



# PALESTINE POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT

2015

*A year of growth. A year of change. A year of reaching out to our community.*

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## Administration

### A MESSAGE FROM CHIEF MIKE ALEXANDER

The year 2015 has been an interesting one for the Palestine Police Department. We encountered some very unique things but our men and women handled them brilliantly. I am proud to share this Annual Report with the citizens of Palestine and show once again how PPD employees exceeded even my high expectations in spite of the jump in some of our violent crime categories.

This Annual Report shows just how hard the men and women of PPD work to keep our city safe every day as we manage our staffing challenges. I applaud their efforts and the cooperation and assistance from our citizens in fighting, preventing crime and quality of life issues. That partnership with our citizenry is one of the main factors in the management of our crime rate over the past several years.

We will continue to look at means of improving services to make us more professional, efficient and provide even better customer service to our citizen and surrounding communities. To that end, myself and PPD command staff implemented an organizational structure and culture change with our core values in mind: Personal Courage, Respect, Integrity, Duty, and Ethical behavior. We created a new challenge coin engraved with those core values to help us move this police department forward in achieving the Texas Police Chiefs Foundation award for best practices.

So, please take some time to look at and visit us at Palestine Police Department as we continue the advancements to make our historic town one of the safest, friendliest and most professional departments in our nation. Each day, our patrol officers, investigators, support services and other specialized units work tirelessly at Crime Reduction and improved quality of life.

In closing, thanks again for the cooperation with the City of Palestine and it's police officers, as we look to the future to find new and improved ways to engage the citizens in the effort to increase awareness, prevent and deter crime, and make our community a safer place to live, work, and play.



Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mike Alexander".

Mike Alexander

# ADMINISTRATION

## COMMUNITY POLICING PHILOSOPHY STATEMENT

The philosophy of this organization embodies the guiding principles and beliefs under which we strive to achieve our vision, mission, core organizational values, goals and objectives. Community policing and problem solving are the core policing service philosophies and strategies of this Department. We believe the men and women of the Palestine Police Department are our most valuable asset and the essential ingredient to effectively and efficiently complete the police mission in the community we serve through our core organizational values of Personal Courage, Respect, Integrity, Duty, and Ethical Behavior (P.R.I.D.E.).

The Department prides itself on the quality of its employees. It is the Department's belief that providing its personnel with the opportunity to participate in, Decision Making, Problem Solving and Quality Service Delivery, will result in a safer community with citizens who have an enhanced perception of the quality of life. The Palestine Police Department is dedicated to the efficient and effective delivery of outstanding police service.

We believe in the preservation of basic human rights and the maintenance of individual integrity under the rule and spirit of law, which dictates that ends do not always justify means and that punishment, is not the function of the police. We are rather problem solvers.

We believe in providing quality, empathetic, responsive and professional service to the citizens and visitors of our historic community with compassion and concern. We are not now — nor should we ever be — something that divides and separates our community. In fact, we need to be a force that unites and strengthens our community. Additionally, we believe the Citizens of Palestine have endowed us with a public trust.

We work to build cooperative and collaborative relationships with the community that stems from the belief that we share a common goal of creating and maintaining a safer community. In addition to our partnerships with the community, we will continue to build on our federal, state, and local alliances within the criminal justice family. All actions taken by department personnel must be legal, professional, reasonable, exemplary and consistent with the spirit and content of this Philosophy Statement, the ordinances of the City of Palestine, the laws of the State of Texas and the Constitution of the United States.

We at the Palestine Police Department will make every reasonable effort to serve the needs of the media in informing the public about crime and other police problems. This should be done with an attitude of openness and frankness whenever possible. The media should have access to personnel, at the lowest level in a Department, who are fully informed about the subject of a press inquiry. The media should be told all that can be told that will not impinge on a person's right to a fair trial, seriously impede a criminal investigation, imperil a human life, or seriously endanger the security of the people. In such cases, the minimum information should be given which will not impinge on the four areas and we should merely state that nothing more can be said.

We believe that crime and related disorders are social ills that we as police personnel are incapable of conquering alone. We believe that our responsibility to provide service, leadership, guidance and protection to our citizens, who, in partnership with us, strive to make our city safer and a more pleasant place to live.

# ADMINISTRATION

When the community voices a concern, we will listen and respond appropriately in an effort to solve the problem. We will solicit and support communication and involvement from all members of our community and from all employees.

We firmly recognize our role as public servants and citizens. We should at all times, maintain a relationship with the public that gives reality to the historic tradition that the police are the public and the public are the police; the police being only members of the public who are paid to give full-time attention to duties which are incumbent on every citizen in the interests of community welfare and existence.

We believe that each police department employee is responsible and accountable for their individual actions. A citizen's perception of the police department is largely impacted, if not completely determined, by the attitudes, appearance and performance of our officers. Our employees are our greatest resource, and we must therefore strive to develop our department personnel to their fullest potential with an emphasis on professionalism and accountability.

Police personnel are encouraged to utilize their knowledge of the community and their profession to identify public safety problems and quality of life issues. Department members shall work in partnership with the community to solve problems. Emphasis is placed on the identification and resolution of the underlying causes of the problems.

The Palestine Police Department believes that directing resources toward seeking solutions will provide our citizens with quality service. This service is aimed at proactively solving community problems. We also believe the implementation of the problem solving process will prevent future crime problems and provide a sense of citizen safety and confidence in the police department, while providing job enrichment for its officers.

Proactive team management, open communication and employee input prior to procedure and policy formulation, when possible, are the norm in the Palestine Police Department. Once decisions are made, we realize it is critical that everyone work together as a unified TEAM toward achieving department goals.

## MISSION

With P.R.I.D.E., we will strive to enhance the quality of life and will protect life, property and keep safe the community we serve.

## VISION

We will work in cooperation with our community to proactively address identified areas of needed improvement and to continually provide the level of service and safety so deserved by the community we serve.

# ADMINISTRATION

## OUR VALUES, OUR P.R.I.D.E.

### **P**ERSONAL COURAGE - CONQUER FEAR, DANGER AND ADVERSITY

Policing is a calling. We will recognize our fears and put them aside to do what is necessary which mean sometimes we rush toward danger when others flee, and to stand up for other peoples' civil and Constitutional rights when those rights are threatened. It is a pledge to dedicate our professional lives to serving other people and to protecting those things our citizens hold dearest: life and liberty.

### **R**ESPECT - BE RESPONSIBLE AND TREAT OTHERS AS THEY SHOULD BE TREATED

Our people are our most important resource. We can best serve the many and varied needs of our communities by empowering our employees to fulfill their responsibilities with knowledge, authority, and appropriate discretion. We encourage our people to submit ideas, we listen to their suggestions, and we help them develop to their maximum potential. We will treat everyone as we would want to be treated, even in negative situations. We will be courteous and respectful in our dealings with each other and the public. We will provide fair access, whenever possible, to information that people require to make decisions about their lives.

### **I**NTEGRITY - TRUST BETWEEN POLICE AND CITIZENS

The badge is a symbol — a bright and highly visible symbol — of the authority and the trust that the public has placed in each one of us. We will act honestly, truthfully and in a trustworthy manner at all times.

### **D**UTY - FULFILL OUR OBLIGATIONS

We will strive to fulfill our duty to the best of our abilities. We will conduct ourselves with self-discipline, professionalism and confidence. We will exercise self-restraint and objectivity in the face of emotions and extreme circumstances. We will always work towards excellence through constant self-improvement.

### **E**THICAL BEHAVIOR - CENTRAL TO DECISION MAKING

Ethical considerations are central to decisions involving discretion, force, and due process that require police officers to make enlightened moral judgments. It is important to have the capacity to point to moral reasoning in justifying behavior. We expect our well trained police officers to have that capacity. It is of utmost importance that ethical decisions are made when interfacing with our citizenry.

# ADMINISTRATION

## OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

The Palestine Police Department is a community funded division of the City of Palestine. The citizens who fund this department have certain expectations in regards to the services we provide. Our professionalism as a department is determined by how effective our officers are in the execution of their assigned duties.

The purpose of the Office of Professional Standards is to ensure that officers are held accountable to the citizens and visitors of Palestine. Accountability demands that we hold ourselves to the highest ethical standards as set forth in the law enforcement code of ethics, and ensures that when we fail in maintaining our integrity, consistent disciplinary action will be taken.

The Office of Professional Standards was created in 2015 during a restructuring of the Palestine Police Department and is under the direct supervision of the Chief of Police.

The Office of Professional Standards has a comprehensive, accessible and fair complaint, investigation and disposition process. As the caretaker of the public safety, it is the policy of the Palestine Police Department to properly investigate all complaints against the Department or its personnel; to equitably determine whether the allegations are valid or invalid; and to initiate appropriate closure and/or corrective action as deemed necessary. Complaints against the Police Department or its personnel may be made by any person. Initial complains may be made in person, by telephone, by email or in writing. By having these processes in place, the Palestine Police Department is able to address any problem while continuing to maintain the trust of staff and that of our citizens.



On October 1, 2015, a new software based system, Guardian Tracking, was implemented so that any commendations, from citizens or supervisors, along with any positive feedback from supervisors can be entered. This system also allows for corrective feedback to be entered so the Department has an early warning system in an effort to correct officer and staff behaviors before they generate into a formal complaint.

In 2015, eighteen (18) complaints were made against Palestine Police employees. Fourteen (14) were made against Sworn officers and four (4) were made against Support (non-sworn) personnel. Each complaint was documented and investigated. Findings relative to these complaints were as follows: eleven (11) were Sustained – meaning the investigation disclosed sufficient evidence to clearly prove the allegation(s). Six (6) were Un-sustained – meaning there was a failure to discover sufficient evidence to clearly prove the allegations(s). One (1) was Un-founded – meaning that the specific act complained of did not occur.

