

# **Lawrence Police Department 2018 Annual Report**



**Chief Roy P. Vasque**



ROY P. VASQUE  
Chief

## CITY OF LAWRENCE

LAWRENCE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



DANIEL RIVERA  
Mayor & CEO

January 31, 2019

Dear Residents, City Council Members and School Committee Members,

Attached you will find the 2018 Lawrence Police Department Annual Report. In it, you will find a breakdown of the Lawrence Police Department, from values, to staffing, to in depth crime numbers and everything in between. More than that, this report is a play by play of the last year within the department. While we are happy to report the crime numbers contained in this report represents a 20 year low, we continue to realize that you cannot feel safe until you see officers patrolling your neighborhood, decreased response times, and a professional voice on the phone when you call with an emergency.

I urge each of you to review this report, take a look at the crime numbers and the department at a glance. This is an inclusive report that is transparent and informative. We have more police on our streets, are increasing foot patrols, and improving our community policing tactics. We are facing an opioid epidemic head on by going after the suppliers and increasing patrols in hot spots throughout the city. We are responding to noise calls and ticketing those found to be in violation in an effort to increase your quality of life.

This year's report includes a comprehensive overview of the Gas Emergency. It not only highlights the Departments response beginning with the first 911 Call on September 13<sup>th</sup>, but also provides a step by analysis of the Department's action throughout the restoration process. The report highlights the dedication and professionalism of the men and women of the Departments throughout this unprecedented event in our City's history.

Last, use this report as a guide. The numbers are indicative of a well-trained, dedicated and professional police force who is working hard every day to make Lawrence safer. The Mayor and I will continue to work together to make our Police Department a world class police department, a department that our residents deserve.

Sincerely,

Roy Vasque  
Police Chief  
Lawrence Police Department

Dan Rivera  
Mayor & CEO

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## Values Statement

The members of the Lawrence Police Department are dedicated police professionals committed to the philosophy and practice of community policing. Within that philosophy we focus on three core values, compassion, community, and commitment.

- Compassion: To instill in every member of our Department the practice of empathy for every person we encounter. This empathy is given regardless of race, sexual orientation, color, handicap, creed, national origin, ancestry religion, age, gender, social or mental status; promising procedural justice.
- Community: To empower residents, stakeholders, neighborhood groups and others identified as positive forces of change the ability to provide the mandate on how they want their City served by the police.
- Commitment: To serve the City of Lawrence to the best of our abilities and constantly strive to improve and increase our capacity to serve the community better.

## Slogan

**\*\*\* Compassion Community Commitment \*\*\***

## Department at a Glance

**Budgeted Sworn Positions:** 147

**Total Sworn Compliment:** 142

**Female Officers:** 10

Sergeants: 2

Detective: 1

Patrol Officers: 7

**Veterans:** 25

### **Ethnic Breakdown:**

African American: 3

Asian: 1

Caucasian: 83

Hispanic or Latino: 55

### **Rank Breakdown:**

Chief: 1

Captains: 3

Lieutenants: 10

Sergeants: 17

Patrol Officers: 111

### **Current Academy Class: 4**

Male: 1

Females: 3

### **Budgeted Civilian Positions:**

Full-Time Civilians: 22

Call Takers: 9

Animal Control: 2

Plant Manager: 1

Director of Support Services: 1

Director of Crime Analysis: 1

Crime Analyst: 1

Community Liaison Director: 1

Clerks: 4

Confidential Secretaries: 2

Part-Time Civilians (Crossing Guards):  
21

## Lawrence Comparison

The first two (2) charts provided below depict population, violent crime, total number of officers, and total number of civilians. The charts are compiled from 2016 and 2017 FBI/ UCR data<sup>1</sup>. It is important to note that during both years Lawrence had the lowest amount of total officers. Data in the charts provided is the most current data provided by the FBI<sup>2</sup>.

The final chart illustrates the number of patrol officers per official in Lawrence and in other cities in the state.

### 2016 Data

Rank	City	Violent Crime per 1000 Population	Population	Violent Crime	Murder	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Total Officers	Total Civilians
1	Fall River	10.9	88,371	966	1	67	190	708	218	47
2	Brockton	10.8	95,189	1,029	3	83	169	774	187	21
3	New Bedford	8.7	94,524	819	3	31	238	547	255	42
4	Lynn	7.7	92,443	714	4	43	175	492	181	19
<b>5</b>	<b>Lawrence</b>	<b>7.4</b>	<b>80,622</b>	<b>597</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>18</b>

### 2017 Data

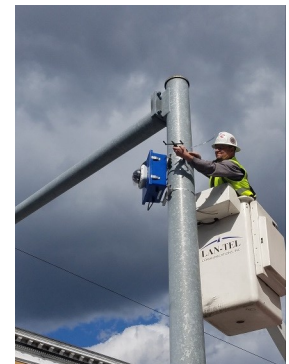
Rank	City	Violent Crime per 1000 Population	Population	Violent crime	Murder	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Total Officers	Total Civilians
1	Fall River	9.9	89,012	880	3	53	187	637	228	51
2	Brockton	9.6	96,016	917	7	93	172	645	180	21
3	Lynn	7.2	93,140	666	12	28	164	462	168	18
<b>4</b>	<b>Lawrence</b>	<b>7.2</b>	<b>80,890</b>	<b>585</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>151</b>	<b>393</b>	<b>135</b>	<b>25</b>
5	New Bedford	6.7	95,107	633	8	37	241	347	247	50

	Patrol	Officials	Patrol Officers per Official
Lawrence	115	30	3.8
Haverhill	73	19	3.8
Holyoke	94	27	3.5
Lynn	142	41	3.5
Lowell	185	54	3.4
Fall River	160	49	3.3
Methuen	71	24	3.0
Chelsea	82	28	2.9

1. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2016/crime-in-the-u.s.-2016> and <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2017/crime-in-the-u.s.-2017>  
 2. 2018 data has not been published by the FBI as of February 2019.

# 2018 Highlights

- Reorganization of the Department
- Compared to 2017
  - An overall Part 1 Crime decrease of 40%
  - 64% decrease in homicide
  - 54% decrease in robbery
  - 46% decrease in residential burglary
  - 36% decrease in commercial burglary
  - 46% decrease in motor vehicle theft
  - 44% decrease in shootings
- In 2018 clearance rates for Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, and Felony Larceny exceeded the National Average
- 14% increase in overall Part 1 Crime clearance rates from 2017
- New twenty year lows were established in Robbery, Burglary, and Motor Vehicle Theft
- Implementation of the Street Crime / Gang Unit
- 5 additional officers to Community Policing
- Increased walking/bike patrols
- Addition of School Safety Expert Lieutenant Burke to the Lawrence Public Schools SRO program
- Creation of a Business Liaison Officer
- New Director of Police and Community Relations with a focus on Domestic Violence and Missing/Exploited Children
- Domestic policy upgrade
- New radio communications system
- Columbia Gas Explosions: Comprehensive Safety and Security Plan
- Began accreditation process
- Surveillance Camera Initiative Phase I
- First of its kind Comprehensive Professional Development and Officer Training Program
- Attended numerous community events, community engagements and monthly community meetings
- Partnered with Numerous community groups/initiatives (Suenos Basketball, Volleyball, Softball, YMCA, Boys and Girls Club, Coffee with a Cop)
- Headquarter Upgrades including: new trailer, parking lot, bullet proof glass, roll call room, detectives
- Website upgrade and enhancement
- Increased social media in an effort to inform/educate the community
- Name tags were made for each officer



# 2019 Lawrence Police Department Goals and Objectives

- Continue to maintain or reduce Part 1 Crime
- Continue to maintain Part 1 Crime Clearance Rates above the national average
- Reduce motor vehicle accidents and increase education
- Increase Community Policing Initiatives
- Phase II Camera Project
- Phase III Camera Project
- Phase IV Business Camera Project
- Explore technology initiatives (such as Body Cameras and Drone Program )
- Continue and Expand Department's Professional Development
- Continued Officer Training Program related to Community and World Issues
- Continued Station Upgrades ( Evidence Room )
- New command center vehicle
- Equipment upgrades ( firearms, Tasers, and cruisers )
- Station security upgrades ( including cameras and lighting )
- Dedicated domestic violence detective
- Additional Community Policing Officers ( Broadway Area )
- Continued movement toward accreditation and policy upgrades
- K9 Unit expansion
- Continue to advocate for new police station
- Website Upgrades to Include crime and safety tips
- Continue strong local, state and federal partnerships to reduce crime
- Develop increased opioid funding to expand crime and address addiction issues
- Continue to strengthen community partnerships and collaborations



## Columbia Gas

On September 13, 2018, at 4:09 PM, the Lawrence Police Department began receiving the first reports of fires and explosions throughout the City. Within the first two hours, the Lawrence Police Department received 134 calls for service, 269 911 calls, and 400 E911 calls. Responding fire apparatuses requested mutual aid, while police assisted in the evacuation of businesses and residences. Lawrence Police Officers assisted residents in evacuating their pets and neighbors from homes; some of which were in the initial stages of catching fire. Lawrence Police Officers also rendered aid to residents that had been overcome with smoke, were injured, and- in one tragic incident- deceased.

All Lawrence Police Officers, including those at road details and those off duty, were ordered to respond to the station where they were subsequently redirected to South Lawrence. The auxiliary police and Northeast Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council (NEMLEC), consisting of 61 communities and over 1,059 Officers, was activated and responded to the explosions. Once NEMLEC set up their command post, located at York Street in Andover, Ma, they activated the Central Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council (CEMLEC), and Southeast Law Enforcement Council (SEMLEC). This provided South Lawrence with aid from 128 communities, over 3,000 officers. Also, providing assistance were the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA), and Occupational Health and Safety (OSHA).

At approximately 4:45 PM, the command post was set up at 6 Chickering Road (old Showcase Cinema 7-14), and served as the first staging area for police and fire. This command post was up and running within an hour, and all officers were directed to/from the field via this post. An official remained in dispatch to oversee radio communications and coordinate the massive mutual aid response to the City. Once the Department realized the magnitude of the fires and gas explosions, a comprehensive security plan was devised, requiring the cooperation of any and all available Lawrence police officers, auxiliary officers and mutual aid officers.

At approximately 6:30 PM Chief Vasque ordered all routes of travel into and out of South Lawrence to be secured. Massachusetts State Police along with the Department of Transportation closed all highway ramps into South Lawrence. Travel was restricted to emergency personnel only. These closures were due to the fact that Columbia Gas could not shut off the gas service and was unaware of what was causing fires and explosions in the area. Knowing that this was a highly volatile and extremely dangerous situation, Mayor Rivera ordered the immediate evacuation of all residents of South Lawrence. As thousands of City residents attempted to comply with the evacuation order it became evident that gridlock was forming throughout the City. A Lawrence Police Official requested the assistance of the Massachusetts State Police Air Wing. From above, the Air Wing was able to identify bottlenecks throughout the City and offered suggestions for the rerouting of traffic including a recommendation to close the south bound lane of Rt. 93 in order to open up three additional lanes for evacuees traveling north. This rerouting of traffic was instrumental in facilitating an orderly evacuation. One of the many officers dispatched to an intersection to assist in the organized evacuation of City residents was Officer Ivan Soto. Officer Soto, after verifying that his family was safe, refused to leave his post despite receiving notification that his own home was burning.

A short time into the evacuation for safety reasons, National Grid was asked by Columbia Gas Officials to shut off power to the South Lawrence leaving the area in complete darkness. During the next couple of days 100 portable lighting towers were brought into the city to illuminate the affected areas as well as major intersections. Officers from 128 different communities were stationed throughout South Lawrence to maintain order and to reassure residents that their possessions would remain safe from looting. Over 3,000 officers worked around the clock for the next three (3) days patrolling and remaining highly visible in the

area, while working to address any issues that occurred. All routes remained closed until Sunday September 16 at 07:00 hours at which time all the gas had been shutdown and power was restored to South Lawrence.

Mayor Rivera issued the evacuation order, at which time MVRTA buses were brought into South Lawrence to transport evacuated residents to shelters. Several emergency shelters were immediately opened at the Arlington School, Central Catholic High School, and the Parthum School for residents who were displaced. Buses were also available to transport residences to gather medicine and essential items during the course of the evacuation. On September 16, when the City of Lawrence was deemed safe and the area was reopened MVRTA and MBTA buses were utilized to assist residents, many of whom were without their own transportation, in returning home. All three emergency shelters were closed on the morning of September 16.

Between 10:00PM and 11:00 PM on September 13, The Massachusetts State Police and the Methuen Police Department both established their mobile command posts at 6 Chickering Road. Methuen officers and members of the Massachusetts State Police assisted with calls for service throughout the City of Lawrence on the evening of the incident as well as assisting with preventative patrols until Wednesday, September 19. Massachusetts State Police continued assistance with preventative patrols for 14 consecutive days to provide an omni-presence of police coverage in South Lawrence. Over the next week, the Massachusetts State Police Command vehicle served as the central command location. This central location was used for meetings with Governor Baker, Mayor Rivera, Chief Vasque, Chief Moriarty and Emergency Management Officials. These meetings were used to discuss, plan, share information pertaining to the gas disaster. This was also the location where a comprehensive safety and security plan was formed and implemented by Chief Vasque, Mayor Rivera as well as City and State Officials.

On September 14 and September 15 due to overwhelming mutual aid received and logistics there was a need for several additional staging areas which were set up at the North Andover Mall, 350 Winthrop Ave, and Plaza 114, 73 Winthrop Ave. These areas were used for emergency personnel and gas crews to stage, respond, and address any emergency. Over the next 72 hours these staging areas served as ground zero and were transformed into little cities equipped with tents, tables and chairs, food stations, medical aid tents, and portable toilets. It was from this location that members of the Lawrence Police Department and the Massachusetts State Police dispatched Columbia Gas crews.



These crews were accompanied by a police officer, a fire apparatus, and a locksmith. Crews went street by street, door by door, to shut off every gas service in the affected zone. This needed to be completed prior to electricity being restored and residents being allowed back home. The Massachusetts State Police also set up a second mobile command post at the North Andover Mall. NEMLEC and Middlesex Sheriff Department mobile command post was set up at the North Andover Mall until Sunday, at which time it moved to Plaza 114.

On Sunday September 16, the command post was relocated to Plaza 114, 73 Winthrop Ave. NiSource and Columbia Gas began daily meetings, 7 days a week, at 160 Winthrop Ave. Also on September 16, the Lawrence Police Department assisted Columbia Gas with the opening of the Columbia Gas Claim Center at the Old Lawrence High School. Upon arrival, members of the Lawrence Police Department were met by a line of 4,000 affected residents wrapping around the LHS building. The Lawrence Police

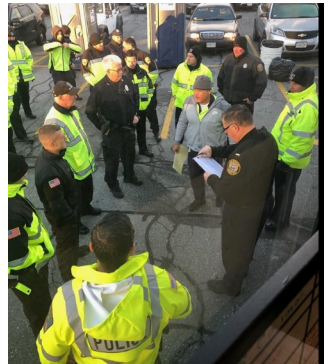
Department met with Columbia Gas Officials, who were overwhelmed and understaffed in the first few hours of opening the claim center. Members of the Department, Sgt. Rizos and Major Russolillo, of the Massachusetts State Police, and other city officials formulated a plan to address the large crowds and the chaotic situation outside. A color-number ticket system was implemented to address the growing crowds which consisted of Columbia Gas Officials selecting a different color for each day of the week. This was done to lower the daily number of people in line to a more reasonable amount. Members of the Lawrence Police Department requested Columbia Gas add additional staff including 50 claim adjusters to be brought in for the coming days

That day, 450 blue tickets were distributed to the first people who arrived in line. These people were seen by Columbia Gas claim representatives but, only 525 claims were taken that day because they only had 15 adjusters available. 750 red tickets were then handed to the remaining residents who needed to make claims for the next day, followed by yellow and green cards to maintain the new system. Once the ticket system was put into effect, it restored order to the claim center. In the days that followed Columbia Gas officials needed a more permanent location for the claim center to be located which the Department assisted in executing.

On Tuesday, September 18, 2018 the Columbia Gas Claim Center was opened at the Lawrence Firefighters Association, 1 Market Street. The Lawrence Police Department directed the setup of this claim center from the ground up. Tents for the parking lots were set up by United Tent Rentals to shelter the large crowds from weather conditions, as well as portable lighting, and portable toilets provided by Throne Depot. Additionally, tables, chairs, dumpsters, barricades, cones, food, water, surveillance cameras and security personnel were all provided. Columbia Gas also had additional staff and volunteers and added 50 claim adjusters to this location. Over the course of the next fourteen days the claim center was open and staffed from 9AM to 9PM by four (4) Lawrence Police Officers and four (4) Massachusetts State Police Troopers. New changes made to this claim center reduced wait times and sped up the intake process which allowed claim takers to process between 1,200 and 1,800 claims a day. During this fourteen day period over 16,107 residents were processed through the center. After the fourteen day period, the center was scaled down and once again moved, to 430 South Union Street. This location remains open. The center to date has processed over 24,738 claims.

Mayor Rivera also requested that the Community Policing Business Liaison provide immediate assistance to the businesses which were affected by the explosions. The Business Liaison officer quickly contacted owners providing them with a security plan, escorts to check on their businesses, and assisting them with the claim process. In the coming weeks, this officer was assigned to work out of Lawrence City Hall with the Inspectional Services Department. The Business Liaison and inspectors checked on South Lawrence Businesses to ensure perishable items were discarded properly and that businesses that were ready to open were safe to do so. He checked businesses daily and kept owners updated via flyers, meetings and Spanish radio stations. Business owners were provided with any new information he received from Columbia Gas Officials which would aid them in a speedy recovery while protecting the health of consumers as well.

The aftermath of the Gas Explosions left the city of Lawrence and the Lawrence Police Department with a logistical nightmare. In addition to the establishment of the aforementioned claim centers and shelters, the police department had to deal with the reconstruction of 49 miles worth of underground pipeline, including street to home service lines, as well as hundreds of staging vehicles and equipment on the streets while crews worked to restore services inside of homes. The traffic issues and protection of equipment and empty homes required the mobilization and coordination of police officers from throughout Massachusetts.



In the beginning, the overwhelming task of coordinating both the house to house restoration and street construction was left to two Lawrence Police Officers. This task was rendered even more difficult as it became apparent that Lawrence, Andover, and North Andover were all competing to secure the help and assistance of mutual aid officers throughout the State. Chief Vasque met with Andover Police Chief Keefe and North Andover Police Chief Grey and secured a trilateral agreement to standardize detail rates across the three communities. It was also agreed that a Mutual Aid Coordinator would be contracted to facilitate the hiring process. A retired Lawrence Police Captain was tapped for the assignment. On October 16, a department captain was assigned to take over the daily, on-the-ground coordination of the street construction details with the assistance of officers.

In an effort to deal with the crisis, Mayor Rivera and Chief Vasque moved quickly to appoint more Special Police Officers. In addition, the Lawrence Police Department had to rely on the assistance of 45 cities and towns. Assistance came from as far north as Salisbury, as far west as Templeton, as far east as Ipswich, and as far south as Scituate. The peak week for mutual aid to Lawrence was the week of October 21, to October 27, with over 540 shifts. The peak day for Lawrence was October 8, with over 100 officers. Throughout the course of events through December 31, mutual aid provided over 4,300 shifts to supplement Lawrence Police Department's efforts. Work was being done 7 days a week. At 7:00 AM each day, officers would be assigned out of a makeshift command post, a tent, set up at the old Showcase Cinemas lot. Whenever available, Lawrence Police Officers would be assigned to help as roving supervisors, and to assist out of town officers if they encountered any problems or needed vehicles towed. In addition to the detail officers, NiSource provided private security (Edward Davis LLC) for the repair and restoration crews.

Each day began at 6:00 AM; with a meeting with the lead scheduler from Columbia Gas to see if there were any changes in plans as to where the road construction crews planned to work and what effects it might have on police coverage. At 7:00 AM they would be at the command post assigning officers to specific locations. Throughout the course of the day, they, along with other Lawrence officers, when available, would check on all locations. It would often be necessary to re-prioritize manpower, taking officers from one location and adding them to another depending on site configurations and unanticipated traffic flow problems. Sometimes it would be necessary to tell crews that they could not work certain locations at certain times. For instance, one site being done at the same time as another would create an unreasonable detour loop that would cause commuters to be trapped in a small neighborhood. Some main roads had to be done on overnight hours (between 7:00PM and 5:00 AM), other streets around schools had to be done on nights or weekends or non-school days while some shorter jobs were allowed to be conducted around schools during the day with work beginning after 9:00 AM and stopping for the period between 2:30 PM and 4:00PM. As the day went on, the police supervisors would try to get an idea as to how many construction sites were going to exceed 8 hours, and if the officers assigned to them could stay. There would be additional officers coming in at 3:00 PM to fill in where possible. At 3:00 PM, officers were sent out from the tent to take over for officers would need to leave.

At 3:30 PM, a daily meeting of Columbia Gas zone leaders, and/or crew chiefs was attended. Here the day's accomplishments and what they would like to do the next day and possibly a couple days into the future was discussed. Oftentimes at these meetings instructions were given as to which jobs had to be done at night, or on certain days or times. Between 4:00PM and 4:30 PM another meeting with the Lead Scheduler from Columbia Gas was held to go over what work was anticipated for the next day and how many details would be needed.





It was then determined how many officers would be needed for home restorations and then the Mutual Aid Coordinator was called. Often times, a few crews that started in the day time, or paving crews that followed them would be out past 9:00 PM, 10:00 PM, 11:00PM and for a few weeks there were crews working from 7:00PM to 5:00AM. As a result, Lawrence Police Department officers serving supervisors worked from 6:00 AM or 7:00 AM deep into the night on a daily basis. The week ending November 17, Columbia Gas considered major street construction related to pipeline replacement completed. Some Lawrence Police officers resumed their normal functions while others continued overseeing any construction of restoration efforts until mid-December.

