



2023

ARLINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT



Arlington
WASHINGTON



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Arlington Police Department

110 E 3rd Street
Arlington, Washington 98223
(360) 403-3400

Lobby

911 Dispatch 24 hours a day

Business Office

Monday-Friday / 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Closed / Saturday-Sunday & Holidays

Snohomish County District Court

Cascade Division
415 E Burke Avenue
Arlington, Washington 98223
(360) 435-7700





A MESSAGE FROM CHIEF JONATHAN VENTURA

Dear Residents of Arlington,

I am honored to present the introduction to the Arlington Police Department's 2023 Annual Report, which is a testament to our ongoing commitment to serving and protecting the vibrant community of Arlington.

As we reflect on the past year, one marked by unprecedented challenges, I am proud to report that despite the obstacles presented by the COVID-19 pandemic, our department has continued to adapt and evolve to meet the needs of our community. Calls for service have steadily risen, nearing pre-pandemic levels, showcasing our officers' resilience and dedication to ensuring our residents' safety and well-being.

Furthermore, I am pleased to announce positive trends in recruitment and hiring within our department. As we strive to maintain a robust and diverse team of law enforcement professionals, we have witnessed an upward trajectory in attracting top talent to join our ranks, ensuring that we are equipped to meet the evolving demands of modern policing.

In pursuing excellence and innovation, the Arlington Police Department has undertaken significant strategic planning initiatives in collaboration with the City Council, community stakeholders, and our dedicated officers. This comprehensive process has provided us with a roadmap for the next five years, guiding our efforts to enhance public safety, foster community partnerships, and uphold the values of integrity and professionalism.

Looking ahead, I am excited to announce our department's ambitious goal of re-accreditation in 2024. Accreditation will elevate our organizational standards and service capacities and serve as a powerful tool for promoting transparency, accountability, and community trust. By adhering to industry best practices and standards, we reaffirm our commitment to professionalism and excellence in law enforcement.

Despite today's challenges, the Arlington Police Department remains unwavering in our dedication to serving this community.

In closing, I sincerely thank the residents of Arlington for your unwavering support and partnership. Together, we will continue to build a safer, stronger, and more resilient community for generations to come.

Yours in service,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jonathan Ventura".

Jonathan Ventura
Chief of Police

OUR PURPOSE

Words matter, and our Purpose reflects that. If an Officer sees their job as “law enforcement” they will go out looking to enforce the law. But if they were told that their job was “to protect the vulnerable from harm,” would they protect people from those who would break the law?

To protect the vulnerable from harm.

Our Mission Statement

The Department’s Mission Statement seeks to describe the organization’s purpose, focusing on what the Department does and its role in the community.

*Preserve life
Preserve peace
Preserve property*

Our Vision Statement

The vision of the Arlington Police Department is to be a leader in law enforcement through strong community partnerships, professionally developed employees, enhanced technology, and strategic succession planning.

