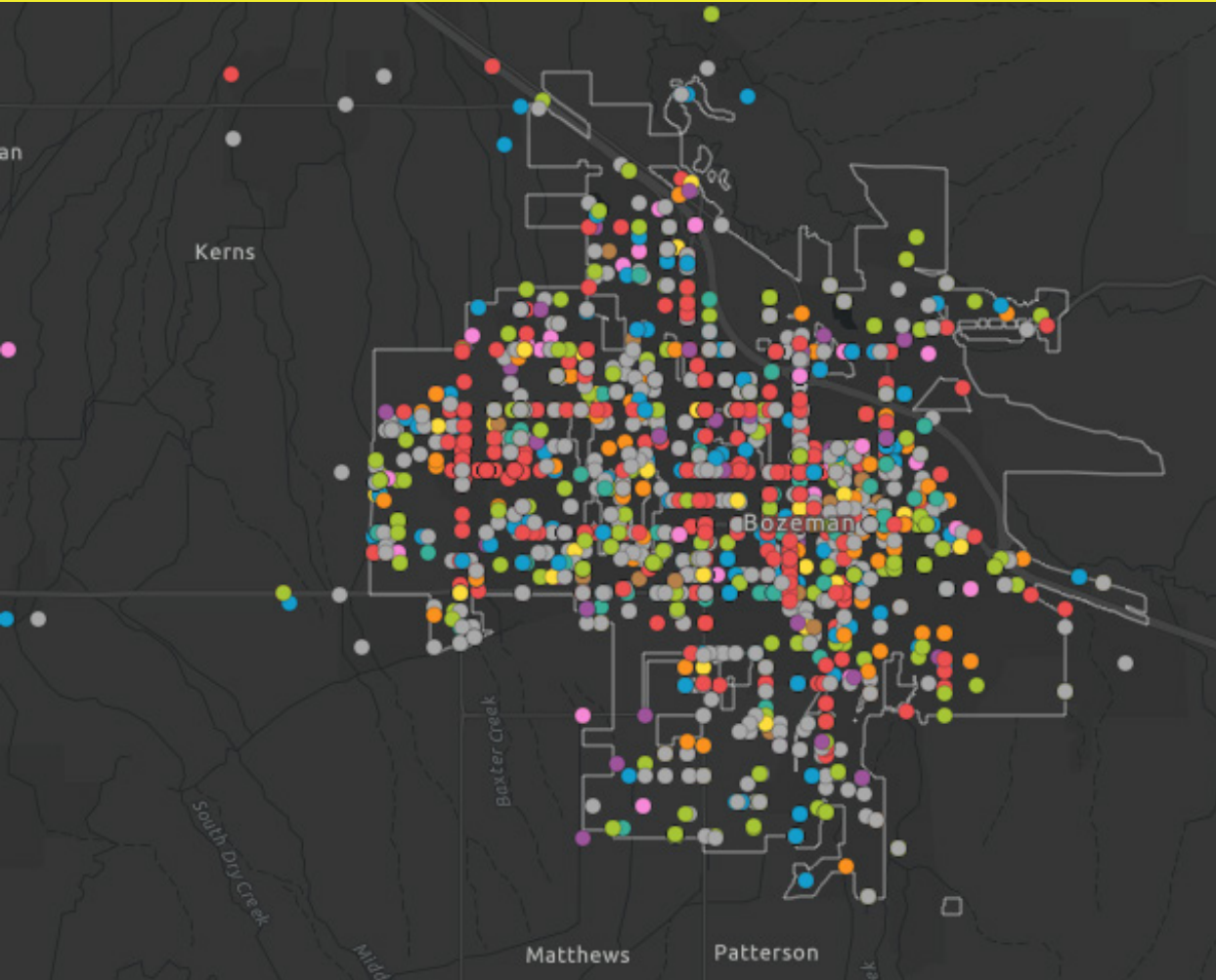




Monthly Report

Recap for February 2026

CFS Report



4,816

total calls for service,
including 911 calls, BPD non-
emergency line calls, and
officer-generated calls

Case Report

455 new cases opened

Of the 4, 816 calls, 9.5% resulted in a case.

