

2021

Orangeburg Public Safety Annual Report



"Working today for a safer tomorrow."

**Orangeburg Department of Public Safety
2021 Annual Report
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Orangeburg Department of Public Safety 2021 Annual Report

Command Staff

***Director of Public Safety
Chief Michael Adams***

***Special Operations Commander
Lieutenant Colonel Edward Conner***

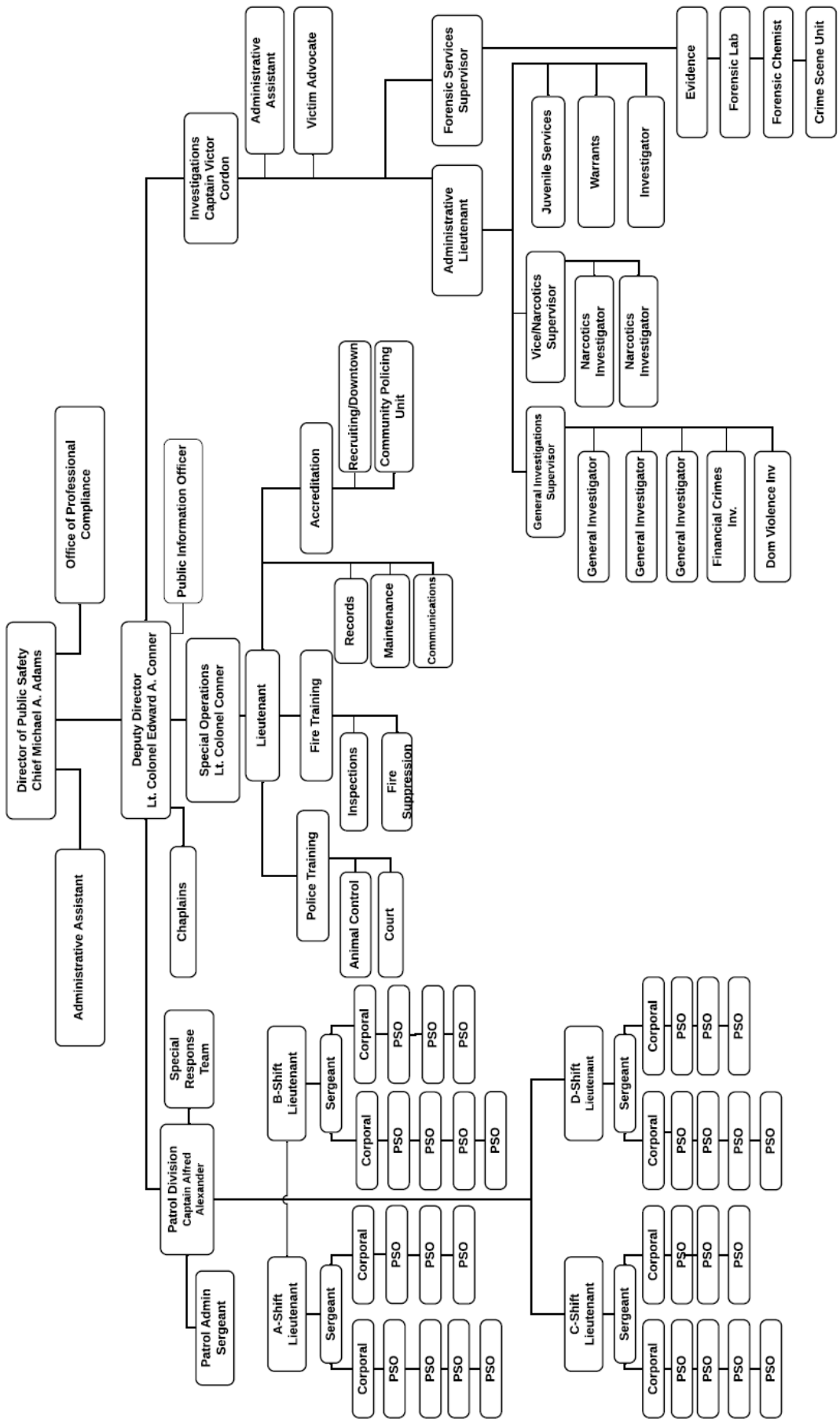
***Patrol Division Commander
Captain Alfred Alexander***

***Investigations Division Commander
Captain Victor Cordon***

***Produced by the Orangeburg Department of Public Safety
Planning & Research Unit***

***Crime Analyst
Robert Warrington***

Orangeburg Department of Public Safety



Message from the Chief



It is my honor to present to you the 2021 Orangeburg Department of Public Safety (ODPS) Annual Report. During the 2021 calendar year, the COVID 19 Pandemic has resulted in our agency modifying the way we conduct operations in order to protect our employees and to ensure a continuity of service to our community. Rest assured that the modification in operations has not resulted in any degradation of response to emergency or non-emergency calls. Transparency is a key factor in providing the highest quality of service to the community, and this report reflects the dedication of our agency's men and women.



