

# ALEXANDRIA POLICE DEPARTMENT



## ANNUAL REPORT 2006

**Serving Alexandria Since 1870**

## Message From the Chief



After serving as a law enforcement professional for more than 37 years, I was truly honored to be chosen as Alexandria's police chief last fall. As chief, I am committed to serving the sworn, civilian and volunteer members of my department and the citizens of Alexandria in an active, visible and participative way.

I am proud to report that 2006 brought the lowest number of Part 1 offenses the City has had in 40 years. This trend continues into 2007.

In the next year, I hope to further reduce crime through the implementation of the Strategic Response

System (SRS). SRS relies on traditional policing strategies supported by the analysis of crime trends and patterns. It was designed to employ focused and effective police tactics with a strong emphasis on problem-solving strategies to address root causes of crime in neighborhoods.

It is my hope that SRS will reduce crime, the fear of crime and improve the quality of life for residents, businesses and visitors.

I hope that as you read our annual report, you will take particular note of the exceptional employees of the Alexandria Police Department. It is these em-

ployees who strive to increase the quality of life for the people of Alexandria.

Throughout the year, the department has been fortunate to once more have the support of Alexandria's citizens and elected officials. We could not have achieved the levels of success seen over this past year without it.

David P. Baker  
Chief of Police



## City Council

### January 2006 - June 2006

William D. Euille, Mayor  
Redella S. Pepper, Vice Mayor  
Ludwig P. Gaines  
K. Rob Krupicka  
Andrew M. MacDonald  
Paul C. Smedberg  
Joyce Woodson

James K. Hartmann, City Manager

### July 2006 - December 2006

William D. Euille, Mayor  
Andrew M. MacDonald, Vice Mayor  
Ludwig P. Gaines  
K. Rob Krupicka  
Timothy B. Lovain  
Redella S. Pepper  
Paul C. Smedberg

James K. Hartmann, City Manager

### Annual Report Credits

Crime statistics and analysis by Supervisory Crime Analyst Mary Garrand.

Copy by Amy Bertsch and Ashley Hildebrandt.

Photos by Officer Judy Taylor, Sergeant James Craige, Investigator Garry Ground and Amy Bertsch

## Staffing and Budget

To ensure efficient service to the people of Alexandria, the police department depends on adequate funding and staffing.

This makes it necessary to anticipate vacancies to ensure that police officer positions are promptly filled. In 2006, there were 20 new officers hired, filling new positions and those left open due to resignations and retirements. By December, 318 officer positions were filled.

The civilian workforce supports the efforts of the sworn

officers. Civilian employees serve in the emergency communications center, records section, parking enforcement office, crime analysis section and property unit among other places.

There are 126 full-time and 27 part-time civilian positions.

The department budget increased 9.6%, from \$45,136,508 in FY2006 to \$49,451,928 in FY2007.



## Part 1 Crimes

Part I crime has decreased in nine of the last ten years and fell 7.3% from 2005 to 2006.

Part I crime includes homicide, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny and vehicle larceny.

Violent crime (homicide, rape, robbery and aggravated assault) decreased slightly, down 4.0% from 425

offenses in 2005 to 408 in 2006.

Aggravated assaults decreased and of the 23 rape offenses, only two were committed by a person unknown to the victim.

Both homicide and robbery rose in 2006. The rise in robberies is attributed to more commercial robberies, which increased by eleven offenses in 2006.

Property crime decreased 7.7%, from 3,583 cases in 2005 to

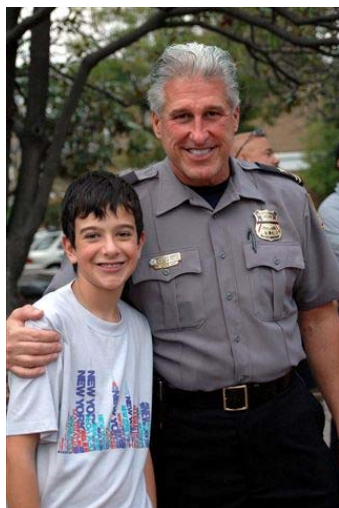
3,306 in 2006. Of reported burglary and theft offenses, the most significant decrease occurred in stolen vehicles, which fell 25.9%.



Crime Type	2005	2006	Change	% Change
Homicide	4	5	1	25.0%
Rape	23	23	0	0.0%
Robbery	197	202	5	2.5%
Aggravated Assault	201	178	-23	-11.4%
Burglary	371	389	18	4.9%
Larceny	2,699	2537	-162	-6.0%
Auto Theft	513	380	-133	-25.9%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4,008</b>	<b>3,714</b>	<b>-294</b>	<b>-7.3%</b>



## Calls for Service



For another consecutive year, calls for service decreased, down 2.2% from 61,547 in 2005 to 60,168 in 2006.

