

Ashland Police Department



Chief Douglas A. Goodman, Jr.
2016 Annual Report
Ashland, VA

Message from the Chief



To our community:

On behalf of the men and women of the Ashland Police Department, I would like to invite you to take a look at our 2016 Annual Report to learn a bit more about your police department.

The Ashland Police Department is a full service law enforcement agency that provides police service and protection 24 hours a day, 365 days per year. The Ashland Police Department is comprised of 25 sworn officers, three full-time civilian staff members, and is fortunate to enjoy the commitment of many volunteers, three of them sworn officers. 2016 was an outstanding year for the Ashland Police Department as we made strides to improve the quality of life in our Town. Our efforts to improve traffic safety were recognized with a First Place finish in the Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge and second place in the national challenge. Our efforts to improve the safety of the motoring public also netted 38 DUI arrests and 29 drug arrests. We remain the smallest police department in the Commonwealth to hold CALEA accredited status out of 26 agencies in the state who have met this bar of performance and professionalism.

2016 was also a busy year on the streets of Ashland. Our officers responded to 6,382 calls for service, maintaining an average emergency response time of 95 seconds and an average response time to non-emergency calls of 5.4 minutes. Ashland experienced a 25% decrease in Part I offenses compared to reported crime in 2015. This decrease was predominately driven by decreases in shoplifting and other property offenses. We are working now through a process known as DDACTS (Date Driven Approaches to Crime and Traffic Safety) to redefine our deployment strategies with our current staff to address criminal activity in the commercial areas without reducing our presence and effectiveness in the neighborhoods in Town.

Our officers continue to impress me by continuing their effectiveness during their discretionary time between calls for service. 2016 once again saw increases in self-initiated activities by officers:

- 22,682 Property Checks
- 10,205 Park, Walk and Talk foot patrols
- 64 unlocked doors found at businesses during time of darkness
- 59 visits with our "Adopt-a Senior"
- 229 "Lunch Buddies" visits at our local elementary schools

In addition to the provision of public safety, our agency coordinated the safety and security of a multitude of special events, festivals and charity runs.

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

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

I remain in your service,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D.A. Goodman, Jr." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Chief Douglas A. Goodman, Jr.

Organization and Structure

The Ashland Police Department employs 25 sworn officers and three civilian employees at its headquarters located at 601 England Street. The Ashland Police Department is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. The Administrative Offices are open Monday-Friday 8:00 am-4:30 pm.

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

Patrol Operations



The Patrol Operations is commanded by Major Anthony Callahan. The division operates on 12 hour shifts. With day shift operating from 7:00 am-7:00 pm; and night shift from 7:00 pm-7:00 am.

The patrol operation is comprised of four Sergeants and 12 officers. This component is responsible for the day to day protection of citizens and businesses in Ashland along with the enforcement of all applicable state and local laws. In addition to the patrol function, Major Callahan is also responsible for Internal Affairs and maintenance of critical records.

Special Operations



Special Operations is commanded by Captain Troy Aronhalt. This unit is comprised of Investigations, Support Services, Crime Prevention and



Public Information Services. In addition to these duties, Captain Aronhalt is responsible for all review boards, evidence maintenance and training

Chaplain Program



The department chaplain program provides pastoral care to those employees, citizens, or visitors to our town who request such services, or who are impacted by a serious or severe life event.

We are fortunate to have both Pastor Rick Dill and Minister Toni Burruss as our chaplains. Both are spiritual and caring individuals who voluntarily provide their services on a daily basis. We are extremely honored to have them as our pastors.

Ways the Ashland Police Department keeps in touch with the community:

The department is always looking to keep residents aware of current and upcoming events or situations that are happening in town. To stay connected the department uses the following social media outlets:

WEBSITE: www.ashlandpolice.us

FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com

TWITTER: www.twitter.com

NIXLE: www.nixle.com



Mission and Core Values

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

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

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

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

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

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



CALEA

The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) is an internationally recognized credentialing program for law enforcement agencies.

CALEA's standards for law enforcement agencies promote greater accountability within the department while increasing visibility and collaboration. To learn more about CALEA go to www.calea.org.

CALEA's goals are to strengthen crime prevention and control capabilities, formalize essential management procedure, establish fair and nondiscriminatory personnel practices, improve service delivery, solidify interagency cooperation and coordination, and increase the community and staff confidence in the agency

In December, 2016 the department underwent our third successful reaccreditation assessment. Two assessors from CALEA spent three long days inspecting every aspect of the department ensuring that we are maintaining the high standards set forth by CALEA. The assessors were very complimentary of our department, specifically of our commitment to and partnership with the community.

