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# NEW CASTLE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

2020

## ANNUAL REPORT

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# Introduction

On behalf of the men and women of the New Castle City Police Department, it is my pleasure to submit our first annual year-end report. This report will serve as a summary of the New Castle City Police Department's initiatives, enforcement activities, and achievements.

## Summary

By any measure, 2020 was a challenging and tumultuous year. Police operations were affected by both the global pandemic and civil unrest and yet, despite the many distractions, the men and women of the New Castle City Police Department continued to uphold their oath and serve the residents, the visitors and those who work in the city.

The way the police department responded to calls for service looked different during 2020 and continues to look different as we attempt to limit exposure of COVID 19 infections to officers. However, officers continue to patrol regularly, take action when necessary and investigate criminal conduct. A detailed crime analysis report is included in this report.

NCPD entered 2020 with several significant initiatives. Many were forced to be placed on hold because of the COVID 19 restrictions. However, NCPD was successful in completing a few projects that have been identified as initiatives necessary to help gain community confidence. Those initiatives are outlined in this report.

## Initiatives

The most important initiative was our goal to achieve accreditation. Accreditation was met after an independent group of assessors evaluated our agency's policies and procedures to ensure consistency and compliance with police operations, training, and administrative effectiveness.

For the community, accreditation increases the law enforcement agency's ability to prevent and control crime through more effective and efficient delivery of law enforcement services. Accreditation enhances community understanding of the law enforcement agency and its role in the community as well as its goals and objectives. Citizen confidence in the policies and practices of the agency is increased.

After several years of redevelopment that included significant changes to command structure, patrol structure and administrative procedures, NCPD began the evaluation

process. In September of 2020, NCPD was awarded Accreditation by the Delaware Police Accreditation Commission (DPAC).



Shortly after receiving accreditation, NCPD applied to have our Response to Resistance Policy (Use of Force) certified by a federally approved agency. The purpose behind the process was to certify that our department met certain eligibility requirements set forth by the U.S. Department of Justice. Pursuant to Section 2 of the Presidential Executive Order on Safe Policing and for Safe Communities, U.S. DOJ discretionary grant funding is only available to agencies who meet the standards.

The President's Order requires agencies to meet two standards in order to be successfully certified: 1) that the agency's use of force policies prohibit chokeholds, except in situations where the use of deadly force is allowed by law; and 2) that the agency's use of force policies adhere to all applicable federal, state, and local laws. The order also outlined twelve discretionary standards that addressed additional use of force standards along with community engagement programs. NCPD met all fourteen (14) of the standards.

On December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020, the Delaware Police Accreditation Commission certified our Response to Resistance Policy.

Another initiative was to continue our commitment to become more transparent and to connect with the community through several outreach platforms. Our Facebook page established in the summer of 2018 continues to attract new followers. In early 2020 we set out to establish a stand-alone website. The goal of the website was to provide visitors with a more in depth look at the structure, the mission and the day-to-day operations of the police department. The site was also designed to serve as a tool for visitors to get answers to frequently asked questions or provide a link to a site that may help them address a variety of concerns. The site, [newcastlecitypolice.com](https://newcastlecitypolice.com), successfully launched in December of 2020.

In an effort to provide local businesses and residents with additional methods to protect their valuables, NCPD partnered with Protech DNA. NCPD is now providing free DNA kits for residents. The kits come with a tool that allows residents to swab their property with an adhesive that has unique micro dots embedded and can be identified using a special reader provided to the police department.

This program provides police with a tool to identify property that has been recovered and return it to the its owner.

## The New Castle Police Department is offering residents a **\*FREE DNA for Property Kit.**



### NEW CASTLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

This partnership with our community will also send a very strong message to criminals – we're working together to

### **DETER THEFT**



The New Castle Police Department, in conjunction with ProtechDNA, wants to work with residents to offer an additional way to proactively protect your valuables.

*We would like to introduce a new technology that will help protect your valuables and assist the New Castle Police Department and law enforcement around the country in the recovery and return of those items.*



**DNA for Property** – a special adhesive gel that can be swabbed on all your valuables. The adhesive will dry invisible and very difficult to remove.



Suspended in the adhesive are thousands of microscopic dots. Each dot is etched with a unique personal identification number (PIN).

Suspended in the adhesive gel are thousands of tiny microscopic dots –

- ✓ Each Microdot is smaller than the size of a grain of sand
- ✓ Each microdots is etched with a unique PIN (personal identification number)

RESIDENTS CAN RECEIVE ONE  
**FREE DNA** FOR PROPERTY KIT  
– A \$40 VALUE

**- ONE FREE DNA FOR  
PROPERTY KIT PER PERSON**

TO GET YOUR **FREE DNA** FOR PROPERTY KIT

Download the mobile app



App Store



GET IT ON  
Google Play



Registered property sold at pawn shops can be tracked by law enforcement.



This powerful mobile app makes its quick and easy to create a digital inventory of your property.

1. Take pictures of our valuables
2. Scan serial numbers
3. Voice text content
4. Report property stolen
5. Transfer ownership of property



Law enforcement can determine ownership of property that is registered in program

Check out the video on this new technology  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bw0me8F4FRk>

\* Free DNA for Property kit - one free per email, and does not include shipping/handling of \$5.99

Get started download the mobile app or go to the website  
[www.protechdna.com](http://www.protechdna.com)



# Community Engagement Programs

Many of the traditional community engagement programs our department has been involved with were either altered or canceled as a result of the COVID restrictions. However, we were successful in establishing a few new community relationships and continue (in some form) a few of the more treasured programs.

In August we welcomed Pastor Phyllis and some members from Christ Embassy Church. They visited with our officers and staff during a time when protests and unrest took center stage. They visited to join us with a meal they provided, share fellowship and to remind us that there are members of the community who support police.



The annual Christmas for Kids party hosted by the Goodwill Fire Company was canceled, but organizers found a way to provide for local families. Thanks to the tremendous support of our community, the Trustees of the Common, members of Goodwill Fire Company and The New Castle City Police Department, four families were provided with gifts for the children in their households.



For several years, NCPD has been awarding Citizenship Awards to school age children at Carrie Downie Elementary. The recipients are selected by teachers after showing a consistent pattern of good conduct in and out of the classroom. It has become a popular award that children strive for, promoting good behavior. We managed to issue a few awards before schools closed and we look forward to returning in the fall of 2021.



As a result of gathering restrictions, one very popular community event was canceled. For the last few years NCPD and the Goodwill Fire Department hosted a backpack drive. Once again, through the generosity of residents, local businesses and the Trust, backpacks and school supplies were collected and distributed so that our children could start school properly equipped. We look forward to hosting this event before the start of the 2021-2022 school year!





In 2020, The New Castle City Police Department joined many other law enforcement agencies in Delaware to participate in Take Care Delaware. A recent national survey revealed that approximately 60% of American children have been exposed to violence. TCD provides officers who identify children exposed to violence and trauma, an avenue to send a confidential note to the child's school. No details are released, just a note that says "Take care of Johnny".

NCPD went a step further and started a program where officers would provide children at the scene of a traumatic event with teddy bears. Once again, local residents, businesses and community leaders answered the call and donated dozens and dozens of bears.





It's hard to imagine that the global impact of COVID 19 spared anyone. That includes all of our high school seniors who missed out on traditional graduation ceremonies. Local residents and educators came up with new and creative ways to recognize these students. The New Castle City Police Department was thrilled to join the Goodwill Fire Company and Bob Kelly of FOX Philadelphia's Good Day, along with educators from William Penn High School as they traveled from house to house to pay tribute to local seniors. Visit our Facebook page for the entire video



A trend began with police and fire escorts through our neighborhoods to help families separated by the pandemic celebrate birthdays, engagements and other milestones by organizing “parades” of passing vehicles occupied by friends and family. NCPD was a proud participant in many of these events that brought joy to so many.



The New Castle City Police Department places great value on community outreach programs. We look forward to returning to some form of normalcy in 2021 to reengage with our community. Below are some of the programs we hope will return soon.

Event	Partner	Description	Location
Carrie Downie Elementary Citizenship Awards	Carrie Downie Elementary School	Monthly school awards for teacher/principle chosen student-citizens (2) of the month	Carrie Downie Elementary
Public Safety Backpack Drive	Good Will Fire Company	Backpack collection for local students with “meet and greet” with first responders	Good Will Fire House
Christmas for the Kids	Good Will Fire Company	Annual Christmas party given to local kids at no cost	Good Will Fire House
Christmas Family Adoptions	Good Will Fire Company	Annual adoption of families in need at Christmas	Good Will Fire House
Let’s Talk – Mental Health and Addiction Awareness	Good Will Fire Company	Open forum for the community to ask questions and have discussions about how we respond to mental health and drug related incidents	St. Peters School
Senior Center Senior Scam Seminar	NCPD CIU	Requested by New Castle Senior Center – education on frauds and scam targeting seniors	New Castle Senior Center
Active Shooter/Armed Intruder Presentation	DSP	Presentation dealing with employee response and preparedness regarding active shooter/armed intruder	Business location
First Aid Presentation	Girl Scouts of America	Familiarity of first aid taught to Girl Scouts	Troop
Good Will Fire Company Open House	Good Will Fire Company	Community interaction and support of our local fire company	Good Will Fire House
National Night Out	Community	Participation with local community groups in NNO event	Battery Park
Penn Wars Field Day Event	Good Will Fire Company	Local kids participating in field day type events with first responders	Battery Park
NARCAN Community Training	DHHS	NARCAN training by certified instructor	New Castle City Police Headquarters
NCCPD Hero Help Cooperation	NCCPD	Working with NCCPD to defer addicts to treatment before use of the criminal justice system	City of New Castle
Behavioral/Mental Help Coop with NAMI	NCCPD/NAMI	Working with NCCPD to defer individuals with behavioral/mental issues before use of the criminal justice system	City of New Castle
Colonial Schools Open House	Colonial School District	Participation with Colonial School District in their Open House events to be available for family questions	Various schools
Special Olympics of Delaware	Special Olympics	Officer participation in the Torch Run, Over the Edge, Bowling, Tip-A-Cop	Various locations
COVID-19 Birthday/Graduation Escorts	Community	Birthday and Graduation Escorts by request throughout the city	City of New Castle

