

# **Lawrence Police Department 2019 Annual Report**



**Chief Roy P. Vasque**



ROY P. VASQUE  
Chief

January 29, 2020

## CITY OF LAWRENCE

LAWRENCE POLICE DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



DANIEL RIVERA  
MAYOR & CEO

Dear Residents, City Council Members and School Committee Members,

This year's report highlights the dedication, professionalism and hard work of the men and women of the Lawrence Police Department.

Attached you will find the 2019 Lawrence Police Department Annual Report. In it, you will find a breakdown of the Lawrence Police Department, from values, to staffing, to in depth crime numbers and everything in between. More than that, this report is a play by play of the last year within the department. We are happy to report the crime numbers contained in this report represents again another 20 year low and a 2 year 46% reduction in overall crime. While we are happy with this continuing reduction in crime we are committed to improving our level of services to the Lawrence Community.

A number of initiatives have been made at the police department that has led to a historic reduction in motor vehicle theft. At one time the City of Lawrence had the negative distinction of being the "stolen car capital of the world" and garnered national attention for Insurance fraud. We've come a long way. In 2019, 164 motor vehicles were stolen compared to 1,789 in year 2000, a 91% reduction.

The department has also seen a significant increase in minority and women officers. An aggressive recruitment drive has led to the department closely becoming a Minority Majority department for the first time in its history and increase of female officers from 4 to 16.

I urge each of you to review this report, take a look at the crime numbers and the department at a glance. This is an inclusive report that is transparent and informative. We have more police on our streets, are increasing foot patrols, and improving our community policing tactics. In this report you will see examples of our commitment to innovation and officer training to move the department and community forward. We are facing an opioid epidemic head on by going after the suppliers and increasing patrols in hot spots throughout the city. We are responding to noise calls and ticketing those found to be in violation in an effort to increase your quality of life.

Last, use this report as a guide. The numbers are indicative of a well-trained, dedicated and professional police force who is working hard every day to make Lawrence safer. Chief Vasque and I will continue to work together to make our Police Department a world class police department, a department that our residents deserve.

Sincerely,

Roy Vasque  
Police Chief  
Lawrence Police Department

Dan Rivera  
Mayor & CEO

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## Values Statement

The members of the Lawrence Police Department are dedicated police professionals committed to the philosophy and practice of community policing. Within that philosophy we focus on three core values, compassion, community, and commitment.

- Compassion: To instill in every member of our Department the practice of empathy for every person we encounter. This empathy is given regardless of race, sexual orientation, color, handicap, creed, national origin, ancestry religion, age, gender, social or mental status; promising procedural justice.
- Community: To empower residents, stakeholders, neighborhood groups and others identified as positive forces of change the ability to provide the mandate on how they want their City served by the police.
- Commitment: To serve the City of Lawrence to the best of our abilities and constantly strive to improve and increase our capacity to serve the community better.

## Slogan

**\*\*\* Compassion Community Commitment \*\*\***

## Department at a Glance

**Budgeted Sworn Positions:** 160

**Total Sworn Compliment:** 151

**Female Officers:** 16

Sergeants: 2

Detective: 1

Patrol Officers: 13

**Veterans:** 26

### **Ethnic Breakdown:**

African American: 3

Asian: 1

Caucasian: 76

Hispanic or Latino: 71

### **Rank Breakdown:**

Chief: 1

Captains: 3

Lieutenants: 10

Sergeants: 19

Patrol Officers: 118

### **2019 New Officers: 15**

Male: 10

Female: 5

### **Budgeted Civilian Positions:**

Full-Time Civilians: 24

Call Takers: 11

Animal Control: 2

Plant Manager: 1

Director of Support Services: 1

Director of Crime Analysis: 1

Crime Analyst: 1

Community Liaison Director: 1

Clerks: 4

Confidential Secretaries: 2

Part-Time Civilians (Crossing Guards):  
21

## Lawrence Comparison

The first three (3) charts provided below depict population, violent crime, total number of officers, and total number of civilians. The charts are compiled from 2016, 2017, and 2018 FBI/ UCR data<sup>1</sup>. It is important to note that during these years Lawrence had the lowest amount of total officers. Data in the charts provided is the most current data provided by the FBI<sup>2</sup>. The final chart illustrates the number of patrol officers per official in Lawrence and in other cities in the state.

### 2016 Data

Rank	City	Violent Crime per 1000 Population	Population	Violent Crime	Murder	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Total Officers	Total Civilians
1	Fall River	10.9	88,371	966	1	67	190	708	218	47
2	Brockton	10.8	95,189	1,029	3	83	169	774	187	21
3	New Bedford	8.7	94,524	819	3	31	238	547	255	42
4	Lynn	7.7	92,443	714	4	43	175	492	181	19
5	<b>Lawrence</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>80,622</b>	<b>597</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>18</b>

### 2017 Data

Rank	City	Violent Crime per 1000 Population	Population	Violent crime	Murder	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Total Officers	Total Civilians
1	Fall River	9.9	89,012	880	3	53	187	637	228	51
2	Brockton	9.6	96,016	917	7	93	172	645	180	21
3	Lynn	7.2	93,140	666	12	28	164	462	168	18
4	<b>Lawrence</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>80,890</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>393</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>25</b>
5	New Bedford	6.7	95,107	633	8	37	241	347	247	50

### 2018 Data

Rank	City	Violent Crime per 1000 Population	Population	Violent crime	Murder	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Total Officers	Total Civilians
1	Fall River	10.15	89,475	908	1	76	118	713	229	60
2	Brockton	9.05	95,922	868	9	72	182	605	183	24
3	New Bedford	6.34	95,106	603	3	45	166	389	254	45
4	<b>Lawrence</b>	<b>6.20</b>	<b>80,669</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>395</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>22</b>
5	Lynn	5.95	94,558	563	3	51	140	369	161	18

	Patrol	Officials	Patrol Officers per Official
Haverhill	73	19	3.8
Lawrence	118	32	3.7
Holyoke	94	27	3.5
Lynn	142	41	3.5
Lowell	185	54	3.4
Fall River	160	49	3.3
Methuen	71	24	3.0
Chelsea	82	28	2.9

- Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2016/crime-in-the-u.s.-2016>. <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2017/crime-in-the-u.s.-2017>, <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2018/crime-in-the-u.s.-2018>
- 2019 data has not been published by the FBI as of January 2019.



# 2019 Highlights

- Compared to 2018
  - An overall Part 1 Crime decrease of 9%
  - 20% decrease in homicide
  - 18% decrease in residential burglary
  - 2% decrease in commercial burglary
  - 26% decrease in motor vehicle theft
  - 13% decrease in shootings
- In 2019 clearance rates for Homicide, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, and Motor Vehicle Theft exceeded the national clearance rate generated by the FBI.
- Increased overall Part 1 Crime clearance rate from 49% in 2018 to 59% in 2019
- New twenty year lows were established in Residential Burglary, Commercial Burglary, and Motor Vehicle Theft
- Expanded walking/bike patrols
- Detective assigned to the Domestic Violence Unit
- Domestic violence policy upgrade
- Columbia Gas Explosions Part II: Comprehensive Safety and Security Plan
- Continued accreditation process
- Surveillance Camera Initiative Phase II & Phase III
- Continued Comprehensive Professional Development and Officer Training Program
- Attended numerous community events, community engagements and monthly community meetings
- Partnered with Numerous community groups/initiatives (Suenos Basketball, Volleyball, Softball, YMCA, Boys and Girls Club, Coffee with a Cop)
- Headquarter Upgrades including: electrical system and modernized evidence room
- Website upgrade and enhancement
- Increased social media in an effort to inform/educate the community
- Added three new community outreach motor vehicles: Anti-Bullying, Domestic Violence Awareness, and Cancer Awareness
- K9 Unit
- New state of the art Command Post
- Detective assigned to work as an Opioid Outreach Specialist
- Upgraded firearms
- Added 15 new police officers
- Worked in conjunction with state and federal agencies on operation Emerald Crush, Triple Beam, and Devil's Highway
- Elizabeth Warren Presidential Rally security operation
- Launched Ice Cream Truck program
- Identified the top auto accident locations in 2018 and conducted enforcements in those areas



# 2020 Lawrence Police Department Goals and Objectives

- Continue to maintain or reduce Part 1 Crime
- Continue to maintain Part 1 Crime Clearance Rates above the national average
- Reduce motor vehicle accidents and increase education
- Increase Community Policing Initiatives
- Camera Project Phase IV & Business Camera Project
- Explore technology initiatives (such as Body Cameras and smart dispatch technology)
- Continue and Expand Department's Professional Development
- Continued Officer Training Program related to community and world issues
- Continued Station Upgrades
- Equipment upgrades (Tasers, and cruisers )
- Additional Community Policing Officers
- Continued movement toward accreditation and policy upgrades
- K9 Unit expansion
- Continue to advocate for new police station
- Website Upgrades to include additional crime and safety tips and PSAs
- Continue strong local, state and federal partnerships to reduce crime
- Develop increased opioid funding to expand and address addiction issues
- Continue to strengthen community partnerships and collaborations with the addition of LPD detectives assigned to federal task forces
- Implement safety and security plan for boat ramp to ensure the safety of the community in that area
- Creation of a Stress Management Team and resources
- Expansion of the Street Narcotics Enforcement Unit
- Creation of a Traffic Unit
- Increase the number of Open Gyms
- Assess the 2019 top auto accident locations
- Enforcement of and education on the new Distracted Driving bill
- Creation of a Veteran Police Officer position to work with Veterans in the Department as well as working in collaboration with Veterans in the community
- Upgrade dog pound
- FTO program for call takers
- Development of bilingual law enforcement training



## Columbia Gas II

On September 27, 2019, at approximately 0312 hours, the Lawrence Police Department received the first reports of a very strong odor of natural gas in the area of Salem Street and S Broadway. The first report of this significant gas leak was called in by a Lawrence Police Officer working a road detail in the area. At that time, dispatch notified the Lawrence Fire Department as well as Columbia Gas of the situation. Members of both departments responded to the scene, and they would come to discover that there was a Grade 1 leak in the area of Salem Street and S Broadway. They proceeded to evacuate the area at approximately 0330 hours.

Immediately following The Lawrence Police Command Post was set up at S Broadway and Merrimack Street, and within the hour it was up and running. This location served as a staging area for police, fire, Columbia Gas, and MEMA. The Command Staff directed all officers from the field via this post. Portable toilets, tables, chairs, water, food and tents were brought in and setup; field officers were also brought in to assist officers in the restoration effort. Gas service and electricity was shut off to the affected area at 0508 hours. This area consisted of S Broadway from Andover Street to Parker Street to Merrimack Street, and Sanborn Street to Newton Street to Shattuck Street and also Carver Street. Over 150 homes were affected by the gas emergency and between 1,300 and 1,673 customers had their power shut off. At 0500 hours additional officers from the Lawrence Police Department were ordered to respond to gas leak area to assist with evacuations, road closures, patrols and other duties related to the emergency.

Mayor Rivera ordered the evacuation of all residents from affected area, and the Red Cross opened an Emergency Shelter at the Arlington School. 250 residents sought shelter at the school. MVRTA Busses were brought in to assist with evacuating residents from homes and the area. Additionally at the time mutual aid was requested from the Massachusetts State Police, within 20 minutes seven (7) troopers arrived to assist with road closures and patrols of the affected area, and within an hour their command staff arrived on scene to setup their mobile command post at Merrimack Street and S Broadway. Finally, at this time Mayor Rivera ordered the closure of the Weatherbee School as well as Lawrence Catholic Academy, both of which were directly in gas leak zone. All other schools in the City of Lawrence remained open.

Following this, at approximately 0600 hours, all routes into the area of the gas leak were shutdown restricting access to only emergency personnel and gas company officials. This travel restriction remained in affect until September 29, 2019. Sign boards were brought into area to warn motorists of road closures and to advise them to seek alternative routes of travel. In the late afternoon, the perimeter would shrink down in size in just include Merrimack Street to Parker Street, S Broadway from Andover Street to Canal Street and Carver Street. These Streets would remain closed till the morning of September, 30 2019.

A press conference was held at Merrimack Street and Parker Street at 0700. A press area was later set up on the Falls Bridge, in Riverside Pizza Plaza, and became the designated press area. Officers assigned to Platoon 1 were ordered to work, and assigned to the command post. All private road details in the City of Lawrence were canceled and the officers scheduled to work these details were reassigned to work the gas leak. Between 0900 until 1500 hours officers assisted gas crews, firefighters and locksmiths as they were door to door to restoring gas service.

During this time, the City of Lawrence DPW set up ten (10) portable light towers to areas where power had not been restored to light up the area overnight. At 1500 hours power was restored to most of the area and residents were allowed to return home to the sections that were deemed safe. Shortly after, Newton Street, Shattuck Street, Salem Street, Kingston Street, Durham Street, and Front Street re-opened. Barricades were set up at the end of all streets connected to S Broadway. S Broadway from Andover Street to Canal Street remained closed as well as Merrimack Street at Parker St and Salem Street at Blanchard Street. Additional Lawrence Police Officers were then hired along with Massachusetts State Police Officers and members of Lawrence Auxiliary Police to maintain street closures and to provide security to homes and businesses that remained without Power. In total, 31 families, 85 adults and six (6) kids were evacuated for the night and were transported to the Arlington School by members of the Red Cross. On Saturday morning mental health counseling was provided at the Weatherbee School, at no cost, to all residents of the affected area.

On Saturday, September 28, 2019 at 1100 hours power was restored to entire area affected by gas leak and all residents were allowed back into their homes. The Arlington School Shelter was closed. Roads remained closed until Sunday so Columbia Gas crews could continue to fix and restore gas service. Lawrence Police, State Police, and members of the Lawrence Auxiliary Police maintained road closures, provided assistance to Columbia Gas crews and conducted extra patrols to the homes and business in that area. Finally, on Monday Columbia Gas opened a claim center located in the parking lot of Saint Patrick Church for all residents with claims.

## Grant Funding

The Lawrence Police Department was successful in securing several grants in 2019. Some of these grants include: the Municipal Public Safety Staffing grant, the Shannon Community Safety Initiative, the Safe and Successful Youth Initiative, the First Responder Naloxone grant and two Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) grants. The grant funding received by the Department is used for a variety of purposes including hiring costs associated with hiring and retaining additional police officers as well as supporting a variety of programs, initiatives, and partnerships with community non-profit organizations.

The Department has been very fortunate to receive the Municipal Public Safety Staffing grant since its inception. In 2019, this grant funding supported the hiring, training, outfitting of fifteen (15) new police officers to fill vacancies due to attrition. It also partially funded the retention of five (5) newly hired police officers. This grant also funded various overtime initiatives including those aimed at targeting hot spots for criminal activity throughout the City.

The Department has been the recipient of the Shannon Community Safety Initiative and the Safe and Successful Youth Initiative for a number of years, including 2019. The funding from these grants is used to combat youth and gang violence in young adults. A large portion of both of these grants is distributed by the Department to community partners including: Lawrence Family Development, the Boys and Girls Club, the YMCA, the YWCA, ACT Lawrence, Family Services of the Merrimack Valley, and Change the Play. These organizations provide a wide variety of positive programming as well as outreach, support, and trauma counseling services to at-risk and proven risk youth. These programs are designed to prevent youth from becoming involved with gangs and engaging in criminal activity. They are also aimed at providing proven risk youth with alternatives to engaging in criminal behavior. In addition to funding community run programming, the Shannon initiative also funds programs run directly by the Police Department including the Junior Police Academy and a portion of the open gyms held at the Guilmette and South Lawrence East Schools. These Shannon funded programs provide opportunities for youth to interact with police officers in a positive setting.

In 2019, the Department was again the recipient of the First Responder Naloxone grant. This grant allowed the Department to purchase nasal naloxone and to train officers in the administration of the naloxone when responding to overdose calls. Funding can also be used for community education to increase awareness about the dangers of opioids and the community resources available to individuals and families dealing with addiction.

The State 911 Department provided the Police Department with two grants to support the Department's role as the primary emergency 911 call center for the City. The Support and Incentives grant covered a portion of the staffing costs for the Department's civilian call takers. The Training and EMD Regulatory Compliance grant allowed the Department to provide 16 hours of continuing education training to all Department call takers and any officers working as dispatchers or call takers.

In 2019, the Department received additional funds from the Stanton Foundation's First Dog Program, which funds the establishment of a K-9 Unit within the Department. The initial funds from 2018 supported the purchase of a K-9, as well as the training, outfitting, and maintenance costs associated with the creation of a K-9 Unit. The additional funds provided in 2019 were to offset the overtime costs associated with training an Officer to serve as the K-9's handler.

This year the Department also applied for and received funding from the Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPPS) for grants related to Traffic Enforcement initiatives as well as a technology grant aimed at making our neighborhoods safer. The Project Safe Neighborhoods technology grant will allow us to continue to enhance the city's camera network and allow us to optimize that tool.

The Department also continues to be the recipient of other grant funding during this calendar year. These additional grants allowed for the purchase of bulletproof vests and funded a female street worker to specifically target troubled females.

## K9 Unit

As part of Chief Roy P. Vasque's comprehensive and proactive anti-crime initiatives, on June 28, 2019 Chief Vasque and the Lawrence Police Department welcomed one of its newest members to the department; K-9 Magnus. K-9 Magnus is a 13-month-old Belgian Malinois born in the Czech Republic and transported to the United States to be trained to fulfill his mission as a Lawrence Police Department K-9. Funding for this unit was obtained through the Stanton Foundation. The Stanton Foundation, created by Dr. Frank Stanton, covers the start-up costs associated with acquiring and training dogs in order to establish K9 units in departments without one. The Stanton Foundation donated \$25,000.00 to the Lawrence Police Department in order to help start our program



K-9 Magnus and his handler, Officer Carlos Aguirre, graduated an intensive 14-week Police Canine Handler Course conducted by the Boston Police K-9 Academy. Officer Aguirre graduated from Lawrence High School, Class of 2001, and joined the Lawrence Police Department in 2017.

During their training, Officer Aguirre and K-9 Magnus learned several techniques and strategies to be utilized in the patrol field. Upon completion of the 500-hour course, the pair successfully received certifications in: obedience, building searches, evidence recovery, area searches, agility, criminal apprehension, handler protection and tracking. The Lawrence Police Dept. has recently enrolled the pair for further training and certification in the field of narcotics investigations.

Ofc. Aguirre and K-9 Magnus have already proven themselves worthy and useful members of the Lawrence Police Dept. Their eagerness to serve the residents of Lawrence has been evidenced by the number of specialized training, certifications, and recognitions K-9 Magnus has achieved such as:

- **K-9 THOR AWARD:** Connecticut Dreamride K-9 Expo, 08/23/2019-08/25/2019
- **Iron Dog K-9 Course:** Colchester Vt. 10/05/2019 - 1st 100 yard dash at 6.02 seconds
- **Vermont State Police K-9 Academy:** 2 day training seminar assistant K-9 Demo 10/16/2019 - 10/17/2019
- **High Risk Deployment K-9 Course:** Worcester Ma. 11/06/2019
- **IPWDA (International Police Working Dog Association):** California, MD. 11/14/2019 certification



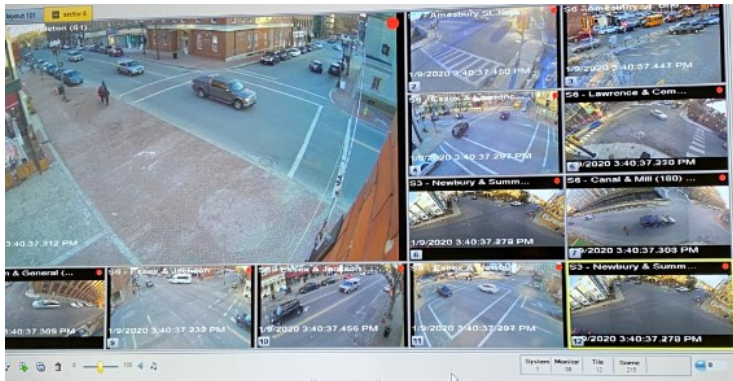
Additionally, Ofc. Aguirre and K-9 Magnus are members of The North Eastern Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council (NEMLEC.) NEMLEC is a non-profit corporation, and a law enforcement council, composed of a consortium of 61 police departments in Middlesex and Essex Counties, and two County Sheriff's Departments. Member agencies operate pursuant to an interagency mutual aid and assistance agreement. As NEMLEC members, Ofc. Aguirre and K-9 Magnus have been deployed multiple times throughout Essex County communities in order to assist with law enforcement matters such as locating endangered missing persons and children, providing supplemental community security, tracking and investigations of crimes of violence, and high-risk warrant execution.



