



2020

ANNUAL REPORT

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■ Mayor & City Council

STEPHEN K. BENJAMIN

Mayor

SAM DAVIS

District I Councilman

TAMEIKA ISAAC DEVINE

At-Large Councilwoman

HOWARD E. DUVALL, JR.

At-Large Councilman

EDWARD H. MCDOWELL, JR.

District II Councilman

WILL BRENNAN

District III Councilman

DANIEL RICKENMANN

District IV Councilman

■ City Manager & Executive Team

TERESA WILSON

City Manager

MELISSA S. GENTRY

Assistant City Manager

JEFF PALEN

Assistant City Manager/
Chief Financial Officer

CLINT SHEALY

Assistant City Manager

HENRY SIMONS

Assistant City Manager



Message from the Chief of Police

It is my pleasure to present to you the 2020 Columbia Police Department Annual Report.

Each year we take time to reflect on what we have achieved and accomplished as an organization. With that said, it would be hard to describe 2020 in any way other than “challenging and unprecedented.” We experienced a national health crisis, quarantines, mask mandates, civil unrest, protests, reduced budgets and a contentious national election. Through it all, we persevered as an organization and community.

During this unprecedented period our officers and professional staff exhibited determination, resiliency, compassion, empathy, understanding and professionalism. I credit them for all success and achievement this past year. We are committed to maintaining focus on organizational transformation, accountability, recruitment, retention and strengthening our relationship with our citizens and community partners.

We continue to see tremendous advancements and reforms in our profession. The Columbia Police Department will always be in the forefront when it comes to maintaining national standards and exploring innovative ways to improve service delivery and build trust. It is an honor and privilege to serve as your Police Chief.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "William H. Holbrook".

William H. “Skip” Holbrook
Chief of Police



MISSION

The Columbia Police Department will provide professional and ethical service in the protection of our citizens, while preventing and reducing the fear of crime through problem-solving partnerships.



VISION

Through our steadfast commitment to policing excellence, the Columbia Police Department will be transformed to exhibit the innovation, engagement and professionalism of an exceptional organization, whose workforce truly reflects the values and diversity of the City of Columbia.



CORE VALUES

PROFESSIONALISM

FAIRNESS

INTEGRITY

COURAGE

DIVERSITY

COLLABORATION

SERVICE ORIENTATION

COMMUNICATION

■ About CPD

The Columbia Police Department (CPD) is a nationally accredited law enforcement agency committed to achieving policing excellence through problem-solving partnerships. The diverse staff of sworn officers and civilian personnel provides professional, ethical, fair, and impartial police services to residents, visitors and businesses. Officers are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to protect life and property within city limits. They are responsible for responding to calls for service, investigating criminal activity and traffic collisions, apprehending suspects and more.



436

**AUTHORIZED
SWORN STRENGTH**



125

**AUTHORIZED
PROFESSIONAL STAFF**



\$47,576,521

ANNUAL BUDGET



\$4,273,292.88

GRANT FUNDS MANAGED

Executive Staff



CHIEF W. H. "SKIP" HOLBROOK



DEPUTY CHIEF MELRON KELLY



MAJOR RANDY MARTIN



MAJOR RICK HINES



MAJOR DANA OREE



MAJOR GEORGE DRAFTS

Organizational Chart



2020 CPD Demographics



Chief Holbrook pictured with Officers Clark, Underwood and Boone

SWORN OFFICERS BY RACE/GENDER

RACE / GENDER	TOTALS	%
African American Female	29	8.03%
African American Male	94	26.04%
Asian Female	1	0.28%
Asian Male	1	0.28%
Hispanic Female	4	1.11%
Hispanic Male	7	1.94%
Native American Indian	1	0.28%
Other Female	2	0.55%
Other Male	5	1.39%
White Female	26	7.20%
White Male	191	52.91%

2020 At-A-Glance

AT- A - GLANCE	2019	2020	↑↓	Incident Change +/-	Incident Change %
Homicide	25	19	↓	-6	-24%
Rape*	92	96	↑	+4	+4.35%
Robbery	220	216	↓	-4	-1.82%
Aggravated Assaults*	726	694	↓	-32	-4.41%
Burglary	919	760	↓	-159	-17.3%
Larceny* Autobreaking included	5,254	2,811	↓	-2,443	-46.5%
Motor Vehicle Theft	819	647	↓	-172	-21%
Arrests	6,496	5,237	↓	-1,259	-19.38%
Calls for Service	178,500	155,035	↓	-5,450	-3.05%
Miles Driven	5,394,689	4,521,804	↓	-872,885	-16.18%
Firearms Seized	888	851	↓	-37	-4.17%
TOTAL VIOLENT CRIMES	1,063	1,025	↓	-11	-3.57%
TOTAL PROPERTY CRIMES	6,992	6,034	↓	-958	-13.7%
CRIME TOTALS	7,739	7,059	↓	-680	-8.79%

*Firearms seizures are noticeably higher due to the on-boarding of ShotSpotter Technology. This has played a significant part in the increase of gun seizures and arrests.

Sexual Assaults- includes all attempts/completions of the following: Rape, Sodomy, Rape w/ Object

*Aggravated Assaults are reported by the number of victims.

*Larceny - includes all attempts/completions of Pocket Picking, Purse Snatching, Shoplifting, Theft from Building, Theft from Coin Operated Machine/Device, Theft from Motor Vehicle, Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts/Accessories, All Other Larceny

*Data pulled from RMS and is subject to change following validations for FBI Uniformed Crime Reporting purposes.

*Data based on number of incidents and number of calls/responses may vary.

PATROL BUREAU

The primary objective of the Patrol Bureau is to provide prompt professional service to the City of Columbia's residents and visitors. Working cooperatively with the communities they serve, the Patrol Bureau strives to prevent crime and reduce the fear of crime through a problem solving partnership. Maintaining a 24 hour a day /seven day a week presence, the Patrol Bureau is the most visible and recognizable part of the department.