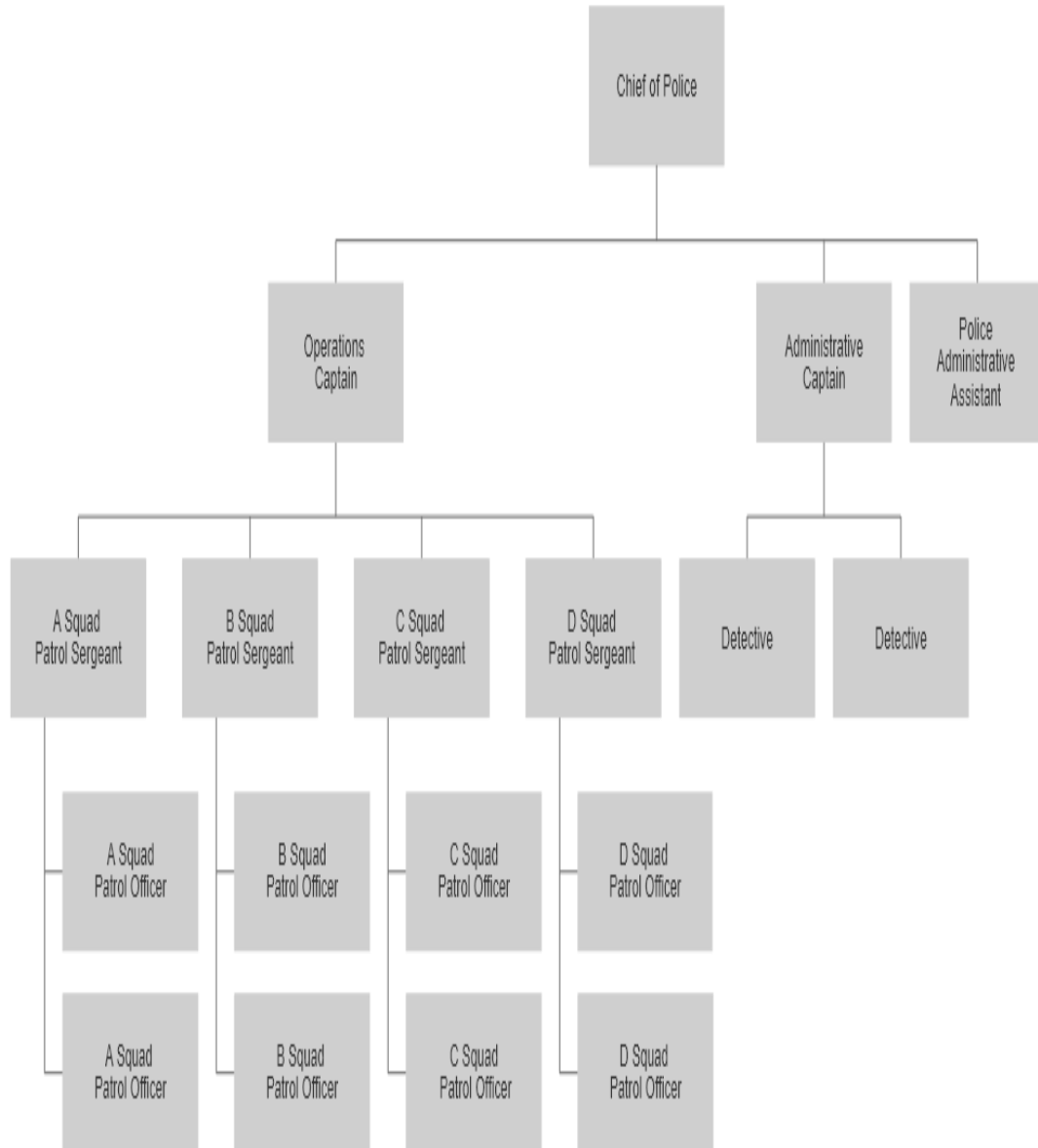


## Staffing/Structure

NCPD entered 2020 with fourteen (14) officers in service and a civilian police administrative assistant. Three (03) recruits began the year in the New Castle County Police Academy. All three recruits successfully completed the six-month training program and graduated in March of 2020. COVID restrictions prevented the recruits from experiencing a time-honored ceremony, but NCPD hosted a small celebration with the families of the graduates.



Upon the completion of a revamped and extensive Field Training Program, the recruits joined the ranks of NCPD and our staffing increased to seventeen (17) sworn officers with a civilian Police Administrative Assistant. The organization chart below illustrates the current structure of our department.



# Achievements

In 2020, NCPD continued to promote advanced training for officers that have expressed interest and demonstrated proficiency in becoming certified in critical areas that typically require us to outsource the service.

NCPD recognized an increase in drug related DUI incidents. In order to properly prosecute a drug related DUI, a highly trained Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) is used to perform an extensive battery of tests that range from traditional field sobriety tests to more complicated assessments to include recording vital signs. There are only a few DRE certified officers in Delaware.

In November of 2020, after weeks of classroom and field training, Sergeant Richard Perillo was certified as a DRE. In just a few short months, Sergeant Perillo has been called on by agencies across the state and within the city of New Castle to assist in prosecuting DUI cases.





During the same time frame, Sergeant Perillo received his National EMT Certification. “The National Registry’s mission is to provide a valid, uniform process to assess the knowledge and skills required for competent practice by EMS professionals throughout their careers, and to maintain a registry of certification status.”



NCPD continues its commitment to train our officers in the recognition, awareness and treatment options related to mental health and substance abuse. We continue to work with other agencies and non-profit organizations to keep our officers informed on the latest programs and provide up to date training so that we can better serve those affected by these diseases.

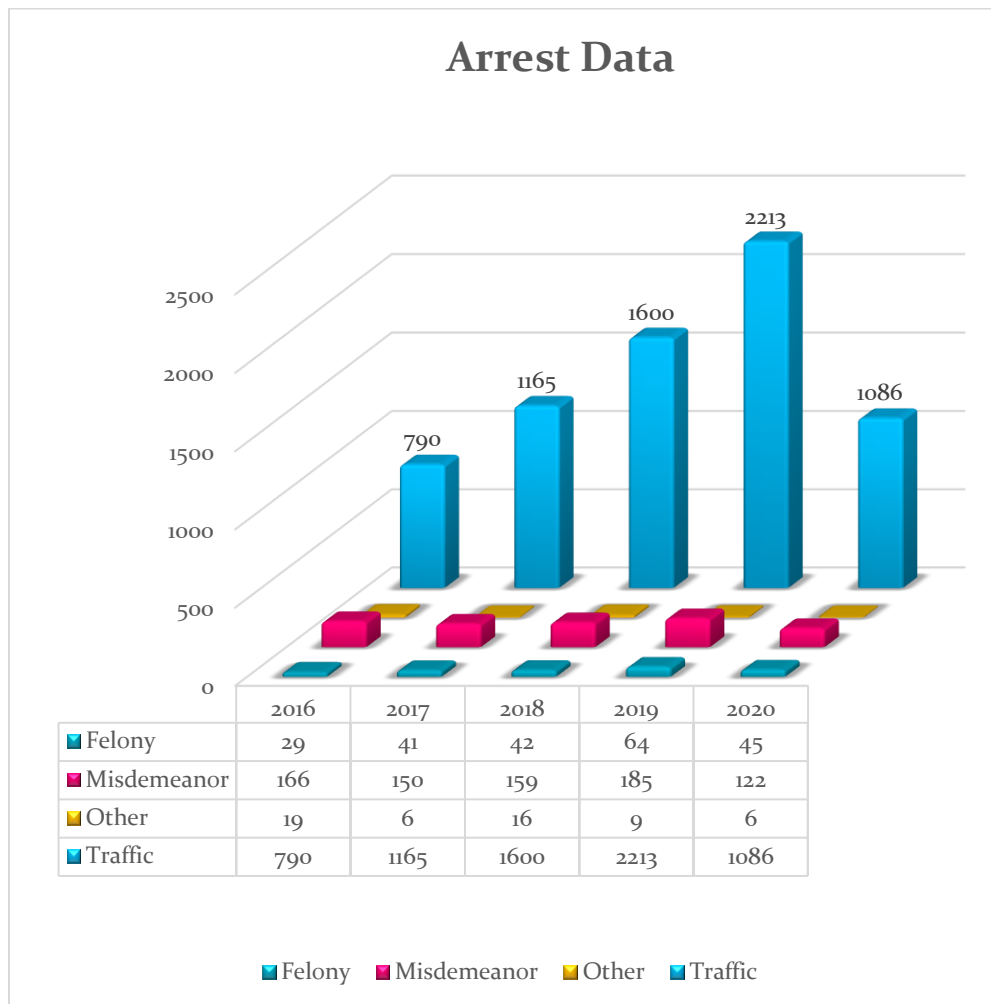
As part of that commitment, Captain Tina Shughart continues her work with the Veteran Response Team (VRT), Crisis Intervention Team (CIT), and Crisis Response Team (CRT). In addition to her association with these teams, Captain Shughart was recently certified by the National Council for Behavioral Health in providing “Mental Health First Aid”, to those who suffer from mental health or substance abuse challenges.



# Enforcement

Enforcement remains an integral part of policing. However, in the midst of a global pandemic, civil unrest and criminal justice reformation, police officers are experiencing unprecedented challenges. While other jurisdictions have seen an increase in violence, New Castle City has seen a decline. It should be noted that some of the decrease in enforcement stems from mitigation policies that have slowed self-initiated policing. Despite the distractions, NCPD continues to promote safety through high visibility patrols

The following graph provides a general view into the department's enforcement activity between 2016 and 2020. The data is broken down to reflect the number of traffic summons issued, and arrests made by category.



