## 2020

# <u>AnnualReport</u>



Daniel P. McNally Chief of Police

Curtis A. Cox Deputy Chief of Police

Eric H. Batchelder Lieutenant

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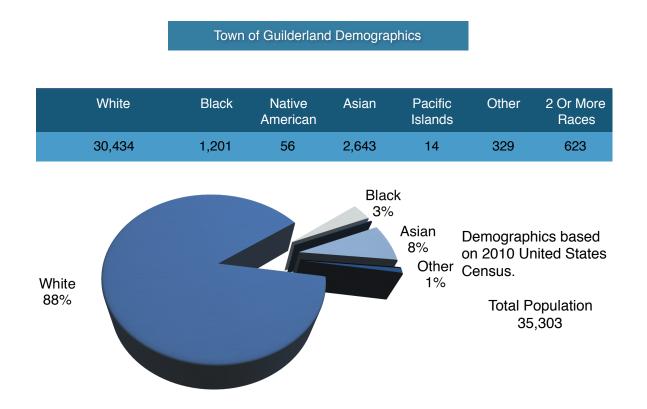


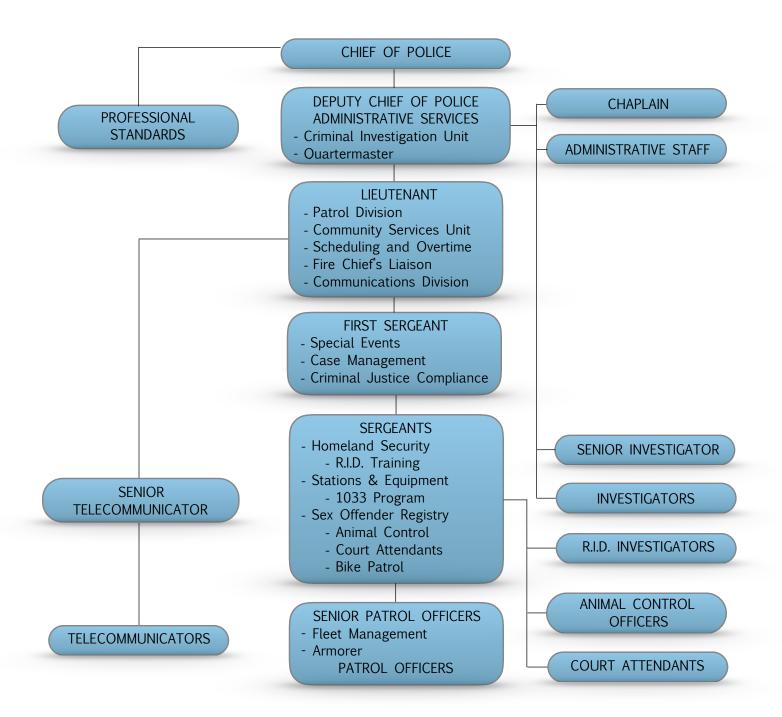
Guilderland Police Department 5209 Western Turnpike Guilderland, New York 12084 (518) 356-1501 www.guilderlandpd.org

Peter G. Barber Supervisor Daniel P. McNally Chief of Police

The Guilderland Police Department is a New York State Accredited Agency located in the Town of Guilderland, Albany County, New York and borders the City of Albany, and the Towns of Colonie, Rotterdam, New Scotland, Bethlehem, Knox, and Princetown. The department was established in 1972 and received its accreditation recognition from the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services in September of 2009. It has successfully been reaccredited in 2014 and 2019.

The police department is composed of 39 sworn members along with 10 telecommunicators, 3 administrative office staff members, 2 animal services members, and a volunteer Chaplain. It is a 24 hour department that serves over 35,000 residents and covers approximately 62 square miles of rural, residential and commercial areas.







### MISSION STATEMENT

The Guilderland Police Department, in partnership with the community we serve, is committed to enhancing the quality of life in the Town of Guilderland by protecting life and property, maintaining order and impartially enforcing the law while upholding the human and constitutional rights of those we serve. To fulfill our mission we will, at all times, conduct ourselves with the highest ethical standards, professionalism and integrity.



### Dear resident:

I would like to welcome you to the Guilderland Police Department 2020 Annual Report. Without question, 2020 was a challenging year. Despite a worldwide COVID-19 pandemic, and many criminal justice reform initiatives and their significant changes, the Guilderland Police Department continued to provide first rate law enforcement services to our residents and visitors.

The year began with negotiating the many changes in NYS Criminal Procedure Law, Article 245, specific to personnel records, discovery obligations, speedy trials, and no cash bail. Without being specific to each item, all of these caused greater manpower requirements for clerical functions taking officers away from their primary responsibility of being proactive on crime. Further, no cash bail and the limitations on judge's discretion caused many unforeseen difficulties and radically changed the way the police conduct business. The NYS Raise the Age Legislation effects began to evolve as the criminal justice system tried to deal with the increase in juvenile crime and the limitations of a swift and appropriate disciplinary response by the Criminal/Family Court.

March came in like a lion with the first significant cases of the COVID-19 pandemic in our area. Our department quickly responded to the directives from the CDC and Albany County Health Department. We made the necessary changes in procedures to protect our officers and community from the rapid spread of the virus while continuing to provide excellent and uninterrupted police protection to our community. I am thankful and optimistic to see a vaccination approaching in early January 2021. Far too many people have lost their lives and have had their health impacted by this devastating pandemic.

June began the endless number of executive orders from Governor Cuomo. Executive Order 203 required every police agency in NYS to perform a comprehensive review of police policies and practices. The purpose of the New York State Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative is "to foster trust, fairness and legitimacy within communities throughout our state and to address any racial bias and disproportionate policing of communities of color."

The members of the Guilderland Police Department embraced the formation of a committee to conduct a robust review of the practices and policies of the police department. The committee was divided into four subcommittees: Policies and Training, Response and Diversion, Criminal Justice Strategies and Racial Justice and Equity. Our department fully participated in discussions and made every attempt to provide transparent and insightful review of all policies and procedures. Our goal was to make the Guilderland Police Department even better than it currently is. I was not surprised to learn that after having steadfast leadership, for the duration of our police department, and an extremely supportive community, we are far ahead of the curve on police practices, procedures and relationships with our community. The final committee action plan will be made available by April of 2021.

In the summer, as many police departments were subjected to protests and anti-police rhetoric, we witnessed our community become more cohesive. We will forever be indebted to those citizens who took the time to send an email, card, letter or drop off food in support of the members of our department. You are the people who make being a police officer in these challenging times worthwhile. It is a pleasure to serve you.