North Region - District I

3905 Ensor Avenue
Columbia, SC 29203
(803) 401-8810



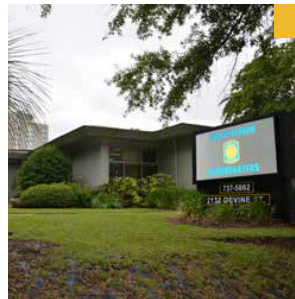
West Region - District I

690 Club Road
Columbia, SC 29212
(803) 749-5830



Metro Region - District II

1800 Main Street
Columbia, SC 29201
(803) 545-3972



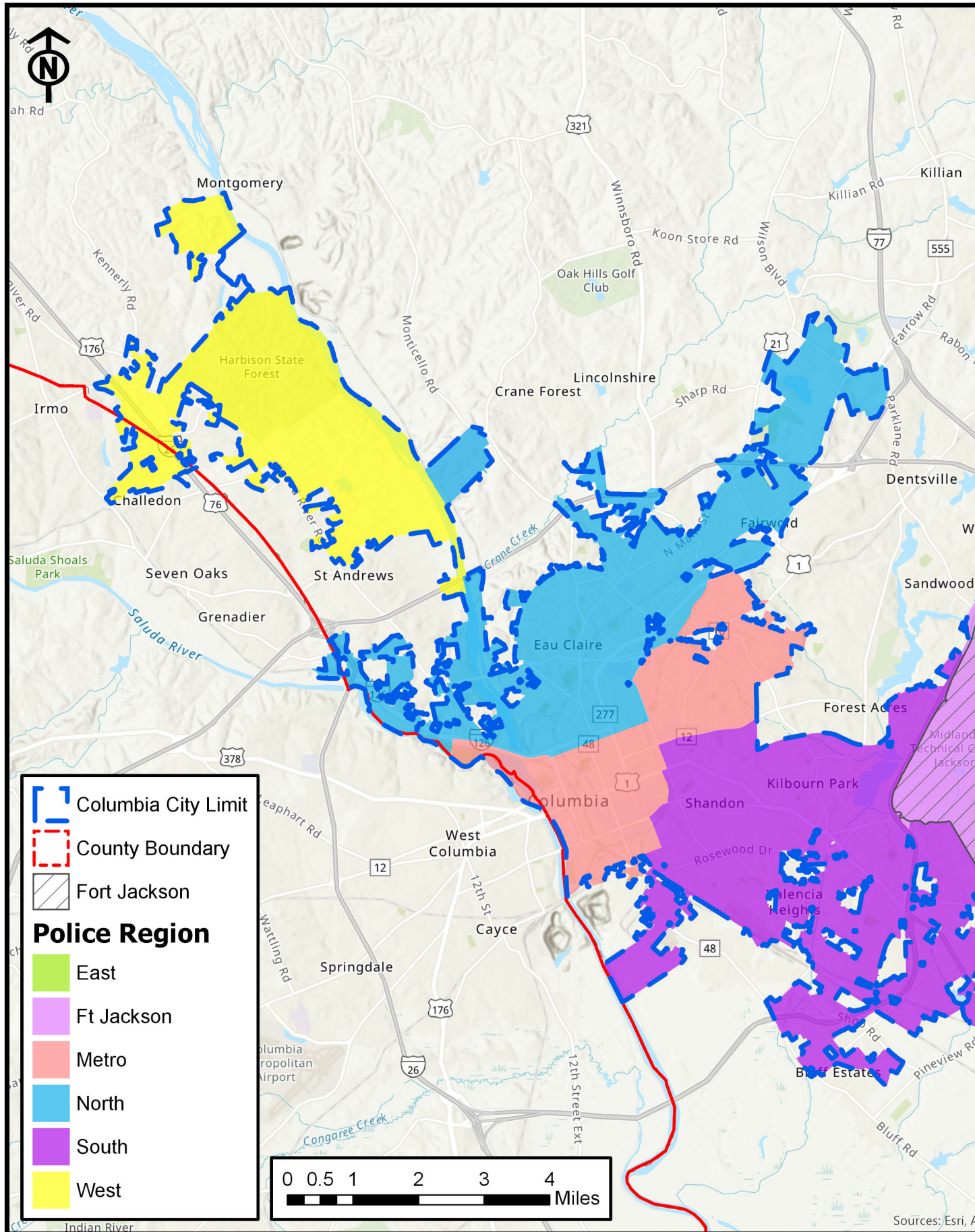
Southeast Region - District III

2132 Devine Street
Columbia, SC 29205
(803) 737-5880



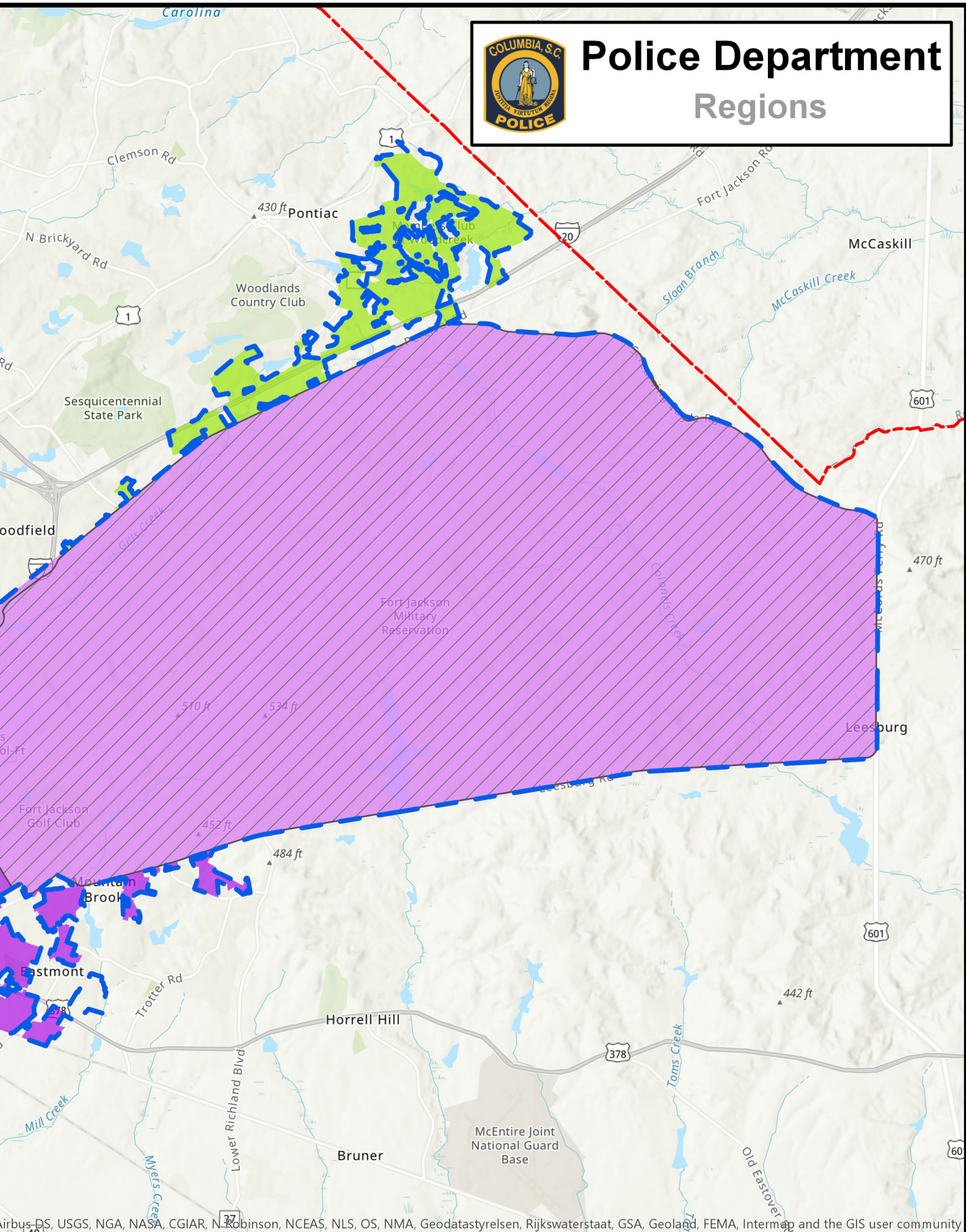
Southeast Region - District IV

446 Spears Creek Church Rd
Elgin, SC 29045
(803) 737-5880





Police Department Regions



airbus-DS, USGS, NGA, NASA, CGIAR, N. Robinson, NCEAS, NLS, OS, NMA, Geodastystyrelsen, Rijkswaterstaat, GSA, Geoland, FEMA, Intermap and the GIS user community

Firearms seizures are noticeably higher due to the on-boarding of ShotSpotter Technology, which played a significant role in the increase of gun seizures and arrests.

CODE ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

The Code Enforcement Division finished 2020 with approximately a 13% decrease in the total number of cases started the previous year. This is attributed to the COVID-19 pandemic as the Division's staffing levels have been varied for the majority of the year. The average resolution rate is 62%, which was also down 5% percent from the previous year. The total number of registered rental units increased by 6% as the division continues to add new registrations. At the end of 2020, there were 26,600 registered rental units in the City.

In late 2019, the division's Vacant Building Registration Ordinance was passed by the Columbia City Council. At the start of the pandemic, staff had begun enforcement of the ordinance, which drastically slowed the ability to complete tasks in a timely manner. The new anticipated timeline for the enforcement to be fully implemented is mid-2021 with nearly 2,000 registered vacant buildings. At the end of 2020, there were 150 registered vacant buildings and 400 vacant building cases on properties not registered.

The Neighborhood Improvement Sweeps were also affected by the COVID-19 pandemic as we had to accommodate for social distancing and reducing in person contact for a period of time. The division conducted four Neighborhood Sweeps in 2020 with coordination across several City Departments involved with daily quality of life issues.

62%

resolution
rate

↑ 28%

Mosquito
cases

↓ 5%

Property
Permit cases

26,330

registered
rental units

180

registered vacant
buildings

Highlights/Accomplishments

Vacant Building Registration

This ordinance passed in late 2019 by Columbia City Council and requires that a building remaining vacant for more than 120 days must be registered with the city of Columbia. There are fees associated with each registration and all buildings need to be inspected by Code Enforcement staff. The division objectives for this ordinance are as follows:

- Identify vacant properties in the city of Columbia
- Establish a local point of contact to address issues with vacant properties
- Create a mechanism for holding property owners accountable
- Discourage long-term vacancies
- Reduce blight and crime in the city

2020 STATS

VIOLATION TYPE	QTY STARTED	QTY RESOLVED	RESOLVE RATE
Abandoned/Derelict Vehicles - Private Property	1,233	876	71%
Abandoned/Derelict Vehicles - ROW	250	226	90%
Accessory Structure	191	96	50%
Commercial Boarded Building	21	5	24%
Commercial Demolition	7	1	14%
Commercial Premise	617	428	69%
Commercial Structure	1,126	234	21%
Front Yard Parking	1,013	772	76%
Rental Property - No Permit	474	253	53%
Residential Boarded Building	44	11	25%
Residential Demolition	91	14	15%
Residential Premise	2,935	2,214	75%
Residential Structure	1,069	323	30%
Right of Way	463	402	87%
Roll Carts	1,358	1,275	94%
Vacant Lots	798	678	85%
Vector Control - Mosquitos	281	209	74%
Vector Control - Rodents	11	8	73%
TOTAL CASES	11982	8025	67%

4

Neighborhood Improvement/Quality of Life Sweeps conducted

505

vacant lots and premises abated of overgrowth and debris

21

unsecure structures boarded

1,800+

waste tires collected from city streets/right of ways

17

Vector Control Areas treated three times for mosquito larva as part of the Mosquito Prevention Program

701

abated work orders for cutting, removing trash and debris, and tire removal in the City tree zones and right of ways.

500+

pounds of rat bait placed in City Sewers as part of the Rat Control/Prevention Program

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION BUREAU

The Criminal Investigation Bureau (CIB) is primarily tasked with following leads developed during the initial reporting of serious criminal activity. Investigators are available 24 hours a day to respond to the scene of criminal activity and needs of crime victims. CIB is comprised of 12 units.

CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION UNIT (CSI)

Responsible for the preservation, documentation, collection and analysis of evidence from crime scenes.

CSI Statistics	2019	2020
Crime Scenes Processed	852	666
Firearm eTraces (Electronic Tracing System) Performed	501	1220
Forensic Requests	139	216
Analyzed AFIS Prints	776 prints (Average Match Rate: 23%)	421 prints (Average Match Rate: 25.46%)

MIDLANDS GANG TASK FORCE (MGTF)

This unit is comprised of police officers from the Columbia Police Department, Richland County Sheriff’s Department, University of South Carolina Department of Law Enforcement and Safety, the SC Department of Corrections, Forest Acres Police Department, and the 5th Circuit Solicitor’s Office.

