



Colonie Police Department

2021 Annual Report



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Colonie Police Department Organizational Chart	2	Investigations Unit	11	Animal Control	17
Executive Summary	4	Special Investigations Unit	11	Colonie Youth Court	18
Deputy Chiefs of Police	5	Forensic Unit	12	Police Department Web Page	18
Overview and History of Department	5	Youth and Special Victims Unit	12	_____	
_____		Computer Crime Unit	12	Explorer Post 185	19
Patrol Division	6	Public Information Officer	12	_____	
K9 Unit	7	_____		Annual Awards Ceremony	20
Motorcycle Unit	7	Administrative Services Division	13	2021 Statistical Data	21
Bicycle Unit	8	Accreditation	13	Calls For Service By Dispatch Type	21
Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS) Unit	8	Records	13	Uniform Crime Reports	22
_____		Fiscal Management	13	Number of Traffic Citations	23
Traffic Safety Division	9	Communications	14	Number of Calls By Day of Week	24
_____		Community Services Unit	15	Number of Calls By Hour of The Day	24
Special Services Team	10	Project <i>D.A.R.E.</i>	16	Number of Department Arrests	22
_____		Grant Management	16	Custodial Arrests	22
Investigations Division	11	Training Unit	17	Percentage of Calls By Shift	23
		Statistical Analysis	17		

Colonie Police Department Mission Statement:

The mission of the Colonie Police Department is to interact with all citizens with dignity, honor and respect; to preserve life; to protect and maintain human and constitutional rights; to protect property; and to promote individual responsibility and community commitment to high quality standards of living.

The Colonie Police Department will perform this mission in partnership with the community it serves. The police department will foster and promote mutual education, respect, and problem solving with the community. All members of the police department have been empowered to be an agent for this partnership and the positive interaction it will bring.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



It is with great pride that I write this Executive Summary as the seventh Chief of Police in the 88 – year history of the Colonie Police Department. Having served the department in various capacities for the last 30 years, my tenure as Chief began in September, 2021 with the retirement of Chief Jonathan Teale. I would like to recognize Chief Teale and his 32 years of service to the Colonie Police Department. I also wish to congratulate former Town Supervisor Paula Mahan on her years of service to the Town of Colonie and thank her for her confidence in me as well as Supervisor Mahan’s and the Town Board’s unwavering support of public safety. I look forward to working with Supervisor Peter Crummey and the entire Town Board to maintain the high standards of public safety that the residents and businesses in the Town have come to expect.

In 2021 and early 2022, the department dealt with the challenge of filling a number of vacancies due to retirements over the last couple of years, a process which had been delayed due to the pandemic. In addition to the retirement of Chief Teale, this period saw the departures of Lieutenant Robert Barrett, Lieutenant Henry Rosenzweig, Investigator Jeffrey Guzy, Investigator Stephen Donovan and Officer Katy Herrington. I would like to sincerely thank these officers for their many years of service and wish them all the best in their retirement.

Following these vacancies, the department promoted Deputy Chief Robert Winn, Deputy Chief James Gerace, Lieutenant Daniel Belles, Lieutenant Richard Villa, Lieutenant Thomas Breslin, Lieutenant Louis DiNuzzo, Sergeant Anthony Sidoti, Sergeant John Rockwell, as well as Sergeant Michael Warner, Sergeant Joseph Fitzsimmons, Investigator Matthew Overocker, Traffic Investigator William Guthrie, Investigator James Splonskowski, Investigator Phillip Winglosky, Investigator Javier Martinez and Investigator Ardit Potka. Additionally, a total of ten officers were hired in 2021 and January, 2022 and it is our hope to return to full strength by the summer of 2022. I wish to welcome Officers Katelyn Rinaldi, Christopher Pelletier, Shane Robichaud, Jeffrey Rappold, Justin Carl, Anthony Barsoum, David Derry, Jr., Nicholas Caladim, Razario Minarchi and Christopher Carey, Jr.

The Colonie Police Department has always strived to maintain the highest standards and professionalism among law enforcement and have been considered a New York State Accredited agency since 1994. The department continued its commitment to training our officers on the best practices for dealing with individuals in crisis. Officers honed their verbal de-escalation tactics and had a chance to test their skills during reality-based scenarios. Our agency was recognized as a model agency by the area medical community for our procedures on safely transporting in-custody individuals to hospitals for treatment and care. The department in late 2021 partnered with Lexipol to ensure that all department policies, procedures and training continue to be updated and remain consistent with newly passed legislation thus establishing transparency and confidence in the Colonie Police Department.

2021 was a trying year for our officers, much like the year before, as they have dealt with increased crime, the effects of the pandemic, bail reform as well as other challenges on a daily basis. I would like to commend our officers for their resolve and courage all while continuing to show professionalism and empathy.

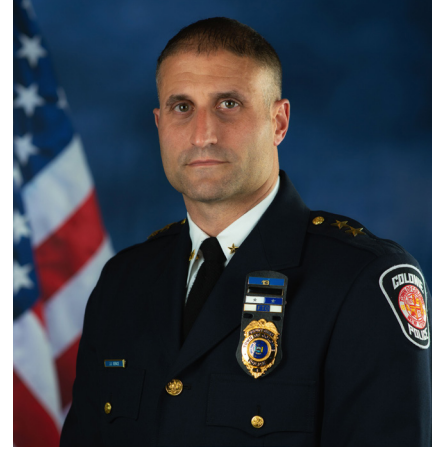
On behalf of Deputy Chief Robert Winn and Deputy Chief James Gerace, I can state that our high level of service and our commitment to professionalism has been and will continue to be our top priority. As Chief of Police, I pledge to do my best to keep that reputation intact.

DEPUTY CHIEFS OF POLICE



Deputy Chief Robert Winn

*Field Operations Division
& Traffic Safety Division*



Deputy Chief James Gerace

Administrative Services Division



OVERVIEW AND HISTORY OF THE DEPARTMENT

The Colonie Police Department is a New York State accredited, full-service police agency serving the Town of Colonie, New York. The Colonie Police Department was formed by a Town Board resolution on January 2, 1934. This resolution authorized the Police Department to hire a Chief and two Patrolmen – total budget \$2,500.00.

In 2021, the budget was approximately \$16 million which included 113 sworn officers, 52 civilian support personnel and over 60 vehicles in the police fleet. Starting Officer's salary has risen from \$400.00 to approximately \$58,000.00. Although the population and related growth of the Town and the Police Department have both grown substantially, the Police Department maintains contact with citizens by promoting a Community Policing policy throughout the agency.

The Police Department is organized by role: Field Operations and Administrative Services. Field Operations is comprised of the Patrol Division, Investigations Division and the Traffic Safety Division. Administrative Services includes the Administrative Services Division which provides support functions such as Community Services, Training, Communications, Records and Support Services. Administrative Services is also responsible for Fiscal Management, Grant Management, Statistical Analysis, Accreditation, Emergency Management and Animal Control.

