



WOODFIN POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT

2015



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A Message from the Chief

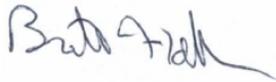
Dear Mayor, Board of Alderman, and Citizens of Woodfin,

It brings me great pleasure to present to you the 2015 Woodfin Police Department Annual Report. Though we cannot enumerate every action and incident performed by the Officers of this Department, we hope to convey to each of you the hard work and professionalism they display each and every day. This report is meant as an overview of the activities performed by our Officers.

The 2015 Annual Report was compiled by Lt. Michael Dykes with the assistance of several other officers in the Department. The data contained within was collected from internal databases, but, as is all data, is prone to some errors. To help mitigate these effects, information from previous years is based on averages where applicable.

Thank you for your continued support of the Department. If you have any questions regarding this report or anything else, please feel free to contact me directly.

Sincerely,



Brett Holloman
Chief of Police

Mission Statement

The mission of the Woodfin Police Department is to work with all citizens to preserve life; maintain human rights; protect property; and promote individual responsibility and community commitment.

Organization and Operational Components

The Woodfin Police Department is tasked with providing services to an ever-growing community. Those duties include protection of life and property, maintenance of order, investigation of incidents, and enforcement of laws, both criminal and traffic. The Department is responsible for not only the approximately 7000 citizens who reside within the corporate limits, but also for the close to 60,000 travelers who pass through the nine square miles of the Town of Woodfin on an almost daily basis.

The Department employs fourteen full-time sworn law enforcement officers, each having unique qualities and gifts they contribute to provide a full spectrum of policing services. These range from specialties in traffic investigations to latent evidence processing to interacting with members of the community. This makes the Department a “full-service” police agency. The roster also includes three Reserve Officers who donate their time and talents to the Town of Woodfin.

Rank/Position	Allotment
Chief of Police	1
Lieutenant	1
Patrol Sergeants	2
Patrol Officers	8
Investigators	2
Reserve Officers	3



One full-time Officer was hired in 2015. Officer Michael Reeves became the newest member of the Woodfin Police Department in October 2015. He previously was a chef, having worked in several local eateries including Tupelo Honey and the Grove Park Inn. Officer Reeves was brought on to replace Officer Corey Smith who resigned from the Department in February.

Training

In an effort to provide the community with the most professional Officers available, the Woodfin Police Department emphasizes the need for training. Officers are required to undergo at least twenty-four hours of mandated In-Service training annually, which includes topics such as firearms qualifications, legal update, juvenile minority sensitivity training, and officer safety, just to name a few. The Department also requires yearly hazardous materials and blood borne pathogens awareness training.

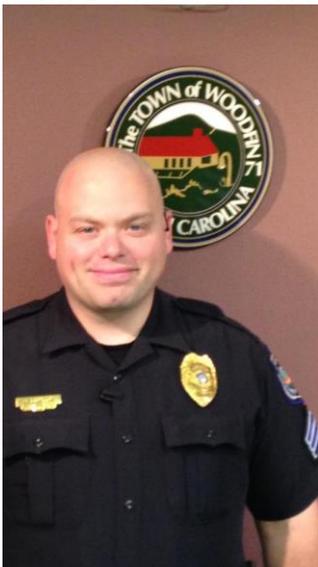
In addition to the required In-Service training, Officers from the Woodfin Police Department have attended over **1000** hours of training hosted outside the agency. Included in this was Detective David Plyler who completed General Instructor Training at the North Carolina Justice Academy. With his certification, Officer Ammons became the sixth instructor at the Department.

Another training achievement is that of Detective Jonathan Ammons. He completed 82 hours of instruction to become the Department's second Specialized Firearms Instructor.

Finally, Sgt. Pete Messina attended the Western North Carolina Law Enforcement Leadership Academy hosted by AB Tech. Drawing from a cadre of noted local police specialists, Sgt. Messina was introduced to many new approaches in leadership and supervision. This 152 hour course was delivered over six months.

Awards

In 2015, two Officers of the Woodfin Police Department received their Advanced Certification from the North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission. This certificate is awarded to officers as a recognition of their many hours of training, education, and years of experience. We congratulate Sgt. Christopher Stockton and Det. Jonathan Ammons on achieving this remarkable goal.