MGTF Statistics	2019	2020
Arrests	213	83
Arrest Warrants Signed	219	79
Arrests Warrants Served	128	81
Cases Assigned	221	19
Gang Awareness Training Courses	21	218
Firearms Seized	115	69
Narcotics Seized	416 MDMA 35.237 grams Crack 23.324 grams Cocaine 1 gram Meth 11,320 grams Marijuana	35 units MDMA 6 grams Cocaine 1,136 grams Marijuana
Gang Validations	53	18

FUGITIVE TEAM

Responsible for tracking, locating and apprehending wanted suspects through intelligence gathering and covert surveillance.

Fugitive Team Statistics	2019	2020
Arrests	248	111
Arrests Warrants Served	414	175



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATIONS (FBI) / JOINT TERRORISM TASK FORCE

FBI Violent Crime Task Force TFOs and FBI agents monitor persons known to be involved or associated with foreign or domestic (home grown extremist) terrorist groups or organizations. In addition, they are responsible for providing intelligence reports to law enforcement agencies at the local, state, and national level regarding potential threats.

Significant arrests in 2020:

- Coordinated CPD assistance request with FBI Multimedia Exploitation Unit (MXU), for enhancement of video footage from the Columbia Police Department BWC related to a fatal police officer involved shooting.
- Assisted on the arrest of Marcello Earle Woods who was identified as a subject involved in burning of a CPD police vehicle during the May 2020 civil unrest.
- Opened a federal investigation on Xavier Brown who was identified as a subject involved in burning of a CPD police vehicle during the May 2020 civil unrest.
- Domestic Terrorism Disruption involving a white supremacist subject identified as Benjamin Mustian Jr.
- Initiated an investigation into suspected WMD chemical attacks on four CPD officers during the May 2020 civil unrest.
- Assisted in the arrest and Domestic Terrorism disruption of Andre Delise identified as a white supremacist and illegal firearms dealer.
- Conducted eight threat assessments. One involving threat against US Senator Mitch McConnell.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (FBI) / VIOLENT CRIME TASK FORCE

CPD TFOs work with FBI Agents to reduce violent crime by identifying and targeting violent persons and organizations, target human trafficking operations and prosecuting them through the federal court system.

Violent Crime Task Force Statistics	2019	2020
Arrests	20	11
Firearms Seized	11	0
Drugs Seized	720g Cocaine 34g Crack Cocaine Over 5,000 fentanyl pills 8886 heroin pills (591 grams) 6080 pills of mixed heroin fentanyl	2492g Cocaine 896g Marijuana \$34,991 US Currency

UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE (USSS)

CPD TFOs work with Secret Service Agents to investigate cyber and financial crimes such as computer hacking and corporate embezzlement. TFOs also work with Secret Service Agents to identify persons involved in the production and distribution of counterfeit currency and merchandise. In addition, TFOs conduct forensic examinations of cell phones and computers involved in criminal cases.

USSS Statistics	2019	2020
Total pieces of evidence submitted for electronic examination by CPD	107	58
Total Cases	81	58

BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, FIREARMS, AND EXPLOSIVES (ATF) TASK FORCE

CPD TFOs work with ATF agents to reduce gun violence by identifying and targeting violent gun offenders and prosecuting them through the state and federal court system. TFOs and ATF agents also target persons involved in the illegal sale of firearms and ammunition throughout midlands area. In addition, TFOs conduct gun traces (E-Trace) and enter the seized firearms into the National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN).

ATF Task Force Statistics	2019	2020
Cases submitted for federal Prosecution	36	117
Cases indicted & arrested on federal arrest warrants	30	44
Search Warrants	6	45

DRUG ENFORCEMENT ADMINISTRATION (DEA)

CPD TFOs work with DEA Agents to identify and target persons involved in the illegal distribution of narcotics and the diversion of prescription medications. TFOs also work with DEA Agents to monitor private practice doctors and pharmacists for prescription

DEA Statistics	2019	2020
Arrests	60	31
Currency Seized	\$640,211	\$933,484
Investigations	9	7

UNITED STATES MARSHAL SERVICE (USMS)

CPD TFOs work with deputy US Marshals to locate and capture fugitives from all over the United States and its territories. TFOs and USMS Agents are also responsible for the extradition of prisoners from one jurisdiction to another and the transportation of prisoners

USMS Statistics	2019	2020
Fugitives Arrested	294	222
Extraditions	16	13

POLYGRAPH UNIT

The Polygraph Unit supports the investigative needs of the Criminal Investigation division and other local, state, and federal criminal justice agencies. In addition, the unit conducts pre-employment and internal polygraph examinations.

Polygraph Statistics	2019	2020
Tests Completed	83	60

ORGANIZED CRIME/NARCOTICS UNIT (OCN)

Investigators assigned to the OCN unit work closely with State and Federal law enforcement agencies to disrupt and dismantle narcotics trafficking organizations, and arrest those involved in related drug violations.

OCN Statistics	2019	2020
Arrests	485	314
Heroin Seized	2,175g	798 g
Controlled Pills	1,609	1,132
Cocaine	214.9g	3,762 g
Currency	\$81,088	\$256,171
Firearms	62	70
Marijuana	34.59 lbs	39.79 lbs
Overdose Deaths	15	9
Overdose Survivals	18	6

OCN Success Story

On March 7, 2021, agents from the Organized Crime & Narcotics (OCN) unit received information regarding a shipment of drugs coming into the city of Columbia. Agents working with The State Law Enforcement Division (SLED) were able to intercept the package before delivery. Agents from both agencies formulated an operational plan to deliver the drugs and execute a search warrant at the location. The operation was conducted and went as planned without incident. Several individuals were taken into custody two of which were wanted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation on drug conspiracy charges in another jurisdiction.

The joint operation yielded a large amount of drugs and currency. Agents seized in total 11,400 grams of methamphetamine, 237 grams of heroin/fentanyl mixture, 72 grams of cocaine, \$17,000 US Currency, 1 Taurus 9mm pistol, and drug manufacturing and distribution equipment.

SPECIAL VICTIM'S UNIT (SVU)

Investigate allegations of Criminal Sexual Conduct, Child Abuse/ Neglect, Child Fatality, Indecent Exposure, Emergency Protective Custody, Missing Persons, Stalking/Harassment, Domestic Violence, Internet Crimes Against Children and Juveniles.

Special Victim's Unit Statistics	2019	2020
Criminal Sexual Conduct	125	109
Domestic Violence	550	575
Missing Persons	90	81
Indecent Exposure	32	25
Child Abuse	53	69
Child Pornography	17	3
Total Assigned Cases	1,203	1,299

SVU Success Story

On May 17, 2020 at approximately 1:30 pm, Officers responded to Interstate 126 westbound just over the I-126 bridge where multiple passersby observed a female running from a vehicle that was completely engulfed in flames carrying a small child and both appeared to have injuries. Miraculously, one of the witnesses who stopped to help the mother and 13-month old child had military experience and happened to have a burn kit in his car which he quickly began to administer to the child who had severe burns on all of his limbs and face. Many of the witnesses and responding Officers described the mother as having odd behavior on scene and due to quick Officer thinking, the incident was linked to a previous call from approximately 1 hour before in which a male had called in stating that he had had an altercation with his child's mother in Richland County's jurisdiction and she had threatened to drive off of a bridge with their one-year-old child in the car. Due to this connection, the mother was quickly detained and both mother and child were taken by EMS for treatment at Prisma Health Richland Hospital.

Special Victims Unit (SVU) Investigator Allison Fitzgerald and Sergeant Hass responded to the chaotic scene and collaborated with Columbia Police Department Crimes Scene Investigators (CSI), CPD Arson Investigator, Matthew Jenkins, South Carolina Law Enforcement Division (SLED) Arson Investigators & Crime Scene Technicians, Columbia Fire Department who responded and extinguished the car fire, Richland County EMS who transported the victims, Richland County Sheriff's Department Investigators and later the Department of Social Services. Through

Interviews with the mother, child’s father, and witnesses as well as essential evidence gathered on scene and after, a timeline was established showing that the mother intended to kill herself and her child but may have had second thoughts after igniting the vehicle and flames engulfed the car. At that time she gathered the child victim from his secured car seat and ran from the vehicle toward the bridge on I-126 before witnesses stopped and assisted her.

After consultation with the Fifth Judicial Circuit Solicitor’s office, the mother was charged by Investigator Fitzgerald with Attempted Murder, Arson 1st Degree, Arson 3rd Degree, & Inflicting Great Bodily Injury Upon a Minor and her bond was denied at the time.

The 13-month-old victim suffered severe 3rd degree burns on his arms, face, and legs covering approximately 20% of his body from the incident and was initially placed with a foster family for a period of time as he was undergoing extensive surgeries at Augusta Burn Center and later MUSC Burn Center to minimize the scarring but was soon placed with his father. The father, Steven Bramsen, created a GoFundme Page where he has raised over \$24,000 to help with the medical costs of the ongoing skin graft surgeries, laser treatments, and compression sleeves to control the scarring. Today the victim Kairon, who is a true miracle, is an active 2-year-old who despite his ongoing treatments continues to smile and share his bring light to everyone he meets!

PROPERTY CRIMES UNIT (PCU)

The Property Crime unit is responsible for the follow-up investigation of crimes against property. These include burglaries, stolen vehicles, car break-ins and a multitude of crimes related to theft, fraud and property damage.

