

# ALEXANDRIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

## 2009 ANNUAL REPORT







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## MISSION AND VALUES



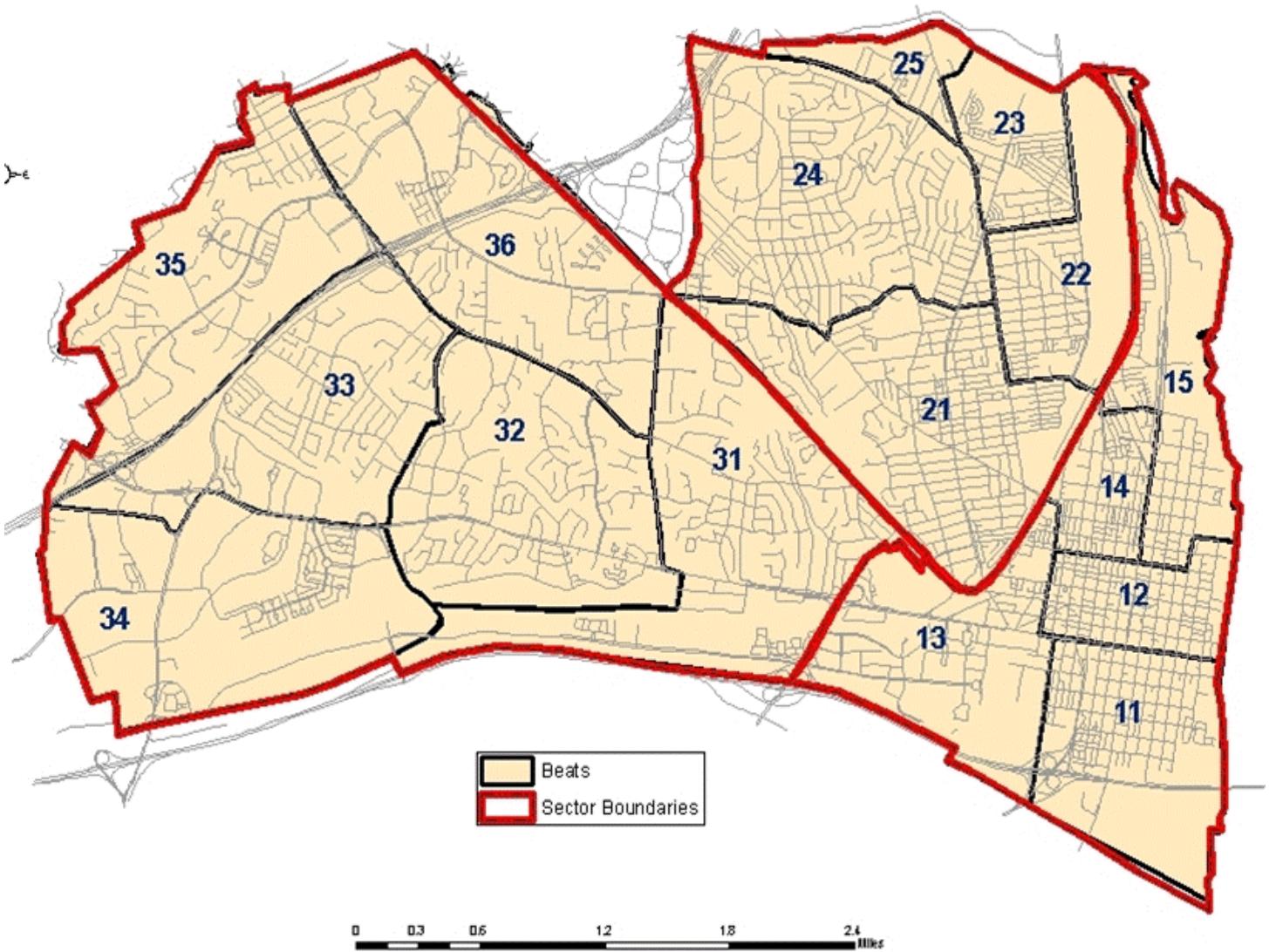
The mission of the Alexandria Police Department is to provide competent, courteous, professional and community-oriented police services. We are committed to maintaining and enhancing a strong and productive partnership with the community to continue to reduce crime and improve the quality of life in all of Alexandria's neighborhoods. We are dedicated to protecting life and property while assuring fair and equal treatment to everyone.

Central to the Department's mission are the values that guide its work and decisions. We, the men and women of the Alexandria Police Department, value:

- Human Life
- Dignity
- Integrity
- Laws and Constitution
- Excellence
- Accountability
- Cooperation
- Problem-solving
- Ourselves

2009 POLICE DEPARTMENT AUTHORIZED PERSONNEL	
CHIEF	1
DEPUTY CHIEF	4
CAPTAIN	8
LIEUTENANT	13
SERGEANT	43
OFFICER	246
SWORN TOTAL	315
CIVILIAN	152
TOTAL	467





## CITY OF ALEXANDRIA

Alexandria is located on the west bank of the Potomac River and Washington, D.C. and nine miles north of Mount Vernon. The City was founded in 1749, and became known as a port of entry for foreign vessels and a major export center for flour and hemp.

Today, Alexandria is home to 142,420 residents. Throughout the years, the City has experienced unprecedented commercial development. Today the Old Town historic district is known for its array of museums, architecture, special events, fine restaurants and hotels, and other attractions that draw more than 1.5 million international and domestic visitors to it each year. More than two million square feet of new office complexes have been constructed. With this development, the City has become a mecca for divisional, regional, national, and multinational headquarters for operations ranging from research and development to high technology, associations, and professional services.\*

## ACCESS ALEXANDRIA

The goal of Access Alexandria is to engage the community in various platforms, including social media Web sites where people are participating in rapidly increasing numbers. The objective is to strengthen City responsiveness and transparency by using multiple tools to inform the community about City events, programs, services, emergencies and more.

- Follow the City on Twitter  
(AlexandriaVAGov)
- Follow the City on Facebook  
(City of Alexandria, Virginia)
- Sign up for eNews Alerts at  
[www.alexandriava.gov/enews](http://www.alexandriava.gov/enews)

\* Source: About Alexandria, <http://www3.alexandriava.gov/city/about-alexandria/about.html>



## CHIEF'S MESSAGE

EARL L. COOK, CHIEF OF POLICE

I am pleased to present the 2009 Annual Report for the Alexandria Police Department. Throughout the past year, the Police Department has met emerging challenges in an effort to protect and serve the City and its residents. Throughout our Annual Report, we have strived to capture the highlights and events that made this year so successful.

This year has been filled with challenges and change. In times of change, success in law enforcement is the result of many individuals acting in concert to fulfill our mission. These actions are selfless and a gleaming example of the hard work and dedication that our officers and civilian employees contribute on a daily basis. A department is only as good as the individuals it employs. This past year is proof that our Police Department employs the best. Despite working with diminished resources, crime remains low. As our Department faced a time of challenge, we remained a constant and unwavering presence in the community.

