



**TRAVIS ELLIOTT
TOWN MANAGER**

Integrity • Respect • Teamwork • Pride • Innovation • Diversity

222 GRAND VALLEY WAY • PARACHUTE, CO 81635 • (970) 285-7630

TO: Mayor and Town Council
FROM: Travis Elliott, Town Manager
CC: Town Staff
DATE: January 28, 2022
RE: Info Update

DEMOCRACY IN PROGRESS

As you know, the Mayor's seat and five Town Council positions are up for election this spring. There are three (3) four-year terms and two (2) two-year terms available on the Council. The deadline for qualified electors to submit nominating petitions to be a Mayor or Town Council candidate was this past Monday, January 24th. We received complete and certified petitions from the following individuals:

- Tom Rugaard - Mayor
- Rory Birdsey - Council Member
- Artemio Baltazar - Council Member
- Chris Jackson - Council Member
- Juanita Williams - Council Member

With current members Roy McClung, Tim Olk and Shawn Stevenson not submitting petitions, this leaves one vacant seat remaining on the Town Council. If the Town and the Town Council candidates can find an agreeable way to determine who gets which terms (4 or 2 years), we will cancel the election on April 5, 2022. We will meet on February 17th and Town staff will present a recommendation for the candidates to consider.

After the new Mayor and Town Council is seated, they will be tasked with finding and appointing a final Council member for the vacant position. I know, this can be confusing. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or Lucy.

KEEPING THE STREETS SAFE

Please see attached for Chief Stewart's 2021 Police Department Annual Report. As you will notice, our Case Reports are down, and our overall Calls for Service have remained on a downward trend since approximately 2015. I think this can be accredited to our proactive community policing, and an overall great job by our Police Department. Please thank them when you see them. Their work is not done, however, as we are still above the national average for crimes like theft, motor vehicle theft, sexual assault, and aggravated assaults.

THE JUDGE AND THE JURY

The Town has received a Retail Marijuana Products Manufacturer License application for 101 Cardinal Way that Lucy has deemed complete. The Town Council will be reviewing the application in a Quasi-Judicial capacity on February 17th. As such, you will need to refrain from discussing or reviewing anything about this application outside of the public hearing. That being said, if you have any questions, you are free to speak with staff. Please don't hesitate to reach out.

TID BITS:

- Councilmember Claudia Flores-Cruz has requested a tour of our local marijuana retail stores for her staff at the Family Resource Center. This will help them better understand the retail products, and what they consist of, so they can be identified if/when they end up in the hands of the underage individuals they are in contact with. I have reached out to the owner of High Q, and we are hoping to set up a tour with 2-3 stores in the next couple of weeks. If you would like to participate, please let me know. The more, the merrier.
- Utility bills were sent out this week, and unfortunately, we also delivered 24 shut off notices.
- We have issued our Request for Proposals (RFP) for solid waste hauling services in Town. The deadline for contractors to respond is February 16th. The selected contractor will be responsible for trash service for all residents in Parachute.
- There is a large solar PV project under review for a parcel of land on Battlement Mesa, off of Stone Quarry Rd. It is being called the High Mesa project.
- The plat maps for the Orona annexation have been signed and recorded with the County.
- We are in the process of sending out business license renewal reminders. About 65% of our businesses have already renewed, and we will work with the remainder to politely remind them about the expiration date on their license.
- I attended BLM Regional Resource Advisory Council meeting on Wednesday. In addition to meeting a lot of great BLM, state, and federal contacts, it was a great tour and overview of the successful partnership that the City of Fruita and Mesa County undertook to develop some of the recreation areas on BLM land (e.g. Desert Canyon trailhead, 27 ¼ Road OHV areas, 18 Road / North Fruita Desert). I made it clear that we would like to establish a similar relationship here in Parachute.
- The Century Link utility poles that were leaning over in town have been fixed.
- The street banners have been changed out.
- We are working on ordering replacement street signs, many of which are peeling. With any luck, Stuart will work his grant magic and receive funds through AGNC to support this.
- The mechanic equipment that was budgeted for 2022 has started arriving. We received a new tire mounting machine and balancer this week. This will give our Public Works team the capability of mounting our own tires, instead of taking everything to a private shop and paying extra for the service.
- Save the date: the annual Energy & Environment Symposium is April 13-14, 2022. Please let us know if you would like to attend, and we can make the necessary arrangements.
- I will be attending the Garfield County Federal Mineral Lease District's grant award luncheon today, January 28th.
- I am going to continue my efforts to meet with community stakeholders, businesses, and residents. If there is a particular organization or person you would like for me to meet, please let me know or make the introduction. I appreciate it.



