Town of Vestal Police Department

2025 Annual Report



Remembering Officer Lee Barta 30 Years Later

This year we honored the memory of Officer Lee Barta, who gave his life in the line of duty 30 years ago. His courage, commitment to public service, and dedication to protecting our community will never be forgotten.

Lee's legacy lives on through his son, Officer Dan Barta, who serves with the Vestal Police Department and walks the same path his father once did, with the same strength and heart.

We remember Lee not only for his service but also for the example he set as a hero, father, and protector.

End of Watch is not the end of a legacy.

We carry his memory with us, today and always.

We thank the Binghamton Police Department for the touching memorial service put on by members of the Police Benevolent Association.

End of watch, 8/3/95.



Our Mission

The primary goal of the Vestal Police Department is to preserve the rights of all citizens without prejudice or bias based on race, religion, ethnicity, national origin, or sexual orientation, so that they may live in peace and harmony. This is achieved through the protection of life and property; through the resolution of conflict and emergencies; through the creation and maintenance of a feeling of security within the community; through a reduction of crime by minimizing opportunity through various crime prevention strategies, as well as through the diligent apprehension and subsequent prosecution of offenders.

It is the duty of each member of the Vestal Police Department to strive daily to achieve these goals and objectives. All members of the Vestal Police Department are expected to fulfill these responsibilities diligently and professionally. Vestal Police Officers must seek out and preserve public confidence by maintaining high ethical standards, demonstrating impartial service to the law, and offering service and trust to all members of the public.

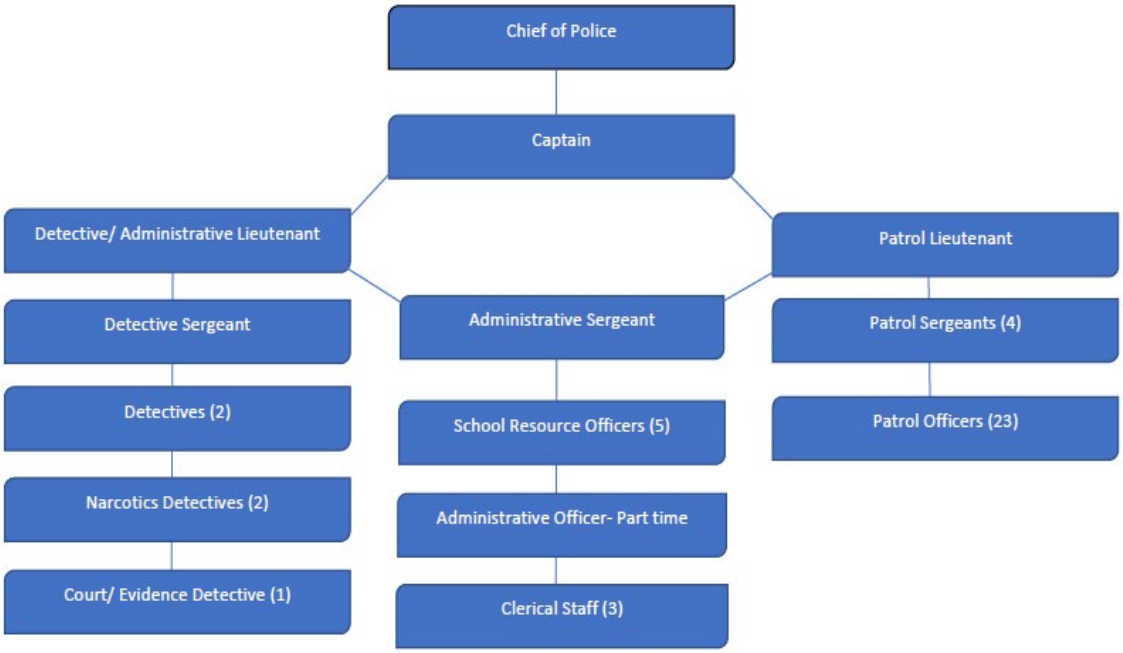
The Town of Vestal

The Town of Vestal is located in Broome County, New York. It is bordered on the east by the City of Binghamton and the Town of Binghamton, on the south by the State of Pennsylvania, on the west by Tioga County, and on the north by the Susquehanna River, which separates the Town from the Villages of Endicott and Johnson City. The major east-west commercial and commuter routes are State Route 17, State Route 434, and Vestal Road. The major north-south commuter routes are State Routes 26 and 201. In addition to the thoroughfares listed above, the Town is primarily a suburban community with shopping areas that include large shopping malls, smaller strip malls, restaurants, motels, and other significant businesses. These businesses are located mainly along the Vestal Parkway East corridor.

The Town's current population is approximately 30,000. Within the Town of Vestal lies Binghamton University, which has a population of roughly 18,400 students and 3,000 faculty and staff. Approximately 7,300 of those students live on campus, while another 4,000 students live off campus and in the Town of Vestal. With the approval of the Bunn Hill housing project, we expect the Town's population to increase by 500 or more upon completion. The Town encompasses both rural areas and heavily traveled commercial areas. Accordingly, there is a strong demand for a variety of public safety services.

TOWN OF
VESTAL
NEW YORK
1823

2025 Town of Vestal Police Department Organizational Chart



Evan Smales, a former investigator for Broome Security, was hired by our agency and will attend the Southern Tier Law Enforcement Academy in February of 2026. Chief Kintner also announced his retirement effective at the end of January 2026. The Town Board selected Lieutenant Vincent Stavola to become Chief of Police upon Chief Kintner's retirement.

2025 Vestal Police Trainings

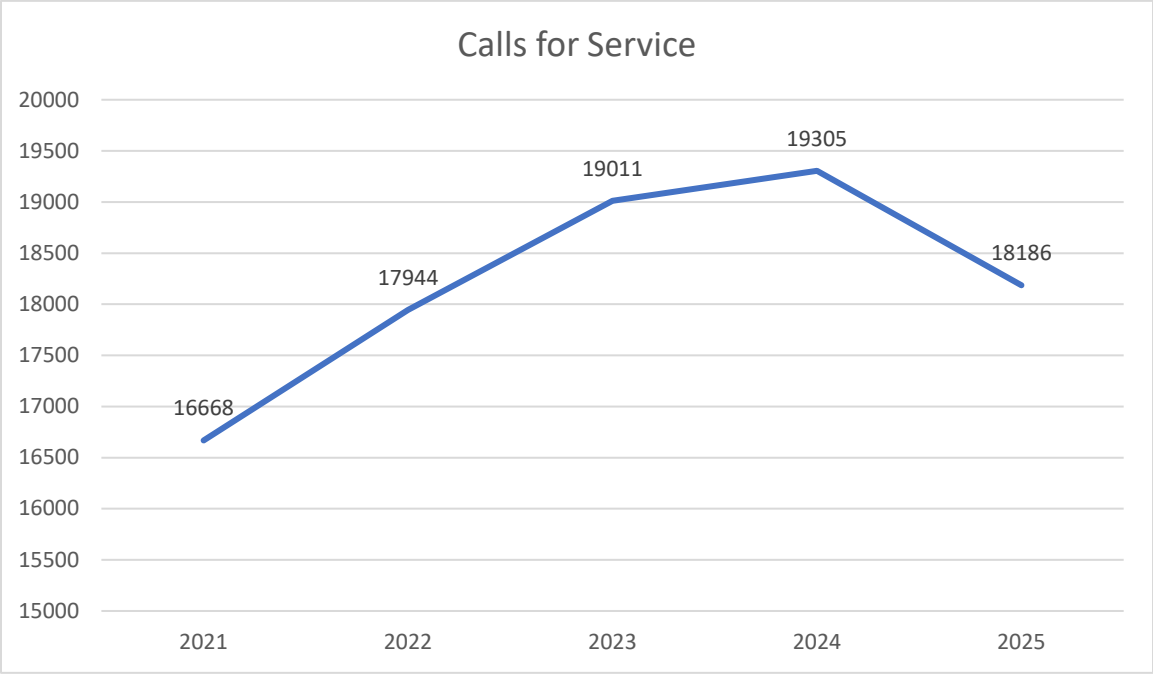
In addition to the 68 outside trainings our members attended, we also run Inservice training multiple times a year to cover State-mandated topics and others, such as:

Use of force
Firearms
Less Lethal Munitions
Sexual Harassment
Bloodborne Pathogens
Reality-Based Training
Mobilization & Continuity of Operations
Service Animals
Mental Health First Aid
Autism Awareness
Legal Updates

Course in Police Supervision
Reimagining FTO Programs
Interview Techniques
Crime Scene/Evidence Specialist Course
Basic School Resource Officer Course
Dynamic Street Level Policing
Social Media Use by Criminal Organizations
Firearms Instructor Workshop
Assessing/Responding to threats K-12
Body Language for Law Enforcement
Duty to Intervene
Property Evidence Room Management
Officer Survival Tactics
Behavioral Threat Assessment
Civilian Response to Active Shooter Instructor
Valor Survive and Thrive
TruNarc Certification Course
Child Passenger Safety Conference
Advanced Crisis Negotiator Course
NYTOA Conference
Active Shooter Preparedness
NYS Instructor Development Course
FTO Training Course
Sayit Virtual Open House
Supervisory Liability
Bulletproof Mind
Dynamic Street Level Policing
Interview Techniques Pursuit/Truth
NYMIR Law Enforcement Symposium
NYSP Undercover School
Why Law Enforcement Hires Go Bad
Crisis Intervention Team Training
DHS Threat Evaluation Course
NYS Accreditation Program Training
Paradigm Coordinated Response Training
Releasing and Redacting Records
2025 Spring Child Safety Summit
Sniper Observer Course
Integrated Response/Deadly Behavior
Search and Seizure/Interdiction
Leadership Course
IACP Impaired Driving/Traffic Safety
Criminal Interdiction -Hidden Compartment
Assisting Individuals in Crisis
K-9 Handlers Seminar
Uncrewed Aircraft System Summit
Animal Cruelty Investigations
Broome School Resource Officer Course
Child Passenger Safety Seat Tech.
Breath Analysis Operator Course
Animal Cruelty and Fighting Investigations
Dynamic Narcotics Investigations
Crimes of Deceit and Persuasion
99 Signs of Danger
SWAT Team Training
ARIDE
Basic Investigative Photography Course
Pistol Instructor Course
Recognizing Cannabis Impaired Motorists
Sealing/Expunging NY Records
K9 Examiner and Explosive Awareness School
2025 Gang Conference
Threat Assessment and Threat Management
Glock Armorer's Course
Commercial Vehicle Enforcement Awareness
Roadside to Courthouse/Crash Course in DWI
Criminal Interdiction
Basic School Resource Officer Course

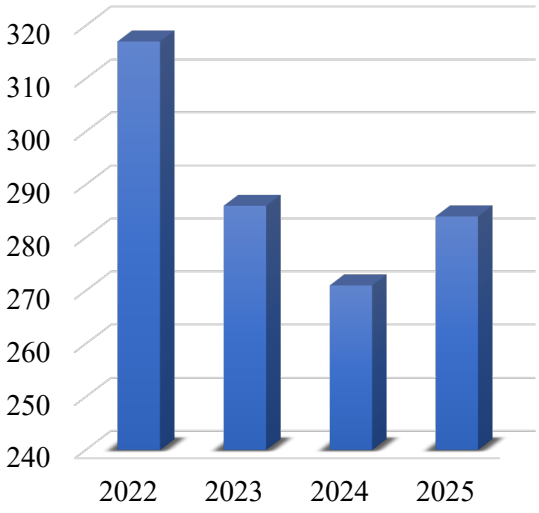
Department Workload

In 2025, the Vestal Police Department generated 18,186 calls for service, down from the 19,305 calls for service generated in 2024. This is the first time in 5 years that the calls for service have not exceeded the previous year.



Domestics

Domestic incidents rose for the first time since 2022. In 2025, we filed 284 domestic incident reports, which is up from 2024. Our agency has started completing lethality assessment forms to obtain further information to identify high-risk victims of domestic violence and provide them with additional resources.

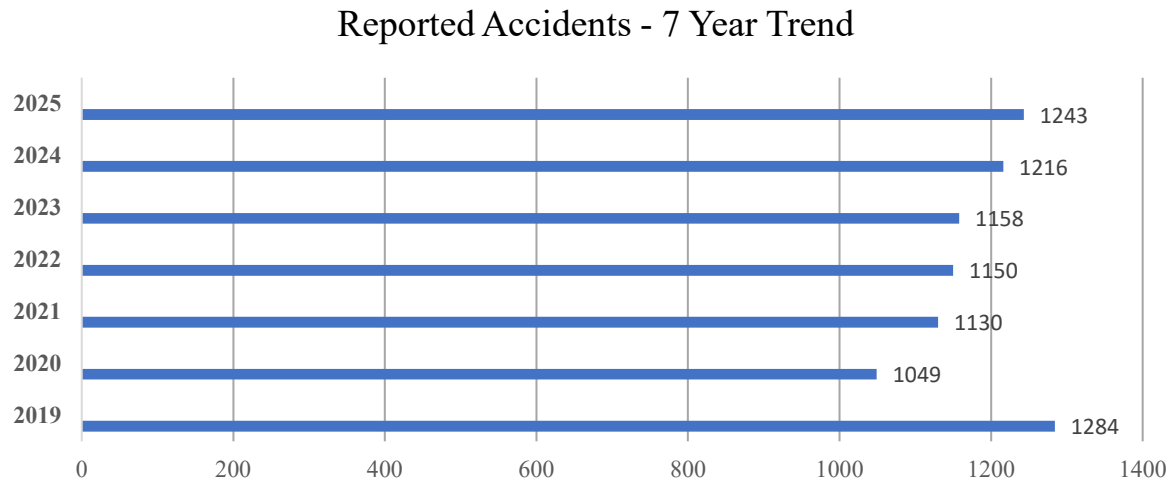


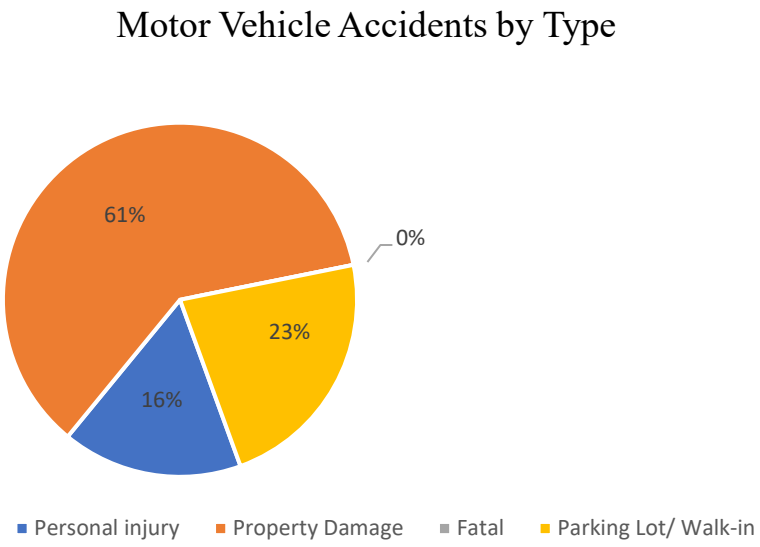
Naloxone Deployments

In 2025, our agency deployed Naloxone 7 times. During 5 of these deployments, the victim recovered. Two of these incidents resulted in fatalities. During 2024, we recorded 3 lifesaving Naloxone deployments, a decrease from 4 in 2023. All members of the Vestal Police Department are trained in the use of Naloxone Hydrochloride, which is administered to victims of an opioid overdose. According to the 2025 data, suspected fatal overdoses in Broome County decreased by 43% from 49 in 2024 to 28 in 2025. Non-fatal overdoses also decreased 29% compared to the previous calendar year.

