
HERNDON POLICE DEPARTMENT



ANNUAL REPORT

2019

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MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

On behalf of the Herndon Police Department, I am pleased to present the 2019 Annual Report highlighting the department's accomplishments, specialized activities, and statistical crime and use of force data. We hope you find the report useful and informative.

The Herndon Police Department is committed to providing quality law enforcement services to the Town of Herndon and recognizes the importance of involving citizens in its efforts to prevent and report crime in order to provide the most effective response. Our goal is to promptly respond to calls, investigate all incidents, and enforce the law in a fair and impartial manner. However, public safety is a shared responsibility and through active community partnerships we can initiate problem solving strategies to address crime and other neighborhood issues that affect everyday life.

The Herndon Police Department is staffed by highly trained officers and civilians who are committed to integrity and professionalism, meeting stringent training requirements and professional standards. We demonstrate these values by maintaining national accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA).

We consider it an honor to serve the Herndon community and will continue to work diligently to ensure the safety of our citizens and promote a police/community relationship built on trust, transparency, and mutual respect.

Please visit us online for current information and ongoing activities of the department.

Website: www.herndon-va.gov/public-safety

Facebook: [HerndonPoliceDepartment](https://www.facebook.com/HerndonPoliceDepartment)

Instagram: [@HerndonPolice](https://www.instagram.com/HerndonPolice)

Twitter: [@HerndonPolice](https://twitter.com/HerndonPolice)

Maggie

Colonel Maggie A. DeBoard
Chief of Police



Core Purpose:

To preserve the public peace and protect the rights of individuals.

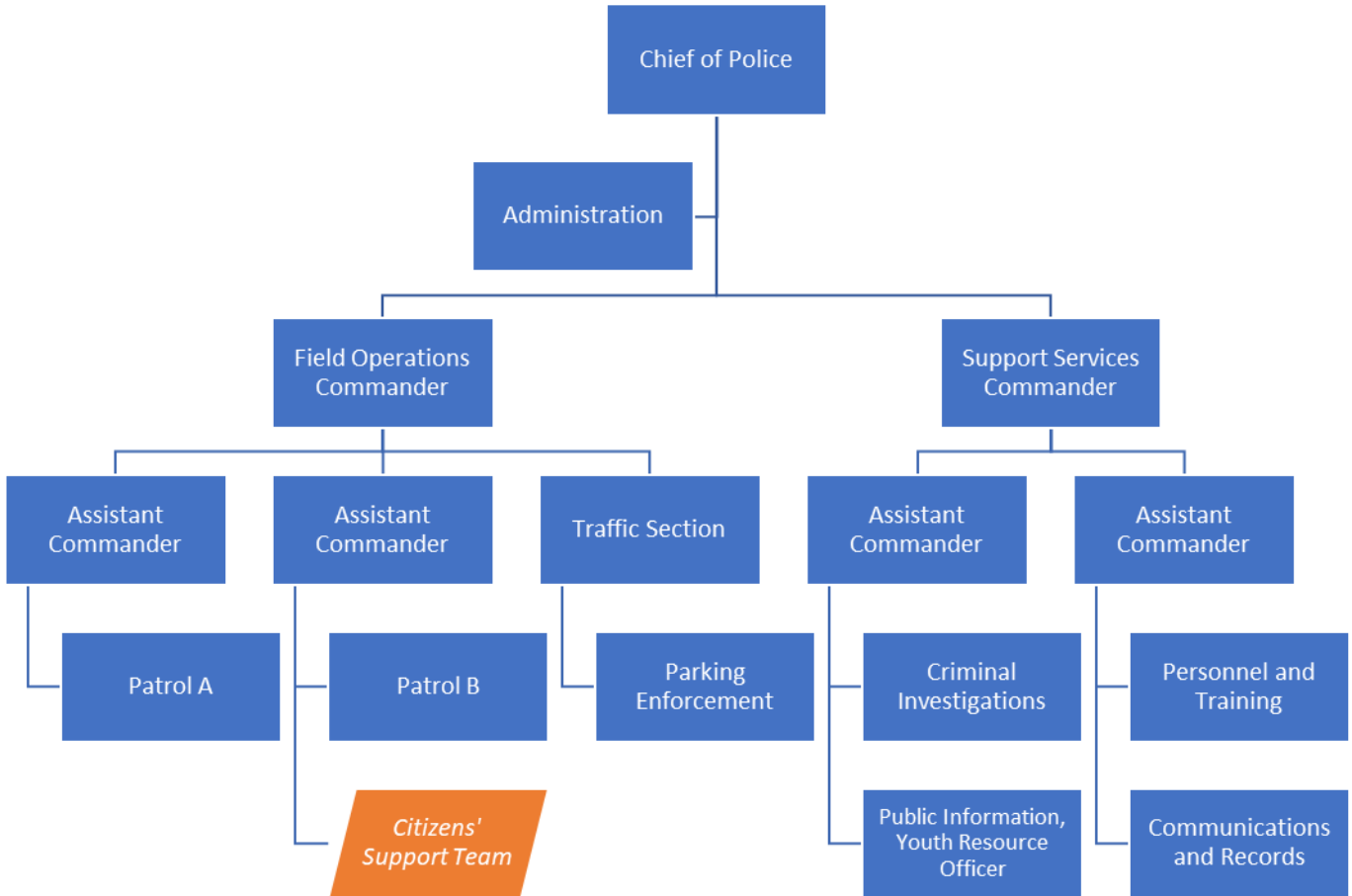
Mission Statement:

To enrich the quality of life and promote a sense of community by providing law enforcement and related services in partnership with the law abiding public.

