

ASHLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT...

IN TOUCH



2011 Annual Report





Message from the Chief

To our community:

On behalf of the men and women of the Ashland Police Department, I would like to invite you to take a look at our 2011 Annual Report to learn a bit more about your police department.

The Ashland Police Department is a full service law enforcement agency that provides police service and protection 24 hours a day, 365 days per year. The Ashland Police Department is comprised of 24 sworn officers, three full-time civilian staff members, and is fortunate to enjoy the commitment of many volunteers, three of them sworn officers.



2011 was an outstanding year for the Ashland Police Department as we made strides to improve the quality of life in our Town. Our efforts to improve traffic safety were recognized with a Law Enforcement Challenge Award and reflected in a reduction in reported accidents of 13%. 2011 saw fewer accidents than 2004 levels. In addition to an overall reduction in accidents, we saw a 66% reduction in DUI related accidents with only two in 2011.

Ashland experienced a 0.28% decrease in overall reported crime in 2011. Although we saw decreases in many crime categories, due to the price of scrap metal and gold, larcenies were on the rise in 2011. Although these property crimes account for the vast majority of our crime rate, we were very fortunate this year to experience a low violent crime rate and zero reported robberies. We were also able to work with our community partners and neighborhood watch groups to address narcotics trafficking that resulted in multiple arrests and brought a sense of peace to those affected communities.

Our officers continue impress me by improving their effectiveness during their discretionary time between calls for service. 2011 once again saw increases in self-initiated activities by officers such as foot patrols, senior visits and property checks. In addition, they coordinated the safety and security of a multitude of special events, festivals and charity runs.

The Ashland Police Department wishes to thank our partners in public safety, the Hanover County Sheriff's Office, the Hanover County Commonwealth Attorney's Office, the Hanover County Fire/EMS Department and the Virginia State Police for their continued assistance.

I am very proud to be a member of this agency and will strive to work towards our vision of being "*The Best Police Department in the Commonwealth of Virginia.*"

I remain in your service,

Douglas A Goodman, Jr



Organization and Structure

The Ashland Police Department employs 24 sworn officers and three civilian employees at its headquarters located at 601 England Street. The Ashland Police Department is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. The Administrative Offices are open Monday-Friday 8:30 am-5:00 pm.

The Ashland Police Department is led by Chief Douglas A. Goodman, Jr. Chief Goodman joined the agency in August of 2007 as a Captain and assisted the agency in the final steps in our initial CALEA accreditation process. On July 1, 2008 he was appointed to the Chief's position. Prior to joining the Ashland Police Department, Chief Goodman served 14 years with the Hanover County Sheriff's Office, reaching the rank of Lieutenant. He holds a bachelor's degree from Virginia Tech and earned his Master's in Public Administration from VCU in December 2007.

The Patrol Operations is commanded by Captain Anthony Callahan. The department operates on 12 hour shifts. With day shift operating from 7:00 am-7:00 pm; and night shift from 7:00 pm-7:00 am. The patrol operations is comprised of four Sergeants, two Corporals and ten patrol officers. This unit is responsible for the day to day protection of citizens and businesses in Ashland along with the enforcement of all applicable state and local laws. In addition to the patrol function, Captain Callahan is also responsible for fleet management, Internal Affairs and maintenance of critical records.

Investigative Operations is commanded by Lieutenant Troy Aronhalt. This unit is comprised of three Investigators who are responsible for all major investigations for the police department. The investigators are responsible for processing and photographing crime scenes, conducting surveillance and covert activities, and executing

