

Lexington Police Department Annual Report 2008



Chief Terrence Green

111 Maiden Lane
Lexington, SC 29072
Phone (803) 359-6160
Fax (803) 951-4643
www.lexsc.com/police
www.twitter.com/lexingtonpd

2008 Annual Report

Table of Contents

Subject:	Page
I. Mission Statement	2
II. Message from the Chief of Police	3
III. Code of Ethics	4
IV. Town of Lexington	5
V. Department Overview	6
VI. Organizational Chart	7
VII. Accomplishments for 2008	8
VIII. General Statistics	
UCR Index Crimes	9
All Reported Offenses	10
Arrest Data	11
Warrants	12
Fleet Management	13
IX. Patrol Division	14
X. Traffic Enforcement	15
XI. Criminal Investigations Division	19
XII. Victims Advocate	21
XIII. Special Operations	
Training Division	22
Emergency Services Team	23
School Resource Officer	23
Community Action Team	24
XIV. KEYS (Keeping Every Youth Safe) Program	25
XV. Office of Professional Standards	26

Mission Statement



The men and women of the Police Department are dedicated to building a strong Lexington.

Through the delivery of exemplary service with a focus on problem solving, we are committed to enhancing the quality of life in our neighborhoods by building a partnership with the community we serve.

A Message from Chief Green



The men and women of the Lexington Police Department are committed to the provision of the highest possible quality of service to the Lexington community. As public servants, we are accountable for the service which we provide. The Annual Report for the 2008 calendar year is one result of our dedication to the spirit of accountability to the citizens of Lexington in that it represents the Department's efforts and achievements during the past year. Through the provision of exemplary service with a focus on community oriented policing and problem solving, it is the goal of this Department to build and maintain a working partnership with the citizens of Lexington.

LEXINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT



Law Enforcement Code of Ethics

As a law enforcement officer, my fundamental duty is to serve the community to safeguard lives and property; to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation and the peaceful against violence or disorder; and to respect the constitutional rights of all to liberty, equality and justice.

I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all and will behave in a manner that does not bring discredit to me or my agency. I will maintain courageous and calm in the face of danger, scorn or ridicule; develop self-restraint; and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed both in my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the law and regulations of my department. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature or that is confided to me in my official capacity will be kept ever secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duty.

I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, political beliefs, aspirations, animosities or friendships to influence my decisions. With no compromise for crime and with relentless prosecution of criminals, I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice or ill will, never employing unnecessary force or violence and never accepting gratuities.

I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of police service. I will never engage in acts of corruption or bribery, nor will I condone such acts by other police officers. I will cooperate with all legally authorized agencies and their representatives in the pursuit of justice.

I know that I alone am responsible for my own standard of professional performance and will take every reasonable opportunity to enhance and improve my level of knowledge and competence.

I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession, law enforcement.

The Town of Lexington



The town of Lexington was incorporated in 1861. When it was incorporated as a town Lexington boasted a diverse population of lawyers, physicians, trades people, artisans and farmers. There were then 2 churches, several schools, a carriage factory, a saw and gristmill, a tannery, livestock yard, tin and blacksmiths, and a weekly newspaper.

If anything characterizes the Town of Lexington today, it is the fast growth rate. After the 2000 census showed the population had increased 92% (9,783 residents vs. 5,097) from the 1990 census levels, the Town decided to undertake a special census in February of 2006. Based on this special census, the Town's population was revised to stand at 14,547, an increase of 49% in just six years. In just two years since this special census was conducted, the Town of Lexington continues to stand on the edge of even more growth. With additional apartment complexes having been developed during the 2008 calendar year and new single family houses being built at various locations throughout the town limits, it is not unreasonable to assume that the Town's population to have grown to more than 16,000 people during the 2008 calendar year. The Town's area has grown as well, from approximately 5.8 square miles in 2000 to approximately 14 square miles in 2007.

Data from the 2006 special census show Lexington to be approximately 84% white, 10.7% African American, and 2.6% Asian. Approximately 2.9% of the Town's residents are of Hispanic origin. Gender results of the special census show the Town having a population that is 48.5% male and 51.5% female.

Meanwhile, growth has not been limited to just that of the Town of Lexington. The County of Lexington has also grown and 2000 census figures indicate that approximately 65,000 people live within a 5 mile radius of the Town. Traffic counts reveal that 130,000 vehicle travel through the town on the three (3) major highways that pass through town (US #378, US #1 and SC #6). Over the last two years Town Council and the South Carolina Department of Transportation have been evaluating different approaches to addressing the issue of traffic congestion within the town. Information on this can be found on the Town's website.

Department Overview



The Lexington Police Department is comprised of a total of 48 personnel, including 43 sworn officers and 5 civilian positions. The Department is broken down into four divisions: the Patrol Division, Criminal Investigations Division, Special Operations Division and Administration which includes the Office of Professional Standards.

The Patrol Division, which consists of 25 personnel, is responsible for providing general police protection and service to the community including the enforcement of criminal and traffic laws, patrol of the Town, response to calls for service and the protection of property.

The Criminal Investigations Division consists of 8 detectives and one civilian employee who is the department's Victims Advocate who provides initial and follow-up services to victims of crime. The Criminal Investigations Division is responsible for the investigation of reported crimes and special investigations such as those related to narcotics and gang activity.

The Special Operations Division is comprised of several subdivisions which coordinates and administers community programs and special events, houses the community action team, the school resource officer and the department's traffic division. The Special Operations division also houses the department's training coordinator.

The Administration division includes the Chief of Police, Assistant Chief of Police, Information/Records Management, the Keeping Every Youth Safe (KEYS) Coordinator and Evidence. The Office of Professional Standards consists of two officers who investigate all complaints, responses to resistance, pursuits and instances of damage to the Department's motor vehicle fleet. The OPS also maintains all records required of both the state and national law enforcement accreditation processes. An additional part time civilian employee is responsible for the Department's Intelligence efforts also works under the Office of Professional Standards.

Accomplishments for 2008

The Lexington Police Department and its officers enjoyed a great deal of success during the year of 2008. In an effort to share some of these achievements, a list of the most important are detailed below.