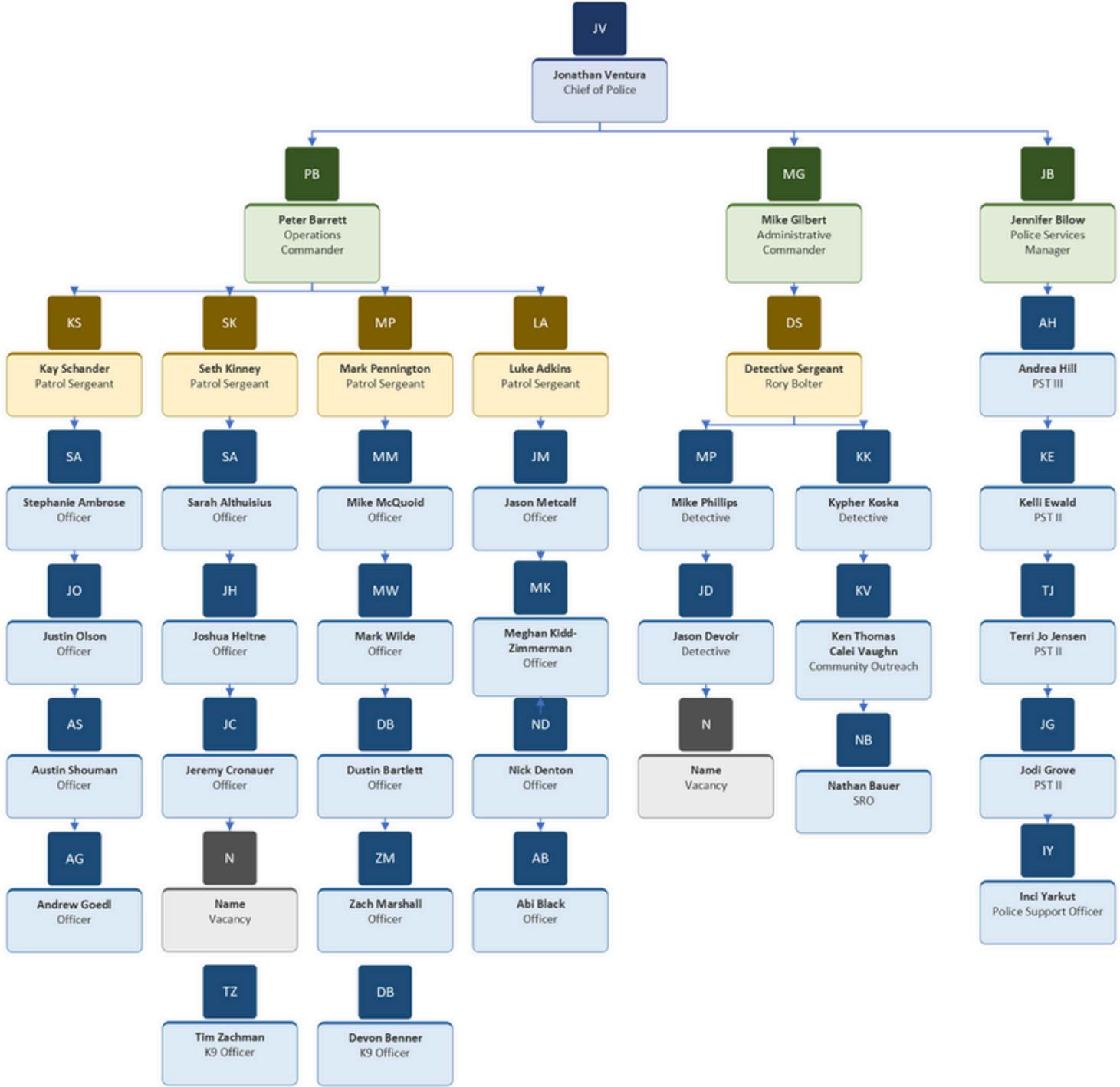
Our Organization Values

Organization Values describe the spirit by which the Department approaches its work. Committee discussion emphasized the importance of these in distinguishing what defines the Department, perhaps distinguishing it from other police departments. To avoid dilution, the Department limited itself to a small number of values that focused on what matters most:

Teamwork, Respect, Integrity, Professionalism, and Innovation



ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



*As of 1/1/2024

POLICE SUPPORT SERVICES



POLICE SERVICES

The Records Division consists of 1 Support Services Manager, 1 Police Support Officer, 3 Police Services Technician II, and 1 Police Services Technician III- Evidence Technician.

In 2023, the Support Services Team processed 25,971 incidents, to include 3,620 cases of which only one remains as a hard copy in the file vault. All others were scanned and tossed. The team completed/processed multiple hours of redactions from Body Worn Cameras, 203 Concealed Pistol Licenses, 1 dealer license, 630 Pistol Transfers, 1,359 Public Records Requests along with numerous answered phone calls from the public