This year ended with an overall decrease in major crime. In fact, 2009 resulted in a historic 43 year low in Part 1 crime. This is truly a remarkable accomplishment. It is an accomplishment that comes as a result of the dedication and hard work of all the men and women of the Police Department. We can be proud that as the City has faced economic challenges and many tough choices, we have been able to continually lower crime



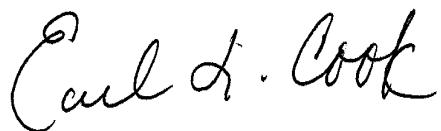
Chief Cook talks with a resident following the September 11 ceremony in 2009.

throughout Alexandria.

The crime declines over the last few years illustrate that we are a Department ready to meet the challenges ahead and will continue to utilize the best practices in policing. Public safety remains the number one priority. Our Department will continue to strive to further decrease crime and improve the quality of life for all residents.

I want to acknowledge the men and women of the Alexandria Police Department for their dedication, their performance and their professionalism. I also want to thank the Mayor and City Council, the City Manager and his staff, Sheriff Dana Lawhorne, Commonwealth's Attorney Randy Sengel and the residents of Alexandria for their support of these men and women. It is my hope that working together we can continue to make Alexandria a wonderful and safe place to live, work or visit for years to come.

Sincerely and Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Earl L. Cook".

Earl L. Cook  
Chief of Police

## CHIEF EARL COOK

Chief Cook has spent his entire career as a member of the Alexandria Police Department. He began as a police academy recruit in January 1979. Upon graduation from the academy, he worked in patrol and criminal investigations until 1989. Over the next six years, he was promoted several times, advancing to sergeant, lieutenant, captain, and assistant chief. As assistant chief, he managed the Investigations Bureau. He was named Deputy Chief of the Investigations Bureau three years later. In 2006, he rose to the position of Executive Deputy Chief. In this position, he served as second in command; acted for the Police Chief in his absence; and provided significant direction on the police department's policy and budget.

Chief Cook was born and raised in the City of Alexandria. He grew up on Princess Street and attended Lyles-Crouch Elementary School, Parker-Gray Middle School and George Washington High School through 10th grade. He transferred to T.C. Williams High School, after the school was integrated, and became a member of the historic Titans football team. After graduating from T. C. Williams in 1973, he attended Duke University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in history and education. He currently resides in Alexandria.



Chief Cook pauses to take a picture with City Manager James K. Hartmann during National Night out in August 2009.

# JANUARY



Officer Tim Kyburz spent Inauguration Day providing added security at the King Street Metro Station. As many entrances to Washington, DC were closed, residents and visitors used Metro as their primary mode of transportation.

## PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION

Inauguration Day began with a 3:00 A.M. roll call. Following roll call, 17 officers boarded a bus for Washington, DC where they would assist with the day's events. The remaining personnel were assigned their duties throughout the City.

The Department's Special Operations Team (SOT) provided security at all Metro and train stations throughout the City. The Parking Enforcement Unit provided traffic control at various major intersections and highway entrances. The Motor Unit, Street Crimes Unit, and Special Resource Unit comprised the Traffic Strike Team. The team purpose was to assist in any traffic incidents or backups that may occur.

The Metro stations were the biggest obstacle on Inauguration Day. With all roads into Washington, DC, closed, public transportation was the most efficient way to enter Washington, DC. Residents and visitors began filling the stations early. Despite the large crowds, there were no incidents at any of the Metro or train stations in the City.

Police personnel were stationed at each of the road closures throughout the City. These employees helped redirect traffic and ensure no cars passed through the barricades.

"As a result of our diligent preparation, the entire day was smooth and without problems," said Lieutenant James Bartlett, "This is due in large part to the officers involved."

## ALEXANDRIA POLICE RESOLVE BARRICADE INCIDENT ON WAPLE LANE

On January 30, around 11:00 A.M., officers were called to the 5000 block of Waple Lane for reports of shots fired. Upon arrival, officers located a victim suffering from gun shot wounds. The victim was transported to a local hospital and was listed in serious, but stable condition.

Despite the urging of police officials, the suspect refused to leave his residence. Officers secured the area. The residents in the houses in the Cameron Station area were warned to stay in their homes and nearby Samuel Tucker Elementary School was temporarily placed on lockdown. Alexandria Police Special Operations Team (SOT), Hostage Negotiation Team (HNT), and K-9 Units responded to the scene.

At approximately 10:45 P.M., officers heard a gunshot come from the suspect's residence. Entry was made and the suspect was found dead of an apparent self-inflicted gun shot wound. Alexandria Police identified the suspect as James Downs, a 44 year-old Alexandria man.



# FEBRUARY

## ARREST MADE IN HOMICIDE OF CAB DRIVER

Alexandria detectives arrested two adults and one juvenile for the murder of Khalil Siddiqi. Joshua Moore, 18, of Prince George's County, Maryland, and Jamal Berry, 20, of Alexandria, Virginia, were charged with Murder and Robbery. A 16 year-old juvenile, also an Alexandria resident, was charged with Murder and Robbery.

On January 18, at approximately 12:21 A.M., police found a cab driver unresponsive in his vehicle at the intersection of Princess Street and Buchanan Street. Medics arrived and

the victim was pronounced dead at the scene. An autopsy determined the manner of death to be homicide. The cause of death was determined to be a gun shot wound to the upper body.

## ARREST MADE IN OLD TOWN ROBBERY

Alexandria Police Department detectives arrested Junior Anthony Phillips, 32, of no fixed address, in connection with an incident that occurred in August 2008 and charged him with Robbery.

On August 27, 2008, at approximately 10:30 P.M., the victim,

a 24 year-old Fairfax woman, was walking in the 400 block of South Union Street. The victim reports that an unknown suspect approached her and brandished a firearm. The suspect removed cash from the victim and fled. There were no injuries.

## GEORGE WASHINGTON PARADE

On February 16, the Police Department participated in the George Washington Parade. The Motor Unit led the parade and the Chief of Police marched with the Fire Chief and Sheriff.



# MARCH

## JUANTISSA HILL HOMICIDE ARREST

On March 9, a grand jury for the Circuit Court for the City of Alexandria returned an indictment charging Rodney Eric Smith, 31, with first degree murder, forcible sodomy, robbery, and grand larceny in connection with the death of Juantissa Hill.

Ms. Hill, 24, was found dead in her apartment in the 300 block of South Van Dorn Street on December 2, 2008, after co-workers voiced concern that she had not arrived for work that morning. Police Department detectives worked with the Naval Criminal Investigative Section (NCIS) throughout their investigation.

Smith is currently incarcerated. He is serving a sentence in another state for an unrelated charge, and is also wanted for failing to appear on other charges in a third state. The Commonwealth's Attorney's Office will initiate appropriate legal proceedings to obtain custody of Mr. Smith so he can be brought to Virginia to stand trial. Interstate transfer of inmates is governed by the Interstate Agreement on Detainers, and proceedings under this agreement could take several months to complete.

## BAIT CAR DONATION

On March 18, the Alexandria Police Department became the recipient of a new bait car donated by Allstate® Insurance Company. The vehicle is equipped with new technology in an effort to help reduce auto thefts and to deter potential criminal activity in Alexandria. There were 374 auto thefts in 2008 and 344 in 2009.

