



**2017  
ANNUAL  
REPORT**

---

**COVINGTON POLICE  
DEPARTMENT**



A historical black and white photograph of a street scene. The central focus is a tall, ornate brick building with a prominent clock tower. The clock tower has a large circular clock face and is topped with a dome. To the right of the clock tower is another multi-story brick building with a striped awning over its entrance. In the foreground, a horse-drawn carriage is visible, along with several people walking on the street. The street is unpaved and appears to be a dirt road. The overall scene depicts a busy street in a historical town.

**Chief of Police  
Stacey L. Cotton**

**Prepared by  
Officer Allan Seebaran**

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

4	LETTER FROM THE CHIEF
5	COVINGTON CITY COUNCIL
6	COMMAND STAFF
7	ORGANIZATIONAL BREAKDOWN OF THE COVINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
8	ORGANIZATIONAL CHART
9	ACCREDITATION
10	THE PHILISOPHY OF THE COVINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
11	VALUES STATEMENT
12	CRIME STATISTICS
13	CRIME TREND PER 1,000 POPULATION
14	CALLS FOR SERVICE / MAJOR CRIMES
19	TRAFFIC
22	ACCIDENTS
25	ARREST STATISTICS
27	TRAINING HOURS
29	INTERNAL AFFAIRS
30	2017 RETIREES
32	AWARDS BANQUET
33	NEW EMPLOYEES
34	HONOR GUARD
35	EMERGENCY SERVICES UNIT (ESU)
36	K-9 UNIT
37	COMMUNITY POLICING
41	SUPPORT SERVICES/COMMUNITY OUTREACH DIVISION
42	SHOP WITH A COP
43	EXPLORERS
44	COVINGTON POLICE WHO CARE AND FUZZ RUN
46	CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY
47	CONTACT US





## *Letter from the Chief of Police*

To the Citizens of Covington,

It is with great pleasure we present to you the Covington Police Department annual report for 2017. This report is a summary of our activities and efforts that occurred throughout the last year. We, at the Covington Police Department, believe we should provide this information so you know what your police department is doing. Of course, we can't put everything the department does in this report because it would take volumes. It is, however, important to summarize the activities we feel will mean the most to you.

It is our desire to provide you with effective, efficient and professional law enforcement services. In doing so, the Covington Police Department strives to promote excellence in everything we do. We are very proud of our department and the men and women who serve. This report will allow you to see our mission statement, value statement, officers' awards, crime summaries, personnel allocations and accident / traffic information.

For current information on our department, please visit [www.covingtonpolice.com](http://www.covingtonpolice.com).

If you have any questions about any of the information contained in this report, please contact Officer Allan Sebaran at 770-385-2144.

Sincerely,

*Stacey L. Cotton*





# 2017 COVINGTON CITY COUNCIL



**Front Row (L-R):** Ocie Franklin, Post 3 West;  
Leigh Anne Knight, City Manager; Hawthethia Williams, Post 2 West

**Back Row (L-R):** City of Covington Mayor Ronnie Johnston;  
Kenneth Morgan, Post 1 West; Michael Whatley, Post 2 East;  
Chris Smith, Post 1 East; Josh McKelvey, Post 3 East

# Command Staff



Chief of Police  
Stacey L. Cotton



Assistant Chief of Police  
Almond Turner



Captain Craig Treadwell



Captain Philip Bradford



Captain Ken Malcom



Lt. Mark Jones



Lt. Al Miller



Lt. Mike Bruno



Lt. Mike Tinsley



Lt. Wendell Wagstaff



Lt. Chuck Groover



Sgt. Victor Partee



Sgt. Chris Cain



Sgt. Allen Martin



Sgt. Gene Nuqui



Sgt. Chris Smith



Sgt. Brent Fuesting



Sgt. Asher Dozier



# Organizational Breakdown of the Covington Police Department

The Covington Police Department is divided into three divisions, led by the Chief of Police. The divisions are as follows: the Criminal Investigative Division (C.I.D.), Patrol Division and Support Services/Community Outreach Division.

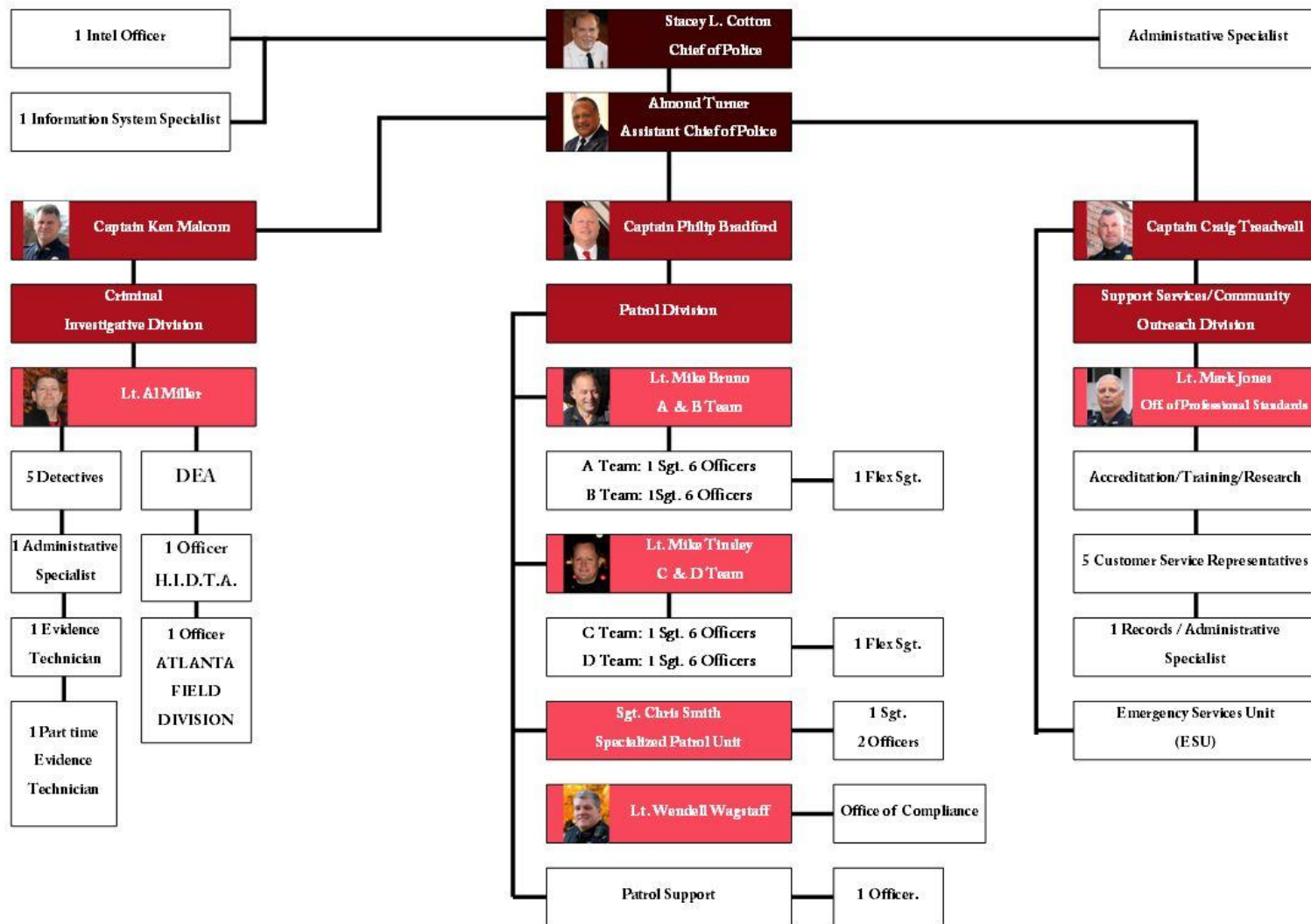


**The Criminal Investigative Division**, also called C.I.D., is responsible for the investigation of incidents forwarded to them from the Patrol Division. The incidents include property crimes from minor thefts and shoplifting, to persons crimes as serious as child molestation, rape and murder. C.I.D. case files are then forwarded to the District Attorney's Office for adjudication.

**The Patrol Division** is divided into four, 12 hour shifts, with certain officers assigned to one of four geographic areas, or "zones," within the city of Covington. The division is responsible for responding to calls that come into the 911 Center, patrolling the streets of Covington and enforcing the traffic laws within the city. This Division generates original incident reports that are then forwarded to our Criminal Investigative Division. Traffic reports are sent to the Support Services/Community Outreach Division to be adjudicated in Municipal Court.

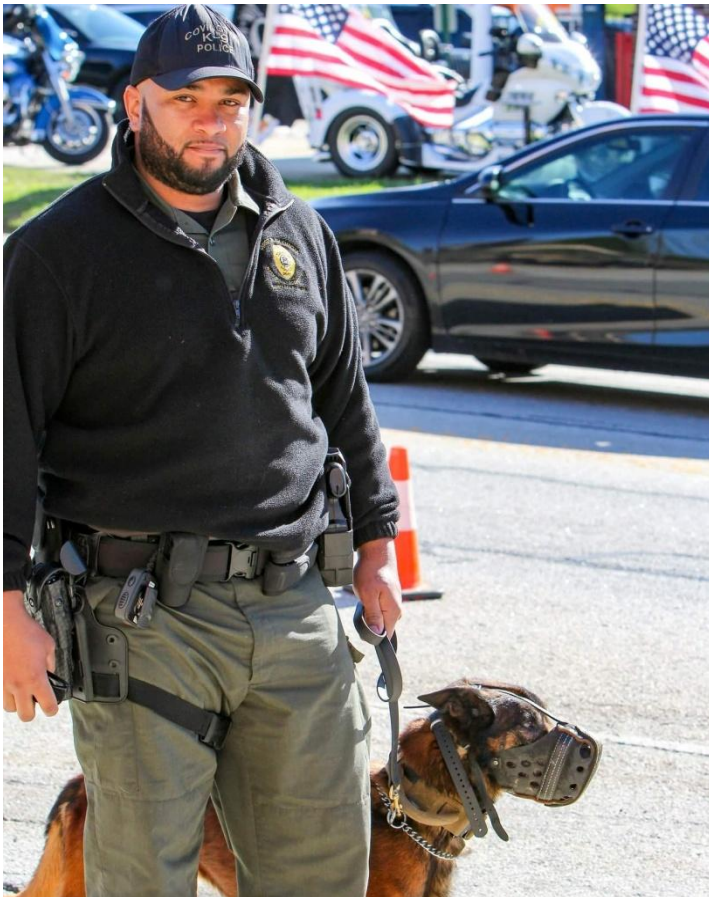
**The Support Services/Community Outreach Division** is in charge of our front desk customer service representatives, who assist citizens around the clock that come to the police department for a variety of needs. This include offering copies of accident and incident reports, running criminal histories for officers and the public and taking payments of fines. This division is responsible for accreditation, certification, training and research as well. The division is also responsible for facilitating community watches/home owner's association outreach and multiple community functions and events, like "Shop with a Cop," "Halloween on the Square," "Fuzz Run" and many more.