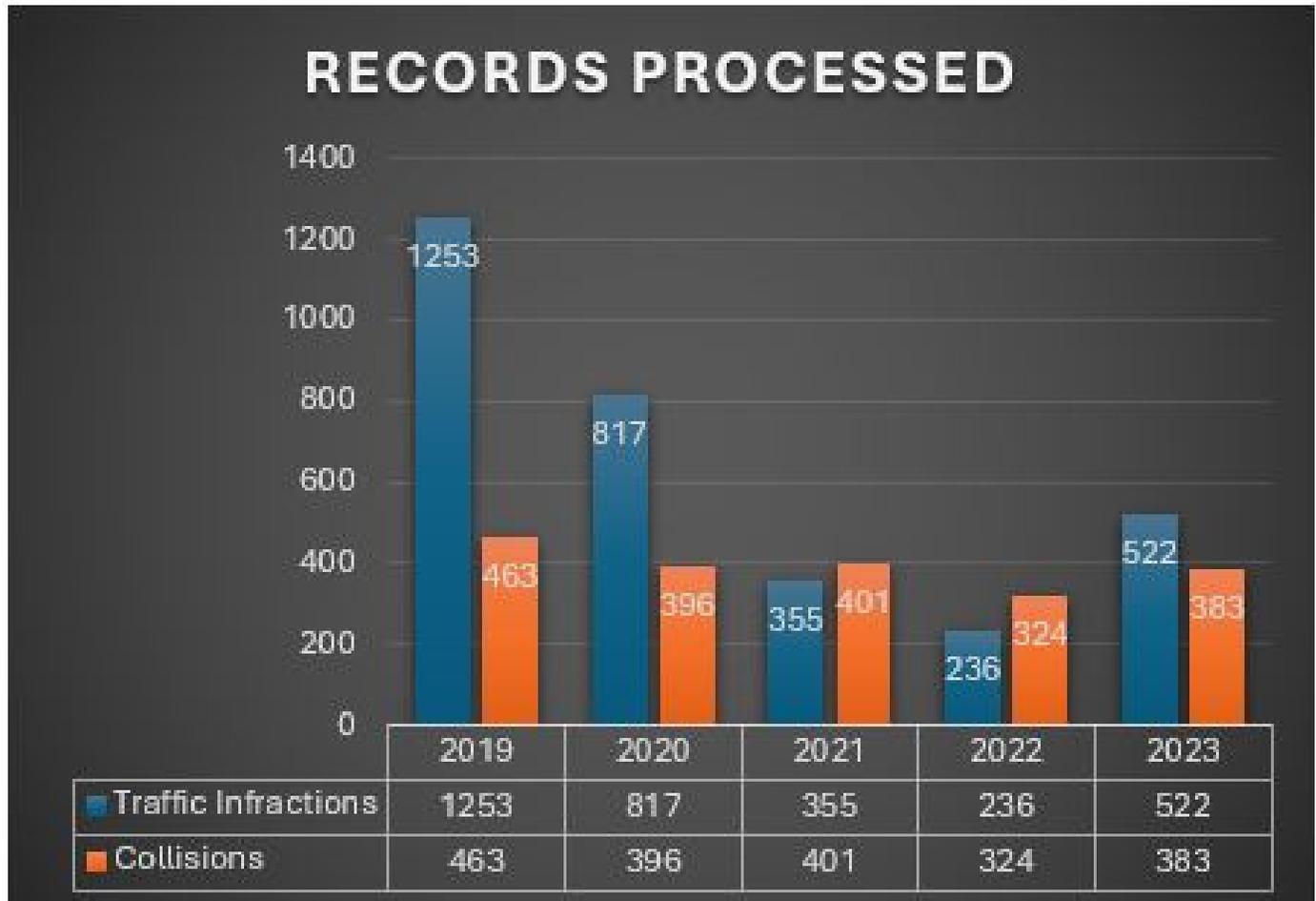


POLICE SUPPORT SERVICES



RECORDS DIVISION

The Records Division is responsible for records retention, public records disclosure, along with providing statistical data for the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). In addition, they process warrants, court mandated orders, and validate records in accordance with the Automated Critical Criminal Enforcement System requirements.

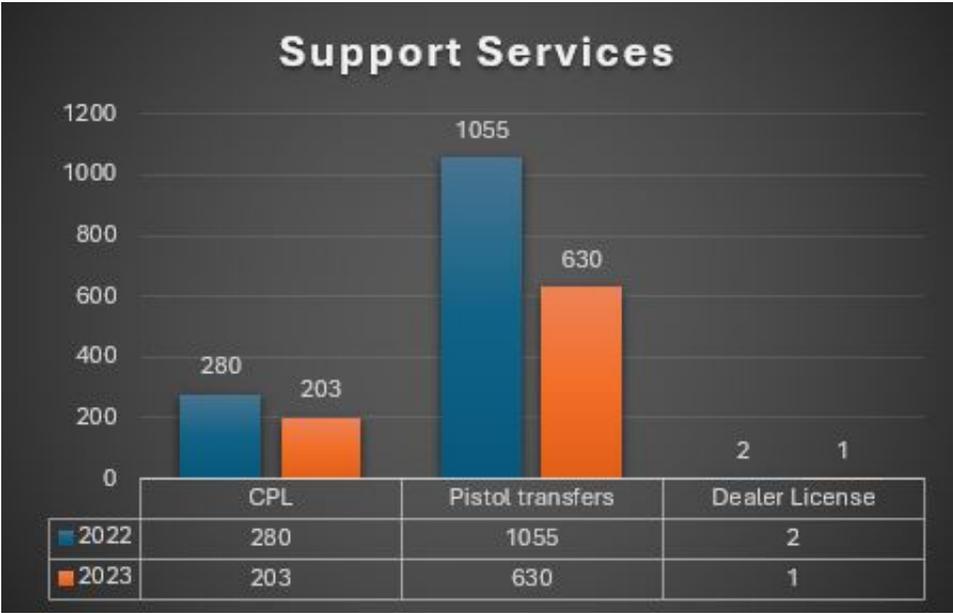


POLICE SUPPORT SERVICES



EVIDENCE ROOM

The evidence room received 1937 items in 2023 with 1768 items being disposed of by auction, release, or destruction.



TRAINING



Responsibility for developing and implementing training is shared amongst the Arlington Police Department's Instructor team and Supervisor group. Training is considered a critical element of the department's pursuit of excellence in the modern era of policing.

In 2023, Arlington Police Department staff received 5,737 training hours. This represents a 32% increase in total training hours over 2022 when staff completed 4,323 hours.

Commissioned staff attend approximately 40+ hours of "In-Service" training annually, and newly hired Police Recruits must attend a 720-hour Basic Law Enforcement Academy (BLEA) before certification as a Police Officer. In total, Arlington Police Department staff received 2,856 hours of "required" training in 2023, which consisted of 696 "In-Service" hours and 2,160 BLEA training hours attributed to newly graduated Police Officers from the academy.

Continued professional development of newly promoted or appointed staff to Specialty and Collateral Duty assignments required a significant investment in 2023. Arlington Police Department invested a total of 1,539 hours of Professional Development training hours into staff members, accounting for 26% of all training for the year. This follows a heavy investment in 2022 when over 2,100 hours of Professional Development training were invested into staff.

In 2023, the Arlington Police Department adopted and implemented new employee evaluation software to more accurately capture employee performance and improve employee development administration, management, and efficiency within the organization. Implementing and transitioning this new evaluation system was a significant step to maintaining excellence and modernizing the agency.



