

2018 Annual Report



Wilkesboro



Police Department

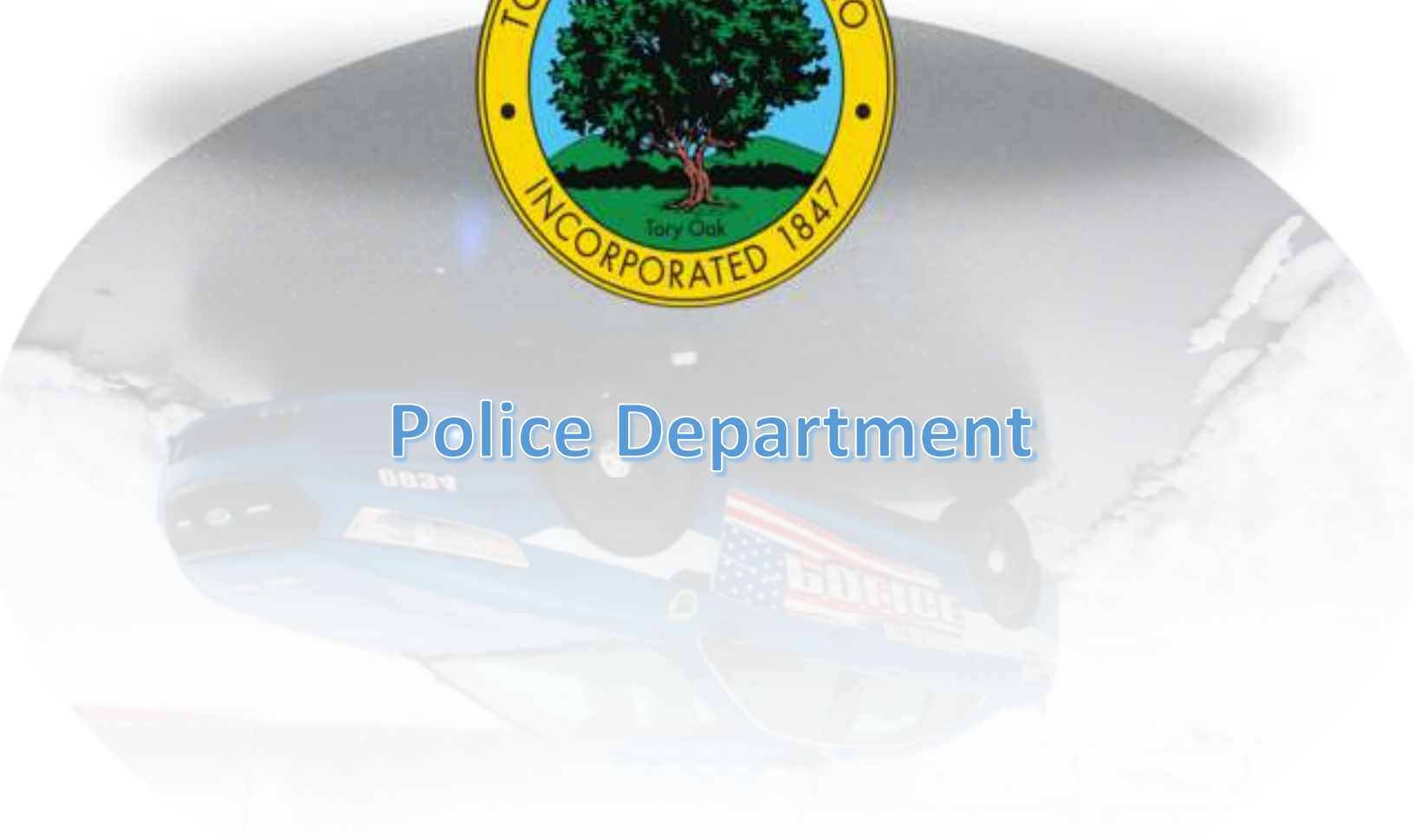


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**Message from the Chief of Police,
Craig Garris**



Welcome to the Wilkesboro Police Department,

I invite you to learn more about us by reviewing our Annual Report, telephoning us, or visiting us in person or online. The men and women of our department take great pride in serving this beautiful historic community.

I am honored to serve the residents of the Town of Wilkesboro as your Chief of Police. I am also proud to support the accomplishments and fine work of the men and women of this department that continually provide quality service each and every day, to provide you with the best policing services available.

Allow me to extend my personal appreciation to our fine citizens, local officials, and the officers and employees of the Wilkesboro Police Department for their gracious support of me and the professional law enforcement services we provide.

It is my goal our officers work each and every day to strive for the Responsibility of Service and Leadership with Integrity and Conviction.

Sincerely,

Craig Garris

The mission of the men and women of the Wilkesboro Police Department is to strive for the impartial enforcement of state and local laws to foster the peaceful environment of our citizens. We will establish community partnerships by providing proactive police services aimed at crime reduction and the protection of life and property. By ethical interactions with those we serve, we will garner the mutual respect that provides the cornerstone of trust our citizens deserve.

Law Enforcement Code of Ethics

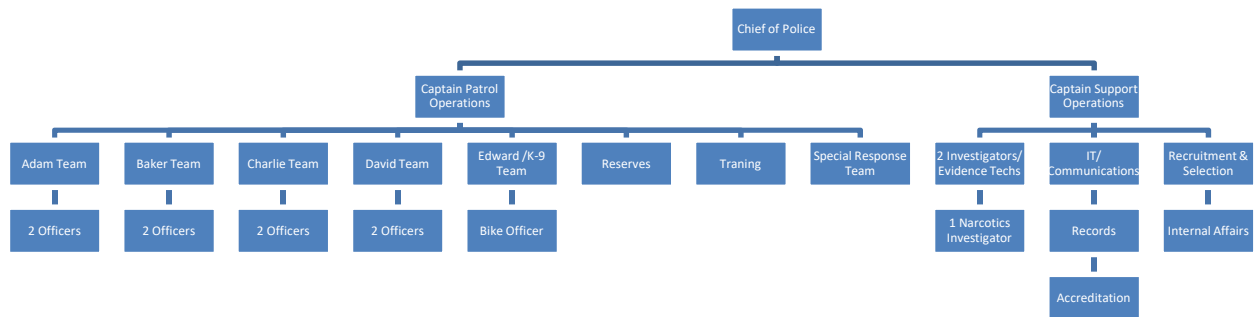
As a Law Enforcement Officer, my fundamental duty is to serve mankind; to safeguard lives and property; to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation, and the peaceful against violence or disorder; and to respect the Constitutional rights of all men to liberty, equality and justice.

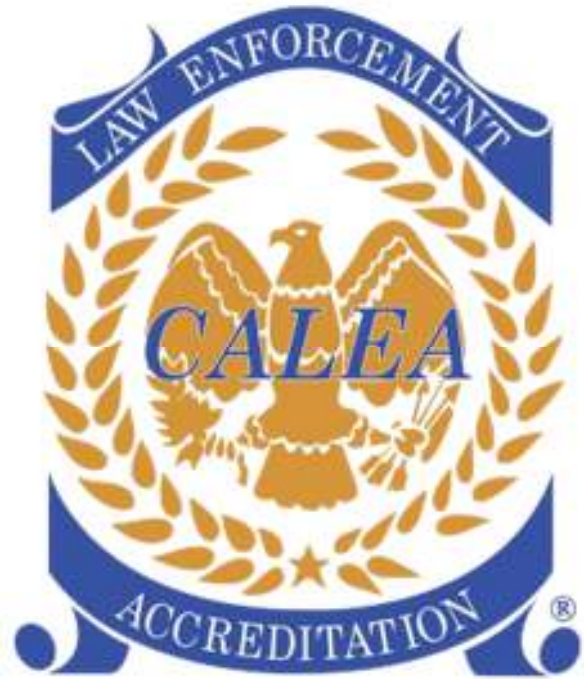
I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all; maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn, or ridicule; develop self-restraint, and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed in both my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the laws of the land and the regulations of my department. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature or that is confided to me in my official capacity will be kept ever secret unless revelation is necessary for the performance of my duty.

I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, animosities, or friendships to influence my decisions. With no compromise for crime and with relentless prosecution of criminals, I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice or ill will, never employing unnecessary force or violence and never accepting gratuities.

I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of the police service. I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession...law enforcement.

2019 Organizational Chart





CALEA

CALEA is an acronym for the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. The purpose of this program is to improve the delivery of public safety services by maintaining a body of standards developed by public safety practitioners, establishing and maintaining an accreditation process, and recognizing professional excellence. The accreditation process involves a complete review of departmental standards and an inspection of compliance with those standards. The review is conducted by independent experts in the field of law enforcement, who come

from all over the United States. The auditors spend time with officers to ensure their understanding and knowledge of the CALEA process, and they also reach out to the community by allowing public comments on the quality of services provided by the Department.

CALEA is a departmental-wide function and is administered by the Support Operations Division Captain. Various compliance reports are assigned to different personnel within the department. Compliance reports include analyses, summaries, and evaluations that must be completed on a time sensitive schedule. The Support Operations Division Captain ensures that reports are completed, and the Accreditation Manager maintains files of corresponding standards. Although CALEA requires a great deal of hard work on behalf of the Police Department and Town, it produces a number of benefits. Examples of benefits include international recognition, agency accountability, and professional excellence.

The Department was first awarded the CALEA accreditation on November 19, 2011. The Department went before the Commission and received our second reaccreditation at the CALEA conference in Jacksonville, Florida in November 2017.

2018 Promotions



Jerry Parsons was promoted to Sergeant in December of 2018. Out of the 5, well-qualified officers who applied for the promotion Sergeant Jerry Parsons was selected. He has been assigned to supervise Baker Team. Sergeant Parsons started with the police department in 2010, he holds an Associates Degree in Criminal Justice from Wilkes Community College.

2018 New Officers

Dallas Wyatt



Officer Dallas Wyatt joined the police department in August of 2018. He was originally hired as a part-time officer but due to an opening, he moved into a full-time position. Officer Wyatt graduated BLET from Wilkes Community College.

Cody Colbert



Officer Cody Colbert was hired at the end of 2018 as a part-time officer. He currently works full-time at Mount Airy Police Department. Officer Colbert is originally from Wilkes County, he graduated BLET from Wilkes Community College.



