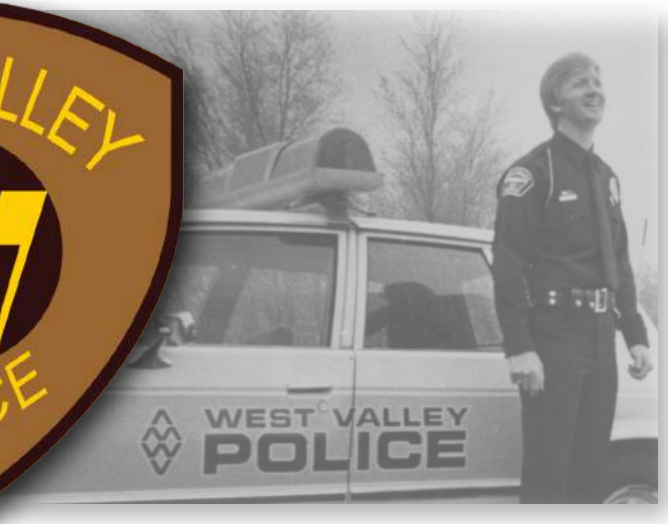
2020 Annual Report



Chief's Message

2020 was a year like no other. The men and women of the West Valley City Police Department faced (yes, I'm going to say it) unprecedented challenges in the work of law enforcement. Yet, through every twist and turn that 2020 brought, both our sworn and civilian staff managed to negotiate this unfamiliar path with professionalism and excellence.

The COVID-19 pandemic started early in the year and it wasn't long until the pandemic had affected all aspects of life as we knew it. Toilet paper was quickly in short supply and face coverings became a new accessory and fashion statement. Working remotely became a necessity for many. Every aspect of department operations was modified to some degree.

The second federally declared disaster happened on March 18, 2020. A 5.7 magnitude earthquake occurred in the Salt Lake Valley which was the largest earthquake this area had experienced in many years. This natural disaster tested our emergency management and emergency response. Many mobile homes were damaged on the west side of our city. Even our new police building suffered cracks in the walls and other damage from the earthquake.

Summer brought further extraordinary challenges as protests in the state's capitol city drew on our resources and put West Valley City Police officers directly in the path of angry and frustrated citizens. Our officers stood for many hours in harsh conditions and extreme heat to protect both people and property. Our officers demonstrated the highest levels of skill and professionalism in the face of the most volatile circumstances.

2020 was truly a year like no other, but we have a team like no other. Despite a steady stream of adversity, the men and women of this department handled each emergency with competence and integrity. They exemplified courage and compassion and served as a steady voice in a storm. I am proud to serve as their Chief and honored to work alongside them.

Through all of 2020 we stood together -- six feet apart.

Celebrating 40 Years of Service

Joseph and Susanna Harker

History

West Valley City is located in Salt Lake County, a suburb of Salt Lake City. The city was first incorporated in 1980 making it a relatively young city. The family of Susanna and Joseph Harker first came over the Jordan River back in 1848 with more families following in 1849.

The next 100 years were marked by growth and big improvements, including the paving of 3500 South (1918), the Granger-Hunter Improvement District (1949), the first bank (1956), Granger High School (1958) and the Granger-Hunter Chamber of Commerce in 1961.

Demographics

Today West Valley City is Utah's second largest city with a population of 137,150. In 2010 West Valley City became Utah's most ethnically diverse city.

West Valley City is home to a multicultural, multilingual community of families. Communities of people from Cambodia, to Africa, Pacific Islands and Latin America call West Valley City their home.

Chief of Police - Colleen Jacobs

Chief Colleen Jacobs was sworn in as West Valley City's 6th Chief of Police on February 20, 2018. Chief Jacobs has been in law enforcement for 24 years. She has served the West Valley City community for her entire career.

Administration

Deputy Chief Scott Buchanan

Deputy Chief Scott Buchanan was promoted to Deputy Chief in 2018 and has served the department for 20 years.

Deputy Chief Robert Hamilton

Deputy Chief Robert Hamilton was promoted to Deputy Chief in 2018 and has served the department for 20 years.

Deputy Chief Kent Stokes

Deputy Chief Kent Stokes was promoted to Deputy Chief in 2019 and has served the department for 22 years.

Mission Statement

The mission of the West Valley City Police Department is to work in partnership with the community to protect life and property, solve neighborhood problems, and enhance the quality of life in our city. In doing so, members of this Police Department commit themselves in the following core tenets:

- Protect Life and Safety
- Preventing Crime
- Reducing the Fear of Crime
- Bringing Offenders to Justice
- Maintaining Public Accountability
- Providing Excellent Service

Core Values

Integrity

Ethical behavior is the cornerstone of public trust. For any police department to maintain such trust, it must constantly demonstrate that its partnership with the community will be fair, objective and securely rooted in consistently applied ethical principals. Members of the West Valley City Police Department are expected to demonstrate, through words and deeds, that the best interest of the public is always in the forefront of their decisions.

Therefore, we uphold the public trust by being honest. In doing so, we maintain the highest standards of professional and ethical character.

Service

We are dedicated to enhancing public safety and reducing the fear and incidence of crime. People in our communities are our most important customers. The mantra of "To Protect and to Serve" is more than a slogan - it is our way of life. We will work in partnership with the people in our communities and do our best, within the law, to solve community problems that effect public safety. We value the great diversity of people in both our residential and business communities and serve all with equal dedication.

Therefore, we provide dedicated and compassionate assistance by promoting leadership, cooperation, and creativity. We aspire to improve the quality of life in partnership with the community.

Accountability

Accountability is a requirement to take action, be that action either legal or moral. It is the impetus to act and take responsibility. As police officers, we have the legal obligation to serve and protect the residents of the of our city, and the legal requirement to preserve order and uphold the law. However, our obligation extends beyond the obvious legal requirement. For us, there is an obligation to service that is tied directly to our personal honor. We act not just because of our legal authority, but because of our personal duty to help and solve problems.

Therefore, we will be responsive to community needs and will always be accountable for our decisions and actions.

Fairness

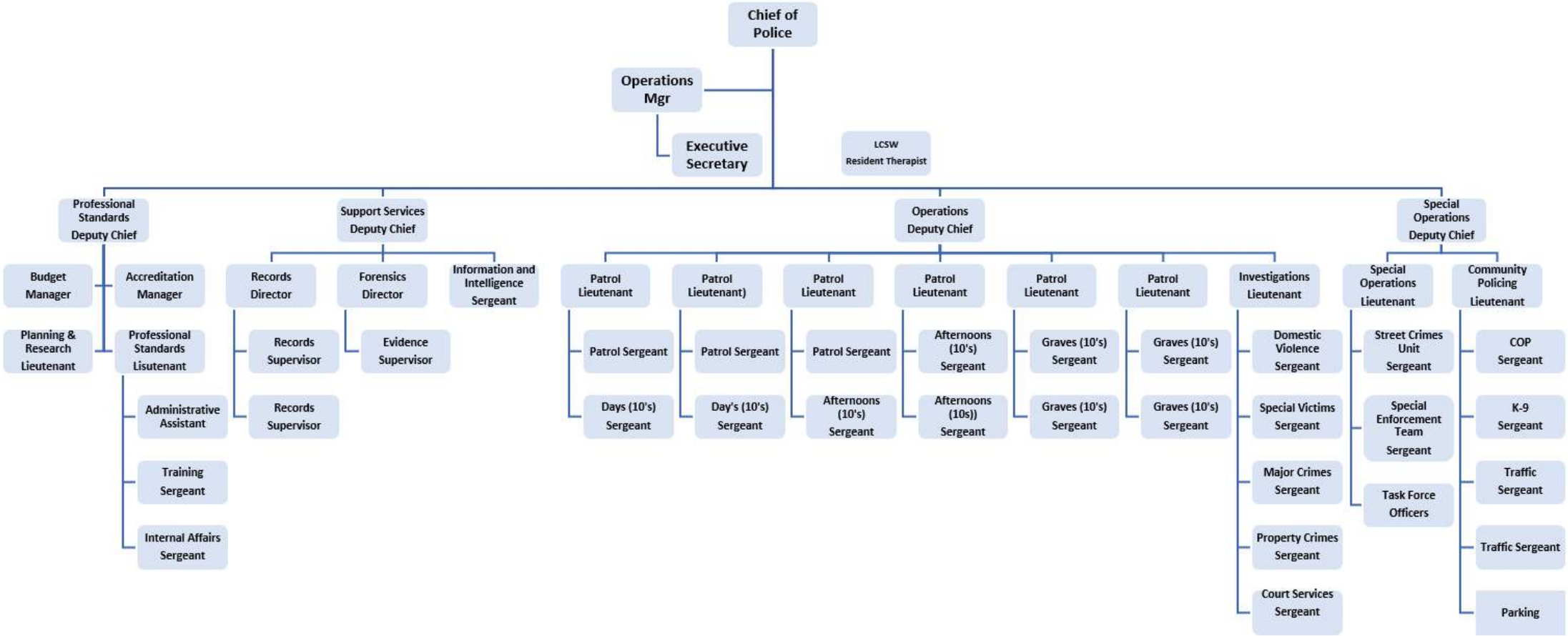
Fundamental to delivery of professional police service is the fair and equitable treatment of all individuals. Whether citizen or employee, all must be treated with dignity and respect.

Fairness means we:

- Act consistently with our values and expectations
- Let compassion and courtesy guide our actions
- Have respect for all people, their ideas and opinions
- Apply rules, regulations and laws in an unbiased manner
- Treat others as we want to be treated

Therefore, we treat everyone with respect and dignity in an unbiased manner. We protect constitutional rights through impartial enforcement of the law.