POLICE CANINE (K9)



CANINE (K9) UNITS

Arlington Police Canine Units are assigned to the Arlington Municipal Airport as the Airport Resource Officer (AROs) and Canine (K9) Handler Teams. In addition to this assignment, the canine units support our patrol division. Arlington's canine unit is also relied upon by surrounding Snohomish County law enforcement agencies to provide mutual aid in the absence of another canine team.

The Arlington Police Department Canine Unit includes two dogs and two handlers. Officer Benner partnered with K9 Reece, a German Shepherd/Belgian Malinois mix trained in tracking, handler protection, and apprehension. Officer Zachman partnered with K9 Riggs, a German Shepherd trained in tracking, handler protection, and apprehension.

Officer Zachman joined the ARO/K9 team in 2023. The City of Arlington received K9 Riggs from the Snohomish County Sheriff's Office in early 2023 due to the retirement of K9 Riggs' former Sheriff's office handler. Officer Zachman and K9 Riggs attended a 400-hour basic patrol canine school with the Spokane Police Department in the first part of 2023 before graduating and becoming certified through the Washington State Criminal Justice Training Center and the Washington State Police Canine Association.

Our ARO/K9 teams work a 4 day/10 hour schedule, allowing for an overlapping training day with other K9 teams in the region. In 2023, the Arlington Police Department canine teams completed over 900 hours of state mandatory training and were dispatched to 1400 calls for service.



CO-RESPONSE - COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAM

The Embedded Social Worker Program is a vital resource within the City of Arlington Police Department. This team can focus on issues affecting community members directly or indirectly. This can include unhoused individuals and families (homelessness), substance addiction and mental health (that are largely interrelated).

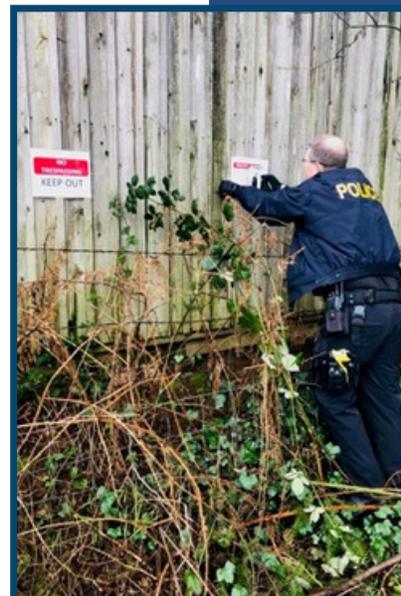
This is a two-member co-response team, one full time City of Arlington Police Officer (Ken Thomas) and one full time Social Worker (Calei Vaughn). The combination of skills and resources between the two team members is highly effective.

This outreach team is visible and pro-active within the community. The team takes both an outreach and enforcement role to address identified problems. They work collaboratively with City of Arlington, local, and state services. They are available to assist and educate community members and participate in community education.

2023 Activity

During the 2023 period the team tracked some of the following data:

- 43 unhoused (homeless) were housed
- 432 camp, car, park, business checks completed
- 532 contacts
- 215 new clients
- 111 enforcements related to trespass, parking, camping, other arrests
- 115 transports to required services



PATROL DIVISION

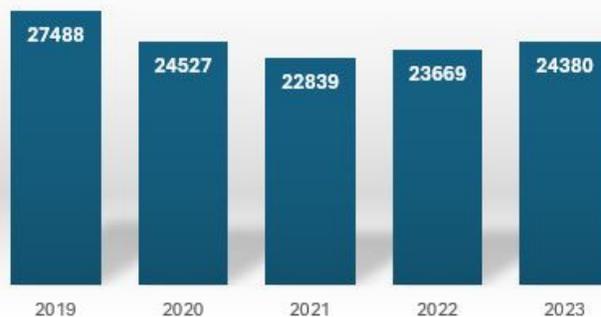


The Patrol Division is the backbone of the Arlington Police Department. They are the department's most visible unit and the first line of defense in preventing crime and providing protection. The Patrol Division is comprised of 20 highly trained officers, supervised by 4 sergeants. The Patrol Division provides many police services that include responding to and investigating the following:

- 9-1-1 calls for service
- Non-emergency calls / walk-ins
- Traffic collisions
- Traffic enforcement
- Preventative/deterrent patrol
- Preliminary criminal investigations