Special Events

This year, the Woodfin Police Department hosted its fifth annual Public Safety & Community Night on August 1, 2015. Representatives from the Buncombe County Sheriff's Office, North Carolina Wildlife Resources Commission, Woodfin Fire Department, West Buncombe Fire Department, Buncombe County Emergency Management, Safe Kids, the YMCA at Woodfin, and MAMA were all on hand with displays and presentations on how they help keep the citizens of Woodfin safe and healthy.

On April 25, 2015, the Woodfin Police Department, along with the Woodfin Fire Department, Buncombe County EMS, and North Carolina State Highway Patrol participated in "Hometown Heroes," an event sponsored by AMPed Up Kids in Reynolds Village. This inaugural event allowed the public to interact with first responders in an informal setting.

Similarly, officers from the Woodfin Police Department were invited to Black Mountain Safety Saturday on June 20, 2015, where they joined other area agencies such as Black Mountain Police Department, Montreat Police Department, Buncombe County Sheriff's Office, and Asheville Police Department, Black Mountain Fire Department, Swannanoa Fire Department, Broad River Fire Department, Old Fort Fire Department, and Asheville Fire Department. Also present was Buncombe County EMS and Mission Hospitals Safe Kids. Many groups had displays and goodies to hand out to visitors including stickers, water bottles, and informational brochures. The featured event was a simulated Driving While Impaired crash which involved Black Mountain Fire and Police showcasing their abilities from receiving the call, arriving on the scene, extricating and treating victims, interviewing and field sobriety testing the driver, and arresting the offender.

Lt. Michael Dykes visited Woodfin Elementary School on April 15th to speak with pupils at their first Career Day. Lt. Dykes, along with members of the Woodfin Fire Department, an airline pilot, a worker from an animal rescue center, and an employee from the Asheville Tourists baseball team each explained their jobs to all the students from each grade.

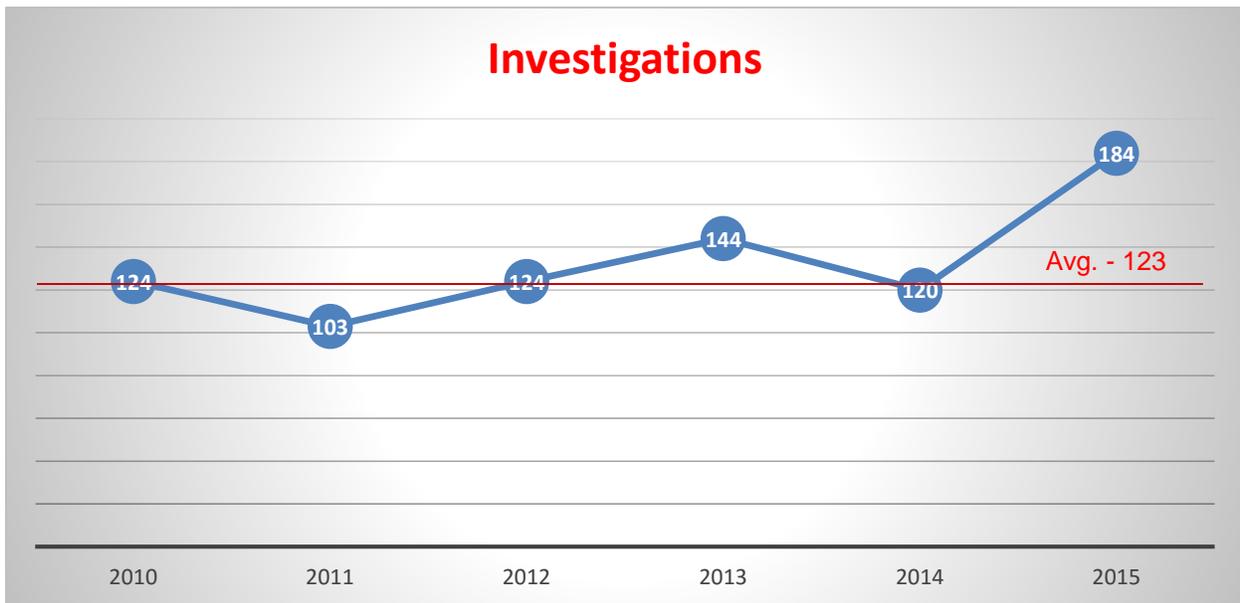
Officers provided street closures and security for Food Truck Fridays, an initiative held in Reynolds Village to bring visitors to the area and sample cuisine from a variety of mobile food vendors. This event, held on the fourth Friday of each month in the summer brought several hundred new faces to this growing commercial area of Woodfin.