- 1) The Department successfully underwent a thorough and exhaustive on-site inspection for international accreditation through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc., (CALEA). This self-assessment and on-site phase normally lasts three years however was successfully completed in 18 months in part to the established professionalism and commitment of the department.
- 2) The department collected a S.W.A.T. van of toys for the 2008 annual Toys for Tots campaign.
- 3) The Department continued participation in the Lexington/Richland Alcohol and Drug Abuse Council's (LRADAC) Alcohol Enforcement Team (AET). This group of officers from Lexington and Richland Counties implements programs designed to combat underage drinking in the greater Midlands area.
- 4) The Department continued to participate in the Lexington County Narcotics Enforcement Team (NET), a multi-agency task force which targets the manufacture, transportation, distribution and sale of illegal narcotics.
- 5) The Department held its third annual Fall Festival in late October at the Municipal Complex. Approximately 1200 people attended the event which is held annually to raise money for its innovative Adopt-A-Cop program.
- 6) Citizens continued to show interest in the annual Citizen's Academy held each spring. This program provides participants with an inside look into all aspects of the Department. By the end of 2008 over 105 citizens have graduated from the program since it began.
- 7) The Kids-in-Court program played host to 106 children who had the chance to learn about the criminal justice system by shadowing and then taking the role of officers, prosecutors, defense attorneys, judges, and jurors. Also a total of 27 volunteers assisted with the program.
- 8) The Department continued its Volunteers in Policing (VIPs) program for its Citizen's Academy alumni, with 6 citizens going on to serve as VIPs in the department, one of which became a full time police officer with the department.
- 9) Sixteen (16) VIP members went on to become members of the Community Emergency Response Team which further enables VIP members to provide additional help to the Department in cases of natural or man-made disasters.
- 10) The Special Operations and Patrol Divisions worked with Lexington County Fire and EMS personnel to present "Shattered Dreams" a mock collision re-enactment at Lexington Intermediate School in April. Covered by local news media, the event highlighted the dangers and consequences of drinking and driving.
- 11) Sgt. Thomas Stowe was recognized as the Officer of the Year in December. A nine year veteran of the Department, Sgt. Stowe currently serves a shift supervisor and has previously served on the Lexington County Narcotics Enforcement Team and as a traffic officer.

General Statistics

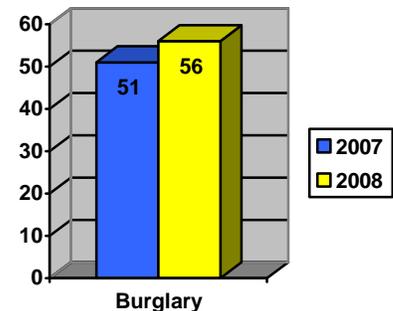
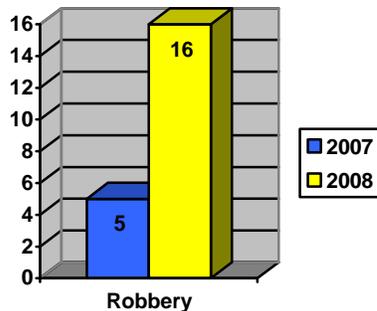
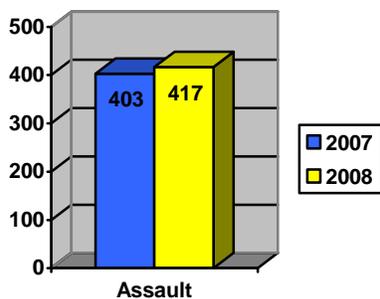
The below listed information contains general statistical calculations for the 2008 calendar year. In some tables, additional statistics from the previous year have been included. These statistics encompass the general functions of the Department. Specialized functions, such as those specific to a particular Division or Unit, are included in later portions of this report.

Summary of Reported Offenses UCR Index Crimes / All Other Offenses 01/01/2008 thru 12/31/2008

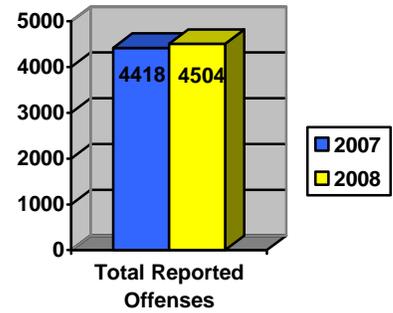
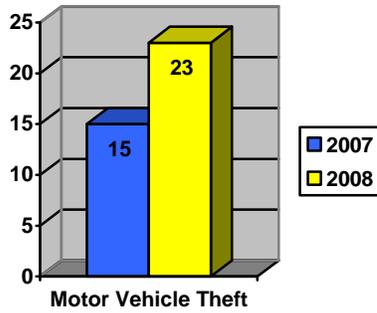
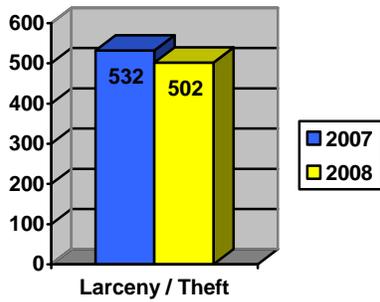
(Note: This data is retrieved from Department Records and may differ from SLED UCR statistics)

Incident Type	2007	2008	% Change
Murder	0	0	0%
Forcible Rape Offenses	4	3	-25%
Robbery*	5	16	+69%
Assault	403	417	+3%
Burglary	51	56	+9%
Larceny (All larceny and theft reported)	532	502	-6%
Motor Vehicle Theft	15	23	+35%
Total UCR Offenses	1010	1017	+1%
OTHER OFFENSES REPORTED			
Total of All Other Offenses	3408	3487	+2%
Combined UCR & Other Offenses	4418	4504	+2%

The data for total reported offenses shows an overall increase of 2% compared to 2007.



*Due to a change in reporting requirements, shoplifting where force was utilized was coded as "robbery" in 2008



Crime totals remained relatively unchanged with a minor 2% increase overall which can be expected with annual increases in town population. Officer initiated activity for alcohol and narcotics violations saw the largest increases. This can be somewhat attributed to decreased turnover and more experienced officers.

**Summary of Reported Offenses
By Offense Category
01/01/2008 thru 12/31/2008**

(Note: This data is retrieved from Department Records and may differ from SLED UCR statistics)

Incident Category	2007	2008	% Change
Alcohol Crimes	194	227	17%
Arson/Suspicious Fire	3	3	-
Assaults	403	417	3%
Drug Crimes	255	308	21%
Homicide	0	0	-
Information Only Reports (Alarms, Lost Property, etc)	2375	2379	-
Larceny Offenses	801	804	-
Other Crimes	208	197	-5%
Prostitution	0	4	400%
Vandalism/Damage to Property	179	165	-8%
Total Offenses	4418	4504	2%

2008 Calls for Service Locations



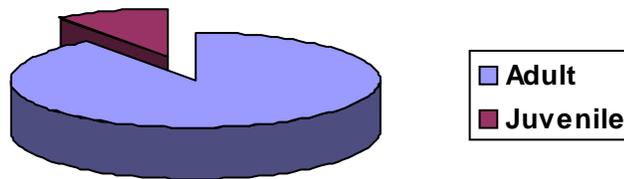
The map at the left is a density analysis of all calls for service for 2008. Because of the commercial growth and high traffic volume, the US #378 corridor which includes Sunset Blvd, Columbia Ave and West Main Street continues to represent a far greater share of incidents than any other location within the town.

Arrest Data



The arrest data below shows that a total of 1230 persons were arrested in 2008. For statistical purposes, the custodial seizure of a juvenile is counted as an arrest in the overall total. Arrests of adults accounted for 90% of the total while custodial seizures of juveniles accounted for the remaining 10%. The chart below represents total arrests for juveniles and adults during 2008.

Summary of Arrests 01/01/2008 thru 12/31/2008 (Data Compiled by LAWTRAK)



Type	Total
Adult	1113
Juvenile	123
TOTAL	1236

The majority of persons arrested by the Lexington Police Department reside outside the jurisdictional boundaries of the town therefore demographic data from Lexington County is used for comparison purposes. The arrest data is not significantly dissimilar to that of the population of Lexington County.

