



Gahanna Division of Police

- To Serve and Protect -

Chief Jeffrey Spence, CLEE

FIELD SERVICES SUBDIVISION

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT & ROADWAY SAFETY OPERATIONS

A Presentation to City Council April 11th, 2022

- Lt. Ethan Moffitt # L-58 -



Q1 Neighborhood Patrol-Related Activity



900 + Physical House Watch Checks (Signal 45)

- Physical perimeter checks of homes on the Division's house watch list involving a walk-around and inspection by an officer (watch requests primarily submitted online)
- Over 50 properties
- Additional drive-by checks conducted by Third Shift Patrol

Q1 Neighborhood Patrol-Related Activity



11,678 Neighborhood Geofence Entries

- All Division marked patrol cruisers are equipped with a GPS system
- Entries into 30 geofenced neighborhoods is tracked
- Boundaries generally correspond with neighborhoods designated by *nextdoor*
 - **No portion of IR 270 is within any geofenced boundary
- Geofenced areas do not include Division facilities or major roadways – primarily inclusive of residential areas
- D1 - 4008; D2 - 4605; D3 - 3065



Traffic Enforcement

- Division's Strategic Goal #1 (2022 Goals & Objectives):
 - *"...provide safe vehicular and pedestrian travel throughout the City of Gahanna".*

Q1 Traffic Violator Contacts (TVs) 2021/2022 Comparison



Q1 2021- 1437 Traffic Stops (Signal TV) conducted

- 13 – Report taken (Status 1)
- 863 – Warning [Only] issued (Status 4)
- 507 – Citations [Only] issued (Status 3)
- 40 – Arrest (Status 5)
- 12 - Services Rendered (Status 7)
- 2 – Other Dispositions

Q1 2022 – 1796 Traffic Stops conducted; +25%

- 17 – Report taken (Status 1); +30%
- 960 – Warning [Only] issued (Status 4); + 11%
- 751 – Citations [Only] issued (Status 3); + 48%
- 48 – Arrest (Status 5); +20%
- 12 - Services Rendered (Status 7); -
- 5 – Other Dispositions; NA

2022 Q1 Directed Traffic Enforcement Deployments

Directed Traffic Enforcement Deployments

- 123 Total directed enforcement details throughout the City (62D)
- 3 IR 270 Dedicated Enforcement Deployments (5-hour directed enforcement initiative, 0900 to 1400)
- St. Patrick's Day OVI Saturation Patrol Deployments 3/16 and 3/17 (Impaired Driving Enforcement City-Wide)

Directed Traffic Enforcement Protocols

- Issuance of a citation required for (a requirement for grant-funded operations):
 - Impaired driving violations, distracted and reckless driving-related violations
 - Occupant restraint violations
 - Licensing violations
- Contact goal (absent an arrest or other extended contact) of 2-contacts per hour
- Activity for grant funded operations (DUI Task Force) is reported to the Franklin County Sheriff's Office – Invoice submitted monthly; nearly 100% reimbursement provided to City (less Workers Comp fringe rate)





IR 270

- # 1 crash location consistently
- Routinely 27% to 30% of all crashes that occur in the City
- 2021 – 147 crashes (2 Fatal)
- 2022- 33 thru 4/10, 22% of all crashes
- Q1 – 10 millions vehicles on IR 270 within City limits
 - ❑ 20%, 2 million, over 75 MPH
 - ❑ 6%, 556 thousand, over 80 MPH
 - ❑ 1%, 92 thousand, over 85 MPH

Ongoing Operations

- Additional city-wide traffic enforcement deployments throughout (Q2) – 4 scheduled in April
- School-zone enforcement initiatives (began first week of April with GLHS):
 - Will continue throughout April
 - School zones will be rotated (or enforcement will be conducted simultaneously within different zones)
- Cinco de Mayo OVI Saturation Patrols



Speed Monitoring and Notification Devices (SMND)

- 3 SMND
- Deployed to locations associated with routine speed complaints – primarily in residential areas
- Record traffic volume and speed data – surveys posted on the Division's website
- Provides peak times and an enforcement evaluator
- Division Procedure 505, Speed Monitoring and Notification Devices (Chapter 500 – Traffic Enforcement)