PATROL DIVISION



The Colonie Police Patrol Division consists of three lieutenants, nine sergeants and 63 patrol officers. These officers are deployed throughout eight patrol zones, 24 hours per day. Officers assigned to the Patrol Division work one of three shifts:

- A-Line - 11:00 p.m. – 7:00 a.m.
- B-Line - 7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
- C-Line - 3:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m.

Thirty marked and unmarked vehicles are assigned for use by the Patrol Division. Members of the Patrol Division duties include, but are not limited to proactive police patrol and crime prevention, enforcement of appropriate Federal, State & Local laws, reporting and preliminary investigation of criminal complaints, crash investigations, response to non-criminal complaints as well as response to calls for service.

Additionally, members of the Patrol Division are at the forefront of the community policing initiative. Patrol officers are assigned to patrol areas on a daily basis to direct their patrol activity and interact with the individuals and businesses they serve.

Patrol officers participate in special enforcement programs where officers are deployed to take a proactive approach against drugs and criminal activity on Colonie's streets. These officers also actively participate in many highway safety programs including Buckle Up New York and Stop DWI. Both programs focus on reducing injuries and eliminating fatalities on our roadways through aggressive enforcement activities.



K9 UNIT

Officer Mike Clough and K9 Eddie (pictured right) work together on the C-Line shift. Eddie, a German Shepherd, was named in honor of Colonie Police Investigator Ed Frank who passed away in 2005 after battling cancer. Officer Bob Lemerise and K9 Lock (pictured left) work on the A-Line shift. Lock, also a German Shepherd, was named in honor of Colonie Police Lt. William Lockart who passed away in 2004 after a battle with non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma.

The team participates in at least 24 hours of specialized K9 training a month to meet the New York State requirement for certification. This team also takes part in local, state and national level training seminars to sharpen their skills. Also as part of their duties, this team participates in numerous public and private demonstrations to show why and how the canine is deployed as well as assists several other local police and government agencies.

2021 K9 Utilizations:

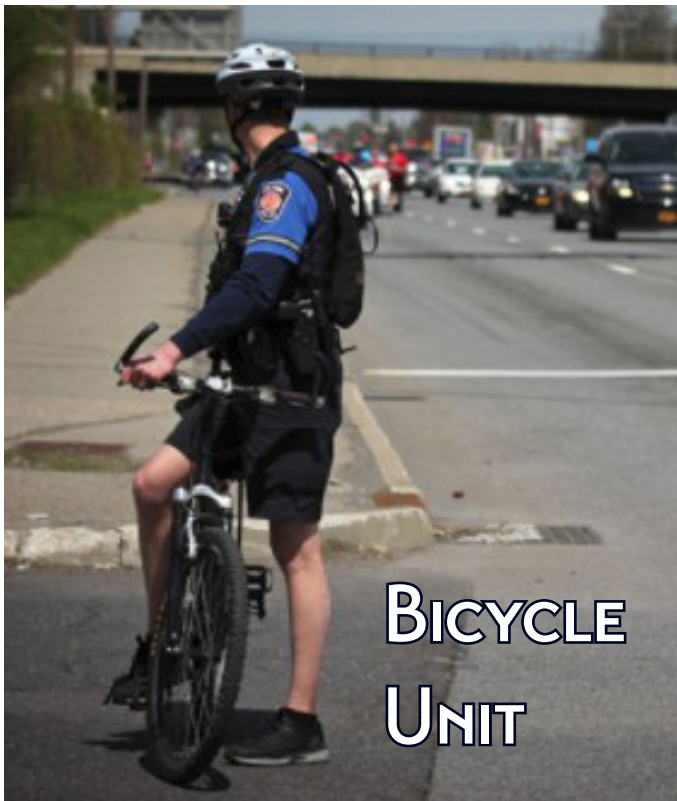
Tracks - 11	(An increase of 108%)	Evidence Searches - 9	(A decrease of 40%)
Area/Building Searches - 32	(A decrease of 13.6%)	Perimeter Security - 16	(An increase of 45%)
Narcotic Searches - 12	(A decrease of 31%)		



MOTORCYCLE UNIT

The Motorcycle Unit was formed in 1990 and is in service five to six months of the year. It consists of one sergeant, one Traffic Safety Investigator and two officers who work 7 a.m. - 3 p.m. All Motor Officers are certified and trained through Northwestern Traffic Institute at Northwestern University.

Officers assigned to the Motorcycle Unit handle all patrol functions as well as special events such as parades, escorts and funeral details. They offer the additional benefit of being able to patrol the Town bike path, school properties and in heavy traffic conditions where traditional patrol vehicles cannot access. Additionally, the Motorcycle Unit serves as the upstate New York escorts for the Patriot Flight, a national effort to provide World War II veterans free transportation to the World War II Memorial in Washington D.C.



In 2005, the Colonie Police Department debuted a Bicycle Patrol with the intention of giving the police department more latitude in patrolling the various parts of the Town and to provide more options in keeping with our Community Policing Initiatives. The objective of bicycle patrols is to reduce crime by enforcing laws through proactive policing and to better communicate with our residents by being more approachable than in a patrol car. Currently there are a total of twenty-six officers in the department including four sergeants and three lieutenants that are all certified for bicycle patrols.

Bicycles are available for deployment on every shift for every day patrol from April to October. Additionally they are utilized at several community services events during this time including bicycle safety events for children. The bicycles were a common sight at Town and Village sponsored events at The Crossings Park, Cook Park and the Pruyn House.



The Unmanned Aerial Systems Unit (UAS) is comprised of one lieutenant, one sergeant and six pilots and is currently equipped with multiple unmanned aerial systems capable of recording and transmitting live high definition and thermal images back to a command post. The units are equipped with 4k cameras, 180x zoom cameras and a high resolution thermal camera. Currently, unmanned aerial vehicles are deployed on all three shifts on patrol for rapid deployment and can be airborne in 2 minutes or less once on scene. The UAS Unit has been activated for numerous incidents including assisting Colonie Fire Services with active structure fires, cause and origin



investigations, suspicious package incidents, crash reconstruction, barricaded/armed subject calls as well as missing person/suspect searches. Additionally the unit provides intelligence and reconnaissance for tactical team mission planning. The UAS unit allows the Police Department and Colonie Fire Services to operate more efficiently and effectively while increasing safety for officers and firefighters. The technology allows the department to search a large area in a fraction of the time for missing or wanted persons, allows fire services to monitor active HAZMAT or fire scenes from a safe location and provides an aerial perspective for command staff during large incidents/events.