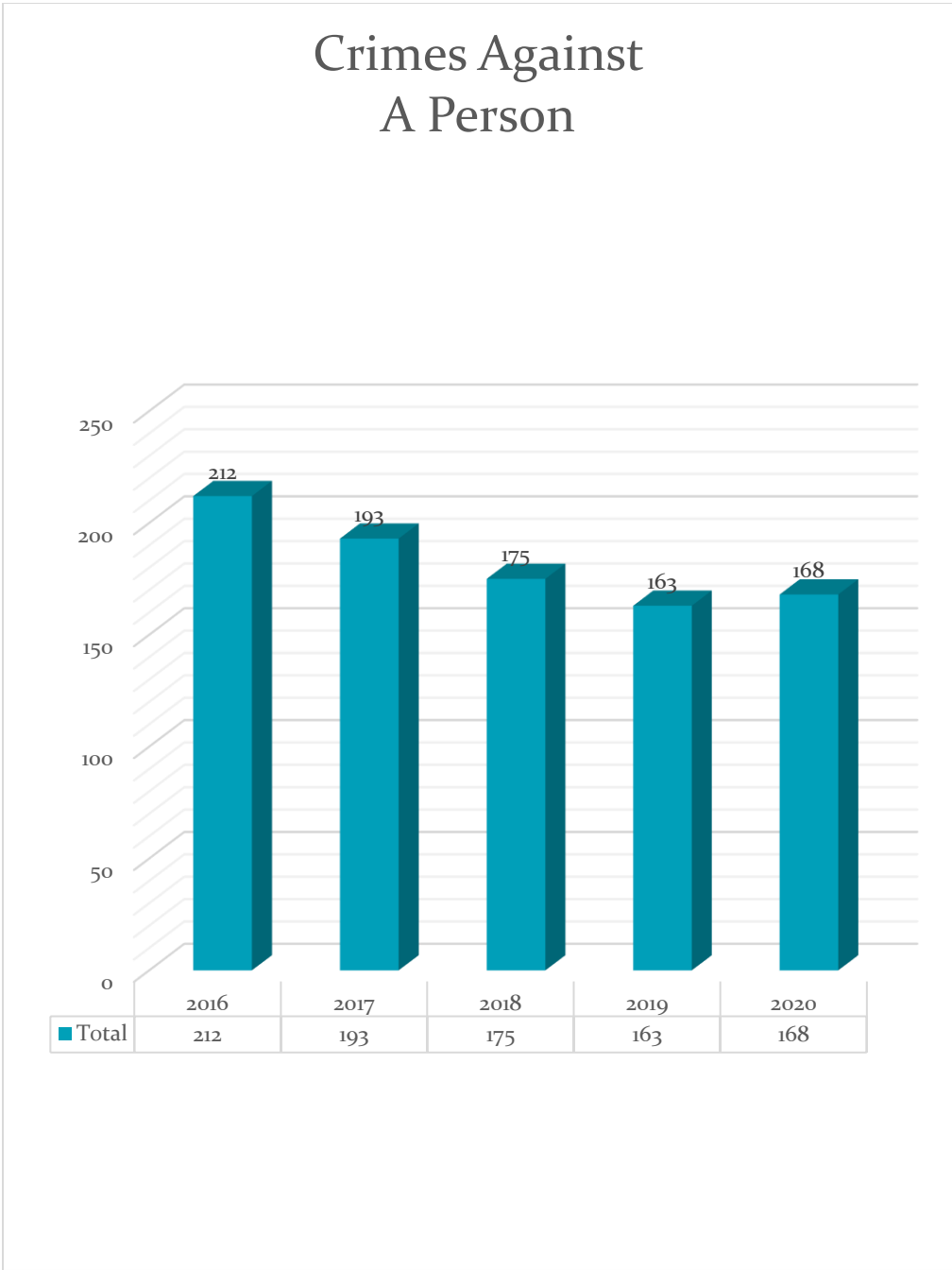
The graph below illustrates all the calls for service that are typically initiated by an individual requesting police service. Most calls are initiated through the Regional Communications Center (RECOM) via 911 or the non-emergency number. These statistics do not include calls that are initiated by the officer, such as traffic stops.

## Calls For Service

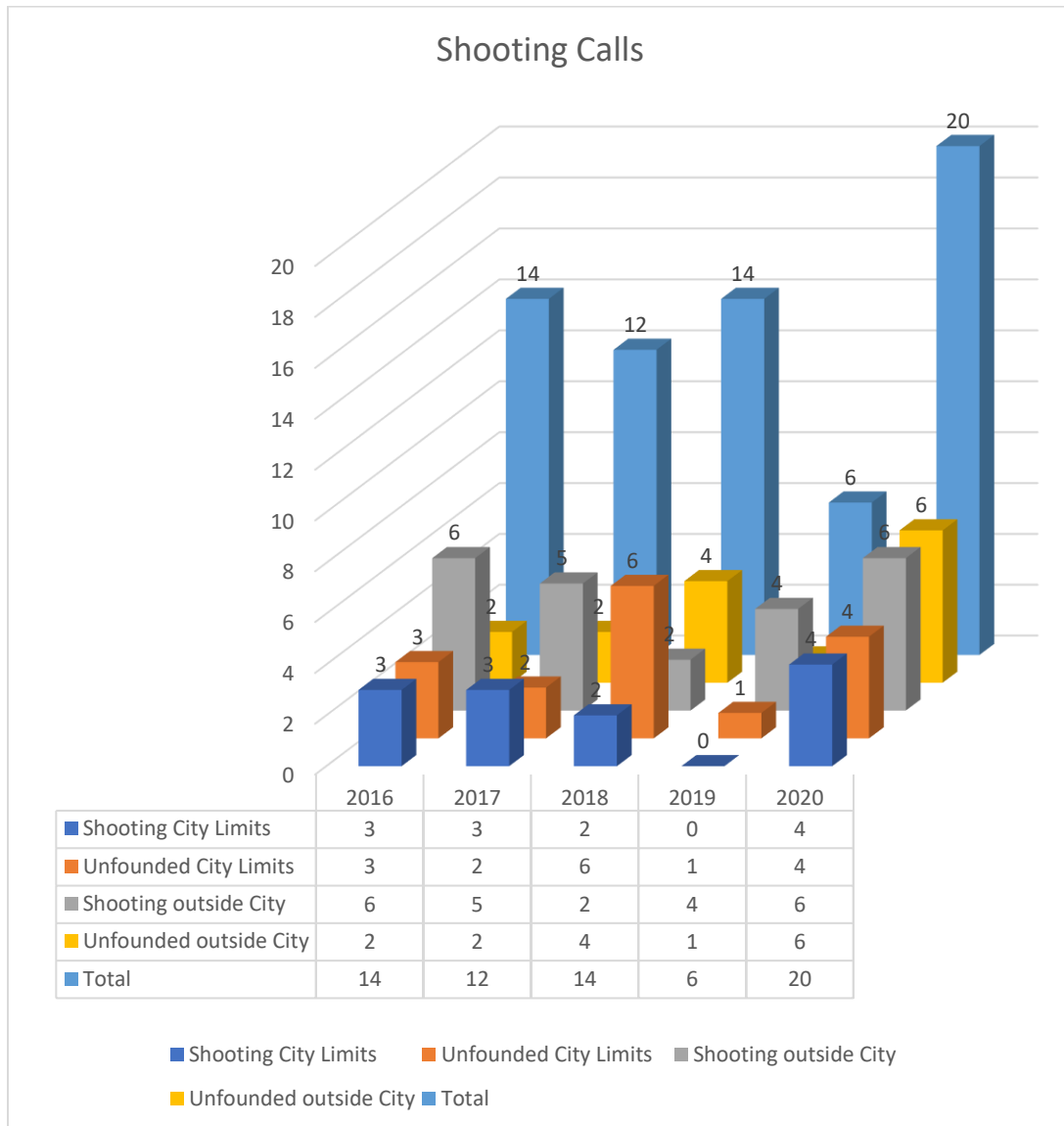




The next graph is a summary comparison of crimes initiated against a person. Some typical crimes that would constitute a crime against a person are assaults, robbery, terroristic threatening, etc.

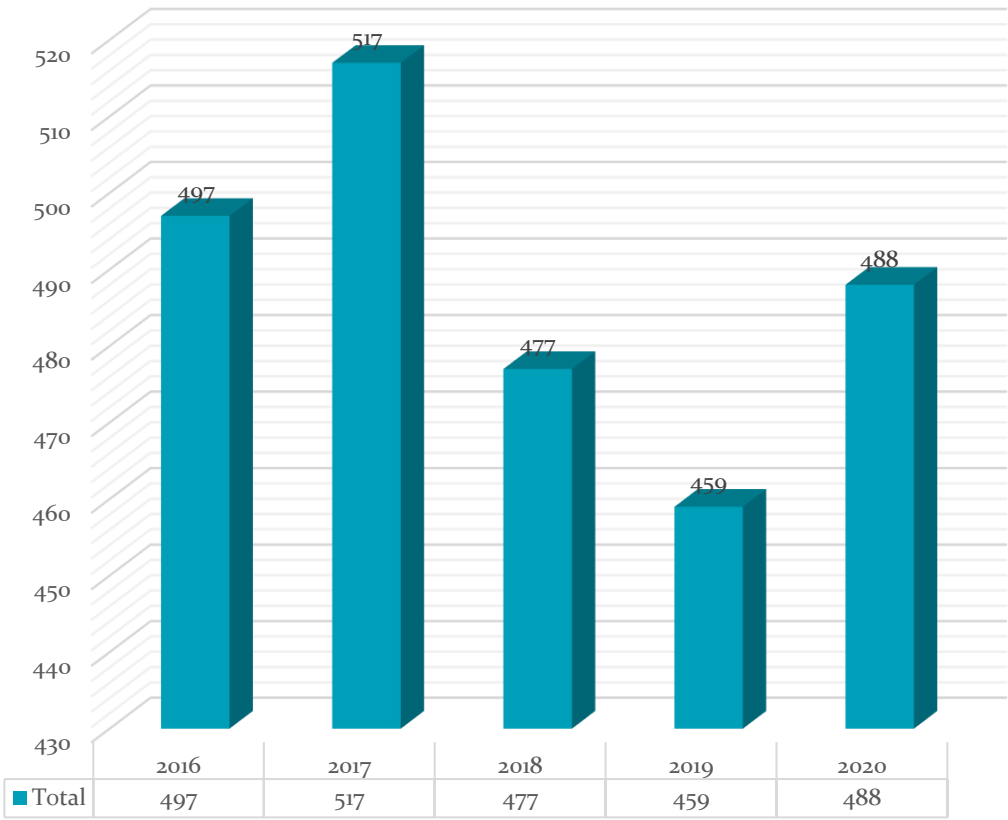


The following graph depicts the number of gun violations and shootings our officers responded to. The cases labeled unfounded are incidents where our officers responded to the call of a shots fired/shooting and no evidence was located to corroborate the call. The cases labeled shooting involve incidents where ballistic evidence was recovered indicating a firearm was discharged, or the identification of a person or property having been struck.



Property crimes consist of burglaries, thefts, thefts from and of vehicles, shopliftings, criminal mischief, etc.