Vision:

Understanding the challenges of enriching the quality of life and promoting a sense of community in a diverse society, the Herndon Police Department provides everyone within the Town of Herndon the highest level of quality law enforcement service without regard to race, culture, religion, national origin, age, gender, disability, or sexual orientation.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



HPD COMMAND STAFF



Colonel Maggie DeBoard, Chief of Police



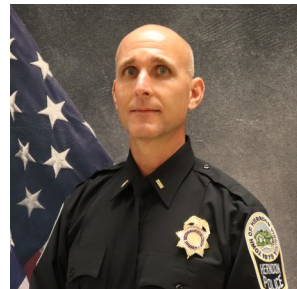
Field Operations Division
Captain Steve Pihonak



Support Services Division
Captain Justin Dyer



Field Operations Division
Lieutenant Sean Merritt
Patrol A-Side Commander



Support Services Division
Lieutenant Mark Dale



Field Operations Division
Lieutenant Jim Moore
Patrol B-Side Commander



Support Services Division
TBD

PROMOTIONS



Left to Right: Chief Maggie DeBoard, Corporal David Forbach, Corporal JJ Passmore, SPO Henry Ruffin, Captain Steve Pihonak, Captain Brad Anzengruber (Retired), Captain Ron Thunman (Retired)



Left to Right: Chief Maggie DeBoard, Corporal Jon Sorg, Corporal Lora Nicholson, Sergeant Chad Findley, Captain Justin Dyer, Captain Steve Thompson (Resigned), Captain Brad Anzengruber (Retired)

CONGRATULATIONS

Captain Steve Thompson (*resigned*)

Captain Justin Dyer

Captain Steve Pihonak

Sergeant Chad Findley

Sergeant Jeff Lange

Corporal David Forbach

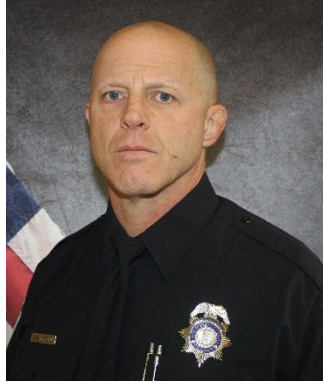
Corporal Lora Nicholson

Corporal James "JJ" Passmore

Corporal Jon Sorg

COMINGS AND GOINGS

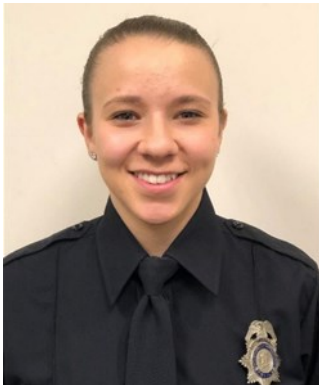
NEW HIRES



Senior Police Officer Tony Depoto



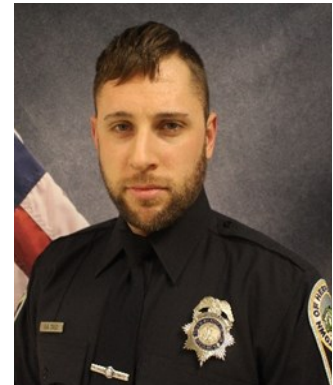
PFC Derek Harrison



Officer Kelsi Scaiefe (Graduated from Fairfax Criminal Justice Academy Feb 2020)



Officer Zach Selph

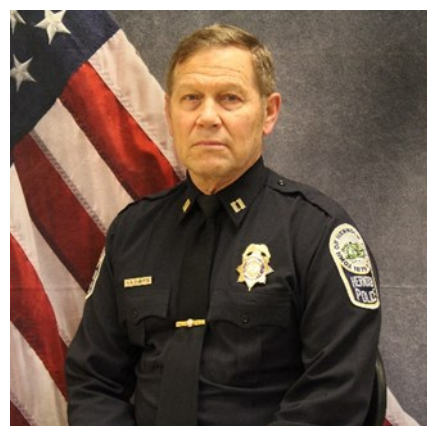


Officer Justin Sperling

RETIREMENTS



Lieutenant Mike Berg
1986 - 2019



Captain Ron Thunman
1981-2019

YEAR IN REVIEW

Herndon Festival

The 2019 Herndon Festival moved from downtown Herndon to the Northwest Federal Credit Union campus. HPD worked with Herndon Parks and Rec and the Department of Public Works to keep things operating smoothly and safely.



Officer Choi keeps a watchful eye over the crowd during the Herndon Festival at NW Federal Credit Union



Town Manager Bill Ashton with Captain Dyer and Corporals Fraser, Nicholson, and Passmore

Nationals Win the World Series

To show support for the home team, Chief DeBoard authorized officers and staff to wear Washington Nationals baseball caps on World Series game days. The initiative drew the attention of local news and social media. The support must have worked, as the Nats are World Champs!



YEAR IN REVIEW

Security Upgrades

Under the leadership of Chief DeBoard, and in cooperation and coordination with other Town departments, various security upgrades were initiated and completed throughout several town buildings to provide a safer workplace for all our town employees. This comprehensive security initiative saw the completion of several important upgrades including electronic employee access, replacement of security cameras, and physical security enhancements to various town buildings. As funding is identified, ongoing security projects will be completed and additional projects will be initiated to ensure our employees have the safest workplace environment possible.