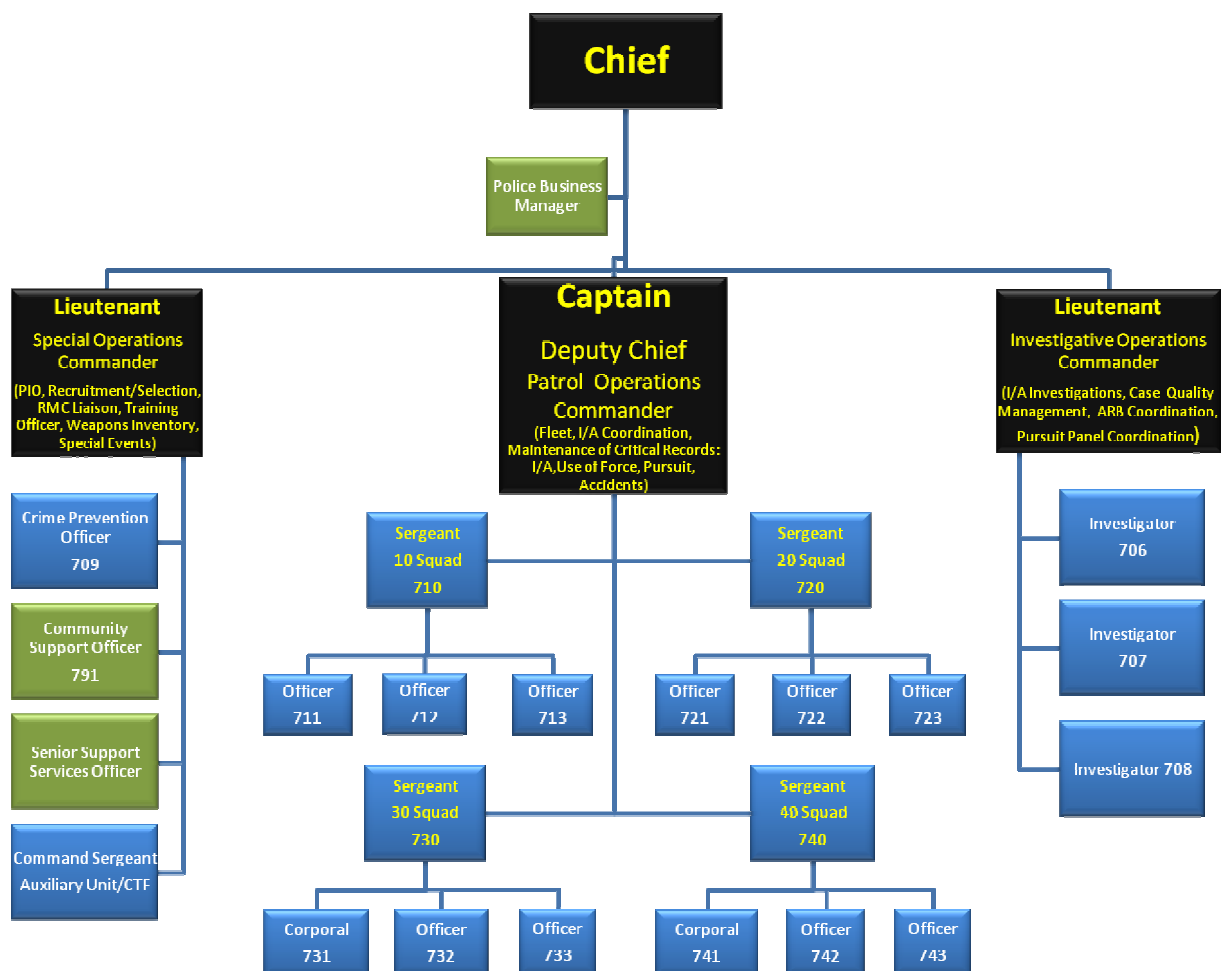
search warrants. In addition to these duties Lt. Aronhalt is responsible for all review boards and case quality management.

The Special Operations unit is commanded by Lieutenant James Shelhorse. This unit consists of Support Services, Records Management, Special Events, Crime Prevention and Public Information services. In addition to these duties, Lieutenant Shelhorse is responsible for training and the corps of volunteers.





Organizational Chart





About the Ashland Police Department

Mission and Core Values

The mission of the Town of Ashland Police Department is to provide professional law enforcement services to our citizens, our businesses and our visitors. We will uphold justice, with compassion, integrity, and courage.

The following values will guide the actions of all members of the Ashland Police Department:

Honor: We are committed to holding ourselves accountable to the highest standards of conduct. We recognize the trust that our citizens place in us and we will diligently work to never betray that trust.

Service: No one will be turned away, we will provide services to those who we can, and give positive direction to the agencies that can help those we cannot.

Loyalty: We will be loyal to our badge, the community and to our profession.

Dedication: We are dedicated to upholding the constitution and providing fair and equal law enforcement services to all persons.



CALEA

The Ashland Police Department is one of less than 400 law enforcement agencies in the United States and Canada accredited through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). In 2010, the Ashland Police Department successfully completed our reaccreditation for CALEA. Our next reaccreditation will be in 2013.



CALEA's goals are to strengthen crime prevention and control capabilities; formalize essential management procedure establish fair and non-discriminatory personnel practices; improve service delivery; solidify interagency cooperation and coordination; and increase the community and staff confidence in the agency. CALEA's standards for law enforcement agencies promote greater accountability within the department while increasing visibility and collaboration within the community.