Division Commander

Captain Jason Delbert

Team Supervisors

Adam Team

Sgt. Nathan Wells

Baker Team

Sgt. Jerry Parsons

Charlie Team

Sgt. Philip Brown

David Team

Sgt. Ronnie Price

Edward Team

Sgt. Brian McManus

Patrol Operations Division

The Patrol Division is commanded by Captain Jason Delbert and is the largest section in the agency. There are 15 full-time and 2 part-time sworn officers assigned to the patrol division. The officers are divided into five teams of three officers. The five patrol teams each have a Sergeant. These teams work a rotating 12-hour schedule and they are the first staff members to respond to all crimes, including responding to 911 calls, calls for service, domestic disturbances and shopliftings. The Patrol Division operates under a patrol-based investigation approach to all crimes. All personnel assigned to the Patrol Division are responsible for taking a proactive approach to partnerships, prevention and problem-solving in the Wilkesboro Community.

In 2018, the Patrol Division responded to 11,299 calls for service which is a 7.7% increase from 2017. They completed 534 Crash Investigations 2 of which were fatal, 753 Incident Reports, and 346 Arrest Reports and issued 1,679 Traffic Citations totaling 2,055 charges.





Division Commander

Captain Tommy Rhodes

Investigators

Lt. Rocky Moore

Inv. Chris Handy

Inv. Steve Rose

Inv. Chris Arnder



Support Operations Division

The Support Operations Division is commanded by Captain Tommy Rhodes and is staffed by four Investigators. Three of these investigators are assigned to handle felony crimes including homicide, rape, robbery, theft and fraud cases. One investigator is assigned to investigate drugs and vice cases. The investigators employ a team approach to major crime investigations, where multiple investigators are assigned to all major crimes such as a homicide, robbery and missing person cases. This division is also responsible for several other duties within the department to include; Evidence and Property Management, Quartermaster, Recruitment and Selection, Information Technology, Background Investigations, and Law Enforcement Accreditation.

Two Investigators are trained in Crime Scene Investigation which allows the department to process most crime scenes without calling for assistance from



outside agencies. The agency recovered and or seized property valued at \$295,877. These items included Six (6) automobiles, firearms and One-hundred-seven computers valued at \$205,033.

ANNUAL REVIEW



AND ANALYSIS

Response to Aggression

Because the application of force on an individual by a police officer is subject to close scrutiny by society, the Wilkesboro Police Department investigates all incidents involving officers where some type of response was used on an individual. All responses must be reasonable and necessary. Each response to aggression incident is reviewed by the Division Commander and then by the Senior Command staff for compliance with policy and reasonableness of the response used.

During 2018, Wilkesboro Police Department Officers were involved in 12 Response to Aggression incidents. This was a 140% increase from the previous year. All but one incident in 2018 were reviewed and found to be within departmental policy. The one incident to be found outside of policy was dealt with internally with discipline. Below is a listing of the incidents for the last three years.

Shift	2016	2017	2018
Day (0700-1900)	4	3	3
Night (1900-0700)	5	2	9
Division			
Patrol	9	5	12
Support	0	0	0
Suspect Activity			
Assaultive	1	3	5
Non-Compliant	5	1	2
Running/Evading	1	0	4
Fighting	0	0	0
Known Threat/Felony Stop	2	1	1
Weapon Found on Suspect	0	0	0
Officer Response			
Firearm (Drawn)	3	1	3
Firearm (Fired)	0	1	0
Hands	5	3	4
Taser	1	0	4
Pepper Spray	0	0	1
Response by Race			
White	7	2	5
Black	2	0	5
Other	0	3	2
Response by Sex			
Male	7	5	10
Female	2	0	2
Totals	9	5	12

Internal Affairs/Complaints

The Wilkesboro Police Department investigates all complaints received by the agency. Complaints may be received in writing, in person, by telephone, by email; anonymous complaints are accepted. The preferred method is in writing on a *Citizen Complaint Form*.

The agency uses a two-tiered investigative system that involves the First Line Supervisors for minor complaints that may be a misunderstanding of policy or procedures and a formal investigation for more serious complaints. All officers assigned to internal investigations have specialized training in internal investigative affairs. The Chief of Police assigns all complaints to either a First-Line Supervisor, Division Commander or to Internal Affairs for a complete investigation.

The agency investigated two complaints filed in 2018 on employees of the Wilkesboro Police Department. Of the complaints, all were on full-time officers from the Patrol Operations Division. The two complaints were received from citizen/officer encounters. Below is a breakdown of the complaints:

Complaint Origin	2016	2017	2018
Citizen	2	3	2
Internal	0	0	0
Originating Action			
Traffic Stop	1	2	1
Arrest	1	0	0
Officers Conduct	0	1	1
Disposition			
Sustained	1	1	0
Not Sustained	0	0	0
Unfounded	0	0	2
Exonerated	1	2	0

Definitions

Sustained- The allegation is supported by sufficient evidence to believe the incident complained of occurred

Not Sustained- Investigation discloses insufficient evidence either to prove or disprove the allegation

Unfounded- The investigation disclosed that the act complained of never occurred and therefore is false

Exonerated- The incident complained of occurred; however, the actions of the staff member were lawful and proper

Vehicle Pursuits



During 2018, the Wilkesboro Police Department had five (5) Motor Vehicle Pursuits. In 2017, the agency had six Motor Vehicle Pursuits. Of the five pursuits in 2018, only three occurred during the day shift and two occurred during the night shift. The average duration of the pursuits was 8.5 minutes. The average distance the pursuits covered was 6.76 miles. The longest pursuit traveled 23.6 miles and lasted twenty-four minutes. The pursuits were initiated due to a variety of driving behaviors to include Careless and Reckless Driving, Speeding and Narcotics Interdiction. A total of 28 charges were filed in 2018 involving police pursuits. Two of the pursuits were terminated due to the losing sight of the suspect. The longest pursuit traveled into Ashe County when the suspects were stopped by the use of tire deflation devices put out by the Ashe County Sheriff's Office. All of the pursuits were reviewed by the agencies command staff and found to be within departmental policy.

Performance



Reports

Crime Statistics

The FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program is a nationwide, cooperative statistical effort of more than 18,000 city, university, and college, county, state, tribal, and federal law enforcement agencies (LEAs) voluntarily reporting data on offenses reported or known. Since 1930, the FBI has administered the UCR Program and continued to assess and monitor the nature and type of crime in the nation. The program's primary objective is to generate reliable information for use in (LE) administration, operation, and management. However, over the years, UCR data have become one of the country's leading social indicators. Criminologists, sociologists, legislators, municipal planners, the media, and other students of criminal justice use the data for varied research and planning purposes.

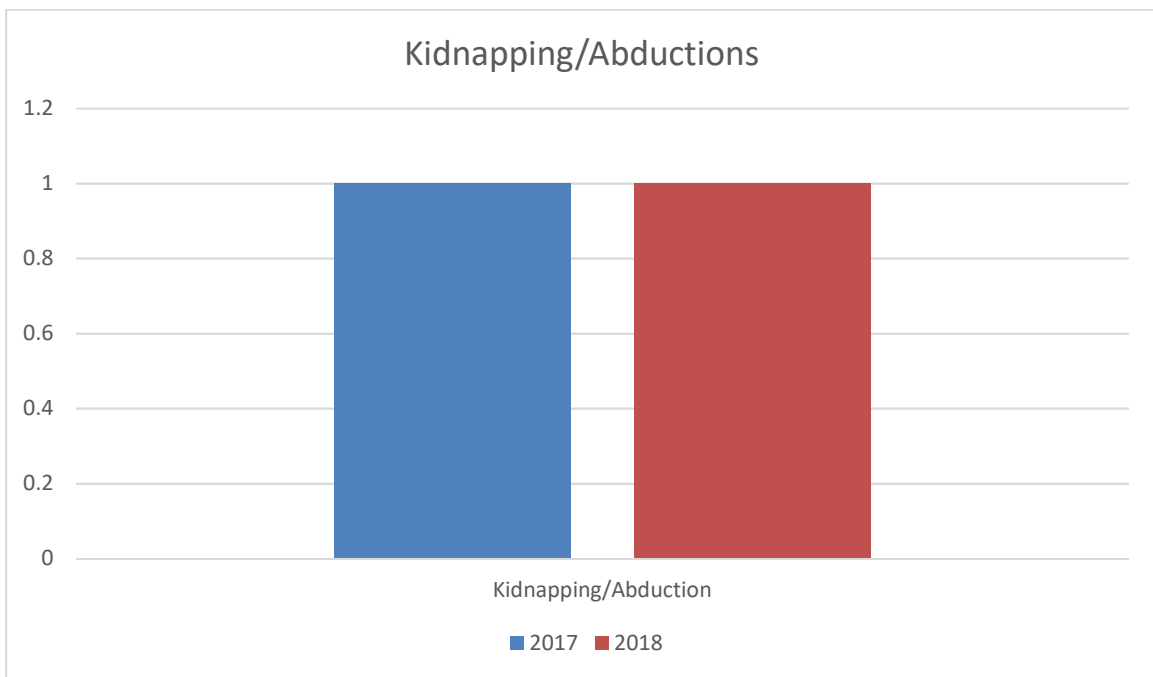
The FBI's UCR Program prepared this manual to assist LEAs in reporting their crime statistics via the Program's National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS).

Originally, the UCR Program was designed as a summary system to collect only the most serious offense within an incident. However, the Program began using incident-based reporting (i.e., NIBRS) in 1989 to capture all offenses within an incident—up to ten crime occurrences. Through NIBRS, LEAs report data on each offense and arrest within 24 offense categories made up of 52 specific crimes called Group A offenses. For each of the Group A offenses coming to their attention, the LE collects administrative, offense, property, victim, offender, and arrestee information. LEAs report only arrest data for an additional 10 Group B offense categories.

