The Police Department continued to operate in an efficient and professional manner from our modern facility. Many complimentary letters of appreciation and recognition from grateful citizens and other agencies were directed at our officers and civilian personnel.

Under the direction of Lieutenant David Mason, the performance of our Communications Center was again outstanding. Denise Dodson was hired as a full-time Communications Specialist on 01/04/16. There are presently seven Full-time Communications Specialists and one Communications Coordinator.

Under the supervision of Lieutenant Mark Adams, Patrol and Detective personnel were again highly productive and visible. On September 9, 2016, Officer Brandon Rotili was appointed to full-time. Our Department welcomed Part-time Officers Erik Etapa in May and Drew Fite in October. There are currently twenty-three sworn full-time officers and five part-time officers.

In-service training in many varied areas was provided to both Police and Communications personnel throughout the year.

Departmental personnel were dispatched to 6,013 radio assignments and officers initiated an additional 26,739 citizen contacts in 2016. Personnel assigned to the Communications Center, in addition to dispatching thousands of assignments to police, fire, and service personnel, expedited 8,568 calls not requiring on-scene response. They processed the release of hundreds of impounded vehicles to respective owners, and acted as deputy clerks of court for the processing of hundreds of legal documents for police personnel.

The Senior Watch Program was implemented in October of 1998. On a daily basis, our Communications Specialists contact senior citizens, disabled or living alone, to ensure they are doing well and not in need of police or personal assistance. In 2016, a total of 1,670 contacts were made.

Our Safety Town Program provided training and awareness to 70 pre-kindergarten aged children in the care and caution needed by them to remain safe in using and crossing our busy streets, bicycle and fire safety, and major areas of “stranger danger.”

Our trained officers continued assisting citizens in the proper installation of child safety seats in 2016.
While included in this report are total statistics for various crime categories, I wish at this time to touch individually on several:

- UCR (Uniform Crime Report), Part 1 Index Crimes remained the same overall, with no increase in 2016. Over 95% of the UCR, Part 1 Index Crimes reported are theft related and are predominately shoplifting from retail establishments.

- A total of 787 incidents generated reports this past year, in addition to numerous departmentally required reports.

- There were a total of 506 arrests made by Department personnel in the year 2016. Of those, 391 were arrests of adults, 115 were juvenile violators.

- A total of 2,109 citations and 2,443 written warnings were issued in 2016 by on-duty and S.T.E.P. officers. In 2016, officers conducted approximately 4,308 traffic stops.

- Our officers responded to 621 residential and commercial entry alarms, these being for the most part accidental.

- As part of their routine patrol duties, officers conducted a daily check of residences while the owners were away. This service resulted in residences being checked 7,035 times throughout the year.

- Our Preventative Patrol Report (PPR) is a program in which the residential areas are checked for unusual conditions (open garage doors, accumulating newspapers, etc.) primarily during the overnight patrol shift. Officers leave PPR reports notifying the residents of the condition found. There were a total of 503 PPR notifications to residents in 2016.

- Members of the Detective Bureau achieved an impressive investigative clearance rate of 71%.

The Departmental Administrative Staff of Amy Wentz and Caryl Kerwin, as always, provided professional support, without which we could not provide the level of service to the public, which has come to be expected.

This past year our facility was again well maintained by Service Department personnel Larry Hess and Pat Adkins. We are appreciative and grateful for their efforts.

Our Department has once again shown itself to be motivated and dedicated to providing service and protection to the citizens of Fairlawn. This attitude is accurately reflected in the appreciation and overwhelming support shown by the residents, administration and elected officials of this community. We eagerly look forward to improving our performance and enhancing the overall quality of police service in the coming year.