

Kennesaw Police Department

2019 Annual Report



William E. Westenberger
Chief of Police





Mission

It is the mission of the Kennesaw Police Department to assure that our community is safe from crime and disorder by focusing on the prevention of crime along with reducing the fear of crime.

Values

Respect

We believe in treating all people with dignity and respect.

Integrity

Always conducting ourselves in a manner that earns respect from all people.

Service

Providing the highest level of service to our community.

Excellence

Achieving excellence in every aspect of what we do





Community Profile

The City of Kennesaw was originally named “Big Shanty”, after the early railroad workers built there. It was incorporated on September 21, 1887 and is located just twenty-five miles northwest of Atlanta. The City covers 9.4 square miles and has a population around thirty thousand residents. Kennesaw is located in Cobb County, one of the fastest growing counties in the nation. Kennesaw’s population has significantly increased over the past several years.



Kennesaw appeals to a varied demographic, including singles, families, and senior adults. Attractive, modern neighborhoods and a thriving business environment blend seamlessly with cultural and recreational resources and green spaces. Several high profile mixed-use developments currently under construction will be the catalyst for the revival of the downtown area, while other projects, both commercial and residential, offer a wide range of new living and working opportunities. Road widening and intersection improvement projects will support improved transportation options. The city is home to high quality school systems at all educational levels.

Kennesaw provides the opportunity for a high quality of life with it’s diversified local economy, outstanding shopping, dining, and recreational options. In addition, easy access to excellent healthcare and educational alternatives is superb. It is no wonder that our city consistently wins awards and praise from real estate and lifestyle publications, websites, and bloggers.

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Kennesaw Police Department

Duty, Honor, Community



Thank you for taking the time to read about the operation of our police department. We truly appreciate your interest!

The 2019 Kennesaw Police Department's Annual Report highlights our dedication to excellence and, more importantly, our continued commitment to provide effective, efficient, and responsive police services to the citizens, businesses, and visitors of Kennesaw.

This report provides an overview of services provided by our Department and many activities that were shared with those whom live, work, and visit our community.

I am extremely proud of both our accomplishments and the trusting relationships we have forged and continue to strengthen with the citizens of our city.

The men and women of this organization have tirelessly met this year's challenges with pride, dedication, and professionalism. I am very proud and honored to serve alongside such great people.

It is my hope that after reading this report, you will have a better understanding and appreciation for what the men and women of this Department do on a daily basis to improve the quality of life for all of us.

Respectfully,

William Westenberger
Chief of Police



Command Staff



William Westenberger, Chief of Police

More than simply leading the Police Department, the Chief spends a great deal of time with strategic planning, providing resources, proactively analyzing crime trends, and matching the Department's mission, values, and goals to fit the needs of our community. Chief Westenberger has nearly 30 years of law enforcement experience and has a Master's Degree from Columbus State University. He also is a graduate of the FBI National Academy #253.



Captain Kimberlee Brophy, Support Services Commander

The Captain of Support Services handles departmental activities including the Department's Training and Recruitment Unit, Accreditation and Certification, Records Division, and activities relating to Community Outreach as assigned by the Chief of Police. Captain Brophy joined law enforcement in 1991 and has a Master's Degree from Columbus State University. She is also a graduate of the Northwestern University SPSC Program. With nearly 30 years of dedicated service in law enforcement, Captain Brophy retired from the Department at the end of 2019 and she will be sorely missed. We wish her well in her retirement.



Captain Kevin Mitchell, Operations Commander

The Captain of Operations is directly responsible for all field functions and operations as assigned by the Chief of Police. He is responsible for overseeing all functions of the Uniformed Patrol Division and the Criminal Investigations Division. Captain Mitchell joined law enforcement in 1996 and has a Bachelor's Degree from Columbia Southern University. He also is a graduate of the FBI National Academy #267.



2019 Strategic Goals

In 2019, the Department focused on three specific goals that, once accomplished, would serve to improve our ability to serve the community more effectively and efficiently. The goals were:

- **Technology Crimes** - We increased our capabilities through officer training in areas of:
 - Cyber crime
 - Scams, phone and internet
 - Bit coin, crypto currency, etc.
 - Provided education to the public through social media