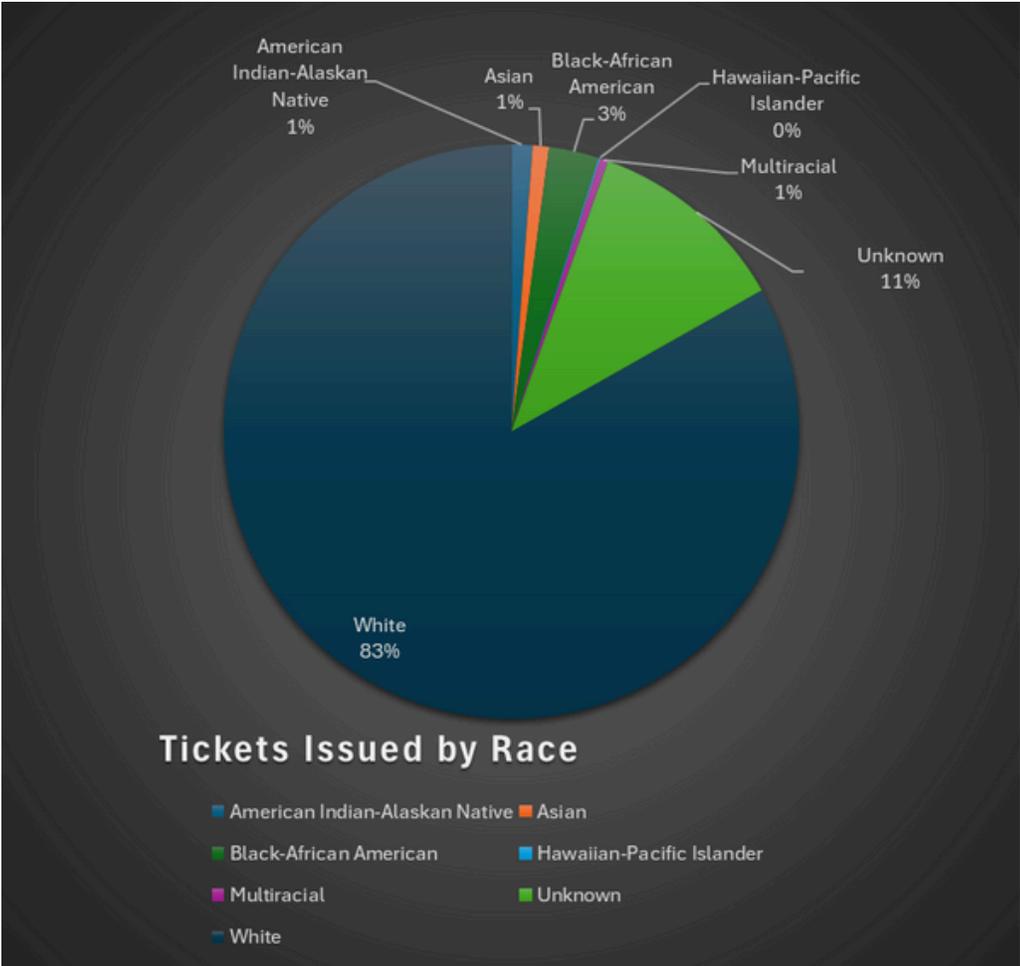
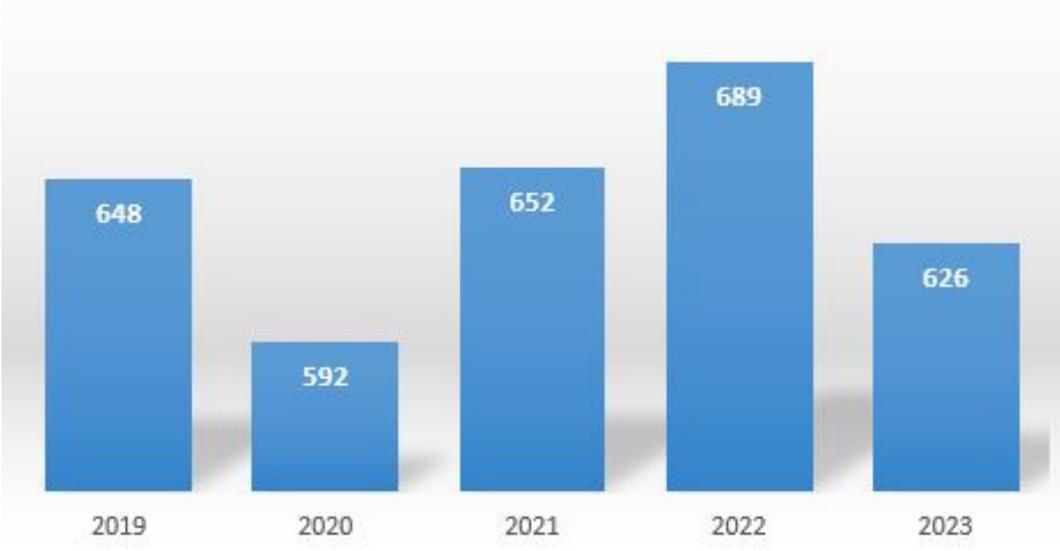
In 2023, the Patrol Division responded to 24,380 calls for service. They made 97 Driving Under Influence (DUI) arrests, conducted 3,008 traffic stops, investigated 626 traffic crashes, and issued 1,100 traffic citations (tickets). The Patrol Division continues to work diligently daily to improve the quality of life for all residents and visitors in our community.