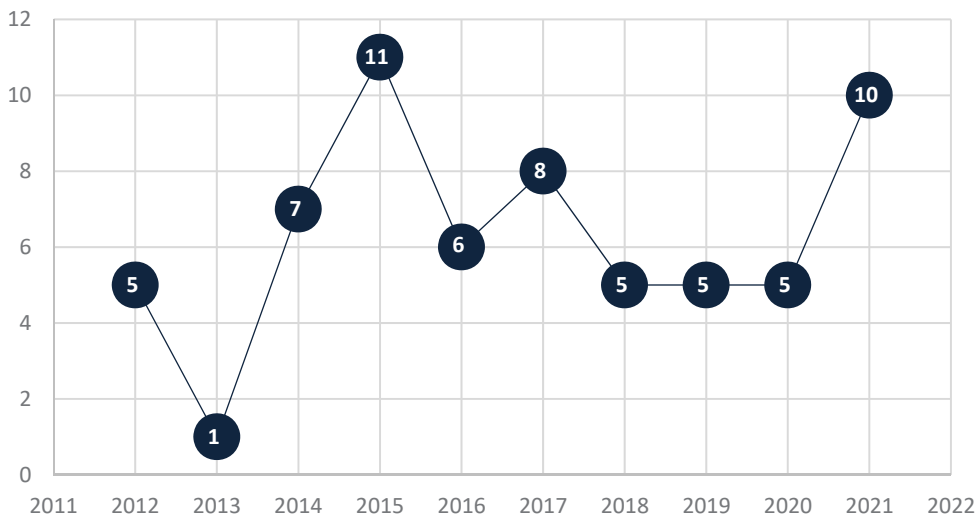
TRAFFIC SAFETY DIVISION

The Traffic Safety Division is comprised of four uniformed investigators, one sergeant and one lieutenant who are specially trained in several areas of traffic services including, but not limited to traffic enforcement, crash investigation and reconstruction, motor carrier safety regulations and hazardous materials incident management. This division has the responsibility of investigating all collisions involving a fatality, life threatening physical injury or crashes involving Town owned vehicles. In addition, they collect and analyze crash and enforcement data, then develop and implement countermeasure programs that address identified highway safety problems. These investigators respond to the community’s concerns involving traffic issues that include complaints of traffic volume, signage and vehicle traffic violations. This division supports and assists the efforts of the Town’s Highway Safety Committee.

The Traffic Safety Division was called out six times in 2021 to assist other local police agencies with serious physical injury or fatal crashes. Members of the division lent their knowledge and reconstruction skills to several police agencies in both Albany and Schenectady Counties. Typically, they would “shoot” the scene with the Total Work

Station, a laser mapping tool, to create an accurate depiction of the crash scene for the requesting department. Colonie Investigators would then produce a reconstruction report and assist these agency officers with the production of an accurate crash report. These “out of town” crashes added to an already busy workload for the Traffic Safety Division in 2021 but the Investigators took pride in being able to assist fellow officers.

FATALITIES INVESTIGATED



In 2021, the Traffic Safety Division investigated 10 fatal crashes (100% increase from 2020) and handled 258



SPECIAL SERVICES TEAM

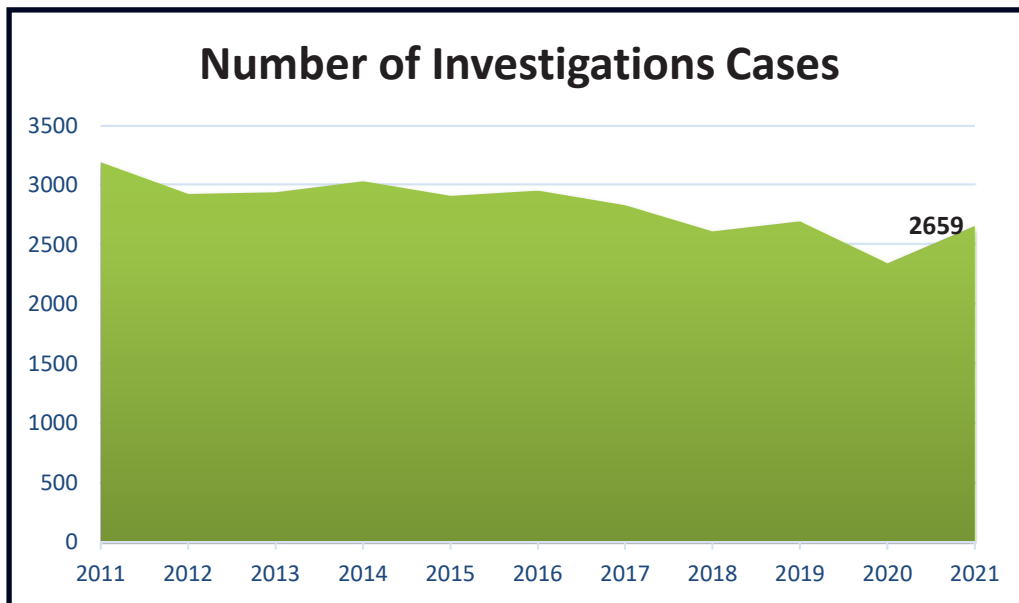
The Colonie Police Department has a team of 19 highly trained police officers known as the Special Services Team (S.S.T.). In addition to the training provided to all officers in the department, these officers receive specialized training in many areas including high risk traffic stops, barricaded subjects, hostage situations, vehicle assaults and the execution of high risk search warrants. The team members train a minimum of twice monthly in order to maintain the high level of proficiency that is expected of them. Each member of the team has a specified role within the Police Department's day to day operations. When needed, the team can be quickly assembled and mobilized for a high risk assignment. Members of the Special Services Team operate jointly with members of the Crisis Negotiation Unit, Tactical Dispatchers and the Unmanned Aerial Systems Unit to enhance each unit's capabilities and provide the greatest likelihood of success for incidents in which they respond. Additionally, five Colonie EMS Paramedics train with the team and are prepared to be utilized in the event of a team deployment.

The Special Services Team maintains and operates Unit 301, a Lenco BearCat armored vehicle, which can be used as protection to officers during highly volatile incidents. It is also the most capable vehicle available to our Agency for both civilian and officer rescue. The team members also have access to a specially outfitted marked patrol SUV that is operated by team members and deployed for regular patrol duties. This SUV has tactical equipment to aid in the resolution of dynamic situations, such as high risk vehicle stops, building searches and suicidal suspects. These vehicles and on-duty members of the Special Services Team are utilized routinely by the Patrol and Investigations Division to maximize the department's tactical capability through both awareness and enhanced personal protective equipment.

Since 2017, the Special Services Team has achieved and maintained the standards required to be recognized as a Dept. of Criminal Justice Services Certified SWAT Team. The Colonie Police's Special Services Team regularly trains with and supports operations with Capital Region Tactical Teams. Operators and Team Leadership instruct and participate in training courses at the NY State Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Services' State Preparedness Training Center. This state of the art facility provides cutting edge training to tactical operators across the state. The Special Services Team had 11 activations in 2021.