Adult Arrests Percentages by Race 01/01/2008 thru 12/31/2008 (Data Compiled by LAWTRAK)

Race	2008 Arrests	% of Total Arrests	Lexington County 2007 Racial Estimates**
Caucasian*	875	71%	68.6%
African American	346	28%	28.7%
Other Race	15	1%	2.7%
Totals:	1236	100%	100%

*Hispanic persons are counted as Caucasian for race tracking purposes.

**US Census Bureau

Warrants

Statistics regarding outstanding warrants and served warrants during the period from January to December 2008 are listed below.

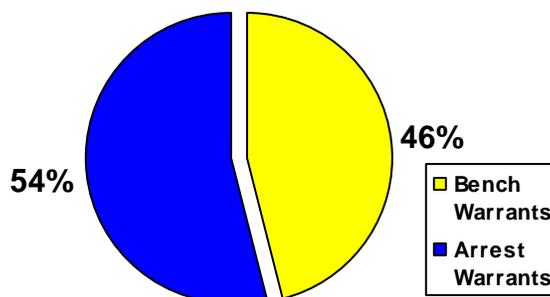
A statistical summary of outstanding warrants held by the Lexington Police Department / Lexington Municipal Court is presented in the following table. Of the total 805 outstanding warrants cited in the table, 605 (75%) were bench warrants. Bench warrants are issued by the Municipal Judge in response to failure of a convicted defendant to satisfy the terms of a sentence imposed by the Court. Arrest Warrants accounted for the remaining 200 (25%) of the outstanding warrants cited in the table. Arrest warrants are issued by a judge pursuant to the sworn affidavit of a victim, witness or officer and constitute the original charging document for the offense for which the defendant is charged. While the total number of outstanding warrants may seem somewhat high, the Police Department does make periodic directed efforts to serve them as referenced above. Service of outstanding warrants is a duty shared by all officers and no specific officer or Division of the Department is specifically charged with this duty.

Summary of Outstanding Warrants Total as of 12/31/2008 (Data Compiled by LAWTRAK)

Warrant Type	Total Number Outstanding
Bench Warrant	605
Arrest Warrant	200
Combined Total	805
Note: These totals pertain to all outstanding warrants on file, including those issued in previous years.	

A combined total of 592 warrants were served by officers in 2008. The totals for each type of warrant are represented in the chart below.

Summary of Warrants Served 01/01/2008 thru 12/31/2008 (Data Compiled by LAWTRAK)

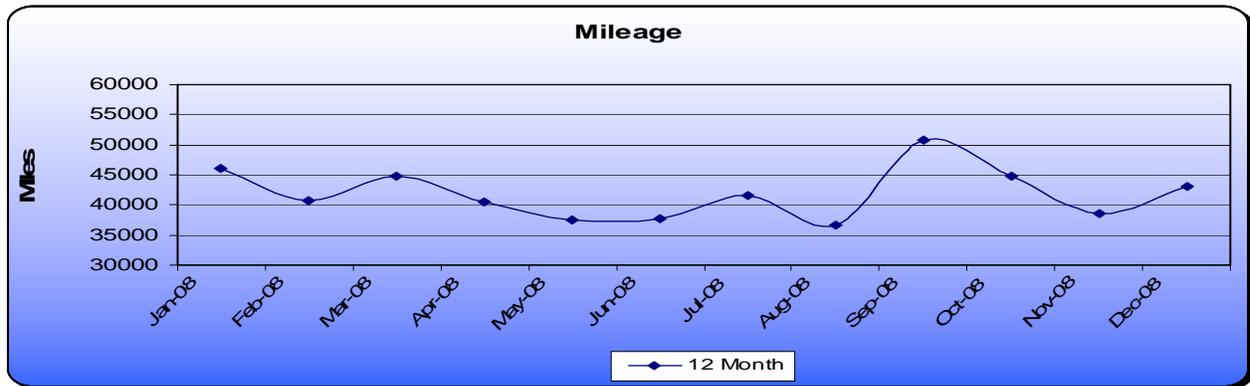


Warrant Type	Total Number Served
Bench Warrant	273
Arrest Warrant	319
Combined Total	592

FLEET MANAGEMENT



The Lexington Police Department operates a fleet composed of 51 vehicles. Department vehicles were driven 502,479 miles and used 40,011 gallons of gas during the year 2008. This resulted in an average fuel use of 12.57 miles per gallon and an average annual fuel use of 784.5 gallons per vehicle.



**Fleet Mileage and Fuel Usage
01/01/2008 thru 12/31/2008**

Vehicle Status	2008 Totals	
Total Mileage (Fleet)	502,479 Miles	
Fuel Use	40,011 Gallons	
2008 Monthly Average Per Vehicle		
Average Mileage Per Vehicle (Total of 51 Vehicles)	9,852 Miles Per Vehicle	Average of 12.57 Miles Per Gallon
Average Fuel Usage	784.5 Gallons Per Vehicle	

PATROL DIVISION



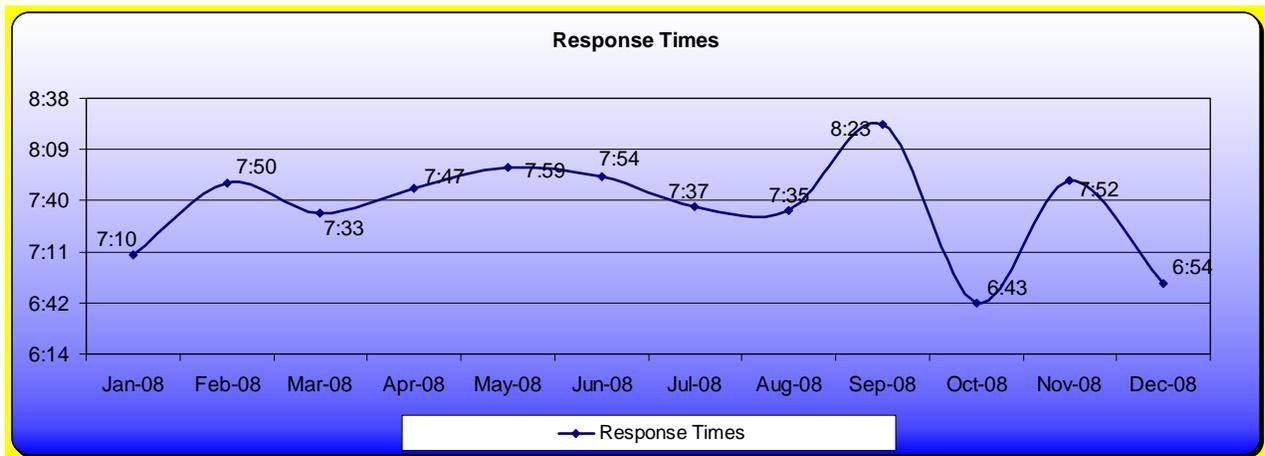
The Patrol Division is lead by a Lieutenant and is divided into four operational shifts that each are comprised of a Sergeant, Corporal and patrol officers. The Patrol Division performs the most essential function of the Department. Patrol officers are tasked with responding to calls for service/assistance, completing incident reports, investigating and reporting traffic collisions, performing traffic enforcement, recognizing and investigating suspicious/criminal activity, enforcement of South Carolina laws and ordinances of the Town, performing traffic direction and a vast array of other duties which maintain the safety and security of residents and visitors to the Town of Lexington. Patrol officers are also usually the first, if not only, contact a citizen or visitor has with the Lexington Police Department; thus, they serve a vital role as ambassadors of the Town and its government.