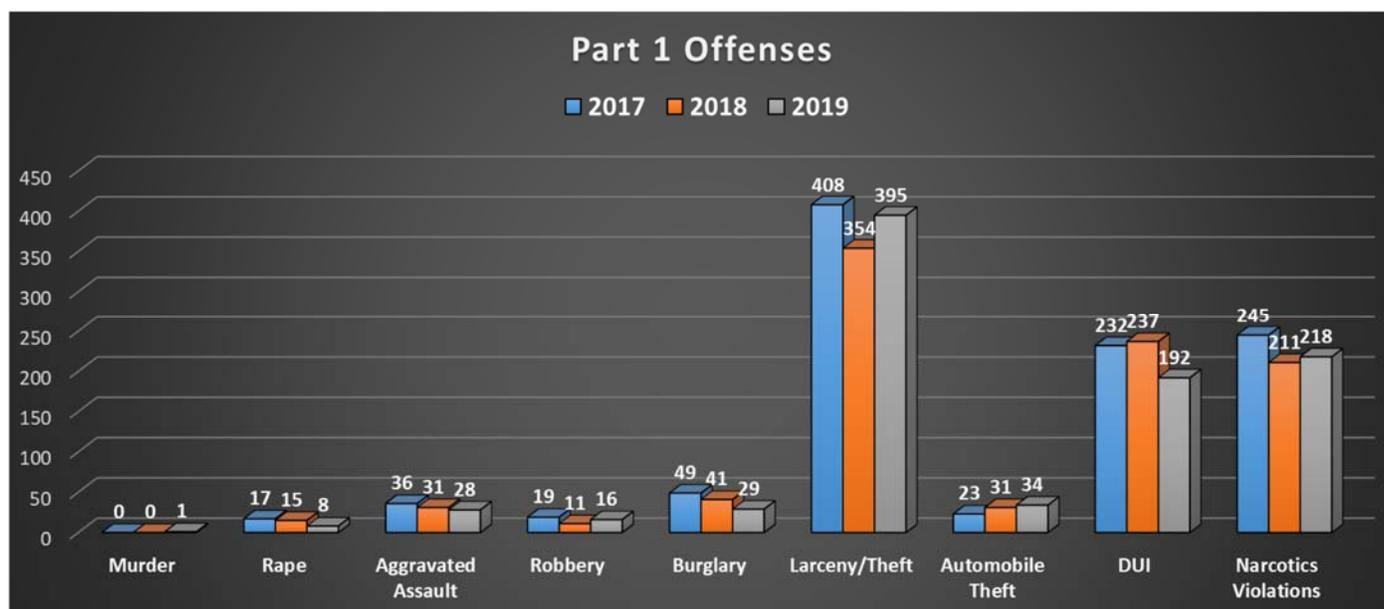
- **Special Victims** - We enhanced investigative effectiveness through officer training in areas of:
 - Elder abuse
 - Human Trafficking
 - Gangs
 - Domestic Violence
 - Crisis Intervention Training
 - Youth engagement

- **Resiliency Expanded** - We strengthened our Department's resiliency by:
 - Continued our focus on officer wellness through seminars
 - Expanded our peer counseling program