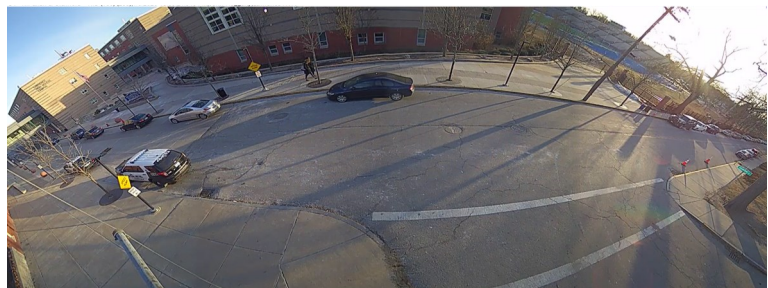
# Camera Project

Throughout 2019 Phase I, Phase II, and Phase III of the Citywide Camera Project were completed. Phase I of this project began in the fall of 2018 and was completed, with the initial set of cameras going live, in the spring of 2019. Phase I of the project included the installation of 74 cameras at 34 different locations citywide. A quick deploy, movable, camera was also on boarded during this Phase. During Phase II of the project cameras were added to an additional 39 sites throughout the city. Cameras were also added the Police Department Headquarters, the Buckley Parking Garage, and the Museum Square Parking Garage at this time. Finally, during Phase III, cameras were added to an additional 26 sites, and two more quick deploy cameras were obtained.

City cameras can be viewed from dispatch, the Officer in Charge office, as well as by patrol officers and detectives as part of their investigations. The city cameras have been instrumental in helping to solve homicides, robberies, assaults, burglaries, hit and run cases, as well as several gun cases. The camera system also has the ability to create grouping of cameras that can be used to cover events like festivals and parades.



The city camera system has also been used by other departments within the city. For example, the fire department utilized the city cameras during an investigation into an arson case, and the inspection services department has used them for an illegal dumping cases. Additionally, the cameras have also been used by the school department and outside law enforcement agencies. The Lawrence Police Department has one detective assigned to the Forensic Video Unit, and this detective assists in the day-to-day operations of the city camera system and investigations. The Lawrence Police Department continues to move forward with the camera project in 2020 and aims to complete additional phases.



## Drone Unit

The Drone Unit was activated April 13, 2019, with one licensed (Part 107) pilot, Officer Southworth. Two additional Officers were later certified, one in June and one in December. Obtaining the Part 107 required the successful completion of a 60-question exam, prepared by the Federal Aviation Agency (FAA), consisting of unmanned aircraft (UAV/Drone) regulations, airspace, weather and operations. Pilots must go through recertification every two years with a similar 40 question exam.

Every flight is documented, recorded and backed up to a department designated PC. Within the City of Lawrence drone operations are permitted at 100 feet above ground level within the Lawrence Municipal Airport landing flight path (Merrimack to N. Andover to Veteran's Stadium) and 200 feet above ground level outside that area. Under emergency circumstances or with prior authorization, from the FAA, pilots may operate up to 400 feet above ground level. For clarification above ground level is wherever the pilot is standing, which may be from the highest point of any fixed structure in the city.

Currently the Department's pilots conduct their own flight training once a month and will continue to participate in trainings with outside agencies as they become available. During preparation to activate a Drone Unit within the police department, Officer Southworth consulted and trained with Lt. Gaynor and Officer Adams, Tewksbury P.D., Officer Gagner, Oxford P.D. and Lt. Lennon, Yarmouth P.D. The Department currently has two drones and one cruiser (429) equipped with a 50-inch screen, for viewing. When any drone is deployed from the Command Post (CP) a wireless HDMI connection will allow for viewing of all active drone flights from a screen in the CP.



The midsize DJI Mavic Enterprise is equipped with a 4K and thermal camera. The 4K camera can take still photos and videos. The thermal camera captures heat signatures, temperature and hot spots. The dual cameras will capture photos in both 4K and thermal simultaneously. The Mavic has three batteries, each battery allows for 26 minutes of flight time (weather permitting, cold temps can reduce this time). The Mavic has a maximum flight distance of 3 miles. The compact, DJI Spark is primarily utilized for training exercises and indoor searches. It is equipped with a 4K camera for still photos and video. The Spark has two batteries, each allows for 12 minutes of flight time. The Spark has a flight maximum distance of one mile. Ideal operating temperature for drones is between 32-104 degrees Fahrenheit.

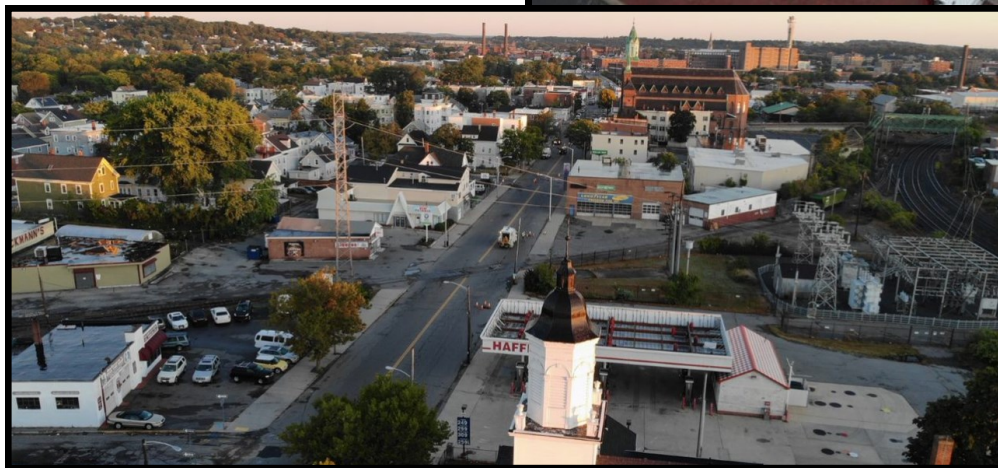
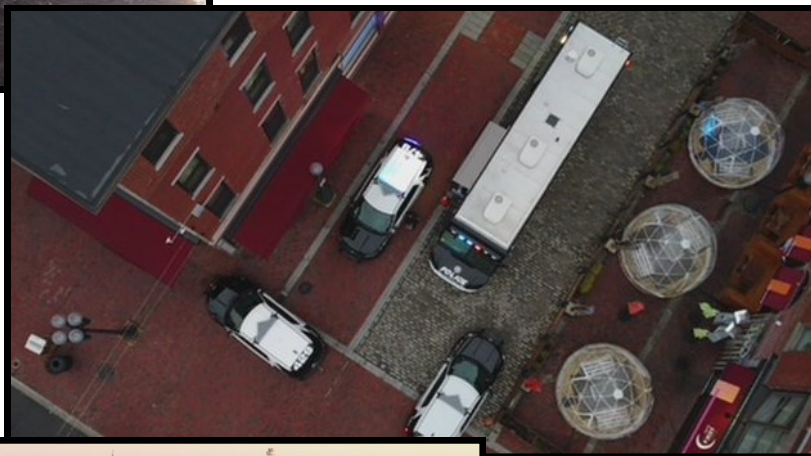
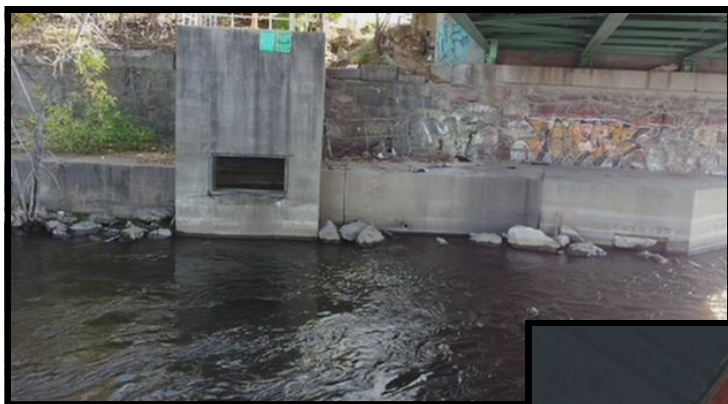
For ease of operations and deployment the Department currently has a two-year waiver, approved by the FAA. With this waiver the Department is not required to notify prior to each flight, as long as the Department maintains proper logs and stays within permitted hours (30 minutes prior to sun rise and 30 minutes after sundown, unless it is an emergency). The Department has successfully used the drones for several Community events, to include the Central Bridge Lighting Ceremony in June and National Night Out in August. It was also deployed to assess the affected area during a gas leak on September 27, to locate homeless encampments along the Merrimack (November 5), in search for missing persons (74-year-old male, November 22) and for crime scene documentation requested by the District Attorney's Office on several occasions.



The Drone Unit will be available to the Department during all shifts and on an on-call basis for any investigation, search, surveillance and to assist the entry team where it may be lawfully and appropriately utilized (per FAA regulations on call pilot makes final deployment decision). It is not required but recommended that a visual observer (no prior training necessary for this role) accompany a pilot during operations. Visual observer may be a supervisor or officer, who can remain with the pilot.

Below is a list of the 2019 drone activity followed by photos taken with the drone:

- 3 Certified (Part 107) Pilots
- 2 Drones purchased-DJI Spark (compact) & DJI Mavic Dual (mid-size)
- 5 Multi-Agency Trainings (Tewksbury, Oxford, Westborough, Auburn)
- 7 In-House Trainings
- 1 Call Out-Missing Persons
- Junior Police Academy Demonstration
- Central Bridge Lighting Ceremony -June 5
- National Night Out-August 5
- Homeless Encampment Search November 5
- Gas leak surveyance-September 27
- 3 Crime Scene Documentations (Essex ADA)
- SWAT Demonstration (December 12)





# Command Post

In September of 2019 the Lawrence Police Department purchased a new 2019 State of the Art Mobile Command Post at a cost of \$249,936. The Command Post was purchased with funds from the Columbia Gas settlement. The vehicle itself is 12 feet tall, 36 feet long, and 12 feet wide, and weighs approximately 28,000 pounds. The Mobile Command was retrofitted with computer access, communications, phone lines, whiteboards and TV monitors inside and outside the vehicle. The Command Vehicle itself can seat fourteen (14) people in a meeting type space, and has four (4) workstations for a dispatch setting. Additionally, when needed, the city camera system can be viewed and the drone can be deployed.



Five (5) members of the Lawrence Police Department are trained in the deployment and operation of the Mobile Command Post. These Officers are on a rotating, on call list, so that the Command Post can be deployed to an emergency or an event at any time.

In 2019 the Command Post was used at the 2019 Gas Leak as well several crime scene, missing person search, and also assisted at several large fire scenes as well. The Command Post was also used at community engagement events, Special Olympics events, Touch-a-Truck events, Columbia Gas dedication, Vietnam Memorial Road Race, and the Santa Parade. The Department anticipates the Command Post being used extensively in 2020 especially at community events, parades, and festivals.



# Community Awareness & Outreach

During 2019, the Lawrence Police Department has expanded its community awareness program. The Department started the program with an Autism Cruiser that is continuously used to reach many schools and programs. Following the development of the Autism Cruiser the SafeWatch program was implemented.

The goal of this program is to help family members and citizens of the community who may have conditions that cause them to wander, be unsafe, or pose a danger either to themselves or others. This program exists so that if a crisis occurs, the police have information and a picture of the citizen accessible to them. This allows for them to respond quickly using techniques that have the highest likelihood of leading to a successful outcome. The Department currently has 114 SafeWatch members.



This year the Department added three new cars to its fleet of community awareness and outreach vehicles. The first of the new cars added in 2019 was an all Cancer Cruiser. This Cancer Cruiser represents all types of cancers and displays the banner "Let's handcuff cancer and put it away for life". Next, the Department added an anti-bullying cruiser. This cruiser displays the banner "be a buddy not a bully". This car is modeled after a school bus due to the fact that a lot of bullying occurs in and around schools. However, this car covers all

types of bullying. Finally, a car bringing awareness to Domestic Violence was added, and this cruiser serves as reminder to all that we need to stop the cycle of violence.



The Lawrence Police Department also has been expanding its community outreach. This year, with the assistance of certified therapy dog Oliver, the Department was able to engage the community in Lawrence as well as surrounding communities. This has led to growing partnership with Special Olympics, Boston Bruins & Library Commission "When you read you score" program, MSPCA summer camp, as well as many touch-a-truck events that remain an important part of community outreach programs. Lawrence Police also works with the Senior Center, schools, the Lawrence Public Library, Pop Warner Football and many other community events.





## Patrol Division

The Patrol Division is part of the Field Services Bureau and is under the command of a Captain. The supervisory staff of the Patrol Division consists of one (1) Lieutenant, and four (4) Sergeants dedicated to each of the Department's three patrol shifts (or Platoons). By the end of 2019, there were 68 patrol officers assigned to the Division up from the 67 patrol officers that were assigned to the Patrol Division in 2018. Also assigned to the Patrol Division are nine (9) Civilian Call-Takers (911), five (5) Traffic Control Officers, and two (2) Animal Control Officers. Upon graduation from the Police Academy, every new Lawrence Police Officer must participate in a 12 week Field Training Program during which they are observed and mentored by senior police officers (FTO's) in the field. In calendar year 2019, five (5) new police officers successfully completed the LPD Field Training Program and became fully functioning Lawrence Police Officers.

The Patrol Division is the backbone of the Department and is responsible for patrol coverage and emergency response within the seven square miles of Lawrence. The Patrol Division is the largest division in the Department and is primarily responsible for responding to calls for service, conducting preliminary investigations, investigating motor vehicle accidents, crime control and improvement of neighborhoods, and service delivery in response to crime advisories and community concerns. As first responders to all emergency calls, patrol officers also routinely assist both EMS (Lawrence General Hospital) and the Lawrence Fire Department. The Patrol Division is the primary point of contact for services to the public that citizens interact with on a daily basis. They are the officers that patrol your neighborhoods in cruisers and respond to all types of calls for service. They are also the officers that you first meet when you enter the police station for any problem you may have or help you may need. They are also the officers that staff the communications room where they dispatch cruisers to respond to a call for service that you as citizens may have requested.

Some of the highlights for 2019 include the following:

**Platoon 1: (1am to 9am)**

- Robbery -20%
- Residential Burglary -31%
- Motor Vehicle Theft -9%

**Platoon 2: (9am to 5pm)**

- Robbery -13%
- Felony Larceny -60%
- Motor Vehicle Theft -29%

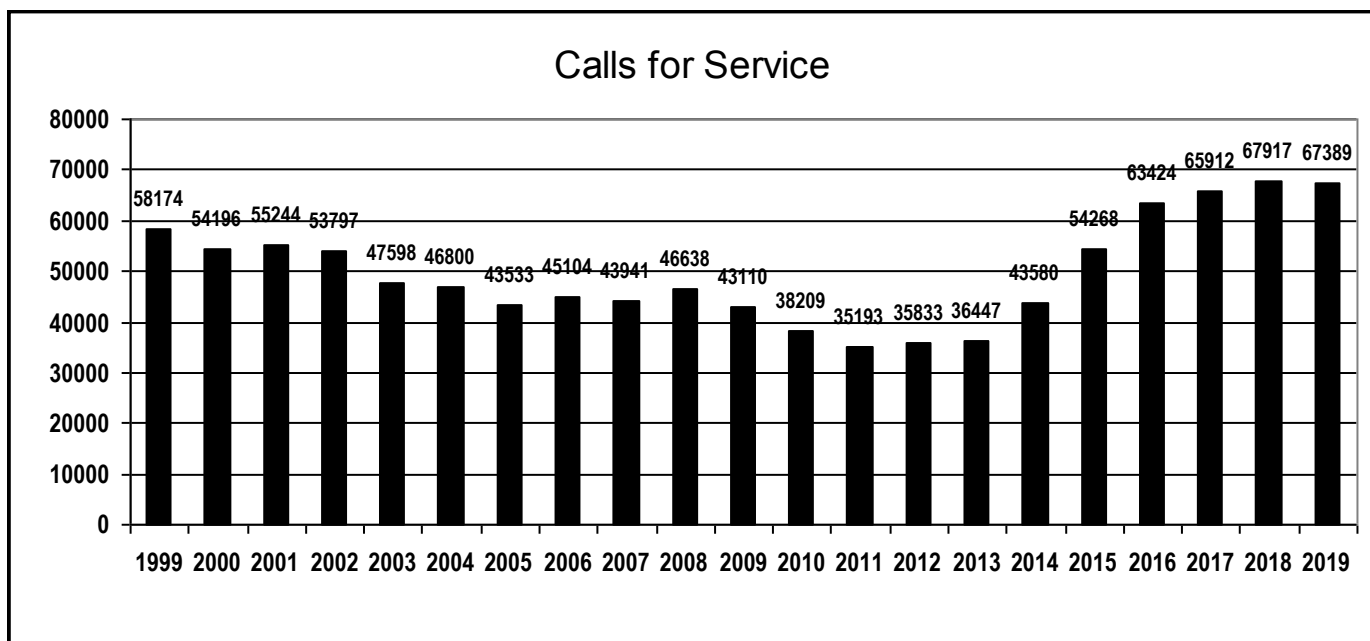
**Platoon 3: (5pm to 1am)**

- Residential Burglary-50%
- Commercial Burglary -10%
- Motor Vehicle Theft -44%

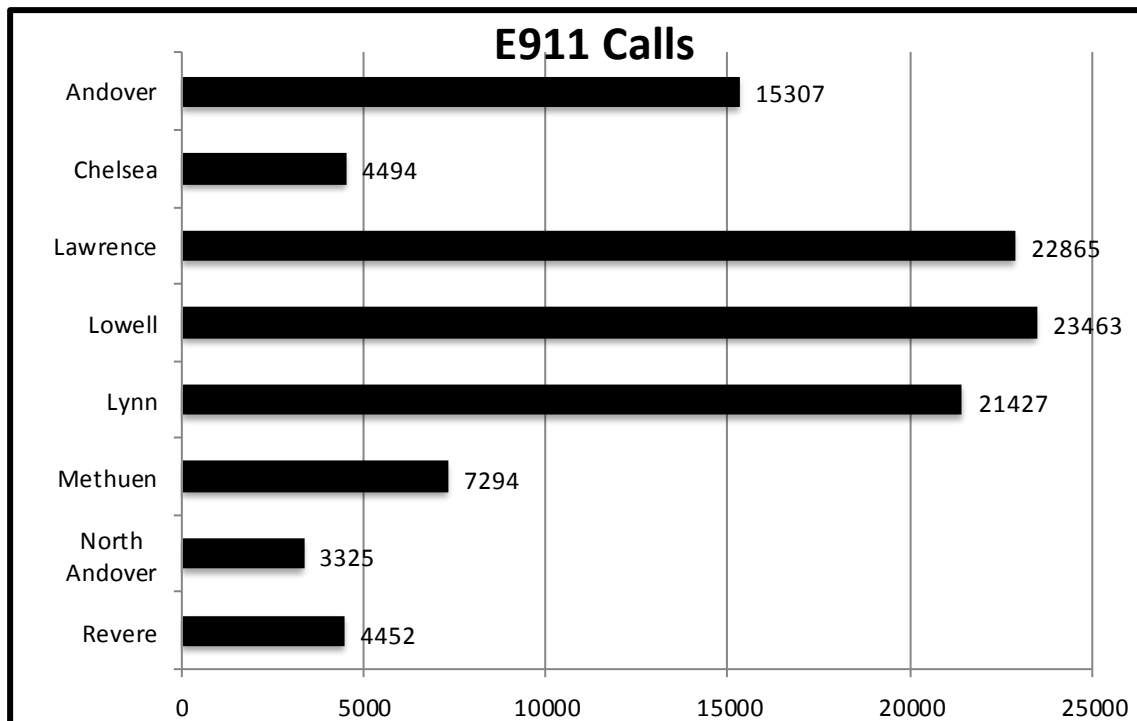
During 2019, 17,252 motor vehicle stops were conducted, an increase of 3% compared to 2018. Motor vehicle stops specifically target high theft vehicles which could be a contributing factor to the decline in motor vehicle theft. Officers assigned to the Patrol Division conducted 6,331 Building Checks in 2019 compared to 4,416 in 2018. Officers assigned to the Patrol Division conducted 441 investigations into Missing Persons, locating 290 during the preliminary investigations. The remaining 151 were referred to the Detective Division for follow up investigation.

## Calls for Service

The graph below shows the total number of calls for service per year from 1999 to 2019. During 2019, the Lawrence Police Department responded to 67,389 calls for service. This is the second highest total calls for service the department has responded to in one year with 2018 being slightly higher. On average the Department responds to approximately 185 calls per day. It is important to note, "Calls for Service" is not a standardized term across all police agencies. For example, one agency might consider a phone call received as a call for service when another might consider a police car being dispatched as a call for service. The Lawrence Police Department quantifies calls for service as incidents that were entered into our computer aided dispatch software that resulted in an officer being dispatched to service a citizen.