The Investigations Division is responsible for investigating crimes committed within the Town of Colonie. To meet the needs and demands of investigating various crime types, the Colonie Police Department Investigations Division has several units and sub-specialties. The Investigations Division is comprised of 18 investigators, four sergeants, one Warrant Officer and one lieutenant.



INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

The Investigations Unit is responsible for cases involving crimes against persons and property. This includes, but is not limited to, assault, robbery, burglary, and other penal law statutes. The Investigations Division handled 2,659 cases in 2021. This is a 13.4% increase from 2020.

SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

The Special Investigations Unit (SIU) investigates all illegal drug and vice-related crimes in the Town. They also assist and support the Investigation Unit in investigating crimes against persons and property. The Special Investigation Unit continues to work closely with local, state and federal agencies as well as local task forces. Money seized was used to buy new equipment such as ruggedized computer tablets, etc. for use by officers.

2021 Figures: Seizure of Assets and/or Property - \$7,042.64 (A decrease of 91.1%)

FORENSIC UNIT

The Forensic Unit is made up of two investigators specially trained in evidence handling and photography. These investigators receive and process evidence gathered by officers of this department during the course of an investigation. Investigators examine physical evidence including fingerprints and DNA samples which may be submitted to the New York State Police or the Federal Bureau of Investigations laboratories for analysis and possible identification.

The Colonie Police Forensic Unit was one of the first specialty forensic units in the Capital District. The science of crime scene processing and evidence recovery plays a crucial role in the prosecution of criminal cases. Investigators in this unit receive detailed and ongoing training in the latest forensic trends.

2021 Forensics Stats

Items of Evidence Received
17,628 (An increase of 3%)

Total # of Items Processed
724 (An increase of 17%)

In 2021, 201 fingerprint submissions were made to the New York State lab. Of these 57 submissions were identified. (28%)

307 DNA submissions were made to the New York State lab. Of these 49 submissions were identified. (16%)

YOUTH AND SPECIAL VICTIMS UNIT

The Youth and Special Victims Unit (YSVU) is a specialized unit within the Investigations Division that investigates crimes against children, the elderly, and vulnerable people. This unit also investigates incidents regarding domestic violence, child abuse and neglect, juvenile delinquency, missing persons, and other crimes where children are the victims and/or offenders. The YSVU is tasked with investigating crimes of an extremely sensitive nature. Many of the incidents are of a sexual nature. The Investigators assigned to the YSVU are highly trained and professional, and they work closely with the District Attorney's Office, the local Child Advocacy Centers, and multiple local branches of Child Protective Services (CPS).

COMPUTER CRIME UNIT

The Computer Crime Unit continues to adhere to its mandate to investigate online criminal activity, conduct undercover online investigations and provide forensic analysis of digital materials. The unit's role of proactively working in an undercover capacity has expanded with member affiliation in the FBI Child Exploitation Human Trafficking Task Force and New York State Police Internet Crimes Against Children. Our Investigators work side by side with the FBI, NYSP and the other member agencies to proactively investigate any case involving the use of computers or other technology to victimize children. These cases range from cyber bullying to child pornography to luring a child. These affiliations have broadened our investigative ability and fostered successful prosecutions in our jurisdiction and nationwide.

There continues to be an increase in the need for forensic analysis of computer materials. The Colonie Police Department works with local, state and federal municipalities to provide forensic analysis in computer crime investigations. The unit has investigated cases ranging from simple harassment to forgery, embezzlement, identity theft, missing persons, child abuse and exploitation. In each case, the capabilities of the unit to examine computer media and recover evidence have proven extremely valuable to both investigators and prosecutors.

Members of the Computer Crime Unit continue to conduct community programs for parents, teachers and students on internet safety as well as provides training on computer investigations to recruits at the regional Police Academy.

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICER

Throughout the year, the department issues scores of press releases that not only announce the commission of crimes or the arrest of offenders but also for the purpose of disseminating vital information to the public. In addition to the Chief's Office, responsibility for this falls to the Investigations Commander as well as to the appropriate division heads as necessitated. In the year 2021, the Colonie Police Department issued 67 releases.



The Administrative Services Division is comprised of both sworn and civilian personnel. Personnel assigned to this division are responsible for all department support services including: Communications, Community Services, Records, Fiscal Management, Statistical Analysis, Training, Fleet Management, Grant Management, Accreditation, Animal Control, Colonie Youth Court and the department’s website.

ACCREDITATION

The Colonie Police Department participates in an accreditation process which involves a critique and review by outside independent assessors of all department policies and procedures to ensure that they are in compliance with the standards set by New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services. While a self-assessment of the agency is an ongoing responsibility of department members, preparation for the critique that takes place every five years is an arduous one and involves nearly full time work for over one year by department staff. During the year 2019, the department participated in its sixth accreditation process and as a result of this review, the Colonie Police Department successfully met or exceeded the criteria required for re-accreditation through October, 2024.

The accreditation program has long been recognized as a means of maintaining the highest standards of professionalism thus establishing confidence in the department by Town residents and department employees alike. Originally accredited in 1994, the Colonie Police Department is one of a small number of police departments in the state of New York that have been accredited for the past twenty-five years.

