at ease and made the process seamless. Officer Murphy's dedication is unwavering and reflects the true meaning of serving the community.



## **Award of Merit –Sgt Richard Eutsler**

Sgt. Eutsler received praise from two professors at Missouri Southern State University who teach their crime scene investigations courses. While assisting on a high-profile case there were two professors impressed with our photographs of multiple elements of the case. They noted that they usually get a handful of pictures to work with and the photos Nixa PD took were great. It is always great to hear how our members display consistent above average work standards that display a consistent spirit of cooperation exhibited by respectful







treatment of others and a genuine interest and concern in fulfilling obligations towards team goals.

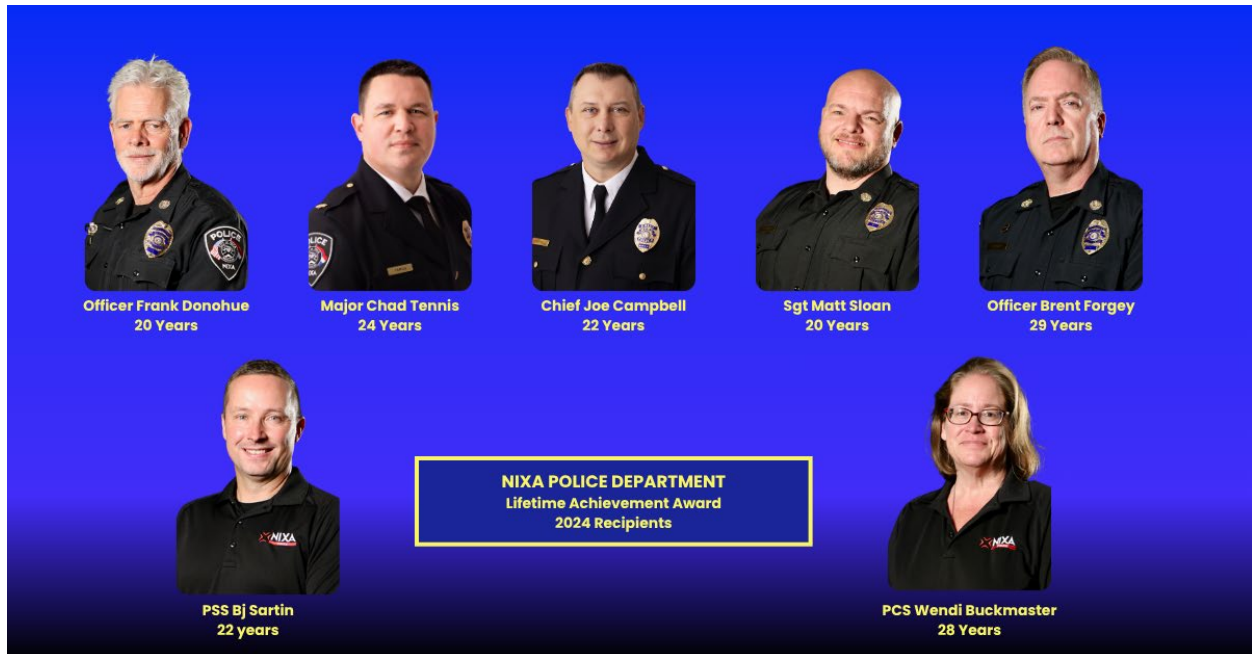
## Award of Merit – Sergeant Matt Sloan

Sgt. Sloan received praise from two professors at Missouri Southern State University who teach their crime scene investigations courses. While assisting on a high-profile case there were two professors impressed with our photographs of multiple elements of the case. They noted that they usually get a handful of pictures to work with and the photos Nixa PD took were great. It is always great to hear how our members display consistent above average work standards that display a consistent spirit of cooperation exhibited by respectful treatment of others and a genuine interest and concern in fulfilling obligations towards team goals.



## Lifetime Achievement Award

An award that recognizes excellence, dedication and initiative displayed by department personnel that demonstrates as much commitment and enthusiasm for the job in their final years as they did in their first.