Finally, Woodfin Police provided traffic direction and security for several road races that made their way through the streets of Woodfin in 2015. Included in these were the Woodfin Elementary 5K, The Armor Run, the Asheville Half-Marathon, and the Gran Frodo cycling event.



Investigations

The Woodfin Police Department utilizes two full-time detectives to follow up on cases initiated by patrol officers that require more in-depth investigation than can be afforded by the responding officer. These investigators are tasked with handling all manner of case. In 2015, Detectives with the Woodfin Police Department took on over **184** investigations. Historically, our Detectives have averaged **123** investigations over the past five years. This means there was a **49.6% increase** in the number of cases handled by our investigators.



Subsequently, Detectives cleared **75.5%** of these assigned cases. By clearing a case, we mean the case was either unfounded to begin, an arrest was made or a warrant issued, or the case was

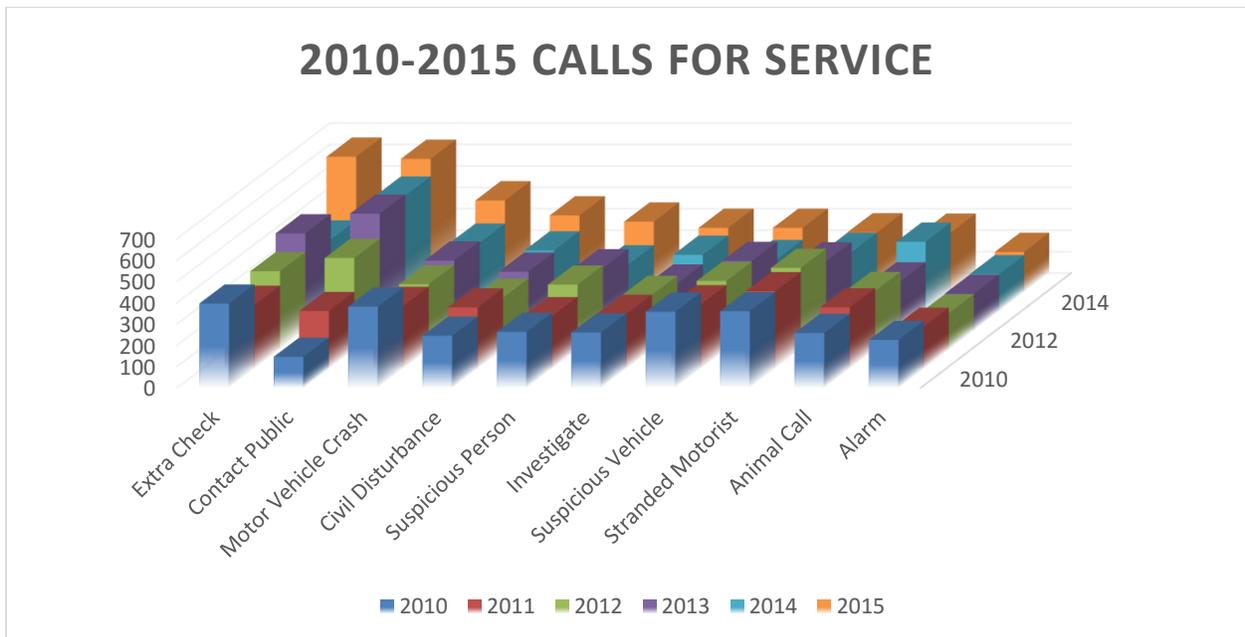
closed in some exceptional manner such as the District Attorney's office decided not to prosecute the case, the victim refused to cooperate with police, or a lost or missing person was located. The previous clearance rate for the past five years averaged out to **47.8%**. Therefore, a **57.9% increase** was observed in the rate of cases that were closed by the Detectives.

Calls for Service

The Woodfin Police Department responds to a variety of calls for service each year. From emergency responses received by 911 to requests to meet with citizens or to help a stranded motorist, all calls are logged in the Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) electronic system. In 2015, the Woodfin Police Department answered **6,225** calls for service. This included **375** calls from **911** (a 28.6% increase over the five year average). Listed below is a graph showing the top ten calls for service, excluding officer-initiated traffic stops.