# Covington Police Department 2017





# *COMMISSION ON ACCREDITATION FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES*



## C.A.L.E.A.

In 2017, the CPD maintained its accreditation status and is working toward the next reaccreditation.

The accreditation process involves CALEA assessors from around the United States evaluating the CPD and its compliance with the standards required for accreditation.

The CPD has met the standard of being CALEA accredited since 1985 and is the first agency in Georgia and the tenth in the nation to achieve such an award. Since that time, only three other agencies have maintained their accredited status without a break in service. CALEA went international several years ago when agencies in Canada, Barbados and Mexico were accredited. They also accredit communications centers, training academies and campus police departments.

# THE PHILOSOPHY OF THE COVINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

The philosophy of this department is to provide cutting edge, effective, efficient and professional law enforcement services daily to the citizens we serve. We are committed to being aggressive with new techniques and ideas applicable to the delivery of law enforcement services and resolved to take a leadership role in perpetuating those innovative approaches that foster the ideals of this department.

## EFFECTIVE

Effectively providing police services and protection, equally, without hesitation to all citizens who are in the community, even to the point of sacrifice of life or limb in order to maintain the safety, security and welfare of all citizens.

## EFFICIENT

The efficient use of allocated resources is of major importance to the department. It involves the efficient deployment of manpower, the maintenance and care of equipment and the wise use of time in preventative crime measures, so that the community is assured that their investment in the department resources is used in the most efficient manner.

## PROFESSIONAL

Professionalism is gained by having a strong commitment toward the personal development of the men and women who make up the department. This commitment is to provide the best available training, equipment and up-to-date knowledge through advanced educational incentive programs and required physical fitness conditioning, so that an employee's relationship with the police department is not just a mere job, but a career of honor with personal growth and achievement.

*Officers and Staff  
Covington Police Department*





# VALUES STATEMENT

*Chief of Police*



## Leadership

We value an environment that fosters the development of leaders at all levels to identify and resolve issues that face our department and community.

## Professionalism

We will be knowledgeable through education, training, and technology to better serve our citizens and employees. We will present a personal appearance and demeanor that models a positive image for the Covington Police Department.

## Ethics

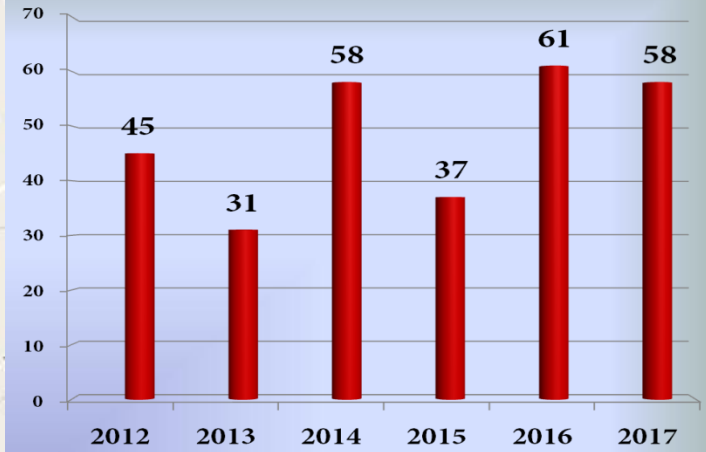
We are committed to the highest principles of integrity and fairness to maintain respect and public trust for the citizens we proudly serve.

## Honor

We will promote the pride we have in the profession of law enforcement by acting responsibly, being accountable for our actions, fulfilling our obligations and holding others accountable for their actions.

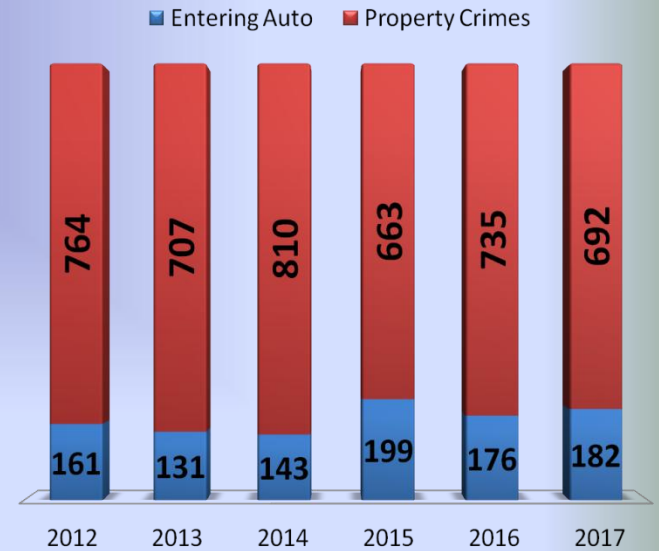
# Crime Statistics

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Homicide/ Murder	1	1	0	2	1	4
Rape	11	3	4	3	1	3
Robbery	17	12	17	13	24	20
Aggravated Assault	16	15	37	19	35	31



Total Violent Crimes Per Year

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Burglary	158	143	135	137	138	88
Larceny- Theft	561	534	630	488	555	567
Auto Theft	45	30	45	38	42	37
Entering Auto	161	131	143	199	176	182



Total Property Crimes Per Year



# Crime Rate per 1,000 inhabitants/population for the past six (6) years.

\*\* As of April 25, 2018, 2017 population count for the city of Covington was not available on the Census Bureau's database. For the purpose of calculating the estimated crime rate per 1,000 inhabitants/population and the number of Police personnel per 1,000 inhabitants for 2017 in this report, the 2016 population count (13,977) is being used.

Covington is the largest city inside of Newton County with a population of nearly 14,000 residents. The population of Newton County is approximately 108,000 with many commuting to Covington to work or shop which gives Covington a daytime population of nearly 35,000 (indicated through traffic studies).

Violent Crimes	Year	Population	Per 1000
	2012	13,347	3.4
	2013	13,452	2.3
	2014	13,667	4.2
	2015	13,916	2.6
	2016	13,977	4.4
	2017	**13,977	4.1
	Property Crimes	Year	Population
2012		13,347	57.2
2013		13,452	52.5
2014		13,667	59.2
2015		13,916	47.6
2016		13,977	52.6
2017		**13,977	49.5

### Covington city, Georgia

2016 Population Estimates  
**13,977**  
Source: Vintage 2016 Population Estimates: Population Estimates

Median Household Income  
**\$ 32,793**  
Source: 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

Persons in poverty, percent  
**29.5 %**  
Source: 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

Educational Attainment: Percent high school graduate or higher  
**79.8 %**  
Source: 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

Persons without health insurance, percent  
**14.4 %**  
Source: 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

Median Housing Value  
**\$ 115,200**  
Source: 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

Total Housing Units  
**5,576**  
Source: 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

Number of Companies  
**1,937**  
Source: 2012 Survey of Business Owners: Company Summary

Male Median Income  
**\$ 22,500**  
Source: 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

Female Median Income  
**\$ 18,259**  
Source: 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

Veterans  
**841**  
Source: 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

Explanation of Symbols

### Newton County, Georgia

2017 Population Estimates  
**108,078**  
Source: Vintage 2017 Population Estimates

Median Household Income  
**\$ 51,068**  
Source: 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

Persons in poverty, percent  
**17.5 %**  
Source: 2016 Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates (SAIPE)

Educational Attainment: Percent high school graduate or higher  
**84.4 %**  
Source: 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

Persons without health insurance, under age 65 years, percent  
**14.7 %**  
Source: Source: 2016 Small Area Health Insurance Estimates (SAHIE)

Median Housing Value  
**\$ 117,900**  
Source: 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

Total Housing Units  
**38,414**  
Source: 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

Number of Companies  
**8,681**  
Source: 2012 Survey of Business Owners: Company Summary

Veterans  
**7,691**  
Source: 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-year Estimates

Explanation of Symbols

# Calls for Service / Major Crimes

## Calls for Service

Calls for Service consist of any call to which the Covington Police responded regardless of whether a report was generated. Many calls for service do not require the generation of an incident report, such as the unlocking of a citizen's car, a false burglary alarm or bank escorts. Other calls, such as traffic accidents, will generate an accident report or a ticket. Still, other calls will generate a report that will require further investigation and as such will be forwarded to CID. Calls for Service includes all times a Covington Police Officer is dispatched or responds proactively to an event they have discovered.

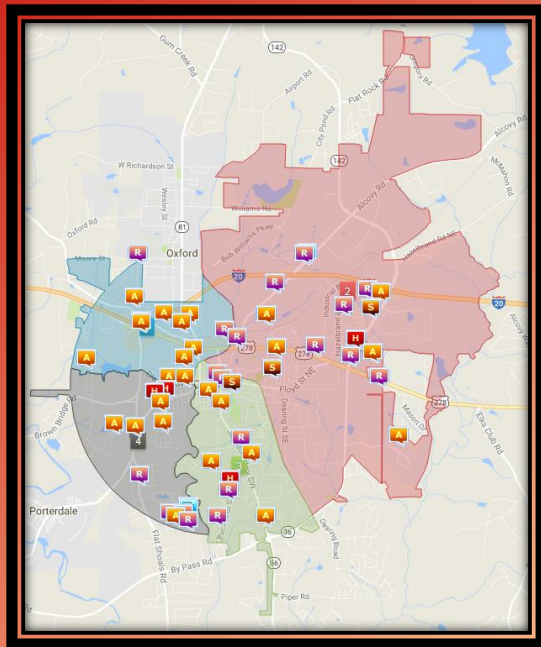
These statistics are collected, analyzed and maintained in order to assess the yearly call volume versus man power to ensure that the Covington Police Department is properly staffed and equipped to handle the concerns of the citizens of Covington, Georgia.