## City of Nixa-Customer Service Award – Officer Frank Donohue



Officer Donohue has been an invaluable member of the Nixa Police Department for the past 20 years. Prior to that, he served with distinction in the New York Police Department, where he retired after 20 years of service. His combined tenure brings his total years in law enforcement to an impressive 40 years of dedicated service.

Officer Donohue continues to exemplify one of the best attitudes and most professional demeanors in the department. Whether it is playing ping pong with the youth at the X Center, helping someone in need or even making a traffic stop, he consistently treats community members and fellow officers with respect, earning widespread admiration in Nixa..

Known for his friendly and approachable nature, Officer Donohue is often the first to welcome new recruits on their first day, taking a genuine interest in getting to know everyone around him. His warmth, humility, and respect for others have earned him deep affection and admiration throughout the Nixa community.

With his extensive experience, Officer Donohue often assists fellow officers by offering guidance and support, including responding to calls for service when needed. He truly embodies the core values of the Nixa Police Department: Service, Courage, Integrity, Pride, and Professionalism.

His ongoing commitment to the department and the citizens of Nixa has made a lasting impact, and we are grateful for the legacy he continues to build.

## City of Nixa-Team Player of the Year – Officer Clarissa Welter



Officer Welter has been recognized for her outstanding dedication and unwavering commitment to the Nixa Police Department. Her willingness to step up—often picking up extra shifts and adjusting her personal plans to help cover the road during call-ins and last-minute schedule changes—demonstrates an exceptional level of teamwork and devotion.

Her selflessness and adaptability have not gone unnoticed. Officer Welter's actions have played a critical role in ensuring the smooth operation of the department and in maintaining the safety and well-being of the community we serve.



## 2024 HIGHLIGHTS

### 2024 Building Planning

In April, the community demonstrated strong support for public safety by passing a dedicated  $\frac{3}{4}$  cent sales tax for the enhancement of our police department. This crucial funding will not only facilitate the construction and operation of a state-of-the-art police facility but also enable the recruitment of approximately 11 new officers, expanding our force to better serve our growing community.

In a testament to our commitment to swift and strategic action, the City Council approved the hiring of the first two officers funded by this initiative in June. This milestone marks the beginning of an exciting chapter in our department's growth and our ongoing efforts to provide excellent law enforcement services to the residents of Nixa.







## 2024 Citizens Police Academy (photo: 2024-CPA-Class)

The 2024 graduating class of the Nixa Citizens' Police Academy consisted of 15 eager community members who were excited to explore the world of law enforcement. Over the course of 11 weeks, participants learned about the complexities of police work and gained an inside look at the operations of the Nixa Police Department. Through hands-on experiences and interactions with our dedicated officers, attendees developed a greater understanding of our department's commitment to serving and protecting the community.





## 3rd Annual Guns and Hoses Softball Tournament

On October 19th, we held the 3rd Annual Guns and Hoses Softball Tournament. The Nixa Police Department and the Nixa Fire Protection District came together for a friendly yet competitive softball game at the Nixa High School baseball field, all to support a great cause—the Christian County 100 Club. The community was invited to join in the fun and cheer on their local heroes. While the scoreboard may have favored the Police Department, the real winners were the members of the Christian County 100 Club, who benefited from the funds raised during this exciting event.



## K9 Teams Takes 2<sup>nd</sup> place in National Competition

In October, Officer Hilburn and K9 Jack competed at the American Tactical K9 Conference and earned 3rd place in the ATK9 Best Team Competition.

We are incredibly proud of our K9 team for completing one of their toughest challenges to date. Held at the Muscatatuck Training Center in Butlerville, IN, the competition tested both physical endurance and precision under extreme conditions, including gunfire, sirens, and low-light environments.

The 10-station course included a variety of tasks: burpees, sandbag presses, scent detection, tactical building navigation with live fire, and wading through waist-deep water with K9 Jack. At different points, Officer Hilburn had to climb ropes, crawl through tunnels, perform a medical scenario on a dummy dog, carry K9 Jack 50 yards, and pull a 90 lb sled, all while maintaining flawless teamwork.