Some call types decreased significantly, including prowler calls down 29.2%, calls for an escort down 33.9% and auto theft down 18.9%.

Notable increases in calls for service occurred in traffic hazard calls up 39.7%, calls for loud parties and radios up 41.3% and bomb threats up 33.3% in 2006.



Call Type*	2005	2006	% Change
Abandoned Auto	786	678	-13.7%
Accident	6,437	6,143	-4.6%
Alarm	5,539	5,756	3.9%
Ambulance/Fire	856	850	-0.7%
Animal Case	1,977	2,078	5.1%
Assault	731	701	-4.1%
Auto Theft	871	706	-18.9%
Auto Theft Recovery	220	189	-14.1%
Bomb Threat	9	12	33.3%
Burglary	670	713	6.4%
Citizen Assist	2,083	1,991	-4.4%
Disorderly	5,733	5,565	-2.9%
Domestic Trouble	2,991	2,710	-9.4%
Drugs	802	842	5.0%
Drunk	1,322	1,381	4.5%
E911 Hang-up Calls	2,360	2,222	-5.8%
Escort	109	72	-33.9%
Fight	682	709	4.0%
Homicide	1	1	0.0%
Larceny	3,334	3,015	-9.6%
Locked in Auto	58	60	3.4%
Loud Party / Radio	167	236	41.3%
Missing Person	373	346	-7.2%
Noise Complaint	2,872	2,707	-5.7%
Other	4,754	4,326	-9.0%
Parking	4,588	4,624	0.8%
Phone Calls	502	435	-13.3%
Property Lost / Found	1,074	1,080	0.6%
Prowler	48	34	-29.2%
Public Service	737	666	-9.6%
Robbery	233	241	3.4%
Sex Offense	185	221	19.5%
Suspicious Event	3,170	3,041	-4.1%
Traffic Hazard	567	792	39.7%
Traffic Problem	469	487	3.8%
Trespass	693	736	6.2%
Trouble Unknown	1,635	1,769	8.2%
Vandalism	1,471	1,561	6.1%
Weapon	438	472	7.8%
<b>Totals</b>	<b>61,547</b>	<b>60,168</b>	<b>-2.2%</b>

\* Numbers represent calls for service and do not serve as crime statistics.

## Quality of Life Crimes

Though not major offenses, quality of life crimes remain a priority for the police department.

If left unreported or unchecked, nuisance and alcohol-related crimes generally lead to more serious offense, like theft, assault and even robbery.

Quality of life crimes are more likely to impact people in an urban environ-

ment and must be addressed quickly and consistently to ensure the safety of the neighborhood.

These offenses rose 4.8% from 2005 to 2006. This rise can be attributed to increased enforcement throughout the City.

Crime Type	2005	2006	Change
Vandalism	1,397	1,533	9.7%
Disorderly Conduct	150	165	10.0%
Driving While Intoxicated	435	477	9.7%
Drug Offenses	453	529	16.8%
Drunkenness	890	868	-2.5%
Gambling Offenses	5	8	60.0%
Liquor Law Violations	604	548	-9.3%
Prostitution Offenses	19	14	-26.3%
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,953</b>	<b>4,142</b>	<b>4.8%</b>

Arrests	Adult			Juvenile		
	2005	2006	Change	2005	2006	Change
Homicide	3	3	0.0%	0	2	n/a
Rape	12	7	-41.7%	3	0	-100.0%
Robbery	50	63	26.0%	31	25	-19.4%
Aggravated Assault	92	93	1.1%	35	17	-51.4%
Burglary	65	54	-16.9%	24	10	-58.3%
Larceny	446	374	-16.1%	138	109	-21.0%
Grand Larceny Auto	31	20	-35.5%	12	19	58.3%
<b>Total Part I Arrests</b>	<b>699</b>	<b>614</b>	<b>-12.2%</b>	<b>243</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>-25.1%</b>

## Arrests

Overall arrests increased 9.5% last year, rising from 6,049 in 2005 to 6,624 in 2006.

For Part I offenses, total combined adult and juvenile arrests decreased by 15.1% down from 942 in 2005 to 796 in 2006.

Adult arrests rose 10.7% and juvenile arrests rose

1.3%. This resulted in an overall increase in arrests in 2006.

Juvenile arrests increased 17.4% for alcohol and drug offenses, rising from 86 in 2005 to 104 in 2006.

Adult arrests for the same offenses increased 7.1% from 2,307 arrests in 2005





## Traffic Enforcement

Enforcement of speed limits and traffic signs and signals is essential to ensuring safety on Alexandria's streets.

