

**Hendersonville Police Department**  
**Public Monthly Report**  
**January 2024**



## Chief's Monthly Summary

I feel compelled to address information that has surfaced surrounding the shooting death that took place on Thanksgiving night in the Orchard Bar & Grill parking lot. There is much about this case that I cannot share publicly because of state law. What I can do is shine a light on the actions taken by the Hendersonville Police Department in response to a senseless incident of gun violence.

Many of the accusations made about this department are simply not true. The men and women in this department strive to conduct themselves with the utmost professionalism in every single instance. I am proud to be associated with them. They treat people with respect, regardless of who the person is. We never turn a blind eye to crime simply because of someone's past. That night, our Officers brought order to a chaotic scene, preserved evidence, conducted a thorough investigation, and later turned over our findings to the District Attorney, in accordance with the law and department policy. I will always defend my people when they do the right thing; today is one of those days.

In December, after an extensive review of the evidence, and in consultation with the District Attorney's Office, it was determined the shooting death was a case of self-defense. The shooter's actions simply do not rise to the level of a crime. We would like nothing more than to bring someone to justice for a violent crime, but we enforce the law as it is written, not as we think it should be written.

With respect to allegations of mistreatment, I can say with the highest confidence that Hendersonville Police Officers were empathetic, professional, and caring during a very chaotic scene. Law enforcement is often charged with performing in highly stressful situations. Every decision we make may not be perfect, but every decision is lawful.

It is human nature for people to draw conclusions influenced by personal biases a lot of time before the facts are known. However, condemning the personal character of our officers without knowing what actually happened is disappointing. Falsehoods, intentional or not, misinform others and work to erode trust in us. Our Officers perform an often-thankless job for little pay. We should support them when they are right and hold them accountable when they are wrong.

Thank you again to those who support and trust us to do a good job. We strive to "serve with excellence" in everything we do. We will continue to be better and to get better with every encounter.



Blair Myhand,  
Chief of Police





**Drug Offenses:**

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
30	22	19	26	48	20	26	32	28	45	23	15	28
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
19												19

**Larcenies:**

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
45	29	8	19	37	25	35	44	20	31	36	29	30
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
24												24

**Assaults:**

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
9	17	7	15	11	9	7	11	14	17	10	16	12
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
8												8

**Employee Actions**

- Captain Dale Patton retired on January 31, 2024, with 20 years of service to the City of Hendersonville. Dale was a valued member of the department. His absence will be felt for a long time. He was most recently the commander of the Criminal Investigations Bureau.



- Captain Rich Olsen was reassigned from the Patrol Services Bureau to the Criminal Investigations Bureau.
- Lieutenant Trae Laws was promoted to Captain and assigned as the Patrol Services Bureau Commander.
- Lieutenant Rob Cantwell started the Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command in Atlanta, GA. He will spend two weeks a month through June in class. This class level of instruction is a requirement for all Lieutenants before becoming eligible for promotion. Rob is the fifth Lieutenant to attend a long-term executive management course in the last two years.
- Chief Myhand officially turned over the reins as President of the North Carolina Association of Chiefs of Police and the North Carolina FBI National Academy Associates. He is now the immediate past president of both associations.

### **Community Tip – Safe Firearms Storage**

Firearm safety is everyone's responsibility. Far too often unsecured firearms are being stolen from inside vehicles and homes. These guns almost always find their way into the hands of criminals. The last thing anyone needs is criminals having access to firearms. Secure your firearms and avoid liability if your stolen firearm is used in a crime.

More tragic than that is an injury or death to a child. Recently, a 3-year-old child accidentally shot and killed himself in Greenville, NC., after playing with a loaded firearm at home. A quick internet search will return story after story of accidental shootings by children who found a loaded firearm at home. Not only does a family have to live with the loss of a child, but parents can be, and often should be, charged with a crime.

Here are some tips you can use to keep your firearms secure from theft and protect your loved ones:

#### **Unload your firearm**

It is best practice to always unload your gun when it's not in use. Take the time to familiarize yourself with how to unload and clean your specific firearm. When unloading, always make sure the muzzle is pointed in a safe direction where if discharged injury is unlikely and property damage is minimal.

#### **Lock it up**

There are several ways to safely lock up your firearm, including gun safes, lockboxes, gun cases, cable locks, and trigger locks. Some of these now include biometric and electronic lock options.

#### **Make sure it stays locked**

If your gun lock uses a key, make sure you're the only one who knows where it's hidden. If the lock uses a combination or code, don't use one that an older child might be able to guess, such as a birthday, an anniversary, or the last four digits of your phone number.

### **Don't leave it unsecured in a car**

More and more guns in North Carolina are being stolen out of parked cars. If you leave a gun in your car, make sure the gun is out of sight and secured with a lock or in a gun case. Consider storage options designed specifically for vehicles, and don't forget to lock your car too.

### **Safe Storage Locations**

Interested in storing your firearm outside of the home? Consider someone you trust who may be willing to store your firearms. There are some commercial storage options for a fee as well.

Out-of-home firearm storage is especially helpful when someone in the household is at an increased risk for suicide. Firearm owners may also choose to temporarily store firearms outside their homes at other times, such as when traveling or when children are visiting.

The North Carolina Attorney General Josh Stein is hosting a webinar on ways to protect the next generation of North Carolinians on Wednesday, February 28, 2024, from 12:00pm-12:45pm. One of the topics being discussed is safe gun storage. You can register by scanning the QR code in the picture below.

**NCDOJ PRESENTS A WEBINAR SERIES**

**PROTECTING THE NEXT GENERATION OF NORTH CAROLINIANS**

**TOPICS INCLUDE:**

- SAFE GUN STORAGE
- MENTAL HEALTH
- ONLINE CRIMES
- YOUTH SUBSTANCE USE

**WE HOPE YOU WILL JOIN US FOR OUR NEXT WEBINAR ON YOUTH SUBSTANCE USE.**

**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28  
12:00 P.M. - 12:45 P.M.**

**DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
N.C.  
ATTORNEY GENERAL**

### **Complaints and Findings**

- A citizen complained in December 2023, that an officer used excessive force during an arrest. The investigation deemed the officer's action compliant with state law and department policy. The complaint was Unfounded with no additional action necessary.

### **Vehicle Pursuits and Findings**

- Officers assisted NC State Highway Patrol pursue a person that was cognitively impaired and operating a vehicle at a high rate of speed endangering others. Officers discontinued the pursuit upon the vehicle leaving the city limits. The Henderson County Sheriff's Office and NC State Highway Patrol continued the pursuit. Investigation into this pursuit determined that the pursuit was conducted in accordance with department policy and state law.

### **Use of Reasonable Force (UORF) Incidents and Findings**

- Officers used soft hand techniques to contain, control, and to take into custody a person who was threatening self-harm by means of jumping off an elevated surface. Officers successfully kept the person from seriously injuring himself. There were no injuries to the person or officers. The person was taken to a medical facility for evaluation and was not charged with any criminal offense. Investigation into this use of force is not yet completed.

### **Operations/Notable Events**

- HPD officers assisted Laurel Park PD in their first ever homicide investigation. The female suspect was arrested without incident and has since been indicted on First Degree Murder charges. She is being held at the Henderson County Detention Facility without bond.
- Officers, and other city personnel, secured flooded roadways and assisted motorists during recent heavy rain periods. HPD reminds people to adhere to road signage and not to drive through standing water.
- A person, wanted for armed robbery out of Florida was located and arrested by HPD officers without incident. The suspect is currently awaiting extradition to Florida.
- Indecent Exposure was reported in the parking lot of Epic Theatre. The suspect was located and arrested without incident.

### **Budget Summary**

- We are approximately 58% through the fiscal year.
- We have spent or reserved \$3,556,554 or 55.4% of our budget.
- Link to the budget dashboard: [City of Hendersonville Budget](#)



### **Community Outreach/Special Events**

- Security assessment for St. Gerard House

### **Grants Management**

- Embedded Mental Health Grant – Reimbursement submitted for \$6,249
  - Grant runs until September 30, 2024
- CALEA and NCLEA Accreditation
  - Contract for Ongoing Accreditation Readiness Program for coaching and mentorship to optimize performance, efficiencies, leadership effectiveness, and desired accreditation status.
- GHSP Grant – No reimbursements for the month

### **Recruiting/Retention**

- 1 of 47 Police Officer vacancies exist.
  - Applications - Total
    - (4) applications received
    - (2) in background
    - (0) rejected

**Hendersonville Police Department**  
**Public Monthly Report**  
**February 2024**



## Chief's Monthly Summary

February saw the loss of a North Carolina trailblazer. Retired Laurinburg Police Chief, Robert Malloy, died on February 1, 2024. Robert was a poet, Army Ranger, and one of the first African American Police Chiefs in the state. He was a friend and mentor to many police leaders across North Carolina. Each year, during the annual North Carolina Association of Chiefs of Police conference, Robert would present a framed copy of his poem entitled "The Badge" to the outgoing association president. He would recite the poem from memory with a deep and smooth voice. His presentation was a favorite among attendees.

I had the pleasure of being a recipient of Robert's gift. I also have the unfortunate distinction of being the last outgoing association president to receive this gift from Robert. I appreciate everything he did for me and for all the other leaders he impacted. His presence will be missed, and his bellowing voice will echo throughout our conference for years to come.

On the lighter side of things, I am happy to report that we are the first police department in North Carolina to have completed our pledge for the International Association of Chiefs of Police Trust-Building Campaign. This is a major accomplishment for staff and the department. It signifies a commitment to employ twenty-five different strategies in six different categories that help us build and strengthen trust with our community.

A full report of the department's efforts can be found by clicking this link: [Police Transparency | City of Hendersonville, NC | Official Website \(hendersonvillenc.gov\)](https://www.hendersonvillenc.gov/police-transparency). Please read more about our efforts to bolster a more positive relationship with the community we serve.

I am excited that we are at the tip of the spear among other departments in this state. More importantly, I am grateful that staff embraced this challenge, and we can now demonstrate a commitment to "serving with excellence" as is our department mission. We will continue focusing on always progressing in every area of the department. We take every opportunity to improve and be as open and transparent as possible. We want you to know we will always strive to be our best and provide you with the most professional service we can muster. When we do not meet that expectation, we promise to learn from the experience and enhance the way we do things.

Thank you again to those who support and trust us to do good work. We strive to be the best in everything we do. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to serve this community.



Blair Myhand,  
Chief of Police







**Assaults:**

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
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2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
8	11											10

**Employee Actions**

- Accreditation Manager, Monica Howard, completed all 180 proofs of compliance in our pursuit of accreditation with the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). She did this in less than half the time given to us to achieve compliance. Because of her efforts, we have moved into the mock-assessment phase and are being audited by assessors to verify adherence to the standards. We continue to move forward with achieving international accreditation this fall.
- Cpt. Trae Laws was selected to attend the FBI National Academy in Quantico, Virginia in January 2025. With his selection, he will be only one of twelve police leaders from North Carolina in 2025 to attend this prestigious school. More about the FBI National Academy can be found here: [Training — LE \(fbi.gov\)](https://www.fbi.gov/training/le)
- New Officers, Walter Garcia, Zackary Dickman, and Elijah Bradley were sworn in by Mayor Volk at city hall on February 22, 2024. They are welcome additions to the department and are now in field training. We expect the three to be in the solo phase by summer.



*Mayor Barbara Volk, Officer Elijah Bradley, Officer Zackary Dickman, Officer Walter Garcia, and Chief Blair Myhand*

### **Safety Tip – Pedestrian Safety**

Given the recent pedestrian v. vehicle fatality, it seems prudent to remind people about driving safety in areas where pedestrians might likely be present. **\*NOTE:** *this was the October 2023 Safety Tip*

#### **Driver Tips for Pedestrian Safety**

- Look out for pedestrians everywhere and always. Safety is a shared responsibility.
- Use extra caution when driving in inclement weather or during periods of limited visibility.
- Slow down and be prepared to stop when turning or otherwise entering a crosswalk.
- Always yield to pedestrians in crosswalks.
- Stop before the crosswalk to give other drivers a chance to see the pedestrian(s).
- Never pass vehicles stopped at a crosswalk. There may be people crossing that you can't see.
- Follow the speed limit, especially when pedestrians are likely to be present.
- Always follow school zone speed limits.
- Use extra caution during times that children are likely to be in the area.
- Be extra cautious when backing up — pedestrians can move into your path.
- Use extreme caution when driving past parked vehicles. i.e., parallel parking and parking lots. Children can often dart from between parked vehicles without looking for oncoming traffic.