West Valley City Police Department Organizational Chart



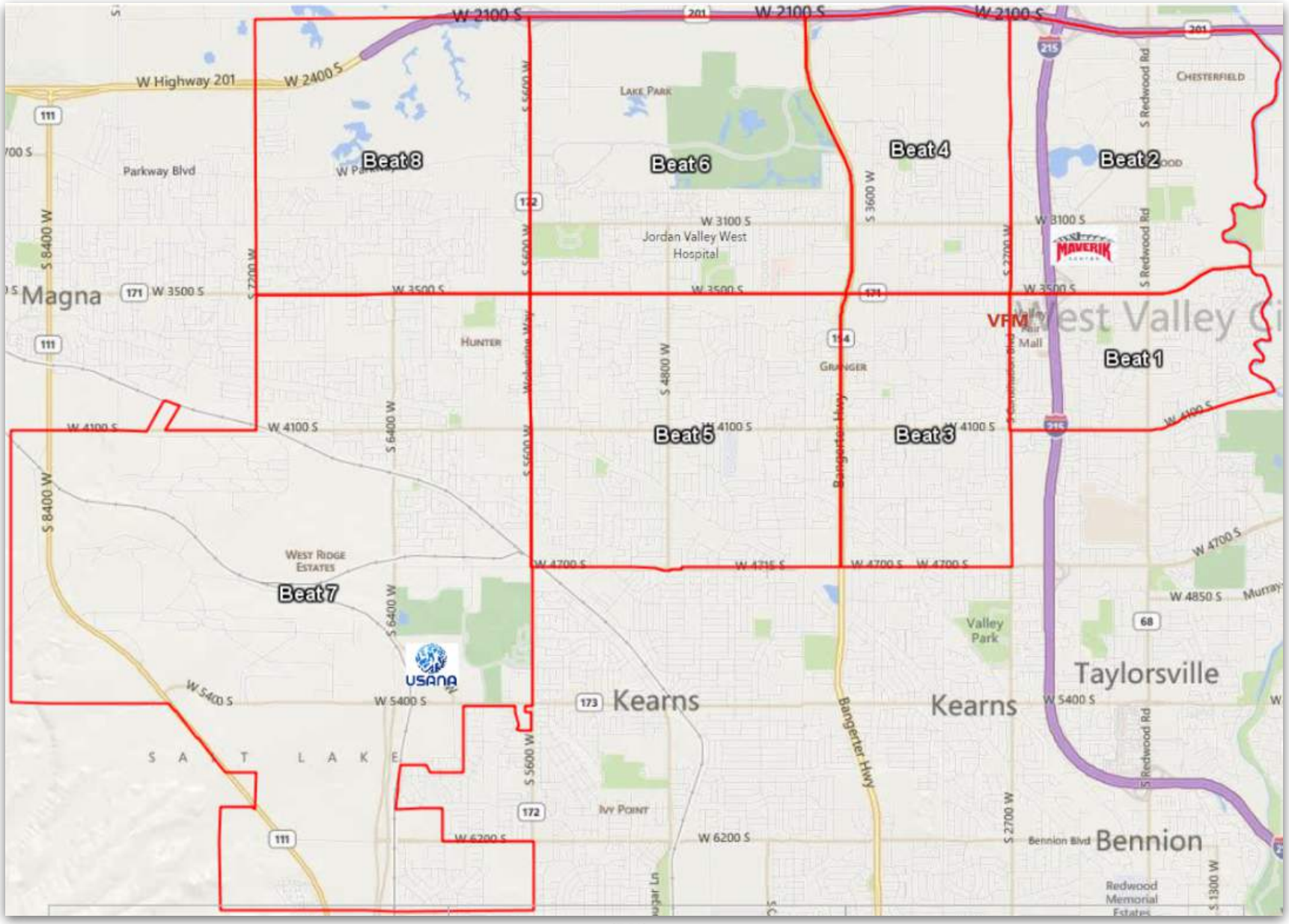
Personnel Distribution

2020 Authorized Sworn Personnel	
Chief of Police	1
Deputy Chiefs	3
Lieutenants	12
Sergeants	26
Uniform Patrol	84
K-9 Officer	5
Detectives	38
Traffic	12
Community Oriented Police	11
Special Investigations Unit	10
Task Forces	9
Training Division	5

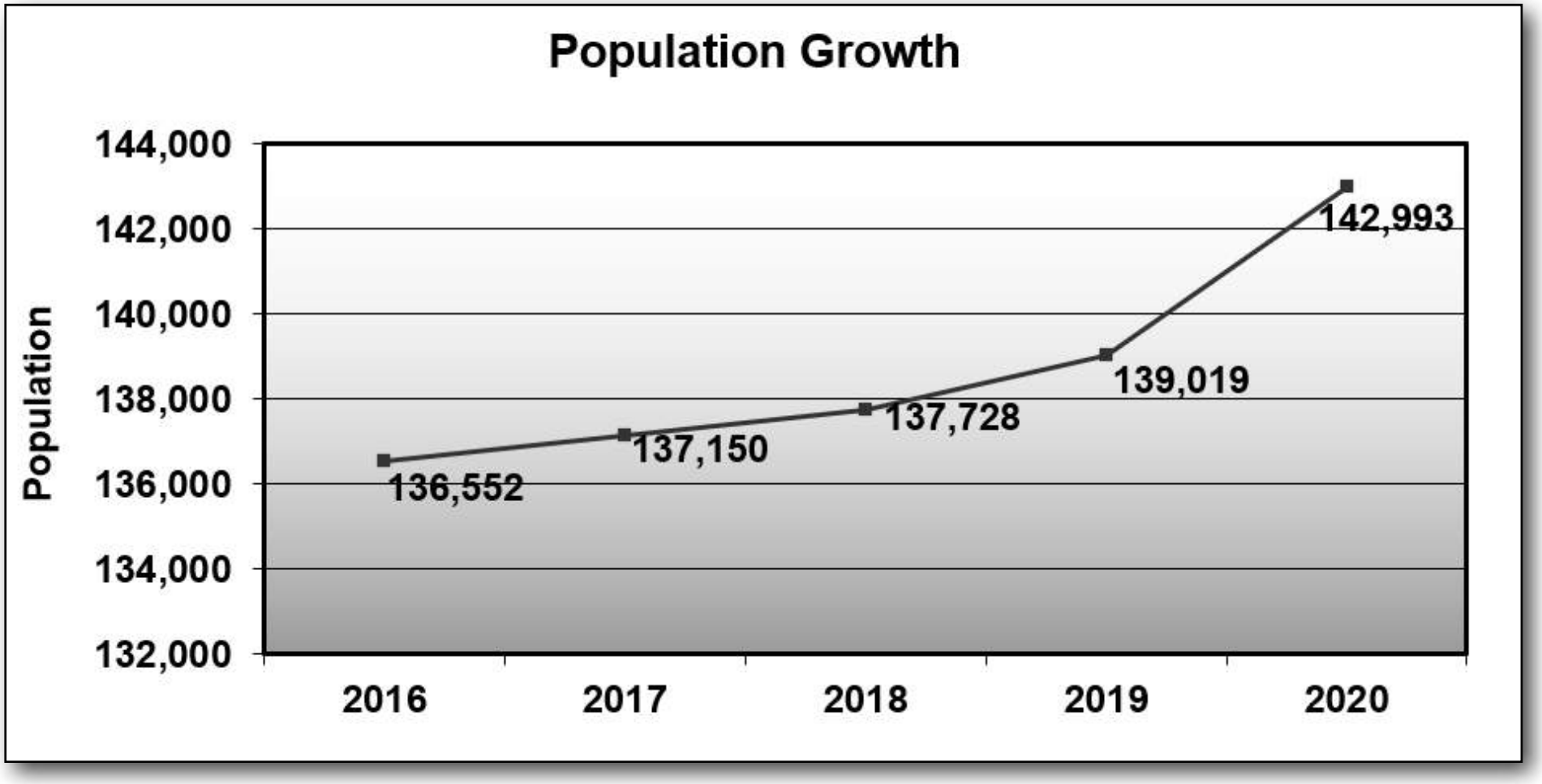
2020 Authorized Non-Sworn Personnel	
Office of Chief	4
Executive Assistant	1
Accredidation Manager	1
Budget Manager	1
Records Supervisors	2
Support Services Clerks	19
Intelligence Analyst	3
Evidence Supervisor	1
Evidence Clerk	5
Forensics Director	1
Forensics Technicians	5
Records Director	1
Parking Compliance	3
Parking Compliance Supervisor	1

	White Non-Hispanic		Black Non-Hispanic		Hispanic-Latino		Other	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
Sworn Personnel								
Non-Supervisor	127	7	2	0	15	3	9	2
Supervisor	31	3	0	0	1	0	1	0
Command	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Executive	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal	161	11	2	0	16	3	10	2
Non-Sworn Personnel								
Non-Supervisor	8	24	0	1	0	3	1	5
Supervisor	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	1
Command	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Executive	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Subtotal	8	29	0	1	0	3	1	6
Grand Total	169	40	2	1	16	6	11	8