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



Traffic Enforcement

The police department has four (4) officers who are trained in traffic safety strategies. These officers use information compiled from the previous year to evaluate the effectiveness of current traffic safety programs to improve the driving experience in Ashland.

In 2016, the agency was awarded a Virginia Department of Motor Vehicle grant in the amount of \$15,914.00. The department used the grant money for selective enforcement activities, saturation patrols, and public safety checkpoints.

The number of reportable crashes decreased by six percent (-6%) compared to the previous year.

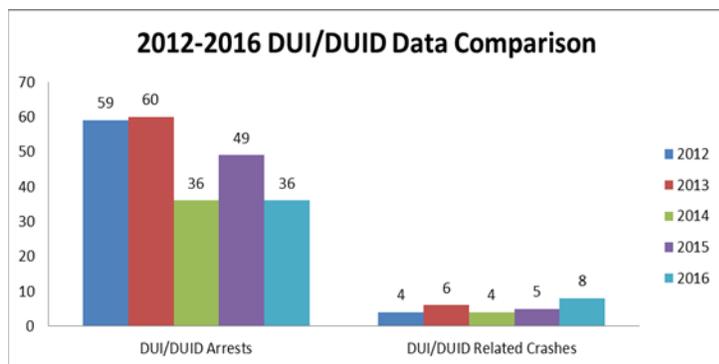
The total number of crashes involving injured parties in 2016 was forty-one (41), compared to fifty (50) crashes resulting in injuries to parties in 2015. The number of crashes resulting in injuries decreased by eighteen percent (-18%) compared to the previous year. There were no fatal crashes in 2016.

Operating Under the Influence

Operating Under the Influence is defined as driving or operating a motor vehicle or common carrier while mentally and physically impaired as the result of consuming an alcoholic beverage or using a drug or narcotic.

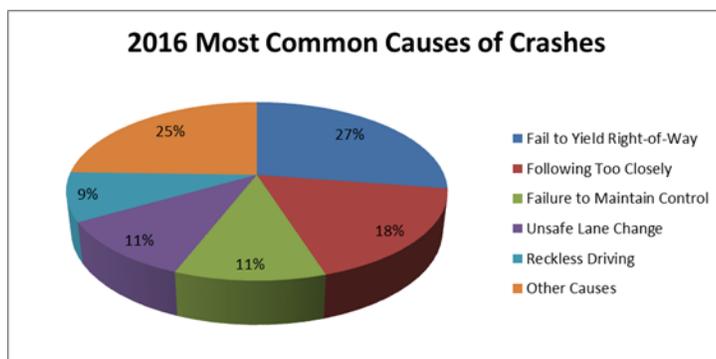
For 2016, the Ashland Police Department made thirty-six (36) arrests for DUI/DUID compared to forty-nine (49) in 2015. The number of arrests for DUI/DUID decreased by approximately twenty-six (-26%) compared to the previous year.

For 2016, the Department investigated eight (8) crashes involving driving under the influence of drugs/alcohol, compared to five (5) crashes in 2015.



Crashes

Traffic crashes include collisions of a motor vehicle with another motor vehicle, person, bicycle or stationary object. In 2016, the Ashland Police Department responded to 297 crashes compared to 298 crashes in 2015. The department investigated 102 reportable crashes compared to 108 reportable crashes investigated in 2015.