We saw an unprecedented number of officers retire or relocate to more police officer friendly states. We had a total of nine officers leave and with the unwavering support of Supervisor Peter Barber and town board members, all of the positions were filled. It is an almost impossible task to replace the institutional knowledge and experience of those officers. Through careful recruitment and officer selection I feel we have filled the open positions with some of the best officers from the Capital Region.

In closing, I would like to thank all of the members of the annual report committee, especially Deputy Chief Curtis Cox and Officer Russell Tallman, for your hard work and dedication to this project. I would like to thank all of the members of the Guilderland Police Department, sworn and unsworn, for your professionalism, expertise, dedication, and service to our community. I am optimistic that 2021 will be a better year with some resemblance of normalcy returning. I remain hopeful that we will come together as one nation and community respectful of all. I am honored to be your Police Chief.

Be well, Daniel P. McNally Chief of Police



Greetings from the Chaplain's desk;

It has been my honor and privilege to continue to serve the Guilderland Police Department as Police The Guilderland Police Department Chaplain. recognizes the support that the Law Enforcement Chaplaincy program provides to the members of the police department as well as to the communities we serve. 2020 has been a year of change and challenge, the likes of which most of us have never experienced. The year began with hope and promise for the department with the appointment of Chief McNally. I was honored to provide prayers for Chief McNally and the department upon his swearing in. In short order, the global pandemic fear struck our communities. Our neighborhoods grew silent as schools closed and we We worried about our family, guarantined at home. friends, and neighbors getting sick. And yet, the work of keeping us safe, responding to emergencies and ensuring that our community was served with the upmost respect and dignity was performed by the incredible members of the Guilderland Police Department. As residents and visitors to the Town of Guilderland, we owe a debt of gratitude to these amazing men and women.

Although many of the opportunities for interactions with members of the department was limited this year, I have had the great privilege of continuing to speak with and be available to the great officers serving our town. I have been called to support families who have lost loved ones unexpectedly as well as to provide comfort and assistance to officers who have been injured. I also continue to be an advocate for the those who are willing to don the uniform of service and be willing to sacrifice self for a greater cause. The members of the Guilderland Police Department deserve all our respect and admiration. That respect is earned each day as I have witnessed every officer serve with distinction and honor. In an era of increasing tensions elsewhere, the Guilderland Police Department has strengthened its relationship with the This is a testament to community. the professionalism of all members of the department. I have seen compassion shown to victims of crime, as well as those who are charged with crimes. l have witnessed acts of courage, putting themselves in harm's way, so others would not face harm. I have seen them provide professional and courteous service to the community even when they may have not been accorded that same courtesy. Their work is challenging in an everchanging environment, and how the department has responded should remind us all that the hope and promise that started this year, was the same hope and promise that will carry us through.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve my community and my GPD family this year. I pray a blessing of safety, courage, dedication, trust, compassion and peace.

Geoffrey Ekstein

2020 began with the swearing in of a new Police Chief for the Guilderland Police Department. Captain Daniel McNally, a 32 year veteran of the force, was sworn in on January 17th, becoming the fourth Chief to lead the department.

In February, the department's division of emergency medical services become its own stand alone department. The EMS division had been a part of the police department since 1986 when advanced life support services began in the town. In 2018, the Town of Guilderland assumed responsibility for the coverage area of Western Turnpike Rescue Squad and



acquired 2 ambulance stations and equipment, 6 ambulances, 6 paramedic fly cars, and approximately 50 EMTs and paramedics. Due to larger operational needs, a more significant administrative staff was created to oversee the 2.5-million-dollar budget along with complex revenue programs. The move provides an efficient and effective department which includes outstanding medical direction and administrative oversight.

While 2020 was a year of unrest across the country the Guilderland Police Department received an enormous amount of support from the community. Citizens and businesses dropped off dinners, lunches and homemade baked goods along with cards and letters of support. Each member of the department greatly appreciated each act of kindness.



By March the world was overtaken by the COVID-19 pandemic. Businesses were forced to close and people were told to stay home. Life was disrupted for everyone and the police department had to adapt to the changes as well. Patrol officers continued to respond to calls for service and take complaints while maintaining social distancing. In many cases, interviews were conducted outdoors if possible. The months long shutdown caused a substantial decrease in traffic volume and reported accidents during the year. Many of the traffic unit's programs

## 2020: A Challenging Year

were cancelled, due to courts and schools being closed, such as the Stop DWI Victim's Impact Panels, Operation Safe Stop and No Empty chair. The Traffic Safety Unit remained committed to enforcement and education of traffic laws while also continuing to participate in Albany County Stop-DWI announced and unannounced enforcement details.

The way business was conducted for the Criminal Investigations Unit (CIU) changed during the pandemic as well. While the CIU remained staffed and working, the ability to move cases forward because of the courts



being closed stopped as businesses and courts were closed. Investigations were challenging because many people were working from home where usually a person might be interviewed at their place of employment. Limited number of cases were being sent to court for prosecution due to a back log of cases caused by the closure of all New York State courts. Identifying criminals was difficult due to mask mandates while restrictions on people allowed in government buildings presented an ever changing strategy. Throughout the pandemic the CIU was able to adapt to the challenges.



The Community Services Unit (CSU) was able to rise to the challenge of 2020, adapted and continued serving the community. While most of the programs and events such as National Night Out, DARE, Explorers, Coffee with a Cop and the RAD program were put on hold due to restrictions, the CSU was able fill the void with new services. Many requests came throughout the shutdown for drive by parades celebrating birthdays and high school graduations as kids remained home working remotely. These became a

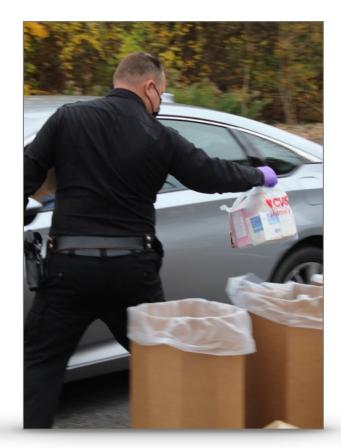
regular event where numerous officers participated. Each officer found pleasure being able to



bring a little happiness to someone's day during the trying year. The CSU aided in the distribution of face coverings at no cost to local business to prepare them for the reopening of their business. A large number of requests were fulfilled. The unit's School Resource Officer (SRO) remained available to the school district during the year. The SRO was able to modify their workdays when school reopened to support students and educational staff in different ways while still maintaining school safety and security as their top priority. In the fall, the CSU

was able to participate in the semi annual Drug Take Back Day making it yet again a tremendous success. Participants were able to follow COVID-19 health and safety protocol, as hundreds of pounds of unused or expired drugs were disposed of properly. The unit also participated in two drive up food drives partnering with the Guilderland YMCA in support of local food pantries at a time when the need was immense.