On Monday, September 24, after consultation with NiSource, it was agreed to add officers to provide special patrols in affected areas. This additional detail consisted of four (4) officers and one (1) supervisor during all 3 shifts. On Tuesday, September 25, Columbia provided five (5) marked Ford Explorers for these special patrols. Between September 24 and December 31 approximately 35,640 man hours were accrued at the command post. The officers assigned to the command post were tasked with proactively patrolling the affected areas of South Lawrence in order to prevent breaks into vacant homes, keep watch on Columbia Gas/NiSource equipment, and respond directly to the needs of Columbia Gas/NiSource employees and staff. The staffing of the command post proved to be invaluable as it ensured that police resources were not redirected from the other core functions of the Lawrence Police Department. Incidentally, this security plan proved to be effective as the City of Lawrence ended the year posting a twenty year low in residential breaking and entering incidents, despite the crisis. The command post remains staffed with four (4) officers and one (1) supervisor per shift, every day. Additionally, on Wednesday September 26, Columbia Gas requested one (1) detail officer be posted at their main office, 65 Marston Street, seven (7) days a week / 24 hours a day. This detail was staffed continuously until December 10, 2018.

Between September 25 and November 12 the Lawrence Housing Authority set up temporary shower trailers at various locations for residents. A police officer was hired for each shift at every location. The shower locations included: 198 S. Union Street, open 10-4:00 PM, 314 Salem Street, open 10-4:00 PM, Osgood near Exeter open from 6-10:30 AM and 4-6:30 PM, 110 Market Street, open 6-10:30 AM and 4-6:30 PM, and Crawford near Osgood, open 6-10:30 AM and 4-6:30 PM.

When Columbia Gas could no longer access available hotel rooms for displaced residents the Lawrence Police Department assisted with the planning and implementation of mobile homes and a 1,000 bed shelter located at Malden Mills on Stafford Street. On October 5, mobile homes were established at the South Common Park and Pemberton Park and later at Sullivan Park. A safety and security plan was implemented and designed for each individual location. Each location was closed off, secured with temporary fencing, and equipped with 250, 100 and 75 mobile homes, respectively. An additional 49 home were added in November at the South Common Park, but never utilized. The South Common Park hit its peak Wednesday, November 14 when 210 mobile homes occupied by approximately 908 residents. Pemberton Park hit its peak, on Friday, November 2 when it had 88 mobile homes occupied by 376 residents. Sullivan Park hit its peak on Saturday, November 17 with 29 mobile homes occupied by 127 residents. Each location consisted of the following details: three (3) officers and one (1) supervisor at the South Common Park, two (2) officers and one (1) supervisor at Pemberton Park, and two (2) officers and one (1) supervisor at Sullivan Park. As gas service was restored and residents began transitioning back home, the parks were vacated and cleared of all staff including detail officers. Sullivan Park closed on December 8, 2018. Pemberton Park closed on December 12, 2018. South Common Park closed on December 14, 2018. During implementation and operation of the shelter and



parks the Lawrence Police Department worked closely with a representative from MEMA and Deployed Resources.

On Tuesday, October 30 the Lawrence Police Department was again asked to set up a second Claim Center at the Lawrence Firefighters Association. This center was for distribution of funds that were raised and donated to the victims of the Columbia Gas Explosions. The Disaster Relief Fund Center was setup and staffed similarly to the Columbia Gas Centers with four (4) members of the Lawrence Police Department and with four (4) members of the Massachusetts State Police. All resources previously needed, like tents, lights, and portable toilets, were brought in once again. The center was open from 9:00AM to 9:00PM for fourteen days, and was then moved to the Lawrence Senior Center for an additional two weeks, operating on a smaller scale. The number of officers working the center was minimized to two (2) Lawrence Police Officers and two (2) members of the Massachusetts State Police for the remaining time.

During the weeks prior to Thanksgiving Mayor Rivera held meetings and discussions with Columbia Gas Officials with the goal of devising a plan to provide a hot turkey dinner to those affected by the gas explosions. This Thanksgiving dinner and meal pick-up would occur at the Lawrence Elks on Andover St. The intent of the dinner was to provide some hope and normalcy to those who have suffered during this disaster. For several weeks prior to Thanksgiving, a comprehensive plan was devised to feed, pickup and deliver over 20,000 Thanksgiving meals to residents. Members of the Lawrence Police Department developed a traffic flow plan to accommodate over 10,000 cars picking up meals during a three hour period. This elaborate plan required a large number of officers to work the detail, as well as the use of signboards, a large number of cones, barrels, and barricades to ensure the flow of traffic and the safety of all involved in this massive feeding operation. Over 30 police officers from the Lawrence Police Department, Lawrence Auxiliary Police, police recruits, as well as members of numerous other Law Enforcement Agencies, worked the meal pickup. As a result of this great effort by these men and woman and the extensive plan that was devised by the Lawrence Police Department over 12,000 meals were safely picked up and delivered to victims of the gas explosions over a three (3) hour period without a single issue. It should be noted that officers, staff, and volunteers accomplished this monumental task despite extremely cold conditions on this day with temperatures in the single digits.



The Lawrence Police Department also helped with the planning and coordinating of two sites to be used for sit-down Thanksgiving dinners. The first site used was the Elks Lodge located on Andover Street where 435 dinners were served to victims of the gas explosions. The second site was set up on Osgood Street between Market Street and Salem Street. Tents were put up at this location prior to event, and on Thanksgiving the street was closed to traffic. 35 sit down meals were served at this location. These tents were staffed by six (6) officers from the Lawrence Police Department.

Monday, November 26, Columbia Gas Congressional Hearings were held at the South Lawrence East Elementary School. The Lawrence Police Department provided the security and established a plan for the hearings that were to be held. The Department met with staff members of Senators Markey and Warren staffs to formulate a security plan for the event. Several walkthroughs were conducted with congressional staffers, the Mayor's office, and the Fire Department, Lawrence Public School Safety, and Columbia Gas Corporate security personal prior to the event. A protective sweep was conducted of the venue an hour prior to the event using a bomb sniffing dog which was provided by North Andover Police Department. After the sweep was conducted by the K9 Officer the area was then locked down by Lawrence Police Officers. The security detail for the Congressional hearings was made up of 12 Lawrence Police officers, one (1) K9 Officer from the North Andover Police Department as well as three (3) officials from the

Lawrence Police Department.

On four occasions, October 27, November 25 and 29, and December 8, Columbia Gas held question and answer forums at Lawrence High School for residents that were affected by the Gas Explosions. A special meeting was held at the Elks Lodge just for residents of the Mount Vernon Area. Columbia Gas, NiSource, MEMA and state and local officials all attended these meetings to answer any and all questions as well as to address any issues pertaining to gas explosions. The Lawrence Police Department attended and provided security for these events. Three (3) Members of the Lawrence Police Department were at each event held.

Columbia Gas held a landlord /tenant Forum at Lawrence High School. Members from the Attorney General's office were on hand to answer questions and advise residents of their rights. Claim adjusters as well as Columbia Gas customer service representatives attended. Lawrence Police Department attended and provided security with at least three (3) officers and handled all parking issues.

In addition to the four (4) officers and one (1) supervisor providing extra patrol in South Lawrence, the command post is still utilized as the rally point for detail officers. Approximately 15-20 detail officers are hired, per day, to assist with restoration crews that continue to work, in affected areas. The Command Post has been utilized from September 13 through December 31 twenty-four (24) hours a day. This eighteen (18) year old mobile has been operating for a long period of time, over 110 days. The unit has suffered substantial damages and wear and tear during this time and will cost a significant amount to repair.

Despite the evacuation efforts, command post staffing, restoration efforts, and a number of other demands, the men and women of the Department were able to maintain a continued level of safety throughout the entire city.

The Columbia Gas Crisis of 2018 was an event that surely tested the mettle of first responders and government officials. The Lawrence Police and Fire Departments, along with strong support from brother and sister first responders, combined with the strong relationship between Mayor Rivera and state and federal leaders, had Lawrence ready for the challenge. The event was possibly the largest mobilization of public safety resources in Massachusetts since the terrorist attack on the Boston Marathon in 2013. The nature of this event was different, it required a very long commitment of man hours and resources. Many first responders spent hundreds of hours away from their families, some even worked extra shifts on Thanksgiving. The dedication and professionalism of the men and women involved in the initial disaster and subsequent recovery efforts are of the highest order. Although there remains much to be done, the citizens of Lawrence can rest assured that the Lawrence Police stand ready to serve.

Enough could never be said about the leadership shown by Mayor Rivera, Governor Baker and Lieutenant Governor Polito. We also want to recognize the many men and women of the Lawrence Police Department, not named in this report that acted with bravery and professionalism during this entire event. To the so many others, Lawrence Department Heads and workers, Councilors and others who stepped up to coordinate with us, We thank you. Finally, to the residents of Lawrence, greatly affected by this tragedy, your ability to remain calm and help your fellow neighbor was a reminder to all of what makes Lawrence Great! Thank you!



## Grant Funding

The Lawrence Police Department was successful in securing several grants in 2018. Some of these grants include: the Municipal Public Safety Staffing grant, the Shannon Community Safety Initiative, the Safe and Successful Youth Initiative, the First Responder Naloxone grant and two Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) grants. The grant funding received by the Department is used for a variety of purposes including hiring costs associated with hiring and retaining additional police officers as well as supporting a variety of programs, initiatives, and partnerships with community non-profit organizations.

The Department has been very fortunate to receive the Municipal Public Safety Staffing grant since its inception. In 2018, this grant funding supported the hiring, training, outfitting of seven (7) new police officers to fill vacancies due to attrition. It also partially funded the retention of eight (8) newly hired police officers. This grant also funded various overtime initiatives including those aimed at targeting hot spots for criminal activity throughout the City.

The Department has been the recipient of the Shannon Community Safety Initiative and the Safe and Successful Youth Initiative for a number of years, including 2018. The funding from these grants is used to combat youth and gang violence in young adults. A large portion of both of these grants is distributed by the Department to community partners including: Lawrence Family Development, the Boys and Girls Club, the YMCA, the YWCA, ACT Lawrence, Family Services of the Merrimack Valley, and Change the Play. These organizations provide a wide variety of positive programming as well as outreach, support, and trauma counseling services to at-risk and proven risk youth. These programs are designed to prevent youth from becoming involved with gangs and engaging in criminal activity. They are also aimed at providing proven risk youth with alternatives to engaging in criminal behavior. In addition to funding community run programming, the Shannon initiative also funds programs run directly by the Police Department including the Junior Police Academy and the open gyms held at the Guilmette and South Lawrence East Schools. These Shannon funded programs provide opportunities for youth to interact with police officers in a positive setting.

In 2018, the Department was again the recipient of the First Responder Naloxone grant. This grant allowed the Department to purchase nasal naloxone and to train officers in the administration of the naloxone when responding to overdose calls. Funding can also be used for community education to increase awareness about the dangers of opioids and the community resources available to individuals and families dealing with addiction.

The State 911 Department provided the Police Department with two grants to support the Department's role as the primary emergency 911 call center for the City. The Support and Incentives grant covered a portion of the staffing costs for the Department's civilian call takers. The Training and EMD Regulatory Compliance grant allowed the Department to provide 16 hours of continuing education training to all Department call takers and any officers working as dispatchers or call takers. Finally, because the Department now receives all cellphone 911 calls placed within the city directly an additional \$50,000 of grant money was awarded.

In 2018, the Department applied for and received funding from the Stanton Foundation's First Dog Program, which funds the establishment of a K-9 Unit within the Department. This funding will support the purchase of a K-9, as well as the training, outfitting, and maintenance costs associated with the creation of a K-9 Unit.

The Department was also the recipients of other grant funding during this calendar year. These grants allowed for the purchase of bulletproof vests and funded a female street worker to specifically target troubled females.

In late 2018, PAARI selected the Lawrence Police Department as one of the law enforcement sites to host a PAARI-AmeriCorps Capacity Building Fellow and a Recovery Coach to support the Department's efforts to address the opioid epidemic and to connect people with substance use disorders to treatment.



# Patrol Division

The Patrol Division is part of the Field Services Bureau and is under the command of a Captain. The supervisory staff of the Patrol Division consists of one (1) Lieutenant, and four (4) Sergeants dedicated to each of the Department's three patrol shifts (or Platoons). By the end of 2018, there were 67 patrol officers assigned to the Division up from the 61 patrol officers that were assigned to the Patrol Division in 2017. Also assigned to the Patrol Division are nine (9) Civilian Call-Takers (911), five (5) Traffic Control Officers, and two (2) Animal Control Officers.

The Patrol Division is the backbone of the Department and is responsible for patrol coverage and emergency response within the seven square miles of Lawrence. The Patrol Division is the largest division in the Department and is primarily responsible for responding to calls for service, conducting preliminary investigations, investigating motor vehicle accidents, crime control and improvement of neighborhoods, and service delivery in response to crime advisories and community concerns. As first responders to all emergency calls, patrol officers also routinely assist both EMS (Lawrence General Hospital) and the Lawrence Fire Department. The Patrol Division is the primary point of contact for services to the public that citizens interact with on a daily basis. They are the officers that patrol your neighborhoods in cruisers and respond to all types of calls for service. They are also the officers that you first meet when you enter the police station for any problem you may have or help you may need. They are also the officers that staff the communications room where they dispatch cruisers to respond to a call for service that you as citizens may have requested.

Some of the highlights for 2018 include the following:

**Platoon 1: (1am to 9am)**

- Robbery -51%
- Commercial Burglary -26%
- Motor Vehicle Theft -49%

**Platoon 2: (9am to 5pm)**

- Robbery -61%
- Residential Burglary -71%
- Motor Vehicle Theft -46%

**Platoon 3: (5pm to 1am)**

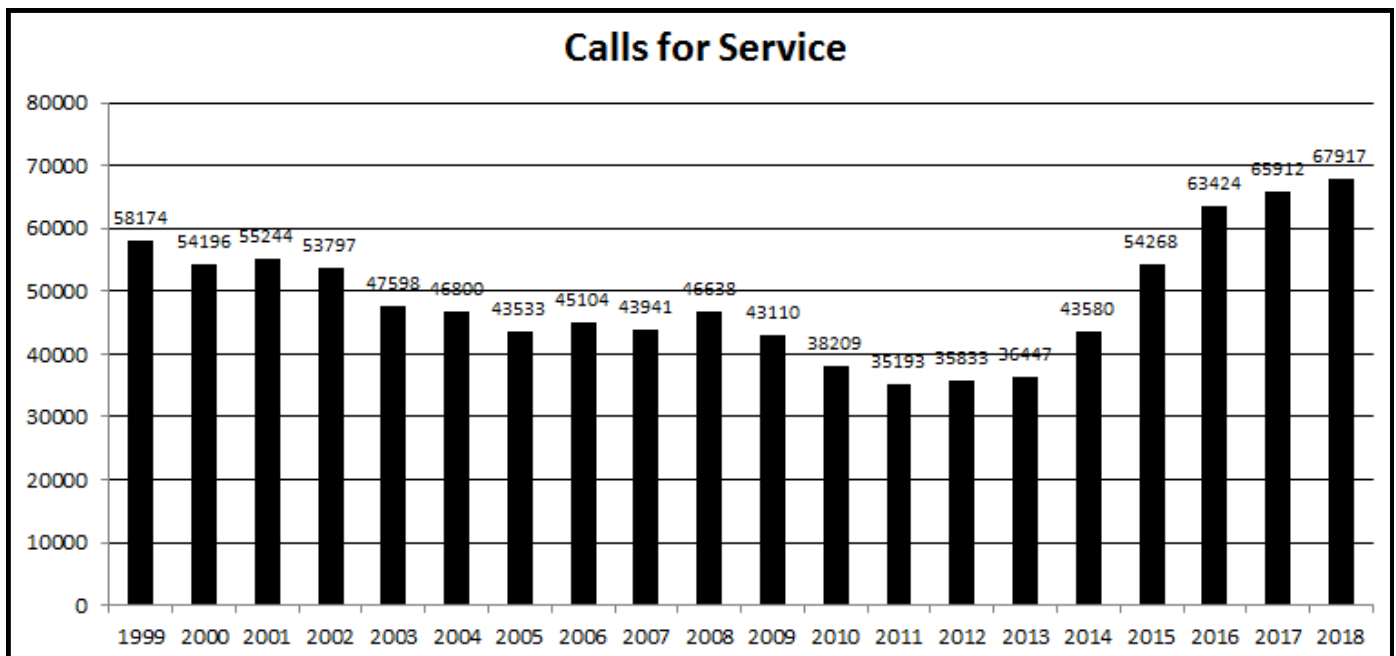
- Robbery -51%
- Residential Burglary -17%
- Motor Vehicle Theft -40%

Officers assigned to the Patrol Division conducted 4,416 Building Checks in 2018 compared to 579 in 2017.

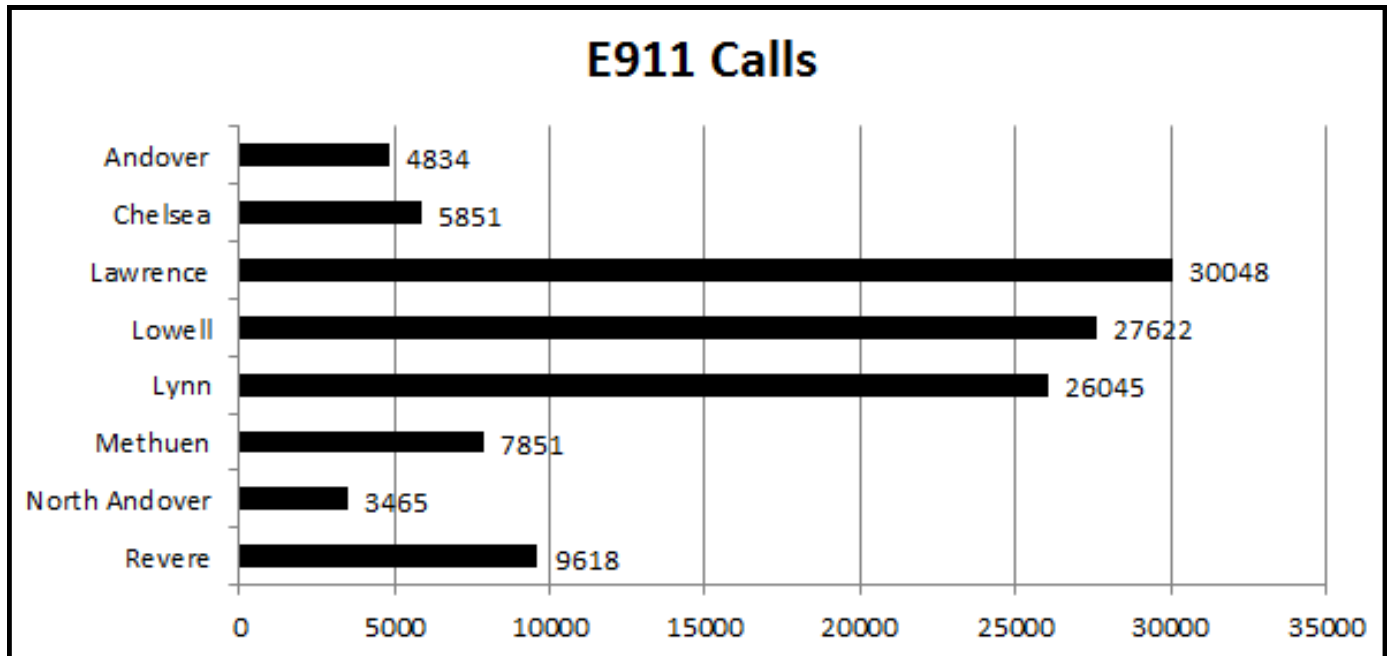
Officer assigned to the Patrol Division conducted 486 investigations into Missing Persons, locating 333 during the preliminary investigations. The remaining 153 were referred to the Detective Division for follow up investigation.

# Calls for Service

The graph below shows the total number of calls for service per year from 1999 to 2018. The 2018 total, 67, 917, is the highest total number since 1999, as well as a 3% increase from 2017. In 2018, on average, 186 calls were responded to every day. It is important to note, "Calls for Service" is not a standardized term across all police agencies. For example, one agency might consider a phone call received as a call for service when another might consider a police car being dispatched as a call for service. The Lawrence Police Department quantifies calls for service as incidents that were entered into our computer aided dispatch software that resulted in an officer being dispatched to service a citizen.

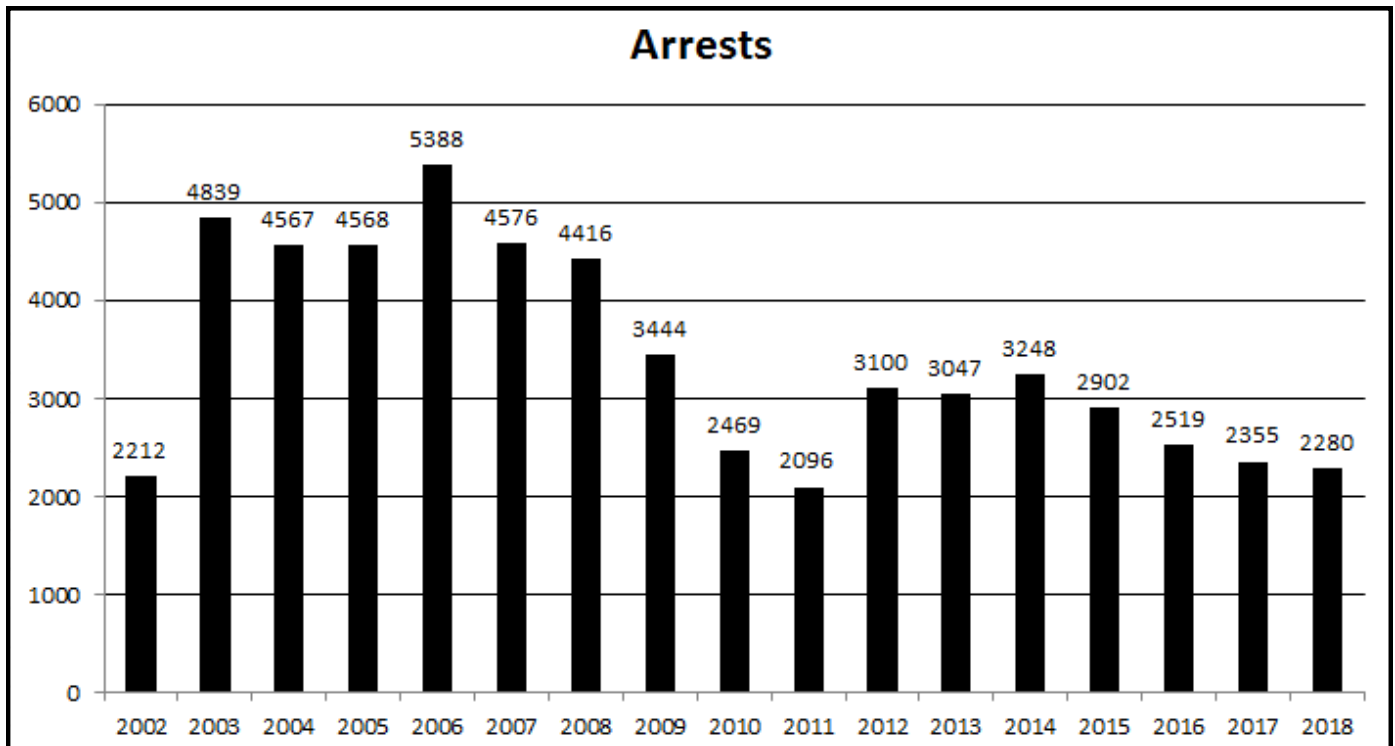


The graph below shows the number of E911 calls from July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018; this data is collected by the Essex County Regional Dispatch Center. As shown in the graph Lawrence receives the most E911 calls of the selected cities. Furthermore it receives the most E911 calls of any city/town listed in the Essex County Regional Dispatch Center data. Finally, Lawrence receives a significantly higher amount of calls than bordering towns: Andover, Methuen, North Andover.