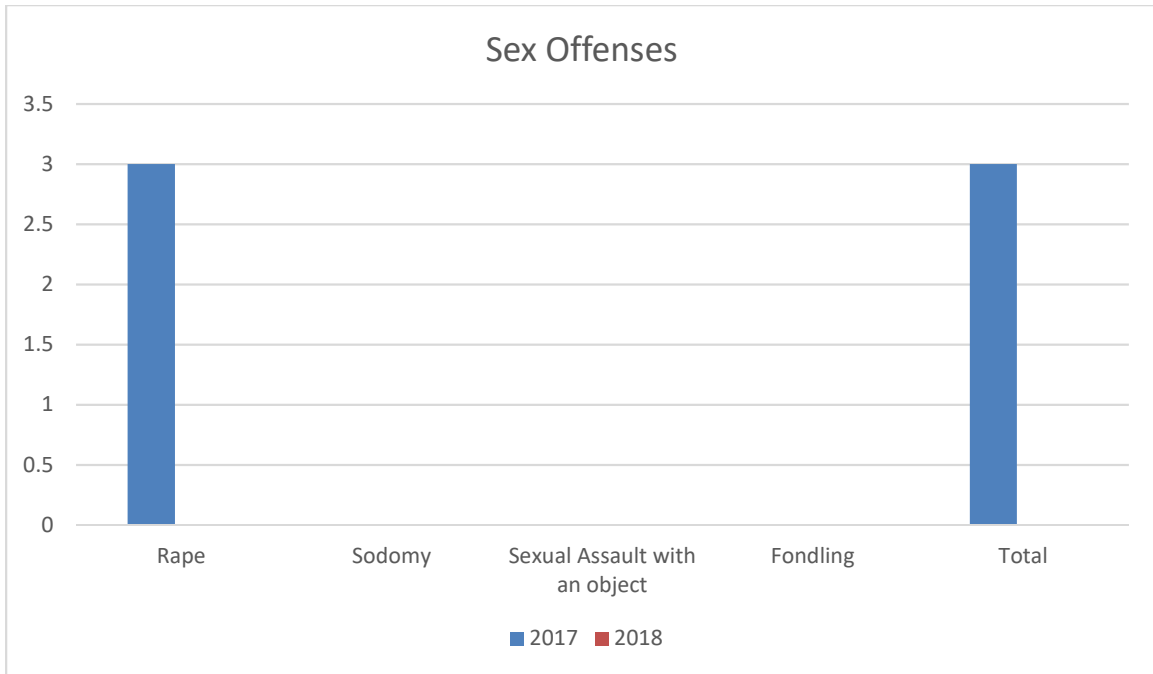
By design, LEAs generate NIBRS data as a by-product of their respective records management systems (RMSs). Therefore, an LEA builds its system to suit its own individual needs, including all of the information required for administration and operation, then forwards only the data required by NIBRS to the National UCR Program. As more agencies report via NIBRS, the data collected will provide a clearer assessment of the nation's crime experience.



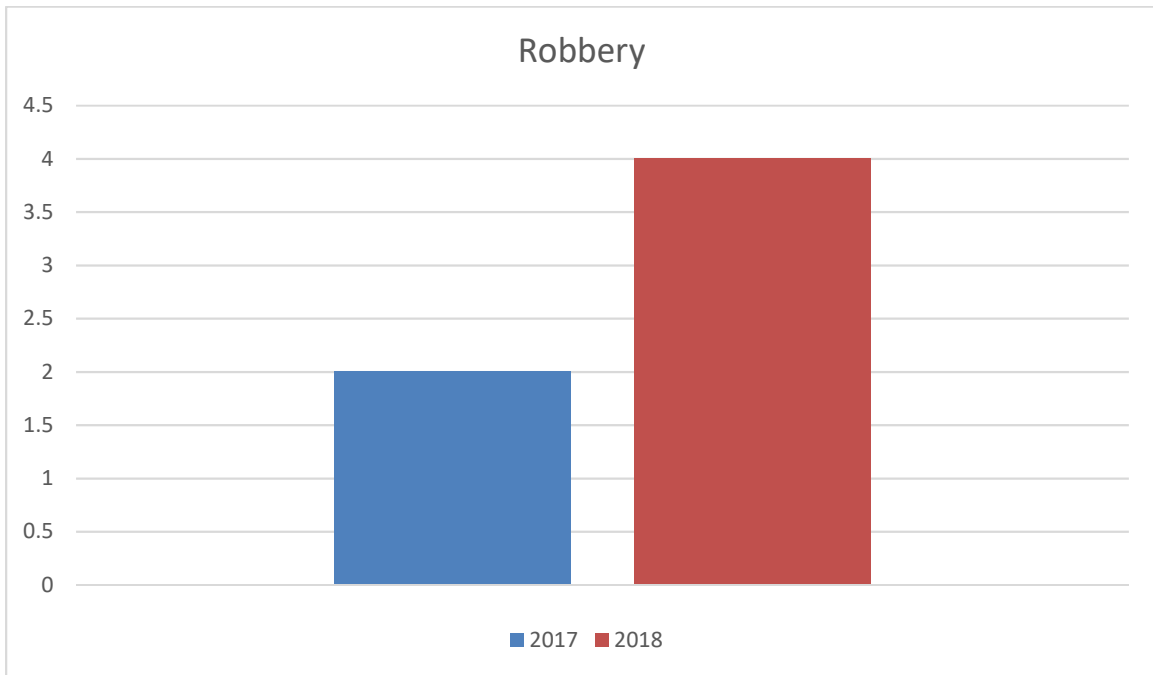
The Wilkesboro Police Department again did not have any homicides in 2018 just as in 2017.



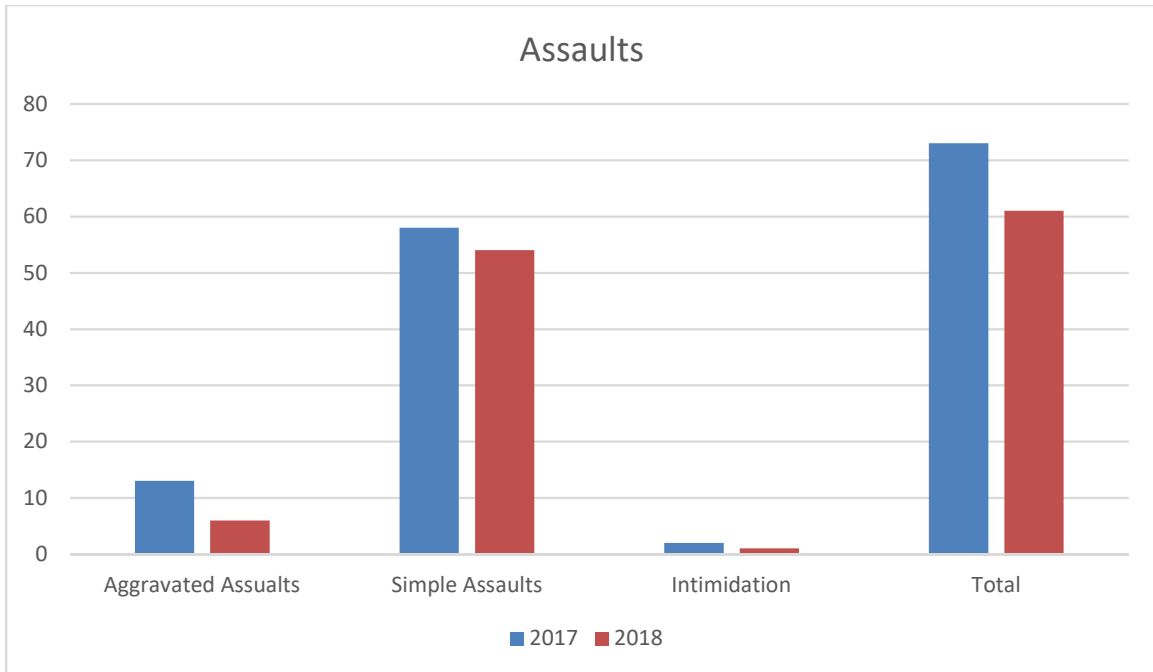
The department had no change in this category from last year with the department reporting one (1) each year.



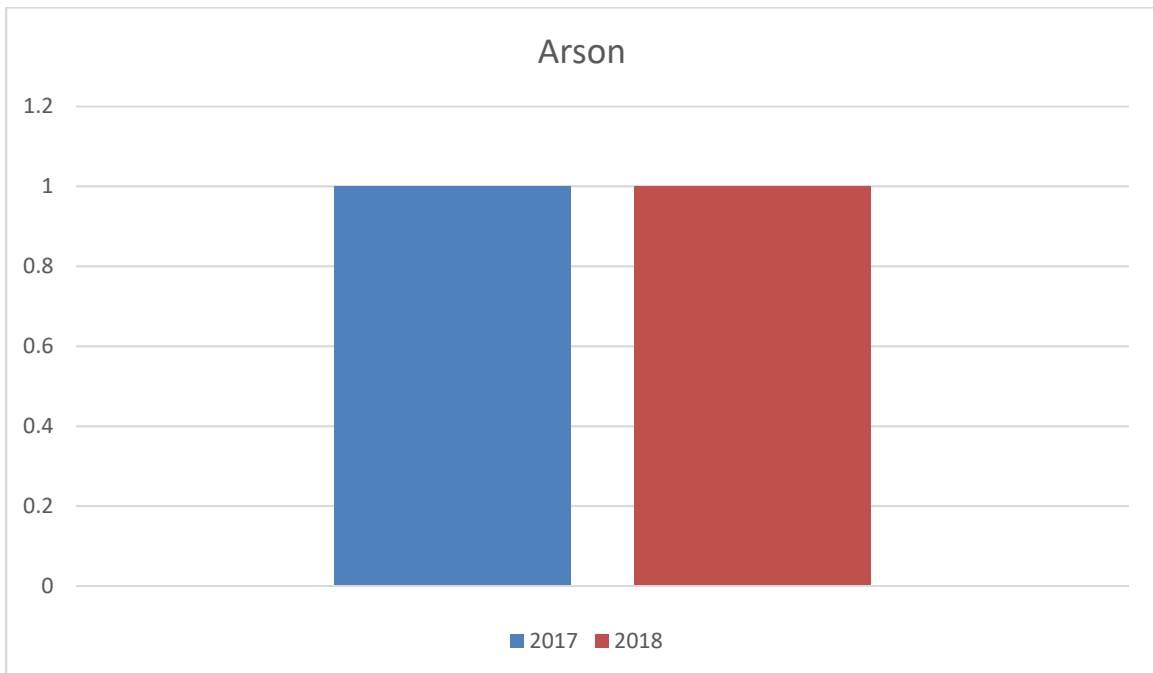
The department saw a 100% reduction in this area across the board with zero (0) sex offenses in 2018.



