

Wendell Police Department Monthly Report

October 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 October 2020 the Wendell Police Department recorded 249 calls for service as compared to 345 in the same month the previous year.

Top Five Calls for Service Including Self-initiated by Frequency		
Type	Number	% of Total
Traffic Stop	27	10.84%
Alarm	25	10.04%
Motor Vehicle Accidents	23	9.24%
Suspicious Person/Vehicle	14	5.62%
Domestic	13	5.22%
Total for top 5	102	40.96%

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
Alarm	25	10.04%
Motor Vehicle Accidents	23	9.24%
Suspicious Person/Vehicle	14	5.62%
Domestic	13	5.22%
Request for Servicer	12	4.82%
Total for top 5	87	34.94%

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 90th percentile response time for this month is 9.3 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 October 2020 the Wendell Police Department filed 35 incident reports as compared to 45 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	1	42
KIDNAPPING/ABDUCTION	0	2
SEX OFFENSES	0	5
Group Total	1	49
Crimes Against Property	Month	Year to Date
BURGLARY/BREAKING & ENTERING	4	18
COUNTERFEITING/FORGERY	0	4
DESTRUCTION/DAMAGE/VANDALISM	5	27
EMBEZZLEMENT	0	0
FRAUD OFFENSES	4	32
EXTORTION/BLACKMAIL	0	0
LARCENY/THEFT OFFENSES	6	62
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	2	9
ROBBERY	1	2
STOLEN PROPERTY OFFENSES	0	3
Group Total	22	159
Crimes Against Society	Month	Year to Date
ALL OTHER	4	99
DRUG/NARCOTICS OFFENSES	2	54
DWI	5	32
PROSTITUTION OFFENSES	0	0
Pornography/Obscene Material	0	1
Group Total	11	186

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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 October 2020 the Wendell Police Department filed 15 motor vehicle crash reports as compared to 19 in the same month the previous year.

Directed Efforts

We continued to enforce stop sign violations on Big Falls Drive, which continues to be an issue in the area. We have spoken with residents about things they can do as community to assist with this issue.

We received a speeding and stop sign complaint for Big Falls Dr and Liberty Star. The radar sign was installed on Big Falls to monitor speeds near this location.

Officers continued directed efforts as it pertained to the Wake County Stay at Home Order and State Stay at Home Order, ensuring businesses and citizens were following the order. The approach from the outset was based on education and awareness.

Community Engagement Efforts

While traditional community engagement events were curtailed by limitations associated with the COVID 19, there continue to be other opportunities for members of the Police Department to engage our public during these uncertain times. As businesses worked to interpret the County and State orders affecting their operations and individuals expressed concern over the actions of others, the members of the police department worked as researchers and messengers to aid the community in understanding what activities could and could not occur.

Officers responded to complaints of violations of County or State orders and found themselves in a unique situation where there was often no clear answer particularly when it came to business operations. In each case, the approach was one of education as we worked together with the community to ensure the best and most reliable information possible was available.

The Police Department participates in Operation Medicine Drop. This is a drug take back program that allows law enforcement to collect and safely destroy prescription drugs to help stop prescription drugs from falling into the wrong hands or being flushed down drains and ending up in our water supply. Even with the impact of COVID 19 over the last 8 months, we were still able to collect, and submit for disposal, slightly over 86 pounds of medications.

Administrative Activities

Chief Carter continues to run Incident Command for the Town's COVID-19 response. This included reviewing and educating town employees on the new Phase 2.5 issued under an executive order from Governor Cooper. The Town

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continues to inventory Personal Protective Equipment supplies, as well as review policies to best protect town employees and the public.

The Wendell Police Department received official notification that we have been awarded grant funds from the Governor's Crime Commission. Once these funds become available, they will be used to purchase digital cameras that will be issued to all personnel to assist in their criminal investigations. Additionally, equipment will be purchased to assist our investigations unit with criminal investigations.

Captain Slaughter and Officer Hanks attended NC League of Municipalities sponsored virtual training on Responding to Resistance: De-Escalation and Decision-Making for Law Enforcement. The focus of this training was at the policy making level and was a valuable opportunity as the Police Department continues to review its policies and procedures as a part of the accreditation process.

Chief Carter attended virtual training produced by the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center on Leadership During Uncertain Times. During this presentation, Assistant Chief of Police Steve Hijra, of the Seattle Police Department, discussed various law enforcement components as they pertain to the uncertain times currently facing the profession. Areas which were discussed included police and protester tactics, politics surrounding policing, and the critical area of officer wellness.

Captain Slaughter attended the North Carolina FBI National Academy one day re-trainer in Lexington, NC. Law enforcement officers that hold a command staff rank are eligible to attend the FBI National Academy in Quantico, VA, where they learn extensive leadership skills that can be brought back and utilized at their agencies. Captain Slaughter has applied to the FBI National Academy and by attending the one-day re-trainer, gains assistance with admission into the program. The topic for this one-day training was titled "Why we do what we do", which is a reminder of why we chose the law enforcement profession and best practices for being a leader in an agency.

Captain Slaughter participated in a virtual meeting with the TJCOG (Triangle J Council of Government) as part of our ongoing recruitment initiative. The TJCOG partnered with WRAL to assist law enforcement agencies with their recruitment efforts. WRAL has a strong online viewership and serves as the perfect platform to showcase our agency. WRAL will be coming to Wendell soon to conduct interviews with officers and capture additional footage to create a recruitment video.

The police department has conducted several review boards for potential candidates that have applied for the position of police officer. The review board is the first part of our hiring process, that allows us to ask a series of questions of the applicant to evaluate their strengths and weaknesses. Successful candidates that are selected to move forward in the process go into the background investigation phase.