#### **What to do in a crash with a pedestrian**

- Stop your car as soon as it is safe to do so.
- Immediately call 911 to get first responders to secure the scene as quickly as possible.
- Render first aid if you are trained and it is safe to do so.
- Stay there until law enforcement releases you from the scene.
- Take notes and/or pictures to refresh your memory and/or document the scene later.

### **Complaints and Findings**

- A citizen complained, alleging that an officer was rude while conducting a traffic stop. The complainant also alleged they felt threatened by the presence of a secondary officer. – The investigation is ongoing

### **Vehicle Pursuits and Findings**

- None



## **Use of Reasonable Force (UORF) Incidents and Findings**

- January 2024: Officers used soft hand techniques to contain, control, and to take into custody a person who was threatening self-harm by means of jumping off an elevated surface. Officers successfully kept the person from seriously injuring himself. There were no injuries to the person or officers. The person was taken to a medical facility for evaluation and was not charged with any criminal offense. The standard review of this incident revealed that the force used was both reasonable and necessary. The officer's actions are commendable.
- Officers used force by pointing a department issued firearm at a person who was actively breaking into a closed business. The firearm was not discharged, and no further force was used. The person was arrested and charged with breaking and entering. There were no injuries from this use of force. This use of force is under standard review.
- Officers used soft hand techniques to take a combative person into custody. The person was trespassing and causing a disturbance inside an open business. One officer sustained minor injuries. This use of force is under standard review.

## **Operations/Notable Events**

- A pedestrian was killed after he was struck by a passing vehicle on US 64 near I-26. The Traffic Reconstructionist determined that the pedestrian was intoxicated and standing in the roadway at the time of the collision. The driver of the striking vehicle was not speeding and had no fault in this incident. No charges were filed.
- A silver alert was issued for an 85-year-old male with possible cognitive issues after he did not return from a short fishing trip. His vehicle was found by HPD detectives the next morning in a wooded area commonly used for hunting and fishing. This launched a multi-agency, multi-day search. Unfortunately, the missing man was found deceased approximately 900 yards from his vehicle in a heavily wooded area. He is believed to have died from natural causes.
- Officers responded to a shooting at Brittany Place apartments. The incident involved an off-duty Henderson County Sheriff's Deputy who fired his personal handgun at a person banging on his assigned HCSO vehicle. The investigation was turned over to the North Carolina SBI. The department served a warrant for the former deputy later that same day.
- Officers responded to a fire on Oak St. Detectives initiated a joint arson investigation with the Hendersonville Fire Department and the NC State Bureau of Investigation. The investigation into this incident continues.

## **Budget Summary**

- We are approximately 68% through the fiscal year.
- We have spent or reserved \$4,184,774 or 66% of our budget.
- Link to the budget dashboard: [City of Hendersonville Budget](#)

### **Community Outreach/Special Events**

- Officer Brandon Haman participated in a job fair at Blue Ridge Community College and gave presentations to several groups of 11<sup>th</sup> graders from across Henderson County Schools.
- Sgt. Gardin participated in Henderson County Schools Strategic Planning.
- Kristen Narron and Sylina Holbrook conducted a tour of the police department to approximately 20 homeschoolers from Henderson County.

### **Grants Management**

- Embedded Mental Health Grant
  - Reimbursement received \$6249.00 for the period of November 2023 thru January 2024.
  - February submission pending for \$2083.00
  - Grant runs until September 30, 2024
- CALEA and NCLEA Accreditation
  - Contract for Ongoing Accreditation Readiness Program for coaching and mentorship to optimize performance, efficiencies, leadership effectiveness, and desired accreditation status.
- GHSP Grant – No reimbursements for the month

### **Recruiting/Retention**

- 1 of 47 Police Officer vacancies exist.
  - Applications - Total
    - (8) applications received
    - (0) in background
    - (0) rejected

**Hendersonville Police Department**

**Public Monthly Report**

**March 2024**



## Chief's Monthly Summary

Exciting news this month! I am happy to report that we are the first agency in North Carolina to complete the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) Trust-Building Campaign. IACP is the largest and most influential law enforcement association in the world. We regularly look to IACP to promote new and emerging trends in policing. This campaign requires agencies to implement twenty-five strategies designed to build and strengthen trust between officers and their community.

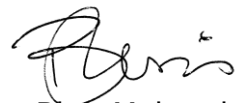
We met many of the strategies even before we started this process, but doing so gave us a great opportunity to examine our practices and revise policies where needed. Enrolling in and completing the requirements is yet another way we communicate publicly that we are committed to following industry best practices in everything we do. We want you to be comforted in knowing that we are serving with excellence every day. You can find a copy of our report here: [HPD IACP Trust Building Campaign \(hendersonvillenc.gov\)](https://hendersonvillenc.gov/HPD-IACP-Trust-Building-Campaign)

Considering some recent tragic events occurring across the nation, we are revamping our active shooter training program. We have enlisted the help of Chief (ret.) Tony Pustizzi to help us get started. Tony was the Chief of Police in Coral Springs, Florida, during the Marjory Stoneman-Douglas school shooting in 2018. Coral Springs PD Officers were the first to enter the building looking for the shooter. They learned a lot from the event and Tony is eager to share their experience with others. He is teaching the entire department in two training sessions. The training is moving and clearly drives home the point that police need to be prepared and willing to stop the threat. His training is the first step in our renewed focus of active shooter training.

We are also in the process of equipping all officers with long guns and additional ballistic protection equipment. Together with a robust training program, we hope to be highly capable to address any active event in the city. Ideally, we hope nothing like this ever happens in the city, but the world is becoming increasingly more unpredictable. Killers are adapting their tactics constantly. We must be ready to respond.

In the end, we strive to be and stay at the forefront of professional and modern policing. We plan to be leaders in 21<sup>st</sup> century policing practices. We do that by promoting a culture of continuous improvement throughout our organization and by constantly assessing our previous actions. You should think of us when you think about who the best police departments in North Carolina are. That is our goal, and we will achieve this standard.

Thank you again to those who support and trust us to do good work. We strive to be the best in everything we do. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to serve this community.



Blair Myhand,  
Chief of Police





**Drug Offenses:**

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
30	22	19	26	48	20	26	32	28	45	23	15	28
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
19	25	31										25

**Larcenies:**

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
45	29	8	19	37	25	35	44	20	31	36	29	30
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
24	45	26										32

**Assaults:**

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
9	17	7	15	11	9	7	11	14	17	10	16	12
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
8	11	14										11

**Employee Actions**

- Officer Haley Thompson applied for a fellowship program through New Blue to participate in a working group focused on the future of policing in America. New Blue is a fellowship for forward thinking officers and their ideas funded by Columbia Business School and MIT. If selected, Ofc. Thompson will participate in a cohort over several months to identify and promote new ideas in policing.
- An Officer fractured his ankle trying to arrest a male suspect for domestic violence. He will be on light duty for approximately six weeks while his ankle heals. The suspect was charged with several offenses to include assault on a law enforcement officer.
- Officer Shelby Green moved to reserve status to spend more time with her newborn son. We wish her many happy memories with her new family.
- Detective Pete Laite moved to reserve status to pursue a job in the private sector. We wish Pete the best of luck.
- Sergeant Garrett Gardin moved to reserve status to pursue a teaching job with Blue Ridge Community College.
- Officers Dickman, Garcia, and Bradley are progressing well through field training and are expected to be released to solo-duty in the coming weeks.

### **Safety Tip – Slow Down/Move Over**

North Carolina's Move Over law (N.C.G.S. §20-157(f)) protects law enforcement officers and emergency and utility workers stopped alongside our roadways.

The law took effect requiring motorists, if they can safely do so, to move one lane away from any emergency vehicle on the side of the highway. The law requires motorists to slow down and approach cautiously when an emergency vehicle is stopped on the shoulder of the roadway with its lights flashing. A violation of the move over law will result in a mandatory fine of \$250.00 plus court costs.

Sadly, every year about 23 roadside workers and first responders are killed at the roadside and hundreds more are injured. Despite being passed in all 50 states, 71 percent of Americans seem unaware of the laws that require drivers to reduce their speed and switch lanes to protect these workers.

To protect roadside workers and improve highway safety, drivers should always:

- Remain alert to the road ahead.
- Avoid distractions inside the vehicle.
- Focus on the task of driving.

Drivers should always watch for emergency vehicles, tow trucks, utility service vehicles or disabled vehicles on the side of the road. When approaching an emergency vehicle with lights flashing on the side of a two-lane roadway, drivers should slow down to a speed that is safe and approach with caution unless otherwise directed by an emergency worker on the scene. On multi-lane roadways, slow down when you see the flashing lights of an emergency vehicle at the roadside and, if possible, move over into an adjacent lane. If you are unable to switch lanes, slow to a speed that is safe and reasonable.

### **Complaints and Findings**

- From February 2024 - A citizen complained, alleging that an officer was rude while conducting a traffic stop. The complainant also alleged they felt threatened by the presence of a secondary officer. The investigation sustained the rudeness complaint but found that the allegation of threats was unfounded.

### **Vehicle Pursuits and Findings**

- None



### **Use of Reasonable Force (UORF) Incidents and Findings**

- Officers used force by pointing a department issued firearm at a person who was breaking into a business. The firearm was not discharged, and no further force was used. The person was arrested and charged with breaking and entering. There were no injuries from this use of force. This use of force is under standard review.
- Officers used soft hand techniques to take a combative person into custody. The person was trespassing and causing a disturbance inside an open business. One officer sustained minor injuries. This use of force is under standard review.
- Officers used soft and hard hand techniques to take a combative person into custody. The incident began as a verbal dispute between people that escalated to a physical confrontation. As officers arrived, they observed the suspect attempting to assault another person, officers then intervened and took the suspect into custody. As a result of this incident one officer suffered a fractured ankle and another officer sustained a bite to his leg. This use of force is under standard review.

### **Operations/Notable Events**

- Officers and detectives investigated a shooting incident that occurred inside of a residence. The victim received non-life-threatening injuries. The investigation concluded that the shooting incident was accidental. However, the subject who possessed the gun was a felon, and charges were filed accordingly.
- Officers and detectives responded to a report of a sexual assault inside of a residence. This was an isolated incident and is still being investigated.
- Officers and detectives responded to 315 N. Oak St for a suspected arson. There was no notable damage to the unoccupied structure. This is the second report of suspected arson at this location. Both incidents are believed to be related. The investigation is still ongoing.
- Henderson County Narcotics Task Force and the Henderson County SWAT team served a search warrant for narcotics at 414 Harris Street. Narcotics were seized and three arrests were made.

### **Budget Summary**

- We are approximately 75% through the fiscal year.
- We have spent or reserved \$3,796,630 or 53.68% of our budget.
- Link to the budget dashboard: [City of Hendersonville Budget](#)

### **Community Outreach/Special Events**

- Officer Brandon Haman and Accreditation Manager Monica Howard attended "Light the Night" teen suicide prevention at Blue Ridge Community College.
- Officer Brandon Haman attended Sugarloaf Elementary School career day.

### **Grants Management**

- Embedded Mental Health Grant
  - The grant was extended through March 30, 2025, adding approximately \$14,000 in non-matching funding.
- CALEA and NCLEA Accreditation
  - Pending Reimbursement
- GHSP Grant – Reimbursement request submitted for \$1,383.98 for Traffic Enforcement.

### **Recruiting/Retention**

- 0 of 14 non-sworn employee vacancies exist.
- 4 of 47 Police Officer vacancies exist.
  - (2) applications received
  - (3) in background
  - (1) rejected

**Hendersonville Police Department**

**Public Monthly Report**

**April 2024**



## Chief's Monthly Summary

April 29, 2024, will be recorded in history as the deadliest day for law enforcement in North Carolina. Four law enforcement officers were shot and killed and another four were shot and wounded as they attempted to serve an arrest warrant. It is difficult to understand the magnitude of the loss of life in the law enforcement community. As I write this, all four have been laid to rest and the others are recovering from their wounds. Our thoughts and prayers are with those wounded and the families of everyone affected by this hateful crime.

