



PUBLIC SAFETY

Department Description

The Department of Public Safety manages the operations of the Divisions of Fire, Police, Support Services, and the Safety Director's Office for the City of Columbus.

Department Mission

To build and maintain safe neighborhoods by working cooperatively with citizens to minimize injury, death, and property destruction.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR 2015

Neighborhoods

Improve neighborhood safety, community participation, and Police Division responsiveness by working with other government agencies, community members, and federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies to leverage additional resources.

Implement strategies related to the reduction of gun violence and gang activity.

Continue the Neighborhood Safety Camera Program and review comparison crime statistics on neighborhoods.

In partnership with the Community Crime Patrol, continue to provide support in patrol areas identified by the city.

Continue to utilize police resources in conducting the Community Summer Initiative (CSI), a targeted approach to addressing criminal activity during the summer months.

Continue to use the Police Community Response Teams (CRT) to engage localized crime patterns, provide crowd control, and foster community partnerships to address quality of life issues.

Safety

Continue to focus on the most effective and efficient deployment of Police and Fire Divisions' personnel, making staffing adjustments when necessary.

Continue efforts to prevent crime, reduce violence, and remove illegal firearms from city streets.

Continue to enhance pedestrian and vehicular safety through the use of photo red light cameras.

Continue efforts to comply with standards to maintain national and international accreditations for both the Police and Fire Divisions, crime lab, and the heliport.

Recruit and hire the most qualified applicants for Police and Fire with a focus on safety forces mirroring the community they serve.

Continue to review 911 operations with the help of a consultant and begin the design phase for a new Communication Center.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES FOR 2015

Customer Service

Promote concepts of community involvement in crime awareness and crime reduction programs through organizational efforts such as block watch groups to support community policing partnerships.

Continue the emergency medical services (EMS) billing program to increase enhanced features for patient care reporting.

Improve the Department's response to 311 service requests by implementing guidelines that require acknowledgement of all 311 requests within two business days and resolution of all requests within 21 days of being entered into the system.

Technology

Continue the conversion of the 800 MHz digital radio system from the current analog system to a digital system.

Continue the significant efforts to replace and improve emergency response vehicles.

Continue to work with Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security to upgrade the outdoor emergency siren system.

Continue to enhance pedestrian safety around school zones through the use of mobile speed vehicles and license plate readers.

Provide support and effectively collaborate with the Department of Technology to continue the implementation of transitioning technology job functions from the Police Division to the Department of Technology.

Education

Continue to work with the public to facilitate educational activities such as the Neighborhood Safety Academy.

In partnership with Columbus City Schools, continue to maintain a presence of police officers in the schools, including 17 school resource officers in Columbus high schools and 20 community liaison officers who present public safety programs in the elementary and middle schools.

Continue to offer citizens access to educational opportunities through use of the Fire Safety House, fire safety education classes, and First Aid CPR and AED trainings offered by the Division of Fire.

Continue to provide educational opportunities to citizens through the Columbus Citizen Police Academy and Columbus Police Explorers Program.

2015 BUDGET NOTES

SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

Support to the Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security Program is budgeted at \$663,000, which represents the city's proportionate share of the maintenance and administrative support of the area's emergency siren system. Additional program activities include planning for disaster recovery and public education and exercises. In addition:

- Jail contract expenses are budgeted at \$5,050,000 in 2015. The per-diem cost was increased in May of 2011 from \$70 to \$79.
- A total of \$375,000 is budgeted for the Community Crime Patrol, which patrols Hilltop, Franklinton, Merion Village area, the University district including south Clintonville and Weinland Park, the Downtown Park district, Olde Towne East/Franklin Park, the Northland/North Linden area, and any other patrol area as directed by the city. The Community Crime Patrol assists the Division of Police in identifying suspicious activities indicative of criminal behavior and includes reporting quality of life issues to appropriate city agencies, such as code violations, burned out street and traffic lights, water leaks, and downed utility and power lines.
- To promote neighborhood safety initiatives, \$40,000 is budgeted for community grants for violence prevention and \$33,000 is budgeted for Crime Stoppers.
- The truancy program is budgeted at \$75,000 in 2015.
- Minority recruiting efforts will continue in 2015, with \$100,000 allocated to this effort.
- A total of \$200,000 is included for the Capital Area Humane Society for animal cruelty investigations.