Calls for Service



PATROL DIVISION

Traffic Collisions



CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION



CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION (CID)

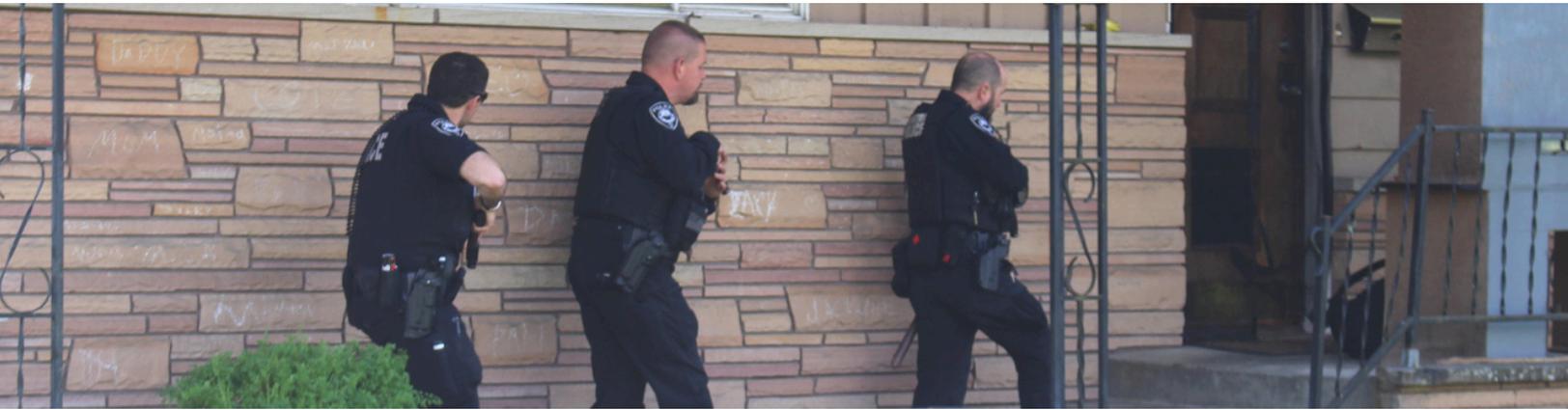
The primary role of the Criminal Investigations Division is to conduct follow-up investigations of serious felony-level crime, including violent crimes, child abuse, elder abuse, or incident reports generated by the Patrol Division. In addition, Detectives develop information and intelligence on criminal activity, look for missing persons, serve arrest and search warrants, and act as liaisons between the crime victim or witness and the criminal justice system.

Occasionally, Detectives are called upon to assist outside agencies with felony investigations or incidents that occurred outside of Arlington but may involve local community members as victims, witnesses, or suspects. Detectives are also asked to make presentations to the community on topics such as domestic violence, crime prevention, and drug/narcotics identification.

The Criminal Investigations Division remained very busy in 2023. CID cleared/closed 502 cases and arrested 246 suspects in 2023.



USE OF FORCE



Use of force involves an officer's deployment of control tactics and/or control devices. The Arlington Police Department also categorizes the intentional pointing of a firearm at a subject as a use of force incident, although it does not involve the application of physical force.

There were 98 reviewable Use of Force incidents for 2023. Each incident may involve more than one officer or more than one application or type.

Percentage of Incidents Requiring Use of Force was less than 1%

Total Use of Force	98
Total Incidents	24380
Percentage	00.4%

Technique	Count
Bean Bag Round	3
Counter-Joint	10
Countermeasure (Kick)	1
Countermeasure (Punch/Hand Strike)	1
Hair Control	1
Hands-On	55
Hobble Restraint	0
K9 Application	1
Pain Compliance	2
Pointing a Firearm	7
Pressure Point	1
Baton / Straight Stick	2
Take Down Technique	7
ECD (Taser)	7

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

Commendations and awards, inquiries, citizen complaints, use of force response reviews, and allegations of misconduct investigations are designed to allow the agency to meet community expectations of excellence in policing, transparency, and accountability. To meet these expectations and the Arlington Police Department's mission, it requires discipline and a commitment to perform as a well-regulated organization.

Complaints may be generated internally or externally to the organization and are often made regarding the quality and manner of service provided. Complaints vary in degrees of seriousness and may include concerns regarding an employee's demeanor, tardiness, customer service interaction, or the nature of a department practice. The employee's immediate supervisor typically handles this type of complaint. At times, the outcome of the inquiry will be forwarded to the Office of Professional Standards (OPS), but many times it finds resolution without this need.

If an employee has multiple complaints of a similar nature where the conduct has been determined to be unacceptable, then the complaint may be forwarded to OPS to be handled and documented as an internal investigation.

An internal investigation involves a complaint of a possible violation of department standards, a written directive, city policy, or the rules. These allegations include but are not limited to complaints of bias-based profiling, excessive force, alleged corruption, insubordination, breach of civil rights, false arrest, and other types of allegations of serious misconduct.