Besides the outcome, there is little we know about the incident. What we do know is that the U.S. Marshals Fugitive Taskforce attempted to arrest a person wanted for being a felon in possession of a firearm. When they arrived at the suspect's residence, they were immediately fired upon. The suspect was shot and killed by the taskforce members in return. There are also some unverified reports that at least one person shot at the taskforce members from inside the house. We will learn more in the coming weeks and months that we can hopefully use to prevent a similar tragedy from ever happening again anywhere.

It is a rare instance where so many officers are shot and killed in any one incident. Maybe the only worse single event in this nation was when Dallas PD lost five officers in the line of duty when they were ambushed by a lone gunman in 2016. Or, when four ATF agents were shot and killed in the daytime raid of the Branch Davidians compound in Waco, TX in 1993. These are monumental occurrences in this country providing law enforcement with many lessons learned. I am hopeful that we will learn from the Charlotte event and that we will never have such a profound incident ever again.

There are fewer dangerous situations than those involving a convicted felon in possession of a firearm. Clearly, the felon cares nothing about our laws or they wouldn't have been arrested and convicted of a felony in the first place. Choosing to possess a firearm only further shows their indifference to law and order. Gun control laws have no meaning for the felon who lives outside the laws we all abide to.

This country should focus on strengthening our existing laws rather than creating new ones. We need to put and keep criminals in jail when they blatantly break the law. I find it difficult to accept why dangerous criminals freely roam our neighborhoods and communities rather than being incarcerated for crimes they have already committed. Thankfully, we enjoy a "tough-on-crime" District Attorney and judges that hold people accountable. Together, we will keep Hendersonville safe from dangerous criminals.

Thank you again to those who support and trust us to do good work. We strive to be the best in everything we do. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to serve this community.



Blair Myhand,  
Chief of Police





*Drug Offenses:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
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*Larcenies:*

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*Assaults:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
9	17	7	15	11	9	7	11	14	17	10	16	12
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
8	11	14	6									10

**Employee Actions**

- Officer Jacob Smith was awarded the Knights of Columbus Shield Award for his ongoing dedication to the Traffic Safety Team and the department.
- Tori Doyle was selected to be the Police Social Worker intern for the department. She is a graduate student at Western Carolina University and will begin working for the department in the fall semester.
- The department announced a promotional process to fill vacant Lieutenant and Sergeant positions. The assessment will be conducted on May 29 and 30, 2024.
- Chief Myhand and Cpt. Laws attended the NC FBI National Academy Associates spring retrainer in Garner, NC on April 26, 2024.

### **Safety Tip – Teen Driver Safety Tips**

With school getting out soon, more teen/new drivers will be on the roads. If you have a younger driver operating a vehicle this summer, please talk about the following issues. Limit the number of kids in the car and confirm that they will be the only driver of your car.

- Insist that everyone wears a seat belt.
- Instill the importance of concentration behind the wheel.
- Explain the importance of driving defensively.
- Confirm they know exactly where they are going, even if you must scout the trip during daylight hours.
- Reiterate the dangers, and your outright prohibition of drinking and driving.
- If you have given your teenager an extended curfew, discuss how fatigue can also cause accidents.

No list would be complete without the acceptance that you would rather have your teen wake you at 2am with a phone call than have a Police Officer wake you with tragic news.

### **Complaints and Findings**

- No complaints during this month

### **Vehicle Pursuits and Findings**

- None

### **Use of Reasonable Force (UORF) Incidents and Findings**

- None

### **Operations/Notable Events**

- A homeless male stole a City of Hendersonville Water Department vehicle while it was parked in front of a fast-food restaurant. An employee was in the back seat at the time of the larceny but was able to exit before the suspect drove off. The vehicle was recovered a short time later and the suspect and an accomplice were charged for the larceny.
- Officers responded to multiple fraud by phone incidents this month where elderly victims suffered financial loss. Education is the best defense against these scams. These incidents are primarily perpetrated by individuals in other countries, severely limiting law enforcement's investigative options.



### **Budget Summary**

- We are approximately 85% through the fiscal year.
- We have spent or reserved \$5,638,336.35 or 80% of our budget.
- Link to the budget dashboard: [City of Hendersonville Budget](#)

### **Community Outreach/Special Events**

- Numerous officers participated in Coffee with a Cop at Southern Streams Coffeehouse on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue.
- HPD School Resource Officers assisted Henderson Co. SROs with the STAR Jam Dance to raise money for STAR Camp.
- Officer Haman represented HPD at a job fair hosted by Ebenezer Baptist Church.
- EarthFest in celebration of Earth Day was hosted downtown on Main St.
- Inaugural She Slays 5K fundraiser for local women with cancer in collaboration with Pardee Hospital.

### **Grants Management**

- Embedded Mental Health Grant – Nothing to report
- CALEA and NCLEA Accreditation
  - Pending Reimbursement
- GHSP Grant – Reimbursement request submitted for \$1,383.98 for Traffic Enforcement.

### **Recruiting/Retention**

- 0 of 14 non-sworn employee vacancies exist.
- 4 of 47 Police Officer vacancies exist.
  - (7) applications received
  - (5) in background
  - (2) rejected

**Hendersonville Police Department**

**Public Monthly Report**

**May 2024**



## Chief's Monthly Summary

Last year we instituted a new software program called PowerEngage. This program allows us to communicate via text message to people who call us for service. Think of it like when you purchase something from Amazon. You get a text or email thanking you for your purchase, informing you when it goes out for delivery, when your item is delivered, and then asking you for feedback. We are doing the same.

When you call the Police Department, PowerEngage takes over. As soon as you hang up, we send you a text (assuming you are using a cellphone) stating that an officer has been dispatched and is on the way to your location. If the officer is delayed for a certain amount of time, we send an update message letting you know we have not forgotten about you. When the Officer finishes, you get another message with your report number and any additional information you might need. Later, we ask for your feedback about how well we met your needs.

We are one of the very few departments in North Carolina employing this technology. I want to ensure we keep you informed throughout the process. Relying on people to do that every time is unrealistic. The likelihood that staff will be busy with the next call and miss an opportunity to connect is high. That is why we employ technology to do that for us all the time.

We get great feedback from you, most of which is positive. We share your compliments with our staff, especially when you name someone specifically. People love hearing when they do a good job and being recognized before their peers is even more special. On the rare occasion we get negative feedback, we use that as an opportunity to improve. In the end, it is important that we communicate with you and give you an opportunity to assess the quality of our work. I appreciate your honest feedback.

On a quick side note, we were informed that our accreditation on-site assessment will take place August 19-21, 2024. Assessors will be reviewing our proofs of compliance until then to see how compliant we are with the 160 standards we must meet. During the on-site assessment, you will be given a time where you can share with the assessors anything you want them to know about the department. Please stay tuned for more details in the coming weeks. If all goes well, and I have no reason to think it won't, we will receive our initial accreditation in November 2024. This is a major accomplishment for our folks and something you can be proud of because your police department adheres to the highest standards. Less than 10% of all police agencies are internationally accredited. With this, we will become a leader in 21<sup>st</sup> Century policing.

Thank you again to those who support and trust us to do good work. We strive to be the best in everything we do. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to serve this community.

  
Blair Myhand,  
Chief of Police

**Calls Answered**

*Emergency and non-emergency calls received*

2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
5,624	4,920	5,507	5,147	5,262								5,292

*Calls Dispatched*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
3,220	3,308	3,273	2,863	2,753	2,421	2,537	2,899	2,747	2,607	2,726	2,517	2,863
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
2,881	2,787	2,776	2,850	2,809								2,820

**Traffic Safety**

*Total Traffic Stops:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
546	419	459	262	274	224	309	289	281	217	204	242	311
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
563	396	138	221	319								327

*Total Citations Issued:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
382	277	293	204	200	175	189	239	191	176	138	129	216
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
303	250	250	174	233								242

*DWI Arrests:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
12	2	7	6	8	4	1	7	12	9	5	5	7
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
8	5	10	4	8								6

*Total Motor Vehicle Crashes:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
117	105	114	104	133	131	107	123	128	137	107	117	119
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
108	115	104	126	115								113

*Motor Vehicle Crashes with Injury:*

2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
19	16	17	13	12								15

*Top five crash locations:*

#1	Chimney Rock Rd & Highlands Square Dr
#2	Four Seasons Blvd & Dana Rd
#3	N Church St & 6 <sup>th</sup> Ave W
#4	Spartanburg Hwy & Chadwick Ave
#5	White St & Greenville Hwy

***Crimes, Reports, and Arrests***

*Criminal Arrests:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
72	87	93	63	71	58	54	56	60	67	59	51	66
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
51	49	80	56	69								61

*Incident Reports:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
136	105	185	146	138	116	108	131	97	116	109	106	124
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
170	131	131	129	108								134

**Drug Offenses:**

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
30	22	19	26	48	20	26	32	28	45	23	15	28
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
19	25	31	30	20								25

**Larcenies:**

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
45	29	8	19	37	25	35	44	20	31	36	29	30
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
24	45	26	33	30								32

**Assaults:**

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
9	17	7	15	11	9	7	11	14	17	10	16	12
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
8	11	14	6	11								10

**Employee Actions**

- Officer Haman attended training focusing on Professionalizing Law Enforcement Community Engagement. This training will help him in his new role working at the Boys and Girls Club.
- Kelby Trejo was hired as a Police Officer 1. Kelby comes to us with about 1.5 years of law enforcement experience. He will begin field training in June and should be released to solo duty at the end of summer.
- Two Sergeants and five Police Officers are competing for promotion. We have one Lieutenant vacancy and two Sergeant vacancies to fill with existing staff. We expect to announce promotions in June.
- Lt. Rob Cantwell graduated from the Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command in Atlanta, Georgia. This class is



Mayor Volk, Officer Trejo & Chief Myhand

a requirement for all sworn personnel, Lieutenant and above, designed to prepare them for leadership positions within the agency. His completion marks the culmination of twelve weeks of intense study in the areas of executive police leadership.

- Chief Myhand spoke at the Republican Women's Club Luncheon about the state of the department.
- Cpt. Hipps worked with OSHA representatives to conduct a consultative assessment of the building and the department's safety procedures. This was a proactive measure to ensure we provide a safe environment for our employees and visitors.
- Chief Myhand attended the FBI National Academy Session 291 orientation at the Charlotte Field Office. This orientation meeting introduces the next class of candidates to the rigors of the FBI National Academy to ensure they are prepared for the 10-week journey at Quantico, Va.

### **Safety Tip – Safe driving**

Between 2018 and 2022, there were 15,236 crashes in Henderson County, 65 of them were fatal. Surprisingly, 43% of all crashes in Henderson County occur within the city limits of Hendersonville. Considering the geographic size of the city, this is a highly alarming percentage. Below is crash data you might find interesting:

#### All Crashes:

- 27% of crashes involve older drivers (>65 years old) as compared to 16% for younger drivers (<25 years old)
- 26% of crashes involve a lane departure
- 22% of crashes occur in an intersection
- 5% of crashes involve an impaired driver
- 28% of crashes occur on a US route when only 3% of our roads are US routes

#### Fatal and Serious Injury Crashes:

- 23% of F/SI crashes involve an impaired driver
- 22% of F/SI crashes involve a person not wearing a seatbelt
- 19% of F/SI crashes involve motorcycles
- 9% of F/SI crashes involve a pedestrian

You are most likely to crash any day of the week from noon to 6pm. You are most likely to be injured in a crash between 4pm and 9pm. The highest number of crashes occurs on Friday during the summer months. Women outnumber men in population, but men are far more likely to crash and more likely to be injured/killed than women are. According to the data, women are better drivers than men. It is what it is, fellas.

