

# ALEXANDRIA POLICE DEPARTMENT

## 2011 ANNUAL REPORT





cover photograph: Police Headquarters at Night courtesy of Jim Craige



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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



photograph courtesy of Jim Craige

# Message from the Chief

## Earl L. Cook

Throughout my 33 year career as a police officer, I have always believed that, as members of one of the most honorable professions one could be called to, we are here to help people. Not just residents, but those who visit our historic City. This belief serves as the foundation for many of the decisions I've made since becoming Chief of Police.

In order for officers to help the communities and neighborhoods throughout the City they must have the trust and confidence of its residents. Teamwork between officers, civilian staff, volunteers, and residents is a part of how we do business as a department. Residents provide us with information and insights that allow officers to continue to solve crime and, in some cases, prevent it from happening. We are extremely grateful for the guidance and assistance that our residents have provided.

The continued historic crime lows in Alexandria should allow residents to feel a heightened sense of security. The sworn, civilian and volunteer members of this Department are hard-working and dedicated. We are all committed to providing the most professional and effective law enforcement services possible. While I am extremely proud of the men and women of the police department for maintaining these historic lows I know we did not do it alone.

With the support we've received from the City Manager and City Council, it is my hope that we build on this remarkable partnership. Thank you for your continued support, and for your trust in our Department. We look forward to continuing to work closely with those who live, work and visit Alexandria.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Earl L. Cook". The signature is fluid and cursive, with "Earl L." on the first line and ". Cook" on the second line.

Earl L. Cook  
Chief of Police



2011

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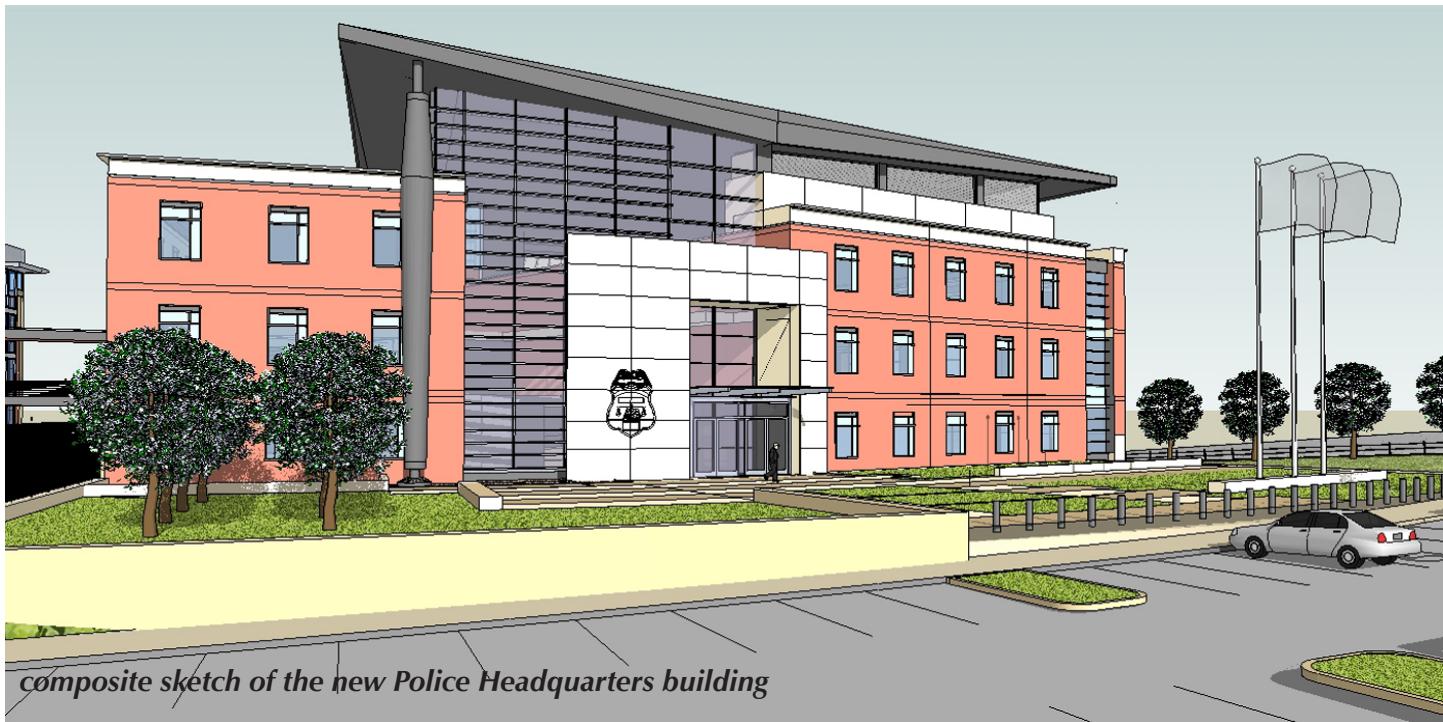
A YEAR OF  
CHANGE