8 Number of OPS Investigations

10 Employees Investigated

2 Sustained Violations

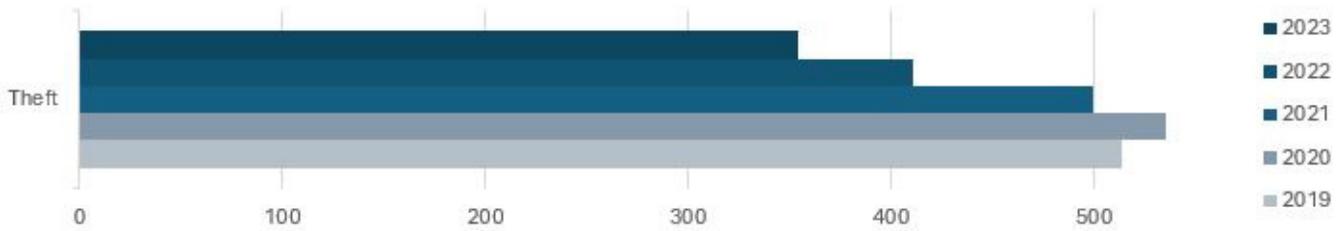
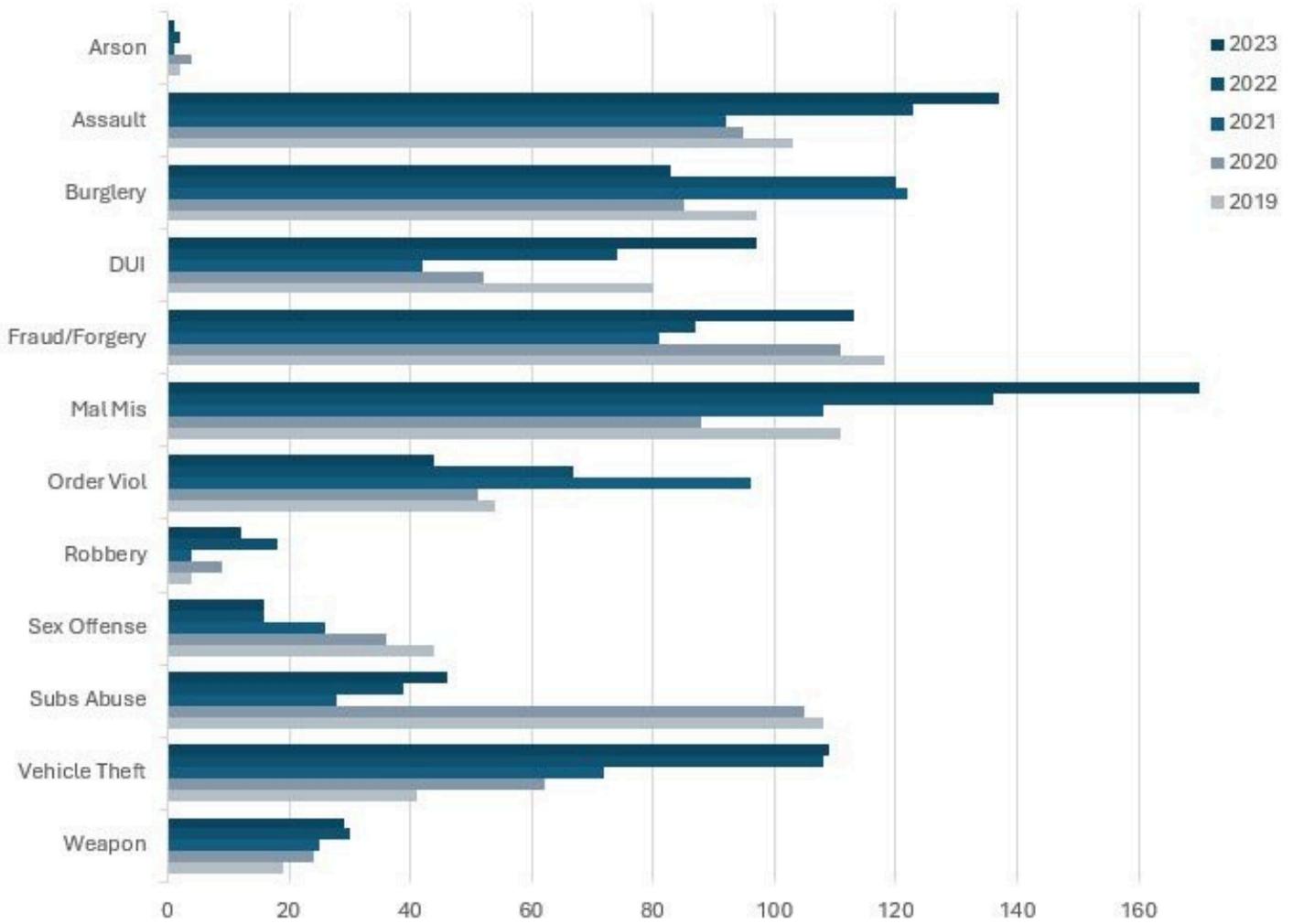


The number of serious allegations compared to the number of incidents that employees handle every year is extremely low, representing a low ratio of only 0.0328%.

The Arlington Police Department works to maintain a strong connection and dialogue with our community partners in an effort to meet their needs and expectations. We recognize the importance of feedback our organization and employees receive, and we thoroughly review each complaint, inquiry, allegation, and commendation received to evaluate the proper response and course of action.

In the Law Enforcement industry as a whole and in our organization specifically, there are always opportunities for growth and improvement.