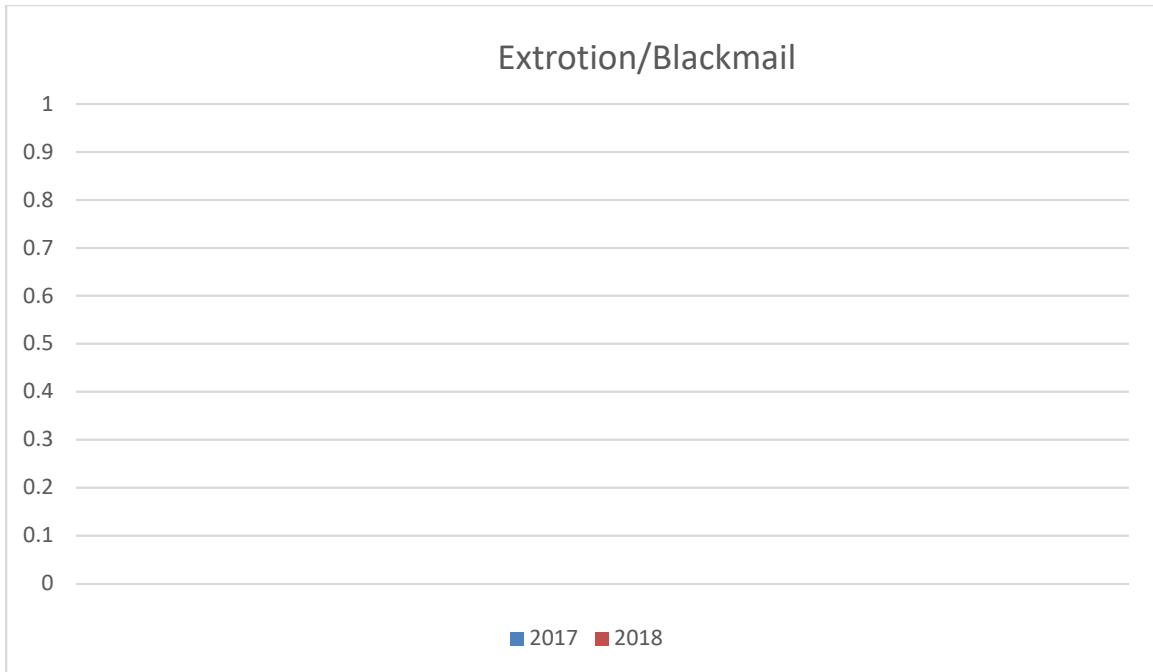
The department had an increase of 100% in this category, going from two (2) in 2017 to four (4) in 2018.



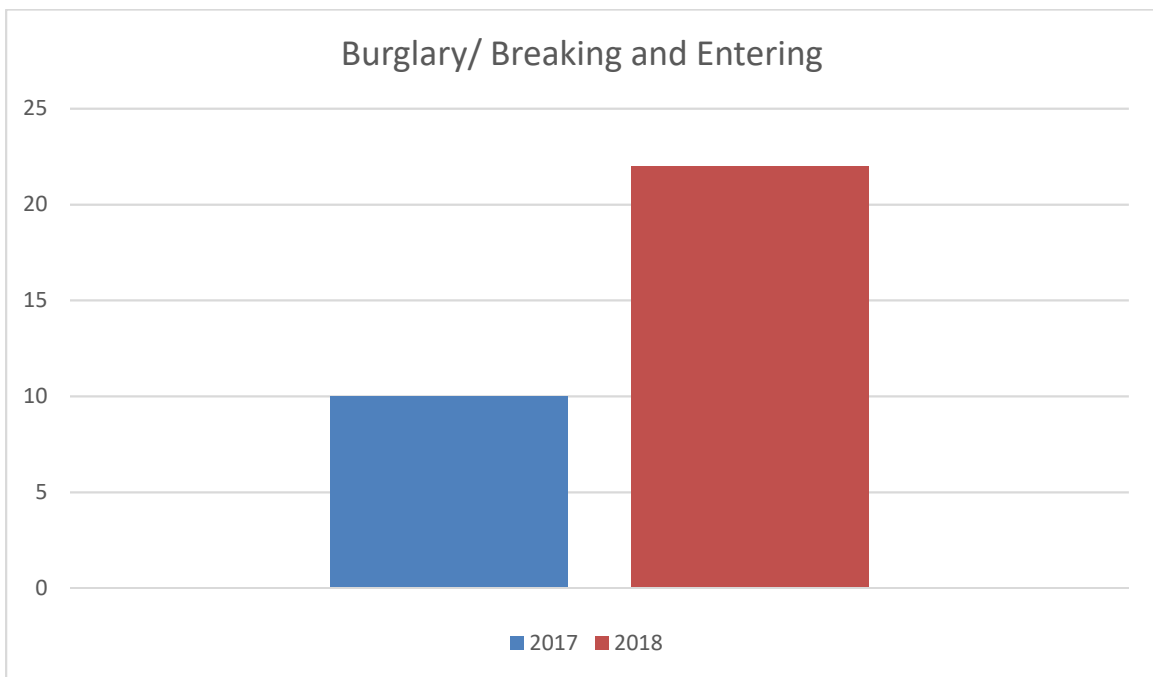
The department had a decrease in all assaults, a 53.8% decrease in aggravated assaults, a 6.9% decrease in simple assaults and a 50% decrease in intimidation cases. Overall, we experienced a 16.4% reduction in these crimes.



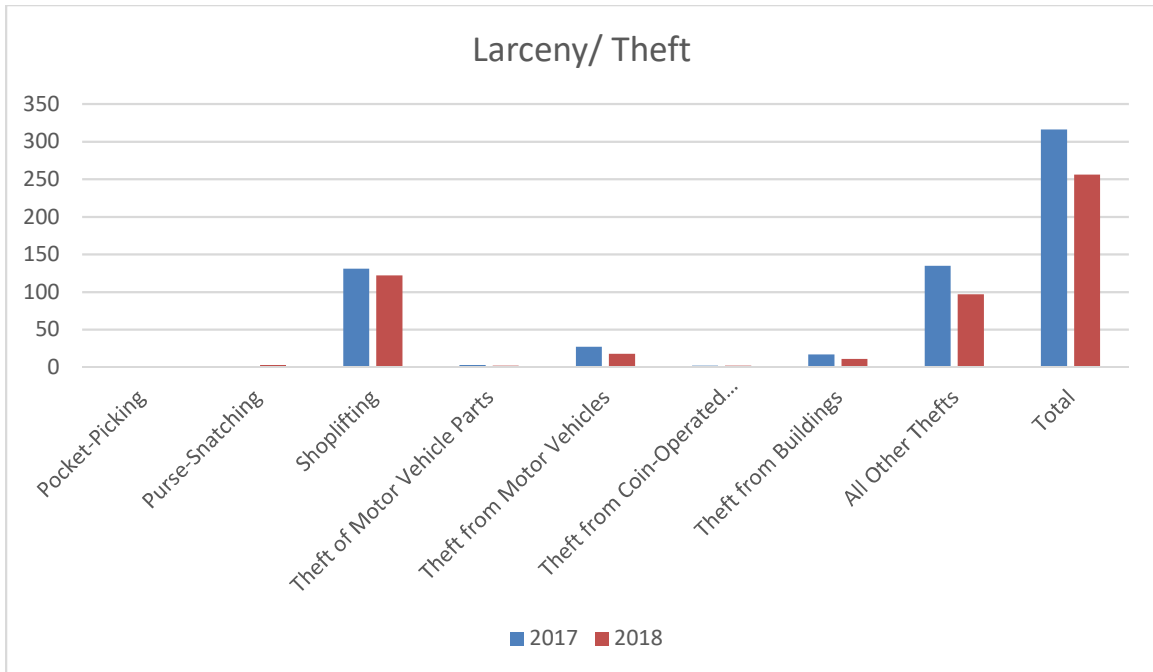
The department saw no change in this category between 2017 and 2018 with each year having only one (1).



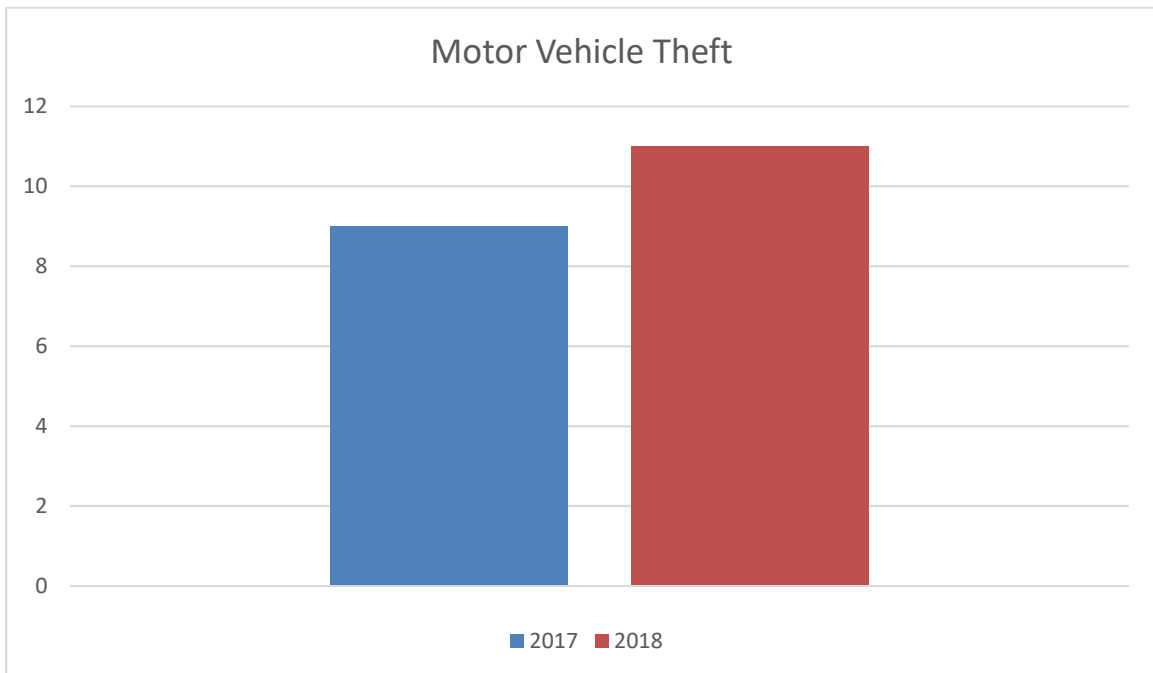
The department did not have any crimes in this category for either year.