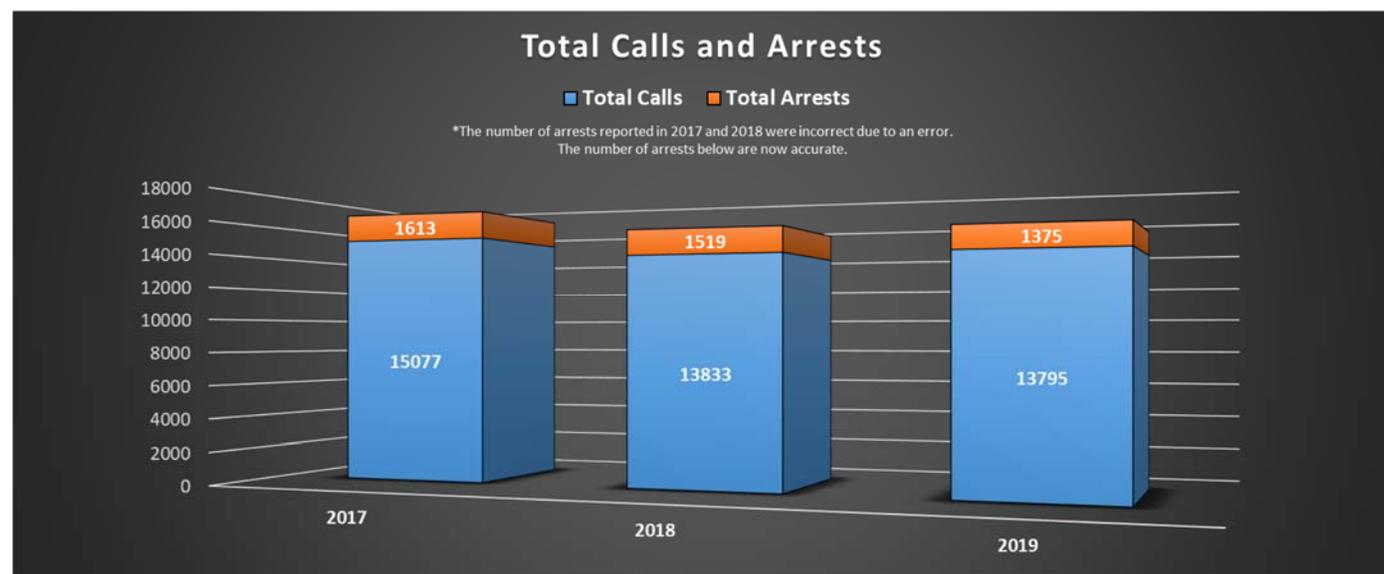


Crime Statistics

Over the past two years, the city of Kennesaw experienced an overall decrease of nearly 30% in Part 1 crimes over previous years. We are proud to report that in 2019, Part 1 crimes remained low. Our police department attributes this tremendous success to several factors, including our utilization of progressive criminal intelligence methods and conducting effective patrols in high-crime areas of the city. Another reason for this success was driven by actively building partnerships and relationships with residents, businesses, and law enforcement partners. We expect this trend to continue as we move forward into 2020.



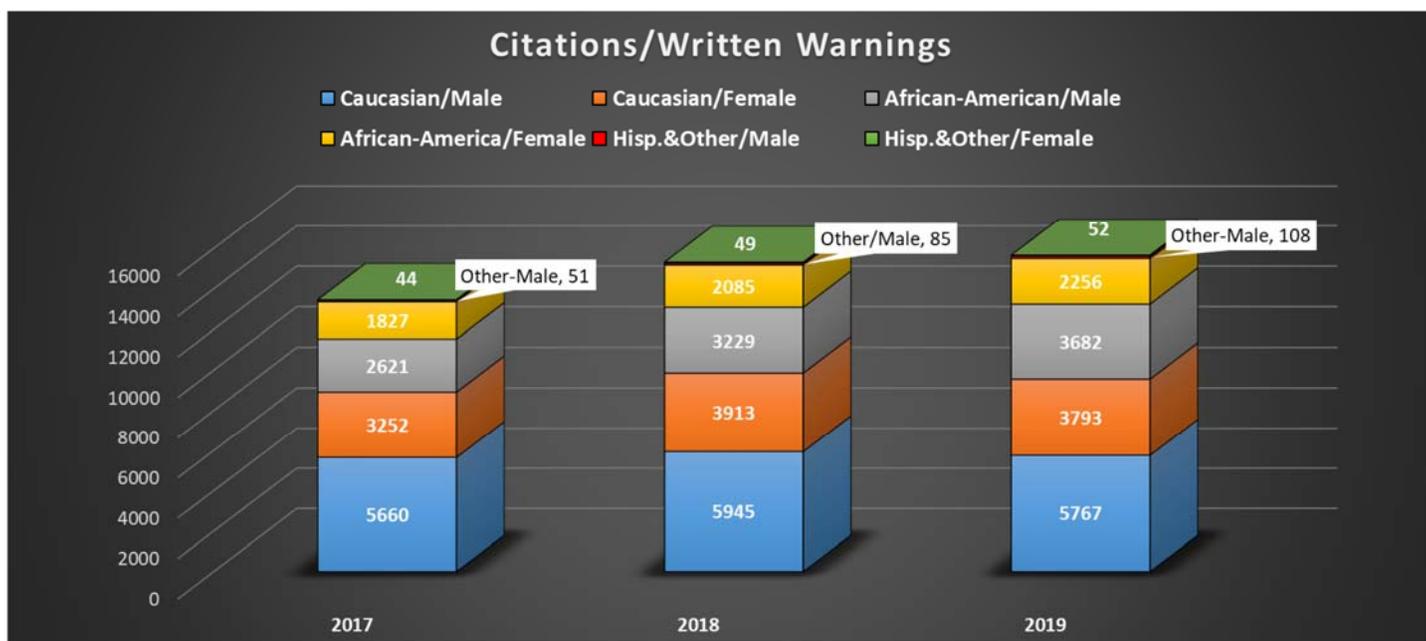
The Department also experienced a decrease in calls for service and arrests.