2021 Combined SMND Deployment

- 345 days (SMND 1 – 152; SMND 2 – 193)
- 20 locations around the City (D1-6; D2-9, D3-5)
- 400,000 + Vehicles Recorded (Speed)
- Average speed while SMND present – 21 MPH
- 85th percentile speed while SMND present – 27.5 MPH (85% of vehicles were traveling at this speed or less)
- New SMND obtained – 2022 deployments began in March (1 SMND in each District)



Jamar Black Cat Radar Recorder (Stealth Stat)

- Records traffic volume and vehicle speeds
- Provides an understanding of roadway conditions in the absence of mitigation efforts (absent visible police presence or the absence of mitigation devices)
- Provides data on peak times and an enforcement evaluator



OVI Arrests (Impaired Driving)



- Q1 2021 - 37
- Q2 2022 – 36
- The removal of impaired drivers from our roads is a top priority
- Here's what's at stake:

11-7-21 OVI Driver @ 127 MPH on IR 270 SB (.167 BAC, over 2 X legal limit)

I-270 at Claycraft/Morrison Rd 11/07/21 12:17:59 AM -161.03



11/7/21
Wrong Way
OVI Driver into
Semi

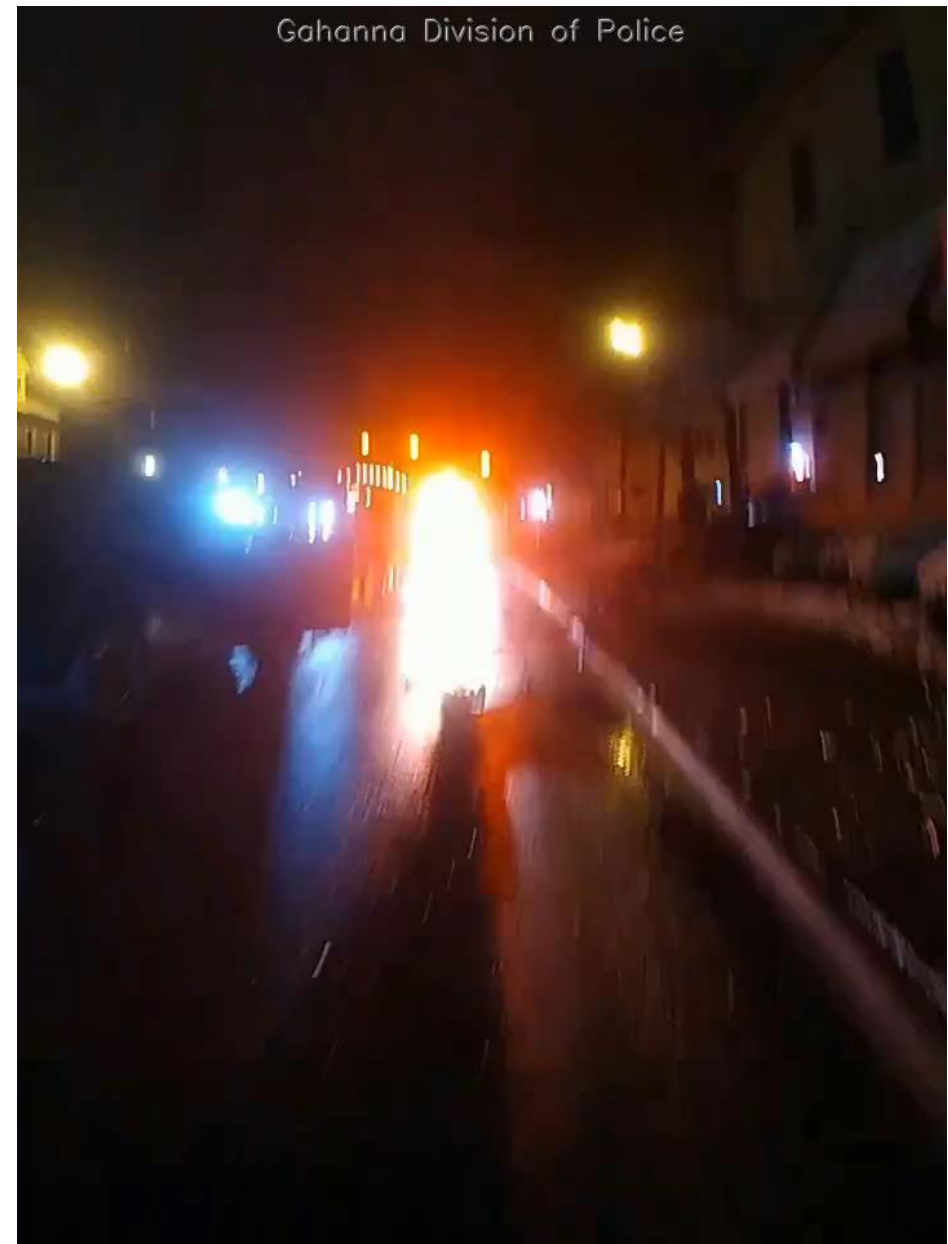
- Just over 2 hours later
- Wrong way driver going southbound on IR 270 North
- Gahanna Officers are just clearing fatal OVI crash on IR 270 South
- Wrong way driver collides with semi
- Gahanna officers and a Trooper arrive at scene moments later while the car is still engulfed in flames -
- Crash investigation by Ohio State Highway Patrol (toxicology still pending)