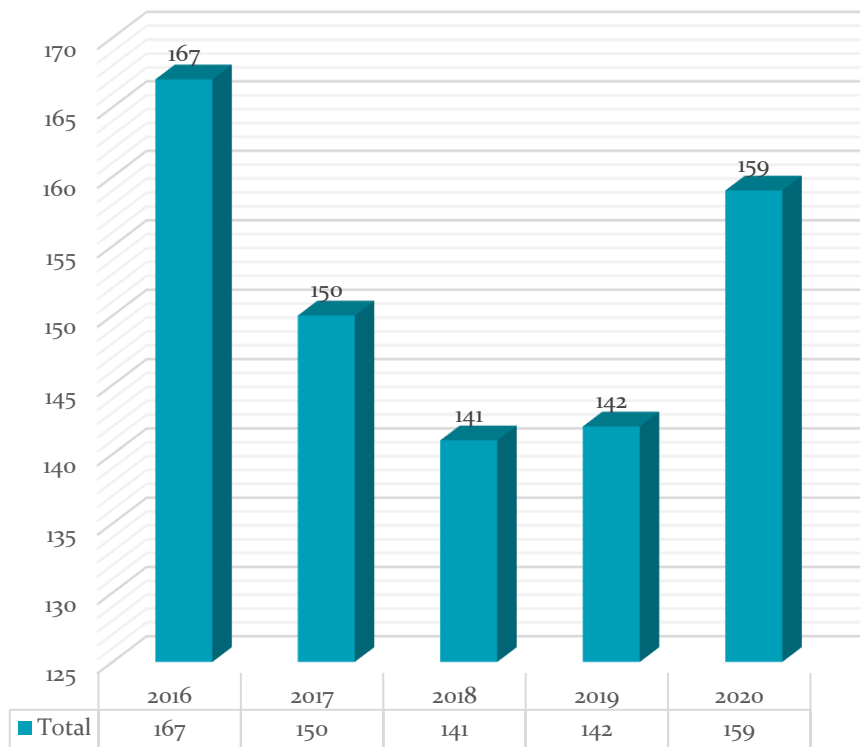
## Property Crimes/ Thefts





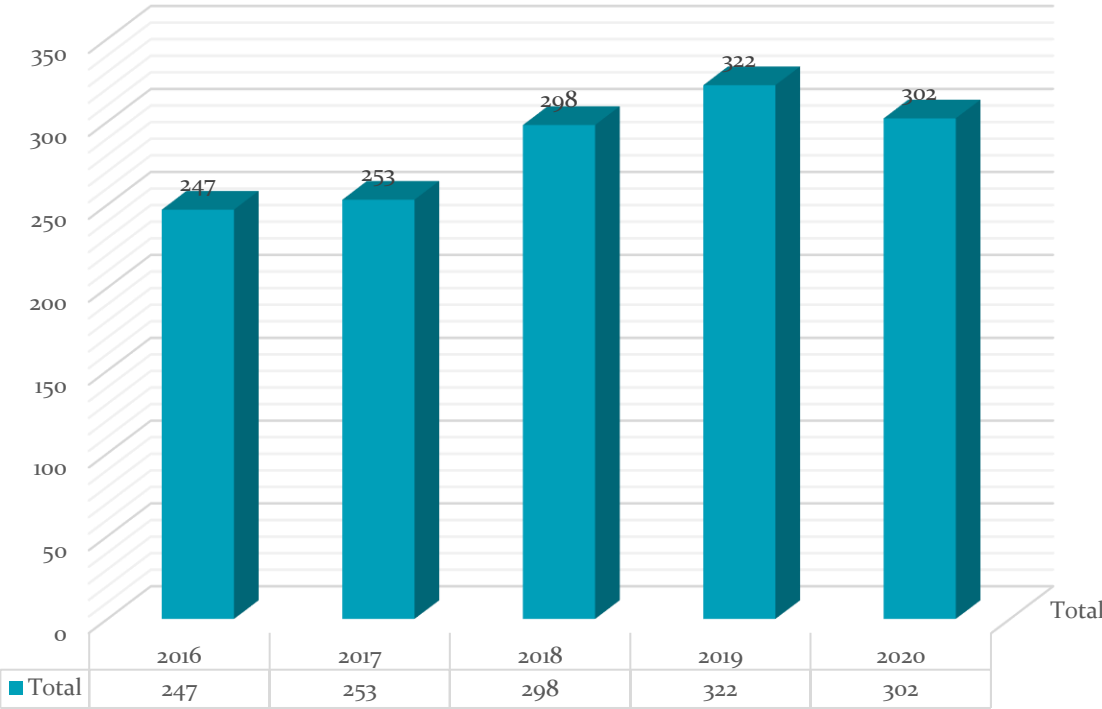
Domestic calls are incidents that involve intrafamilial matters or incidents involving people in intimate relationships. Not all domestic calls lead to arrests or involve criminal conduct. However, all domestic calls are required to be documented.

## Domestic Related Calls



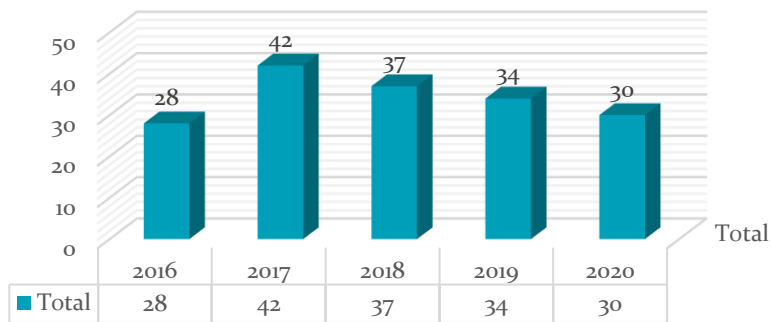
The graph below illustrates all the calls the police department respond to involving incidents related to a mental health crisis, first aid/CPR, check on the welfare, etc.

# Health and Welfare Calls for Service

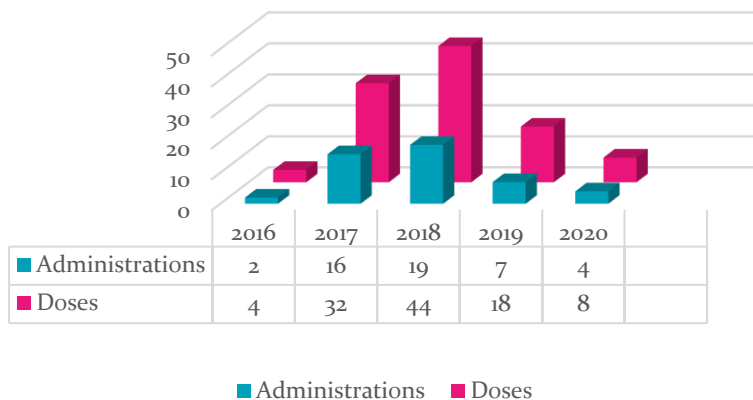


NCPD officers continue to follow the compassionate response policy that began in late 2016. NCPD has also hosted several community programs where our instructor trained the public in the use of NARCAN and provided the attendees with NARCAN provided by the non-profit group Attack Addiction. NCPD has committed to share all of overdose data with a non-profit group Overdose Data to Action Grant for analysis.