Spanning approximately 1.5 miles, the course pushed the team to their mental and physical limits. Despite the intense challenge, they finished in under 19 minutes.

Their dedication and hard work truly highlight the strength and resilience of our K9 team. We couldn't be more proud of their performance!

## Shop with a hero



In 2024, we were honored to partner with the Christian County Sertoma Club and Walmart of Nixa to host a Shop with a Hero event, benefiting families during the holiday season. This special program gave children the chance to shop for Christmas gifts alongside local heroes from the **Nixa Police Department**, **Christian County Ambulance District**, **Nixa Fire Department**, **Christian County Sheriff's Office**, and the **Missouri Department of Conservation**.

Thanks to the generous support of the **Christian County Sertoma Club**, these children were able to select meaningful presents for themselves and their families at **Walmart in Nixa**, bringing holiday joy and spreading cheer throughout our community.

## 2024 Friday Night Lights







On December 13th, we braved the cold from 5 to 9 p.m. at Christian County Ozark's Historic River District's Friday Night Lights event! Alongside local businesses, we celebrated the season by "Decking the Halls" with stunning decorations and light displays. The Nixa Police Department, along with other law enforcement, fire, and EMS agencies, joined in the fun, participating in a friendly competition to see who could showcase the most holiday cheer with their vehicles. Patrons had the chance to vote for their favorite display – and we proudly took 2nd place! A huge thank you to the Nixa Citizens' Police Academy Alumni for their support. The event was a success, and we were thrilled to spend the holiday season with our wonderful community!



## Trilogy Award Recipients

Captain Jeremy Whitehill, Lieutenant Ryan Strohm, Lieutenant Josh Barton, and Sergeant Dennis Acox earned the prestigious FBI Trilogy Award, a testament to their commitment to excellence.

This notable achievement recognizes their completion of all three FBI-LEEDA leadership courses: the Supervisor Leadership Institute, Command Leadership Institute, and Executive Leadership Institute. These programs are designed to equip law enforcement leaders with the skills necessary to foster a positive organizational culture, improve team performance, and maintain the highest standards of public service.



Their accomplishment reflects our department's dedication to leadership excellence and unwavering service to the community.



## Drug Takeback

On April 27 and October 26, we participated in the National Drug Takeback event, successfully collecting unused medication. This important program helps keep our community safe by providing a safe and responsible way to dispose of medications, reducing the risk of accidental poisoning, misuse, and environmental harm.

We are proud to play a part in this vital effort and encourage everyone to take advantage of these events. Proper disposal of unused medications is a key step in protecting our families and neighbors, and we're grateful for the community's participation in making it a success!



## Firearm Instructor Honors

In October, Officer Gallardo and Officer Schissler successfully graduated from Firearms Instructor School in Jefferson City! They not only represented our department with pride but also excelled, winning 6 out of 8 events held at the end of class. A special congratulations to Officer Gallardo, who earned the prestigious Top Gun award for the class!

Firearms training is essential to ensuring the safety and effectiveness of our team. We are proud to have such dedicated officers leading the charge. Their commitment to excellence will help us continue to serve and protect our community with confidence.





## National Night Out

On August 6, the Nixa Police Department, Nixa Fire Department, and Christian County Sheriff's Department came together for an exciting and fun-filled evening at the Nixa Aquatic Center to celebrate National Night Out! The event was a huge hit, with our first responders and the community making a splash in the pool, enjoying games, music, and friendly interactions.

A big thank you to everyone who joined us for this unforgettable night of fun and community spirit. We had a blast connecting with so many of you, and we look forward to even more great events in the future!



**For questions or more information about this publication contact the Nixa Police Department at:**

**Nixa Police Department  
Mailing Address: PO Box 395  
Physical Address: 715 W Center Circle  
Nixa, MO 65714  
417-725-2510**

[www.nixapolice.com](http://www.nixapolice.com)

[www.joinnixapd.com](http://www.joinnixapd.com)

<https://www.facebook.com/NixaPolice/>