

**2017**

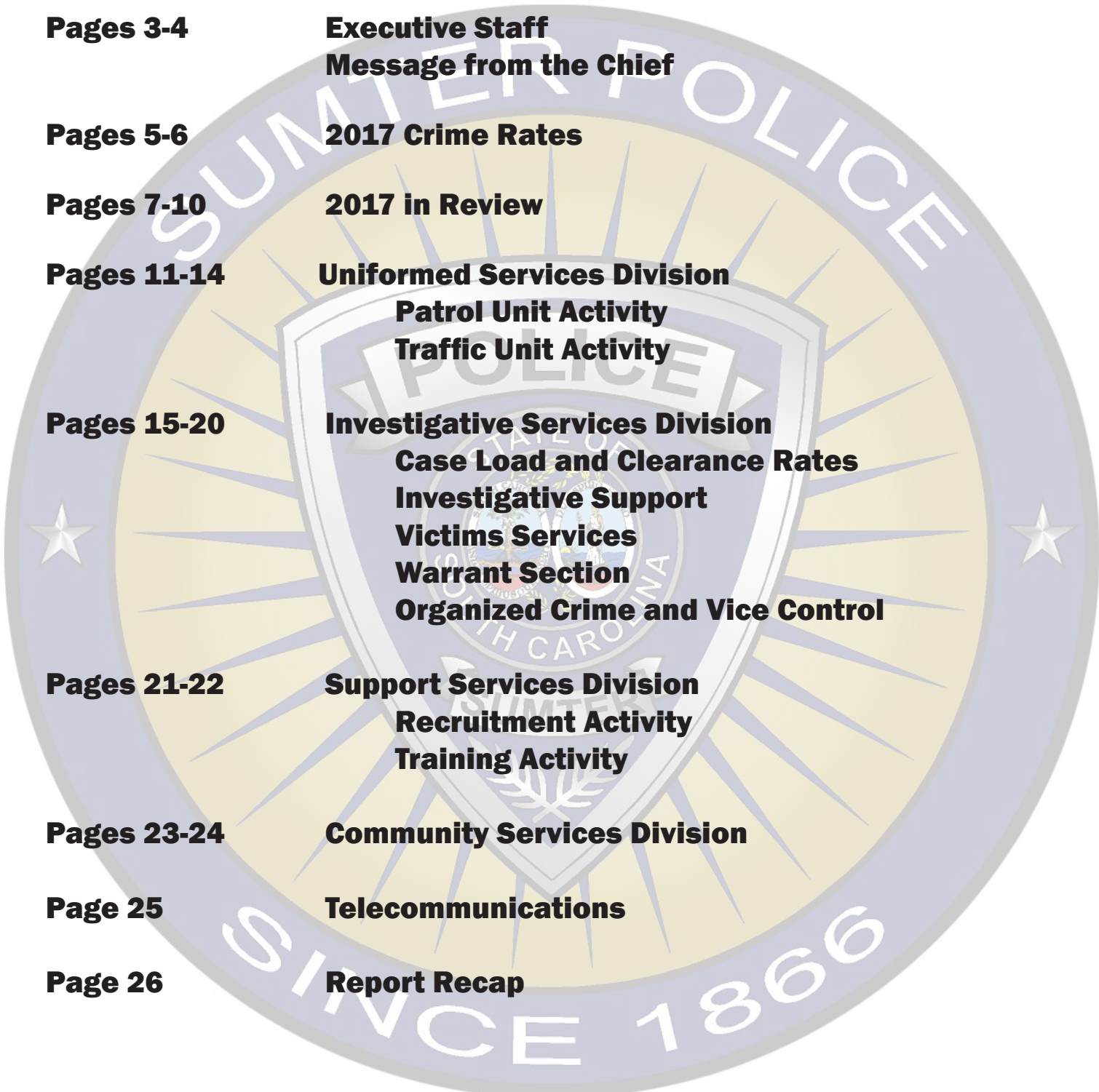


[www.sumterpd.com](http://www.sumterpd.com)

# **Annual Report**



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The background of the page features a large, semi-transparent watermark of the Sumter Police Department seal. The seal is circular with a gold center and a blue outer ring. The words "SUMTER POLICE" are written in white along the top arc of the ring, and "SINCE 1866" is written along the bottom arc. In the center of the seal is a shield with a blue background and a white border. The shield contains the text "POLICE" at the top, "SOUTH CAROLINA" at the bottom, and "SUMTER" in the middle. There are two white stars on either side of the shield.

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## Executive Staff



Chief Russell Roark's policing philosophy is to improve the quality of life through intelligence-led policing while developing partnerships within the community.

He is an advocate for the well-being of his employees, works to improve their quality of life and strives to foster employee development through mentorship and training.