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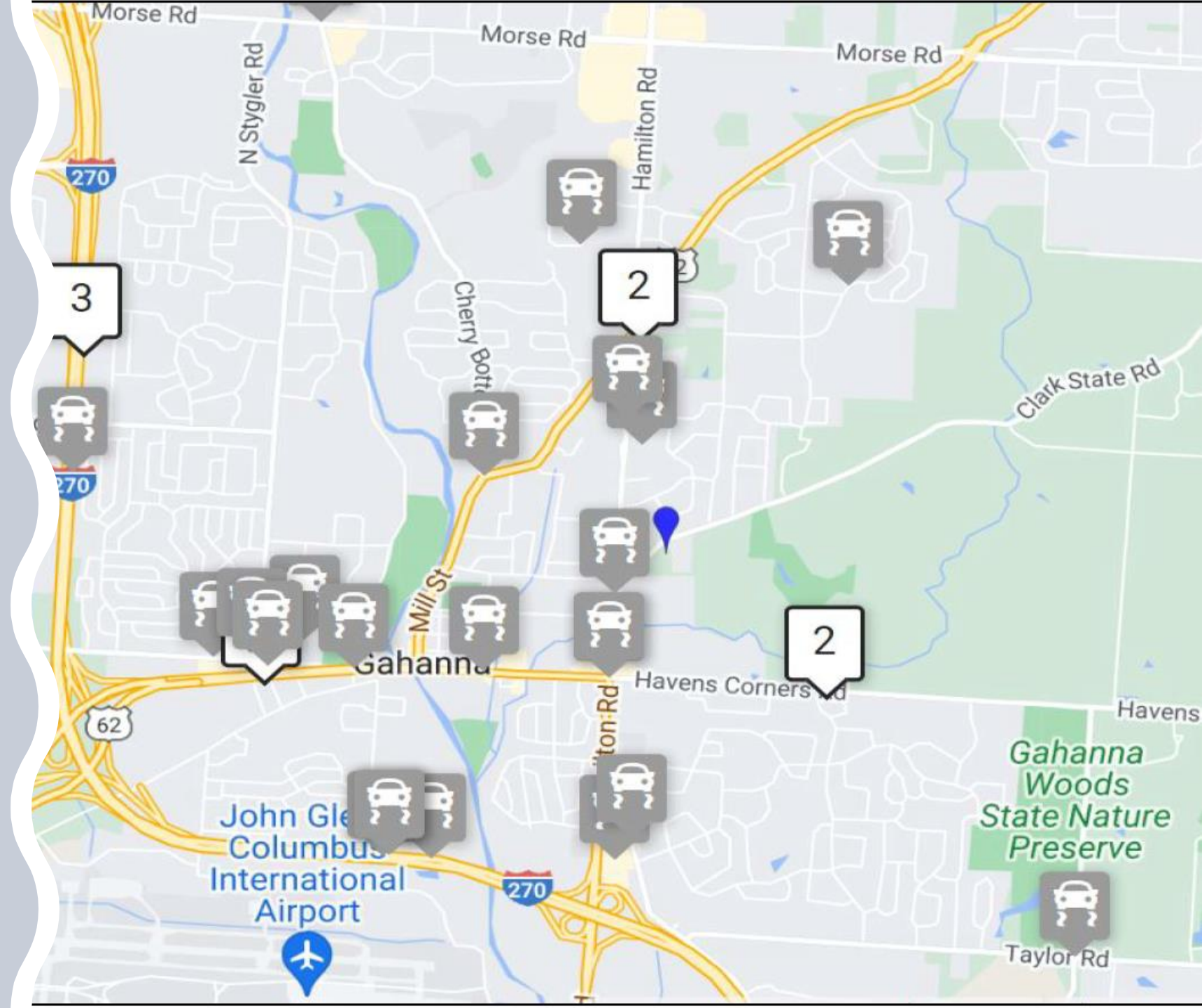
3/12/22 – OVI Driver
Crashes into
Building on Granville
(.333 BAC – over 3 X
legal limit)