West Valley City Boundary



West Valley City Population 2016-2020



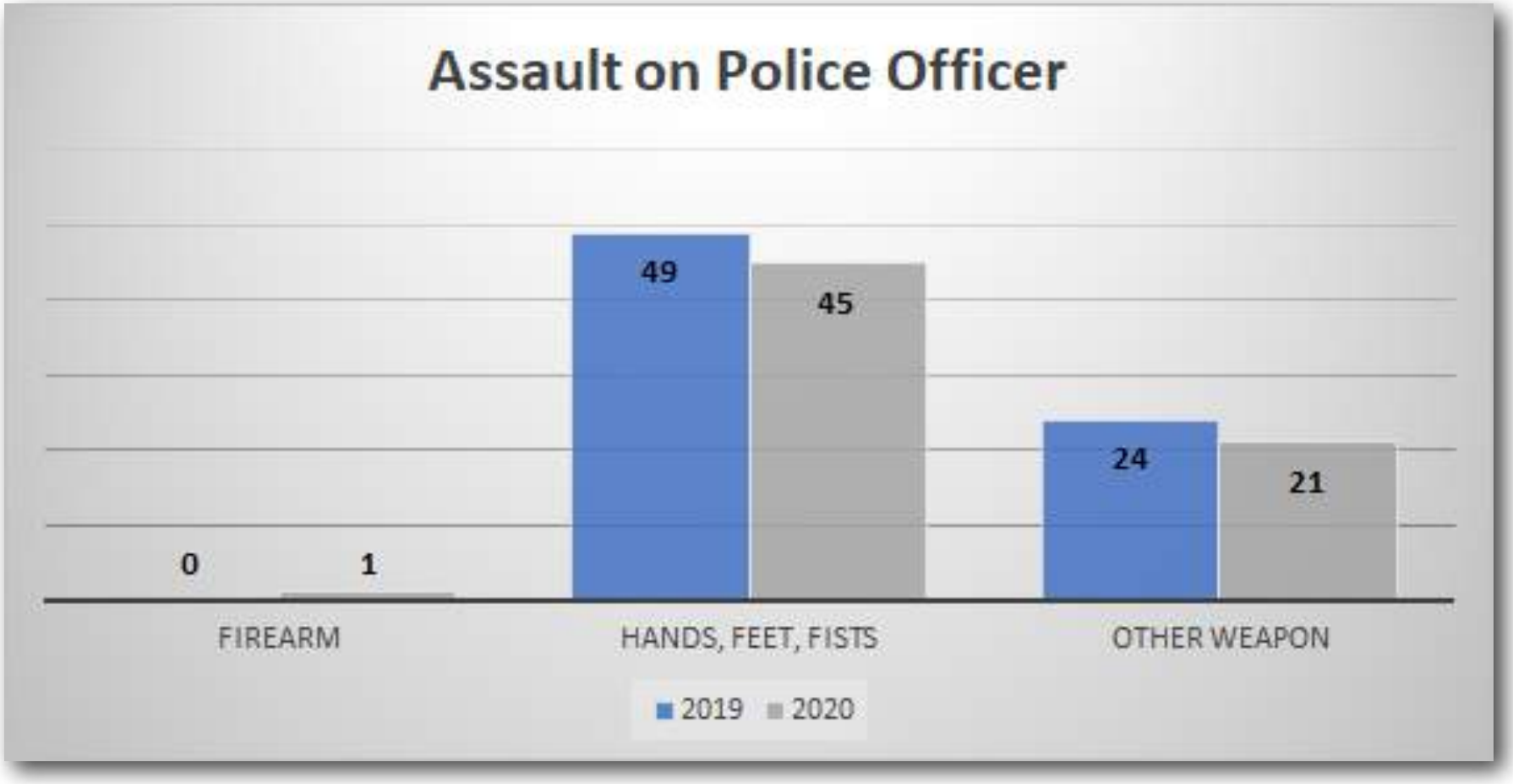
Use of Force

FORCE TYPE	2018	2019	2020
FIREARM DISCHARGE	2	1	3
FIREARM DISPLAY	592	628	679
PHYSICAL FORCE	606	610	526
TASER DISCHARGE	51	29	44
TASER DISPLAY	63	79	61
OC (Pepper Spray)	29	38	44
K9 BITE	9	12	14
TOTAL	1352	1397	1370

Complaints - Internal/External 2016-2020

	2018	2019	2020
INTERNAL COMPLAINTS	111	143	57
EXTERNAL COMPLAINTS	67	91	110
TOTAL COMPLAINTS	**178**	**234**	**167**
FINDINGS			
SUSTAINED	46	58	59
UNFOUNDED	35	41	83
NOT SUSTAINED	14	13	13
INFORMATION ONLY	65	91	4
RESIGNED	5	8	0
EXONERATED	10	19	7
ACTIVE CASES (NO FINDING)	3	4	1

Assaults on Officers 2019 and 2020



Description of Priority Calls 1-9

Priority 1 Calls (In Progress)

Calls that are in progress at the time the call is received, such as: robberies in progress, business and residential burglaries in progress, vehicle burglaries in progress, vehicle thefts in progress, kidnappings, aggravated assaults, homicides, dead bodies, assault on an officer, accident with injuries, assist fire department, weapons offenses, etc.

Priority 2 Calls (Just Occurred)

Medical calls, 911 hang-ups, thefts, thefts in progress, domestic assaults, simple assaults, robberies, DUI's, accidents without injuries, etc.

Priority 3 Calls (Not in Progress)

Assist other agencies, assist public, business and residential burglaries, vehicle thefts, child abuse, illegal fireworks, found child, joyriding, protective order violations, etc.

Priority 4 Calls (Not in Progress)

Forgeries, fraud, gambling, keeping the peace, juvenile runaways, traffic problems, drug offenses, criminal mischief, civil problems, animal problems, etc.

Priority 5 Calls (Not in Progress)

Graffiti, property damage, lost and found property, protective custody violations, stalking, tobacco violations, truancy, juvenile pick-ups, ordinance violations, etc.

Priority 6 Calls (Not in Progress)

Abandoned vehicles, extra patrol requests, motor inspections, parking problems, special assignments, witness tampering, wildlife violations, etc.

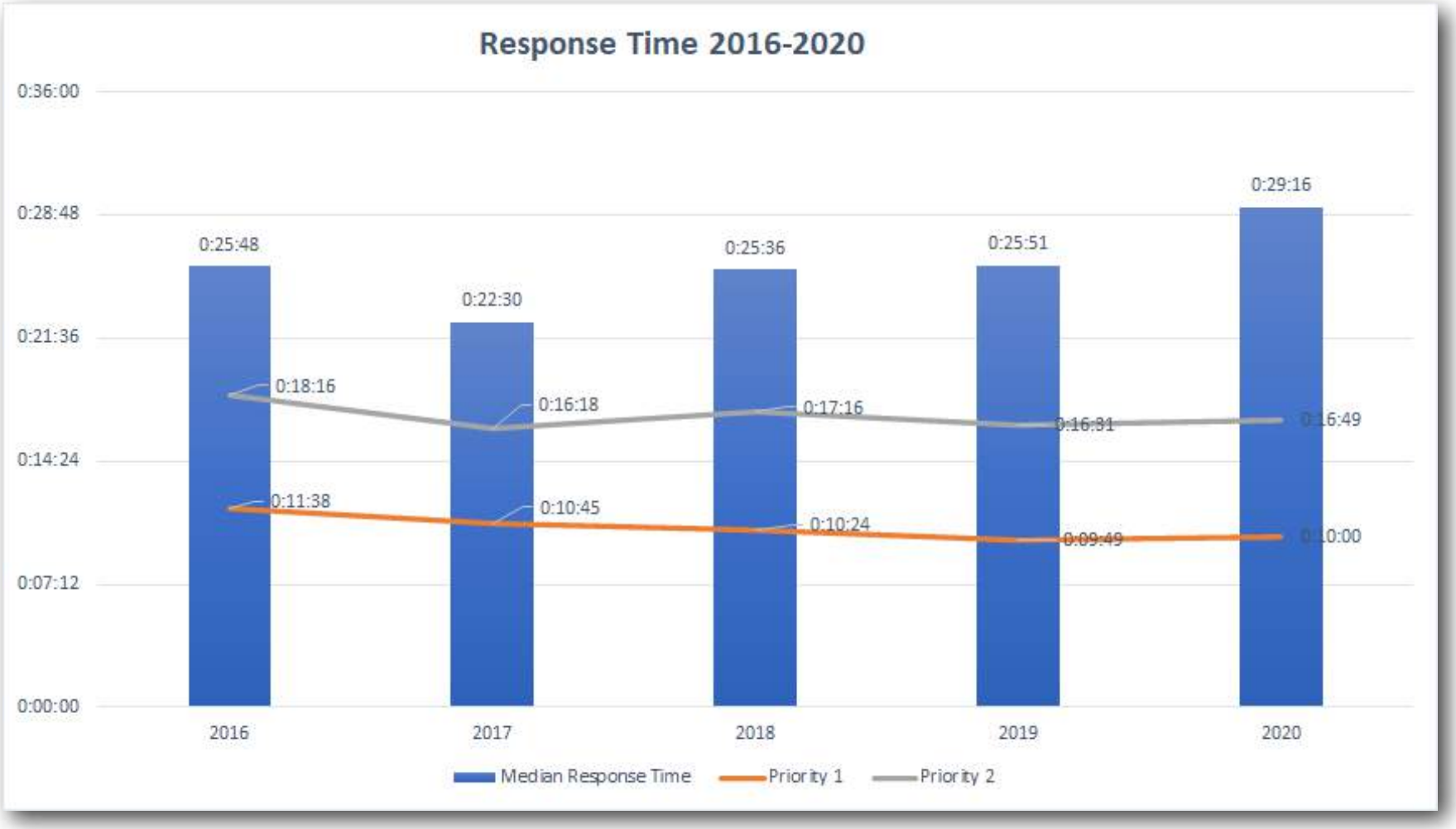
Priority 7 Calls (Not in Progress)

Extra patrol requests for traffic accidents, follow-ups, vehicle impounds, vehicle repossessions.