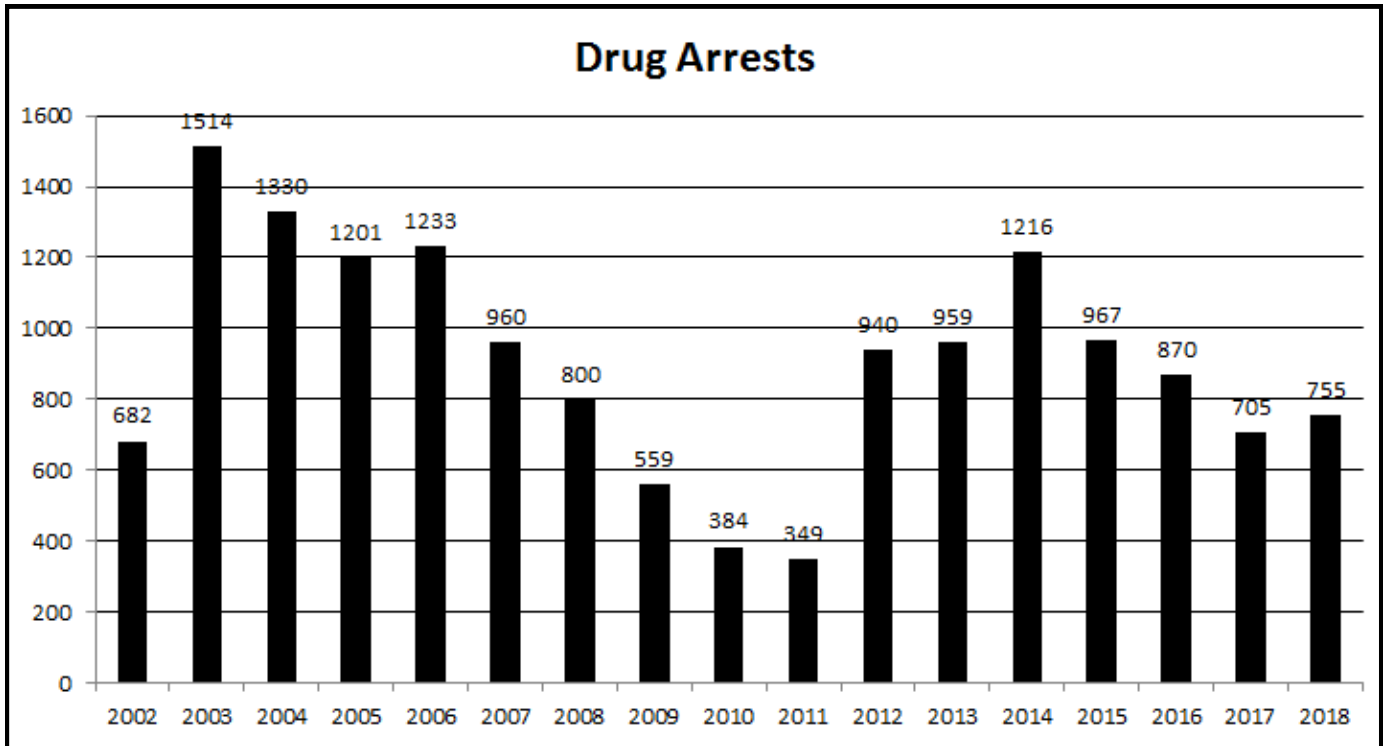


# Arrests

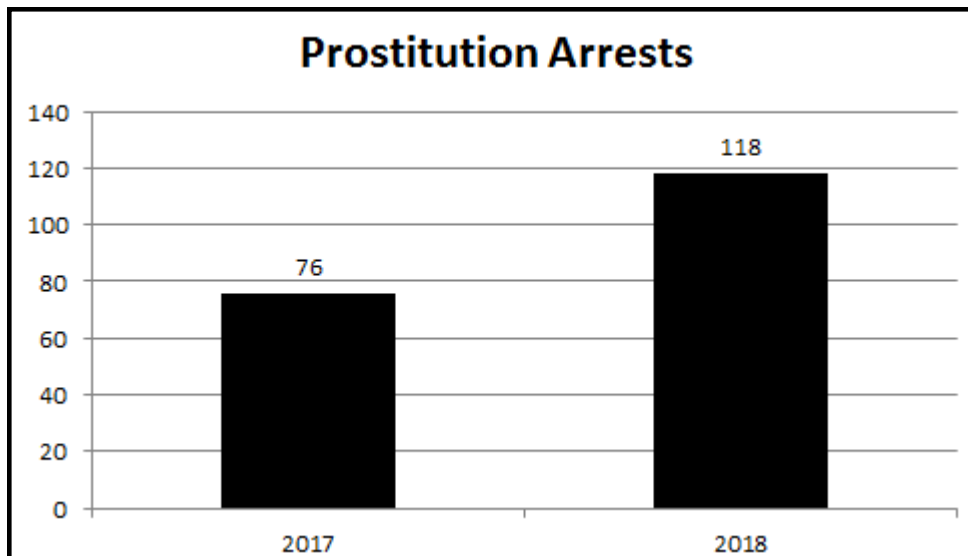
As shown in the graph below the total number of arrests per year has been trending downward since 2014. This is in part due to the decrease in total Part 1 Crime. In 2018 the Department made 2,280 arrests. This number does not reflect those arrests made by the DEA, ATF, FBI, Massachusetts State Police; who all have a heavy presence in the city.



The Crime Analysis Unit further breaks down arrests and looks specifically at the number of drug arrests made per year. This data is displayed below. In 2018 the Department made 755 drug related arrests; a 6% increase from 2017. Each arrestee in this total had at least one drug charge or warrant for a drug charge. Again, this does not reflect arrests made by other agencies that work within the city.



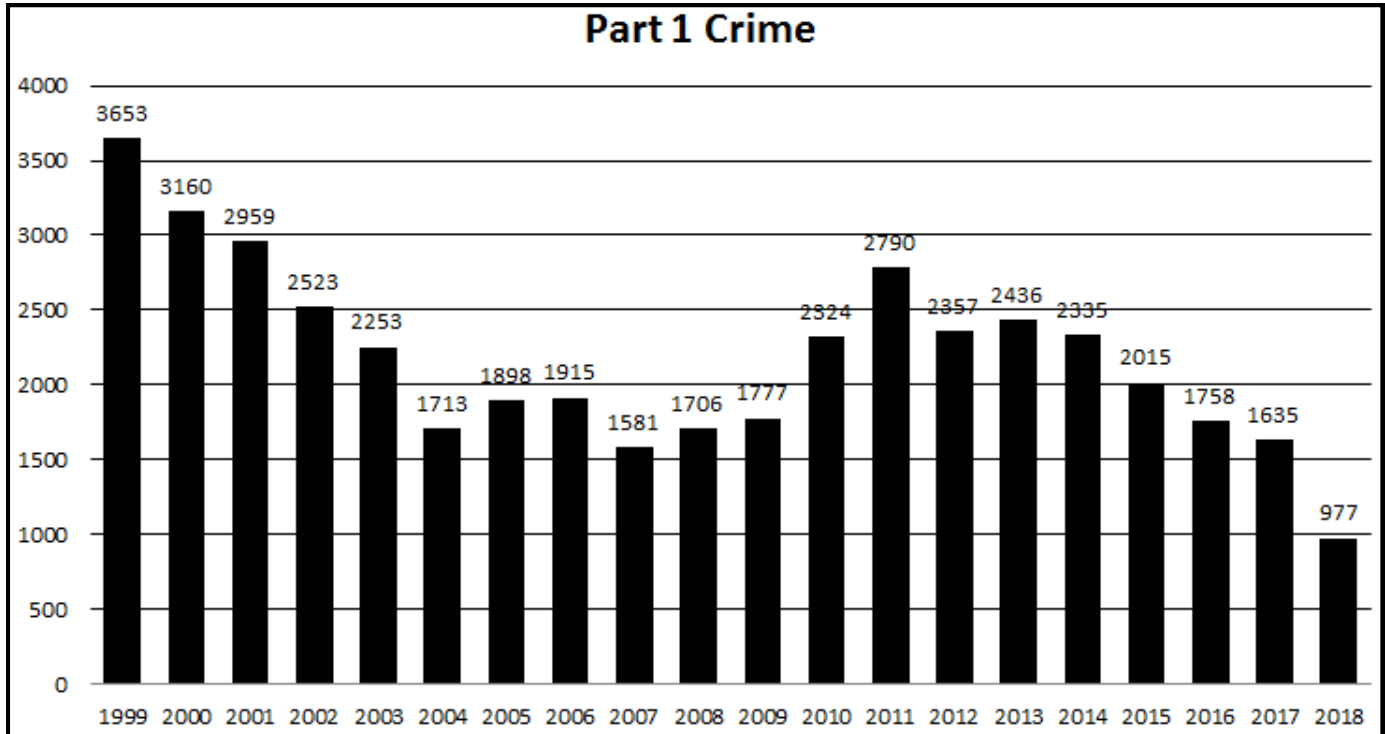
A second category of arrests that the Department started to look is the number of prostitution arrests made throughout the year. The Department started tracking these more closely during 2017 and 2018. In 2018, 118 prostitution arrests were made. This is a 55% increase from 2017, and an area the Department will continue to track.



## Part 1 Crime

Part I Crimes include: Homicide, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Felony Larceny, and Motor Vehicle Theft. The graph below shows the total number of Part I Crimes for each year from 1999 to 2018.

The Department has had a steady decrease in the total number of Part 1 Crimes since 2013. In 2018, a total of 977 Part 1 Crimes were reported; a 40% decrease when compared to the 1635 Part 1 Crimes reported in 2017. Most notably though, this is the lowest total number of Part 1 Crimes in the last twenty years. The Department has decreased the number of Part 1 Crime by 273% since 1999 when the total number was over 3,600.



The chart below shows the percentage of Part 1 Crimes that have been cleared by the Department in 2017 and 2018. The Department counts all incidents that are closed via arrest, warrant, or summons as cleared. Also included in the this chart is a 'change' column which shows the difference between the two years. The FBI/ UCR breaks down overall clearance into two categories violent crime— homicide, rape, robbery, and assault, —property crime, burglary, larceny, and motor vehicle theft. Those clearance percentages are provided as well as the Department's. In 2018, the Department exceeded the national percentage in both violent crime and property crime, and was able to increase the percentage of cases cleared from 2017.

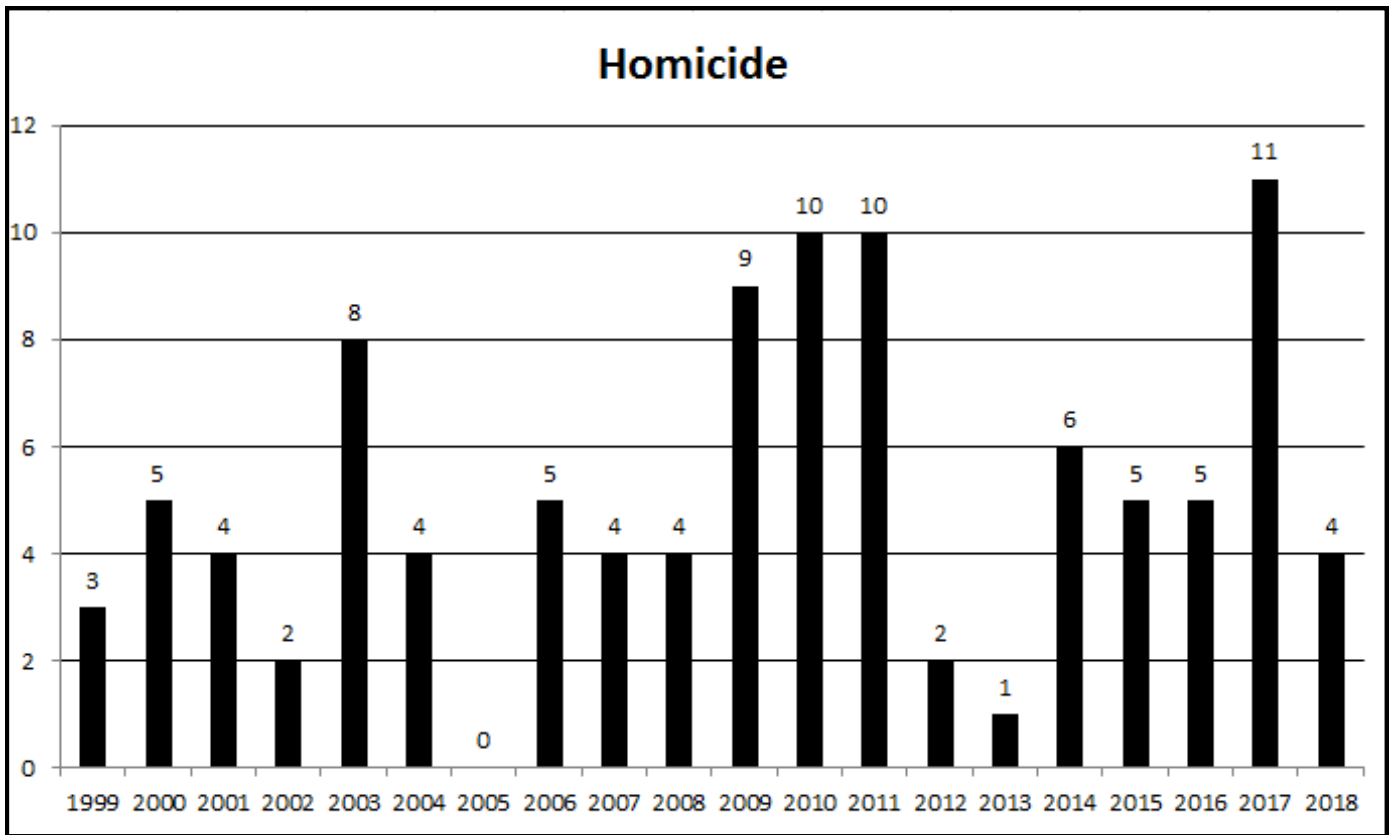
Part 1 Crime Clearance Rate				
	2017	2018	Change	National <sup>1</sup>
<b>Total Crime</b>	34%	48%	14%	
<b>Violent Crime</b>	67%	75%	8%	<b>45.6%</b>
<b>Property Crime</b>	15%	20%	5%	<b>17.6%</b>

1. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2017/crime-in-the-u.s.-2017/topic-pages/clearances>

# Homicide

**FBI/ UCR Definition<sup>1</sup>:** Criminal homicide—a.) Murder and nonnegligent manslaughter: the willful (nonnegligent) killing of one human being by another. Deaths caused by negligence, attempts to kill, assaults to kill, suicides, and accidental deaths are excluded. The program classifies justifiable homicides separately and limits the definition to: (1) the killing of a felon by a law enforcement officer in the line of duty; or (2) the killing of a felon, during the commission of a felony, by a private citizen. b.) Manslaughter by negligence: the killing of another person through gross negligence. Deaths of persons due to their own negligence, accidental deaths not resulting from gross negligence, and traffic fatalities are not included in the category Manslaughter by Negligence.

In 2018 there were four (4) reported homicides. This is a 64% decrease when compared to 2017 and is also the lowest number of Homicides since 2013. The Detective Division is actively investigating open homicide cases, and has active and promising leads.



Homicide				Homicide Clearance Rate		
	2017	2018	% Change	2017	2018	National <sup>2</sup>
Total	11	4	-67%	55%	25%	61.6%

1. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2011/crime-in-the-u.s.-2011/offense-definitions>  
 2. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2017/crime-in-the-u.s.-2017/topic-pages/clearances>

# 2018 Homicides





# Rape

Prior to 2013, the offense data for rape was collected under the legacy UCR definition: the carnal knowledge of a female forcibly and against her will. As such, data collection on rape was limited to incidents of rape where “force” was used. Other categories of sexual assault, attempted sexual assaults, statutory rapes, and the like, were classified under other categories.

In 2013, the FBI UCR Program began collecting rape data under a revised definition within the Summary Reporting System. Beginning in 2013, the term “forcible” was removed from the offense title and the definition was changed. The revised UCR definition of rape is: penetration, no matter how slight, of the vagina or anus with any body part or object, or oral penetration by a sex organ of another person, without the consent of the victim. Attempts or assaults to commit rape are also included in the statistics presented<sup>1</sup>.

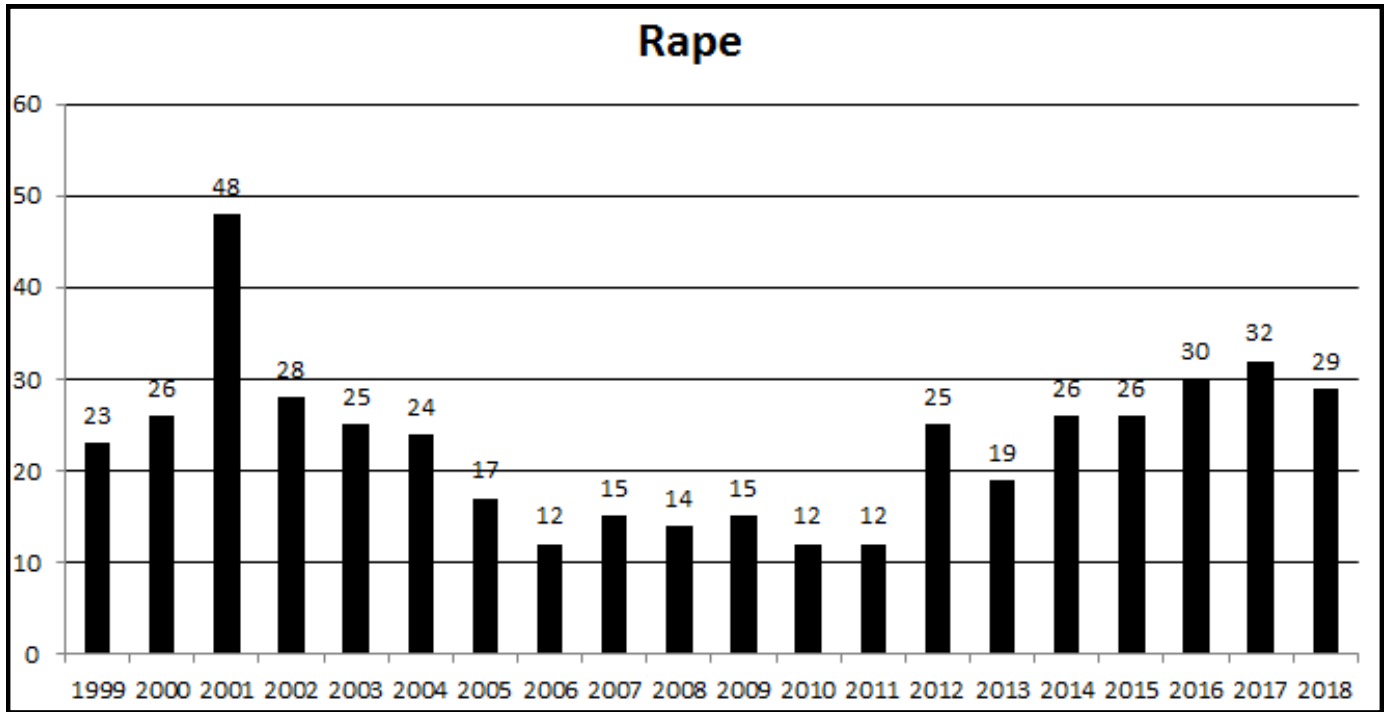
In Massachusetts, rape is defined as the penetration of any bodily orifice by any part of the body, or by an object, performed against the victim's will, without consent, and with the threat of or actual use of force<sup>2</sup>. In conformance with, and in addition to, the revised definition, Massachusetts courts have also seemingly expanded the interpretation of “penetration.” Previously, “penetration” was established where the perpetrator actually inserted his/her digits (fingers, hands) penis, tongue, or objects into the victim’s orifice(s). Now, the “penetration” element is established in situations where even the slightest separation of the lips, anus, or labia is concerned. This includes incidents of licking and fondling which would have traditionally been categorized under indecent assault and battery and other statutes.

As a result, incidents of sexual assaults, attempted sexual assaults, statutory rapes, sex and heavy fondling between intoxicated individuals where consent was ambiguous or where even the slightest penetration (as statutorily defined) is involved, is now categorized as rape although such incidents may not have been categorized this way under the legacy definition. Even instances of groping that meet the new “penetration” element give rise to charges of rape.

This change has had a direct and notable effect on rape statistics and is particularly pronounced in cases of domestic sexual assaults. In these cases, where indecent assault and battery charges would have been appropriate against family members and friends committing sexual acts against children and other family members, the statutes require rape charges.

The graph on the next page shows the number of rapes in Lawrence per year from 1999 through 2018. Due to the above mentioned definition change Lawrence saw a 39% increase in the number of rapes between 2013 and 2014. In 2018, 29 rapes were reported resulting in a 9% decrease when compared to 2017. Additionally the Department has increased the clearance rate for rape cases to 83%.