# ADMINISTRATION

Type of Complaint	Quantity
Complaints by Citizens	3
Complaint from Internal	14
Anonymous Complaint	1

Disposition of Complaint	Quantity
Sustained	11
Un-Sustained	6
Un-Founded	1

Police Officers (Sworn)	Quantity
Number Named in Only One Complaint	2
Number Named in Two Complaints	2
Number Named in Three Complaints	1
Number Named in more than Three Complaints	1
Number of Officers with One Sustained Allegation	3
Number of Officers with Two Sustained Allegations (Different Instances)	3
Number of Officers with more than Two Sustained Allegations (Different Instances)	0

Support (Non-Sworn)	Quantity
Number named in only One Complaint	4
Number Named in more than One Complaint	0

# ADMINISTRATION

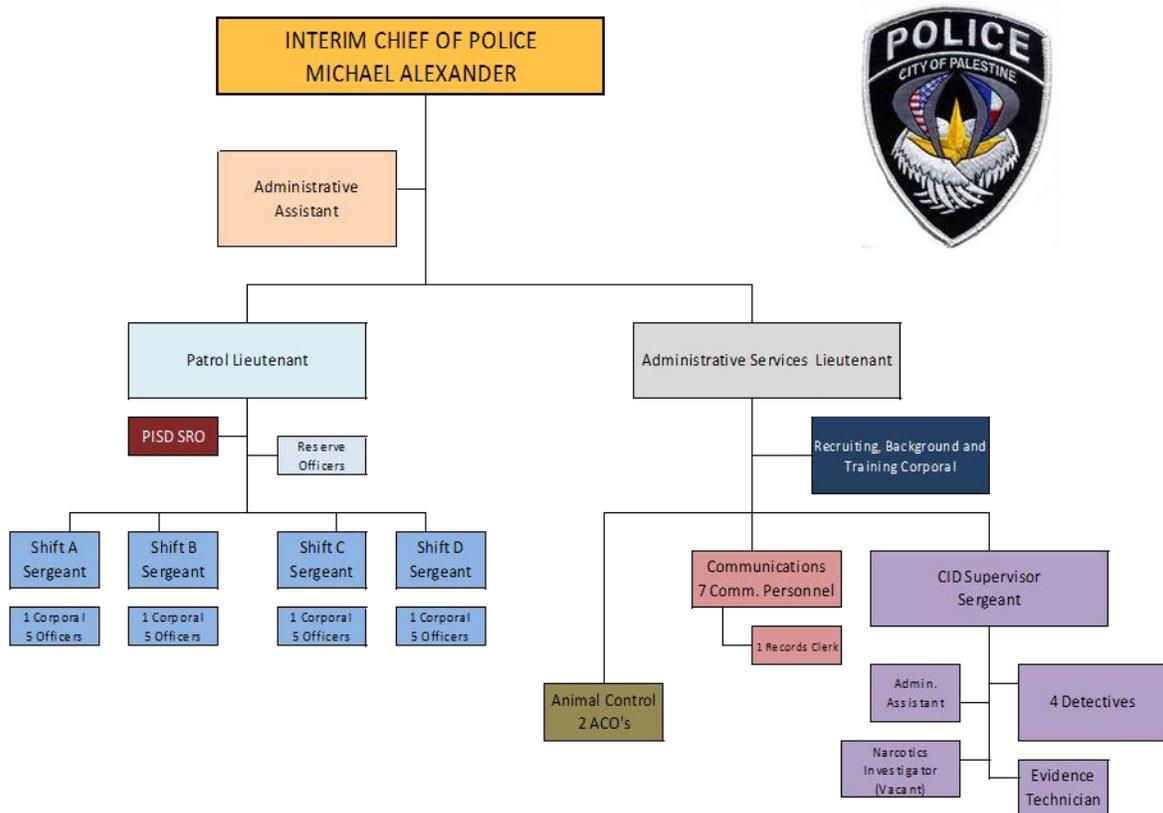
## STAFFING CHANGES

To better aid the Palestine Police Department in efficiently accomplishing our mission and values, the Police Department underwent a complete reorganization of its organizational structure. This is displayed below.

## OLD ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

# Palestine Police Department Table of Organization

10/1/14



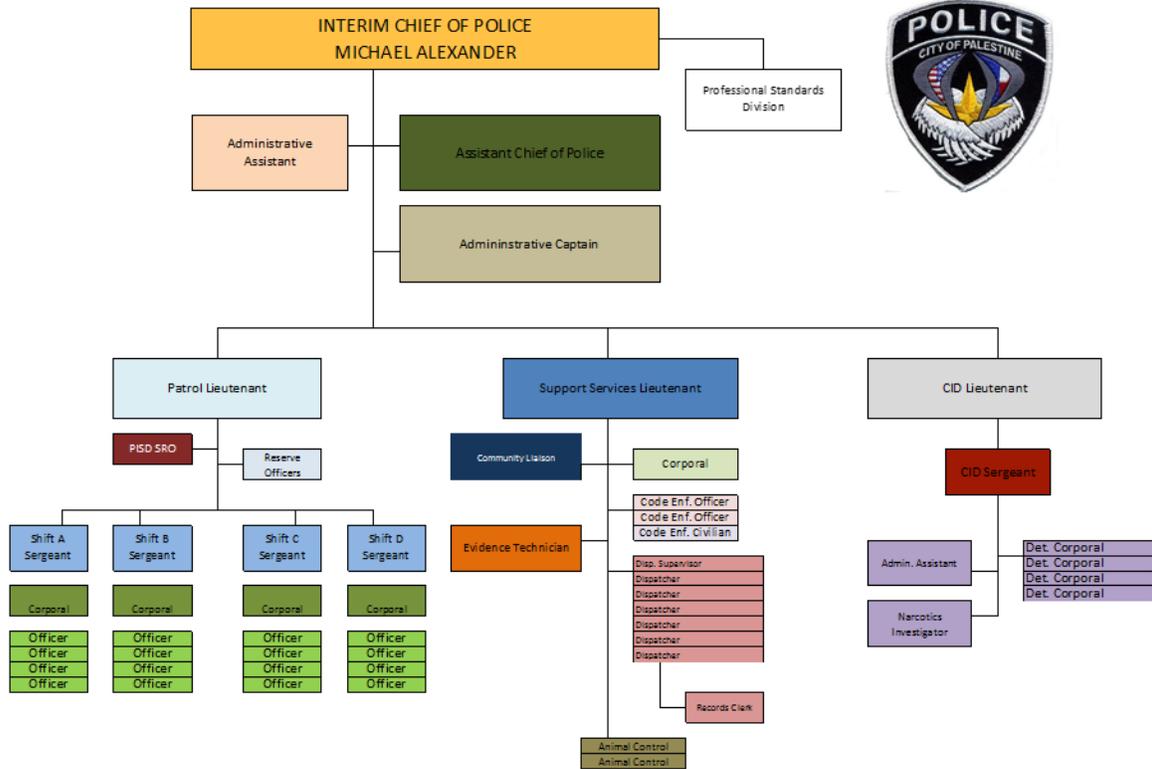
# ADMINISTRATION

## NEW ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

### Palestine Police Department Table of Organization

Reviewed/Modified: 01-01-16

Next Review 01-01-17



## Patrol

The patrol division, led by a patrol lieutenant, in 2015 was comprised of officers assigned to four (4) 12 hour shifts, who were responsible to for responding to calls for service, and enforcing State and local laws.

### STAFFING

During 2015, the Patrol Division was compromised of four shifts; each allotted one (1) Sergeant, one (1) Corporal, and two (2) to three (3) Officers. The Patrol Division, by the end of 2015, had four (4) Officers in Field Training and was staffed at increased level over 2014, from 70% to 83%, excluding those in training.

### CALLS FOR SERVICE

The department responded to 25,642 calls for service during the year. The calls were categorized into types, including violent related, traffic, property related, public disorder, drug, and sex crime calls.

Violence related calls, 768 incidents, included assaults (threat or physical), aggravated assaults, fights in progress, terroristic threats, shots fired, suicide related, injury to a child, kidnapping, robbery, bomb threats, deadly conduct, or hostage related.

The department received 5209 traffic related calls for service, which are categorized as traffic stops, parking lot crashes, non-injury crashes, injury crashes, and fatality related crashes.

Officers were dispatched to 2321 calls related to property crimes, which were categorized as all thefts, burglaries, and property damage related to a criminal act.

