

# Wendell Police Department Monthly Report

March 2020



The Mission of the Wendell Police Department is to professionally serve and protect the community and establish community partnerships to maintain and improve the quality of life in Wendell.



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## Calls for Service

Calls for service are generated either by citizen complaints or officers self-initiating. These calls range from a request for a vehicle unlock, to a suspicious person, to a traffic stop, to more serious criminal matters with all requiring the presence or response of an officer to resolve, correct or assist in that situation.

In March 2020 the Wendell Police Department recorded 304 calls for service as compared to 548 in the same month the previous year.

Top Five Calls for Service Including Self-initiated by Frequency		
Type	Number	% of Total
Traffic Stop	63	20.7%
Talk with Officer	20	6.5%
Suspicious Person/Vehicle/Activity	16	5.2%
Request for Service	11	3.6%
Alarm	9	2.9%
Total for top 5	119	38.9%

The following chart reflects the top five calls to which the Police Department was dispatched during the month.

Top Five Dispatched Calls for Service by Frequency		
Type	Number	% of Total
Talk with Officer	20	6.5%
Suspicious Person/Vehicle/Activity	16	5.2%
Request for Service	11	3.6%
Motor Vehicle Collision	12	3.9%
Alarm	9	2.9%
Total for top 5	68	22.1%

## Response Time

One of the goals of the Police Department as identified in the Town's Strategic Plan and Budgetary Documents is to continue to provide core police services of community patrol and response to emergency and non-emergency calls at current levels. A critical component of this goal is to maintain an 90th percentile response time from time dispatched until on scene of 7 minutes. The 90th percentile response time is that time for which 90% of the response times are less and 10% are longer.

The 90<sup>th</sup> percentile response time for this month is 6.9 minutes.

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## Incident Reports Files

Incident reports are typically generated for actual reported crime and capture the necessary information to conduct an investigation. In some cases, they are informational only when needed to document future potential issues or property not associated with a crime.

In March 2020 the Wendell Police Department filed 42 incident reports as compared to 30 in the same month the previous year. A summary of the crimes reported in these incidents is summarized in the following section.

## Reported Crime

Crimes Against Persons	Month	Year to Date
ASSAULT OFFENSES	6	15
KIDNAPPING/ABDUCTION	0	0
SEX OFFENSES	0	2
<b>Group Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>17</b>
Crimes Against Property	Month	Year to Date
BURGLARY/BREAKING & ENTERING	1	2
Counterfeiting/Forgery	0	1
DESTRUCTION/DAMAGE/VANDALISM	2	3
EMBEZZLEMENT	0	0
FRAUD OFFENSES	2	7
Extortion/Blackmail	2	2
LARCENY/THEFT OFFENSES	13	25
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	0	3
ROBBERY	0	0
STOLEN PROPERTY OFFENSES	1	1
<b>Group Total</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>44</b>
Crimes Against Society	Month	Year to Date
ALL OTHER	3	28
DRUG/NARCOTICS OFFENSES	3	18
DWI	3	9
PROSTITUTION OFFENSES	0	0
<b>Group Total</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>55</b>

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## **Motor Vehicle Crash**

Motor vehicle crashes reported here include collisions in which a vehicle collides with another vehicle, pedestrian, animal, road debris, or other stationary obstruction, such as a tree, pole or building. The crashes here include those which are reported to the North Carolina Department of Motor Vehicles.

In March 2020 the Wendell Police Department filed 12 motor vehicle crash reports as compared to 16 in the same month the previous year.

## **Directed Efforts**

In January we received a speeding complaint on Haywood St near Lake Drive. The radar sign was deployed to capture speed data. The sign was changed to capture data from the opposite direction in February. In March, the data was assembled and analyzed with a finished product to be provided to the planning department.

Towards the end of March, officers began directed efforts as it pertained to the Wake County Stat at Home Order and ensuring businesses and citizens were following the order. The approach from the outset was based on education and awareness.

## **Community Engagement Efforts**

Captain Slaughter read a Dr. Seuss book to preschool children at Central Baptist Church.

Captain Slaughter and Detective Williams each read to a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade class at Lake Myra Elementary School.

## **Administrative Activities**

This month several officers attended the following training: Drug Recognition Expert School, state mandated In-Service Training.

The police department held follow up interviews with two applicants for the Accreditation Manager Position.

This month we had two officers sworn in, Eugene Hunt and Scott Wilkerson. Both have been assigned to a field training officer and have begun their training.

The police department was notified we were accepted to participate in the 2020 Watch For Me Program, which will continue to provide our agency with training and resources on how to better promote pedestrian and bicycle safety.

The COVID-19 Pandemic had a significant impact on the Police Department as the orders from the state, Wake County and the Town of Wendell went into effect. Operational changes were made with the goal of reducing officer exposure in accordance with provided guidelines while ensuring core public safety functions were fulfilled.

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Minor adjustments in our operating procedures were made to ensure we can continue to provide the safety and core services our community has come to not only expect, but to depend on. In order to accomplish these goals, it remains critical that we protect the health and well-being of the public and our police officers.

Operation changes made included the following:

- Effective immediately, many non-violent criminal reports will only be taken by telephone. These reports include, but are not limited to misdemeanor theft, harassing communications, lost property, identity theft, frauds or scams.
- The front door to the police department were locked during normal business hours. An intercom system was installed to allow communication between citizens and the front desk staff during normal business hours.
- Citizens were encouraged to contact the police department by phone for report requests and arrangements are made for non-contact delivery.
- Access to the prescription medicine drop box was suspended as it is inside the building.
- Officers were reminded of the appropriate use of personal protective equipment consistent with training received in the annual Bloodborne Pathogen training and current CDC guidelines.
- Public Outreach and non-emergency activities such as presentations and police department tours were suspended until further notice.

A departmental wide commitment was put into place to provide the best and most reliable information possible to our community as we entered these uncertain times.