## Major Crimes

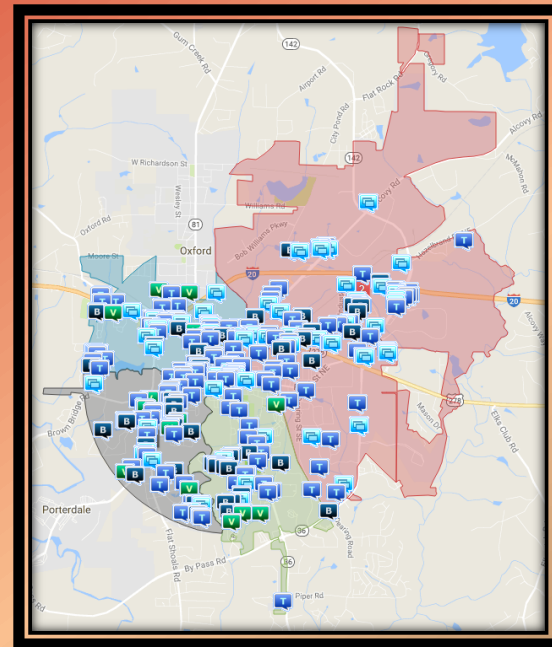
The Covington Police Department studies its current and past major crime trends in an effort to better predict and prepare for future crime events and properly deploy officers in a proactive manner. As you will see, major crimes are broken into categories that loosely follow FBI Part 1 Crimes to reflect the crimes that are of the greatest concern to police and citizens. Accompanying the chart of crime categories is a break down of these major crimes by geographic police "zones."







2017 Violent Crime Map

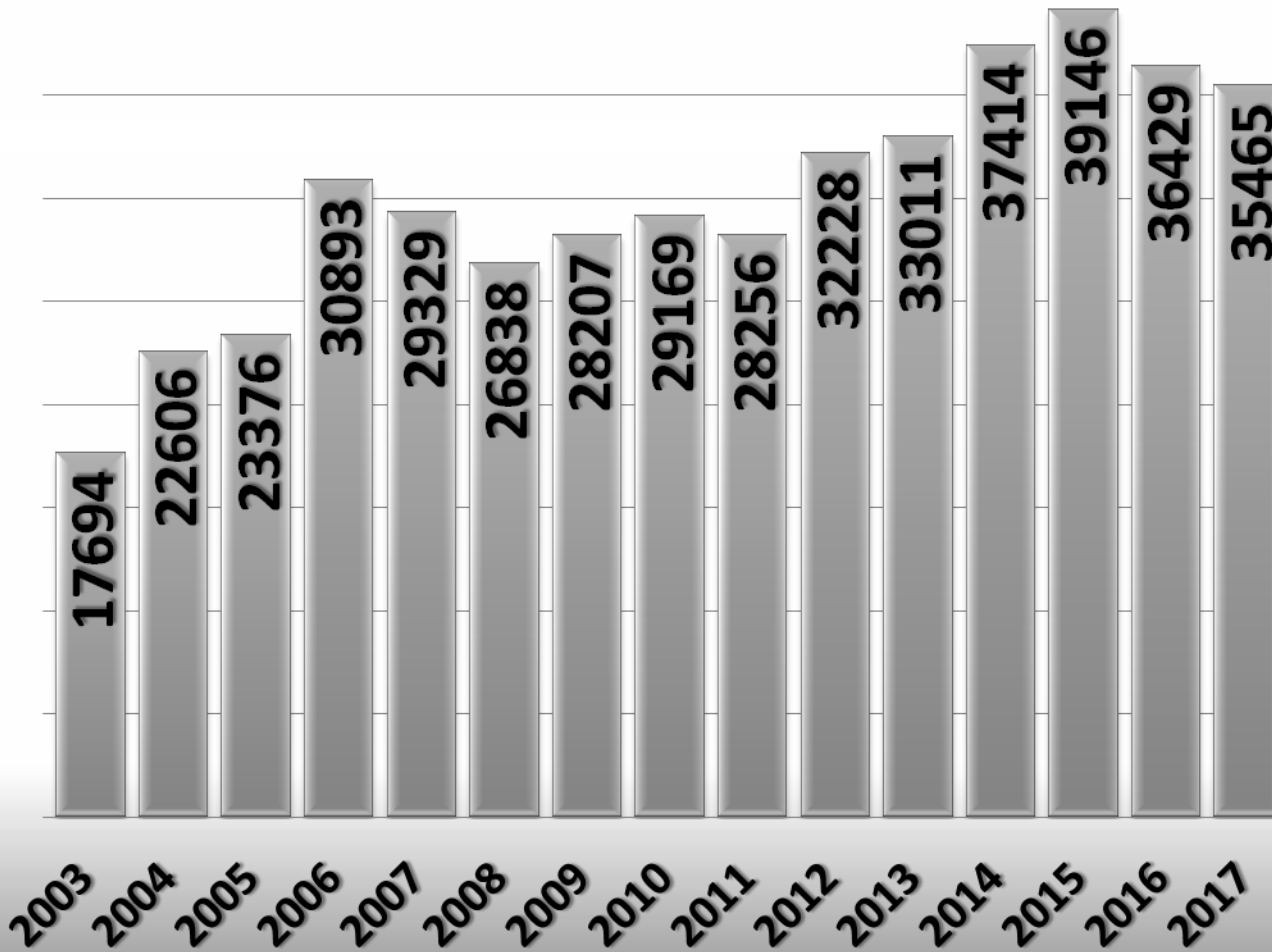


2017 Property Crime Map

PART 1 and PART 2 CRIMES	2016	2017	# CHANGE	% CHANGE
BREAKING & ENTERING	140	88	-52	-37%
HOMICIDE	1	4	+3	+300%
ROBBERY	24	20	-4	-16%
THEFT	542	557	+15	+3%
THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE	176	181	+5	+3%
THEFT OF MOTOR VEHICLE	53	48	-5	-9%
ASSAULT	177	177	—	NC
SEXUAL OFFENSES	8	21	+13	+162%
PROPERTY CRIME	292	320	+28	+9%
FIREARMS OFFENSES	17	23	+6	+35%
DRUGS	274	217	-57	-21%
<b>YEARLY TOTAL</b>	<b>1,704</b>	<b>1,656</b>	<b>-48</b>	<b>-3%</b>

# Calls for Service

## 15 Year Totals

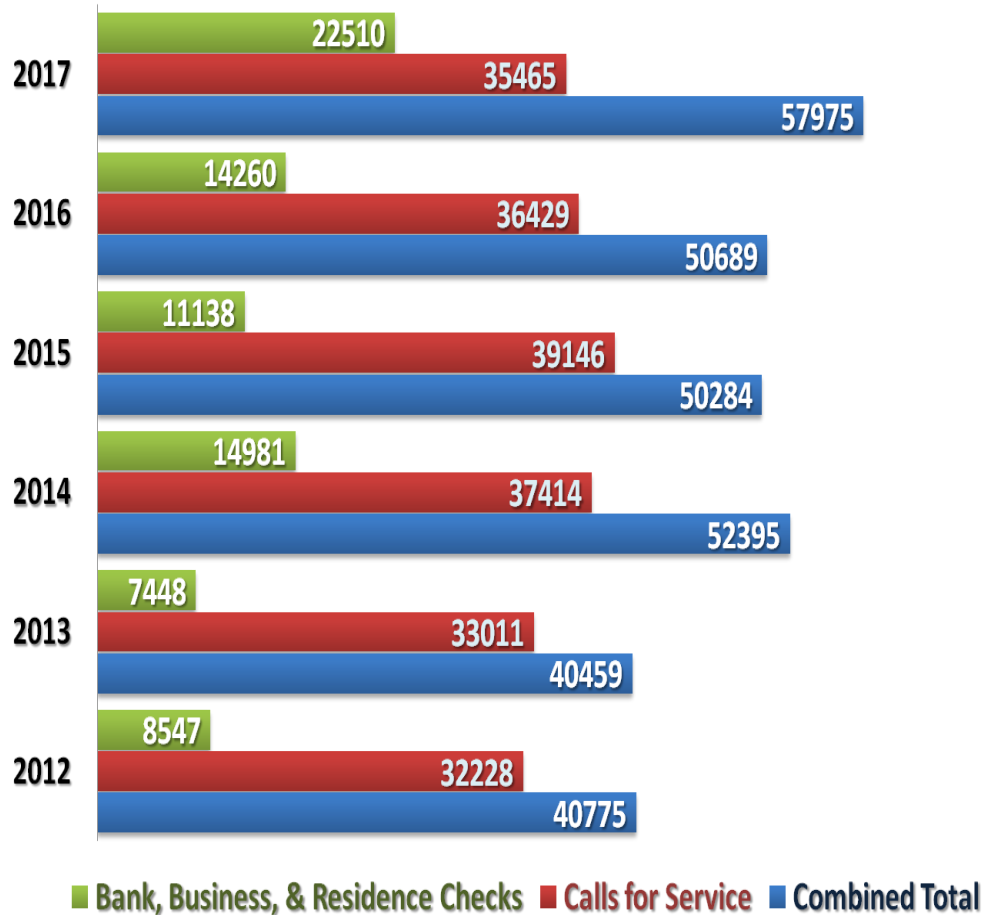


This diagram shows the trend in all calls for service for the last fifteen years. While 2017 was lower than 2014, 2015, and 2016, it demonstrates that calls for law enforcement services in the city of Covington are increasing.





# All Police Activity



During a normal work shift (6-6), the CPD Officer responds to calls for service, makes traffic stops, addresses suspicious activities. These activities generates a case number into the CPD’s database which are later used for reports, investigations, crime statistics, determining crime trends and patterns, and Officer activity statistics.

Three other activities which generally get overlooked are SERVICES that the CPD offers to the business and residential community. These services are called “BANK/BUSINESS/ and RESIDENCE CHECKS” (BBR).

When an Officer performs one of the checks they do this when calls for services are low and they have the available time to focus their presence in our banks, businesses , and residential areas. During one of these checks, the Officer will drive to the location, exit his/her vehicle, step into or walk around the premises/structure to check for the following:

- Safety of the occupants
- Determine that the premises are secured
- Suspicious activity
- Look for signs of crimes that might be occurring , or have already occurred.