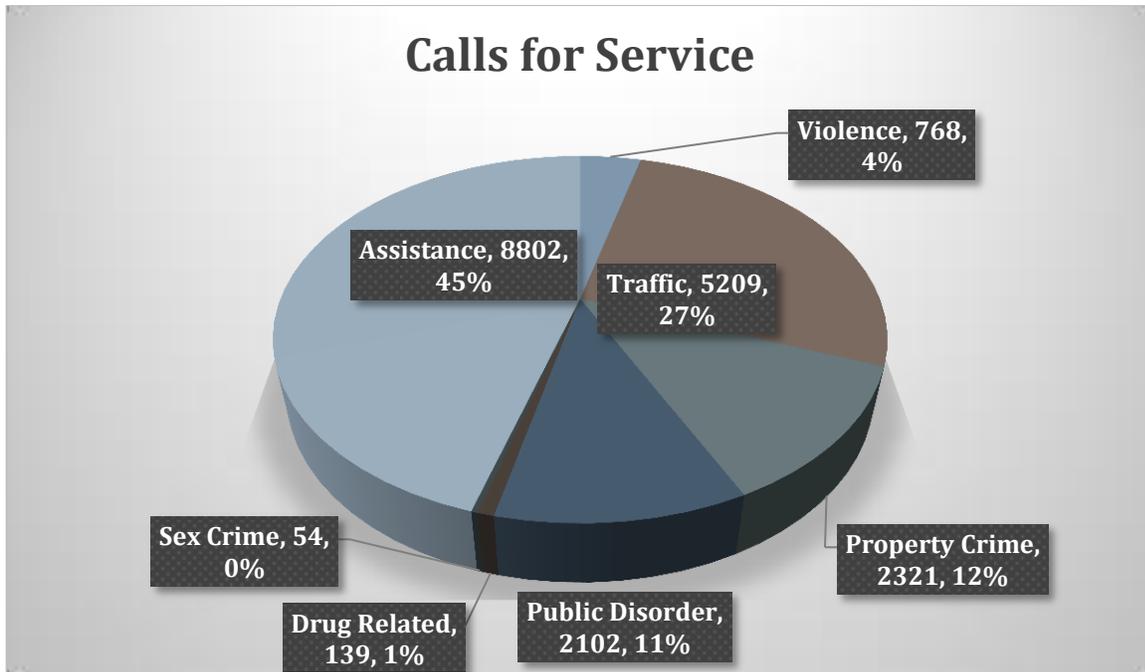
The department received 2102 public disorder calls, which were categorized as public intoxication, disorderly conduct, and criminal trespass related calls.

In addition, officers were involved in 139 drug related calls.

The department received 54 sex crime calls during 2015, which was categorized as all sexual assaults, indecency with a child, pornography, prostitution and related calls for service.

Officers assisted the public and other agencies in a variety of ways throughout 2015. Of the 25,642 calls for service, 8802 were assistance type calls. These assistance calls included assisting other agencies, unattended children, welfare concerns, motorist assists, general information, escort, deliver messages, courtesy transports, community policing, civil standby, civil matters, building checks and attempt to locate. Additionally, officers responded to 46 barking dog calls and 35 reports of fireworks.

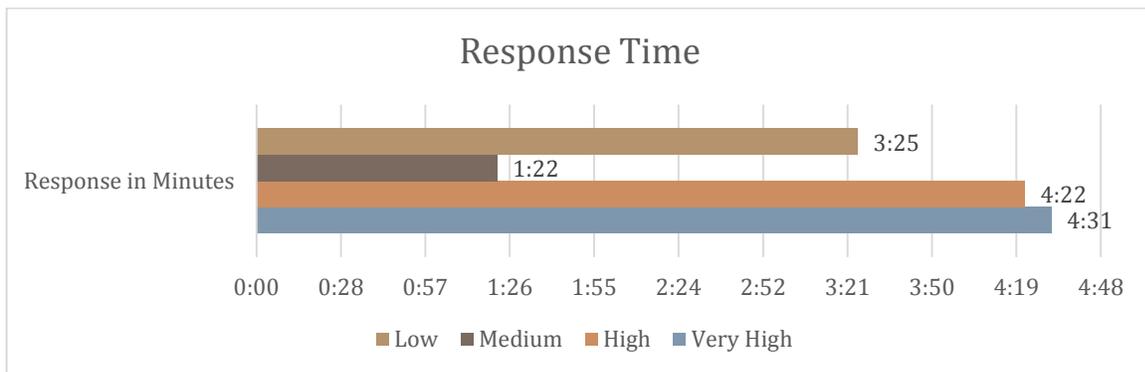
# PATROL



From the calls for service, officers generated 2388 offense reports, and 1540 supplemental reports totaling 3928 overall reports generated, requiring an estimated 4910 man hours (3928\*1.25 hours). With 35040 man hours available, officers spent an estimated 15-20% of their shifts actually writing reports. This figure excludes crash report completion.

## RESPONSE TIME

The following is an average response time for 2015, based on priority level: VERY HIGH 4:31, HIGH 4:22, MEDIUM 1:24, LOW 3:25. Average response time to the 25,642 call taken is 2:40. This is illustrated in the following graph.

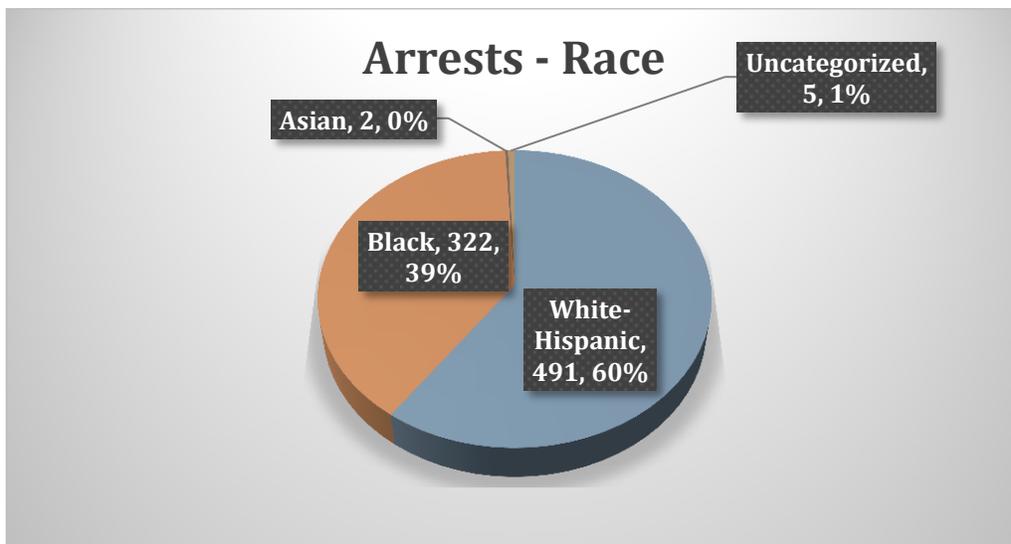
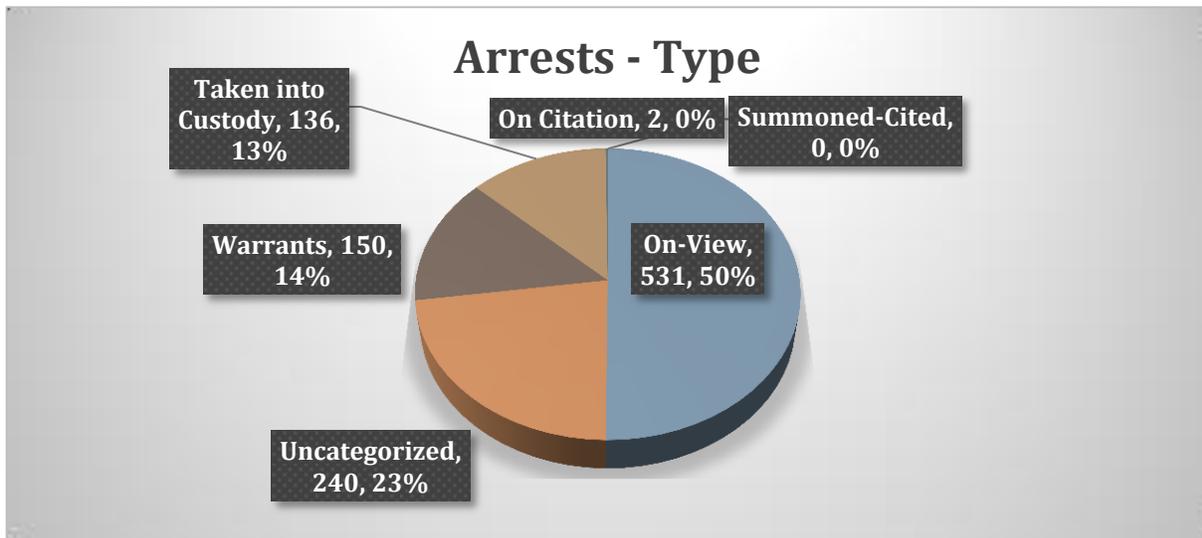


# PATROL

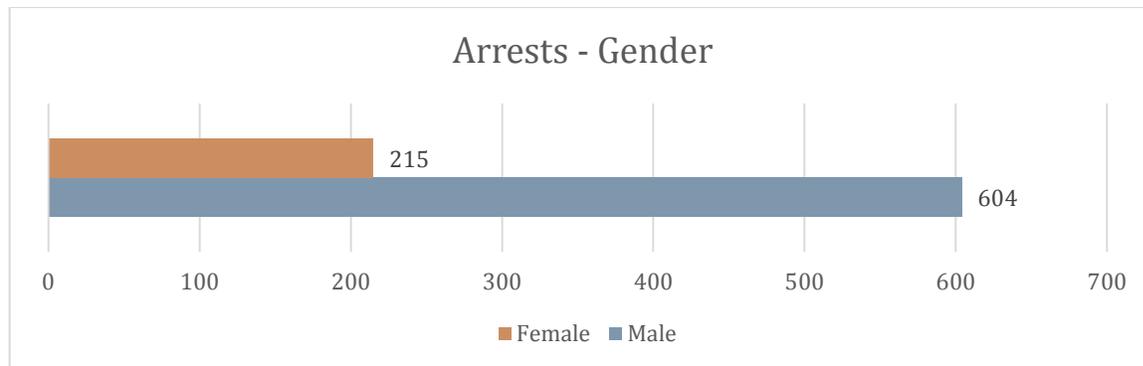
## ARRESTS

Officers made 1060 arrests during 2015, with 2 arrest on a citation, 531 on-view, 0 summoned/cited, 136 taken into custody, 150 on warrants, and 240 uncategorized.

