



**David Schar**  
Chief of Police



A PLACE TO DISCOVER  
**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

27W465 Jewell Road – Winfield, IL 60190

Telephone: (630) 933-7160 – Fax (630) 668-5541

[www.villageofwinfield.com](http://www.villageofwinfield.com)

December 14, 2021

DuPage MERIT - Always Ready - Serving the citizens of Winfield and DuPage County.

The Winfield Police Department is one of 36 law enforcement agencies in DuPage County that participates in the Metropolitan Enforcement Response & Investigations Team (MERIT). DuPage County has a combined 2,000 county, municipal, college and forest preserve police officers, of which 350 are assigned to the MERIT Task Force. Formed in 2019, MERIT activates specially trained police officers to respond to any crisis quickly and with the highest level of professionalism.

Successfully managing situations that take place in each town throughout the county requires a high degree of technical skills and a great deal of manpower at a nominal cost to the individual member communities. Criminal prosecutions are complicated, however with the assistance of the DuPage County State's Attorney's Office, MERIT has been highly successful in bringing criminal charges against suspects who were alleged to have committed serious crimes.

MERIT is unlike any other task force in the country based on the size and scope of their responsibilities. Currently, 11 separate components exist including tactical dispatch and tactical emergency medics within Metro SWAT Team. MERIT is in the process of adding social workers and mental health professionals to the task force as additional support to those in need.

With over 900,000 residents and millions that work and travel throughout the county on an annual basis, DuPage County remains one of the safest counties in the state of Illinois.

The attached video was filmed with actual MERIT Task Force members. Although rare, situations depicted in the video can occur anywhere at any time. Feel confident that the MERIT Task Force is capable of handling all threats to public safety throughout DuPage County.