Change in Facial Hair Policy

HPD updated its grooming standards in an effort to “change with the times.” Chief DeBoard authorized officers to have facial hair, as long as it falls within grooming standards set forth in our General Orders. This policy change proved to be a powerful recruiting tool and internal morale incentive, while also maintaining the most important standards we look for in our HPD officers – integrity, fairness and compassion. This policy change drew significant attention to other area agencies, some of which followed our lead in this direction.

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS



Officer of the Year

Senior Police Officer Tony Depoto joined the department in February 2019 after retiring from the Fairfax County Police Department as a veteran member of their full-time Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team. Since his arrival, the department has greatly benefitted from his extensive law enforcement experience and training and he enthusiastically and willingly shares his knowledge with others, both in the training room and in the field.

Supervisor of the Year

Corporal Mark Fraser has been assigned to the Personnel and Training Section as an assistant supervisor since April 2018. He is an excellent example of a team player who is always willing to help fellow coworkers. Corporal Fraser's dedication to the department, his exceptional work in the area of recruiting and hiring, and his outstanding work performance make him a deserving recipient of Supervisor of the Year.



Civilian of the Year

Charles "Chuck" Foster was hired as the first parking enforcement official for the Town of Herndon in 2017 and has proved to be a tremendous asset. Chuck is highly visible in the community and well respected by town residents. His efforts have clearly resulted in an improvement in parking issues in residential communities and in the downtown district.

Volunteer of the Year

Steve Marshall has been a member of the Herndon Police Citizens' Support Team (HPCST) since 2017. Over the past three years, he has volunteered over 300 hours to support the police department and the Town of Herndon at annual events such as National Night Out, the Herndon Festival, Fourth of July fireworks celebration, and the 5K Turkey Trot Race.





Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge Award

HPD was once again recognized by the Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police through their 2019 Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge Awards. HPD was recognized with THREE awards, including the Commonwealth Award for the most outstanding traffic safety division in the state.

- Commonwealth Award (best in the state regardless of size)
- Law Enforcement Challenge- 1st Place (based on department size)
- Special recognition for our education and enforcement of impaired driving

Washington Regional Alcohol Program Award

Senior Sergeant Bobby Galpin of the Traffic Section was recognized by Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP) for his outstanding efforts to combat drunk driving in the Town of Herndon throughout 2019.



Mothers Against Drunk Driving Award

Officer Heavner was recognized for the second consecutive year with a MADD Law Enforcement Award. Officer Heavner is to be commended for his continued efforts to combat impaired driving in the Town of Herndon.



Virginia Air National Guard Patriotic Employer Award

Corporal Devin Sullivan recognized his supervisor, Senior Sergeant John Tacci, as a “Patriotic Employer.” Sergeant Tacci went above and beyond with his support of Corporal Sullivan joining the Virginia Air National Guard. Not only did Sergeant Tacci support his decision to serve, he continuously assisted with schedule conflicts and accommodations.

Town of Herndon Team Excellence Award

Lieutenants Si Ahmad and Jim Moore, along with employees of the Town of Herndon’s Department of Public Works and Parks and Recreation were presented the *Team Excellence Award* from the Town of Herndon in December 2019. They were recognized for the team effort into planning, designing, implementing, and executing plans for the 2019 Herndon Festival at its new location at Northwest Federal Credit Union’s campus.



Town of Herndon Five Star Award

Senior Police Officer Warren “Officer G” Brathwaite was presented the Five Star Award from the Town of Herndon in December 2019. Senior Police Officer Brathwaite utilized his crisis intervention skills to assist a family that has a daughter who is autistic and prone to sudden and uncontrollable bouts of anger and violence. SPO Brathwaite’s ability to develop a rapport with the child, when no one else could, allowed a safe and calm resolution to a very difficult and potentially violent situation. This ability to communicate effectively with people, especially those in emotional crisis, is SPO Brathwaite’s strength. This particular incident is just one example among many that SPO Brathwaite has successfully resolved using de-escalation, patience, and compassion.

Officer G’s work provides a positive impact on the residents of the Town of Herndon by using his ingenuity and creative thinking to handle unique, and sometimes difficult situations.

NORTHERN VIRGINIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE VALOR AWARDS

GOLD MEDAL

PFC Stephen Phelps

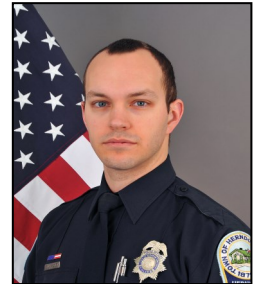
PFC Phelps intervened in a robbery in progress that unfolded in front of him while he was sitting in his police cruiser in the downtown area of Herndon. As he gave chase on foot to the two subjects involved, PFC Phelps was involved in an exchange of gunfire with one of the subjects. PFC Phelps and the subjects were not injured in this incident. Both subjects involved in this case were apprehended and charged with multiple felony offenses.



CERTIFICATE OF VALOR

Sergeant Charles Findley

Sergeant Findley responded to a call and encountered a suicidal female on the fifth-floor terrace of her apartment, sitting on the safety fence with her legs over the ledge. Officers had dealt with this female in the past and knew her to be emotionally unstable. He talked with the female to try and convince her to move away from the ledge, but she refused. He saw an opportunity to quickly grab her as she momentarily turned away from him and was able to pull her off the ledge to safety. The female was then taken for an evaluation to get the help she needed.



CERTIFICATE OF VALOR

Sergeant Brian Hamilton

While off duty, Sergeant Hamilton observed a SUV drive past him at a high rate of speed and disappear around a curve. As he approached the curve, he saw where the vehicle had crashed and landed on its top. Without hesitation and with no personal protective equipment, he stopped to render aid and pulled a young boy to safety from inside the crushed vehicle amid broken glass and smoke coming from under the hood. The boy told him that his Dad was still inside the vehicle and Sgt. Hamilton returned to the vehicle to assist the bleeding father in crawling out of the vehicle to safety.