1. U.S. Department of Justice- Federal Bureau of Investigation, released Fall 2017
2. Thomson Reuters, FindLaw: <http://statelaws.findlaw.com/massachusetts-law/massachusetts-rape-laws.html>, March 8, 2018.
3. <https://ucr.fbi.gov/ucr-publications>



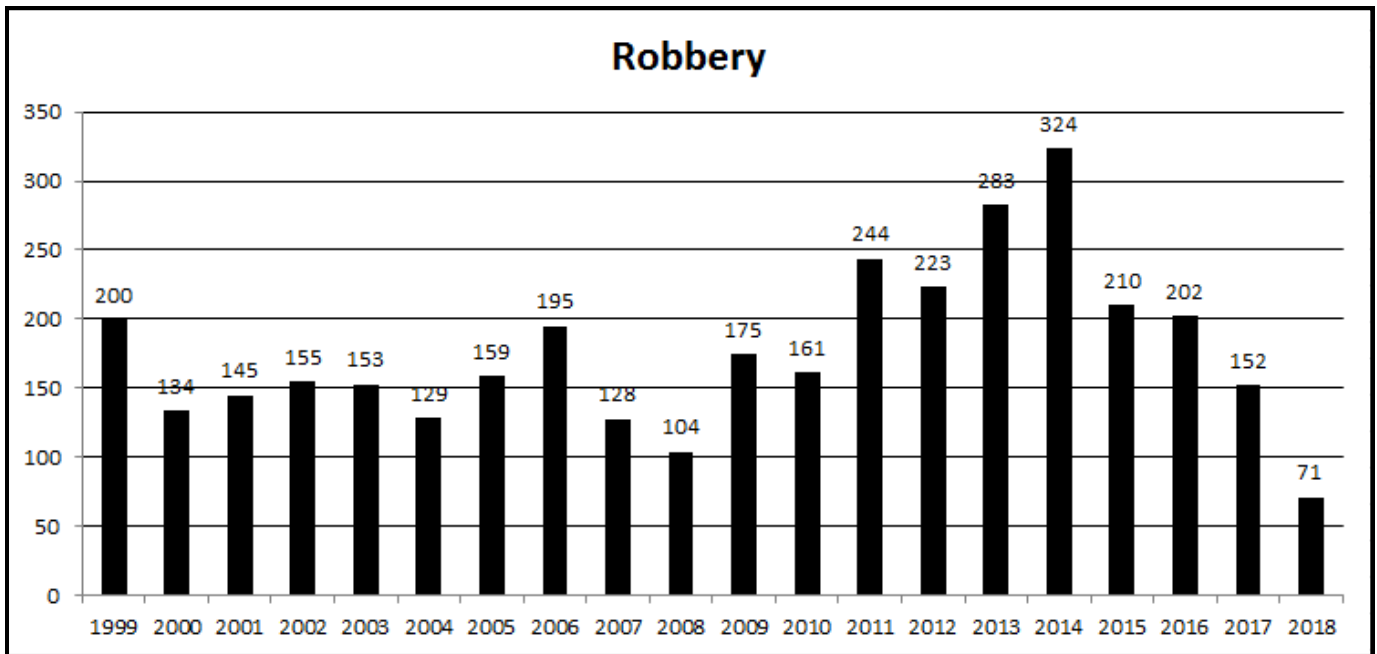
Rape				Rape Clearance Rate		
	2017	2018	% Change	2017	2018	National <sup>1</sup>
Total	32	29	-9%	50%	83%	34.5%

1. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2017/crime-in-the-u.s.-2017/topic-pages/clearances>

# Robbery

**FBI/ UCR Definition<sup>1</sup>:** The taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear.

The number of robberies in Lawrence has been declining since 2014. During that peak year, a total of 324 robberies were reported. In 2018 just 71 robberies were reported; resulting in a 20 low. This a 53% decrease from 2017 as well as a 78% decrease from the peak amount in 2014. Finally, the Department cleared 45% of robberies and continues to maintain a clearance rate above the national rate of 29.7%<sup>2</sup>. The graph below shows the total number of robberies per year from 1999-2018.



Robbery			
	2017	2018	% Change
Total	152	71	-53%

Robbery Clearance Rate		
2017	2018	National <sup>2</sup>
39%	45%	29.7%

1. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2011/crime-in-the-u.s.-2011/offense-definitions>  
 2. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2017/crime-in-the-u.s.-2017/topic-pages/clearances>

# 2018 Robberies

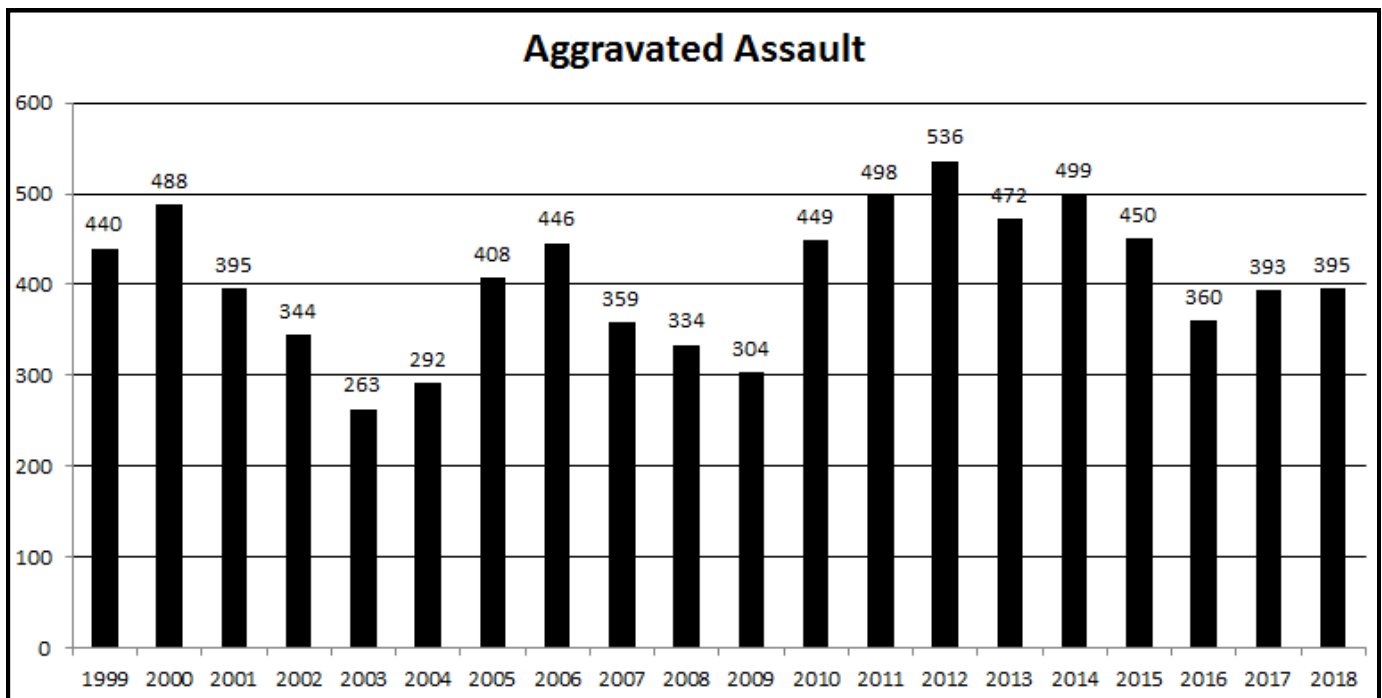


# Aggravated Assault

**FBI/ UCR Definition<sup>1</sup>:** An unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault usually is accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm.

The Lawrence Police Department Crime Analysis Unit breaks down Aggravated Assault into two categories: Domestic and Non-Domestic. Domestic Aggravated Assaults are classified as those where the relationship between the victim and offender is that of an intimate partner, ex-intimate partner, family or household member. Non-Domestic Aggravated Assault are those where the relationship is an acquaintance, school-mate, friend, or a stranger.

The graph below displays the total number of aggravated assaults reported per year. The pages that follow provide information on the two different categories. In 2018, 395 aggravated assaults were reported, a 1% increase from 2017. Despite this increase, the Department has been able to clear aggravated assault at a highly efficient rate of 81%. This is higher than the clearance rate in 2017, 79%, and is above the national clearance rate, 53.3%<sup>2</sup>.



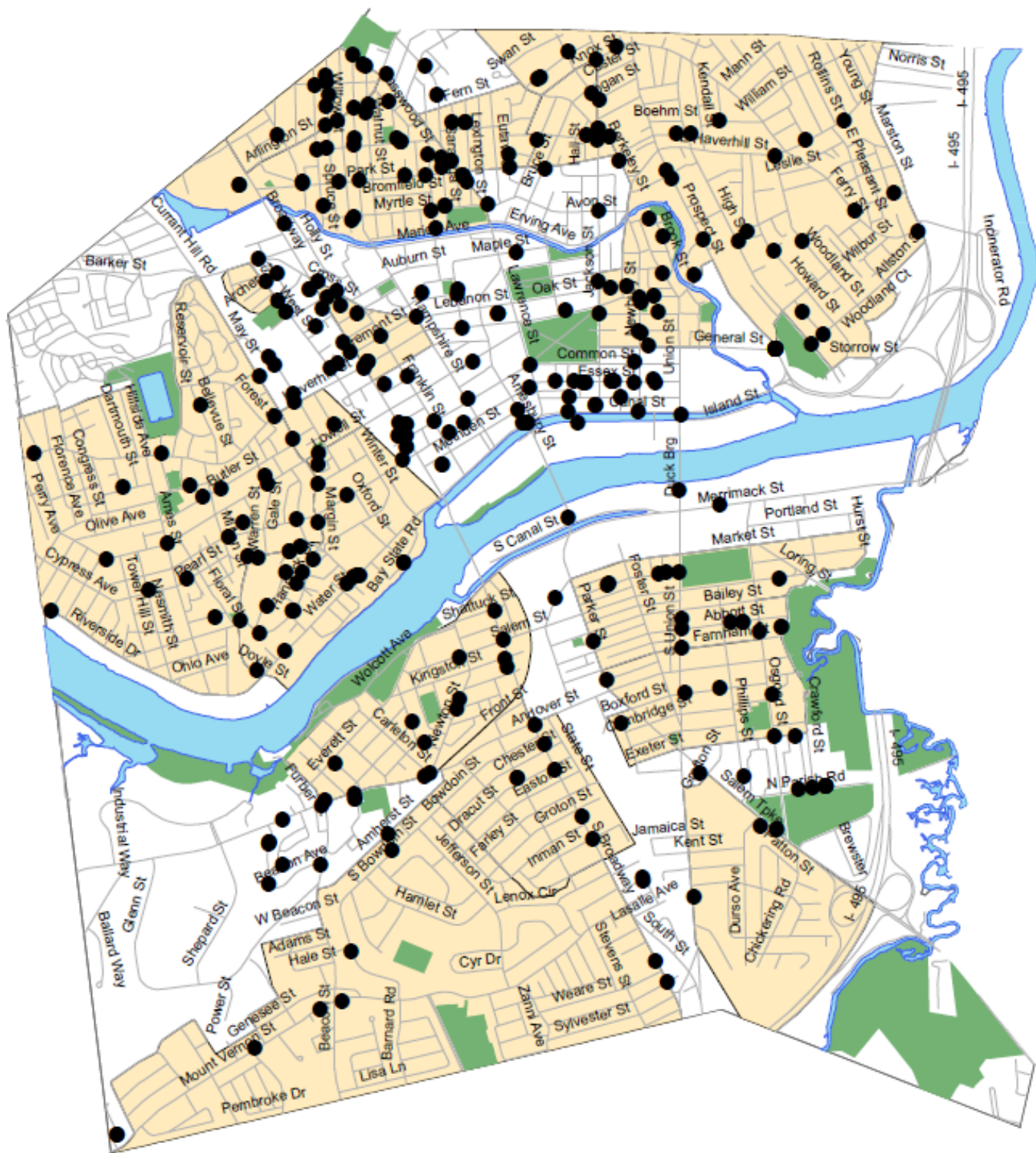
Aggravated Assault			
	2017	2018	% Change
Total	393	395	1%

Aggravated Assault Clearance Rate		
2017	2018	National <sup>2</sup>
79%	81%	53.3%

1. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2011/crime-in-the-u.s.-2011/offense-definitions>
2. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2017/crime-in-the-u.s.-2017/topic-pages/clearances>

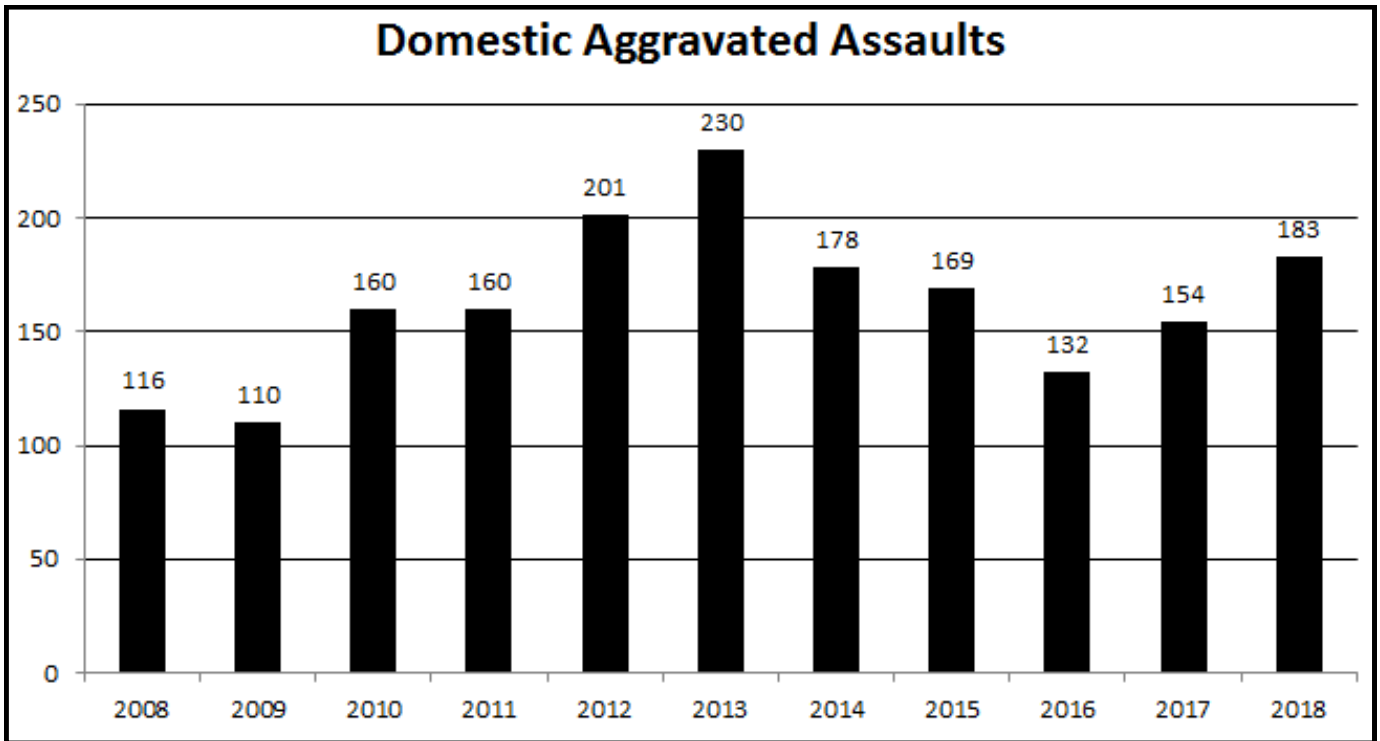


# 2018 Aggravated Assaults



## Domestic Aggravated Assault

Displayed on the graph are the number of reported domestic aggravated assaults from 2008, when the Department started making that distinction, through 2018. In 2018 there was an 19% increase in the number of domestic aggravated assaults. The Department continues to clear domestic aggravated assault incidents at a highly efficient rate, 98%. The Police and Community Relations Unit, described on the following page, works to provide resources, and education to the community and the Department. The implementation of this unit and resources has resulted in more victims coming forward.



Domestic Aggravated Assault				Domestic Clearance Rate		
	2017	2018	% Change	2017	2018	National <sup>1</sup>
Total	152	182	18%	98%	98%	53.3%

1. Refers to national aggravated assault clearance rate: Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2017/crime-in-the-u.s.-2017/topic-pages/clearances>

# Police and Community Relations Unit

The Police and Community Relations Unit (the Unit) was created to work with victims of domestic violence and to assist with missing and exploited children.

The unit addresses safety concerns by quickly evaluating domestic violence incidents and identifying individuals at high risk of violence as well as identifying and monitoring batterers with a high likelihood of re-offending. The Unit also facilitates services and access to supportive and rehabilitative programs within the community. The Unit's mission is to serve as a bridge between Lawrence Police Department and service providers.

The Unit helps achieve these goals by:

- **Assisting domestic violence survivors and their children to live violence-free lives**
- **Maximize services to community members by offering safety plans, resources, service coordination and collaboration with other agencies**
- **Identifying gaps in services and coordinating services delivery**

Since May 2018, the Police and Community Relations have reached out to over 220 families and community members. Out of those:

- **17 were placed in Domestic Violence shelters/safe homes**
- **80 were referred to counseling services**
- **38 were referred for court services**

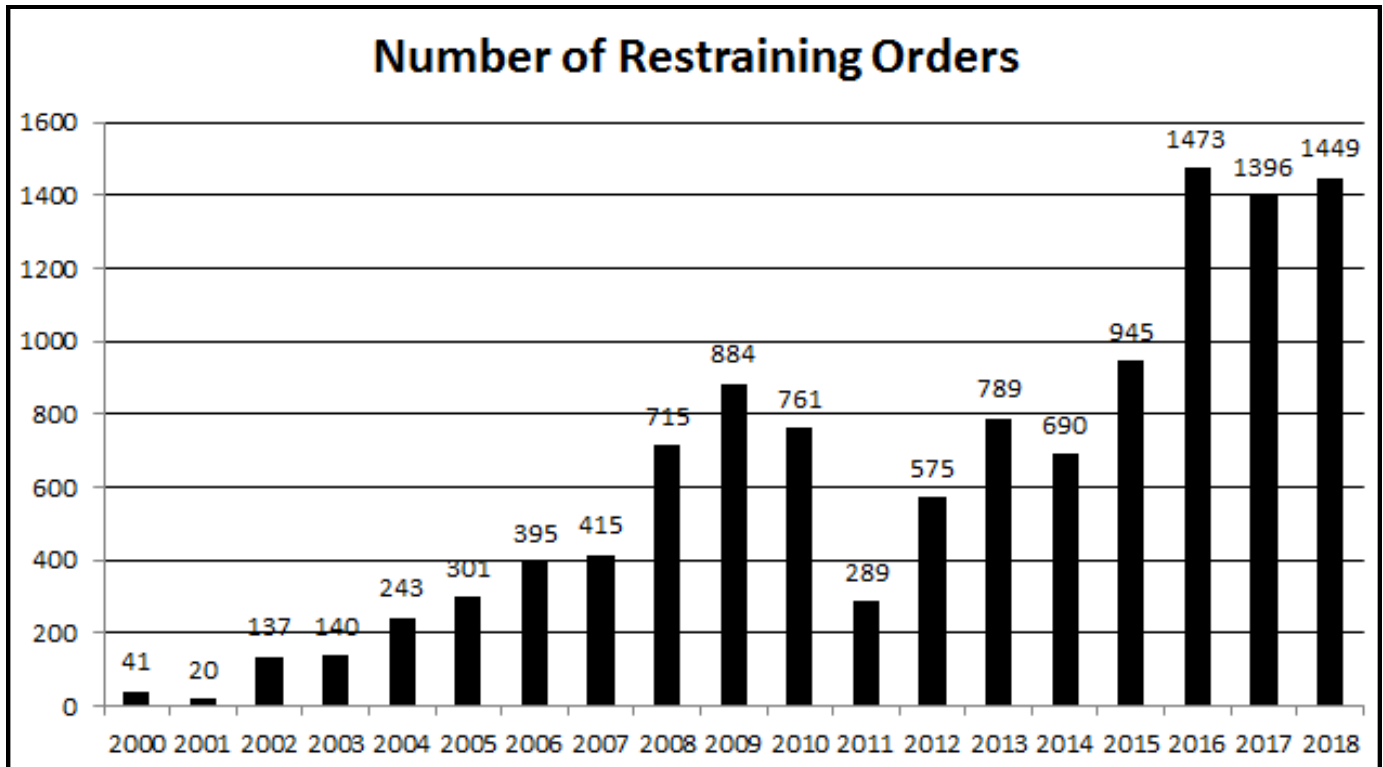
In addition to serving the community the Police and Community Relations Unit started the first Domestic Violence High Risk Team (DVHRT) in the Lawrence area. The DVHRT holds monthly meetings where members of the Lawrence Police Department, the Essex County District Attorney's Office, Probation Officers, Parole officers, The Essex County Sheriff's Office, Domestic Violence Service Providers, Intimate Partner Abuse Educational Program, Department of Transitional Assistance, and the Department of Children and Families work together to identify and prevent high lethality cases and to protect victims and hold abusers accountable.

The Unit has conducted domestic violence training for community and services agencies and has coordinated community forums on how to access services in the Lawrence area. Additionally, the Unit hosted training forums on the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women and Girls.

The Unit is an active member of the Lawrence Domestic Violence Round Table, the Lawrence HUB on Substances Abuse, the Continuum of Care for Homeless and the Quality Improvement Center Domestic Violence & Child Welfare Research and Capacity Building Project. Finally, the Unit has worked to expand, modify, and update the Department's domestic violence policy.