Uniformed Patrol

The Uniformed Patrol Division performs several of the most vital roles within the Department. The function of a patrol officers varies greatly on a daily basis, but generally they:

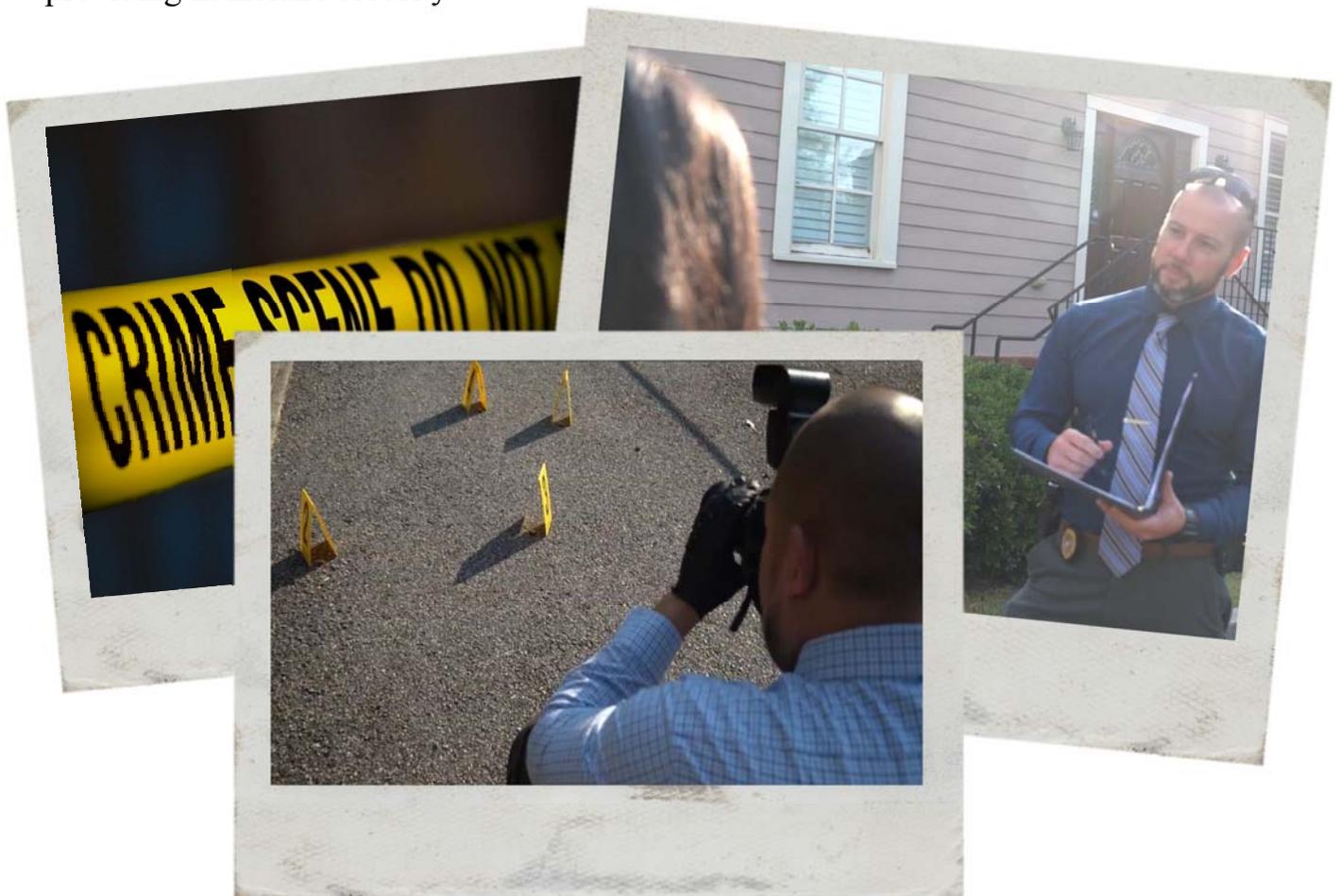
- Provide direct and general police services to the public 24 hours per day, seven days per week
- Protect life and property
- Maintaining peace and public order
- Respond to emergency and non-emergency calls
- Patrol assigned areas, residential neighborhoods, and businesses
- Ensure traffic safety
- Investigate impaired driving
- Obtain warrants and arrest offenders
- Build and maintain positive relationships



Criminal Investigations Division

The Criminal Investigations Division was very busy in 2019. The division conducts follow-up investigations in felony and misdemeanor crimes. Our detectives:

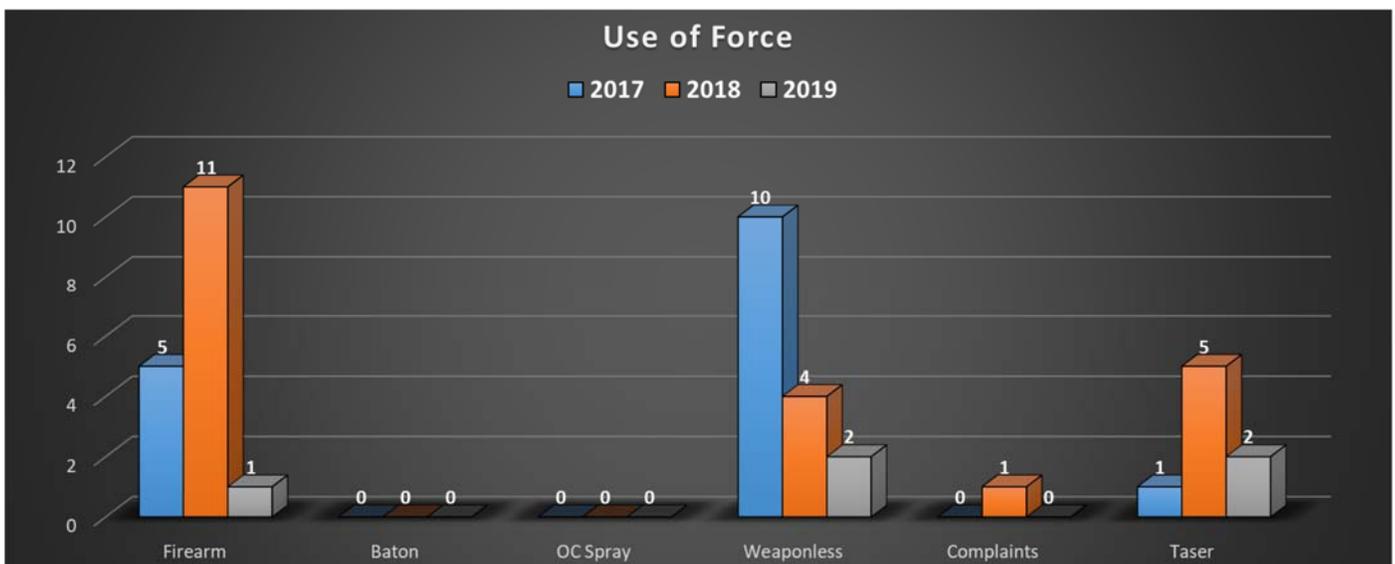
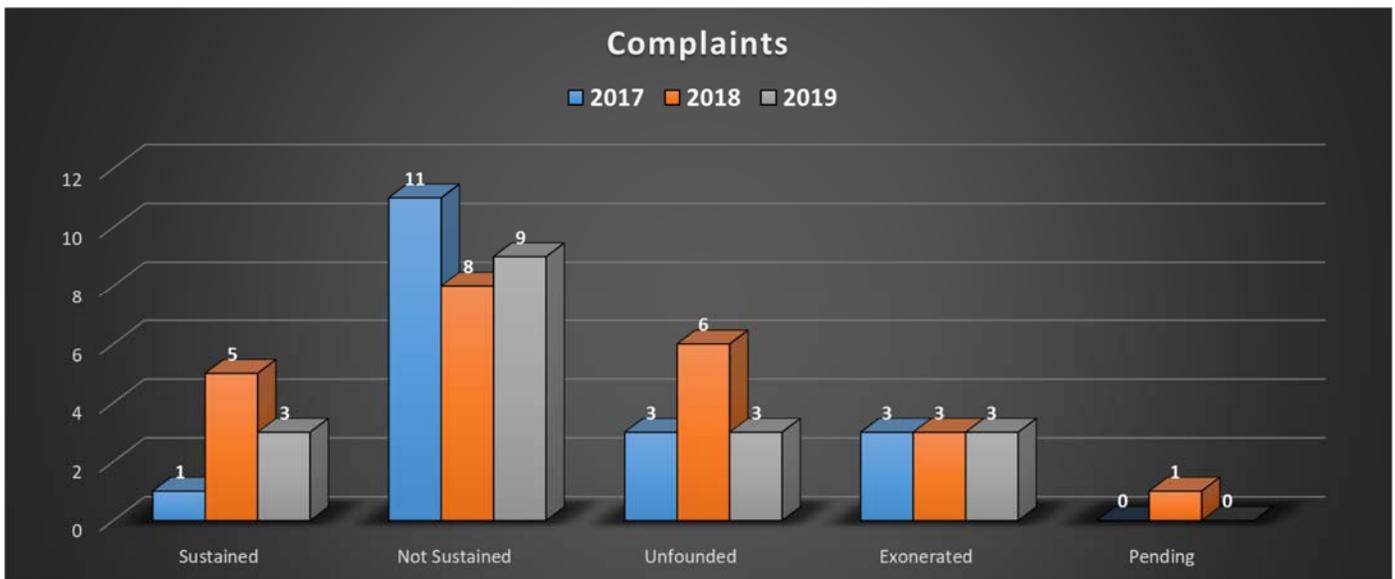
- Process crime scenes, conduct surveillance, and prepare investigative case files for prosecution of criminal offenders
- Investigate physical and sexual abuse incidents, as well as complaints of abuse or neglect involving children
- Coordinate with SafePath Children's Advocacy Center
- Attend patrol division roll call sessions to share criminal intelligence information
- Utilize social media to network
- Place BOLOs on social media
- Work with neighboring jurisdictions to share information
- Utilize undercover task forces to focus on dismantling criminal enterprises and assisting in providing homeland security.



