

Windom Police Department Year End Report 2016

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

Dear Mayor and City Council Members:

2016 was a challenging, but yet rewarding year for the Windom Police Department. Our officers were put in some dangerous situations. Some of our officers received statewide recognition for their work.

On February 8th, Assistant Chief of Police Kevin Patterson and Sheriff Jason Purrington responded to a domestic disturbance at 76 3rd Ave. The male occupant of the residence began shooting at the officers as they approached the residence. Both were able to escape the area without harm. We were later assisted by the High-risk Entry and Arrest Team (HEAT). They made entry and found that the male had committed suicide.

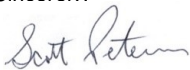
On September 1st, while assisting the Cottonwood County Sheriff's Office, Assistant Chief Kevin Patterson was hit head on by an oncoming motorist. This occurred north of Windom on Highway 60, Kevin is still in recovery from the injuries suffered from the accident. Without a doubt, Assistant Chief Patterson is owed a debt of gratitude by the Windom Police Department for the experiences he had in 2016

Officers Jon Beck and Dana Wallace both received statewide recognition for their work in 2016. Beck was named to the Minnesota DWI All-Star Team for his efforts in impaired driving enforcement. Wallace was named Mother's Against Drunk Driving (MADD) School Resource Officer of the Year. She was recognized for providing innovative education to students on the effects of alcohol and driving while impaired. We are extremely proud of both.

In August, the Windom Police Department was recognized at the annual Night to Unite celebration by the Windom Chamber of Commerce for our service to the community. We appreciated the recognition, especially because of the current atmosphere for law enforcement in the United States.

In closing, we would like to thank the Mayor and City Council for their continued support. I would also like to thank School Resource Officer Dana Wallace and Records Clerk Deb Nesseth for their assistance in creating this report.

Sincerely,



Scott Peterson, Chief of Police



February 2016 Shooting

Photo credit: Windom Citizen, Rahn Larson



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2016 BY THE NUMBERS

- 40 Drunk Driving Arrests
- 261 Adults Arrested
- 3998 Calls for Service
- 13 WESLA Youth Academy Participants
- 25 Businesses trained in Active Shooter training



	Serving Since
Scott Peterson, Chief of Police	2011
Kevin Patterson, Asst. Chief of Police	1987
Donna Marcy	2001
Dana Wallace	2002
Cory Hillesheim	2009
Louis Norell	2011
Jon Beck	2013
Devin Kopperud	2014
Luke Landgraf	2015



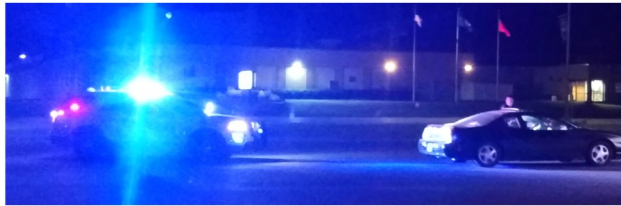
[FUN FACT]

WPD had exactly the same number of Calls for Service in 2016 as in 2015—**3998**

Policing at its Finest

On an early Sunday morning in November, I was on routine patrol on Hwy 60. I saw a pickup truck approaching that appeared to be traveling at a speed greater than the limit. I used the radar and clocked the vehicle at 11 MPH over the speed limit. When I clocked the truck, it had just passed the speed trailer which was flashing red and blue LED lights to warn the driver to slow down. The driver did not heed the warning. I made a traffic stop on the vehicle. When I walked up to the vehicle I could smell a very strong odor of marijuana coming from inside. The driver told me that he was on his way to the Twin Cities for the holidays and that he was coming from California. He denied that there was any marijuana in the truck but admitted that he had previously smoked during the trip. A search of the vehicle led to the discovery of **three bags of marijuana** with a total weight of **over 4 pounds**. The driver **later pled guilty to felony controlled substance possession**.