Chief Roark joined the Sumter Police Department as Deputy Chief in December 2009. He was sworn in as Chief of Police in September 2011.

Prior to joining the department, Chief Roark served with the South Carolina Highway Patrol for more than 26 years. He retired as its Colonel in May 2008, a post he had held since June 2003. Upon his retirement, he worked in the private sector as a consultant with Ward Services in Columbia, S.C. Chief Roark holds a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice from Saint Leo University and is a 2005 graduate of the South Carolina Executive Institute.

Additionally, Chief Roark graduated from the FBI National Academy Session 184 and was the 2006 recipient of the Strom Thurmond Award for Excellence in Law Enforcement.



With 30 years in law enforcement, Deputy Chief Alvin Holston has served with the Sumter Police Department since 1991.

He began his career in law enforcement in 1986 while serving in the U.S. Air Force as a Military Police Specialist.

Since joining the Sumter Police Department, he served for 15 years in the Investigative Services Division, gaining expertise in general investigations, narcotics, warrants services and other specialties before being named Commander of the Investigative Services Division and later as Major of Operations for the department in 2009.

His experience in both law enforcement operations and administration allows him to appreciate and navigate the complexity of building a successful agency that meets the needs of the community it serves while supporting its officers and civilian personnel.

Deputy Chief Holston holds a Master's degree from Troy University and is a graduate of the FBI National Academy Session 243.



## Message from the Chief

**T**he true value of the Sumter Police Department and the work of its officers aren't told in headlines. It's those stories that aren't often shared outside of the confines of the Law Enforcement Center that demonstrate the character and caliber of our officers and department leadership that in turn pay dividends when it comes to the livability of our city.

There are countless stories of selfless service, compassion and respect. Some are shared through news stories and social media, but most are kept among ourselves because it's our role to do the right things for this community without being constrained to a job description or perception of what a police officer or law enforcement agency should be.

We have no agenda other than to improve the quality of life of our citizens and build goodwill regardless of the socio-economics of the citizens we serve. Our mission is to simply do our jobs with the expectation that we all are a part of this community and have a stake in its future while upholding local, state and federal laws.

We can be expected to do what's right rather than respond rashly to complaints in order to gain the favor of some. A liaison council, created in 2016 and made of local residents, helps provide oversight and makes sure we live up to the standards that we set for ourselves and to the expectations of the community.

For the past five years, we have focused on building relationships -- relationships with individuals and neighborhoods throughout the city. Without being asked or required, we have identified and worked to develop ways to address the needs of the homeless/transient community and serve and improve the quality of life for our growing elderly population, many of whom do not have close family members or associates who can help them with basic needs.

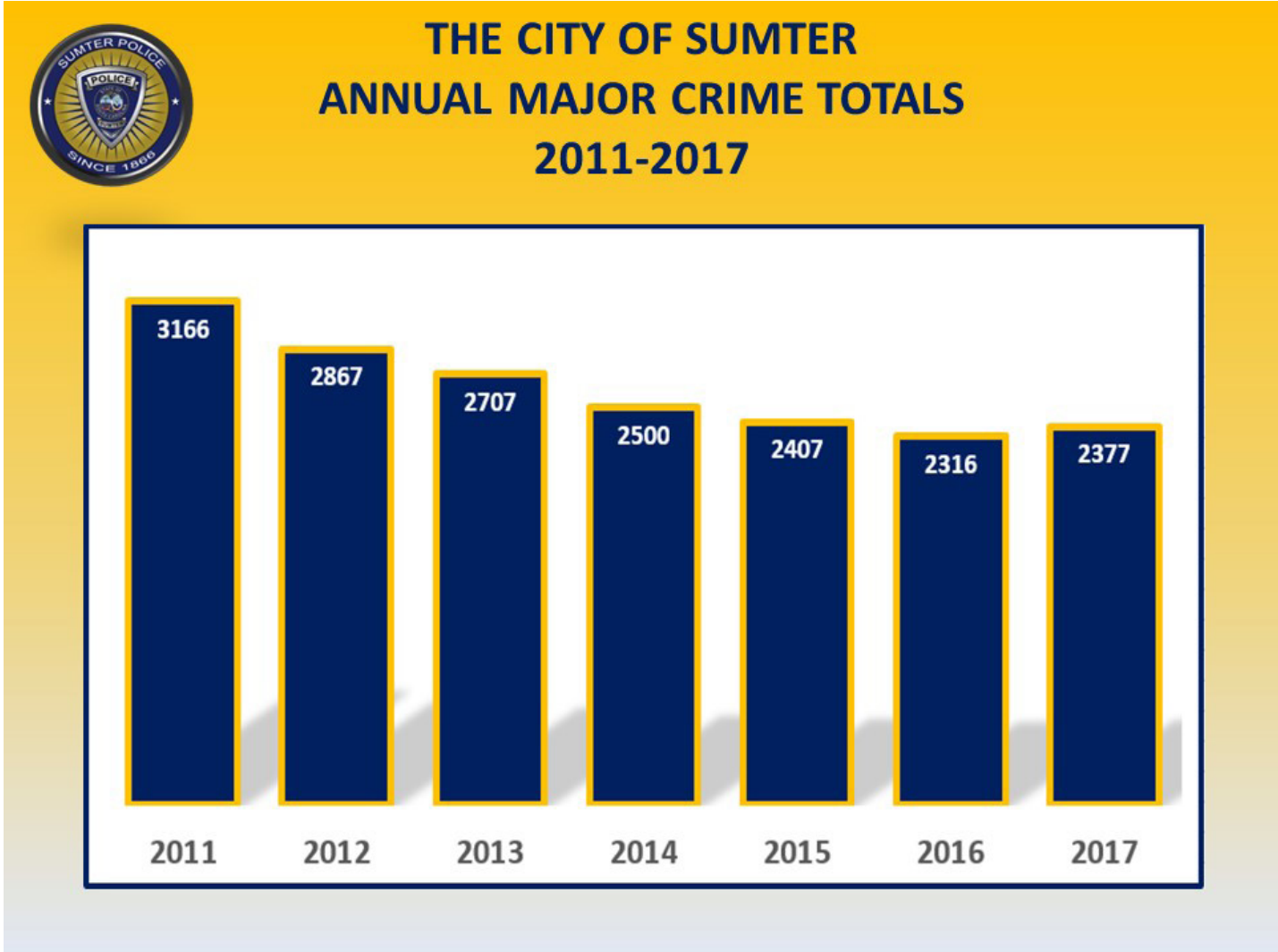
Without hesitation, we identify issues and find ways to get the job done and we will continue to do so.

