

WOODFIN POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT



2017

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A Message from the Chief

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

As the newly appointed Chief of the Woodfin Police Department, it is with great pride that I present to you the 2017 Woodfin Police Department Annual Report. As can be gleaned from the contents herein, the Officers of this Department continue to work hard and professionally, day in and day out, providing an exceptional level of service to not only the citizens of Woodfin, but also to those who travel through or visit our Town.

Though this report does contain a lot of information, it in no way is meant to convey every single activity performed by the officers. What we see here are mostly reactionary events which are commonly associated with police work such as motor vehicle crashes, taking reports for stolen items, or making traffic stops. What we do not see are the directions given to lost motorists, the fist-bumps to school children as they file in from recess, or the many "Thank Yous" that we receive from our caring community. Regardless of the type, it is apparent that the amount of activities increases every year. As the Town continues to grow, so too will the demands placed upon the Department.

2017 brought with it many challenges including trying to fill vacant positions within the Department. We feel that we gained very valuable officers during this process, but retirements and attrition have still left us with some open slots. The most challenging issue of 2017 by far was the retirement and subsequent passing of Woodfin Police Chief Emeritus John "Brett" Holloman. His unwavering professionalism and charismatic leadership were examples to us all and a standard by which this Department operates. As my mentor and my friend, he will be sorely missed.

Lastly, I would like to say thank you to our citizens and to our elected leaders. It is through your continuous support that we are able to serve such a wonderful community with well-trained and well-equipped officers.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael J. Dykes". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being the most prominent.

Michael J. Dykes, 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.