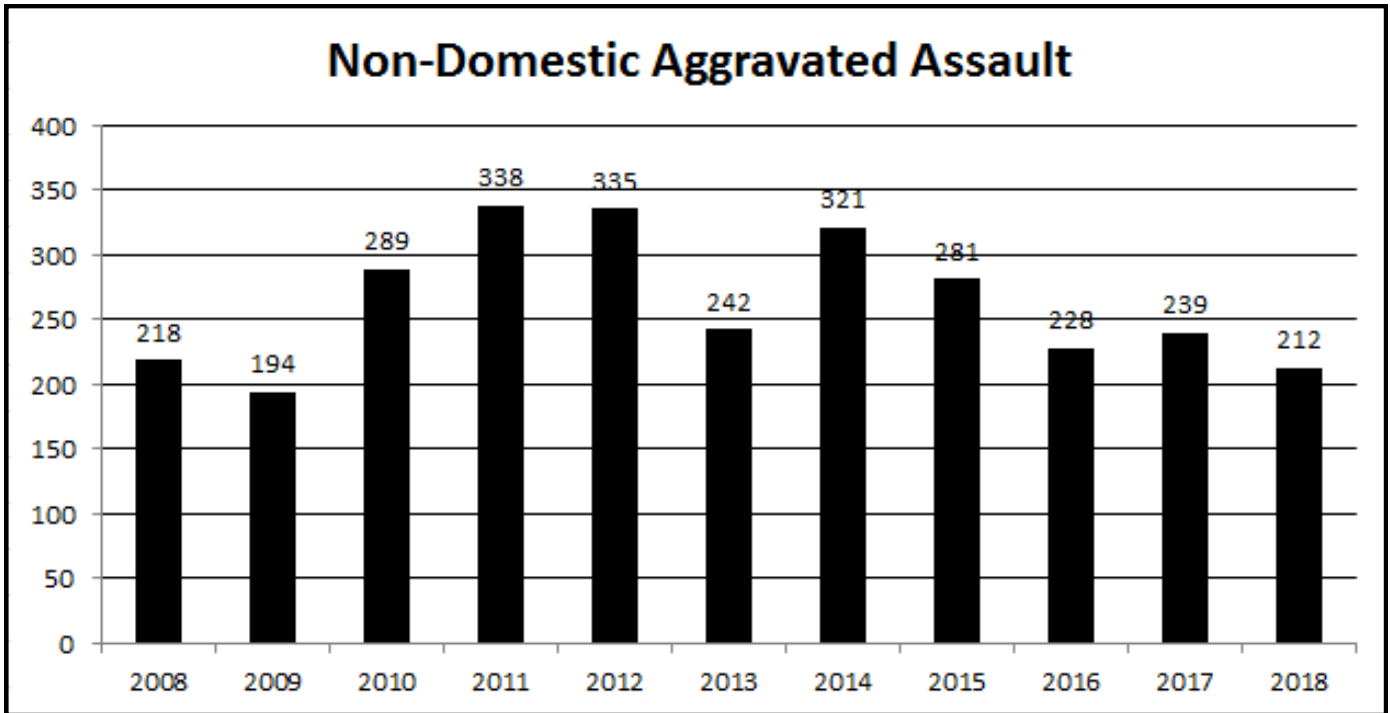


The Lawrence Police Department has a dedicated officer who serves all court issued restraining orders. This includes ensuring the conditions in the order are explained and carried out. Additionally this officer attends monthly Lawrence Domestic Violence Roundtable meetings and a High Risk team meeting. The graph below shows the number of restraining orders served.



# Non-Domestic Aggravated Assault

In 2018, 212 non-domestic aggravated assaults were reported. This is an 11% decrease from 2017 and the lowest amount since 2009. In a continued effort to reduce the amount of non-domestic aggravated assaults the patrol division monitors identified hotspots in the city including downtown areas surrounding the clubs. The graph below shows the total per year from 2008 through 2018.

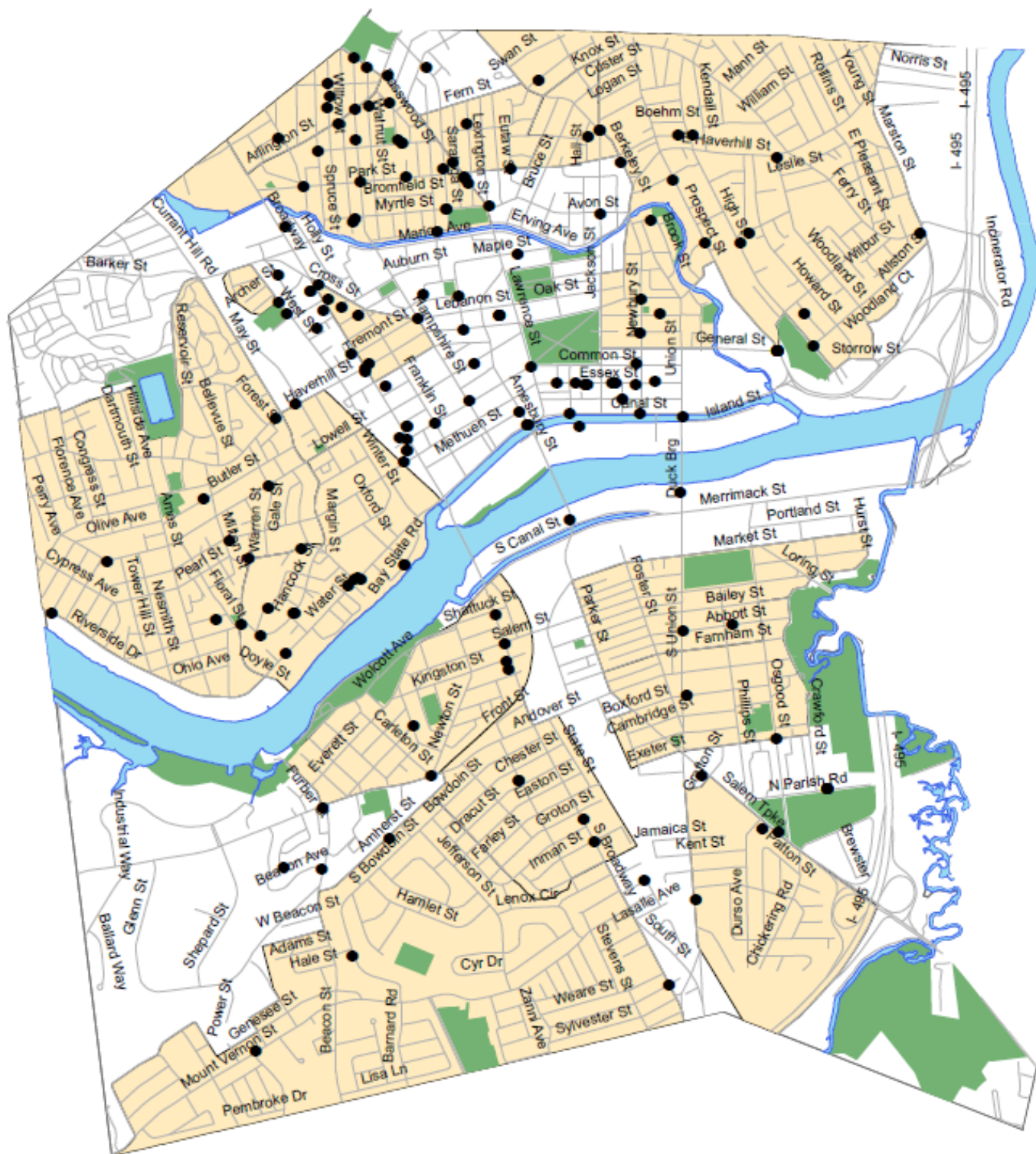


Non-Domestic Aggravated Assault			
	2017	2018	% Change
Total	239	213	-11%

Non-Domestic Clearance Rate		
2017	2018	National <sup>1</sup>
67%	66%	53.3%

1. Refers to national aggravated assault clearance rate: Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2017/crime-in-the-u.s.-2017/topic-pages/clearances>

# 2018 Non-Domestic Aggravated Assaults



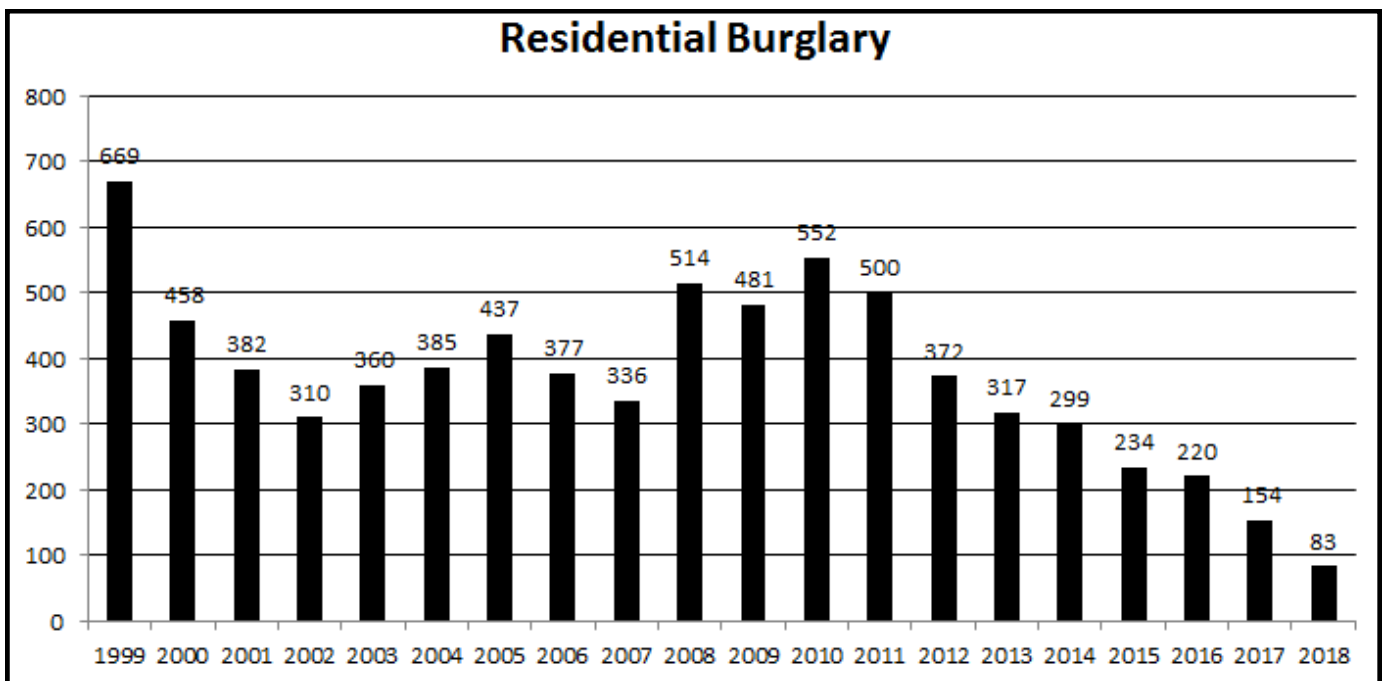
# Burglary

**FBI/ UCR Definition<sup>1</sup>:** The unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or a theft. Attempted forcible entry is included

The LPD Crime Analysis Unit breaks this crime into two categories: Residential and Commercial.

## Residential Burglary

The Department has made great strides in reducing the amount of residential burglaries, and in 2018 just 83 residential burglaries were reported. This is a 46% decrease when compared to 2017. Furthermore this is the lowest number in twenty years. In 1999, 669 residential burglaries were reported; an average of nearly two (2) per day. Finally, during 2018 the Department cleared 31% of burglaries. This is a higher percentage than the national burglary clearance rate of 13.5%<sup>2</sup>, and an increase from the clearance rate in 2017.



Residential Burglaries			
	2017	2018	% Change
Total	154	84	-45%

Residential Burglary Clearance Rate		
2017	2018	National <sup>2</sup>
26%	31%	13.5%

1. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2011/crime-in-the-u.s.-2011/offense-definitions>  
 2. Refers to national burglary clearance rate: Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2017/crime-in-the-u.s.-2017/topic-pages/clearances>

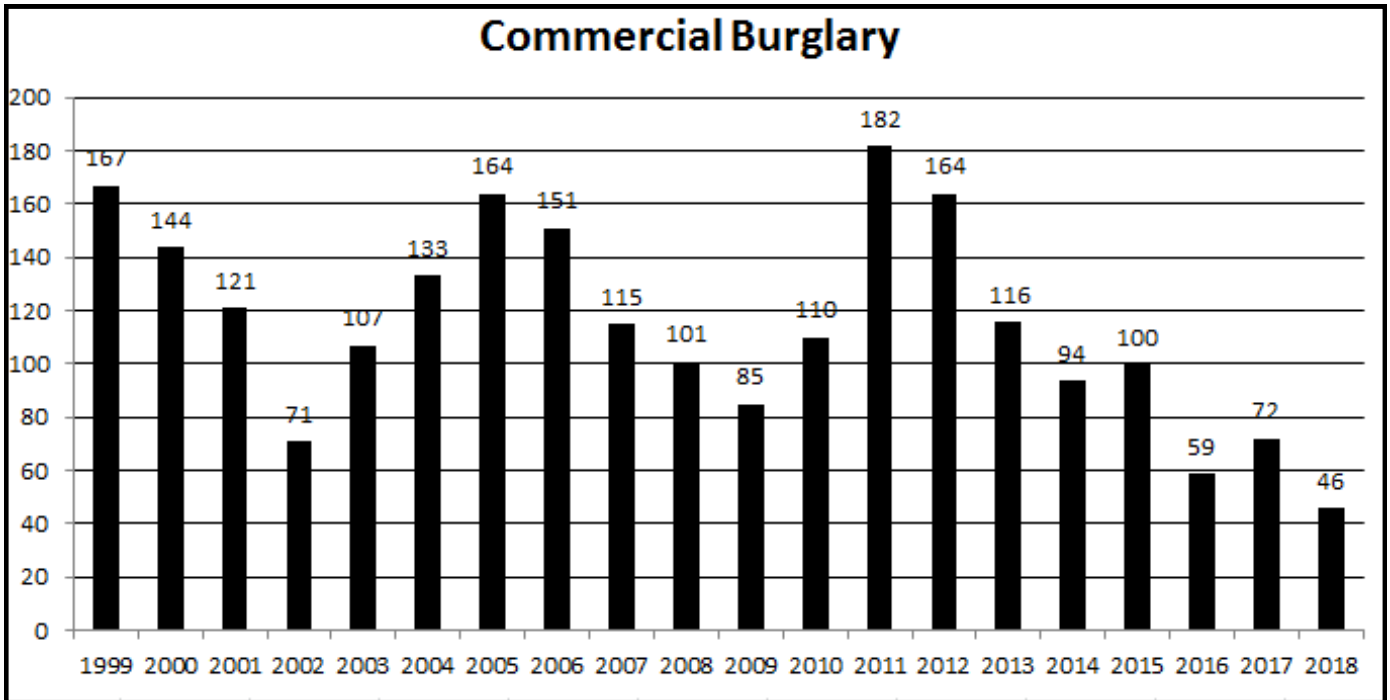
# 2018 Residential Burglaries





**Commercial Burglary:**

Between 2016 and 2017 the Department had a 22% increase in the number of commercial burglaries. Due to this increase the Department implored various tactics in an effort to combat this problem. One such tactic is conducting business checks, especially during the early night and midnight shift. The 'Business Check' table below highlights the number of business checks conducted in 2018 compared to 2017. Additionally, a business liaison position in Community Policing (highlighted on Pg. 47) was created. In 2018, just 46 commercial burglaries were reported and 30% of which were cleared. This a 36% decrease when compared to the total reported in 2017. Finally, a new 20 year low was established in this category.



Commercial Burglaries			
	2017	2018	% Change
Total	72	46	-36%

Commercial Burglary Clearance Rate		
2017	2018	National <sup>2</sup>
19%	30%	13.5%

Business Checks		
2017	2018	% Change
597	4416	640%

1. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2016/crime-in-the-u.s.-2016/topic-pages/clearances>  
 2. Refers to national burglary clearance rate: Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2017/crime-in-the-u.s.-2017/topic-pages/clearances>



# 2018 Commercial Burglaries

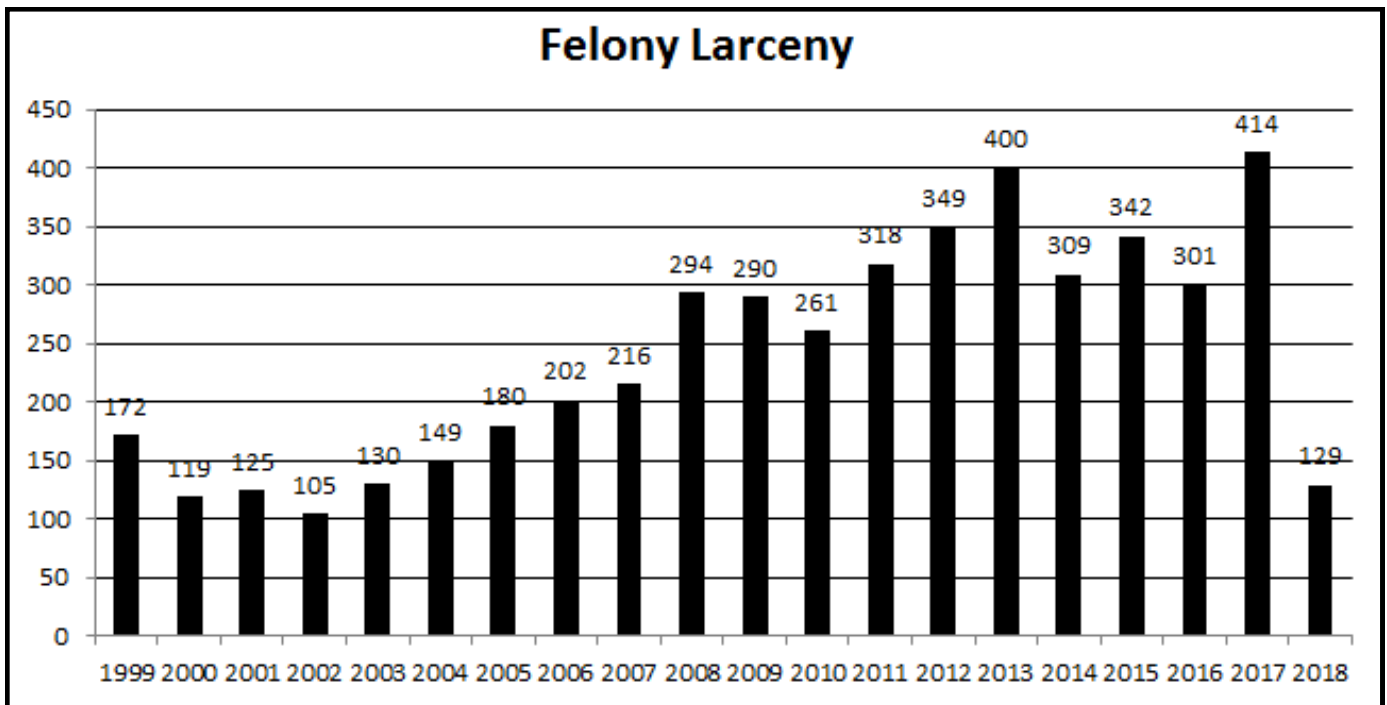


# Felony Larceny

**FBI/ UCR Definition<sup>1</sup>:** theft (except motor vehicle theft)—The unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another. Examples are thefts of bicycles, motor vehicle parts and accessories, shoplifting, pocket-picking, or the stealing of any property or article that is not taken by force and violence or by fraud. Attempted larcenies are included. Embezzlement, confidence games, forgery, check fraud, etc., are excluded.

*The Crime Analysis Unit follows Massachusetts legislature and classifies Felony Larceny as those where the value of the property is over twelve hundred dollars.*

On April 13, 2018 a change in the Massachusetts legislature increased the felony threshold from \$250 to \$1200. This change directly affected the number of felony larceny cases reported in Lawrence. In the last five years the Department saw a rise in the number of felony larceny cases which was likely attributed to the increase costs / values of personal electronics, such as phones. This legislative change in conjunction with the decrease in stolen motor vehicle parts, radios, airbags, and tires, has resulted in a significant decline in the number of felony larceny incidents. In 2018, 129 incidents of felony larceny were reported, the lowest number reported since 2002. This is a 69% decrease when compared to 2017; although the mid year legislative change makes a true comparison difficult to determine. Finally, the Department clears larceny incidents at a rate of 26% surpassing the national clearance percentage of 20.4%<sup>2</sup>.



Felony Larceny				Larceny Clearance Rate		
	2017	2018	% Change	2017	2018	National <sup>2</sup>
Total	414	129	-69%	15%	26%	20.4%

1. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2011/crime-in-the-u.s.-2011/offense-definitions>  
 2. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2017/crime-in-the-u.s.-2017/topic-pages/clearances>

# 2018 Felony Larceny

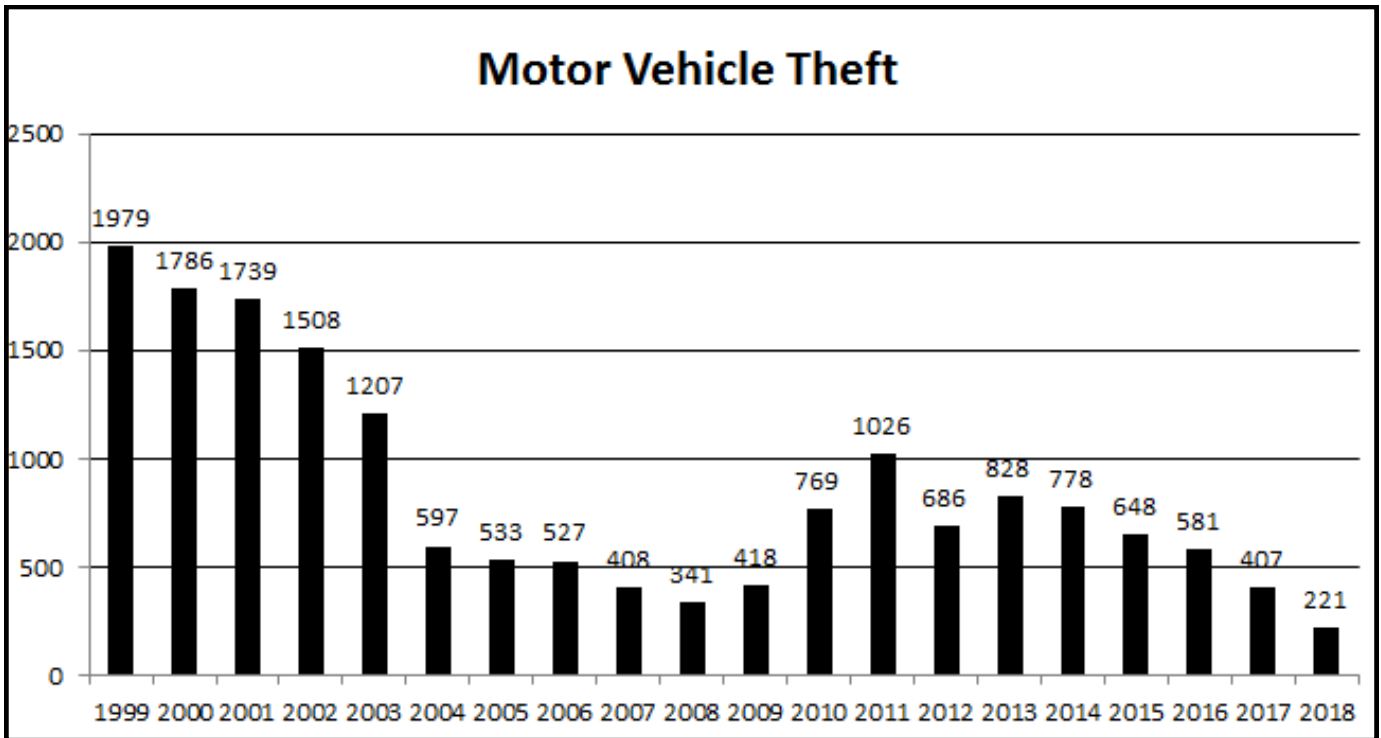




# Motor Vehicle Theft

**FBI/ UCR Definition<sup>1</sup>:** The theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle. A motor vehicle is self-propelled and runs on land surface and not on rails. Motorboats, construction equipment, airplanes, and farming equipment are specifically excluded from this category.