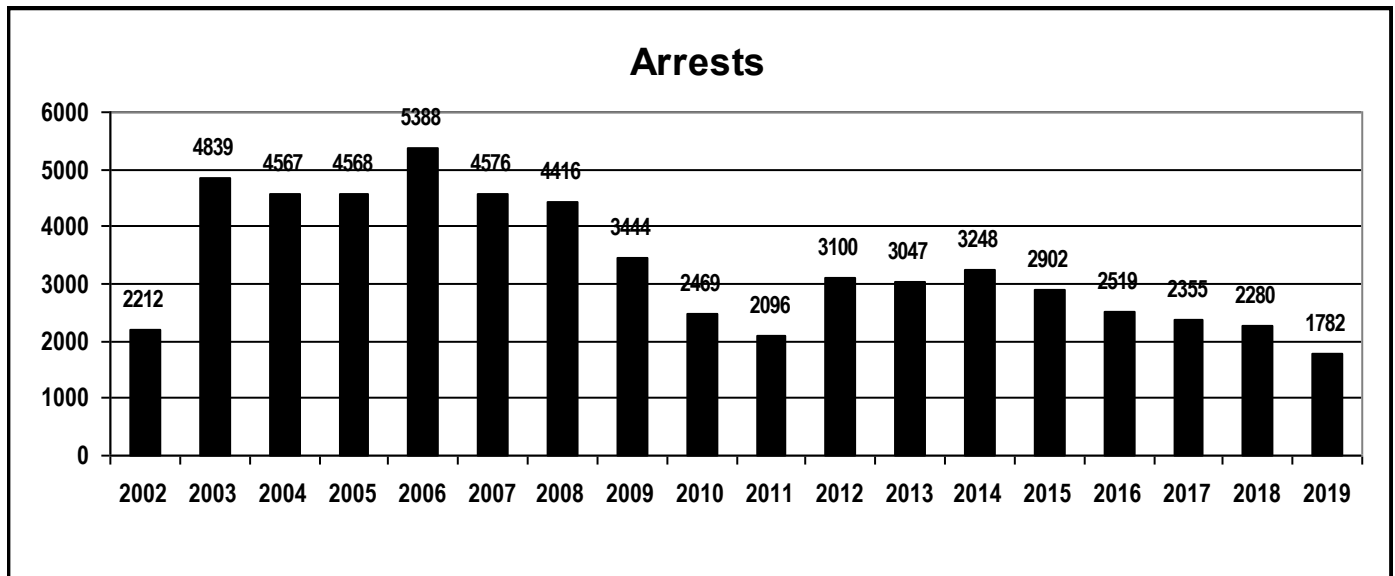


The graph below shows the number of E911 calls for the calendar year of 2019; this data is collected by the Essex County Regional Dispatch Center. As shown in the graph Lawrence receives the second highest total of E911 calls of the selected cities survived. Furthermore, it receives the second most E911 calls of any city/town found in the Essex County Regional Dispatch Center data. Finally, Lawrence receives a significantly higher amount of calls than bordering towns: Andover, Methuen, North Andover.



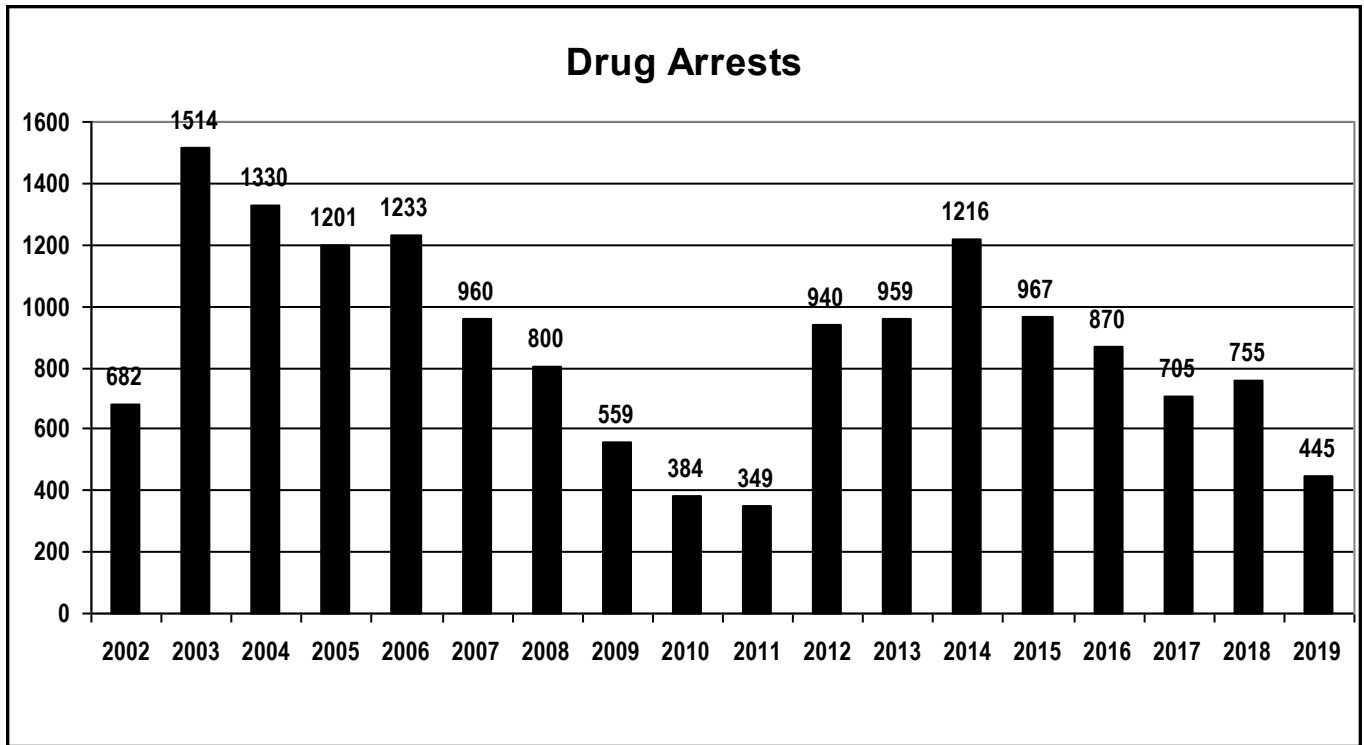
# Arrests

The Lawrence Police Department made 1,782 arrests over the course of 2019. The graph below shows the total number of arrests made per year from 2002-2019. As shown on the graph below the total number of arrests per year has been trending downward since 2014. This is in part due to the decrease in total Part 1 Crime, and adjustments to the juvenile arrest legislation. It is also important to note that the total number of arrests does not reflect those arrests made by the DEA, ATF, FBI, Massachusetts State Police; who all have a heavy presence in the city.

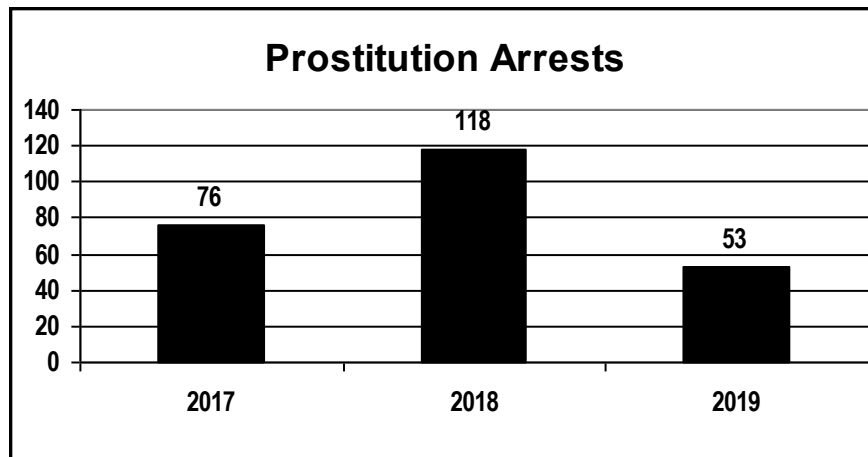




The Crime Analysis Unit further breaks down arrests and looks specifically at the number of drug arrests made per year. This data is displayed below. In 2019 ,the Department made 445 drug related arrests; each arrestee in this total had at least one drug charge or warrant for a drug charge. Again, this does not reflect arrests made by other agencies that work within the city.

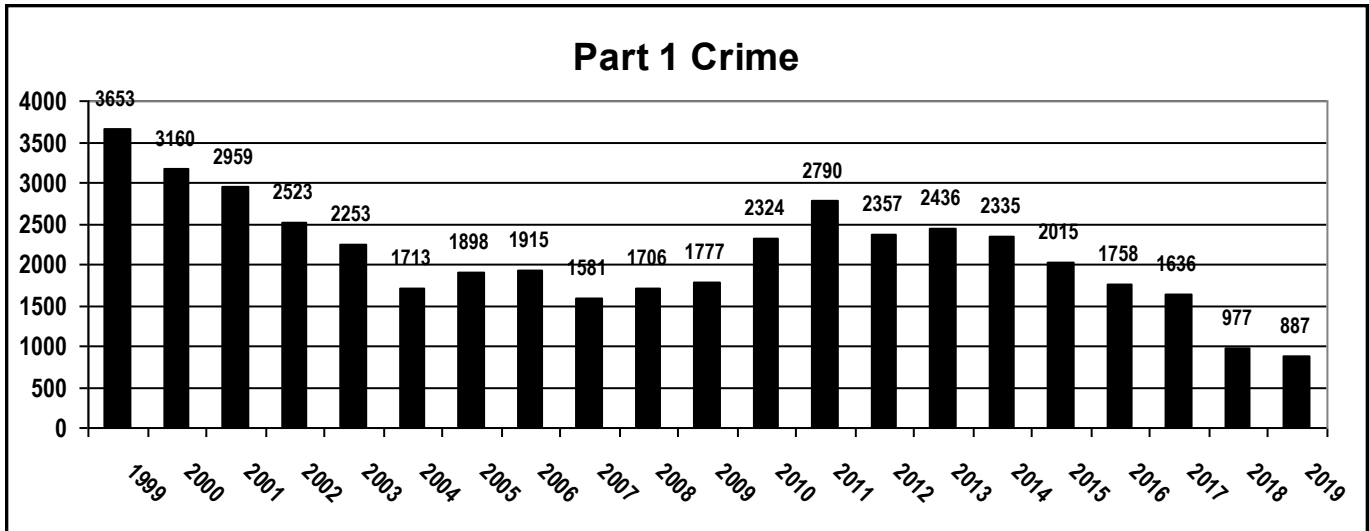


A second category of arrests that the Department started to look is the number of prostitution arrests made throughout the year. This number has been tracked since 2017. During 2019, 53 prostitution arrests were made; again each arrestee in this total had at least one prostitution charge or warrant for a prostitution charge. The Department will continue to monitor this quality of life issue.



# Part 1 Crime

Part I Crimes include: Homicide, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Felony Larceny, and Motor Vehicle Theft. The graph below shows the total number of Part I Crimes for each year from 1999 to 2019.



The Department has had a steady decrease in the total number of Part 1 Crimes since 2013. In 2019, a total of 887 Part 1 Crimes were reported; a 9% decrease when compared to 2018. Most notably though, this is the lowest total number of Part 1 Crimes in the last twenty one years. The Department has decreased the number of Part 1 Crime significantly since 1999 when the total number was over 3,600.

The chart below shows the percentage of Part 1 Crimes that have been cleared by the Department from 2014 through 2019. The Department counts all incidents that are closed via arrest, warrant, or summons as cleared. It is evident in the cart below that the Department has worked to greatly improve clearance rates. The FBI/ UCR breaks down overall clearance into two categories violent crime— homicide, rape, robbery, and assault, and property crime— burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft. Those clearance percentages are provided as well as the Department's for 2014 through 2019. In 2019, the Department exceeded the national percentage in both violent crime and property crime, and was able to increase the percentage of cases cleared compared to the percentage cleared in 2018.

Part 1 Crime Clearance Rate							
	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	National <sup>1</sup>
<b>Total Crime</b>	25%	24%	25%	34%	49%	<b>58%</b>	
<b>Violent Crime</b>	52%	53%	52%	66%	76%	<b>78%</b>	<b>45.5%</b>
<b>Property Crime</b>	9%	10%	12%	15%	20%	<b>28%</b>	<b>17.6%</b>

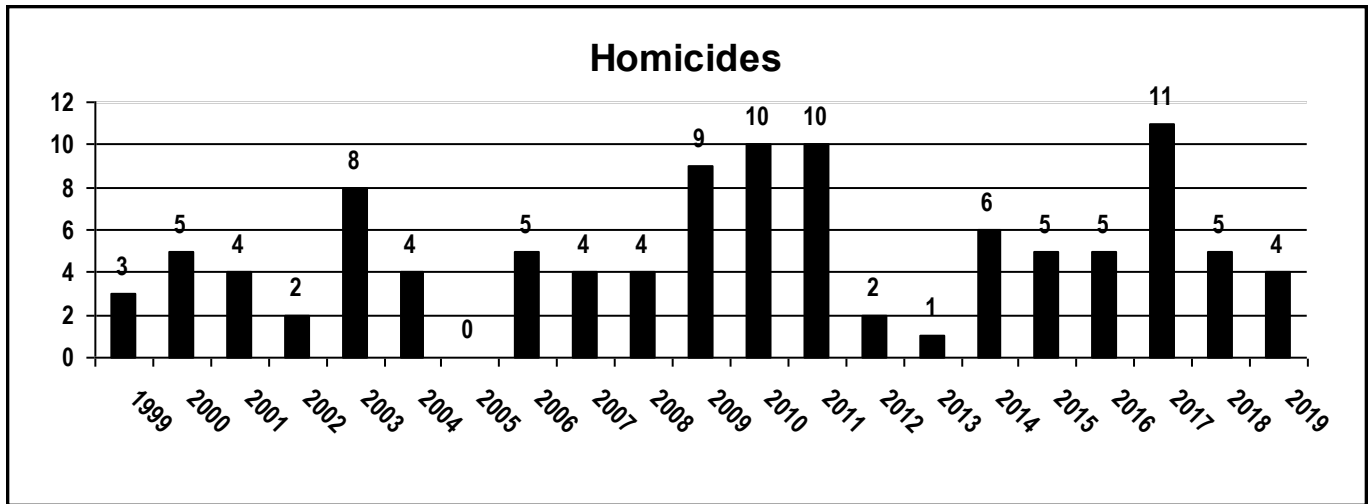
A section for each of the Part 1 Crimes are on the pages that follow. This includes the crime definition, a graph showing yearly totals for that individual crime from 1999 through 2019, a chart showing the 2018 and 2019 totals as well as the percent change, and finally a second chart showing the yearly clearance rate for that individual crime between 2014 through 2019 as well as the national clearance rate that the FBI generates.

1. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2018/crime-in-the-u.s.-2018/topic-pages/clearances>

# Homicide

**FBI/ UCR Definition<sup>1</sup>:** Criminal homicide—a.) Murder and nonnegligent manslaughter: the willful (nonnegligent) killing of one human being by another. Deaths caused by negligence, attempts to kill, assaults to kill, suicides, and accidental deaths are excluded. The program classifies justifiable homicides separately and limits the definition to: (1) the killing of a felon by a law enforcement officer in the line of duty; or (2) the killing of a felon, during the commission of a felony, by a private citizen. b.) Manslaughter by negligence: the killing of another person through gross negligence. Deaths of persons due to their own negligence, accidental deaths not resulting from gross negligence, and traffic fatalities are not included in the category Manslaughter by Negligence.

In 2019 there were four (4) homicides citywide; this is a 20% decrease compared to 2018. This is also the lowest number of reported homicides since 2013. All four (4) homicides reported in 2019 were solved via arrest. A map of the 2019 homicide locations is on the following page.



Homicide			
	2018	2019	% Change
Total	5	4	-20%

Homicide Clearance Rate						
2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	National <sup>2</sup>
50%	100%	60%	55%	60%	100%	62.3%

1. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2011/crime-in-the-u.s.-2011/offense-definitions>

2. <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2018/crime-in-the-u.s.-2018/topic-pages/clearances>

## 2019 Homicides



*The boxed incident represents the location of two (2) homicides.*

# Rape

Prior to 2013, the offense data for rape was collected under the legacy UCR definition: the carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will. As such, data collection on rape was limited to incidents of rape where “force” was used. Other categories of sexual assault, attempted sexual assaults, statutory rapes, and the like, were classified under other categories.

In 2013, the FBI UCR Program began collecting rape data under a revised definition within the Summary Reporting System. Beginning in 2013, the term “forcible” was removed from the offense title and the definition was changed. The revised UCR definition of rape is: penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim. Attempts or assaults to commit rape are also included in the statistics presented<sup>1</sup>.

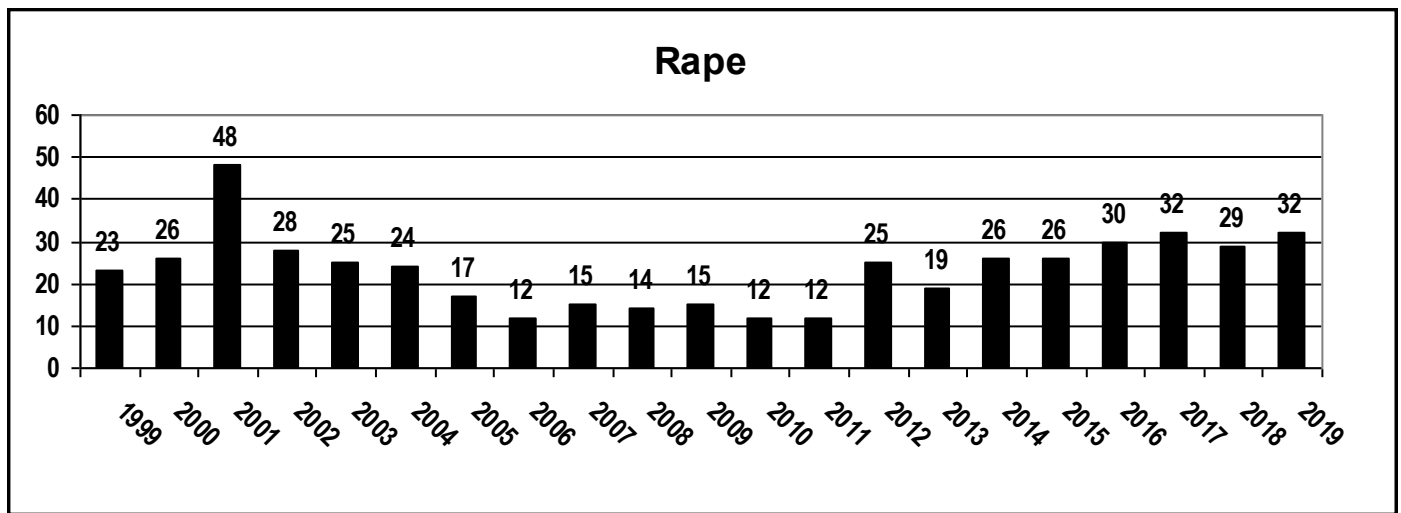
In Massachusetts, rape is defined as the penetration of any bodily orifice by any part of the body, or by an object, performed against the victim's will, without consent, and with the threat of or actual use of force<sup>2</sup>. In conformance with, and in addition to, the revised definition, Massachusetts courts have also seemingly expanded the interpretation of “penetration.” Previously, “penetration” was established where the perpetrator actually inserted his/her digits (fingers, hands) penis, tongue, or objects into the victim's orifice(s). Now, the “penetration” element is established in situations where even the slightest separation of the lips, anus, or labia is concerned. This includes incidents of licking and fondling which would have traditionally been categorized under indecent assault and battery and other statutes.

As a result, incidents of sexual assaults, attempted sexual assaults, statutory rapes, sex and heavy fondling between intoxicated individuals where consent was ambiguous or where even the slightest penetration (as statutorily defined) is involved, is now categorized as rape although such incidents may not have been categorized this way under the legacy definition. Even instances of groping that meet the new “penetration” element give rise to charges of rape.

This change has had a direct and notable effect on rape statistics and is particularly pronounced in cases of domestic sexual assaults. In these cases, where indecent assault and battery charges would have been appropriate against family members and friends committing sexual acts against children and other family members, the statutes require rape charges.

The graph on the next page shows the number of rapes in Lawrence per year from 1999 through 2019. Due to the above mentioned definition change Lawrence saw a 39% increase in the number of rapes between 2013 and 2014. In 2019, 32 rape incidents were reported resulting in a 10% increase when compared to 2018. The Department has increased the clearance rate for rape cases to 84%.