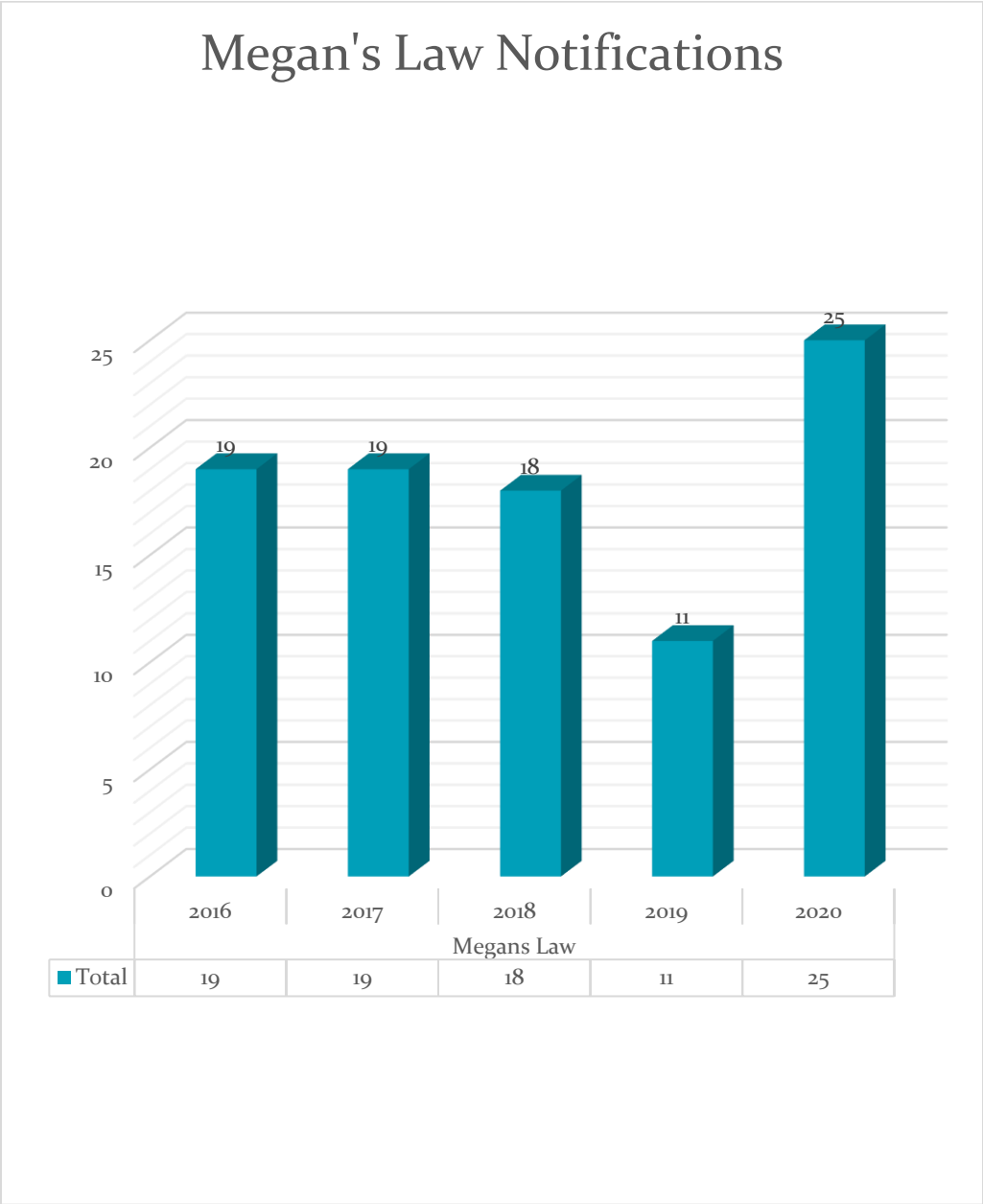
## Overdose Calls



## NARCAN Administrations

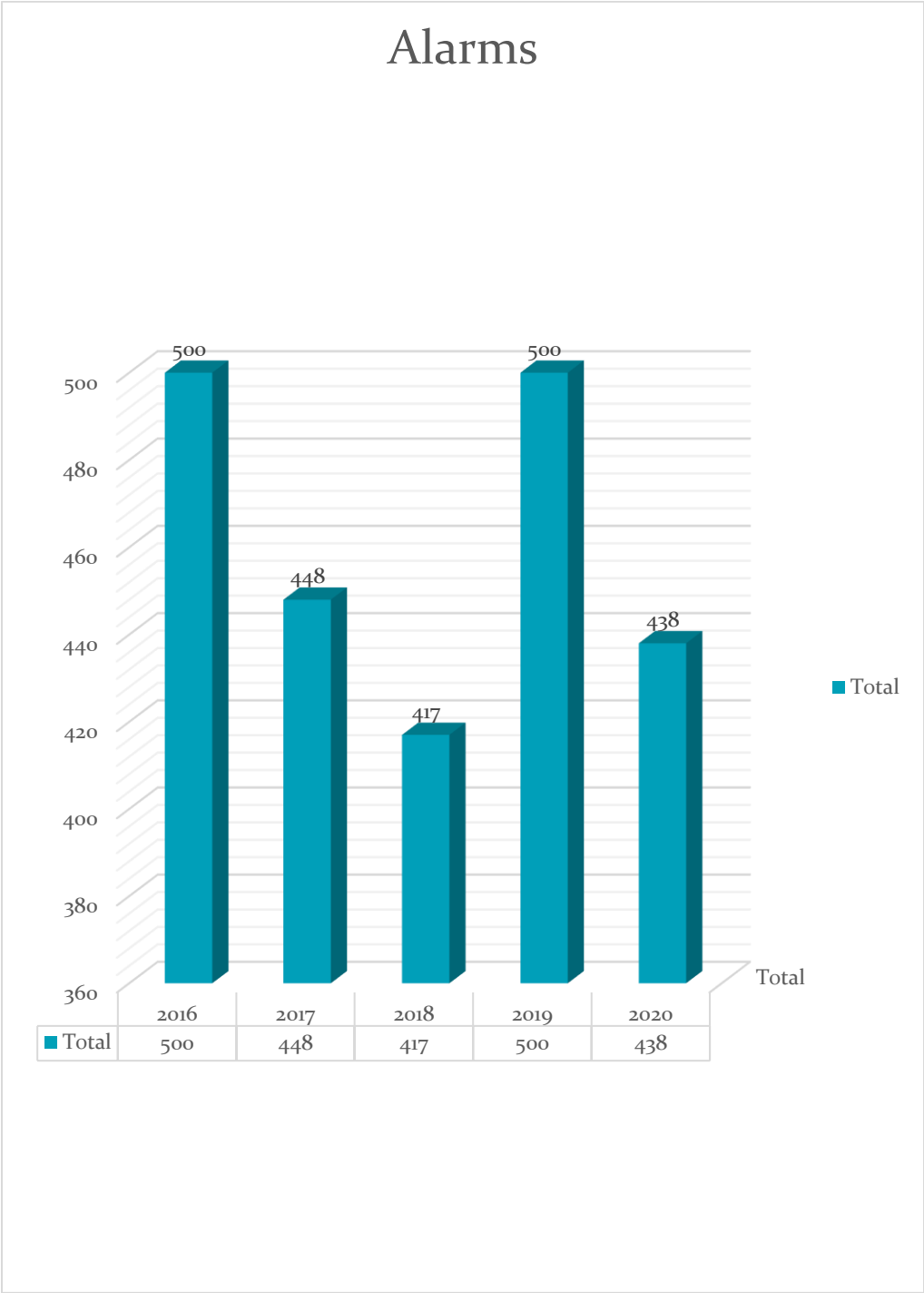


Title 11, Section 4120 and 4121 of the Delaware Code, known as Megan’s Law, requires the Delaware State Police to maintain a registry of sex offenders. A link to that registry can be found on our website. (newcastlecitypolice.com). Offenders convicted of specified sex offenses are required to register and in specific cases, local jurisdictions are required to make notifications. The graph below illustrates how many notifications NCPD has done.

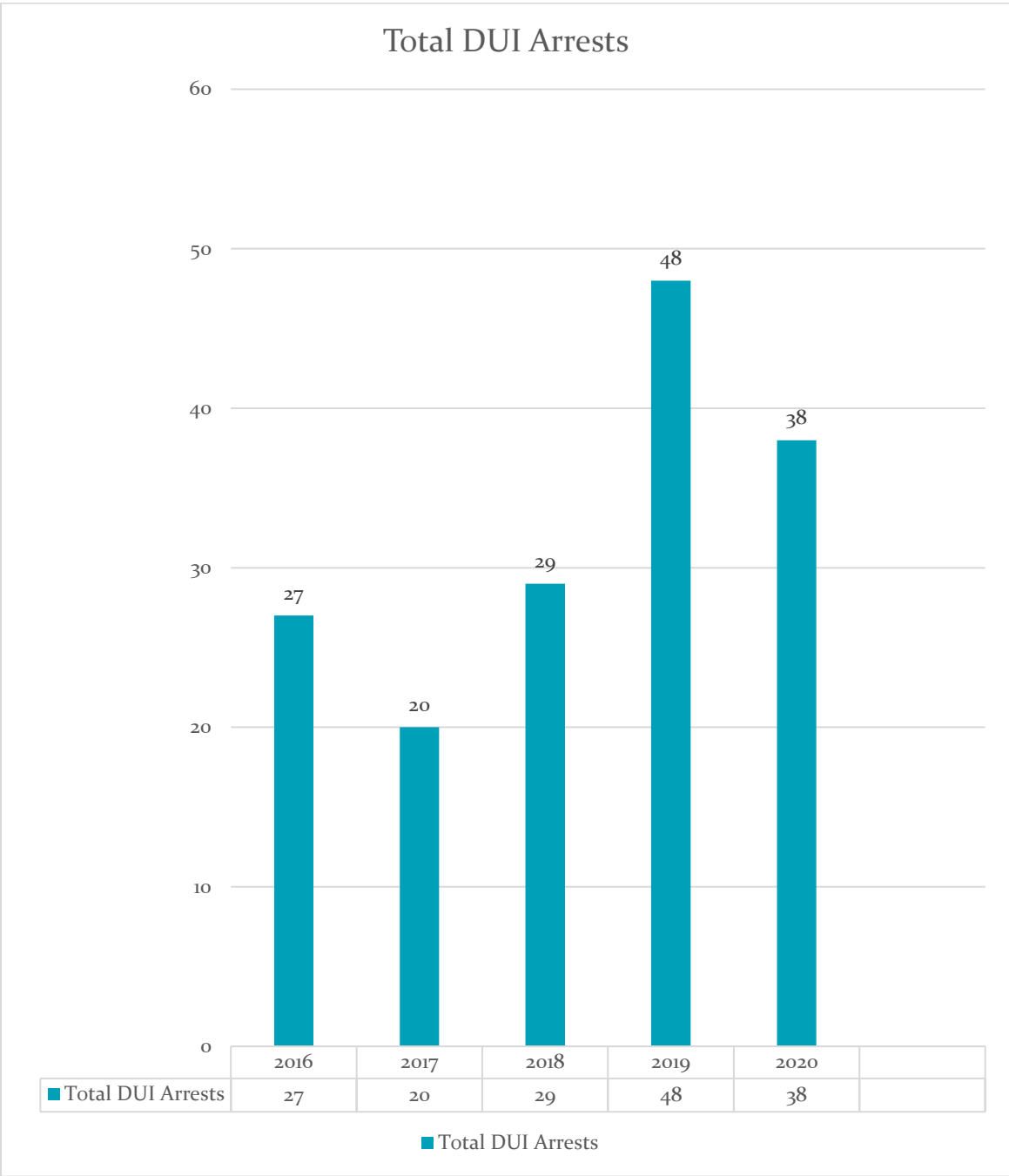




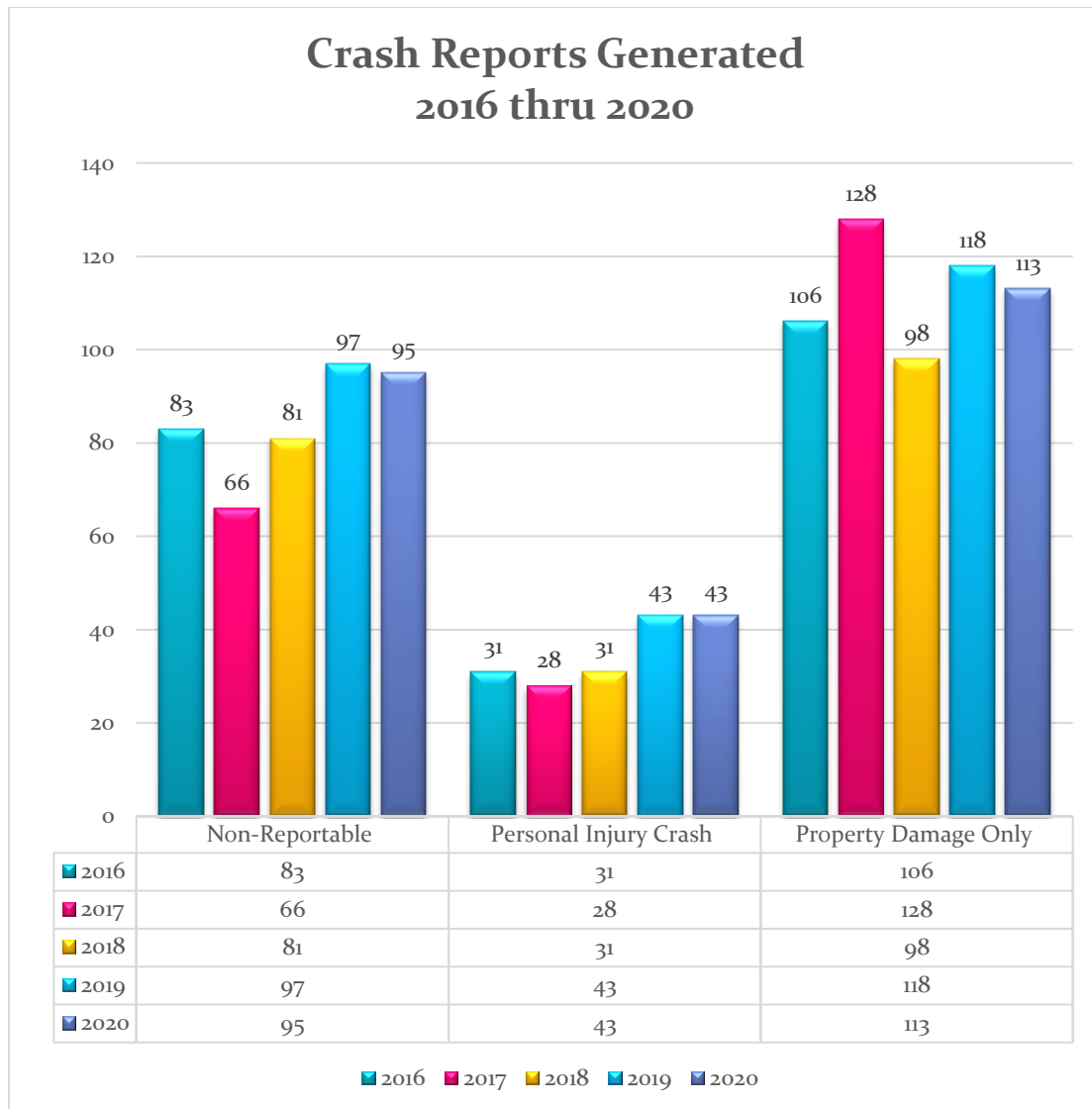
The following graph is a summary of all the calls involving alarms. They include hold up (robbery) alarms, burglar alarms, vehicle alarms, etc.