The graph below shows the number of motor vehicle thefts per year from 1999-2018. The number of motor vehicles thefts in 1999, the peak year for motor vehicle theft in the City of Lawrence was almost 2000 and accounted for over 50% of the Part 1 Crime that year. Patrol and the detectives in the Auto Theft unit have worked tirelessly to decrease the number of motor vehicle thefts throughout the city. The number of reported motor vehicle thefts has been declining since 2013. In 2018 this trend continued, and just 221 motor vehicle thefts were reported. This is a 20 year low for the Department. The Department consistently clears 10% of reported motor vehicle thefts.



MV Theft			
	2017	2018	% Change
Total	407	221	-46%

MV Theft Clearance Rate			
	2017	2018	National <sup>2</sup>
	10%	10%	13.7%

1. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2011/crime-in-the-u.s.-2011/offense-definitions>  
 2. Source: <https://ucr.fbi.gov/crime-in-the-u.s/2017/crime-in-the-u.s.-2017/topic-pages/clearances>

# 2018 Motor Vehicle Theft



## Bureau of Special Investigations

The Bureau of Special Investigations is comprised of 36 sworn, full time officers, spread over 6 units. Those 36 men and women amount to approximately 26% of the Lawrence Police Department. The LPD Entry Team also falls under the auspices of the BSI, and consists of 16 officers from all bureaus of the Department. The entry team responds to any high risk situation requiring dynamic entry. The team also provides training to schools and businesses.

The Detective Division is responsible for the investigation of major crimes and handles any long term investigations. Within the Detective Division, there is a Street Narcotics Enforcement Unit, which handles street level drug dealing all the way up to major trafficking. Also, in 2018, Chief Vasque established a Gang Unit within the division to devote the necessary attention to gang related crime. One member of the Detective Division is assigned to handle any police related issues in the Lawrence Housing Authority properties. There is an Auto Theft Unit within the division that consists of two (2) detectives that focus on stolen motor vehicles, stolen motor vehicle parts, and insurance fraud.

The Community Policing Division is the most public face of the LPD. The unit attends public meetings to gather information, and work on the "quality of life" violations that are of greatest concern to the residents. The unit addresses nuisance properties, enforces traffic laws, coordinates police participation in community events, enforces liquor laws, and works with residents, businesses, and intergovernmental agencies to solve neighborhood problems. Within the division, there is an officer assigned to primarily assist small business owners. There is also an officer assigned to work with the "Safe and Successful Youth Initiative," a multi-faceted strategy for reducing youth violence. The program's main objective is gang prevention and diversion through education, work, counseling and other services.



# Community Policing

Members of the Community Poling Division posted the following numbers from January –December of 2018:

- 157 arrests were made by the Community Policing Division of people on various charges and offenses
- 3,325 motor vehicle stops were conducted
- 1, 280 Impact Operation Motor Vehicle Citations were issued
- 624 motor vehicles were towed for improper registration of vehicles
- 3,008 Chapter 90 Citations issued throughout city to address traffic complaints
- 35 noise tickets issued
- 22 Crosswalk Stings resulting in 400 tickets issued
- 30 Speed Trap Operations
- 1, 000s of community complaints addressed
- 14 Joint Impact Zero Tolerance Operations with Massachusetts State Police (Cat Team) resulting in 345 arrests, 17 summons, 980 motor vehicle stops, 655 written citations issued and 300 vehicles towed
- State Police Gang Unit conducted countless joint operations with the Street Crimes Unit where 407 arrests were made and 100 summonsed

Street Crimes Auto Theft Unit conducted 115 Auto Theft operations throughout the city in an effort to reduce the number of vehicles being stolen. During these operations warrant sweeps, surveillance operations, and targeted patrols were conducted and Hot Sheets were produced and distributed. As a result of these efforts several key players in the auto theft game were arrested. This reduced the number of stolen motor vehicles by 186 from January 1 through December 31. Only 221 vehicles were stolen in 2018. In comparison to 2017, where 407 vehicles were stolen in the City of Lawrence. This is an all time low for the number of vehicles stolen in The City of Lawrence for a one year period. Reduction was also seen in Rim and Tire theft; in 2018 only 18 thefts occurred vs. 105 Rim and Tire thefts in 2017

Massachusetts Insurance Fraud Bureau conducted joint investigations with the Auto Theft Unit. These investigations resulted in arrest warrants being issued sought for insurance fraud suspects. Warrant sweeps were then conducted and arrests were made of the suspects.

## Licensing Board Meetings and Club Compliance Checks

- ALES Educational Seminar regarding Liquor Laws
- Attended 17 Licensing Board meetings
- 10 nightclubs were found in violation by the board for various offenses and had their hours of operation rolled back
- 3 nightclubs had their licenses revoked for violations as part of a progressive discipline program
- 5 illegal gaming club operations were shutdown
- ABCC Investigators assigned to work in Lawrence with local board on weekly basis
- 50 investigations were conducted of various clubs /new clubs
- 15 Joint Compliance Check Operations were conducted with investigators from ABCC, Lawrence Fire Department and Inspectional Services
- Reduction of operation hours for 4 businesses due to calls for service
- Compliance Checks of Convenience for the Sale of Cigarettes to minors
- Compliance Checks for the Sale of K2 Synthetic Marijuana
- 10 Compliance Check Operations were conducted of package stores in regards to selling of alcohol to minors
- Weekly meetings and daily calls from Licensing Department to address issues with clubs, bars, package stores and used car dealers
- Issued special one-day permits for Alcohol related Events

## Additional Highlights from Community Policing:

- Speed Board circulation
- Commonwealth Motors Club Program
- Commonwealth Motors GPS Covert tracker Recovery Unit Program
- Attended community neighborhood meetings and events
- Ciclovía
- Frank Moran Basketball Tournament
- National Night Out
- YMCA Movie Night
- Coffee with A Cop
- Merrimack Valley Volleyball Tournament
- Creation of Business Liaison Program
- Increase in number of officers assigned to Community Policing Division (5 New Officers)
- Creation of Street Crimes Unit
- Massachusetts State Police and Lawrence Police Turkey Giveaway to homeless shelters
- Massachusetts State Police and Lawrence Police Holiday Party Ham Dinner to feed Seniors
- YMCA Coat and Hat Drive
- Suenos Basketball League
- Earth Day Cleanup
- Walking Beats
- 3 Community Engagements
- Mountain bike patrols of parks and city
- Cold Weather /Homeless checks and cleanups of railroad trails ,bridges and all encampments
- Marine Patrols
- Motorcycle Patrols
- ATM arrests of targets/associates and wrap up of 18 month joint Task Force Operation Golden Ticket
- Extra checks of Everett Street boat ramp/park, Brook Street, 9-11 Poplar, 50 Island , Floral Ave, Cronin Park, Hancock Street, and any additional Hot Spots
- Rooming house Liaison Program (15Arrests)
- Taxi Inspections
- 7D bus inspections



## Business Liaison

In 2018 the Lawrence Police Department created the position titled, “Business Liaison”, with the objective to strengthen the relationship and communication between all local businesses in the community and thereby also serving its residents in a pro-active way; adding yet another layer of service. One of the goals of the business liaison officer is to visit every local business and provide contact information in order to share and exchange information that is pivotal to one another on a daily basis, and for the safety of the businesses.

During a visit the officer provides and discuss Chief Roy Vasque’s letter, which is in English and Spanish. In this letter, he introduces himself to the business community and also provides statistics showing the reduction of business burglaries within the past years. This reduction is a direct result of pro-active counter measures that have been made by many businesses. These measures include:

- Adding better interior and exterior lighting to include main areas, parking areas, alleyways, and dumpster areas. Securing and locking alley ways and dumpster areas in order to minimize illicit activity.
- Removing all signage from the exterior front glass and cut back shrubbery and landscaping that might impede the view inside.
- Consider having at least two clerks to be on duty at all times which will help in preventing robberies and shoplifting
- Consider adding “HD” (High Definition) discreet (concealed/at eye level) and non-discreet video cameras inside and outside of the businesses, to serve as a deterrent and possibly identify the offender.
- Post signs such as: “**NO TRESPASS**”; “**NO LOITERING**” and “**VIDEO SURVEILLANCE**” “**NO SOLICITING**” about the exterior and interior of the building.
- Identifying persons who are no longer welcome on the business’s private property and have them served with “no trespass” and “no loitering” orders by the police. This information is kept on file with the Department and gives probable cause to arrest those persons if they are found in violation in the future.

The Business Liaison officer provides businesses with the Department’s emergency and non-emergency numbers, as well as information on the safe watch and safe syringe program. Additionally the officer provides flyers and discusses crime prevention tips. During 2018, this officer conducted over 370 business checks at over 240 different locations. 200 Business emergency forms were collected as part of these checks; these include updated contact information. The business liaison assisted the Community Daycare with added cameras and signage after they had been burglarized. Work was done with local businesses located on Newbury Street, between Essex Street and Common Street, specifically with restaurants, clubs, and the building owners, in effort to pick up and maintain trash containers and removal via waste management companies. During this process, DPW office in coordination with National Grid worked to install brand new alley street light and fix broken lights thereby illuminating this dark alleyway and adding better security to rear of businesses. Additionally, 15-minute parking signs were added outside of 4A Market, and lights were fixed in the municipal parking lot at 225 Essex St. Finally, this officer assisted with illegal dumping and drug related incidents.

Additionally during 2018, the officer assisted businesses with general motor vehicle parking complaints, as well as issues with disorderly, harassing, and unwanted customers, shoplifting, traffic, and vandalism. The officer worked in conjunction with the other city departments such as the Mayor’s Office, DPW, Planning, Inspection, Assessor, Treasurer’s Department and City Clerk’s Office. The officer worked with local establishments complaining about food truck or ice cream vendors encroaching in their space. Finally, the officer assisted with emergency situations within the city.

## Detective Division

In 2018 the LPD Detective Division investigated 1330 cases and of these cases four were Homicide. Throughout 2018, the detective division worked closely with the juvenile courts and the Department of Children's Families in a combined effort to combat the increasing problem with missing/runaway children. In 2018 the division investigated 153 missing persons cases.

Overall the division cleared cases at a highly efficient rate. This was done through the hard work, and dedication of the men and women assigned to the LPD Detective Division.

It should be noted that a large number of the cases being solved were a result of using current technology and social media. Most notably the LPD Video Unit was integral in the recovery enhancement, and documentation of crimes which lead to the identification and arrest of suspect (s) for crimes that would more likely than not have not been solved without their hard work and expertise. Social media platforms and applications, like Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, WhatsApp, have been used in many different ways to identify and arrest suspects, solve crimes, find missing persons, and locate witnesses. The highly anticipated purchase of a Cellebrite machine will greatly enhance the tremendous progress already made in this area of investigation. Cellebrite, is a tech tool used by trained investigators to extract, download and preserve data forensically from tech devices. Currently Cellebrite has the ability to extract data from 8200 devices. This state of the art tech tool will be up and running by spring 2019.

The detective division continues to grow to include some changes in personnel highlighted by the creation of the Gang Unit. This unit is manned by three LPD detectives and one sheriff from Essex County. This unit as well as SNEU, Auto Theft and the division as a whole, continues to cultivate new and continued relationships with all law enforcement agencies including local agencies in Massachusetts, the Massachusetts State Police, FBI, DEA, HSI, FDA, Department of Diplomatic Security, United States Postal Inspectors, and the United States Secret Service.

In 2018, the division made tremendous strides in training and sent numerous members of the division to leadership and specialized training throughout New England. The detective division continues to make needed cosmetic updates to include adding some needed equipment to assist in investigations. Most notably, as previously stated, the Cellebrite unit and the creation of the video recovery unit now located adjacent to the detective division.

## Street Crimes

The Lawrence Police Dept.'s Gang Unit is comprised of three (3) LPD Detectives and one (1) Deputy Sheriff from the Essex County Sheriff's Dept. This Unit was formed in June of 2018 and has worked very closely with multiple agencies, including but not limited to: The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, US Marshals Office, Massachusetts State Police Gang Unit, Federal Bureau of Investigations, Law Enforcement Officers assigned to HIDTA, and other local Gang Units.

The LPD Gang Unit has been extremely successful in identifying, validating and investigating active Gang members in the City of Lawrence, and the surrounding areas. These members represent at least seven (7) different gangs.

The statistics for the Gang Unit, since its inception in June of 2018, are as follows:

Calls for Service: 1,246  
 Arrests: 256  
 Firearm's Seized: 14  
 FIO's: 186  
 Search Warrants: 21

The Lawrence Police Dept.'s Street Narcotic Enforcement Unit (SNEU) is comprised of four (4) LPD Detectives. This Unit also works very closely with multiple agencies, including but not limited to: The Drug Enforcement Administration, Cross Border Initiative, Massachusetts State Police Drug Task Force, New Hampshire State Police Drug Task Force, Law Enforcement Officers assigned to HIDTA, and other local Narcotics Unit's.

The Street Narcotic Enforcement Unit has been extremely successful with identifying, investigating and enforcing "street level" drug dealing, along with "quality of life" issues such as Prostitution. Several prostitution stings were conducted in 2018 as the result of complaints from local businesses resulting in 91 arrests by the unit.

The statistics for the Street Narcotics Unit are below.

	2017	2018
Calls for Service	615	760
Arrests	636	661
Firearms Seized	19	6
Class A Seized	5,321 grams	3,964 grams

Additional 2018 statics include:

Search Warrants: 33  
 Money Seized: \$57,784 (Approx.)  
 Class B Seized: 2,291 Grams (Approx.)

# Lawrence Housing Authority

The Lawrence Police Department has one detective assigned to the Lawrence Housing Authority. During 2018, that detective responded to over 200 documented calls for service and furthermore responded to countless calls to back patrol, detectives, and outside agencies. The detective meets weekly with the five managers and has administrative meetings to discuss any issues or concerns that they may have or that residents might have. Additionally participates in countless tenant meetings on a variety of issues some of which include neighbor problems, loud music, and illegal tenants. Some of these meetings are conducted in the office in order to pass on information regarding gang members or drug dealing. In these cases the information is passed along and work is conducted with our units. Illegal resident checks are conducted at the direction of management. Animal complaints are addressed, specifically complaints into dogs (pit bulls) that are in housing that cannot be on the property per management. All calls for service are documented and evictions are made on residents who violate LHA rules.

The breakdown below are some of the types of calls for service addressed. The responsibilities of this detective are unique in the sense that each call is completed from start to finish. The housing properties are all patrolled several times per day. This provides visibility and allows residents to put a face to the housing officer.

The following types of calls were responded to:

- Arrest/ Warrants/Summons: were made for all types of calls for service
- M/Vs Towed: these motor vehicles were towed for reasons such as revoked insurance, suspended registrations, and parking violations (resident stickers)
- Larceny: investigations into larceny incidents were conducted and as a result several actions were taken that include summons, warrants, arrests, and determining whether some incidents were unfounded in nature.
- Parking Tickets: Part of the duties of this detective is to check on resident parking sticker compliance on all housing properties. When motor vehicles are found not to be in compliance a Lawrence Parking ticket is issued and some motor vehicles are towed. Approximately 650 parking tickets were issued in 2018 ranging from \$25 to \$300 dollars.
- Domestic Past/ Progress/209A Violations: Investigations are conducted into domestic violence calls as a result several actions were taken that include summons, warrants, arrests, and determining whether some incidents were unfounded in nature
- Medic Support: Assisted medics in reference to all types of medicals, including persons not breathing, overdoses, falls, unresponsive and sudden deaths.
- Disturbance: Responded to many disturbances that include fights, arguments, unwanted guests.
- Loud Music: Responded to several complaints in regards to loud music. During these incidents proper identification was made in all cases and then residents were given a verbal warnings, or the music call was deemed unfounded.
- Trespassing: Several trespass notices were documented and filed with housing.
- Assist DCF: Assistance was given to DCF in checking on families and removing children from homes.
- Elder Services: Due to the number of elderly housing units the detective worked closely with elder service workers in assisting residents that are in dire need of services.
- Missing Persons: Worked start to finish helping to locate missing children.
- Lockouts: These calls are very common in housing authority as residents forget their keys and a response is needed to allow them access into their homes.
- Investigations: These calls were conducted to investigate neighbor complaints, drinking in public, illegal dumping, residential burglaries, drug complaints, well-being checks, suspicious persons/ motor vehicles, assisting fire department, alarms, building checks, assaults, and sexual assaults.

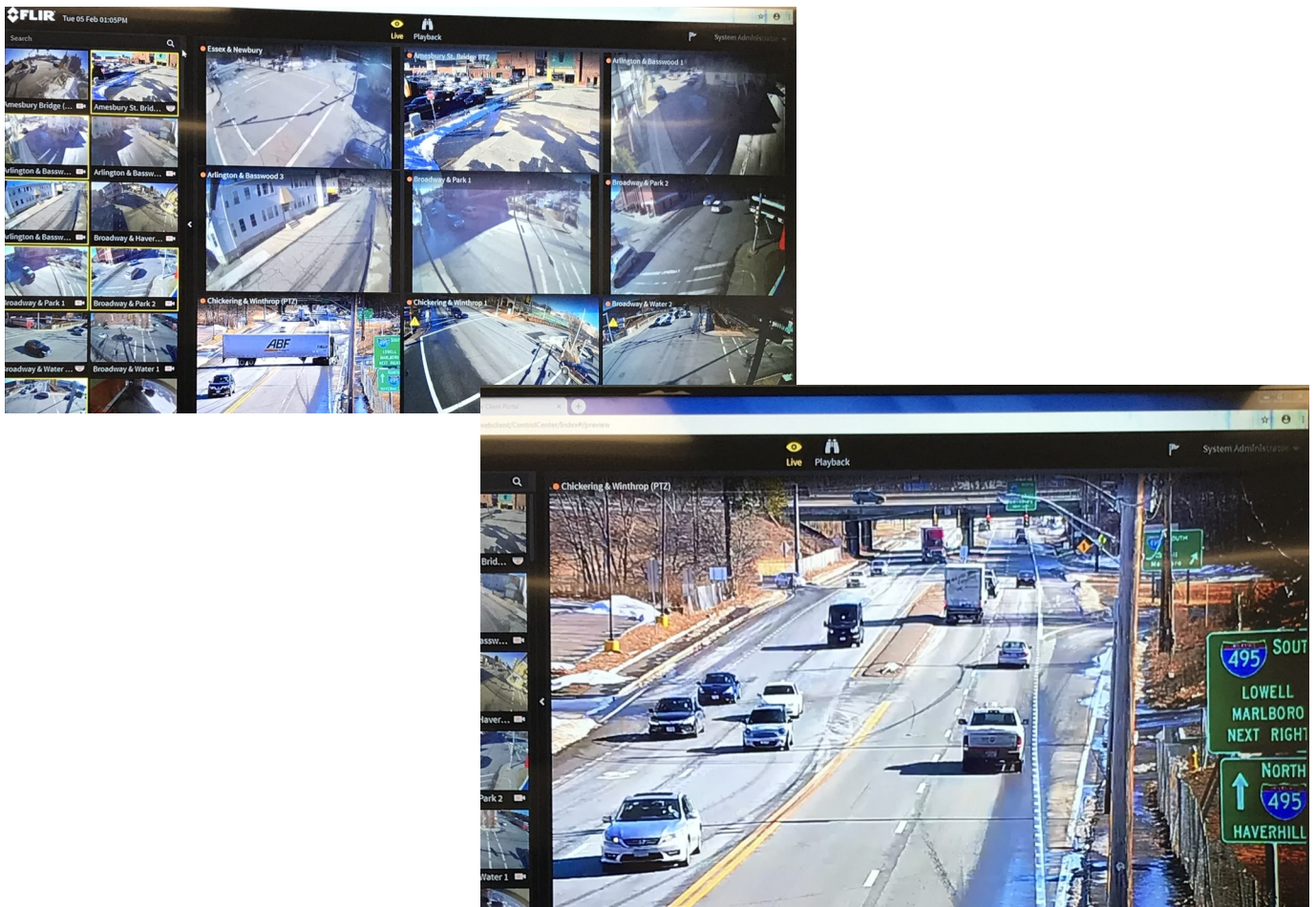


## Cross Border Initiative

The Lawrence Police Department used a two prong approach in effort to address the drug problem in the city. The Street Narcotic Enforcement Unit (SNEU) handles street level drug problems in the city and the Cross Border Initiative (CBI) that handles larger scale investigations. Lawrence Police Department has one (1) detective assigned to CBI. The CBI's mission is to identify and target major Drug Trafficking Organizations (DTO's) that are based along the Northern border of Massachusetts and who, through various methods, both transport and distribute illicit drugs to customers in the Northern New England States. The CBI is represented by the following agencies: DEA, Massachusetts State Police, Lowell PD, HSI, Wilmington PD, Andover PD, North Andover PD, Salem, NH PD, Haverhill PD, and Lawrence PD. In 2018 the CBI made 73 arrests all of which are being prosecuted federally.

## Video

The Forensic Video Unit conducted 316 video investigations during 2018. These cases range from hit and run motor vehicle accidents to homicide investigations. They may include simple recovery and processing for publishing to wanted posters or extensive processing and analysis for court presentation or gradations of processing in between. The unit continues to work on open investigations as well. Further details are available on individual cases. The Forensic Video Unit will be accessing and handling the newly constructed citywide camera system.