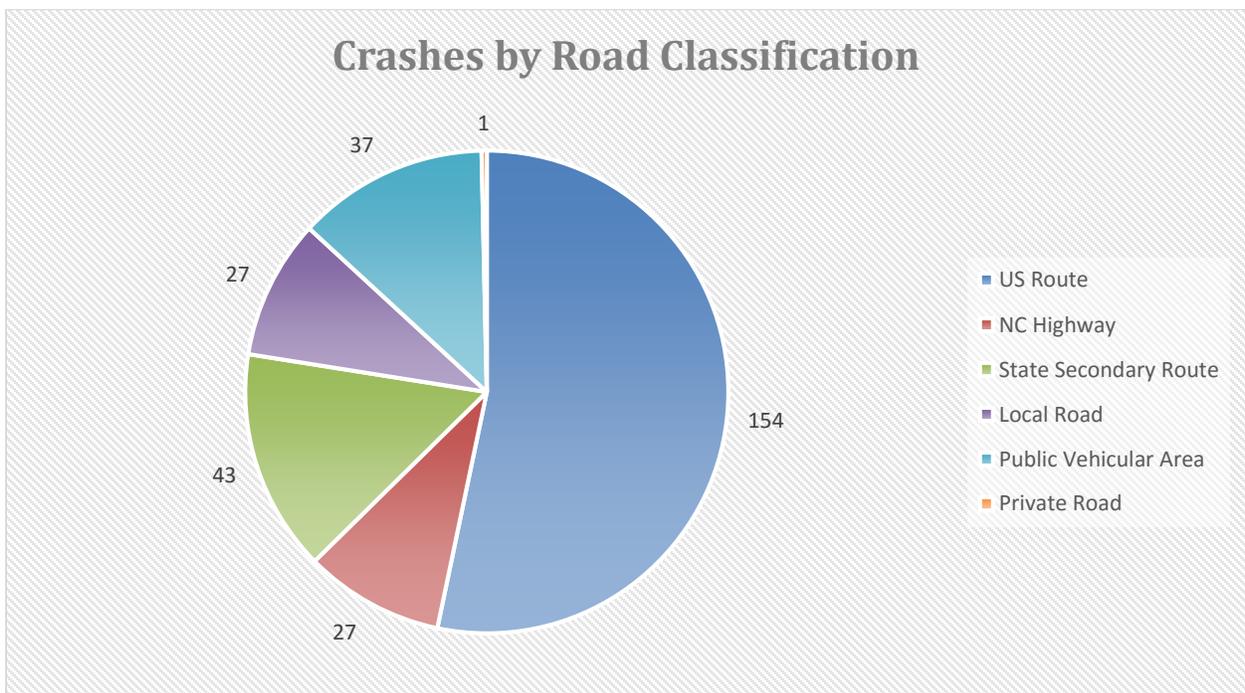
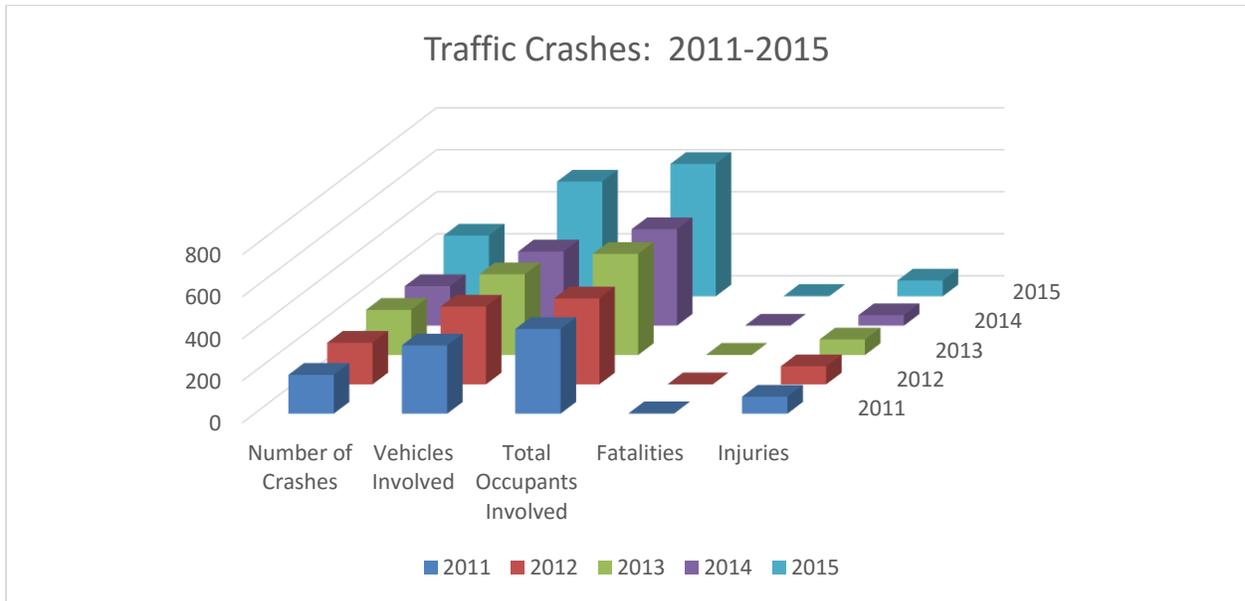
Comparatively displayed are the calls for service for 2010 through 2015 for the same categories.