A statistical summary of Patrol Division activities is provided in the following pages. It is important to note that incident, collision and traffic enforcement statistics are addressed in separate sections of this report. These are the main response activities of the Patrol Division.

CALL RESPONSE

AVERAGE CALL RESPONSE TIME

01/01/2008 thru 12/31/2008



Alarm Response

In order to track manpower demands caused by response to alarms, the Department implemented the practice of filing an incident report regarding each alarm response. As a result of this policy change, the Department will be better able to track such responses in the future. In 2008, officers responded to 978 alarms at residences and businesses within the Town.



TRAFFIC



Traffic enforcement activities and collision reports are referenced in the following tables.

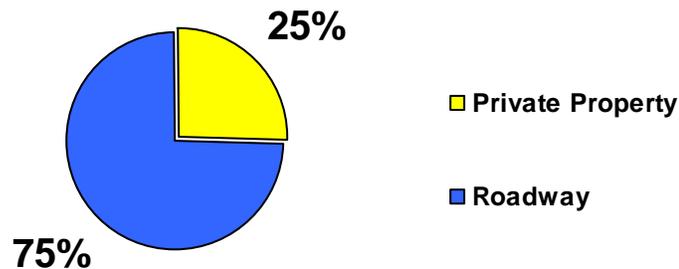
Traffic Collision Reports 01/01/2008 thru 12/31/2008

Total Traffic Collisions Reported
1233
Average Collisions Per Day (2008) : 3.38

Of all reported traffic collisions that occurred in the Town of Lexington during 2008, most occurred on public roadways. In fact, the table and chart provided below show that 919 (75%) of the total 1223 occurred on public roadways while only 314 (25%) occurred on private property.

Totals for Traffic Collisions Roadways and Private Property 01/01/2008 thru 12/31/2008

Private Property	Roadway
314	919

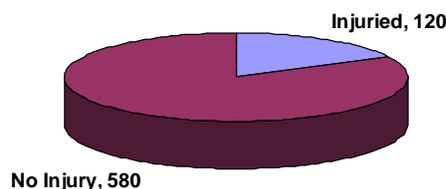


A review of reports showed that traffic collisions which occurred on private property did not result in any reported injuries. The table and chart presented on the following page show that 18 percent of all traffic collisions which occurred on public roadways resulted in injury or possible injury to at least one person. Unfortunately two people lost their lives as the result of a traffic collision in the Town of Lexington during 2008.

Total Reported Injuries Related to Traffic Collisions (Public Roadways Only) 01/01/2008 thru 12/31/2008

No Reported Injury	Injury	Fatal Injury
580	120	2

NOTE: These totals include tallies for injuries from traffic collisions on main roads only and do not account for totals from traffic collisions which occurred on private property

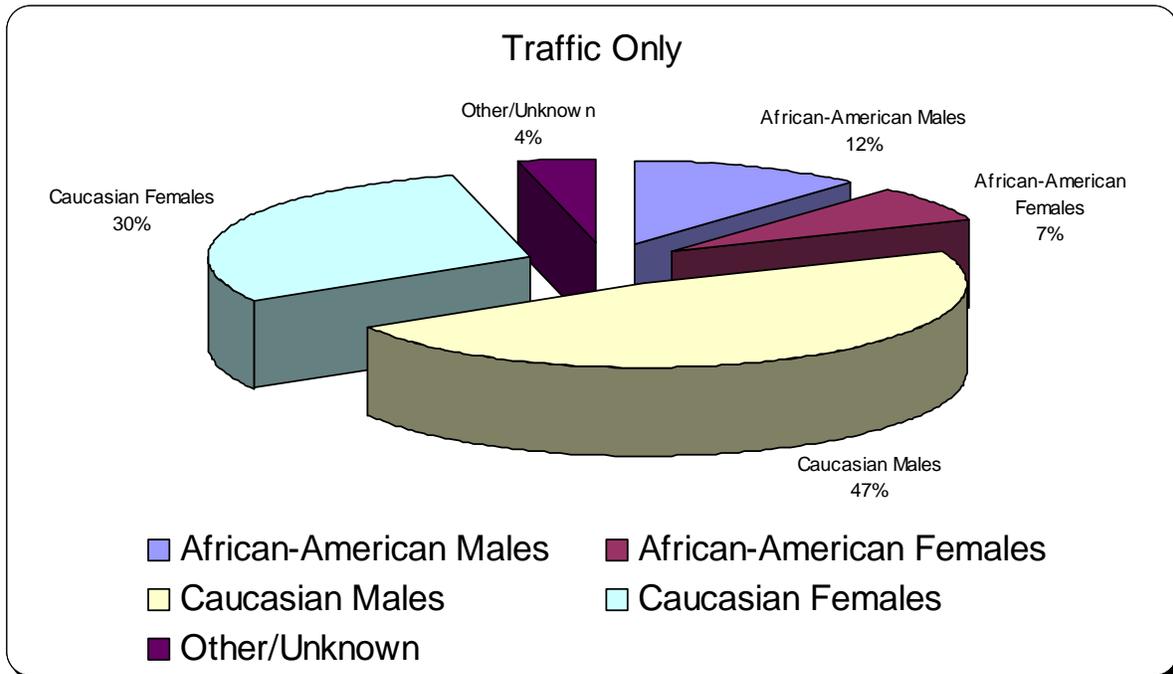


The Department is highly conscious of its enforcement practices. In light of nationwide concerns regarding racial profiling, statistics are maintained regarding the race and sex of violators cited or warned by officers during traffic stops. In order to acquire such statistics, it is a requirement that all violators stopped must be issued documentation in the form of a Uniform Traffic Ticket or written Warning Ticket. As demonstrated in the following tables, the statistics show that officers of the Department do not show any tendency toward discriminatory enforcement practices.