A continuous concern for the police department is driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs. To combat this issue, the department conducted four DWI Crackdowns throughout the year. These crackdowns were aimed at re-

ducing the number of unsafe drivers on the road. In addition, they helped raise awareness of the dangers of driving while intoxicated.

The DWI Crackdowns allowed assigned officers to drive throughout the City focusing their attention on motorists. These efforts resulted in 21 DWI arrests. Officers also issued numerous warnings and summons.

DWI arrests increased 18.4% in 2006. There were 489 arrests for DWI, including one juvenile. This is an increase over the 413 arrests made in 2005.



### Top Accident Sites in 2006

Location	Crashes
Duke Street & South Walker Street	22
Pershing Avenue & Telegraph Road	18
King Street & Quaker Lane	15
Mill Road & Telegraph Road	14
Duke Street & South Pickett Street	14
North Beauregard Street & West Braddock Road	14
South Washington & Wolfe Street	14
Duke Street & South Washington Street	14
Duke Street & West Taylor Run Parkway	13
North Washington Street & Madison Street	13
North Beauregard Street & Seminary Road	12
Duke Street & South Quaker Lane	12

## Crash Analysis

The accident rate fell 7.7% from 2005 to 2006. The number of crashes decreased from 2,188 to 2,020.

There was one fatal crashes in 2006, compared to three the year before.

In this case, the victim was a pedestrian.

The victim of the fatal crash in 2006 was an 82 year-old Alexandria woman. She was struck by a vehicle while crossing in the 4600 block of Duke

Street. The driver was charged with reckless driving. The incident was determined not to be alcohol-related.



## Major Cases

Though violent crimes have steadily decreased in recent years, they are the most prominent offenses that make headlines and create fear.

In Alexandria it is the detectives who are responsible for investigating homicides, robberies and other

major cases. The detectives are responsible for identifying and arresting the suspects before they commit any further offenses.

In 2006, detectives investigated five homicides. Detectives closed four of these homicides with ar-

rests. The fifth homicide remains under investigation.

Detectives also closed two of the three carjacking cases handled in 2006.



## Flash Flood Response

On Sunday, June 25, 2006, the City of Alexandria and the entire region received near record amounts of rain.

The downpour of more than 5 inches resulted in severe flooding to Cameron Run in the Eisenhower Avenue area and South Pickett Street.

Officers were called to Telegraph Road just off the

Beltway by motorists stranded in their vehicles by the fast-rising flood waters.

With the assistance of the Fire Department, officers were able to rescue 25 people who had been trapped by the flood waters. This includes a baby and two men who had to be rescued twice, after reentering the waters.



## Arlandria Initiative



On January 30, 2006, the Alexandria Police Department launched the Arlandria Initiative. The purpose of this initiative was to implement a long-term plan aimed at reducing crime and improving quality of life in Arlandria.

After being chosen to lead the initiative, Captain Reyes focused time, effort and resources in Arlandria to resolve many of the community's core issues. He communicated with citizens in the community and coordinated appropriate

responses by various City departments.

Captain Reyes assisted in organizing a gang awareness summit in response to concerns from parents. He organized the implementation of increased street lighting to make the streets safer. He worked to raise quality of life through increased and efficient trash removal.

Captain Reyes worked with the Virginia Alcoholic Beverage Commission

(ABC) and City staff to launch a coordinated effort to eradicate organized illegal alcohol sales. Additionally, he strived to educate the community about alcohol violations and their consequences. Captain Reyes employed the "Nuevo Día" (New Day) substance abuse program to assist individuals addicted to alcohol or drugs.

Captain Reyes learned to communicate with the Arlandria community and earn their trust. His efforts greatly contributed to the effectiveness and success of this initiative. Within the first year of the Arlandria Initiative, Part 1 crime fell approximately forty percent.



## Presidential Funeral

During 2006, the police department was honored to assist in former President Gerald Ford's funeral procession.

President Ford passed away on December 26, 2006. His funeral was a five day event that spanned the length of the country.

On December 30, President Ford's remains were taken by motorcade from Andrews Air Force Base through the City of Alexandria en route to the Capitol.

The procession traveled through Alexandria in remembrance of President

Ford's long residence in the City as a congressman and vice president.

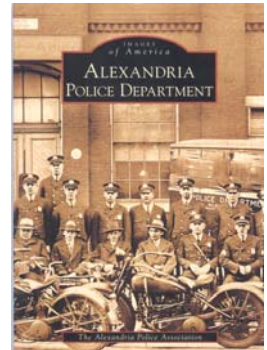


## Police History Book

A new book released in late 2006 celebrates the history of the police department. Authored by the Alexandria Police Association, *The Alexandria Police Department* features more than 200 historical photographs and covers the department from its founding in 1870 into the 21st century.