Traffic

The Woodfin Police Department does not currently maintain a specialized Traffic Unit. Instead, it is the responsibility of all officers to enforce traffic regulations and investigate motor vehicle crashes.

In 2015, officers conducted **739** traffic stops – a 52% reduction over the five year average. The Woodfin Police Department also investigated **289** traffic crashes, including **two** fatality incidents. This is a **47% increase** in the number of crashes.



The Woodfin Police Department participates in traffic initiatives sponsored by the North Carolina Governor's Highway Safety Program. **Click It or Ticket** promotes the increased awareness of occupant protection laws in North Carolina. During the **Booze It & Lose It** campaigns, departments statewide emphasize the prevention and identification of drivers who are impaired.

In 2014, Officers issued 306 citations for motor vehicle offenses. They also arrested **28** drivers for the offense of **Driving While Impaired**.

Crime Statistics

Every year, the Woodfin Police Department collects and submits to the FBI the reported Part I and Part II Crimes that have occurred within the Town of Woodfin. This data allows the Department to view crime trends and patterns as a tool for crime analysis purposes. Although these statistics are useful in identifying and predicting criminal conduct, they are not the only factor for determining the Town's public safety needs. Crime is driven by many factors such as economic conditions, employment opportunities, shifts in demographics, population, resources, and fluctuations in law enforcement staffing.

PART I CRIMES

Type of Index Crime	Index Offense	Year	Number Reported Offenses	Number Offenses Cleared	Percentage
Violent Crime	Homicide	2015	0	0	0%
	Homicide	2010-2014	2 (AVG 0.4/year)	2 (AVG 0.4/year)	100%
	Rape	2015	1	0	0%
	Rape	2010-2014	7 (AVG 1.4/year)	7 (AVG 1.4/year)	100%
	Robbery	2015	1	0	0%
	Robbery	2010-2014	11 (AVG 2.2/year)	9 (AVG 1.8/year)	82%
	Agg. Assault	2015	12	10	83%
	Agg. Assault	2010-2014	34 (AVG 6.8/year)	30 (AVG 6/year)	88%
Property Crime	Burglary	2015	35	18	51%
	Burglary	2010-2014	276 (AVG 55.2/year)	118 (AVG 23.6/year)	43%
	Larceny	2015	42	17	40%
	Larceny	2010-2014	281 (AVG 56.2/year)	117 (AVG 23.4/year)	42%
	MV Theft	2015	3	2	66%
	MV Theft	2010-2014	32 (AVG 6.4/year)	16 (AVG 3.2/year)	50%
	Arson	2015	0	0	0%
	Arson	2010-2014	0 (AVG 0/year)	0 (AVG 0/year)	0%

PART II CRIMES - 2015 ONLY

Crimes Against Family & Children	14
Curfew & Loitering	0
Driving While Impaired	28
Disorderly Conduct	1
Drug Abuse	36
Drunkenness	4
Embezzlement	2
Forgery, Counterfeit, & Fraud	23
Missing Person - Adult	5

Missing Person - Juvenile	9
Liquor Law Violations	1
Sex Offenses	8
Simple Assaults	5
Stolen Property	14
Vandalism	19
Weapon Offenses	6
All Other Offenses	34

In 2015, the Woodfin Police Department affected **252** total physical arrests. The demographic breakdown of those arrests is shown below.