Parachute Police Department Year in Review



2021

Contents

- *Introduction*
- *Personnel*
- *Equipment*
- *Operations*
- *Year End Statistics*



Introduction

“Effective Community Policing”

The Parachute Police Department has experienced a lot in 2021. The continued effects of the COVID Pandemic made for a lower overall case total with 182 cases investigated. It has been a daunting and tedious year though for the officers with an actual increased level of Motor Vehicle Theft cases. Furthermore, our Drug Seizures cases were impressive and resulted in the seizure of:

- 268.2g Methamphetamine
- 81g. Marijuana
- 1.8g Heroin
- 1.3g Cocaine
- 13 tablets Oxycodone
- 3 tablets Fentanyl
- 3 tablets Hydrocodone

Officer Tyler Wallace left Law Enforcement in July, just a few months after graduating from the Field Training Program. However, with the addition of Officer Thomas Gaasche, we are back up to full staff. We strive to make this a better and continued safer year for all our residents and staff! We still hold Community Policing to be the best policy here and truly strive to form partnerships with all our residents and business owners!

Personnel

Chief Sam Stewart

Chief Stewart has over 29 years of Law Enforcement experience and was appointed Chief of Police in January of 2018. Chief Stewart hailed from the Rifle Police Department. He has 10 years of SWAT experience, primarily assigned to the Sniper Team, and is a founding member of the Garfield County All Hazards Response Team. Chief Stewart has held several titles including Patrol Sergeant, Field Training Officer, and Training Coordinator. In addition, he also has instructor titles for Handgun, Patrol Rifle, Precision Rifle, and Sniper.

Sergeant Justin Mayfield

Sergeant Mayfield has over 22 years of law enforcement experience and has been with the department since 2015. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Emergency Management Administration and an Associate's Degree in General Studies. He is a certified PPCT Instructor, Taser Instructor, certified IAPE Evidence Custodian, 1033 Support Officer, Child Sexual Assault and Forensic Investigator, Stop Sticks Instructor, and Field Training Officer.

Officer William Van Teylingen

Officer Van Teylingen has over 17 years of law enforcement experience and has been with our department since 2019. He is a Krav Maga Instructor, De-Escalation Instructor, Field Training Officer, a Firearms Instructor, and is a certified School Resource Officer.

Officer Ryan Reynolds

Officer Reynolds has over 8 years of law enforcement experience, including the Colorado Department of Corrections, and has been with our department since 2019. He is certified as a Law Enforcement Driving Instructor.

Officer Thomas Gaasche

Officer Gaasche joined our department this year after a brief stint with the Grand Junction Police Department. He has a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice and a Black Belt in both Taekwondo and Judo.

Records Clerk Tamara Castellari

Tamara joined us at the beginning of 2019 and has several years of experience working with the Garfield County Communications Center. Tamara has 22 years with the Arvada Police Dispatch Center, 12 of those being attached to Jefferson County SWAT Team, bringing a wealth of knowledge and experience. She is a certified IAPE Evidence Custodian, Public Information Officer, and a certified Colorado Records Clerk.

Equipment

We are continuing to upgrade our fleet of patrol vehicles and switching into the SUVs vs. the sedans, to help ensure officers can safely respond in even the worst of weather conditions. In addition, we have upgraded items, such as high-quality lights for our patrol rifles, to better ensure our ability to see threats and aid in making the appropriate decision if such a horrific event should occur.

New Body-Worn cameras are expected to be in service by mid-February, after training and implementation of the new web-based storage system. We will work with GETAC and Provelocity, so hopefully a seamless transition.