The Ashland Police Department encourages residents, business owners, and visitors to provide feedback to our agency on our strengths and weaknesses in order for the department to improve our service to the Ashland community. Comments can be submitted via our website at www.ashlandpolice.us or by calling 804-412-0600.



Traffic Crash and Enforcement

The police department has four officers who are trained in traffic safety strategies. These officers use information compiled from the previous year to reevaluate the effectiveness of current traffic safety programs and implement new programs to improve the driving experience in Ashland. As a result of the traffic safety unit initiatives 2011 saw the lowest level of reportable accidents since 2004.

Operating Under the Influence

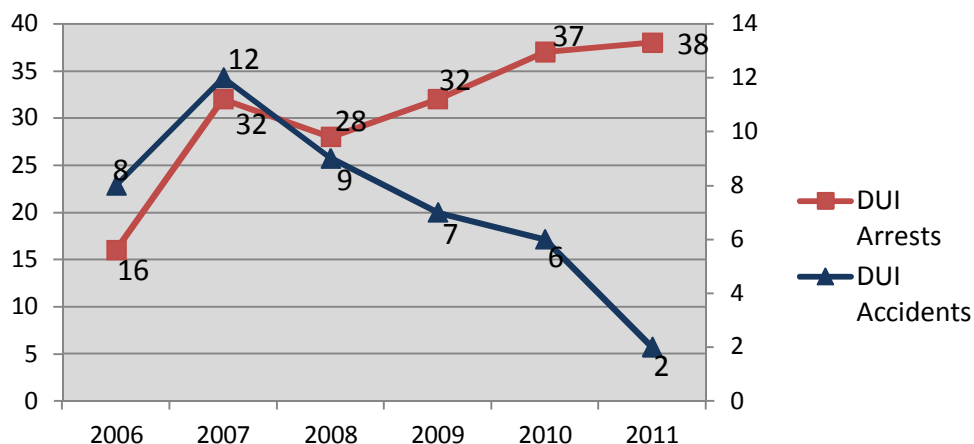
Operating Under the Influence is defined as driving or operating a motor vehicle or common carrier while mentally and physically impaired as the result of consuming an alcoholic beverage or using a drug or narcotic. For 2011, the Ashland Police Department made thirty-eight (38) arrests for DUI/DUID compared to thirty-seven (37) arrests in 2010. The number of arrests for DUI/DUID increased by approximately two percent (+2%) compared to the previous year.

In 2011, the department continued to see an increase in DUI/DUID arrests and a decrease in DUI/DUID crashes.

There is a significant factor that correlates with the steady decrease in DUI/DUID crashes from 2008-2010: DUI checkpoints. In 2007, no checkpoints were conducted by the department, and despite increased arrests, there was an increase in the number of drug/alcohol related crashes. Beginning in 2008, the department conducted checkpoints at least twice a year. Since 2008, when checkpoints were initiated, the number of DUI/DUID crashes has consistently decreased. In 2011, the department more than doubled the number of checkpoints conducted compared to 2010.

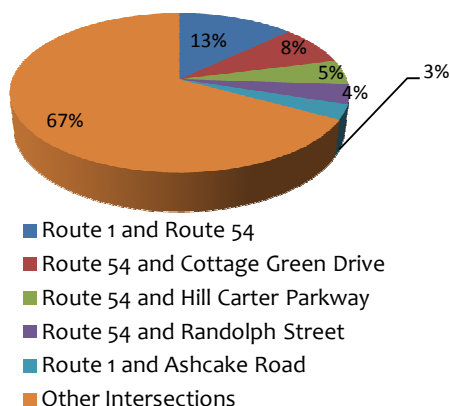
Crashes

Traffic crashes include the accidental collisions of a motor vehicle with another motor vehicle, person, bicycle or stationary object. In 2011, the Ashland Police Department responded to 338 crashes compared to 352 crashes in 2010. In 2011, the Ashland Police Department investigated 104 reportable crashes, compared to 119 reportable crashes investigated in 2010.





Most Crash-Prone Intersections



The number of reportable crashes decreased by eleven percent (-11%) compared to the previous year. The total number of crashes involving injured parties in 2011 was forty-one (41), compared to forty-four (44) crashes resulting in injuries to parties in 2010. The number of crashes resulting in injuries decreased by six percent (-6%) compared to the previous year.

Traffic Complaints

To address speeding complaints the Traffic Safety Unit has implemented Addressing Complaints Using Technology and Enforcement (ACUTE). This program combines the use of citizen input, technology and education to identify and correct speeding problems in Ashland.