Rules to "live" by:

1. Seatbelts - In all the fatal crashes I have investigated, all but one involved an occupant not wearing a seatbelt. Some of those crashes resulted in no, or only minor, injuries to the occupant(s) wearing seatbelts. This is the simplest way to avoid injury in a crash. I strongly encourage you to ALWAYS wear a seatbelt, no exceptions. I do.
2. Alcohol - If you drink, don't drive. If you drive, don't drink. Period! It is against the law, and it greatly increases the likelihood that you will be involved in a crash. You are almost certainly going to be injured/killed, or cause injury/death to someone else.
3. Motorcycles/Bicycles/Pedestrians - Similar to unrestrained passengers, motorcyclists/bicyclists/pedestrians are always injured, frequently seriously injured in a crash with a motor vehicle. Please use caution when driving near one of these folks. They have someone at home waiting for their return too.

### **Complaints and Findings**

- A citizen complained alleging two officers were rude at a traffic stop. This incident was investigated, and the complaint of rudeness was determined to be unfounded.

### **Vehicle Pursuits and Findings**

- None

### **Use of Reasonable Force (UORF) Incidents and Findings**

- An officer was required to restrain a disorderly subject who was a threat to themselves and others. The officer utilized soft hand techniques to affect the minimal amount of force necessary to prevent harm to the subject and others. The subject suffered no injuries in this incident. The force used was found to be appropriate.

### **Operations/Notable Events**

- A shooting occurred near 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue West. Officers found the shooter at a Woodcock Drive residence shortly after the shooting and made an immediate arrest. The suspect has been charged and is awaiting criminal proceedings.
- Officers responded to a bomb threat at Pardee Hospital. The subsequent investigation determined that there was no bomb on the premises. This is still an active investigation.
- A domestic violence incident occurred where a firearm was discharged. Officers responded to the incident and detained two subjects. After the investigation, two individuals were arrested and charged.



## **Budget Summary**

- We are approximately 92% through the fiscal year.
- We have spent or reserved \$6,064,395.00 or 86% of our budget.
- Link to the budget dashboard: [City of Hendersonville Budget](#)

## **Community Outreach/Special Events**

- Officer Haman assisted with Camp Hope, which is hosted by Safelight with the mission to help the children in our community who have been exposed to violence find pathways to HOPE and healing.
- SRO Dinnall assisted Henderson Co. with the first annual Special Day at STAR Camp which is focused on students with special needs.
- Lt. Bonnano and Evidence Specialist Katherine Ingram in collaboration with Hope Coalition offered a community drug take back at the City's annual shred event at Patton Park. 47.6 pounds of medication were collected for safe disposal.
- Officers alongside the Downtown Development Committee provided services to citizens and the community that attended the annual Garden Jubilee on Main St.



May 24th Drug Take Back Event

## **Grants Management**

- Embedded Mental Health Grant - Reimbursement request submitted for \$8,332.00.
- CALEA and NCLEA Accreditation - Reimbursement request submitted for \$7,825.00.
- GHSP Grant – Reimbursement request submitted for \$1,595.86 for Traffic Enforcement.

## **Recruiting/Retention**

- 1 of 14 non-sworn employee vacancies exist.
- 4 of 48 Police Officer vacancies exist.
  - (2) applications received
  - (2) in background
  - (0) rejected
  - (2) withdrew

**Hendersonville Police Department**

**Public Monthly Report**

**June 2024**



## Chief's Monthly Summary

Welcome to summer. As the temperatures increase, so does the likelihood of criminal activity. Most of these crimes are perpetrated at night when most of us are asleep. We have already seen this to be true this summer with thefts from motor vehicles on the rise.

In June alone, we had thirteen vehicles broken into and property stolen. When I say, "broken into," what I mean is that criminals simply opened unlocked vehicles and stole personal property. In one of those instances, criminals stole an unsecured vehicle after finding the keys inside the vehicle. Criminals are gaining access to handguns they find in some vehicles. More guns are stolen from inside vehicles than from inside homes. These crimes are 100% preventable.

I cannot stress enough that you must lock your vehicles. Criminals far too often get their hands on guns that people frequently and carelessly leave "secured" inside an unlocked vehicle. This is completely avoidable. Never, never, never leave a firearm in a vehicle. Every new firearm is sold with a lock to prevent inadvertent access. If you buy a used firearm that does not come with a lock, come see us. We have plenty of locks that we will give for free. There is no excuse for leaving a firearm unsecured.

Let me change direction quickly and publicly thank the City Council. When approving the 2024/2025 fiscal budget, the council agreed to give your sworn police officers a 5% salary increase on top of a 5% cost of living adjustment: 10% total increase. I made a presentation to council a few months ago expressing the significant challenges we are seeing with hiring police officers. When an officer leaves, it takes twelve to fourteen months to hire and train their replacement. Officers leave for all sorts of reasons, to retire, be a stay-at-home mom, or just to change professions. We simply need to ensure that salary is not the reason.

This marks a tremendous effort on the council's behalf to help us retain the staff that we have. I cannot thank the council enough. To do this, they agreed to increase your ad valorem taxes. No one likes paying more in taxes. To do this during an election year is often a risky decision for someone seeking re-election. However, our council recognized a real need and had the courage to act decisively. Their selflessness to serve city officers is highly commendable. I believe they absolutely did the right thing to give our officers a much-needed pay raise.

In the end, I want to say "thank you" again for your support and trust in us. Our employees are dedicated professionals who work hard to deliver exceptional service to everyone in this community. I am very proud of their work and their professionalism. It is a wonderful thing to be able to work alongside and for such quality people. I hope you agree. Please let our employees know how much you appreciate what they do the next time you see one of them. Your support means everything.

  
Blair Myhand,  
Chief of Police

**Calls Answered***Emergency and non-emergency calls received*

2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
5,624	4,920	5,507	5,147	5,262	5,009							5,245

**Calls Dispatched**

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
3,220	3,308	3,273	2,863	2,753	2,421	2,537	2,899	2,747	2,607	2,726	2,517	2,863
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
2,881	2,787	2,776	2,850	2,809	2,792							2,816

**Traffic Safety***Total Traffic Stops:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
546	419	459	262	274	224	309	289	281	217	204	242	311
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
563	396	138	221	319	441							346

*Total Citations Issued:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
382	277	293	204	200	175	189	239	191	176	138	129	216
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
303	250	250	174	233	272							247

*DWI Arrests:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
12	2	7	6	8	4	1	7	12	9	5	5	7
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
8	5	10	4	8	5							7

*Total Motor Vehicle Crashes:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
117	105	114	104	133	131	107	123	128	137	107	117	119
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
108	115	104	126	115	102							112

*Motor Vehicle Crashes with Injury:*

2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
19	16	17	13	12	7							14

*Top five crash locations:*

#1	Four Seasons Blvd & Linda Vista Dr
#2	Four Seasons Blvd & Dana Rd
#3	N Church St & 4 <sup>th</sup> Ave W
#4	Four Seasons Blvd & Carolina Village Rd
#5	Asheville Hwy & Fleming St

**Crimes, Reports, and Arrests**

*Criminal Arrests:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
72	87	93	63	71	58	54	56	60	67	59	51	66
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
51	49	80	56	69	62							61

*Incident Reports:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
136	105	185	146	138	116	108	131	97	116	109	106	124
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
170	131	131	129	108	141							135

**Drug Offenses:**

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
30	22	19	26	48	20	26	32	28	45	23	15	28
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
19	25	31	30	20	29							26

**Larcenies:**

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
45	29	8	19	37	25	35	44	20	31	36	29	30
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
24	45	26	33	30	45							34

**Assaults:**

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
9	17	7	15	11	9	7	11	14	17	10	16	12
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
8	11	14	6	11	9							10

**Employee Actions**

- LTs Jon Wing and Matt Capps, along with 911 Supervisor, Amber Kleppe, graduated from the WNC Law Enforcement Leadership Academy (LELA) at AB Tech Community College. LELA is a six-month leadership development course designed for emerging leaders in police agencies. This course is a mid-level leadership course for our leaders.



- Chief Myhand attended the Western NC Safe Streets Leadership Summit in Asheville. The purpose of the summit was to identify objectives and goals for improving traffic safety in the region. Several other stakeholders were present aside from area law enforcement agencies.
- Chief Myhand attended the NC FBI National Academy Associates annual conference in Wilmington, NC.
- Officer Kelby Trejo was sworn in as a Police Officer. Kelby joins us from Rutherfordton PD and is currently in field training. He is expected to be released to solo duty near the end of summer.



### **Safety Tip – Preventing child deaths in hot vehicles**

Over the past 25 years, more than 970 children have died of heatstroke after being left or trapped inside a vehicle on a hot day. It is important to understand these tragedies are always preventable.

Know the facts:

- A child's internal temperature rises three to five times faster than an adult's. When a child is left in a vehicle, the child's body temperature can rise quickly, and the situation can become dangerous rapidly.
- Heatstroke, which can quickly lead to death, begins when the core body temperature reaches 104 degrees.
- A child is at risk of dying when their body temperature reaches 107 degrees.

How to prevent hot car deaths:

1. Never leave a child in an unattended vehicle for any reason or for any length of time. Rolling the windows down or parking in the shade does little to reduce the interior temperature inside the vehicle.

2. Make it a habit to always check the back seat of your vehicle before locking the car and walking away.
3. Place a personal item that you will need in the back seat as another personal reminder to check the back seat.
4. Store car keys out of a young child's reach and teach them that a vehicle is not a play area.
5. Always lock your vehicle when you are not using it. This is a good theft deterrent strategy as well, but it reduces the likelihood that a child can become trapped inside a vehicle.
6. If you see a young child alone in a vehicle, act quickly and call 911. A child in distress from heat should be removed from the vehicle as quickly as possible and cooled rapidly.

### **Complaints and Findings**

- A citizen complained that officers entered his residence without permission. The investigation revealed that the officers had a lawful right to enter the home to search for injured persons after they responded to the sounds of gunshots. Their search resulted in the seizure of a firearm that the complainant was shooting in the driveway. This complaint is unfounded.
- A citizen complained that an officer was rude and hostile during a traffic stop. After a review of the police videos, it was determined that the complaint was unfounded in part and sustained in part. The officer was not hostile and never threatening. The officer did engage the complainant in less than professional dialog. The incident is considered closed with the appropriate action taken.

### **Vehicle Pursuits and Findings**

- None

### **Use of Reasonable Force (UORF) Incidents and Findings**

- A use of force incident occurred when officers responded to domestic violence call. When officers arrived at the scene, they found a male in the act of assaulting a female. Officers then used soft hand techniques to take the male suspect into custody. Neither the suspect nor officers were injured in this incident.

### **Operations/Notable Events**

- The Traffic Safety Team hosted a multi-agency DWI Checking Station consisting of help from the NC SHP, Henderson County Sheriff's Office, and Fletcher Police Department. Several citations were issued, and one person was arrested for DWI.
- Officers responded to a report of shots fired in a densely populated area of the city. The investigation resulted in an intoxicated suspect being arrested for discharging a firearm in the city.



- Officers responded to a report of a domestic violence incident with a firearm involved. Officers arrived and arrested a suspect for assault with a deadly weapon.
- There were thirteen incidents of thefts from motor vehicles in the city during the month of June. Most of the vehicles were unlocked and contained cash and other items of value. These crimes are under investigation. The Hendersonville Police Department would like to remind citizens to lock and remove items of value before parking their vehicles.

### **Budget Summary**

- We are approximately 100% through the fiscal year.
- We have spent or reserved \$6,521,761 or 92% of our budget.
- Link to the budget dashboard: [City of Hendersonville Budget](#)

### **Community Outreach/Special Events**

- Officer Brandon Haman assisted the Boys & Girls Club with their Annual Field Day which catered to 20+ kids from Hendersonville.
- National Donut Day – several members of the department worked the drive thru and helped give away free donuts at Dunkin Donuts on Spartanburg Highway.





### **Grants Management**

- Embedded Mental Health Grant – Nothing to Report
- CALEA and NCLEA Accreditation – Nothing to Report
- GHSP Grant – Nothing to Report

### **Recruiting/Retention**

- 0 of 14 non-sworn employee vacancies exist.
- 4 of 48 Police Officer vacancies exist.
  - (5) applications received
  - (2) in background
  - (1) rejected
  - (2) withdrew

**Hendersonville Police Department**

**Public Monthly Report**

**July 2024**



## Chief's Monthly Summary

*The times we live in...*

A gunman attempted to assassinate former President Donald Trump in Pennsylvania. Had he succeeded, it would have fundamentally changed the political landscape in this country for the foreseeable future. I am reminded of the amount of political violence we have seen in this country over the past sixty years: the assassinations of both Kennedy brothers and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. In the 1960s, and the shootings of Presidents Reagan and Trump, both of whom survived. America probably rivals many third world countries in that respect.