Internal Affairs

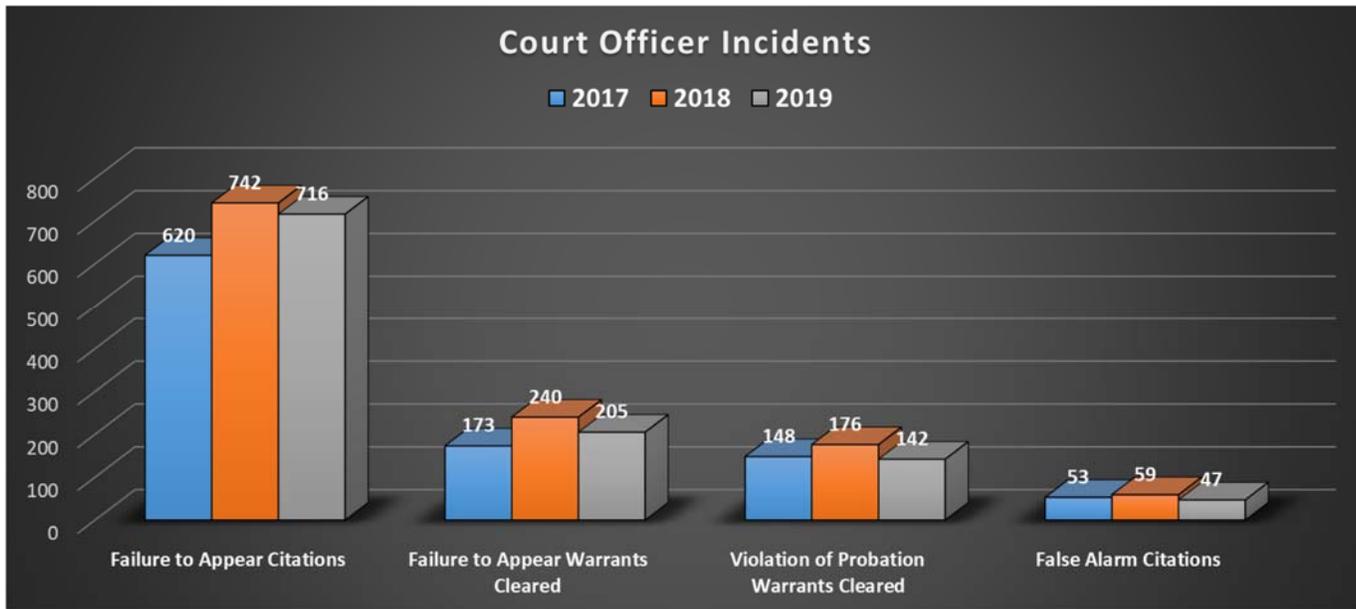
The Internal Affairs Unit investigates allegations of police misconduct with the overall objective of protecting the public, the Department, and the police officers.

- They strive to protect the Department and it’s personnel from unwarranted criticism and false allegations.
- All complaints received by the Department are investigated and tracked.
- Serious allegations of police misconduct are fully investigated by Internal Affairs and the report is provided directly to the Chief of Police.



Court Services Officers

Court officers are responsible for Municipal Court security, executive protection of the Municipal Court Judge, as well as serving arrest warrants issued through Municipal Court. They also assist uniformed patrol units, as needed.



Community Outreach

Jerry Worthan Christmas Fund

The Jerry Worthan Memorial Christmas Fund is a non-profit charity whose mission is providing gifts and food to the children of less-fortunate families. For 39 years, the Kennesaw Police Department has participated in this wonderful event with honor and, in 2019, we aided in assisting multiple families in the Kennesaw/Acworth area.