## OFFICER KYLE RUSSEL HONORED



Officer Aaron Fisher and Officer Kyle Russel pose for pictures following the presentation of Officer Russel's award on March 22. At the time he was shot, Officer Russel was training Officer Fisher.

On March 27, Safariland, a BAE systems company, inducted Officer Russel into its "Legion of Life" program as Save number 1835. The "Legion of Life" program recognizes and honors officers who have been saved in the line of duty while wearing one of the company's life saving products.

Officer Russel was wearing Safariland body armor on Tuesday, September 23, when he was shot in the line of duty. Safariland had previously honored Officer Russel and Officer Jeff Chandler of the Pasco County, Florida Sheriff's Department, at their 2008 Shot Show held in Florida in December 2008.

Since its inception in 1972, Safariland's Saves Program "Legion of Life" has honored more than 1,800 officers saved while serving their communities.

Allstate® has donated cars to law enforcement agencies throughout the country as part of their Anti-Theft Program. These specially equipped vehicles are used by local law enforcement to catch car thieves in action. Bait Cars appear to be normal vehicles, but have hidden security features that enable law enforcement to remotely monitor any theft and

disable the vehicle so that the car stops and locks the thief inside.

Sergeant Shahram Fard worked closely with Allstate to arrange the donation of the new bait car. It is hoped that the new car will help catch and deter car thieves throughout the City of Alexandria.

# APRIL



Officer Jeetpal Panesar, Officer Aaron Fisher, Officer Kyle Russel and Officer Tim Kyburz were the Police Department's award recipients at the 2009 Valor Awards.

## VALOR AWARDS 2009

The 23rd Annual Valor Awards ceremony was held on April 30, at the Hilton at Mark Center. Fifteen recipients from the Alexandria Police Department, Fire Department and Office of the Sheriff took the stage as their stories of heroism were told before a crowd of approximately 250 colleagues, community leaders, family and friends. The awards, which are public safety's highest honor, are sponsored each year by the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce.

Among those honored were four members of the Police Department. Officer Kyle Russel received a silver medal and Officer Aaron Fisher received a bronze medal for their heroic action during a traffic stop on

September 23, 2008, during which Officer Russel was shot.

Officer Jeetpal Panesar received a bronze medal for his bravery at the scene of a vehicle crash on February 2, 2008. Officer Panesar saved the

life of a little girl who was being choked by her seatbelt after the vehicle she was in turned over. The child, who had been suspended from her seatbelt, had marks on her neck from the incident, but was otherwise unharmed. The Pediatric Staff of INOVA Alexandria Hospital confirmed that the quick response of Officer Panesar saved the child's life.

Officer Tim Kyburz received a Life Saving Award for his actions following a tornado that tore apart his Stafford County neighborhood on May 8, 2008. Officer Tim Kyburz was able to warn neighbors of the impending tornado. After the tornado struck, Officer Kyburz put on a Department-issued thin vest with "POLICE" marked on the back and ran out of his house to render aide to his neighbors. Luckily, there appeared to be no serious injuries.

The tornado caused severe damage to the neighborhood. The Kyburz's home sustained the most damage. It would later be deemed uninhabitable. Fortunately, the family and everyone in the neighborhood were uninjured. Many of Officer Kyburz's neighbors credit him with saving their lives and the lives of their loved ones.

## Alexandria Police Charge City Employee with Embezzlement

Alexandria Police Detectives in cooperation with officials from the City of Alexandria's Transportation & Environmental Services (T&ES) and the Office of Management and Budget, began an investigation into allegations of embezzlement involving a T&ES employee earlier this year. Information received by the police department indicated that the employee, who was a parking meter repairman for the City of Alexandria, had been taking money from the parking meters while conducting repairs. The subsequent investigation resulted in the arrest of William J. Fell, 61, of Stafford County, Virginia. He was charged with two counts of embezzlement by a public officer. The embezzled funds are in excess of \$100,000. Fell plead guilty to Embezzlement charges and agreed to pay \$100,000 in restitution to the City.

# MAY

## POLICE WEEK 2009

First established by President John F. Kennedy in 1962, National Peace Officers Memorial Day is May 15. The week in which this date falls is known as National Police Week. This year, National Police Week took place from May 10 to May 16. Law enforcement officers from around the world gathered in Washington, DC to take part in the National Peace Officers' Memorial Service and Candlelight Vigil to recognize the service and sacrifice of U.S. law enforcement.

Alexandria served as host to many family members and friends, also known as "survivors," of fallen officers this year. Survivors stayed at the Mark Center Hilton and were transported to the various events that took place during the week. National Police Week began on Monday, May 10, with the Picayune Police Department honoring the Alexandria Police Department, Prince William Police Department and Virginia State Police for the aide they gave to Picayune in the months following Hurricane Katrina. Picayune Chief of Police Jim Luke expressed his gratitude and appreciation to all those who helped during the difficult time following



Back row (left to right): Sergeant Shawn Quigley, Officer Joseph Kirby, Officer David Allen, Captain Dianne Gittins, Officer Carl Wortham, Officer Bobby Taylor, Officer Keith Burkholder. Front row (left to right): Officer Michael Sprague, Sergeant Monica Lisle, Officer Loren West, Sergeant Gerald Ford, Officer Diana Barrett, Sergeant Terri Mucci, Lieutenant Scott Gibson and Padty Mayhew Davis

the hurricane. Each department was warmly thanked and presented with a plaque and a certificate. Additionally, the Alexandria Police Department also held a wreath-laying ceremony to honor those who died in the line of duty in Alexandria.

On May 12, the Police Unity Tour

passed through Alexandria, briefly stopping in Fort Hunt Park. They continued their ride down South Washington Street and onto the George Washington Parkway towards their final destination, the National Law Enforcement Officers' Memorial in Washington, DC.

## POLICE K-9 "GAGE" GRADUATES

Police K-9 "Gage" and his trainer, Sergeant Cindy Scott, graduated from the Prince William County Police Department's K-9 Unit Facility on May 28.

Gage and Sergeant Scott attended a 17-week Basic Canine Training class. In order to graduate, Gage and Sgt. Scott had to be able to successfully perform obedience using just voice commands. The pair can negotiate obstacles, perform article and area searches for evidence and property, have the ability to track a suspect, conduct building searches, and indicate and perform all phases of criminal apprehension.

Gage began his new full time position in the K-9 Unit on June 1.



# JUNE

## NEW HEADQUARTERS GROUNDBREAKING

The Police Department broke ground at the future site of its new headquarters in a small ceremony on June 13. The main headquarters building will be approximately 126,000 square feet on four levels with a separate parking structure. The building will be located along Wheeler Avenue. The opening of the new headquarters will allow for the relocation of all current Police occupied facilities to the new building, including the Public Safety Center

(police occupied space); Administrative and Criminal Investigations Offices at the Hoffman Center, Eisenhower Avenue; Field Operations located at the Avalon Bay Building on Eisenhower Avenue; and Vehicle Storage Warehouse located on Hooff's Run Drive.