**Traffic Enforcement -- Uniform Traffic Tickets Issued
(Traffic Offenses Only)
Totals by Race and Sex
01/01/2008 thru 12/31/2008**
(Data Compiled by LAWTRAK)

Race	Male	Female	Total	% of Total	Lexington County 2007 Racial Estimates*
Caucasian	3408	2114	5529	77%	68.6%
African American	840	497	1337	19%	28.7%
Other/Unknown	286		286	4%	2.7%
Totals			7145	100%	100%

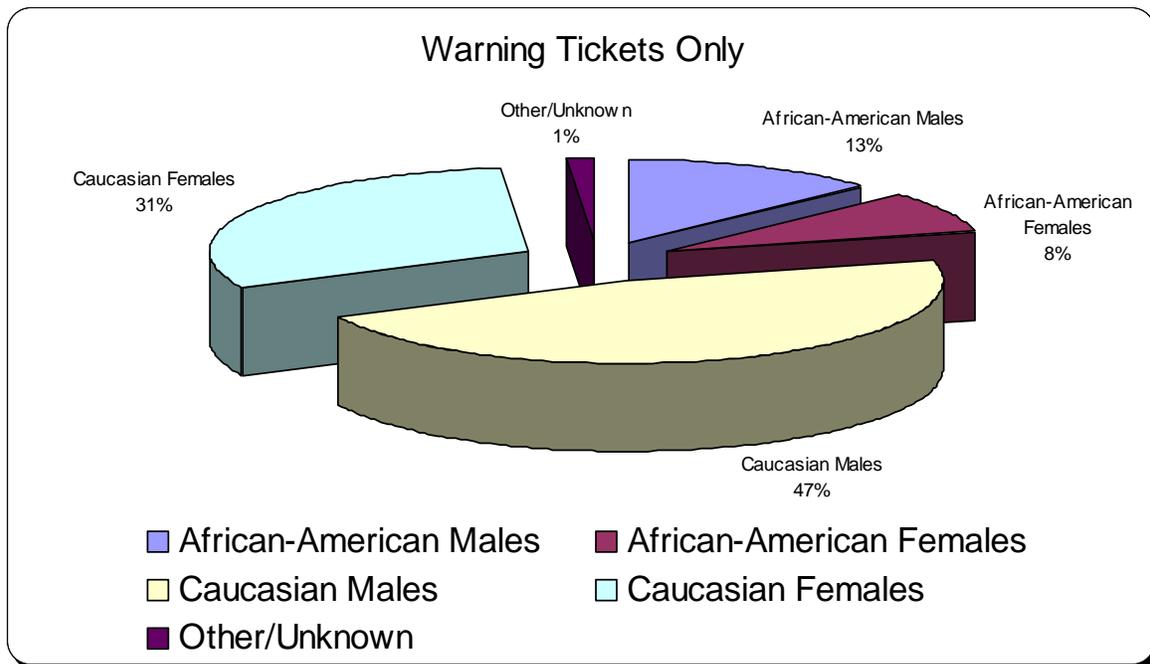
*US Census Bureau



**Traffic Enforcement - Warning Tickets Issued
Totals by Race and Sex
01/01/2008 thru 12/31/2008**
(Data Compiled by LAWTRAK)

Race	Male	Female	Total	% of Total	Lexington County 2007 Racial Estimates*
Caucasian	1074	707	1781	78%	68.6%
African American	300	181	481	21%	28.7%
Other/Unknown	30		30	1%	2.7%
Total			2292	100%	100%

*US Census Bureau



Certain criminal offenses and Town Ordinance violations, such as disorderly conduct, may be cited on a Uniform Traffic Ticket.

**Criminal/Municipal Code Enforcement -- Uniform Traffic Tickets Issued
(Non-Traffic Offenses Only)
Totals by Race and Sex
01/01/2008 thru 12/31/2008**
(Data Compiled by LAWTRAK)

Race	Male	Female	Total	% of Total
Caucasian	77	43	120	90%
African American	10	3	13	10%
Other/Unknown	0		0	0%
Total			133	100%

Uniform Traffic Ticket Counts
Totals by Offense Description
01/01/2008 thru 12/31/2008
(Data Compiled by LAWTRAK)

OFFENSE DESCRIPTION	2007	2008	% Change
Operating Uninsured Vehicle	77	71	-8%
Speeding or Too Fast for Conditions 10 mph above or Less	1896	1869	-1%
Speeding or Too Fast for Conditions 11 to 24 mph above	59	86	46%
Speeding or Too Fast for Conditions 25 mph and above	--	--	--
Shifting Lanes Improperly	29	8	-72%
Parking Improperly	2	1	-50%
Lights Improper	682	837	23%
Improper Backing	2	2	0%
Vehicle in Unsafe Condition	1	2	100%
Disregarding Sign or Signal	73	151	107%
No Right of Way	112	125	12%
Wrong Side of Road	16	25	56%
Passing Unlawfully	4	15	275%
Turning Unlawfully	17	30	76%
No Signal / Improper Signal	1	0	--
Following too Closely	73	84	15%
Reckless Driving	36	29	-19%
Hit & Run Property Damage	17	9	-47%
Failure to Stop for Police Vehicle	6	7	17%
Other Moving Violation	35	35	0%
Drivers License Violation	401	353	-12%
Vehicle License Violation	812	812	0%
Vehicle License Improper	100	101	1%
Faulty Equipment	22	33	50%
Other Violations	2591	2176	-16%
Driving Under Suspension	285	281	-1%
Minimum Speed Law	2	0	--
Driving Under the Influence	41	66	61%
Non-Traffic Offenses	10	67	570%
Racing on Highway	0	1	--
Failure to Dim Lights	0	1	--
Defective Brakes	0	1	--
Total:	7402	7278	-2%

Note: Percentage changes have been left blank for offenses which reported 0 incidents in one of the two years cited. Also, aberrant differences in counts for offenses from one year to the next may be due to changes in recording procedures or the recording of an offense under a category where it may be counted as an included offense. An example of this could include an offense such as Disorderly Conduct being recorded under the count for Non-Traffic Offenses.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

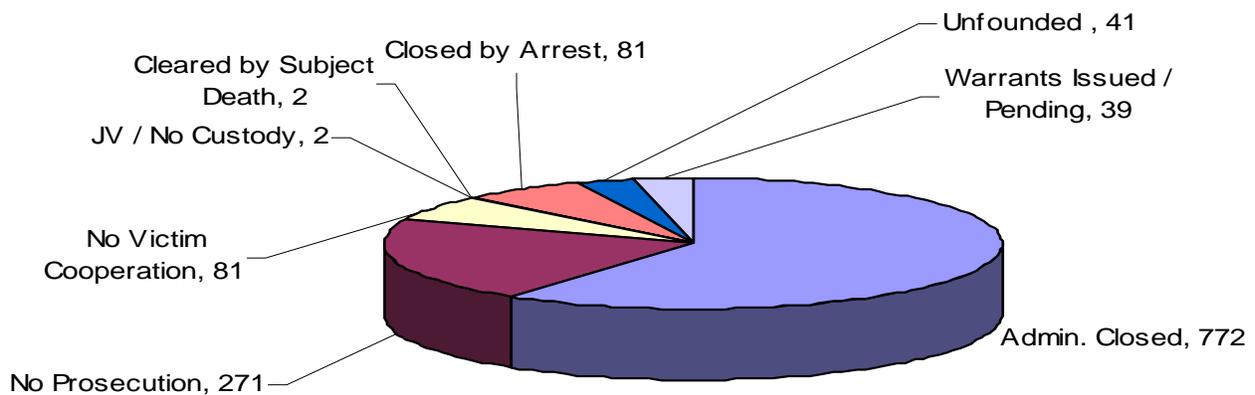


The Criminal Investigations Division is managed by a Lieutenant who supervises four Detectives, two Narcotics Agents and one Gang Intervention Officer. The Criminal Investigations Division (C.I.D.) is tasked with following leads in criminal cases. The Criminal Investigations Division is available to respond at anytime, day or night, to the needs of crime victims, or to the scene of any incident.