Categorized by Race, officers arrested 491 White or Hispanic subjects, 322 Black subjects, 2 Asian, and 5 that were uncategorized. By Gender, officers arrested 604 males and 215 females in the course of their duties.



# PATROL



## Arrests – Top 10 Violations

WARRANT SERVICE - MISDEMEANOR	129
PUBLIC INTOXICATION	92
WARRANT SERVICE - OTHER JURISDICTION	91
POSS MARIJ <2OZ MB	64
DWI	64
Poss CS PG 1 < 1G	57
CRIMINAL TRESPASS	49
ORGANIZED RETAIL THEFT >\$100 BUT <\$750	47
EVADING ARREST/DETENTION	30
AGG ASSAULT W/ DEADLY WEAPON	19

### RESPONSE TO RESISTANCE

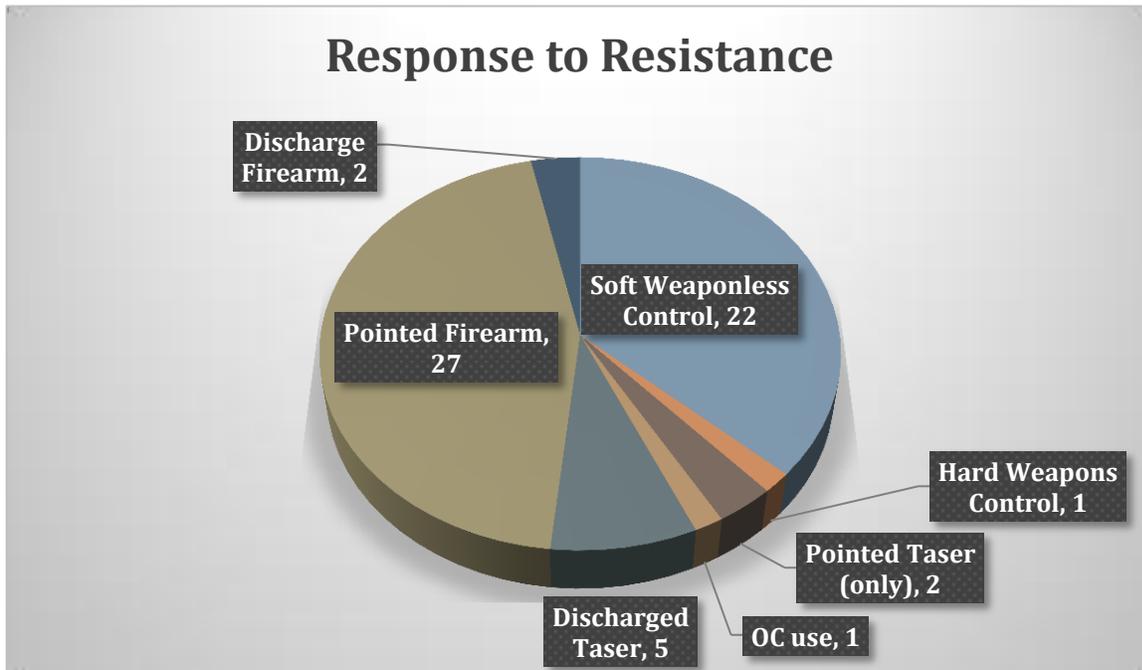
In 2015, Palestine Police Department reported 53 incidents involving Response to Resistance (RTR), formerly called Use of Force. Palestine PD changed the submission of Response to Resistance from paper to electronic on October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2015.

Of the 53 incidents, (2) two incidents required an Officer's actual use of Deadly Force. Both officer incidents were found to be justified, both internally and by Grand Jury.

# PATROL

There were 35 incidents with one officer filing a RTR report, 12 incidents with 2 officers filing, and 6 incidents with 3 or more RTR reports filed.

Regarding the levels of force, the highest level of force filed by each officer involved included 22 Soft Weaponless Controls, 1 Hard Weaponless Controls, 2 Pointed Taser (only), 1 OC use, 5 Discharged Taser, 27 Pointed Firearm, and 2 Discharge Firearm. Incidents with more than one officer reporting, there will be more additional reports regarding levels of force than actual incidents.



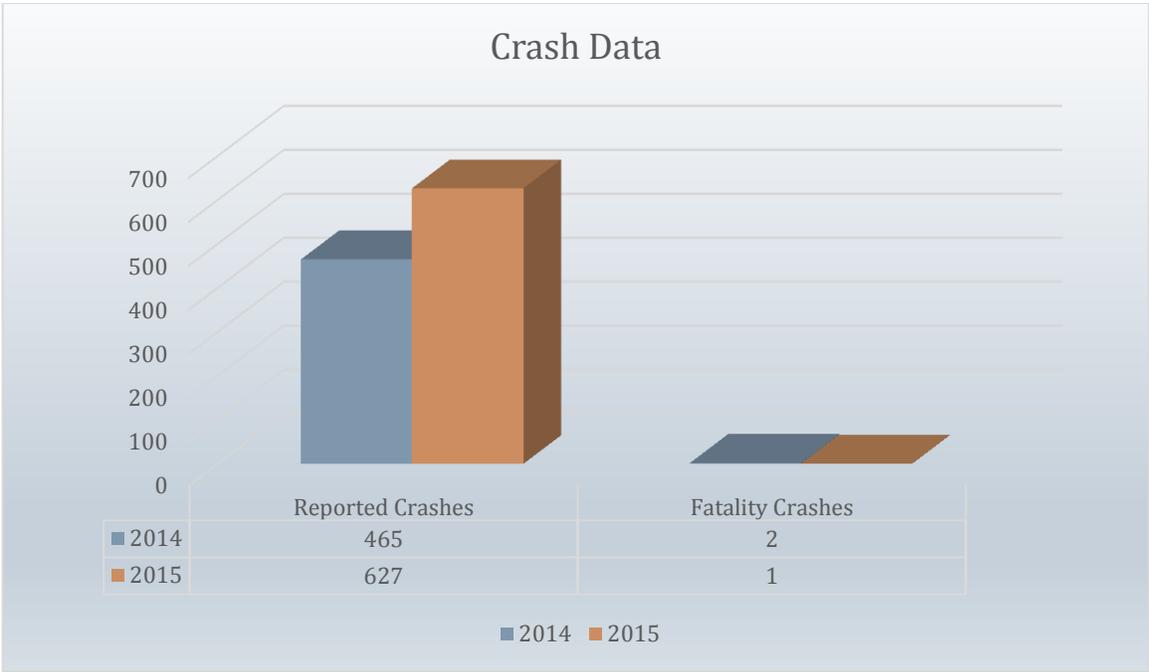
There were 21 reports advising that Alcohol was a factor, 17 reports stating that drugs were a factor, and 11 reports that mental health was a factor in the incidents. Some reports had more than one factor.

The suspects involved in RTR incidents included 11 Whites, 34 Blacks, and 10 Hispanics. The genders of the suspects were 51 males, and 4 females. Regarding age of the suspects, the age ranges were (1)10-16, (12)17-21, (19)22-30, (11)31-40, and (12)40+.

## ACCIDENTS

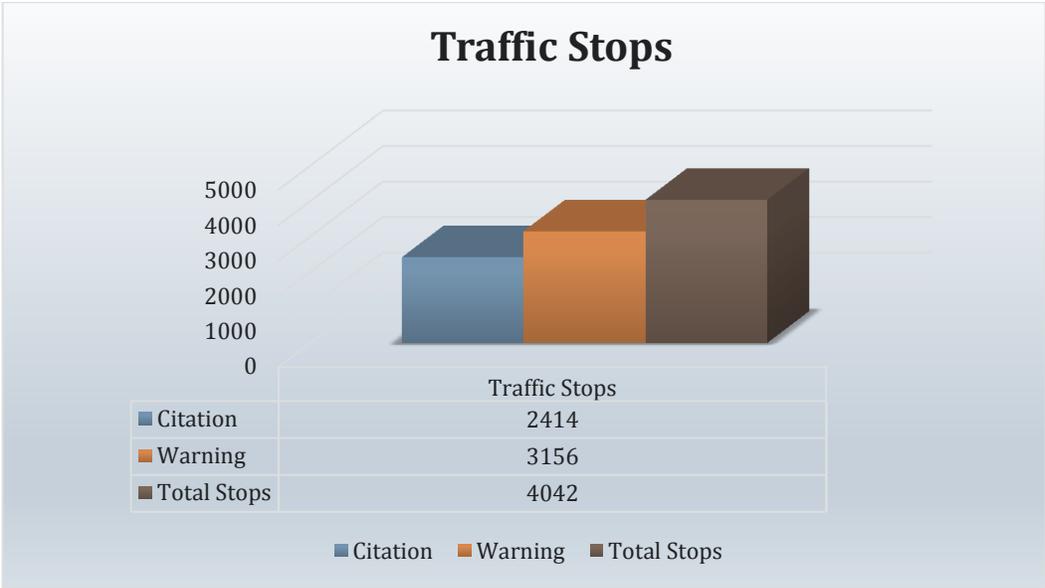
During 2015, there were 627 reported roadway crashes, up from 465 in 2014, a 25.8% increase. Of the 627 roadway crashes, there was (1) fatality crash, down from 2014 (2) and 2013 (5). Officers also responded to 192 parking lot crashes for a total of 819 vehicle crashes in 2015.