## ALEXANDRIA POLICE INVESTIGATE HOMICIDE ON NORTH PAYNE STREET

On Thursday, June 18, at 6:00 P.M., officers responded to the 600 block

of N. Payne Street for a report of an assault. Upon their arrival, they found a man lying on the ground suffering from trauma to the upper body. The victim was transported to INOVA Alexandria Hospital where he was pronounced dead.

An autopsy was performed and determined the manner of death to be homicide. Alexandria Police identified the victim of the homicide as Michael James Horton, 45, of Butler, Pennsylvania. To date, no arrest has been made



Members of the Police Department, Sheriff's Office and City Council helped break ground on the new Police headquarters building. The building will be located on Wheeler Avenue. It is expected to be completed in 2011.

# JULY

## HEROES, INC. GOLF TOURNAMENT

On July 9 and 10, Honor Every Responsible Officers Eternal Sacrifice (HEROES), Inc. held their annual golf tournament at the Potomac Ridge Golf Course in Waldorf, Maryland. Members of the Police Department came out to show their support and participate in the two day tournament.

HEROES Inc. is a nonprofit charitable organization serving the Washington Metropolitan area whose sole purpose is to provide financial aid and professional counsel to survivors of law enforcement officers and firefighters killed in the line of duty.

Since its inception in 1964, 182 law enforcement officers and firefighters have been killed in the line of duty in the Washington Metropolitan area. These heroes left behind 224 children. HEROES, Inc. has been there for the families of four Alexandria police officers killed in the line of duty, as well as the families of two Alexandria firefighters and one deputy sheriff.

## ACTING CHIEF

In July, Earl L. Cook assumed the role of Acting Chief of Police following the retirement of Former Police Chief David Baker. He had been a member of the Police Department for over 30 years and had served as Executive Deputy Chief since 2006.

## HOMICIDE ON MANOR ROAD

On July 29, at approximately 6:30 P.M., an officer was flagged down by a woman in need of assistance in the 700 block of manor Road. Upon investigation, the officer located the victim's body in a vehicle. The victim was pronounced dead at the scene.

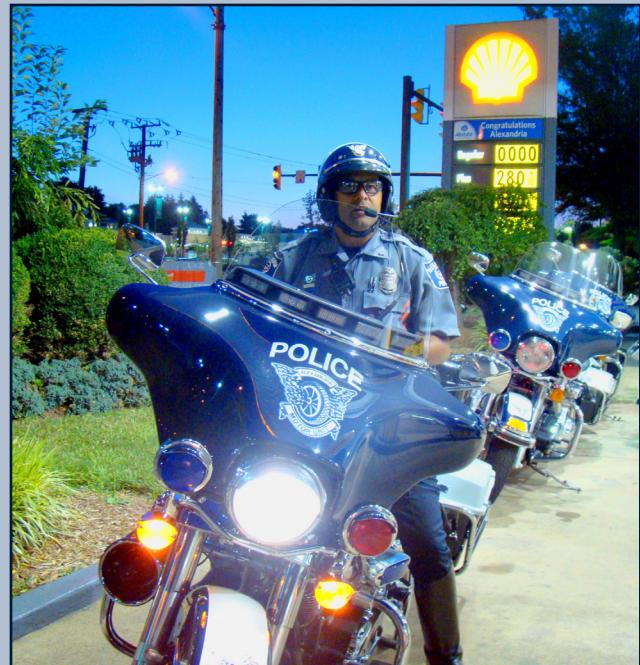
Police identified the victim of the homicide as Claros Luna, 40, of Prince George's County. An autopsy determined the manner of death to be homicide. The cause of death was a gunshot wound to the upper body. The case has been closed by arrest.

## ALLSTATE GAS GIVEAWAY

On July 8, Allstate Insurance Company congratulated Alexandria motorists for their improved safe driving skills by giving away free gas at the Shell gas station located at 4670 Duke Street. The free gas giveaway coincided with the release of Allstate's fifth annual "Allstate America's Best Drivers Report." The report ranks America's 200 largest cities in terms of car collision frequency to identify which cities have the safest drivers according to Allstate data.

This year's top honor of "America's Most Improved Driving City" is Alexandria, VA. According to the report, the average driver in Alexandria will experience an auto collision every 7.2 years, an improvement of 1.8 years since 2005.

Alexandria City officials were proud to be recognized for their progress in driving safety, but realize there is still room for more improvements and continue working with residents to help make roads even safer. Safe driving practices include minimizing distractions such as cell phones, text messaging, and other tasks while driving; staying alert and being cautious of road conditions; maintaining safe distances from surrounding vehicles; and ensuring parts of the vehicle, such as brakes, tires and lights are working properly.



Officer Peter Laboy was one of the many officers who assisted with traffic control during the gas giveaway. Officers ensured drivers followed the specified traffic pattern and did not disobey any laws.

# AUGUST



Officer Daniel Morris gave out Motor Unit pins during National Night Out. Officer Morris and the other members of the Motor Unit traveled throughout the City visiting numerous National Night Out events.

## Alexandria Celebrates National Night Out

On August 4, from 5:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M., City officials partnered with Alexandria Police to celebrate National Night Out. The special celebration is part of a nationwide crime and drug prevention effort sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW).

To heighten awareness of crime

prevention, residents in more than 25 Alexandria neighborhoods turned on their porch lights, hosted neighborhood cook-outs and sponsored block parties in support of National Night Out. Mayor William D. Euille, members of City Council and Chief of Police Earl Cook visited residents throughout the City.

McGruff the Crime Dog, the K-9 Unit, Bike Patrol Unit and Motor Unit toured neighborhoods and offered special

demonstrations.

"National Night Out is an opportunity to celebrate the neighborhood spirit and strengthen our relationship with the community," says Chief Cook. "Our residents continue to support our department in reducing serious crime and in keeping Alexandria a safe place to live. National Night Out provides us with the opportunity to thank residents for their vigilance and their dedication to the City."

# SEPTEMBER

## HOMICIDE ON SOUTH WHITING STREET

Alexandria Police investigated a homicide in the 300 block of S. Whiting Street. On Thursday, September 3 around 11:00 P.M., officers responded for a report of a man lying in the parking lot. Upon their arrival, they found a man suffering from trauma to the upper body. The victim was transported to INOVA Fairfax Hospital where he was pronounced dead.

Police identified the victim as Sylvester Muskelly, 50, of no fixed address. An autopsy determined the manner of death to be homicide. The cause of death was a gunshot wound to the upper body.

Detectives charged Jose Alberto Osorio, Jr., 19, of Metairie, LA, with first degree murder in the death of Sylvester Muskelly on September 3. He was transported to the Alexandria Adult Detention Center. He was also charged with carrying a concealed weapon and being a fugitive from justice. He had been wanted by the Jefferson Parish Sheriff's Office in Louisiana for armed robbery.

## SERIAL BURGLAR ARRESTED

Alexandria Police arrested a serial burglar who was wanted in connection with several Old Town burglaries. On September 25, at approximately 2:30 P.M., officers arrested Ralph L. Fowler, 61, of no fixed address, in the 600 block of S. Alfred Street without incident.