SUPPORT SERVICES

In 2011, an expanded and upgraded computer aided dispatching system was implemented. Funding for maintenance of this system is included in this budget in the amount of \$530,400. In addition:

- A total of \$180,000 is budgeted for the maintenance of the neighborhood safety cameras.
- Personnel expenses include a decrease in funding for four communication technicians transferred to DoT in September, 2014 and an increase in funding for the addition of an Office Assistant II for the License section.
- A total of \$94,000 is included for the replacement of 911 computers.

POLICE

The Division of Police's 2015 budget provides funding for a beginning year strength of 1,899 police officers. It is anticipated that during 2015, there will be a total of 60 separations. Officers lost through these separations will be replaced with 2 budgeted classes totaling 60 recruits and subsequent internal promotions. In addition:

- Major non-personnel budget items include \$8.83 million in internal charges for fleet (including fuel), \$1.43 million for uniforms, \$1.71 million for the towing contract, \$1.15 million for helicopter maintenance, \$827,970 for prisoner medical expenses, \$200,822 for tasers, \$491,000 for helicopter fuel, and over \$346,000 for ammunition.
- A total of \$750,000 is included for the Community Summer Initiative.

- A total of \$1.39 million in Police expenses will be paid out of the photo red light fund.
- Approximately \$1.48 million in funds received by the city from E-911 revenue will be used to partially fund the salaries and benefits of communications technicians.
- Civilianization efforts will continue in 2015, with funding for 20 police communication technicians and 8 additional identified civilianization positions.

FIRE

The Fire Division's 2015 budget provides funding for a beginning year contingent of 1,538 firefighters. It is anticipated that during 2015 there will be a total of 45 separations. Firefighters lost through these separations will be replaced with a budgeted class totaling 45 recruits and subsequent internal promotions. In addition:

- The division currently provides fire suppression and EMS service with 34 paramedic engine companies, 15 ladder companies, and 5 heavy rescue units. Thirty-two EMS transport units, one for each station, have been attached to engine companies to create two-piece companies capable of responding to either fire or medical emergencies.
- Civilianization efforts will continue in 2015, with funding for eight identified civilianization positions.
- Major non-personnel budget items include \$7.5 million in internal charges for fleet (including fuel), \$676,000 for uniform parts, \$1.38 million for medical supplies, and \$624,000 for turnout gear.
- The EMS third-party reimbursement program that began in January 2003 is expected to generate \$13.7 million in 2015. The division's cost for EMS related billing services is an estimated \$1.8 million.