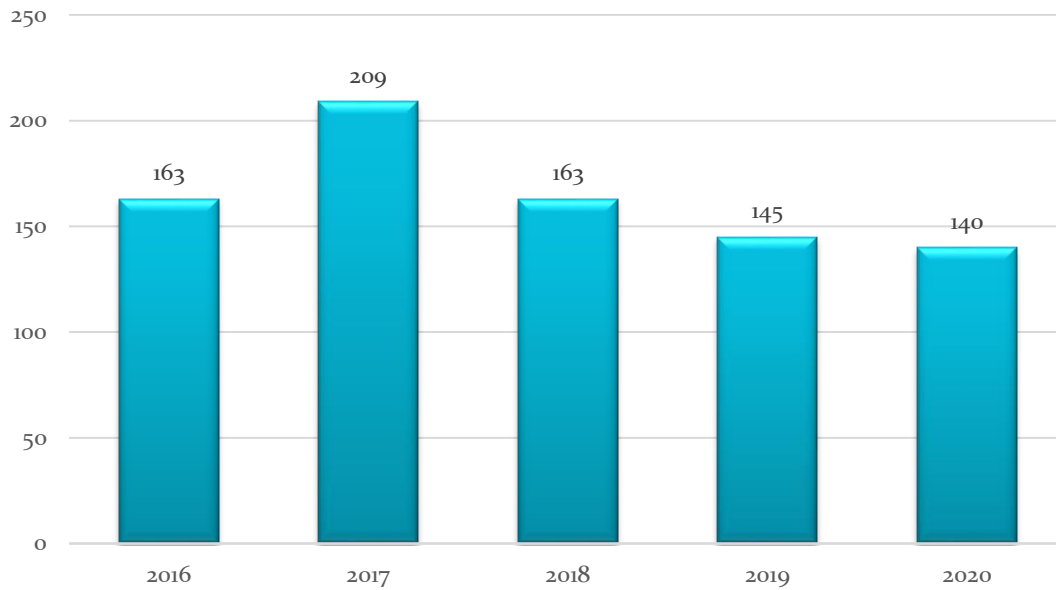
The following graph is a summary of DUI arrests made between 2016-2020.



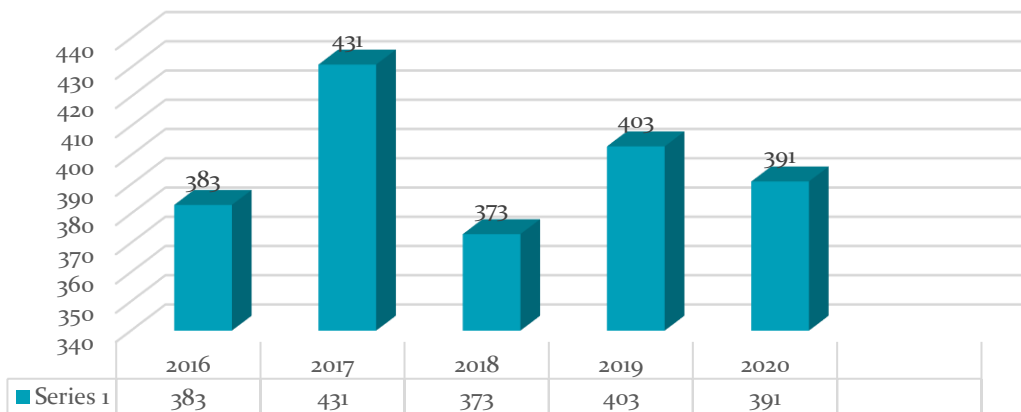
The crash data illustrated in the next few pages, is a breakdown of all crashes NCPD responded to. Not all crashes require reports. For example, most crashes that occur on private property do not require a report unless certain conditions exist, i.e., serious injury, DUI, structural damage, reckless driving. We are still dispatched to determine if any of those conditions exist. In some cases, we are needed to help facilitate an information exchange.