Detectives had developed Fowler as a lead suspect in the series of burglaries and obtained 23 warrants for his

## CITY NAMES NEW POLICE CHIEF

On August 25, City Manager James K. Hartmann announced the appointment of Acting Chief Earl L. Cook as the new Chief of Police of the Alexandria Police Department. He is a 30-year veteran of the Police Department and is the first African-American in the City's 260-year history to serve as Chief of Police. Chief Cook, who is a native Alexandrian, will be responsible for the administration of a 400-member police department. He replaces former Chief of Police David P. Baker, who retired on July 28.



Chief Cook spent his entire career as a member of the Alexandria Police Department. He began as a police academy recruit in January 1979. Upon graduation from the academy, he worked in patrol and criminal investigations until 1989. Over the next six years, he was promoted several times, advancing to sergeant, lieutenant, captain, and assistant chief. As assistant chief, he managed the Criminal Investigations Bureau, and was named Deputy Chief in that role three years later. In 2006, he rose to the position of Executive Deputy Chief, serving as second in command; acting for the Police Chief in his absence; and providing significant direction on the police department's policy and budget.

Chief Cook was born and raised in the City of Alexandria. He grew up on Princess Street and attended Lyles-Crouch Elementary School, Parker-Gray Middle School and George Washington High School through 10th grade. He transferred to T.C. Williams High School, after the school was integrated, and became a member of the historic Titans football team. After graduating from T. C. Williams in 1973, he attended Duke University, where he earned a bachelor's degree in history and education. He currently resides in Alexandria and has three children and two grandchildren.

arrest. Eight of the warrants were for Grand Larceny, an additional eight warrants were for Grand Larceny with Intent to Sell and seven more warrants were obtained for Statutory Burglary. He was taken to the Alexandria Adult Detention Center where he was being held without bond.

## KIWANIS OFFICER OF THE YEAR

On September 17, Sergeant Terri Mucci was names Kiwanis Officer of the Year for her bravery during the barricade on Waple Lane in January 2009.

# OCTOBER

## ARREST MADE IN BANK ROBBERY

Alexandria Police investigated a bank robbery that occurred on October 9 at the Wachovia Bank, located at 3624 King Street. Around 10:19 A.M., a man walked into the bank, approached the teller and brandished a firearm. The suspect demanded money, took an undisclosed amount of cash and fled the bank. No one was injured.

Police charged Melchizedek Wynnel, 49, of Washington, DC, in connection with the bank robbery at the Wachovia Bank located at 3624 King Street. Wynnel was charged with one count of Robbery, two counts of Abduction by Force, three counts of Use of a Firearm in the Commission of a Felony, one count of Possession of a Firearm by a Convicted Felon and one count of Entering a Bank Armed with

the Intent to Commit Larceny.

## ARREST MADE IN "OPEN HOUSE" LARCENIES

Alexandria Police charged two men in connection with several larcenies from open houses, hosted by Realtors that occurred over the past few months. Warrants were obtained for John Palmer, Jr., 51, of Glen Burnie, Maryland, and Samuel Goldstein, 22, of Dundalk, Maryland.

Detectives developed Palmer and Goldstein as suspects in this series of larcenies. They worked with the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors (NVAR) to disseminate the information about these individuals. Through this cooperative effort, Palmer and Goldstein were recognized in Baltimore, Maryland, attending open houses. Both men were arrested on

Sunday, October 4, by Baltimore City Police.

Detectives obtained nine warrants for Palmer and Goldstein. These warrants stem from three separate cases in Alexandria. Three of the warrants were for Grand Larceny, an additional three warrants were for Grand Larceny with Intent to Sell and three more warrants were obtained for Conspiracy to Commit Larceny.

## SUNRISE OPTIMIST CLUB OFFICER OF THE YEAR

On October 27, Peyton Jones was honored as the 2009 Sunrise Optimist Club Officer of the Year Award. Ms. Jones was nominated for her tireless work on behalf of the families and children in the City of Alexandria.

## K-9 UNIT CELEBRATES 50TH ANNIVERSARY

The K-9 Unit of the Alexandria Police Department celebrated its 50th Anniversary on October 26, at its K-9 facilities at 1108B Jefferson St. Many people came out to honor the unit, including several former K-9 handlers, both retired and those still with the department but serving in a different function. Officers provided a demonstration of the working partnership between a trained handler and dog for crime detection and prevention.

In 1959, the Alexandria Police Department was the first in the metropolitan Washington area to use dogs in police work. Dogs are particularly valuable for police work because of their extraordinary sense of smell. Not only are the dogs able to detect odors undetectable by humans, they are also able to differentiate among several scents at the same time, as well as recognize those combinations of odors that characterize only one object or one individual.

The Alexandria K-9 unit has eight officer-canine teams in service. Teams are available around the clock to assist in various police operations such as searching buildings, tracking criminals, and locating missing persons. Three of the dogs are specially trained to detect narcotics, and one to detect explosives. The K-9 handlers carry special remote control equipment, which are able to monitor and adjust the inside temperature of patrol cars where the dogs are kept. These vehicles are also specially adapted and fitted to contain the dogs and protect them from injury in the case of accident.



Deputy Chief Cleveland Spruill and K-9 Sergeant Cindy Scott spoke at the 50th anniversary celebration on October 26.

# NOVEMBER

## PROMOTIONAL CEREMONY

On November 20, 2009, the Police Department held a promotional ceremony celebrating staff that had been promoted or elevated during the past year.

This Ceremony continues the tradition of recognizing those that are being promoted as well as those that are furthering their careers through elevation and advancement. This tradition reflects the core values of the Police Department because it recognizes that all employees contribute to the mission of the Alexandria Police Department.

## ARREST MADE IN SERIES OF ROBBERIES

Detectives charged two men with multiple counts of Robbery after an intensive investigation into several robberies that occurred over the last month.

The robberies occurred on:

- October 27 on West Glebe Road
- November 2 in the 3800 block of Eisenhower Avenue
- November 6 in the 3800 block of Executive Avenue
- November 10 at the intersection of Leadbetter Street and Commonwealth Avenue

Detectives charged Juan M. Benitez, 18, of the 3900 block of Bruce Street, with four counts of Robbery and Gustavo Adolfo Ruiz Hernandez, 21, of the 600 block of Notabene Street, with one count of Robbery.

## ROBBERY

Alexandria Police are investigating a

## BARRICADE ON ASCOT COURT

On November 30, around 5:30 P.M., officers were called to the 5500 block of Ascot Court to check on an individual who was believed to be armed and distraught. After making contact with the officers, the individual refused to leave his residence. Officers secured the area. The apartments immediately adjacent to the individual's residence were evacuated. Alexandria Special Operations Team (SOT), Hostage Negotiation Team (HNT) and K-9 Units responded to the scene.

At approximately 11:20 P.M., the individual surrendered to police without further incident. There were no injuries. Sanger Avenue, between Van Dorn Street and Beauregard Street, was closed for approximately six hours.