PCU Assigned Cases	2019	2020
Burglary	624	513
Auto Breaking	869	592
GLMV	473	373
Financial Transaction Card Theft/Fraud, Bank Fraud, Forgery, Larceny (Grand and Petit), Vandalism, Identity Theft, Breach of Trust, Fail to Return Rentals, etc.	661	571
Total Assigned Cases	2,627	2,049

Firearm Theft Incidents

Unlawful firearms pose a significant problem in the City of Columbia and our neighboring jurisdictions. In the City of Columbia, there were 365 firearms reported stolen in 2020. A total of 224 firearms or 61% were stolen from a vehicle and 71% of those vehicles were left unsecured. There were 58 firearms stolen in 40 separate burglaries accounting for another 15%.

<p>365 Firearms reported in 2020</p> <p>224 Firearms stolen from the vehicles</p> <p>58 Firearms stolen in burglaries</p>	Firearm Theft Incidents	2019	2020
	Vehicles	66%	66%
	Larcenies	17%	13%
	Burglaries	16%	6%
	Robbery	1%	1%

PCU Success Story

In April 2020, the Columbia Police Property Crime Unit received a case where a victim and his wife had hired a contracting company to develop land and build a residence in the City of Columbia. The victim and his wife signed a contract in December 2018 and paid a contracting company \$312,191.79 between December 2018 and March 2020 to build their dream home. The work was never completed and initial land grading was confirmed to be substandard by third party engineers. During this period of time, the owner of the construction company deposited the money into several bank accounts and removed the funds as cash for his own use.

The investigator gathered and analyzed all the victim’s documentation, statements, contracts and banking records. The investigator then thoroughly researched the history and banking records of the hired construction company. Multiple subcontractors and licensing and regulation investigators were also interviewed to further investigate the case. These inquiries revealed the contracting company and its owner were identified in several open investigations throughout the state of South Carolina and had failed to pay fines in previous legal matters. Further investigation also uncovered the same company had defaulted on a contract for approximately \$900,000 with a South Carolina municipality by failing to build a grocery store. The owner of the company was charged and arrested by the investigator for Obtaining Property (Money) under False Pretenses. Additionally, he had been forbidden from obtaining any construction licensing since 2006 from the SC State Department of labor and Licensing.

Upon news of this arrest, a church organization in Charlotte NC contacted the investigator claiming the company also had failed to construct a building. This investigation uncovered a history of fraud by a contracting company costing victims in excess of 1.2 million dollars.

VIOLENT CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS UNIT (VCAP)

Investigators assigned to this unit investigate all major crimes within the jurisdictional boundaries of the city of Columbia. The unit conducts thorough investigations of each crime to include the collection of evidence and interviews. They also assist in the prosecution of suspect(s) through the preparation of case files and courtroom testimonies.

VCAP Assigned Cases	2019	2020
Assault	160	152
Robbery	193	171
Pointing / Presenting	93	130
Attempted Murder	97	76
Murder	22	21
Carjacking, Bomb Threats, Kidnapping, Discharging, Arson, etc.	118	102
Attempted Murder	35	59
Total Cases Assigned	701	638
Total Arrests	170	122

CGIC Success Story

On June 26, 2020, officers responded to a ShotSpotter alert. While on scene, officers made contact with witnesses that stated the possible subjects went to another location. Officers pursued the lead and made contact with Kentrell Thompson, who denied any involvement in the shootings. Shell casings from the initial ShotSpotter scene were collected. Officer Nowlin began investigating the shooting incident and surveillance video showed three subjects firing handguns into the air and walking to 4106 Bailey Street. One of the subjects, firing a revolver was positively identified as Thompson. Warrants were signed for him indicating the following: Discharging a Firearm in the City Limits, Unlawful Carrying of a Pistol, and Possession of a Handgun by Person Prohibited. A search warrant was confirmed for the Bailey Street location where CGIU Officers, along with North Region Community Response Team, responded in an attempt to locate Thompson and serve the search warrant. Officers located a revolver, ammunition, and shell casings. The revolver was found to be the firearm Thompson was seen shooting during the incident. Upon leaving the apartment, officers located Thompson walking a few parking lots over, and were able to place him under arrest. An interview was conducted with Thompson, where he revealed the names of the other two suspects from the shooting incident. Arrest warrants were obtained for these suspects, and they were arrested a short time later for firearm discharging and unlawful possession charges.

CGIU officers reviewed Thompson's criminal history and it was determined that he was federally prohibited from possessing firearm. eligible for federal adoption and prosecution. ATF Agent Renallo was assigned the case, and is currently waiting for Grand Jury.



SPECIAL OPERATIONS BUREAU

The Special Operations Bureau is comprised of the following highly proactive units which support services and special events for citizens of Columbia.

BOMB SQUAD

As a South Carolina accredited public safety bomb squad, all team members are certified by the FBI & US Army as Bomb Technicians. Team members respond to calls for explosive devices including old, abandoned and illegal fireworks.

During 2018, team members attended the following courses:

- Advanced Explosives Disposal Techniques training
- Homemade Explosives training
- FBI Hand Entry course
- HDS Advance Hand Entry
- Peroxide Based Explosive Imprinting (K-9)

Bomb Squad Statistics	2019	2020
Threat	3	1
Evidence Destroyed	2	4
Training	788	692
Calls	16	13
Assist	4	4

CANINE (K-9) UNIT

A specialized unit that consists of eleven K-9 teams (one handler and one dog), each team operates on a citywide basis. The K-9 Team supports patrol operations, specialize units, and the Criminal Investigation Bureau, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

The K-9 Team currently utilizes Belgian Malinois and Dutch Shepherds. The canines are trained in multiple skill sets to include tracking, drug detection, criminal apprehension, handler protection, building search and article search.

The partnership between a canine and handler is one of the most unique in the police force because at the end of each shift the canine goes home with the handler and becomes part of their family.

K-9 Arrest Statistics	2019	2020
Tracks (124)	23 Captures 20 tracks evidence recovered: 117 grams of Marijuana, 2 firearms, \$900 in Counterfeit Currency	21 Captures 23 tracks evidence recovered: 2.5 grams of Marijuana, 6 MDMA Pills 2 firearms
Apprehension	2	0
Article Search (39)	6 firearms 35g Marijuana 17g Crack Cocaine Ammo 2 Cell Phones	12 firearms 9 Articles of clothing 10 Miscellaneous items 1 Cell Phone
Drug Searches (57)	Cocaine: 2,261 grams Methamphetamine: 1,796 grams Marijuana: 313 grams Ecstasy: 106 pills Heroin: 28 grams Crack Cocaine: 18 grams US Currency: \$83,500	Cocaine: 1 grams Methamphetamine: 603 grams Marijuana: 313 grams Marijuana Edible: 12 Crack Cocaine: 2 grams US Currency: \$6,210
Deployments	6 Captures / 3 Apprehensions	5 Captures / 1 Apprehensions
Demos	37	11
Total Arrest	60	66
Arrest Citations	54	61
Warrants	61	30
Traffic Citations	17	30
Warning Citation	115	183
Field Interviews	41	235
Firearms Seized	5	8

COMMUNITY SAFETY OFFICER (CSO)

The CSO provides highly visible foot and vehicular patrols in residential and business communities, along with security for city buildings, special events as requested and critical infrastructure protection. They also perform elderly and residential checks as requested and school crossing guard duties at various locations.

CSO Stats	2019	2020
Community Contacts	19,028	5,519
Elder Checks	404	112
Hours spent on Patrol	6,898	3,934
Hours spent on Infrastructure protection	15,885	19,254.75
Hours spent on School Crossings	131	57

ASSISTING COLUMBIA'S ELDERLY (A.C.E.) UNIT

A.C.E. serves as an advocate for the senior citizen population by planning, researching, monitoring and coordinating services and activities in order to promote lifelong dignity and independence.

COURT SERVICES UNIT

The Court Services Unit provides static and roving security to the Municipal Courthouse, to include access control into the facilities. Additionally, officers transport prisoners from local detention facilities, operate internal detention holding facilities, conduct courtroom security, and respond to incidents in and around the Municipal Courthouse. The Court Officer duties include securing the safety of the citizens, staff and judges, assistance with the coverage of the Telephone Response Unit and Traffic Unit operations.

Transport Statistics	2019	2020
Richard County Detention Center	592	200
Lexington County Detention Center	269	136

CRIME PREVENTION UNIT

The Crime Prevention Unit is responsible for educating citizens about methods to prevent crime by means of a proactive approach. Crime Prevention team members oversee safety initiatives and the following public education programs:

- Badges and Parks
- District One Teen Leadership Summit
- National Police Week
- National Night Out Kick Off & National Night Out
- Fan the Heat
- Human Trafficking Seminar
- Allen University Safety Day
- AARP Light Bulb Project
- Personal Safety
- Security Assessments
- Workplace Violence
- Active Shooter in the Workplace
- Church Safety

Crime Prevention Statistics	2019	2020
Security Assessments	6	0
Programs, Events, & Meetings	145	13
Event Hours	128	9.5

SPECIAL EVENTS UNIT

The Special Events Unit coordinates large public events occurring in the city, such as parades, public festivals, Five Points Saint Patrick’s Day Celebration, construction projects, VIP visits to Columbia, specialized traffic patrol assignments and sporting events. In addition, they are responsible for formulating an Operational Plan for each event to accommodate traffic and crowd control, public safety concerns and crime prevention.