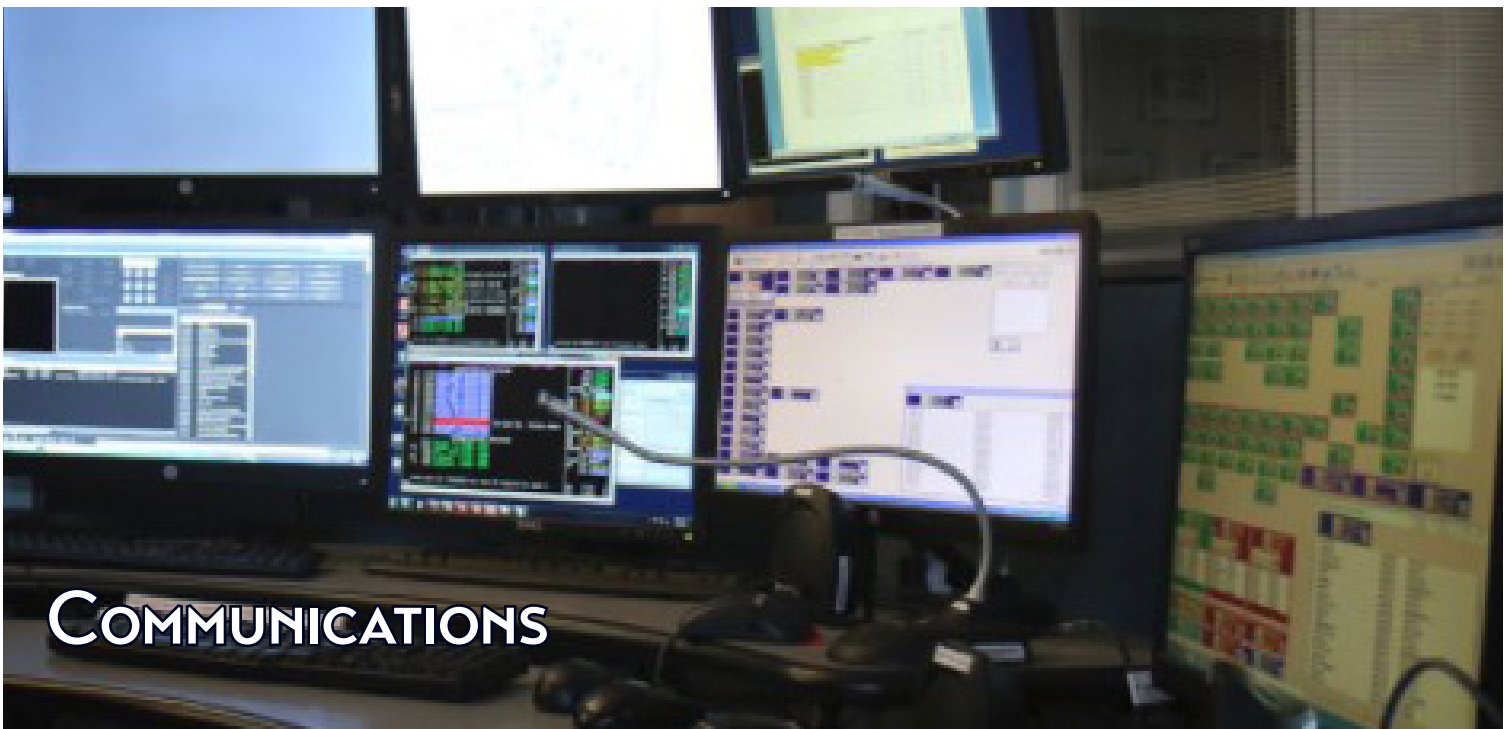
RECORDS

The Records Division is responsible for data entry, as well as the processing and maintaining of information pertaining to official reports and arrest records. All Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) requests are received and processed by Records personnel. This unit reviews all Police Officer documented reports for content, clarity and completeness.

2021 Figures			
Investigations Cases	Field Interviews	Accident Investigations	Citations
2,659	950	3,704	3,588
An increase of 13%	A decrease of 12%	An increase of 35%	A decrease of 19%

FISCAL MANAGEMENT

The 2021 Police Department budget was \$16,253,236 of which approximately 91.5% was appropriated for personnel costs, including salaries and benefits. The remaining 9.5% accounted for the day to day operating budget. Fiscal Management personnel act as the liaison with the Town Comptrollers office and the Office of General Services. Functions of this office include: procurement of merchandise and services, billing and accounting, payroll preparation and personnel schedules.



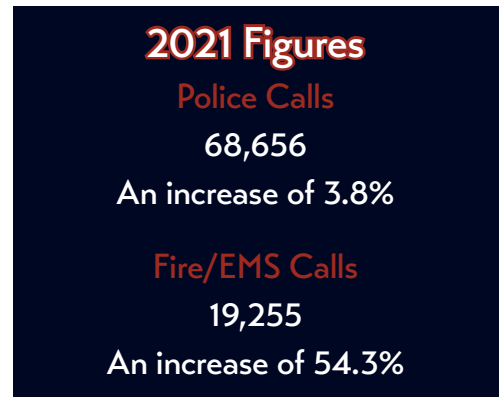
Communications is responsible for all public safety communications in the Town of Colonie. It is a 24-hour operation and is staffed by a Public Safety Communications Supervisor, five Senior Dispatchers, and 21 full-time Public Safety Dispatchers. Communications receives requests and information that must be processed and prioritized, then dispatch Police, Fire and Emergency Medical units via a computer aided dispatch system. Utilizing a Motorola MCC 7500 Elite Digital Radio System, the Town of Colonie has one of the most advanced two-way public safety and public service radio systems in the area.

In 2014, the Town of Colonie, the City of Albany and the Albany County Sheriff’s Department embarked on a shared radio system, which allows the three agencies to communicate with one another as needed. Emergency Services in Saratoga County have the same system as Albany County, so now we are able to communicate with Saratoga County via radio as needed. Work is now being done to expand these communications with the Schenectady County Unified Communications Center as well.

The Albany County system has a metro cell (serving the Town of Colonie and the City of Albany), and a county cell which serves all of Albany County. Both the Metro Cell and the County Cell were completed at the end of 2018. The yearly shared maintenance agreements for each agency will decrease substantially.

All Public Safety Dispatchers must initially complete a Basic Telecommunicators Course and undergo extensive ongoing training some of which includes CPR, National Incident Management System (NIMS) certification and Emergency Medical Dispatch training, which allows dispatchers to give medical instructions to callers reporting EMS emergencies. All certifications must be renewed every 2 years.

The Communications Division is one of six E-911 answering points in Albany County answering both land line and wireless 911 calls for service as well as several other administrative lines. The Town of Colonie Public Safety Dispatchers answered 134,966 phone calls in 2021 which included 8,708 land line 911 calls, 29,769 wireless 911 calls and 96,849 emergency/non-emergency calls to administrative lines. This number does not include the department’s main information line. Dispatchers also greet and assist the public at the front desk of the police department.





COMMUNITY SERVICES:

The Colonie Police Department Community Services Unit is comprised of five patrol officers. These officers work closely with citizens and businesses of the Town providing information about personal safety, security of property and methods to reduce criminal activities. In addition, one of our officers is a NYS Certified Crime Prevention Specialist.

Members of this unit assist neighborhood groups by facilitating neighborhood watch programs, conducting crime prevention security surveys, attending neighborhood gatherings or meetings and addressing any specific neighborhood crime prevention needs. These officers serve on many committees and boards of local civic and school programs such as: School Crisis Intervention Teams, Senior Citizen Committees, Safe Schools Committees, NYS Special Olympics, Special Education

Committees and New York State Safe Kids. The five Community Services Officers offer the citizens, schools, colleges, civic organizations and businesses of the Town of Colonie approximately sixty different programs and services. One officer is assigned to work closely with the Town of Colonie Senior Resources Department and the growing senior citizen population.

In a proactive approach to the growing threat of violence in the schools, the Community Services Unit continued its program in 2021 working with the local schools by assessing their security needs. In addition, Officer Pat Germaine serves as the School Resource Officer at Colonie Central High School providing a consistent police presence within the facility. Similarly, Officer Brianna Pierce serves as the School Resource Officer at Shaker High School.