Motor Vehicle Accidents

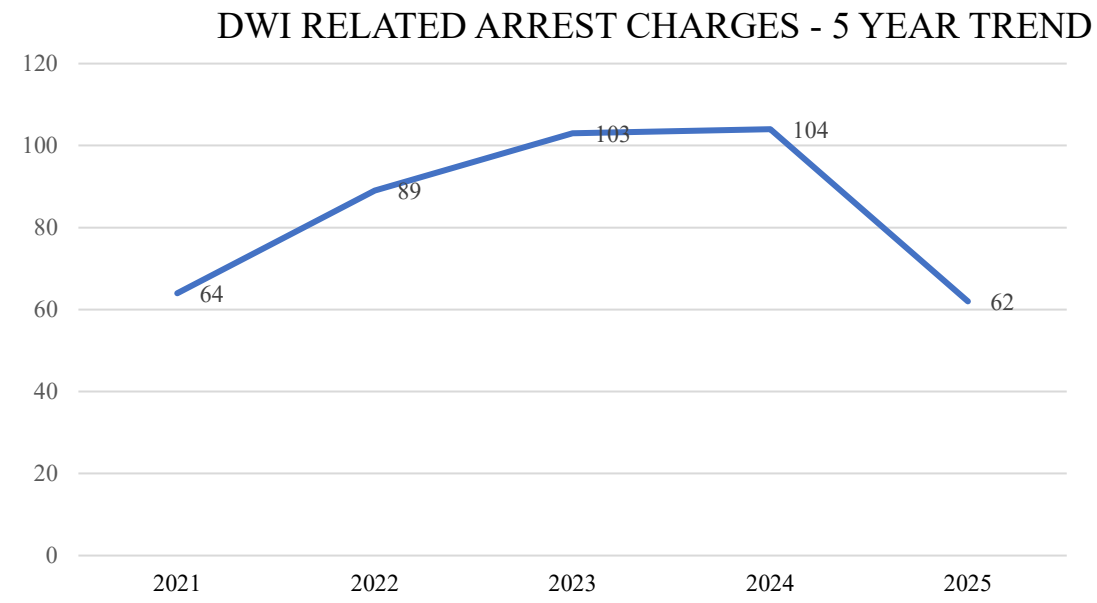
Overall, 1,243 accidents were reported to the department in 2025. After investigation and classification, these accidents consisted of 205 Personal Injury Accidents, 757 Property Damage Accidents, and 281 Parking Lot/Walk-in Accidents.

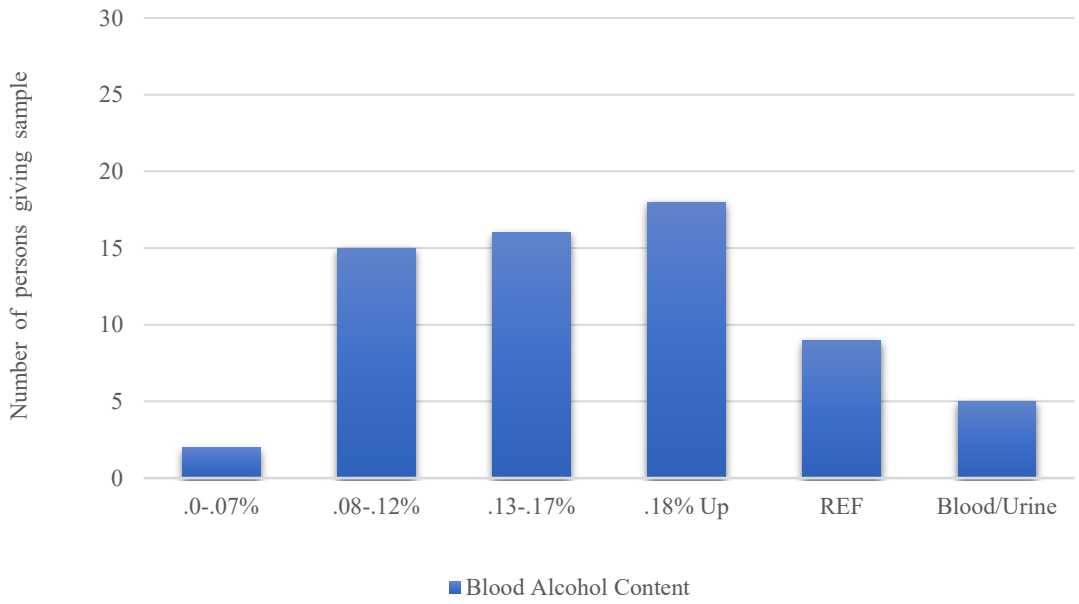




Driving While Intoxicated

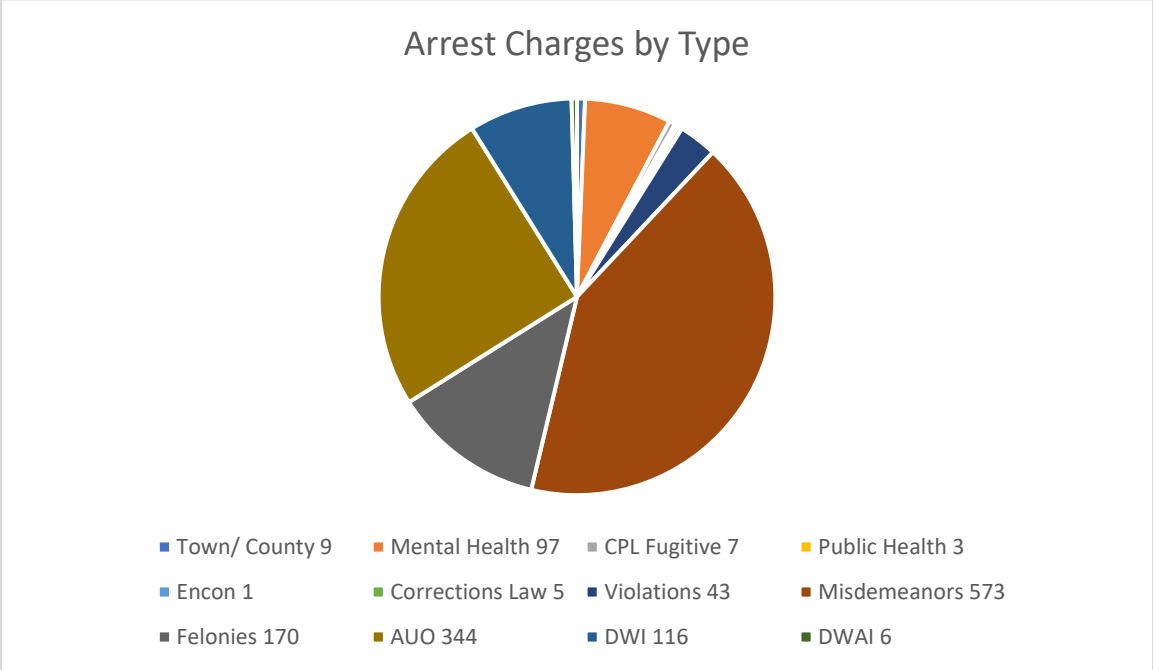
Members of the department made a total of 56 arrests for Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) and 6 arrests for Driving While Ability Impaired (DWAI). Of these 62 arrests, 8 Felonies were charged, which means that the person arrested has a prior conviction for DWI in the past ten years or may have had a child in the vehicle. Of the 62 DWI & DWAI arrests, 18 were found to have a blood alcohol content of 0.18% and over and were additionally charged with the section of 1192-2AA "Aggravated Driving While Intoxicated". As a result, 130 DWI-related charges were filed.