Shortly after the attempt on President Trump's life, sitting President Joe Biden declared he would not seek reelection to the office he currently holds. His decision set off a series of reactions for those hoping to earn the democratic nomination for President. As I write this, the presumptive democratic nominee, Kamala Harris, has announced her pick for Vice President as Minnesota Governor Tim Walz.

And a person, who never should have worn a badge, feloniously and fatally shot Sonya Massey after she called for help. Her death is not only tragic, but it was also totally preventable. Her death was a leadership failure. Someone in one of the six agencies that hired him should have recognized he was a ticking time bomb waiting to explode? It seems like every time we take a step forward, we self-implode and take two (or more) steps back.

As a Police Chief, I am deeply concerned for our community and this country. I anticipate that the demand placed on law enforcement to secure our elections and ensure public safety will grow exponentially in the coming weeks and months. We must balance the need to protect the sanctity of a free and fair electoral process and the safety of our citizens with the expectation that we continue to build trust with those we serve.

It is our responsibility to ensure that you can vote your choice without fear of violence. That can be a challenge given that so many people are deeply divided by party and philosophy. We ask that you respect other people, even if they see things completely different than you do. Our differences are what make our country strong. Even Superman needs Aquaman; after all, Superman is awesome, but he can't talk to fish.

All joking aside, the men and women who wear this uniform are excellent. They treat people with respect, and they put themselves in harm's way to ensure your safety. They stop immediately when the threat is over, remain professional even in chaos, and provide the same excellent service to everyone. We will continue to train and work to improve everything we do. We strive to be a leader in 21<sup>st</sup> century policing. To do that, we must continuously improve.

Thank you again for your support and for allowing us the opportunity to serve.



Blair Myhand  
Chief of Police

**Calls Answered***Emergency and non-emergency calls received*

2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
5,624	4,920	5,507	5,147	5,262	5,009	5,374						5,263

**Calls Dispatched**

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
3,220	3,308	3,273	2,863	2,753	2,421	2,537	2,899	2,747	2,607	2,726	2,517	2,863
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
2,881	2,787	2,776	2,850	2,809	2,792	3,024						2,846

**Traffic Safety***Total Traffic Stops:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
546	419	459	262	274	224	309	289	281	217	204	242	311
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
563	396	138	221	319	441	490						367

*Total Citations Issued:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
382	277	293	204	200	175	189	239	191	176	138	129	216
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
303	250	250	174	233	272	265						250

*DWI Arrests:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
12	2	7	6	8	4	1	7	12	9	5	5	7
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
8	5	10	4	8	5	7						7

*Total Motor Vehicle Crashes:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
117	105	114	104	133	131	107	123	128	137	107	117	119
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
108	115	104	126	115	102	133						115

*Motor Vehicle Crashes with Injury:*

2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
19	16	17	13	12	7	22						15

*Top five crash locations:*

#1	Four Seasons Blvd & Carolina Village Rd
#2	Chimney Rock Rd & Howard Gap Rd
#3	Spartanburg Hwy & Chadwick Ave
#4	Four Seasons Blvd & Dana Rd
#5	Chimney Rock Rd & Highland Square Dr

**Crimes, Reports, and Arrests**

*Criminal Arrests:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
72	87	93	63	71	58	54	56	60	67	59	51	66
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
51	49	80	56	69	62	84						64

*Incident Reports:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
136	105	185	146	138	116	108	131	97	116	109	106	124
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
170	131	131	129	108	141	106						131

*Drug Offenses:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
30	22	19	26	48	20	26	32	28	45	23	15	28
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
19	25	31	30	20	29	31						26

*Larcenies:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
45	29	8	19	37	25	35	44	20	31	36	29	30
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
24	45	26	33	30	45	39						35

*Assaults:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
9	17	7	15	11	9	7	11	14	17	10	16	12
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
8	11	14	6	11	9	12						10

**Employee Actions**

- Officer Jacob Smith was promoted to Sergeant. He was reassigned from the Traffic Safety Team to the Patrol Service Bureau.
- Officer Sam Capps was promoted to Sergeant and reassigned from the Patrol Services Bureau to the School Resource Officer Team Sergeant.
- Detective Zeff Childress was promoted to Sergeant and reassigned from the Criminal Investigations Bureau to the Patrol Services Bureau.
- Sergeant Jon Wing was promoted to Lieutenant. He remains assigned to the Patrol Services Bureau.
- Officers Haley Thompson and Colby Torbett were selected to become Investigators. They are both reassigned from the Patrol Services Bureau to the Criminal Investigations Bureau.
- Chief Myhand conducted an interview with German journalist, Vladamir Belzer to discuss our completion of the IACP Trust Building Campaign. Vladamir is writing a story on trust building in several areas of the government. We are honored to be representing all law enforcement around the country.

### **Safety Tip – Summer Safety Tips for Pet Owners**

Summer brings on the heat. With the hot and humid weather, people try to find relief. Sometimes though, we forget that our furry friends also need relief through the “dog days” of summer.

Here are some tips to help give them relief during the summer:

- Never leave your animals alone in a parked vehicle. Not only can it lead to fatal heat stroke, but it’s illegal in North Carolina and most other states.
- Temperatures inside a vehicle can rise rapidly to dangerous levels. On an 85-degree day, for example, the temperature inside a car with the windows opened slightly can reach 102 degrees within 10 minutes. After 30 minutes, the temperature will reach 120 degrees.
- Give pets plenty of fresh, clean water when it’s hot or humid outdoors as pets can get dehydrated quickly. Make sure your pets have a shady place to get out of the sun, be careful not to over-exercise them and keep them indoors when it’s extremely hot.
- Know the symptoms of overheating in pets, which include excessive panting or difficulty breathing, increased heart and respiratory rate, drooling, mild weakness, stupor or even collapse. Symptoms can also include seizures, bloody diarrhea and vomit along with an elevated body temperature of over 104 degrees.
- Don’t let dogs linger on hot asphalt when the temperature is very high. Being so close to the ground, your pooch’s body can heat up quickly, and sensitive paw pads can burn. Keep walking during these times to a minimum and avoid the hottest times of the day.

Together, we can enjoy the outdoors with our pets without putting them in unnecessary danger.

### **Complaints and Findings**

- None

### **Vehicle Pursuits and Findings**

- None

### **Use of Reasonable Force (UORF) Incidents and Findings**

- A use of force incident occurred when officers responded to a breaking and entering of a business. When officers arrived on scene, they located a male inside who had broken into the closed business. While taking the subject into custody an officer pointed their firearm at the suspect until he could safely be apprehended. This use of force was reviewed and found to be reasonable and lawful. Neither the suspect nor officers were injured in this incident.



- A use of force incident occurred when officers responded to a trespassing call. When officers arrived on the scene, they attempted to detain the trespassing suspect. The suspect refused to comply and attempted to flee. The officers then used soft hand techniques to apprehend the suspect. This use of force was reviewed and found to be reasonable and lawful. Neither the suspect nor officers were injured in this incident.
- A use of force incident occurred when officers responded to a domestic violence call. When officers arrived on scene they encountered and detained a female suspect for assault. In the process of detaining the suspect, the suspect assaulted an officer. The officer then used soft hand techniques to subdue and arrest the suspect. This use of force was reviewed and found to be reasonable and lawful. Neither the suspect nor officers were injured in this incident.
- A use of force incident occurred when officers responded to a business for a report of a larceny. When officers arrived on scene they encountered the suspect inside the store. The suspect then began to flee from officers and officers used light hand techniques to apprehend and arrest the suspect. This matter is currently under review. Neither the suspect nor officers were injured in this incident.
- A use of force incident occurred when officers responded to a business for larceny. When officers arrived on scene, they encountered a suspect fleeing the scene with property belonging to the business. Officers pursued the suspect and used soft hand techniques to apprehend and arrest the suspect. This matter is currently under review. Neither the suspect nor officers were injured in this incident.
- A use of force incident occurred when officers responded to a business for a larceny. When officers arrived on scene they located and identified the suspect. When officers attempted to arrest the suspect, the suspect became combative with officers and officers used soft hand techniques to subdue and arrest the suspect. This matter is currently under review. The suspect had minor injuries that did not require medical attention. There were no injuries to officers.
- A use of force incident occurred when officers responded to a report of a suspect throwing items at parked cars. When officers arrived on scene officers observed the suspect attempting to damage parked vehicles. Officers attempted to detain the suspect, but the suspect fled on foot. Officers pursued the suspect and, with the use of soft hand techniques, were able to apprehend and arrest the suspect. The suspect suffered an ankle injury and was provided medical attention. One officer was assaulted in this incident, but no officers were injured. This matter is under review.
- A use of force incident occurred when an officer arrested a wanted person. Upon encountering the wanted person, the officer advised the suspect that they were under arrest for an outstanding warrant. The suspect then resisted arrest by attempting to flee and pull away from the officer. The officer used soft hand techniques to subdue and arrest the suspect. Neither the suspect nor the officer was injured in this incident. This matter is currently under review.
- A use of force incident occurred when officers detained a subject for a city ordinance violation. While investigating the city ordinance violation, suspected narcotics were found on the suspect. The suspect then fled from the officers, and an officer deployed his/her Taser to subdue and arrest the suspect. The suspect was injured and provided medical treatment. No officers were injured in this incident. This matter is currently under review.

### **Operations/Notable Events**

- Officers have responded to 36 calls about sick animals, namely raccoons and foxes, in July. According to the Henderson County Department of Public Health, there is a massive outbreak of distemper in these animals. Our response involves us euthanizing the animal onsite and collecting the remains for testing. You should avoid these animals and ensure your pets are current on distemper and rabies vaccinations as a precaution.
- Hendersonville PD and Henderson County Sheriff's Office conducted an operation focusing on illegal drug sales in the city. Five arrests were made with various amounts of illegal drugs being seized.
- Hendersonville PD assisted the Henderson County Drug Task Force with the execution of a drug search warrant in the city. One arrest was made, and several types of illegal drugs were seized.
- Hendersonville PD detectives were notified of illegal drugs found in a residence while officers were there for an unrelated call for service. A search warrant was executed by the Henderson County Drug Task Force. The investigation is ongoing.

### **Budget Summary**

- We are approximately 8% through the fiscal year.
- We have spent or reserved \$613,082 or 8% of our budget.
- Link to the budget dashboard: [City of Hendersonville Budget](#)

### **Community Outreach/Special Events**

- Green Meadows Community Meeting: Members of the Hendersonville Police Department command staff attended a Green Meadows community meeting. At the meeting, command staff and community members discussed topics such as community policing, neighborhood watch programs, and crime intervention strategies.

### **Grants Management**

- Embedded Mental Health Grant – Pending Reimbursements
- CALEA and NCLEA Accreditation – Submitted the final reimbursement for this grant that ends on September 30, 2024.
- GHSP Grant – Pending Reimbursement

### **Recruiting/Retention**

- 0 of 14 non-sworn employee vacancies exist.
- 6 of 48 Police Officer vacancies exist.
  - (3) applications received
  - (2) in background
  - (0) rejected
  - (0) withdrew

**Hendersonville Police Department**  
**Public Monthly Report**  
**August 2024**



## Chief's Monthly Summary

As summer draws to a close, we look forward to a few major accomplishments we expect to achieve over the next several months.

First, we expect to receive our initial international accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) in November. We embarked on this 36-month journey at the end of 2023, and in just eleven months, assessors have reviewed our policies and conducted an onsite assessment. I am happy to report that we passed with flying colors and will go before the full commission in Jacksonville, Florida.

Soon, we will be one of only two agencies in western North Carolina to achieve this status. Accreditation means that we adhere to industry accepted best practices, reinforcing our commitment to our vision of being a leader in 21<sup>st</sup> century policing. This accreditation says that you can expect the Hendersonville Police Department to be the most professional and current police department possible. I am extremely proud of the effort staff put into this process and happy to show you our exceptional work.