Special Events Unit Stats	2019	2020
Events Assigned	6	129
Event Planning Meetings	145	20
Street Closure Requests	128	45

- Carolina Carillon Holiday Parade
- Famously Hot New Year
- Famously Hot Pink Half Marathon
- Governor’s Cup Half Marathon
- Heart & Sole Women’s Five Miler
- Main Street Latin Festival
- Mayor’s Walk Against Domestic Violence
- Mayor’s Bike & Walk Summit
- Palmetto Capital City Classic
- Rosewood Crawfish Festival
- Run Hard Columbia Marathon
- SC Pride Parade & Festival
- St. Pat’s Festival
- Tour De Cure
- Veterans Day Parade

S.W.A.T.

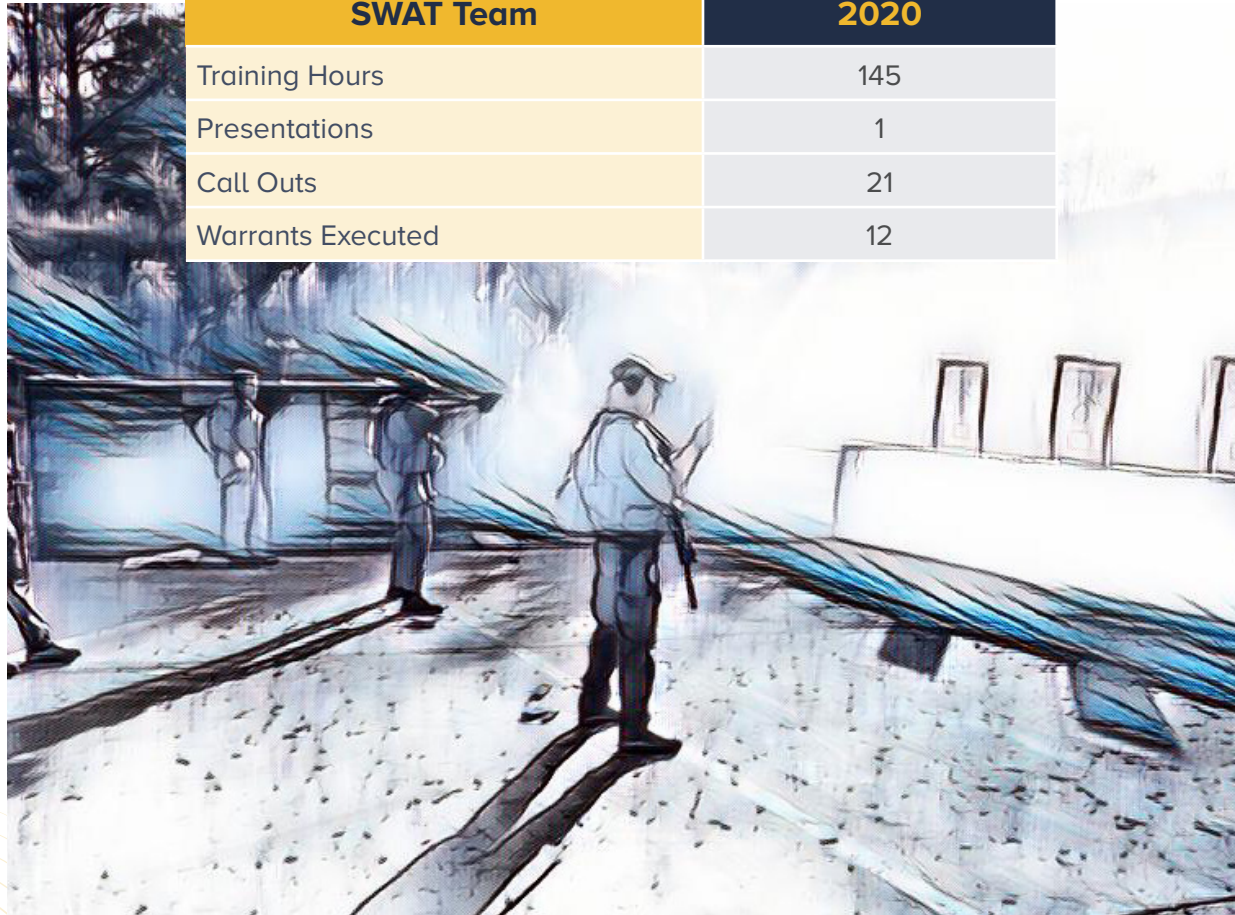
The SWAT Team's mission is to provide a well-disciplined, well-trained, efficient unit, which can be used by the Chief of Police in situations where the public and officers are in extreme danger.

SWAT (Special Weapons and Tactics) is made up of police officers, who are on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Their work on the SWAT Team is in addition to their regular duties and assignments. The team's commander, is appointed by the Chief of Police. Each team member must meet strict requirements and is selected after a rigorous process. The team trains bi-monthly in preparation for handling a variety of high-risk critical incidents.

The SWAT Team is used for hostage situations and negotiations, barricaded suspects, service of high-risk warrants, drug raids and search warrants, searches for armed subjects, VIP protection, stakeouts and undercover surveillance, civil disorder and other special events. SWAT handles any incident, which has the potential for armed confrontations, through tactics that lessen the chances of injury or death.

In 2019 the CPD SWAT Team was called upon to execute 25 High Risk Search Warrants, conduct 10 operations, attended 27 scheduled training dates and assisted in 5 community events.

SWAT Team	2020
Training Hours	145
Presentations	1
Call Outs	21
Warrants Executed	12



SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER (SRO) UNIT

SROs develop positive relationships and work in collaboration with students, school staff, and community members to ensure a safe learning environment for all students attending schools in Columbia.

The D.A.R.E. Program had an increase in courses taught due to schedule expansion and student availability at two elementary schools in 2019.

SRO Statistics	2019	2020
Call for Service	1,790	6
Crimes Investigated: Larcenies, Assaults, Vandalism & School Threats	169h	145
D.A.R.E. Courses Taught	128	128
Arrests: Larcenies, Assaults & Vandalism	25	56
Non-Mandated School Event Hours	28	80

CRISIS NEGOTIATION TEAM



The Columbia Police Department’s Crisis Negotiation Team is a life preservation unit comprised of two teams of officers trained to resolve critical incidents through verbal techniques, while avoiding unnecessary risks and injuries to citizens, law enforcement, and suspects.

The Crisis Negotiation Teams are decentralized and “On Call” and may be deployed for:

- Hostage situations
- Barricaded suspects
- Civil disturbances
- Suicide attempts
- Crisis intervention
- As directed by the Chief of Police or Deputy Chief



Hostage Crisis Negotiations	2020
Call Outs	3
Training Hours	16

MOBILE FIELD FORCE

Mobile Field Force (MFF) is used for civil unrest / riot control. All officers are trained in formation movements, arrest strategies and tactics during mass civil unrest, crowd control munitions deployment, and less lethal equipment/weapon deployment and usage.

The MFF can be deployed at the direction of the Chief of Police or his designee and can consist of different levels of response. The levels range from officer presence in standard uniform worn everyday that are prepared to work in small teams to address potential civil unrest to fully outfitted and equipped to handle and address civil unrest in small and large response teams.

The benefit to having a MFF is to ensure the officers/department can provide a coordinated, planned, and strategic response to large groups who actions violate local, state, and federal law.

Mobile Field Force	2020
Deployments	11

TELEPHONE RESPONSE UNIT (TRU)

TRU is a non-emergency call center for the department, tasked with assisting officers as necessary, answering citizen inquiries and taking police reports. They serve as the NCIC point of contact, maintain, track and validate criminal warrants and courtesy summons. In addition, the unit tracks property checks, provides on-call staff notifications and city-wide transport (Inmate Transports & Mental Transports). TRU serve as back-up to the Columbia-Richland 911/311 Communications Center.

TRU Statistics	2019	2020
Telephone Calls	108,955	48,085
Walk In Citizens Assisted	9,759	5,096
Incident Reports	1,502	1,419



TRAFFIC SAFETY UNIT

Team members consist of officers specifically trained to deliver professional police service, enforce traffic laws and provide education and awareness in an effort to reduce traffic collisions and related fatalities.

Traffic Safety Unit Statistics	2019	2020
Collisions investigated	502	717
Fatal collisions investigated	11	9
Traffic concerns/complaints	77	56
DUI arrests	45	82
Citations issued (includes warnings & collisions)	11,036	5,703
Vehicle for hire/wrecker inspections	173	4
Checkpoints (multi-agency)	16	3
DUI/traffic enforcement operations	15	5
Year to Date Calls for Service	906	1,742





ADMINISTRATIVE BUREAU

The Administrative Bureau is responsible for eight logistical areas and units that provide support to police operations.

EQUIPMENT MANAGEMENT/SUPPLY UNIT

The Equipment Management/Supply Unit handles the logistics needed for the Department. The Materials Inventory Clerk is responsible for the distribution of received agency-owned property to authorized personnel within the Department. The Unit is accountable for all property and ensures that all property is maintained in a state of operational readiness.

CRIME ANALYSIS UNIT

The Police Department has two (2) Crime Analysts that study and track crime. Crime Analysis supports a number of department functions including Patrol, Special Operations and Tactical Units, Investigations, Planning and Research, Crime Prevention, and Administrative Services (budgeting and program planning). A Crime Analyst studies crime and suspects, analyzes crime data to forecast day, time and locations where crime is likely to occur and disseminates that data accordingly throughout the organization. An Analyst will share crime patterns and incident behaviors with investigators and patrol officers on a daily basis. A Crime Analyst uses all available technologies to study crime. Analysts track criminal activity in various databases and computer mapping software.