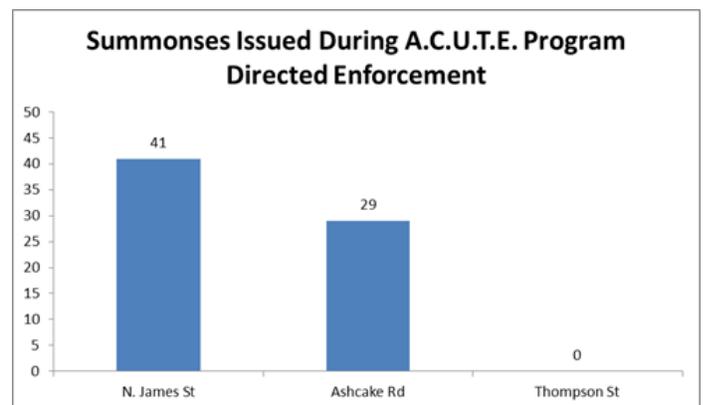
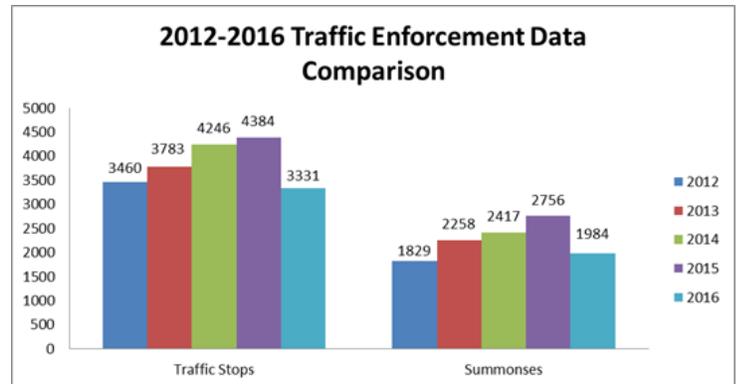
Traffic Enforcement

For 2016, the department conducted 3,331 traffic stops and issued 1,984 uniform traffic summonses (UTS) for traffic or vehicle related violations. For 2015, the department conducted 4,384 stops and issued 2,756 summonses (UTS) for traffic or vehicle related violations. The number of traffic stops conducted decreased by twenty-four percent (-24%) and the number of summonses issued decreased by twenty-eight (-28%) compared to 2015.

In 2016, the Ashland Police Department made twenty-nine (29) narcotic arrests as a result of traffic stops. The department also arrested eleven (11) wanted subjects from traffic stops. In comparison to 2015, narcotic arrests decreased by three percent (-3%) and arrest of wanted subjects increased by one-hundred and seventy-five percent (+175%). There were no weapon law violation arrests in 2016, compared to three (3) arrests from 2015.

The traffic safety unit uses the A.C.U.T.E (Addressing Complaint Using Technology and Enforcement) program to assist in traffic complaints. This program consists of multiple phases that first determine if a speeding problem exists on a street, educates the public about the posted speed limit, and, if necessary, results in directed enforcement in that area. In order for a location to qualify for the A.C.U.T.E. program, it must have a posted speed of 35 mph or less. A speeding problem exists if the 85th percentile speed in the area is found to be more than 8 mph over the posted limit, or there are more violations over 15 mph more than the speed limit. The A.C.U.T.E. program was deployed ten times (10) during 2016. There were three (3) locations where a speeding problem was found to exist and subsequent enforcement action was taken to address the complaint. These locations were N. James Street, Ashcake Road and Thompson Street. Follow-up evaluations were conducted and N. James Street has been designated as an area of continual radar enforcement. Ashcake Road and Thompson Street have been evaluated,

and activity regarding speeding issues will continue into the beginning of 2017.





Calls for Service

A call for service is any type of call that is received where an officer responds to a location for an incident or provides advice to a citizen over the phone. The department answered a total of 6,382 calls for service in 2016.

Please see a graphic representation of our concentration of calls for service on the following page.

Motels

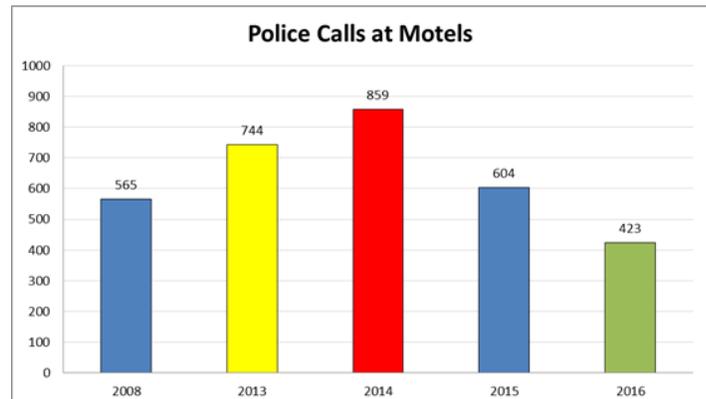
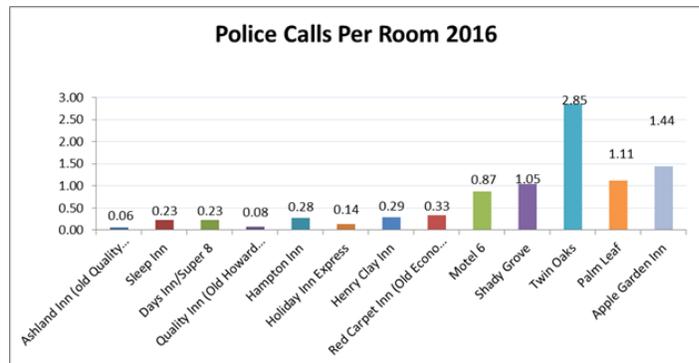
In 2015, four (4) motels were among our top ten call locations. All motels accounted for 604 calls for service which amounted to 9.2% of the service demands on the department. In order to counteract the trend of increasing calls for service, criminal and narcotic activity in and around motels Town Council revised the Town Code pertaining to lodging establishments that puts limits on long term stays in our motels. The Town also worked with faith, civic and non-profit organizations to assist those in need.