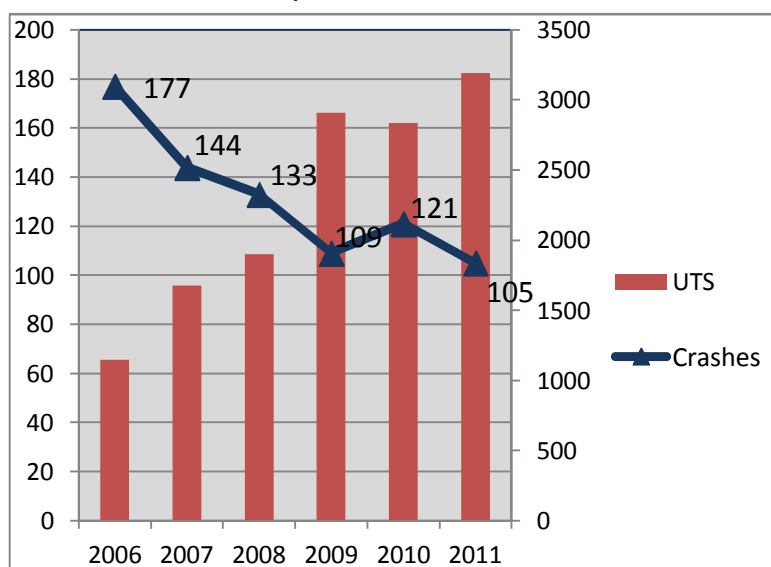
For 2011, the Ashland Police Department continued the ACUTE Program. The program consists of multiple phases that first determine if a speeding problem exists on a street, educates the public about the posted speed limit, and, if necessary, results in directed enforcement

in that area. In order for a location to qualify for the ACUTE Program, it must have a posted speed of 35 mph or less. A speeding problem exists if the 85th percentile speed in the area is found to be more than 8 mph over the posted limit, or there are three or more violations for 15 mph or more within three days. The following locations are the areas the Department utilized the A.C.U.T.E. program where a speeding problem existed, and the subsequent enforcement action taken to address the complaint.

- North James Street 10 Summonses
- Henry Clay Road 3 Summonses

Follow-up evaluations after the implementation of the ACUTE Program showed that the speeding problems had been eliminated in the areas.

For more information on the ACUTE program go to our website at www.ashlandpolice.us.