## 2020: Training

Despite the challenges faced with the COVID-19 pandemic, the department was able to exceed the mandatory minimum twenty-one hours of training in the areas of firearms, legal updates, a review of the use of force and the use of deadly force, less lethal options, as well as a variety of other topics that apply to the law enforcement function as required by the New York State Law Enforcement Accreditation Program.

The department instituted defensive tactics training to comply with new standards that were issued by New York State. Our department implemented scenario based training with live role players in an effort to increase knowledge and skill in the areas of de-escalation, communication strategies, use of force, and the use of less lethal alternatives.

In addition to required training, officers were able to take part in virtual webinars throughout the year in the areas of mental health, criminal investigations, community oriented policing, and leadership. All training is conducted by certified



instructors within the department as well as certified instructors from outside agencies. Evaluation documentation, training curricula, and records of completed training are maintained by the training sergeant.



## Station Enhancements



During 2020 the Guilderland Police Department made some modifications to its main station to enhance safety and efficiency of operations. The former patrol/booking room was converted to strictly a patrol room where the officers gather at the beginning of their shift for briefings and roll call. Tables, chairs and a lectern were installed to better accommodate the area to be used. The patrol room is also an area where the many pieces of equipment that an officer has to take out with them on patrol can be safely stored.

An area that was formerly occupied by our EMS division has been converted to the department's booking room exclusively. Patrol cars now enter a sally port which is a secure, controlled entry way which allows officers to walk an individual directly into the booking room. This is a safer environment for both the officer and the arrestee and both areas are monitored 24 hours a day by video cameras.

With the assistance of a New York State grant, two outdated electronic fingerprinting systems were replaced with new state of the art systems. Like the old, each new system integrates with our

records management system and communicates directly with the Division of Criminal Justice Services but has advanced features and much easier to use than the old system. One of the new systems replaced the old at the main station and the other at the Crossgates Mall police substation where officers process arrests made at the mall and on the east end of town.

Photo Above: Officer Kelley
escorts a detainee from the
sally port to the new booking
room shown on right.



## About The Department



### COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

All calls for service to the department come through the Communications Division which is staffed with certified E-911 telecommunicators. The division is a 24 hour operation and is a vital link to the residents and businesses in this town and to the emergency personnel in the field. Staffed with 10 telecommunicators and 1 supervisor, each telecommunicator is trained in Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD), CPR and AED and must re-certify every two years.

In addition to answering 911 emergency calls, they also answer non-emergency calls and complaints for Guilderland and Altamont Police Departments and Guilderland Animal Control. They are also responsible for dispatching nine town fire departments and the town emergency medical services.

The Town of Guilderland operates on the Albany County 800MHz trunked radio system for its

emergency services. This system allows seamless communications with all other Albany County emergency responder agencies as well as local schools and school busses. The system employs the latest radio technology and has proven to be a great public safety asset allowing radio interoperability amongst all agencies that once operated independently.

### DEPLOYMENT OF PATROL

Major emphasis is placed on the deployment of personnel allocating patrol presence to the entire town 24 hours per day. The department's patrol division is the largest division in the department staffed with a Lieutenant, 4 sergeants, 2 senior patrol officers, 24 patrol officers and 1 police canine. The division is the most visible component of the department and is the first to respond to all calls for service. In



## About The Department

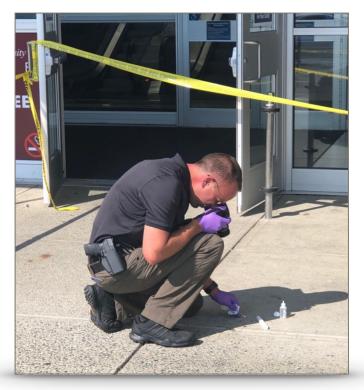
addition to routine patrol, officers conduct preliminary investigations of crimes and incidents and carry a caseload. They arrest and process prisoners, respond to traffic collisions, conduct property checks, and maintain public order. Its goal is proactive police patrol and crime prevention and officers strive to maintain a close relationship with the community and foster a positive police-community relationship often working closely with the Community Services Unit.

### RETAIL INTERDICTION

The town of Guilderland is home to the 5th largest shopping mall in New York State, Crossgates Mall. The Guilderland Police Department maintains a substation in the mall for handling complaints and arrests at the mall and on the eastern end of town. In 2018, the department initiated the Retail



Interdiction Detail (R.I.D.) at the mall in anticipation of the holiday shopping season and due to several instances of public disorder. The detail is composed of two uniformed "RID" Investigators that are assigned there. The officers work "flex shifts" that coincided with the mall's hours of operation. Their function is to address issues related to theft from stores as well as disruptive or other criminal behavior that takes place within the mall. The detail officers also team up with Crossgates Mall Security as well as loss prevention personnel from various stores to form a unified effort in reducing thefts.



### MAJOR INVESTIGATIONS

The department maintains a Criminal Investigation Unit (CIU) staffed by a senior investigator and two other investigators. Each Investigator is forensically trained to process crime scenes.

The unit handles a wide variety of cases within the department but primarily focuses on felony cases. Investigators carry a caseload, create photo arrays for department cases, handle pistol permit applications, conduct background checks for prospective employees and those applying for a peddlers permit, conducts professional standards investigations, drug investigations, death investigations and criminal investigations. The CIU often works closely with other agencies during investigations and assignments such as the United States Secret Service, Drug



Enforcement Agency, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Homeland Security, Capital District Narcotics Enforcement Task Force, New York State Police, New York State Narcotics Enforcement, Albany County Sheriff's Department, New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision, and the Capital Region Crime Analysis Center.

### YOUTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Guilderland Police department's Youth Services Division is staffed with three certified juvenile officers who are specially trained in juvenile law, sexual abuse and child abuse. They handle investigations involving juvenile cases and work closely with local schools, probation, family court, and Child Protective Services. One officer is assigned to the

Guilderland High School as a School Resource Officer while the others serve the district's middle and elementary schools.