DRUG LAB

The Drug Lab is operated by two (2) police chemists who assist the Department's criminal investigations by providing scientific analytical services. The chemists perform scientific examinations of evidence and provides assistance in the collection of evidence at crime scenes when requested. The chemists are frequently asked by the Solicitor and city prosecutors to provide expert testimony in criminal court on drug lab findings. Analysis performed in the laboratory are often the definitive factor in proving the guilt or innocence of persons charged with criminal acts.

DRUG LAB STATISTICS

403

Drug cases

Chemists have testified
twice this year in the
Federal Court

RECORDS



The Records Unit is the depository for all original police reports. These include offense reports, vehicular accident reports, and all additional reports completed by Patrol and Investigative officers. These reports are processed, indexed and archived for permanent storage. The Unit is also responsible for entering, updating, validating, and cancellation of all reported statistical and criminal history information provided to the, state, and federal Criminal History Record Information databases. The Records Unit adheres to strict standards of confidentiality. Details of a report are not discussed over the telephone. The Public can request a copy of a Police Report in person at Police Headquarters (Records Unit) located at 1 Justice Square, with a proper photo identification.

9,297

Records validated
(Jan 1- Dec 31)

649

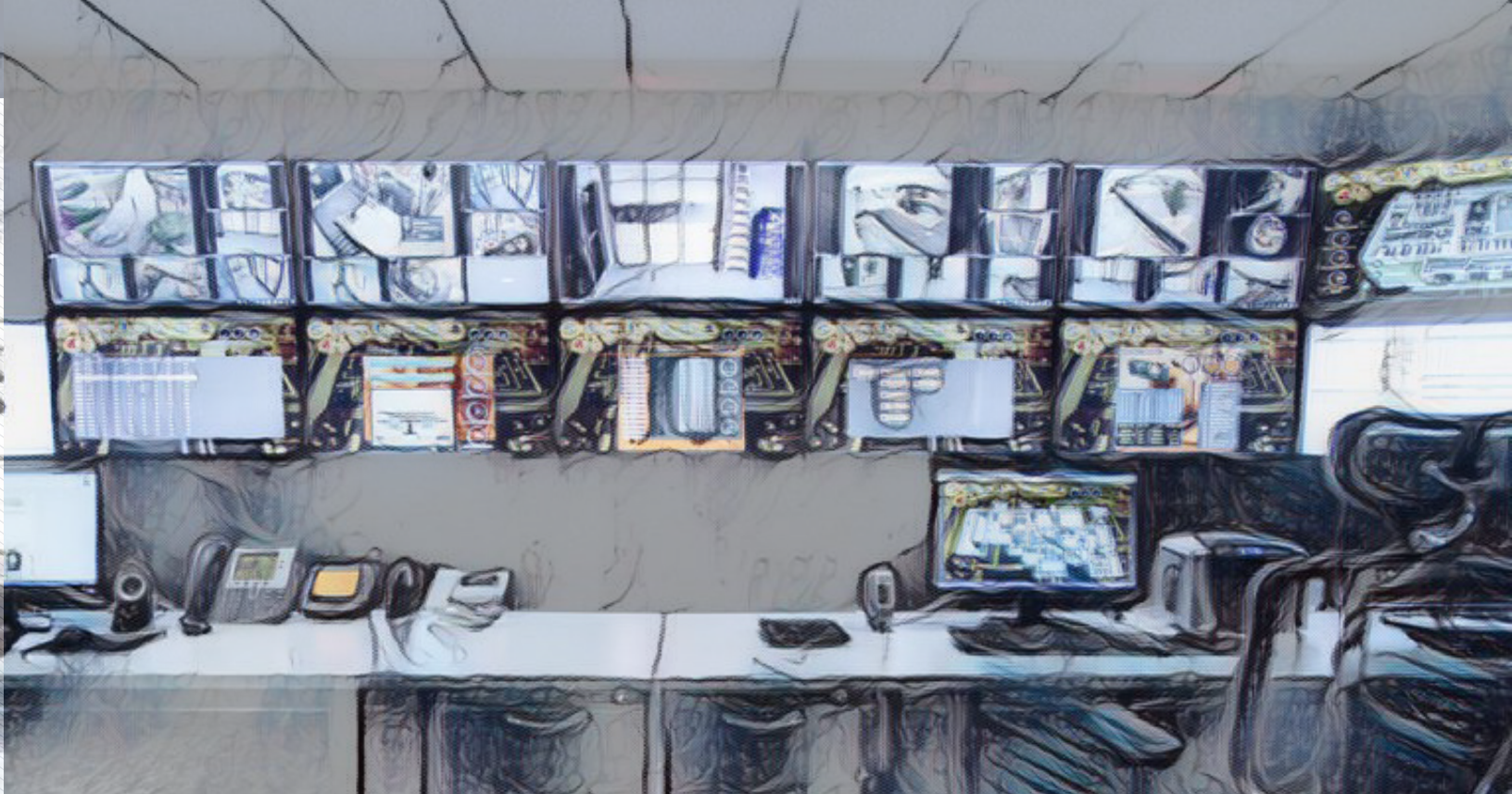
FOIA Requests

4,354

Media Requests

866

Background
Checks



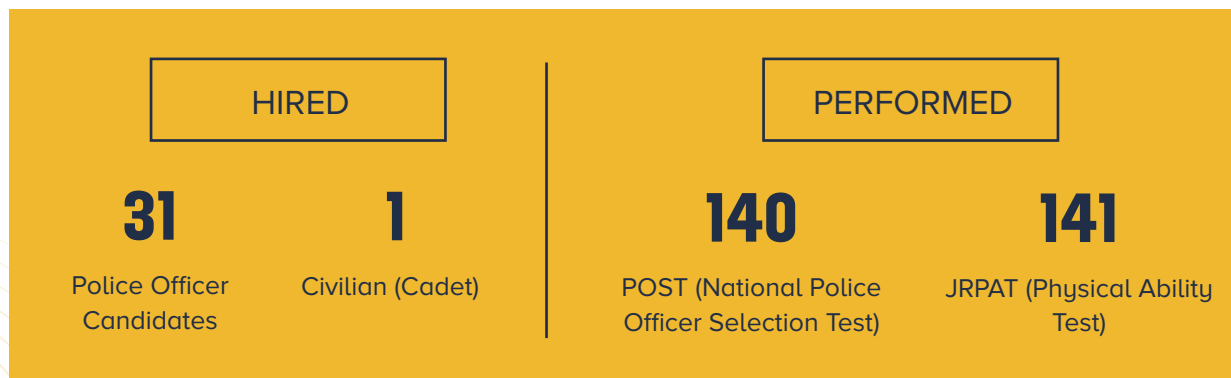
PLANNING AND RESEARCH

The Planning and Research Unit is responsible for research and preparation of complex reports and projects involving inter-departmental issues and intergovernmental topics.

HUMAN RESOURCES / RECRUITING

Human Resources is responsible for managing the employee life cycle including; recruiting, hiring, onboarding and administering employee benefits.

In addition, this unit designs and implements the overall recruiting strategy for the department, attends job fairs, conducts interviews, provides analytical and well documented recruiting reports and act as a point of contact and to build influential candidate relationships during the selection process.



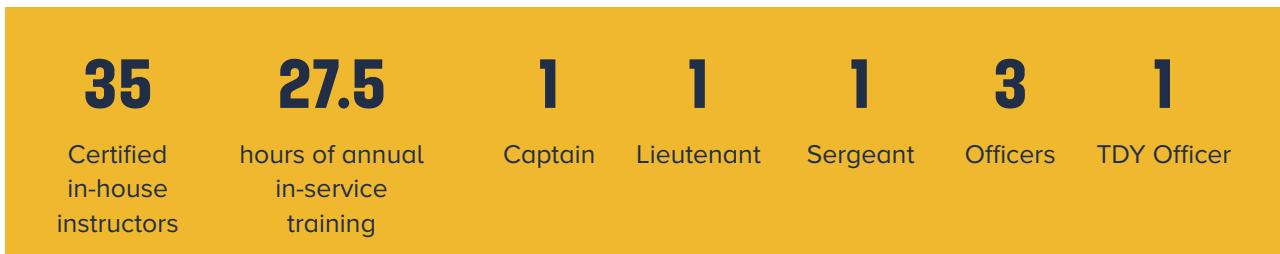
STAFF DEVELOPMENT & TRAINING UNIT

The Staff Development and Training Unit values the importance of continuing education for officers in a world that is ever changing. The department uses 35 South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy certified in-house instructors to assist the Training Unit throughout the year.

Police Officer Candidates begin their careers assigned to the Training Unit. One of the top priorities is providing a firm foundation of training for future Officers to build upon. The Basic Candidate School (BCS) prepares these Police Candidates for the SCCJA, Field Training and their future Police Officer promotion. BCS is an average of 10 - 12 weeks and covers CPD Directives and Procedures, Use of Force, Ethics, Diversity Training, De-escalation Techniques, Basic Marksmanship, T-3, ICAT, Stop the Bleed and Emergency Vehicle Response.

Sworn Officers are required to attend classes annually to maintain their Class 1 and Class 3 Law Enforcement Certification; this is called in-service training. In-Service training focuses on Defensive Tactics, De-escalation and Diversity Training. The Training Unit conducts approximately 27.5 hours of annual inservice training on a monthly basis and additionally supports this training with required on-line learning through Power DMS.

Not only does the CPD Training Unit conduct the training necessary to satisfy the South Carolina Criminal Justice Academy certification requirements, we consistently offer new courses. In 2020, additional courses were added to the Basic Candidate School itinerary. These additional classes give officers more options on how to safely resolve and de-escalate situations.