City of Orangeburg

Established:
1704 (town), 1883(city)

Area:
8.30 square miles

Mayor:
Michael Butler

Population:
12,654 (2019 est)

Population by Race

<i>Race</i>	<i>2010 Census</i>
<i>White</i>	<i>23%</i>
<i>Black</i>	<i>74%</i>
<i>Asian</i>	<i><1%</i>
<i>Hispanic</i>	<i>2.1%</i>
<i>Native American</i>	<i><1%</i>
<i>Other</i>	<i><1%</i>



Orangeburg Department of Public Safety Bio

**Organized:
1988**

**Sworn Officers:
56**

**Civilian Personnel:
31**

**Director:
Michael Adams**

**Headquarters:
1320 Middleton St
Orangeburg, SC 29115**

**2021 Total Calls for Service:
44,189**

Rank Structure:

**Director
Deputy Director
Captain
Lieutenant
Sergeant
Corporal
Public Safety Officer
Engineer**

**Marked Patrol Division Vehicles:
25**

**Unmarked Patrol Division Vehicles:
6**

**Fire Apparatus:
9**



Mission Statement

It is the mission of the Orangeburg Department of Public Safety to create and maintain an atmosphere of mutual cooperation with our community through innovative partnerships directed toward a common goal of protecting life and property through professional law enforcement and fire protection services.

We will remain pro-active and diligent in our efforts to enhance the quality of life in our community through professional development, supported by loyalty, courage, commitment, and integrity with equitable and dignified treatment for all citizens we serve.

Vision Statement

The Orangeburg Department of Public Safety is dedicated to providing the highest level of law enforcement and fire protection services to all citizens in our community, incorporating professionalism, dignity and courtesy.

Furthermore, we understand the need for community support and feel compelled to develop and implement positive programs to foster mutual respect between all citizens and the department while preserving life, liberty, and property.

Values

- **Loyalty:** Commitment to the agency and its organizational objectives above that of any individual.
- **Integrity:** Moral code of conduct that reflects honesty, accountability, and respect.
- **Trustworthy:** The agency must nurture community trust by performing its function in a professional and equitable manner.
- **Commitment:** Dedication to the community, department personnel, training, and professionalism.
- **Courage:** Meeting challenges and adversity without fear of scorn or ridicule recognizing the higher standards for which we are accountable.
- **Innovation:** Constantly searching to enhance the services provided to our community through improvised technology, personal development and training.

About Public Safety

The Orangeburg Department of Public Safety is a nationally accredited law enforcement agency. It is comprised of over 100 employees that include: Sworn law enforcement officers, engineers, and civilians. Adhering to the true Public Safety concept; Public Safety Officers are cross-trained in both law enforcement and the fire service. At Public Safety, all non-civilian employees are expected to obtain and maintain proficiency in both their roles as Public Safety Officers. Located in the city of Orangeburg, SC, the Department of Public Safety continues to provide the best law enforcement and fire protection services to the almost 13,000 citizens of Orangeburg.



What is Public Safety?

Public Safety is a concept whereby firefighters and police officers of a given jurisdiction are cross trained in the fire service and law enforcement fields. In a fully integrated public safety department, as is the Orangeburg Department of Public Safety, all non-civilian employees perform the dual functions of fire suppression and law enforcement.



The formal public safety idea can be traced to departments in Glencoe, Illinois and Sunnyvale, California, as far back as the early 1950's.

In 1987, the Orangeburg city council voted to transform the traditional fire and police departments into a single, versatile Department of Public Safety.

Patrol Division

The Patrol Division is led by Captain Alfred Alexander and is the largest division within the Orangeburg Department of Public Safety. Its primary responsibility is to provide uniformed law enforcement and fire suppression service to the City of Orangeburg and the citizens within its fire coverage area. Generally, a uniformed officer is the first contact a citizen has with the Department of Public Safety. With this initial interaction our goal is to leave the citizen with a permanent positive impression of this agency's professionalism.

Our Mission is to create and maintain an atmosphere of cooperation with our community. The Patrol Officer units handle the initial fire and police response to 911 calls. They deal with all types of calls for service and complete the initial report of fire and criminal activity. The Patrol Officer is the most visible Public Safety presence in the community.