Community Outreach

Law Enforcement Torch Run

The Law Enforcement Torch Run is the largest annual fundraising event benefiting Special Olympics Georgia.

- 1,000 law enforcement officers from over 100 agencies
- Kennesaw Police raised over \$18,500.00



Community Outreach

National Night Out

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes strong police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods safer, more caring places to live and work. The 2019 event:



- Enhanced relationships
- Fostered a true sense of community
- Brought police and citizens together under positive circumstances



Community Outreach

Kennesaw Police Explorers

The Kennesaw Police Explorer Program is up and running stronger than ever. This program provides youth and young adults with an excellent opportunity to learn more about law enforcement and team-building. They attend local and national competitions where they participate in challenging events with other law enforcement agency explorers.

Generally, the Kennesaw Police Explorers receive training in:

- Criminal and Traffic Law
- Traffic Control
- Communications
- Crime Prevention
- First Aid
- Firearms

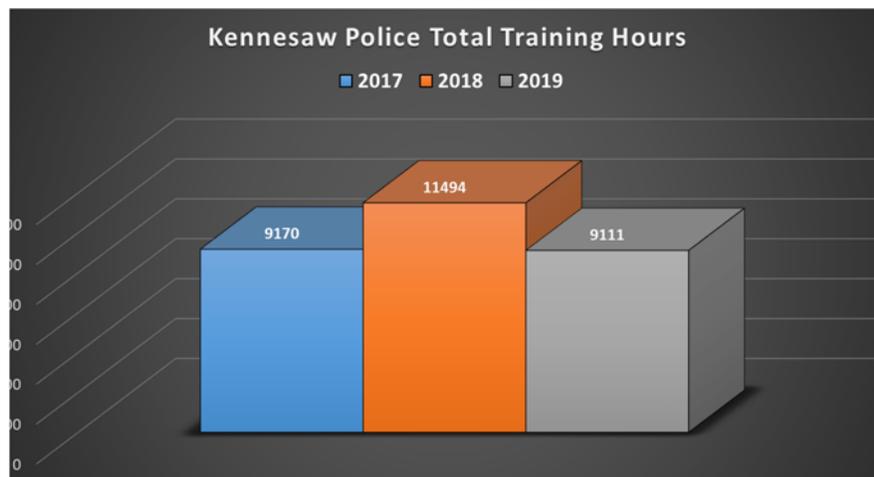


Training

The Kennesaw Police Department offers meaningful, state-of-the-art, and effective training each year. Recruit training is completed through attending a police academy and then participating in a comprehensive and innovative training program called the Police Training Officer Program (PTO). After this phase of training is completed, all of our officers have access to local, state, and national training throughout their careers. This allows us to better serve our communities by building the skill sets of each of our officers.