Officer Jon Beck



In February of 2016, the Windom Police Department assisted the Department of Corrections in arresting an individual for violating conditions of his probation. During the arrest, officer's gained permission to search the individual's apartment. During the search of the apartment, there were multiple items that were added for charges and aided in multi-jurisdictional investigations.

Among the items found were small amount of marijuana, 2.6 grams of meth, and multiple drug paraphernalia including a meth pipe, and multiple baggies used to package and sell drugs. Additional items found were ammunition for calibers in 9mm and .454 Casull, which the suspect was restricting from owning due to being a convicted felon.

The ammo was of special interest as there was a recent burglary in Watonwan Co involving a .454 Casull revolver being stolen. The burglary was also possibly connected to an ongoing domestic dispute. **The items found in the search further aided and connected investigations throughout Cottonwood and Watonwan Counties, including murder for hire, domestic assault, theft, burglary, and drug use and sales.** Result had successful charges for burglary, ammo/firearm, and drug charges out of Cottonwood and/or Watonwan Counties.

Officer Louis Norell

Around midnight in early fall, Officers responded to a possible burglary in process but when they arrived there was no sign of an attempted break in or any suspicious people in the area. Officers then spoke with the reporting party and another individual who had barricaded themselves inside the apartment with a couch tipped on end.

Officer's explained that there was no sign of attempted forced entry, while explaining this to the reporting party they were overly paranoid and continued to peek out the window and claimed to hear knocking when there was none.

Approximately an hour and a half later, dispatch received another 911 call from this residence. The reporting party stated they could hear drilling from the hallway, people in the attic and smell a gas leak coming from their stove. Officers arrived at the residence, there was no signs of drilling, there was no way to enter the attic and Officers advised them that they had an electric stove. While talking with Officers, both parties claimed to hear ticking from every room, there was no ticking to be heard.

As officers were leaving the scene, dispatch informed officers that the same people were calling 911 yet again. This time they stated there was someone outside their apartment door. Officers got in a position where they could see the door but not be in sight and had dispatch ask the caller if they still saw someone outside the door. The caller stated that there was, the officer watching the door did not see anything there.

Officers decided at this point to take both individual to the hospital due to the severe hallucinations and obvious drug use. While at the hospital, Officers discovered that both individuals had given false names and that they both had **felony warrants out of Colorado. Both were arrest and extradited back to Colorado.**

Officer Devin Kopperud

Windom PD investigates any suspected incidents of

Vulnerable Adult Abuse. Vulnerable Adult abuse can include physical, emotional and sexual abuse. Vulnerable Adult abuse can also include caregiver neglect, self-neglect and financial exploitation.

In July, Windom PD investigated a financial exploitation of a vulnerable adult. It was discovered in a 3 month period **over \$90,000.00** was removed from the vulnerable adult's bank account (does not include credit card accounts), without consent from the VA. The suspect has been charged with a **felony level fraud**, and the case is expected to go to trial in 2017.

In a financial exploitation case, it is important to remember that a VA may have a Power of Attorney (POA). A POA only gives the listed caregiver permission to use the vulnerable adult's money for the vulnerable adult. For example, the caregiver listed in the POA can use the vulnerable adult's money to pay the VA's mortgage, nursing home bills, medical bills as they relate to the VA, miscellaneous personal hygiene items for the VA, etc. The caregiver listed in the POA may NOT use the VA's money for themselves.

Officer Donna Marcy

A **vulnerable adult (VA)** is defined as anyone 18 years of age or older who:

- Has a physical, mental or emotional disorder that makes it difficult for the person to care for him/herself without help and protect themselves from maltreatment.
- Is in a hospital, nursing home, transitional care unit, assisted living, housing with services, board and care, foster care or other licensed care facility.
- Receives services such as home care, day services, personal care assistance or other services licensed by the MN Dept. of Human Services or the MN Dept. of Health.