The Patrol Division serves as a manpower pool to support the many specialized units and functions within the department. Personnel from the Patrol Division serve on the following units

in addition to their regular duties:

- S.R.T. (Special Response Team)
- Canine Unit (Which includes two assigned canines.)
- Crime Prevention
- Public Education
- Gang Investigation
- Bike Officers
- Data Master B.A. Certified Officers
- Arson Investigation

This diversity allows the individual officer to provide a variety of expensive services at no additional cost to the taxpayer. Additionally, these skills strengthen the ability of the Patrol Division to manage highly complex and dangerous assignments daily.

Investigations Division

The Investigations Division is led by Captain Victor Cordon. The Investigations Division is responsible for handling investigations of most felony crimes that are reported to the Orangeburg Department of Public Safety such as homicides, burglaries, robberies, frauds, juvenile crimes, and other miscellaneous crimes as needed..

The division consists of many specialized units and personnel:

- **General Investigations:** General Investigators are responsible for incident investigation and perform many of the vital functions for case solvability.
- **Juvenile Investigator:** Specializes in incidents involving juvenile suspects and victims and ensures juvenile rights are observed during investigations.
- **Victim Services:** Coordinates notification of victims and serves as a liaison between the Department, Municipal Court, and various victims' services.
- **Narcotics Unit:** Specializes in narcotics investigations and operations including surveillance, suspect identification or any incident which may primarily involve narcotics.
- **Forensic Services Unit:** Responsible for the forensic examination and identification of all forensic evidence collected during an incident.
- **Crime Scene Investigation:** Responsible for the collection of evidence and documentation of circumstances at incident scenes.
- **Evidence Custodian:** Responsible for the storage, dissemination, preservation, and proper handling of all physical and digital evidence collected by the department
- **School Resource Officer:** Provides school administrators with law enforcement resources and expertise to maintain safety and order in the school environment while also reducing juvenile delinquency and promote positive behavior from students, mentoring and a positive role model to students.
- **Crime Analyst** Responsible for analyzing crime reports and statistics and developing predictive and projected trends of criminal offenders and of crimes in targeted geographical areas.

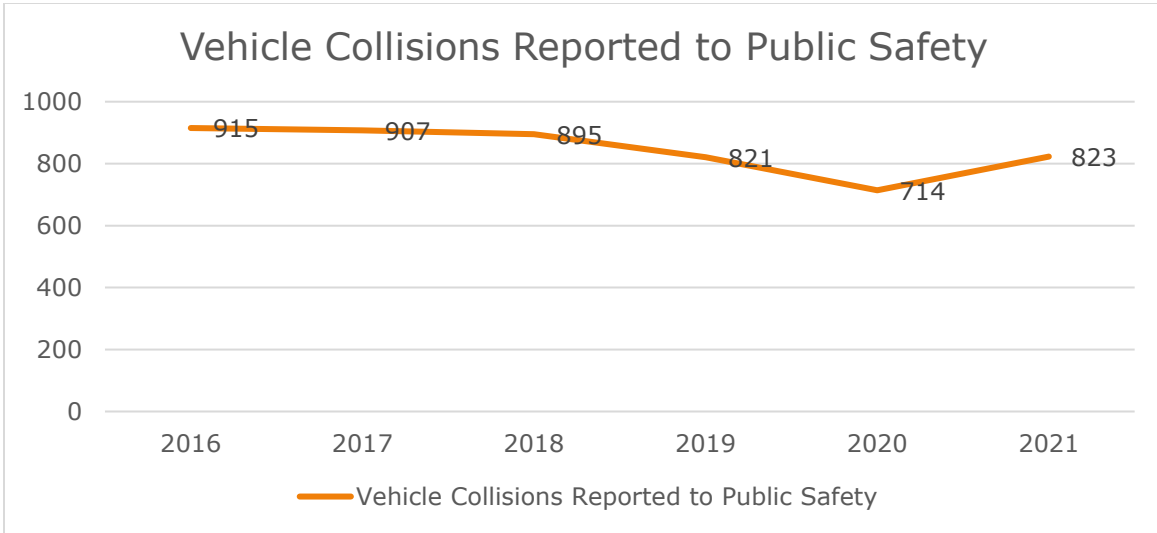
Special Operations Division

The Special Operations Division is led by Lieutenant Colonel Ed Conner and serves as the support section of the Department of Public Safety. Special Operations is comprised of several specialized units that serve different functions within the department. Special Operations supports the other divisions of the department through providing the following services: law enforcement and fire service training, accreditation management, policy development, crime analysis, planning and research, grants management, fire inspections, records management, court security, recruiting, and animal control.