C.I.D. works to follow up on reports of criminal activity initially reported to our uniformed patrol officers. The Detectives then establish the elements of the crime as defined by state law, identify and apprehend the person responsible for the criminal act. The Investigations Division is also responsible for forensic examination of crime scenes along with the evaluation, collection of evidence, and the transport of fugitives from other jurisdictions. The Criminal Investigations Division also plays an integral part in assisting the Solicitor's Office in the prosecution of cases.

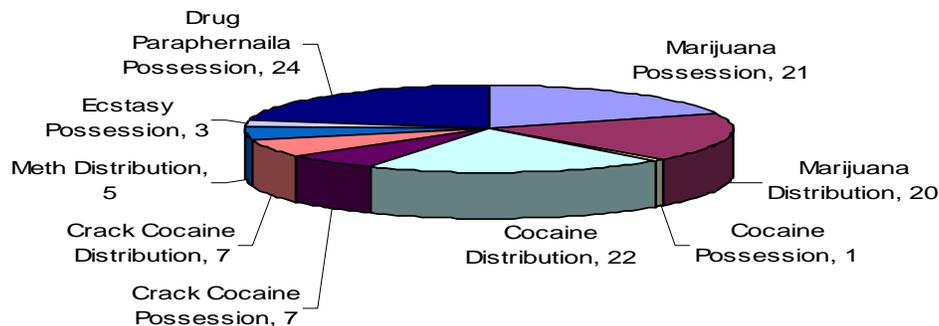
During the year of 2008 the Criminal Investigations division investigated One thousand two hundred and fifty cases. One thousand two hundred and thirty nine of those have been closed for a clearance rate of 99.12%. Seven hundred and seventy two were administratively closed, two hundred and twenty one were cleared due to no prosecution by the victim, eighty one were cleared due to no victim cooperation, two were cleared due to juvenile/no custody, two were cleared due to subject death, eighty two were closed by arrest, forty one were unfounded and thirty nine cases have an arrest warrant issued with the arrest pending.

CID 2008 Stats



The narcotics section of CID division conducted numerous operations that resulted in over a thousand pounds of illegal drugs being removed from our town's streets.

Narcotics Division 2008 Stats



GANG ACTIVITY

While the topic of gang violence and the infiltration of schools by gang members have received significant attention in the local press and news media, the Department has been monitoring gang activity in the Town for several years.

While the percentage of gang-related incidents is low (less than 1% of the total in any given year), the propensity of gang members to commit violent crimes and the difficulty of eliminating gangs which have the opportunity to become entrenched in a community has led the Department to assign a detective in the criminal investigations division the task of identifying, monitoring, and suppressing gang activity. This detective has received additional training related to gangs and how to identify and decode gang graffiti and symbols. Additionally this detective delivered 13 gang related presentations to a host of audiences that included homeowners associations, school teacher associations, department personnel, local clergy, the Lexington apartment managers coalition and private businesses.

Solidified relations with other local law enforcement agencies have opened the flow of information concerning gang activity. The gang detective provides any necessary updates on gang activity as part of each bi-weekly COMPSTAT meeting. This information then helps guide the development of division action plans that are in response to specific crime trends and patterns. Through these efforts the Department has been able to confirm the presence of several gangs within the Town and continues to closely monitor any suspected activity.

Gang activity numbers were down for 2008 however the exact number of incidents involving gang activity is not available at the time of this publication due to errors in reporting this type of activity. These reporting errors will be corrected in 2009. There was an increase in gang contacts in 2008 which accompanied a decrease in reportable offenses which is not typical. National trends show that an increase in contacts is usually accompanied by reportable offenses. This phenomenon may be a precursor to a greater number of reportable incidents in the coming year.

In 2008 we saw an increase in gang contacts specifically amongst our Hispanic community which is keeping in step with national trends. Numerous individuals were contacted on traffic stops who were found to be documented gang members in state or national gang databases. Two armed robberies which occurred in the town in 2008 were perpetrated by gang members and one search warrant service conducted by detectives resulted in the arrest of two known gang members. The assigned gang detective is working diligently on a list of individuals to be entered into the state and/or national gang databases.

VICTIM ADVOCATE



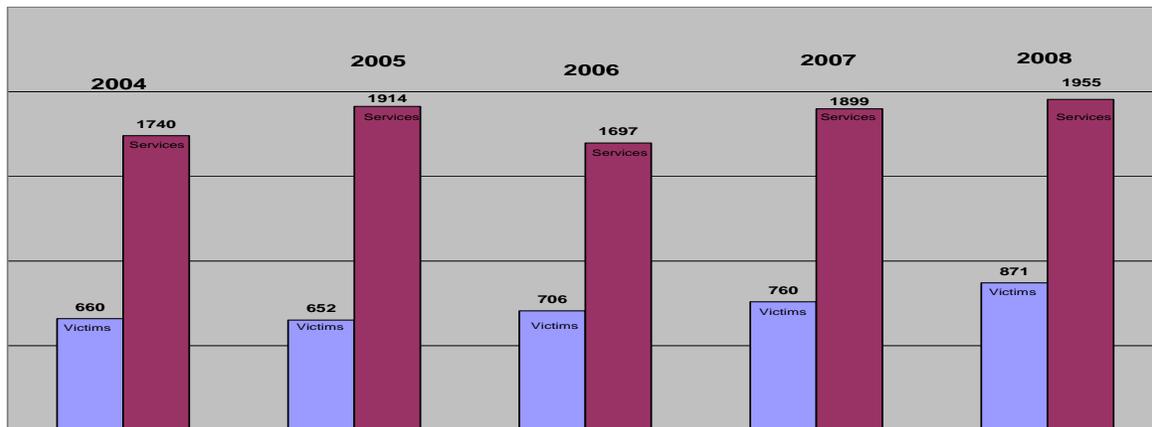
The Department's Victim's Advocate continues to provide a variety of services to those who are victims of crime. The Victim's Advocate responds to critical incidents and assists victims through the criminal justice process. The Victim's Advocate also provides follow up contacts to victims and witnesses, counsels victims and provides appropriate referrals to professionals in the area, including the State Victim's Compensation Fund which helps victims of crime with medical payments. The below listed table provides a summary of the number of victims served and the number of services provided. While the number of victims served in 2007 showed only a modest increase of 8%, the number of services provided increased by 11%. The number of victims served in 2008 shows a 14% increase and the services provided show a 2% increase. What this data cannot measure, however, is the amount of time it took to provide those services or the additional time spent in court this past year with the implementation of jury trials on certain weekday evening.

As was noted in the "Highlights" section of this report, the Kids-in-Court program was developed, organized, and implemented by the Victim's Advocate. This program served over 100 children from the Lexington Intermediate School in 2008 and brought together, law enforcement, prosecutors, and Judges with students and allowed them to not only observe the criminal justice process, but actually participate in mock trials. The LIS students acted as co-bailiffs, co-prosecutors, co-defense attorneys and co-judges. In addition, they also heard evidence as jurors and actually deliberated and delivered their verdict in the trials. This program took the students from the beginning of the criminal process (i.e. a ticket and a warrant) to the end result of a trial resulting in a verdict.