However, it is when we work together with members of the community that we do our best work and have the greatest impact. There is greater success when we all work together. We will continue to partner with residents and utilize proactive approaches to protect our citizens.

Many of our officers hail from the city and county of Sumter and have chosen to make a difference in their hometown. Some have come from communities similar or smaller than ours and others have lived in locales much different and larger. Together, they represent the diversity we have in Sumter, in part related to being the longtime home of Shaw Air Force Base. Regardless of where our officers call home, they have the same heart and spirit and genuine commitment to Sumter and interest in making a difference in the lives of people who live and work here.

We will always have Sumter's continued progress at the core of what we do and will strive for excellence as a law enforcement agency.

# 2017 Crime Data



### THREE-YEAR CRIME RATE

Crimes	2015	2016	2017	% change from previous year
Murder	4	3	5	66.67
Sexual Assault	10	27	19	-29.63
Aggravated Assault	205	223	238	6.73
Burglary	545	435	410	- 5.75
Auto Break-in	388	409	461	12.71
Auto Theft	119	93	105	12.90
General Larceny	338	399	458	14.79
Weapons Crimes	95	87	72	-17.24
Vandalism	588	564	524	-7.09
Robberies	89	67	78	16.42
Copper Theft	26	9	7	-22.22
<b>Overall Totals</b>	<b>2,500</b>	<b>2,316</b>	<b>2,377</b>	<b>2.63</b>

### DEPARTMENT OVERVIEW

#### Calls for Service:

City 72,838  
 County 75,282  
 Other (Fire, EMS) 29,101

#### Arrests Made:

1,116

#### Monies Seized:

\$160,854.12



### 2017 GRANTS RECEIVED

Grant Description	Amount	Duration
Jessica Gonzales Victim Advocate Grant	\$26,814.00	1-year
2016 JAG-Evidence Tracking System	\$29,600.00	4-year

### Grants Continued From Previous Years

2014 JAG- Computer Software & Training	\$31,428.00	4-year
2015 JAG- IA Pro Software & Tasers	\$27,195.00	4-year
Body Armor	\$15,450.00	Annually Renewable
Municipal Assn. of SC-Body Armor	\$2,000.00	Annually Renewable



# 2017 in Review

## Groundbreaking marks bright future

The year was filled with anticipation and preparation for the department's move into a new 36,000-square-foot facility on Lafayette Drive. Funded by the 2016 Penny for Progress sales tax, groundbreaking for the new \$10.6 million Public Safety Complex, which includes the Sumter Fire Department headquarters, was held in January with occupancy expected in the second quarter of 2018.

The Police Department, initially a single-story building, has been located at 107 E. Hampton Ave. since the early 1970s. Years later, a second story was constructed.

Because of space limitations and technological advancements, a new facility was noticeably needed. The new complex, Chief Russell Roark said, "is an example of community, government, law enforcement and businesses coming together."