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2022 Q1 OVI Arrest Locations

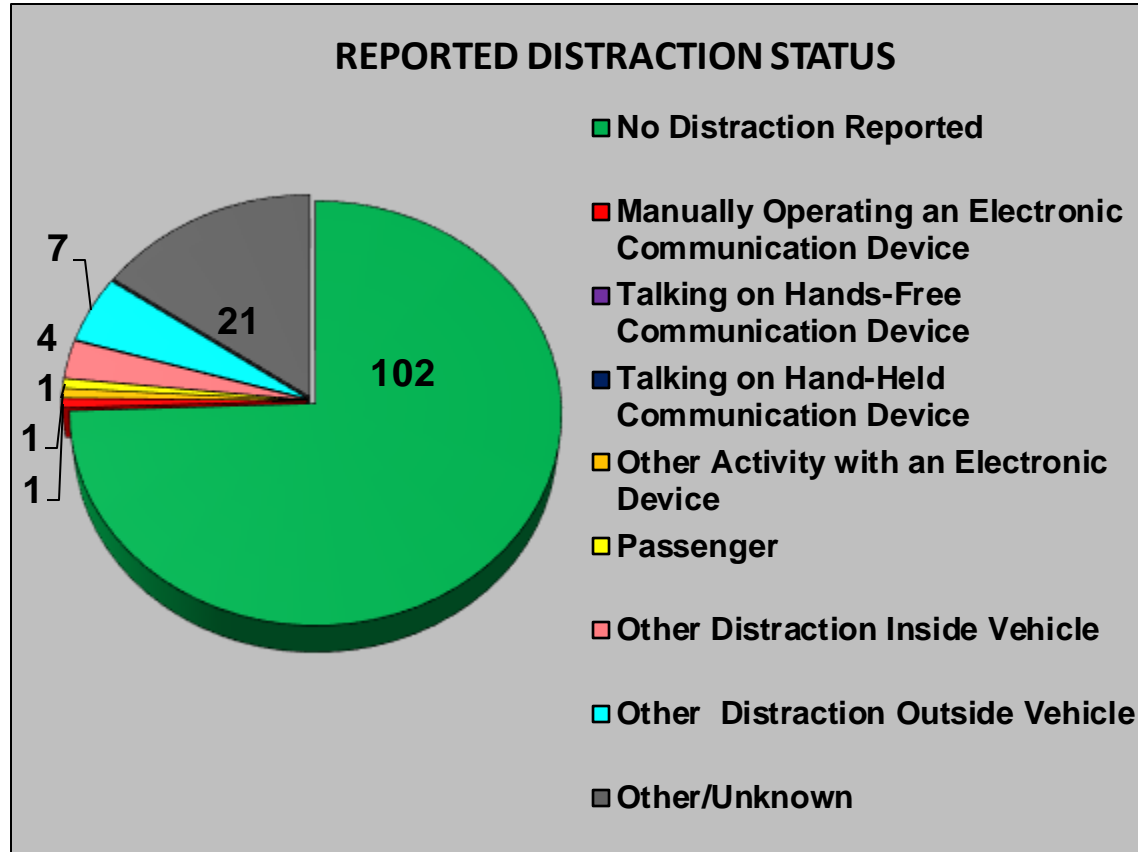


April – Distracted Driving Awareness Month

- NSC estimates show that our roadways are more dangerous than they've been in years
- On a typical day, 8 people killed and hundreds injured in distraction-affected crashes
- Ohio through 4/4/22
 - 66,035 Distracted Crashes (Age 15 -24, 40%)
 - 1,960 Fatal and serious injury crashes (-12% 2021)
 - M-F 3PM to PM – 27%