The Police Department broke ground at the future site of its new headquarters in a ceremony on June 13, 2009. Mayor William D. Euille, members of City Council, Former Chief of Police David Baker, Police Department employees and City residents all gathered to celebrate. Mayor Euille and Former Chief Baker spoke about their excitement and hopes for the new headquarters. Members of the Police Department, City Council and City organizations concluded the ceremony by breaking ground on the new building.

The new building is located along Wheeler Avenue. The opening of the new headquarters allowed for the relocation of all current Police-occupied facilities to the new building. This included 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 the Vehicle Storage Warehouse located on Hooff's Run Drive.





The Construction Manager for the new building was the Whiting Turner Contracting Company. The company was selected through a two-step Request for Proposal (RFP) process conducted by the Police Department. The architect was HDR/PSA Dewberry.

The new headquarters is a 124,000 square foot four-story building. Joining the Police Department is the Department of Emergency Communications, which was established in 2011 with the consolidation of the emergency communications functions of the Police and Fire Departments into a single department. The new headquarters was built to house 441 Police employees and 55 Department of Emergency Communications (DEC) employees. The third floor houses DEC and its state-of-the-art facility, a combined police/fire emergency communications center with a new 9-1-1 emergency system. The adjacent parking garage is designed to provide secure parking for 500 vehicles, including police vehicles and special command vehicles.

The total project cost, including site preparation, construction, furnishings, equipment, and information technology and software for the Police Department and DEC was \$81 million. The new Police Headquarters Facility has been awarded the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Gold certification by The Green Building Certification Institute.

The move to a new headquarters marks a new chapter in the history of the Alexandria Police Department. The first police station was located on North Fairfax Street in present-day City Hall. In 1959, the Police Department moved to 400 North Pitt Street. In 1987, the Police Department had outgrown its headquarters and moved to a new building, the Public Safety Center on Mill Road.





On August 19, members of the Alexandria Police and surrounding agencies gathered for a Flag Raising Ceremony at the Police Department's new headquarters, located at 3600 Wheeler Avenue. This ceremony marked the first time the American flag, State flag and City of Alexandria flag were raised at the new facility.



The ceremony signaled not only the opening of the Police Department's new headquarters but the beginning of the first phase of the move into the new facility. The Police Department's move was conducted in three phases. In the first phase, all three Patrol sectors, the Bike Unit, Facilities and Security Services Unit, Motors Unit, Parking and Tag Enforcement Division and School Crossing Guard Unit moved into the new headquarters. In addition, the Special Operations Team (SOT) and Honor Guard moved all their equipment into its new storage space.



Phase two of the Department's move took place in September. During this phase, the Criminal Investigations Section, Crime Analysis Unit and Tactical Anti-Crime Unit moved into the new facility. The third phase of the move took place in October. The Chief of Police and Deputy Chiefs, Crime Scene Investigation, Fiscal/Fleet Division, Internal Investigations Unit, Public Information Office, Planning and Accreditation, Personnel and Training, Property and Evidence Unit, System Operations and Volunteer Unit moved into the new building during this phase.