Images from the police department archives and local and private collections show Alexandria through the eyes of its officers. The book includes photographs of crime and crash scenes, former police stations, community events, early emergency equipment and vehicles.

Among the most interesting shots are the recruit officers taking target practice in the basement of a plumbing shop, still raiders displaying the fruits of their labor during prohibition (below, left) and uniformed officers protecting City resident Gerald Ford, days after he suddenly became President of the United States.



The book is available at the Lyceum, the Alexandria Black History Museum, local bookstores and online retailers. All royalties benefit the Alexandria Police Association.

## Online Reporting

In the summer of 2006, the police department began offering online reporting over its website for certain offenses and activities.

Victims of certain property crimes and those wanting to report graffiti or lost property are now able to submit information over the police website.

Since this online service was launched in July, scores of people have made reports electronically. At year's end, police had received 22 reports of graffiti, 54 for stolen property, 49 for lost property, 24 for vandalism and 15 for harassing phone calls.

Through this method, officers are able to follow up on cases that need addi-

tional attention. It also affords citizens the flexibility to make reports at their convenience.

## Radio Interoperability

Public safety agencies have been working to improve radio communication across departmental and jurisdictional lines for years. Since the attacks of September 11, increased funding and support has been directed to this effort. For more than ten years, the Alexandria police have been part of a National Institute of Justice team dedicated to addressing interoperability.

Last year, Alexandria

hosted an exercise, Operation Open Channels, to test the regional radio interoperability plan, fulfilling a requirement of the Department of Homeland Security. On September 12, dozens of public safety agencies at the local, state and federal level took part in the National Capital Region Tactical Communication Interoperability exercise to test how easily and effectively first responders could communicate with each other during



a major critical incident scenario. Captain Hassan Aden oversaw the planning and implementation of the exercise and the results were excellent. Of more than 70 communities evaluated across the country, the National Capital Region was one of six recognized for advanced implementation in the areas of governance, standard operating procedures and usage of hardware and systems.



## Special Museum Exhibit

In 2006, the police department was honored to be part of a special exhibit at the Alexandria Black History Museum.

*Serving with Distinction: African Americans in Alexandria Public Safety* showcased achievements of black pioneers who served with the



City's police, fire and sheriffs departments. The exhibit featured profiles, photos and artifacts to document historic contributions of

people of color to Alexandria's public safety.

The first African American police employee to work in a public capacity were crossing guards in 1951 and the first black police officer in Alexandria was hired in 1965.



## Honors and Awards

Police employees perform outstanding work on a daily basis. This year, several of the police department's officers earned special recognition for their service.

### Alexandria Chamber of Commerce Valor Awards

#### Gold Medal

Detective Martin Hoffmaster

#### Silver Medal

Officer Anton Keith

Officer Patrick Lennon

Sergeant Terri Mucci

Detective Venus Roman

#### Bronze Medal

Officer Welton Barnes

Officer Burke Brownfeld

Officer Sean Casey

Officer Brad Cecchetti

Officer Anthony Gorham

Officer Greg Ladislav

Officer Shawn Quigley

Officer Angel Semidey

### Certificate of Valor

Officer Brunilda Confresino  
Toro

### Salute to Women

Rising Star Award

Officer Desiree Maxwell

### Jaycees

Officer of the Year

Sergeant Shahram Fard

### Kiwanis

Officer of the Year

Officer Sean Casey

Officer Brad Cecchetti

### Sunrise Optimists

Officer of the Year

Officer Dana Mitchell

### Sons of the American Revolution

Officer of the Year

Detective Mark Purcell



## Promotions

### Chief of Police

David Baker

### Deputy Chief

Cleveland Spruill

### Captain

Tammy Hooper

### Lieutenant

James Bartlett

Jesse Harman

### Sergeant

Bartholomew Bailey

Courtney Ballantine

James Bridgeman

Gerald Brown

Gwendolyn Diggs

Monica Lisle

Terri Mucci



## GET INVOLVED

The Alexandria Police Department hosts community events throughout the year.

### **Memorial Service to Honor Alexandria's Fallen Officers**

Baptist Temple Church  
700 Commonwealth Avenue  
May 17

### **National Night Out**

Neighborhoods across the City  
August 1

### **Youth Citizens Police Academy**

Ages 13-17  
August 7 through 11

### **Senior Citizens Academy**

April 6

### **Citizens Police Academy**

Wednesday evenings  
March 15 through May 24  
September 6 through November 15

Please contact the Community Relations Unit  
at 703.838.4520 for more information  
about these and other programs.



## ALEXANDRIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

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Alexandria, VA 22314  
703.838.4444