*If you suspect
Vulnerable Adult Abuse
is happening, please
contact Windom PD or
the Minnesota Adult
Abuse Reporting Center
at 1-844-880-1574.*

Windom PD again has been busy conducting "Sting" operations throughout the Southwest Minnesota area. On June 8th, Windom PD worked with surrounding agencies to conduct an operation in Windom. Five women were contacted through the ads they posted. The women traveled to Windom with the **intent/desire to have sex**. Two of the women came with a male companion, aka "Pimp".

Seven people were arrested as a result of this operation. Also, as a result of this operation the following items were seized: 3 vehicles, controlled substances (drugs) and a large amount of cash.

This operation lead to charges from the Cottonwood County Attorney's Office to include: prostitution, promote prostitution of an individual, solicitation, induce-

ment and promotion of prostitution, 5th degree drugs, and giving a peace officer false name of another person.

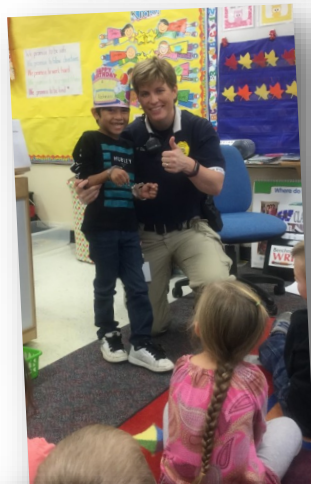
Stolen items were also discovered in one of the vehicles. We tracked the items to Sioux Falls. Sioux Falls Police Department was notified and theft charges will be filed from their agency.

At this time, we do not have funding for these operations; therefore, each agency faces a hardship when these operations are conducted. Due to staffing and budget issues, Windom PD can be involved in these operations on a limited basis. Our goal with these operations is to rescue the people that are forced into this lifestyle and to take away the incentive for the buyer.

Officer Donna Marcy

**"Seven
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School Resource Officer Update



In 2016, I started my 4th year collaborating with the Windom Schools as the School Resource Officer. I continued the SRO's mission of building trust and rapport with students and staff by teaching a variety of classes, addressing safety concerns, and bonding with the students. We had a few serious incidents at the school this year that were addressed quickly and effectively because of my relationship with the school and administration.



One of the biggest changes this year was a new emergency communications app **CrisisGo** that I, along with members of the school's Crisis Team, adapted for the school's use in an emergency to instantaneously contact either the entire school staff or just the right responders for the crisis for everything from an active shooter, medical, mental health issues, to an out of control student. The CrisisGo App has been used several times with abundant success. We plan to roll it out to the community and parents in the next year as it allows for clear communication in an emergency and has a Tip reporting feature.



CrisisGo in Action

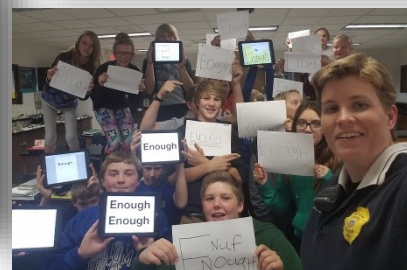
The Crisis Team and I have worked the past year to completely update all school policies and create a comprehensive school safety plan that is up-to-date and effective.

Every day is different at school as I find myself doing different things every day. I teach a variety of topics including Bullying and Internet Safety to the entire K-12 student body, DARE, alcohol abuse awareness, traffic safety, students' rights, and campus safety.

I continue to build rapport with the students whether it is by helping a student about a problem, playing in gym class, high fives, or helping with homework or reading my favorite books to a class.

I am honored to serve the City of Windom and Windom Area Schools in the best job one could ask for!

School Resource Officer Dana Wallace



Middle School Bully Training

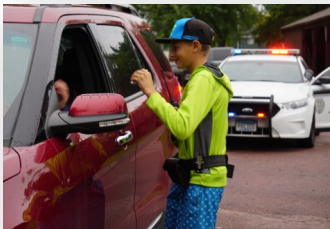




The Windom Police, Ambulance and Fire Departments partnered to host the second **Windom Emergency Services Leadership Academy (WESLA)**. We focused on activities teaching teambuilding, leadership, communication, problem solving and physical fitness.



