

Sophos keeps **Clanton Police** and citizens safe. Sophos UTM allows the police to stay in the field, making the community a safer place.

Customer-at-a-glance

Clanton Police
Alabama, United States

Industry

Public authority

Sophos solutions

Sophos UTM 220 with SSL VPN clients





About Clanton

Clanton, a growing city with a rich history, is the seat of Chilton County Alabama, the state's largest producer of peaches. Besides peaches, some of our most remarkable natural resources are a beautiful landscape and a friendly small-town atmosphere.

Located in the center of Alabama on Interstate 65, halfway between the cities of Birmingham and Montgomery, Clanton is a location ripe for business and industrial development. It is Clanton's proximity to the new automobile plants in the state that has made our city the site of two automotive parts manufacturers since 1999.

About the Clanton Police Department

The Clanton Police Department is a professional policing agency that is preparing itself to grow with our community. Currently, the Clanton Police Department has authorized 25 sworn personnel, 3 non-sworn park security officers, and 1 animal control officer. Our Department is divided into two divisions: Patrol Division and Detective Division.

The problem

Like many police departments throughout the United States, the Clanton Police Department needed to completely rework their IT infrastructure. Basically this meant rebuilding the network from the ground up, including looking for a network security product. Something they didn't have before.

Sergeant Neil Fetner explained why network is so important to his department. "Law enforcement departments have access to confidential and sensitive information and we are required to meet FBI and state mandates regarding protecting this information."

The requirements

Once the funding for their new IT infrastructure project was procured they began looking for the right solution. They needed something that would provide an initial site assessment and a product that was relatively turnkey.

The solution

Sergeant Fetner began working with IT consulting firm Pinnacle Networks, who recommended Sophos UTM 220. He agreed this was the best solution for his department and deployed the 220 hardware unit. He continued, "The Sophos product not only had all the functions we were looking for, it is also simple to use and manage which is important for a police department. We don't want to spend a lot of time playing with our network, as we have other more sensitive tasks to attend to."

“Simply having officers spend more time on the streets rather than at the station increases our presence in the community and makes the community safer.”

Sergeant Neil Fetner – Clanton Police Department

Success with Sophos

Now that Sophos UTM is in place, Sergeant Fetner has seen some great improvements that extend beyond the security of the network. Clanton police officers no longer have to come back to the station to file incident reports. Instead, they can do so right from their cruiser using Sophos SSL VPN Clients. As a result, the department was able to reorganize and create more specialized officer units and increased police presence in the city.

Because our officers are in the field more, we were able to reduce our call response time—further improving community safety,” continued Sergeant Fetner.

In addition to improving the community's safety, Sophos UTM helped the Clanton Police Department comply with FBI mandates and reduce reporting errors. Sergeant Fetner concluded, “Sophos worked with us and helped us comply with mandates we didn't even know existed. And, made the network more dependable. For us, having a secure and reliable network isn't about increasing profit. There are citizens' lives on the line and both Pinnacle and Sophos helped us resolve any issues we had.”

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