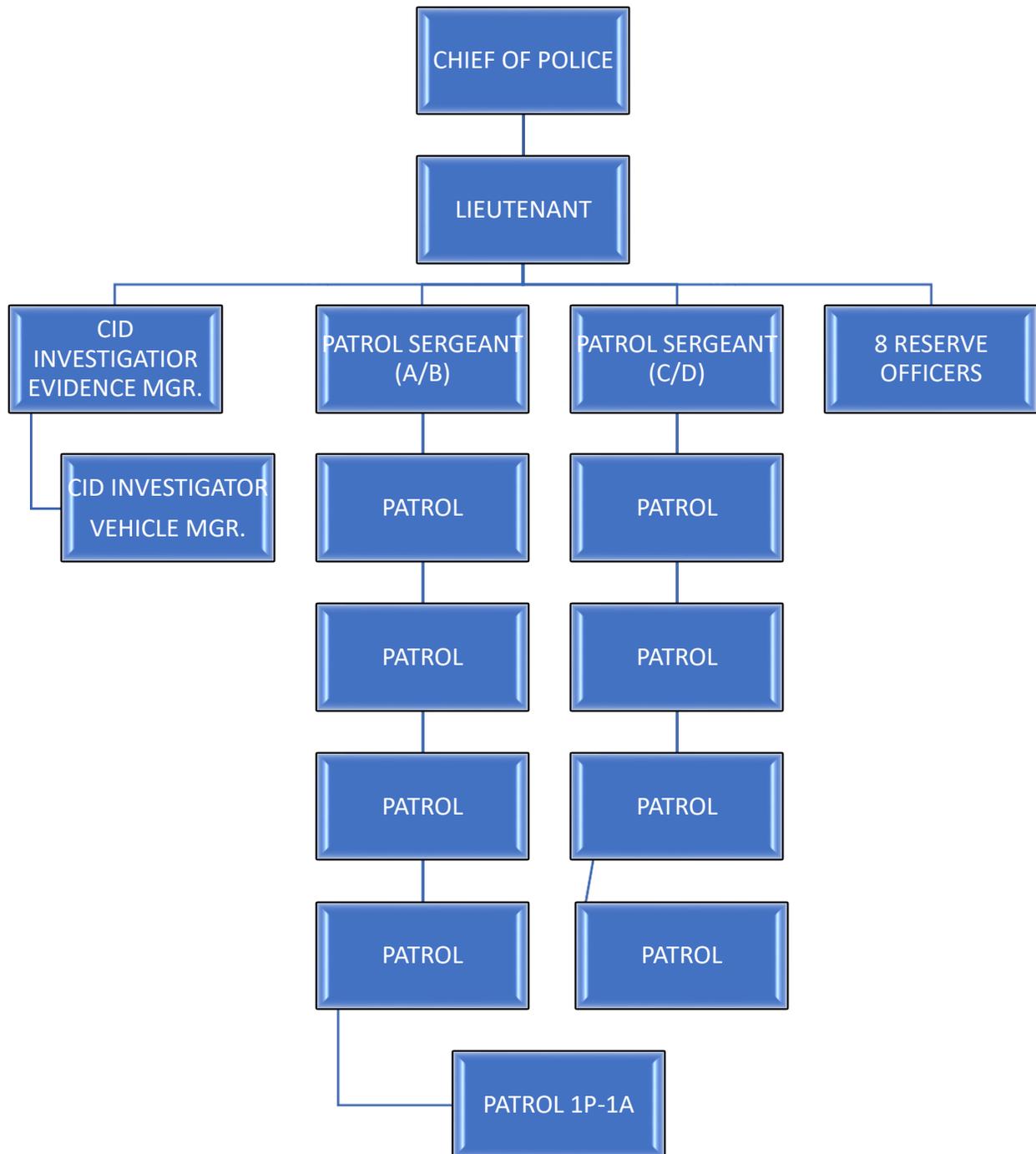
Organization and Operational Components

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 plus citizens who reside within the corporate limits, but also for the close to 90,000 travelers who pass through the ten square miles of the Town of Woodfin on an almost daily basis.

The Department employs fifteen 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 eight 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	9
Investigators	2
Reserve Officers	8

WOODFIN POLICE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART.





2017 again saw many changes in the Woodfin Police Department. We lost three officers through the course of the year. Officer Don Guge retired after 28 years of service in various law enforcement agencies. Officer Brett Thomas left to move to Pennsylvania to be with family. Finally, the biggest loss was that of Chief Emeritus Brett Holloman who was forced to retire due to medical reasons. Chief Emeritus Holloman would later succumb to his long battle with Cancer.

The Woodfin Police Department has seen the addition of two new officers in 2017, Clint Teague and Ashlyn Medina. Both officers Medina and Teague have become integral members of the Woodfin Police Department.

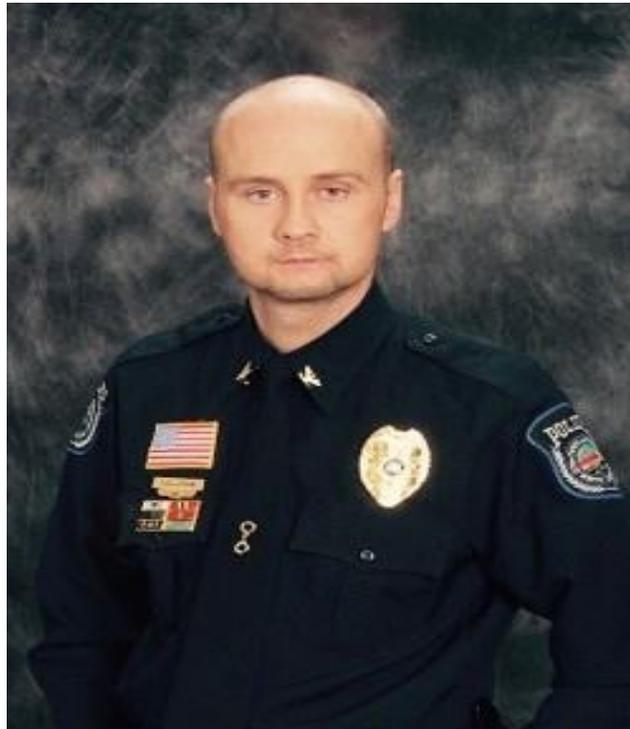
Training

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 state-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 and biennial certification in CPR.