STATISTICS

HIGHLIGHTS

CALLS *	2017	2018	2019
CALLS FOR SERVICE	12,361	12,480	12,570

*This number reflects incoming emergency and non-emergency requests for service. It excludes activities such as officer self-initiated calls, location and status calls, cancelled calls, and other routine administrative call activities.

ARRESTS	2017	2018	2019
ADULT ARRESTS	837	688	575
JUVENILE ARRESTS	39	18	29
TOTAL ARRESTS	876	706	604
DUI ARRESTS			
DUI ARRESTS	94	101	94
TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS			
TRAFFIC TICKETS	5,895	5,544	6,312
TRAFFIC WARNINGS*	124	69	53
PARKING TICKETS	1,476	2,637	2,450

*Oral warnings are not captured but will be included in 2021 due to new statewide data collection requirements.



CRIME STATISTICS

PART 1 CRIME STATISTICS*

CRIME TYPE	2017	2018	2019
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	21	3	29
AUTO THEFT	8	5	25
BURGLARY	10	14	15
HOMICIDE	0	1	2
LARCENY	256	228	230
RAPE	4	9	6
ROBBERY	12	18	25
TOTAL	311	278	332

PART 2 CRIME STATISTICS*

CRIME TYPE	2017	2018	2019
ASSAULT	200	190	165
CONTERFEITING/FORGERY	9	3	2
DESTRUCTION OF PROPERTY	132	77	118
DRUGS/NARCOTICS	168	118	93
EMBEZZLEMENT	3	2	3
EXTORTION/BLACKMAIL	4	4	5
FRAUD	93	83	89
KIDNAPPING/ABDUCTION	0	8	1
PROSTITUTION	0	0	0
SEX OFFENSES	6	20	19
WEAPONS	9	8	6
TOTAL	456	513	501

*Part 1 and Part 2 offenses are reported to Virginia State Police monthly through the National Incident -Based Reporting System (NIBRS).

ARRESTS BY RACE STATISTICS

TOTAL ARRESTS BY RACE

RACE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	PERCENTAGE
WHITE	433	63	496	82.10%
BLACK	78	19	97	16.10%
ASIAN	5	6	11	1.80%
TOTAL	516	88	604	

TOTAL ARRESTS BY RACE AND TOWN RESIDENCY

RACE	TOWN RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT	TOTAL	PERCENTAGE
WHITE	295	201	496	82.10%
BLACK	50	47	97	16.10%
ASIAN	8	3	11	1.80%
TOTAL	353	251	604	

COMPARISON: POPULATION* BY RACE

RACE	HERNDON	FAIRFAX	VIRGINIA
WHITE	69.8%	62.7%	68.6%
BLACK	9.2%	10.6%	19.4%
ASIAN	17.9%	17.5%	5.5%
UNKNOWN/OTHER	3.1%	10.6%	6.5%

COMPARISON: 2019 ARRESTS BY RACE

RACE	HERNDON	FAIRFAX	VIRGINIA
WHITE	82.1%	57.2%	56.3%
BLACK	16.1%	38.6%	41.6%
ASIAN	1.8%	4.2%	1.1%
UNKNOWN/OTHER	n/a	0.1%	1.0%

*Based on 2010 Census

USE OF FORCE STATISTICS

USE OF FORCE BY CATEGORY

Use of Force involves all incidents where physical custody occurs (i.e., arrests, mental custody transports, etc.)

CATEGORY	2017	2018	2019
FIREARM	0	0	1*
ELECTRONIC CONTROLLED WEAPON (ECW) (TASER)	0	2	1*
BATON	0	0	0
OLEORESIN CAPSICUM (PEPPER SPRAY)	0	1	0
WEAPONLESS	18	18	14
K9 BITES	2	0	0
CITIZEN COMPLAINTS	0	0	0
TOTAL	20	21	15

*Indicates same incident with two methods of force

PERCENTAGE OF ARRESTS RESULTING IN USE OF FORCE

	2017	2018	2019
ARRESTS USING FORCE	17	16	11
TOTAL ARRESTS	877	706	603
% OF ARRESTS USING FORCE	1.9%	2.3%	1.8%

USE OF FORCE 2019: COMPLIANCE WITH POLICY/TRAINING

TYPE OF FORCE	Number	Compliant
FIREARM	1*	1*
ELECTRONIC CONTROLLED WEAPON (ECW) (TASER)	1*	1*
BATON	0	N/A
OLEORESIN CAPSICUM (PEPPER SPRAY)	0	N/A
WEAPONLESS	14	13
K9 BITES	0	N/A
TOTAL	15	14

*Indicates same incident with two methods of force

USE OF FORCE STATISTICS

USE OF FORCE 2019: TYPES OF INCIDENTS WITH FORCE

Out of the 15 subjects in these cases where force was required to effectively gain physical custody of a subject, **nine** were documented as being under the influence of alcohol and/or narcotics.