1. U.S. Department of Justice- Federal Bureau of Investigation, released Fall 2017
2. Thomson Reuters, FindLaw: <http://statelaws.findlaw.com/massachusetts-law/massachusetts-rape-laws.html>, March 8, 2018.
3. <https://ucr.fbi.gov/ucr-publications>



Rape			
	2018	2019	% Change
Total	29	32	10%

Rape Clearance Rate						
2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	National <sup>1</sup>
69%	69%	70%	53%	76%	84%	33.4%

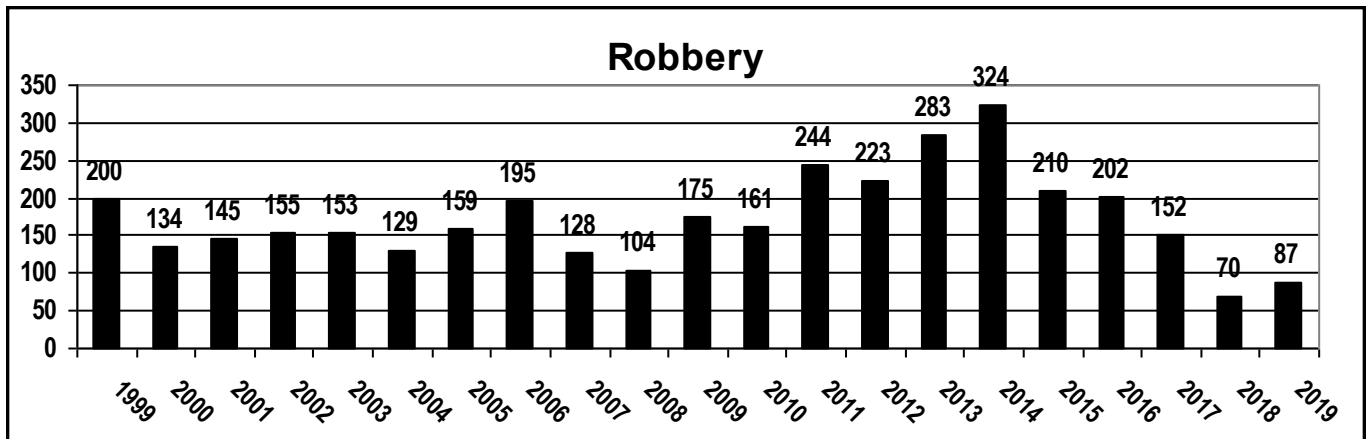
1. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2018/crime-in-the-u.s.-2018/topic-pages/clearances>



# Robbery

**FBI/ UCR Definition<sup>1</sup>:** The taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear.

During 2019 87 robberies were reported citywide. Although this is a 24% increase compared to 2018, the number of robberies has decreased significantly in recent years. During the peak year, 2014, a total of 324 robberies were reported. When comparing 2019 to 2014 a 73% decrease is seen. Finally, the Department cleared 45% of robberies and continues to maintain a clearance rate above the national rate of 30.4%<sup>2</sup>. A map of the 2019 robberies is on the following page.



Robbery			
	2018	2019	% Change
Total	70	87	24%

Robbery Clearance Rate						
2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	National <sup>2</sup>
17%	21%	21%	39%	49%	45%	30.4%

1. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2011/crime-in-the-u.s.-2011/offense-definitions>

2. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2018/crime-in-the-u.s.-2018/topic-pages/clearances>

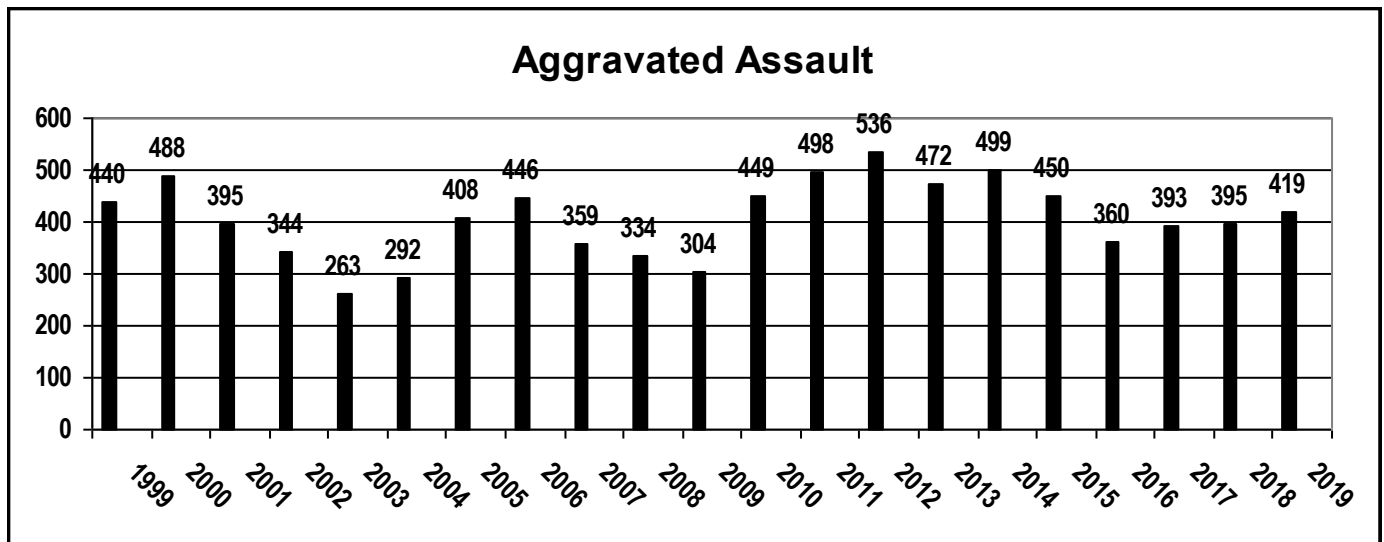


# Aggravated Assault

**FBI/ UCR Definition<sup>1</sup>:** An unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault usually is accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm.

The Lawrence Police Department Crime Analysis Unit breaks down Aggravated Assault into two categories: Domestic and Non-Domestic. Domestic Aggravated Assaults are classified as those where the relationship between the victim and offender is that of an intimate partner, ex-intimate partner, family or household member. Non-Domestic Aggravated Assault are those where the relationship is an acquaintance, school-mate, friend, or a stranger.

The graph below displays the total number of aggravated assaults reported per year. The pages that follow provide information on the two different categories. In 2019, 419 aggravated assaults were reported, a 6% increase from 2018. The number of aggravated assaults has remained relatively consistent for the last three years, and has decreased 22% when compared to the peak year, 2012, during which 536 aggravated assaults were reported. Despite the increase between 2018 and 2019, the Department has been able to clear aggravated assault at a highly efficient rate of 84%. This is highest clearance rate since at least 2014 and is above the national clearance rate, 52.5%<sup>2</sup>.



Aggravated Assault			
	2018	2019	% Change
Total	395	419	6%

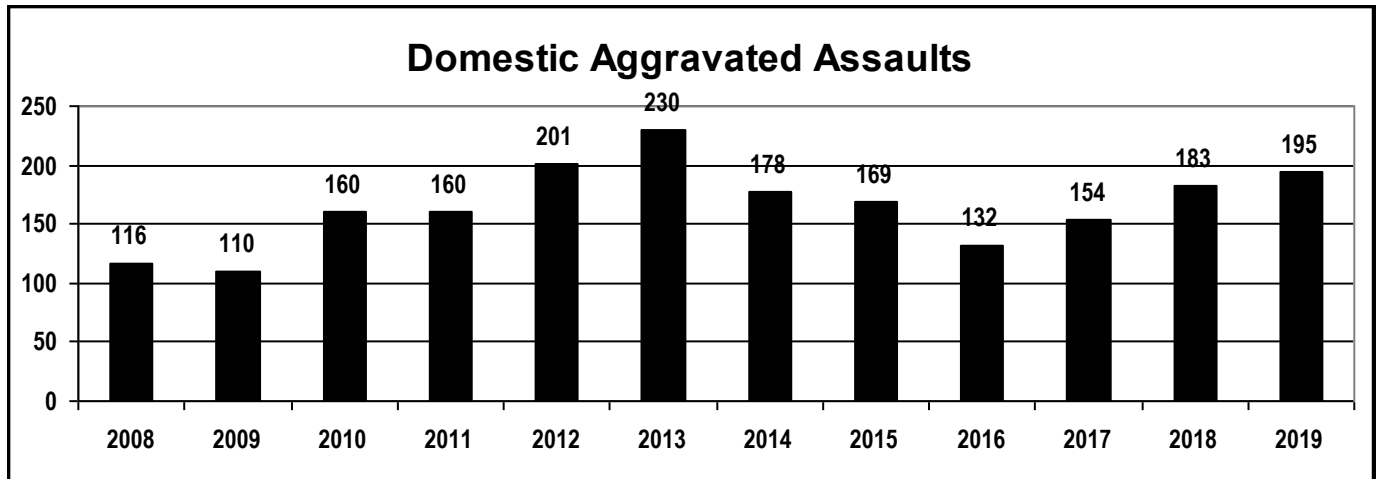
Aggravated Assault Clearance Rate						
2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	National <sup>2</sup>
74%	66%	68%	78%	81%	84%	52.5%

1. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2011/crime-in-the-u.s.-2011/offense-definitions>

2. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2018/crime-in-the-u.s.-2018/topic-pages/clearances>

## Domestic Aggravated Assault

Displayed on the graph are the number of reported domestic aggravated assaults from 2008, when the Department started making that distinction, through 2019. Between 2018 and 2019 there was a 9% increase in domestic aggravated assaults. The Department continues to clear domestic aggravated assault incidents at a highly efficient rate, 99%. The Domestic Violence Unit under the Police and Community Relations Unit, described on the following page, works to provide resources, and education to the community and the Department. The implementation of this unit and resources has resulted in more victims coming forward.



Domestic Aggravated Assault			
	2018	2019	% Change
Total	179	195	9%

Domestic Aggravated Assault Clearance Rate						
2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	National <sup>1</sup>
96%	95%	97%	98%	99%	99%	52.5%

1. Refers to national aggravated assault clearance rate: Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2018/crime-in-the-u.s.-2018/topic-pages/clearances>

# Police and Community Relations: Domestic Violence Unit

**Mission Statement:** The Lawrence Police Department's Domestic Violence Unit (DVU) addresses community safety concerns by quickly evaluating domestic violence incidents and identifying individuals at high risk of violence, as well as identifying and monitoring batterers with a high likelihood of re-offending. The Unit also facilitates services and access to supportive and rehabilitative programs within the community and serves as a bridge between the Lawrence Police Department and service providers.

**Goals:** The DVU endeavors to have domestic violence survivors and their children live violence-free lives. The DVU maximizes services to community members by offering safety plans, resources, and identifying service gaps within the system in order to coordinate collaboration among the agencies.

**Agency Advancement:** The DVU organized and conducted mandatory training for all Lawrence Police personnel on Massachusetts' new DV statutes and new LPD Policies and Procedures. Additionally, it:

- Trained officers on the use and implementation of the new Danger Assessment Forms, as well as Strangulation and Suffocation statutes, forms, and identifiers used by the DA's Office and Probation Department for consideration of High Risk Offender disposition.
- Enhanced officer understanding, outlook, behaviors and resources associated with domestic violence issues.
- Integrated the use of electronic methods for receiving and tracking service of 209A/258E orders, thereby enhancing accountability and tracking of orders as well as reducing paper waste.
- Conducted an aggressive public education campaign consisting of multiple radio shows, electronic billboards, the dissemination of resource cards, and the Posting of flyers throughout the City's businesses.
- Conducted approximately (33) trainings and conferences that included an invitation by, and presentation at, "Governor Baker's Commission Against Domestic Violence: Statewide High Risk Conference."

**Success Stories:** The DVU's investigative branch has taken an aggressive and proactive approach to tracking and arresting individuals deemed to pose serious threats to DV victims. Some examples include the tracking and arrest of:

- A suspect who fired multiple shots during a domestic incident. The suspect and firearm were tracked and arrested out of state within hours of the incident.
- A suspect who violated an active restraining order over 106 times. According to the victim, the suspect was potentially in possession of a firearm and stun-gun, and had abused and terrified her "for over year." The DVU, along with LPD K-9 Unit, tracked and captured the suspect within hours of the call.
- A known gang member who committed domestic assaults while eluding capture on other warrants. The suspect was captured by the DVU following a brief pursuit.

## **Services to Families:**

- 98 individuals were provided with court services
- 119 individuals were provided with counseling services
- 33 emergency shelter services were secured
- 205 individuals were provided with housing services

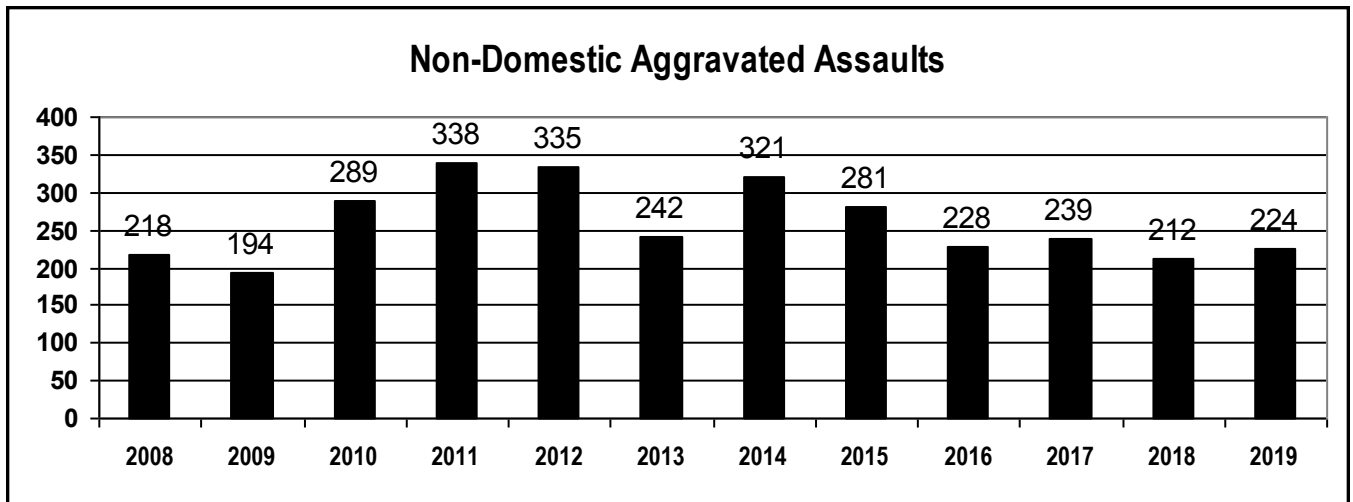
**DVHRT:** The Domestic Violence Unit is also responsible for the coordination of the Domestic Violence High Risk Team (DVHRT) in the Lawrence area. The DVHRT holds monthly meetings where members of the Lawrence Police Department, the Essex County District Attorney's Office, Probation Officers, Parole officers, The Essex County Sheriff's Office, Domestic Violence Service Providers, Intimate Partner Abuse Educational Program, Department of Transitional Assistance, and the Department of Children and Families work together to identify and prevent high lethality cases, to protect victims and hold abusers accountable.

**DVU Affiliations:** Additionally, the DVU works in conjunction with the:

- Lawrence Domestic Round Table
- Lawrence HUB and Substance Abuse
- Continuum of Care for the Homeless
- City of Lawrence Mayor's Office of Community Development Homeless Initiative Working Group
- Quality Improvement Center on Domestic Violence and Child Welfare Research and Capacity Building Project
- Delamano: Bride's March, International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and Girls

## Non-Domestic Aggravated Assault

In 2019, 224 non-domestic aggravated assaults were reported. This is an 4% increase from 2018 but remains relatively consistent with the number of non-domestic aggravated assaults reported during the last few years. Additionally, the non-domestic aggravated assault improved between 2018 and 2019 to 71%. This is the highest clearance rate in this crime type since at least 2014. In a continued effort to reduce the amount of non-domestic aggravated assaults the patrol division monitors identified hotspots in the city including downtown areas surrounding the clubs. The non-domestic aggravated assaults that occurred during 2019 are mapped on the following page.

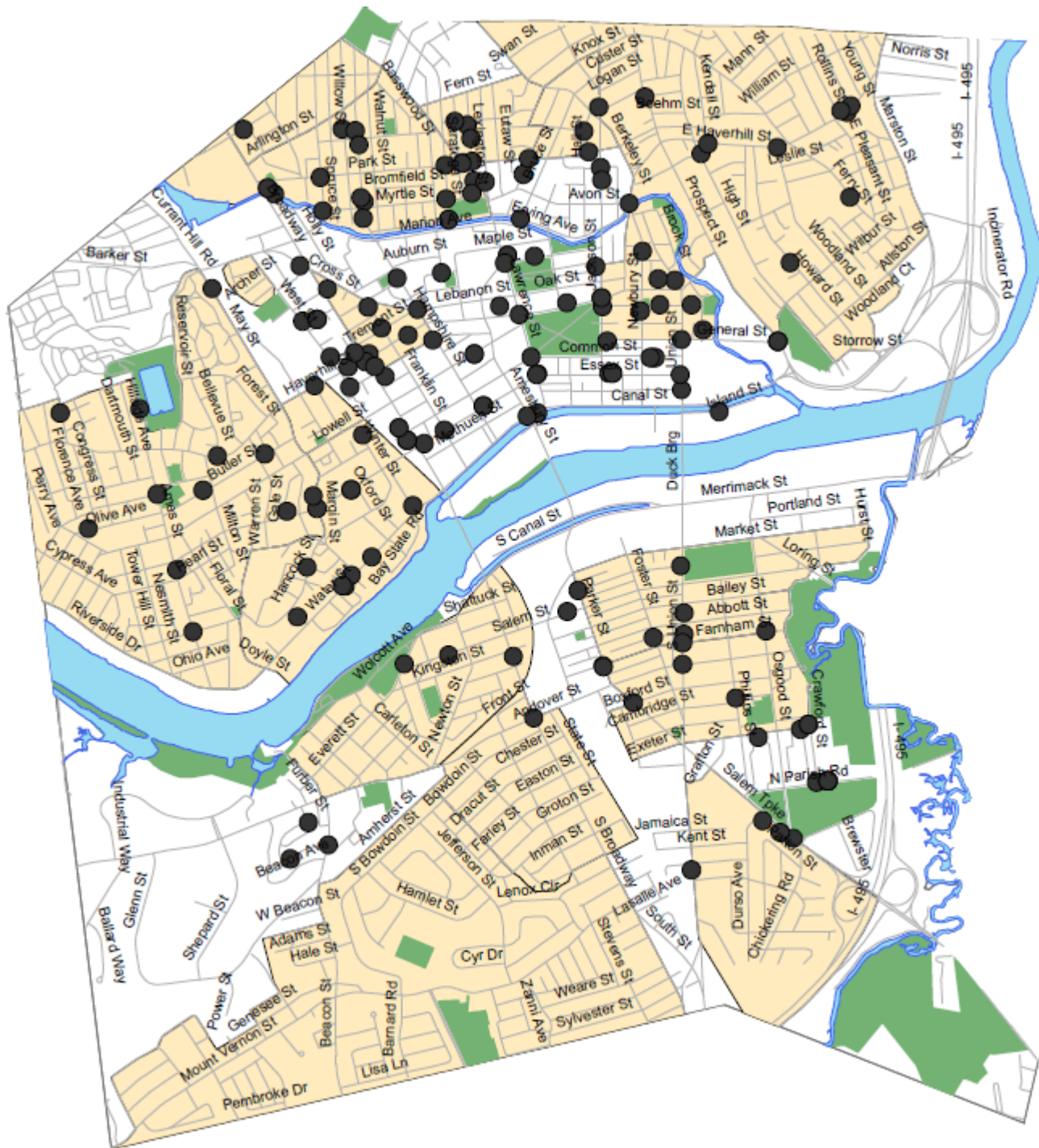


Non-Domestic Aggravated Assault			
	2018	2019	% Change
Total	216	224	4%

Non-Domestic Aggravated Assault Clearance Rate						
2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	National <sup>1</sup>
61%	49%	51%	66%	66%	71%	52.5%

1. Refers to national aggravated assault clearance rate: Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2018/crime-in-the-u.s.-2018/topic-pages/clearances>





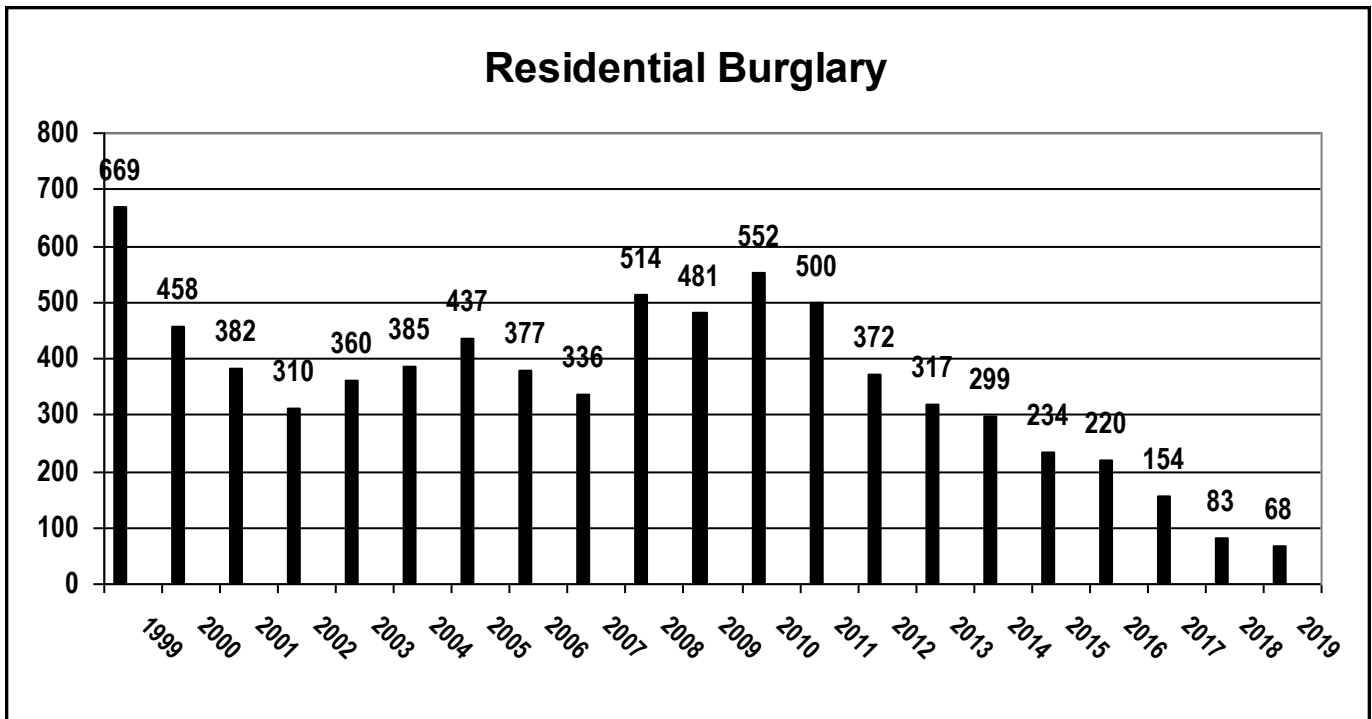
# Burglary

**FBI/ UCR Definition<sup>1</sup>:** The unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft. Attempted forcible entry is included

The LPD Crime Analysis Unit breaks this crime into two categories: Residential and Commercial.