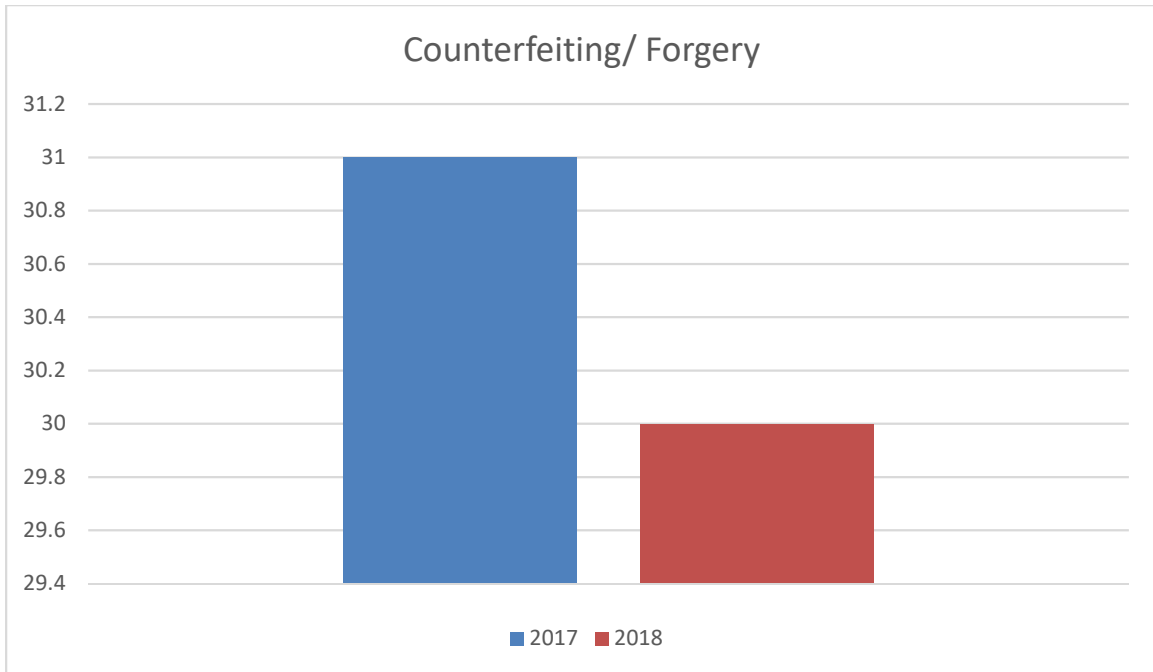
The department saw a 120% increase in this category going from ten (10) in 2017 to twenty-two (22) in 2018.



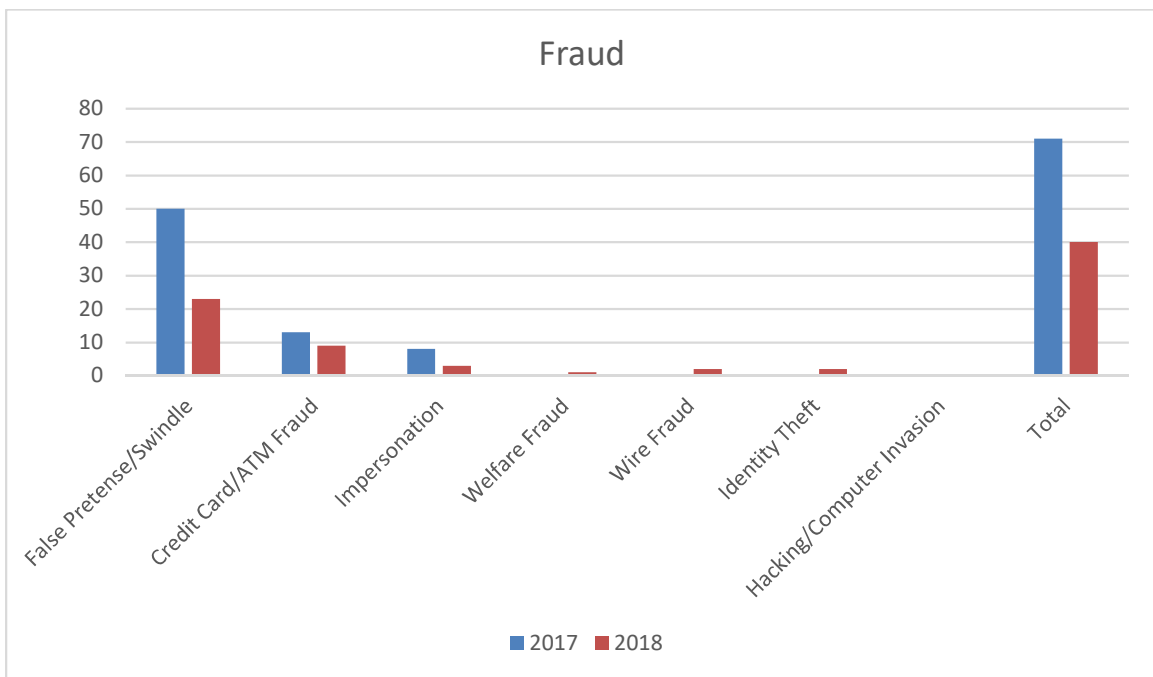
The department had a reduction in all larcenies and thefts except for purse-snatchings which went from one (1) in 2017 to three (3) in 2018, a 200% increase. Overall, we had a 19% reduction in these crimes from the previous year.



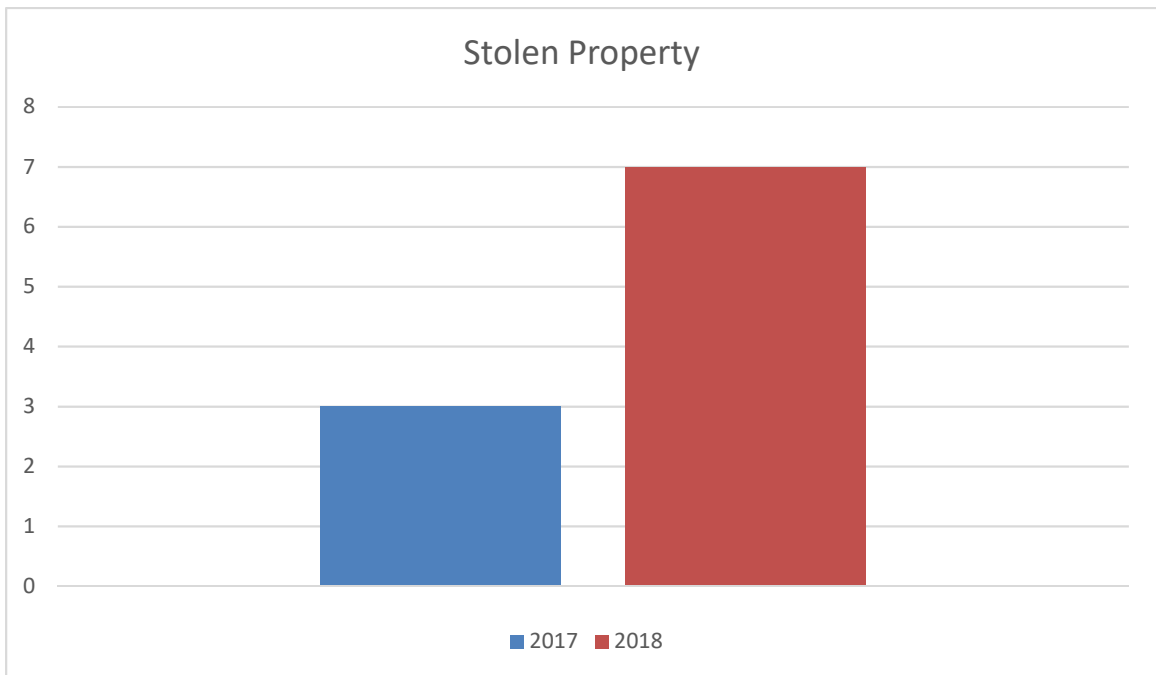
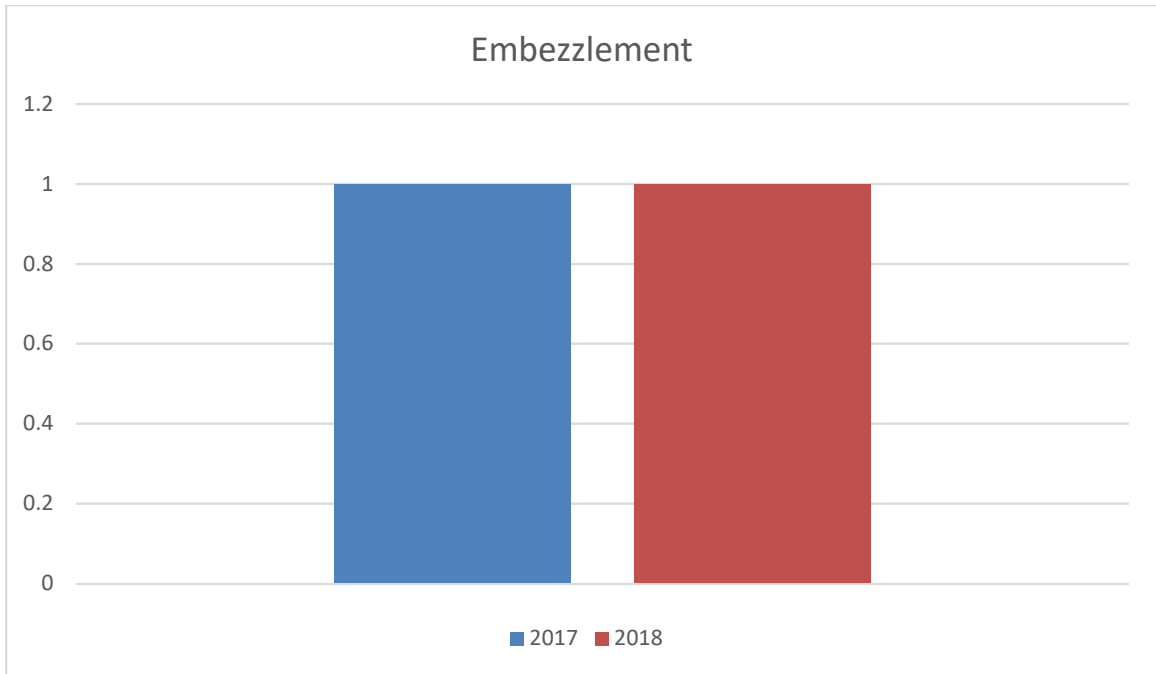
The department had a 22.2% increase in motor vehicle thefts, with nine (9) in 2017 and twenty-two (22) in 2018.