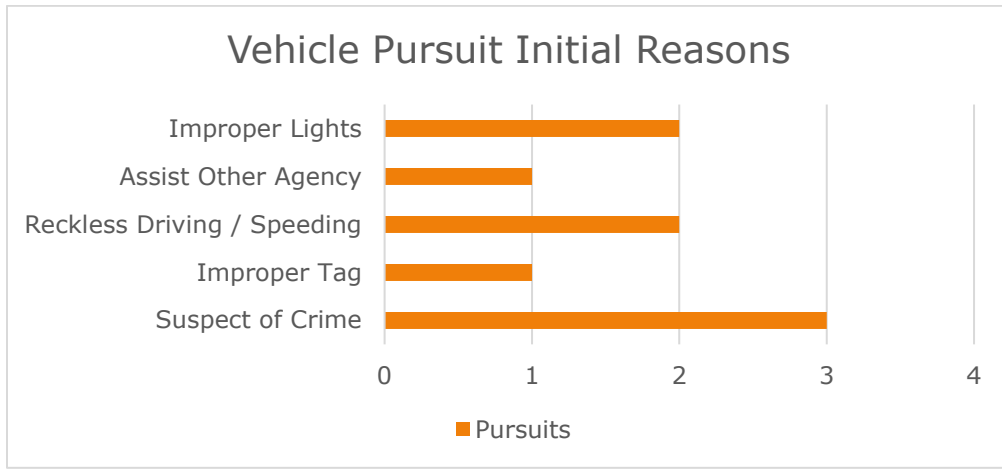
All of the above listed units or sections serve vital functions to the department in the following manner:

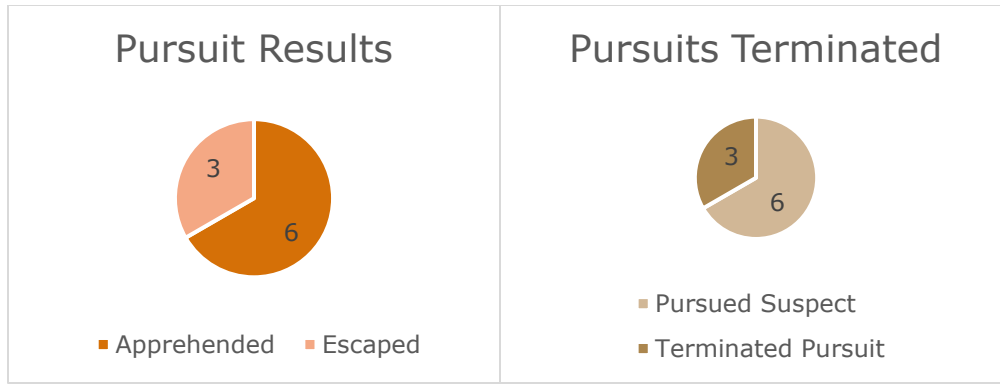
- **Training Office:** Encompasses all agency training in both law enforcement and fire service disciplines from new-recruit training to veteran in-service training.
- **F.T.O:** (Field Training Officer) for new officers who train officers recently graduated from the Academy on Department policy, procedures, and policing practices.
- **Fire Inspections and Arson Investigation:** Provide business fire systems inspections and arson investigations to incidents within the fire district.
- **Accreditation Office:** Manages the CALEA Accreditation process and works diligently to update policies and procedures. The department received recognition as an internationally accredited law enforcement agency in March 2003 through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc.
- **Recruitment Office:** Responsible for recruiting applicants to the department to fill various vacancies within the organization. This section performs all pre-employment screening, testing, and application processing.
- **Records Bureau:** Responsible for all agency records to include, but not limited to criminal case files, incident reports, booking reports, accident reports, etc.
- **Communications Operations:** Responsible for receiving and dispatching all calls for service from the general public to emergency personnel.
- **Animal Control Officer:** Responsible for handling all complaints associated with animals within the city.
- **Fire Engineer Unit:** Full-time fire engineer unit who serve as primary responders of the Department's fire apparatus, as well as 24-hour manning of all four fire stations.
- **Office of Community Outreach:** Serves as a liaison between the community and the Department through the position of the Community-Oriented Policing Officer.