# PATROL



### TRAFFIC AND ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT

In 2015, officers conducted 4042 traffic stops during which 2414 citations were issued, as well as 3156 warnings in an attempt to bring the public into compliance with State laws and local ordinances, including enforcement related to traffic crash investigations.



# RACIAL PROFILING REPORT

## Racial Profiling Report

### RACIAL PROFILING REQUIREMENTS

Originally presented and passed into law during the 77<sup>th</sup> Texas State Legislature, and effective September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2001, Racial Profiling as found in the Texas Code of Criminal Procedures Sec. 2.131 thru 2.137 defines Racial Profiling, and enumerates the requirements of all Texas law enforcement agencies, including:

Each law enforcement agency in this state shall adopt a detailed written policy on racial profiling. The policy must:

- (1) clearly define acts constituting racial profiling;
- (2) strictly prohibit peace officers employed by the agency from engaging in racial profiling;
- (3) implement a process by which an individual may file a complaint with the agency if the individual believes that a peace officer employed by the agency has engaged in racial profiling with respect to the individual;
- (4) provide public education relating to the agency's complaint process;
- (5) require appropriate corrective action to be taken against a peace officer employed by the agency who, after an investigation, is shown to have engaged in racial profiling in violation of the agency's policy adopted under this article;
- (6) require collection of information relating to motor vehicle stops in which a citation is issued and to arrests made as a result of those stops, including information relating to:
  - (A) the race or ethnicity of the individual detained;
  - (B) whether a search was conducted and, if so, whether the individual detained consented to the search; and
  - (C) whether the peace officer knew the race or ethnicity of the individual detained before detaining that individual; and
- (7) require the chief administrator of the agency, regardless of whether the administrator is elected, employed, or appointed, to submit an annual report of the information collected under Subdivision (6) to:
  - (A) the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement; and
  - (B) the governing body of each county or municipality served by the agency, if the agency is an agency of a county, municipality, or other political subdivision of the state.

Palestine Police Department was in compliance with all provisions of the law, and received no sustained complaints of Racial Profiling during this period.

# RACIAL PROFILING REPORT

## PALESTINE POLICE DEPARTMENT POLICY 100.3 RACIAL PROFILING

### 100.03 RACIAL PROFILING

**Effective Date:** 9/24/2012

**Revised:** 2/1/2010

**Standard:** 1.2.9

#### I. PURPOSE AND RESPONSIBILITY:

**A. Purpose:** To set the policy and establish the procedures to prevent racial profiling at the Palestine Police Department.

#### **B. Responsibility:**

1. It will be the responsibility of the Chief of Police to provide the Palestine City Council an annual report containing statistical data relevant to the public contacts made in accordance with the Texas Racial Profiling Law.

#### II. DEFINITIONS:

**A. RACIAL PROFILING:** Law enforcement initiated action based on an individual's race, ethnicity, or national origin rather than on the individual's behavior or on information identifying the individual as having engaged in criminal activity.

**B. RACE OR ETHNICITY:** Means of a particular descent, including Caucasian, African, Hispanic, Asian, or Native American descent.

#### III. POLICY:

A. It is the policy of the Palestine Police Department that law enforcement-initiated action based on an individual's race, ethnic background, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, religion, economic status, age, cultural group, or any other identifiable group rather than on the individual's behavior or on information identifying the individual as having engaged in criminal activity is strictly prohibited. Profiling in regards to traffic contacts, field contacts, asset seizures and forfeiture efforts will not be allowed. Any officer found in violation of this policy will be disciplined accordingly.

#### **Standard 1.2.9(a)**

#### IV. PROCEDURES:

##### **A. MOTOR VEHICLE AND PEDESTRIAN STOPS:**

1. Officers will be diligent during their patrol and are expected to enforce the traffic laws, and stop and detain motorists or pedestrians whenever there is reasonable suspicion that they have committed, are

# RACIAL PROFILING REPORT

committing, or are about to commit an infraction of the law. An arrest can only be made with probable cause.

a. An officer should not stop a driver or pedestrian when looking for a suspect if the only commonality between the suspect and the civilian is his or her race/ethnicity.

b. Officers should not pick out people to stop from among similarly situated individuals based in whole or in part of their race/ethnicity. For example, a driver speeding in a stream of traffic should not be picked out from among the traffic because of race/ethnicity.

c. An officer should not stop a driver when there is no traffic violation in order to get a look inside the vehicle based on the driver's race/ethnicity.

2. Officers must conduct themselves in a dignified and respectful manner at all times. The officers must remain courteous and professional keeping in mind the anxiety the person will feel when stopped by a police officer. Officers will remain professional and courteous even if challenged verbally from the detained individual.

3. During the stop of the motorist or pedestrian, officers shall utilize the mobile video and audio recording equipped in the car pursuant to General Order 401.04.

4. The detaining of motorists and pedestrians will be brief in duration and officers shall explain to the individual the reason for the detention with the objective to gain compliance and understanding.

5. Officers shall promptly record the results of all involuntary citizen detentions in the racial profiling section of the department's records reporting system.

## **B. COMPLAINTS OF RACIAL PROFILING:**

1. Any person may file a complaint with the department if they believe law enforcement-initiated action was based on the individual's race, ethnicity, or national origin rather than on the individual's behavior or on information identifying the individual as having engaged in criminal activity.

2. Any officer, including the officer who initiated the stop, who is told by the citizen that they wish to file a complaint, shall inform the person that they can meet a supervisor at police headquarters or contact the supervisor on the telephone, by providing the telephone number to the complainant. At no time should the complainant be told to call back the next day unless they desire to do so.

3. Supervisors receiving the complaint of racial profiling shall record the name, address, telephone number and the allegation from the complainant. The individual should be advised that the complaint will be taken seriously and they will be contacted with the findings of the investigation. The supervisor will obtain the video recording from the mobile video recording system or the audio recording if the stop involved a motor officer. The recording, along with the information from the complainant, should be forwarded to the Chief's office for assignment.

# RACIAL PROFILING REPORT

4. The Chief of Police shall assign the complaint to the affected employee's supervisor or the Internal Affairs Division in accordance with General Order 300.02.

5. In conformance with the act on Racial Profiling, on the commencement of an investigation by a law enforcement agency of a complaint regarding racial profiling the agency shall promptly provide a copy of the video/audio recording to the peace officer that is the subject of the complaint on written request by the officer.

6. Should the results of the investigation show that the officer had engaged in racial profiling in violation of this policy the Chief of Police may take corrective action against the officer. The corrective action can range from training up to and including termination depending on the totality of the circumstances.

## ***Standard 1.2.9 (c)***

a. If the complaint is "not sustained" the complainant may appeal the determination to the City Manager's Office.

b. The complainant also has the right to appeal the determination to the Anderson County District Attorney's Office.

7. This agency will comply with the public education requirement of the act by posting the complaint process on our internet web site, by having printed brochures on the complaint procedure available in our public lobby, and also available from the officers on the street.

## **C. RETENTION OF VIDEO AND AUDIO RECORDINGS:**

1. The audio and video recordings of traffic and pedestrian stops shall be retained for at least 90 days after the date of the stop. In case of a complaint the recording will be retained until the disposition of the complaint.

2. The standards and safeguards for reviewing the video and audio recordings are outlined in General Order 401.04.

## **D. TRAINING:**

1. All sworn personnel will receive annual training in bias based profiling.

## **E. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS OF THE ACT:**

1. The Chief of Police shall make a documented annual report to the City Council on the information collected relating to traffic and pedestrian stops which will contain the following:

a. The race or ethnicity of the individuals detained.

b. Whether a search was conducted and, if so, whether the person consented.

c. Report on the number of racial profiling complaints and community concerns on the issue.

# RACIAL PROFILING REPORT

2. The required report will not contain identifying information about the officers or the individuals detained.

3. The documented annual report will be submitted on March 1st of each year for information compiled by the agency during the period beginning January 1st and ending December 31st.