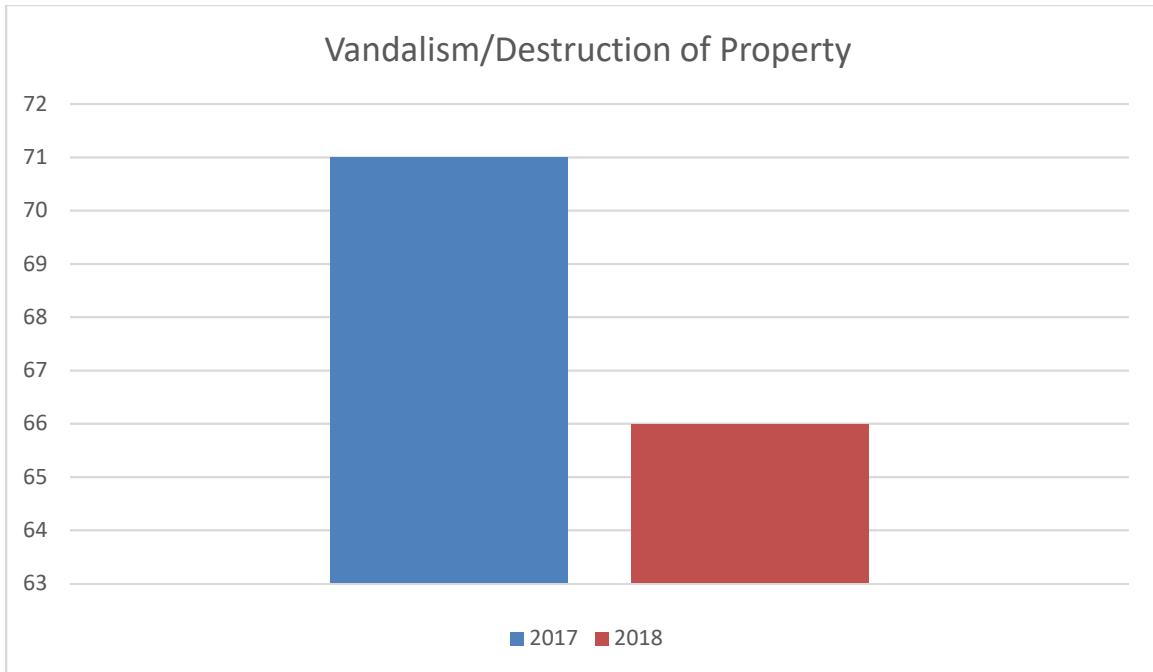
The department had a 3.2% decrease in these crimes in 2018.



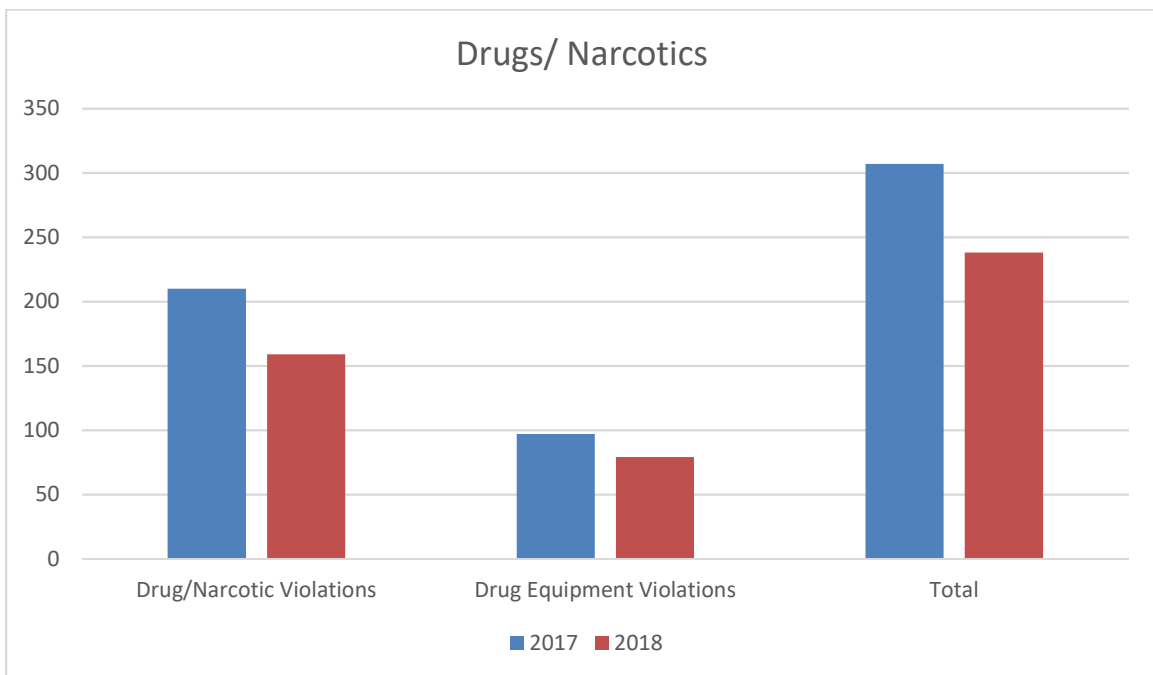
The department again had a decrease in almost every crime in this category. Overall, we had a 43.7% decrease in Frauds.



Stolen property had an increase of 133.3% for 2018.

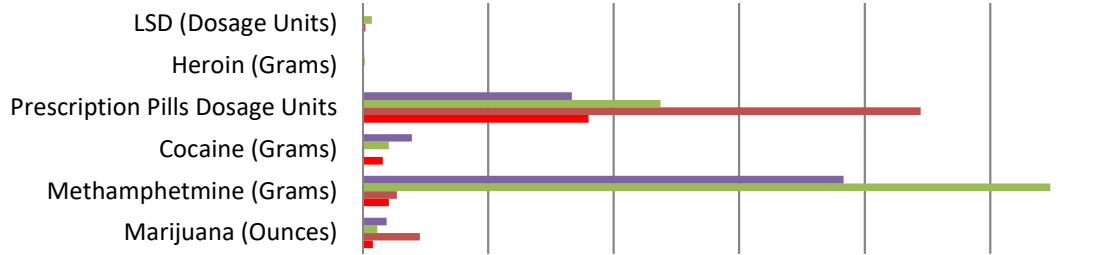


Vandalisms went down 7% in 2018.



The department had a reduction in this category for 2018, decreasing by 22.5% total.

Drug Seizures last 4 years



	Marijuana (Ounces)	Methamphetamine (Grams)	Cocaine (Grams)	Prescription Pills Dosage Units	Heroin (Grams)	LSD (Dosage Units)
■ Drug Seizures 2018	38.56	766.32	78.62	333.5	3	0
■ Drug Seizures 2017	23.7	1095.72	42.21	475.15	3.8	15
■ Drug Seizures 2016	91.64	54.85	3.01	889.5	0.3	5
■ Drug Seizures 2015	16.70	42.01	32.2	360	0	0

In 2018, the Wilkesboro Police Department continued its working relationships with other local, state and federal agencies. The result of this cooperation has resulted in the seizure of \$105,000.00 cash, 11 vehicles, 19 pounds of crystal methamphetamine, and 2.5 pounds of cocaine. Most of these large cases have started locally and then spread throughout the state and nation. Numerous narcotics dealers in our area have been brought up on Federal charges making our town safer.



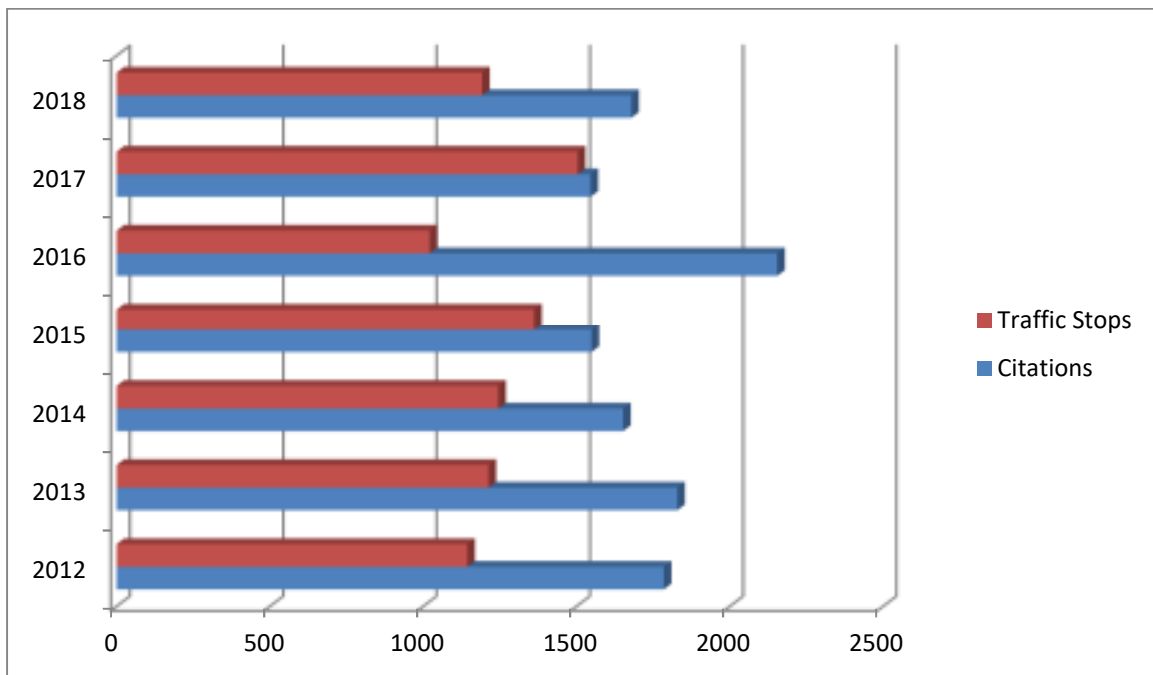


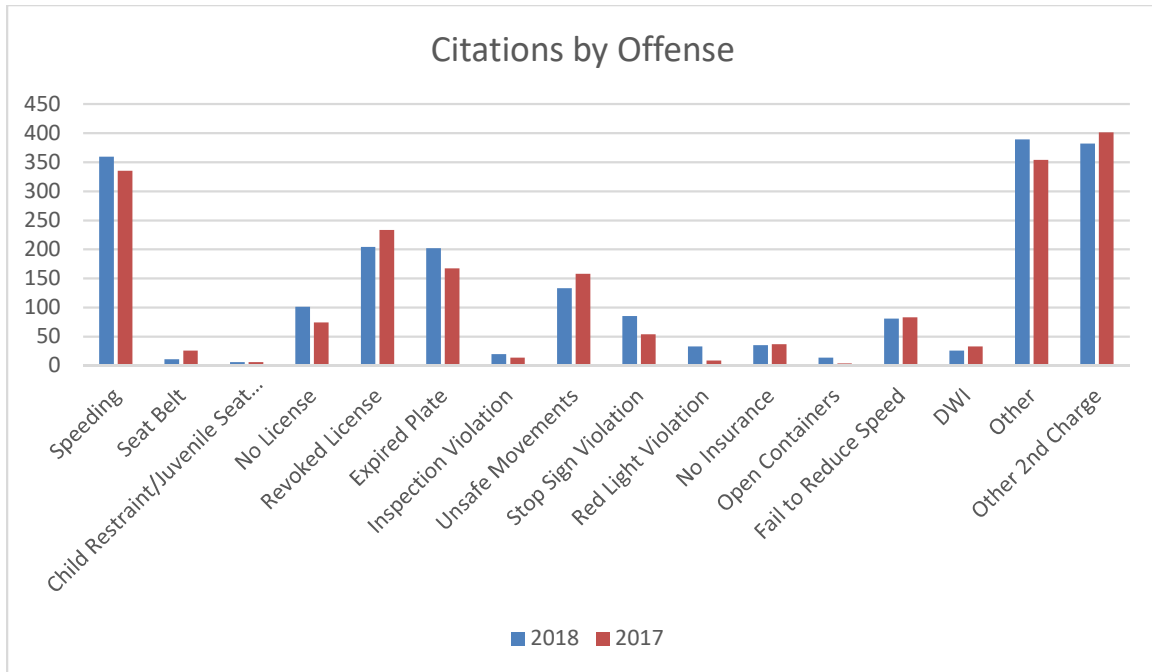
The following crime categories had zero (0) crimes reported in either 2017 or 2018. Sex Offense Nonforcible, Pornography/Obscene Material, Gambling, Prostitution, Bribery, Human Trafficking, and Animal Cruelty. Overall in 2018, the Wilkesboro Police Department observed a total reduction in crime of 17.8%.