2021 Vehicle Collisions Reported



2021 Vehicle Pursuits





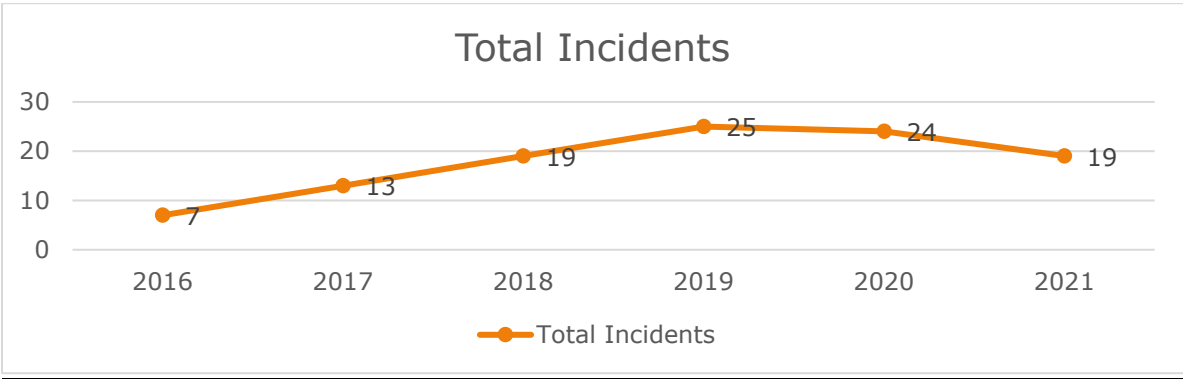
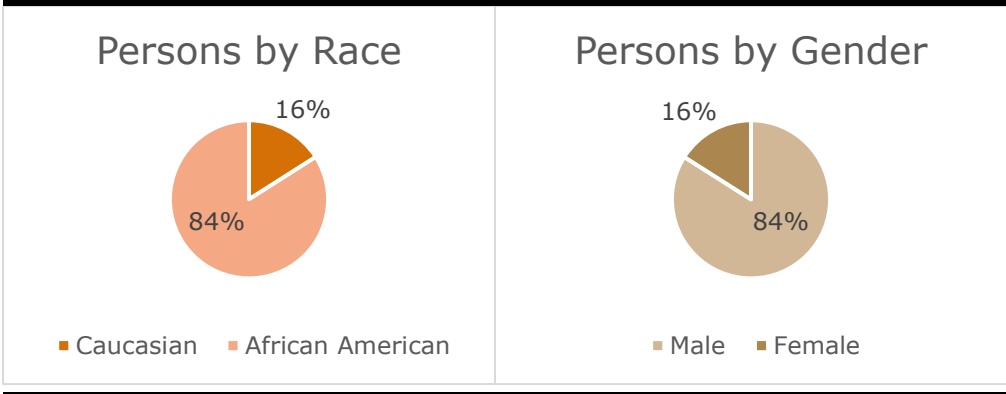
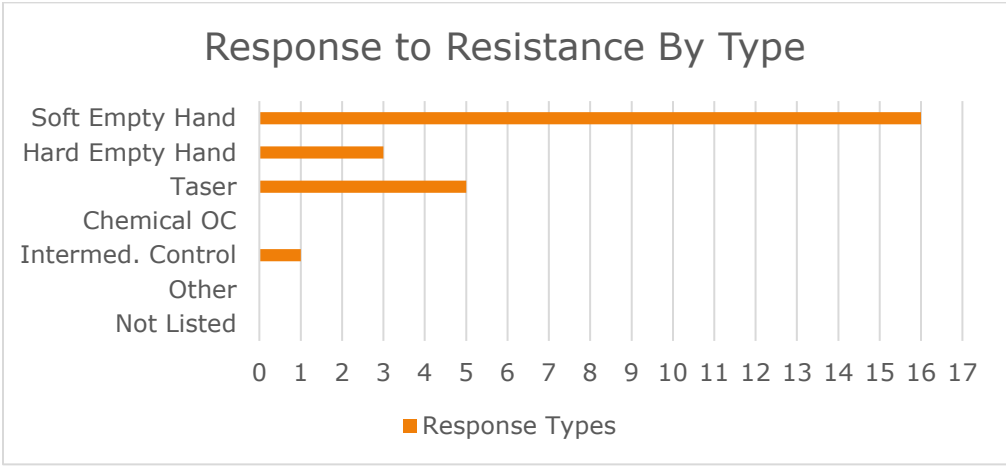
Department Policy:

The pursuit of a fleeing suspect using department law enforcement vehicles presents a high degree of risk to the general public, officers and suspects. Therefore, it shall be the policy of this department to provide for the safety of all persons involved in such pursuits, to the greatest possible extent, when enforcing the law. In addition to this policy, the department shoulders a responsibility to assist officers in the safe performance of their duties. To fulfill these obligations, the department will regulate the manner in which vehicular pursuits are initiated and performed.