The division provides programs to youth including crime prevention training, personal safety, Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.), and the Rape Aggression Defense Program (R.A.D.). Youth officers along with members of the patrol division with specialties in youth services, crime prevention and police explorers, make up the departments Community Services Unit (CSU). The Community Services Unit goal is to provide a proactive approach to law enforcement in an effort to identify and resolve community problems. Community Services officers participate in programs such as Drug Take Back Day, Coffee With A Cop, local food drives, and National Night Out. The unit's efforts help to foster a stronger working relationship between the department and the community. The CSU also has two officers certified in child safety seat installation and offers this to the community by appointment.

### TRAFFIC SAFETY

The department is dedicated to keeping our roads safe through the strict enforcement of vehicle and traffic laws as well as deterrence and public education efforts. The department's Traffic Safety Unit (TSU) works in conjunction with the patrol division to address traffic related concerns and to enforce the vehicle and traffic laws. Serious personal injury and fatal crashes are also investigated by the units highly trained investigation and reconstruction officers.

The unit is an active member of the Albany County Traffic Safety Awareness Committee and the Albany County Stop





DWI program. Officers participate in many programs such as Buckle Up New York, Operation Safe Stop Education and Enforcement Day, No Empty Chair, and the STEP (Selective Traffic Enforcement Program) which is the aggressive enforcement of such violations as aggressive driving, speeding, and driver distraction such as cellular phone use. It also hosts the Stop DWI Victim's Impact Panel six times per year.

### ANIMAL SERVICES

Guilderland Animal Control is a division of the police department and is staffed with two full time civilian Animal Control Officers who work out of and maintain the Richard R. Murray Guilderland Animal Shelter located at 6363 French's Mill Rd. in Guilderland Center. Animal Control Officers (ACO) are responsible for handling all animal related calls in the town. The ACO's also act as first response officers for the Albany County Department of Health and New York State Environmental Conservation (ENCON). Animal Control Officers enforce those laws as well as Town of Guilderland ordinances, and Agriculture and Markets laws. The Animal Control Officers also perform other duties including, removing injured or deceased animals from town roads and handling other animal calls



including dogs running at large. ACO's also provide assistance with basic wildlife issues such as a sick raccoon or skunk.

### KEEPING THE PUBLIC INFORMED

The Guilderland Police Department strives to keep the public informed and up to date on not only department news but also emergencies and other need to know events that may impact the lives of residents and visitors of Guilderland. The police department maintains a website at www.guilderlandpd.org that provides department news, information about the department, and all of the programs we offer. The department is also very active on popular social networks such as Facebook, Twitter and Nextdoor. These social media platforms allow the department to publish news, events and notifications to keep the community informed and up to date on important information. In addition to the department website and social media, the Guilderland Police offer free text and/or email alerts through Nixle. Nixle has been used around the country to help find missing seniors or children; evacuate flooded areas, alert the community of criminal activity, notify of emergency road closures, and other events that impact travel and public safety. The power in the Nixle system is also its diversity of content, allowing not only those types of emergency alerts, but informing the public of wanted persons, arrests, important community events, and other relevant "want to know" information. The department will continue to improve its highly successful online presence by expanding features and joining additional platforms as needed to continue to keep the public informed.

In January, the Guilderland Police Dept. received a complaint of a speeding vehicle and possible shots fired on Fuller Station Rd. The CIU was called and an investigation was conducted. Following interviews of residents in the area and viewing surveillance footage of the incident it concluded that it was not clear whether shots were fired from the vehicle seen in the video. The area was checked for shell casings but none were found. The area was monitored by patrol for a period of time.

In February, the department responded to an assault/robbery call on Western Avenue. A male randomly approached the elderly victim as he was walking down Western Avenue, knocked the victim to the ground and kicked and punched the victim causing injury. The suspect then stole the victim's walker which he threw in a nearby dumpster and then fled the scene. The victim was transported to the hospital by EMS for his injuries. The walker was recovered from the dumpster and video surveillance of the suspect was obtained. The following day an off duty patrol officer noticed the suspect walking on Western Avenue and he was taken into custody. The suspect was identified as Frederick Torigoe. He was arraigned and released. This case is pending a final disposition.

Also in February, a call was received from Regal Cinemas in Crossgates Mall that a male had entered the woman's bathroom and was looking into the stalls through the crack in the door. A female victim yelled at the suspect calling him a creep. She could no longer see the subject so she left their bathroom. The suspect had entered another stall in the bathroom and remained until another female entered the room. The first victim heard this other woman yelling, so she went back into the bathroom and found the suspect dragging the woman towards a stall with his hand over her mouth. When the suspect saw the first victim he encountered, he ran out of the bathroom and left Regal Cinema. The suspect was captured on surveillance footage and identified as Jamel Jones. The suspect was located later in Albany and was arrested for unlawful imprisonment and stalking 4th. This case is pending a final disposition.

In February, the department responded to Crossgates Mall for a report of a stabbing. Two females had met at the mall to discuss a common boyfriend, when the meeting turned into a physical altercation. One of the females stabbed the other in the arm and took the victim's cell phone. The victim was transported to the hospital with a minor stab wound, was treated and released. The suspect was identified as Chaddi Monday and she turned herself in on robbery and assault charges. This case is pending action in Albany County Court.

The Guilderland Police Dept. was called in February to investigate a case involving a male that stole a ring from Mandati Jewelry Store in Crossgates Mall. The suspect entered the store and asked to try on a bracelet. The clerk gave him the bracelet, he tried the bracelet on and gave it back to the clerk. The suspect then asked to try on a ring. The clerk took the ring out of the case and gave it to the suspect. The suspect put the ring on his finger, ran out of the store without paying for it and pushed a clerk who tried to stop him. The suspect ran outside of the mall, entered a waiting vehicle and fled the area. Through investigation the suspect was identified as Elijah Collins and later arrested for robbery 3rd and grand larceny 3rd. This case is pending a final disposition.

In March, the Guilderland Police were called to Park Guilderland Apartments, 461 RT 146 at approximately 3:30 a.m. for a report of a suspicious U-Haul truck parked next to the building's doors and someone in the storage units inside the building used by the tenants. When police arrived they began searching the basement hallway and observed forced entry, and a broken lock to a storage area entry door. As the search continued, they located Christopher A. Viagrande and Colin R. Cunningham hiding in separate storage units. The CIU was contacted, processed the scene and secured evidence. Numerous private storage units were found to have been broken into and personal property removed. Search warrants were obtained and stolen property was located in the U-Haul truck that was parked outside. Burglary tools and other evidence at the scene were found that linked the subjects to this incident. They were arrested and the case is pending final disposition in Albany County Court.