SUMMARY	Incidents
DRUNKENNESS (DIP)	3
OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE	2
SUSPICIOUS PERSON	2
ATTEMPTED CAPITAL MURDER	1
DOMESTIC ASSAULT	1
DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED	1
DRUG OFFENSE	1
EMOTIONALLY DISTURBED PERSON	1
POSSESSION OF A NICOTINE PRODUCT	1
TRESPASSING	1
WARRANT SERVICE	1
TOTAL	15

USE OF FORCE 2019: RACE AND GENDER

RACE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL	%
WHITE	9	1	10	66.7%
BLACK	2	2	4	26.7%
ASIAN	1	0	1	6.7%
TOTAL	12	3	15	

Internal Affairs

All complaints, whether initiated from internal or external (citizen complaints) sources are required to be documented and investigated. Investigations may be initiated based on the complaint or as mandated by policy based on the incident. Upon receipt of a complaint against the department or its personnel alleging misconduct, criminal activity, or an incident which may result in civil liability, the Chief of Police is immediately notified and these cases are assigned to the Internal Affairs Commander for investigation.

Internal Affairs is Section 204 of HPD's Regulations and General Orders. HPD's General Orders can be found online [HERE](#).

INTERNAL AFFAIRS INVESTIGATIONS	2017		2018		2019	
INTERNAL/EXTERNAL	Internal	External	Internal	External	Internal	External
POLICE VEHICLE ACCIDENT	12	0	9	0	9	0
HARRASSMENT	0	0	0	0	0	1
USE OF FORCE	3	0	(2*)	0	4	0
PERFORMANCE OF DUTY	0	0	0	0	4	0
OTHER REGULATORY VIOLATIONS	10	1	6	2	4	0
VEHICLE PURSUITS	4	0	4*	0	0	0
TOTAL	29	1	19	2	21	1

Investigation Findings

Findings are defined as:

- ◇ Sustained: where it is concluded that the allegation is supported by sufficient evidence; will result in appropriate corrective measures
- ◇ Not Sustained: where it is concluded that insufficient evidence exists to either prove or disprove the allegation
- ◇ Unfounded: where it is concluded that the allegation is false
- ◇ Exonerated: where it is concluded that the incident complained of occurred but was lawful and proper

FINDINGS	2017	2018	2019
SUSTAINED	21	13	26
NOT SUSTAINED	4	6	2
UNFOUNDED	0	2	0
EXONERATED	14	11	7
TOTAL	39	32	35

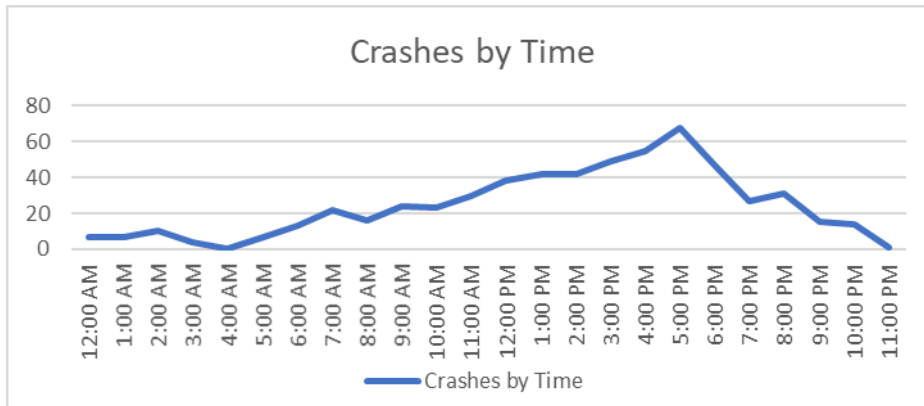
TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

ACCIDENTS	2017	2018	2019
REPORTABLE TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS	619	434	480
ALCOHOL RELATED ACCIDENTS	20	20	13

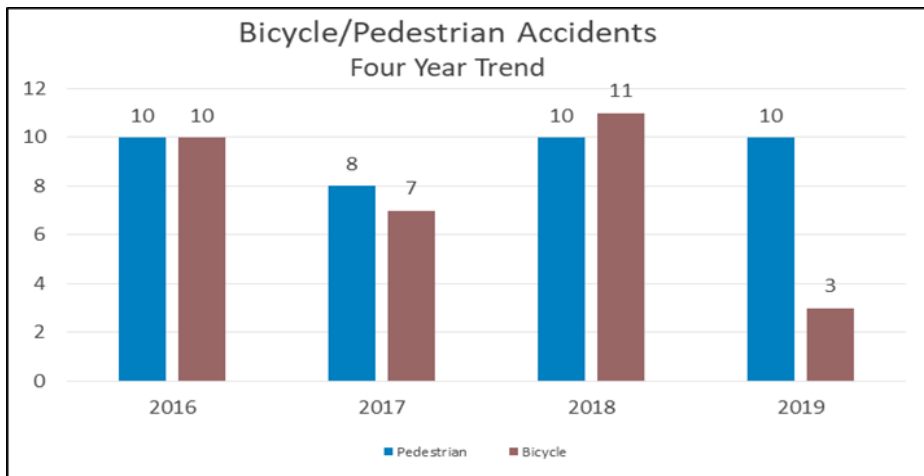
“Failure to yield the right of way” was the predominant violation in accidents and accounted for 20.6% (99) of all accidents. “Failure to maintain proper control” was the second-most cited violation and accounted for 18.5% (89) of all accidents.

Top Accident Locations in 2019

LOCATION	NUMBER OF ACCIDENTS
ALABAMA DR/ELDEN ST	14
ELDEN ST/HERNDON PW (N)	13
ELDEN ST/HERNDON PW (S)	12
ELDEN ST/STERLING RD	10
HERNDON PW/STERLING RD	10
HERNDON PW/VAN BUREN ST	10



The highest number of accidents occurred between 4:00 PM and 6:00 PM, which correlates to increased traffic in the town during the evening rush hour.