Priority 8 & 9 Telephonic Calls (Not in Progress)

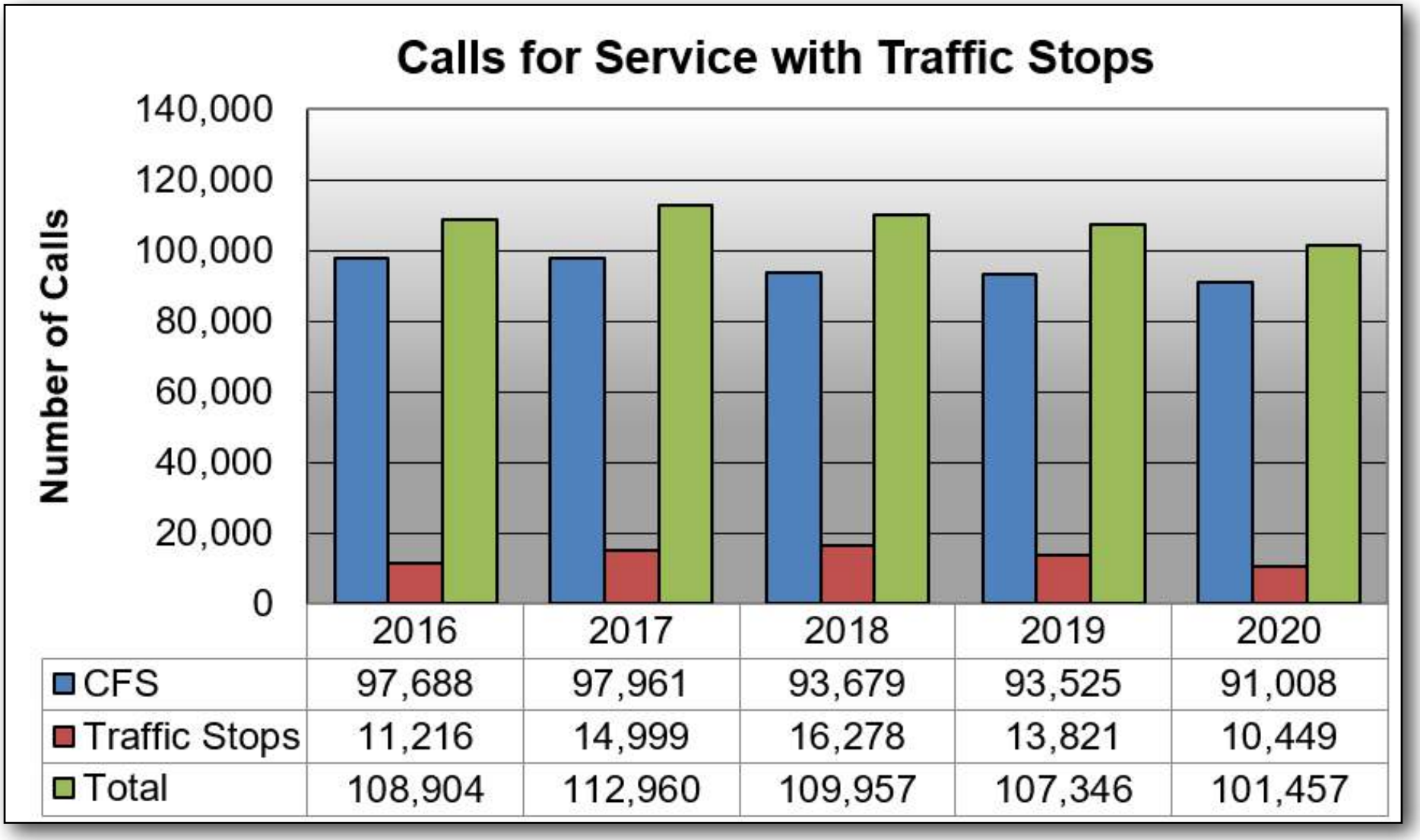
Telephonic calls are considered priorities 4 through 7 that can be handled by an officer taking the report over the telephone, or the complainant and/or victim is not able to physically come into the police station and file a report with the telephonic officer.

Response Time - 5 Yr Comparison



Response time is defined as the time when a caller first contacts VECC to the time when an officer advises Dispatch that they've arrived or has arrived in the area. The median response time is comprised of priority calls 1-9.

Calls for Service 2016 - 2020



	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
CFS	97,688	97,961	93,679	93,525	91,008
Traffic Stops	11,216	14,999	16,278	13,821	10,449
Total	108,904	112,960	109,957	107,346	101,457

NIBRS VS. UCR

NIBRS vs. UCR Crime Reporting: How Crime Statistics are Collected

The West Valley City Police Department submits crime statistics to the Bureau of Criminal Identification (BCI) and eventually the FBI using the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS).

What is NIBRS?

NIBRS is a method of collecting data based on each single incident and arrest. For example: During the commission of a residential burglary, the offender rapes and murders the homeowner. NIBRS counts three offenses: burglary, rape, and murder.

NIBRS categorizes crime into Group A and Group B offenses. Group A offenses include Crimes against Persons, Crimes against Property, and Crimes against Society. Crimes against Persons are those in which the victim is always an individual (i.e. murder, rape, assault). Crimes against Property are those which money or property is obtained from the crime (i.e. robbery, burglary, bribery). Crimes against Society represent society's prohibition against engaging in certain types of activity (i.e gambling, prostitution).

NIBRS Group A Offenses include:

- Murder/Non-Negligent & Negligent Manslaughter
- Justifiable Homicide
- Kidnapping/Abduction
- Forcible Rape, Forcible Sodomy, Forcible Fondling
- Sexual Assault with an object
- Aggravated Assault, Simple Assault, Intimidation
- Incest
- Statutory Rape
- Robbery
- Arson
- Burglary/Breaking & Entering
- Extortion/Blackmail
- Larceny
- Motor Vehicle Theft
- Embezzlement
- Counterfeiting, Forgery and Fraud
- Stolen Property: Buying, Receiving, Possessing
- Destruction of Property/Vandalism
- Bribery
- Drug/Narcotics Violations (Incl. Drug Equipment)
- Pornography/Obscene Material
- Gambling
- Prostitution (Incl. Assisting/Promoting)
- Weapons Law Violations

NIBRS Group B Offenses are only reported in the event of an arrest, and include:

- Bad Checks
- Curfew Violations/Loitering/ Vagrancy
- Disorderly Conduct
- Driving Under the Influence
- Family Non-Violent Offenses
- Liquor Law Violations, Drunkenness
- Peeping Tom
- Runaways (Persons under 18)
- Trespassing
- All Other Offenses

NIBRS VS. UCR (Continued)

What is UCR?

Many police agencies use the UCR System which is not incident-based, but rather uses a "Hierarchy Rule". This means that in a situation where multiple offense were committed at the same time and place, the crimes are classified and only the highest ranking offense is counted and the rest are ignored, regardless of the number of offenders and/or victims. Similar to the NIBRS Group A and B categories, UCR groups crime into Part 1 and Part 2 Offenses.

For example: During the commission of an armed bank robbery, the offender strikes a teller with the butt of a handgun, runs from the bank and steals an automobile. The three Part 12 offenses that occurred are robbery, aggravated assault and vehicle theft. Since robbery is the "highest" ranking offense of the three, this is the only offense that would be reported. The other two would be ignored.

UCR Part 1 Offenses include:

- Homicide
- Rape
- Robbery
- Aggravated Assault
- Burglary
- Larceny/Theft
- Motor Vehicle Theft
- Arson

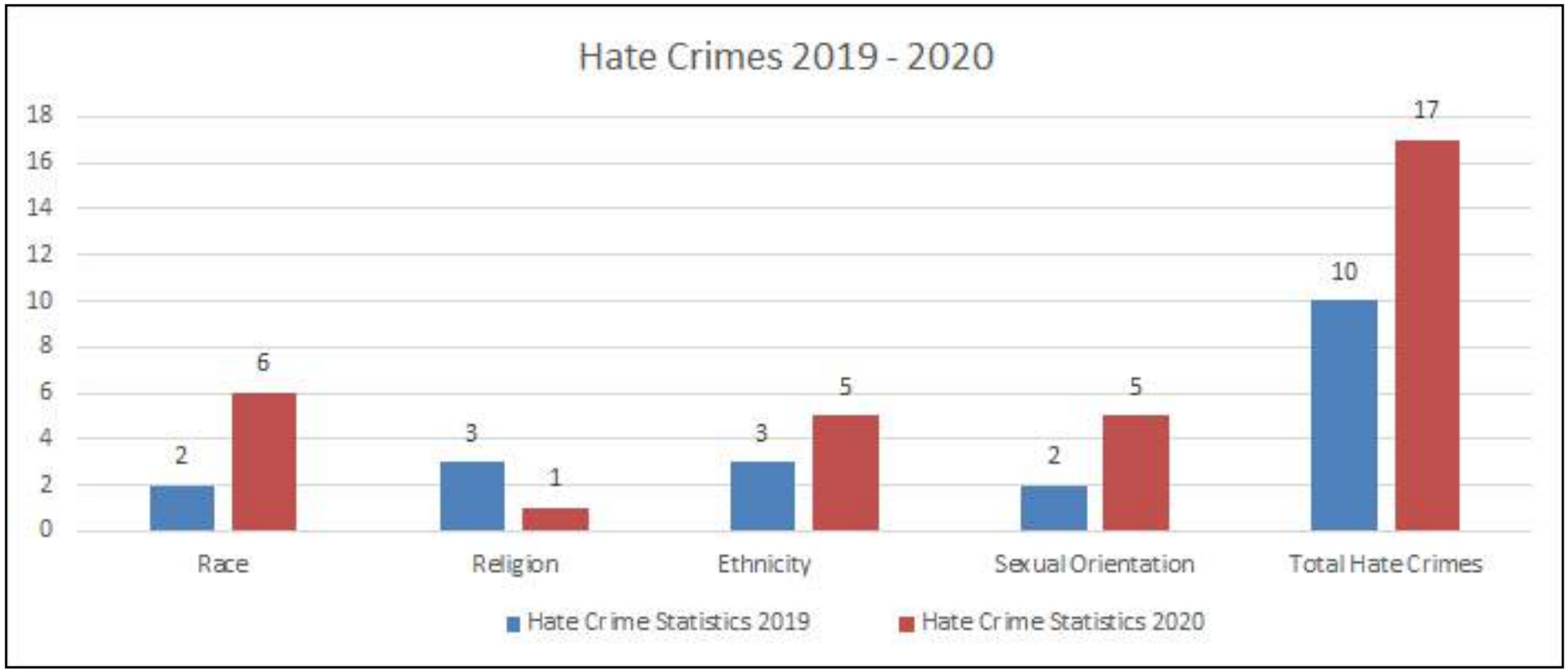
UCR Part 2 Offenses are only reported in the event of an arrest, and include:

- Other Assaults
- Forgery, Counterfeiting, Fraud
- Embezzlement
- Stolen Property: Buying, Receiving, Possessing
- Vandalism
- Weapons Law Violations
- Prostitution
- Sex Offenses
- Drug Abuse Violations
- Gambling
- Offenses Against the Family and Children
- Driving Under the Influence
- Liquor Law Violations, Drunkenness
- Disorderly Conduct
- Curfew Violations, Loitering, Vagrancy
- Runaways (Persons under 18)
- All Other Offenses

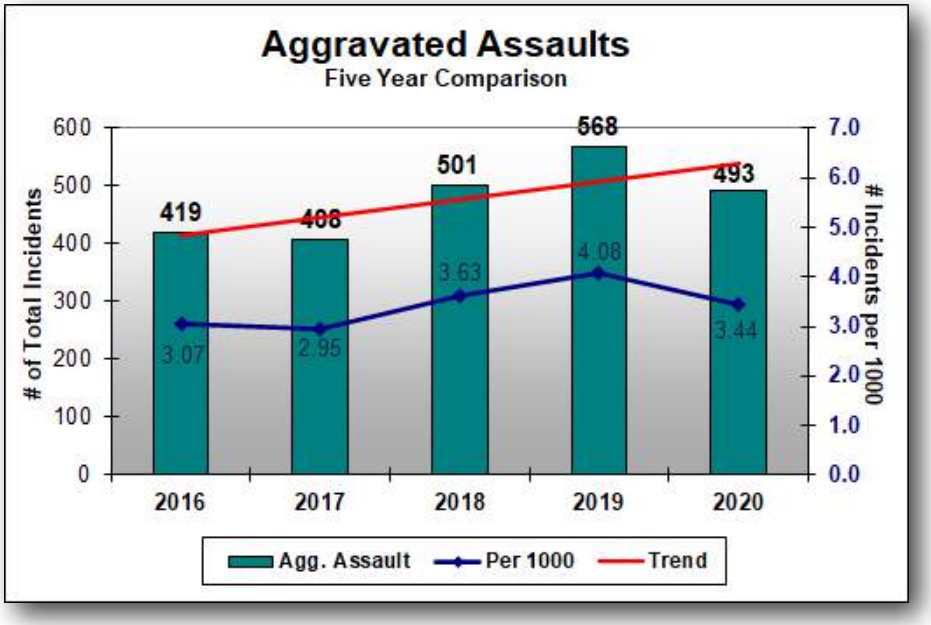
Hate Crimes 2019 - 2020

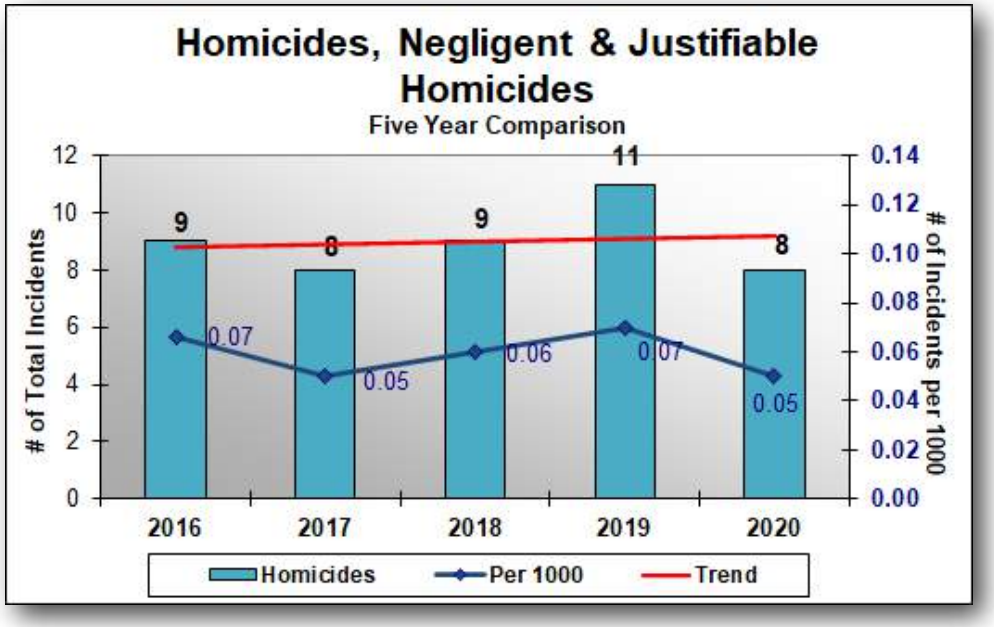
Hate Crime Statistics		
	2019	2020
Race	2	6
Religion	3	1
Ethnicity	3	5
Sexual Orientation	2	5
Total Hate Crimes	10	17

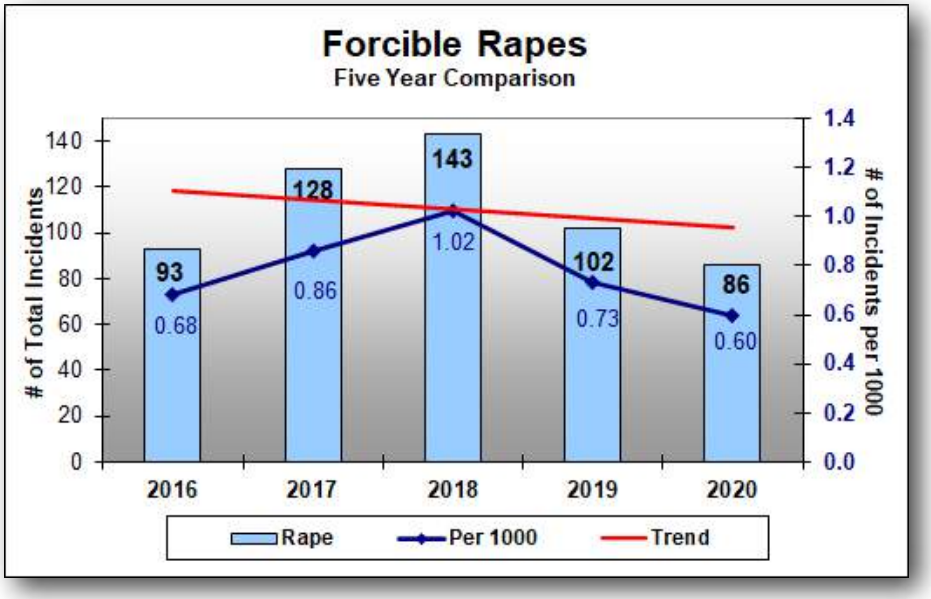
A Hate Crime is defined by the Department of Justice as "a criminal offense committed against a person, property, or society that is motivated, in whole or in part, by the offender's bias against a race, religions, disability, sexual orientation, or ethnicity/national origin."