Analysis of Pursuits:

An Internal Affairs review of the 2021 Vehicle Pursuit data found that department policy was followed on all pursuits and that the training and equipment provided satisfied the department’s needs. There were no corrective actions taken or retraining required for officers involved in pursuits during 2021. Of 9 pursuits, only 1 resulted in a vehicle crash. In this instance, the car was abandoned by the suspects during the pursuit and rolled into a tree on private property. There was no other damage to any vehicles or structures.

2021 Response to Resistance



Department Policy:

The department recognizes and respects the value and special integrity of each human life. In vesting Public Safety Officers with lawful authority to use force to protect the public welfare, a careful balancing of all human interests is required. It is the policy of this Department that all officers use only the amount of force reasonably necessary to accomplish lawful objectives. Any force used must be in direct proportion to the resistance of the individual or suspect so that the officer can control the situation and prevent harm or injury to the individual, officer, and others.

Response to Resistance Analysis:

An Internal Affairs review of all Responses to Resistance in 2021 determined that in the 19 reported situations in which officers used force on an individual, proper training and policy were followed on all but 2 incidents. In one incident, the officer was given remedial training on proper Taser deployment procedures. In the other incident, it was discovered that an unacceptable level of force was used. The offending officer was then disciplined and terminated from the Agency's employment. The analysis also showed that the most common age of the person on which force was applied was 24 to 35 years old. As Public Safety's jurisdiction is comprised demographically of a 74% African American majority population, the responses to resistance in 2021 similarly align with this demographic. There were no founded reports of race or gender bias when force was applied during an officer encounter.

2021 Disciplinary Investigations

During 2021, there were three complaints filed against officers employed by Public Safety.

All three complaints were filed against on duty officers by citizen wishing to report officer misconduct or unfavorable circumstances.

One complaint involved a citizen believing an officer was following them. The resulting investigation revealed that the officer lived on the same street as the complainant. The result was unsubstantiated.

One complaint was that a citizen had to pay a tow bill after their vehicle was illegally parked on private property. The resulting investigation revealed that the property manager asked for the vehicle to be towed. The result was unsubstantiated.

The last complaint was that an officer mishandled a custody dispute incident while on scene. The resulting investigation found that the officer followed correct procedures and informed the complainant of the status and outcome of the incident. The result was unsubstantiated.

2021 Employee Grievances

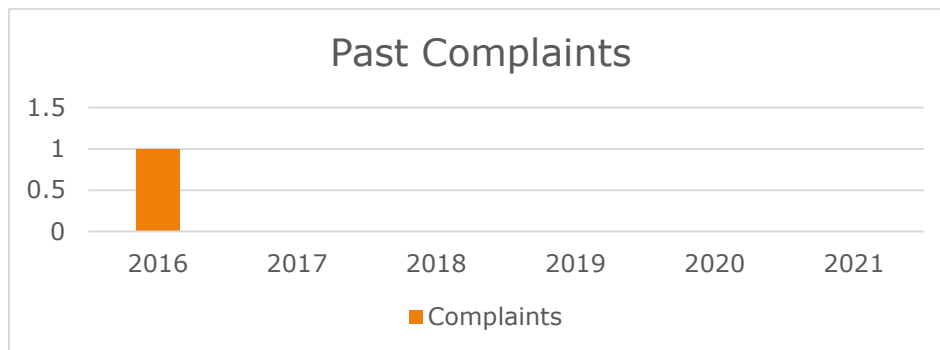
There were no grievances filed against Public Safety by any employee during 2021.

Public Safety maintains a transparent and fully accessible grievance policy where all employees are encouraged to report any instances of misconduct or negative treatment to the Human Resources department.



Biased-Based Policing

There were no complaints of biased-based policing filed against Public Safety during 2021. Public Safety maintains a proactive approach to our community through trust and integrity and welcomes any feedback that may help us better perform our service to the community.