Table 1: Summary of Activities for Victim Advocate for Calendar Years 2004-2008

ACTIVITY	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Victims Served	660	652	706	760	871
Services Provided	1740	1914	1697	1899	1955

LEXINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT
VICTIMS SERVED/SERVICES PROVIDED 2004-2008



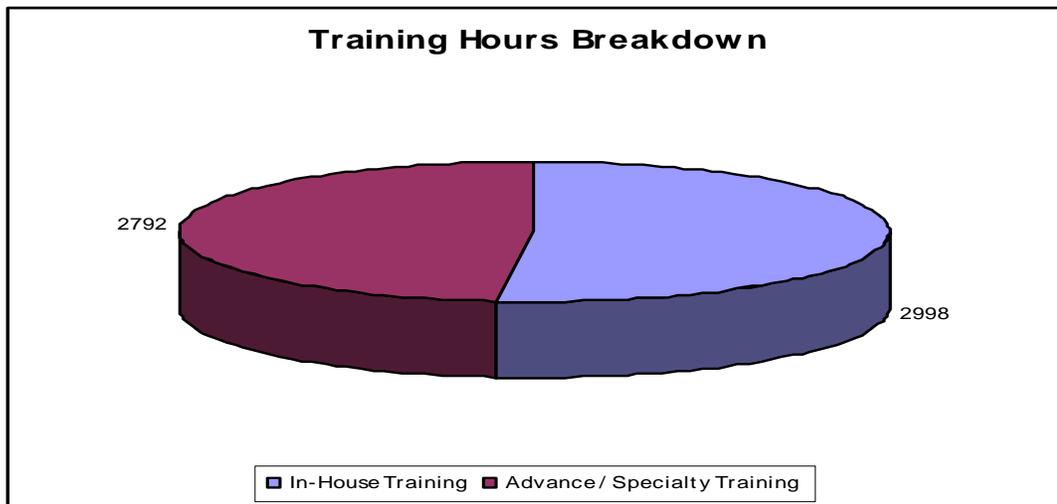
TRAINING DIVISION



One of the most important ways the Department strives to insure that officers' actions are within the law and departmental policy is through rigorous training. Training falls under the Special Operations Division, which works closely with all the other divisions of the Department to identify what type of training officers need before implementing changes to the Department's training program. The training officers receive is provided in-house and covers topics required by the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy (SCCJA). Examples of these would be firearms, defensive tactics, legal updates, emergency vehicle operations, etc. Specialized training is often conducted by the SCCJA or an outside training organization and is available at minimal to no cost for the Department. The Department sends officers to training as outlined in the below listed table. The Department's dedication to professionalism meant that officers underwent an average of 128 hours of training per officer and a total of 5790 hours of training during 2008. The minor decrease from 2007 to 2008 can be accounted to the decrease of advanced training within the state due to high gas prices and the decrease in the training budget. The in-house training hours increased by almost 12% due to an increase in block training material and to compensate for the decrease in advanced training.

Summary of Training Statistics for Calendar Years 2005-2008

	2005	2006	2007	2008	Percentage Change 2007-2008
Total Training Hours (Advanced, In-House, Specialty)	5119	5433	5941	5790	2.5% Decrease
In-House Training Hours	2175	3127	2640	2998	11.9% Increase
Avg. Training Hours per Officer	151	147	152	145	4.6% Decrease





EMERGENCY SERVICES TEAM



For operational purposes, the EST is considered a component of the Special Operations Division. EST is composed of two components, including a tactical unit and a crisis negotiations unit. Tactical unit officers receive advanced specialized training in tactical deployment, building entry, chemical munitions and high risk response. Team members are on call at all times and can assist in a variety of potentially hazardous situations such as those involving barricaded suspects, hostage situations, high risk warrant service/vehicle takedowns, search and rescue and fugitive recovery. The crisis negotiations unit functions independently of the tactical team and is staffed by three officers with specialized training in crisis/hostage negotiations. All officers who participate in the EST serve on a voluntary basis as an additional responsibility to their assigned duties. Activities of the EST in 2008 are represented in the table below.

Emergency Services Team Stats	
Training Hours 2008	142.5
Training Hours 2008 (Monthly Average)	12
Total Training Days 2008	19
Call Outs 2008	1

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER



The School Resource Officer (SRO) is assigned under the Special Operations Division and serves at the Lexington Middle School. All school resource officers must attend specialized training for the position and conduct a variety of activities in their assigned school. Activities of the SRO in 2008 are represented in the table below.

School Resource Officer Activities for 2008		
Activity	Annual Total	Monthly Average (Aug.-Dec. only)
Total Classes Instructed	8	1.6
Total Students Instructed	109	22
Total Counseling Sessions	23	4.6
Total Incident Reports Taken	3	.6
Total Arrests/Petitions	0	0
Total Special Events	7	1.4
Total Training Hours Completed	24	4.8

COMMUNITY ACTION TEAM

The Community Action Team (CAT) is part of the Special Operations Division. Its three officers serve the Department in a myriad of functions to include crime prevention activities, child safety seat checks, business/home security surveys, bicycle patrol, business visits, residential visits, representing the Department at various community functions and events, coordination of the Citizens' Academy and participation and coordination of community programs such as Lexington KEYS and Neighborhood Watch. Such activities make this team highly visible in the community. The CAT officers receive specialized training in crime prevention and community policing. The community policing efforts for the year 2008 are represented in the table below.

Community Oriented Policing Activities for 2008		
Activity	Total Hours	Comments
Bicycle Patrol	56	123 Miles Patrolled
Community Meetings	9.2	
Business Visits (Includes Patrol Totals)	3,260	14,044 Visits Conducted
Informal Community Visits	42.6	113 Visits
Child Safety Seat Checks/Installations	23.5	72 Seats Installed



KEYS Program

"KEEPING EVERY YOUTH SAFE"

The KEYS program continues to be active in improving the quality of life for Lexington youth. The program, housed at the Community Center at 104 Allen Street in West Lexington, operates on Monday, Tuesday and Thursdays and focuses on improving the academic and life skills of its participants. There was also a four (4) week summer program operated Monday – Thursday from 7am-6pm limited to 55 children.

Each youth receives individual tutoring and mentoring, based on their needs, provided by program staff and a cadre of volunteers from local churches, colleges and high schools. Additionally, assistance from Community Action Team (CAT) officers provides life skills training and the opportunity to positively react with law enforcement officials

Averaging 25 youth per day in 2008, the program was successful in multiple areas of its mission. Most importantly was that 71.4% of the youth served improved their grades by one marking level or more or had an “A” average in Math and/or Language Arts. Furthermore the program contributed to a 61.9% increase in youth attendance at school. Finally, 50% of the involved youth demonstrated an increase in core “life skills” (time and money management, character education, etc.).