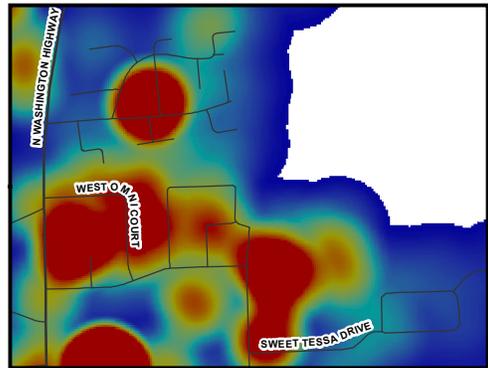
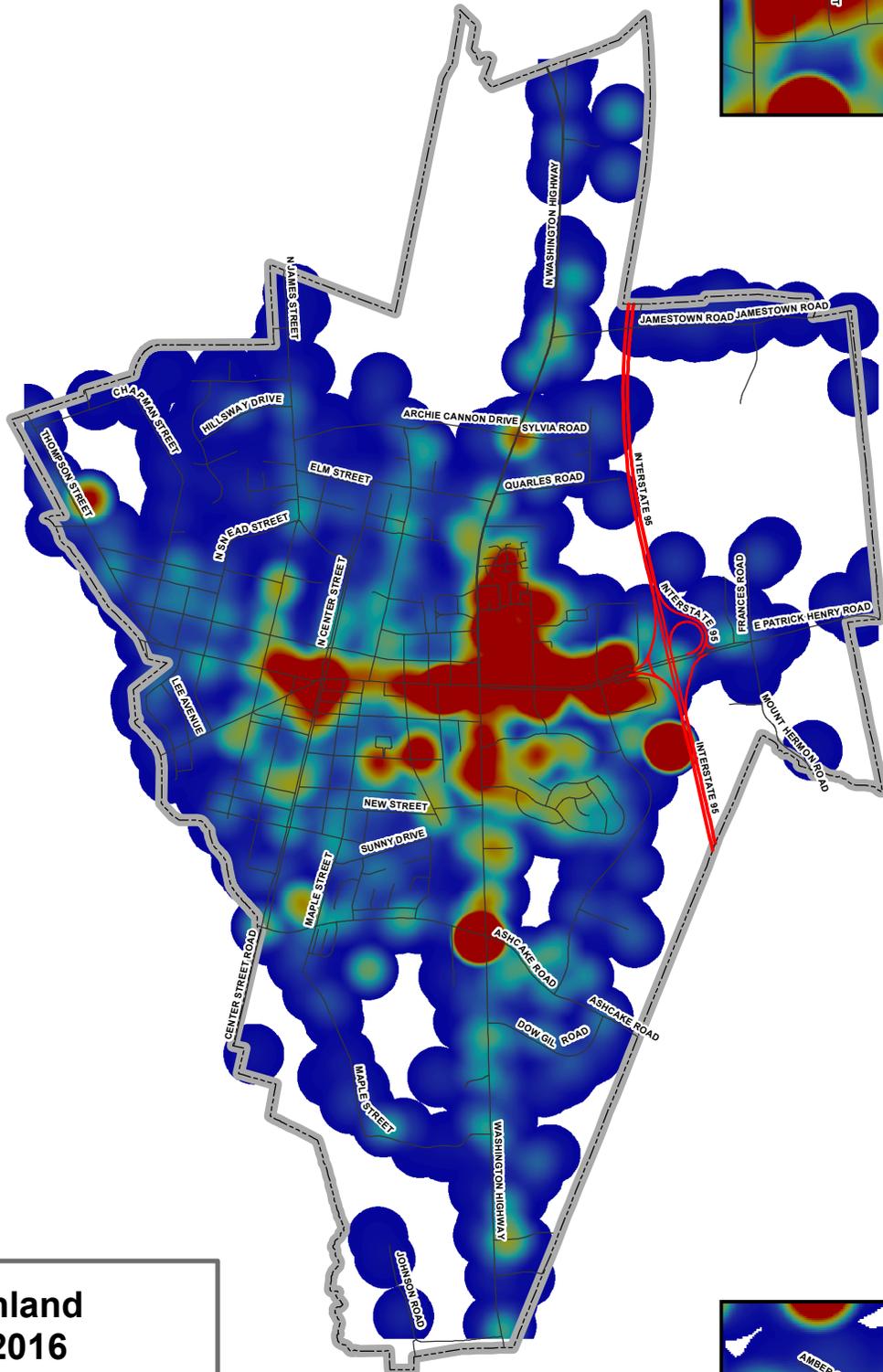
Overall, 2016 saw a 29.9% reduction in police calls to our motels, resulting in a call level lower than was seen in 2008. To date, no enforcement action regarding the town code passed in November of 2015 regarding the maximum length of stay has been taken due to what we can characterize as voluntary compliance.