Second, we are working hard to enhance our capabilities with the creation of a co-responder program. This is not a "touchy/feely" approach to policing. Instead, this is a better way for us to respond to situations we simply are not well suited to. More and more, Officers are asked to perform societal functions that they are not designed to handle.

We understand that law enforcement is on the front line and often the first called to respond when others are not. Co-response is our effort to inject a subject matter expert into these challenging situations. Our hope is that by employing new strategies, we will improve outcomes for people. Only time will tell, but alternative strategies to traditional policing are increasingly necessary today.

Lastly, we continue to struggle with recruiting police officers. The number of applicants continues to dwindle. Today, we see about one application weekly. This is an alarming trend. And, since not every applicant is competent, the fewer applicants, the less likely we are to find qualified people. We are working to be intentional about finding people rather than simply processing the ones who apply.

If you know of someone who you think would make a good police officer, send him or her our way. We are always interested in meeting people that come recommended to us. Experience is a plus, but not required. We will hire and train the right person. In the end, we are looking for people of good character, we can train the rest. Come see us today. The next BLET class starts in January.

Thank you again for your support and for allowing us the opportunity to serve.



Blair Myhand  
Chief of Police

**Calls Answered**

*Emergency and non-emergency calls received*

2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
5,624	4,920	5,507	5,147	5,262	5,009	5,374	4,459					5,163

*Calls Dispatched*

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Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
3,220	3,308	3,273	2,863	2,753	2,421	2,537	2,899	2,747	2,607	2,726	2,517	2,863
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
2,881	2,787	2,776	2,850	2,809	2,792	3,024	3,304					2,903

**Traffic Safety**

*Total Traffic Stops:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
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Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
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*Total Citations Issued:*

2023												
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382	277	293	204	200	175	189	239	191	176	138	129	216
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
303	250	250	174	233	272	265	176					240

*DWI Arrests:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
12	2	7	6	8	4	1	7	12	9	5	5	7
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
8	5	10	4	8	5	7	4					6

*Total Motor Vehicle Crashes:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
117	105	114	104	133	131	107	123	128	137	107	117	119
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
108	115	104	126	115	102	133	116					115

*Motor Vehicle Crashes with Injury:*

2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
19	16	17	13	12	7	22	9					14

*Top five crash locations:*

#1	Four Seasons Blvd at Carolina Village Dr/Orrs Camp Rd
#2	Chimney Rock Rd at Highland Square Dr/Old Chimney Rock Rd
#3	King St at 6 <sup>th</sup> Ave E
#4	Church St at 6 <sup>th</sup> Ave W
#5	Church St at 7 <sup>th</sup> Ave W

***Crimes, Reports, and Arrests***

*Criminal Arrests:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
72	87	93	63	71	58	54	56	60	67	59	51	66
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
51	49	80	56	69	62	84	77					66

*Incident Reports:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
136	105	185	146	138	116	108	131	97	116	109	106	124
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
170	131	131	129	108	141	106	148					133

**Drug Offenses:**

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
30	22	19	26	48	20	26	32	28	45	23	15	28
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
19	25	31	30	20	29	31	44					29

**Larcenies:**

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
45	29	8	19	37	25	35	44	20	31	36	29	30
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
24	45	26	33	30	45	39	31					34

**Assaults:**

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
9	17	7	15	11	9	7	11	14	17	10	16	12
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
8	11	14	6	11	9	12	17					11

**Employee Actions**

- Police Social Worker, Tori Doyle, started her internship with the department. She will spend the next two college semesters building the department’s co-responder program. This program will add to the department’s ability to address the needs of people to better prevent recidivism and connect them with available resources. Officers are excited to have another tool in their toolbox to help us respond better in challenging situations.
- Officer Kyle Kouf was sworn in by Mayor Volk on August 16, 2024. He is in field training for the next several weeks and should be ready for solo duty this fall. He graduated from Basic Law Enforcement Training at AB Tech Community College. Kyle is originally from Florida, but his family often vacationed in Hendersonville. We are excited to have him to serve the people of Hendersonville.

## **Safety Tip – Firearm Safety**

Mayor Volk signed a proclamation declaring August 26–30, 2024, as **Be SMART Week** in the City of Hendersonville.

Be SMART is a non-partisan, non-legislative effort to save lives by spreading the word about gun safety. Be SMART campaign was launched to raise awareness that secure gun storage (*i.e., storing guns unloaded, locked, and separate from ammunition*) can save children’s lives. Be SMART emphasizes that it is every adult’s responsibility to prevent kids from accessing guns without direct adult supervision.

Five simple steps can help protect children:

1. **S (secure)** - secure guns in your home and vehicles

Securing firearms means more than “hiding” your firearms where you think children do not know where it is. Gun safes are preferred, but only when locked. Use combination or biometric locks over keyed locks. Keyed locks are good, but only if the keys are secured. Securing firearms is not only smart, but also the law.

N.C.G.S. § 14-315.1. Storage of firearms to protect minors.

(a) Any person who resides in the same premises as a minor, owns or possesses a firearm, and stores or leaves the firearm (i) in a condition that the firearm can be discharged and (ii) in a manner that the person knew or should have known that an unsupervised minor would be able to gain access to the firearm, is guilty of a Class 1 misdemeanor if a minor gains access to the firearm without the lawful permission of the minor's parents or a person having charge of the minor and the minor:

- (1) Possesses it in violation of G.S. 14-269.2(b);
- (2) Exhibits it in a public place in a careless, angry, or threatening manner;
- (3) Causes personal injury or death with it not in self defense; *or*
- (4) Uses it in the commission of a crime.

(b) Nothing in this section shall prohibit a person from carrying a firearm on his or her body or placed in such close proximity that it can be used as easily and quickly as if carried on the body.

(c) This section shall not apply if the minor obtained the firearm as a result of an unlawful entry by any person.

(d) "Minor" as used in this section means a person under 18 years of age who is not emancipated. (1993, c. 558, s. 2; 1994, Ex. Sess., c. 14, s. 11.)

2. **M (model)** - model responsible behavior around guns.

This means doing what you say and saying what you do. Children are always watching what you say and do. Be a good role model.



3. **A (ask)** - Ask about unsecured guns in other homes.

You might want to consider asking adults if they have firearms in their homes before letting your children go over to visit; especially if you do not know them well. Even so, a friendly reminder is not always a bad thing.

4. **R (recognize)** - Recognize the role of guns in suicide.

Firearms are used most often when children commit suicide. Too often, children accidentally kill or injure themselves or their siblings when they access to firearms. Never assume your young children will always be responsible when handling firearms.

5. **T (tell)** - Tell your peers to be SMART.

Even as an avid firearms owner and supporter of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment, gun safety is paramount. Encouraging others to be smart about firearm safety is a good idea. One accidental child death or suicide is too many. Do your part.

For more information locally, visit [www.besmartforkids.org](http://www.besmartforkids.org) or contact Kim Chao at [besmarthendo@gmail.com](mailto:besmarthendo@gmail.com).

### **Complaints and Findings**

- None

### **Vehicle Pursuits and Findings**

- None

### **Use of Reasonable Force (UORF) Incidents and Findings**

- Officers encountered a male under the apparent influence of impairing substances in a parked car. The male ignored officer's commands and began reaching into areas of the vehicle the officers could not see. Officers pointed department issued firearms at the male until he complied. The incident is under review. Neither the suspect nor officers were injured in this incident.
- Officers responded to an alleged prowler in a residential neighborhood. Officers deployed a Taser when the suspect tried to flee the scene. The suspect was immediately arrested. This use of force is currently under review. Neither the suspect nor officers were injured in this incident.
- Officers responded to a disturbance. The Officers detained a male who was involved in the disturbance. During the investigation, the suspect walked away from the officers and attempted to conceal evidence. The suspect was subsequently tackled and arrested. This use of force is currently under review. The suspect and officer involved sustained minor abrasions in this incident.

## **Operations/Notable Events**

- CALEA Accreditation – Johns Creek, GA. Police Chief (ret.) Ed Densmore was our assessor for our initial on-site accreditation. Chief Densmore was highly impressed with the department and our approach to modeling best practices in law enforcement. He was also impressed with the speed at which we were able to invite him for our initial assessment. The agency should be fully accredited in November 2024.
- During a narcotics investigation, a stolen firearm, out of Buncombe County, was recovered and one arrest was made.
- A robbery of the SECU bank on Upward Rd occurred on the morning of August 23, 2024. With the help of the Henderson County Sheriff's Office, the NC State Bureau of Investigations, and the Greenville, SC PD, we identified and charged James Scott Bayne of Greenville with the robbery within hours of the incident. Bayne has since been arrested and the case is closed pending adjudication in court. No one was harmed during the incident.

## **Budget Summary**

- We are approximately 18% through the fiscal year.
- We have spent or reserved \$1,191,449 or 16% of our budget.
- Link to the budget dashboard: [City of Hendersonville Budget](#)

## **Community Outreach/Special Events**

- Officer Haman met with Wolf Pen HOA group in a question/answer session regarding safety measures.
- 78<sup>th</sup> Annual Apple Festival – the department (and other city departments) worked to facilitate the 78<sup>th</sup> North Carolina Apple Festival. This multi-day event, beginning August 30, 2024, saw hundreds of thousands of people descend upon Main Street. The event was peaceful with only the arrest of one person.



### **Grants Management**

- Embedded Mental Health Grant – Pending Reimbursements
- CALEA and NCLEA Accreditation – Submitted the final reimbursement for this grant that ends on September 30, 2024
- GHSP Grant – Pending Reimbursement

### **Recruiting/Retention**

- 0 of 14 non-sworn employee vacancies exist.
- 6 of 48 Police Officer vacancies exist.
  - (3) applications received
  - (1) in background
  - (1) conditional offer made
  - (2) rejected
  - (0) withdrew

**Hendersonville Police Department**  
**Public Monthly Report**  
**September/October 2024**



## Chief's Monthly Summary

My apologies for missing September's report. We were a little busy when we normally would have been compiling it. Information from September is included in this month's report.

So much has changed since we last talked. Helene really did a number for us. Some of us are still reeling more than others. Some of us are stressed beyond belief because of her. I pray that you and the people you love are safe. Many of you lost everything you own or know people who did. Some of you lost friends and loved ones in the storm as well. My sincerest condolences to you.

First and foremost, I want to thank the men and women of the department. Every single one of them worked many tireless hours protecting this city. I heard not one complaint throughout the storm from any one of them. They put everything aside to come to the aid of others, leaving their families and homes to do it. I say this not for your sympathy, but more to express the outstanding character of the men and women of this department.

We had assistance from officers from the eastern part of the state. Agencies from Greenville, NC, Pine Knoll Shores, and Zebulon, Rolesville, Wendell all from Wake County came to our aid. Their help was invaluable in keeping operations going and providing respite for our officers. Without their help, our ability to secure the city as we came "back to life" would have been severely degraded. Mutual aid is one of the most invaluable tools we have at our disposal to help protect North Carolinians.

So many friends and strangers called and offered support to us and to our neighbors. Groups like T-Mobile, FirstNet, 511 Tactical, Ariat Boots, Back the Blue NC, and Read's Uniforms provided clothing, food, technology, and equipment to help law enforcement officers during and after Helene. Again, I cannot adequately express enough gratitude for what everyone did to help us. We are forever grateful.

I also want to thank you, the people of this community. You dug in and helped your neighbors. You banded together, you maintained order, and you gave the city the grace it needed to get things back online quickly. We live in a special place. Not just in NC, but anywhere.

Since the storm though, we have seen a minimum 25% increase in traffic, calls for service, crashes, and overall demand for police services. Our officers are working hard to provide the same level of service you always expect from us. Please know, we will always put the safety and security of this city and its residents first. Be patient. We are still recovering ourselves. I doubt a return to pre-Helene is possible, but there is always hope.