He also predicted the complex will have an economic benefit to the adjacent communities.

"Because of the wisdom of the city and county leadership, because of the wisdom of our voters, this area will continue to move and grow," Roark said.





# Total Solar Eclipse: SPD readies as hundreds flock to Gamecock City for historic spectacle

Preparations began over the summer for an unprecedented number of visitors from states along the East Coast who would travel to South Carolina to see a once in a lifetime event.

Sumter was one of the cities identified as a prime location to witness this rare event, and plans were put in place to host a Watch Party at Dillon Park.

SPD coordinated with local and state agencies to address how to best handle the influx of traffic and visitors as well as the extremely high temperatures.

An estimated 15,000 people watched from Dillon Park and Swan Lake.



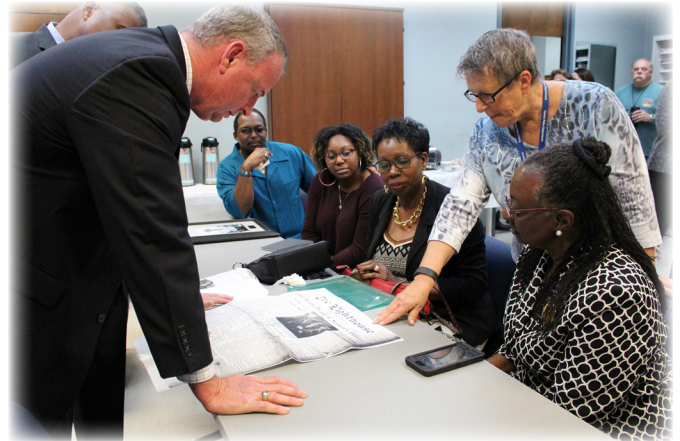
## Police honor widow of trailblazing officer

Elizabeth Burns was presented with a framed photo of her late husband Charles Henry Burns, one of the first African-American officers to join the Sumter Police Department in 1952. She was joined by her children and other family members during the presentation.

While preparing to come to work in 1953, Burns died of a sudden illness.

Detective Matthew Yates befriended Mrs. Burns when he responded to a call at her home and continues to stay in contact.

**Detective Matthew Yates coordinated with officers to make needed painting and repairs to the outside of the home of Elizabeth Burns. He was recognized as Officer of the Year for the department during an event hosted by Community Broadcasters.**





# Liaisons provide public input

A special group of residents, civic leaders and entrepreneurs continued their relationship with the department by learning more about the role and expectations of officers as well as issues facing the agency. The Chief's Liaison Council was formed in 2016 to assist the department in identifying and prioritizing local issues and developing ways it can make improvements.

Council members are the Rev. James Blessingame, Senthia Conyers, Larry Dennis, Julie Herlong, Jackie Olsen, Gifford Shaw and the Rev. Al Sims.

"Serving on the Chief's Community Liaison Council has been a great learning experience for me," Olsen said. "Understanding the inside workings of the Police Department gives me a comprehensive perspective to enable me to better serve my neighborhood and inform my friends of the outstanding leadership and training of our police force."



Blessingame



Conyers



Dennis



Herlong



Olsen



Shaw



Sims



Detective Jim Kearney demonstrates fingerprinting techniques for the Chief's Liaison Council.

# Agency preps for national assessment



The Sumter Police Department has been accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies Inc. (CALEA) since 1995. CALEA requires agencies to be in compliance with state-of-the-art standards in four basic areas: policy and procedures, administration, operations and support services to the community. Internal reviews are held throughout the year. An accreditation team last visited the department in 2015, and found the department to be in good standing. Since then, the department has continued taking the necessary steps to maintain and improve its standing with the accreditation agency. An on-site assessment is planned for 2018.



# ‘Lock it Before You Leave It’: Education, Action, Results

The department continued its public education efforts to encourage residents to lock vehicle doors and remove items of value. In addition to press releases, social media posts and public service announcements aired on local radio outlets, officers used various policing strategies to surveil areas frequently targeted for car break-ins. With more than 90 percent of reported cases attributed to unlocked vehicles, these crimes of opportunity can be reduced through simple changes in behavior. Proactive measures included road safety checkpoints that were set up in subdivisions and other areas. Officers talked with residents and handed out rearview mirror hangers designed to remind residents to remove their valuables and to lock their car doors. As a result of these combined efforts and multiple arrests, the department has experienced a decline in the number of vehicle break-ins. Everyone benefits when there is personal interaction between law enforcement and residents, and these efforts are another example of the department’s commitment to building relationships with the community it serves.



