

POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMUNICATIONS

In an effort to keep the citizens of Thomas Township informed, we will be publishing, on our website, a listing of complaints taken by our Police Station. Starting in November, these statistics will be published for our residents, exactly as we report them on a monthly basis to the Michigan State Police. These reports are then forwarded to the F.B.I. We are also hopeful that in the future we will be able to show where these incidents occurred by mapping them. As this technology progresses we hope to be able to pass this along also.

It is our hope that by keeping you informed, you can in turn help us by becoming our eyes and ears in the community. If you as a citizen have not been the victim of a crime it is often easy to not be as attentive to things in and around your neighborhood as you could or should be.

The goal of any Law Enforcement agency is the **PRE-VENTION OF CRIME**, to stop it before it happens and make the risk of being caught so great, that it is not worth the attempt. This lofty goal can only be accomplished with the assistance of every resident. Our community is what we make it, together, as team.

In our first publication we will include a glossary of sorts for reporting categories that may otherwise be confusing. If anyone has other ideas as to what information would be useful to the citizens of Thomas Township, please contact us at 781-1300.



THOMAS TOWNSHIP TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS

The Police Department receives more calls complaining about traffic violators than any other single type of incident. These calls range from incidents of road rage to speeding and virtually everything in between. Ironically, we find ourselves most often criticized for traffic enforcement, quite the catch-twenty-two.

Although traffic issues must take a backseat to 911 calls for service, it remains an important part of the law enforcement function. Without traffic enforcement our roadways would be chaotic. Drunk drivers, persons on drugs and anyone without any regard for anyone else's safety would pose an imminent danger every time you and your family took to the roadways.

We at the Police Department are proud that we have had a positive effect on the safety of our citizens through traffic enforcement. Over the last twenty years, as traffic counts have steadily risen we have maintained an almost level crash rate. Furthermore, the number of fatal crashes have declined from a high of 6-12 a year twenty years ago to an average of less than one a year.

Remember, driving 5,000 pounds of rubber and steel down the road is a full-time job all by itself. A simple mistake can take a life every bit as quickly as a gun. A note to parents, PLEASE talk to your teenage drivers about texting while driving. I see this dangerous habit almost daily in my travels. This could truly be an issue of life or death.