During a BBR the Officer only logs the call in our database that he/she had performed a BBR at the location, but a case number is not generated. If the Officer encounters a situation which requires further investigation then a case number is generated and the Officer handles the situation.

This diagram identifies the number of calls for service (activities/incidents which generate a case number), the number of BBR’s (activities to which a case number is not assigned), and the combined total of both calls for service and BBR’s. This gives a true depiction of the Officers ACTIVITIES for each year.

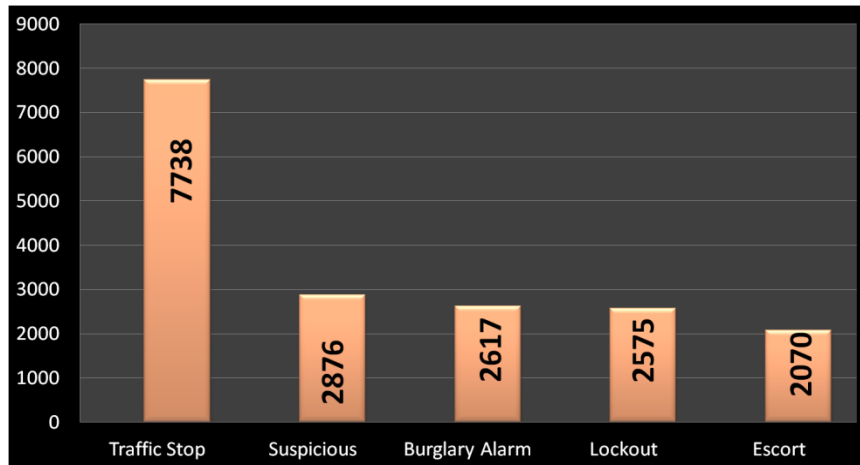
# Calls for Service

In 2017 CPD Officers responded to 35,465 calls for service; 32,792 were calls that did not require an incident report written, and 2,673 calls required reports written.

The charts below shows the tops five calls and the top five reports written.

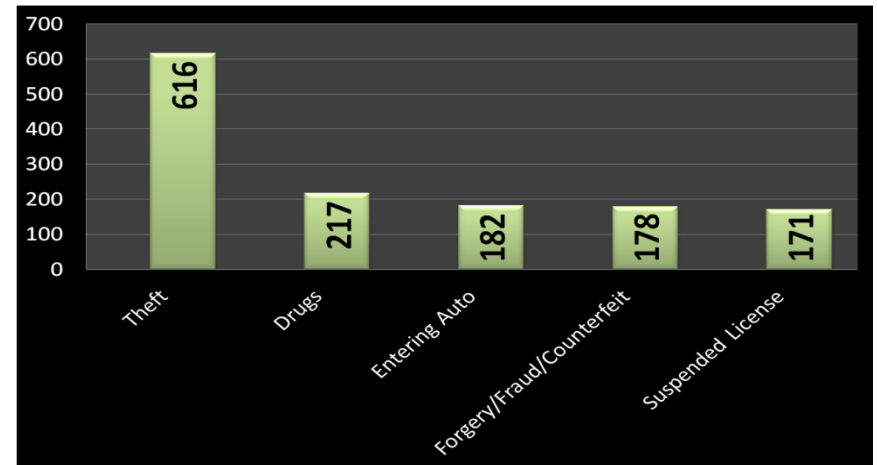
## 2017 - Top 5 Calls for Service

( Calls Officers responded to that did not require a written report or further investigation. )



## 2017 - Top 5 Reported Calls for Service

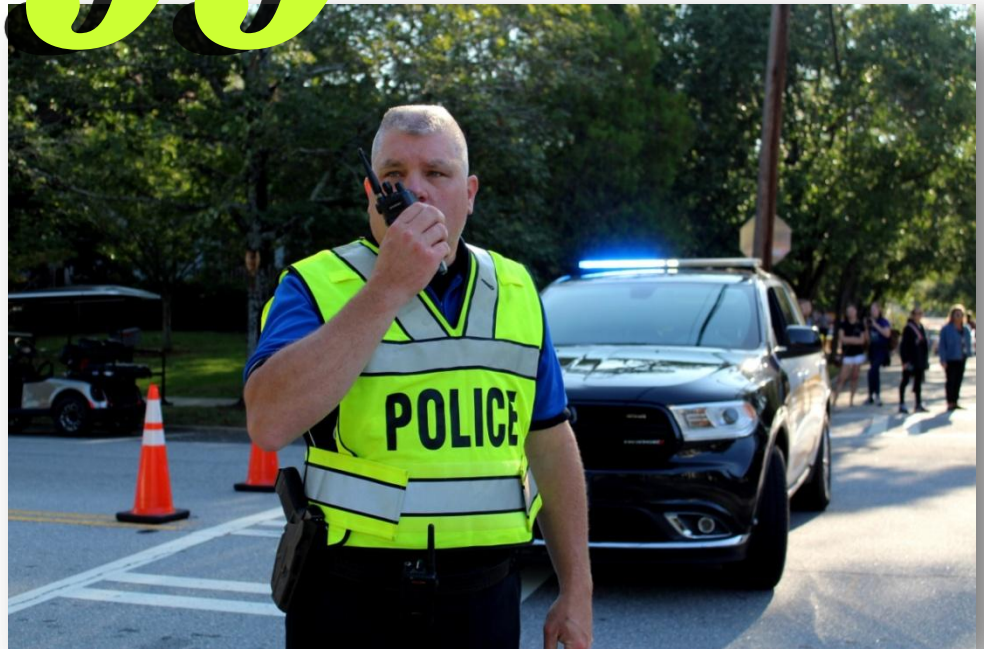
( Calls Officers responded to and a written report was completed for further investigation. )





# Traffic

Traffic statistics are collected, analyzed and maintained by the Covington Police Department in order to better understand a variety of traffic concerns within our city. The data is analyzed to determine whether traffic problems are caused by driver error, congestion, physical and environmental conditions of the area itself or a variety of other miscellaneous factors. From that data, a determination can be made on how to handle various traffic concerns. The following pages are a breakdown of four areas of concern: accidents by location, citations, top accident causations and top non-moving violations. Through better understanding of this information, the Covington Police Department is able to assist the city planners and citizens of Covington in creating a safer traffic environment.



## ACCIDENTS

# of accidents which occurred at major intersections

LOCATION	2015	2016	2017
278 / TURNER LAKE ROAD	5	62	54
278 / WEST STREET	2	21	14
278 / EMORY STREET	4	32	46
278 / PACE STREET	2	29	29
278 / ELM STREET	2	45	31
278 / MILL STREET	0	13	13
278 / FLOYD STREET	0	6	4
278 / 142	3	49	46
TURNER LAKE / CLARK	0	9	2
TURNER LAKE / WASHINGTON	0	8	14
STATE REPORTABLE	58	731	765
PRIVATE PROPERTY	39	484	478
<b>TOTAL ACCIDENTS</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>1215</b>	<b>1243</b>

## CITATIONS

The following chart shows citations that are the most common violations cited within the city limits of Covington.

	2015	2016	2017
SPEEDING	518	581	695
EXPIRED TAG	400	295	303
NO INSURANCE	280	231	281
SUSPENDED LICENSE	206	200	213
FOLLOWING TOO CLOSE	219	195	210
FAILURE TO YIELD	57	177	143
DUI	100	153	119
MARIJUANA	159	197	136
<b>TOTAL FOR THE ABOVE CITATIONS</b>	<b>1939</b>	<b>2029</b>	<b>2100</b>
<b>TOTAL ANNUAL ISSUED CITATIONS</b>	<b>4015</b>	<b>4093</b>	<b>4690</b>

# Traffic

The following are citations for moving and non moving violations in 2017

TOP 20	
MOVING/NON-MOVING VIOLATIONS FOR 2017	
Violation	Total Citations
Speeding	701
Seat Belt Violation	435
No/Expired Tag	303
No Proof of Insurance	281
Driving with Suspended Dr License	213
Following Too Close	210
Theft by Shoplifting	196
Ran Red Light	172
Texting While Driving	141
Marijuana Possession less 1 oz	136
Public Drunk	116
Driver to Exercise Due Care	115
DUI of Alcohol	109
Child Restraint Violation	107
Driving with Suspended Registration	103
Disorderly Conduct	95
No Drivers License	83
Failure to Yield/Turning Left	78
Failure to Maintain Lane	76
Failure to Yield	65
<b>Annual Total</b>	<b>4690</b>



# ACCIDENT REPORTS

*This table lists the total number of accidents between January 1, 2017 and December 31, 2017 by collision type.*

<b>COLLISION TYPE</b>	<b>ACCIDENTS</b>
Angle Intersection	334
Head On	18
Not a Collision w/ Motor Vehicle	107
Other Non-collision	2
Parked Vehicle	2
Rear End	386
Sideswipe-Opposite Direction	30
Sideswipe-Same Direction	116
Struck Object/Animal	4
No Code Entered	244
<b>TOTAL ACCIDENTS</b>	<b>1243</b>

*This table lists the total number of accidents between January 1, 2017 and December 31, 2017 by primary cause.*

<u>Primary Cause</u>	<u>Accidents #</u>
Changed lanes improperly	38
Disregard stop sign/signal	28
Distracted	7
Driver Under Influence	3
Driver condition	1
Driver lost control	14
Exceeding Speed Limit	1
Failure to yield	171
Following too close	252
Improper Backing	133
Improper passing	9
Improper turn	29
Mechanical or vehicle failure	6
Misjudged clearance	67
No Contributing Factor	135
Object or animal	14
Other	50
Parked improperly	3
Too fast for conditions	15
Weather conditions	14
Wrong side of road	8
[No code entered]	245

**Total accidents : 1243**

**IN 2017, THE CITY OF COVINGTON HAD 1,243 ACCIDENTS.  
THE LIST BELOW IS A BREAKDOWN SHOWING THE TYPE OF ACCIDENTS**

**Private Property Accidents: 486**

(These are accidents that occurred off the roadway and on private properties)

**Residential Accidents: 6**

(These are accidents that occurred on residential properties)

