

STAFF REPORT

City Council Consent Item

DATE: May 19, 2025

TO: Honorable Mayor and Council Members

FROM: Matthew A. Eberhardt, Interim Chief of Police

THROUGH: Amy Nilsen, City Manager

SUBJECT: Police Department Monthly Report for April 2025

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Receive report as an informational item.

Patrol Statistics:

During the month of March 2025, the Fortuna Police handled 1,305 calls for service. 49 arrests were made including 15 felony arrests and 34 misdemeanor arrests. A total of 59 citations were issued for traffic offenses or other miscellaneous violations. Crime statistics and information on calls for service are available at forpd.crimegraphics.com.

Staffing:

- Recruitment Update: A lateral retired annuitant reserve law enforcement officer with local area experience is progressing through the pre-employment background investigation process.
- Academy Training: Two Police Officer Trainees are currently enrolled at the College of the Redwoods Police Academy, with an expected graduation in July.
- Staffing and Recruitment: The department currently has three vacant sworn officer positions and is actively recruiting to fill these roles.
- Operational Impact: Due to the Police Officer Trainees still in training and the existing vacancies, sworn patrol officers are currently operating with five fewer personnel than full staffing levels.
- Field Training Program: Officer Humphrey successfully completed the Filed Training Program on April 3, 2025.

Training:

- Sergeant Charlton completed the 8 month Sherman Block Supervisory Leadership Institute (SBLI) on April 26, 2025.
- Public Safety Dispatcher Johnson completed the 4 week POST required Dispatch Academy Training. This training was attended remotely.

Funding Applications:

Chief attended and spoke at the Humboldt County Board of Supervisors meeting regarding the City's FY25/26 Measure Z funding requests for the Eel River Valley School Resource Officer position and the department's Humboldt County Drug Task Force Agent position. The Board of Supervisors approved the funding.

Employee Recognition:

- Filed Training Officer Moore was recognized as the Employee of the 3rd Quarter for his work ethic.
- Officer Gier was recognized as our department's Officer of the Year at the 48th Annual Officer Appreciation Night, hosted by the Elks Lodge.
- Public Safety Dispatchers and Animal Control Officers were recognized during National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week and National Animal Control Officers Week.

Promotions/Transfers:

- Sergeant Kadle was promoted to the position of Lieutenant.
- Field Training Officer Palmer was promoted to the position of Sergeant.
- Officer Burley was transferred to the position of Eel Valley School Resource Officer.
- Officer Gier was transferred to the position of Field Training Officer.

Enforcement/Community Engagement:

- Detectives, Officers and K9 unit collaborating with Rio Dell Police, executed a search warrant in Rio Dell arresting subjects and seizing illegal narcotics and firearms, affecting our communities.
- The city experienced a rash of theft. Investigators identified the suspect, recovered stolen property and an arrest was made.
- School tours and presentations were conducted at the department.
- Chief Eberhardt participated in TalkShop Radio.

RECOMMENDED COUNCIL ACTION:

Receive Police Department Monthly Report (April). Consent Agenda vote.