In June the owner of the Sunoco Station on Carman Rd called the police to report the larceny of boxes of bread that were delivered overnight to the store. Captured on surveillance footage was a mid-90's Jeep Grand Cherokee that was used by the suspect to commit this larceny. Through investigation the vehicle was identified and addresses were checked for the registered owner. A few weeks later an officer stopped a vehicle matching the above description, the driver was identified and interviewed. The driver was subsequently identified as the suspect from this case. The owner of the Sunoco Station was contacted and advised the suspect had been identified but he no longer wished to pursue charges.

In July, the Guilderland Police Dept. responded to a report of shots fired inside Crossgates Mall. The mall was locked down as officers searched for the suspect. The CIU responded to secure the crime scene and get a detailed suspect description. Investigators reviewed surveillance footage and interviewed witnesses while patrol officers worked on clearing the stores. The scene was processed and evidence was collected. Video surveillance showed a shooter and a potential of three intended victims. The intended victims were identified and were uncooperative with the criminal investigation. The shooter was identified by surveillance photos sent out by the Capital Region Crime Analysis Center through multiple sources. The suspect was identified as a juvenile male and the case was presented to the Albany County Family Court for review. The juvenile male was later arrested at his home in Albany, charged in the Albany County Family Court and eventually pled to the charges of reckless endangerment 1st and criminal possession of a weapon 4th. He was sentenced to one year in a secured juvenile detention facility.

In August, a victim met his ex-girlfriend at Crossgates Mall to exchange property. The ex-girlfriend showed up with two additional people and refused to give the victim his property. A verbal argument ensued and turned into a physical altercation. One of her friends stabbed the victim and chased him out to his car parked in the parking lot. After a brief fight and damage to the victim's vehicle, the suspect fled the mall. The victim was transported to the hospital by a friend. The ex-girlfriend was uncooperative with the criminal investigation and the victim later refused to pursue charges.

In September, the police were called for a vehicle that was stolen from the driveway of a residence on Sundew Drive. A day later the vehicle crashed in the City of Schenectady and the occupants fled from the vehicle on foot. A week later a suspect was identified from evidence found inside the vehicle and was later interviewed. The suspect admitted to being in the vehicle in the City of Schenectady but not to taking or driving the vehicle from Guilderland. The suspect's probation officer was contacted and this case was turned over to Schenectady Police Department for their review.

In October, Kay Jewelers in Crossgates Mall reported the theft of a 14kt gold chain. The caller states a male 6'-6'02, wearing a beanie with fake dreads "Bob Marley style", sunglasses and a gray sweat suit came into the store and asked to see the chain. When the caller gave the chain to him he turned and ran out of the store and then out of the mall doors with a female. They ran into the parking lot and entered a vehicle leaving the mall. The district manager advised the couple had been hitting Kay Jewelry stores on the east coast. Surveillance photos of both suspects were sent out for identification by the Capital Region Crime Analysis Center but no identification was made. The suspects are believed to be from out of this area.



In recognition of those who have 20 or more years of dedicated service to the Guilderland Police Department.

Employee	Position	Hired	Years
Carol Lawlor	Chief of Police	1978	42
Curtis Cox	Deputy Chief	1984	36
Daniel McNally	Chief of Police	1988	32
Kris Kelly-Sweeney	Telecommunicator	1991	29
Adam Myers	R.I.D. Investigator	1992	28
Daniel Coburn	Sr. Patrol Officer	1993	27
Thomas Funk	Sr. Investigator	1994	26
Roger Ginder	Officer	1994	26
Gina Spadaro	Sr. Telecommunicator	1995	25
Charles Tanner	Investigator	1995	25
James Brust	Sr. Patrol Officer	1995	25
Carl Duda	Sergeant	1995	25
Nicholas Ingle	Officer	1995	25
Russell Tallman	Officer	1995	25
Robert Meyers	Animal Control Officer	1996	24
Robert Bailey	Officer	1997	23
Timothy Halloran	Officer	1997	23
Donald Jones	Officer	1997	23
John Ginder	Telecommunicator	1997	23
Michael Minette	First Sergeant	2000	20
John Govel	Officer	2000	20
William Dvorscak	Officer	2000	20



The Guilderland Police Department hired nine new officers in 2020 to fill vacancies left by retirements. Each of the new officers came to the department as certified police officers who laterally transferred from other area departments including the Altamont Police Department, Albany Police Department, Albany County Sheriff's Department and Saratoga County Sheriff's Department.

Although these new officers come to the department with various years of experience, all newly hired officers are entered into the Guilderland Police Department Field Training

Program. The new officer is assigned to a field training officer for the first twelve weeks of employment. The training is conducted in four phases. The first phase consists of the new police officer primarily observing the field training officer and becoming acclimated to the Town of Guilderland and the police department. The new hire gradually moves through the program with the final phase consisting of the new hire taking the primary role and the field training officer observing performance. Each day of field training the field training officer documents performance and critiques him or her on a daily observation report. The daily observation report is used to document performance in all facets of the profession ranging from officer reviews the new hire's performance for the day and discusses positives as well as areas that may require improvement. All of the officers have been assigned to the patrol division after successfully completing the field training program.





Officer Matthew Egnor was promoted to the rank of Sergeant on May 23, 2020. He joined the department on June 4, 2014.

## 20

## New Hires



Officer Joshua Harrison Hired: February 17, 2020



Officer Christopher Oades Hired: September 14, 2020



Officer Brandon Carkner Hired: November 2, 2020



Officer Zachary Collen Hired: March 16, 2020



Officer Nicholas Marcella Hired: September 14, 2020



Officer Matthew Davis Hired: November 2, 2020



Officer Sean Ralston Hired: September 4, 2020



Officer Kasey Straus Hired: September 14, 2020



Officer Michael Doynow Hired: December 30, 2020

## Retirements



Chief Carol Lawlor 42 YEARS OF SERVICE



Senior Patrol Officer Daniel Coburn 27 YEARS OF SERVICE



Officer Roger Ginder 26 YEARS OF SERVICE

**Chief Carol Lawlor** - Chief Lawlor retired with 42 years of service to the police department. She was hired on September 15, 1978 and over the course of her career she rose through the ranks as a Sergeant, Lieutenant and Deputy Chief before becoming Chief of Police in 2008. Prior to her employment as a police officer she worked for the town in the parks department and then as a dispatcher for the police department. At the time of her retirement she was the longest serving Town of Guilderland employee having been employed for 46 years.