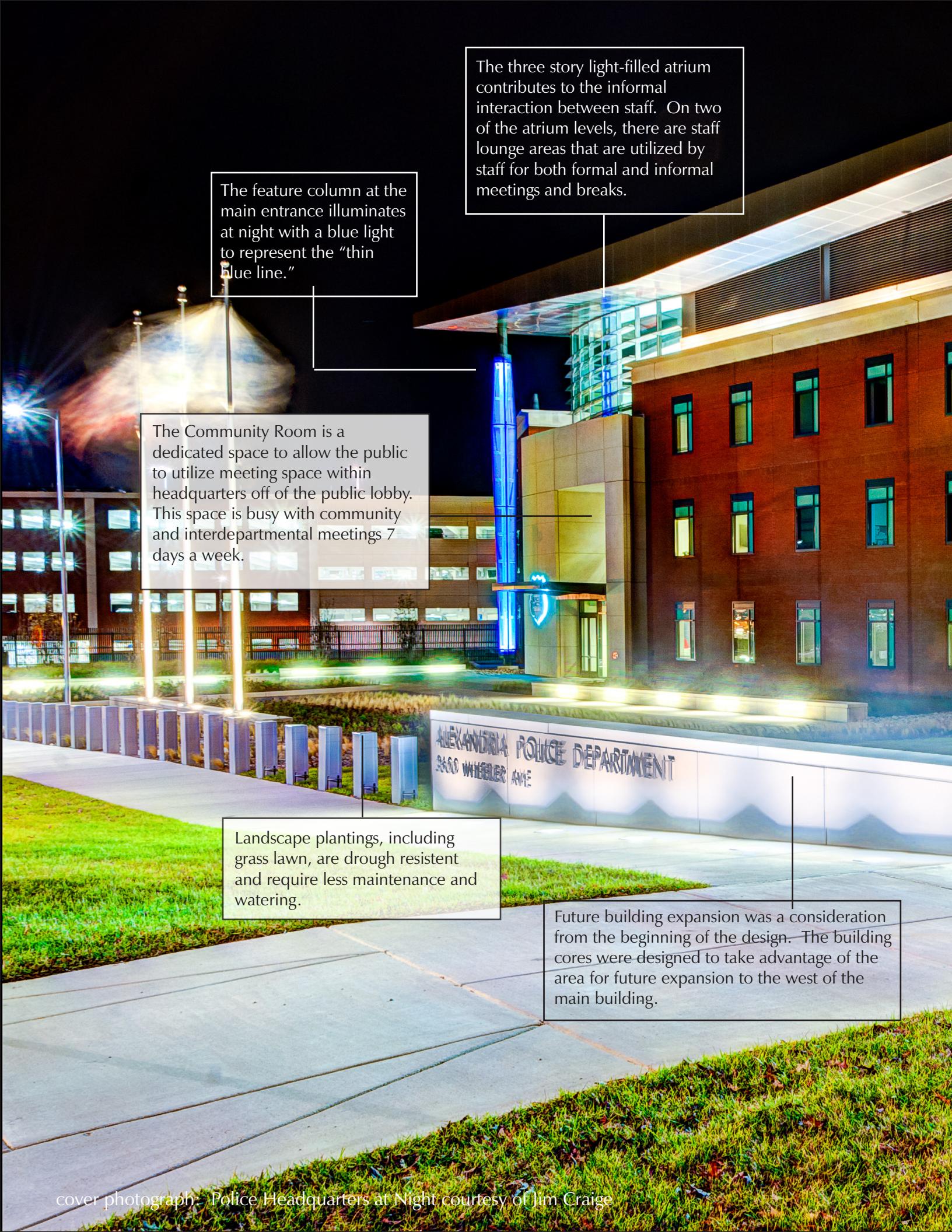


Patrol roll call was held in the new headquarters the afternoon of August 19. This marked the first time an official roll call had been held in the facility.

On November 9, the Alexandria Police Department and Department of Emergency Communications (DEC) invited the public to the dedication ceremony of their new headquarters building at 3600 Wheeler Avenue.