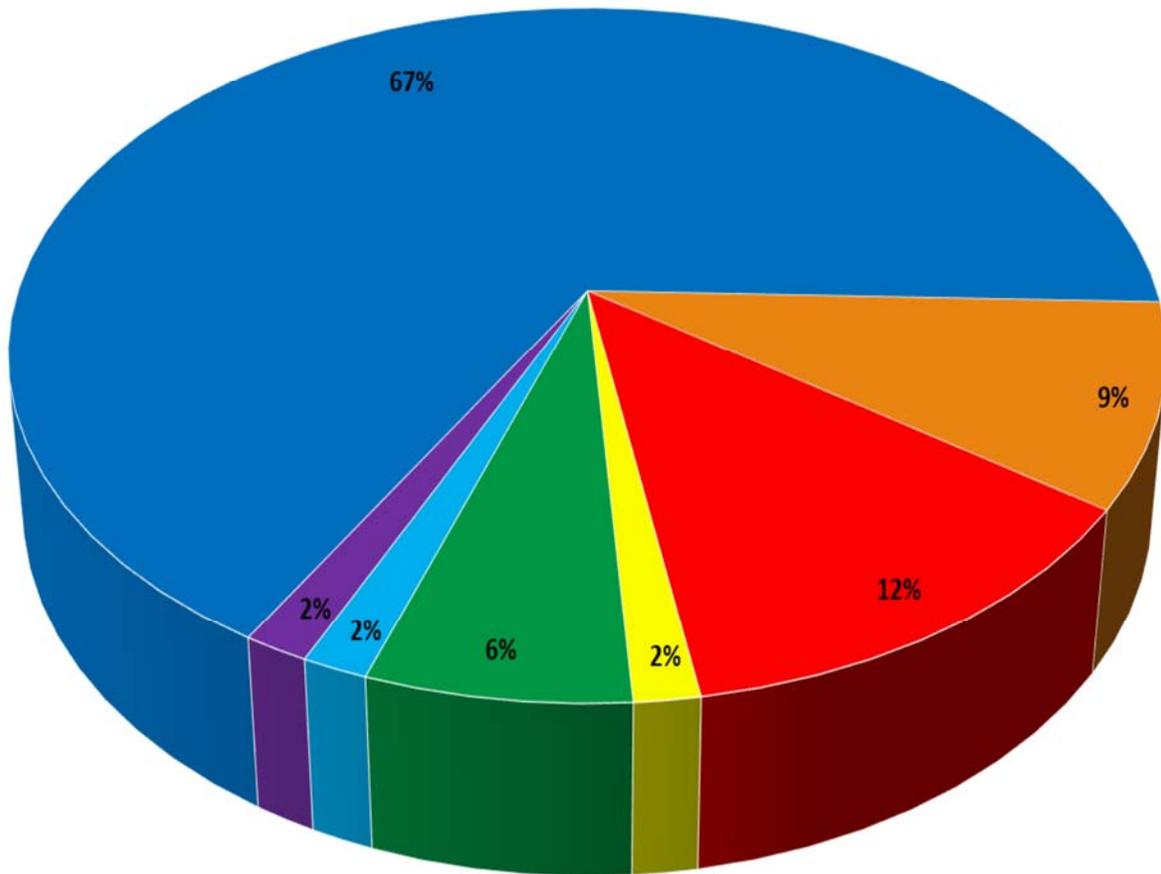
In addition, our training unit works tirelessly to create real-world training and continually seek to improve our training programs, not just to just meet a minimum standard, but to exceed them. This enables our officers to be better prepared for situations, no matter how difficult. In 2019, for example:

- 10 additional officers attended Crisis Intervention Training. This will help officers to deal with individuals experiencing a mental crisis.
- All officers received an average of 8 hours of firearms training; State of Georgia only requires 4 hours per year.
- All officers received in-house classroom training in de-escalation techniques, cultural diversity, and mental health..
- Officers received training in stop-sticks, Taser usage, ethics, and domestic violence investigations, just to name a few.



Kennesaw Police Department Demographics

- Caucasian Male
- Caucasian Female
- African American Male
- African American Female
- Hispanic/Latino Male
- Asian/Other Male
- Asian/Other Female



Social Media

The Kennesaw Police Department has an active presence in the social media community through social sites. These multifaceted platforms serve thousands with expedited updates, weather alerts, emergency notifications, and even traffic updates. Social media serves as an additional platform our department utilizes to enhance communication with all members of the community.

Social Media 2019 Statistics



19,091 Followers

<https://facebook.com/KennPD>



147 Tweets

1,116,500 Impressions

7,435 Followers

[@kennesawpolice](#)



680 Posts

2,039 Followers

[@kennesawpolice](#)



6,946 Members

[Kennesaw Police Department](#)



Military Veterans



In recognition of the Kennesaw Police Officers who have served or are still serving in our Armed Forces -

THANK YOU



Kimberlee Brophy
Brice Barth
Walker MacGregor
Jeremy McGhee
Charles Faulkner

Craig Patrick
Armando Sanchez
Franklyn Maloney
Adrian Barton



Adam Hainline
Joy Policarpio
Timothy Burns
Christopher Johnson
Ryan Krohn

Matthew Meade
Richard Rivera
Ronald Thomas
Cody Dotson



James Amica, II
Daniel Wood

Kasmere Redvine
Alexandria Moton



Kevin Mitchell
Ricky Shumpert, Jr.

Mark Webster



Kennesaw Police Department



Looking Ahead



2019 presented many challenges and they were addressed with the help of our officers, support staff, the community, and many others. As we move forward into 2020, we will rely on our dedicated employees and supportive members of the community to raise the bar even higher in providing the exemplary service our City demands. With this in mind, we have set the following goals for 2020:

- **Staffing:**

To focus on improving the retention of our employees and minimize the need for expanding the number of budgeted positions.

- **Community Outreach:**

Develop a plan that builds from our training programs that will foster strengthening of the relationships between communities and keeping in line with the City's Quality of Life Campaign.

- **Develop Specialized Patrol Team:**

The team would focus on accident investigations along with dedicated patrol and enforcement, which will allow us to provide more focused patrol efforts in problem areas.