**Retail Business: 720**

(These are accidents that occurred on the roadway and are state reportable accidents)

**Non-classified Accidents: 31**

(These are accidents that were not assigned a type to reflect one of the above three)

**Farm and Field: 1**

(These are accidents that occurred on a farm or open field)

**ACCIDENTS BY SEVERITY**

**Injury by complaint: 60**

(No visible injury observed by the Officer)

**Killed: 2**

**Not Injured: 386**

**Serious Injury: 4**

**Visible: 17**

(These are accidents with non life threatening injuries)

**Non-Classified: 776**

(These are accidents to which an injury was not observed or not labeled)



# Accident heat chart

The following chart shows the DAY and TIME for 2017 when Officers are most busy with answering calls for accidents in the city of Covington

Traffic Accident Totals, by Day and Hour

Hour	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Total
00:00-00:59	0	2	10	4	2	4	2	24
01:00-01:59	1	1	0	0	0	0	3	5
02:00-02:59	1	2	1	1	0	0	3	8
03:00-03:59	0	1	1	4	0	2	1	9
04:00-04:59	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	3
05:00-05:59	2	2	2	1	1	0	1	9
06:00-06:59	5	4	7	5	4	1	1	27
07:00-07:59	7	10	8	10	5	3	3	46
08:00-08:59	7	6	6	7	5	3	0	34
09:00-09:59	9	6	12	5	16	8	4	60
10:00-10:59	5	6	7	7	7	12	5	49
11:00-11:59	18	17	17	9	10	14	3	88
12:00-12:59	24	15	15	16	24	20	6	120
13:00-13:59	13	14	20	14	15	12	7	95
14:00-14:59	10	7	16	12	15	12	15	87
15:00-15:59	11	(26)	16	20	(26)	17	10	(126)
16:00-16:59	16	17	17	23	18	12	5	108
17:00-17:59	17	14	15	16	17	15	5	99
18:00-18:59	12	18	13	15	12	13	9	92
19:00-19:59	3	4	4	11	13	5	3	43
20:00-20:59	7	4	2	7	7	7	6	40
21:00-21:59	3	4	2	4	5	4	4	26
22:00-22:59	2	7	2	6	7	6	1	31
23:00-23:59	2	2	5	1	1	3	0	14
<b>Total by Day</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>189</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>(210)</b>	<b>174</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>1243</b>



# ARRESTS AND OFFENSES

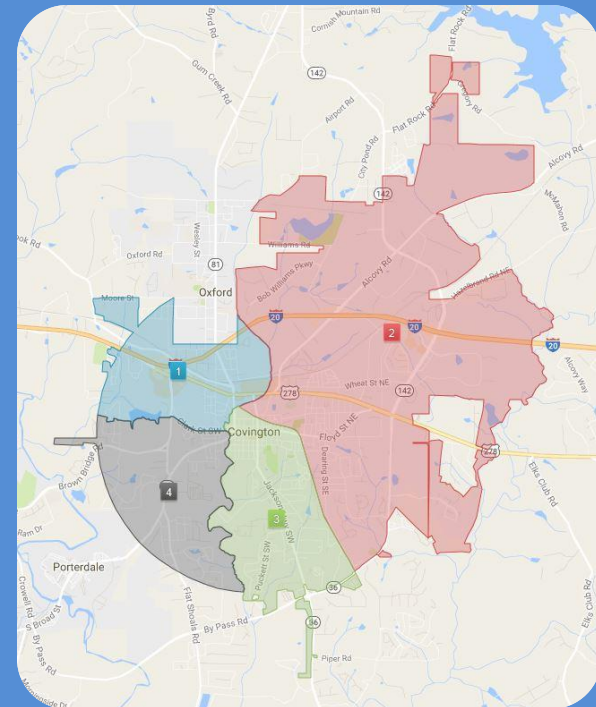
## For 2017 :

- There were a total of 849 cases involving arrests made in the city of Covington
- 967 people were arrested in 2017, however one or more of these people were arrested more than once giving a total of 1,619 arrests made in 2017
- There were 1,877 charges/offenses filed which means one or more of the people arrested had multiple charges.
- The charges/offenses are illustrated in the tables below

The city is broken up into four zones as illustrated in the attached photo, a breakdown showing the location of these arrests are as follows:

- In Zone 1 there were 267 arrests made
- In Zone 2 there were 854 arrests made
- In Zone 3 there were 225 arrests made
- In Zone 4 there were 273 arrests made

Charges/Offenses in the city of Covington	
Affray	5
Aggravated Assault	20
Aggravated Battery	3
Aggravated Sexual Battery	2
Aggravated Stalking	3
Alteration of VIN	1
Armed Robbery	3
Arson First/Second Degree	2
Battery	61
Burglary	24
Carrying a Concealed Weapon	13
Child Molestation	10
Communications Offense	2
Concealing a Death	1
Controlled Substance Schedule I	12
Controlled Substance Schedule II	152
continued on next page.....	



## Charges/Offenses in the city of Covington

Controlled Substance Schedule III	5	Marijuana Possession <1oz	194
Controlled Substance Schedule IV	33	Murder	2
Controlled Substance Schedule V	1	No Driver's License	2
Convicted Felon in Possession of a Firearm	32	Obstruction of Officer	94
Criminal Possession of Financial Transaction Card Forgery Device	1	Obtaining Drugs by Fraud	1
Criminal Damage to Property	31	Pandering	15
Criminal Interference with Government Property	4	Parties to a Crime	1
Criminal Trespass	68	Pointing a Weapon at Another	2
Crossing Guard line with Contraband	5	Possession of a Weapon During Commission of a Crime	23
Cruelty to Animals	1	Possession of Non-Labeled Prescription Drugs	19
Cruelty to Children	29	Possession of Firearm under 18	6
Cultivation of Marijuana	2	Possession of Tools for the Commission of a Crime	5
Curfew Violation	5	Possession of Drug Related Objects	47
Discharging Weapon on Highway	1	Possession of Marijuana with Intent to Distribute	29
Disorderly Conduct	16	Prostitution	2
Disorderly House	3	Public Indecency	5
Driving with Suspended License	42	Rape	3
Drug Related Objects	7	Reckless Conduct	8
DUI Alcohol/Drugs	23	Reckless Driving	13
Entering Auto	82	Robbery	5
Enticing a Child for Indecent Purposes	2	Runaway Juvenile	16
Escape	1	Sexual Battery	2
Failure to Stop at Accident with Damage	6	Simple Assault	6
False Imprisonment	4	Simple Battery	44
False Report of a Crime	1	Sodomy	2
False Statement and Writings	2	Stalking	2
Family Violence	61	Statutory Rape	2
Financial Identity Fraud	3	Tampering with Evidence	5
Financial Transaction Card Fraud	1	Telephone Harassment	23
Fleeing to Elude	10	Terroristic Threats and Acts	11
Forgery First Degree	8	Theft by Deception	1
Forgery of Financial Transaction Card	5	Theft by Receiving Stolen Property	30
Furnishing/Possession/Consumption of Alcohol by Minor	4	Theft by Shoplifting	272
Giving False Name to Officer	74	Theft by Taking	24
Hindering Apprehension	2	Threatening Juror or Court Officers	1
Impersonating an Officer	1	Trafficking Illegal Drugs	10
Incest	1	Unlawful Manufacturing of Drugs	1
Interference with Custody	2	Unruly Juvenile	19
Interference with 911 Call	7	Violation of Family Violence Order	2
Loitering or Prowling	28		



## TRAINING HOURS APPROVED BY GEORGIA POST COUNCIL, 2017

Law enforcement is a very dynamic profession and is constantly changing due to new laws and numerous judicial interpretations by courts in Georgia and around the country. As police officers, we must always be vigilant by staying abreast of these changes and interpretations. The rights and privileges of every citizen must be protected under the United States Constitution. We recognize those rights and privileges and take protecting them very seriously.

Therefore, officers must always be training to ensure they do things the right way. In 2017, our Officers received 7,334 hours of training, also giving a total of 101,508 career training hours for all law enforcement personnel employed in 2017.

Georgia Peace Officer's Standards and Training Council requires that every law enforcement officer receive a minimum of 20 hours of training per year to maintain their arrest powers. Collectively, we far surpassed the state's minimum requirement.

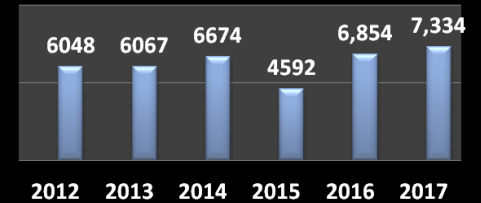
This is indicative of us placing a great deal of importance on training. This also shows our officers are more professional than ever and continue to improve their skills, knowledge and abilities to meet the demands they face on a daily basis. In-house training conducted by the department includes firearms, use of force, radar, laser, less lethal, policies and procedures, intelligence and legal updates.