Community Sponsors and/or contributors to the program included:

- The Town of Lexington
- Lexington Police Department
- Lexington Improvement League
- Lexington Rotary Club
- South East Regional Rotary Club
- Saxe Gotha Presbyterian Church
- Grace EMC
- St. Paul Baptist Church
- Spring Hill AME
- Wal-mart
- Select Health of South Carolina
- Kohl’s
- Harvest Hope Food Bank and
- Personal donations



OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

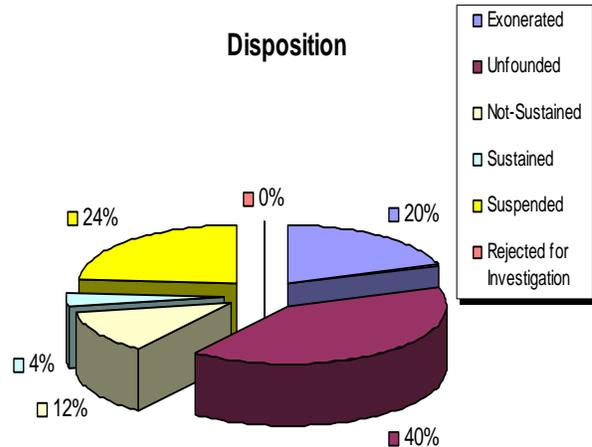


The Office of Professional Standards (OPS) is staffed by two officers', one of whom retains the title of Inspector and reports directly to the Chief of Police. The OPS is responsible for the Department's Internal Affairs functions and handles all internal and external complaint investigations; reviews/investigates all Response to Resistance incidents and Pursuits; and administers the Departmental Early Warning System. Additionally, OPS maintains accreditation (through CALEA and SCLEA), is responsible for the Department's NCIC compliance and provides management of the Department's policies.

Complaints

The most significant statistic from the OPS in 2008 is the decrease in complaints lodged against officers of the Department. Officers were cleared in 68% (15) of the cases. Six complaints were sustained for the year. While this is an increase over last year, the six sustained complaints still represent only .021% of the documented 28,036 citizen contacts which are a testament to the level of professionalism exhibited by the officers of the department.

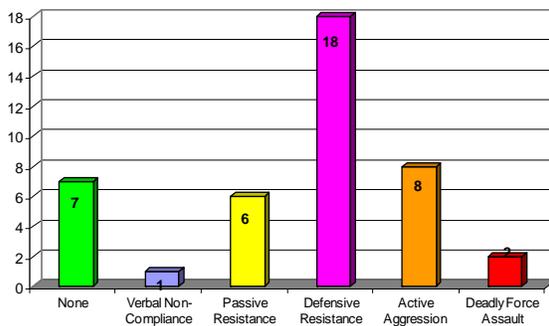
Disposition



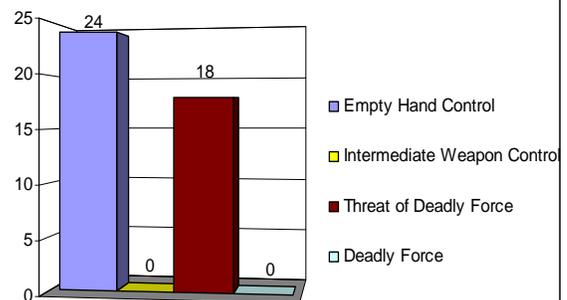
Response to Resistance

Response to resistance by LPD officers slightly increased (6%) from 2007. All incidents were found to be authorized. This continues the upward trend of responses to resistance since accurate records of such began in 2003. This increase corresponds to increases noted in total incidents and arrests.

Types of Resistance

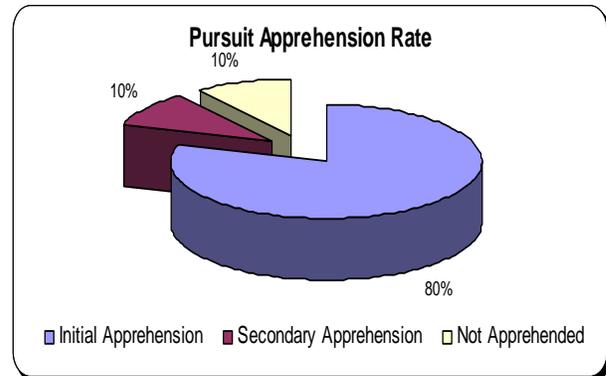


Levels of Response



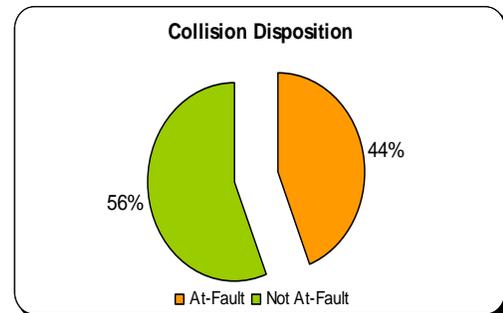
Pursuits

Pursuits were unchanged from 2007 however the trend line indicates a continued upward increase as well which began in 2005. With the number of traffic stops down from 2007, the number of pursuits per traffic stop increased to 1 out of every 764. The average pursuit lasted 6 minutes 22 seconds and covered just over 3.5 miles. Most impressively in the pursuit statistics is that the department had an overall apprehension rate of 90% which continues to better the current five year apprehension rate of 85%. Of the nine pursuit suspects apprehended, eight were immediately after the pursuit and one was brought to justice after the fact. These numbers aren't just a one year anomaly. For the previous 6 years the department has initially captured just fewer than 65% of all pursuit suspects. 59% of the remaining suspects were arrested as a result of follow-up investigation. This translates into the 85% overall apprehension rate mentioned above.



Fleet Damage

Sixteen (16) reports of Fleet Damage were recorded in 2008 of which seven (44%) were "at-fault", which is defined as being caused by department employees. There were no obvious trends (such as backing, etc.) noticed in regards to causes. All fleet damage incidents in which officers were utilizing lights and sirens were found to be at-fault and accounted for 29% of at-fault incidents.



Early Warning System

The Department's Early Warning System (EWS) is designed to detect out of the ordinary patterns of behavior and provide appropriate intervention to problems that have the potential to undermine the mission of this agency. The essential ingredient in this system is non-punitive but to create methods to resolve performance or other issues at the earliest stages to benefit the employee, the agency, and the community. The Office of Professional Standards maintains the necessary files to run this system. The department command staff reviewed 54 files as a result of 6 red flags initiated on 5 officers. 38 files were "cleared" and 16 were "maintained" for their requisite durations by EWS policy.

Accreditation

The Office of Professional Standards Inspector also serves as the Accreditation Manager for the Department's ongoing accreditation efforts. The department completed its self-assessment phase of the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) accreditation process and successfully underwent a comprehensive review by a team of CALEA assessors in December of 2008. Agencies are normally given 3 years to complete the self assessment phase however with the continued support of the department; this goal, outlined last year within this document, was met in 18 months time.



The OPS office continues to be active in the accreditation process by the OPS Inspector being elected as the treasurer of the SC Police Accreditation Coalition and by attending quarterly meetings of such.

A complete analysis of all OPS activities is available in the OPS' annual report available upon request.

Summary of Key Activities from the Office of Professional Standards for Calendar Years 2005-2008

Incidents	2005	2006	2007	2008	Previous Year % Change	% Change since 2005
Complaints	20	20	30	22	-27%	+10%
Response to Resistance	28	35	36	38	+6%	+36%
Pursuits	6	7	10	10	No Change	+66%
Fleet Damage	13	10	13	16	+23%	+23%