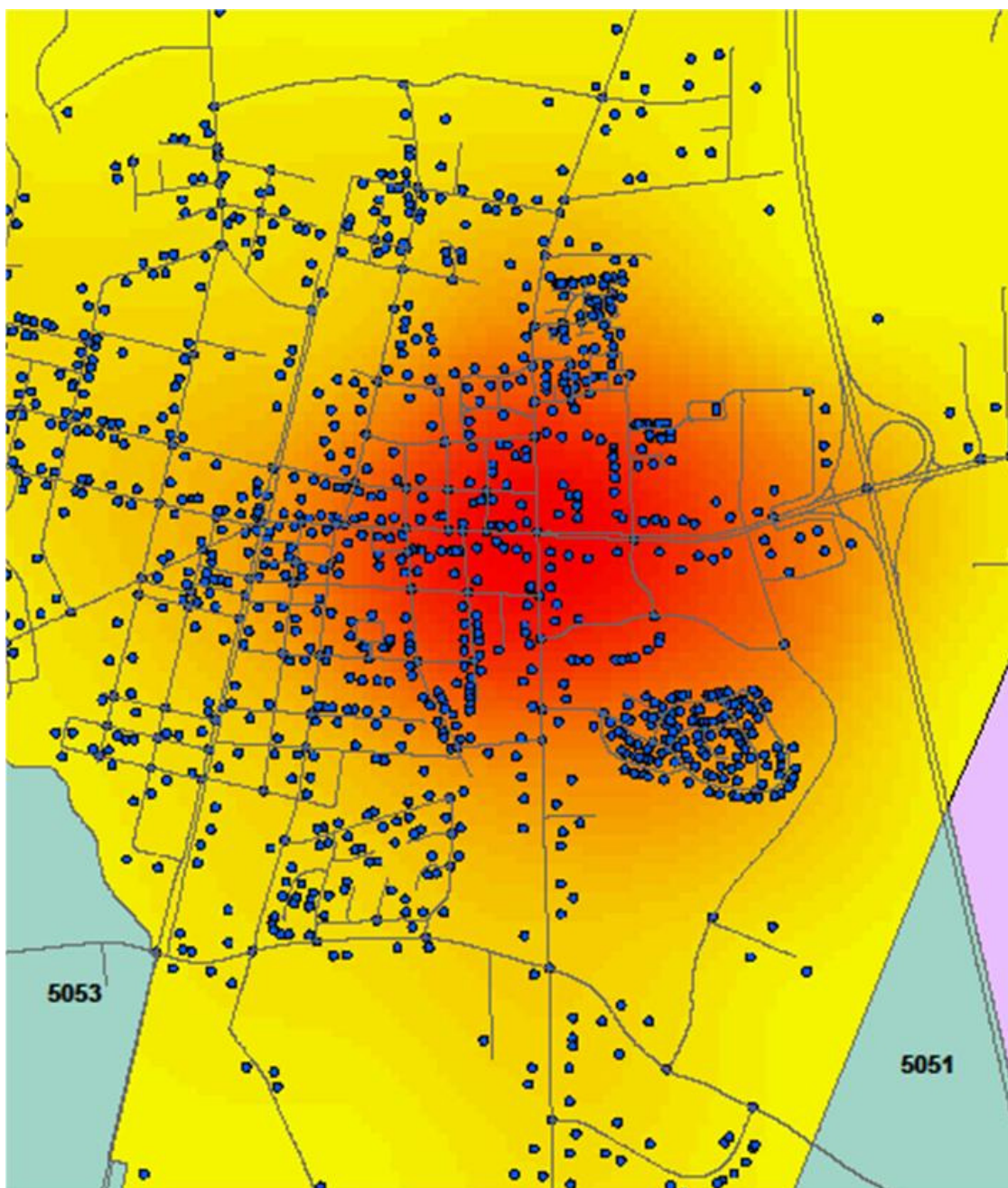


Crime in Ashland:

We experienced a decrease of .29% of serious crimes, however we saw an increase of 9.8% of Group A offenses which featured in the table on page 12.

Pictured below is a hot-spot map showing the central locations for the majority of our calls for service.

The map shows that the area East of Washington Highway, along England Street to Hill Carter Parkway where most of our calls were located. This area also includes seven hotels, and approximately ten restaurants.



Provided with the assistance of the Hanover County Sheriff's Office Intelligence Unit.

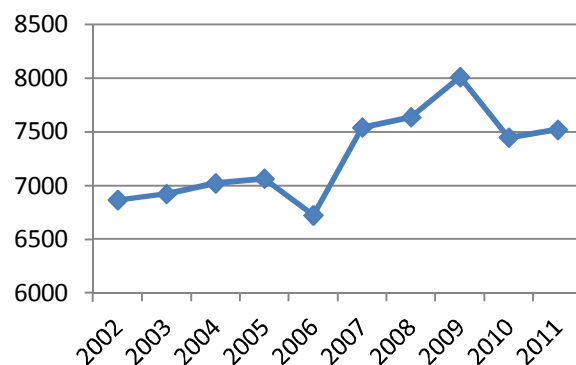


Calls for Service

A call for service is any type of call that is received where a officer responds to a location for a incident or provides advice to a citizen over the phone.

In 2011 we responded to 7,520 calls for service. This is an increase from 2010 where we responded to 7,448 calls for service.

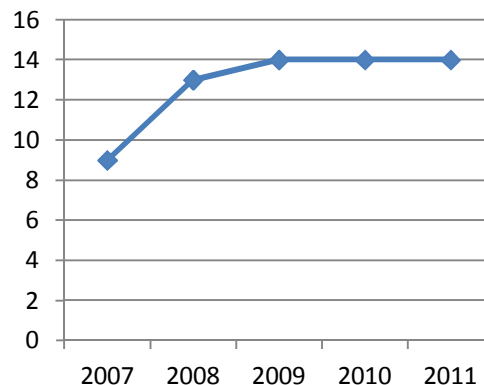
Calls for Service 2002-2011



Assaults Offenses:

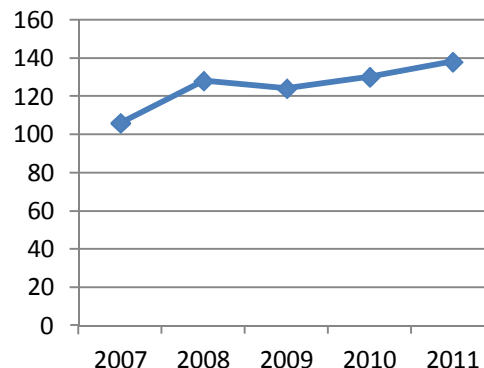
Aggravated Assault is an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe bodily injury. This type of assault is usually accompanied by the use of a weapon or by other means likely to produce death or great bodily harm. In 2011, there were 14 reported aggravated assaults. 13 of the 14 aggravated assaults were closed by arrest, while one was closed because the victim did not wish to prosecute.