Thirteen area youth experienced crime scene analysis, police scenario role plays, basic firefighting and rescue techniques, basic first aid, toured the jail, practiced goal setting and a variety of teambuilding challenges culminating in a park wide, mock search and rescue led by the kids and assisted by real Fire and Ambulance personnel.



It was a rousing success thanks to Chief Mark Marcy, Officer Dana Wallace, EMT's Donna Marcy and April Harrington, Hy-Vee, MN West College and, especially, all the youth participants!



**Windom
Emergency
Services
Leadership
Academy**



The Windom Police Department and Cottonwood County Sheriff's Office continued their combined effort to provide area business with the latest information and training in preparing for an active shooter incident. Our department worked alongside Windom Area Chamber of Commerce and the BARC to offer area businesses the training. Over 25 businesses participated in the training. We'll be continuing into 2017 with the help of the Chamber and the BARC to continue this program. We were also able to train all staff at each of the Good Samaritan "Sogge" Homes in Cottonwood County.



We partnered with Windom Area Schools to present at the Minnesota School Board Association's Leadership Conference in Minneapolis in January 2016. The conference is for statewide school board members, Superintendents, and other school leadership positions. Our workshop offered information on the latest recommendations to schools and how the Windom Schools have implemented them. Through the training, we've received inquiries on our program throughout the state.

~Officer Louis Norell



In January 2016, the Windom Police Department assigned Officer Cory Hillesheim to the High risk Entry and Arrest Team (HEAT Team). The HEAT Team currently has 23 operators assigned to the Team, consisting of police officers from both Minnesota and Iowa agencies. The HEAT team train once a month in different locations within our jurisdiction. This year, the team was called into action 10 different times varying from drug search

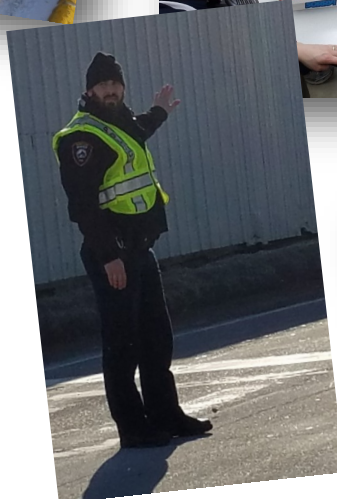
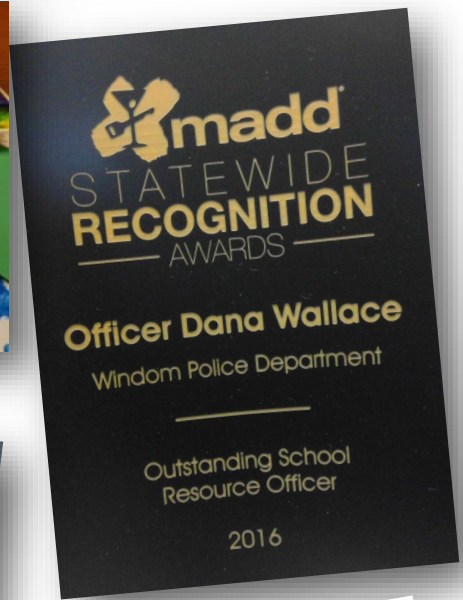
warrants to barricaded suspects. All calls ended with zero injuries to the operators.

“Nearly all drivers that pass the trailer while speeding reduce their speed when warned.”

In November, the Police Department acquired a **speed radar trailer**. The trailer is easily moved throughout the city. The display will flash the speed of the vehicle if the vehicle is over the speed limit. At faster speeds the display will show SLOW or flash red and blue lights depending on how fast the vehicle is moving. The trailer has an onboard computer that logs the speeds that are observed. These numbers are then transferred onto a computer program that allows the Police Department to view the Data. This data includes information such as the numbers of vehicles over the speed limit and the times or days where speeding is an issue. The trailer is very effective at slowing down speeding drivers. Nearly all drivers that pass the trailer while speeding reduce their speed when warned.