## Residential Burglary

The Department has made great strides in reducing the amount of residential burglaries, and in 2019 just 68 residential burglaries were reported. This is an 18% decrease when compared to 2018. Furthermore this is the lowest number in at least twenty one years. In 1999, 669 residential burglaries were reported; an average of nearly two (2) per day. Finally, during 2019 the Department cleared 44% of burglaries. This is a higher percentage than the national burglary clearance rate of 13.9%<sup>2</sup>, and the highest clearance rate since at least 2014. The map on the following page shows the 2019 residential burglaries.



Residential Burglaries			
	2018	2019	% Change
Total	83	68	-18%

Residential Burglary Clearance Rate						
2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	National <sup>2</sup>
10%	15%	30%	19%	31%	44%	13.9%

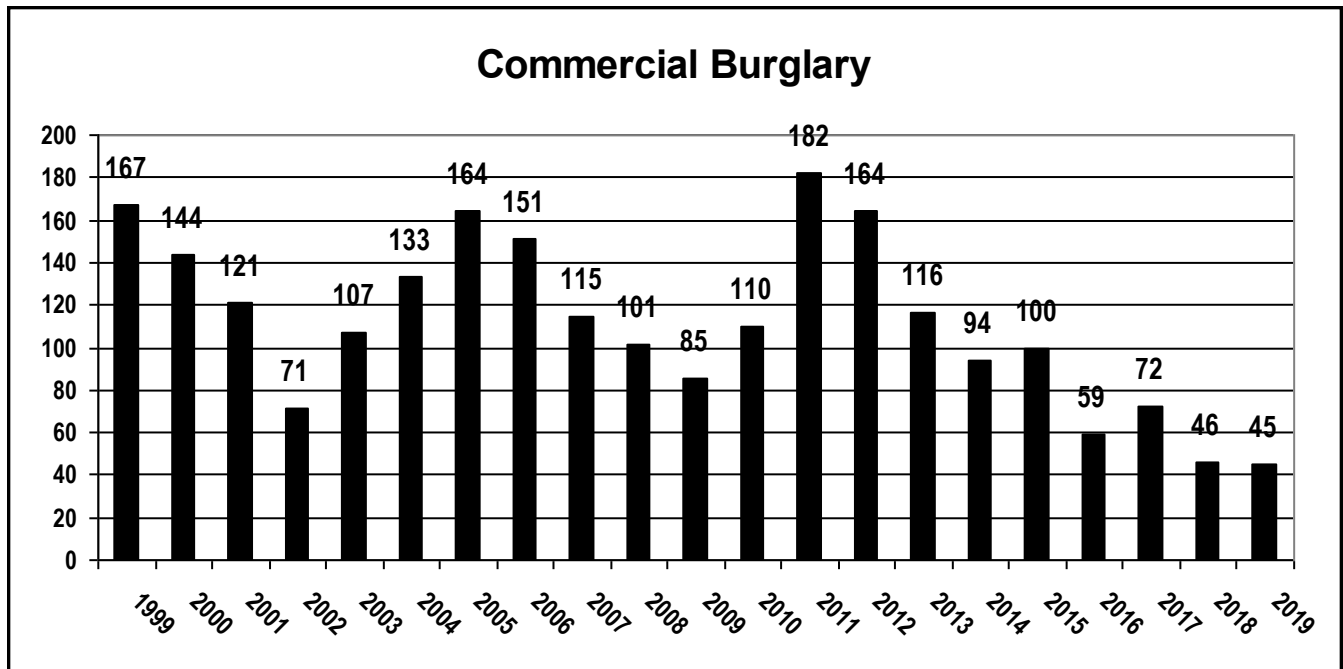
1. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2011/crime-in-the-u.s.-2011/offense-definitions>

2. Refers to national burglary clearance rate: Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2018/crime-in-the-u.s.-2018/topic-pages/clearances>



### Commercial Burglary:

In 2019, 45 commercial burglaries were reported citywide. This is a 2% decrease when compared to 2018 and the lowest number of commercial burglaries reported since at least 1999. Between 2016 and 2017 the Department had a 22% increase in the number of commercial burglaries. Due to this increase the Department implored various tactics in an effort to combat this problem. One such tactic is conducting business checks, especially during the early night and midnight shift. The 'Business Check' table below highlights the number of business checks conducted in 2018 and 2019; over 10,000 building checks have been conducted in the last two years. Additionally, a business liaison position in Community Policing was created in 2018. Finally, the Department cleared 51% of commercial burglaries in 2019; establishing a new high clearance rate in this crime category. Commercial burglaries from 2019 are mapped on the following page.



Commercial Burglaries			
	2018	2019	% Change
Total	46	45	-2%

Business Checks			
	2018	2019	% Change
Total	4416	6331	43%

Commercial Burglary Clearance Rate						
2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	National <sup>1</sup>
9%	20%	10%	19%	33%	51%	13.9%

1. Refers to national burglary clearance rate: Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2018/crime-in-the-u.s.-2018/topic-pages/clearances>



## 2019 Commercial Burglaries

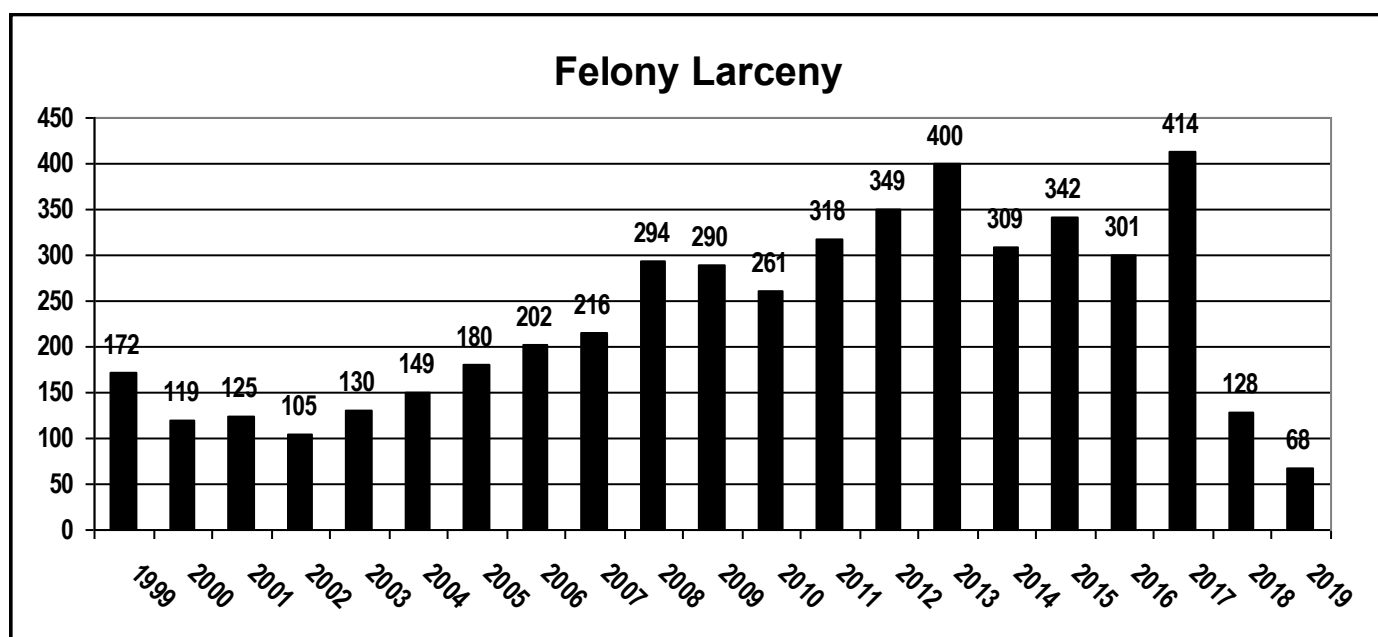


# Felony Larceny

**FBI/ UCR Definition<sup>1</sup>:** theft (except motor vehicle theft)—The unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another. Examples are thefts of bicycles, motor vehicle parts and accessories, shoplifting, pocket-picking, or the stealing of any property or article that is not taken by force and violence or by fraud. Attempted larcenies are included. Embezzlement, confidence games, forgery, check fraud, etc., are excluded.

*The Crime Analysis Unit follows Massachusetts legislature and classifies Felony Larceny as those where the value of the property is over twelve hundred dollars.*

On April 13, 2018 a change in the Massachusetts legislature increased the felony threshold from \$250 to \$1200. This change directly affected the number of felony larceny cases reported in Lawrence. In the last five years the Department saw a rise in the number of felony larceny cases which was likely attributed to the increase costs / values of personal electronics, such as phones. This legislative change in conjunction with the decrease in stolen motor vehicle parts, radios, airbags, and tires, has resulted in a significant decline in the number of felony larceny incidents. In 2019, 68 incidents of felony larceny were reported, the lowest number reported since 1999. This is a 47% decrease when compared to 2018; although the mid year legislative change in 2018 makes a true comparison between 2018 and 2019 difficult to determine. 2019 felony larceny incidents are mapped on the following page.



Felony Larceny			
	2018	2019	% Change
Total	128	68	-47%

Felony Larceny Clearance Rate						
2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	National <sup>2</sup>
22%	17%	16%	15%	27%	18%	18.9%

1. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2011/crime-in-the-u.s.-2011/offense-definitions>

2. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2018/crime-in-the-u.s.-2018/topic-pages/clearances>

## 2019 Felony Larceny

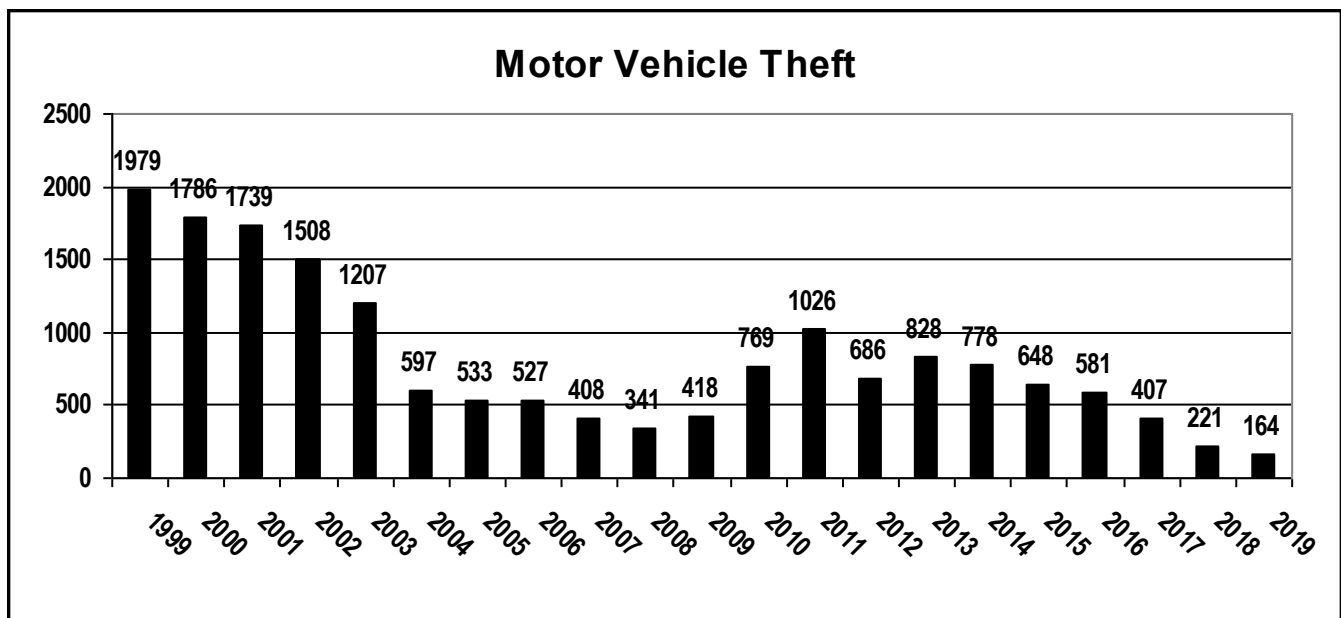




# Motor Vehicle Theft

**FBI/ UCR Definition<sup>1</sup>:** The theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle. A motor vehicle is self-propelled and runs on land surface and not on rails. Motorboats, construction equipment, airplanes, and farming equipment are specifically excluded from this category.

The graph below shows the number of motor vehicle thefts per year from 1999-2019. The number of motor vehicles thefts in 1999, the peak year for motor vehicle theft in the City of Lawrence, was almost 2000 and accounted for over 50% of the Part 1 Crime that year. Patrol and the detectives in the Auto Theft unit have worked tirelessly to decrease the number of motor vehicle thefts throughout the city. The number of reported motor vehicle thefts has been declining since 2013. In 2019 this trend continued, and just 164 motor vehicle thefts were reported. This is a 21 year low for the Department. Additionally, during 2019 the Department made strides to increase the clearance rate in this crime type and was able to increase the clearance rate to 18%. This is now above the national average and the highest clearance rate in recent years. 2019 motor vehicle theft incidents are mapped on the following page.



MV Theft			
	2018	2019	% Change
Total	221	164	-26%

Motor Vehicle Theft Clearance Rate						
2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	National <sup>2</sup>
3%	2%	3%	11%	10%	18%	13.8%

1. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2011/crime-in-the-u.s.-2011/offense-definitions>

2. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2018/crime-in-the-u.s.-2018/topic-pages/clearances>

## 2019 Motor Vehicle Theft



## Bureau of Special Investigations

The Bureau of Special Investigations is comprised of two major divisions, Detectives and Community Policing. Within each division there are multiple specialty units and assignments. The Lawrence Police Department Emergency Response Team (ERT), comprised of officers from all bureaus of the Department, also falls under the auspices of the Bureau of Special Investigations. The Bureau works side by side with numerous federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies, as well as other city departments to address everything from major felony investigations to quality of life issues affecting the daily lives of residents.

The Detective Division is responsible for the investigation of major crimes and handles any long term investigations. Within the Detective Division, there are a number of specialty units. One is the Street Narcotics Enforcement Unit, which handles street level drug dealing all the way up to major trafficking. In 2018, Chief Vasque established a Gang Unit within the division to devote the necessary attention to gang related crime. There is an Auto Theft Unit within the division that consists of two detectives that focus on stolen motor vehicles, stolen motor vehicle parts, and insurance fraud. One member of the Detective Division is assigned to handle any police related issues in the Lawrence Housing Authority properties.

The Community Policing Division is the very public face of the Lawrence Police Department. The unit attends public meetings to gather information, and work on the "quality of life" violations that are of greatest concern to the residents. The unit addresses nuisance properties, enforces traffic laws, coordinates police participation in community events, enforces liquor laws, and works with residents, businesses, and intergovernmental agencies to solve neighborhood problems. Within the division, there is a Business Liaison Officer assigned to primarily assist small business owners. There is also an officer assigned to work with the "Safe and Successful Youth Initiative," a multi-faceted strategy for reducing youth violence. The program's main objective is gang prevention and diversion through education, work, counseling and other services.

# Community Policing

Members of the Community Policing Division posted the following numbers from January—December 2019:

- 103 arrests were made by the Community Policing Division of people on various charges and offenses.
- 3,367 motor vehicle stops were conducted
- 798 motor vehicles were towed for improper registration
- 3,567 Chapter 90 citations were issued throughout the city to address traffic complaints
- 909 citations were given out at the 2018 Top Accident Locations
- 40 noise tickets were used
- 27 crosswalk stings
- 22 speed trap operations
- Thousands of community complaints addressed
- 9 joint impact Zero Tolerance operations with the Massachusetts State Police (Cat Team) were conducted and resulted in 275 arrests, 17 summons, 620 motor vehicle stops, 450 written citations issued, and 120 vehicles towed

Street Crimes Auto Theft Unit conducted 120 Auto Theft operations throughout the city in an effort to reduce the number of vehicles being stolen. During these operations warrant sweeps, surveillance operations, and targeted patrols were conducted and Hot Sheets were produced and distributed. The division continued to target high theft vehicles, monitor known offenders, track trends, and hot spots. This reduced the number of stolen motor vehicles by 58 from January 1 through December 31. Only 164 vehicles were stolen in 2019; this is an all time low for the number of vehicles stolen in the City of Lawrence for a one year period. In comparison, during 2018 221 vehicles were stolen citywide. Also in 2019, the Auto Theft Unit clearance rate reached 18%, an improvement from the 2018 clearance rate of 10%. This resulted in 8% more auto theft cases being solved in 2019. Reduction was also seen in Rim and Tire theft; in 2019 only 13 thefts occurred versus 18 Rim and Tire thefts in 2018. Finally, the Massachusetts Insurance Fraud Bureau conducted joint investigations with the Auto Theft Unit. These investigations resulted in arrest warrants being issued for insurance fraud suspects. Warrant sweeps were then conducted and ten (10) arrests were made of the suspects.

In June of 2019, Mayor Rivera and Chief Vasque ordered the closure of the boat ramp due to safety concerns on the Merrimack River as well as the misuse of the boat ramp. This led to a multi-agency approach to combat the problem involving the Environmental Police DCR, Department of Fish and Game and Lawrence Police Department. As a result of this team effort the Merrimack River Task Force was formed. The Task Force will work as a force multiplier on the Merrimack River to enforce boating rules, regulations, and laws are followed and most importantly ensure safety on the river as well as boat ramp. The Task Force will bring together officers from Methuen, Andover, and Lawrence as well as Environmental Police and The United States Coast Guard to form one united front on the river. Other Task Force members include the Lawrence Fire, Andover Fire, DCR, Fish and Game and Lawrence Boating Program. Members of the Task Force also took part in the following trainings in preparation for the safe reopening of the boat ramp in the summer 2020: Chapter 90B Boat, Water Survival Training, and Boat Crewman Class.

## **Licensing Board and Club Compliance Checks:**

- Attended 17 licensing board meetings
- Conducted 10 compliance checks and assisted the ABCC with liquor investigations
- The Lawrence Licensing Board issued various punishments for violations including 22 different roll backs, two (2) 45 day suspensions of licenses, one (1) 30 day suspension, and two (2) six-month revocation of licenses
- Two (2) revocation of car dealer licenses
- Eight (8) administrative inspections of car dealerships.

### Additional Highlights from Community Policing:

- Speed board circulation
- Attended community neighborhood meetings and events
- Setup 2019 Community Engagement schedule and conducted 8 engagements
- Governor Baker escort tour of Lawrence
- Elizabeth Warren presidential rally security setup
- 2 March for Meals Senior Citizens meal deliveries with the State Police
- Conducted and organized walking beats, mountain bike patrols, marine patrols, and motorcycle patrols citywide
- Opened 6 Winter Protocols Emergency Shelters due to extreme weather
- Homeless checks and cleanups of railroad trails, bridges and all encampments
- Extra checks of Front St, Brook St, High St, Floral Ave, Everett Street boat ramp/ park, Merrimack Paper, and 50 Island St
- Attended reading programs at schools
- Assisted Inspectional Services with various issues
- Managed bait car and surveillance van rotation
- Initiated the Drone Program and 3 Pilots are now licensed by FAA Trainings and have helped with crime scenes and events
- Earth Day
- Attended field days at public schools and Charter School career day
- Bridge lighting
- Senior Day
- Meals on Wheels Event
- 4 Special Olympics Events
- Senior Center Mother's Day Breakfast and Father's Day Lunch
- Woman's Day Breakfast
- Gay Pride Flag Raising
- Community Works Cookout and Engagement
- Rooming house Liaison Program
- Salsa Festival
- Semana Hispana Festival
- Background checks for recruits and attended academy PT
- Coast Guard Program
- Coffee with Cop
- Helped with two City Wide Elections
- Purchased and roll out of new Command Post
- Purchased two new police motorcycles
- Officer Water Safety School
- Ice Cream Truck Project covered 25 events and gave out 3,984 ice creams during community events
- ECCF Gas Crisis Dinner
- Ecuadorians Soccer Awards
- Frank Moran's / Lawrence Police Basketball Tournament
- National Night Out
- Feast of Three Saints
- Cicovia
- Touch a Truck in Somerville and at 439 S Union St
- Lawrence Pop Warner Opening Night
- Gang Talk for Salvation Army
- Spicket River Cleanup
- Oxford Street Handball Tournament
- Jazz Feast
- Columbia Gas Anniversary Mass and Square Dedication
- Howard Street Park grand opening
- Puerto Rican Parade
- Fireworks Stadium





## Business Liaison

In 2018 the Lawrence Police Department created the position titled, “Business Liaison”, with the objective to strengthen the relationship and communication between all local businesses in the community and thereby also serving its residents in a pro-active way; adding yet another layer of service. One of the goals of the business liaison officer is to visit every local business, make introductions and provide contact information in order to share and exchange information that is pivotal to one another on a daily basis, and for the safety of the businesses. This is a long term commitment to provide local services to help businesses, whose owners are usually local residents. These owners in turn hire valued employees, who are neighborhood residents. These employees know and care about their neighborhood and get to serve their neighborhoods, who are people who rely on our resources as a whole. This strengthens and creates a healthy community in its entirety.