Aggravated Assaults 2007-2011



Simple Assault is an unlawful physical attack by one person upon another where neither the offender displays a weapon, nor the victim suffers obvious severe or aggravated bodily injury. In 2011, we investigated 138 simple assaults. 79 were closed by arrest, while 53 were closed because the victim did not wish to prosecute.

Simple Assaults 2007-2011





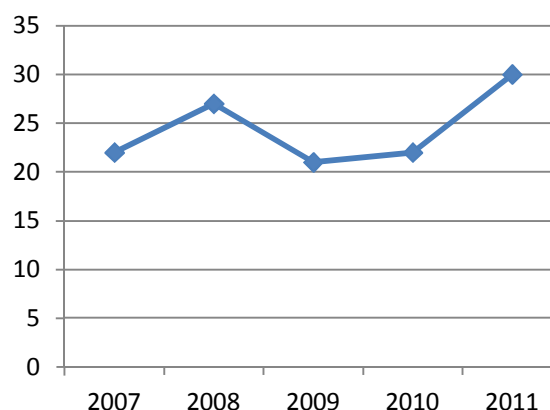
Breaking and Entering:

In 2011 there were 30 breaking and entering incidents. 25 breaking and entering incidents were residential dwellings while the remaining five were commercial businesses. This is an increase of 26.67% when compared to 2010.

The department contributes the increase of breaking and entering in part due to the increasing price of gold and other precious metals.

Of the 30 breaking and entering incidents in 2011, 11 have been closed by arrest.

Breaking and Entering 2007-2011



Larceny Offenses:

The FBI breaks larceny/theft into seven different categories. Pocket picking, purse snatching, shoplifting, theft from building, theft from coin machine, theft from motor vehicle, theft of motor vehicle parts or accessories, and all other larceny.

In 2011, there were 191 reported incidents of larceny in Ashland. This is an increase from 2010 where there were 171 reported incidents of larceny.

We contribute this 11.7% increase of larcenies, to the economy, and its effects on individuals. While we understand the hardships people endured, we will continue to aggressively investigate all reported incidents.

Larcenies	2010	2011
Pocket Picking	-	-
Purse Snatching	-	-
Shoplifting	19	42
Theft from Building	62	39
Theft from Coin Machine	-	1
Theft from Motor Vehicle	33	35
Theft of Vehicle Parts	17	15
All other Larceny	40	59

2011 Top Shoplifting Locations	
ABC Store	11 Incidents
Wal-Mart	8 Incidents
Food Lion	4 Incidents
Rite Aid	3 Incidents
7-11	3 Incidents
Dollar General	3 Incidents
East Coast	3 Incidents



Motor Vehicle Theft

Motor Vehicle Theft is defined by the FBI by the taking of any vehicle that propels itself.

In 2011, we experienced an increase in motor vehicle thefts by 39%. There were a total of 18 vehicles that were stolen, and only four have not been recovered yet.

One third of the vehicles stolen have been linked to a rash of thefts that occurred in Central and Northern Virginia. To combat this series of thefts we met with all involved business owners and briefed them on the situation. This partnership between the department and the business owners was an important tool to combat these thefts. We also conducted surveillance, and increased our presence with officers patrolling the affected areas more frequently.

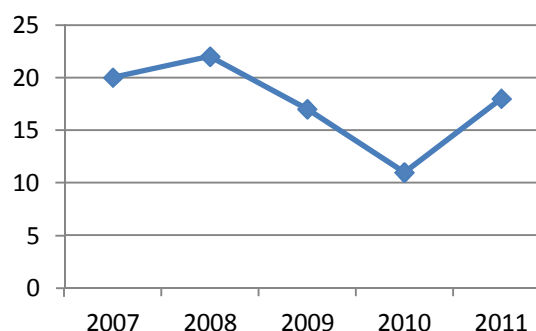
Drug Violations

In 2011, we experienced a level amount of drug violations when compared to 2010.