Officer Name	2017	Total Career Hours	Officer Name	2017	Total Career Hours
Officer Rory Barber	86	860	Captain Ken Malcolm	62	2,552
Officer Danny Bartello	20	2,459	Officer Allen Martin	60	2,316
Officer James Berry	49	830	Officer Slade McCullough	65	3,149
Captain Philip Bradford	68	2,191	Lieutenant Al Miller	150	2,757
Detective Jeff Bruno	32	2,818	Evidence Tech Joe Mobley	12	462
Lieutenant Michael Bruno	45	2,252	Officer Matt Mosley	68	1,203
Sergeant Chris Cain	60	2,566	Sergeant Gene Nuqui	43	2,524
Officer Michael Canty	427	427	Sergeant Victor Partee	41	2,756
Officer Brian Capps	24	1,278	Officer Travis Pierce	190	1,103
Officer Denis Cerovic	33	778	Officer Quinn Pitts	48	588
Officer Matt Cooper	146	1,077	Officer Walter Schreiber	921	941
Officer Stacy Cosby	24	1,408	Officer John Seabolt	26	2,540
Chief Stacey Cotton	44	2,680	Officer Allan Seebaran	224	1,977
Officer Pokey Daniels	54	581	Detective Chip Shirah	20	1,652
Officer Brandon Davis	767	767	Officer George Smith	87	855
Officer Hayward DeRouen	86	1,424	Sergeant Chris Smith	75	2,025
Officer Daniel Digby	73	1,069	Officer Mike Smith	23	2,000
Officer Asher Dozier	64	2,075	Detective Starr Smith	178	1,122
Officer Julie English	20	1,725	Officer Justin Stott	127	916
Evidence Tech Herrion Ervin	0	338	Officer Steve Swann	214	885
Officer Scott Fairburn	23	1,161	Officer Kevin Thompson	425	425
Officer Steve Fowler	27	1,667	Lieutenant Mike Tinsley	71	2,612
Sergeant Brent Fuesting	35	1,613	Captain Craig Treadwell	71	3,581
Detective Kara Hipps	64	1,072	Officer Keith Waddell	747	747
Officer Matt Holbrook	163	1,760	Lieutenant Wendell Wagstaff	116	2,551
Officer Keldrick Hunter	53	678	Officer Anthony Walden	29	2,230
Officer Marquis Johnson	297	1,420	Officer Brandon Wilkerson	39	1,499
Lieutenant Mark Jones	94	2,852	Officer Pat Womack	24	1,987
Officer Mark Joyner	36	2,508	Officer Bob Yarbrough	22	964
Investigator Clint Kitchens	37	1,720	Lieutenant Chuck Groover	24	445
Officer Austin Knight	50	460	Asst. Chief Almond Turner	81	2,281
Officer Aaron Malcolm	22	551	Officer Caleb Jackson	28	798
			<b>Total training hours for 2017</b>	<b>7334</b>	<b>101,508</b>



### ANNUAL TRAINING HOURS



### TOTAL CAREER TRAINING HOURS

As of 2017

**101,508**



# INTERNAL AFFAIRS

**There were no Internal Affairs investigations for 2017**



## 2017 Retirees Assistant Chief Almond Turner

When asked why he thought he was able to stay in the same line of work with the same employer for 45 years, Turner had a simple response. ***“I love helping people, I have a very supportive family and my coworkers are incredible people,” Turner said. “But above all that, God protected me.”***

The City of Covington’s longest tenured employee is set to retire after 45 years of serving the city and its residents as a police officer. A living link to Covington’s past, Almond Turner will retire from his post as Assistant Police Chief, a title he has held since 1997.

A lifelong Covington resident, Turner attend R.L. Cousins school and graduated in 1968. There he saw first-hand the start of integration in the Newton County public school system.

After high school, Turner’s aptitude for the trumpet and love of music took him to Fort Valley State University where he majored in music with dreams of becoming a band director.

While working a side job as a security officer, Turner noticed a hiring ad for the Atlanta Police Department and decided to apply. His wife encouraged him to pursue an opening at the City of Covington Police Department because that is where they both grew up. Turner applied for both jobs and the day before he reported to take a physical for the Atlanta Police Department, Covington Police Chief Doug Digby called him for an interview. Turner was hired as a Covington police officer on June 13, 1972.

Turner still has a pay check stub from his first days on the job where he earned \$125.55 for 45 hours of work in one week, before taxes. Also on Turner’s check is a \$15 deduction, just one of several payments he had to make for his service revolver.

In addition to his duties as a patrolman, Turner was asked to lead a Community Relations unit designed to develop relationships with youth in Covington, which he continued to do throughout his career. Turner was promoted to Lieutenant in the Investigative Division in 1978 and then to Captain in 1984. He would be named Assistant Police Chief in 1997 and held that title through his retirement.

Promotions, participating on the S.W.A.T team and acceptance to the FBI Academy are at the top of Turner’s accomplishments, but he is most proud of the work he has done to help create a safe community that still has a small town feel. Personally, Turner is fulfilled knowing his mother was proud of her family.



# 2017 Retirees

## Lieutenant Chuck Groover



Chuck Groover has over 44 ½ years of law enforcement experience and retired as a Lieutenant from the Covington (GA) Police Department in December 1, 2017. His tenure at the CPD was from April 5, 2002, to December 1, 2017.

While employed at the CPD Lt. Groover served as their accreditation and certification manager, training officer, Internal Affairs Officer and purchasing supplies and equipment. He has been with the department for over 15 years. He also retired from the Macon (GA) Police Department as a lieutenant with 28 years of service.

The Covington Police Department was the first agency in Georgia and the 10th in the nation to achieve accreditation. Lt. Groover has been actively involved in accreditation since 1986 and has considerable experience in conducting assessments, conducting over 85 on-sites and mock on-sites on both the national and state level. He helped establish Georgia's State Certification Program and has previously served as a lead instructor and team leader for that program.

Lt. Groover has a MS degree from Troy University, a MPA degree from Georgia College and a BS degree from Brenau University. He is a graduate of Northwestern University's Traffic Institute Police Administration Training Program (long course) (54th class). He also is a graduate of Georgia's Law Enforcement Command College (class 4). He has been honored with a number of awards during his career including Employee of the Year in both Macon and Covington and the Key to the City of Orlando, Florida.



# 2017 AWARDS BANQUET

## *Rookie of the Year*

Off. Rory Barber

## *Officer of the Year*

Off. Stacy Cosby

## *Employee of the Year - Patrol*

Off. Pat Womack

## *Employee of the Year - CID*

Det. Jeff Bruno

## *Employee of the Year -*

## *Support Services/Community Outreach*

Lt. Mark Jones

## *Meritorious Service Award*

Off. Mark Joyner

Off. Matt Mosley

Off. Matt Holbrook

Off. Travis Pierce

Off. Julie English

## *Humanitarian Service Award*

Lt. Wendell Wagstaff

Lt. Mark Jones

Off. Hayward DeRouen

## *Departmental Commendation*

Off. Pat Womack

Off. Matt Holbrook

Off. Steve Swann

Sgt. Brent Fuesting

Off. Anthony Walden

Off. Clint Kitchens

Off. Matt Holbrook

Off. Brandon Wilkerson

Lt. Wendell Wagstaff

Lt. Mark Jones

Sgt. Allen Martin

Sgt. Asher Dozier

Donna Barlow

Kristi Greco

Cheryl Vaughn

Beth Ivey

Off. Allan Seebaran

Det. Starr Gibbs

Det. Jeff Bruno

Willie Davis

Paul Dailey

Det. Chip Shirah

## *Physical Fitness Award Recipients*

### *Including Their Run Times*

Lt. Al Miller

Sgt. Gene Nuqui

Sgt. Chris Smith

Off. Matt Cooper

Off. Kevin Thompson

Kristi Greco

## *Firearms Awards*

### *Top Gun*

Off. Steve Swann

## *Highest Average*

Off. Matt Holbrook

## *100% Club*

Chief Stacy Cotton

Capt. Philip Bradford

Sgt. Chris Cain

Sgt. Gene Nuqui

Off. Allan Seebaran

Off. Slade McCullough

Off. Hayward DeRouen

Off. Matt Holbrook

Off. Steve Swann

Off. Pat Womack

Det. Starr Smith

Marshal Danny Bartello

Inv. Jill Lumpkin

The 2017 Christmas and Awards Banquet was held on December 5, 2017 at the Legion Field meeting room. The banquet was catered by Bradley's Bar B Que.



# 2017's NEW EMPLOYEES



**Denis Cerovic**  
03/20/2017



**Michael Canty**  
06/05/2017



**Kevin Thompson**  
6/5/2017



**Brandon Davis**  
08/14/2017



**Samantha Dickerson**  
09/11/2017



**Keith Waddell**  
10/16/2017



**Walter Schreiber**  
11/06/2017



# COVINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT HONOR GUARD

The Covington Police Honor Guard team was created in 1996 with the following Officers: Officer Mike Tinsley, retired Officer Wayne Digby, retired Officer Oscar Rogers, Officer Chris Cain, and former Officer Donna Reeves. The Honor Guard has since remained a strong element of the Covington Police Department.

Each piece of brass on their uniform is individually polished and their shoes are shined to a mirror-like luster. Stray threads on their uniforms are clipped or singed and every stitch of fabric is rolled to be lint free. Shirts are pressed crisp and all insignia and ribbon bars adorning their chest are square and level.

With those finishing touches and after several inspections, the members of the Covington Police Department Honor Guard are ready to perform the current task at hand; to provide one last guarding moment of honor over a fellow officer's casket at his funeral.

"The highest honor we can bestow on an individual as a Police Department is to stand guard over a fellow officer's casket at his memorial service," said Officer Allan Seebaran, the Commander of the Covington Police Department's Honor Guard. "That honor is reserved specifically for law enforcement officers and it is a duty we take extremely seriously."

Comprised of six CPD officers, the Honor Guard is an organization designed to show the support for and recognition of the sacrifices by those who have served and protected society.

The CPD Honor Guard's responsibilities may be honoring a fallen officer or a City Official's funeral or presenting the Nation's Colors at a sporting event or seminar, Regardless of the event, their job is to represent the CPD with a level of extreme professionalism and perform the solemn duties associated with the Honor Guard.

When they wear the Honor Guard uniform on behalf of the CPD, they hold themselves to the highest standards, regardless of the detail they are performing.

Providing services for approximately six events per year, the Honor Guard typically practices once each month to maintain cohesiveness and rehearses again prior to each occasion to ensure a flawless presentation for the venue specific to that event, whether it be a funeral or the opening ceremonies at an Atlanta Braves baseball game.

Each venue is different, and the Honor Guards have to be certain their steps are synchronized and that requires them simulating the set-up of a venue and rehearsing their detail prior to each event.

The CPD Honor Guard is comprised of Commanding Officer Allan Seebaran, Officer Justin Stott, Officer Scott Fairburn, Officer Aaron Malcom, Officer Brandon Wilkerson, Officer, and Officer Matt Mosley.



# EMERGENCY SERVICES UNIT

## EMERGENCY SERVICES UNIT



*“Service above Self”*



The Covington Police Department's Emergency Services Unit (ESU) was formed in 2015 in order to more effectively address certain situations which may require the use of special weapons, equipment and training to resolve. This unit consists of twelve members including a team commander, team leader and two assistant team leaders. Team members work in various assignments throughout the department including patrol and investigations. All team members keep their assigned equipment with them in their vehicles at all times. With this structure, there are usually several team members working together at any given time allowing for these members to be on scene of a situation requiring ESU quickly. This also allows many situations to be resolved quickly and possibly without the activation of the entire team.