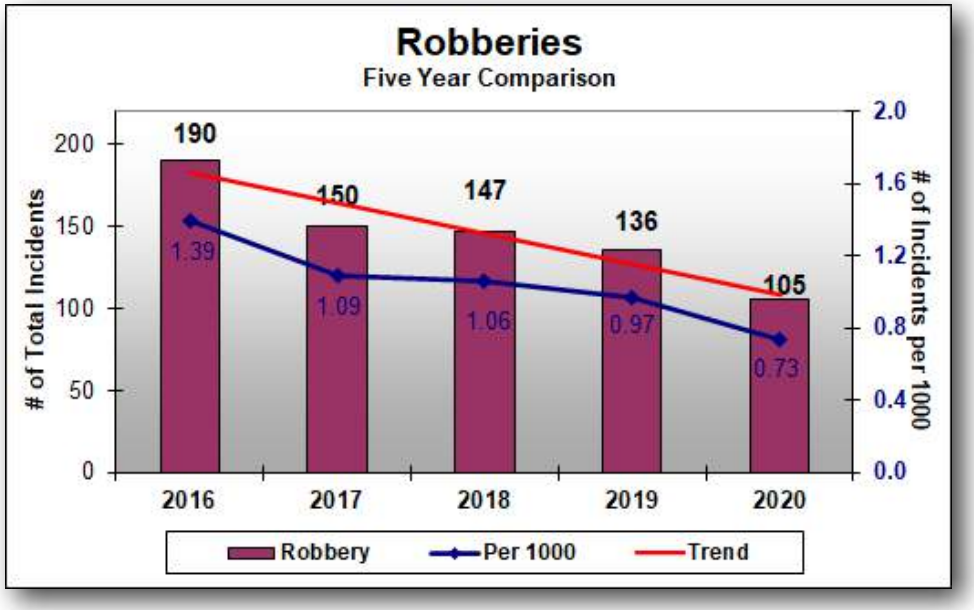


Part 1 - Violent Crimes

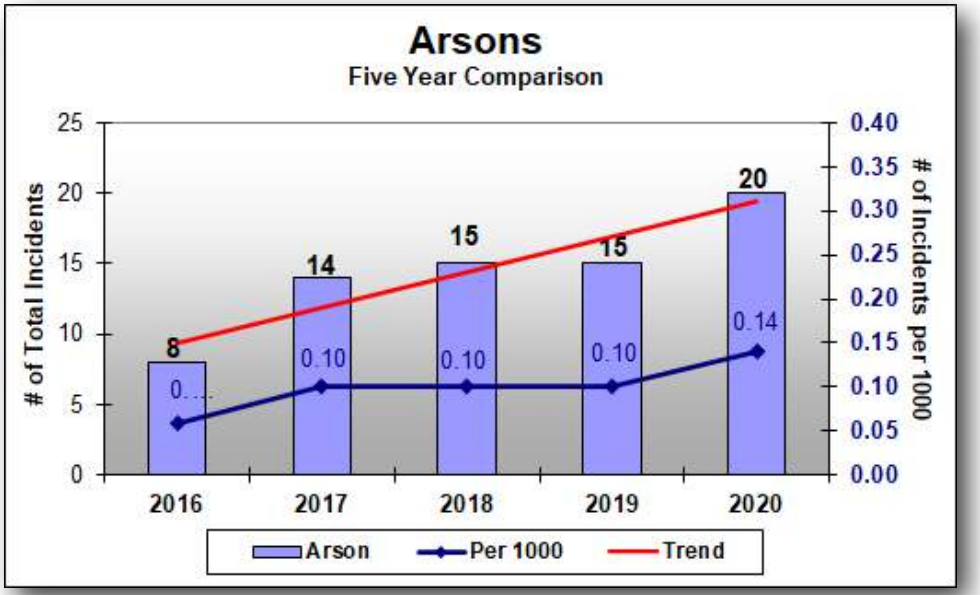


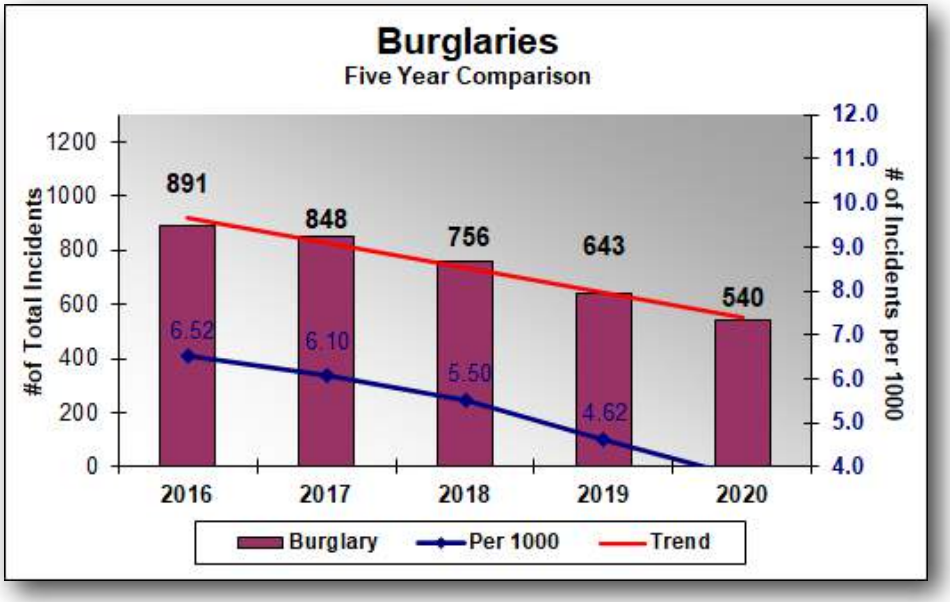


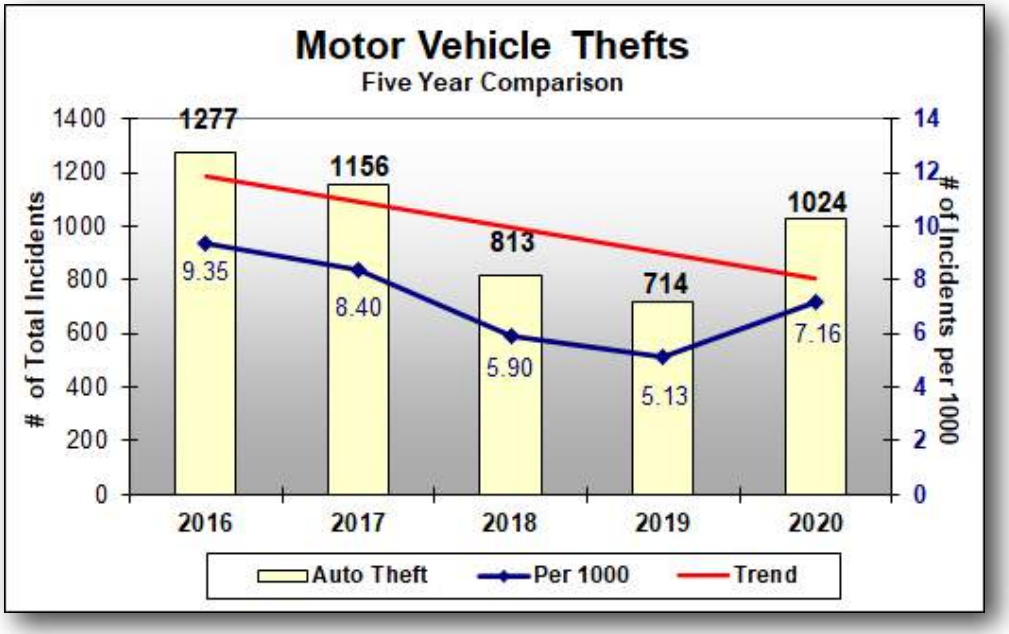


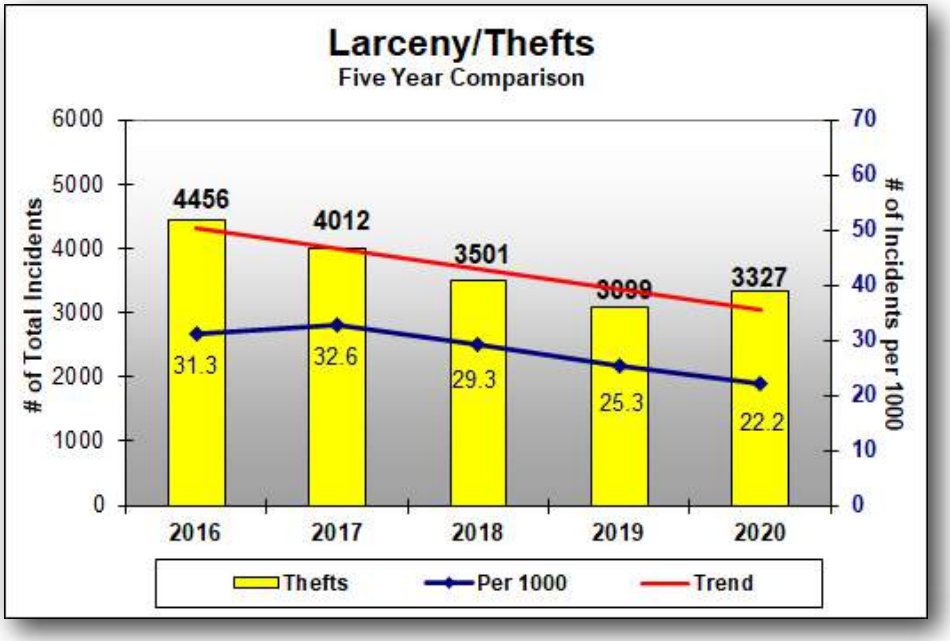


Part 1 Property Crimes

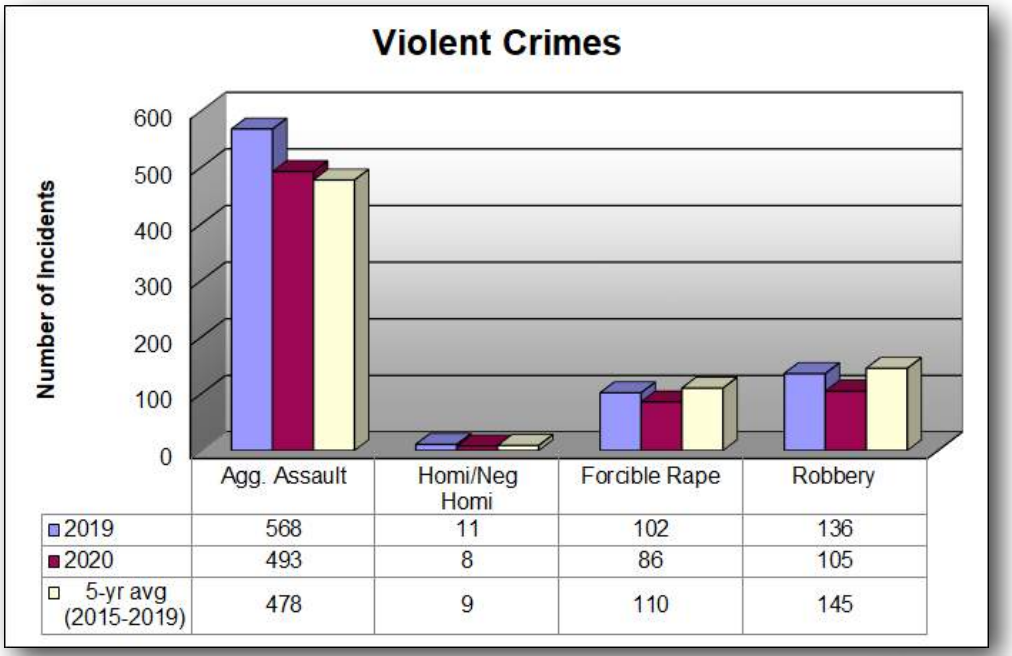




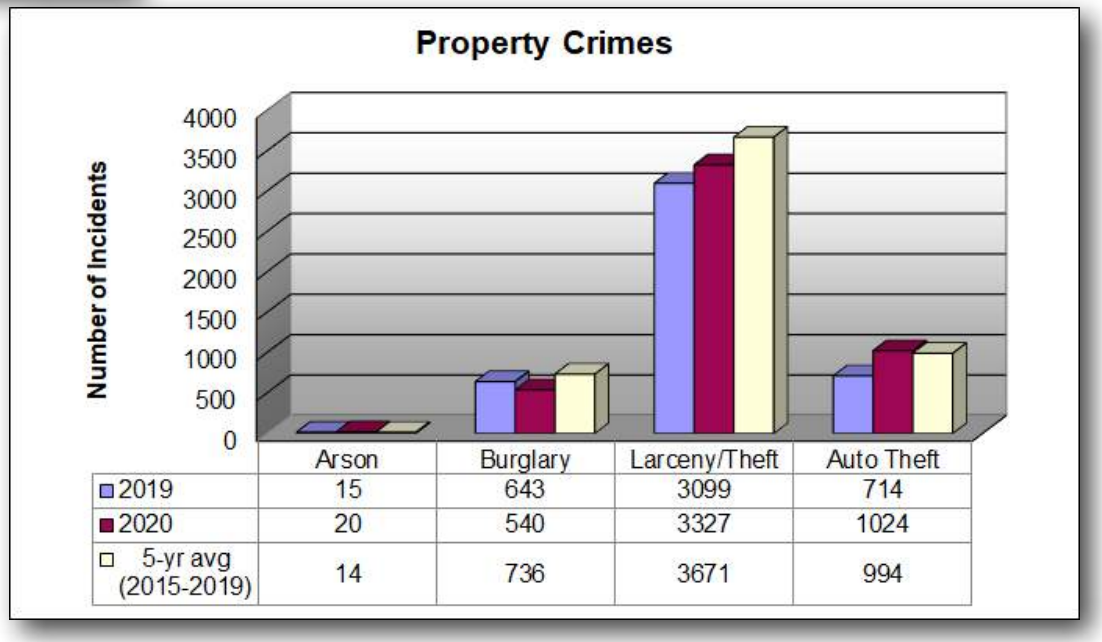




2019 vs. 2020 Part 1 Crime Trends



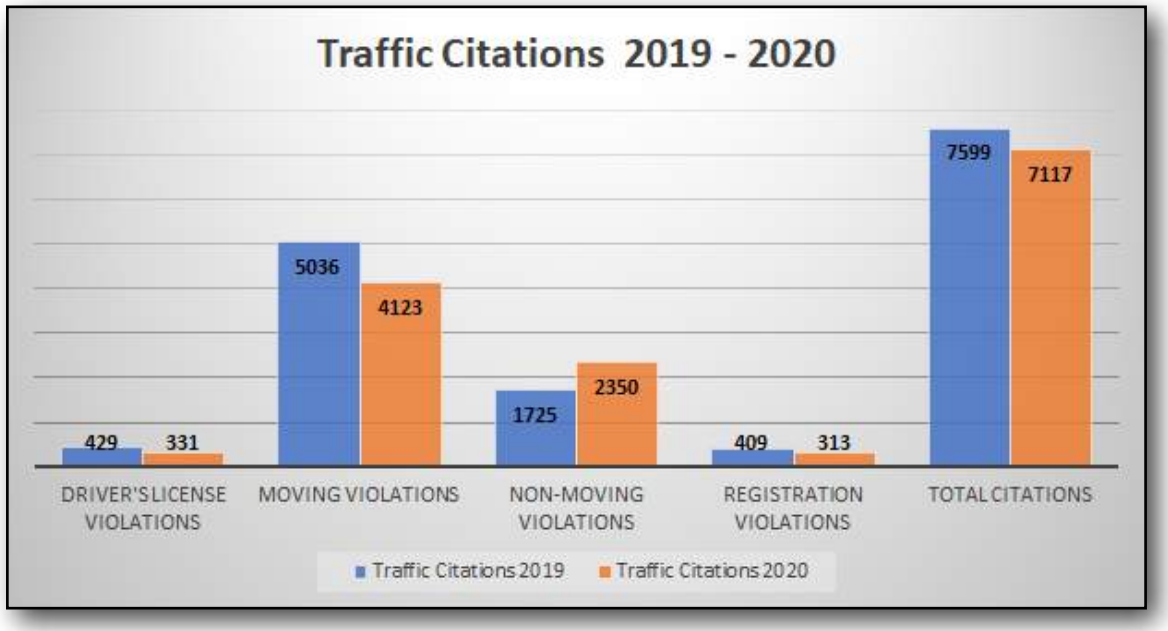
	Agg. Assault	Homi/Neg Homi	Forcible Rape	Robbery