Captain David Huchler and Sergeant Stafford Farmer-Lee controlled the perimeter and assisted in creating strategies that resulted in a safe resolution to the barricade incident.

robbery that occurred on November 14 in the 300 block of Pendleton Street. The suspect is described as black, in his thirties, 5 feet 10 inches to 6 feet tall. He was wearing a baseball cap and dark jacket.

Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to call Detective Will Oakley at 703.838.4314 or the Crime Solvers tip line at 703.838.4858.



Chief Cook is sworn in during the Promotional Ceremony on November 20.

# DECEMBER

## WELCOME HOME ORLANDO SANTIAGO

On Monday, December 14, Detective Orlando Santiago returned to the Alexandria Police Department. Detective Santiago, a Command Sergeant Major with the United States Army Reserve, just completed a tour in Iraq. He has been gone since April of 2008. The men and women of the Alexandria Police Department welcome him back and thank him for his service and dedication to our country.

## WRAP AWARDS

On December 11, Deputy Chief Eddie Reyes was honored by the Washington Regional Alcohol Program's (WRAP) 2009 Law Enforcement Award. Deputy

Chief Reyes is a well-known name in the fight against both drunk driving and underage drinking in Virginia. He was recognized for his tireless commitment to impaired driving enforcement and prevention initiatives.

In the last four years and prior to being named Deputy Chief of the City of Alexandria Police Department earlier this year, Reyes worked as the department's primary coordinator to combat aggressive and drunk driving in Alexandria. In this capacity, he both applied for and managed a spectrum of aggressive driving and DUI enforcement grants. Through these grants, he secured funding which enabled the City of Alexandria to pay for its heralded mobile saturation enforcement campaigns and stationary

sobriety checkpoints.

These anti-drunk driving enforcement efforts have undoubtedly contributed to Alexandria posting double-digit percentage decreases in both alcohol-related crashes and injuries occurring on its city streets in 2008.

His supervisors say Deputy Chief Reyes is a "significant contributor" to the department's efforts to prevent and deter both aggressive driving and drunk driving and has established himself as a standout among other outstanding Alexandria police officers in his effort to help others and to personally enforce aggressive driving and DWI laws.

## HOMICIDE ON EAST MONROE AVENUE

On Friday, December 18, at approximately 7:30 P.M., officers responded for a report of shots fired. Upon their arrival, they found two victims. One victim was transported to a local hospital and was listed in stable condition.

The second victim was pronounced dead at the scene. An autopsy was performed and determined the manner of death to be homicide. Police identified the victim as Kossi Djossou, 19, of Fairfax County.

Detectives and officers responded to the scene and immediately began canvassing the area for the suspect. The suspect was located several hours later. When officers approached, he shot and killed himself.

Alexandria Police identified the suspect as Jose Russo, 50, of Alexandria. Autopsy results determined he died of a self inflicted gunshot wound to his upper body.

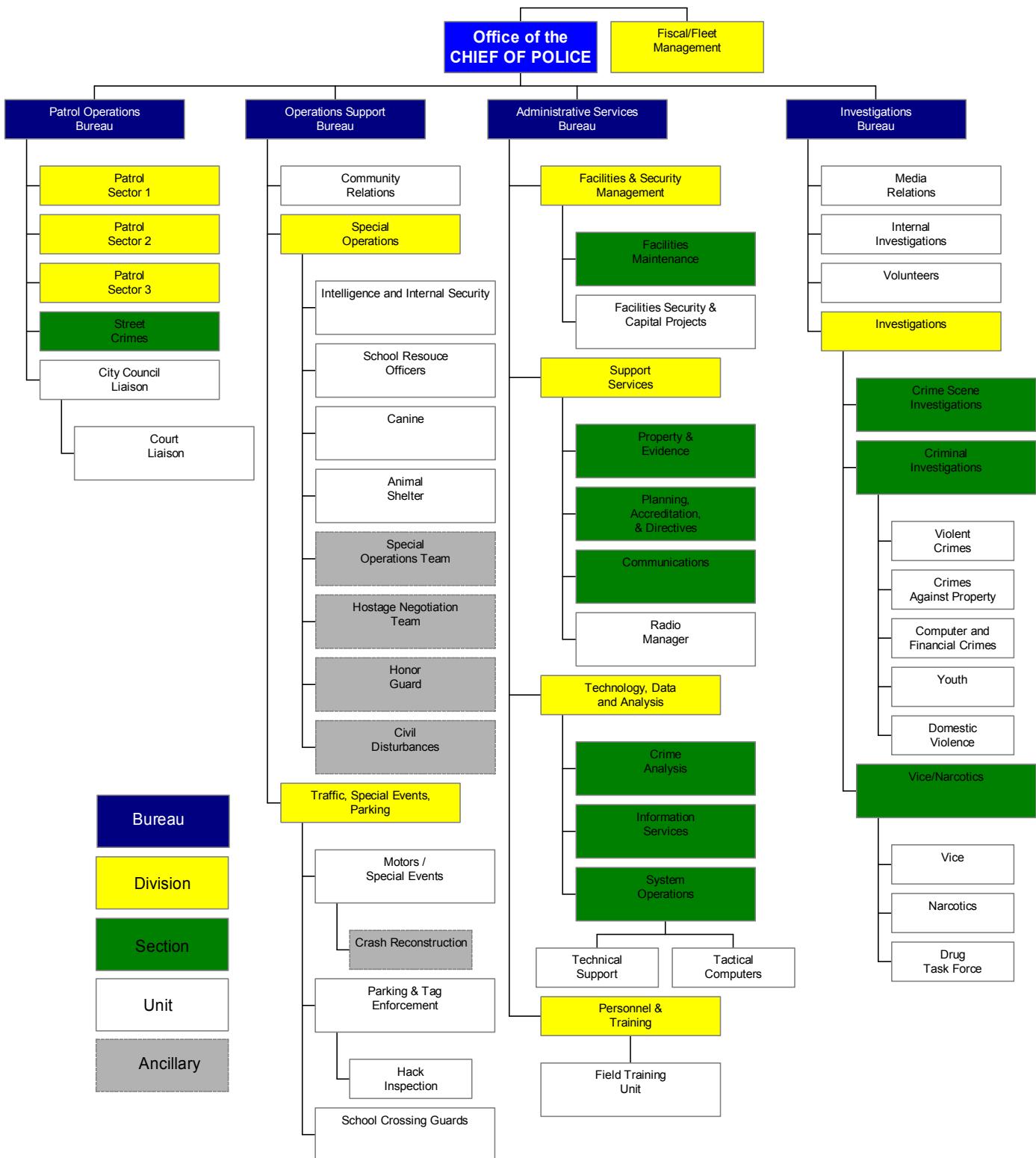
This was the fifth homicide in Alexandria this year. There were four homicides in Alexandria in 2008.



# DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION

ALEXANDRIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

DECEMBER 1, 2009



# RESTRUCTURING A POLICE DEPARTMENT

## DEPARTMENT REORGANIZATION

In June, changes were made to the Department's organizational structure as a result of the creation of a new fourth bureau, the Operations Support Bureau.