In addition to governmental efforts, as of the writing of this report, our charitable and faith outreach efforts have resulted in the placement of 23 families (88 individuals) in stable housing.

Top 10 Call Locations for 2016

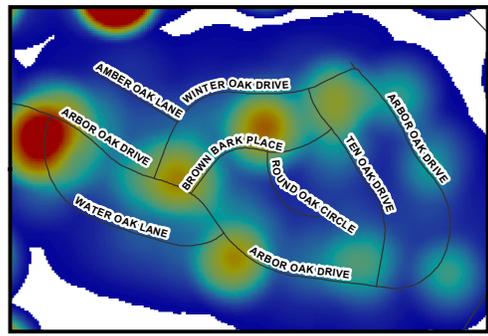
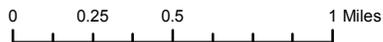
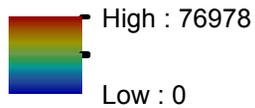
2016	
Location	Count
Walmart	289
Travel Centers of America	119
Ashland Convalescent Center	115
Motel 6	110
Martins	86
Henry Clay Apartments	75
Apple Garden Inn	69
Twin Oaks Motel	57
District 41 Probation & Parole	57
Sheetz	56





Town of Ashland Incidents - 2016

All Incidents



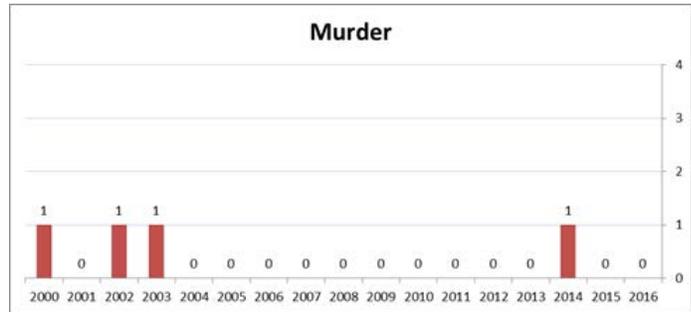


Incident Based Reporting (Part I Crimes)

Homicide

Homicide is the willful (nonnegligent) killing of one human being by another.

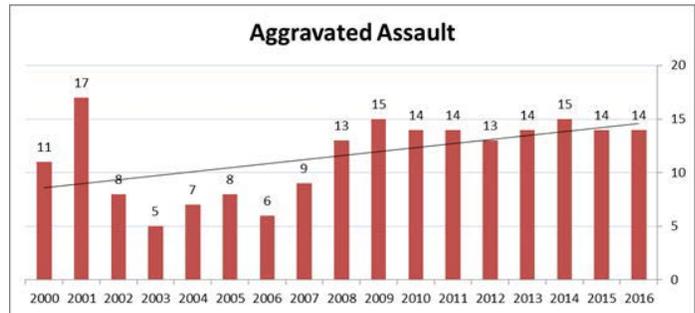
In 2016 there were no homicides reported in the Town.