2019	568	11	102	136
2020	493	8	86	105
5-yr avg (2015-2019)	478	9	110	145

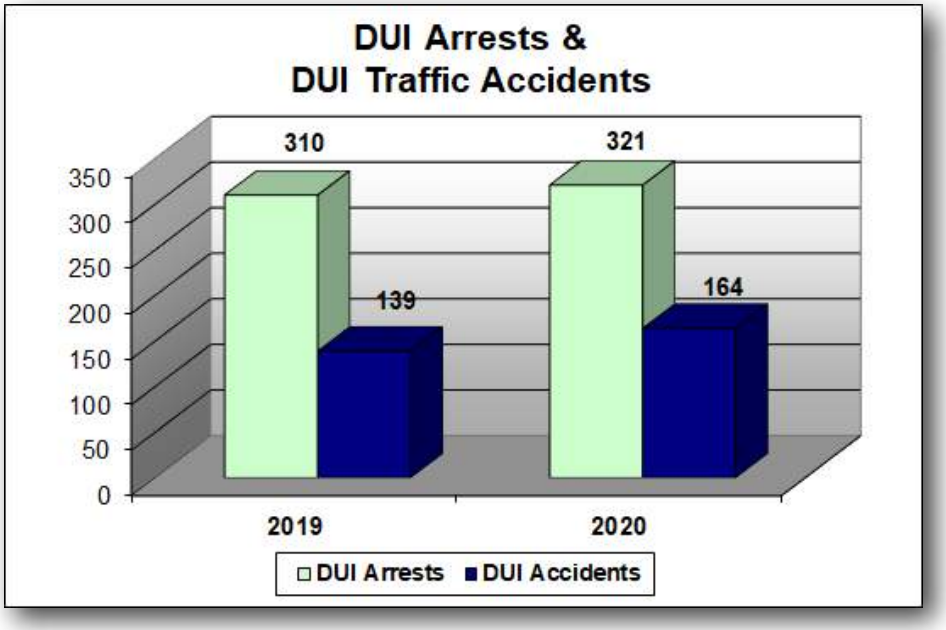


	Arson	Burglary	Larceny/Theft	Auto Theft
2019	15	643	3099	714
2020	20	540	3327	1024
5-yr avg (2015-2019)	14	736	3671	994

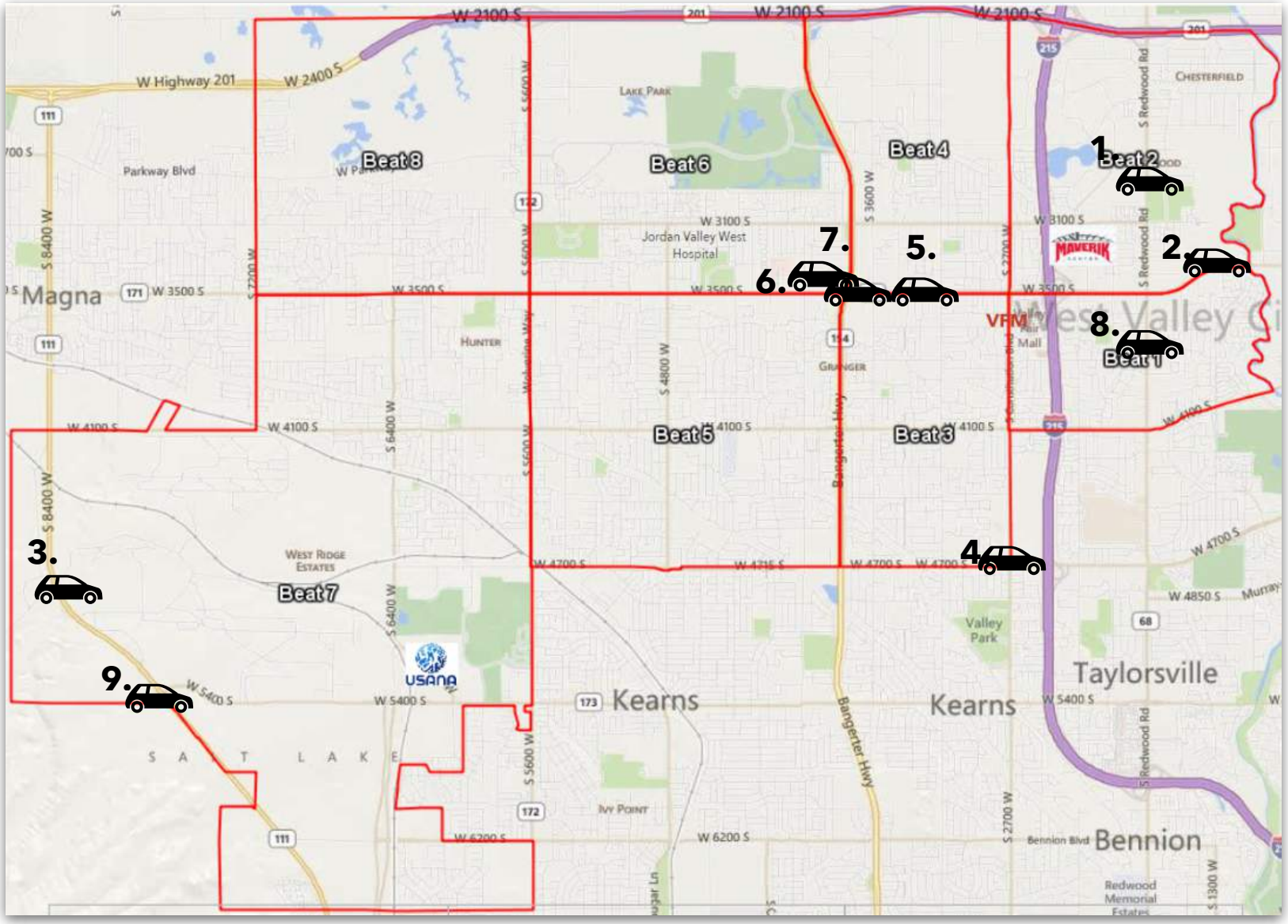
Traffic Statistics

Traffic Citations		
	2019	2020
Driver's License Violations	429	331
Moving Violations	5036	4123
Non-Moving Violations	1725	2350
Registration Violations	409	313
Total Citations	7599	7117