Course Title	Number of Officers Trained	Number of Classes
Annual In-Service	58	3
BCS	39	4
ACADIS	323	Various Courses
Power DMS	287	Various Courses
Stop The Bleed	97	7
Less Lethal Shotgun	45	6
ICAT De-escalation	39	4
De-escalation DOLAN Verbal	216	216



■ Promotional Ceremony

On March 6, 2020, Police Chief W.H. “Skip” Holbrook and Deputy Chief Melron Kelly promoted eleven officers to various ranks in a special ceremony this afternoon at the Busby Street Community Center in North Columbia.

Here is a list of the officers:

THE RANK OF CORPORAL (4)

I. Birochak
J. Strickland
E. Walker
M. Willis

THE RANK OF SERGEANT (3)

J. Myers
G. Simpson
K. Williamson

THE RANK OF INVESTIGATOR (1)

J. Seay

THE RANK OF LIEUTENANT (1)

B. Markevicz

THE RANK OF CAPTAIN (1)

M. Blair
P.J. Blendowski

CITY OF COLUMBIA BEGINS PEACE OF MIND INITIATIVE FOR FIRST RESPONDERS - May 6, 2020

The City of Columbia has partnered with several local hotels to launch the Peace of Mind initiative, beginning on Friday, May 8, 2020.

City of Columbia & Columbia Police Foundation have partnered with several local hotels, who have provided rooms at greatly reduced rates so COVID-19 responders will have safe rest spaces if they cannot immediately return to their homes.

Through this partnership, local hotels have designated safe and comfortable rooms to provide first responders, medical professionals and front line city staff who work in challenging environments that might allow for exposure to the Coronavirus, temporary resting places away from their homes, thereby keeping their families safe and giving them peace of mind.

Funds for the Peace of Mind program have been raised through private donations to pay for the reduced room costs, and will be facilitated through the Columbia Police Foundation, the fiscal agent for the program. Donations are still being accepted for this program.

“*The work of a law enforcement officer can be emotionally and physically challenging on an average day. The recent pandemic adds stress components to our first responders,” said Columbia Police Chief W. H. “Skip” Holbrook. “We are grateful for the opportunity for Columbia Police officers to have a respite especially when they want to quarantine to keep their families safe.”*

“*Our first responders, medical professionals, and front line employees are heroes every day,” said Sam Johnson, who serves as Peace of Mind program chair, and is an advisor with Nexsen Pruet and NP Strategy. “This pandemic has required them to answer an even higher call. And, the best way we can say thank you is by supporting them.”*

“*Midlands area health professionals and first responders continue to serve at the forefront in the battle to contain and halt the COVID-19 virus,” said Mayor Steve Benjamin. “We cannot overstate the incredible service these brave and dedicated men and women provide to keep the public safe from the spread of the disease every day. Having a secure and safe place to rest at the end of their shifts will be an incredible recuperative resource for these courageous public servants.”*

The City of Columbia’s City Council has been active in supporting the Peace of Mind program. Current City Council members are: Edward H. McDowell, Jr – Mayor Pro Tem, Sam Davis, Tameika Isaac Devine, Howard E. Duvall, Jr., Daniel J. Rickenmann, Will Brennan.

Current participating hotels:



Aloft — Lady St



Holiday Inn —
Washington St



Lexington Wingate Inn —
I-20 & 378



Hampton Inn & Suites —
Gervais St



Home 2 Suites —
Gervais St



Hilton Garden Inn —
Gervais St

Contributors to the Peace of Mind program so far include:

Mayor Steve Benjamin
Hamilton Capitol Center LLC
Malkiel Svei
Pinny Borenstein
Sam & Ashley Johnson
Al & Cindy Saad
Will Batson

Stan Harpe
First Citizens Bank
Chernoff Newman
The Columbia Fireflies
Senator Richard Harpootlian
Representative Seth Rose
Brookwood, Incorporated



CPD CAPTAIN COMPLETES SOUTHERN POLICE INSTITUTE'S ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER COURSE - May 12, 2020

On May 12, 2020, Columbia Police Chief W.H. 'Skip' Holbrook announces that a Columbia Police Department regional Captain has graduated from a police executive leadership program in Kentucky.

Captain Christopher Roberts, Metro Region Commander was part of an intensive 12-week accredited college educational program for police command personnel at the Southern Police Institute (SPI) located in University of Louisville, Louisville, KY.

The 143rd Administrative Officers Course 480 hour, in-residence, accredited college level educational program designed to develop informed and effective law enforcement managers who are in leadership roles at their respective agencies.

Chief Holbrook says,

“*Advancing a career academically, particularly in law enforcement doesn't begin and end with the student in a classroom setting. The curriculum value extends to communities as a benefit to citizens with an emphasis on reducing crime, preventing gun violence and highlighting community policing.*”

“*This course is academically rigorous. Forty-eight graduates from 18 states and 43 law enforcement agencies from across the nation completed their course of study this semester amid the uncertainty and challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic,*” says SPI director Cindy Shain.

Since 1951, the Southern Police Institute has served to educate thousands of command level officers in furtherance of its core mission of enhancing the professionalism and the effectiveness of police executives around the world Captain Roberts will celebrate is 23 year anniversary with CPD in June. During his tenure, Roberts has been a part of the Special Weapons and Tactics Team in various leadership roles, a member of K-9 Team, and Community Response Team.

CHIEF HOLBROOK APPOINTED TO NEW NATIONAL COMMITTEE FOR POLICE REFORM AND RACIAL JUSTICE - June 9, 2020

The United States Conference of Mayors (USCM) has announced in Washington, D.C., the appointment of Columbia Police Chief W. H. “Skip” Holbrook to the new National Police Reform and Racial Justice Working Group.

The Working Group is a consortium of the nation's Mayors and Police Chiefs tasked to find solutions to end police violence and patterns of racial discrimination among law enforcement agencies.

“ *The US Conference of Mayors has recognized the outstanding service and leadership achievements of Chief Holbrook by bringing his voice into the national conversation on their Police Reform and Racial Justice working group. Many of the policing reforms now being called from across the country have already been put into practice by Skip Holbrook in Columbia, which has made our city’s police force a national model of best practices. By adding his experience and 21st Century law enforcement vision as one of three national-level chiefs in this working group, Chief Holbrook will help bring about lasting, systemic, and positive changes to policing in America,*” said Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin.

City Manager Teresa Wilson says,

“ *It is an honor for the City of Columbia and the Columbia Police Department to have a seat at the table for such an important and significant national initiative. During this challenging period, across our country, the time is now to have an open dialogue, identify best practices, and develop new approaches toward police reform and racial justice. Chief Holbrook will not only add to these efforts, as a member of the working group, but he will also have an opportunity to be on the forefront for nationwide reformation and the continuation of community policing efforts right here in Columbia.*”

Chief Holbrook was chosen among his peers to include, Baltimore Police Chief Michael Harrison and Phoenix Police Chief Geri Williams.

The group is led by former Police Chief Charles Ramsey, advisor to the U.S. Conference of Mayors, former police chief in Philadelphia and Washington, DC and Co-chair of President Obama’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing. According to the USCM, the Working Group will produce, advance and enact meaningful reforms to address police violence and patterns of racial discrimination. The Police Reform and Racial Justice Working Group will take on the urgent task of outlining a series of specific recommendations related to America’s policing practices to help end the injustices facing black Americans.

The Working Group is also composed of the mayors of Chicago, Tampa, and Cincinnati, and will be assisted by other experts in the field with the goal of releasing actionable recommendations in the coming weeks.

Since Chief Holbrook’s tenure at CPD, he has implemented the following community policing programs and other initiatives to create a foundation of trust and transparency with City of Columbia citizens.

CPD has received National Accreditation – The Commission on Accreditation for Law

Enforcement Agencies (CALEA)

Body-Worn Camera Program

Recorded audio/video suspect interviews

Citizens Advisory Council (CAC)

SLED investigations of all officer-involved shootings

Public Internal Affairs Report

Police Explorers Program

Urban League summer job programs

Front Porch Roll Calls – Community Program

Coffee with a Cop - Community Program

Crisis Intervention Training

De-escalation Training

Duty to intervene policy

One Mind Campaign – Mental illness recognition

To learn more about the National Police Reform and Racial Justice Working Group and the Columbia Police Department's community policing initiatives and 21st Century Policing publications, review the following links: <https://bit.ly/2MLCHJb>, <https://columbiapd.net/publications/>



THE PASSING OF COLUMBIA POLICE OFFICER ROBERT HALL - July 14, 2020

It is with a heavy heart and tremendous sadness that Columbia Police Chief W.H. “Skip” Holbrook announces the passing of Master Police Officer (MPO) Robert J. “Bob” Hall early this morning.

After receiving medical treatment at Baptist Hospital since July 5, 2020, 57-year-old Hall, a 35-year-veteran of CPD died from complications due to COVID-19. Prior to becoming ill, he was a valuable part of CPD’s Special Events Unit under the Special Operations Bureau, assisting the public with traffic control and security during special events to include parades, marathons, and festivals, and most recently, hostile protests at CPD Headquarters on May 30 and 31, 2020.

Chief Holbrook said,

“*Officer Robert “Bob” Hall exemplified everything that is expected out of a 21st Century police officer – service before self, professionalism, integrity, and compassion. MPO Hall was well-known within the City of Columbia’s business and entertainment districts, having played an integral part in event planning and security. MPO Hall served with distinction and honor for more than three decades and has left a lasting legacy at the Columbia Police Department. He will be greatly missed. I ask for everyone’s continued prayers for Bob’s family and the CPD family.*”

MPO Hall, originally from Cayce, joined the CPD in June 1985 and retired in September 2008, only to return to the law enforcement career he loved two months later.