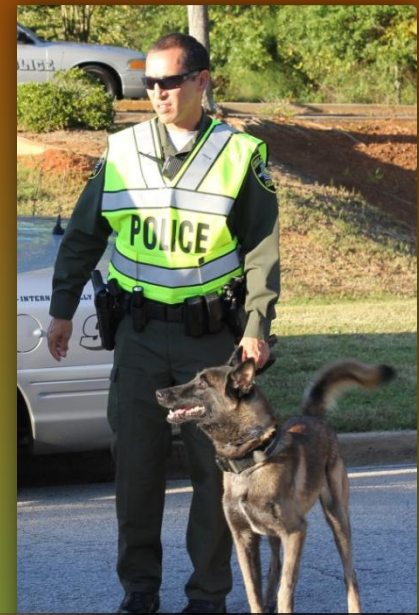


Team members are required to maintain good physical shape and are tested twice a year by the police department's physical fitness standards. Any member not passing every portion of the physical fitness test will be placed on suspension pending retest. Failure to pass the retest would result in dismissal from the team. In order to establish the unit as more versatile team ESU members continuously receives other training, this includes classes such as search and rescue in order to establish the unit as a more versatile team. The ultimate goal is to have a team which can perform a variety of duties in addition to tactical response, as we continue to utilize our resources for the citizens of Covington.





Officer Hayward DeRouen and his dog, Dorak

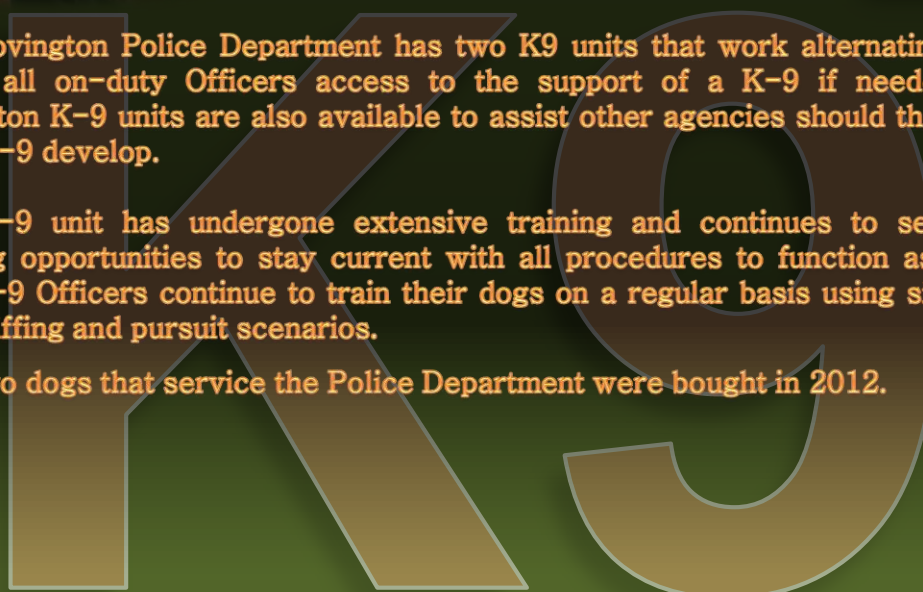


Sergeant Gene Nuqui and his dog, Sultan

The Covington Police Department has two K9 units that work alternating shifts giving all on-duty Officers access to the support of a K-9 if needed. The Covington K-9 units are also available to assist other agencies should their need for a K-9 develop.

The K-9 unit has undergone extensive training and continues to seek new training opportunities to stay current with all procedures to function as a unit. The K-9 Officers continue to train their dogs on a regular basis using simulated dog sniffing and pursuit scenarios.

The two dogs that service the Police Department were bought in 2012.





# COMMUNITY POLICING



## On July 8, 2017, Officer Allan Seebaran spoke at the Washington Street Center for the National Action Network/Newton County Chapter.

The audience was women of all ages and Officer Seebaran discussed with them measures to be safe and mindful of their surroundings, such as:

- Self-awareness
- Being aware of your surroundings
- Safety when traveling
- Safety at home
- Safety when shopping
- Safety when driving

This was a successful event with approximately 25 women in attendance.

## Back to school event 2017 @ Springfield Baptist Church

In August 2017, Officer Allan Seebaran along with several Explorers attended the back to school event held at Springfield Baptist Church. Officer Seebaran and members of the Covington Police Explorer program set up a booth with many 'giveaway' items. The group had the opportunity to meet with many kids and parents from Newton county, and gave the kids items such as pencils, rulers, and information about the Explorer program.

This was a successful event with several hundred students/kids in attendance.

## Food Drive (Feed The Hungry) 2017 @ Springfield Baptist Church

In 2017, the Covington Police Explorers were invited to assist with the church's monthly food drive. During the events the Explorers would team up with church members and other citizens to assemble bags of assorted food items to be handed out to members of the public who are in need of a little extra help with groceries. The number of bags assembled would range between 1,500 and 3,000 bags, to be given out to the public.



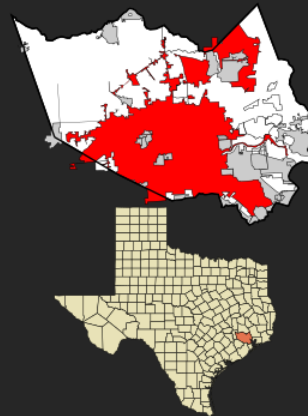
## Operation Hydrate

In the South, Summer brings some exceptionally hot days. Officer Allan Seebaran along with members of the Explorer program would fill a large cooler with cold bottled water and randomly distribute them to the public. In doing so the cooler would be loaded onto the police department's UTV, they would then drive through residential areas looking for people working in their yards or just walking along the roadways. Officer Seebaran and the Explorers would then hand them a cold bottle of water with a "have a good day" and smile, or have dialogue about anything at random. This was done to build relationships with the public and extend a friendly gesture from the Covington Police Department.





During August and September of 2017 numerous storms swept across the United States and other countries. The state of Texas was affected tremendously by Hurricane Harvey which devastated the city of Houston, Texas. The Covington Police Department had a personal connection to Houston as one of our officers had many family members living there. Operation Westbound was initiated by our department to raise food and clothing to send to Houston. Officer Hayward DeRouen was taking supplies to his family so the department reached out to the community for additional supplies to be transported by Officer DeRouen. He was able to take a box truck and trailer of supplies to the people in Houston that were donated by the Police Who Care, the community, and Officers of the department.



In March of 2017 the City of Albany, GA was hit by a tornado which caused enormous damage to the community. Many people lost their homes and essential needs such as food and clothing for an extended period of time. The Covington Police Department and Ministers Union teamed up to help with the needs of the people in Albany.

The Covington Police Department, the Ministers Union, and the Citizens of Covington came together and donated a tremendous supply of water, food items, clothing, toiletry items for both children and adults, and many other items to be delivered to Albany. A trailer supplied by the Covington Police Department that was 28' in length was stuffed with supplies and delivered to the Albany community by employees of the Police Department, Ministers Union, and the Newton County Sheriff's Office. It was our hope to relieve a small part of the needs that the people in Albany needed so desperately.





On September 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Hurricane Maria made direct landfall on Puerto Rico and destroyed the island's homes and buildings, severing the electricity and eliminating the water supply. Due to the tremendous devastation Operation Westbound was changed to help Puerto Rico. We were able to secure a 53' trailer from LiWay Trucking Inc. to use for storage as we gathered items to send to Puerto Rico. Numerous people from the community donated everything from food and water to clothing and tents. John and Angie Beezborn, local business owners, donated over 600 air mattresses with pumps, one private citizen donated \$2000.00 in cash to purchase needed items, and the Police Who Care donated items including chainsaws, rakes, and work gloves. So much support was given that we were able to completely fill the 53' trailer.

A local church in Lawrenceville had made arrangements to ship items to Puerto Rico and let us add our donations to their shipments. Again, LiWay Trucking supplied a driver to transport the items to Lawrenceville. It was estimated that the Covington Community was able to provide items to Puerto Rico worth over \$50,000.

This operation was led by Lt. Mark Jones and Captain Craig Treadwell.

# OPERATION WESTBOUND





On May 13, 2017 Captain Philip Bradford coordinated a bicycle safety event at the Covington First Baptist Church. The sponsor of this event was the Golden State Foods Foundation, and they gave 15 bicycles to kids in the community.

During this event, Officer Allan Seebaran spoke to the kids about bicycle safety. The Covington Police Explorers along with Officers from the Covington Police Specialized Patrol Unit, and other volunteers assisted the kids with assembling their new bicycles.

After the bicycles were assembled Officer Seebaran (on his bike) along with other CPD Officers, escorted the kids to Scoops Ice Cream on the Covington square where Golden State Foods Foundation purchased ice cream for each of the kids. The kids then rode their bicycles with police escort back to the Covington First Baptist church.

It was a great day with great weather for everyone.





# 2017 SCARE ON THE SQUARE

The Covington Police Department's Support Services / Community Outreach Division participates in and coordinates many community events and Safer Covington Action Network (SCAN) watch programs. Pictured is the "Scare on the Square" Halloween event which is coordinated by the Covington Police Department and other local public safety partners.

The estimated number in attendance for the 2017 Scare on the Square was 4,000. The CPD gave away 2,500 pounds of candy during this event

Support Services/Community Outreach Division

Presented by



Treats  
Games  
Hayrides  
A Night of Family Fun!





# SHOP WITH A COP

## Shop With A Cop Program Celebrates Another Successful Year

On December 7, 2017, the Covington Police Who Care Shop with a Cop event was held at Walmart located at 10300 Industrial Blvd. Sgt. Smith coordinated the event with Sonya Carter of Newton County DFACS.

Arrangements were made for Newton County DFACS to designate twenty five children that were currently in foster care to attend the event at Walmart. The Covington Police Who Care provided twenty five \$150.00 Walmart gift cards and designated each child with a \$150.00 gift card to shop with during the event.

Sgt. Smith made arrangements for Santa Clause to be present to meet with the kids and have their pictures taken with him. Santa Clause was stationed at the front of the store near register ten. Walmart management provided shopping carts with balloons for the children to use while shopping and staffed registers nine and ten with additional cashiers to allow the children to check out in a timely manner. Walmart management arranged for the Photo Lab develop the 5x7 photographs of the children with Santa Clause at no charge that were provided to each child.