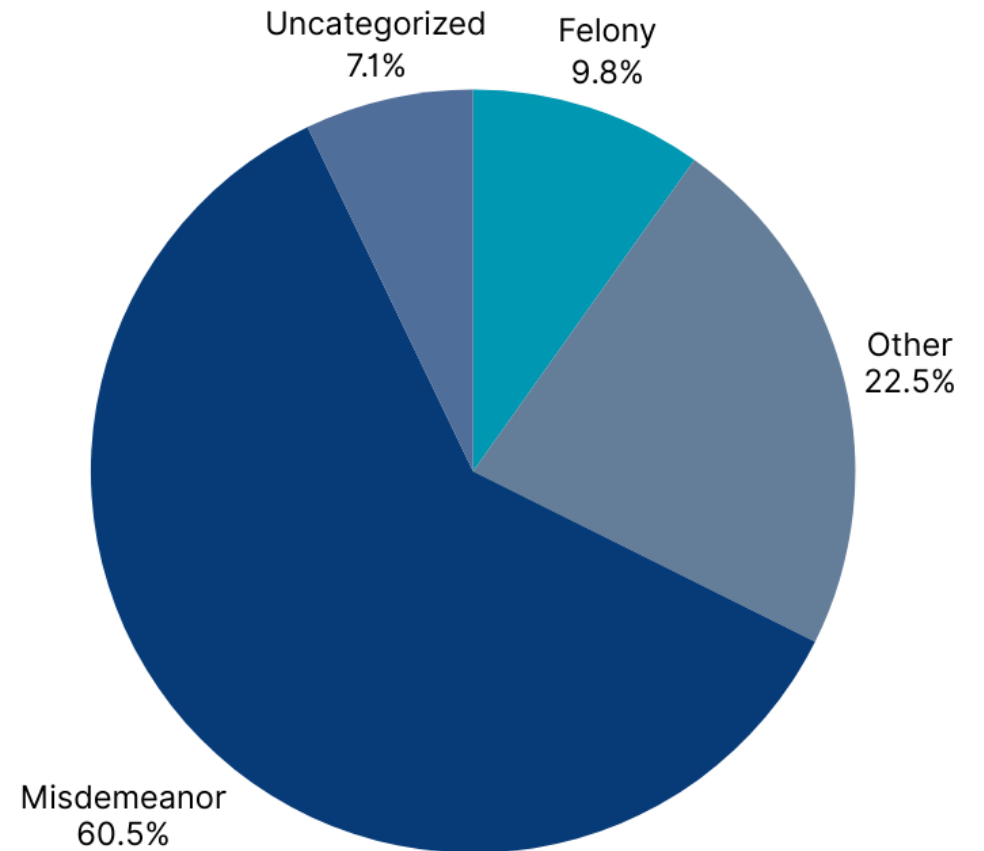
Offense Severity Level*

- Misdemeanors: 314
- Other: 117**
- Felonies: 51
- Uncategorized: 37***

* Each case can include one or more offenses.

** Other includes: warrant arrests, lost/found property, solicitation, protective custody, search and rescue, agency assist, animal infractions, unattended death, and domestic disturbances

*** Uncategorized often indicates the severity of a crime has not been determined.



Notable Trends

Animal Calls for Service



Our Animal Control Officers (ACOs) respond to calls for service across the city of Bozeman. Most of the year, they respond to calls about barking and stray dogs, though reports about dogs in hot cars and dog bites spike in the summer. When ACOs receive a call from dispatch, they go to the scene, identify people and animals, establish the issue, and see what they can do to help.

Beyond responding to calls, ACOs also carry out patrol checks in areas with heavy animal use, including parks and trails. This year, ACOs will also begin hosting educational chats at Heart of the Valley and teaching about animals at local elementary schools.

Microchipping is the best way to recover a lost pet. Microchips help our ACOs bring lost pets home quickly and easily. To keep your pets safe and healthy, please make sure you also spay and neuter your pets, keep their vaccinations up to date, and use a leash for your pets when and where required. If you have an animal-related problem, please call the BPD non-emergency line at (406) 582-2000.

Notable Cases



On February 27, officers responded to a weapon-involved disturbance report. The reporting party said that he was concerned two men were planning to sexually assault a highly intoxicated woman and that one of the men had threatened him with a machete. Officers arrived on scene and cleared the residence, where all people involved were squatting. An officer spoke with the reporting party, who told him that when he spoke up intervening for the woman, one of the men threatened him. The investigation determined that the reporting party was likely threatened with a wooden post rather than a machete. Officers were unable to substantiate that a sexual assault occurred, but the woman said she believed officers arrived before something more serious was going to occur. The woman also said that she had tried to leave the residence earlier in the night, and one of the men had blocked the door to prevent her from leaving.

The man who threatened the reporting party was arrested for the offenses of Assault with Weapon and Criminal Trespass to Property. The other man was arrested and charged with Unlawful Restraint and Criminal Trespass to Property.



In February, officers investigated several domestic violence calls. These investigations led to five arrests for Strangulation of a Partner or Family Member and thirteen arrests for Partner or Family Member Assault.