Department Financial Summary by Area of Expense						
Fund	2012 Actual	2013 Actual	2014 Budget	2014 Projected	2015 Proposed	
General Fund						
Administration						
Personnel	\$ 1,280,897	\$ 1,368,150	\$ 1,495,628	\$ 1,324,901	\$ 1,407,629	
Materials & Supplies	2,979	5,174	10,367	7,771	10,367	
Services	5,965,705	6,589,314	6,770,215	6,344,936	6,628,976	
Transfers	-	-	-	-	-	
Administration Subtotal	7,249,581	7,962,638	8,276,210	7,677,609	8,046,972	
Support Services						
Personnel	4,312,069	4,636,747	5,066,150	4,766,243	4,826,491	
Materials & Supplies	393,788	416,583	467,175	500,534	561,175	
Services	1,018,634	1,175,150	1,664,520	1,482,254	1,468,527	
Other	12	412	1,000	1,275	1,000	
Support Services Subtotal	5,724,503	6,228,892	7,198,845	6,750,306	6,857,193	
Police						
Personnel	250,884,166	260,098,995	270,748,944	271,739,971	280,436,784	
Materials & Supplies	5,070,996	5,243,011	3,271,098	3,226,853	3,532,043	
Services	16,596,557	12,954,834	15,153,228	14,241,551	15,546,625	
Other	650,010	414,882	225,000	348,515	225,000	
Capital	800,000	-	-	42,000	-	
Transfers	-	2,750,998	2,687,906	-	2,691,578	
Police Subtotal	274,001,729	281,462,720	292,086,176	289,598,890	302,432,030	
Fire						
Personnel	196,572,614	200,736,914	204,625,508	204,153,335	208,812,557	
Materials & Supplies	4,971,029	5,353,850	3,450,166	3,778,269	3,711,369	
Services	12,231,594	9,950,915	10,914,719	10,886,067	11,099,930	
Other	77,203	223,958	200,000	200,000	200,000	
Transfers	15,053	348,602	2,087,481	2,492	2,216,671	
Fire Subtotal	213,867,493	216,614,239	221,277,874	219,020,162	226,040,527	
General Fund Subtotal	500,843,306	512,268,489	528,839,105	523,046,967	543,376,722	
E-911 Fund						
Police						
Personnel	1,655,613	2,700,000	2,700,000	2,700,000	1,479,393	
E-911 Fund Subtotal	1,655,613	2,700,000	2,700,000	2,700,000	1,479,393	
COPS Grant Fund						
Police						
Personnel	3,413,239	897,024	-	-	-	
COPS Grant Fund Subtotal	3,413,239	897,024	-	-	-	
Staffing Cont. Fund						
Police						
Personnel	78,121	-	-	-	-	
Fire						
Personnel	19,852	-	-	-	-	
Staffing Cont. Fund Subtotal	97,973	-	-	-	-	
Photo Red Light Fund						
Police						
Personnel	1,605,174	1,344,300	1,344,300	1,344,300	1,330,000	
Materials & Supplies	30,933	1,152,151	-	-	-	
Services	77,070	45,700	45,700	45,700	60,000	
Photo Red Light Fund Subtotal	1,713,177	2,542,151	1,390,000	1,390,000	1,390,000	
Department Total	\$ 507,723,308	\$ 518,407,664	\$ 532,929,105	\$ 527,136,967	\$ 546,246,115	

Department Personnel Summary					
Fund	FT/PT	2012 Actual	2013 Actual	2014 Budgeted	2015 Budgeted
General Fund					
Administration	FT	10	10	11	10
	PT	1	1	1	1
Support Services	FT	49	49	52	49
	PT	4	4	6	6
Police					
Uniformed ⁽¹⁾	FT	1867	1904	1902	1899
Civilian	FT	307	325	379	408
	PT	4	7	10	10
Fire					
Uniformed	FT	1558	1549	1588	1538
Civilian	FT	35	37	42	51
	PT	4	3	4	4
Total		3839	3889	3995	3976

⁽¹⁾ Actual 2012 numbers include the use of a COPS Hiring Recovery Program (CHRP) Grant for 48 personnel, and partial year funding for the same in 2013.

Operating Budget by Program					
Program	2014 Budget	2014 FTEs	2015 Proposed	2015 FTEs	
Safety Administration	\$ 8,276,210	11	\$ 8,046,972	10	
Support Services Operation Support	4,946,838	30	4,490,317	26	
License and Permit Regulations	1,058,124	10	1,222,079	12	
Weights and Measurers	633,681	7	651,762	7	
Support Services Administration	560,202	5	493,035	4	
Police Training	9,667,797	67	10,411,555	76	
Police Administrative	16,431,809	70	13,236,452	98	
Technical Services	11,941,452	28	12,240,752	27	
Homeland Security	23,294,064	164	24,339,470	163	
Strategic Response	13,905,924	149	21,287,786	156	
Internal Affairs	3,668,664	27	3,801,812	27	
Investigative	41,182,174	327	43,054,517	333	
Narcotics	12,239,417	88	13,101,396	92	
Patrol	137,339,913	1,087	134,074,795	1,063	
Communications	10,352,473	137	13,645,443	137	
Police Support Operations	16,152,489	137	16,107,445	135	
Emergency Services Bureau	177,835,594	1,331	188,695,687	1,359	
Fire Prevention Bureau	6,696,555	56	6,734,905	55	
Fire Support Services Bureau	13,945,008	28	14,442,285	28	
Fire Training Bureau	9,109,520	126	4,601,410	56	
Office of the Chief	4,539,734	20	2,928,450	20	
Fire Bureau of Administration	3,526,663	19	3,401,514	27	
Alarm Office	5,624,800	50	5,236,276	44	
Department Total	\$ 532,929,105	3,974	\$ 546,246,115	3,955	

Program descriptions begin on the following page.