Reflecting on the new building Chief Earl L. Cook said, "The past year was a year of growth and change for the Alexandria Police Department. Most importantly, 2011 was the year that the men and women of the Police Department were once again united under one roof after years of separation due to building constraints. In November, all employees settled into the Police Department's new headquarters, located at 3600 Wheeler Avenue. The state of the art building is magnificent in its own right, but perhaps its most important contribution to the Department was the promise of a fresh start. Through the uniting of the Department, we are able to reconnect and reestablish routines and relationships. The hard work and dedication of all staff, sworn and civilian, continues to place the Alexandria Police Department in the forefront of the law enforcement community. "It is my hope that, with a renewed sense of unification, we will continue to enrich the communities we serve throughout the City."





The feature column at the main entrance illuminates at night with a blue light to represent the "thin Blue line."

The three story light-filled atrium contributes to the informal interaction between staff. On two of the atrium levels, there are staff lounge areas that are utilized by staff for both formal and informal meetings and breaks.

The Community Room is a dedicated space to allow the public to utilize meeting space within headquarters off of the public lobby. This space is busy with community and interdepartmental meetings 7 days a week.

Landscape plantings, including grass lawn, are drought resistant and require less maintenance and watering.

Future building expansion was a consideration from the beginning of the design. The building cores were designed to take advantage of the area for future expansion to the west of the main building.



A rain water cistern (30,000 gallons) captures rain water from the main building roof and condensates water for the HVAC system. This cistern is also used to irrigate the grass lawn and planting beds around the main facility.

The Police Department's new headquarters has been awarded Leadership & Energy & Environmental Design Gold Certification.

Flexible meeting space – opportunities to combine meeting space were taken to allow for larger capacities when needed. The Roll Call Room space was combined so that one-half of the staff can participate in a roll call at once during the 12 on 12 off shift configuration. Administrative conferencing was done similarly.

# **2011 CRIME STATISTICS**

**CRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS**

# PART ONE CRIME

The Alexandria Police Department reports that total Part 1 crime decreased by 1.6% or 58 offenses, in calendar year 2011. This continues the trend of historic lows in Alexandria. These are the lowest Part 1 crimes the City has experienced since 1966. Homicide, burglary, larceny and aggravated assaults declined in 2011; while rapes increased by one offense, robberies increased by five offenses and auto thefts increased by 92 offenses.

"I am pleased to announce that the City of Alexandria experienced yet another historic low for crime in 2011. Our success in continuing to reduce crime and improve the quality of life in our neighborhoods is a direct result of the quality, hard work and dedication of our sworn, civilian and volunteer staff," said Earl L. Cook, Chief of Police. "Our strong partnerships within the community, the Commonwealth's Attorney Office and other City agencies are an integral part of the successful reduction in crime. We remain committed to keeping crime low and maintaining a safe and vibrant community."

## PART 1 CRIME

CRIME TYPE	2010	2011	CHANGE	% CHANGE
Homicide	3	1	-2	-66.7%
Rape	20	21	1	5.0%
Robbery	125	130	5	4.0%
Aggravated Assault	125	112	-13	-10.4%
Burglary	310	308	-2	-0.6%
Larceny	2,805	2,666	-139	-5.0%
Auto Theft	282	374	92	32.6%
Total	3,670	3,612	-58	-1.6%

## NUISANCE CRIME

CRIME TYPE	2010	2011	CHANGE	% CHANGE
Destruction/Vandalism	1,402	1,287	-115	-8.2%
Prostitution	12	29	17	141.7%
Drug/Narcotic Offenses	474	620	146	30.8%
Gambling	6	1	-15	-83.3%
Disorderly Conduct	155	120	-35	-22.6%
Driving Under the Influence	327	360	33	10.1%
Drunkenness	581	405	-176	-30.3%
Liquor Law Violations	462	390	-72	-15.6%
Total	3,419	3,212	-207	-6.1%