As part of the department's SAFE Schools Initiative members of the Community Services Unit provide "tabletop" training for school Crisis Response Team members. This training involves the use of scenarios in which school personnel are placed under stressful conditions in an attempt to deal with a mock crisis. Members of the police department, Emergency Medical Services and Fire Services are also present during this training and work with the school personnel while attempting to deal with the problem. In addition to the tabletop training, members of the Community Services Unit also provide classroom instruction on School Violence / Crisis Response to teachers.

Four certified Colonie Police Officers provide the service of checking child car safety seats to ensure that their installations are safe and proper. In 2021, 71 safety seats were examined. (An increase of 65% from 2020.)

Due to COVID, the department was not able to host their annual Community Night Out in 2021 but looks forward to hosting it once again in 2022. The event provides families a fun evening of activities, food and a chance to meet many of our officers.



In September of 1992 the Colonie Police Department in cooperation with the Town's two school districts and representatives of various private and parochial schools inaugurated the D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) Program. D.A.R.E. provides the children of our community with the knowledge and tools to make safe and responsible choices. It provides them with the guidance they need to make the right decisions for their health and future.

D.A.R.E. is targeted for school children in the fifth and sixth grades. This unit, now in its twenty-seventh full year of operation includes three fully trained D.A.R.E. officers. Additionally, one D.A.R.E. officer has been trained in the D.A.R.E. parent component program.

In 2021, these officers presented D.A.R.E. programs to approximately 1,000 students in the fifth grade throughout the Town. Additionally the officers provide continuing education to students in the sixth and eighth grades in classrooms in public and private schools throughout the Town.

Officers meet students in the kindergarten through fourth grade classrooms which provides students with safety skills for use at both home and school and establishes positive relationships between the community and officers at an early age. A high school program for the ninth through twelfth grades was developed to reduce the use and abuse of alcohol and drugs among our community's high school students. Students discuss the risks and consequences of underage drinking, experience hands-on demonstrations using fatal vision goggles and the risks and consequences of drinking,



driving and riding with intoxicated drivers. In addition to the K-12 buildings, our officers also visit with many of our pre-kindergarten child care centers throughout the Town of Colonie talking with them about safety and letting them know that officers are their friends.

The Annual D.A.R.E. Golf Tournament not only provides an enjoyable day of friendship but also serves as a great fundraiser for the D.A.R.E. Program as businesses in the community assume the role as sponsors. In 2021, the event was held at Schuyler Meadows Club where 136 golfers competed.

GRANT MANAGEMENT

Grant Management, requires the preparing, budgeting, accounting and fiscal reporting related to grant awards. These awards are received from Local, State and Federal sources. Grant managers are also responsible for acquiring new technology for use by all department members. In 2021, the Colonie Police Department received the following:

- A \$35,400 grant from the Governor's Traffic Safety Council for "Selected Traffic" Enforcement.
- A \$20,000 grant from Albany County STOP DWI for impaired driving enforcement.
- A \$75,000 grant from New York State Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Services for tactical team capability enhancement.



The Training Unit staff includes three police officers and one sergeant on a full-time basis. This unit develops, implements and evaluates mandated in-service training as well as providing selective topical training. Six times a year this unit conducts practical exercise and classroom instruction that all of our officers attend. Officers also attend numerous local training sessions held throughout the region on various topics.

Training this year included instruction on de-escalation, use of force, legal updates, EMS protocol and a full day of defensive tactics training. Additional in-service training consisted of reality based scenarios to induce real life stress on the officer to simulate what happens on a real call as well as two days of firearms training. The depart-

ment also continued its “Roll Call Training” in which officers receive ten minute training sessions during their daily briefing. In addition to their traditional instructional roles, these officers also are responsible for the field training officer program, police officer candidate processing, educational internships and serve as department armorers.

The unit is also responsible for the acquisition, deployment and maintenance of the department fleet and associated equipment. When no longer usable for police service, department vehicles are transferred to other Town agencies or sold at auction.



Colonie’s Animal Control officers focus on the enforcement of state and local laws in relation to dogs and other animals. The intention is to promote health, safety, and general welfare of the people of the Town of Colonie. Specifically, Animal Control enforces provisions of the New York State Agriculture and Markets Law and Town local laws.

The philosophy of the unit is to remove animals in a safe and humane manner. They interact with the public by providing information on local and state laws before actual enforcement becomes necessary.

Duties of Colonie Animal Control Officers include: the seizure of lost dogs, impoundment, investigations of barking dog complaints, removing sick or injured animals, investigation of animal bites, removing deceased dogs and cats from highways, occasional trapping of wildlife found in homes, transporting possible rabid animals for testing, and investigating cruelty complaints.

Responsibilities consist of the service of legal processes related to criminal or civil proceedings including: appearance tickets, impounding dogs found at large, transporting dogs to the Mohawk and Hudson River Humane Society, notifying the owner of its whereabouts and transporting stray dogs and cats to veterinarians for immediate medical treatment if necessary.

In 2021, Animal Control Officers answered 1,969 animal control complaints which was a 3.5% increase from 2020.

STATISTICAL ANALYSIS

Monthly, quarterly and yearly reports compiling various statistics and data charts are produced for use by Field and Administrative personnel. Mandated Federal and New York State reports, including Uniform Crime Reports are produced by this office.

COLONIE YOUTH COURT

Colonie Youth Court heard its first case on January 19, 1995 and began its community service program that same month. To date, the program has heard over 1,600 offender cases and they have completed a combined total of over 62,000 hours of community service hours to the Town of Colonie. In its 27 years of operating, there have been over 1,100 volunteer members who served the 6 different courtroom roles of youth court and over 2,500 volunteer jurors have served.



Colonie Youth Court is an early intervention diversion program for young people who have been arrested for the first time for a minor crime. Each defendant in youth court must meet general criteria which includes: age 19 and under, have committed a misdemeanor or violation, admission of guilt, and be a first-time offender. In youth court, a youth must explain their actions to a jury of his/her peers, and accept a sentence of community service hours deemed appropriate by a young jury. Our jurors are town residents in grades 7-12 who wish to serve on an actual case. Youth Court volunteer members are high school students in grades 9-12 who undergo an extensive 8-week law related course of instruction. Youth Court member roles include: Judge, Prosecutor, Defender, Jury Foreperson, Clerk and Victim Advocate.

The 2021 Fall membership training program resumed, after not conducting the training in 2020 due to COVID-19. There were 30 new students trained over 8 weeks. Due to the ongoing pandemic and the overall decrease in arrests in Colonie, the youth court received less than the average number of cases in 2021. Of the cases that were received, 100% of offenders successfully completed the required sanctions imposed upon them. The program continues to maintain an overall 98.5% offender successful completion rate since hearing its first case in 1995. The gender, race, crime committed, and community service hours performed is as follows: 100% males and 0% females, 100% - Caucasians, 0% - African Americans, and 0% - Other. The cases were composed of 66% theft related crimes, and 33% Assault. Overall, the program participants have performed over 62,000 hours of service in the last 27 years.