2021 Crime Report

2020-2021 Individual Crime Statistics

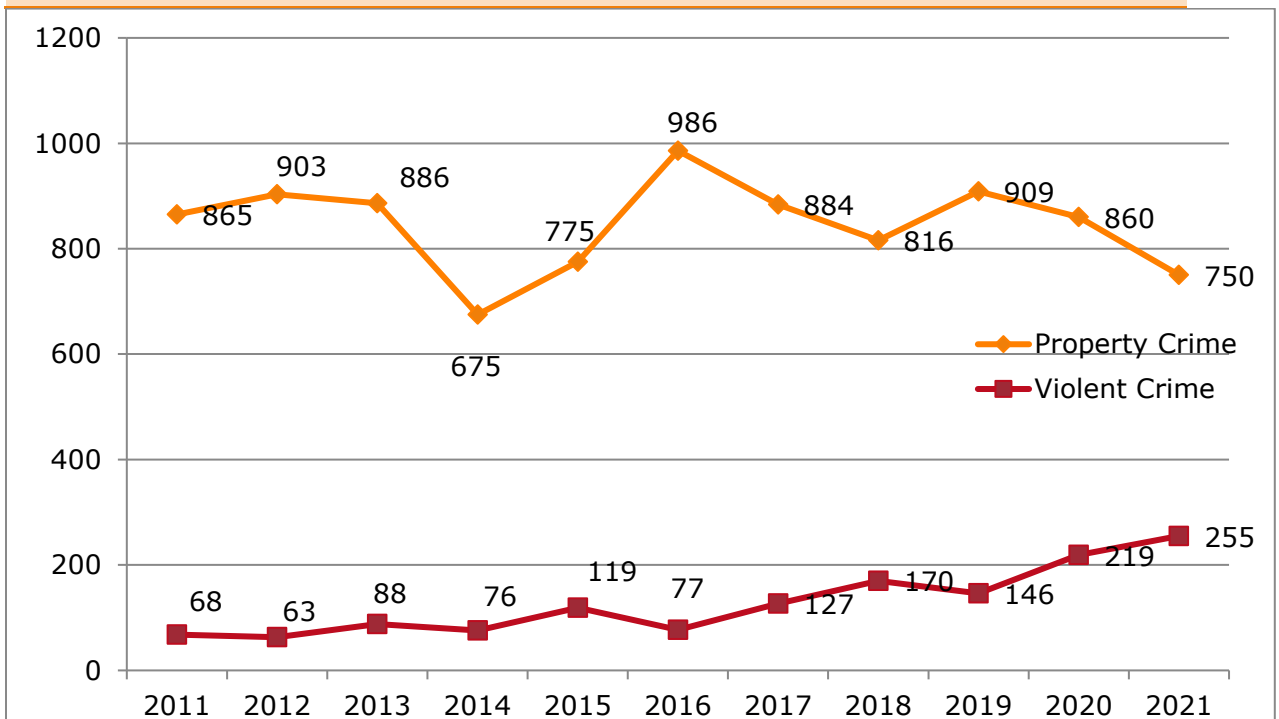
Violent Crimes	2020	2021	Percent Change
Murder (09A, B, C)	4	2	-50%
Rape (11A)	6	7	-14.29%
Robbery (120)	30	17	-43.33%
Aggravated Assault (13A)	179	229	+27.93%
Violent Percent Change	219	255	+16.44%
Property Crimes	2020	2021	Percent Change
Arson (200)	4	3	-25%
Burglary (220)	182	162	-10.99%
Pocket Picking (23A)	0	1	+100%
Purse Snatching (23B)	0	0	-100%
Shoplifting (23C)	153	140	-8.5%
Theft from Building (23D)	33	25	-24.24%
Theft - Coin Operated (23E)	14	0	-100%
Theft from Automobile (23F)	150	162	+8%
Theft - Auto Accessories (23G)	88	72	-18.18%
All Other Larcenies (23H)	148	130	-12.16%
Motor Vehicle Theft (240)	88	55	-37.5%
Property Percent Change	860	750	-12.79%
Total Crime Change	1079	1005	-6.86%

Figures reflect all UCR Part I Crimes reported to the department and maintained in Lawtrak. These figures were reported to SLED as part of the UCR Program.

ORANGEBURG DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY **UCR Part I Crime Data Statistics 2015 through 2021**

Offense	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Murder (09A)	0	0	2	1	4	4	2
Rape (11A)	5	7	8	2	2	6	7
Robbery (120)	33	19	28	29	24	30	17
Aggravated Assault (13A)	81	51	89	137	116	179	229
Total Violent Crime	119	77	127	170	146	219	255
Arson (200)	1	1	2	5	4	4	3
Burglary (220)	138	170	151	138	212	182	162
Larceny (23A-H)	730	755	670	595	613	586	530
Motor Vehicle Theft (240)	45	45	51	65	84	88	55
Total Property Crime	775	986	884	816	913	860	750
Total UCR Part I Crimes	894	1063	1011	987	1059	1079	1005

CRIMES TRENDS OVER TIME (10 Years)



Throughout the 2021 Annual Report, the Department tries to place statistics in context— to explain *why* crime occurs in a particular area, instead of just where and how often. It is impossible, however, to analyze every crime factor within the pages of this report. As a general rule, readers should consider the following factors when gauging the relative safety of any city, neighborhood, or business district. The FBI in its Uniform Crime Reports provides most of these factors:

Factor	General Effect	Status in Orangeburg	Effects in Orangeburg
Residential Population & Population Density	High population leads to higher residential crime rate (residential burglaries, larcenies from motor vehicles, domestic assaults, auto theft). High population <i>density</i> also leads to a higher residential crime rate.	High transient population due to bus station and three colleges. Very high-density population in residential areas of the city. Many areas include multi-family apartment complexes.	Higher residential crime rate than cities with similar populations. Significantly higher property crimes when compared to similar population centers.
Commercial & Educational Population, number & type of commercial establishments and educational institutions	High commercial population leads to more “business” crimes (commercial burglaries, shoplifting, larcenies from buildings, forgery) and to more crimes against the person often committed in commercial areas (larcenies from the person, larcenies from motor vehicles, larcenies of bicycles, street robbery, auto theft).	Large amount of Commercial Businesses within the City of Orangeburg. Centers of business are concentrated in very specific areas with easy access from residential areas, easing ingress and egress during, and after the commission of a crime.	Property crimes to businesses fluctuate year to year. Burglaries to businesses, shoplifting, and thefts from buildings tend to contribute heavily to property crime rates.
Age composition of population	An increasing population in the “at risk” age of 15– 24 leads to a higher crime rate.	28% of the population: In the “at risk” age of 15-24.	A large percentage of crimes were committed by the “at risk” group.
Stability of Population	Stable, close- knit populations have a lower overall crime rate than transient populations. Neighborhoods with more houses and condominiums (generally signifying a more stable population) have a lower crime rate than neighborhoods with mostly apartments (generally a more transient population).	Population areas tend to display trends related to the mobile nature of its occupants. For example: portions of the city with higher multi-family dwellings tend to see significantly more crime than areas with predominantly single-family dwellings.	More apartment and boarding houses mean that a significant portion of the population is not invested in the community in which they reside. This leads to not only higher instances of crime, but also to a disconnected environment, in which residents are less likely to participate in the proactive approach to the reduction of crime.

Crime Factors Continued

Factor	General Effect	Status in Orangeburg	Effects in Orangeburg
Street Layout	Areas with major streets offering fast getaways and mass transportation show more crime clusters than neighborhoods with primarily residential streets.	Most residential and commercial areas are tightly grouped with easy access to a major street or highway.	Increased crime in areas where the major roads pass through the city. Provides greater access and egress to residential areas for crimes of opportunity.
Proximity to Public Transportation	Criminals are often indigent and cannot afford cars or other expensive forms of transportation.	Only one bus line with few stops and one taxi service in the city limits; very limited population access to public transportation.	Crime and suspect data continue to suggest that public transportation is not a major factor in crime trends within the city.
Economic conditions, including poverty level and unemployment rate	Again, criminals are often indigent. Areas afflicted by poverty show higher burglary, robbery, and larceny rates than middle- class or wealthy neighborhoods.	Several low-income housing areas and apartment complexes. New additions of multi-family dwellings introduced during 2018-2020.	These areas continue to see a higher count of property crimes such as Burglary, Thefts from Autos and a higher amount of violent crimes such as: Domestic Violence and Assault.
Family conditions with respect to divorce and family cohesiveness	Larry J. Siegel, author of <i>Criminology</i> , says: "Family relationships have for some time been considered a major determinant of behavior. Youths who grow up in a household characterized by conflict and tension, where parents are absent or separated, or where there is a lack of familial love and support, will be susceptible to the crime- promoting forces in the environment."	Large number of single parent households continues to represent a significant portion of the Department's served population. Higher than average instances of assault and domestic violence may perpetuate the cycle of violence and crime within the Department's jurisdiction.	Significant amount of crime is committed by the "at risk" population due to a lack of a family support network and may continue to perpetuate the cycle of violence and crime without proper community policing and/or increased victim's services. Directed policing and community outreach to single-parent families or victims of crime may be needed.
Climate	Warmer climates and seasons tend to report a higher rate of larceny, auto theft, and juvenile- related crime, while cold seasons and climates report more robberies and murder.	Tends to stay warmer during all seasons compared to national average.	All crimes are somewhat evenly distributed among all seasons and temperatures. Crime spikes continue to be linked to the onset of warmer temperatures.
Operational and investigative emphasis of the police department	Problem- oriented, informed police departments have more success controlling certain aspects of crime than other departments.	Pro-active department with a COP Unit and substations in operation. Crime analysis active.	Various neighborhood watch groups have been started due to community policing and crime analysis of at-risk areas.

Command Staff Review

_____ Date: _____

Chief

_____ Date: _____

Patrol Division Captain

_____ Date: _____

Investigations Division Captain

_____ Date: _____

Special Operations Colonel