# ARREST STATISTICS

CRIME CATEGORY	ADULT			JUVENILE			TOTAL		
	2010	2011	CHANGE	2010	2011	CHANGE	2010	2011	CHANGE
ARRESTS									
Homicide Intentional	1	1	0.0%	0	0	N/C	1	1	0.0%
Sex Offense Rape Forcible	12	10	-16.7%	5	0	-100.0%	17	10	-41.2%
Robbery	34	34	0.0%	26	52	100.0%	60	86	43.3%
Aggravated Assault	70	52	-25.7%	12	9	-25.0%	82	61	-25.6%
Burglary	52	44	-15.4%	19	3	-84.2%	71	47	-33.8%
Larceny (Theft)	447	329	-26.4%	166	92	-44.6%	613	421	-31.3%
Grand Larceny Auto (GLA)	29	11	-62.1%	15	11	-26.7%	44	22	-50.0%
Other Assault	434	422	-2.8%	87	60	-31.0%	521	482	-7.5%
Arson	3	4	33.3%	1	0	-100.0%	4	4	0.0%
Forgery & Counterfeit	43	24	-44.2%	1	1	0.0%	44	25	-43.2%
Fraud	100	91	-9.0%	0	4	N/C	100	95	-5.0%
Embezzlement	39	32	-17.9%	1	2	100.0%	40	34	-15.0%
Stolen Property	11	1	-90.9%	1	1	0.0%	12	2	-83.3%
Vandalism	81	71	-12.3%	20	16	-20.0%	101	87	-13.9%
Weapons	29	23	-20.7%	20	5	-75.0%	49	28	-42.9%
Prostitution	13	26	100.0%	0	4	N/C	13	30	130.8%
Sex Offense Other	20	19	-5.0%	3	4	33.3%	23	23	0.0%
Drug Abuse Violation	435	547	25.7%	88	48	-45.5%	523	595	13.8%
Gambling	23	0	-100.0%	0	0	N/C	23	0	-100.0%
D.W.I.	333	370	11.1%	3	2	-33.3%	336	372	10.7%
Liquor Laws	548	454	-17.2%	86	82	-4.7%	634	536	-15.5%
Drunkeness	595	416	-30.1%	2	8	300.0%	597	424	-29.0%
Disorderly Conduct	145	106	-26.9%	18	18	0.0%	163	124	-23.9%
All Other Offenses	1,596	1,665	4.3%	533	407	-23.6%	2,129	2,072	-2.7%
Total	5,093	4,752	-6.7%	1,107	829	-25.1%	6,200	5,581	-10.0%

# CALLS FOR SERVICE

TYPE OF CALL RESPONDING TO	2010	2011	% CHANGE
Abandoned Auto	462	472	2.2%
Accident	5,320	5,436	2.2%
Alarm	4,685	4,462	-4.8%
Ambulance/Fire	952	736	-22.7%
Animal Case	1,640	1,247	-24.0%
Assault	573	590	3.0%
Auto Theft	504	597	18.5%
Auto Theft Recovery	124	159	28.2%
Bomb Threat	5	10	100.0%
Burglary	566	574	1.4%
Citizen Assist	1,341	1,452	8.3%
Disorderly	4,397	4,468	1.6%
Domestic Trouble	2,743	2,628	-4.2%
Drugs	783	892	13.9%
Drunk	1,064	939	-11.7%
E911 Hang-up Calls	1,291	1,542	19.4%
Escort	82	47	-42.7%
Fight	545	471	-13.6%
Homicide	0	0	0.0%
Larceny	3,099	3,185	2.8%
Locked in Auto	58	52	-10.3%
Loud Party / Radio	272	227	-16.5%
Missing Person	293	284	-3.1%
Noise Complaint	2,179	2,108	-3.3%
Other	5,097	4,634	-9.1%
Parking	3,573	4,195	17.4%
Phone Calls	365	406	11.2%
Property Lost / Found	748	777	3.9%
Prowler	7	6	-14.3%
Public Service	470	484	3.0%
Robbery	146	144	-1.4%
Sex Offense	167	167	0.0%
Suspicious Event	2,866	3,077	7.4%
Traffic Hazard	925	616	-33.4%
Traffic Problem	340	275	-19.1%
Trespass	550	467	-15.1%
Trouble Unknown	1,539	1,353	-12.1%
Vandalism	1,159	1,072	-7.5%
Weapon	252	238	-5.6%
Total	51,182	50,489	-1.4%



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