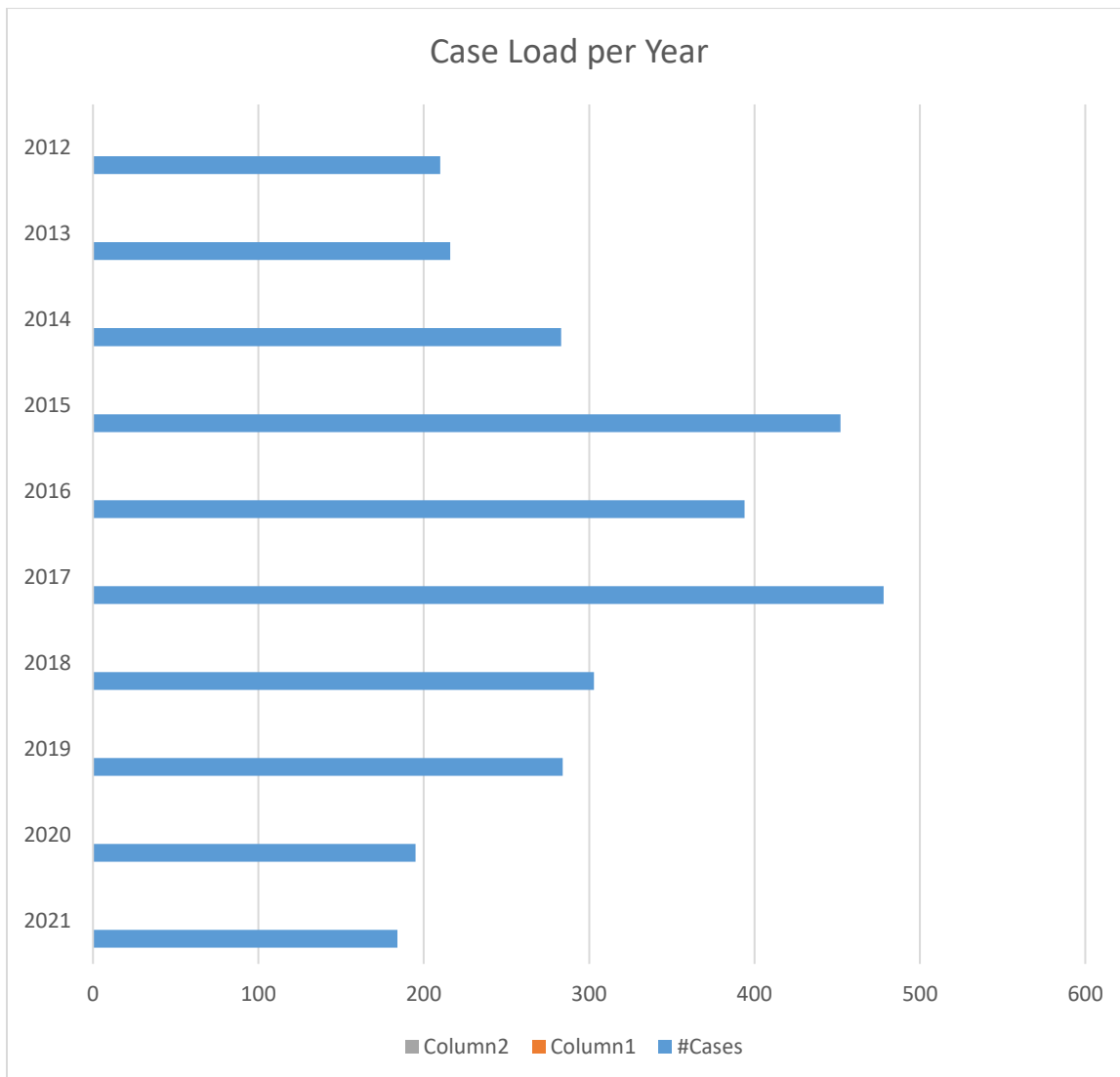


Statistics

Case Reports

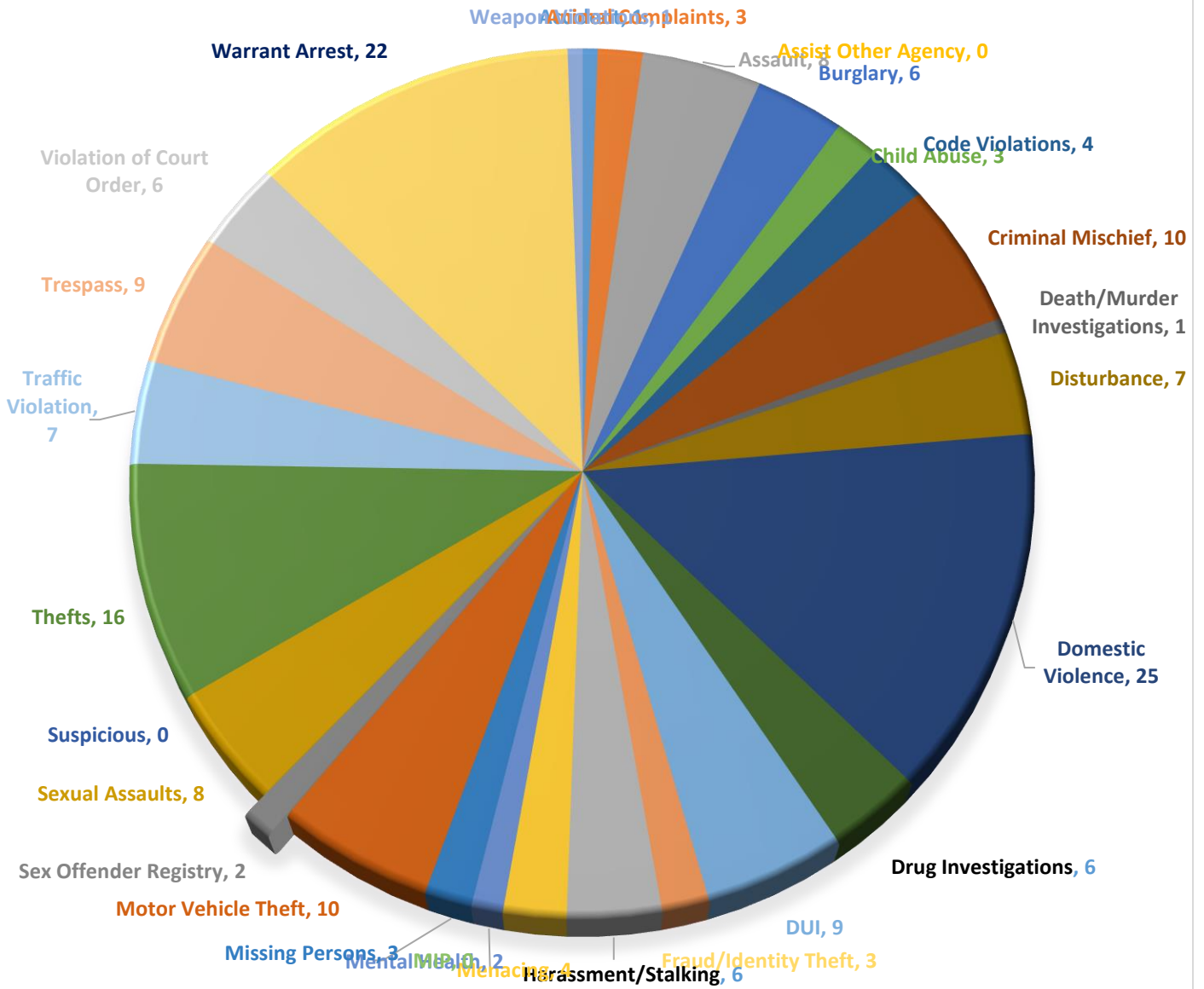
Case reports January 2020 through December 2020

2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
210	216	283	452	394	478	303	284	195	184



- Cases in 2020 & 2021 were affected with the quarantine from COVID-19.