While the number of vehicle accidents involving pedestrians remained the same from 2018 to 2019, there was a dramatic decrease in vehicle accidents involving bicyclists.

PATROL

The most visible members of our department are the men and women of our Patrol Section. These officers are available to respond to calls for assistance and provide services 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Patrol officers proactively enforce criminal and traffic laws, interact with the community, and keep an eye out for any suspicious behavior. They can be seen patrolling in vehicles, on bicycles, or on foot.



Captain Justin Dyer helps a stranded motorist



SPO Depoto patrolling neighborhoods on Halloween to make sure everyone stays safe

Officer G makes a new friend while on Bike Patrol



SPO Izzy Narvaez made sure this young Herndon resident's car seat was properly installed

Officers celebrated Vihan's 4th birthday with him at HPD



In 2019, the Patrol and Traffic Sections worked cooperatively to accomplish the following:

COMBATING DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE	2019
DUI SATURATION PATROLS	91
DUI ARRESTS	94

PROMOTING SAFER ROADS	2019
SELECTIVE TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT LOCATIONS/EFFORTS	67
CHILD SAFETY SEAT CHECKS	50

TRAFFIC

There are three officers and one civilian assigned to the Traffic Section.

Traffic Section duties include:

- Traffic Enforcement
- Escort/Traffic Control
- Advanced Crash Reconstruction
- Parking/Abandoned Vehicle Enforcement



Officers handle traffic control for the 2019 Herndon Festival



Sergeant Findley provides a safety escort for a 5K race during the Herndon Festival



SPO Stapleton teaches a Herndon Elementary School student on Career Day about being a motor officer

The Traffic Section serves as the department's voice on the town's *Traffic Engineering Improvement Committee* (TEIC) and the *Pedestrian Bicyclist Advisory Committee* (PBAC). TEIC evaluates specific traffic management concerns in the town while PBAC evaluates transportation improvement projects and assists staff with the development of bicycle and pedestrian plans, policies, and standards.

The volume of traffic continues to grow as commuters "cut through" the town because of its location to major access roads. Additionally, traffic is anticipated to increase with the 2021 opening of Herndon's Metro station and with the redevelopment of the downtown area. The Traffic Section will continue to employ traffic enforcement and traffic calming measures in identified problem areas.

K9s

The department currently has three canine (K9) teams:

- Two patrol K9s are trained in tracking and narcotics detection
- One K9 is trained in Explosives Ordinance Detection (EOD)



EOD K9 Jude and his partner, SPO Aftab, talk with kids at KinderCare



K9 Ranger and PFC Ashman graduated from K9 training in August 2019



Retired K9 Leon was laid to rest in April 2019



K9 Diesel was medically retired in January 2020

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

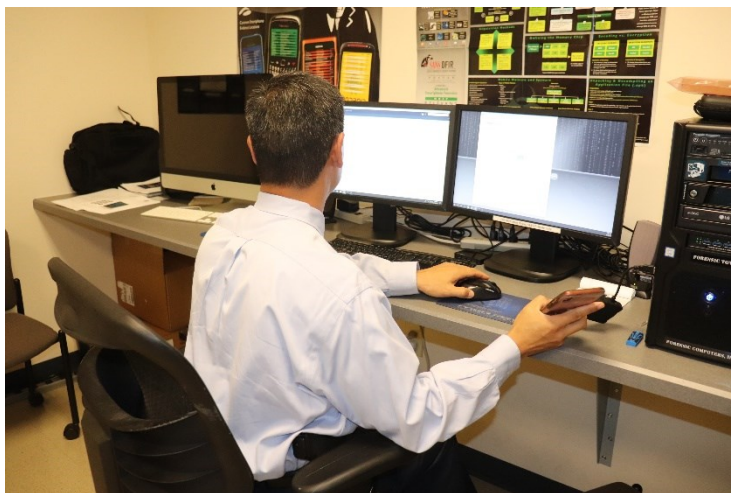
The Criminal Investigations Section is staffed by one lieutenant, one sergeant, three general assignment detectives, and three special assignment detectives. This section is responsible for:

- Cases of a more serious or complex criminal nature
- Missing persons/juveniles
- Computer forensic examinations

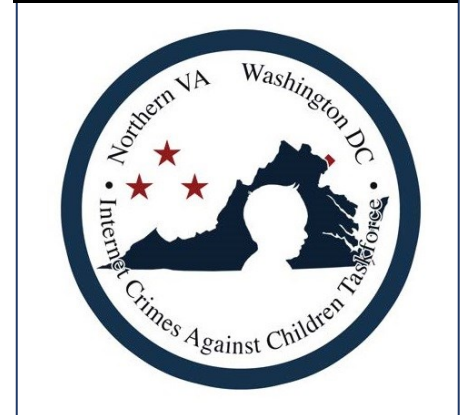
Criminal Investigations Section	New Cases	Cases Closed
2018	228	143
2019	248	141


Special Assignment Detectives are assigned to:

- Northern Virginia Gang Task Force
- Fairfax County Police Vice/Narcotics Unit
- Northern Virginia Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force




Detective Jay Choi examines data from a cell phone seized as evidence in a criminal case





If you or someone you care about needs help, call:

 **703-GET-HELP**

Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force
Resource Information Line

CRIME PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY POLICING

Herndon Police Department once again had an extremely busy year working with a variety of groups, organizations, and individuals. Security and prevention presentations were provided for the following:

- Individual residents and the business community
- Local Homeowner's Associations
- Neighborhood Watch groups
- National Night Out



Sergeant Chad Findley let a young Herndon resident sit on one of our HPD motors during Big Truck Day 2019



Corporal Damien Austin makes a new friend at Big Truck Day 2019



SPO Hank Ruffin helps a young Herndon resident catch a big one during the 2019 Trout Derby



Detective Sergeant Claudio Saa (top) and Officer Lucy Scott (bottom) share laughs with residents at Harbor House for National Night Out 2019

The first Tuesday in August is designated nationwide as **National Night Out**® where communities come together to show they stand with their police departments in the fight against crime. Many of our communities signed up to host an event, and we had two separate motorcades traveling through town visiting these locations.