If you are a domestic violence survivor, there are resources available in the Bozeman community to help you. Haven provides support, legal advocacy, counseling, and a place to stay for people impacted by domestic violence, sexual assault, sex trafficking, and stalking. The Help Center runs a 24/7 Sexual Assault Line, available at (406) 586-3333. You can also call the 988 Suicide and Crisis Line for free, confidential crisis counseling. Finally, you can reach out to BPD for help at our non-emergency line, (406) 582-2000. Our officers can direct you to more resources.

Outreach Highlights

February Activities:

- Participated in Bozeman Polar Plunge, which raised almost \$60k for Special Olympics Montana
- Spoke with new officer candidates about the department
- Attended MSU's Almost Spring Career Fair with Bozeman Fire and City of Bozeman
- Ran de-escalation trainings with No Kings volunteers and City of Bozeman employees
- Discussed BPD monthly updates with KSKY
- Visited Beth Shalom's new facility and talked about safety
- Completed a team day workout put on by Dialed Fitness



Deep Dive: Protests



The Bozeman Police Department maintains a presence at Bozeman protests to protect the public's right to gather and peacefully express their beliefs. BPD keeps up relationships with local coordinators, who notify the department of planned protests. Once BPD knows about a protest, the department develops a plan to keep the event safe. The size of the protest determines the resources that BPD dedicates to the event. For small-scale protests, BPD typically sends officers on foot and in vehicles. For larger protests, BPD sends additional officers and coordinates with other law enforcement agencies, Bozeman Fire Department, and local EMTs and hospitals to prepare for the event.

BPD's goal is to make sure everyone is safe, whether they are a protestor, counter-protestor, or bystander. Generally, there are very few major issues at protests, and the most common offenses are "coal rolling" and disorderly conduct. The best way to support the department's safety efforts at a protest is to remain calm and respect differing views.

Training Highlights



Digital Forensics

Bozeman Police Department (BPD) hosted its very first interagency digital forensics training at the BPSC. Intro to Mobile Device Handling and Analysis (IMDHA-100) is an introductory course which provides law enforcement personnel with foundational knowledge and practical skills for mobile device seizure, preservation, and analysis. Other agencies in attendance included Yellowstone County, Madison County, Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, Livingston PD, Park County, Belgrade PD, Montana State University PD, and Gallatin County.

MLEA Training

Montana Law Enforcement Academy held its Law Enforcement Officer Basics Course this month. BPD sent an officer to assist in training new officers on Defensive Tactics.

Training Highlights (Con't)

Instructor Development

BPD hosted this interactive 40-hour course specifically geared toward public safety trainers that meets the requirements for Montana POST (Peace Officer Standards and Training) Instructor Certificates. Officers developed lesson plans, built presentation skills, assessed learning types, and increased teaching abilities.

Other Trainings

One officer attended Standardized Field Sobriety Tests Instructor school, and three officers attended Defensive Tactics Instructor school. Three patrol officers and two detectives attended the Montana Narcotics Officers Association Conference for a week of training and networking. Finally, our Civilian Crash Investigator completed an 80-hour Advanced/Technical Crash Investigation course in Billings.



Department Highlight

The **Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT)** team responds to situations that exceed the capacity of patrol officers, working to resolve dangerous situations peacefully with high-level training and equipment. The Gallatin Valley SWAT team includes 2 commanders and 27 members of the Bozeman and Belgrade Police Departments and the Gallatin County Sheriff's Office, who serve in individualized roles. Supporting units include 10 crisis negotiators, a Bearcat driver, and 7 tactical EMS members from Bozeman, Hyalite, and Big Sky Fire.

The SWAT team responds to incidents like criminal barricades, high-risk search and arrest warrants, and fugitive searches. They also provide VIP protection and support large events. A local SWAT team means a quick response to Bozeman crises, though the team also assists other agencies and areas that need SWAT support.

Officers who want to join the SWAT team go through intensive testing and an 18-hour long selection process. After joining the team, each member goes through 60 hours of basic SWAT training, as well as 16 hours of additional individual training (24 for snipers) each month and 40 hours of team training per year. The full team's training totals around 4,300 hours per year.

To learn more about SWAT, join our Citizens Police Academy, beginning March 26. Sign up for CPA at bozemanpolice.com/cpa. If you have a venue for SWAT training, please contact Lieutenant Ian Anderson at iananderson@bozeman.net or (406) 582-2006.





Thank You!

Questions? Please contact Chief Veltkamp:

jveltkamp@bozeman.net

Resource Page

Commonly Used Acronyms

ACO stands for Animal Control Officer

CFS stands for Calls for Service

CPA stands for Citizens Police Academy

CRO stands for Community Resource Officer

SRO stands for School Resource Officer

SSO stands for Special Services Officer