## Crashes Investigated with No Report Required

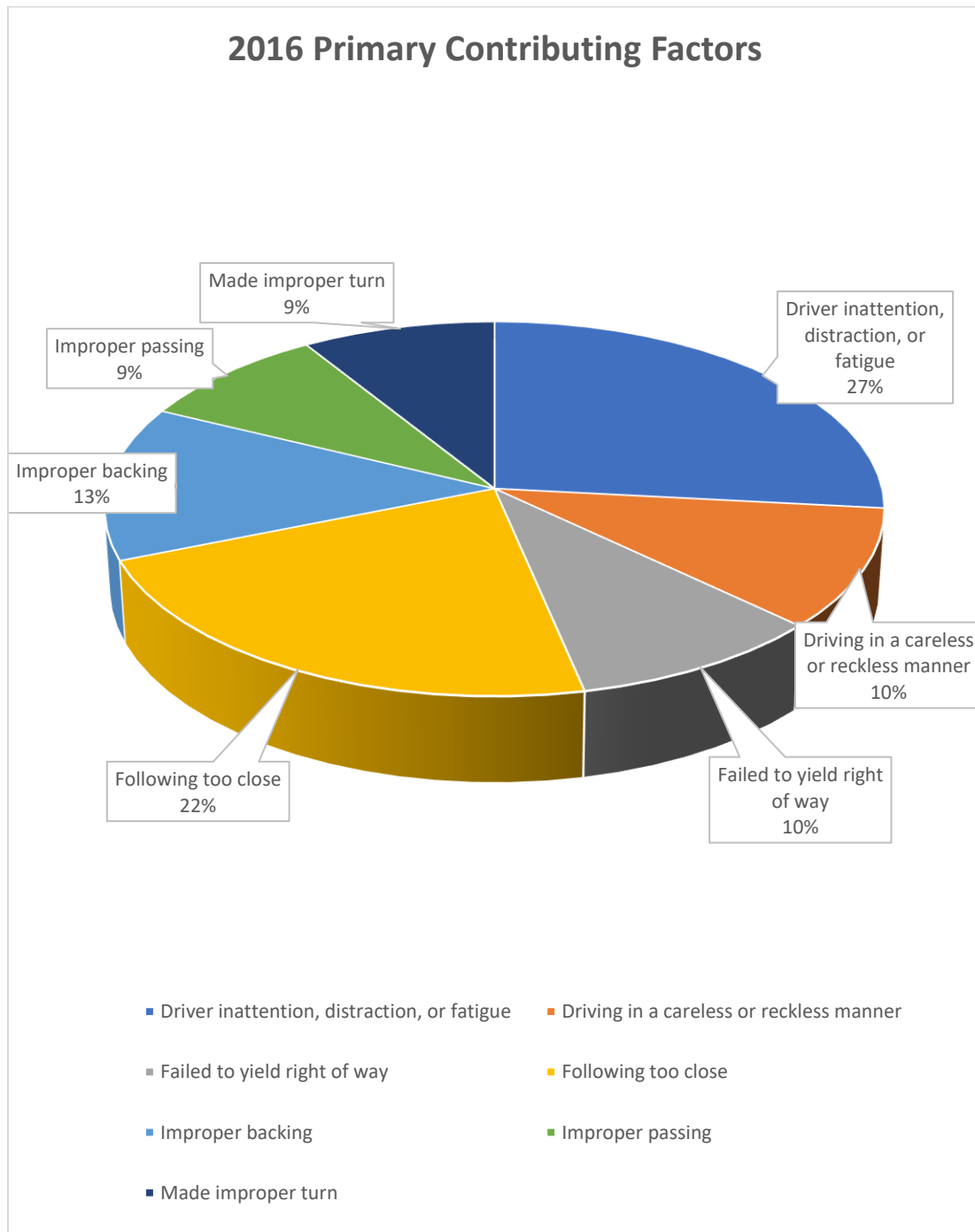


## Total Crashes

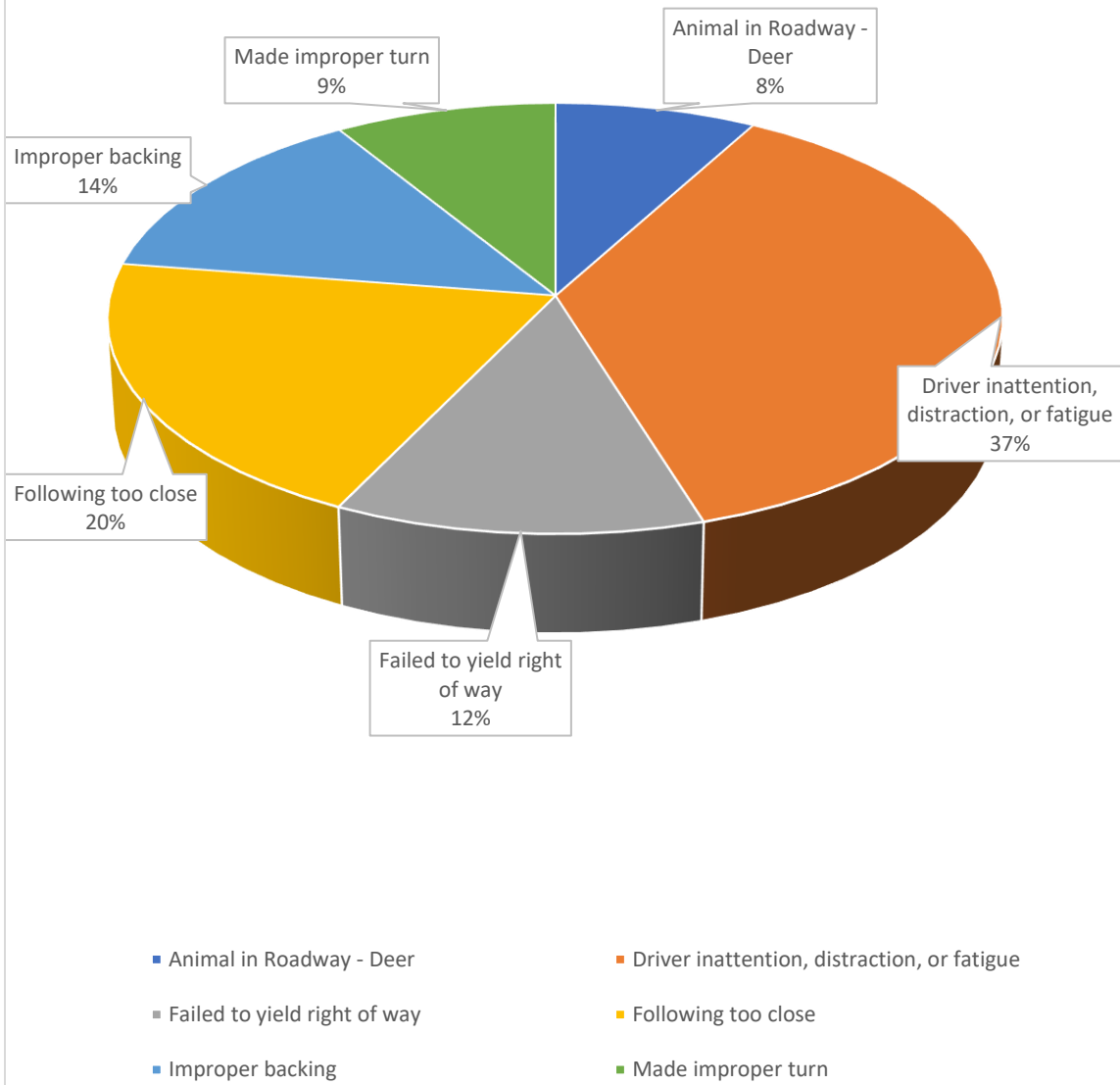




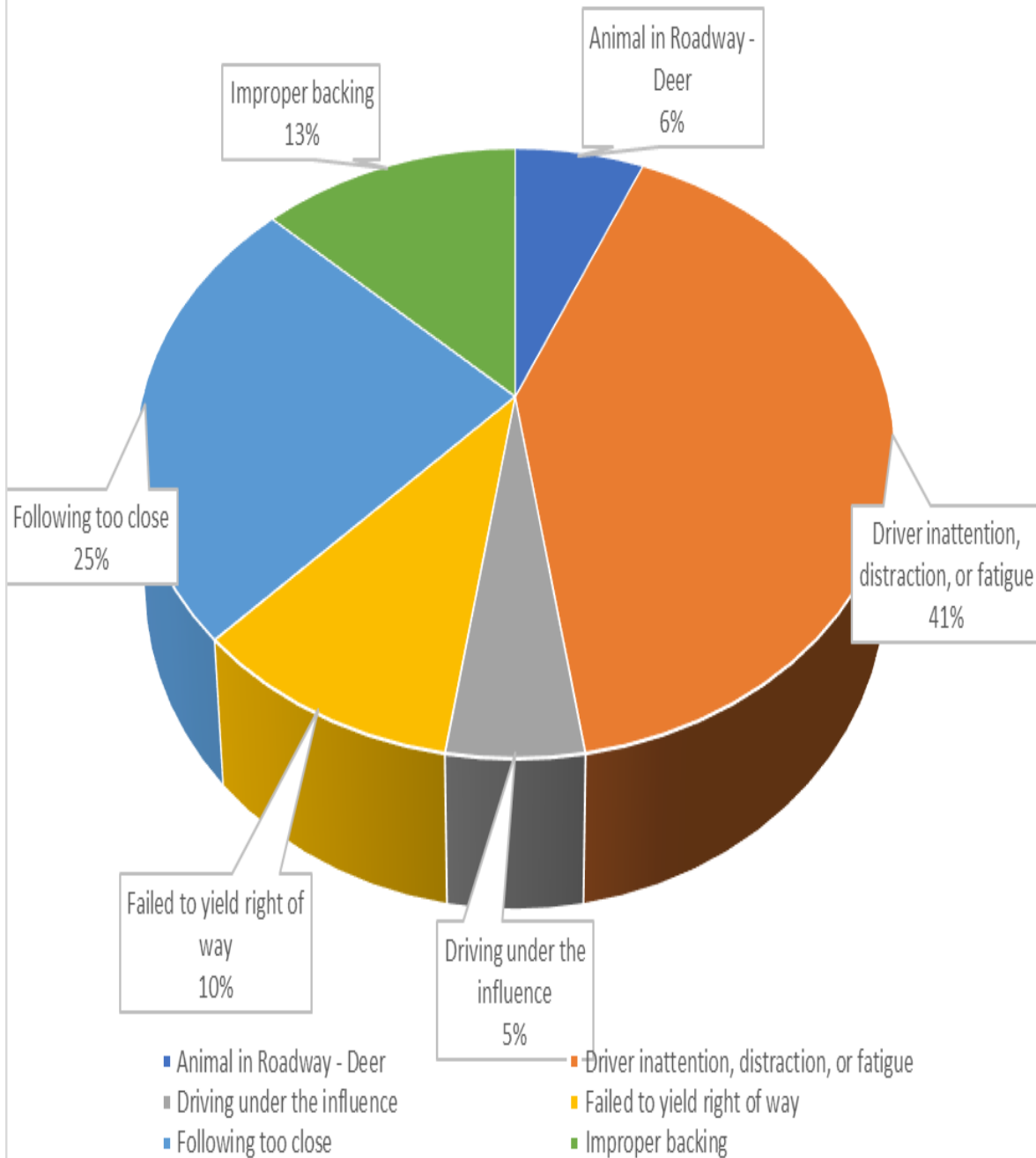
When conducting a crash investigation that requires a report, officers are provided with a list of primary contributing factors the led to the crash. In other words, the cause of the crash. The following few charts identify the top six or seven leading primary contributing factors between 2016-2020.