Traffic Data

Citations

Citations differ from arrests in law enforcement reporting. Citations are primarily issued to offenders charged with infractions or minor misdemeanors that do not require the signing or the posting of a bond (waivable offenses). Citations are written for traffic violations, violation of ABC Laws, violations of the Town Ordinances and other minor violations that are not included in the UCR totals for a given year. In 2018, officers of the Wilkesboro Police Department issued 1,679 citations with 2,055 charges and conducted 1,192 traffic stops.

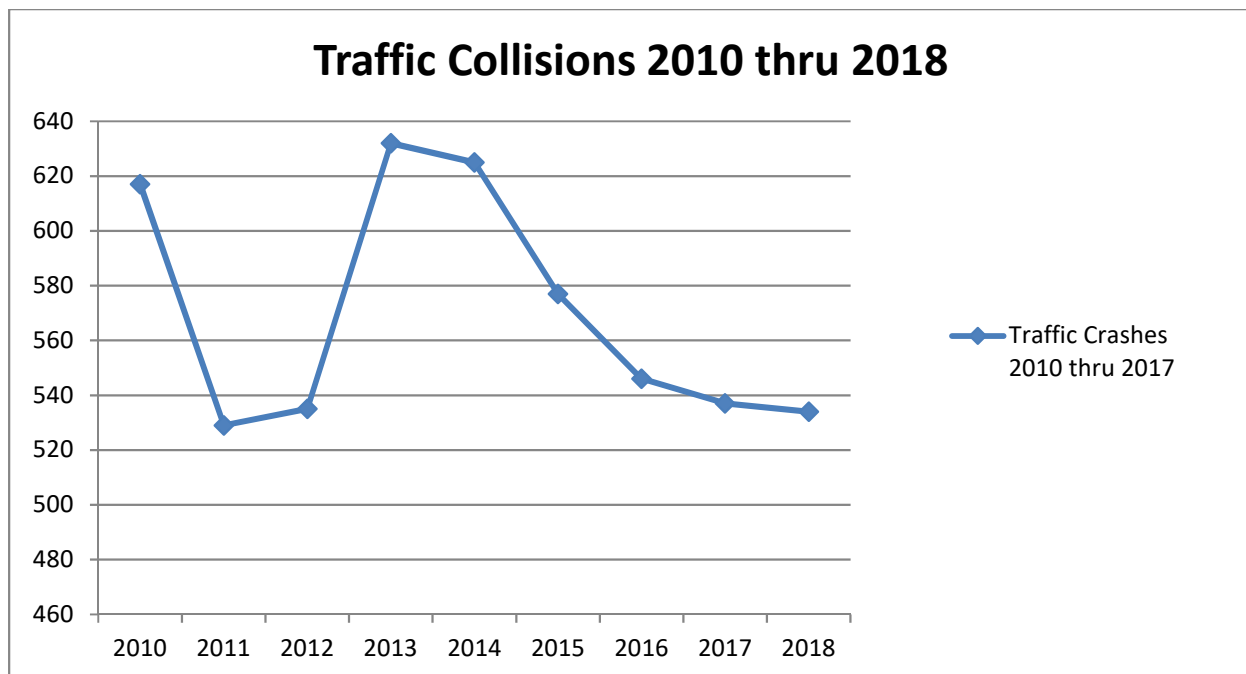




Traffic Collisions

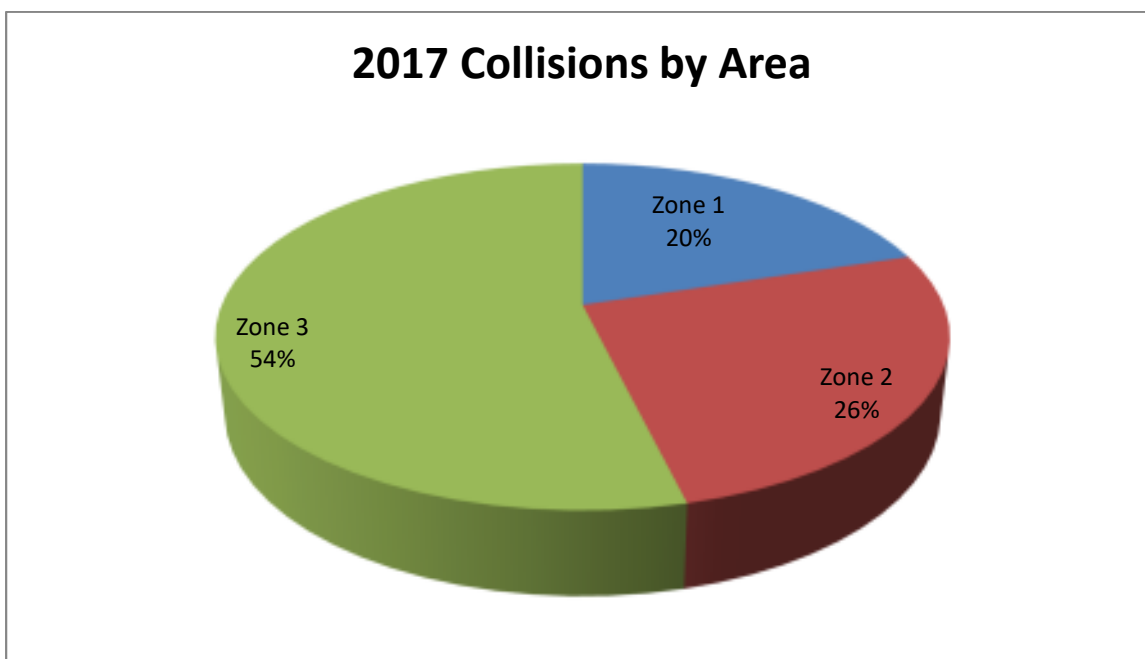
In 2018, officers of the Wilkesboro Police Department investigated 534 traffic collisions including two (2) fatal crashes.



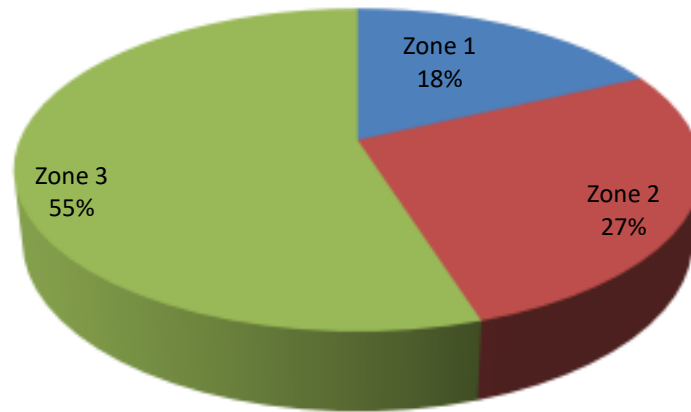


Collisions by Area

To provide better coverage of the city the Wilkesboro Police Department has divided the city into three zones. Zone 1 consists of the East side of the city which is from NC Hwy 16 South and Cherry Street, East to the city limits. Zone 2 consists of the middle section of the city which contains River Street, NC Hwy 268 West, Curtis Bridge Road, and US Hwy 421 Business. Zone 3 consists of the West side of the city which is the US Hwy 421 area. This area contains a lot of retail stores in the city.