Thank you again. We will be better and stronger together. #MountainExcellence



Blair Myhand  
Chief of Police

**Calls Answered**

*Emergency and non-emergency calls received*

2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
5,624	4,920	5,507	5,147	5,262	5,009	5,374	4,459	4,950	5,734			5,199

*Calls Dispatched*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
3,220	3,308	3,273	2,863	2,753	2,421	2,537	2,899	2,747	2,607	2,726	2,517	2,863
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
2,881	2,787	2,776	2,850	2,809	2,792	3,024	3,304	2,897	3,074			2,919

**Traffic Safety**

*Total Traffic Stops:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
546	419	459	262	274	224	309	289	281	217	204	242	311
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
563	396	138	221	319	441	490	367	307	392			363

*Total Citations Issued:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
382	277	293	204	200	175	189	239	191	176	138	129	216
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
303	250	250	174	233	272	265	176	168	187			228

*DWI Arrests:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
12	2	7	6	8	4	1	7	12	9	5	5	7
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
8	5	10	4	8	5	7	4	7	15			7

*Total Motor Vehicle Crashes:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
117	105	114	104	133	131	107	123	128	137	107	117	119
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
108	115	104	126	115	102	133	116	98	134			115

*Motor Vehicle Crashes with Injury:*

2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
19	16	17	13	12	7	22	9	8	11			13

*Top five crash locations:*

#1	Chimney Rock Rd at Highland Square Dr
#2	7 <sup>th</sup> Ave W at Church St
#3	7 <sup>th</sup> Ave E at King St
#4	Chimney Rock Rd at Howard Gap Rd
#5	Four Seasons Blvd at Thompson St

**Crimes, Reports, and Arrests**

*Criminal Arrests:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
72	87	93	63	71	58	54	56	60	67	59	51	66
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
51	49	80	56	69	62	84	77	64	75			67

*Incident Reports:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
136	105	185	146	138	116	108	131	97	116	109	106	124
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
170	131	131	129	108	141	106	148	94	116			127

**Drug Offenses:**

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
30	22	19	26	48	20	26	32	28	45	23	15	28
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
19	25	31	30	20	29	31	44	39	29			30

**Larcenies:**

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
45	29	8	19	37	25	35	44	20	31	36	29	30
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
24	45	26	33	30	45	39	31	24	44			34

**Assaults:**

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
9	17	7	15	11	9	7	11	14	17	10	16	12
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
8	11	14	6	11	9	12	17	16	12			12

**Employee Actions**

- Traffic Safety Officer LeDoux successfully completed the Advance Traffic Crash Investigation class and is one step closer to gaining his Traffic Reconstruction Certification.
- Chief Myhand was sworn in as the 4<sup>th</sup> Vice President for the International Association of Chiefs of Police in Boston. This is a tremendous opportunity that so few Police Chiefs are ever afforded. He will represent Hendersonville, North Carolina, and law enforcement on a national and international stage.
- Captain Rich Olsen announced his retirement after 30 years with the city. His presence and leadership over the last three decades have left an impact on the agency. We will celebrate his retirement in mid-December.
- Captain Trae Laws was officially accepted into the 293<sup>rd</sup> session of the FBI National Academy. He reports to Quantico, VA on January 5, 2025. The National Academy is the premier law enforcement leadership development course in the world. Attendance is offered to only a very select 1% of law enforcement leaders and is completely free to the agency. He will be only the fourth person from this agency to attend this program.



### **Complaints and Findings**

- A citizen complained alleging the officer used excessive force during an arrest. This incident is being investigated.
- A citizen made a complaint that an officer was rude. This incident is being investigated.

### **Vehicle Pursuits and Findings**

- None

### **Use of Reasonable Force (UORF) Incidents and Findings**

- Officers used soft hand techniques trying to detain a suspect in a disturbance. The suspect was combative and assaulted one officer. The suspect and an officer sustained minor injuries that did not require medical attention. This incident was reviewed and found to be lawful and reasonable.
- While investigating a trespassing incident officers detained a suspect who provided false information to officers and fled the scene on foot. The suspect fell to the ground and was arrested. Neither the suspect nor officer was injured in this incident. This incident is still under review.
- An officer responded to a report of shoplifting. The suspect refused to obey lawful commands and resisted arrest. During the apprehension, the officer forced the suspect to the ground and used joint manipulation to gain control and handcuff the suspect. Neither the suspect nor officer was injured in this incident. This incident is still under review.
- Officers responded to a reported larceny. Once on scene officers were able to identify and locate a suspect. Upon being ordered to stop the suspect fled from officers on foot. Officers gave chase and were able to catch up to the suspect where one officer pushed the suspect to the ground. The officer then used joint manipulation to handcuff and arrest the suspect. Neither the suspect nor the officer was injured in this incident. This incident is still under review.
- An officer encountered an intoxicated suspect walking in a roadway impeding traffic. When the officer confronted the suspect, the suspect ran towards traffic in the roadway. Fearing for the suspects' safety, the officer ran after and tackled the suspect to the ground. The suspect was subsequently arrested. Neither the officer nor the suspect was injured during this incident. This incident is still under review.
- Officers responded to a report of domestic violence in a public place. An officer witnessed a female suspect assaulting a male. As the suspect attempted to assault the victim again, the officer forced the suspect to the ground and used joint manipulation to handcuff and arrest the suspect. The suspect complained of a knee injury and the officer was not injured. This incident is still under review.
- Officers responded to multiple calls of a suspect pointing a firearm at other vehicles. Officers located and stopped the suspect vehicle. An officer pointed his/her department issued handgun at the suspect. The suspect was taken into

custody without further incident. Neither the suspect nor the officer was injured during this incident. This incident is still under review.

- An officer responded to a residential breaking and entering. Upon arrival at the residence, the officer began clearing the residence with their department issued firearm in hand. The officer pointed his/her handgun at the suspect until it was determined that the suspect was not a threat. Neither the suspect nor the officer was injured in this incident. This incident is still under review.
- An officer responded to a larceny in progress complaint. The officer approached the suspect and subsequently pointed his/her firearm at the suspect and ordered the suspect to show his hands. The suspect initially complied and was handcuffed, but after being handcuffed, the suspect attempted to flee on foot. The officer then pinned the suspect to the front of a vehicle until another officer arrived. Neither the suspect nor the officer was injured in this incident. This incident is still under review.

### **Operations/Notable Events**

- Officers and Detectives investigated a gunshot wound that came into Pardee ER. After the investigation was completed, it was determined that the gunshot wound was self-inflicted and accidental, and that no crime occurred.
- Continued incidents of fraud occurring in Hendersonville. The most common method seems to be perpetrator's calling victims, telling the victims that they have a warrant for arrest for failing to appear at court after a jury summons was issued. The perpetrator's claim to be Henderson County Deputies where they demand money from the victims to avoid arrest.

### **Budget Summary**

- We are approximately 34% through the fiscal year.
- We have spent or reserved \$ 2,541,398 or 34.6% of our budget.
- Link to the budget dashboard: [City of Hendersonville Budget](#)

### **Community Outreach/Special Events**

- 78<sup>TH</sup> Annual Apple Festival and King Apple Parade were a major success for the city. Record numbers of attendees descended on Main Street during the four days of the event.
- Sgt. Lockhart conducted a security training class with the staff from Sugar Hill Day Care.
- Coffee with a Cop hosted by Eggs Up Grill. Several people turned out to talk with officers. This is a relaxed event where people have a better opportunity to talk with officers in a non-enforcement setting.
- Art on Main and National Night Out events were canceled due to Hurricane Helene.
- Rhythm and Brews Concert Series closed out for the year and was very successful.

- Treat Street Carnival and 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue Trick or Treat events saw an increase in the number of participants. It is estimated that more than 10,000 people took part in the festivities. There were no significant issues.
- The department is planning for the upcoming Christmas events scheduled for early December.

### **Grants Management**

- Embedded Mental Health Grant – Pending Reimbursements
- CALEA and NCLEA Accreditation – Submitted the final reimbursement for this grant that ended on September 30, 2024
- GHSP Grant – Grant ended on September 30, 2024 - Pending Reimbursement

### **Recruiting/Retention**

- 0 of 14 non-sworn employee vacancies exist.
- 4 of 48 Police Officer vacancies exist.
  - (5) applications received
  - (0) in background
  - (1) conditional offer made
  - (0) rejected
  - (1) withdrew

**Hendersonville Police Department**  
**Public Monthly Report**  
**November 2024**



## Chief's Monthly Summary

Recovery from Hurricane Helene is all that everyone is talking about, including us. We are two months out from the devastating 1,000-year storm that wrecked our community. Thankfully, we are quickly on our way to full recovery. That recovery is due primarily to the hard work by the men and women of the Hendersonville Police Department and the City of Hendersonville and its volunteers.

Prior to the storm, the importance of a strong utility infrastructure was barely a thought in most people's minds. Today, I am so very grateful that our utilities are robust. Electricity is a luxury for most people; a necessity for others. But water on the other hand is a critical need for everyone. Not having water for weeks, like our neighbors to the north, is a real and present public health hazard. A hazard that has a serious and immediate impact on public safety.

Thankfully, the city has for many years invested in the improvement of our water treatment facilities. We spent a comparatively short time without running and/or drinking water as compared to our neighbors. The return of safe water was probably the most significant reason why Hendersonville came back online so quickly. Who knew the investment in our utilities would be so important?

Switching gears, I want to inform everyone that we recently received our international accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). To do so, we met 184 industry best practices during a review by outside assessors. This positioned us to undergo a zero-deficiency review by the commission. Rarely does an agency have no deficiencies during their initial accreditation review.

What accreditation means to you is that you can trust us to continuously meet industry best practices. Regardless of who wears this uniform, we will always be among the best and most professional agencies in the country. We will always remain current with the changing landscape and never fall behind on societal expectations. We are not perfect of course, but we are now better positioned to avoid senseless mistakes. And, better positioned to learn from those mistakes when they happen.

Accreditation is a big deal. We join just more than 1300 agencies worldwide who are CALEA accredited. This marks a significant change in the culture of the agency to one always improving our operations. I am proud of the men and women who supported this challenge and who made this happen. They fully embraced accreditation and made the philosophy of continuous improvement part of our DNA. They are exceptional professionals dedicated to exceptional service.

Thank you again. We will be better and stronger together. #MountainExcellence



Blair Myhand  
Chief of Police

**Calls Answered**

*Emergency and non-emergency calls received*

2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
5,624	4,920	5,507	5,147	5,262	5,009	5,374	4,459	4,950	5,734	4,696		5,152

*Calls Dispatched*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
3,220	3,308	3,273	2,863	2,753	2,421	2,537	2,899	2,747	2,607	2,726	2,517	2,863
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
2,881	2,787	2,776	2,850	2,809	2,792	3,024	3,304	2,897	3,074	2,574		2,888

**Traffic Safety**

*Total Traffic Stops:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
546	419	459	262	274	224	309	289	281	217	204	242	311
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
563	396	138	221	319	441	490	367	307	392	296		357

*Total Citations Issued:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
382	277	293	204	200	175	189	239	191	176	138	129	216
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
303	250	250	174	233	272	265	176	168	187	152		220

*DWI Arrests:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
12	2	7	6	8	4	1	7	12	9	5	5	7
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
8	5	10	4	8	5	7	4	7	15	8		7

*Total Motor Vehicle Crashes:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
117	105	114	104	133	131	107	123	128	137	107	117	119
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
108	115	104	126	115	102	133	116	98	134	114		115

*Motor Vehicle Crashes with Injury:*

2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
19	16	17	13	12	7	22	9	8	11	10		13

*Top five crash locations:*

#1	Chimney Rock Rd at Howard Gap Rd
#2	King St at 1 <sup>st</sup> Ave E
#3	Chimney Rock Rd at Francis Rd
#4	Four Seasons Blvd at Coolridge St
#5	Haywood Rd at Asheville Hwy

**Crimes, Reports, and Arrests**

*Criminal Arrests:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
72	87	93	63	71	58	54	56	60	67	59	51	66
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
51	49	80	56	69	62	84	77	64	75	63		66

*Incident Reports:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
136	105	185	146	138	116	108	131	97	116	109	106	124
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
170	131	131	129	108	141	106	148	94	116	103		125

**Drug Offenses:**

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
30	22	19	26	48	20	26	32	28	45	23	15	28
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
19	25	31	30	20	29	31	44	39	29	13		28

**Larcenies:**

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
45	29	8	19	37	25	35	44	20	31	36	29	30
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
24	45	26	33	30	45	39	31	24	44	33		34

**Assaults:**

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
9	17	7	15	11	9	7	11	14	17	10	16	12
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
8	11	14	6	11	9	12	17	16	12	18		11

**Employee Actions**

- Investigator Haley Thompson continues working through her New Blue Fellowship. This is a yearlong fellowship where she is working to identify and secure grant funding for our emerging Police Social Worker program. With her help, we hope to transition our program into a full-time paid position by summer 2025.
- Police Social Worker intern, Tori Doyle, continues to build the framework of our new Police Social Worker program.
- Officer Brandon Haman resigned his position as Police Officer after taking a job in the private sector.
- A memorial ceremony for Officer Denny Enevold was held on Friday, November 22, 2024. Officer Enevold was shot in the line of duty on November 22, 1982, on Ashe Street a block from where the Police Department stands today. He died the next day from his wounds. This is an annual remembrance ceremony.