Speed Trailer





2016 WPD Records Report

After two years of operation in “**Zuercher**,” our new Records Management system, things are running smoothly. With it being a busy year at the Police Department, and with the new system, it gives the officers and myself more capability to get our work completed in a timely manner. The continual enhancements and updates in our Records Management System benefit all the users in our Department, along with all staff at the Law Enforcement Center.

After almost two years, the mandatory **eCitation** filing was implemented on July 1st, 2016. The little issues are being worked through and it’s working pretty smoothly. Filing citations electronically has been very efficient for our officers and records management.

With **eCharging** being deployed over a year ago it is running quite smoothly now. It continues to be an efficient way to allow for timely review and signatures on criminal complaints by MN Law Enforcement Agencies, District Court Judges, County and City Attorneys.

In June, 2016, our Agency began **eFiling** documents electronically with the Court Administration, such as Search Warrants and other misc. criminal documents. There will be some minor changes in **eFiling** coming in 2017, along with access to “New Minnesota Government Access” (**New MGA**). This will allow government agencies electronic access and use of court records or court documents for their investigative purposes.

With our continual support from our Records Management vendor, and many other changes coming our way in electronic records, we will continue to grow and benefit from this progress.

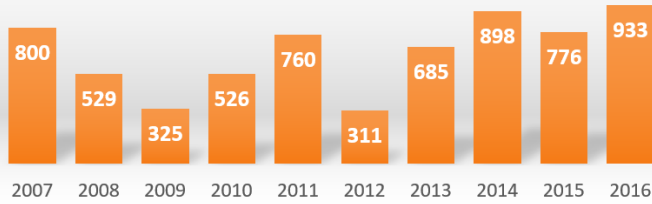


Sincerely,

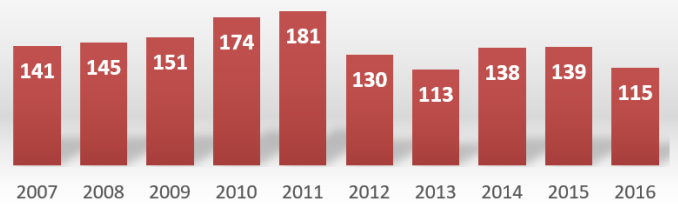
Debra Nesseth

Legal Secretary / Records

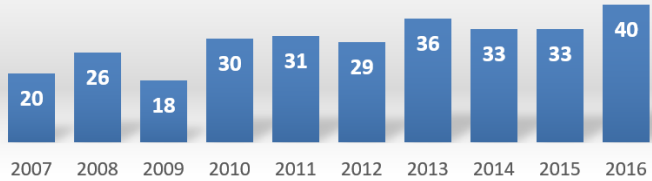
10 yr Total Citations



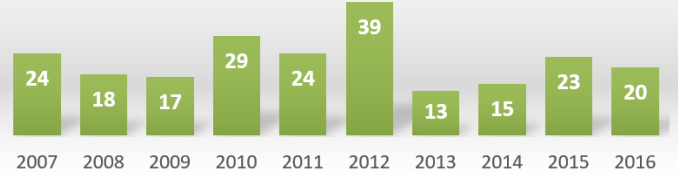
10 yr Total Accidents



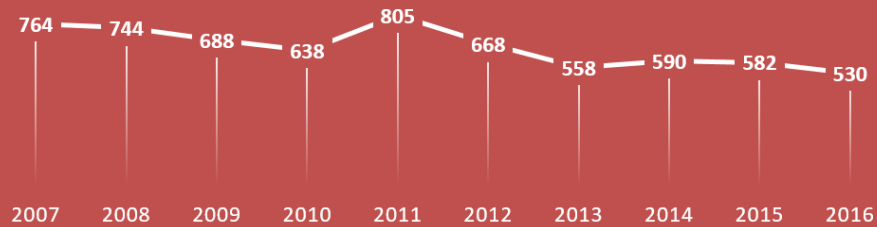
10 yr DUI Arrests



10 Yr Person Injured



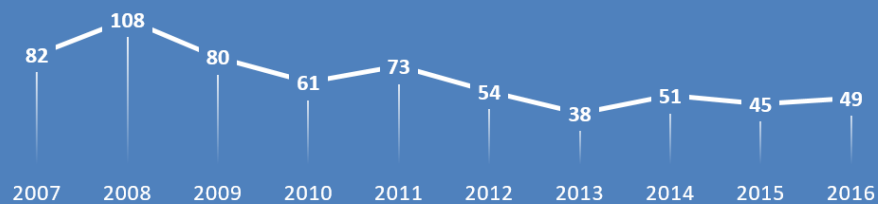
10 YEAR - TOTAL CRIMINAL CASES

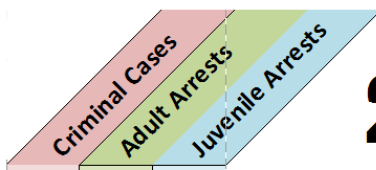