In addition to State-mandated training, our officers also take advantage of numerous opportunities to train on their own. Officers attend training through North Carolina Justice Academy and AB-Tech. This year many of our officers received additional training in Standardized Field Sobriety Testing by attending a refresher class taught by our own reserve officer Eric Holloman.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITION

In 2017, the Town of Woodfin honored John Brett Holloman with the honor of naming him Chief Emeritus and thus always recognizing "Brett" as holding the title of Chief of Police. This title was placed upon Chief Holloman for his over 27 years of service to the Town of Woodfin. Chief Holloman was also recognized by his fellow officers when they unanimously named him as the 2016 Woodfin Police Department Officer of the Year.



Also in 2017, Town of Woodfin was once again named to the Safewise annual safest city report. This year the Town of Woodfin moved up four places to the 10th safest town in North Carolina.



These rankings are based on statistics that are drawn from FBI annual crime data report. This ranking evaluates towns and municipalities that have a population higher than 4000 people. This ranking is a clear reflection the dedication that the officers of the Woodfin Police department have for their town and their citizens to which they have sworn to protect.

SPECIAL EVENTS

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

Woodfin Elementary School hosted its third annual career day in which the Woodfin Police Department was invited to attend. Officers were allowed to make a presentation to the children concerning different aspects of what it means to be a law enforcement officer.

The Woodfin Police Department was involved with other schools located in the town as it participated in Reynolds Mountain Christian Academy's (formerly North Asheville Christian School) Transportation Day. A cadre of service-type vehicles were displayed including police cars, fire trucks, ambulances, and various commercial vehicles.



Finally, Woodfin Police provided traffic direction and security for several road races that made their way through the streets of Woodfin in 2017. Included in these were the Woodfin Elementary 5K, the Asheville Half-Marathon, the Lilly Collier Ride for North Carolina Outward Bound School, and the Gran Fondo cycling event.

CALLS FOR SERVICE

The Woodfin police department answers a vast variety calls. These calls can range from contact public where an officer maybe answering questions about a civil matter to a motor vehicle accident with severe injuries. Each call for service is logged in our (CAD) Computer Aided Dispatch system. In 2017 the Woodfin Police Department answered **7019** calls for service. In comparison, the Department had 6223 calls for service in 2016. This shows nearly a **12.79% increase** in calls for service from 2016 to 2017. Listed below is a graph showing the top ten calls for service, excluding officer-initiated traffic stops.



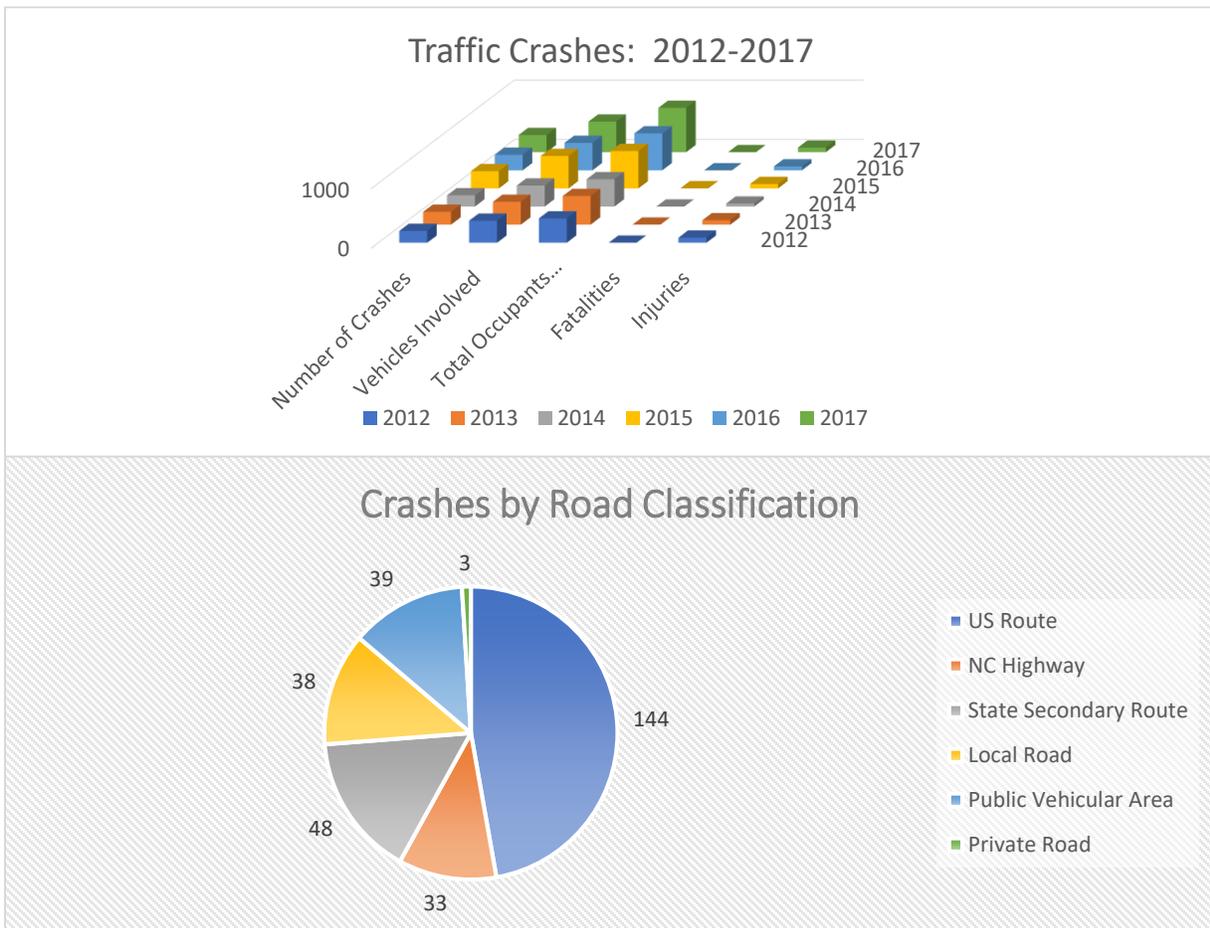
Comparatively displayed are the calls for service for 2012 through 2017 for the same categories.