*Enevold Memorial Ceremony*



- The department received its initial accreditation by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies in Jacksonville, Florida on Friday, November 15, 2024.



*City Council Recognized HPD on their CALEA Accreditation on December 5, 2024*

### **Complaints and Findings**

- A citizen filed a complaint alleging an officer showed favoritism towards the other person involved in their matter. The complaint is currently under investigation.
- A citizen filed a complaint alleging they were being unfairly targeted by law enforcement. The investigation determined their claim to be unfounded.
- An internal review of procedures involving the arrest of a male suspect for a 50B (domestic restraining order) is being conducted.

### **Vehicle Pursuits and Findings**

- None

### **Use of Reasonable Force (UORF) Incidents and Findings**

- Officers responded to a business about an intoxicated female causing a disturbance. The female assaulted the officers as they attempted to detain her. One officer grabbed the female to control her while he handcuffed her. Both the officer and suspect sustained minor abrasions during this incident. This use of force was reviewed and found to be lawful and reasonable.
- Officers responded to a business about a subject trespassing and refusing to leave the property. The suspect left when confronted by officers but returned shortly after. Officers responded to the business a second time and attempted to arrest the suspect for trespassing. The suspect resisted and officers had to forcibly grab the suspect to handcuff him. The suspect complained of a minor

injury and was treated by medical personnel. No officers were injured during this incident. This use of force was reviewed and found to be lawful and reasonable.

### **Operations/Notable Events**

- Officers investigated a larceny where a suspect stole various items related to external air conditioner units that were “abandoned” due to Hurricane Helene. The suspect was identified and has been charged with multiple counts of larceny.

### **Budget Summary**

- We are approximately 42% through the fiscal year.
- We have spent or reserved \$2,857,737 or 39% of our budget.
- Link to the budget dashboard: [City of Hendersonville Budget](#)

### **Community Outreach/Special Events**

- The annual Bearfootin’ Auction was held in front of the historic courthouse.
- Officers assisted with the Annual Henderson County Toy Run. The route was altered this year due to Hurricane Helene.
- Officers escorted the 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Turkey Trot through downtown Hendersonville. This event hosted approximately 2500 runners without incident.
- Officers were present during the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting which was another successful event held in front of the old courthouse on Main St.
- Auto Star dealership provided an early Thanksgiving lunch to officers on Monday, November 18<sup>th</sup>.

### **Grants Management**

- Embedded Mental Health Grant – Pending Reimbursements
- CALEA and NCLEA Accreditation – Submitted the final reimbursement for this grant that ended on September 30, 2024
- GHSP Grant – Grant ended on September 30, 2024 - Pending Reimbursement

### **Recruiting/Retention**

- 0 of 14 non-sworn employee vacancies exist.
- 4 of 48 Police Officer vacancies exist.
  - (3) applications received
  - (1) in background
  - (0) conditional offer made
  - (0) rejected
  - (0) withdrew

**Hendersonville Police Department**  
**Public Monthly Report**  
**December 2024**



## Chief's Monthly Summary

As I write this report, I cannot help but think of the tragic events we have seen in North Carolina and the country since our last monthly report. Strange are the times we live in. I feel compelled to once again reiterate that we need to come together and detest violence rather than fighting amongst ourselves over things outside of our control.

On December 23, 2024, just two days before Christmas, Greensboro Officer Michael Horan was shot and killed in the line of duty after responding to a man with a gun call. His death marks the second time in less than a year that a Greensboro Police Officer was feloniously killed in the line of duty. Their deaths only highlight the dangerous nature of this profession and the willingness of men and women to put their lives on the line to protect their communities. What an honor it is to work alongside selfless heroes every single day.

Looking outside our state are the tragic events in New Orleans and Las Vegas. There is still so little that we know about these attacks. From my conversations with the FBI and other involved police leaders, investigators believe these events to be unrelated by individuals rather than groups. That belief could change if evidence begins to indicate otherwise.

What we are reminded of is the tactics being deployed by people intent on harming others and the frequency in which they happen. It is our duty as public safety personnel to plan for and mitigate these types of threats to our community. We take your safety during large scale events very seriously and we spend many hours thinking through every conceivable scenario.

I can say, because of our elected and city leaders, we have been able to stay at the forefront of all available protective measures. We own and deploy anti-vehicle barriers during special events. These barriers are designed and built in such a way to deny access to vehicles in a certain area. You can see videos of their capabilities here: [Mobility & Stopping Power - MVB3X Modular Vehicle Barrier System](#)

While we cannot prevent every threat, we work diligently to ensure we are least likely to be a target for bad actors. We promise to always be cognizant of emerging threats and to plan accordingly. We will look at each event individually and will employ the resources and personnel we feel are necessary to protect you. At the end of the day, we feel pride in knowing that most of you can enjoy your time in public without any concern for your safety. A boring event is a good event in our eyes and the measure of success.

Now, let's kick off 2025 and start things anew. Cheers to it being a great year for everyone. Thank you again for your support and trust in us as your public safety partner.  
#MountainExcellence



Blair Myhand  
Chief of Police

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*Emergency and non-emergency calls received*

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**Traffic Safety**

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382	277	293	204	200	175	189	239	191	176	138	129	216
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
303	250	250	174	233	272	265	176	168	187	152	184	218

*DWI Arrests:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
12	2	7	6	8	4	1	7	12	9	5	5	7
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
8	5	10	4	8	5	7	4	7	15	8	9	8

*Total Motor Vehicle Crashes:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
117	105	114	104	133	131	107	123	128	137	107	117	119
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
108	115	104	126	115	102	133	116	98	134	114	104	114

*Motor Vehicle Crashes with Injury:*

2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
19	16	17	13	12	7	22	9	8	11	10	8	13

*Top five crash locations:*

#1	Four Seasons Blvd at Thompson St
#2	Chimney Rock Rd at Francis Rd
#3	Chimney Rock Rd at Highland Square Dr
#4	7 <sup>th</sup> Ave E at King St
#5	Martin Luther King Blvd at Ashe St

**Crimes, Reports, and Arrests**

*Criminal Arrests:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
72	87	93	63	71	58	54	56	60	67	59	51	66
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
51	49	80	56	69	62	84	77	64	75	63	52	65

*Incident Reports:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
136	105	185	146	138	116	108	131	97	116	109	106	124
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
170	131	131	129	108	141	106	148	94	116	103	93	123

**Drug Offenses:**

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
30	22	19	26	48	20	26	32	28	45	23	15	28
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
19	25	31	30	20	29	31	44	39	29	13	8	27

**Larcenies:**

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
45	29	8	19	37	25	35	44	20	31	36	29	30
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
24	45	26	33	30	45	39	31	24	44	33	32	34

**Assaults:**

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
9	17	7	15	11	9	7	11	14	17	10	16	12
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
8	11	14	6	11	9	12	17	16	12	18	11	12

**Employee Actions**

- Captain Rich Olsen retired on December 31<sup>st</sup> with 30 full years of service. His many years of honorable service and dedication to the City of Hendersonville is commendable. We wish Rich the best in his retirement.
- Captain Trae Laws attended his orientation session for the FBI National Academy. His session starts January 6, 2025.
- Sergeant Kyle Gyurina has been assigned as the department’s Recruitment Team Leader. His efforts will help the agency become more proactive in seeking out and recruiting qualified people to fill vacancies.

**Safety Tip – Winter Weather Reminders**

As winter weather rolls in, it’s important to stay safe and know when to call for help. Here are some tips to help you prepare and keep our community safe:

## *Stay Safe in Winter Weather*

- Avoid driving unless necessary.
- If you must drive, slow down and leave extra space between vehicles.
- Keep a winter emergency kit in your car (blanket, water, flashlight, etc.).
- Dress warmly in layers and avoid prolonged exposure to the cold.
- Check on neighbors, especially the elderly or those who may need assistance.

## *When to Call 911*

- Life-threatening emergencies: accidents with injuries, fires, medical emergencies.
- If you're stranded in your car and in immediate danger.
- When hazardous road conditions cause a serious risk to drivers.

## *When NOT to Call 911*

- To check weather forecasts - use local news or weather apps.
- Hendersonville Alerts at [www.hvlnc.gov/alertHvI](http://www.hvlnc.gov/alertHvI) and the HPD app offer opt-in weather alerts from the National Weather Service.
- Road alerts - use NCDOT's [www.DriveNC.gov](http://www.DriveNC.gov) or other navigation apps.
- Power outages - contact your utility provider.

Remember, 911 is for emergencies only. Let's work together to keep the lines open for those who truly need it. Stay safe, Hendersonville!

## **Complaints and Findings**

- A citizen filed a complaint alleging he was improperly detained. The detention, while done in earnest, did not meet the rules for an intoxicated persons hold at the county jail and the complainant was immediately released. This complaint was sustained as a supervisory failure and corrective action was taken.

## **Vehicle Pursuits and Findings**

- None

## **Use of Reasonable Force (UORF) Incidents and Findings**

- Officers responded to a residence for a disturbance. Officers determined that the suspect was in violation of a Domestic Violence Protective Order. The suspect attempted to flee on foot to avoid arrest. An officer deployed a Taser to apprehend the suspect. Neither the suspect nor the officer sustained injuries during the arrest. This use of force is currently under review.
- Officers responded to a shoplifting investigation and located the suspect. As the officer approached, the suspect fled on foot, ignoring lawful commands to stop. The officer



pursued and ultimately caught the suspect by taking him to the ground. Neither the suspect nor the officer sustained injuries during the incident. This use of force is currently under review.

- Officers responded to a disturbance at a business involving a suspect who was pointing a knife at employees. Officers utilized soft-hand techniques to take the suspect into custody. Neither the suspect nor the officers sustained injuries during the incident. This use of force is currently under review.

### **Operations/Notable Events**

- Sam Ivey, the person who shot and killed Jackie Reed inside the McDonald's on Four Seasons Blvd., in October 2023, plead guilty to 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Murder among other charges. He will be sentenced on January 18, 2025.
- The Hendersonville Police Department participated in a mobile saturation patrol focused on designated areas for targeted enforcement for New Year's Eve. The initiative was a collaborative effort, joined by the Henderson County Sheriff's Office, North Carolina Highway Patrol, and Laurel Park Police Department. A total of eleven officers participated resulting in 4 arrests, 17 citations, and 19 written warnings.
- Officer responded to a call of a male lying in the roadway near 7th Ave., E and Cherry St. Officers located a male who had been stabbed. Unfortunately, the male died at the hospital from the injuries he sustained in the assault. This investigation is still active, and all leads are being pursued. Anyone with information about the incident is encouraged to contact the police department.

### **Budget Summary**

- We are approximately 51% through the fiscal year.
- We have spent or reserved \$3,571,193 or 48% of our budget.
- Link to the budget dashboard: [City of Hendersonville Budget](#)

### **Community Outreach/Special Events**

- Officers and other employees participated in the annual "Shop with a Hero" event at Walmart. During this event, Officers helped students chosen by their school to shop for Christmas gifts. Amazingly, most of the children spend the money allocated to them to buy gifts for their families.



### **Grants Management**

- Embedded Mental Health Grant – Pending Reimbursements
- CALEA and NCLEA Accreditation – Grant that ended on September 30, 2024
- GHSP Grant – Grant ended on September 30, 2024

### **Recruiting/Retention**

- 0 of 14 non-sworn employee vacancies exist.
- 4 of 48 Police Officer vacancies exist.
  - (3) applications received
  - (1) in background
  - (0) conditional offer made
  - (0) rejected
  - (0) withdrew