## SPD offers cool drink to Irma evacuees on return home



Thankful that the greater Sumter area was spared the devastating effects of Hurricane Irma in September, the Sumter Police Department partnered with the state Highway Patrol to show compassion and support to the many Florida residents who evacuated ahead of the storm to South Carolina and other states. Many, not knowing what they would find ahead, stopped in Sumter County on their return trip home. Officers were there to give them a kind smile and a cool drink of water for their journey.



# Uniformed Services Division



Under the leadership of Capt. Jeffery Jackson, the Uniformed Services Division consists of four patrol shifts and the Selective Enforcement Unit. Selective Enforcement consists of K-9, Traffic and the Neighborhood Empowerment Team. These units often work together on special operations to reduce and discourage the opportunity for crime. In addition to providing around-the-clock visibility in the city's residential and business districts, patrol officers place great emphasis on building relationships and trust within the community, including working in local schools to mentor students.





### 2017 PATROL UNIT ACTIVITY

Activity	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Total
Traffic Tickets	641	494	395	247	1,777
DUI Arrests	7	20	13	5	45
DUS Arrests	118	77	123	83	401
Misdemeanor Arrests	159	203	249	207	818
Felony Arrests	59	51	89	74	273
Collisions	224	246	277	233	980
<b>Total Activities</b>					<b>4,294</b>

### 2017 TRAFFIC UNIT ACTIVITY

Activity	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Total
Traffic Tickets	854	753	749	548	2,904
Speeding Tickets	367	347	382	283	1,379
Seatbelt Tickets	194	129	140	96	559
Child Restraint Tickets	11	20	19	4	54
Collisions	324	339	317	308	1,288
Hit and Run Collisions	17	18	26	28	89
DUI	0	0	1	1	2
DUS	51	26	35	18	130
<b>Total Activities</b>					<b>7,743</b>

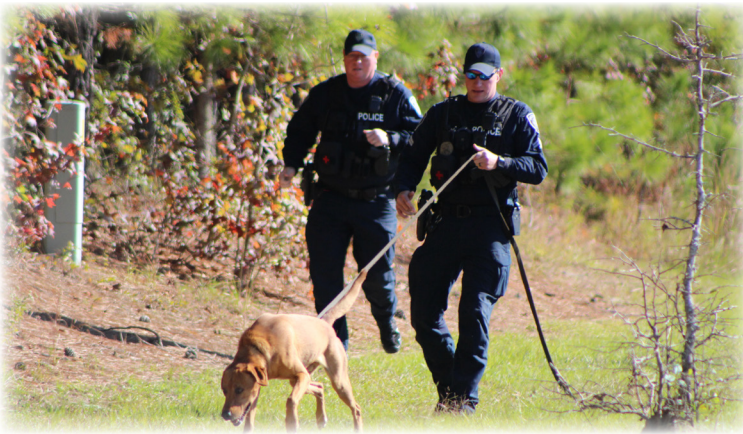
# K-9 Diva says goodbye; Murphy signs on



As a complement to the work of our Patrol Division officers and detectives, the department has three officers with “special noses” who assist in finding suspects, missing persons and detecting illegal substances.

K-9 Diva retired in October and was recognized for her service.

New to the K-9 Unit is Murphy. Murphy is certified in obedience and human tracking and narcotics detection. His handler, Lead Cpl. Cameron Bryant, successfully completed a rigorous certification process.



**Animal Control Officer James Salmon and concerned citizens rescued this kitten that was caught in a drain following a heavy May storm.**

## **Animal Control**

### **By the Numbers**

**Complaints received -- 747**

**Animals picked up -- 603**

**Traps set -- 66**

**Animals claimed, rescued, sold -- 596  
(city and county)**



## Traffic Division



**Additional vehicles featuring ghost striping are being used by the department's Traffic Division. The department began using the less obvious reflective striping in 2013 to encourage drivers to obey traffic laws.**



**The Sumter Police Department and its Traffic Division worked with Quicket Solutions and the state Department of Motor Vehicles to implement an electronic citation system. A state law requiring electronic ticketing went into effect in 2017.**



# Investigative Services Division



Under the leadership of Capt. Angela Rabon, the Investigative Services Division consists of Investigative Services and the Organized Crime and Vice Control (OCVC) Unit.

The Investigative Services Division includes units assigned to investigate violent, property, and financial crimes. It also includes support services (forensics, evidence, polygraph and Automated Fingerprint Identification System) and Juvenile Services. Juvenile Services investigates crimes involving minors and includes three School Resource Officers and the Youth Corp summer work program. A court liaison, Warrant, and Victim Services are also assigned to the division. Capt. Rabon also heads the department's Honor Guard.