# School Resource Officers

A School Resource Officer (SRO) is a certified Lawrence Police Officer who is permanently assigned to provide coverage to a school or a set of schools. The SRO is specifically trained to perform within the educational environment and is not a security guard, or officer who has been placed temporarily in a school in response to a crisis situation but rather acts as a comprehensive resource for their school and the district. The Lawrence Police Department's SRO Unit relies on positive relationships between officers and students. These relationships build trust between SROs and the student body, reduces school safety issues, and promotes perceptions of safety. Currently three (3) Lawrence Police Officers are assigned to the SRO Unit as well as Lt. Sean Burke who was assigned to this unit in 2018 and serves as the Department's SRO commander. Lt. Burke is the National School Safety Advocacy Council president, and has worked throughout 2018 on evaluating and developing safety and security plans for the Lawrence Public Schools.

The Lawrence Police SRO Unit has the philosophy that arrest or a student's introduction to the criminal justice system should be a last resort while respecting all rights of any crime victim. With that philosophy in mind, below are the 2018 SRO Unit statistics;

Incident Reports:	246
Arrests:	12
Summonses	111
Marijuana Citations	14
Weapons Confiscated	19

## **Special Programs:**

### Junior Police Academy

This program addresses the need for positive programs for youth during the summer months. This very successful program focuses not only law enforcement, but also on all public service careers and stresses good citizenship and decision-making. This program builds strong bonds between the youth participants and the SROs that administer the program and is extremely popular. Officers have built ongoing relationships with the youth served and assisted past participants' years after their graduation from the Academy. In 2018 the Department had 70 applications to attend the Junior Police Academy and graduated 40 youth from the program.

### Operation Night Light

This is a Lawrence Police SRO Unit and Lawrence District Court Probation Department partnership where SROs accompany probation officers on home visits of youth who are actively on probation. This is a very successful program as it shows youth on probation and at highest risk to re-offend that participating agencies are working together to both assist and monitor them. This, like all of the other Police programs, has the added benefit of using SROs who have a natural relationship with the school system, adding another avenue for intervention with these at risk youth. For 2018, SROs and probation officers completed 139 home visits.



### Cops & Kids Sports Program

In this program the Lawrence Police SRO Unit and the Lawrence Public Schools to provide the youth of the City with a safe and secure place to gather and play sports in the evening hours. The goal of this program is to foster youth/police relationships, provide youth an alternative to being on the street during high crime times, and provide attending youth with various educational presentations on safety, good decision making, and violence prevention etc. At this time the School Resource Officers staff two gyms four times a week and for 2018 we have had 14,774 youth take part in the program.

### Active Shooter Tactical Victim Evacuation Exercise

The purpose of this exercise, held at Lawrence High School, was to prepare the Lawrence Police Department and SRO Unit to work cooperatively with other city and surrounding community first responders to effectively respond and evacuate injured victims from the scene of an active shooter event to a medical facility.

The goal of this exercise was to enhance Department and unit preparedness and response through a multi-agency approach to an active shooter event. The Department worked with City first responders such as the Lawrence Fire Department and Lawrence General Hospital as well as first responders from surrounding communities to enhance the regions preparedness to mitigate, respond, and recover from an active shooter event.



# Animal Control

The Animal Control Unit of the Lawrence Police Department is comprised of two animal control officers. These officers are responsible for the maintaining and caring for the animals at the pound. This includes feeding, walking, cleaning kennels, laundry, dishes, as well as stocking supplies for the animals and the building. Additionally, the officers answer daily complaints via e-mail and telephone and respond to calls for service from the Department. The officers will at times assist with special assignments with the SNUE Unit, Sheriff Department and Constables.

Throughout the year, their duties include picking up any stray, domestic animals, and wildlife complaints as well as any injured wildlife. They respond to dog bites, animal to human bites, barking complaints, and other animal complaint. Animal Control Officer Bistany is appointed the City of Lawrence Animal Health inspector, and those duties include investigating all dog bite incidents and Rabies quarantines as well as keeping paperwork in order to be sent to Massachusetts State Health Department. Additionally she will appear in District and Superior court for animal cruelty cases.

During 2018 the Animal Control Officers:

- Responded to 553 calls for service
- Wrote 74 incident reports
- Responded to 51 dog/cat bites reported by medical facilities
- 6 Animal Cruelty court cases
- Took the following into custody
- 202 Dogs (32 sent to MSPCA, the remainder other facilities or released back to owner)
- 72 cats (taken to MSPCA)
- 4 snakes
- 2 ferrets
- 2 bunnies
- 21 injured wildlife
- 10 chickens
- Wrote approximately 40 citations
- Removed approximately 167 deceased animals/road kill
- There are 291 dog licenses in the city (dog licensing period runs March 31– April )



# Training

The Training Division has made a concerted effort to make available the best training possible in 2018. The Lawrence Police Department has continued its partnership with Northern Essex Community College in regards to the Police Academy and in-services training. In 2018 The Training Division offered a host of different training, both online and in-person classroom/lecture, as well as scenario-based training in an attempt to have a well-rounded police force trained in the best practices and procedures.

**ACADEMY:** In 2018, seven officers graduated from the Northern Essex Police academy, finished their field training in December, and are currently on patrol working their assigned duties. During their field training, the officers went through a twelve-week San Jose Model Field Training Program where they were mentored by senior officers. The Field Training Officers were asked to observe, instruct and critique the new officers on their interactions, tactics, report writing, and decision making. These seven new officers also did a rotation in the Detective Division in an attempt to introduce them to the different investigating techniques. Along with field training, these officers were also exposed to scenario-based training including court room testimony in conjunction with the District Attorney's Office. The officers were asked to participate in a crime based scenario, and write a report that they would later testify to in a realistic mock trial scenario. During the exercise the deficiencies in their reports and testimony were exposed in a controlled environment allowing them to develop the skills needed for future prosecution. This portion was developed in conjunction with the District Attorney's Office and is invaluable in not only the training of the officers and the ADA's, but in cultivating a good working relationship between the Lawrence Police Department and District Attorney's Office.

As of January 2019, the Department currently has four student officers in their 13th week of a 25-week Municipal Police Training Committee (MPTC) training program in The Northern Essex Police Academy. If the student officers are successful, they will complete their academy training in April and then enter the 12-week FTO Program. The Department is sending one officer to the Reading Academy in March and currently working with the personnel department to send three more candidates to the next available academy.

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT:** For the first time in 2017/2018, the Department sent all officers to Northern Essex Community College for in-service training. Local law enforcement personnel, including Lawrence Police Officers, used the MPTC curriculum to train officers in the areas of First Aid, CPR, legal updates, defensive tactics, domestic violence, critical stress awareness, procedural justice and combating extremism. Officers were also qualified on firearms training using MPTC guidelines. In 2018/2019 due to scheduling, officers will be sent to the Northern Essex Academy and Reading Academy to complete their MPTC training. Additionally, the superior officers attending three (3) different executive development programs (FBI LEEDA, MPI Executive Development, and Chief's and Command Leadership Academy).

**ONLINE TRAINING:** In an effort to maximize training time and budget dollars, the Department offered training to all officers in the area of Fostering Positive Relationship with Immigrants and Refugees and a second course in the area of customer service. Both classes were made available by way of EOPSS, an on-line training module, made available to the Department by the MPTC.

**SCENARIO-BASED TRAINING:** All officers were exposed to different scenario-based training. In the spring of 2018, the Department participated in two active shooter scenario trainings. The first training took place at the Lucent building in North Andover. With the assistance of Lawrence ERT officers, SROs, volunteer role players, and simulations, the Lawrence and North Andover Police Departments were able to train officers on how to approach a possible shooting/no shoot scenario. The second training took place at Lawrence High School and was an effort to further develop the active shooter training. This training was a collaborative effort involving the Fire Department, Ambulance and Lawrence General Hospital personnel. Furthermore, this expanded training was collectively developed and executed with a focus on secondary response, specifically the extraction and rapid treatment of victims in an active shooter situation. After multiple scenarios, officers and role players got together and debriefed on the positive and negative techniques and tactics observed. An additional post event debriefing training was sched-

debriefing training was scheduled

**INDIVIDUALIZED TRAINING:** Along with the Department's extensive training throughout the year, the division also offered individualized training. The Department sent officers to various trainings on the following topics: report writing, warrant preparation and writing, HIDTA drug interdiction, recognizing characteristics of an armed offender, recognizing an imposter, sobriety testing, fentanyl safety, bomb threat in schools, child trafficking, and domestic violence. The Department is also building leadership skills by sending officials to various schools and seminars including: Command Staff Training, F.B.I. LEEDA School, MPI Executive Development as well as MPTC Trainings.

**ROLL CALL TRAINING:** The Training Division has made a concerted effort to keep all officers up to date on best practices, policies and procedures. Throughout the year, Roll Call Trainings were presented to the officers in different areas including: interacting with the homeless, options in dealing with people with addictions, and the implementation of the Department's new Domestic Violence Policy, along with resources and best practices.

**OUTSIDE AGENCIES TRAINING:** The Lawrence Police has been asked by various local public and private agencies to help train their personnel in different areas including: safety planning, active shooter evacuation, safety factors in doing home visits, and gang awareness. The division has made staff and colleagues available and conducted trainings for the Northeast Justice Center, Children and Family Services, Department of Children and Family, The Greater Lawrence Mental Health Centers, as well as the GEM Group. The division also worked closely with schools to speak with youth at Lawrence High School and the Greater Lawrence Technical School.

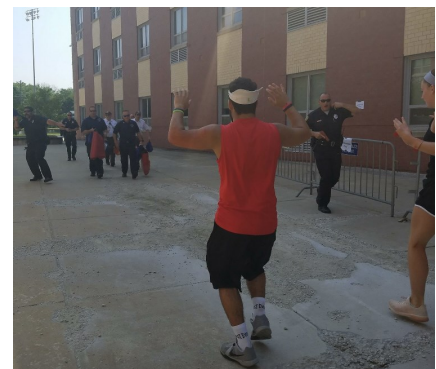
**FUTURE TRAININGS:** The Training Division has already scheduled the Middlesex Sheriffs Mobil Firearms Training vehicle for next year in order to augment the yearly firearm training. This will give the ability to have officers experience shoots/no shoot situations using live rounds and video debriefing. The division is also working with our firearms instructors in coordinating a felony stop training that will incorporate simulations. Additional trainings scheduled include the New Year Homicide Investigation Training, Advancing Women in Law Enforcement, Drug Driving Awareness, and Advanced Search and Seizure. The division has also been working closely with the domestic violence liaison to develop a comprehensive training addressing the ongoing problem of domestic violence and how to best utilize the domestic violence advocates within our department. Finally, the division will continue to look for the most up to date training going forward including using some of our own personnel, to develop and sharpen the officers' skills and techniques.





## 2018 TRAININGS CLASSES

- MPI Executive Development
- F.B.I. Supervisor LEEDA (*Law Enforcement Executive Development Training on Leadership*)
- F.B.I. Command LEEDA
- F.B.I. Executive LEEDA
- Recognizing Characteristics of Armed Offender
- Recognizing an Imposter
- Disability Awareness
- Report Writing
- Warrant Preparation and Writing
- Techniques in Investigation and Interviewing
- Bomb Threat in Schools
- Louisiana State University Active Threat Integrated Response Course
- Active Shooter Scenario
- Secondary Response Extraction and Rapid Treatment of Victims of Active Shooter
- Domestic Violence Reporting
- Intimate Partner Abuses Education
- Understanding Reporting Victims of Commercial Sexual Exploitation
- Working with the Mentally Ill
- Fostering Positive Relationship with Immigrants and Refugees
- HIDA Drug Indirection Class
- Fentanyl Safety
- Drug Driving
- Sobriety Testing
- Opioid Awareness and Outreach
- Customer Service
- First Aid
- CPR
- Legal Updates
- Defensive Tactics
- Critical Stress Awareness
- Procedural Justice
- Combating Extremism
- Fire Arms Qualifications
- MPI Social Media for Law Enforcement
- MPI The Public Information Officer
- MP First Amendment and Social Media
- Vehicle Search and Seizure
- Child Trafficking
- Critical Stress Awareness
- Mountain Bike Training
- Background Investigations
- Roll Trainings (*Dealing with Homeless Population, Options for Dealing with People with Addiction, & Implementation of New Domestic Violence Policies*)
- Police Chief and Command Leadership Academy
- Intentional Leadership
- Implicit Biased
- Fostering Positive Relationship with Immigrants and Refugees
- Diversity Trainings
- Advanced Search and Seizure
- De-Escalation
- Advancing and Supporting Women in Law Enforcement
- Homicide Investigation
- Drug Recognizing Training



## Opioid Outreach

In researching the best practices in regards to the ongoing opioid epidemic, it was evident that the officers of the Lawrence Police Department were given limited options to deal with overdose victims and had limited options when dealing with individuals suffering with addictions. In recognizing this limitation, The Heroin Epidemic Lawrence Partnership (H.E.L.P.) was initiated. The Lawrence Police, along with other community partners, spearheaded an effort to more efficiently provide services to the addicted community and their families. This included providing officers on the street with resources that better assist the affected community such as informative literature, and contact information of outreach workers.

The Lawrence Police Department was able to secure a grant to train and provide Narcan to all officers. This year alone, officers administered Narcan during 108 incidents. Overall in 2018 the Department responded to 278 overdose incidents including some with multiple victims and some fatalities. In 2017, the Department documented a response to 131 overdose incidents. It is important to note that in 2017, and years prior, the response to overdoses was not as carefully documented as it was in 2018 and will be in the future. Additionally, the Department is aware that in certain incidents victims are given Narcan by family and friends on scene. Both of these factors make it challenging to quantify the entire scope of the opioid epidemic.

Although the Narcan training and distribution has proven successful in the short term, it did little to address the underlying problem of addiction and the manpower and resources it draws from the Department. The Lawrence Police Department along the Lawrence Methuen Community Coalition (L.M.C.C.) partnered to form The HUB to address this gap in services. The HUB is a coalition of service providers, both public and private, that meet weekly to give immediate and wraparound services to those in crisis. The coalition includes, but is not limited to, police, probation, parole, L.M.C.C., Greater Lawrence Family Health, Lawrence General Hospital, D.C.F., Clean Slate, Methuen CARES, and Police Assisted Addition Recovery Initiative (PAARI), just to name a few. The program has been in existence for just under a year and has serviced close to 200 individuals and families with intervention, counseling, education, distribution of information, and Narcan training to those in need.

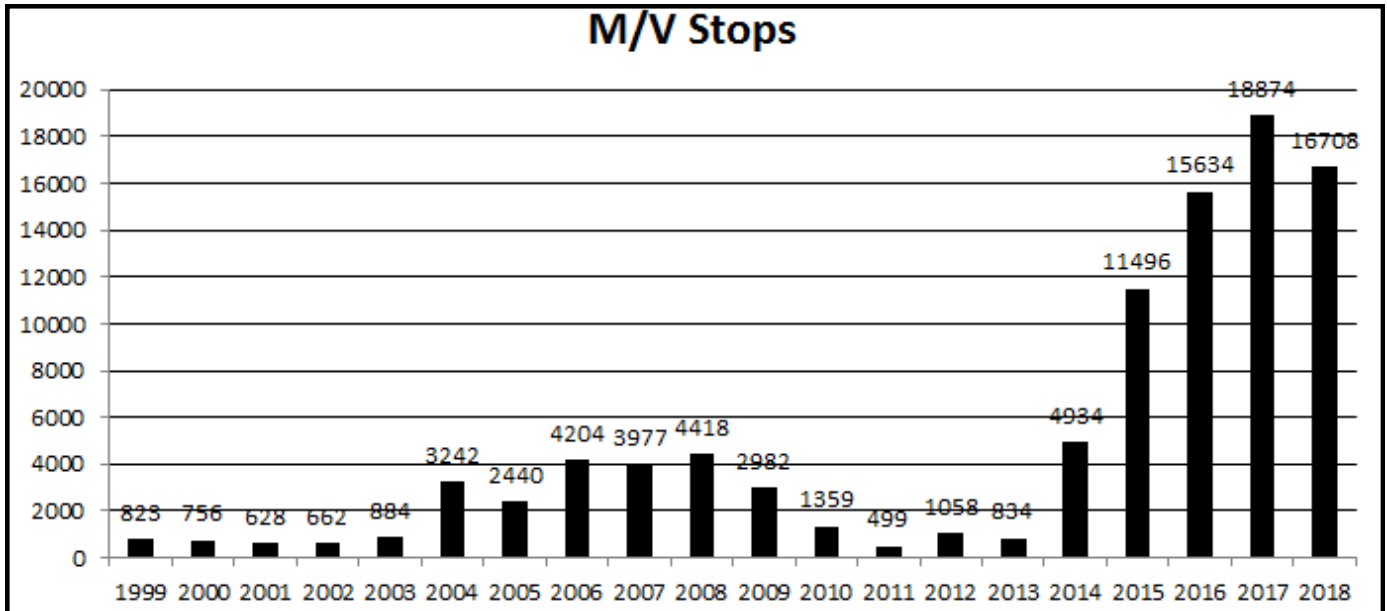
The Lawrence Police H.E.L.P. Program has acquired grants allowing us obtain two outreach workers forming the post overdose response team (P.O.R.T.). The P.O.R.T. has been created to lead the way in fighting the opioid epidemic in the City of Lawrence by offering its high risk population with the following services: post overdose follow up, linkage to recovery resources, Narcan access/ education, and referrals to medically assisted treatment services. The P.O.R.T. has an assigned outreach specialist who will respond either on scene, at Lawrence General Hospital, or within 48 hours to the residence of the overdose victim. The purpose of the follow-up visit is to offer access to treatment options to the overdose survivor, harm reduction options, access to Narcan and Narcan training, and other resources to the survivor's family members. Finally, they monitor all opioid overdoses in the city and upload them into a regional database. This ensures that overdose victims who do not live in Lawrence also receive services from their own community.

The Department now has the ability to work closely with detox centers; facilitating access to treatment facilities and giving options to victims and their families without drawing on the officers in the field. The outreach workers began their partnership with the Department in October 2018, and since then have provided services in 56 different cases. This program was highlighted during the PAARI National Conferences where Lt. Fleming was asked to represent the Lawrence Police Department in presenting and also discussing the program's success to the Harvard Medical School and other departments from around the country. The Salem N.H. Police Department has also asked to have their department and local partners trained on starting a similar program in Southern New Hampshire. The Department will continue to grow these programs by seeking other partners and funding sources.

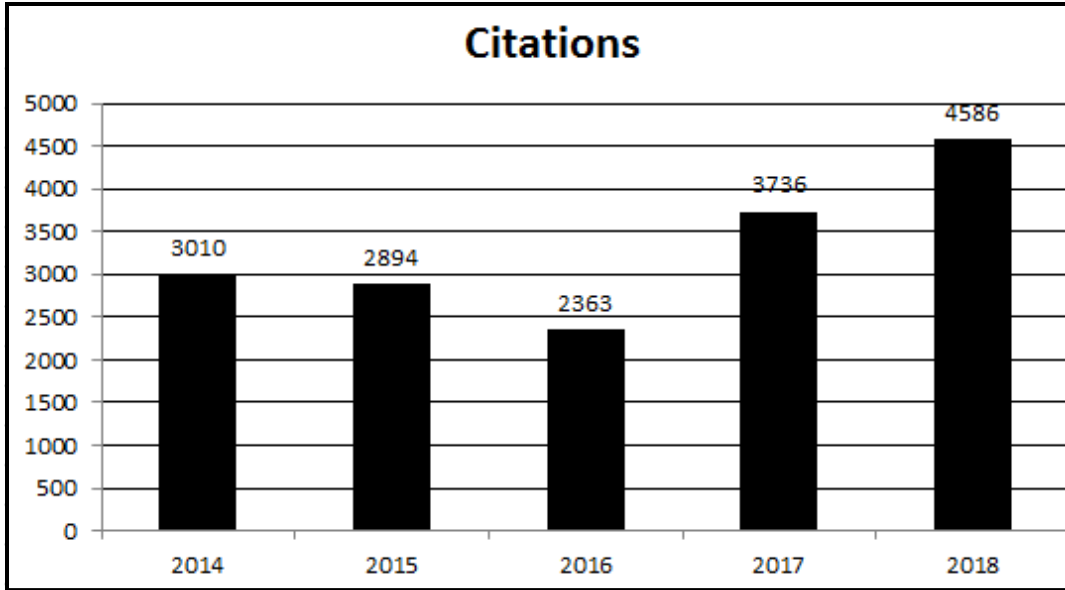


## Motor Vehicle Data

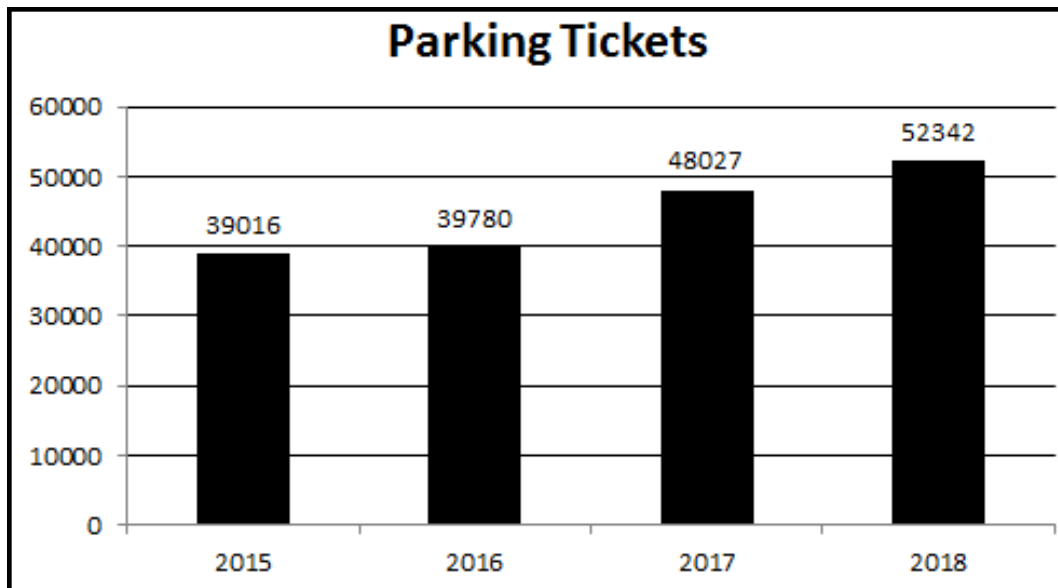
The graph below shows the number of motor vehicle stops made per year from 1999 through 2018. As shown the number of motor vehicle stops has significantly increased since 2014. The number of motor vehicle stops increased 132% from 2014 to 2015. In 2018, 16,708 motor vehicle stops were conducted. This is an 11% decrease when compared to 2017. Despite this decrease, the Department still averages 45 stops per day. It is also important to note that the Columbia Gas crisis change assignments for many officers and affected the number of M/V stops conducted.