TRAFFIC

It is the responsibility of the Woodfin police officer to investigate traffic collisions within the city limits of Woodfin. In addition to investigating traffic collisions, it is responsibility of all sworn officers to enforce traffic laws and regulations. In 2017, traffic collisions resulted in 77 known injuries and 1 fatality.

In 2017, Officers with the Woodfin Police Department conducted 1263 Traffic stops. This represents a **16.83% increase** over the previous 5-year average (2011-2016).

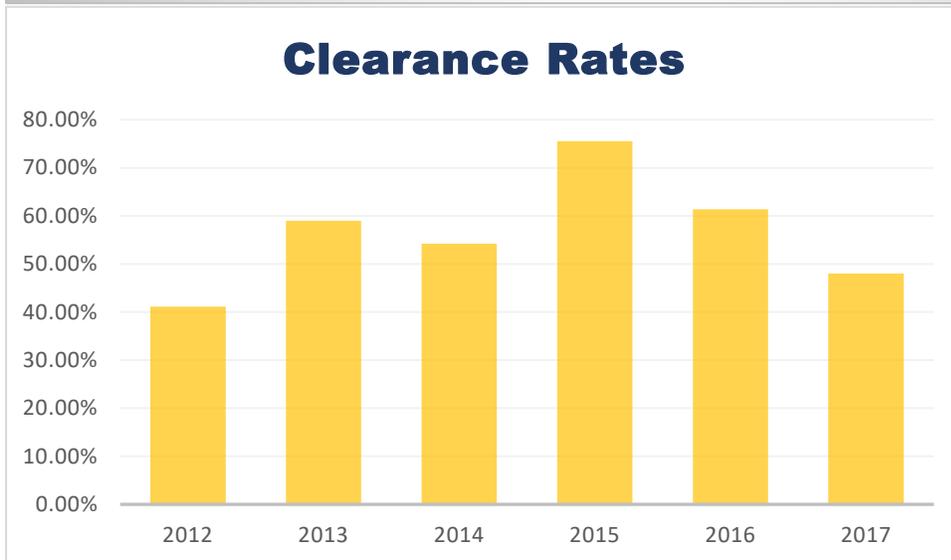
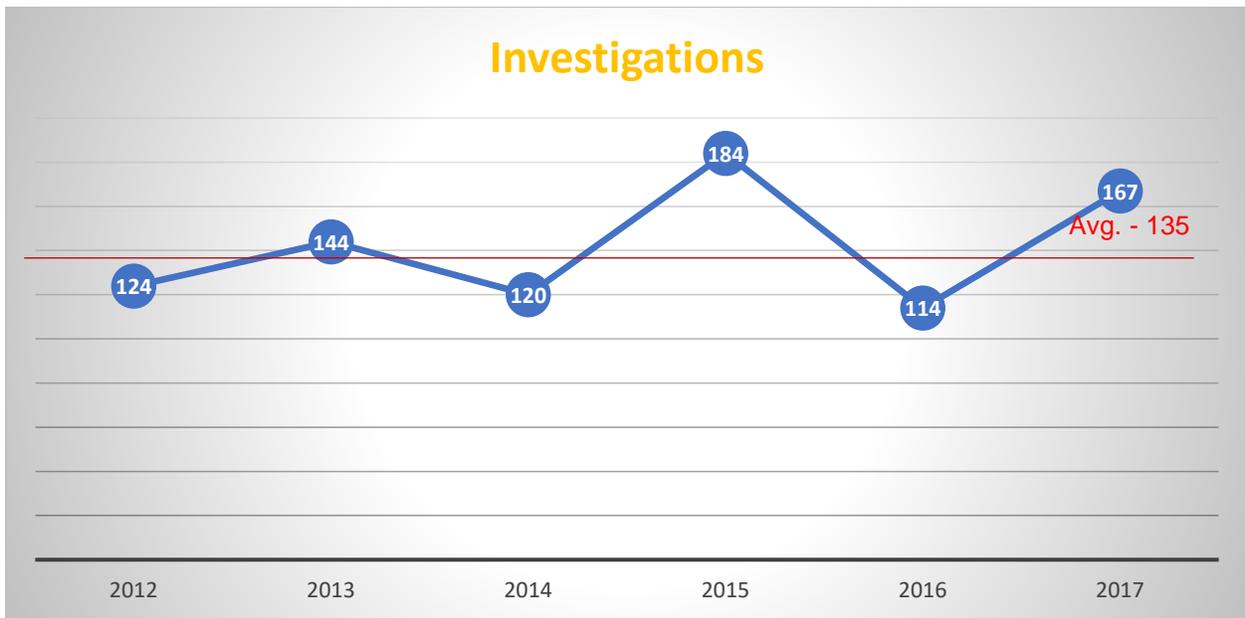


The Woodfin Police Department participates in traffic initiatives sponsored by the North Carolina Governor's Highway Safety Program. **Click It or Ticket** promotes the increased awareness of occupant protection laws in North Carolina. During the **Booze It & Lose It** campaigns, departments statewide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

In 2017, Officers issued 667 citations for motor vehicle and other misdemeanor offenses. They also arrested 15 drivers for the offense of **Driving While Impaired**