**Senior Patrol Officer Daniel Coburn** - Officer Coburn was hired on February 15, 1993. Early in his career he served as a juvenile officer and later moved to the patrol division. On June 1, 2012, he was appointed to the position of senior patrolman and was in charge of fleet maintenance. Prior to being a police officer he worked for the town highway department for almost 4 years. He retired with 27 years of service to the police department and 30 years as a town employee.



**Officer Roger Ginder** - Officer Ginder was hired August 15, 1994. The majority of his career he served as a juvenile officer and was assigned to the Farnsworth Middle School as a school resource officer. He was very involved with the department's police explorer program and other community services for many years. Prior to being a police officer he was a dispatcher for the department for 4 years and retiring with 26 years of service as a police officer and 30 years as a town employee.

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## Retirements



Senior Patrol Officer James Brust 25 YEARS OF SERVICE



Officer Timothy Halloran 23 YEARS OF SERVICE



Officer John Govel 20 YEARS OF SERVICE

**Senior Patrol Officer James Brust** - Officer Brust was hired on February 13, 1995, and was assigned to the patrol division. On June 1, 2012, he was appointed to the position of senior patrolman and served as the department armorer. Officer Brust was a member of the Albany County Emergency Response Team and the Guilderland Police Special Response Team. He retired with 25 years of service.



**Officer Timothy Halloran** - Officer Halloran was hired on December 19, 1997, as a lateral transfer from the Albany County Sheriff's Department. He was assigned to the patrol division throughout his career and retired with 23 years of service.



**Officer John Govel** - Officer Govel was hired on January 7, 2000, and came to the department as a lateral transfer from the Altamont Police Department. He was assigned to the patrol division and retired with 20 years of service.

## Retirements



Officer William Dvorscak 20 YEARS OF SERVICE



First Sergeant Michael Minette 20 YEARS OF SERVICE

**Officer William Dvorscak** - Officer Dvorscak was hired on January 26, 2000, and was assigned to the patrol division. He was one of the department's field training officers and also a fire investigator on the Town of Guilderland Fire Investigation Team. Officer Dvorscak retired with 20 years of service.



**First Sergeant Michael Minette** - First Sergeant Minette was hired on May 16, 2000, and came to the department from the Oneonta Police Department. Initially assigned to the patrol division, he was promoted to Sergeant on May 20, 2013. On September 15, 2015, he was promoted to First Sergeant. He retired with 20 years of service.



Once a month, cases are randomly picked from each of the three shifts; midnights, days and afternoons. Letters are then sent to the person(s) who requested our services or the person(s) that had contact with us, promising anonymity inquiring if their service was prompt; if the officer(s) was knowledgeable and helpful; and if the officer(s) acted in a professional and courteous manner.

In addition to the letter of explanation and survey we also include a self-addressed stamped envelope. Once we receive the survey back, the Chief of Police, Deputy Chief and Lieutenant then reviews the survey and a copy is saved for our records.

	Quality	Control Survey		
Fill in this fo	orm online and print, or print this	blank form and complete	. Submit as direct	ed below
What was	the purpose of the call? (E	E.g. fight, illegally par	ked car: etc)	
How was	the service initiated? (E.g.	phone call, approach	ned officer: etc)	
	r(s) responded promptly: ongly Agree() Agree()	(Check one) Disagree() St	rongly Disagree	( )
	r(s) were knowledgeable r ongly Agree() Agree()		n/complaint: rongly Disagree	( )
	r(s) acted in a professional ongly Agree()			( )
Did your o	call for service result in a re	port being filed?	Yes()	No()
Did you ol	btain or attempt to obtain a	copy of the report?	Yes()	No()
Was the re	eport accurate and clear?	(If applicable)	Yes()	No()
Comment	s: (please include any sug	gestions or concern	s you may have	)
Name (op	tional)			
Address (				
	Phone number (optional)			
Please ch	eck if you wish to be conta	icted. ( )		
Mail to:	Chief of Police Guilderland Police Depar Town Hall, Route 20	rtment		

### Quality Control Surveys Sent By Month

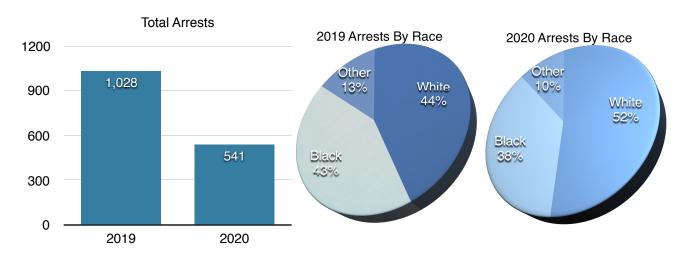
Month	Surveys Sent Out	Surveys Received Back
January	10	2
February	9	2
March	10	2
April	No Data	No Data
Мау	10	2
June	11	6
July	No Data	No Data
August	8	4
September	6	2
October	11	2
November	10	5
December	6	4
Total	91	31

### Quality Control Responses Received

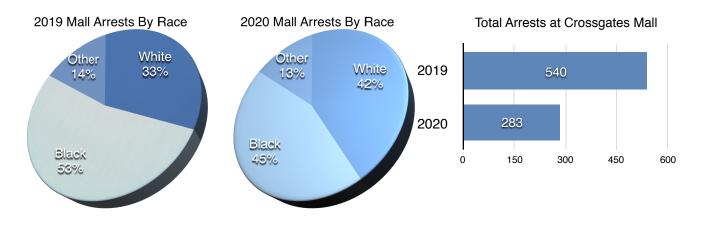
	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
The officers responded promptly	27	6	0	0
The officers were knowledgeable regarding situation/complaint	32	8	0	0
The officers acted in a professional/courteous manner	30	3	0	0