*Standard 1.2.9 (d)*

RACIAL PROFILING REPORT

Palestine, TX PD

**CONFIDENTIAL**

1/1/2015 - 12/31/2015

## Racial Profile Tier 1 HB3389

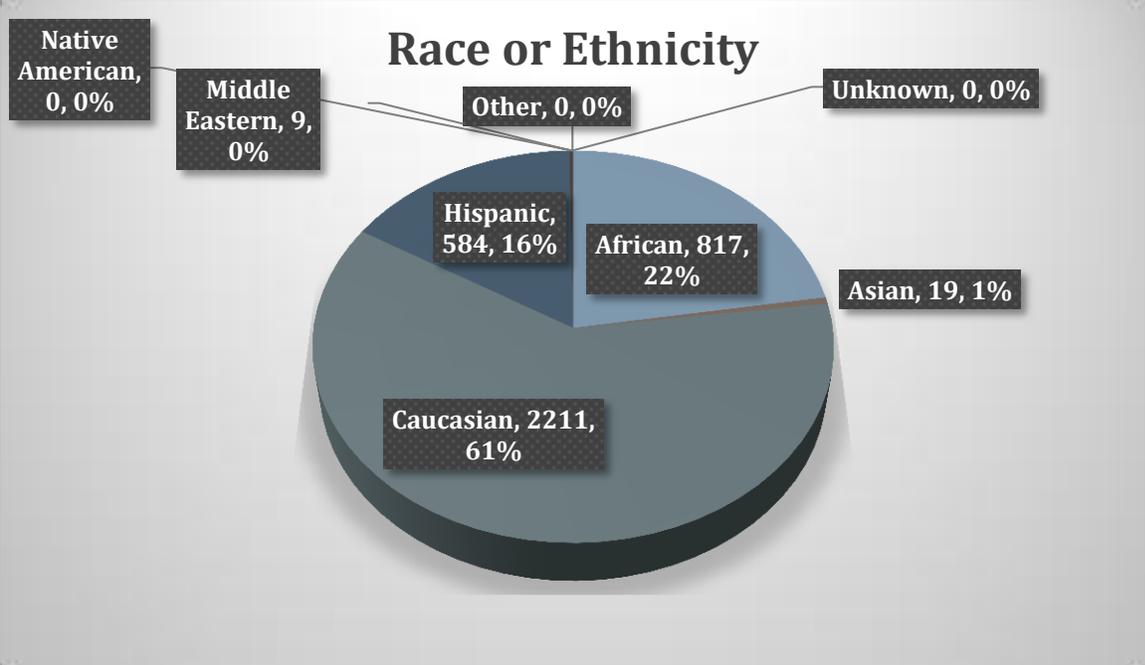
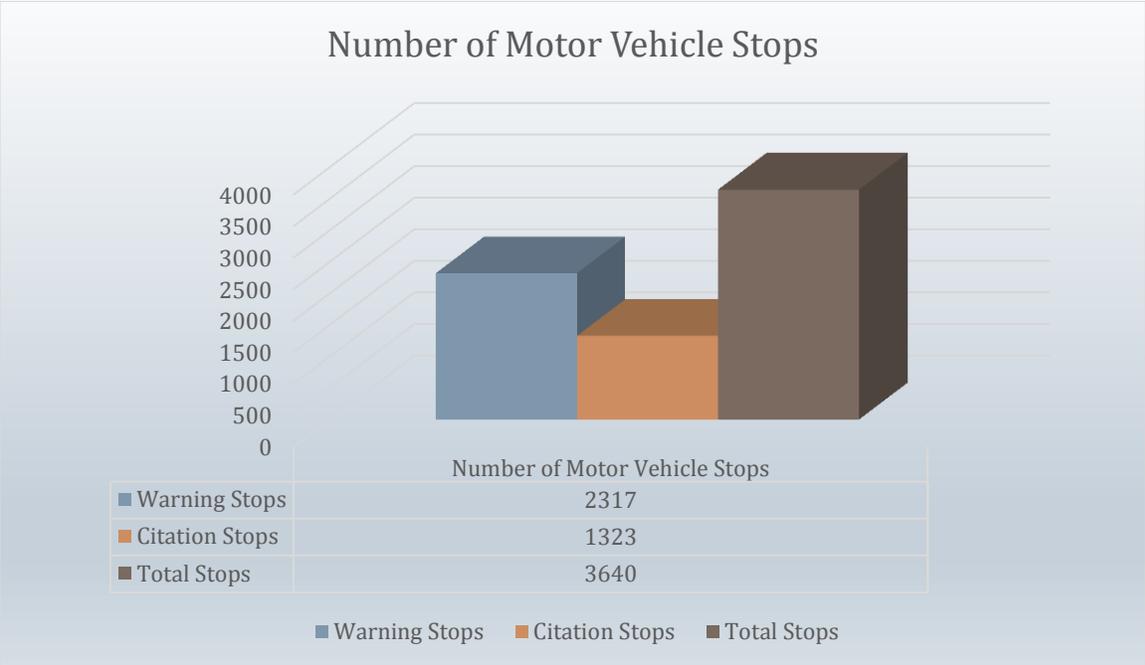
Number of Motor Vehicle Stops				
2317	Warning Stops			
1323	Citations Stops			
		4.	<u>3640</u>	Total
Race or Ethnicity				
817	African			
19	Asian			
2211	Caucasian			
584	Hispanic			
9	Middle Eastern			
0	Native American			
0	Other			
0	Unknown			
		11.	<u>3640</u>	Total
Race or Ethnicity known prior to stop?				
42	Yes			
3598	No			
		14.	<u>3640</u>	Total
Search conducted?				
87	Yes			
3553	No			
		17.	<u>3640</u>	Total

# RACIAL PROFILING REPORT

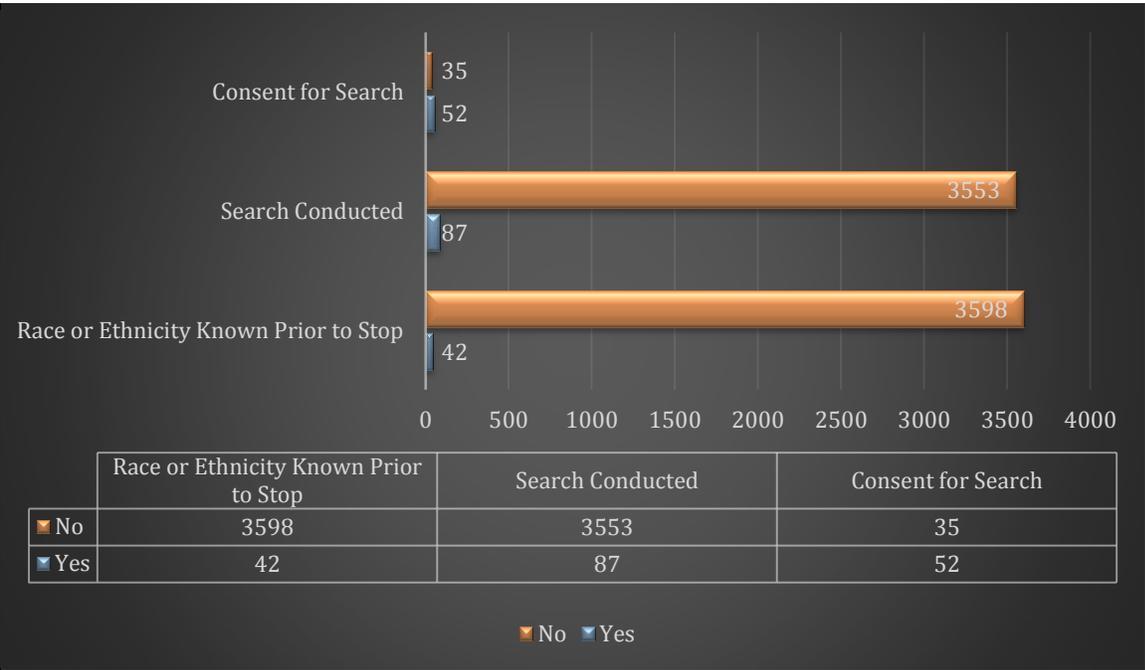
Was search consented?	
52	Yes
35	No
20.	87 Total

# RACIAL PROFILING REPORT

## BREAKDOWN OF RACIAL PROFILING DATA



# RACIAL PROFILING REPORT



## RACIAL PROFILING: CONCLUSION

Palestine Police Department was in compliance with all provisions of the law, and received no sustained complaints of Racial Profiling during this period.

# CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

## Criminal Investigations Division

### STAFFING

From January to June CID was staffed by one (1) Sergeant and two (2) Detectives. This was the total staffing for approximately 50% of the calendar year of 2015.

In June 2015 an additional Detective was added with this Detective ultimately transferring out of the Division in October 2015 due to promotion. In Sept. 2015 a CID Lieutenant was added. In Dec. an additional Detective was added to the staffing, bringing total staffing by end of year to one (1) Lieutenant, one (1) Sergeant and three (3) Detectives.

### ASSIGNED INVESTIGATIONS

In 2015 the PPD CID division received 2456 cases from Patrol for consideration and possible follow up investigation. Of these cases, 979 were Closed, Administratively Closed or Exceptionally Cleared, largely due to lack of evidence, no sustainable investigative leads or identifiable suspects. A comparison of calendar years 2014 and 2015 is as follows:

Year	2014	2015
Cases Received	2674	2456
Cases Closed	1113	979
Cases Referred/DA	603	592
Clearance Rate	22%	24%
Active Cases	804	763

### CRIME STATISTICS

According to UCR Crime Reporting Statistics, calendar year 2015 showed a dramatic decrease in the reported number of crimes in the categories of Assault, Burglary and Theft. A marginal increase was observed in the categories of Criminal Homicide, Robbery and Motor Vehicle Theft. The category of Sexual Assault was observed to remain the same from 2014 to 2015. A comparison of both years reported statistics is as follows:

Offense	2014	2015	Difference
Homicide	0	2	+2
Sexual Assault	24	24	0
Robbery	16	18	+2
Assault	461	403	-58
Burglary	168	132	-36

# CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

<b>Theft</b>	545	534	-11
<b>Auto Theft</b>	40	51	+11
<b>Total</b>	1255	1164	-91

Another notable statistic is the number of Officer's assaulted in the commission of their duties. 2014 only had one occurrence. 2015 had 4.

## DRUG ENFORCEMENT UNIT

The Drug Enforcement Unit was staffed with the Administrative Captain as the unit leader and two (2) part-time officers from the Patrol Division for approximately 75% of the calendar year of 2015. In September 2015, the unit was brought fully into the CID Division and put under the command of the CID Division Lieutenant, and operated by the same two (2) part-time Officers from Patrol.

In 2015, the Drug Enforcement Unit conducted approximately 43 controlled buys in initiation or furtherance of an investigation. DEU also initiated and served 14 search warrants in regards to narcotics investigations, resulting in several arrests and seizures of proceed from criminal endeavors.

## SEIZURES

In the year 2015, a total of \$16,464.75 cash was seized in regards to criminal asset forfeiture. Also seized were nine (9) vehicles. The majority of these asset seizures were attributed to Drug Enforcement Unit activities, with one large seizure resulting from a CID Detective investigation.