Aggravated Assault

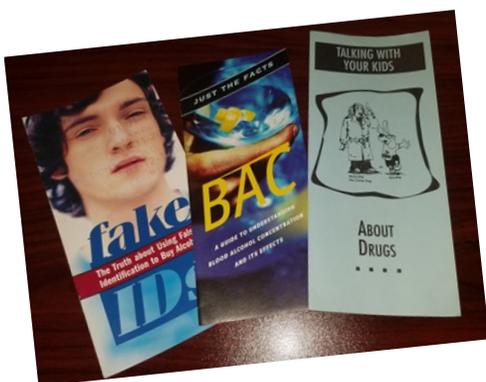
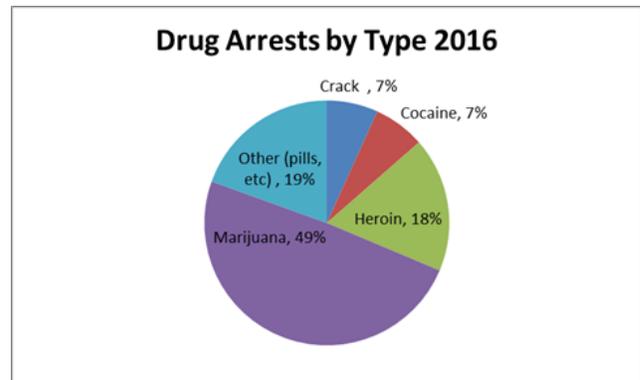
Aggravated assault is an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe bodily injury. This type of assault is usually accompanied by the use of a weapon or by other means likely to produce death or great bodily harm.

In 2016, there were fourteen (14) aggravated assaults.



Drug Violations

We saw an increase in the number of drug related arrests from 113 in 2015 to 118 in 2016.



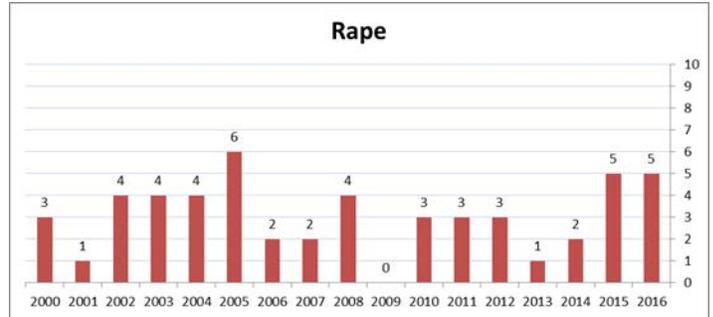


Incident Based Reporting (Part I Crimes)

Rape & Sexual Assault

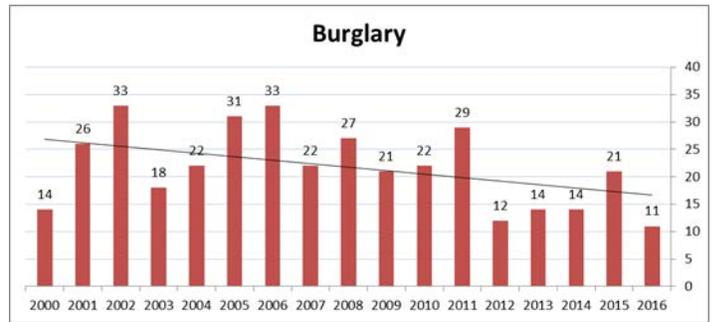
Rape is defined by the FBI as the carnal knowledge of a person, forcibly and/or against that person's will; or not forcibly or against the person's will where the victim is incapable of giving consent because of his/her temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity (or because of his/her youth).

In 2016, we investigated five (5) rapes and sexual assaults.



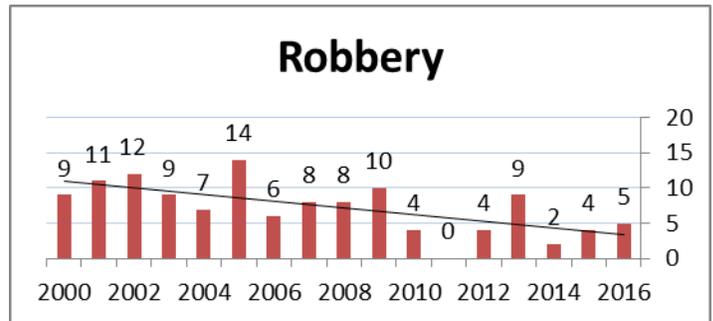
Breaking & Entering

In 2016, there were eleven (11) breaking and entering incidents. This is a reduction from the twenty-one (21) incidents in 2015.