2020 Fatal Traffic Accidents



Fatal Traffic Accidents

1. 2540 S. Redwood Rd
2. 1251 W. 3300 S.
3. 4900 S. U-111 Hwy.
4. 2700 W. 4700 S.
5. 3200 W 3500 S.
6. 3800 W. 3500 S.
7. 3500 S. Bangerter Hwy.
8. 3865 S. Redwood Rd.
9. 5400 S. Mountain View

2020 Investigations Bureau Case Management

Unit	New Cases	Screened	Filed	Declined	Closed	Active	Search Warrants
Homicide	1283	242	231	60	765	660	132
Property	4729	638	552	44	3027	1397	82
Violent Crimes	4266	1887	645	154	2164	627	57
SVU	637	197	150	104	379	1137	103
Court services/CIT	1078	227	108	33	882	604	72
Totals:	**11993**	**3191**	**1686**	**395**	**7217**	**4425**	**446**

2020 Bureau Accomplishments

Records:

The Records Unit processes a massive amount of data each year. Records has 15 clerks, 2 supervisors and 1 director. In 2020 Records processed 44,319 initial reports. Records also handled 2,279 criminal cites and 9,835 traffic citations, as well as 485 DUIs and 1,796 vehicle impounds.

SWAT:	**2020**
Planned Operations:	**24**
Emergency Call Outs:	**8**
Assist to Other Agencies:	**5**
Total SWAT Operations:	**37**

2020 Bureau Accomplishments (Continued)

Forensics:	2020
• Total # of lab processing cases completed:	**1,113**
• Number of fingerprints searched through ABIS:	**601**
• Number of prints on evidence identified:	**487**
• # of Evidence guns test fired for NIBIN:	**249**
• # of associations developed from NIBIN searches:	**29**
• # of crime scene responses:	**50**
• # of OICI Protocol Team responses for outside agencies:	**5**
• Presentations for Schools, Fairs, Community meetings:	**6**

The Forensics Unit also conducted agency assists for outside agencies: 4 for ATF, 2 for WJPD, 1 for UPD, 2 for Layton PD.

2020 Bureau Accomplishments (Continued)

Evidence:	**2019**	**2020**
New Evidence Items	52,243	24,617
Items Checked Out	40,817	11,891
Released to Owner/Other	2,308	2,021
Request to Process	1,579	1,856
State Crime Lab/Tox Lab	832	953
Purged Property	16,183	10,105
Safe Keeping Letters Sent	1,520	1,593
Work Cards	70	N/A
Employee ID Cards	86	N/A
Sexual Assault Kits Submitted	70	68
Sexual Assault Kits Processed	68	65
Photographs Processed	612	495

2020 Homicides

Date:	Case #:	Address:
02/05/20	20i002015	6429 S. Wakefield Way

Details: Officers were dispatched to the location on a report of a shooting. Upon arrival, officers found the decedent had been shot while buying 1 pound of dab from the suspect. The suspect fled the state and was located in Texas and arrested. Charges filed.

Date:	Case #:	Address:
02/07/20	20i002079	3625 S. Deann Drive

Details: A female complainant told officers her ex-husband argued with and then shot the decedent and her. Suspect left the area on foot. Officers located the suspect in a neighboring basement dead of a self-inflicted shotgun wound. Case closed. The homeowners of 3844 Hawkeye Circle reported a male was in their basement, armed with a shotgun. The male was the suspect who died of self-inflicted gunshot wounds. Case closed.

Date:	Case #:	Address:
02/25/20	20i008422	1330 W. Rothchild

Details: Officers were dispatched to the Kingspointe Park to investigate a fight. They located one adult male who had been shot and later died at the hospital. Two juvenile suspects were identified, located and arrested. Charges were filed on the juveniles as adults.

Date:	Case #:	Address:
05/28/20	20i010362	2897 S. 3040 W.

Details: Suspect shot and killed his neighbor, then fled the scene. The suspect was located and arrested. Charges filed.

2020 Homicides (Continued)

Date:	Case #:	Address:
06/22/20	20i013983	1430 W. 3500 S.

Details: Officers were dispatched on a shooting and located the victim who had been shot one time in the groin area. The victim passed away while in surgery at IMC Hospital. Witnesses identified the suspect who was located and confessed to the homicide. Charges were filed.

Date:	Case #:	Address:
06/28/20	20i014855	3525 W. 3965 S. (Peachwood Park)

Details: A female victim set up a drug rip. She and a male victim were shot by the suspects. The male decedent was found to be the nephew of a West Valley City Police officer, so West Valley requested West Jordan PD to investigate. The two suspects were arrested in Evanston, Wyoming. Charges were filed.

Date:	Case #:	Address:
07/19/20	20i018007	3661 S. Market St.

Details: Officers went on a fatal auto pedestrian accident. Surveillance video showed the victim was run over. Detectives identified the suspect and arrested him. The suspect confessed. Charges were filed.

Date:	Case #:	Address:
09/03/20	20i024950	4320 S. Stafford Way

Details: The victim was at this location discussing firearm modifications with the suspect. Suspect accidentally shot the victim who died at the hospital. Manslaughter charges were filed.

2020 Highlights

2020 Las Vegas K9 Trials - Top Agency

Our K9 team is the best of the best. Our K9s won Top Agency honors in an international police dog competition in Las Vegas over the summer. K9s Tank and Ranger are two of the best there is. Congratulations to their handlers, Officer Moore and Sgt. Palmer.

May, 2020

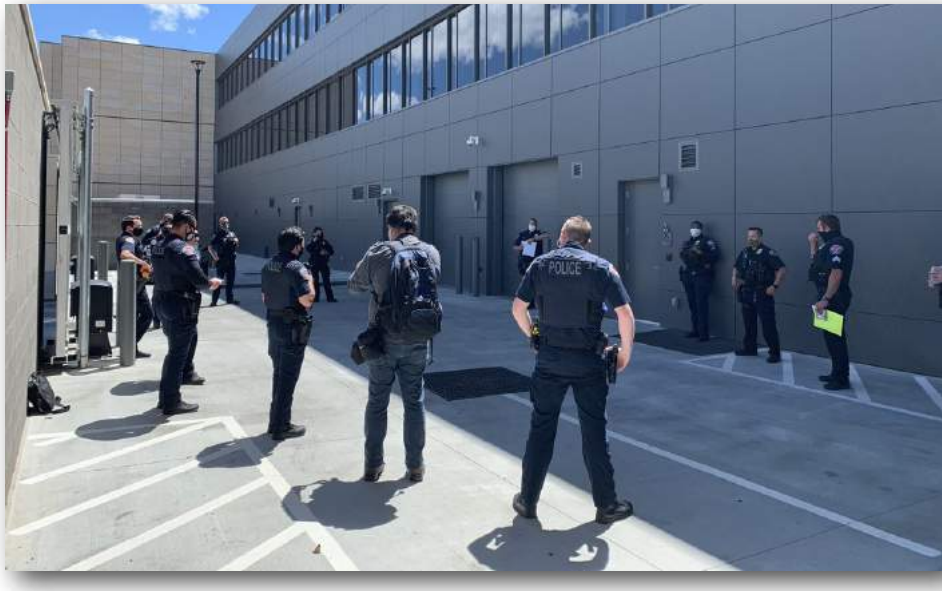
Women in Science

February 16, 2020

February 8th is International Women in Science Day. In commemoration a Girl Scout group stopped by to learn from an amazing woman in science, our Forensics Director, Amanda Bennett. We're grateful for the role science plays in solving crimes and especially for the chance to work with the best forensics team around!

Adapting to a Changing World

2020 started out much like any other year, but as we all know things changed. A worldwide pandemic changed how we go about our daily lives. Just like the citizens of West Valley City, the police department quickly adapted to the changes. These two officers even found a way to share a socially distant breakfast.



Here, our patrol officers conduct their pre-shift briefing outdoors in order to facilitate social distancing. The department has been committed to the recommendations made by public health officials in order to minimize the exposure and spread of Covid-19 within the department.

Community Meetings

Chief Jacobs continued to hold monthly community meetings, highlighting different units in the department and showing how each unit contributes to our department in furthering our mission. The meetings this year transitioned from in-person to virtual.

Employees of the Month

Sgt. Jason Johnson

January

Detective Mike Lynes

February

Rachel White

March

Tracy Catmull

April

Lt. Julia Jorgensen

June

Detective Bryant LoRe

July

Detective Ray Wilhelm

August

Detective Andrew Steinbrecher

September

Mark Brooks

December

2020 Retirees

Officer Rulon Crandall

Detective Darrell Dain

Lt. Todd Gray

Executive Director
Michelle Tapia