In addition, two senior youth court members were awarded college scholarships in 2021. The 1st place winner of the 2021 Robert M. Auld College Scholarship was youth court member, Alvira Tyagi. Alvira is attending Harvard University. Youth Court member, Michayla Smith was the recipient of the 2021 Honorable Nicholas J. Greisler Jr. College Scholarship. Michayla is attending the College of Saint Rose.

For more information on the Colonie Youth Court program, please contact Violet Palombo, Program Director at 518-782-2638.

POLICE DEPARTMENT WEBPAGE

The Colonie Police Department has a redesigned webpage which offers information on department services such as child safety seat inspections and the Civilian Police Academy as well as the ability to search for sex offenders in your area using Offender Watch.

Online forms are also available and include a House/Property Check Form that notifies the department when you will be on vacation and your house will be vacant, an Alarm / Emergency contact card that informs the department who to contact in the event of an alarm drop or emergency at your home, and a Home Security Survey.

Additionally, the Colonie Police Department is now on Facebook as well as Twitter, which allows the department to better inform the community on incidents and programs as well as receive assistance from the public with identifying suspects.



EXPLORER POST 185

The Colonie Police Explorer Post 185 is comprised of individuals from 14 to 21 years of age who have an active interest in Law Enforcement as a potential career. Currently we have 20 Explorers in our post under the supervision of Lt. Robert Donnelly and Sergeant Derek Breslin as well as the Post Advisors who include Traffic Investigator Brian Curran and Officers Ryan Berkery, Michael Tarbay, Taylor Carey, Ryan Leonardo, Brandon Mueller and Patrick Murphy.

The Explorers program is designed to give youth in the community an opportunity to learn first-hand the knowledge and skills required in the field of law enforcement. During their bi-monthly meetings, Explorers are exposed to Law Enforcement related topics such as Officer Safety, Interview Techniques, Domestic Violence, Vehicle and Traffic Law, Emergency Vehicle Operations, Crime Scene Investigation and Building Search. Explorers also have an opportunity to put their knowledge to the test by competing against other Police Explorer Posts in scenario based competitions at



Stations Day and by attending a week-long, multi-phase Explorer Academy in Connecticut. In addition to the training they receive, Explorers provide the Town of Colonie with valuable Community Service. During 2021 alone, Explorers donated over 1,700 hours of their time while providing services at functions such as the Concerts in the Barn at the Pruyn House and various events at The Crossings of Colonie.

Members must be at least 14 years of age and completed the 8th grade, must maintain an 80 average in school and be in good standing in your community.

2021 ANNUAL AWARDS CEREMONY



On the evening of November , 2021, the Colonie Police Department hosted their annual Awards Ceremony where department members joined with family and friends in this recognition event.

Civilian Award

Michael Biance and Robert Mateja

Special Service Award

Lieutenant Todd Weiss and Communications Director Lori Kunker

Command Recognition Award

Lieutenant Thomas Breslin
Lieutenant Henry Rosenzweig
Lieutenant Richard Villa
Traffic Inv. Brian Curran
Inv. Matthew Garrigan
Inv. James Splonskowski
Inv. Kevin Terry
Officer Conor Anson
Officer Austin Blais

Officer Taylor Carey
Officer Patrick Fennelly
Officer Daniel Franklin
Officer Thomas Haacke
Officer Christopher Hooks
Officer David Hornberger
Officer Ryan Howe
Officer David Marra

Officer Eric Montijo
Officer Javier Martinez
Officer Nicholas Morgan
Officer Patrick Murphy
Officer Ardit Potka
Officer Zacharias Ruter
Officer Michael Sbardella
Officer Brian Seniw
Officer Jason Tusch
Dispatcher Kelley O'Hearn

Life Saving Award

Sergeant Jason Bach
Traffic Inv. Brian Curran
Investigator James Splonskowski

Officer Conor Anson
Officer Ian Kelly
Officer Daniel Kutny

Sr. Dispatcher Anthony DiScipio
Dispatcher Michael Hennessey
Dispatcher Breanna Stammel

Chief's Partnership In Policing Award Supervisory Special Agent Brian Jacob - Federal Bureau of Investigation

Career Recognition Award

Evidence Clerk Elise Fronk and Records Supervisor Kathleen Nash

Esposito / Russo Memorial Award

Officer Daniel Kutny

Distinguished Service Awards

Officer of the Year

Officer Javier Martinez

Dispatcher of The Year

Public Safety Dispatcher Matthew Graves

Explorer of The Year

Explorer Lieutenant Eric Schlaeg

2021 CALLS FOR SERVICE

	2020	2021	Change
911 Accidental Call	5,130	5,487	+7%
911 Hang-Up Call	2,165	2,298	+6%
911 Non-Emergency/ Nuisance	383	265	-31%
911 Transfer	5,379	5,439	+1%
Abandoned Vehicle	200	188	-6%
Alarm Drop	124	117	-6%
Animal Control Complaint	1,903	1,969	+4%
Assault	50	73	+46%
Assist A Person	1,199	1,292	+8%
Auto Accident Property Damage	2,651	3,140	+19%
Auto Accident Personal Injury	448	561	+25%
Bomb Threat	1	6	+500%
Boy / Girlfriend Trouble	38	58	+53%
Burglar Alarm	4,207	3,854	-8%
Burglary In Progress	34	34	-
Car Blocking	121	141	+17%
Check A Subject	3,279	3,080	-6%
Community Services Event	355	273	-2%
Custodial Interference	126	119	-6%
Disabled Motor Vehicle	769	751	-2%
Domestic Call	1,615	1,826	+13%
DRE	14	11	-21%
Drone Request	33	31	-6%
Drunk Annoying	70	67	-4%
Emotionally Distressed Person	621	766	+23%
EMS Call	1,409	1,396	-1%
Fight	392	403	+3%
Fire Call	987	712	-28%
Fireworks	344	174	-49%
Found Property	316	322	+2%
Get A Complaint	1,096	989	-10%
Get A Report	4,232	4,930	+17%
Group Annoying	277	190	-31%
Hazardous Material Call	7	8	+14%
Hold-Up Alarm	262	308	+18%
Jail Run	22	14	-36%
Juvenile Incident	106	157	+48%
K-9 Search	71	38	-47%
Landlord / Tenant Trouble	96	131	+37%
Larceny Just Occurred	385	365	-5%
Lock Out	104	133	+28%
Neighbor Trouble	247	258	+5%
Noise Complaint	454	417	-8%