Robbery

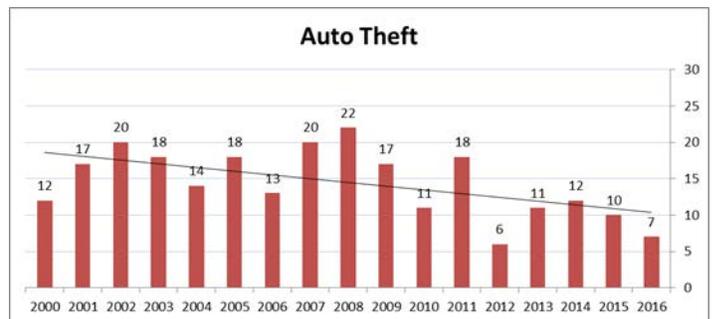
In 2016, we experienced a slight increase in the number of reported robberies from four (4) in 2015 to five (5).



Auto Thefts

Motor vehicle theft is defined by the FBI as the taking of any vehicle that propels itself.

There were a total of seven (7) vehicles that were stolen in 2016 as compared to ten (10) in 2015.





Incident Based Reporting (Part 1 Crimes)

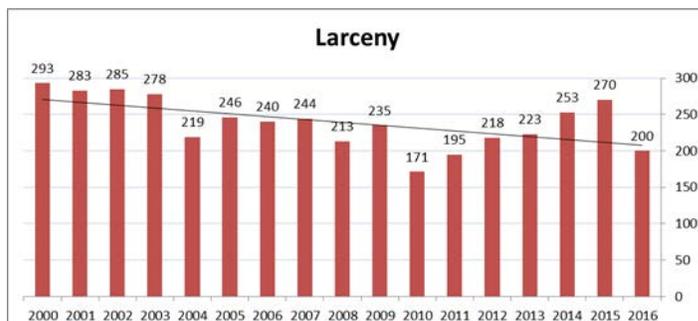
Larceny

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

In 2016, there were 200 reported incidents of larceny in Ashland, down from 270 in 2015.

The crime of shoplifting can range from a theft of a \$1 candy bar to a \$600 cell phone. It is important to discuss the notion of “reported” shoplifting. Walmart, unlike most of our retail locations in town, has dedicated loss prevention staff on site that observe, detect, and in most cases, apprehend shoplifting offenders. APD is then called in to continue the criminal investigation and enforcement action. The purpose in discussing this notion of “reported” offenses is that there may be other offenses at the other retailers in town that are never detected and thus, never reported.

Overall, we saw a 27.4% decrease in shoplifting offenses. We would like to applaud the working relationship the department has with Walmart in our continuing partnership to reduce instances of shoplifting at their location.





Crime Prevention

The Ashland Police Department employs many avenues in its approach to community policing. We understand that citizen awareness and participation helps reduce crime and raise the quality of life for our residents. Our goal is to continue to develop our commitment to crime prevention and public involvement.

Sixty-nine (69) crime prevention events were delivered to our citizens and business partners during 2016. Events included:

Crime Prevention Program Presentations-

During 2016, 37 (thirty-seven) crime prevention presentations were made to businesses, neighborhood watch groups and community organizations.

Neighborhood Watch-Currently, there are eleven (11) neighborhood watch programs within the Town. Officer Watts, our crime prevention officer, meets regularly with each group to listen to their concerns and present crime prevention information.

Halloween Patrol-The department handed out 100 Halloween bags containing stickers, candy and Halloween safety information during the week of Halloween. Officers made extra patrols in the areas with the highest concentration of trick or treaters and officers on bikes were assigned neighborhoods to patrol during the Halloween time.

National Night Out 2016-The police department along with the Town Manager and members of the Town Council visited neighborhoods that participated in National Night Out. We were able to interact with eight neighborhoods to enjoy food and fellowship with community members. During this time the department was able to distribute 50 "back-to-school" supply kits to deserving children.

Adopt a Senior Program-The department, in partnership with Hanover/Ashland TRIAD is happy to participate in this program. Officers are assigned to visit homebound seniors to periodically check in with them to ensure their health and safety. Members of the department made 114 senior visits in 2016.

Child Safety Seat Inspections-The department held three (3) safety seat inspection events during 2016. We have five (5) officers who are certified to inspect and give instruction on the proper installation of child safety seats.