2021 CASES



Case Types

Case Solved Percentage

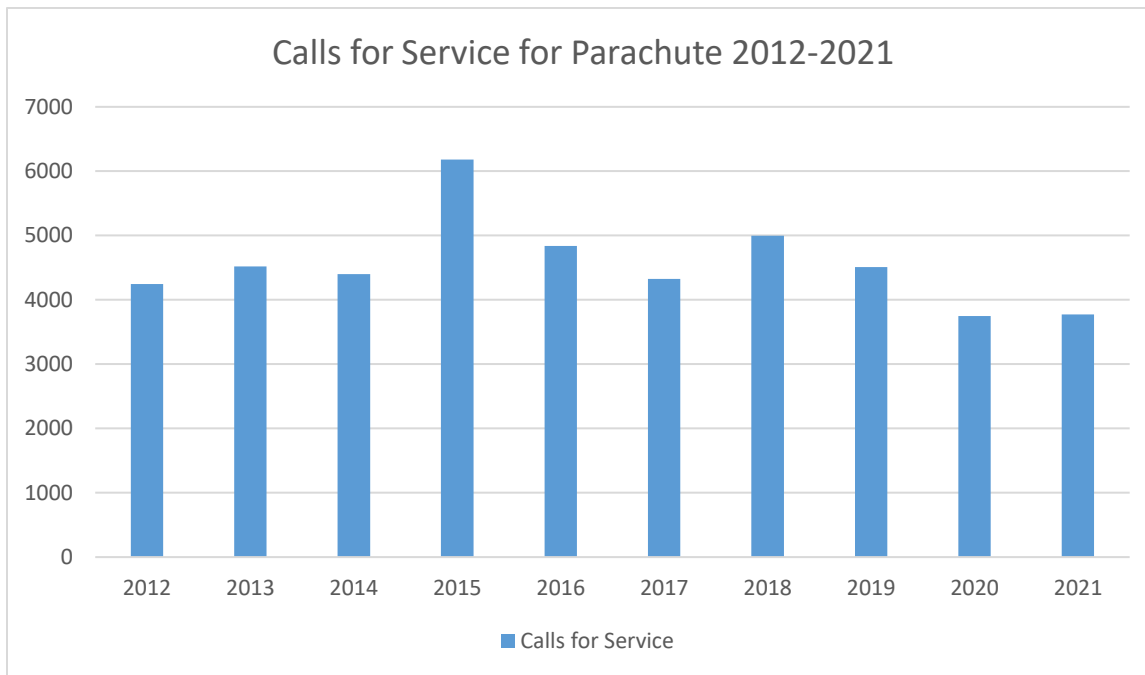
Cases Turned Over to Other Agency	4	2%
Cleared by Summons	46	25%
Closed with Warrant Issued	12	7%
Cleared Arrest	62	34%
Cleared Exceptional / DA Declined Charges	2	1%
Inactive/Closed	28	15%
Open	27	15%
Unfounded	3	1%
TOTAL	184	100%

Solved / Closed/ Declined /or Turned Over	85%
Still Open	15%

National Average for crimes solved in non-metropolitan areas in 2020 was 61.4%

Calls for Service

2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
4247	4518	4401	6179	4838	4327	4996	4507	3746	3774



Note: (1) Though the calls look to have decreased from 2015, half of the CFS from 2015 were the result of traffic stops versus one fourth of the CFS in 2017 were from traffic stops.

Calls for Service in surrounding agencies for 2021

Parachute	Rifle	Silt	New Castle	Glenwood Springs	Carbondale	GCSO	DeBeque
3774	14238	4385	3596	22077	11314	20837	951

Staffing compared to neighboring agencies from 2021

Parachute	Rifle	Silt	New Castle	Glenwood Springs	Carbondale	GCSO	DeBeque
5	21	7	10	30	15	54	6

- 1 Officers short, +1

Calls for Service per Officer 2021

Parachute	Rifle	Silt	New Castle	Glenwood Springs	Carbondale	GCSO	DeBeque
755	678	626	360	735	754	386	159