**Detectives, in partnership with Crime Stoppers and members of the community, worked to successfully identify suspects in the shooting death of a South Sumter businessman in November.**

## 2017 ISD SECTION CASE LOAD AND CLEARANCE RATE

Sections	Cases	Cases Cleared	Clearance Rate
Property Crimes	1,845	299	16%
Violent Crimes	899	311	35%
Financial Crimes	362	191	53%
Juvenile Crimes	340	285	84%
<b>Overall Clearance Rate</b>	<b>3,446</b>	<b>1,086</b>	<b>32%</b>



**Significant Arrests:**

- Mary Woods of Miller Road was charged with homicide by child neglect for the 2016 death of her 6-month-old. Woods was intoxicated when she rolled over and suffocated the child during the night.
- Diontae Lyquel Walters of 767 Brand St. was charged with leaving the scene of an accident resulting in the death of a man riding a bicycle.
- Anastasia Singleton was charged with murder in the stabbing death of her boyfriend, Desjuan Lemmon, that occurred at their residence on Rolling Creek Drive.
- Channing Pack was charged with murder in the shooting death of David Battilana.
- Terrance Haynesworth was charged with nine counts of distribution of heroin.
- Ruth Wells was charged with four counts of distribution of crack cocaine. Wells pleaded guilty and will serve eight years in prison.
- Jermaine Smith was charged with trafficking cocaine, trafficking cocaine-2nd offense, possession of a Schedule II substance and felon in possession of a firearm.
- Antonio Wilson was charged with two counts of trafficking cocaine-2nd offense.
- Andrew Tiller was charged with two counts of attempted murder after he shot two maintenance workers at Harmony Court.
- Jayshawn Easterling was charged with attempted murder for shooting his 15-year-old former girlfriend.
- Andrew Colewell and Courtney Myers were each charged with attempted murder after they began shooting at each other at the Downtown Motor Inn.
- Sincere Dinkins and Lorenzo Hagood were charged with murder of the owner of Save-Mart Grocery during an attempted robbery of the business.
- Kentwan Thames-Daniels was charged with murder in the shooting death of David Bratton.
- Shakour Raman, Chase Nelson, Malik Nelson and James Simon were charged with armed robbery and attempted murder after they shot the victim during a robbery at Miller Arms Apartments.

**Court Dispositions:**

- Shon Hill was sentenced in Federal Court to 56 months.
- Tywon Blackwell was sentenced in Federal Court to 192 months.
- George McDowell was sentenced in Federal Court to 130 months.
- Shawn Green was sentenced in Federal Court to 188 months.
- Quantal Lewis was sentenced in Federal Court to 60 months.
- Thomas Jefferson Davis, aka Squirrel, was sentenced in Federal Court to 188 months.
- Rondrick Jones was sentenced in Federal Court to 212 months.
- Timothy McCough in Federal Court to 120 months.
- Stacey McDonald was sentenced to 6 years on domestic violence charges.
- Dattrick Wilson and Herbert Benjamin were sentenced in Federal Court to 28 years for several armed robberies.
- John Williams Jr. was sentenced to 10 years for attempted murder.
- James Williams was sentenced to 10 years for attempted murder, armed robbery and underage possession of a firearm for a shooting that occurred at Club Crème.

# Youth Corps: Working, Learning, Earning



The Sumter Police Department and the City of Sumter’s Community Development Office, wrapped up another successful year of Youth Corps. During the summer work experience program, students, ages 14-15, helped clean up city parks and other properties. During the process, they underwent an interview and learned the importance of soft skills and professional conduct, such as being to work on time. They also learned leadership skills and developed new friendships.

At the end of each week, participants enjoyed educational field trips, taking an Eco Tour on the state’s coast and visiting Shaw Air Force Base, Fort Jackson, Honda manufacturing, Wonder Works and Riverbanks Zoo. To recognize their hard work, the students were treated to a trip to Carowinds and an awards luncheon.





### 2017 INVESTIGATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES ACTIVITY

Activity	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Total
Criminal Polygraphs	8	9	13	20	50
Pre-employment polygraphs	9	10	23	24	66
AFIS Cases	115	110	120	114	459
AFIS Searches	205	220	267	277	969
AFIS Identifications	75	70	74	78	297

### 2017 VICTIM SERVICES ACTIVITY

Activity	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Total
Contacts	1,266	1,460	1,248	1,121	5,095
Referrals	535	596	442	412	1,985
Court Appearances	38	28	59	20	145
Call-Outs	10	8	5	2	25

### 2017 WARRANT SECTION ACTIVITY

Warrant/Subpoenas Issued	Warrants/Subpoenas Served	Service Rate
1,513	1,121	74%

## Advocates assist victims, witnesses



**Advocate Amanda Wiley marches with Parents of Murdered Children during an annual rally to remember victims.**

Victim Advocates Ruth Fowler, Amanda Wiley and Jessica Lee are responsible for providing support to the victims and witnesses of serious crimes, from the moment of an incident until disposition of the case.