## **Statistics**

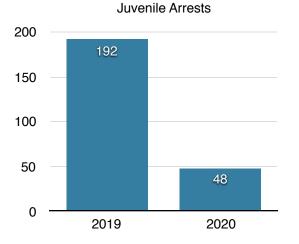
#### **Total Arrests**

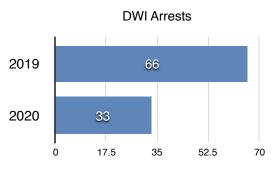


**Crossgates Mall Arrests** 

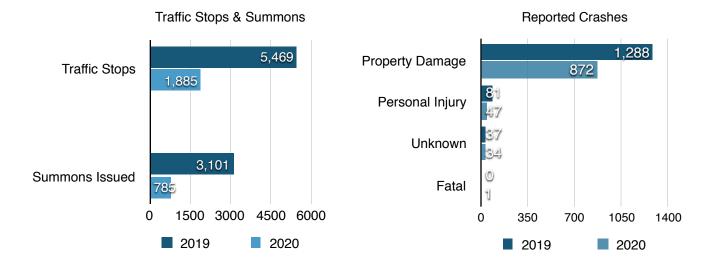


Juvenile and D.W.I. Arrests

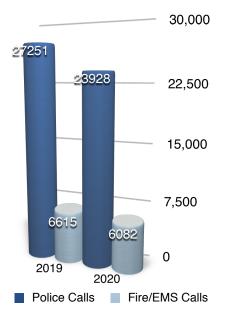




### **Traffic Stats**



Calls For Service



911 Calls



\*Total number of calls <u>do not</u> include non-emergency calls and transferred cellular 911 calls.

### **Statistics**

### Property and Evidence

#### 2020 EVIDENCE STATS

1,376 Items Submitted

29 Transferred to Lab

117 Items Returned

items neturnet

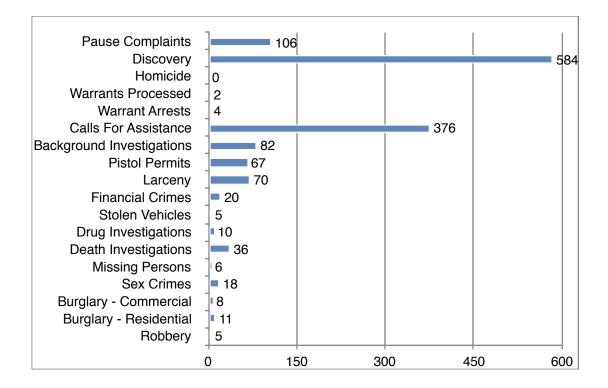
1,019 Items Destroyed

4,085 \*Administratively Processed

> 19 Items Auctioned

\*Administratively processed items are items stored in a secure location and then transferred to another agency.

### Criminal Investigations Unit Cases



## **Statistics**





### 2020 ANIMAL CONTROL ACTIVITY

267 Stray Dog Calls Handled 512 Wildlife Calls Received 36 Barking Dog Complaints Received 28 Lost or Runaway Pets Reunited 5 Shelter Tours Conducted 33 Dogs Brought Into Shelter 47 Farm Animal Calls Received 9 Home Visits Conducted To Check On Animals 16 Animal Bite Reports Handled 5 Dogs Placed In Permanent Adoptive Homes 48 Cat Complaints Received 16 Calls For Dogs or Cats Hit By A Car Handled 31 Cruelty Calls Handled

Police Calls for 2020			Police Calls for 2019	
CALL TYPE		Percent Change	CALL TYPE	
911 ACCIDENTAL CALL	1449	16	911 ACCIDENTAL CALL	1246
911 HANG-UP CALL	1158	5	911 HANG-UP CALL	1102
911 NON-EMERGENCY / NUISANCE	134	116	911 NON-EMERGENCY / NUISANCE	62
911 OPEN LINE	300	-22	911 OPEN LINE	385
911 TRANSFER	621	20	911 TRANSFER	518
ABANDONED VEHICLE	12	-43	ABANDONED VEHICLE	21
ALARM DROP	23	-60	AIARM DROP	58
ANIMAL CONTROL COMPLAINT	1067	-7	ANIMAL CONTROL COMPLAINT	1150
ASSAULT	25	56	ASSAULT	16
ASSIST A PERSON	1022	-1	ASSIST A PERSON	1033
ASSIST BY COM DIV	230	100	ASSIST BY COM DIV	0
AUTO ACC PROP DAMAGE	872	-32	AUTO ACC PROP DAMAGE	1288
AUTO ACCIDENT PERSONAL INJURY	47	-42	AUTO ACCIDENT PERSONAL INJURY	81
AUTO ACCIDENT UNKNOWN	34	-8	AUTO ACCIDENT UNKNOWN	37
BOLO	25	-11	BOLO	28
BOY/GIRLFRIEND TROUBLE	12	71	BOY/GIRLFRIEND TROUBLE	7
BURGLAR ALARM	951	-22	BURGLAR ALARM	1225
BURGLARY IN PROGRESS	4	-73	BURGLARY IN PROGRESS	15
CANCEL/DUPLICATE	71	-26	CANCEL/DUPLICATE	96
CAR BLOCKING	13	8	CAR BLOCKING	12
CAR SEAT INSTALLATION	60	-44	CAR SEAT INSTALLATION	108
CHECK A SUBJECT	734	-19	CHECK A SUBJECT	901
CHECK A TRAFFIC LIGHT	69	-19	CHECK A TRAFFIC LIGHT	85
CHECK FOR HUNTER	28	-15	CHECK FOR HUNTER	33
COMMUNITY SERVICES EVENT	64	-65	COMMUNITY SERVICES EVENT	184
COURT ORDER	39	-13	COURT ORDER	45
COVID COMPLAINT	16	100	COVID COMPLAINT	0
CUSTODIAL INTERFERENCE	40	90	CUSTODIAL INTERFERENCE	21
DETAIL	103	45	DETAIL	71
DIG SAFE NOTIFICATION	3	200	DIG SAFE NOTIFICATION	1
DISABLED MOTOR VEHICLE	284	-25	DISABLED MOTOR VEHICLE	377
DMV REQUEST	1	100	DMV REQUEST	0
DOMESTIC CALL	303	21	DOMESTIC CALL	251
DRUG COMPLAINT	5	-17	DRUG COMPLAINT	6
DRUNK ANNOYING	11	83	DRUNK ANNOYING	6
DUPLICATE CALL	1	100	DUPLICATE CALL	0