“*The lives and dedication of our Columbia Police officers are always a direct indication of their devotion to providing for the safety of our Columbia communities, and now even more so as these incredible public servants serve on the front lines during the COVID-19 health crisis,*” said City of Columbia Mayor Steve Benjamin. *“I want to thank Officer Robert Hall for his years of service committed to the protection and well-being of our City, and express my deepest wishes for consolation to his fellow officers and his family, and know his presence will be missed.”*

Columbia City Manager Teresa Wilson said,

“*The loss of Officer Hall is deeply felt by our City of Columbia family, and particularly, his fellow officers at the Columbia Police Department. His service to our community, for over 30 years, is an amazing testament of his commitment and dedication to his profession and the citizens of Columbia. Officer Hall’s presence will forever be missed by those who worked closely with him and by those in our city who were fortunate to become acquainted with him. Officer Hall was an expert with handling special events and his kind*

and courteous demeanor was complimented by many. Our thoughts and prayers go out to the Hall family, and we are here to assist Mrs. Hall and their children. As a City family, we will all continue to lean on each other during this very difficult and challenging time.”

MPO Hall first became a police officer in 1983 in the Town of Cayce. During his tenure with CPD, Hall was a patrolman having served the public in North, South and West Regions of the City of Columbia, and a member of SWAT (Special Weapons and Tactics Team). MPO Hall held several outstanding instruction certifications for the following: firearms, emergency police vehicles, traffic radar, DataMaster field sobriety testing, among others.

An avid firearms and radio collector, MPO Hall also enjoyed riding motorcycles. Hall is survived by his wife of 37 years, two adult children, grandchildren, and extended family members.

CPD extends its gratitude to the medical staff at Prisma Health-Baptist for its professional and heartfelt care of MPO Hall during his battle with COVID-19.

NEW GUN CRIME TIP LINE - February 26, 2020

On February 26, 2020, Columbia Police Chief W.H. ‘Skip’ Holbrook, Richland County Sheriff Leon Lott and representatives from the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives encouraged Columbia and Richland County residents to utilize a new tip line to report violent gun crimes, convicted felons possessing firearms.

The toll-free number, 1-888-ATF-TIPS (283-8477) has been implemented and used successfully in several cities across the country including in Baltimore, Maryland. Depending on the information provided including whether an arrest has been made, tipsters can receive federal reward money between \$1,000 to \$10,000.

The tipline does not replace the Midlands Crimestoppers tipline (1-888-CRIME-SC). Chief Holbrook stated, “I don’t think you can ignore the amount of the reward. Maybe money drives courage or maybe it drives the conscience. Citizens have had enough of gun crimes in their neighborhoods.”

The ATF tipline focuses on convicted criminals and known drug dealers who are prohibited from possessing firearms and ammunition.

So far this year, CPD officers seized more than 100 firearms from Columbia streets, Approximately 40 of the firearms were reported stolen.

Billboards with the new ATF tip line are posted at the following locations:

Farrow Road and Bendale Road

Colonial Drive and Harden Street

Residents will also notice tip line signage on transit buses that service the Colonial Drive and the Beltline/Farrow Road corridor.

COLUMBIA POLICE DEPARTMENT'S 'COLUMBIA STRONG' CRITICAL INCIDENT REVIEW OF RESPONSE TO CIVIL UNREST RELEASED - December 3, 2020

Columbia Police Department (CPD) Chief W.H. "Skip" Holbrook is releasing a detailed analysis of the agency's afteraction review from two days of protests and civil unrest in May 2020.

The 92 -page document titled "***Columbia Strong – A Critical Incident Review of the Columbia Police Department's Response to Protests and Rioting,***" outlines, among other topics, CPD's actions/response, mutual aid from eleven law enforcement agencies, situational awareness, and internal and external communications from the events of May 30-31, 2020. The report also recognizes sound decision making from leadership, and the perseverance and selfless actions of courageous CPD officers.

In June 2020, Chief Holbrook directed staff to form a committee to conduct a critical review of the department's actions/response in May. As a result, the diverse committee comprised of 12 men and women from CPD including the City of Columbia's Directors of Emergency Management and Safety and Risk Management followed the National Police Foundation's review model to help devise the document.

During a two-month period, the committee collaborated for the review process. A complete overview including deficiencies and recommendations for future improvement were presented to the Chief for assessment.

Chief Holbrook says,

“ *This document allows us to maintain our commitment to agency accountability and transparency. We experienced unprecedented times in May. We didn't have a playbook to reference. Our review of the actions has enabled us to highlight proficiencies and identify deficiencies while acknowledging mistakes. The lessons learned pave the way for us to make course corrections and good operational decisions in the future.* **”**

Visit <https://columbiapd.net/publications/> to view the Critical Incident Review.



AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

Chief Holbrook Salutes CPD Officers and Staff for 2020 Achievements

Columbia Police Chief W.H. “Skip” Holbrook announced that several Columbia Police Department officers, civilian employees and external partners were recognized for their dedication, hard work and community police relations during 2020 at the annual Employee Awards Ceremony.

Due to COVID-19, Chief Holbrook presented the honors to award recipients on June 17, 2021 during an on-line ceremony that was streamed live on the department’s Facebook page.

2020 AWARD RECIPIENTS

Retirees

George C. Wise
Ronald T. Felder
Robert McCracken
Glenn M. Gates

Robert B. Webb
James P. Auld
Wallis O. Lacey
Paul J. Nelson

Ray E. Behney
Chad W. Newman
Albert L. Richardson
Jeffery A. Goss

Community Service

Gabrielle Mihelich
Rebekah Robinson

Chief's Award

Jacob Self
Timothy Baire

Outstanding Citizen

Kayla Ferguson
Louis Ivan Harrison

Partner Agency Award

Columbia Fire Department
Richland County Sheriff's Department
South Carolina Law Enforcement
Division
Federal Bureau of Investigation –
Columbia Field Office
Lexington County Sheriff's Office
Kershaw County Sheriff's Office
SC Highway Patrol

SC Bureau of Protective Services
SC Department of Corrections
Cayce Dept. of Public Safety
West Columbia Police Department
Richland County Emergency
Medical Service
City of Columbia Public Works
Division

Meritorious Service

Malcolm Hunter
Randy Seavey
Imani Jones
Jovante Searles
Jarrid Purslow
Thomas Schaefer
Jessica Evely
Jeffrey Kraft
Brian Bell

Anthony Viehweg
Travis Rodgers
Karen Jehl
Robert Paturzo
Santos Rodriguez
Jordan Zollinger
Thomas Loughery
Shonda Allen
Christopher Widener

Nathan Baston
Thomas Johnson
Richard Johnson
Matthew Holmes
Robert Henry
Ryan Kaminer
Jacob Nelson
Christopher Roberts

Life Saving

William Medley
Anthony Viehweg
Robert Paturzo
Karen Jehl
Robert Paturzo
Daniel Labonte

Chelsea Bowen
James Webster
Forrest Fulmore
Nicholas Sexton
Karen Jehl
Wilbert Jones

Robert Fehr
Scott Desrochers
Gerard Brown
Jeffrey Kraft
Ryan Hamilton

CIVILIAN OF THE YEAR

Amanda Beckham

CODE ENFORCEMENT EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

Ronnie Hingleton

ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

Imani Jones

INVESTIGATOR OF THE YEAR

James Fisher, III

OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Adam Leech



THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT THE DEPARTMENT DURING PANDEMIC

Mayor – Stephen K. Benjamin
City of Columbia
CPD Citizen’s Advisory Council
Sgt. M. Sumter
Mahri Irvine
Greater Works Ministry Church- Apostle
Margie Gallman
Shadi Talasaz
Nathaniel “Chip” Land and Nancey Land
Hammond Elementary School
Inner City Slickers
Project Unity
“Mr. Dotson” - Blue Ribbon Cab Company
“Mr. Allen” - Adluh Flour Company
Walter Hutto - SC Hero’s Charity Group
Hope
Bob Wynn – CPD Citizens Advisory Council
Sox & Freeman Tree Service
Jim Hudson Automotive
Shandon Baptist
Adluh Flour Company
SC Hero’s Charity Group
Sox & Freeman Tree Service
Columbia International University
Kevin & Delia Corrigan
Chagin Lanez Car Club
G3 Wealth Advisors
Annette Corbin
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority
Oak Grove Baptist Church
Nothing Bundt Cakes
Debbie Sproles – Palmetto Apparel &
Embroidery
Waffle House
Thompson Funeral Home

St John Neumann Catholic Church
Mungo Homes
Spears Creek Baptist Church
Tracy Lynn Fry - Coldwell Banker Realty
Mary Gunwall
Coca Cola Consolidated
New Springs Church
Greater Works Ministry Church
Hammond Elementary – 4th Grade
Students
Inner City Slickers
Blue Ribbon Cab Company
G3 Wealth Advisors
Quelumbia – Omega Psi Phi Fraternity
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority
Tashia Cassellano
Carl Solomon
Halls Chop House
Tyler Williams – Coca- Cola Charlotte,
NC
Corey Mitchell
Aaron Bishop
Brian Kroll
Two Maids
David Bower
Sammy Bird
Jeff Murray
Dane Nelson
Katie Browning
Bhavna Patel
Richland County Council Member
Walker
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