Arrests

In 2025, we arrested 985 individuals and filed 1,383 criminal charges. This is down from 2024, when the department made 1,309 arrests and filed 1,730 charges.



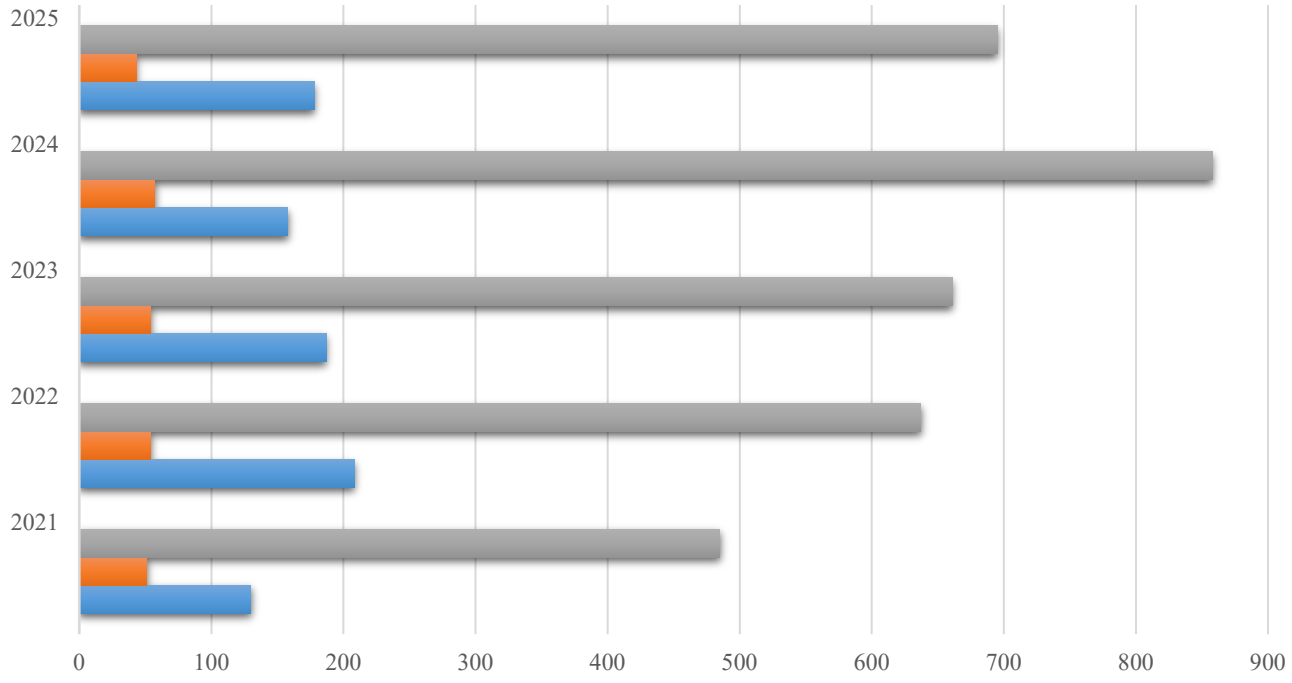
All Adult Charges Filed

(INCLUDES AGGRAVATED UNLICENSED AND DWI ARREST)

YEAR	+/-	Total
2025	-347	1383
2024	-56	1730
2023	+11	1786
2022	+419	1775
2021	+104	1356

Non-Penal Law Adult Arrests in 2024

ARREST TYPE	NUMBER OF ARRESTS 2025	NUMBER OF ARRESTS 2024	CHANGE FROM 2024 TO 2025
Town/County Ordinance Violations	9	3	+6
Mental Hygiene Law	97	112	-15
Fugitive from Justice	7	5	+2
Public Health Law	3	3	-
Alcohol & Beverage Control Law	0	0	0
Agriculture & Markets Law	1	0	+1
Corrections Law	5	7	-2
Total	122	130	-8

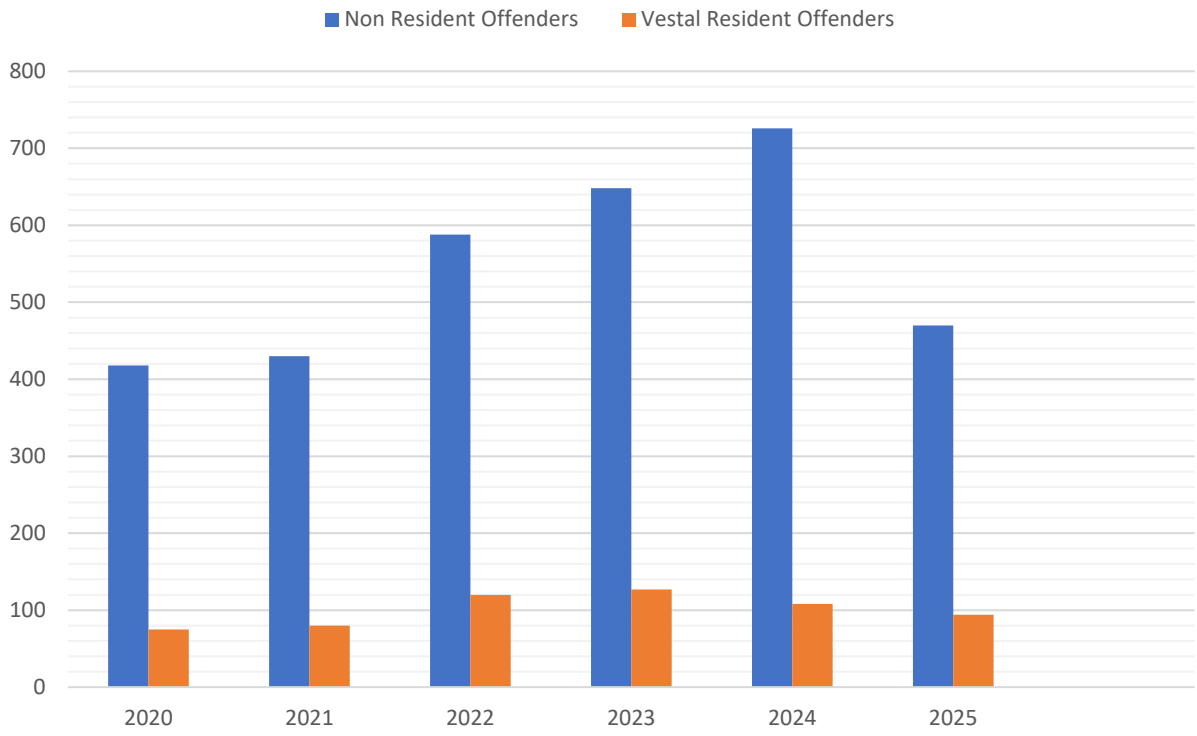


	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Misdemeanor	485	637	661	858	695
Violation	51	54	54	57	43
Felony	130	208	187	158	178

Criminal Charges by Classification

INCIDENT-BASED REPORTING OFFENSES

OFFENSE	NUMBER REPORTED 2025	NUMBER REPORTED 2024	NUMBER REPORTED 2023	NUMBER REPORTED 2022	NUMBER REPORTED 2021
Murder	0	0	0	1	0
Manslaughter	0	0	0	3	0
Rape (forcible)	4	1	8	5	8
Robbery	1	2	1	4	2
Aggravated Assault	16	13	10	17	8
Simple Assault	167	160	159	163	212
Burglary	33	45	37	31	34
All Larceny	514	817	592	628	507
Vehicle Theft	6	6	3	9	10
TOTAL	**741**	**1044**	**810**	**861**	**771**

