

Request for one additional full-time detective position

In order to better combat drug crimes, Human Trafficking, and Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC), I am requesting one additional detective position at the Manitowoc Police Department. This would bring our total number of sworn officers from 64 to 65.

Currently our Detective Bureau consists of a Captain, a Sergeant, and five detectives. Additionally, our structure consists of two positions in the Manitowoc County Metro Drug Unit. These two positions are patrol officers assigned to be temporary detectives and serve a maximum of two terms of three years each. After that, they rotate back into patrol. We also have a non-sworn property/evidence clerk who is tasked with managing our evidence room among other duties.

Under the leadership of Captain McGinty, our detective bureau desires to be even more proactive when it comes to Drug Search Warrants, Human Trafficking Stings, and Child Pornography/Child Sexual Predator Stings. This position will help us be more dedicated to these extremely important responsibilities. We have had remarkable success in our stings, but much more should be done with the proper amount of detectives.

The current trends when dealing with major crimes involves a tremendously increased amount of time spent on computer and phone forensics, as well as other analytic techniques to ensure successful prosecutions. With many apps that come out for smart phones (and things like social media on personal devices) we have opportunities to extract information that becomes excellent evidence. This, again, takes time and expertise to do this properly and to not miss potential evidence. With an increasing amount of surveillance systems throughout the City, this also takes time to look through, but is excellent evidence for our investigations. Our detective bureau is doing a terrific job of this and has received praise from the DA's Office, judges, and even jury members. However, we have not increased our staffing in the bureau despite the increased amount of detective work that goes into these investigations.

With this additional position it will also be easier and quicker to be able to promote open detective positions and metro drug positions. Because it is not advisable to leave patrol short, we have to wait until we have proper patrol staffing before we can fill detective positions and metro drug positions. If we are able to choose from 65 sworn rather than 64 sworn, we would be in a better position to fill these assignments and promotions.