Shop with a Cop-An annual tradition, Shop with a Cop brings together the department with local businesses to bring the holidays to children and their families who might not otherwise have the opportunity. Local businesses make financial donations that allow members of the police department to shop for holiday presents. The Ashland Church of God once again opened their doors for the party for the children and their immediate family members. Officers attended this event to serve food provided by the local business community and delivered gifts bought with donations made by the business community. This provides positive reinforcement to the children and opens trust with the youth within our community. The Department served twenty-six (26) children and their immediate families.

To obtain more information regarding these and many more crime prevention programs the agency offers, please contact us at 412-0600.

Back to School supply kits





Awards and Recognition

National Law Enforcement Challenge 2nd place



The National Law Enforcement Challenge is a traffic safety recognition program. This program focuses on traffic safety issues of impaired driving, occupant protection, and speed awareness. The participating agencies are evaluated and awarded points on their approach based on problem identification, policies, planning, training, public information & education, enforcement, and outcomes.

Virginia Law Enforcement Challenge 1st place Special award for Impaired Driving Enforcement



The Law Enforcement Challenge is a state traffic safety recognition program that recognizes agencies that excel in keeping their roadways safe.

Officer of the Year

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

Officer James Spada has been with the Ashland Police Department since 2013. Officer Spada's strong work ethic and dedication to this department is evident through every aspect of his work performance.

In 2016, Officer Spada issued 144 summonses, made 23 criminal arrests, completed 3171 property checks and responded to 446 police calls for service. While attending to his police duties Officer Spada has received many commendations for his actions.

In addition to his service to our community, Officer Spada continues to serve his country in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves.

2016 Police Officer of the Year



Courtesy of Erin Schrad Photography



The Ashland Police Department wishes to thank the Ashland Community for its continuing support. In addition to the individual citizens and businesses, we would like to especially thank the following:

Neighborhood Watch Programs

Patrick Henry YMCA

Market Ashland Partnership

Hanover NAACP

Ashland Main Street Association

Ashland Rotary

Ashland Police Foundation

Ashland Kiwanis

ACES

Ashland Little League

Ashland Open Door

Randolph Macon College

Ashland Circles

Hanover AARP

Hanover Community Services Board

Ashland Faith Communities

Chickahominy Health District

Hanover Fire-EMS

Hanover Sheriff's Office

And the many more members of this community who make our job easier.



The monthly report is intended to serve as an overview of the Ashland Police Department's effort to combat crime within the Town of Ashland. The report contains information about the number of criminal offenses during the past month and the activities undertaken by the Police Department to improve the overall quality of life for the community.

The data helps the Police Department develop strategies for providing a safe environment in which to live, work, visit and play.

Chief Douglas A. Goodman, Jr.

2016

Part 1 Offenses	YTD 2016	YTD 2015	YTD Diff	YTD CLR Arrest	YTD CLR Exception	Total Cleared
Homicide						
Rape	5	6	-1	1	3	80%
Robbery	5	4	1	2	0	
Aggravated Assault	14	13	1	12	1	93%
Arson		1	-1			
Burglary	11	21	-10	4	0	36%
Larceny (below categories)	201	269	-68	89	5	47%
Pick Pocket	1		0	1	0	
Purse-Snatching			0			
Shoplifting	96	132	-36	80	0	83%
Theft from a Building	42	30	12	3	1	10%
Theft from a Coin Machine		1	0	0	0	
Theft from a Motor Vehicle	27	50	-23	1	3	15%
Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts	7	11	-4	0	0	0%
All other Larceny	28	45	-17	4	1	18%
Auto Theft	7	10	-3	4	1	71%
Total Part I Offenses	243	324	-81	112	10	50.21%

Other Offenses of Community Concern	YTD 2016	YTD 2015	YTD Diff	YTD CLR Arrest	YTD CLR Exception	Total Cleared
Destruction/Vandalism	55	66	-11	5	8	24%
Drugs/Narcotics	74	99	-25	65	1	89%
Weapons Violations	4	6	-2	4	0	100%
Drunk in Public	52	68	-16	52	0	100%
Liquor Law Violations	18	20	-2	18	0	100%

Service Demands and Productivity	YTD 2016	YTD 2015	YTD Diff
Calls for Service	6,382	6,577	-195
Self Initiated Activities	10,825	11,602	-777
Criminal Arrests	481	638	-157
Traffic Summonses	2,098	2,895	-797
DUI Arrests	38	50	-12
Accidents	110	110	0