## TEXAS SCHOOL SAFETY TOBACCO PROGRAM

Each year the Palestine police Department teams with the Texas School Safety Program in an effort to prevent teen smoking. The program is a grant funded program aimed at the prevention of illegal sales of tobacco products to minors (persons under the age of 18).

The program works with law enforcement agencies all over the state by providing funding to law enforcement agencies to use minors to purchase tobacco products from local merchants. The Texas School Safety Center and the Palestine Police Department team up each year in an attempt to reach two goals. Goal #1 the prevention of under-aged tobacco usage and goal #2 is to have all local merchants to reach and maintain compliance with State tobacco laws.

Over the past calendar year the Palestine Police has taken the following enforcement actions:

<b>Tobacco Stings</b>	<b>Times Tobacco Sold to Minor</b>	<b>Citations Issued</b>
73	8	8

# CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

## YEAR 2016 PROSPECTIVE

An additional Detective, as well as a full-time Drug Enforcement Officer/Detective is expected to be added to the CID Division in the first half of year 2016. This will bring the full complement of staffing in the division to one (1) Lieutenant, one (1) Sergeant, four (4) Detectives and one (1) DEU Officer.

# SUPPORT SERVICES

## Support Services

One of the bigger changes of 2015 was the addition of officers to work solely in the Support functions of the police department. Support Services represents all auxiliary services that are not directly completed by Patrol or CID. These functions include the following departments:

Animal Control

Code Enforcement

Community Policing

Dispatch

Evidence

Records

The functions of support services apply to but is not limited to the following functions of the Police Department:

Background Investigations

Fleet Management

Grant Writing

Logistics

Municipal Court (Marshal)

Recruiting

Security Details

Training

### STAFFING CHANGES

Support Services had a complete restructure with the positions of Support Services Lieutenant, Support Services Sergeant and Support Services Corporal being created. These positions are to not only supervise the numerous job functions of Support Services, but to assist with them as well. Community Liaison, Records, and Evidence only have one employee covering for each of these positions. If they become ill or vacant, one of the officers in support services will cover the void until it is filled. Support Services uses sworn officers that can be used for the needs of patrol or community events that can't be covered by patrol such as parades and escorts if needed. Support Services frequently aids with public speaking events and presentations. Support Services currently organizes and provides security services to the City and performs

# SUPPORT SERVICES

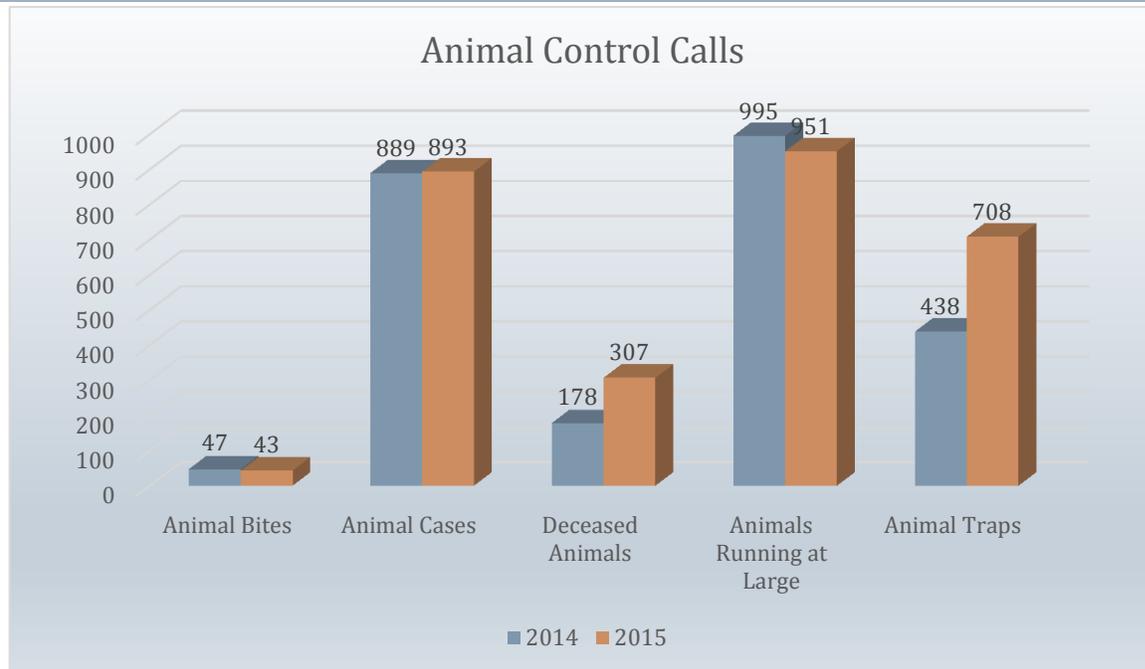
the duties of a City Marshal as well. Due to the variety of job duties, Support Service have to be well versed in numerous tasks and able to immediately adapt to an ever changing work environment.

## ANIMAL CONTROL

In 2015, Animal Control was staffed by two (2) full time employees. The animal control officers rotate on-call status every week, and are only available for emergency calls after hours. Both officers have multiple certifications in their field.

Animal Control personnel responded to 2902 calls for service during 2015. This is in comparison to 2014 in which Animal Control responded to 2547 calls for service. The difference between these years is listed following table.

Call Type	2014	2015
Animal Bites	47	43
Animal Cases	889	893
Deceased Animals	178	307
Animal Running at Large	995	951
Animal Traps	438	708
<b>Total Calls for the Year</b>	<b>2547</b>	<b>2902</b>



## SUPPORT SERVICES

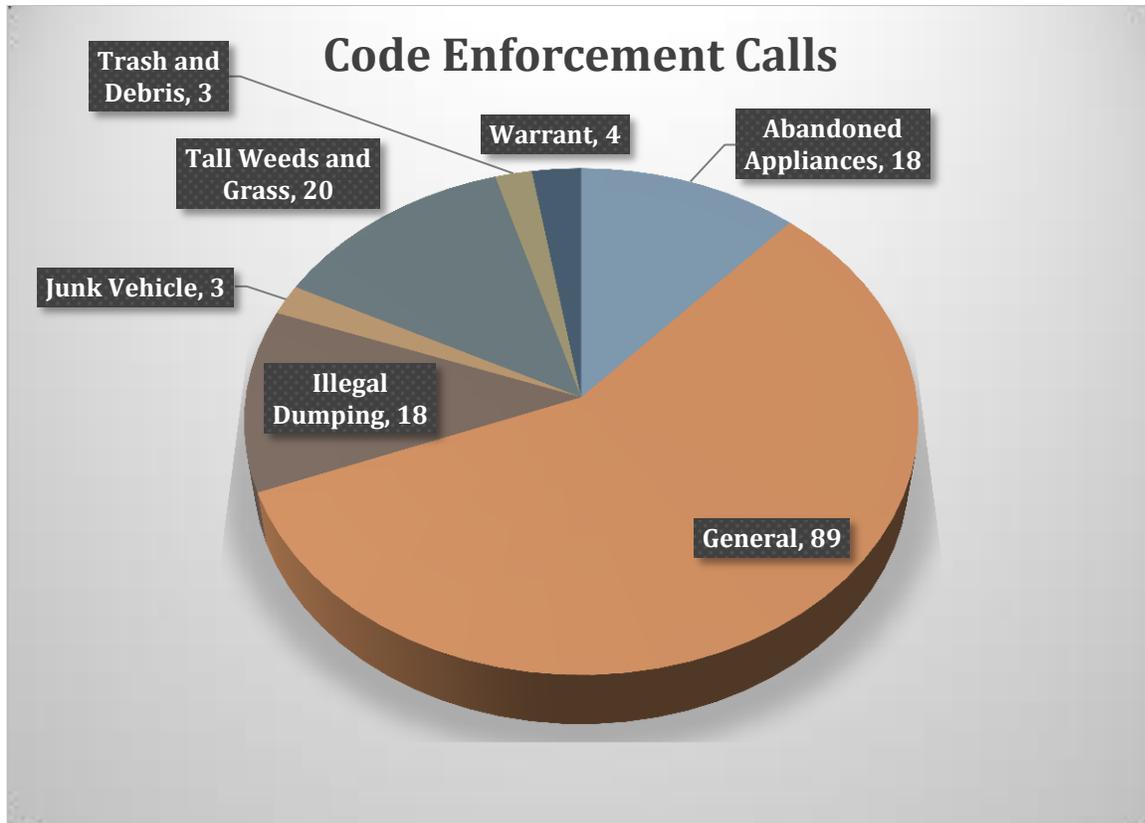
The calls that Animal Control worked can be demonstrated in the following chart



### CODE ENFORCEMENT

Code Enforcement consists of two (2) full time Code Enforcement Officers. These officers handle numerous infractions that affect the safety of the City of Palestine from various hazards brought by poor property maintenance. Code Enforcement is the prevention, detection, investigation enforcement of violations of statutes or ordinances regulating public health, safety, and welfare, public works, business activities and consumer protection, building standards, land-use, or municipal affairs.

These hazards can range from piles of debris, uncut lawns, junked vehicles, uncovered pools breeding mosquitos, etc. Code Enforcement had 155 calls for service for the year. The breakdown of Code Enforcement calls for the year is as follows:



A marked achievement completed by Code Enforcement this year was the clean-up of the Old Memorial Hospital.

#### Old Memorial: Before Code Enforcement Action



# SUPPORT SERVICES

## Old Memorial: After Code Enforcement Action



Code Enforcement plans to continue improving the beautification, safety and maintenance of the City of Palestine with continued diligence.