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 both Misdemeanor and Felony cases. In 2017, Detectives with the Woodfin Police Department took on over **167** investigations. Historically, our Detectives have averaged **137** investigations over the past five years (2011-2016). This means there was a **21.89% increase** in the number of cases that investigators handled in 2017.



Subsequently, Detectives cleared **48.00%** 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 **58.24%**.

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 in 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.

Type of Index Crime	Index Offense	Year	Number Reported Offenses	Number Offenses Cleared	Percentage
Violent Crime	Homicide	2017	0	0	0%
	Homicide	2016	0	0	0%
	Rape	2017	1	0	0%
	Rape	2016	0	0	0%
	Robbery	2017	0	0	0%
	Robbery	2016	4	3	75%
	Agg. Assault	2017	6	5	83%
	Agg. Assault	2016	4	4	100%
Property Crime	Burglary	2017	52	21	40%
	Burglary	2016	44	10	23%
	Larceny	2017	73	17	23%
	Larceny	2016	47	20	43%
	MV Theft	2017	5	3	60%
	MV Theft	2016	9	3	33%
	Arson	2017	0	0	0%
	Arson	2016	4	1	25%

ARREST DATA

In 2017, Woodfin Police officer affected 184 physical arrests. Below the charts break down the demographical information on those arrests.

