

# Field Notes



## Olympia Fields Public Safety Committee Annual Report



June 2021

The concept of community policing has become an integral part of law enforcement strategies across the country. In Olympia Fields, we intend to promote an even more inclusive public safety strategy... making **YOU** part of the team!

If we are to remain one of the premier and safest villages in America, we need to have transformative discussions to retool not just police, but the residents of our Village as well. This annual report informs the Village Board of policies and procedures of police work and recommendations from the Public Safety Committee (PSC).

**If we are to remain one of the premier and safest villages in America, we need to have transformative discussions to retool not just police, but the residents of our Village as well.**

The Public Safety Committee has been an arm of the Village Administration for decades, chaired by the Chief of Police. In 2018, Village President Sterling Burke initiated the retooling of how residents would play a far more active role in public safety. The Public Safety Committee is now chaired by a resident, who is also an elected official. Immediately, the Committee began earnestly investigating the budget of the department, the training of the officers and the numbers and types of calls received daily by the police department. Over the years, the Committee began reviewing police policies and procedures, use of firearm and tasers, body cameras, the HALO Program, to name a few.

Another major accomplishment of the Public Safety Committee was the review of the Emergency Operations Plan. This comprehensive document is a valuable tool that will prepare the Village and its residents for any number of emergencies and disasters.

The Public Safety Committee reports will become the mechanism by which residents can become active members of law enforcement and how it is defined in Olympia Fields. We urge the public to [subscribe to the Village's CodeRed Emergency Alerts](#) and to approve the use of residential security cameras in an effort to solve crimes. Please [contact](#) the Trustee Liaison regarding public safety questions.

It is important to note this Annual Report, the first of its kind, is not at all an exhaustive look at the major issues of our Village. Instead, it is the template from which to build upon future reports for our residents from the Public Safety Committee perspective. We welcome the challenges of further reviews and improvements in public safety.

Kelvin Oliver  
Village of Olympia Fields, Trustee Liaison

[Download the Public Safety Annual Report](#)

### **In the Public Safety Annual Report:**

- Key 2020-2021 Public Safety Committee Highlights
- Olympia Fields Emergency Operations Plan
- Olympia Fields Policing Policy and Standards for Use of Force
- Surveillance Camera System Program in Wysteria Subdivision
- Body Camera Policy for the Olympia Fields Police Department
- Review and Evaluation of Current Police Training
- HALO Program
- 2020 Olympia Fields Police Incident Data
- 2020 Olympia Fields (Chicago Heights) Fire Incident Data

## July is National Vehicle Theft Prevention Month!

To help vehicle owners keep their cars safe, the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is continuing its annual Vehicle Theft Prevention Campaign. In 2019 alone, nearly three-quarters of a million motor vehicles were stolen in the United States, costing vehicle owners more than \$6 billion. Motor vehicles include passenger cars, trucks, and multipurpose vehicles.

**Review these 2019 statistics on vehicle theft in the United States and NHTSA's tips on keeping your car safe:**

- Passenger cars made up more than 50% of all stolen motor vehicles.
- Only 56.1% of all stolen motor vehicles were recovered.
- Of all motor vehicles stolen, 74.5% were passenger vehicles.
- There were 721,885 motor vehicles stolen.
- A motor vehicle was stolen every 43.8 seconds.

**Take Action! Olympia Fields has a very low Stolen Auto incident rate and a very high recovery rate, as compared to surrounding towns. Do your part to stop Vehicle Theft by following these prevention tips:**

- Park in well-lit areas.
- Close and lock all windows and doors when you park.
- Put away your valuables.
- Do not leave your keys in the vehicle.
- Do not leave the area while your vehicle is running.

[\*\*Get more information on motor vehicle prevention.\*\*](#)

For additional resources, visit the [\*\*FBI's Motor Vehicle Theft Page Here.\*\*](#)



**RESTORE  
ILLINOIS**

**Getting to Phase 5: Illinois is Reopening!**

**Governor Pritzker announced that Illinois is moving to Phase 5, Making Reopening Official.**

Phase 5 eliminates all capacity limits for businesses and large-scale metrics. The official announcement cited continuing declines in COVID-19 metrics and increases in vaccinations. Professional sports teams, conventions, amusement parks can operate with full capacity and festivals and concerts can move forward. Masks are not required for vaccinated individuals, except where required by federal, state or local law.

[Find a Vaccination Location](#)



**Village of Olympia Fields  
20040 Governors Highway  
Olympia Fields, IL 60461  
708-503-8000**

[Visit Our Website](#)