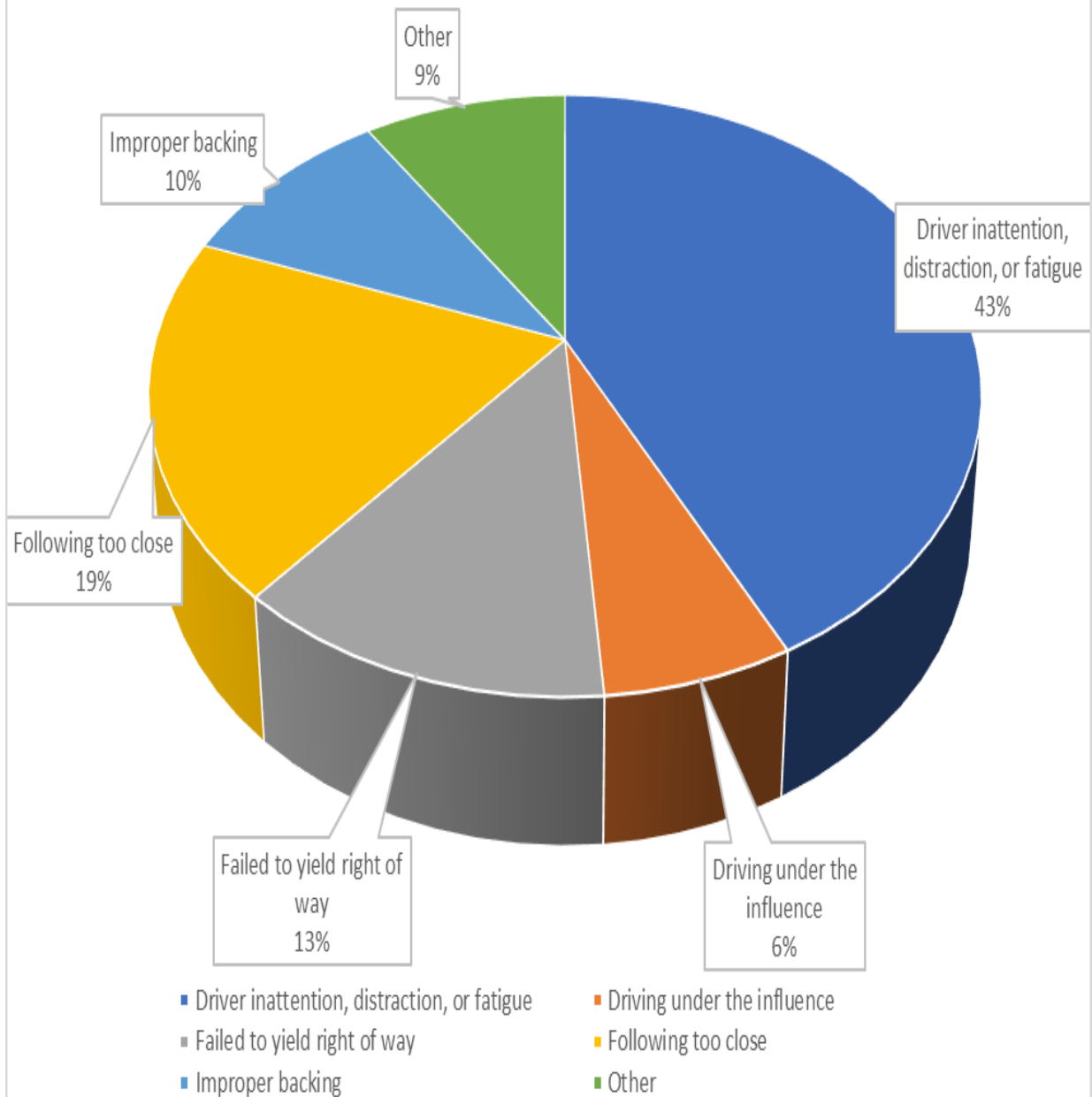
# 2017 Primary Contributing Factors



## 2018 Primary Contributing Factors

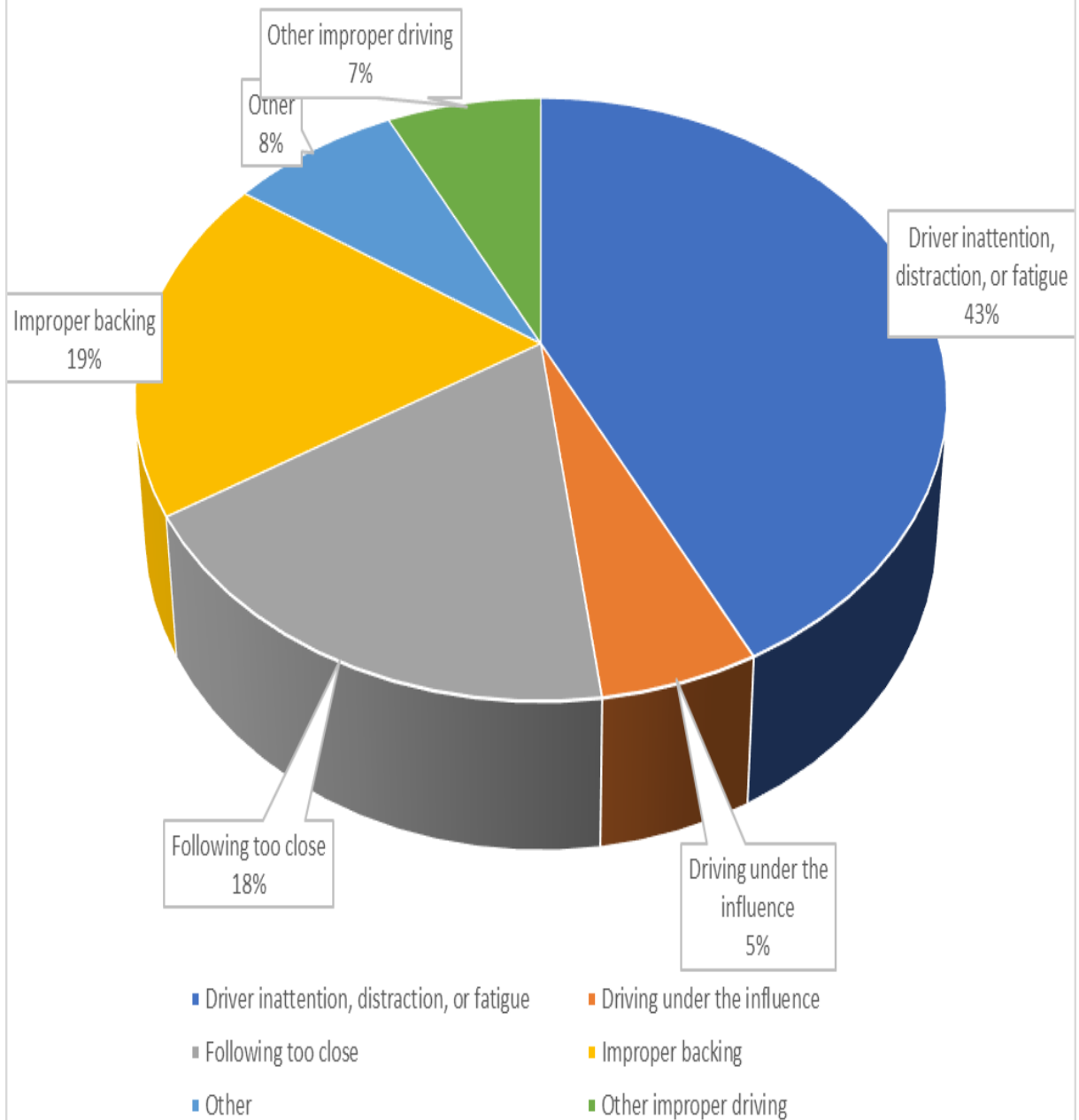


## 2019 Primary Contributing Factors





## 2020 Primary Contributing Factors



Response time is measured from when a call is made to the dispatch center to when an officer arrives on scene. There are many factors that affect response time such as staffing, complaint load, traffic, and delay in dispatching to name a few. Outliers, such as a priority one complaint being downgraded can also affect the overall average. For example, if an officer was dispatched to a stabbing, that would typically be a priority one call for service. But, if the stabbing was determined to be late reported, the victim was not at the scene of the incident and the officer does not have a location to call out on, the time could be skewed.

The following charts identify some examples of the calls categorized as priorities One, Two, Three and Five.

### Examples of Priority One Calls

Accident Departmental	Domestic - In Progress	Person with Gun
Accident Personal Injury	Domestic Violence	Person with Weapon
Accident PI H/R	Domestic w/Weapons	Rape - In Progress
Accidental Emergency Activation	Domestic w/Weapons - In Progress	Rape - Just Occ'd
Assault - In Progress	Domestic w/Weapons - Just Occ'd	Robbery - In Progress
Assault w/Weapon	Drowning	Robbery - Just Occ'd
Assault w/Weapon - In Progress	Escape	Robbery w/Weapons - In Progress
Assault w/Weapon - Just Occurred	Fight - In Progress	Robbery w/Weapons - Just Occ'd
Burglary - In Progress	Fight w/Weapons	Shooting
Carjacking	Fight w/Weapons - In Progress	Shooting - In Progress
Carjacking - In Progress	Fight w/Weapons - Just Occ'd	Shooting - Just Occ'd
Carjacking - Just Occurred	Homicide	Shots fired
CPR in Progress	Kidnapping - Just Occ'd	Suicidal Person
Cutting/Stabbing	Mental Patient Violent	Suicidal Person - In Progress
Cutting/Stabbing - In Progress	Person Screaming	Suicidal Person w/Weapon-In Prog
Cutting/Stabbing - Just Occurred		Suicidal Person w/Weapons
		Terroristic Threatening-In Progress

### Examples of Priority Two Calls

911D Cellular Disconnect	Burglary - Just Occurred	Missing Person
911D Hang up Call	Criminal Mischief - In Progress	Missing Person Special
911D Land Line Disconnect	Criminal Mischief - Just Occ'd	Open door or window
911D Open Line	Disorderly group	Overdose
Abuse/Neglect	Disorderly person	Overdose - In Progress
Abuse/Neglect - In Progress	Disorderly Premise	Shoplifting
Accident Unknown	Domestic - Just Occurred	Structure Fire
Accident Unknown H/R	Domestic Verbal	Suspicious package
Alarm Holdup/Panic	Drunk/Intoxication	Terror. Threatening-Just Occ'd
Animal w/Danger	Fight	Terroristic Threatening Weapons
Assault - Just Occurred	Fight - Just Occurred	Theft - In Progress
Assist Fire/EMS	Fraud - In Progress	Theft - Just Occurred
Assist Other Agency	Harassment - In Progress	Trespass - In Progress
	Harassment - Just Occurred	Unknown
	Indecent Exposure	
	Loitering	

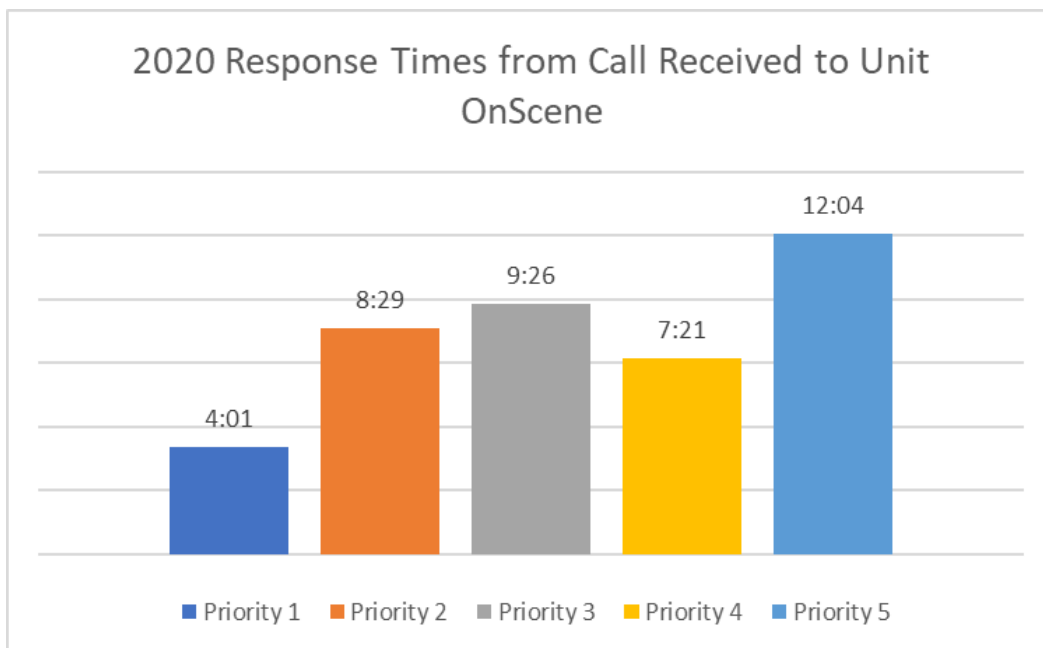
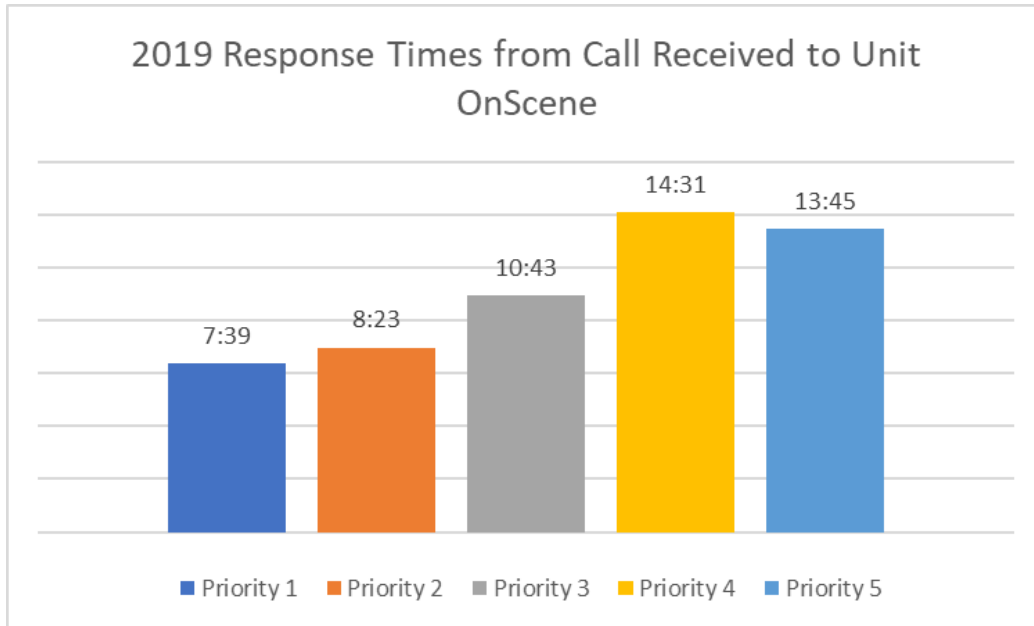
### Examples of Priority Three Calls

Accident PD	Fireworks	Rescue
Accident PD H/R	Found person	Robbery Report
Alarm Burglary	Hunting	Robbery w/Weapons Report
Alarm Vehicle	Injured Person	Suspicious noise
Burglary Report	Kidnapping Report	Suspicious person
Check on the Welfare	Liquor Violation	Suspicious vehicle
Criminal impersonation	Locked in Vehicle	Traffic service
Death Investigation	Mental patient	Traffic Violation
Disabled vehicle	Mental Patient Transport	Trespass - Just Occurred
Domestic Report	Prevent Breach of Peace	<u>Turfing</u> - In Progress
Drug Violation	Property check	<u>Turfing</u> - Just Occurred
DUI	Rape Report	Vehicle Fire

### Examples of Priority Five Calls

Abandoned Vehicle	Fugitive	Relay/Transport
Added Information	Gun Violation	Sexual Offense Report
Animal	Harassment Report	Strange Phone Call
Assault Report	Lost/stolen tag	Terroristic Threatening Report
Barking Dog	Loud Music/Party	Terroristic Threatening by Phone
Booking	Loud Noise	Theft Report
Breach of Release	Menacing	Theft from Vehicle Report
Capias	Noise Complaint	Transport
Civil Matter	Obscene Phone Call	Trespass Report
Criminal mischief Report	Offensive Touching Report	<u>Turfing</u> Report
Custody dispute	Parking Violation	Unauthorized Use Report
Death Notification	PFA Service	Vehicle Damage
Dog Bite	Property found	Vehicle Recovered
Follow Up	Prostitution	Vehicle Stolen Report
Fraud Report	Public Relations/Assist	Vehicle Tow
	Reckless Endangering Report	Warrant Attempt

The next two charts are the average response times for NCPD in 2019 and 2020.





## Conclusion

The effectiveness of any police agency is directly related to the relationship with the community it serves. The New Castle City Police Department will strive to continue fostering relationships with residents, community leaders, faith-based groups and businesses to find practical and innovative ways to promote citizenship and a partnership. We will continue the use of our social media platforms to deliver our message and invite participation.

Recognizing that we are not immune to violence and quality of life issues that affect residents, businesses and visitors, we will continue to use every method of crime analysis and varying forms of patrol techniques to reduce criminal conduct, while policing in a fair and impartial manner.