During a visit the officer provides and discuss Chief Roy Vasque’s letter, which is in English and Spanish. In this letter, he introduces himself to the business community and also provides statistics showing the reduction of business burglaries within the past years. These reductions are due to a number of positive factors listed below:

- Adding better interior and exterior lighting to include main areas, parking areas, alleyways, and dumpster areas. Securing and locking alley ways and dumpster areas in order to minimize illicit activity.
- Removing all signage from the exterior front glass and cut back shrubbery and landscaping that might impede the view inside.
- Consider having at least two clerks to be on duty at all times which will help in preventing robberies and shoplifting
- Consider adding “HD” (High Definition) discreet (concealed/at eye level) and non-discreet video cameras inside and outside of the businesses, to serve as a deterrent and possibly identify the offender.
- Post signs such as: **“NO TRESPASS”**; **“NO LOITERING”** and **“VIDEO SURVEILLANCE”** **“NO SOLICITING”** about the exterior and interior of the building.
- Identifying persons who are no longer welcome on the business’s private property and have them served with “no trespass” and “no loitering” orders by the police. This information is kept on file with the Department and gives probable cause to arrest those persons if they are found in violation in the future.

The Business Liaison officer provides businesses with the Department’s emergency and non-emergency numbers, as well as information on the safe watch and safe syringe program. Additionally the officer provides flyers and discusses crime prevention tips. During 2019, the officer assisted businesses with general motor vehicle parking complaints, as well as issues with disorderly, harassing, and unwanted customers, shoplifting, traffic, vandalism, and graffiti removal. The officer worked in conjunction with the other city departments such as the Mayor’s Office, DPW, Planning, Inspection, Assessor, Treasurer’s Department, City Clerk’s Office, and with the homeless coordinator.

Throughout 2019, the Business Liaison officer, conducted 1134 business checks, gave 20 safety presentations to local organizations, businesses, and schools, and responded to numerous noise and parking complaints. This officer also helped Lawrence Police patrolmen and detectives with obtaining video evidence from local businesses for their investigations. Additionally, this officer attended and assisted with neighborhood association events, conducted special checks of high vigilance areas, and spoke at Neighborhood Circle meetings as requested by Lawrence Community Works. The 2019 City of Lawrence Citizen’s Police Academy was also created and hosted by this officer. This was a six-week program put on in conjunction with Northern Essex Community College for twenty Lawrencians. Finally, this officer responded to hundreds of inquires, conducted shoplifting, larceny, malicious damage and trespassing investigations, and helped with civil related problems.





## Detective Division

In 2019 the Lawrence Police Department Detective Division investigated 1041 cases, four (4) of which were homicides that were all solved via arrest. It should also be noted that in 2019, the detective division worked closely with the juvenile courts and the Department of Children's Families in a combined effort to continue the fight for Missing and Sexually Exploited Children. This also included new strategies to combat the increasing problem with missing/runaway children. In 2019 the division investigated approximately 151 missing person's cases. All have been successfully located and reunited with family. Overall the division cleared cases at a highly efficient rate. This was done through the hard work, and dedication of the men and women assigned to the LPD detective division.

It should be noted that a large number of cases that were solved were a result of the use of current technology and social media. The LPD video unit continues to be an integral part in the recovery, enhancement, and documentation of crimes; this has led to the identification and arrest of suspect(s) for crimes that likely would not have been solved without this hard work and expertise. A prime example is a homicide that occurred in July. In this particular case an unidentified female was dumped in the Spickett River, that runs behind the mill located at 75 Manchester St. She was partially clothed and had been brutally stabbed multiple times. Once positively identified, an investigation based on victimology and a canvass that produced witness accounts of strange behavior (unidentified males in that area the night before dragging an item and dumping a couch into the river), case detectives and the detective assigned to the video unit painstakingly poured over hours of private sector (residents and businesses) and LPD city cameras in this area. As a result, they were able to piece together, chronologically, video that showed two males cloaked in darkness carrying a lifeless body in a couch to the area of 75 Manchester St. Once in this area they dragged the body and the couch to the river's edge and dumped the victim's body. This video was extremely important because based on this video, investigators were able to ascertain that it was more probable than not that the victim was killed inside one of the apartments located on Daisy St. Armed with this information, investigators were able to locate forensic evidence (blood and discarded cleaning products) that lead to a particular apartment. Once contact was made with the occupants that lived in this apartment it was clear, based on additional forensic evidence, that the victim was killed here. Further investigation exposed the prime suspect, which after being interviewed and interrogated, confessed to the heinous crime. This interview also uncovered the suspect's co-conspirator. Out of all the techniques and strategies utilized in this comprehensive and exhausting investigation, the discovery, capture, recovery and analysis of video was the key to the successful conclusion and eventual prosecution of two violent criminals.

Social media platforms and applications, like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, What's Up App, and others, have been used in many different ways to identify and arrest suspects, solve crimes, find missing persons, and locate witnesses. The division continues to train and utilize new investigative techniques that involve the ever changing world of technology and social media. This was highlighted in the seven month investigation of a brutally assaulted female that was "left for dead" in a remote wooded area, on the outskirts of the city. The techniques used, both new and old, were critical in the identification and arrest of her violent attacker. The purchase and training of two detectives in Cellebrite technology continues to pay dividends in the division's highly successful clearance rate. Again, Cellebrite, is a tech tool used by trained investigators to extract, download, and preserve data forensically from tech devices. Currently right now Cellebrite has the ability to extract data from 8,200 devices. This state of the art tech tool is an invaluable asset. The division continues to look for ways to be on the cutting edge of new and old investigative technology. The division is currently looking into purchasing and training detectives in the art lie detection and "BERLA". "BERLA" is a device that has the ability to extract and interpret large amounts of data from motor vehicles to include GPS locations and any data from a device that may or may not have been plugged into the vehicle at any one time.

The detective division continues to grow to include some changes in personnel highlighted by the addition of two (2) detectives to the Street Narcotics Enforcement Unit. These personnel changes will take place shortly after the first of the year. The division also added two (2) detectives to federal agencies (DEA and FBI) as task force agents. These additions continues to increase the divisions effort and the LPD's mission expand and carry on our collaboration and cooperation with outside local, state and federal Law Enforcement Agencies to include the Massachusetts State Police, FBI, DEA, HSI, FDA, Department of Diplomatic Security, United States Postal Inspectors, and the United States Secret Service.

In 2019 the division continued to send members to leadership and specialized training throughout New England. Moving forward into 2020, the division will hopefully be adding needed personal to investigations to include the Gang and Drug units. The division will continue to explore training and professional development as it relates to social media, interviews and interrogation and technology.

## Street Crimes

**The Lawrence Police Department's Gang Unit** is comprised of three (3) LPD Detectives. This Unit was formed in June of 2018 and has worked very closely with multiple agencies, including but not limited to: The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, US Marshals Office, Massachusetts State Police Gang Unit, Federal Bureau of Investigations, Law Enforcement Officers assigned to HIDTA, and other local Gang Unit's.

The LPD Gang Unit has been extremely successful in identifying, validating and investigating active gang members in the City of Lawrence, and the surrounding areas. These members represent at least seven (7) different gangs. The LPD Gang Unit has a two-part strategy when for investigation and prosecuting Gang Members:

1. Local (State)
2. Federal

Local: The LPD Gang Unit will investigate Gang Members within, and outside, of the city limits. These investigations include, but are not limited to: FIO's, gang intelligence, gang related crimes, firearm incidents, shots fired incidents, shootings, and others. If charged locally, these individuals will be prosecuted through the District Attorney's Office.

Federal: The LPD Gang Unit will work with the above mentioned federal agencies, along with the US Attorney General's Office, in the attempt to have certain cases prosecuted on a Federal level. These cases include, but are not limited to: firearms, firearms trafficking, drug trafficking, and major gang related crimes.

Two major examples of these types of cases are the following:

- 1) The LPD Gang Unit was part of a three (3) month operation coordinated by the US Marshal's Service called "Operation Triple Beam" which was a targeted enforcement initiative to address violent crimes, including guns, narcotics and gangs within the City of Lawrence. In total, Operation Triple Beam resulted in the following: 146 Arrests, the seizure of: 8 pistols, 1 rifle, 1 shotgun, and over 2 kilos of Fentanyl and Heroin.
- 2) The LPD Gang Unit was part of a lengthy operation coordinated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, along with multiple Federal and State Agencies called "Operation Emerald Crush" which was a targeted enforcement initiative to address violent crimes, including guns, narcotics and gangs within the City of Lawrence and the Merrimack Valley. In total, Operation Emerald Crush resulted in the following: 30 Arrests, seizure of 79 firearms and a significant amount of Cocaine, Heroin and Fentanyl.

The statistics for the Gang Unit, since its inception in June of 2018, are as follows:

	2018*	2019
Calls for Service	1,246	1,251
Arrests	256	237
Firearms Seized	14	20
FIOs	186	167
Search Warrants	21	38

*\*2018 statistics cover June—December*

**The Lawrence Police Department's Street Narcotic Enforcement Unit (SNEU)** is comprised of three (3) LPD Detectives. In the fall of 2019, two of these detectives were reassigned to outside Federal Agencies as Task Force officers (TFO's). With these two new assignments, there is now a total of (3) LPD Drug Investigators that are assigned to Federal Agencies as TFO'S. In early 2020, it is anticipated that we will be adding additional detectives to the Street Narcotic Enforcement Unit. This Unit also works very closely with multiple agencies, including but not limited to: The Drug Enforcement Administration, Cross Border Initiative, Massachusetts State Police Drug Task Force, New Hampshire State Police Drug Task Force, Law Enforcement Officers assigned to HIDTA, and other local narcotics unit's.

The Street Narcotic Enforcement Unit also has a two-Part Strategy when it comes to investigating and prosecuting Narcotic cases:

1. Local (State)
2. Federal

Local: SNEU will investigate all narcotics complaints that are brought to the unit's attention through: citizen complaints, the Drug Hotline, Text-a-Tip, etc. SNEU, on a daily basis, will also patrol the city limits to investigate, any and all, "street level" drug offenses, prostitution, and quality of life issues. If charged locally, these individuals will be prosecuted through the District Attorney's Office.

Federal: SNEU will work with the above mentioned federal agencies, along with the US Attorney General's Office, in the attempt to have certain cases prosecuted on a Federal level. These cases may include major drug trafficking organizations, within the city limits, that were initiated by SNEU detectives, initiated by a TFO, and/or initiated by an outside local, state, or federal drug agency.

An example of this would be as follows:

SNEU was part of a 10-week coordinated enforcement operation in the Merrimack Valley called "Devil's Highway." This operation targeted the distribution of opioids, including Heroin and Fentanyl, and resulted in Federal charges against 38 individuals for federal drug offenses and dozens more for state charges. In total, Operation Devil's Highway resulted in the seizure of more than: 14 kilos of Fentanyl, 5 kilos of Heroin, 29 kilos of Cocaine, 4 firearms and Body Armor.

The Street Narcotic Enforcement Unit has been extremely successful with identifying, investigating and enforcing "street level" drug dealing, along with "quality of life" issues such as Prostitution.

The statistics for the Street Narcotics Unit are below.

	2017	2018	2019
Calls for Service	615	760	677
Arrests	636	661	390
Firearms Seized	19	6	9
Class A Seized	5,321 grams	3,964 grams	5,599 grams
Class B Seized	—	2,291 grams	470 grams
Money Seized	—	\$57,784	\$65,782
Search Warrants	—	33	37

## Lawrence Housing Authority

The Lawrence Police Department has one Sergeant assigned to Lawrence Housing Authority. During 2019, that Sergeant responded to over 150 documented calls for service. Furthermore, during this same period also responded to countless calls for service to back up patrol units, detectives and outside agencies. Additionally, this Sergeant met weekly with the five managers and had administrative meetings to discuss any issues or concerns that they may have or that residents may have. This Sergeant also participated in countless tenant meeting due to neighbor complaints, loud music calls, illegal tenants, drug activity to name a few. Confidential meetings are conducted in the office with residents to pass on information as well. Some information passed on involves gang activity and drug activity. In these cases the information is then passed on to the respective unit that the Sergeant works closes with. Illegal resident checks with management are also conducted and animal complaints, more specifically into dogs (pitbulls) that are in housing that cannot be on the property per management, were addressed. As a result of documenting all calls for services, evictions are made on residents who violate LHA rules in housing court.

The breakdown below is some of the types of calls for service addressed. The responsibilities of this Sergeant are unique in the sense that each call is completed from start to finish; taking the initial call for service (patrol) and investigating (detective). The housing properties are all patrolled several times per day. This provides visibility and allows residents to put a face to the housing officer.

- Arrest/ Warrants/Summons: all three types were made and issued for calls for service
- M/Vs Towed: periodically check all housing locations for illegally parked motor vehicles (resident sticker violation), revoked insurance, and suspended registration.
- Larceny Past: Reports were made regarding larceny past calls and they either ended in a summons, warrant or were unfounded in nature.
- Parking Tickets: Part of this Sergeant's duties is to check on resident sticker compliance on all housing properties. When M/V's are found not to be in compliance a Lawrence Parking ticket was issued, and in some cases motor vehicles were towed. Approximately 200 parking tickets that range from \$25 dollars to \$300 dollars were issued.
- Domestic Past/ Progress/209A Violations: Investigations are conducted into domestic violence calls as a result several actions were taken; arrest, summons, advisement of 209A rights/ Harassment order, verbal arguments and some were determined to be unfounded.
- Medic Support: Responded to all types of medical supports that included persons not breathing, overdoses, unresponsive persons and sudden / unattended deaths.
- Disturbances: Responded to complaints regarding fights, arguments, and unwanted guests. Actions subsequently taken ranged from unfounded to complaints or summons.
- Loud Music: Responded to several complaints in regards to loud music. During these incidents proper identification was made in all cases and then residents were given a verbal warnings, tenant meeting arranged, or they were determined to be unfounded in nature.
- Trespassing: Several trespass notices were documented and filed with housing.
- Assist Outside Agencies: Assistance was given to many outside agencies that included other police departments, Department of Children and Families (removal of children), Elder Services (getting assistance for elders in dire need of services), Department of Youth Services (assist in locating and apprehending juvenile offenders).
- Missing Persons: Worked start to finish helping to locate missing children with their families as well as assisting outside agencies looking for missing children that were located in housing units.
- Lockouts: These calls are very common in housing authority as residents forget their keys and a response is needed to allow them access into their homes.
- Investigations: These calls were conducted to investigate neighbor complaints, drinking in public, smoking marijuana in public, drug complaints, residential burglaries, suspicious persons/MV, assist fire department, alarms, assault and battery, and sexual assaults.
- Illegal Dumping: Tickets were issued when these cases were investigated or when individuals were caught in the act of illegally dumping trash inside housing authority property. This is one of the biggest issues that housing has faced in the last few years. Lawrence City Ordinance tickets were issued in the amount of \$300 dollars.
- Violent Crimes: Shots fired calls were investigated along with the detective division. There was an uptick in armed robberies involving pizza delivery drivers that took place in or near four of the major housing developments. Gang activity also saw an uptick in the same four major developments. Along with the Gang Unit and the detective division countless hours were conducted in intel, surveillance, or the arrest / prosecution / identification of offenders.

## Cross Border Initiative

The Lawrence Police Department uses a two prong approach in effort to address the drug problem in the city. The Street Narcotic Enforcement Unit (SNEU) handles street level drug problems in the city and the Cross Border Initiative (CBI) that handles larger scale investigations. Lawrence Police Department has one (1) detective assigned to CBI. The CBI's mission is to identify and target major Drug Trafficking Organizations (DTO's) that are based along the Northern border of Massachusetts and who, through various methods, both transport and distribute illicit drugs to customers in the Northern New England States. CBI is represented by the following agencies: DEA, Massachusetts State Police, Lowell PD, HSI, Wilmington PD, Andover PD, North Andover PD, Salem, NH PD, Haverhill PD, and Lawrence PD. In 2019 the CBI made 131 arrests all of which are being prosecuted federally, and seized 31 kilograms of fentanyl and 20 Firearms.

In August 2019, CBI initiated an investigation into a member of a drug trafficking organization (DTO) that had been active in Lawrence for the last 11 years. A phone wire was used as part of the investigation. At the conclusion of the investigation four (4) members of the DTO were arrested, including the second in command and the subject of in the initial investigation, and 5 kilograms of fentanyl and 1 shot gun were seized.

## Forensic Video Unit

The Forensic Video Unit conducted approximately 412 video investigations during 2019. In addition the unit prepared evidence in an additional 90 cases for officers and detectives to bring to court. These cases range from hit and run motor vehicle accidents to homicide investigations. They may include simple recovery and processing for publishing to wanted posters or extensive processing and analysis for court. The unit continues to work on open investigations as well. Further details are available on individual cases. The Forensic Video Unit continues to access and handle the newly constructed citywide camera system.

# Youth Diversion Initiative

## **SSYI**

The Safe and Successful Youth Initiative (SSYI) is a multi-faceted strategy for reducing youth violence. SSYI provides funding to support a coordinated intervention strategy in partnership with community-based organizations, education, training, and workforce development programs that also include street outreach, trauma counseling, and case management support. Massachusetts implemented SSYI in 2011. Funding currently goes to communities that demonstrate the highest rates of youth violence: Boston, Brockton, Chelsea, Fall River, Haverhill, Holyoke, Lawrence, Lowell, Lynn, New Bedford, Pittsfield, Springfield, and Worcester. Lawrence Police Department is currently the third highest funding recipient of the SSYI Grant. LPD is responsible for all grant reporting, selection of eligible individuals and ensuring that the contract with the Program Agency (Lawrence Family Development) is adhered to. While the majority of the \$600,000 grant is dispersed to the Program Agency the LPD retains \$55,000 to cover the Detective assigned to the Program.

The Lawrence Police Department is responsible for selecting eligible individuals that meet the parameters of the grant. An eligible individual is a male who is 17-24 years old who:

*A. Is known to law Enforcement as meeting at least two of the following criteria:*

1. Repeatedly engages in weapons violence or crimes against persons, or
2. Was a victim of weapons violence or crimes against persons, or
3. Engages in high volume of drug-related criminal activity, or
4. Is in a leadership role in gang or street violence.

*B. Currently resides in the community or is expected to be released into the community.*

A Lawrence Police detective is tasked with collecting data via CORI, police reports, gang lists, probation records and or other appropriate data. This detective also works closely with Lawrence Family Development (SISU) and staff to ensure that all eligible individuals are contacted and served as efficiently as possible. Once individuals are selected all relevant information is entered into the SSYI State database system and assign the individual to the program director. Under the program the main objective is gang prevention and diversion through education, work, counseling and other services. Eligible individuals are most high-risk and tend to have violent histories. This detective, when requested, may also provide safety for outreach workers when they must go make contact and visit these young males. To ensure that all data is entered correctly and up to date SSYI Admin/Law Enforcement Lead meetings are attended every other month for status updates, funding issues and training. To date there are 140 High Risk Youth on the SSYI Database for Lawrence. These youth are provided services via our partnership with Lawrence Family Development. Some of the services provided to qualifying high risk youth are detailed below.

## **Lawrence Family Development (SISU)**

Employment: SSYI youth are placed at a number of sites throughout the area, including: Shalom, Beacons Boys and Girls Club, Pressure Detail, Velos Auto, Tu Casa, Joy empanada, Aubuchon Hardware, United Linens, etc.

Education: Youth who **have not** graduated or received an equivalency are required to do the following: 1. attend HISET classes at SISU Center, 2. Are enrolled into RISE alternative school through Lawrence Public Schools, 3. Attend classes at the Lawrence Adult Learning Center. Youth who **have** graduated or received equivalency are required to do the following: 1. post-secondary– Umass Lowell or 2. Vocational Training: Skills Build pre-apprentice, Lawrence Training School, Massachusetts Laborer's Union Skills Build program, Weatherization Training, Precision Machining Training, Automotive Service Technician (begins mid-January).