Previously, the Department consisted of three bureaus, Administrative Support, Investigations and Field Operations. The fourth bureau splits the Field Operations Bureau into two new bureaus designated as the Patrol Operations Bureau (POB) and Operations Support Bureau (OSB).

OSB consists of all components formerly considered the Special Operations Division. This includes the Traffic Division, K-9 Unit, School

Resources Unit, Community Relations Unit. OSB also manages all ancillary assignments, including the Special Operations Team, Hostage Negotiation Team, Honor Guard, Incident Command Resource, Civil Disturbance and Crash Reconstruction. The Bureau is commanded by Deputy Chief Blaine Corle.

The Patrol Operations Bureau is comprised of Patrol, City Council Liaison, Court Liaison, Field Training Unit and Street Crimes Unit.

The Investigations Bureau's Criminal Investigations Division has been reconfigured into two sections, the Property Crime Section and Crime Against Persons Section. Other than this change, the Investigations Bureau remains the same.

The structure of the Administrative Services Bureau is unchanged.



Sergeant Jim Craige and Lieutenant Len Fouch use the Department's technology to monitor events during Inauguration on January 20.



# CRIME STATISTICS

## PART 1 CRIME STATISTICS

OFFENSE	2008	2009	CHANGE	% CHANGE
HOMICIDE	4	5	1	25.0%
RAPE	35	15	-20	-57.1
ROBBERY	157	143	-14	-8.9
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	154	115	-39	-25.3
BURGLARY	314	325	11	3.5
LARCENY	2,813	2,755	-58	-2.1
AUTO THEFT	376	344	-32	-8.5
TOTAL	3,853	3,702	-151	-3.9%

## NUISANCE CRIME STATISTICS

OFFENSE	2008	2009	CHANGE	%CHANGE
DESTRUCTION/VANDALISM	1,893	1,646	-247	-13.0%
PROSTITUTION	22	29	7	31.8%
DRUG/NARCOTIC OFFENSES	450	469	19	4.2%
GAMBLING	13	8	-5	-38.5%
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	191	192	1	0.5%
DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE	506	463	-43	-8.5%
DRUNKENNESS	982	740	-242	-24.6%
LIQUOR LAW VIOLATIONS	550	566	16	2.9%
TOTAL	4,607	4,113	-494	-10.7%

# CRIME STATISTICS

## HISTORIC LOWS IN PART 1 CRIME

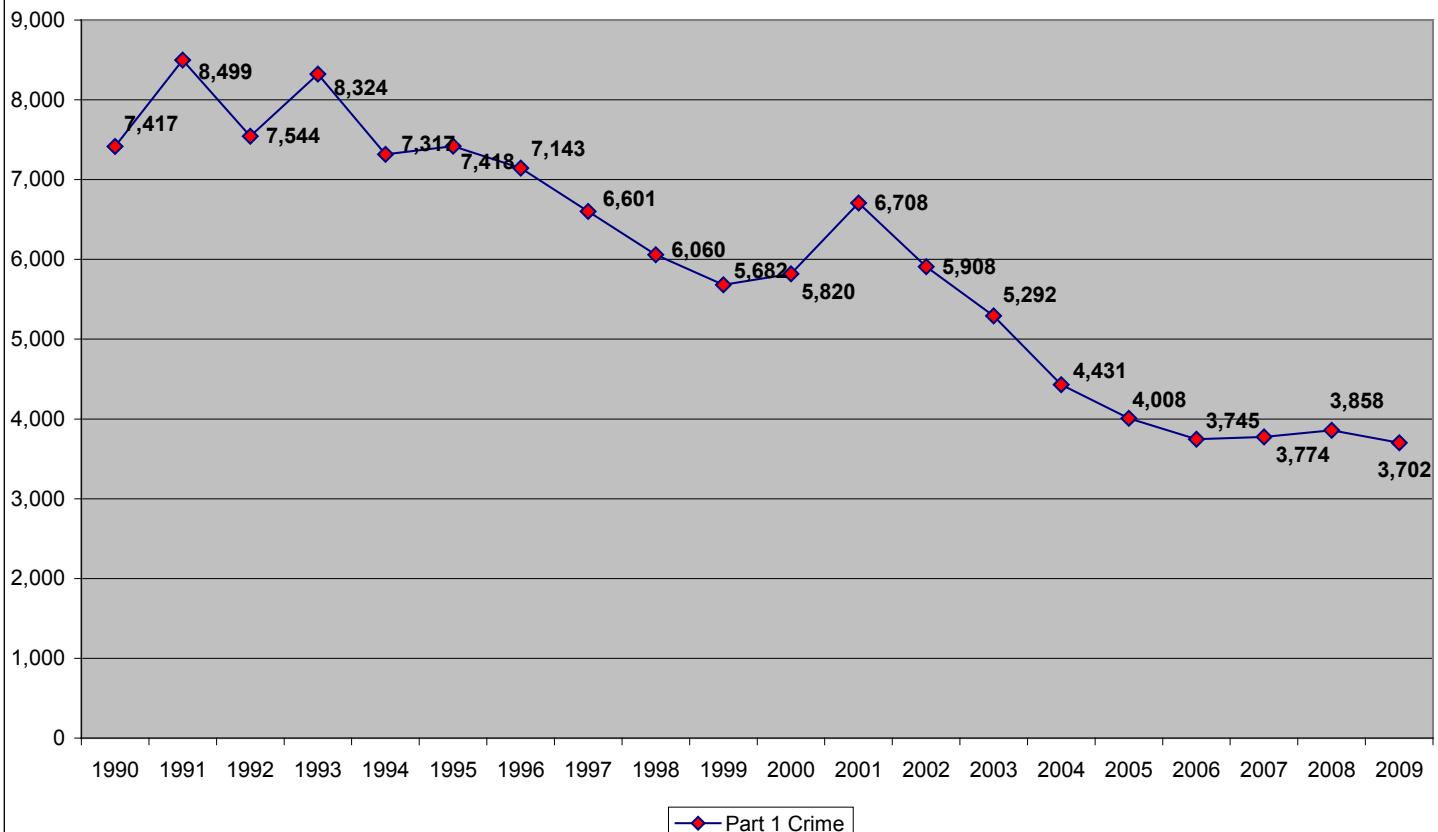
The City of Alexandria experienced an historic 40 year low in Part 1 crime in 2009. Part 1 Crime decreased 3.9%, or 151 offenses, compared with 2008.

"I wish to commend all the employees of the Police Department who worked extremely hard all year to contribute to this historic 40 year low in crime. The diminished resources we all face as a result of these difficult economic times challenge us everyday to provide quality Police service to

our community. I applaud the outstanding work and commitment of the men and women of the department, and the continued cooperation and support we receive from the residents we are proud to serve. I thank all of our residents and business partners, the Commonwealth Attorney's office, and the Sheriff's office, all of whom collaborated with the Police Department to make Alexandria a safer community," said Alexandria Police Chief Earl L. Cook.