10 YEAR - ADULT ARRESTS



10 YEAR - JUVENILE ARRESTS





2016 Cases/Arrests

530	261	49	Totals
78	50		Traffic-Misd/Gross Misdemeanor Traffic Violations and Hit and Runs
60	4	9	Criminal Damage to Property (All Degrees)
55	3		Disturbing Peace, Harassing Communications/ Harassment, Interfere with 911 Calls, and Solicitation
54	57	11	Liquor Violations (Including DUI's-all Degrees, Minor Consumption, Open Bottle, Underage Drink/Drive, Disruptive Intoxication, etc.)
41	30	7	Assault (All Degrees)
41	4	3	Theft (All Degrees)
38	41		Drug Related Offenses
37	21	3	Crimes Against Administration of Justice (Including Obstructing Legal Process, False Name to Officer, Falsely Reporting a Crime, Probation Violation, Violation of Protection/ Harassment Order, Sex Offender-Fail to Change Address, Violation of Court Order and Dancos Order, etc.
29	11		Check Fraud, Check Forgery, Dishonored Checks, Theft by Check, Theft by Swindle, Identity Theft Fraudulent use of Debit (Money) Card, Fraud-Phone Scam, Financial Exploitation, etc.
20	15	5	Disorderly Conduct
9			Assault (Terroristic Threats)
8	11	2	Sex Offenses (Including Criminal Sexual Conduct, all degrees & Solicitation)
8		3	Runaway/Incorrigible Juvenile/Curfew & Truancy
7	1		Burglary (All Degrees)
6	1		Property Offenses (Including Crimes Against Property, Trespass & Unlawful Deposit of Garbage)
5			Vehicle Theft (Including Lawn Mower)
4			Cruelty to Animals / Animal Neglect
4			Liquor Violations (Disruptive Intoxication)
4			Theft (Shoplifting)
4			Theft of Bikes
3	3		Escape-Fleeing an Officer with / not with Motor Vehicle and Fugitive from Justice
3	3		Tax-Intent to Escape Tax
3			Recovered Vehicles
2	2		Extradition
2	2		Weapons (Fireworks-Discharging, Transport Loaded Firearm)
1			Crimes Against Family (Including Child Neglect and Malicious Punishment to a Child)
1			Kidnapping-Deprive of Custodial Rights
1		2	Stolen Property-Receiving/Possession
1			Tampering/Entering Motor Vehicle
1			Tobacco Use/Possession
0			Recovered Bikes
		1	Tobacco Violations
		3	Traffic (Other than simple Juvenile Traffic Citation)