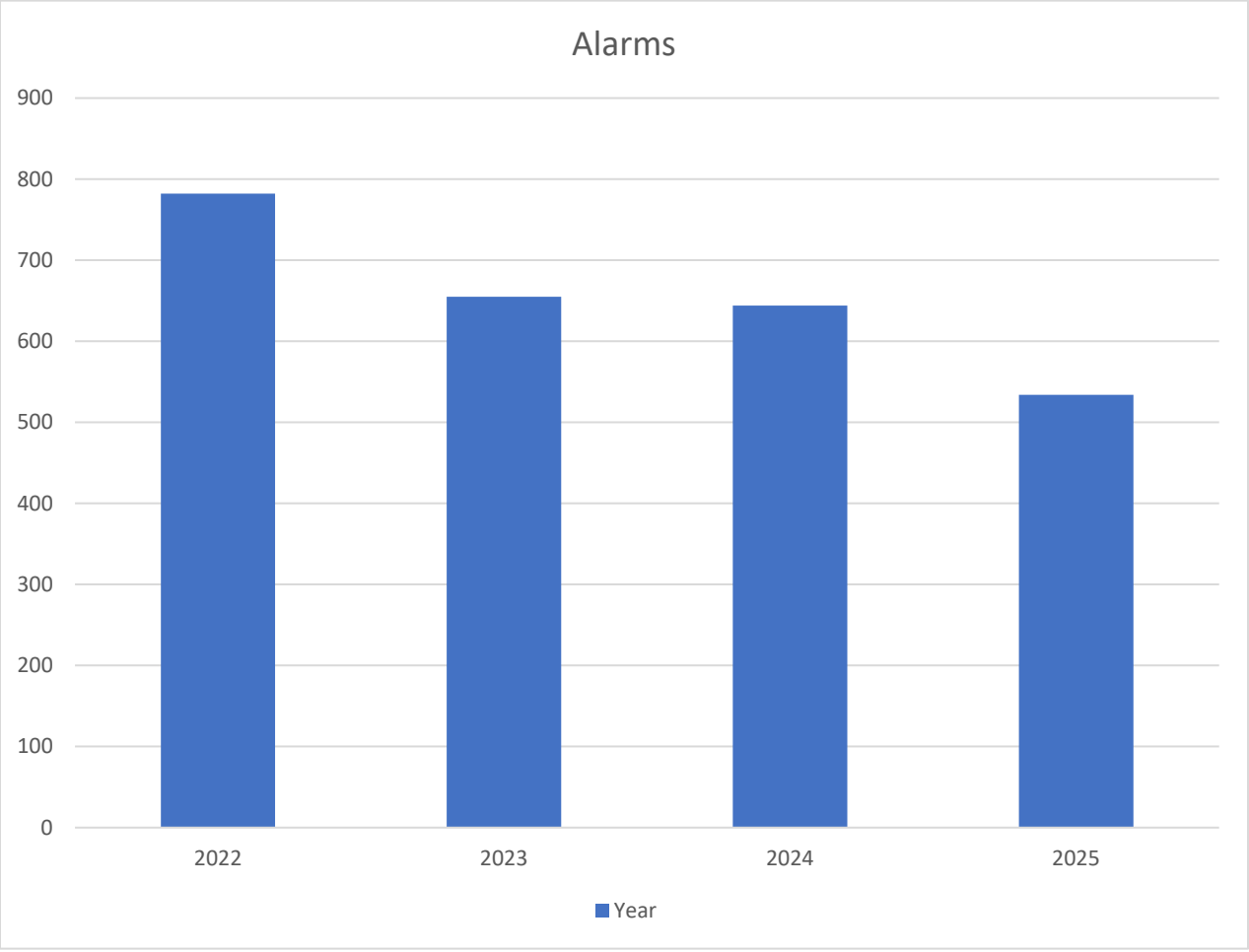


The above numbers are approximate after a full review of the docket.

Response to Alarms

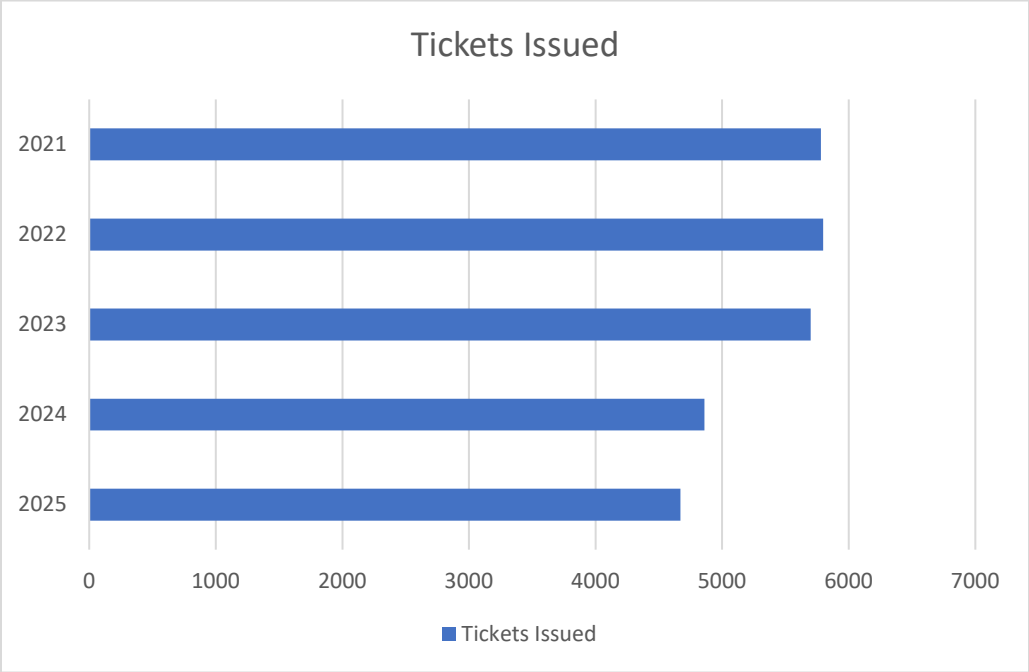
In 2025, Vestal Police Department Patrols responded to 644 police related alarms. These alarms consisted of 421 business alarms, 102 residential alarms, and 11 deemed as “other”. The 534 dispatched alarms are 110 fewer than those handled in 2024. There was a decrease in alarms overall, but we ask that you list a keyholder with the alarm company to ensure a proper response when the alarm is activated.

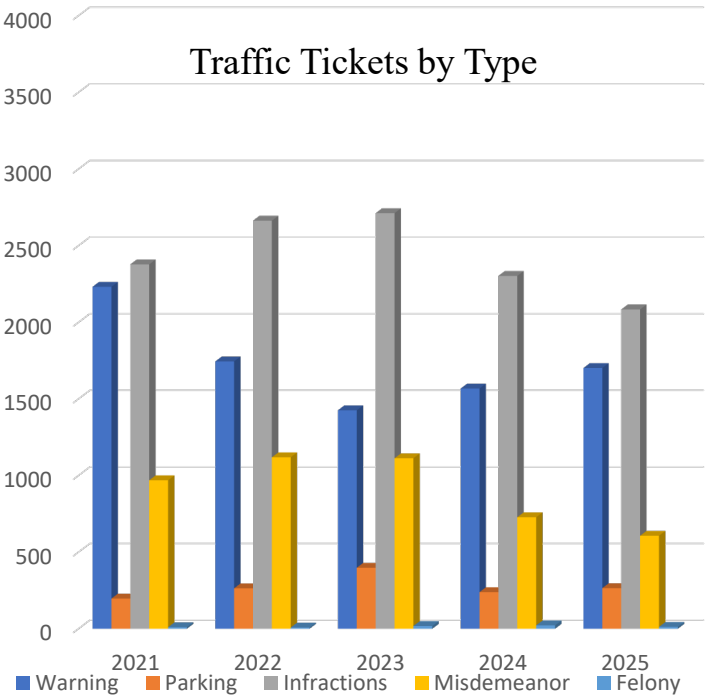
The Department regularly communicates with the owners of residences and local businesses when we experience repeated false alarms. During the year, numerous personal contacts were made with these individuals to educate them regarding the law and our procedures. This is done to work together and help bring them into compliance with the Town Ordinance regarding repeated false alarms. In repeated cases, a homeowner or business owner/manager could be arrested for violating the Town Code. As new businesses open in the Town, these educational contacts are made to avoid such violations. Outreach in 2025 helped reduce repeat-business alarms, keeping our patrol officers available to respond to higher-priority complaints as needed.