They are specially trained to provide on-site intervention, make referrals for counseling and other victim services and have established partnerships with shelters, safe houses and local, state and regional community service agencies.

## Organized Crime and Vice Control Unit

# Covert ops gain lasting results

The Organized Crime and Vice Control (OCVC) Unit is comprised of highly skilled and trained officers who investigate suspected drug trafficking and other illicit activities.

The unit conducts covert operations to bring to justice those involved in the purchase and sale of drugs, gambling, illegal alcohol sales and prostitution. These investigations often begin with a simple complaint or other information provided by members of the public.

The complexity of these cases requires diligent, quiet and patient detective work in order to achieve longterm results for the public safety of the Sumter community.

In 2014, the Sumter Police Department and OCVC Unit began focusing on an unusual number of shootings concentrated in the South Sumter area. That investigation soon involved other local, state and federal agencies that worked together and dismantled a major criminal enterprise known as “Tha Movement.” Since then, the ongoing investigation has resulted in numerous arrests and seizure of large quantities of cocaine, crack cocaine, heroin and other drugs, a cache of firearms and hundreds of thousands in cash. More than 20 arrests were made and successfully prosecuted in 2017 with sentences ranging from five years to life. As this major operation continued, OCVC detectives also focused on the opioid drug crisis. Undercover drug operations were organized to identify, arrest and prosecute individuals responsible for distributing this dangerous and highly addictive class of drugs.



### 2017 ORGANIZED CRIME & VICE CONTROL ACTIVITY

Activity	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter	Total
Arrests	75	91	87	73	326
Cash Seized	\$3,310.00	\$114,481.79	\$42,107.33	\$955.00	\$160,854.12
Drugs Seized (value)	\$61,868.80	\$47,870.72	\$147,438.79	\$54,014.47	\$ 311,192.78
Search Warrants	4	1	8	2	15
Vehicles Seized	1	0	0	0	1
Weapons Seized	35	22	36	53	146



# Team targets missing persons, special cases



**The Special Investigations Unit combined resources with other SPD units and outside agencies during the search of a man reported missing in August. Officers utilized a drone to observe areas of heavy vegetation, and boats were deployed in local waterways during the search.**



A new addition to the Investigative Services Division is the Special Investigations Unit, which provides a concentrated level of support on complex cases to include missing persons, fugitive searches, surveillance of high crime areas and digital analysis.

Two of its members also serve on the U.S. Marshal's Fugitive Task Force, which assists in locating and apprehending suspects wanted by other area agencies as well as the Sumter Police Department.

Additionally, the unit provides support to patrol shifts when incidents occur.

## Science meets detective work

**Science and investigative know-how come together in the Forensics Unit.**

**It's also one of the most popular areas of law enforcement that adults and youngsters want to learn about when they visit the Sumter Police Department.**

**Detective Amanda Snapp demonstrates for Job Shadow Day participants the art of preserving a footprint as evidence.**



# Support Services Division



Support Services is key to the effective and continuous operation of the agency. Capt. Mike Evans leads the division, which includes Records, Recruitment, Training and the Citizens Assistance Unit. Evans also manages procurement and vehicle fleet and facility maintenance. These are all areas that formulate the public’s first-impression when it interacts with the department. The process of making or obtaining a report, seeing a police vehicle on patrol or observing how an officer looks and performs on duty are all important in presenting a professional image that garners respect from the community.



**Staff Sgt. Tyshica Gayle serves as recruitment officer.**

## ‘Are you ready to be one of us?’

The first step to sustaining and improving the quality of service delivered by the Sumter Police Department is finding the right people to serve as sworn officers or as telecommunication officers in the E-911 Call Center. The second step, is to provide quality training that addresses emerging societal trends and up-and-coming intelligence and enforcement techniques. In addition, the Police Department strives to equip its officers and employees with the necessary tools, technology

and training needed to effectively and safely perform their jobs. Along with state-mandated training, officers and department leadership receive instruction in de-escalation of conflicts and active shooter and civil disturbance response. Training is also provided in use of “less lethal” force options and techniques that can be used effectively to contain a situation with minimal, if any, injury to those involved.