2018 Collisions by Area



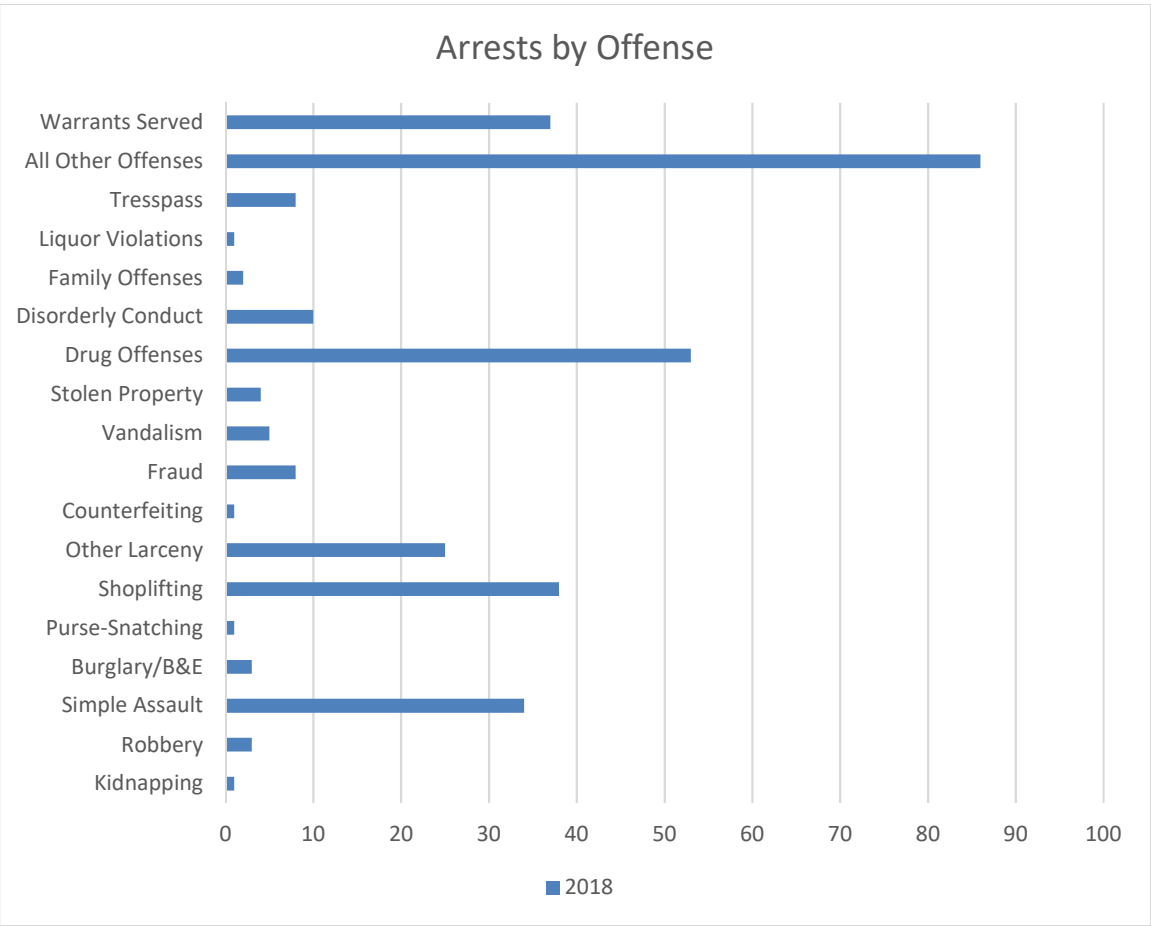
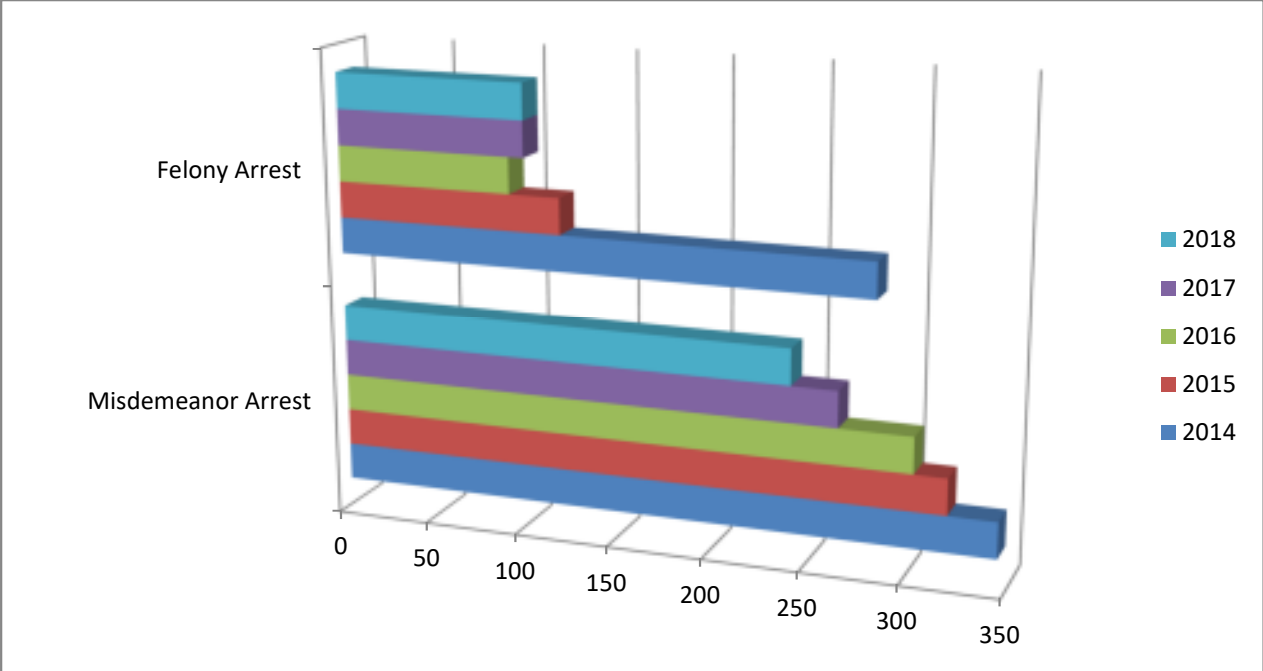
Arrest Data

Misdemeanor Arrest Charges

In 2018, the Wilkesboro Police Department made 406 Misdemeanor Arrest Charges and made 241 Misdemeanor Arrests.

Felony Arrest Charges

In 2018, the Wilkesboro Police Department made 306 Felony Arrest Charges and made 102 Felony Arrests.



Wilkesboro Police Department Training

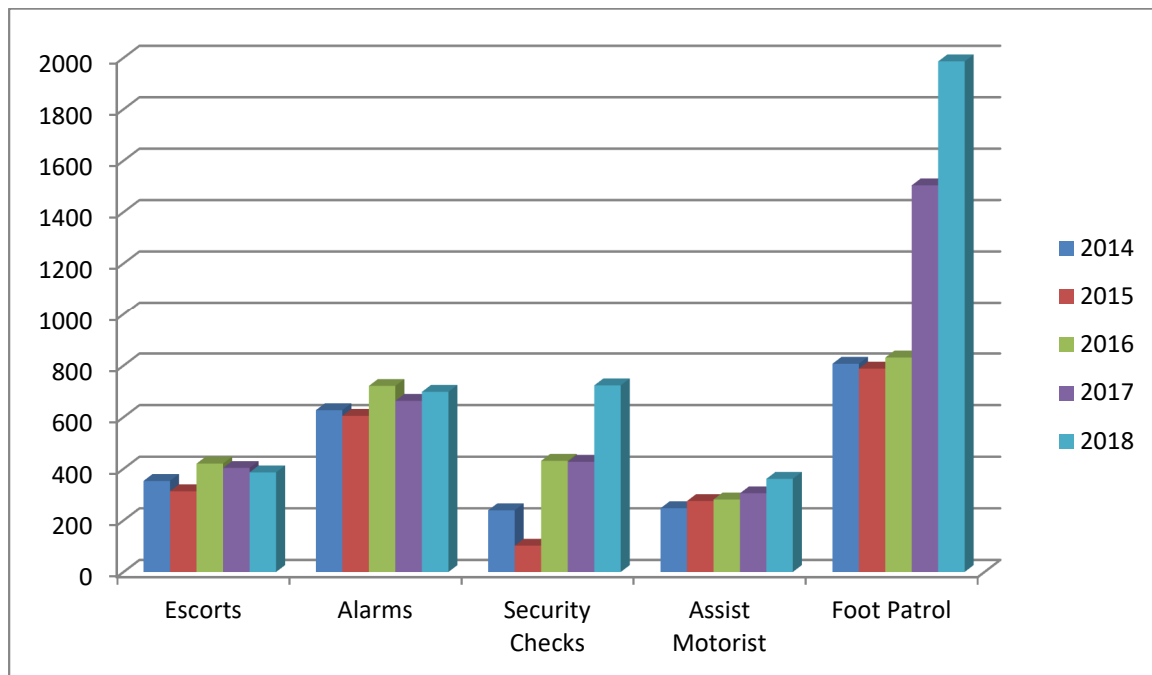
In 2018 all officers within the department completed 66 hours of In-Service Training. Of those 66 hours, 24 hours are mandated by the State of North Carolina Training and Standards



Commission. The additional 42 hours of in-service training is mandated by the department. Members of the department also attended 1,532 hours of additional training throughout the year. The department sent officers to 80 hours of advanced crash investigation courses, 756 hours of Special Response Team Training, 120 hours of K-9 Operation courses. Every year officers receive an eight-hour block of instruction on Law Enforcement Driver Training, and we have begun sending officers each year to the North Carolina State Highway Patrol Driving School which is an additional 40 hours per officer who attend, this year 6 officers attended resulting in 240 hours of extra driver training. The department also sent officers to several conferences including the Southern Software Conference, State, and National SWAT Conference, Management Development Conference. All other training hours were devoted to re-certifications.

Community Service

The Wilkesboro Police Department has maintained the community service philosophy during 2018. With community service in mind, every police officer is encouraged to interact with the public during their shifts. These activities have included vacation/residence checks, funeral and business escorts, responding to alarms and emphasis patrols in addition to the daily community policing contacts in retail and residential areas of the town.



Community Meetings

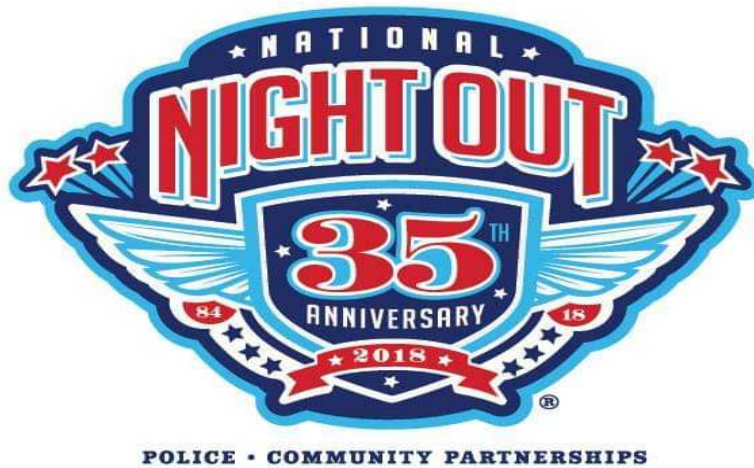
In 2018, the Wilkesboro Police Department continued its Community Policing Meetings with the citizens of Wilkesboro. These meetings allowed citizens to hear new crime trends in the town. Citizens are also able to voice any concerns they have involving the police department. The meetings are held quarterly at the Wilkesboro Civic Center.



2019 North Carolina Special Olympics



In July 2018, the Wilkesboro Police Department held the annual golf tournament to benefit the North Carolina Special Olympics. The agency also participated in the North Carolina Special Olympics Torch Run in 2018. The run started at Wilkes Community College and traveled through downtown Wilkesboro and North Wilkesboro ending at West Park in North Wilkesboro. Officers of the Wilkesboro Police Department have carried the torch through the two towns for many years. Often runners are joined by Special Olympians for portions of the run. In 2018, the agency raised approximately \$17,360.00 to benefit North Carolina Special Olympics. The Wilkesboro Police Department received the Gold Standard Agency Award for our continued efforts in supporting North Carolina Special Olympics.



National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing back a true sense of community. Furthermore, it provides a great opportunity to bring police and neighbors together under positive circumstances. This is the second year in which the department has participated in this event.



Halloween Fun Walk

The Wilkesboro Police Department participated in the Halloween Fun Walk in North Wilkesboro on the Yadkin Greenway. This event is designed to give kids a safe alternative for Trick or Treating. The police department purchased bags of candy and passed them out during the event. Each year the event hosts approximately 3,000 kids.



Operation Christmas Cheer

For several years the Wilkesboro Police Department has conducted Operation Christmas Cheer. This program was developed to assist citizens in Wilkesboro by delivering food boxes to them. Every year, the program has been funded by donations from Kulynych Family Foundation One, Wilkesboro Business and Professional Club, Cook Family and the Town of Wilkesboro.