Vehicle and Traffic Enforcement

Members of the Department documented 4,670 traffic contacts in 2025. There were 12 Felonies, 607 Misdemeanors and 2,084 Traffic Infractions of the Vehicle and Traffic Law. Officers also issued 265 Parking Tickets and 1,702 Warning Tickets.





Juvenile Offenses

During 2025, the Department had 39 Juvenile Contacts and, of those, 15 of the offenses were Felony arrests. A total of 22 of these juvenile arrests fell under the Mental Hygiene Law and were transported to the Crisis Center at Binghamton General Hospital for evaluation. Thirty-two criminal charges were filed because of these arrests.

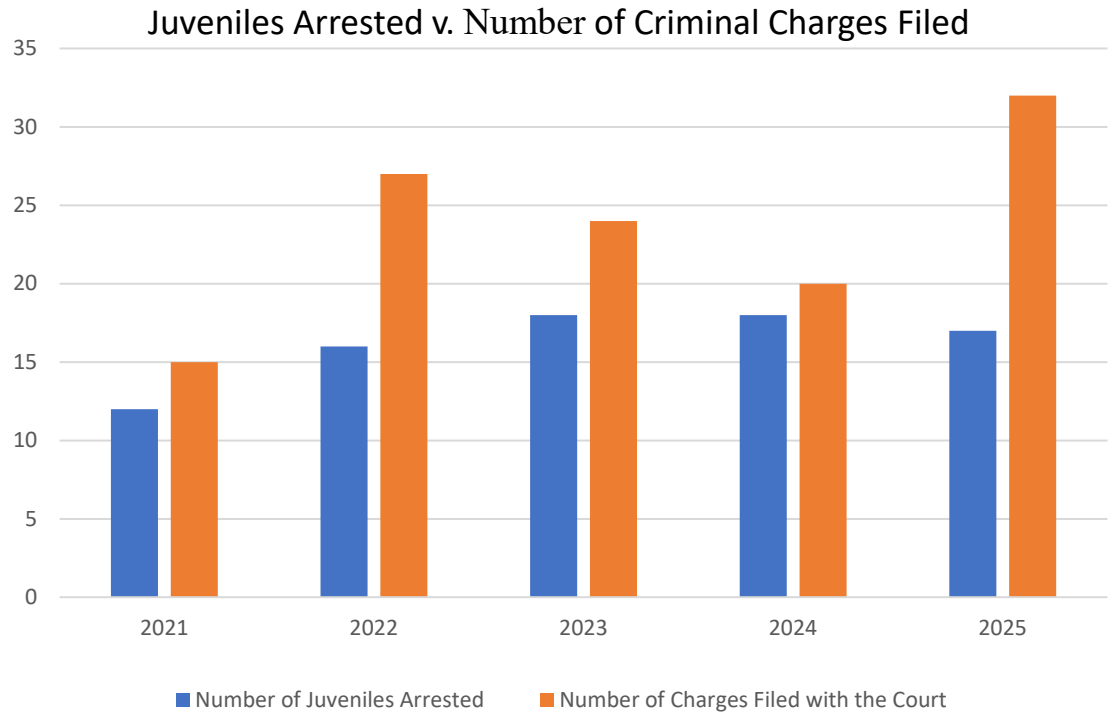
Due to recent changes in New York State Law concerning juveniles, the Vestal Police Department has expanded the responsibilities of the Detective Division for dealing with Juvenile Offenders. On October 1, 2019, legislation in NYS raised the age of criminal responsibility to 18 years of age. The Department has 3 members who are certified as Forensic Child Interviewers. These individuals are specifically trained to interview children who have been the victims of crime. The Vestal Police Department Detective Division continues to maintain a strong working relationship with the Vestal School District's Administration and the School Resource Officers. Additionally, they maintain ties with Broome County Probation, the Broome County District Attorney's Office, the Child Advocacy Center of Broome County, and other local police departments' juvenile divisions.

Juvenile Contacts

Total Number of Juvenile Contacts for 2025= 39

vs.

Total Number of Juvenile Contacts for 2024 = 53

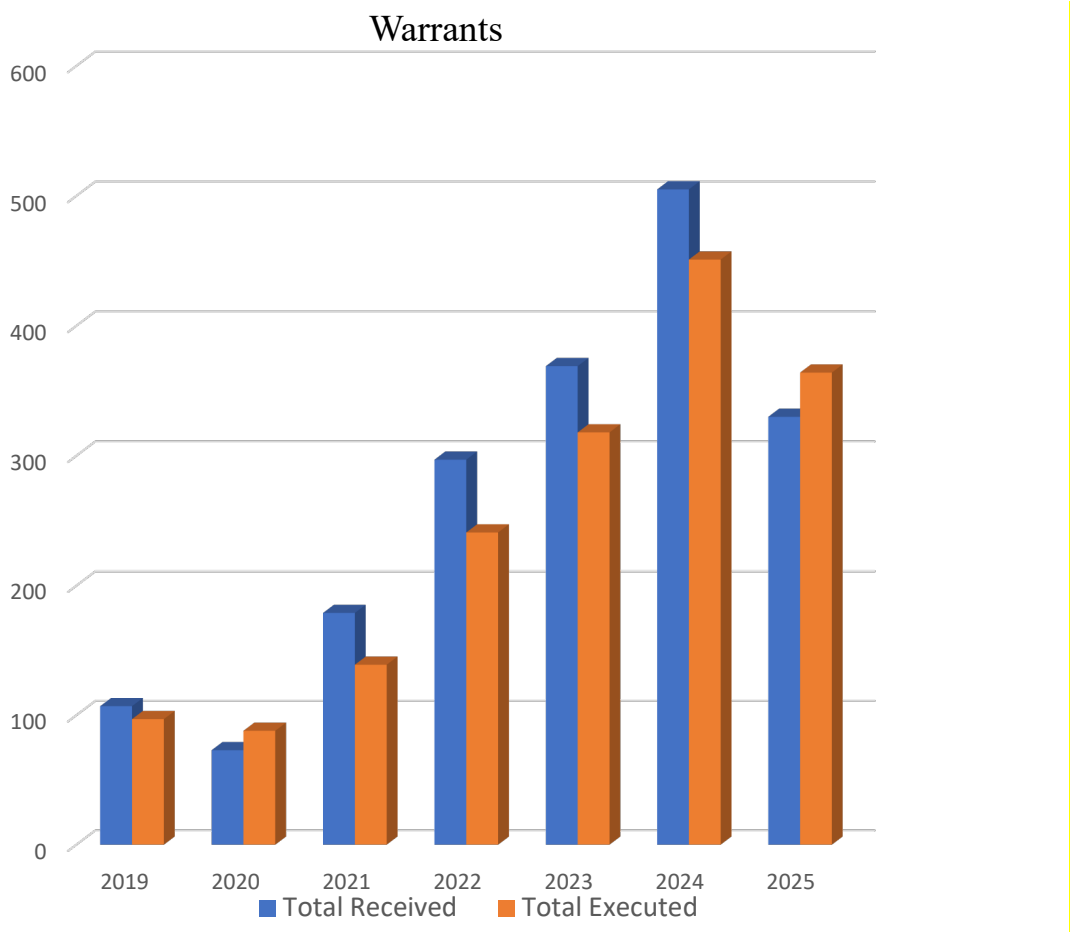


Warrant Control

In addition to their investigative case load, the Detective Division is responsible for various other tasks, including warrant control and maintenance. Warrant maintenance consists of ensuring that all active warrants have been entered into the New York State Integrated Justice Portal and that all leads are pursued to locate persons with warrants for their arrest.