### 2017 RECRUITMENT ACTIVITY

Position	Applications	Hired	Resigned	Retired
Law Enforcement Officer	137	14	12	1
Telecommunications Officer	128	7	6	0
Animal Control	8	2	0	0
School Crossing Guard	9	3	0	1
Internship	4	2	N/A	N/A
<b>Current Staffing Level:</b>				
Sworn	110			
Civilian	68			



# 2017 Training Unit Activity

## Training

## Officers Attended

Legal Updates 241

Domestic Violence 120

TASER Initial Certification 9

TASER Recertification 91

**In-Service Block I: 2 Day Training Cycle** 89

Active Shooter Response

Open Air Assaults and Response

Scenario Based Training

**In-Service Block II:** 78

Biased Based Profiling

Stop Stick

TASER Recertification

Use of Force

**In-Service Block III:** 62

Personal Protective Equipment

Incident Command

Shotgun Refresher

Responding to the Mentally Ill

**In-Service Block IV:** 72

Blood Borne Pathogens

Oleoresin Capsicum Refresher

Scenario Based Training – Force on Force

**In-Service Block V:** 103

Firearms Qualification

Emergency Vehicle Operations

Pursuit

**Advanced DUI / SFST** 11

**Patrol Rifle Qualification** 43

**M-14 Rifle Qualification** 7

**Less Lethal Munitions Operators Qualification** 24

**Body Worn Camera Training** 12

**Active Shooter Response** 61

**Datamaster Operator** 21

**Glock 17 Transition and Qualification** 108

**Law Enforcement Officer Naloxone Training** 71

**Total Training Hours** 7,165



# Community Services Division



Staff Sgt. James Sinkler leads a team of officers and civilians who focus on the department's relationship with the community.

Community service is expected of all SPD employees. However, the Community Services Division targets its efforts to address the needs and concerns of neighborhoods, individuals, business owners, schools, the homeless/transient population and the elderly.

Division members work directly with the public to address needs. Press releases and social media also are used to keep the public informed and engaged. Officers are assigned to the city's business corridors, Neighborhood Watch groups, and community service programs and create and support other SPD initiatives.

## Programs and Events

Back to School Bash

Black History Month Art and Essay contest

Random Act of Kindness

Project CheckMate

Operation Hydration

Prom Promise/In an Instant

Neighborhood Watch

National Night Out

National Police Week

Pursuit Against Hunger Food Drive

Cram-A-Cruiser Toy Drive

Halloween Trunk or Treat





# Community Services: By the Numbers

Sharing pertinent information with the public in a timely, effective, and educational manner through the use of social media, news releases, and speaking engagements was a top goal for the Community Services Unit, which finished the year strong with 227 community outreach efforts. The unit's CheckMate program soared to more than 40 participants, each averaging 33 hours of personal contact with the program's officer. The use of relevant videos helped the unit increase its social media presence more than 13 percent, while garnering 44 percent market share in the Facebook platform.



<b>Neighborhood Watch/Community Meetings Attended:</b>	<b>61</b>
<b>Community Speaking Engagements:</b>	<b>51</b>
<b>Community Events Attended:</b>	<b>72</b>
<b>Department Hosted Community Events:</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>Shaw Air Force Base Right Start Engagements:</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>CheckMate Participants:</b>	<b>41</b>
<b>CheckMate Visits:</b>	<b>1,344</b>
<b>Media Releases:</b>	<b>70</b>
<b>Videos:</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>Social Media Engagement Increase/Decrease:</b>	<b>+13.2%</b>

# Telecommunications

<b>2017 TELECOMMUNICATION CENTER ACTIVITY</b>			
<b>Calls for Service</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>% Change</b>
<b>Sumter Police Department</b>	<b>81,229</b>	<b>72,838</b>	<b>-10.33</b>
<b>Sumter County Sheriff's Office</b>	<b>72,369</b>	<b>75,282</b>	<b>4.03</b>
<b>Other (Fire, EMS)</b>	<b>28,963</b>	<b>29,101</b>	<b>0.48</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>182,561</b>	<b>177,221</b>	<b>-2.93</b>

## E-911 center readies for the ‘what ifs’

First responders have to plan for emergencies, weather conditions and other issues that could affect how they serve the public and interact with other first responders county-wide.

With the help of Farmers Telephone Cooperative, our telecommunicators are now able to answer emergency and non-emergency calls at an alternate site should a situation arise that would require the call center to relocate.

Telecommunicators were able to put the off-site center to the test in 2017.

Telecommunicators serve on the front line, answering emergency and non-emergency calls for the Sumter Police Department, Sumter County Sheriff’s Office, Sumter Emergency Medical Services and the Sumter Fire Department. Calls are also taken for some city and county departments, such as public works, after their normal hours of operation.





# 2017 Report Recap

- **Crime rates in the city of Sumter have decreased nearly 25 percent over the past 7 years.**
- **A slight increase in crimes during 2017 is primarily attributed to person-on-person crimes and crimes of opportunity tied to vehicles left unlocked.**
- **Positive relationships between police and the community result in cases being solved and reductions in crimes of opportunity and other incidents.**











# **City of Sumter**



## **Mayor**

**Joe McElveen**

## **City Manager**

**Deron McCormick**

## **City Council**

**Thomas J. Lowery**

**Ione Dwyer**

**Steven Corley**

**Bob Galiano**

**Calvin Hastie**

**David Merchant**