Family and Social Support: In addition to in-house workshops, SSYI youth participate in the following Lawrence-based services, GIFT program, Amigos mentoring, Greater Lawrence Family Health Center, and Lawrence Housing Authority.

Mental Health: SSYI Lawrence has a contract with Children, Friends, and Families, who provide the following services: Support Groups, Individual Therapy, Mental Health assessments, service planning Ferrara's Counseling and YWCA domestic violence team provide additional services.



## Open Gyms

The Lawrence Police Department provides an open gym program for Lawrence Public School youth. The program serves youth who are in grades 6 through 12 between the hours of 5:30pm and 8:30 on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays. Presently, this program is offered at the Guilmette Middle School and the South Lawrence East School.

One Lawrence Police Detective and the school resources officers are assigned in pairs each night on a rotating basis. On any given night they may be found playing basketball, throwing a football or participating in volleyball with the youth who attend. They also utilize their time at open gym building relationships with students and bridging the gap that exists between our city youth and police. Many parents on occasion visit open gyms to ensure that their sons/daughters are in attendance and to speak with officers regarding concerns they have with their own children.



Open Gyms most importantly provide a safe environment with the added protection of Officers for City youth. Between the months of January 2019 and December 2019 Open Gym has served in excess of **7,000 City Youth**.

The plan with added funding is to expand open gym to 5 nights per week. From this new funding we intend to also provide basketballs and other equipment to youth who may be in need.



# School Resource Officers

A School Resource Officer (SRO) is a certified Lawrence Police Officer who is permanently assigned to provide coverage to a school or a set of schools. The SRO is specifically trained to perform within the educational environment and is not a security guard, or officer who has been placed temporarily in a school in response to a crisis situation but rather acts as a comprehensive resource for their school and the district. The Lawrence Police Department's SRO Unit relies on positive relationships between officers and students. These relationships build trust between SROs and the student body, reduces school safety issues, and promotes perceptions of safety.

**NOTE:** *The Lawrence Police SRO Unit has the philosophy that arrest or a student's introduction to the criminal justice system should be a last resort while respecting all rights of victims. The 2019 criminal activity statistics below are reflective of the amended police options under the Criminal Justice Reform Bill of 2018.*

With that philosophy in mind, below are the 2019 SRO Unit statistics:

Incident Reports:	201
Arrests:	9
Summonses	77
Weapons Confiscated	15

## Special Programs:

### Junior Police Academy

This program addresses the need for positive programs for youth during the summer months. This very successful program focuses not only law enforcement, but also on all public service careers and stresses good citizenship and decision-making. This program builds strong bonds between the youth participants and the SROs that administer the program and is extremely popular. Officers have built ongoing relationships with the youth served and assisted past participants' years after their graduation from the Academy. In 2019 the Department had 64 applications to attend the Junior Police Academy and graduated 31 youth from the program.



### Operation Night Light

This is a Lawrence Police SRO Unit and Lawrence District Court Probation Department partnership where SROs accompany probation officers on home visits of youth who are actively on probation. This is a very successful program as it shows youth on probation and at highest risk to re-offend that participating agencies are working together to both assist and monitor them. This, like all of the other Police programs, has the added benefit of using SROs who have a natural relationship with the school system, adding another avenue for intervention with these at risk youth. For 2019, SROs and probation officers completed 108 home visits.



### Cops & Kids Sports Program

In this program the Lawrence Police SRO Unit and the Lawrence Public Schools provide the youth of the City with a safe and secure place to gather and play sports in the evening hours. The goal of this program is to foster youth/police relationships, provide youth an alternative to being on the street during high crime times, and provide attending youth with various educational presentations on safety, good decision making, and violence prevention etc. At this time the School Resource Officers staff two gyms four times a week and for 2019 we have had 7,616 youth take part in the program. NOTE: During extended times this year, especially during the summer, the gyms were not available due to repairs etc. and gyms had to be cancelled and/or moved which reduced our numbers.

# Animal Control

The Animal Control Unit of the Lawrence Police Department is comprised of two animal control officers. These officers are responsible for the maintaining and caring for the animals at the pound. This includes feeding, walking, cleaning kennels, laundry, dishes, as well as stocking supplies for the animals and the building. Additionally, the officers answer daily complaints via e-mail and telephone and respond to calls for service from the Department. The officers will at times assist with special assignments with the SNUE Unit, Sheriff Department and Constables. Animal Control officers also assist with mutual aid with the town of Methuen

Throughout the year, their duties include picking up any stray, domestic animals, and wildlife complaints as well as any injured wildlife. They respond to dog bites, animal to human bites, barking complaints, and other animal complaint. Animal Control Officer Bistany is appointed the City of Lawrence Animal Health inspector, and those duties include investigating all dog bite incidents and Rabies quarantines as well as keeping paperwork in order to be sent to Massachusetts State Health Department. Additionally she will appear in District and Superior court for animal cruelty cases.

During 2019 the Animal Control Officers:

- Responded to 556 calls for service
- Wrote 72 incident reports
- Responded to 28 dog/cat bites reported by medical facilities
- 3 Animal Cruelty court cases
- Took the following into custody:
  - ◊ 175 dogs (12 dogs went to the MSPCA, 42 went to Animal Rescue League in Boston, 25 to Sweet Paws Rescue, and the remainder released back to their owners)
  - ◊ 98 cats (sent to various rescue groups)
  - ◊ 14 opossum to wildlife rehabilitators
  - ◊ 6 hawks sent to Tufts Wildlife
  - ◊ 12 baby squirrels to rehabilitation
  - ◊ 5 other various wildlife sent to rehabilitation facility
  - ◊ 7 wildlife animals brought to MSPCA
  - ◊ 37 chicken / roosters fowl (25 surrendered to the MSPCA and the remainder to other rescues)
  - ◊ 4 animals sent to the state lab in Boston for rabies testing
- Wrote approximately 42 citations
- Removed approximately 172 deceased animals/road kill
- There are 2967 dog licenses in the city (*dog licensing period runs March 31, 2019– April 1, 2020*)
- Responded to approximately 28 Mutual Aid calls for the Town of Methuen

## Training

In 2019 the Department continued its partnership with Northern Essex Community College in regards to the Police Academy and in-service training. The training division has offered a host of different trainings, online, in person, and scenario based, all in an attempt to have a well-rounded police force trained in best practices and procedures. The training division has made a concerted effort to give the officers of the Lawrence Police Department specific training on the city's immigrant population. Specifically, the issues and concerns they have and how the Department can properly protect and serve them. The training division asked community partners to assist the Department with training specifically in the area of Implicit Bias. The division has done a great job of training the Department's officers and giving them the basic tools to do their jobs, however, we would be ignorant not to address the issue of bias and how it affects their decision making process. The Department's goal is that each officer responds to an incident and deal with the community based on the issues not the individual. The Department continuously reinforces that every individual should be treated with professionalism and dignity at all times regardless of the situation.

**ACADEMY:** In 2019, fifteen officers graduated from the academy. Five of these new officers have finished their field training and are currently working in the patrol division. The other ten officers will finish their field training in February 2020, will be assigned to their respective shifts, and assume all patrol duties. During their field training, the officers went through a twelve-week San Jose Model Field Training Program where they were mentored by senior officers. The Field Training Officers were asked to observe, instruct and critique the new officers on their interactions, tactics, report writing, and decision making. The new officers also did a rotation in the Detective Division in an attempt to introduce them to the different investigating techniques. Along with field training, these officers were also exposed to scenario-based training including court room testimony in conjunction with the District Attorney's Office. The officers were asked to participate in a crime based scenario, and write a report that they would later testify to in a realistic mock trial scenario. During the exercise the deficiencies in their reports and testimony were exposed in a controlled environment allowing them to develop the skills needed for future prosecution. This portion was developed in conjunction with the District Attorney's Office and is invaluable in not only the training of the officers and the ADA's, but in cultivating a good working relationship between the Lawrence Police Department and District Attorney's Office. The training division is currently working with potential recruits, putting them through the pre-academy screening process, and will be putting eleven new recruits in the January Northern Essex Police Academy 24 week MPTC training program.

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:** During 2019 and into 2020, for the second year, all Lawrence Police Department officers were sent to Northern Essex Community College and Reading for in-service training. Local law enforcement, including Lawrence Police officers, used the MPTC curriculum to train all officers in the following areas: First Aid, CPR, legal updates, defensive tactics, domestic violence, critical stress awareness, procedural justice and combating extremism.

**LAW ENFORCEMENT BEST PRACTICES:** Along with the state in-service training the division is continually striving to give officers in the Department the tools to assist them in successfully and impartially enforcing the law as well as the tools to obtain convictions whenever possible. This is all done in such a way as to not alienate the community the Department serves. The division attempted to train officers through traditional training methods including the use of outside vendors. The division also utilizes the Department's own officers for trainings and partners with local agencies such as the fire department, the school department, Middlesex Sheriffs Department, Department of Children and Families as well as local attorneys, like Zolia Gomez and Shane Rodriguez. This is all done in an effort to give officers a range of techniques and perspectives to help them in their ever changing role as police officer.

The division sought out the best individualized training from established law enforcement training outlets in various areas. A sample of these traditional trainings that officers attended were in the following areas: Search and Seizure, Reid Investigative Techniques, Violence Identification and Prevention, Active Shooter, Drug Investigation, Impaired Driving, Gun Licensing, Drugged Driving, Homicide Investigation, Identifying an Impostor, Criminal Justice Reform Act, Sex Offender Training, Officer Involved Shooting, Warrant Affidavit Writing, Characteristic of Armed Offender, Tactical Driving, Impaired Driving, 911 Dispatch Liabilities, Finger Printing, and Non-Compliance Report Writing. Additionally, the division recognizes that this profession is ever changing and in an effort to keep up with the latest changing techniques officers were sent to be trained in



the following non-traditional areas: Droid Operation, Camera Investigation/Evidence Retrieval, Environmental Laws, Boating Laws, Social Media Investigation, Removing Defamatory Information from the Internet, and Cell Phone Investigation.

**SCENARIO-BASED TRAINING:** Officers were also exposed to scenario-based training. The entire department was put through active shooter scenarios. With the help of the Lawrence Police Department ERT officers, School Resource Officers, role players, and simulation the Lawrence Police, along with the North Andover Police Department, were trained on how to approach a possible shoot no/ shoot scenario. After multiple scenarios officers and role players joined together to debrief on the positive and negative technique and tactics. In 2019, the Department partnered with the Middlesex Sheriff's Department and utilized their model firing range training. During this training, officers were trained on a shoot /no shoot scenario using live firing. Additionally, the division recognized that tactical skills and decision making are vital in today's policing and initiated "Tactical Thursdays". These are a monthly training hosted by the Lawrence Emergency Response team. During these trainings officers are put through scenarios such as room clearing, door way appraisal, breaching techniques, felony stops and tactical decision making.

**COMMUNITY BASED POLICING:** The training division recognizes that some of today's policing is not about law enforcement. Officers are often interjected in a wide range of situations. Officers have been sent to trainings on certain non-traditional police topics to help serve the community and these include: Helping People with Alzheimer's, Recognition Psychosis, Disability Awareness, Supporting Residents with Mental Illness and Cultural Diversity, and Hate Crime Training.

**PARTNERSHIPS:** The training division has looked to local community partners to help keep Lawrence Police Department officers trained in a wide variety of issues. In 2019, the Lawrence Police Domestic Violence Unit, in conjunction with the District Attorney's Office, revamped the Department's domestic violence police to now include a danger assessment component. Along with local Attorney Shane Rodrigues and the Domestic Violence Unit the Department was trained on domestic violence resources that will better serve victims. Additionally the division partnered with Attorney Zoila Gomez to help train the Department on working with people with immigration issues and unbiased and impartial policing. Finally, the division will continue to utilize the Middlesex Sheriff's Department Mobil Firing range to augment the yearly shooting training.

**ROLL CALL TRAINING:** The Training division has made a conscious effort to keep all officers up to date on best practices, policies, and procedures. Through the year the training division has presented roll call training to the officers. These trainings have been in a wide variety of areas and include dealing with the homeless, options in dealing with people with addiction, civilian integrity testing, and the filming of police officers in the performance of their duty. Additionally, DCF workers came to roll call to address the officers in the best way to work with children in crisis and the proper way of filing a 51a.

**EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT:** In 2019 the Department had eight superior officers complete the F.B.I. LEEDA Trilogy series. This series included learning best practices in the area of supervision, command, and executive leadership as established by national standards. Nineteen out of thirty two officials have completed this series and the remaining seven are scheduled to finish in 2020. Additionally, three superior officers attended the Police Executive Research Forum, a three week training hosted at Boston University. Finally, the Lawrence Police Department had seven officials attend the ten week Executive Development Program hosted by The Municipal Police Institute.

**TRAINING OUTSIDE AGENCIES:** The Lawrence Police has been asked by various public and private local agencies to help train their personnel in various areas including safety planning, active shooter evacuation, and safety factors in doing home visits. The training division has made themselves available and conducted trainings for the North East Justice Center, Children and Family Services, Department of Children and Family, The Grater Lawrence Mantel Health and the GEM group. Additionally, they have worked closely with the Lawrence Public Schools and have spoken with youth at Lawrence High School and the Greater Lawrence Technical High School.

**HEALTH AND WELLNESS:** The Lawrence Police Department has recognized that policing in today's environment can be stressful. The Department has put together a team of officers trained to watch for warning signs in order to assist officers in dealing with personal and professional crisis situations. This team has been sent to Crisis Intervention and Peer Support training. Additionally, other officers have been sent to Mental First Aid for First Responders. A pilot program is being started in 2020 in the area of mental wellness and peer support with the goal of keeping the officers of the Lawrence Police Department healthy.

## 2019 TRAININGS CLASSES

### **Officer Safety**

- Recognizing Characteristic of Armed Offender
- Officer Involved Shooting
- Active Shooter
- Crisis Intervention
- Officer Peer Support
- 911 Dispatch Liability Issues
- Officer Safety and Survival
- Tactical Driving
- Field Officer Training
- Field Officer Train the Trainer
- Fentanyl Safety
- First Aid
- CPR
- Defensive Tactics
- Critical Stress Awareness
- Fire Arms Qualifications
- Mobile Firing Range
- Active Shooter School Based Sceneries

### **Investigation**

- Drug Investigation
- Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving
- Red Flag Gun Licensing
- Identification Fraud Training
- Search and Seizure
- Warrant Affidavit Writing
- Sex Offender Protocol
- Drug Interdiction
- Impaired Driving
- Boat Dock/Environmental policing
- Droid Operation
- Finger Printing
- Non Compliance Report Writing
- Patrol Report writing
- Cell Phone Investigation
- Removing Deformity from the Internet
- Reid Investigative Techniques
- Violence Identification Preventing and Reporting
- Domestic Violence
- Legal Updates



### **Community Orientated**

- Alzheimer Recognition
- Mental Health First Aid
- Mental Health for First responders
- Women in Criminal Justice Conference
- Disability Awareness
- Psychosis Recognition
- Rape Defense
- Cultural Diversity
- Supporting Residents with Mental Illness
- Women in Law enforcement
- Intimate Partner Abuses Education
- Fostering Positive Relationship with Immigrants and Refugees
- Implicit Biased

### **Executive development**

- Police Executive Research Forum
- F.B.I. L.E.E.D.A. (Law Enforcement Executive Development)
- F.B.I. Supervisor Development
- F.B.I. Command Development
- F.B.I. Executive Development
- M.P.I. Executive Development





## Opioid Outreach

The H.E.L.P. (Heroin Epidemic Lawrence Partnership) initiative continues to grow. The Lawrence Police, along with other community partners, spearheaded an effort to more efficiently provide services to the addicted community and their families. This included providing officers on the street with resources that better assist the affected community such as informative literature, and contact information of outreach workers.

The Lawrence Police Department has been able to secure a grant to train and provide Narcan to all officers. This has been crucial due the fact that during 2019 the City of Lawrence had 282 overdoses with 33 of them being fatal. This number remained consistent with 2018 during which the Department responded to 279 overdoses incidents. In 2017, the Department documented a response to 131 overdose incidents. It is important to note that in 2017, and years prior, the response to overdoses was not as carefully documented as it was in 2018 and will be in the future. Additionally, the Department is aware that in certain incidents victims are given Narcan by family and friends on scene. Both of these factors make it challenging to quantify the entire scope of the opioid epidemic.

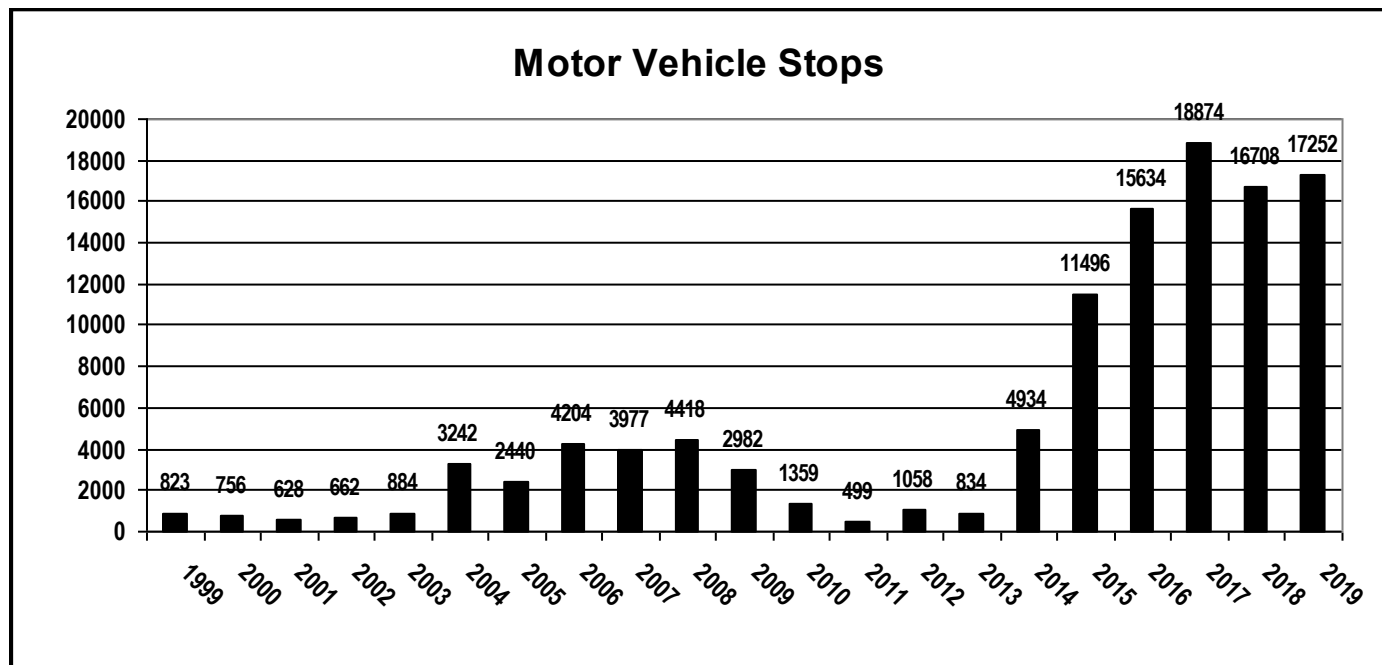
Although the Narcan training and distribution has proven successful in the short term, it did little to address the underlying problem of addiction and the manpower and resources it draws from the Department. The Lawrence Police Department along the Lawrence Methuen Community Coalition (L.M.C.C.) partnered to form The HUB to address this gap in services. The HUB is a coalition of service providers, both public and private, that meet weekly to give immediate and wraparound services to those in crisis. Through the HUB we are able to share in community resources.

One of these resources is providing rides to treatment, which can otherwise be challenging for people suffering with addiction. The Department has been able to utilize a grant funded program secured by Andover PD that provides rides to treatment. Lawrence Probation has also been able to use this resource, and combined in 2019 the Department and Lawrence Probation were able to provide 17 Lawrence residents a ride to treatment to assist them in their recovery. The Lawrence Police outreach program has also developed a post overdose outreach team. The post overdose team reconnects with Lawrence residents who have overdosed. These people are offered individualized treatment as well as Narcan training for the individuals as well as their families. In 2019, every person that was contacted by the post overdose team has not overdosed a second time.