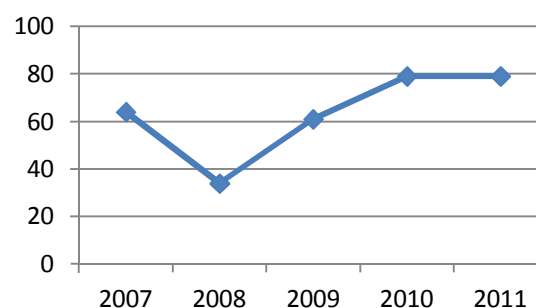
This is credited towards the narcotics investigations conducting two long term operations which yielded 22 persons being indicted on drug charges. These cases accounted for 28% of the drug violations.

Marijuana still continues to be the biggest illegal drug that plagues our town, with Marijuana being involved with 54% of our drug violations. The remaining drugs consist of other illegal drugs, as well as prescription drugs being misused.

Motor Vehicle Theft 2007 - 2011



Drug Violations 2007-2011



Signs of Drug Use/Abuse among Teenagers

- Changes in friends
- Negative changes in schoolwork, missing school, or declining grades
- Increased secrecy about possessions or activities
- Use of incense, room deodorant, or perfume to hide smoke or chemical odors
- Subtle changes in conversations with friends, e.g. more secretive, using "coded" language
- Change in clothing choices: new fascination with clothes that highlight drug use
- Increase in borrowing money
- Evidence of drug paraphernalia such as pipes, rolling papers, etc.
- Evidence of use of inhalant products (such as hairspray, nail polish, correction fluid, common household products); Rags and paper bags are sometimes used as accessories
- Bottles of eye drops, which may be used to mask bloodshot eyes or dilated pupils
- New use of mouthwash or breath mints to cover up the smell of alcohol
- Missing prescription drugs—especially narcotics and mood stabilizers

Rape

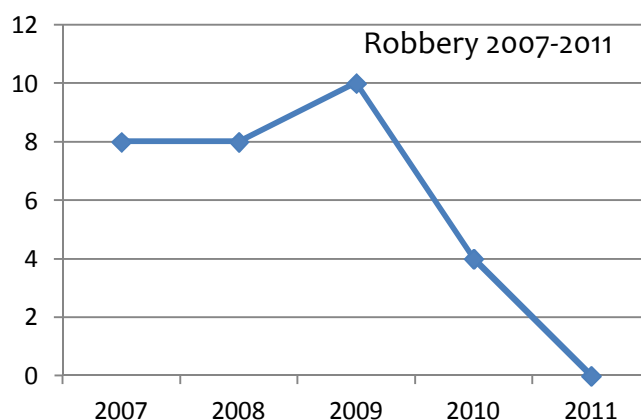
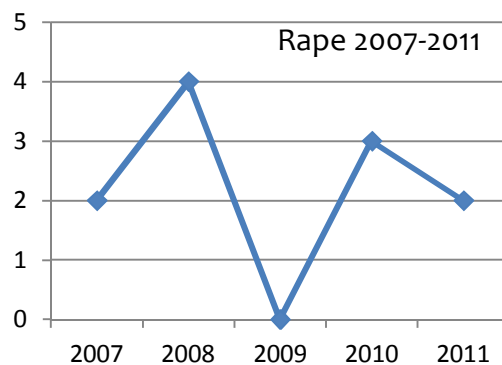


Rape is defined by the FBI as the carnal knowledge of a person, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity (or because of his/her youth).

In 2011, we had a decrease of one rape when compared to 2010. Both rapes were closed; one was closed by arrest, while the other was closed by exception. In both instances, both the suspect and victim were acquaintances.

Robbery

In 2011, for the first time in over a decade we experienced no robberies. We credit this towards our increased patrols, park walk and talks, as well as crime prevention methods and community involvement.

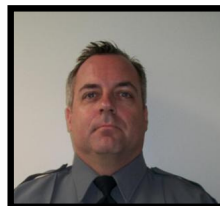




Awards and Recognition

We would like to welcome our new officers to the Ashland Police Department and to the community.

Officer John Street with 16 years of law enforcement experience joined the APD family from Chesterfield County Police Department.



Officer Chip Watts with 19 years of law enforcement experience came on full time with APD after being one of our auxiliary officers.



Officer Tom O'Dea comes to us after being a Special Agent with the Virginia Alcohol Beverage Control board.



2010 Law Enforcement Challenge

The Ashland Police Department placed 2nd in our division for the 2010 Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge sponsored by the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police. This award, presented in August, recognizes departments for their traffic safety initiatives and enforcement efforts.



Certificates of Commendation

Investigator Aigner received Certificate of Commendation for his work involving a multi-jurisdiction case which lead to multiple search warrants issued and arrests being made.