Top 5 Criminal Cases

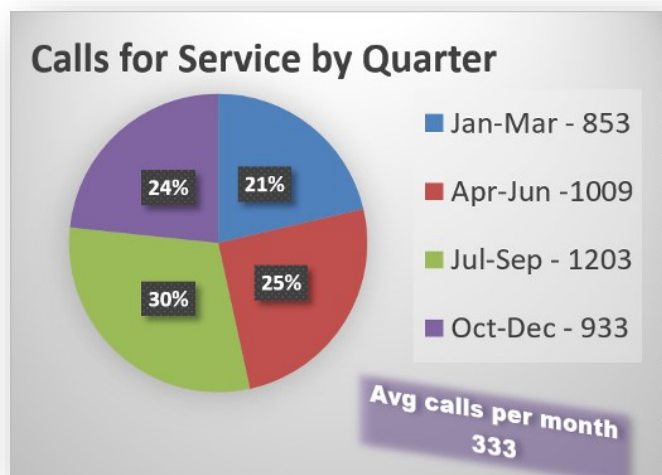
78 -Traffic Violations - Misd/Gross Misd
 60- Criminal Damage to Property
 55 - Disturbing the Peace/Harassment
 48 - Liquor Violations
 41 - Assaults

Top 5 Adult Arrests

57 - Liquor Violations
 50 - Traffic Violations - Misd/Gross Misd
 41 - Drug Related Offense
 30 - Assaults/Terroristic Threats
 21 - Crimes against the Administration of Justice

Top 5 Juvenile Arrests

11- Liquor Violations
 9- Criminal Damage to Property
 7- Assaults
 5- Disorderly Conduct
 3- Theft



2016	Accidents	2015
115	Total Accidents	139
20	Persons Injured	23
0	Fatalities	0

	Citations	
112	Moving Tickets	164
16	Non-Moving Tickets	2
805	Warnings (Verbal/Written)	610
933		776

	Driving Under Influence	
2	Underage Drink/Drive	0
17	Misdemeanor	15
23	Gross Misd/Felony	18
40	Total DUI's	33

Other Police Activity

Misc. activity that the officers have made reports on.

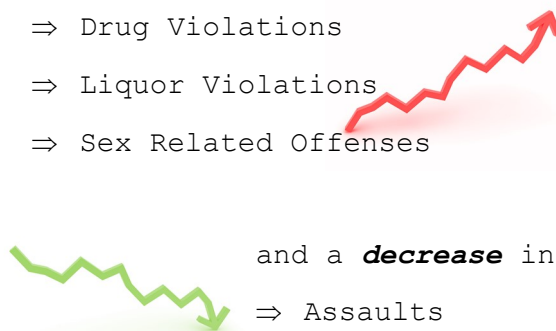
	2016	Change	2015
Ambulance Assists	241	+7	234
Assist Other Agency	98	+3	95
Concern for Welfare	109	+8	101
Dogs/Cats Impounded	47	+6	41
Disturbances	72	-27	99
*Domestic Disturbances	44	-	44
Funeral Escorts	32	-7	39
False Alarms	62		50
Lost/Found/Recovered Property	46	+2	44
Mental (Suicidal, etc)	20	-10	30
Miscellaneous (Includes Informational Calls, Exchange of Information with other Depts, etc)	237	+2	235
Missing, Lost or Runaways	25	+9	16
Prowlers, Suspicious Persons/Activity Window Peepers, etc.	212	+20	192
Public Assists/Misc. Public	190	-	190
Traffic- Hit and Run Accidents	27	-3	30
Vacation Home Check Requests	12	+1	11

The Police Department saw **increases** in Adult arrests for:

⇒ Drug Violations

⇒ Liquor Violations

⇒ Sex Related Offenses



and a **decrease** in

⇒ Assaults

⇒ Terroristic Threats



*The Domestic Disturbances totals above don't reflect some of the more serious domestics, resulting in assaults and possibly other charges