For the first time in 4 years, we saw a decrease in the number of new warrants issued from the previous year. We credit this change to diligent, proactive enforcement in crime-prone areas such as our retail centers to help deter crime and rapidly apprehend offenders.

In 2025, 330 new warrants were issued, compared with nearly 500 in 2024. In 2025, we also saw 364 warrants marked executed, which is the first time since 2020 that we executed more warrants than we received.



Department Accreditation

Accreditation is a progressive and contemporary way of helping police agencies evaluate and improve their overall performance. It provides formal recognition that an organization meets or exceeds general expectations of quality in the field. Accreditation acknowledges the implementation of policies that are conceptually sound and operationally effective.

The New York State program became operational in 1989 and encompasses four principle goals:

1. To increase the effectiveness and efficiency of law enforcement agencies utilizing existing personnel, equipment, and facilities to the extent possible;
2. To promote increased cooperation and coordination among law enforcement agencies and other agencies of the criminal justice services;
3. To ensure the appropriate training of law enforcement personnel; and
4. To promote public confidence in law enforcement agencies.

The Accreditation Program comprises a set of standards developed to further enhance an agency's capabilities and is divided into three categories. Standards in the Administrative section address topics such as agency organization, fiscal management, personnel practices, and records management. Training standards encompass basic and in-service instruction, as well as training for supervisors and specialized or technical assignments. Operations standards address critical and litigious topics such as high-speed pursuits, roadblocks, patrols, and unusual occurrences.

Since our initial Accreditation in 1992, we have successfully been reaccredited during each 5-year reassessment period. The most recent was in 2021, during which time members of the State's Accreditation Council conducted an intense compliance audit of our policies and procedures, ensuring our adherence to the current minimum standards of New York State Accreditation. Following this audit, the department was recredited by New York State after meeting all the criteria set forth. This achievement is a credit to the work our officers do and the behind-the-scenes efforts of our administrators.

Each year we are constantly monitoring and updating the Accreditation files as we prepare for our next re-accreditation audit. The Accreditation Program continues to provide a comprehensive blueprint for effective, professional law enforcement. We are due for reaccreditation in the Fall of 2026.

In the Summer of 2025, the Vestal Police Department's School Resource Officers (SROs) – Talbut, Tuetken, Cardarelli, O'Connor and Perez – hosted the annual Youth Police Academy. This program is designed to engage local youth in building leadership, integrity, respect, and a sense of community, all while promoting higher standards. The three-week program is divided into two groups: one week for middle school students and two weeks for high school students. A total of 150 students participated in July 2025.

While the Academy is centered around learning, it's also about having fun. It gives students the chance to connect with SROs and gain insight into the roles of first responders. Many participants return year after year, often until they graduate, which speaks to the enjoyable and impactful nature of the program.

This year, students had the opportunity to participate in a variety of classes and demonstrations, including Crime Scene Investigation with the New York State Police, a helicopter fly-in by LifeNet and the New York State Police SORT division, a visit to Broome County Court, a CPR course, and a fire demonstration by the Vestal Fire Department, among many others. The program's success is made possible by the dedication of the Vestal Police Department and the support of numerous local and outside agencies that generously donate their time to share their knowledge and experiences with the students.

We are also grateful for the ongoing support of the Vestal School District, that provides the facilities for the program and strongly backs its mission. The Academy is fully funded through grants and donations from local businesses and organizations. BAE Systems has been a consistent supporter, contributing both financially and with items for the program. In 2025, the program received a Broome County Grant, which has been instrumental in supporting its growth. We also received generous donations from the Vestal Rotary, Visions FCU, Broome County District Attorney and the Broome County Sheriff's Office. Thanks to these sponsorships, the Academy continues to thrive and expand each year. We look forward to another year of this program in July 2026!



Thank you to the Vestal Central School District for hosting us. The relationship we have built with the district and the students is invaluable.

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msi




5K
SLOW!
Children Deserve
What's Best
Teachers Deserve
What's Fair






POLICE DEPARTMENT
JOHNSON CITY, NEW YORK
Safe Drive SOLUTIONS
LifeNet of New York
BROOME COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
EST. 1806
BILL CLARK STRENGTH
VESTAL
YOUTH ACADEMY
BROOME COUNTY
SECURITY
DIVISION
N.Y.
SEAL OF BROOME COUNTY IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK
District Attorney's Office
Thank you to our 2025 Participates
NEW YORK
STATE POLICE
VESTAL VOLUNTEER
EMERGENCY SQUAD
CITY OF NORWICH
POLICE
APALACHIN
FIRE DEPARTMENT
RESCUE
EMS
NEW YORK
1913
FIRE DEPARTMENT
TOWN OF
VESTAL
VOLUNTEER
32
MEMBER
NEW YORK
POLICE
VESTAL
NEW YORK
POLICE
BINGHAMTON
NEW YORK


VESTAL
YOUTH ACADEMY
Thank you to our 2025 Sponsors
VISIONS
FEDERAL CREDIT UNION
Vestal
Central School District
Rotary
Vestal, NY
BAE SYSTEMS
BROOME COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE
EST. 1806
Funky Bees
TOWN OF
VESTAL
NEW YORK
SEAL OF BROOME COUNTY IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK


to the 2025
Vestal Youth Police
Academy Graduates!
FIRE




FIRE
Challenge • Foster • Support • Invest
VESTAL
Central School District




Challenge • Foster • Support • Invest
VESTAL
Central School District

Patrol Highlights

Officer Schultz and K9 Vaughn – On January 30th, 2025, Officer Schultz conducted a traffic stop on the State Route 26 Northbound traffic ramp near the Vestal Parkway. During the course of the traffic stop, Officer Schultz was able to observe drug paraphernalia inside of the vehicle. After interviewing the vehicle occupants, Officer Schultz deployed K9 Vaughn upon the vehicle who produced a positive alert for the odor of Narcotics. Following the alert from K9 Vaughn, Officer Schultz conducted a vehicle search which ultimately yielded a seizure of 18.0 grams of Methamphetamine. Subsequently, a vehicle passenger would be charged with a Class C Felony for possession of a controlled substance.

Officer Post – On February 28th, 2025, Officer Post conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle on Vestal Parkway East in the area of Ridgehaven Drive. During interview of the driver, Officer Post was able to see a handgun in the operator's possession in plain view. The operator would then flee the traffic stop in the vehicle. A short distance later, the vehicle would become involved in a crash, and the driver was apprehended. The driver would subsequently be charged with multiple felonies surrounding the unlawful possession of the firearm.

Officer LoPiccolo – On April 1st, 2025, Officer LoPiccolo initiated a traffic stop on State Route 26 for a Vehicle and Traffic Law Violation. During the course of his interview and roadside investigation, Officer LoPiccolo would conduct a "pat search" of the vehicle's operator for weapons. During the course of this search, it was discovered that the subject possessed a large quantity of Fentanyl concealed in his pants pocket. As a result of the seizure, the operator would be charged with a Class B Felony relating to the possession of a controlled substance.

Officer Post – On April 6th, 2025, Officer Post initiated a traffic stop in the area of Vestal Parkway East and South Jensen Road. While interviewing the occupants, he was able to observe several indicators consistent with narcotic use. A search of the vehicle led to the seizure of drug paraphernalia, packaging materials, and a quantity of Methamphetamine weighing 2.06 ounces. The vehicle's operator was taken into custody and ultimately charged with a Class AII, and a Class B Felony for the possession of narcotics with the intent to sell.