**20 Year Part 1 Crime Comparison  
1990 - 2009**



# CRIME STATISTICS

## ARREST STATISTICS

	ADULT			JUVENILE			TOTAL		
	2008	2009	CHANGE	2008	2009	CHANGE	2008	2009	CHANGE
ARRESTS									
HOMICIDE	3	4	33.3%	0	2	N/C	3	6	100.0%
INTENTIONAL									
SEX OFFENSE RAPE	8	3	62.5%	0	0	N/C	8	3	-62.5%
FORCIBLE									
ROBBERY	53	57	7.5%	49	37	-24.5%	102	94	-7.8%
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	88	62	29.5%	22	9	-59.1%	110	71	-35.5%
BURGLARY	80	70	-12.5%	15	11	-26.7%	95	81	-14.7%
LARCENY (THEFT)	498	472	-5.2%	151	162	7.3%	649	634	-2.3%
GLA	43	23	-46.5%	7	17	142.9%	50	40	-20.0%
OTHER ASSAULT	541	476	-12.0%	94	106	12.8%	635	582	-8.3%
ARSON	1	1	0.0%	0	2	N/C	1	3	200.0%
FORGERY & COUNTER-FEIT	23	47	104.3%	3	1	-66.7%	26	48	84.6%
FRAUD	86	128	48.8%	1	2	100.0%	87	130	49.4%
EMBEZZELMENT	52	58	11.5%	13	5	-61.5%	65	63	-3.1%
STOLEN PROPERTY	6	13	116.7%	3	13	333.3%	9	26	188.9%
VANDALISM	136	122	-10.3%	23	26	13.0%	159	148	-6.9%
WEAPONS	31	22	-29.0%	13	11	-15.4%	44	33	-25.0%
PROSTITUTION	26	38	46.2%	0	0	N/C	26	38	46.2%
SEX OFFENSE OTHER	30	14	-53.3%	2	5	150.0%	32	19	-40.6%
DRUG ABUSE VIOLATION	409	427	4.4%	53	67	26.4%	462	494	6.9%
GAMBLING	28	13	-53.6%	4	2	-50.0%	32	15	-53.1%
D.W.I.	512	479	-6.4%	3	1	-66.7%	515	480	-6.8%
LIQUOR LAWS	654	655	0.2%	84	123	46.4%	738	778	5.4%
DRUNKENNESS	1,040	782	-24.8%	5	9	80.0%	1,045	791	-24.3%
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	183	174	-4.9%	16	20	25.0%	199	194	-2.5%
ALL OTHER OFFENSES	1,801	1,898	5.4%	362	454	25.4%	2,163	2,352	8.7%
TOTAL	6,332	6,038	-4.6%	923	1,085	17.6%	7,255	7,123	-1.8%

# CRIME STATISTICS

## CALLS FOR SERVICE

TYPE OF CALL RESPONDING TO	2008	2009	% Change
ABANDONED AUTO	470	364	-22.6%
ACCIDENT	5,543	5,454	-1.6%
ALARM	5,211	4,667	-10.4%
AMBULANCE/FIRE	798	946	18.5%
ANIMAL CARE	2,234	1,861	-16.7%
ASSAULT	698	623	-10.7%
AUTO THEFT	664	614	-7.5%
AUTO THEFT RECOVERY	211	140	-33.6%
BOMB THREAT	8	4	-50.0%
BURGLARY	593	643	8.4%
CITIZEN ARREST	1,716	1,434	-16.4%
DISORDERLY	4,645	4,494	-3.3%
DOMESTIC TROUBLE	2,701	2,725	0.9%
DRUGS	687	782	13.8%
DRUNK	1,530	1,208	-21.0%
E911 HANG-UP CALLS	1,915	1,711	-10.7%
ESCORT	115	159	38.3%
FIGHT	627	544	-13.2%
HOMICIDE	1	0	-100.0%
LARCENY	3,106	3,106	0.0%
LOCKED IN AUTO	84	65	-22.6%
LOUD PARTY/RADIO	182	231	26.9%
MISSING PERSON	358	353	-1.4%
NOISE COMPLAINT	2,585	2,422	-6.3%
OTHER	4,362	4,868	11.6%
PARKING	4,180	3,694	-11.6%
PHONE CALLS	451	405	-10.2%
PROPERTY LOST/FOUND	774	727	-6.1%
PROWLER	24	20	-16.7%
PUBLIC SERVICE	517	471	-8.9%
ROBBERY	178	173	-2.8%
SEX OFFENSE	220	170	-22.7%
SUSPICIOUS EVENT	2,985	2,999	0.5%
TRAFFIC HAZARD	708	524	-26.0%
TRAFFIC PROBLEM	401	280	-30.2%
TRESPASS	708	628	-11.3%
TROUBLE UNKNOWN	1,810	1,612	-10.9%
VANDALISM	1,625	1,371	-15.6%
WEAPON	310	286	-7.7%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>55,935</b>	<b>52,778</b>	<b>-5.6%</b>



# DWI ENFORCEMENT

## MOBILE DWI CHECKPOINTS

The Police Department conducted three Mobile DWI Checkpoints in 2009. During these checkpoints, Alexandria police substantially increased enforcement of drunk driving laws. The DWI crackdown began in the late evening and continued until the early morning hours.

Additional officers were assigned to patrol major corridors, targeting motorists who commit hazardous moving violations and exhibit other behaviors that may indicate a driver is under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

The maximum penalty in Virginia for the first conviction for driving under the influence is 12 months in jail, a \$2,500 fine and a 12-month suspension of driving privileges. In addition, there are mandatory jail terms



associated with these offenses, depending upon the blood alcohol content of the driver. Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles administrative fees may apply as well.

	MARCH 21	JUNE 27	SEPTEMBER 5
VEHICLE STOPS	51	806	1115
SOBRIETY CHECKS	8	27	39
DWI ARRESTS	6	7	8
VIRGINIA UNIFORM SUMMONES ISSUED	22	41	26
TRAFFIC VIOLATION WARNINGS	25	24	35
VEHICLE IMPOUNDS	4	13	9
SUSPENSION NOTIFICATION	0	2	2
CRIMINAL ARREST	1	4	3

# HONORS AND AWARDS



Officers Jeetpal Panesar, Aaron Fisher, Kyle Russel and Tim Kyburz all received Valor Awards on April 30.



Sergeant Terri Mucci was honored on September 17 for her bravery during a barricade on Waple Lane in January 2009.



Deputy Chief Eddie Reyes was honored by WRAP on December 11 for his efforts to combat drunk driving and underage drinking.



Peyton Jones was honored on October 27 for her tireless work on behalf of the City's children and families.

## HONORS AND AWARDS

### VALOR AWARDS

SILVER MEDAL  
Officer Kyle Russel

BRONZE MEDAL  
Officer Aaron Fisher  
Officer Jeetpal Panesar

LIFESAVING AWARD  
Officer Tim Kyburz

### KIWANIS OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Sergeant Terri Mucci

### SUNRISE OPTIMIST OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Peyton Jones

### WASHINGTON REGIONAL ALCOHOL PROGRAM (WRAP) AWARD

Deputy Chief Eddie Reyes



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