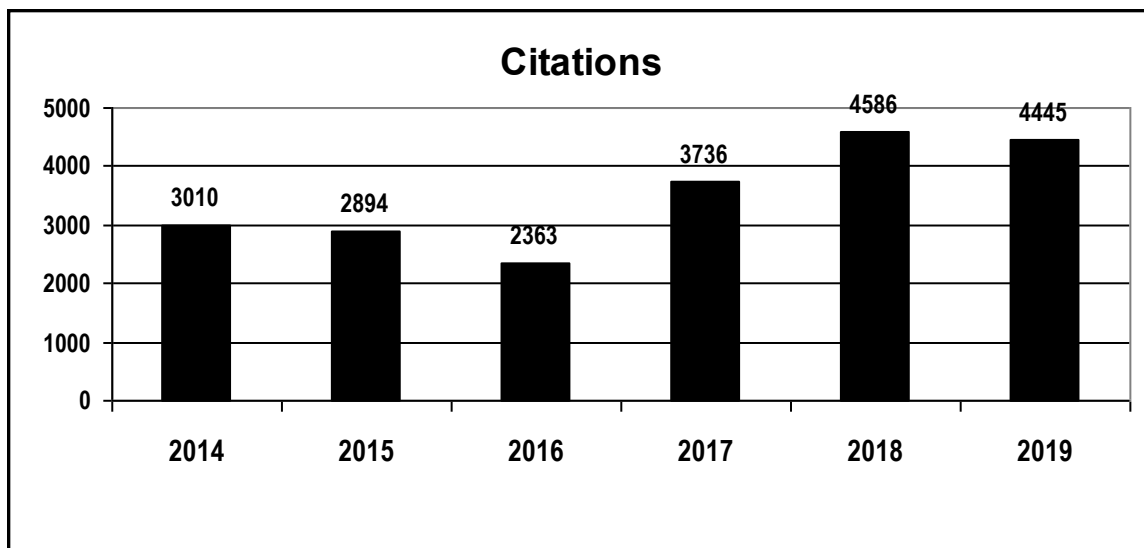
The H.E.L.P. Initiative in partnership with Greater Lawrence Mental Health Center also applied for and was granted funding for one fulltime officer along with one full time civilian outreach worker as well as two recovery coaches to proactively address the opioid crisis in the city. The H.E.L.P team has been recognized and asked to be one of the key note speakers at the Greater Lawrence Opioid Alliance Symposium. The team was also recognized at the Police Assisted Addition Recovery Initiative (PAARI) national conference held in Washington D.C. The H.E.L.P. will continue to work diligently to combat the opioid crisis.

## Motor Vehicle Data

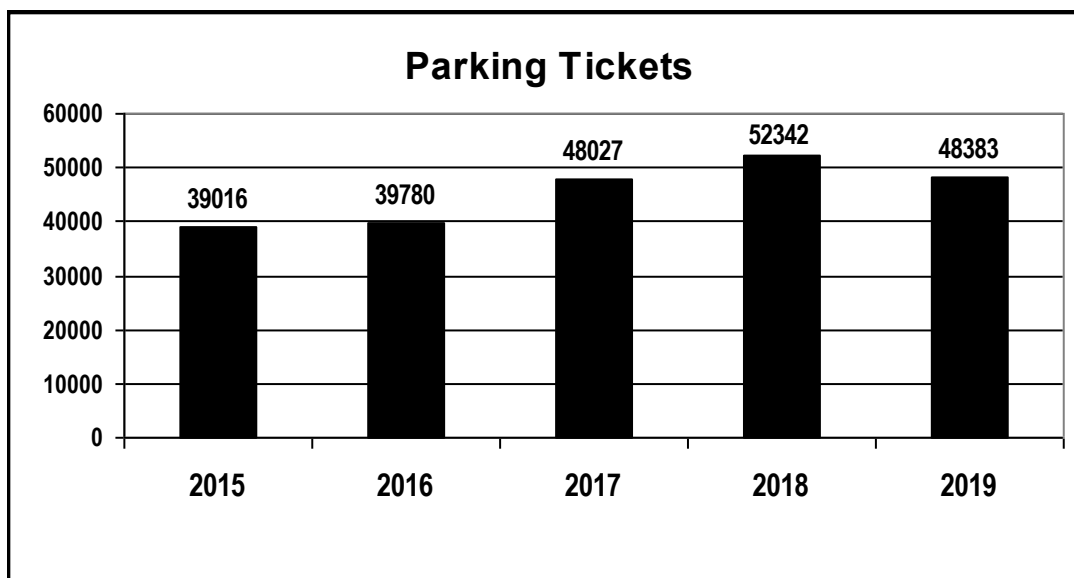
The graph below shows the number of motor vehicle stops made per year from 1999 through 2019. As shown the number of motor vehicle stops has significantly increased since 2014. The number of motor vehicle stops increased 132% from 2014 to 2015. In 2019, 17,252 motor vehicle stops were conducted. This is a 3% increase compared to 2018. The Department averages approximately 47 stops per day. Additionally, the Department focuses on stopping high theft vehicles.



In 2019 the Lawrence Police Department gave out 4,445 motor vehicle citations. This is a slight decrease from 2018. Based on complaints from businesses, residents, and community groups the Department has increased the amount of selective enforcement being done. The Department has issued an increased number of citations for speeding, unregistered M/Vs, and stop/ yield fails. Of note, this number does not reflect those issued by Massachusetts State Police during joint operations.



In 2019, the Lawrence Police Department in conjunction with the city's outside agency issued a total of 48,383 parking tickets. This is an 8% decrease compared to 2018. A majority of the parking tickets are given out by the city's agency.



## 2018 Top Accident Locations

In early 2019 the Lawrence Police Department identified the top accident locations of 2018. This was done by examining the auto accident reports from all of 2018, and determining which intersections and addresses had the highest number of accidents. Those addresses and the number of accidents at each location can be found on the chart below.

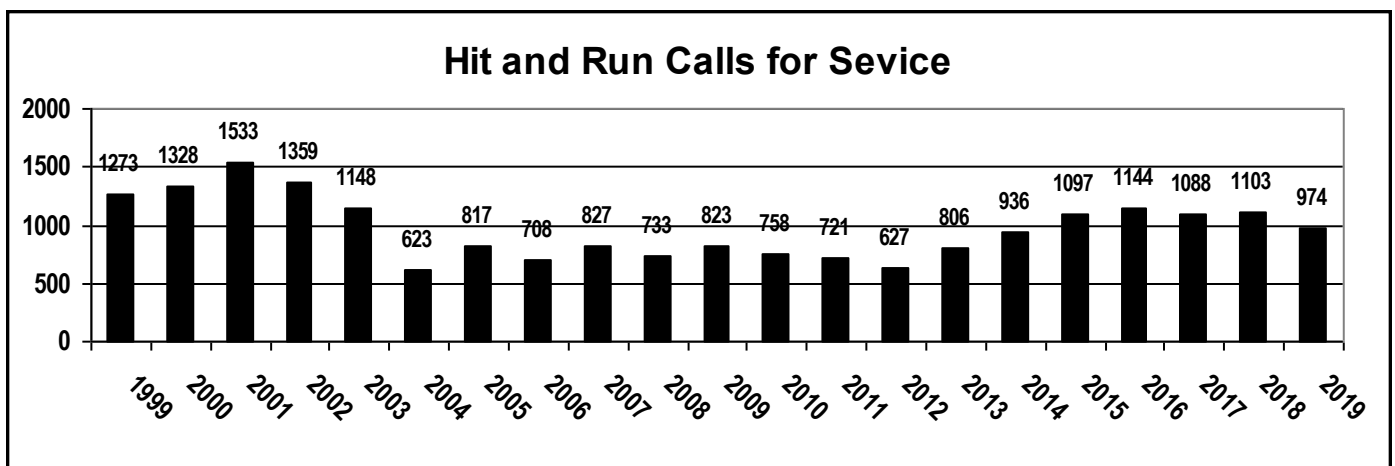
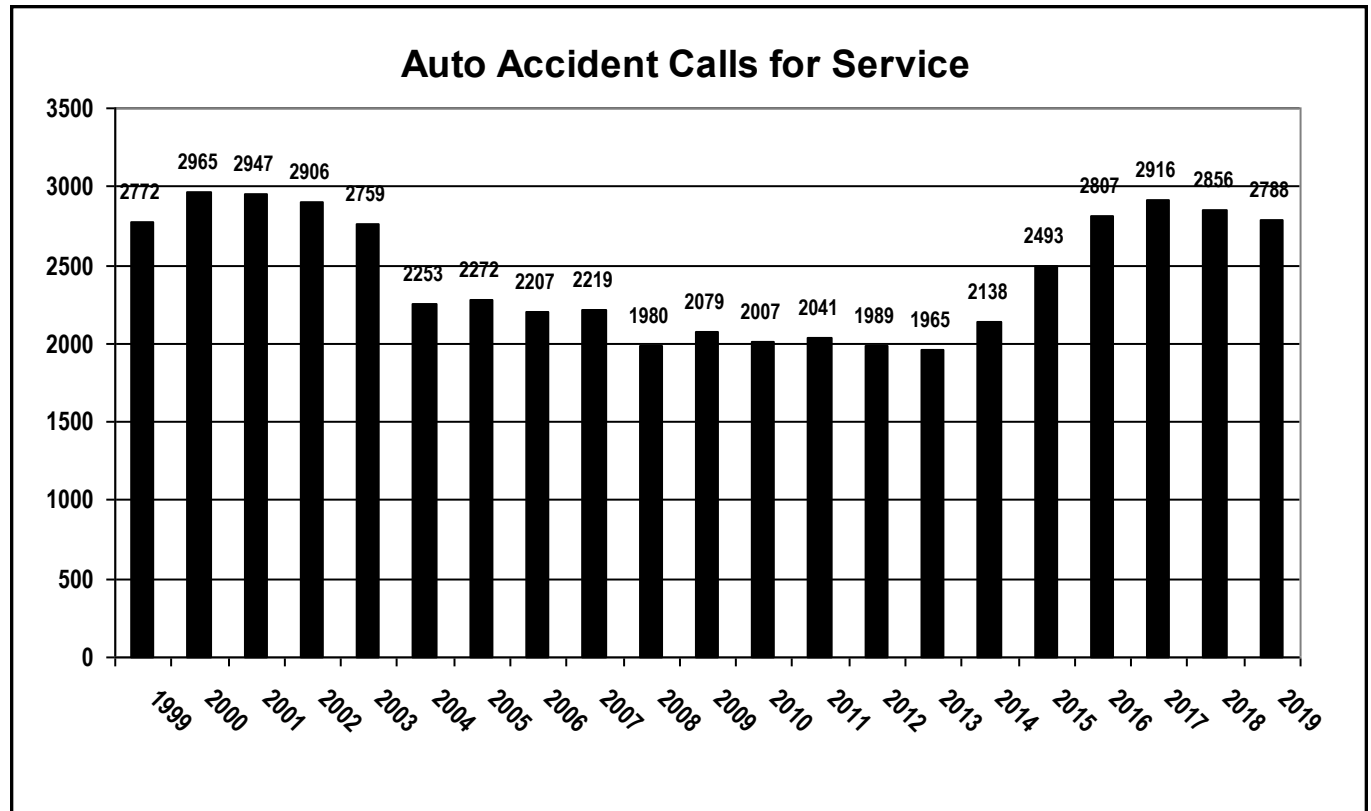
<u>Address</u>	<u>Number of Accidents</u>
Common St & Franklin St	17
Broadway & Essex St	17
73 Winthrop Av	13
Avon & Jackson St	13
Merrimack St & Parker St	10
Broadway & Haverhill	10
Marston St & Commonwealth Dr	10

After identifying these locations the Department increased the amount of selective enforcement being done at those locations in an effort to make the locations safer. The chart below shows the number of citations given out at those locations during 2019.

<u>Address</u>	<u>Number of Citations</u>
Common St & Franklin St	63
Broadway & Essex St	154
73 Winthrop Av	225*
Avon & Jackson St	62
Merrimack St & Parker St	107
Broadway & Haverhill	181
Marston St & Commonwealth Dr	117

*\*Citations were given out at 73 Winthrop Av and Winthrop Ave & S Union St intersection; 225 represents the combined total.*

In addition to motor vehicle stops, citations, and parking tickets the Department also responds to a significant amount of auto accident and hit and run calls for service. The two graphs below show the total number of auto accident calls for service and the total number of hit and run calls per year. These calls include aiding in involved parties exchanging papers, completing an accident report, completing an incident report, and/or conducting an investigation. In 2019, 3,762 total calls were responded to. There were a decreased number of auto accidents and hit and run compared to 2018.



## Taxi and Livery Services

The Lawrence Police Department Hackney Unit is responsible for the issuance of all hackney licenses, medallions, and taxicab/ livery licenses. Prior to being issued a hackney license or business license the applicant must go through a criminal background check, operator license check, and be fingerprinted. The unit also coordinates with the RMV Vehicle Compliance Unit to have a yearly taxicab/ livery vehicles inspection. The City of Lawrence of medallion program consist of 150 taxicabs medallions that are issued to individual citizens in the taxi industry. These medallions are spread out among the four fully licensed tax companies. These medallions require a yearly renewal fee which will be collected during the months of January and February 2020. There are no set numbers of livery vehicles established in the city's ordinance. During 2019, there were eight (8) livery companies in operation. These companies had 39 vehicles between them. A yearly renewal permit for each livery vehicle of \$250 will be collected after approval by city council. No yearly inspections were conducted during 2019 due to weather; inspections will resume in early 2020.

- The total number of Taxi and Livery meetings with company owner, drivers and interested parties: **96**. *These meetings addressed issues like: Pre inspection protocol, complaints, yearly renewal, medallion transfers, and hackney licenses issues.*
- Taxi and Livery Companies Business applications processed and submitted to council for approval for 2019: **13**
- Number of Medallions Transfers submitted and approved by Council in 2019: **6**
- Number of citizen's complaints investigation: **5**

Hackney Licenses issued and denials:

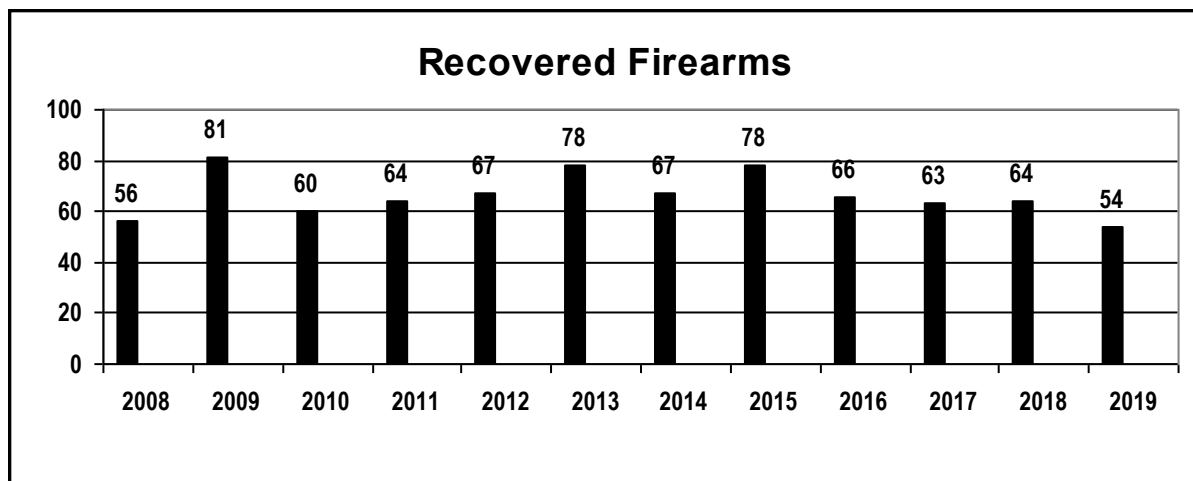
Year 2019	Issued	Denied	Final Total:
	403	27	430

Year	Medallion Issued	Year	Livery Vehicles
2015	150	2015	15
2016	150	2016	37
2017	150	2017	37
2018	150	2018	40
2019	150	2019	39

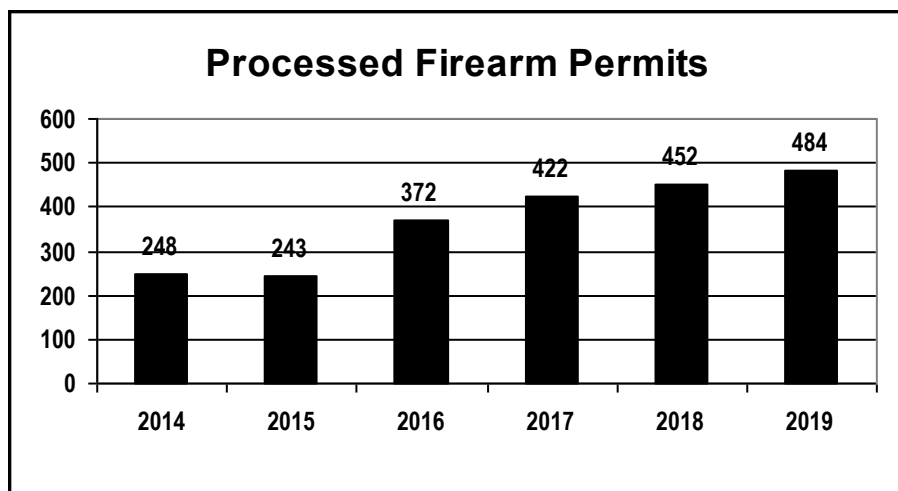


## Firearms

The Lawrence Police Department has recovered 798 firearms between 2008 and 2019. This number does not reflect those guns recovered by outside agencies like: ATF, DEA, and Massachusetts State Police. The department is also partnering with the US Attorney's Office to seek prosecution for firearm charges when appropriate. Additionally, the department partners with ATF to process recovered firearms and shell casings in an effort to link them to cases and on going investigations.



During 2019, 484 firearm permits were processed by the Lawrence Police Department. The graph below shows the number of firearm permits processed per year from 2014 through the end of 2019.

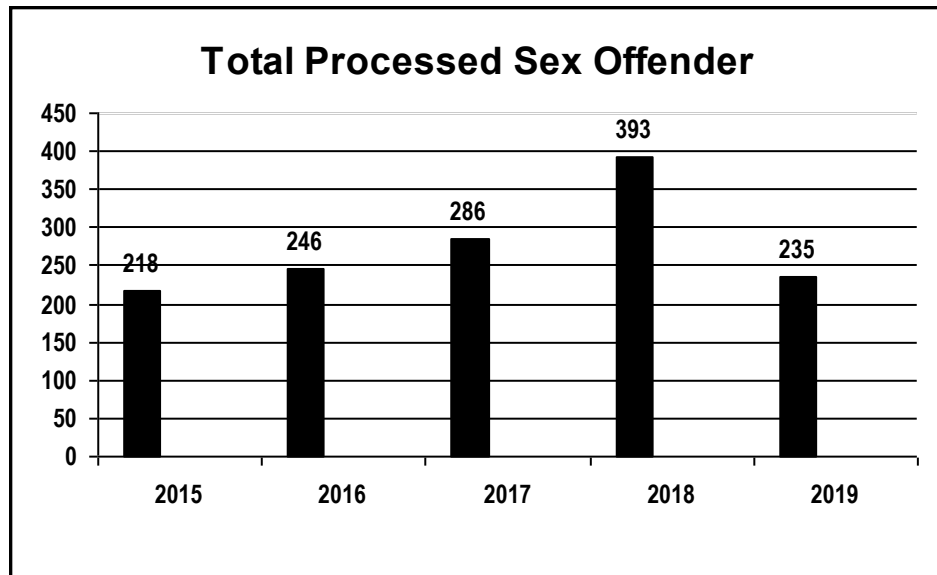


# Sex Offenders

The Sex Offender Tracking Unit is responsible for processing sex offender registry forms as well as meeting and contacting sex offenders. Some of the other responsibilities of the unit include home visits, employment verification, investigations, and court duties. Below is an overview of the 2019 statistics, a chart of the breakdown, and finally a graph showing the number of processed sex offenders by year.

- The City of Lawrence has 237 registered sex offenders living, working and / or attending an institution of higher learning. Out these 237 offenders, 46 are classified as level 1 sex offenders. The department does not register process or monitor level 1 sex offenders, as they report directly to the Massachusetts Sex Offender Registry Board in writing. However, the department is responsible for investigating and if applicable arresting them when they fail to register with the Massachusetts Sex Offender Registry Board.
- Nine (9) homeless sex offenders live in the city, and report monthly to the Department.
- There are 28 sex offenders in violation at this time. 19 have active warrants, and the remaining nine (9) are being investigated.

2019 Breakdown	
Processed Sex Offender Registry Forms	235
Appointments / meetings	441
Public Dissemination Slides	210



# Lawrence Police Department

## *Important Phone Numbers*

**Emergency.....911**

**Non- Emergency line.....978-794-5900**

**Chief's Office.....978-794-5900 Ext. 640**

**Patrol Division .....978-794-5900 Ext. 506**  
**Officer in Charge (24 hours a day)**

**Detectives.....978-794-5900 Ext. 625**

**Drug Hotline.....978-794-5918**

**Professional Standards..... 978-857-3200**  
**Unit**

**Animal Control ..978-794-5856 (M-F 9AM-11PM)**  
**(All other hours Non-Emergency line listed above)**

**Runaway Assistance Program...211**

## *Emails Addresses/Text to Tips*

### **Loudnoise@lawpd.com**

(In addition to the Non-Emergency Line this email address may be used to report loud noise)

### **Disorder@lawpd.com**

(In addition to the numbers listed above this email address maybe used to report drug activity as well as all other quality of life issues.)

### **Text to Tip text: 274637 then type "LAWPD" followed by your message.**

(Completely ANONYMOUS tip line via text or web. Provide information on a crime that may assist us in our investigations and protect your privacy.)

### **www.lawpd.com**

Department's Website with helpful information, as well as a link to the (Police Department Civilian Complaint Form)

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# **Lawrence Police Department 2019 Annual Report**



**Chief Roy P. Vasque**