



Brookings Police Department

The Brookings Police Department provides coverage for the City of Brookings 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The Brookings Police Department currently runs 12-hour shifts for officers and 10-hour shifts for the communication center. They respond to calls for service and other public needs promptly in order to provide services which resolve problems and protect persons and property.

The department staffs a Chief of Police, an Assistant Chief, 2 Patrol Lieutenants, 1 Lieutenant of Investigations, 4 Patrol Sergeants, 1 Sergeant of Investigations, 20 Full-Time Patrol Officers, 1 Part Time Patrol Officer, 1 K-9, 2 SRO Officers, and 2 Investigators. In addition to the sworn personnel, there is 1 Officer Manager, 1 Office Clerk, 1 Evidence Tech, 1 Communication Commander, 6 Dispatchers, 1 Full-Time Animal Control Officer, 2 Part-Time Animal Control Officers, and 14 Reserve Officers.

For the year, the department answered to 23,648 Calls-for-Service, 38,676 phone calls/inquiries, received 8,426 911 phone calls, handled 790 arrests, over 250 investigations and sex offender registries, 558 accidents, and 2,792 parking tickets. The Animal Control Officers took 8,332 Calls-for-Service, impounded 405 cats and dogs, handled 1,866 other animal calls, and brought in \$23,645 for the year.

2018 HIGHLIGHTS

- The Brookings Police Department purchased (34) Axon body cameras. These cameras preserve audio-video recording of an incident from the visual perspective of the officer. They have been proven to deter aggression and protect those working on the frontline while also providing tamperproof evidence to secure convictions. These cameras are came with a 5-year warranty and all videos are stored on a cloud based server.
- Funds from the Drug Control Fund were used to purchase a new digital video recording system for the interview rooms at the Brookings Police Department to monitor, record, and store recordings of interviews, which take place in these rooms in the Investigations Office.
- A power surge severely damaged the dispatch center's radio system. There was a temporary alternative system put in place, but things weren't working at 100 percent. The radio system utilizes a server rack to operate the radio system for the dispatch center. The server rack contains eight cards in it, and each card handles two radio frequencies. All but one of these cards were damaged beyond repair from the power surge. The cost to replace the whole server rack system is \$164,162, of which insurance covered \$135,262.
- Part of the Brookings Police Department's strategic vision is community policing, and "Coffee with a Cop" is one way for police officers to build relationships with community members one cup of coffee at a time. This program was brought back in 2018 and occurs once a month at various coffee houses throughout the city and campus.



- The Citizens Police Academy program was replaced with The Citizens First Responder Academy. The new program includes Police, Sheriff, UPD, DCI, Fire, State's Attorney, SD Highway Patrol, Court Services, Probation, Parole, Family Services, and Brookings Health System via its ambulance service. Our goal here is definitely a cooperative effort between all of the agencies in this community not just in law enforcement, but first responders in general. We recognize the importance of working together for the community to provide the best possible first responder service that we can. That's why this has become the First Responders Academy. The Academy graduated 20 citizens from the 13-week program.
- National Night Out is an annual community-building event that promotes police and community partnerships to make our communities and neighborhoods a safer and more caring place to live. On August 7th, in a multi-agency effort, the Brookings Police Department, Brookings County Sheriff's Office, University Police Department, SD Game Fish and Parks and the SD Highway Patrol, hosted our 2nd Annual National Night Out. The event took place in Pioneer Park, with assorted police vehicles on display, games, DJ, booths, food and a raffle. The event was a huge success!
- In 2018 the department saw several staff shortages that created difficulties in scheduling and staffing. These shortages led to a new recruiting and hiring strategy. The department began using an accelerated hiring process for both officers and dispatchers and saw immediate success. Even though open positions were filled at a much faster rate the department did not relax on any of its high standards for employee selection. We are proud to be the first in the state to use such a process and feel that it is yet another way the Brookings PD sets itself apart from other agencies.

LOOKING AHEAD

In 2019, the Brookings Police Department will continue to identify and pursue individuals involved in criminal activity within the City of Brookings through proactive policing, with a specific focus on the rising drug problem. The police department is organizing a team of department members which will consist of a detective, a patrol officer, and our K-9 officer to work together to share information between divisions to help identify and pursue individuals involved in criminal activity. By working effectively with all local law enforcement to include C.I.D., D.C.I., School Resource Officers, University Police Department, Brookings County Sheriff's Office, and the South Dakota Highway Patrol.

In 2019, the Brookings Police Department will look at purchasing (34) APX 8000 portable radios for the police officers. As a lightweight, durable, and long-lasting radio, it allows users to communicate clearly in intense environments. The radio dynamically changes the level of noise suppression, microphone gain, wind porting, and speaker equalization on the fly to consistently produce the loudest, clearest audio in any environment.

The Brookings PD has begun a partnership with the South Dakota Highway Patrol and will also be working with the labor union to expand our officer wellness program. We currently have a CISM (Critical Incident Stress Management) team in place and will be working on improvements

and additions to the services we offer our employees. We will also be working on building a peer support team that will be a huge asset to our employees.

We are looking forward to a great year serving the community of Brookings as a highly trained professional department with our mission in mind at all times.

“The mission of the Brookings Police Department is to prevent crime, enforce the law, and support quality public safety by delivering respectful, professional, and dependable police service.”

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