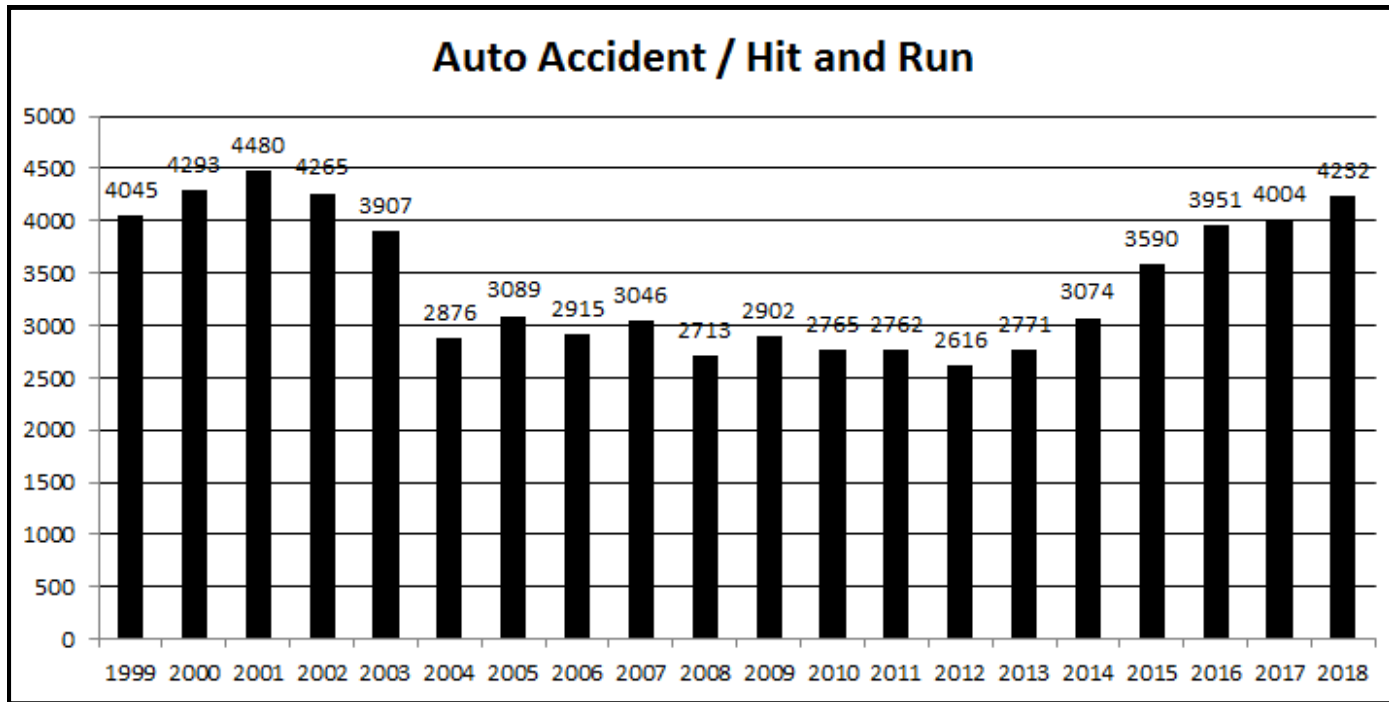
In 2018 the Lawrence Police Department gave out 4,586 motor vehicle citations. This is the highest total since 2014, and a 23% increase from 2017. Based on complaints from businesses, residents, and community groups the Department has increased the amount of selective enforcement being done. The Department has issued an increased number of citations for speeding, unregistered M/Vs, and stop/ yield fails. Of note, this number does not reflect those issued by Massachusetts State Police during joint operations.

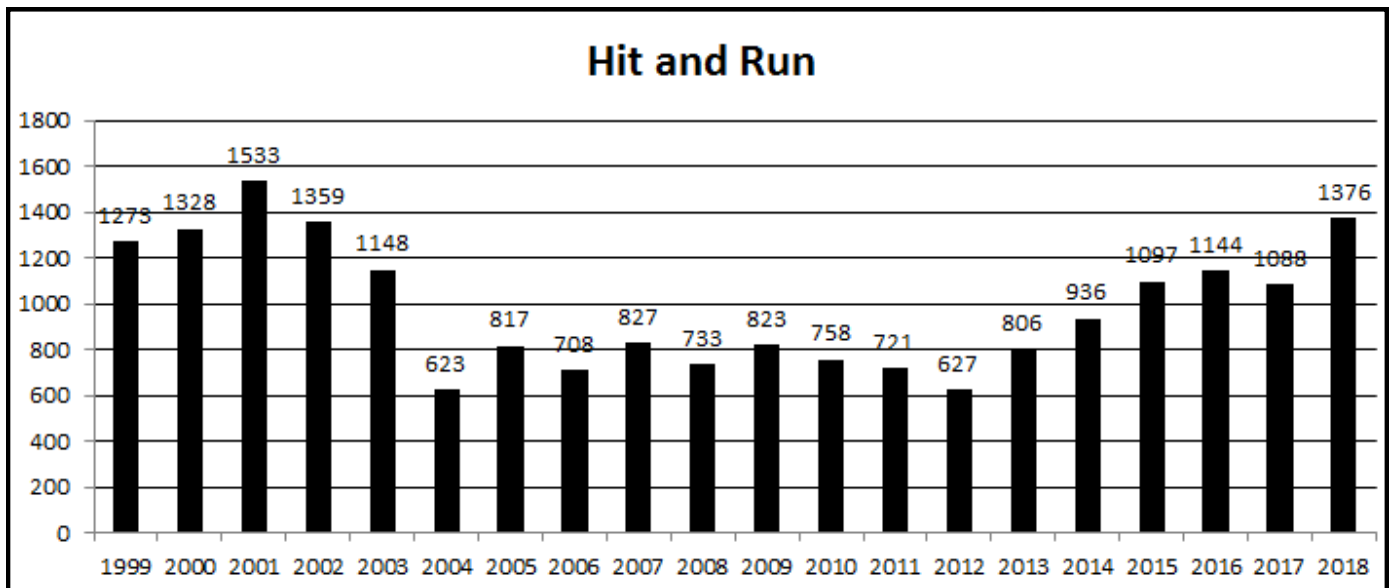
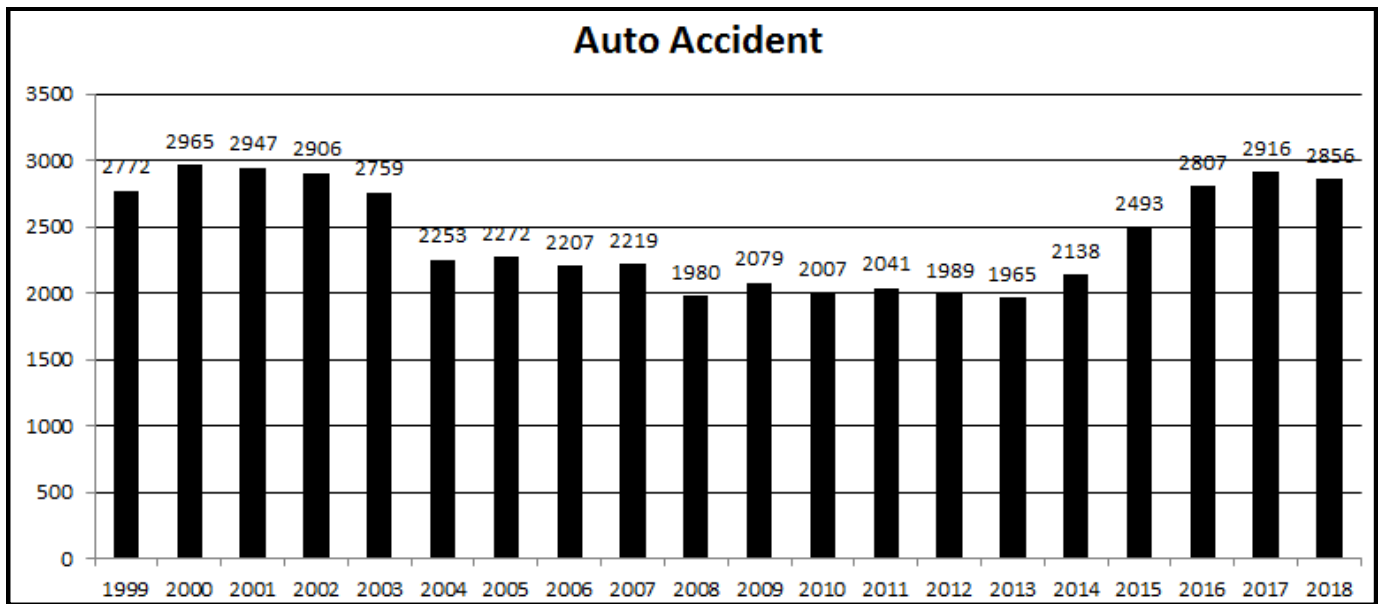


In 2018, the Lawrence Police Department in conjunction with the city's outside agency issued a total of 52,342 parking tickets. This is an 8% increase when compared to 2017 and the highest number since



In addition to motor vehicle stops, citations, and parking tickets the Department also responds to a significant amount of auto accident and hit and run calls for service. The graph below shows the total number of auto accident and hit and run calls per year. In 2018, 4232 total calls were responded to. The following pages break this information down to display auto accident calls and hit and run calls separately.







## Taxi and Livery Services

The Lawrence Police Department Hackney Unit is responsible for the issuance of all hackney licenses, medallions, and taxicab/ livery licenses. Prior to being issued a hackney license or business license the applicant must go through a criminal background check, operator license check, and be fingerprinted. The unit also coordinates with the RMV Vehicle Compliance Unit to have a yearly taxicab/ livery vehicles inspection. The City of Lawrence of medallion program consist of 150 taxicabs medallions that are issued to individual citizens in the community. These medallions required a yearly renewal fee which will be collected during the month of January 2019. There are no set numbers of livery vehicles established in our ordinance. For the year 2018, the Taxi and Livery Service Office inspected 40 livery vehicles.

### 2018 Taxi and Livery Inspections:

Taxi inspected	148	Note: 1 remain out of service due to accidents. 1 remains out of service due to mechanical problems.
Livery inspected	40	All in service.

- The total number of Taxi and Livery meetings with company owner, drivers and interested parties: **35**. *These meetings addressed issues like: Pre inspection protocol, complaints, yearly renewal, medallion transfers, and hackney licenses issues.*
- Taxi and Livery Companies Business applications processed and submitted to council for approval for 2019: **9**
- Number of Medallions Transfers submitted and approved by Council in 2018: **13**

### Hackney Licenses issued and denials:

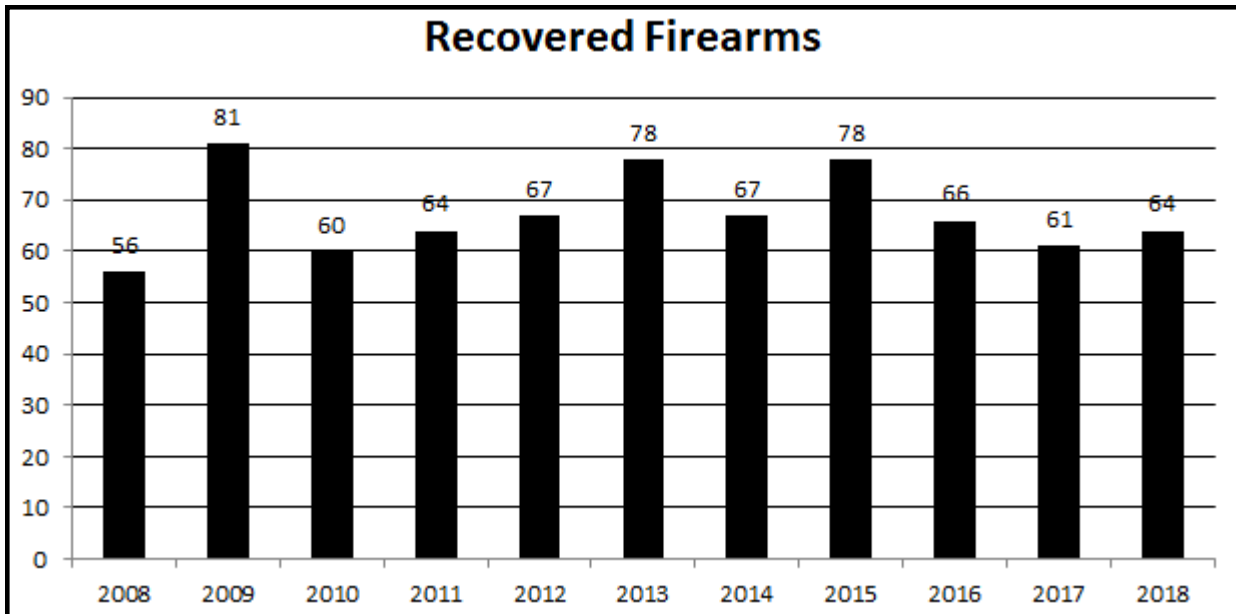
Year 2018	Issued	Denied	Final Total:
	233	15	248

Hackney License Issue Year	Total	Amount
2015	519	\$30,500.00
2016	488	\$29,200.00
2017	398	\$21,750.00
2018	282	\$14,600.00

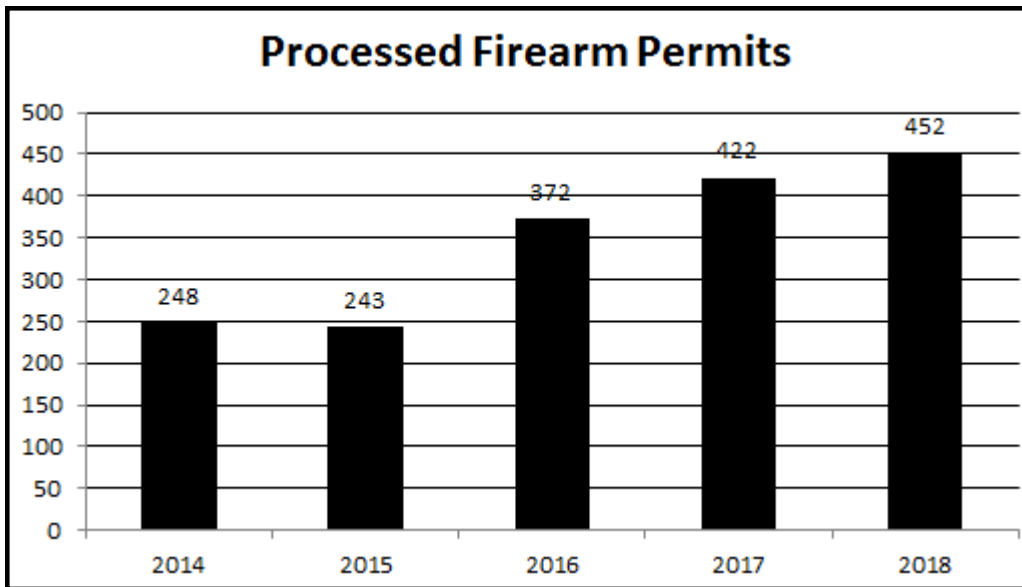
Year	Medallion Issued	Year	Livery Vehicles
2015	150	2015	15
2016	150	2016	37
2017	150	2017	37
2018	150	2018	40

# Firearms

The Lawrence Police Department has recovered 751 firearms between 2008 and 2018. This number does not reflect those guns recovered by outside agencies like: ATF, DEA, and Massachusetts State Police.



During 2018, 452 firearm permits were processed by the Lawrence Police Department. The graph below shows the number of firearm permits processed per year from 2014-2018.

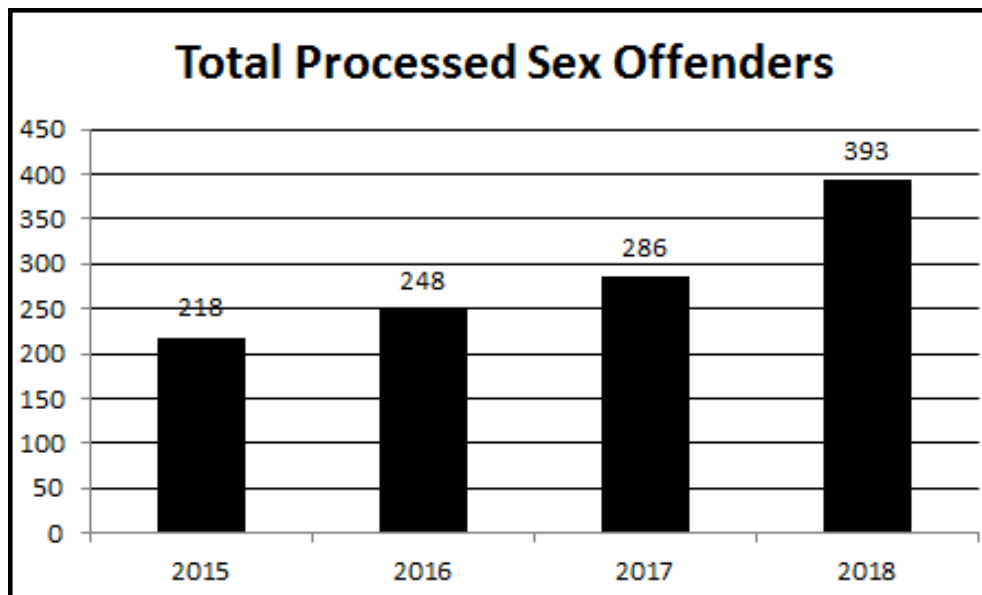


## Sex Offenders

The Sex Offender Tracking Unit is responsible for processing sex offender registry forms as well as meeting and contacting sex offenders. Some of the other responsibilities of the unit include home visits, employment verification, investigations, and court duties.

- The City of Lawrence has 246 registered sex offenders living, working and / or attending an institution of higher learning. Out these 246 offenders, 35 are classified as level 1 sex offenders. The unit does not register process or monitor level 1 sex offenders, as they report directly to the Massachusetts Sex Offender Registry Board in writing. However the unit is responsible for investigating and if applicable arresting them when they fail to register with the Massachusetts Sex Offender Registry Board.
- Seven (7) homeless sex offenders live in the city, and report monthly to the Department.
- There are 22 sex offenders in violation at this time; all have active warrants.

2018 Breakdown	
Processed Sex Offender Registry Forms	393
Address Verifications	210
Appointments / meetings	452
Public Dissemination Slides	84



# Youth Diversion Initiative

## **SSYI**

The Safe and Successful Youth Initiative (SSYI) is a multi-faceted strategy for reducing youth violence. SSYI provides funding to support a coordinated intervention strategy in partnership with community-based organizations, education, training, and workforce development programs that also include street outreach, trauma counseling, and case management support. The program's main objective is gang prevention and diversion through education, work, counseling and other services. Lawrence Police (LPD) is responsible for all grant reporting, selection of eligible individuals and ensuring that the contract with the Program Agency (Lawrence Family Development) is adhered to.

The Lawrence Police Department is responsible for selecting eligible individuals that meet the parameters of the grant. An eligible individual is a male who is 17-24 years old who currently resides in the community, or is expected to be released into the community, and is known to law enforcement as meeting at least two of the following criteria:

1. Repeatedly engages in weapons violence or crimes against persons
2. Was a victim of weapons violence or crimes against persons
3. Engages in high volume of drug-related criminal activity
4. Is in a leadership role in gang or street violence

To be eligible, individuals are deemed to be the most high-risk and tend to have violent histories. Lawrence Police collects data via CORI, police reports, gang lists, probation records and/or other appropriate media. LPD also works closely with Lawrence Family Development to ensure that all eligible individuals are contacted as efficiently as possible.

## **Open Gyms**

The Lawrence Police Department currently staffs open gyms for children between Seventh and Twelfth grade. These provide city youth with the chance to play a multitude of sports, catch up on homework, and socialize in a safe and positive environment. Lawrence Police Officers play sports, interact and provide a sense of security and community during their engagement with the youth. The gym hours are held four times a week as follows: Mondays and Thursdays at the South Lawrence East School from 5:30 pm- 8:30 pm; Tuesdays and Fridays at the Guilmette School between the hours of 5:30 pm -8:30 pm.



# Lawrence Police Department

## *Important Phone Numbers*

**Emergency.....911**

**Non- Emergency line.....978-794-5900**

**Chief's Office.....978-794-5900 Ext. 640**

**Patrol Division .....978-794-5900 Ext. 506**  
**Officer in Charge (24 hours a day)**

**Detectives.....978-794-5900 Ext. 625**

**Drug Hotline.....978-794-5918**

**Professional Standards..... 978-857-3200**  
**Unit**

**Animal Control ..978-794-5856 (M-F 9AM-11PM)**  
**(All other hours Non-Emergency line listed above)**

**Runaway Assistance Program...211**

## *Emails Addresses/Text to Tips*

### **Loudnoise@lawpd.com**

(In addition to the Non-Emergency Line this email address may be used to report loud noise)

### **Disorder@lawpd.com**

(In addition to the numbers listed above this email address maybe used to report drug activity as well as all other quality of life issues.)

### **Text to Tip text: 274637 then type "LAWPD" followed by your message.**

(Completely ANONYMOUS tip line via text or web. Provide information on a crime that may assist us in our investigations and protect your privacy.)

### **www.lawpd.com**

Department's Website with helpful information, as well as a link to the (Police Department Civilian Complaint Form)



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# Follow Lawrence Police Department & Stay Informed



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 [/Lawrence Police Department](https://www.facebook.com/LawrencePoliceDepartment)

 [@lawrencepolice](https://twitter.com/lawrencepolice)

# **Lawrence Police Department 2018 Annual Report**



**Chief Roy P. Vasque**