The children were transported from DFACS to Walmart by DFACS personnel. The children arrived at the store at approximately 4:00 pm. Eighteen Covington Police Officers, two Georgia State Patrol Troopers and several Covington Police Explorers attended the event to shop with the children. Each child was paired with an Officer upon their arrival. The Officer escorted the children while they shopped with the provided \$150.00 gift card. Upon the child and Officer checking out, each child had their picture made with Santa Clause and then the children were turned back over to DFACS personnel.

The event went exceptionally well and resulted in a lot of smiles on the faces of these children and also those that participated. Everyone worked together to make this a very successful event for the children. Nine children DFACS had designated did not come to the event which resulted in nine \$150.00 Walmart gift cards purchased for those children were not used. The unused cards were later used to assist other children in the community who were in need of assistance for Christmas.



# CPD EXPLORERS

## Post 222

The Covington Police Department's Explorer program is designed to educate young people on the purpose, mission and objectives of law enforcement agencies while providing an opportunity for service, practical experiences, competition and recreation. Exploring is learning –for-life's career-education program for young men and women ages 12 to 21 years old.

The program is designed to provide opportunities for character development; physical fitness, good citizenship and patriotism with the goal of helping members of the program become better citizens and community members. The program also contributes to the healthy development of today's young adults by providing them with the environment, resources and relationships they need to learn and grow.

The Covington Police Explorer program is headed by Officer Allan Seebaran; he is assisted by CSR Sherica Tate, and Officer Michael Canty. Currently, there are 27 Covington Police Explorers within the organization. There is a rank structure within the group comprised of one Chief, one Major, two Captains, two Lieutenants, four Sergeants, and four Corporals.

2017 was an exciting year for the Covington Police Explorers. They participated in events such as: Relay-for- Life, The Fuzz Run, Christmas parade, Christmas on the Square, Scare on the Square, the Lighting of the Square and many more.

In 2017, the Explorers traveled to Gatlinburg, TN to compete in the annual Winterfest Competitions and performed very well while competing against teams from around the United States. The Covington Police Explorers also participated in competitions hosted in Georgia.

For more information about the Explorer program Officer Seebaran can be reached at 770-385-2144, or exploring @covingtonpolice.com. Other information about Exploring can be found at <https://www.exploring.org/law-enforcement/>



# Covington Police Who Care and Fuzz Run



The Covington Police Department's Police Who Care Fund was started in 1974 by Officer Frank Hilton. Hilton realized there was a need to help handicapped children in the community and he wanted to help. He went to a number of businesses in Covington and asked for donations. Some Police Officers also donated money to help. The first year he raised over \$1000; enough money to give 156 handicapped children two Christmas presents each, a dinner and visit from Santa Claus in a police car. From that first year until 1983, Hilton continued his annual program of helping the kids. It was his passion to provide a decent Christmas for children who were in need.

In 1983, the first annual Fuzz Run was established by Captain Willie Davis at the direction of Chief Bobby Moody. The Fuzz Run was and still does consist of a one mile fun run and a 5K race. It was originally started as a way to continue the vision of Hilton and raise money to help Officers who were injured or killed in the line of duty. The first few years, the Fuzz Run did not make any money. Around year three or four, all the proceeds were donated to the construction of the Public Safety Memorial at GPSTC. The Fuzz Run was almost discontinued in the mid 1990s due to lack of participation. The number of participants had dropped to less than 50, but Chief Moody decided to give it one more year. The Department's Community Outreach Division was started and they took over the planning of the event and it began to grow to what it is today.

Over the years, the Fund has evolved into so much more. Now it is more philanthropic in nature by providing monies for many worthwhile causes, supporting community projects, providing financial aid and assistance to employees and others with legitimate needs. Annually, the fund contributes to the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life, Special Olympics, YMCA, Project ReNeWal, a shelter for battered women and children, the Miracle League, Shop With A Cop, and a number of other charities. In addition, The Fund makes a \$1000 contribution to the beneficiaries of every Georgia law enforcement Officer who is either killed or dies in the line of duty. We give money to citizens with legitimate, verifiable problems, such as medical bills, utility bills, Christmas for the children whose parents are without a job, etc. We also help City employees when disaster strikes. continued on next page.....



In December 2012, Newborn resident Christopher Tyler Evans, 37, was killed in a car accident Monday while taking his five and seven year old sons to see Santa Claus in the Athens area. The children's wish list was recovered and made it to the Covington Police Department. The Police Who Care bought every item on the list (and then some) and surprised the boys with a visit at home from Santa. This story was featured on WSB TV.

In 1998, The Covington Police Who Care heard that a Heard Mixon pre-K student Samantha Fuller had been diagnosed with a rare form of cancer. The Covington Police Who Care paid for the Fuller family to see a cancer specialist in New York. Although Fuller eventually succumbed to the cancer, Samantha thanked the C.P.D. for helping her see the Statue of Liberty.

In 2004 and again in 2006, two Covington Police Officers suddenly lost their young children. The Covington Police Who Care paid for the funeral expenses for these two young children.

The Covington Police Who Care has been the top sponsor of the Newton County Special Olympics for over 25 years. The P.W.C. donates \$2,000 annually to their track and field events and \$1,000 annually to the programs Equestrian team. The Covington Police Who Care has sponsored the Covington YMCA's Partner With Youth Campaign for over 15 years, donating \$1,000 annually to help sponsor needy Covington Children's participation in their youth sports programs. The Covington Police Who Care has participated in and sponsored a "Shop with a Cop" program for 20 years, taking 20 Covington area foster children to Wal-Mart annually to shop for themselves and their family members.

In 2013, The Covington Police Who Care donated \$10,000 to the Miracle League of Covington to help build a special needs play-ground for their new baseball field.

In 2013, The Covington Police Who Care adopted a 5 year old young man with S.M.A. as an honorary Police Officer. Morgan Steward's dream was always to become a Police Officer. "Officer Morgan Steward" now leads every special event that requires a Police escort in a Covington Police uniform. The P.W.C. assists Morgan with his expenses to attend the annual S.M.A. conference. The Fund is overseen by an eight member Board of Directors that includes one civilian member of the police department, two supervisors, two sworn members, two civilians, and the Chief of Police or his designee. The Board's officers include a Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer. Three people (the chair, secretary and treasurer) are authorized to sign checks and require two signatures.

The Covington Police Fuzz Run, held the second Saturday in September, is the primary source of income for the Fund. A number of departmental employees also voluntarily have a deduction from their paychecks each month that goes to the Fund. This year's Fuzz Run will be the 35th annual event, scheduled for September 8th, 2018. Last year, we had almost 3500 runners that participated in either the 5K road race or the one mile Mary Beth Fun Run. Between participants, family members, vendors, volunteers, and police officers, the total approaches nearly 4000 people; the largest public event in Covington each year. The sponsorships from businesses and individuals were more than \$80,000. The Fuzz Run committee begins planning months prior to the event.

In 2004, the balance of the Fund was around \$20,000; a long way from those early years of \$1000. As we prepare for the 2018 Fuzz Run, the Fund currently has a balance of over \$200,000.00. PWC, with the help of the Fuzz Run, has done so much for the community over the years and continues to grow and help those in need.

<http://www.covingtonfuzzrun.com/>



## Covington Police Citizens Academy 2017 Report



**Spring 2017**



**Fall 2017**

The City of Covington Police Department held two (2) citizens academy classes in 2017. The classes were in the spring and fall. These were the sixth and seventh classes put on by the police department since the inception of the program.

The City of Covington Citizens Police Academy was created in order to give the residents and corporate citizens of Covington a chance to see, understand, and interact with the inner workings of the City of Covington Police Department. Participants learned about the available services, resources and programs offered by the department. More importantly, participants met and interacted with the men and women who provide these services. Specifically, sessions covered the structure of the police department, patrol functions, criminal investigations, specialized units, firearms training, use of force, and use of force considerations. Classes were a combination of lectures, demonstrations, and interactive activities.

Participation in the program was free. Applicants were required to be 18 years of age, submit a criminal history check, and had to provide their own transportation to and from training. Acceptance into the program was subject to review by the academy staff of each applicant's background, including any criminal history.

Participants in this program met for six (6) weeks on Tuesday evenings from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the police department mainly. Participants were exposed to the firearms training simulator and shoot, don't shoot scenarios. Additionally, participants were invited to the department's firearms range and taught about guns and given the opportunity to shoot their own weapons, after inspection, or the police department's weapons. This was held on a Saturday, which included lunch for all participants. Also during the course of the program, participants were required, at their convenience, to complete at least two to four hours of police "ride alongs". This provided one on one interaction with a police officer, on patrol, answering calls.

A graduation ceremony was held after completion of the program. The participants were brought before the City of Covington Council during the council meeting and introduced, receiving their certificate of completion. A dinner was provided to all participants at a local restaurant.

In the spring session of 2017, twenty-four (24) people participated in the program. In the fall session of 2017, twenty-one (21) people participated. A total of forty-five (45) citizens participated and graduated from the program, bringing the total to over two hundred (200) citizens graduating from the program since the inception. All participants provided positive feedback about the program to the staff.

If you have interest in the program contact program coordinator Lt. Wendell Wagstaff at (770) 385-2147 or email at [wendell.wagstaff@covingtonpolice.com](mailto:wendell.wagstaff@covingtonpolice.com)

# Contact Us

The Covington Police Department would like to thank the mayor, city council and citizens of Covington for their support of the men and women of this department. The Covington Police Department takes pride in being on the cutting edge of technology, education and current crime prevention techniques. The department understands the vital role the community plays as a partner against crime. We encourage our citizens to get involved in their neighborhoods, in their city leadership and to contact us with any concerns or questions they may have in regard to the safety of Covington, Georgia.

Please visit [www.covingtonpolice.com](http://www.covingtonpolice.com) for more information on the police department, community events, crime trends within the city, anonymous tips and much more. You may also “like” our Facebook page, ‘Covington (Ga.) Police Department’ for up-to-date press releases, community events and comments from citizens like you.

You may scan the codes below with your smart phone to get easy access to our website, the current crime map of the city and to submit an anonymous tip.



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



Current crime map of  
Covington, Georgia  
[crimereports.com](http://crimereports.com)



Submit an anonymous tip  
[tipssubmit.com](http://tipssubmit.com)