Investigator Aigner and Oakley both received Certificates of Commendation for their tireless efforts in assisting a neighboring jurisdiction who were seeking the whereabouts of a dangerous felon.

Officer Miles received a Certificate of Commendation, after he received a intelligence flyer from a neighboring jurisdiction. Miles recognized the individuals and was able to provide identifying information which subsequently led to an arrest.

Excellent Police Duty

The Excellent Police Duty award was presented to Officer McCullough. Throughout the course of his career here he has been an extremely proactive officer in the areas of traffic enforcement and narcotics interdiction. His tenacity and commitment to law enforcement make him a perfect recipient of this award.

These officers received the award for Excellent Police Duty for their attention to detail and dedication in solving a series of arsons that had been plaguing one of our hotels. Due to their around the clock efforts the suspect was arrested.

- Officer Nuessle
- Investigator Hileman
- Investigator Aigner
- Sergeant Menzies
- Officer Stirnaman
- Officer Hartman

Officer of the Year

The Officer of the Year is awarded to the officer who was nominated by his or her peers and supervisors and selected by the Chief of Police for exemplary performance during the previous year.



In the few short years Officer Bonistalli has been a member of this department, he has consistently shown professionalism, dedication, and leadership attributes. He has taken on extra duties to include Traffic Safety and Crash Team.





Incident	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2011 Cleared	Percent Cleared	Different from 2010 to 2011
Arson	1	1	-	5	-	-	0%	-100%
Assault Offenses								
Aggravated Assault	9	13	14	14	14	14	100%	NC
Simple Assault	106	128	124	130	138	133	96%	5.80%
Intimidation	1	1	10	11	6	4	67%	-83.33%
Bribery	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Burglary/B&E	22	27	21	22	30	11	37%	26.67%
Counterfeiting/Forgery	10	14	11	14	16	11	69%	12.50%
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism	151	148	143	125	90	36	40%	-38.89%
Drug/Narcotic Offenses								
Drugs/Narcotic Violations	64	34	61	79	79	77	97%	NC
Drug Equipment Violations	-	15	9	45	46	44	96%	2.17%
Embezzlement	3	5	9	4	8	8	100%	50.00%
Extortions/Blackmail	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Fraud								
False Pretense/Swindle	12	16	15	19	12	5	42%	-58.33%
Credit Card/Automatic Teller	30	26	13	19	23	4	17%	17.39%
Impersonation	4	4	5	8	2	2	100%	-75.00%
Welfare Fraud	-	1	-	-	-	-		
Wire Fraud	-	-	1	1	2	-	0%	50.00%
Homicide Offenses								
Murder/Non-negligent Manslaughter	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Negligent Manslaughter	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Justifiable Homicide	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Kidnapping/Abduction	1	-	1	1	4	4		300.00%
Larceny/Theft Offenses								
Pocket-Picking	2	3	-	-	-	-		
Purse-Snatching	3	5	-	-	-	-		
Shoplifting	20	19	44	19	42	27	64%	54.76%
Theft from Building	105	58	66	62	39	9	23%	-58.97%
Theft from Coin Machine	2	6	-	-	1	-	0%	100.00%
Theft from Motor Vehicle	29	35	66	33	35	1	3%	5.71%
Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts	13	25	15	17	15	1	7%	-13.33%
All other Larceny	80	62	44	40	59	10	17%	32.20%
Motor Vehicle Theft	20	22	17	11	18	4	22%	38.89%
Obscene Material/Pornography	-	1	1	1	1	1	100%	NC
Prostitution Offenses								
Prostitution	3	-	1	-	2	2	100%	100.00%
Assisting or Promoting Prostitution	1	-	1	-	-	-		
Robbery	8	8	10	4	-	-		-100.00%
Sex Offense: Forcible								
Rape	2	4	-	3	2	2	100%	-50.00%
Sodomy	-	1	-	-	-	-		
Sexual Assault with Object	-	1	-	-	-	-		
Fondling/Indecent Liberties/Child Molesting	3	3	3	4	4	4	100%	NC
Sex Offense: Non-Forcible								
Incest	-	-	-	-	-	-		
Statutory Rape	-	-	-	-	1	1	100%	100.00%
Stolen Property Offense	1	1	1	4	2	2	100%	-50.00%
Weapons Violations	12	11	9	8	10	10	100%	20.00%
Total for all offense	718	698	715	703	701	427	61%	-0.29%
Total Part 1 Offenses	315	287	297	230	255	79	31%	9.80%