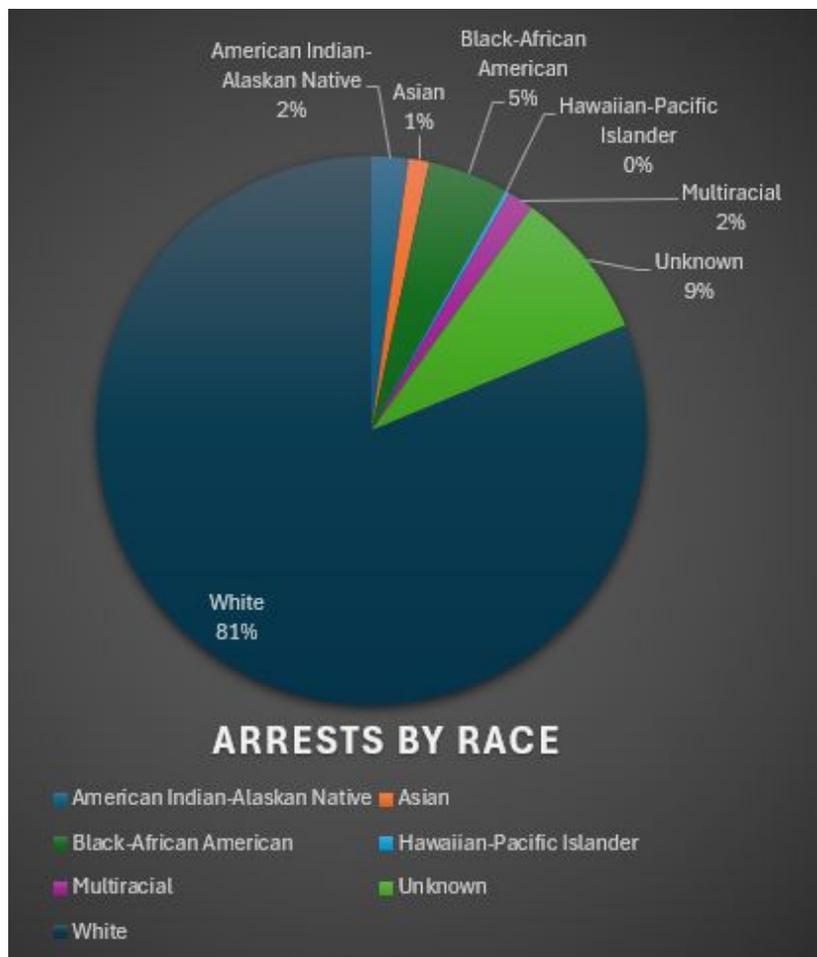
CRIME STATISTICS



CRIME STATISTICS



The following chart includes statistics on arrests by race in Arlington for 2023. The data reveals that White individuals accounted for 81% of arrests, followed by Black-African American individuals who accounted for 5% of all arrests. American Indian- Alaskan Native individuals made up 2% of the total arrests, while multiracial individuals accounted for 2%, Asian individuals made up 1%, and an unknown race accounted for 9%.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The Arlington Police Department earnestly upholds the principle of community policing, recognizing that enhanced police-community relations lead to a more robust and safer community. Committed to fostering a cohesive and supportive environment, the department prioritizes a visible presence, cultivates strong relationships with residents and neighborhoods, and encourages collaborative partnerships with local organizations.

In alignment with this commitment, the Arlington Police Department actively engages in various initiatives and events to promote community cohesion and collaboration. The department ensures a proactive and positive presence, from philanthropic endeavors like Holidays with Heroes to active participation in community gatherings such as its Citizens Academy, resource fairs, the Arlington Farmers Market, Pride, Street Fair, Touch-a-Truck events, and National Night Out.

By actively participating in these events, the Arlington Police Department not only strengthens ties with the community but also provides a platform for residents and organizations to connect, thereby enhancing Arlington as a vibrant, secure, and inclusive place to live, work, and enjoy.



WELCOME TO THE TEAM



**Law Enforcement
Embedded Social Worker
Calei Vaughn**



**Police Officer
Josh Heltne**



**Police Support Officer
Inci Yarkut**

The Arlington Police Department is proud to welcome new team members to the police department this year. These new officers have undergone rigorous training and are dedicated to serving and protecting the community.

The department is confident that they will uphold the values of integrity and professionalism in their roles.



DEPARTMENT AWARDS

AWARD RECIPIENTS

- Ed Krell, Police Volunteer
President Biden's Volunteer Service Award
- Al Lehman, Police Volunteer
President Biden's Volunteer Service Award
- Rich Stommel, Police Volunteer
President Biden's Volunteer Service Award
- Yvonne Hoover, Police Volunteer
President Biden's Volunteer Service Award
- Andrea Hill, Police Service Tech III
Commendation
- Detective Kypher Koska, *Commendation*
- Terri Jo Jensen, Police Service Tech II
Commendation
- Detective Mike Phillips, *Commendation*
- Detective Jason DeVoir, *Commendation*
- Officer Dustin Bartlett, *Commendation*
- Officer Stephanie Ambrose, *Commendation*
- Julie Boyer, Police Chaplain, *Commendation*
- Officer Mike McQuoid, *Commendation*
- Kelli Ewald, Police Service Tech II, *Commendation*
- Officer Zach Marshall,
DUI & Traffic Enforcement Award
- Detective Sergeant Rory Bolter,
Community Engagement Award
- Officer Andrew Goedl, *Life Saving Award*
- Jennifer Bilow, *Employee of the Year*