2015 PROGRAM GUIDE

SAFETY ADMINISTRATION

To build and maintain safe neighborhoods by working cooperatively with citizens to minimize injury, death, and property destruction.

OPERATION SUPPORT

To provide an effective public safety communications system by ensuring the reliability of the police and fire radio and dispatching systems.

LICENSE AND PERMIT REGULATIONS

To provide, administer, and enforce all laws, rules, and regulations relating to licensing requirements.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

To promote consumer protection by ensuring compliance with city regulations through inspection and testing of commercially used weighing and measuring devices.

SUPPORT SERVICES ADMINISTRATION

To manage the division and ensure compliance with federal, state, and local regulations and standards pertaining to division operations.

TRAINING

To increase pride, professionalism, and service to the public by providing quality training with quality staffing and facilities.

POLICE ADMINISTRATIVE

To provide timely and effective performance of administrative functions such that units can perform their duties efficiently and effectively.

TECHNICAL SERVICES

To increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the division by providing quality computerized, photographic, and print services, and by providing for the management of the division's fleet.

HOMELAND SECURITY

To provide for the safety of the citizens of Columbus and central Ohio by enforcing traffic-related laws, gathering intelligence to prevent terrorist attack, providing specialized policing services such as SWAT and canine services, and managing emergency operations.

STRATEGIC RESPONSE

To reduce crime and its related effects through community education, establishing and maintaining community/police partnerships, and deploying analytically-based criminal enforcement units.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS

To increase internal constraint and public confidence with the Division of Police through accurate and objective administrative investigations.

INVESTIGATIVE

To conduct investigations of reported felony crimes including crimes against persons, property, child victims, economic related crime, and missing persons. To conduct forensic collection and laboratory examination of crime scene evidence for successful prosecution of criminal offenders.

NARCOTICS

To reduce organized criminal activity and availability of illicit narcotics through proactive interdiction, investigation, and prosecution of those profiting from the sale of illicit narcotics, gambling, prostitution, and alcohol-related violations.

PATROL

To provide continuous uniformed patrols of the City of Columbus, respond to calls for police services, investigate non-fatal vehicular accidents, investigate and enforce criminal and traffic offenses, and engage in a variety of policing strategies to constrain the effects of crime upon the community.

COMMUNICATIONS

To receive incoming emergency calls from citizens and to dispatch officers in an efficient, effective, and courteous manner.

POLICE SUPPORT OPERATIONS

To provide for the safety of citizens by providing secure locations for property and impounded vehicles, coordinate criminal prosecutions with the judicial system, provide fingerprinting identification, and police record management.

EMERGENCY SERVICES BUREAU	To minimize injury, death, and property loss related to fires, medical emergencies, and other disasters through the delivery of effective fire suppression, pre-hospital treatment, and patient transportation.
FIRE PREVENTION BUREAU	To minimize injuries, deaths, and property loss through public education, enforcement of the fire codes, and investigation of fire causes.
SUPPORT SERVICES BUREAU	To provide and maintain facilities, apparatus, and supplies of the Division of Fire, and to provide infectious disease prevention and intervention for firefighters.
TRAINING BUREAU	To ensure that all Fire personnel have the knowledge and skills necessary to safely and effectively fulfill the mission of the Fire Division.
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF	To ensure that the division's resources are utilized efficiently and effectively, thus providing the best possible fire safety and related services to the citizens of Columbus.
FIRE BUREAU OF ADMINISTRATION	To provide a wide variety of financial and record keeping services for the Division of Fire.
ALARM OFFICE	To receive calls for fire, medical, or other emergencies and dispatch the appropriate resources to the emergency.

This page has been intentionally left blank.