Q1 Gahanna Crashes - Distracted Driving



	Total	%
No Distraction Reported	102	74.45%
Manually Operating an Electronic Communication Device	1	0.73%
Talking on Hands-Free Communication Device	0	0.00%
Talking on Hand-Held Communication Device	0	0.00%
Other Activity with an Electronic Device	1	0.73%
Passenger	1	0.73%
Other Distraction Inside Vehicle	4	2.92%
Other Distraction Outside Vehicle	7	5.11%
Other/Unknown	21	15.33%



12/23/21 – Multilane Freeway Shutdown

- Driver 24 yoa
- Texting while driving
- High-volume freeway traffic (Easton Way exit - known for extended backups)
- 3 Unit crash
- Multiple officer and ODOT response required
- High probability of secondary crashes when freeway lanes are closed



2/22/22 – Driver (16 yoa) reading a text message crashes into parked car on Lincolnshire



What is Distracted Driving?

Any non-driving activity a person engages in that has a potential to distract the driver from the primary task of driving and increases the risk of crashing



Categories of Distracted Driving



**THERE ARE
THREE TYPES OF
DISTRACTED DRIVING**



MANUAL

Anything that takes one or both hands off the wheel

Adjusting settings in the car
Reaching for objects in the car
Grooming



VISUAL

Anything that causes drivers to take their eyes off the road

Looking at a phone or GPS device
Viewing wildlife or pedestrians
Staring at billboards, roadside crashes, etc



COGNITIVE

Anything that takes your mind off the road

Speaking with passengers
Talking on a cellphone
Daydreaming

Texting while driving is exceptionally bad because it incorporates all three forms of distracted driving.

Categories of Distracted Driving

- **Manual** – Anything that takes one or both hands off the wheel (e.g., adjusting settings in car, reaching for objects, grooming)
- **Visual** – Anything that causes drivers to take their eyes off the road (e.g., looking at a phone or GPS, staring at billboards, roadside crashes, etc.)
- **Cognitive** – Any distraction that interrupts your thought process. Cognitive distraction can overload the brain causing “inattention blindness”
 - ❑ Range of vision can narrow to a fraction of what it is under normal circumstances, you can't react to what you don't see, nor can your brain process quickly – response to dangerous situations slows

Texting and Driving

Particularly bad because it incorporates all three forms of distracted driving



Distracted Driving Awareness Month & Division Outreach Initiatives

- The Division has combined educational outreach & enforcement efforts
- Division social media outreach
- Chief's Newsletter and community association engagement
- Subdivision-wide focus on traffic safety
- Zero tolerance towards occupant restraint & distracted driving offenses
- Directed traffic enforcement deployments
- Partnership with OSHP Columbus Metro
- Electronic sign boards deployed on US RT 62 EB & S. Hamilton Road NB coming into the city and N. Hamilton Road SB @ US RT 62
 - Campaign message as designated by the Ohio Traffic Safety Office (OTSO): ***“U Drive...U Text...U Pay!!!”***



E-Ticketing Project

- State of Ohio Law Enforcement Virtual Exchange
- Free web-based platform administered by ODPS (Participating agencies agree to submit data)
- Next evolution of OLEIS (Ohio Law Enforcement Information System), the current server-based platform (GPS doesn't use)
- Testing [Desktop] currently underway
- Next phase – field deployment & parallel testing (w cruiser 127)
- System will transmit information to GMC and FCMC court systems (eliminates current redundant entry by court staff)
- Will reduce the time violators are stopped & improve efficiencies



- Thank you -

Keep your eyes on the road, buckle up, and drive safe

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Contact Chief Spence or the Comm. Center,

614-342-4240, for emergency contact request