Arrests 2021

Arrests	Summons & Release	Warrant Issued
62	40	12

Traffic 2021

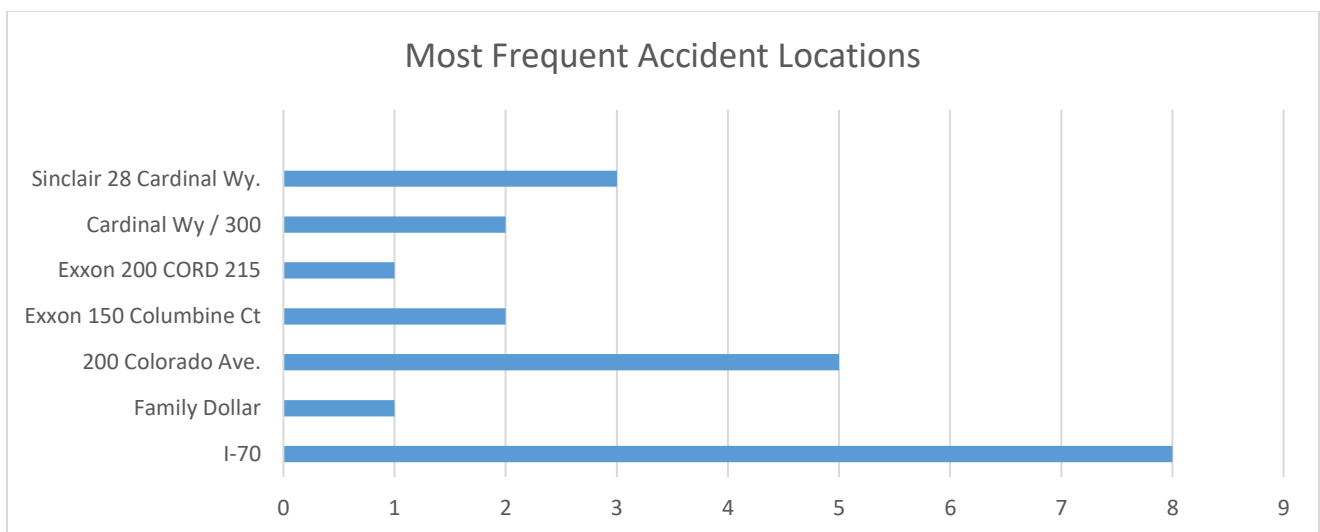
Traffic Stops	691	Percentage
Warnings Issued	521	76%
Penalty Assessment Issued	42	6%
Summons Issued	75	11%
Arrest	15	2%
Agency Assist	23	3%
UTL (Unable to Locate)	13	2%

Parking 2021

Parking Complaint / Abandoned Vehicle	32
Warning Issued	0
Red Tag Warning Issued	30
Ticket Issued	0
Arrest	1
Vehicle Towed	1
Gone on Arrival / Aired	0

Accidents 2021

Total Accidents: 33



Class A Offenses National Average per 1,000

Class A Offenses for Non-Metropolitan Areas	Murder	Sexual Assault	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Property Crimes	Burglary	Theft	Motor Vehicle Theft	Arson
2019	.05	.13	.82	2.5	21	3.4	15.5	2.1	.01

National average of Class A violent offenses per 1,000 people for in Non-Metropolitan Areas, FBI UCR stats 2019

Town of Parachute Class A Violent Offenses

Class A Offenses 2012-2020 Parachute, CO	Murder	Sexual Assault	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Property Crimes	Burglary	Theft	Motor Vehicle Theft	Arson
2021	0	6	0	6	19	6	16	10	0
2020	0	7	0	8	24	6	16	7	0
2019	0	4	0	12	34	8	20	10	1
2018	0	8	1	8	70	6	25	2	2
2017	1	11	0	15	78	16	36	7	1
2016	0	10	1	7	25	8	16	2	2
2015	1	6	1	3	21	6	13	2	0
2014	0	3	1	2	19	4	15	0	0
2013	0	4	0	1	22	4	10	1	0
2012	0	1	0	5	45	25	18	2	0

Violent Offenses compared to National Average for 2021