CRIME PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY POLICING

In April 2019, HPD participated in **DEA Drug Take Back Day**. Herndon residents were able to safely dispose of unused or expired medication.



HPD has a medication disposal receptacle located in the parking lot at 397 Herndon Parkway. It is accessible 24 hours a day and is under video surveillance to ensure citizen safety. See disposal guidelines [HERE](#).

Coffee with a Cop gives officers and the community a chance to discuss issues and get to learn more about each other. Citizens can ask questions or just chat with officers in a friendly environment with no set agenda.





Detective Miranda, Officer “Izzy” Narvaez, and Officer Murn enjoy playing games with the students in Project Hope

Project Hope is an after-school program at Hutchison Elementary School, sponsored by the non-profit [Code 3](#), where HPD officers and students spend time together doing various activities. The goal of Project Hope is to build strong relationships and trust among officers and the youth in the Herndon community.

Because of the success of the program, Project Hope, Code 3, and HPD were featured in national publications by the Associated Press and Police Executive Research Forum (PERF).



HPD officers celebrated the holidays with Project Hope



Students from Project Hope learn about our cruisers- perhaps preparing for a future in law enforcement?



Joe Abdalla, Executive Director of Code 3 Association, delivered Halloween goodie bags for HPD officers to distribute to kids in town

Chief DeBoard snaps a selfie with her friends from Project Hope



YOUTH RESOURCE OFFICER

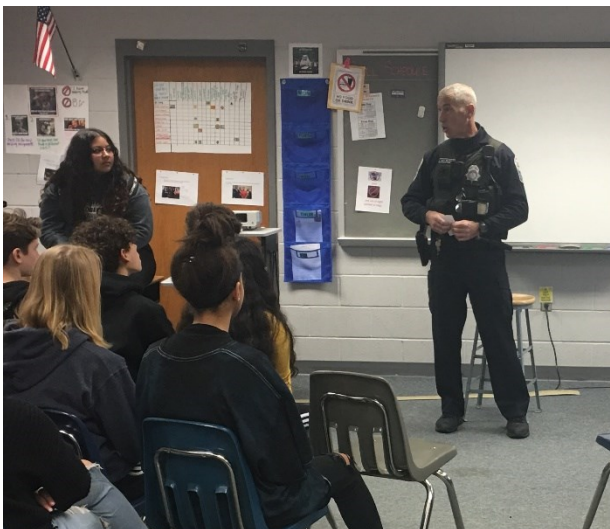
SPO Mike Murn serves as HPD's Youth Resource Officer. He spends time in both Herndon High School and Herndon Middle School, as well as in the community with various youth-based programs. He works closely with his school resource officer counterparts from the Fairfax County Police Department.

SPO Murn regularly assists teachers with lessons and lectures on various topics that include driver's education and government (most notably to discuss the Second and Fourth Amendments). On a daily basis, SPO Murn directs traffic at both Herndon High and Middle Schools for arrival and departure and he works closely with the Town Manager on any school-related traffic issues.

Outside of regular school hours, SPO Murn attends back-to-school events, school dances, sporting events, and other organization and association meetings, among others.



SPO Murn spent the afternoon with Daisies from St. Joseph's



SPO Murn speaks to students at Herndon Middle School

SPO Murn speaks with the hosts of Herndon Community Television's "Herndon Live" about tips for keeping yourself and your family safe in Herndon



PUBLIC INFORMATION

The Public Information Office is staffed by the Support Services Assistant Commander and Lisa Herndon, Public Information Specialist. The office is responsible for the Weekly Crime Report, social media interactions, communications with local and national media, and all other public communications that come from the Herndon Police Department.

In addition, the Public Information Office responds to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests and court orders requesting police documents and reports. In 2019, the office responded to 124 citizens' FOIA requests.



Utilizing their own "Elf on the Shelf," aka Officer Ponch, HPD used social media to share holiday and winter safety tips

The HPD Public Information Office utilizes social media to communicate awareness campaigns, share public safety information, and engage with the community. HPD's social media audience saw tremendous growth in 2019. Follow HPD to stay informed of the latest information and news.

SOCIAL MEDIA GROWTH FOR 2019	
FACEBOOK "LIKES"	65.8%
FACEBOOK "FOLLOWS"	72.8%
TWITTER	52.6%
INSTAGRAM	193%



[@HerndonPoliceDepartment](https://www.facebook.com/HerndonPoliceDepartment)



[@HerndonPolice](https://twitter.com/HerndonPolice)



[@HerndonPolice](https://www.instagram.com/HerndonPolice)

The HPD Weekly Crime Report is posted to the [town's website](#) every Tuesday afternoon.

PERSONNEL AND TRAINING



The Personnel and Training Section is responsible for the planning and delivery of department-wide tactical and classroom training and maintains records to ensure all officers and staff are current with state-mandated training requirements. The section is also responsible for the recruitment and training of all new personnel. Additionally, HPD has one officer assigned to the Fairfax County Criminal Justice Academy as a full-time instructor.