Police Calls for 2020			Police Calls for 2019	
CALL TYPE		Percent Change	CALL TYPE	
EMOTIONALLY DISTURBED PERSON	173	-25	EMOTIONALLY DISTURBED PERSON	231
EMS (JUVENILE) CALL	8	-70	EMS (JUVENILE) CALL	27
EMS CALL	471	-23	EMS CALL	615
EMS CALL - ECHO/DELTA RESPONSE	2	100	EMS CALL - ECHO/DELTA RESPONSE	0
EQUIPMENT REPAIR	60	-62	EQUIPMENT REPAIR	159
EXECUTING A WARRANT	12	-50	EXECUTING A WARRANT	24
FIGHT	80	-26	FIGHT	108
FINGERPRINTS	113	-14	FINGERPRINTS	131
FIRE CALL	203	-21	FIRE CALL	257
FIRE INVESTIGATION	10	100	FIRE IVNESTIGATION	0
FIREWORKS	58	132	FIREWORKS	25
FOLLOW UP ON PREV. CALL	75	6	FOLLOW UP ON PREV. CALL	71
FOLLOW UP	12	-68	FOLLOW UP	38
FOOT PATROL	8	100	FOOT PATROL	0
FOUND PROPERTY	115	1	FOUND PROPERTY	114
GAS DRIVE OFF	11	-35	GAS DRIVE OFF	17
GET A COMPLAINT	1161	7	GET A COMPLAINT	1087
GET A REPORT	1609	-26	GET A REPORT	2173
GROUP ANNOYING	75	34	GROUP ANNOYING	56
HAZ PACKAGE	1	-50	HAZ PACKAGE	2
HAZARDOUS MATERIAL CALL	2	100	HAZARDOUS MATERIAL CALL	0
HOLD-UP ALARM	39	-19	HOLD-UP ALARM	48
HOUSE CHECK	0	-100	HOUSE CHECK	1
HOUSE-VACATION	9	-63	HOUSE-VACATION	24
INVESTIGATION	5	-29	INVESTIGATION	7
JAIL RUN	1	-93	JAIL RUN	14
JUVENILE INCIDENT	90	-13	JUVENILE INCIDENT	103
JUVENILE SHOPLIFTER	15	-46	JUVENILE SHOPLIFTER	28
K-9 ACTIVITY	36	-14	K-9 ACTIVITY	42
LANDLORD/TENANT TROUBLE	15	0	LANDLORD/TENANT TROUBLE	15
LARCENY FROM VEH/VEH GONE THROUGH	136	100	LARCENY FROM VEH/VEH GONE THROUGH	0
LARCENY JUST OCCURRED	90	-17	LARCENY JUST OCCURRED	109
LOCK OUT	101	-11	LOCK OUT	113
LOUD MUSIC	43	-20	LOUD MUSIC	54
LOUD PARTY	39	50	LOUD PARTY	26
MISSING PERSON	29	-48	MISSING PERSON	56

Police Calls for 2020			Police Calls for 2019	
CALL TYPE		Percent Change	CALL TYPE	
NEIGHBOR TROUBLE	52	44	NEIGHBOR TROUBLE	36
NOISE COMPLAINT	8	100	NOISE COMPLAINT	1
NOTIFICATION	382	-13	NOTIFICATION	437
OFFICER(S) NEEDS ASSISTANCE	1	100	OFFICER(S) NEEDS ASSISTANCE	0
OPEN WINDOW/DOOR	23	-12	OPEN WINDOW/DOOR	26
OTHER	137	-5	OTHER	144
PANIC ALARM	10	100	PANIC ALARM	5
P.O.P.	3	100	P.O.P.	0
PERSON ACTING SUSPICIOUS	41	-49	PERSON ACTING SUSPICIOUS	81
PERSON ANNOYING	82	12	PERSON ANNOYING	73
PERSON ATTEMPTING SUICIDE	18	13	PERSON ATTEMPTING SUICIDE	16
PERSON DOWN	3	100	PERSON DOWN	0
PERSON EXPOSING SELF	4	0	PERSON EXPOSING SELF	4
PERSON WITH A WEAPON	20	233	PERSON WITH A WEAPON	6
PISTOL PERMIT	68	24	PISTOL PERMIT	55
POLICE COURT	44	-63	POLICE COURT	118
POLICE INFORMATION	45	29	POLICE INFORMATION	35
POLICE WANTED UNKNOWN	37	16	POLICE WANTED UNKNOWN	32
PROPERTY CHECK	4306	102	PROPERTY CHECK	2131
PROWLER	24	-33	PROWLER	36
ROAD HAZARD	140	7	ROAD HAZARD	131
ROBBERY	0	-100	ROBBERY	6
SEX OFFENDER REGISTRANT	2	100	SEX OFFENDER REGISTRANT	1
SHOOTING	1	100	SHOOTING	0
SHOPLIFTER	114	-30	SHOPLIFTER	164
SHOTS FIRED	7	100	SHOTS FIRED	0
SNOW EMERGENCY (BIRD)	42	100	SNOW EMERGENCY (BIRD)	21
SOMEONE IN BUILDING	15	25	SOMEONE IN BUILDING	12
STOLEN VEH CHECK	5	400	STOLEN VEH CHECK	1
STRUCTURE FIRE	2	200	STRUCTURE FIRE	0
SUSPICIOUS PACKAGE	0	100	SUSPICIOUS PACKAGE	1
SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	197	-10	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	220
TEST CALL	44	19	TEST CALL	37
TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT	177	-41	TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT	301
TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT COUNTY LINE	1	100	TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT COUNTY LINE	0
TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT CURRY RD	0	-100	TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT CURRY RD	7

Police Calls for 2020			Police Calls for 2019	
CALL TYPE		Percent Change	CALL TYPE	
TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT E OLD STAT	3	50	TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT E OLD STAT	2
TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT FULLER STA	3	50	TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT FULLER STA	2
TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT GUILD CTR	0	-100	TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT GUILD CTR	8
TRAFFIC STOP	1881	-66	TRAFFIC STOP	5469
TREE DOWN	141	26	TREE DOWN	112
TROUBLE WITH A CUSTOMER	76	-28	TROUBLE WITH A CUSTOMER	106
UFO SIGHTING	1	100	UFO SIGHTING	0
VEHICLE ANNOYING	427	14	VEHICLE ANNOYING	373
VEHICLE IN VIOLATION	53	-13	VEHICLE IN VIOLATION	61
VEHICLE LARCENY	4	100	VEHICLE LARCENY	1
VIOLENT DOMESTIC	1	-67	VIOLENT DOMESTIC	3
WARRANT	211	-54	WARRANT	462
WARRANT ENTRY	24	100	WARRANT ENTRY	0
WATER BREAK	27	-7	WATER BREAK	29
WELFARE CHECK	213	20	WELFARE CHECK	177
WIRES DOWN/ARCING	69	8	WIRES DOWN/ARCING	64
TOTAL	23927		TOTAL	27251

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has not yet released Uniformed Crime Statistics from the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program for the year 2020.