Sergeant Will and Officer Doig – On June 8th 2025, Sergeant Will and Officer Doig responded to the Brookdale at Castle Gardens Nursing home for a 70-year-old male who had a severe self-inflicted knife wound. The male had suffered significant blood loss rendering him unconscious. Working as a team, Sergeant Will and Officer Doig successfully applied a tourniquet to the male's arm and avoided, what could have been, a much more serious outcome.

Officer Palmer and K9 Reign – On July 17th, 2025, Officer Palmer conducted a traffic stop of an Electric Bicycle near Airborne Avenue for Vehicle and Traffic, as well as local law violations. During interview of the operator, Officer Palmer developed enough suspicion to deploy K9 Reign upon the exterior of the bicycle. K9 Reign would produce a positive alert for the presence of narcotic odor. A subsequent search led to the seizure of a quantity of Methamphetamine and narcotic paraphernalia consistent with the sale of narcotics. The bicycle operator was ultimately charged with multiple felonies surrounding the possession of a controlled substance with the intent to sell.

Officer Kelley – On July 24th, 2025, Officer Kelley responded to the 434 Sportsplex in Vestal for the report of a 35-year-old male down and not breathing. Upon arrival, Officer Kelley quickly assessed the

situation and began assisting bystanders at the location with CPR. The work of all on scene would ultimately result in the male regaining a pulse prior to being transported to the hospital for further medical care. The actions of Officer Kelley and bystanders at the location undoubtedly saved a life on this day.

Officer Schultz and K9 Vaughn – On August 5th, 2025, Officer Schultz conducted a traffic stop on State Route 434 East in the area of Jensen Road. During interview of the vehicle occupants, Officer Schultz discovered indicators of narcotics use, leading to the deployment of K9 Vaughn upon the vehicle. K9 Vaughn produced a positive alert for the presence of narcotic odor, resulting in a vehicle search. Said vehicle search yielded a seizure of 29.5 grams of Methamphetamine. The operator of the vehicle was ultimately charged with a Class C Felony for possession of a controlled substance.

Officer Ketchum – On August 6th, 2025, Officer Ketchum was proactively conducting a property check of Saint Vincent's Church on Clubhouse Road in the Town of Vestal. During this property check, Officer Ketchum located suspicious materials in the parking lot, leading to further investigation. Officer Ketchum would ultimately uncover a burglary that had occurred to an out-building on the grounds. A female suspect was identified and was still in the act of committing the crime. The suspect was later charged with Burglary, a Class D Felony.

Officer Angeline – On October 7th, 2025, Officer Angeline was proactively conducting a property check of Saint Vincent's Church on Clubhouse Road in the Town of Vestal. During the property check, Officer Angeline observed a vehicle leaving the area with its rear hatch in the open position. Raising suspicion, Officer Angeline checked the property further and discovered that an out-building on the grounds had been burglarized, with some of the church's property strewn about the area. Officer Angeline was able to locate and stop the vehicle a short distance away. Following an investigation, two occupants from the vehicle were charged with Burglary, a Class D Felony.

Officer Schultz and K9 Vaughn – On October 23rd, 2025, Officer Schultz conducted a traffic stop on State Route 434 near the intersection of Owego Road. Interview of the occupants resulted in the discovery that one of the vehicle occupants was in possession of Cocaine on their person. Officer Schultz would then deploy K9 Vaugh upon the vehicle who produced a positive alert for the odor of narcotics within the vehicle. A search of the vehicle yielded the seizure of 4.2 grams of Methamphetamine. In result, a vehicle passenger was charged with a Class D Felony for the possession of a controlled substance.

Officer Kevin Doig – On November 13th, 2025, Officer Doig conducted a traffic stop in the area of the Town Square Mall for multiple vehicle and traffic law violations. During interview and investigation, Officer Doig located narcotics paraphernalia, and 30 grams of Methamphetamine in plain view within the vehicle. Subsequent seizure and testing of the Methamphetamine resulted in all three vehicle occupants being charged with Class C Felonies for the possession of a controlled substance.

Officer LoPiccolo – On December 20th, 2025, Officer LoPiccolo conducted a traffic stop for vehicle and traffic law violations on State Route 26 in the Town of Vestal. During the course of interview and investigation, Officer LoPiccolo developed suspicion that would result in the deployment of a K9 upon the vehicle. With assistance from a Johnson City Police K9 unit, a positive alert for the odor of narcotics within the vehicle was indicated. A search of the vehicle resulted in the seizure of 16.3 grams of Methamphetamine. The vehicle operator would ultimately be charged with a Class B Felony relating to the possession of Methamphetamine with the intent to sell it.

K9 Highlights



The Vestal Police K9 Unit is comprised of two handlers, Officer Katirae Palmer, and her partner K9 Reign, a 5-year-old Belgian Malinois, as well as Officer Michelle Schultz, and her partner K9 Vaughn, a 3-year-old Belgian Malinois / German Shepherd mix. Our handlers train diligently a minimum of 3-4 times each month, and often more, dedicating their own time and resources to make certain that the unit is amongst the most effective in the region.

Furthermore, this year Officer Palmer became one of the few certified K9 examiners in the area. This certification allows her to evaluate and certify police K9 teams, ensuring that they meet state performance standards. Additionally, Officer Palmer was able to develop and organize a program resulting in all Broome County canines being certified in the detection of Fentanyl, a controlled substance having a major impact on the streets of the Southern Tier.

During the course of 2025, the Vestal Police K9 Unit engaged in 110 deployments, many within the Town of Vestal, and some in assistance to neighboring agencies. Said deployments resulted in the seizure of over 188 grams of Methamphetamine, 12.5 grams of Crack Cocaine, 25 grams of Powdered Cocaine, 63.1 grams of Fentanyl Powder, 37.3 grams of Heroin. Other narcotic/controlled substance seizures include Acid tabs, Xanax, and over 100 illegally possessed Suboxone. These narcotic recoveries were paired with the seizure of one firearm, one switchblade knife, suspected drug proceeds, and countless articles of drug paraphernalia.

In addition, our K9s and handlers participated in 9 public relations demonstrations in the aid of our mission to build community trust. The Vestal Police Department is proud of the hard work our handlers put in day in and day out to remain one of the most utilized, admired, and accomplished units in the area.

Detective Division

The Detective Division is comprised of a Lieutenant, a Sergeant, and 5 Investigators. Two of these investigators conduct follow-ups on pending cases from patrol to further the investigation and apprehend outstanding suspects. Two investigators operate in conjunction with the New York State Police Violent Gangs & Narcotics Enforcement Team and are cross designated to address the flow of narcotics in and around the Town. One investigator is tasked to maintain evidence and court

proceedings, in addition to handling cases. The Detective Sergeant maintains the Sex Offender Registry for the Town and ensures offender compliance and accountability. The Detective Division also acts as the department liaison for the Southern Tier Crime Analysis Center and Child Advocacy Center.

During 2025, general detectives were tasked with assisting the patrol division with over 100 cases, primarily felonies. These requests for assistance vary in nature from completely taking over a case to assisting with providing identification, referrals, weapons testing, sexual assault cases, requests for subpoenas and search warrants.

Narcotics investigators, working closely with New York State Police VGNET, were part of many arrests and seizures. In total, the unit participated in the following activity in Broome County:

Arrests - 250+
Value of Narcotics Seized - $854,860
Currency Seized - $17,367
Firearms Seized - 18 (This does not include any non-criminal seizures or other weapon types)

Metro SWAT



The Broome County Metro SWAT team contains members of the Binghamton, Johnson City, and Vestal Police Departments. These 3 agencies train together 3-4 times a month to ensure a rapid, fluid response in critical situations. This team also attends two annual conferences in Verona and at Fort Drum. During 2025, the team was deployed 7 times for search warrants, barricaded subject situations, and large public events. Our agency has 4 members of varying ranks dedicated to this team, including a sergeant, an investigator, and two officers. Our SWAT members are also part of our agency's warrant entry team, which may be tasked with warrant entries that do not warrant a full SWAT response.