Highlights

- Tactical pistol training to simulate real world scenarios
- Annual training and recertification on handguns, shotguns, and non-lethal force weapons
- Biannual rifle training and recertification
- Annual Use of Force training and de-escalation training in compliance with HPD General Orders and case law
- Ongoing crisis intervention training (CIT) for all patrol officers
- Recertification in speed measurement devices
- Supervisor and Leadership Training at all levels of the organization
- Training on updated pursuit procedures in compliance with HPD General Orders and state law
- Digital evidence collection and recovery training
- Conducted 5 police officer recruitment tests
- Conducted 2 new dispatcher tests
- Trained and certified every officer in a new firearm as HPD transitioned to the Glock 45 pistol
- Conducted defensive tactics, focusing on ground control situations
- Trained and certified officers to be youth mentors with Fairfax County Public Schools



To explore careers with HPD click [HERE](#)

COMMUNICATIONS

When fully staffed, the Communications Section includes eight telecommunicators (dispatchers) and one supervisor. The 9-1-1 center is staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The eight dispatchers working in this section are considered “essential personnel” and are the critical link between citizens and emergency services.



Due to a staffing shortage, the Communication Section only had seven full-time dispatchers in 2019. Several officers were cross-trained in dispatch procedures and assisted in call-taking.

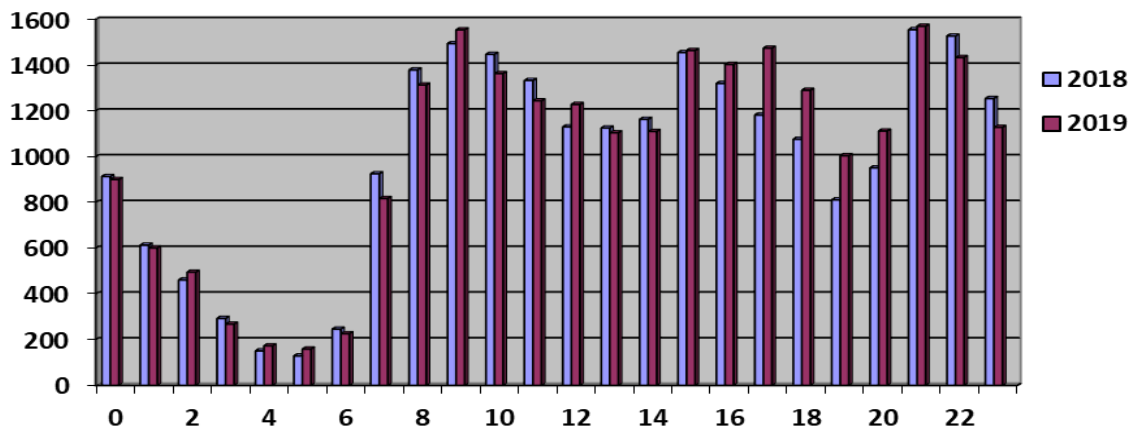
In 2019, HPD completed an upgrade in our radio system, to include both portable and mobile radios. This system is smaller and lighter, making it ideal for the modern police officer’s mobile office. The data and the system have multiple layers of security protection. Additionally, this upgrade will allow for better interoperability with surrounding jurisdictions.

Highlights

- In 2019, dispatchers answered **28,379 telephone calls**
- Call volume **dropped** from 2018 to 2019 by **1,052 calls**
- **Busiest hours** of the day for calls are between 9 and 10 pm



Calls Received



HERNDON POLICE CITIZENS' SUPPORT TEAM



HPCST members, Will Kramer, Fred Kibler, and Ken Luchetti, help at the Herndon Festival 2019

The Herndon Police Citizens Support Team fulfilled its mission in 2019 by assisting with traffic control, patrolling town streets and fingerprinting members of the public every Friday afternoon at police headquarters.

The eleven team members ensured pedestrian safety by performing traffic control at the Herndon Festival, July 4th fireworks, homecoming parade, and various other events.

Highlights

- Provided fingerprint services to 935 people, up from 859 the previous year
- Assisted at major accident scenes, power outages, water main breaks, and gas leaks
- Patrolled in personal vehicles and on bicycles
- Ensured the homes of vacationing town residents stayed secure by performing random house checks
- Participated in popular events such as National Night Out and Coffee with a Cop



HPCST member Fred Kibler visits with residents at Harbor House during National Night Out 2019



HPCST members Steve Marshall, Fred Kibler, and Hal Singer with former HPCST member Retired Colonel Bob Shaw



HPCST members Walter Shorter and Steve Marshall assist Lt. Moore at an event

The HPCST is always looking for volunteers. Training, uniforms, and gear are provided. If interested in joining the Herndon Police Citizens' Support Team, please contact Lieutenant Jim Moore at jim.moore@herndon-va.gov or call him at 703-435-6843.

STAYING CONNECTED

The Herndon Police Department looks forward to continuing to strengthen our partnerships with our community as we continue to ensure Herndon is a great place to live and work. In 2019, we intend to stay progressive through continual improvement, and to be a police department our community is proud to call their own.



www.herndon-va.gov/public-safety



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Follow #HerndonPD on Twitter for breaking news or alerts on road closures, events, and incidents.

COMPLIMENTS, COMPLAINTS, SUGGESTIONS

We value your input; it helps us to enhance the quality of our services, identify areas of concern, or gain insight on a perspective. Compliments will be communicated appropriately, all complaints will be investigated, and suggestions will be given meaningful consideration.

Contact us at (703) 435-6846 or email us at herndon.police@herndon-va.gov.