## COMMUNITY POLICING

The Palestine Police Department has taken several initiatives in trying to make connections with the community it serves. This has created several new programs and came with the implementation of a new program, Operation Blue Santa. The Palestine Police Department currently has one (1) full time employee tasked with being the Community Liaison for the Police Department, but this duty is applied to the entire department to establish relationships with the community. The push this year has been significant. During the year of 2014, the Palestine Police Department had 344 calls for Community Policing. For 2015, the Palestine Police Department nearly doubled that number with 595 contacts.

## COMMUNITY POLICING PROGRAMS

### BLANKETS AND BEARS

In conjunction with the local Blankets and Bears Foundation, officers on patrol distribute soft cuddly stuffed animals to children facing a critical or troubled situation, as a means to help comfort them and provide the support they need in those situations.

# SUPPORT SERVICES

## **CITIZENS ON PATROL ACADEMY**

The Citizens on Patrol Academy is held annually for Palestine area citizens who are interested in learning the inner workings of department, and is taught by department staff and special guests. Upon completion, graduates will have the opportunity to join the Alumni Association, and participate in activities designed to augment the department's functionality whether by fundraising or volunteer activities.

## **CIVILIAN RESPONSE TO ACTIVE SHOOTER EVENTS (C.R.A.S.E.) TRAINING**

The Palestine Police Department has officers trained in instructing the public in how to survive an active shooter which is provided free of charge. This program has been taught at schools, churches, businesses and in public venues as well. The City of Palestine was able to be trained by the Police Department in this program during the year of 2015. This program is so popular that it has had requests from not only outside Anderson County but also out of state. With the addition of open carry to Texas Law, these classes were also used to assist educating the public in the new open carry law and security concerns that occurred in 2015.

## **CLOTHING BIN DONATION PROJECT**

The Palestine Police Department has teamed with World Wear Project, and Wal-Mart to provide clothing donations bins. A portion of the proceeds funds equipment and supplies to aid in drug enforcement.

## **COFFEE WITH A COP**

Coffee With A Cop, is a national community outreach program, developed by members of Hawthorne Police Department (CA), whose primary goal is to foster positive relationship with police first responders by have good conversation. The slogan of the program is "No speeches. No agendas" over a cup of coffee. The program was initiated locally, and has met with citizens on a monthly basis since September, 2014.

## **JUNIOR POLICE ACADEMY**

The Junior Police Academy was established to engage high school age children in six week of summer activities related to law enforcement duties. It is designed to enlighten youth through interaction with staff and hands-on training in such areas as crime scene investigation, case preparation, and court testimony.

## **McGruff**

McGruff makes appearances at special events to aid in teaching children safety and responsible in a variety of critical situations.

## **NATIONAL NIGHT OUT**

National Night Out is a community event, held in October, which allows the community, through block parties and centrally located events, to mingle with emergency service personnel, in order to foster a good relationship between neighbors and first responders.

# SUPPORT SERVICES

## **OPERATION BLUE SANTA**

Operation Blue Santa was started this year in conjunction with assisting Toys for Tots. This program is designed to assist citizens who have fallen onto hard times financially and need assistance during the holiday season. This year it started off as only being a few families but quickly grew as the needs of both the Crisis Center and Child Protective Services (CPS) were brought to our attention. Both Officers and Civilians raised enough to assist over 80+ children. Approximately 27 of these children were in the care of CPS. More than 30 bicycles were given away as well. The outpouring of donations from the community was overwhelming at times, but the continued support encouraged those working in the program. This program touched the hearts of many as the stories of the impact of this program were shared. Operation Blue Santa will be continued in 2016 in cooperation with other communities and will begin meeting in September 2016 to continue this flame that has been started.

## **PERSPECTIVES ON PROFILING**

Perspectives on Profiling is a interact class taught by law enforcement professionals dealing with the topic of profiling, and engages officers and citizens who participate in the forum to think about profiling not only from their point of view, but also from the other's perspective as well. It attempts to enlighten both officers and citizens in this area, and attempts to define profiling, both in legislative terms, as well as in real world situations. This creates an atmosphere of discussion and understanding that is unique to the class, which makes the training highly beneficial to all who are able to attend.

## **TIP 411**

The Palestine Police Department has been utilizing services from Citizen Observer to provide online, as well as phone application access that are capable of delivering anonymous communication between the police department and any tipster with information on criminal activity within the City of Palestine. The service also provides links to The Palestine PD Facebook and Twitter sites, enabling timely dissemination of incidents to the public. The public may sign up with their cell phone or email to receive these alert messages that update them on the status of events in their neighborhood and community.

## **VETERANS' BREAKFAST**

Veterans' Breakfast is an event held on Veteran's Day each year to honor our community's veterans for their sacrifice through service to this nation as well as the local community. This event encourages the community to honor those who have served and many volunteer for this event.

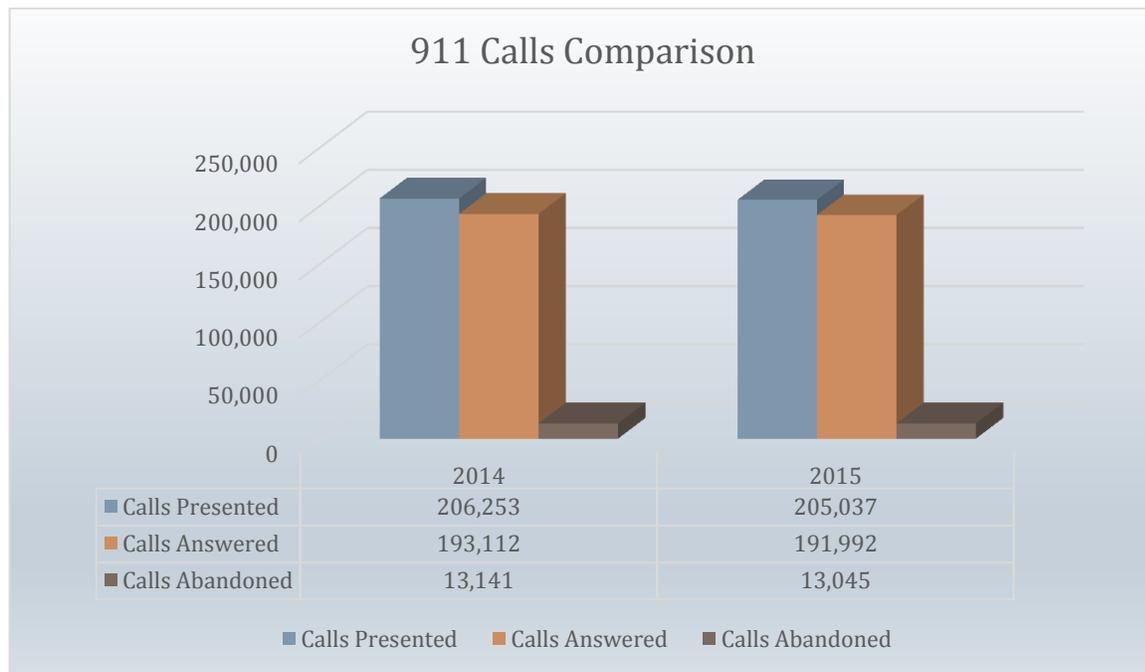
## **DISPATCH**

Police dispatch is comprised of seven (7) personnel, six (6) Dispatchers and one (1) supervisor who are a vital link between the officers and the public. They are responsible for answering 911 calls related to police, fire, or medical emergencies, and routing them to the appropriate first responders. They are also responsible for answering incoming telephone calls from the public for police, fire, and animal control calls for service as well as other City of Palestine services after hours.

# SUPPORT SERVICES

During parts of 2015, Communications often was staffed at below levels indicated on the Table of Organization, often requiring overtime to fill needed vacancies. Staffing has improved over 2015.

Dispatchers answer numerous calls that don't always warrant police dispatch or get transferred. Dispatchers will have to pursue these calls until the situation is resolved. In 911 calls alone, Dispatch remains constantly busy since most emergencies such as traffic accidents can cause twenty (20) or more 911 calls. Below is a table and graph showing the call volume in 911 calls from 2014 in comparison to 2015.



This does not take into the account of data entry and non-emergency calls fielded by Dispatch as well. For 2015 Dispatch made 29,235 entries for Incident reports alone.

## EVIDENCE

The Police Department has one (1) full time evidence technician, who is responsible for cataloging and storage of evidence and is the primary record keeper for chain of custody. The evidence technician is also responsible for preparing motions and orders for destruction of property after the cases have been disposed of. This task also involves working with various preservation methods for property and following all legal procedures for found property.

During 2015, the police department submitted 423 items of evidence and found property for storage.

## SUPPORT SERVICES

### RECORDS

The records division consists of one (1) full time records clerk, who is responsible for cataloging and duplicating criminal case files, arrest reports, traffic crashes, and open records requests. The records clerk handled the following amount of reports for the year of 2014 in comparison to 2015.

<b>Report Types</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>
<b>Arrest Reports</b>	698	703
<b>Crash Reports</b>	422	412
<b>Juvenile Reports</b>	3	8
<b>Offense Reports</b>	1801	1552
<b>Supplements</b>	295	170
<b>Total Reports</b>	<b>3219</b>	<b>2845</b>

## CLOSING REMARKS

### Closing Remarks

# COMMAND STAFF

## Command Staff

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# DEPARTMENT LIEUTENANTS

## Department Lieutenants

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# PALESTINE POLICE DEPARTMENT CONTACT INFORMATION

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