	2020	2021	Change
Notification	751	669	-11%
Officer Needs Assistance	187	178	-5%
Open Window / Door	117	87	-26%
POP (Police Oriented Policing)	10	9	-10%
Person Acting Suspicious	246	269	+9%
Person Annoying	712	743	+4%
Person Attempting Suicide	34	19	-44%
Person Down	46	56	+22%
Person Exposing Self	12	24	+100%
Person With A Weapon	82	61	-26%
Police Wanted Unknown	21	24	+14%
Property Check	4,779	6,415	+34%
Prowler	46	37	-20%
Road Hazard	410	344	-16%
Robbery	15	17	+13%
School Crossing	31	95	+206%
Selling Drugs	14	18	+29%
Shoplifter	92	116	+26%
Shots Fired	42	46	+10%
Someone In Building	20	22	+10%
Traffic Enforcement Details	391	487	+25%
Traffic Stop	7,834	7,030	-10%
Tree Down	177	104	-41%
Trouble With A Customer	611	764	+25%
Vehicle Annoying	1,378	1,471	+7%
Vehicle In Violation	87	87	-
Warrant	201	78	-61%
Water Break	99	121	+22%
Wires Down / Arching	196	132	-33%
All Other Call Types	5,488	5,411	-1%
Totals:	66,157	67,640	+2%

UNIFORM CRIME REPORT (UCR) PART 1 OFFENSES

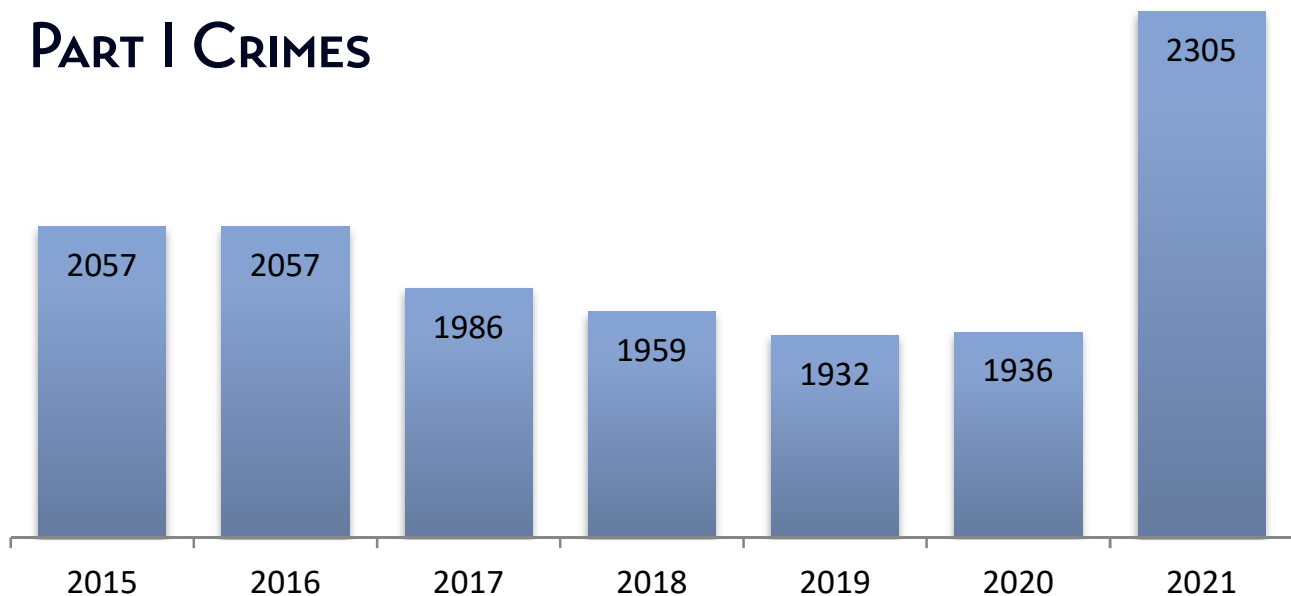
	2020	2021	Change
Murder	0	2	+200%
Rape	4	4	-
Robbery	28	21	-25%
Assault	51	47	-8%
Burglary	111	161	+45%
Larceny	1,677	1,987	+18%
Vehicle Theft	65	83	+28%
Totals:	1,936	2,305	+19%

UNIFORM CRIME REPORT (UCR) PART 2 OFFENSES

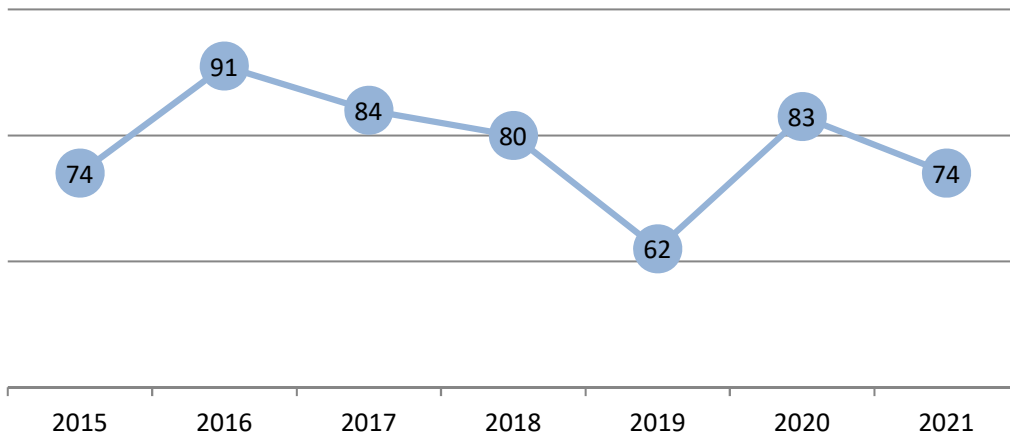
	2020	2021	Change
Arson	1	2	+100%
Kidnapping	1	11	+1000%
Controlled Substances	134	86	-36%
Dangerous Weapons	26	17	-35%
Sex Offenses	14	19	+36%
Extortion	0	17	+100%
Forgery / Counterfeiting	58	25	-57%
Stolen Property	43	23	-47%
Prostitution & Vice	0	0	-
Coercion	0	1	+100%
Criminal Mischief	300	335	+18%
Fraud	245	646	+164%
Gambling	0	0	-
Offenses Against Public Order	0	1	+100%
Embezzlement	0	1	+100%
Simple Assault	396	509	+29%
Offenses Against Family	0	0	-
Driving Under Influence	100	77	-23%
Unauthorized Use of Vehicle	54	43	-21%
Possession of Burglary Tools	0	1	+100%
Liquor Law Violations	0	0	-
Disorderly Conduct	6	3	-50%
Loitering	0	1	+100%
All Other Offenses	403	391	-3%
Totals:	1,781	2,209	+24%

The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program was conceived to meet a need for reliable, uniform crime statistics for the nation. The FBI collects, publishes and archives these statistics from nearly 17,000 law enforcement agencies across the United States.

PART I CRIMES

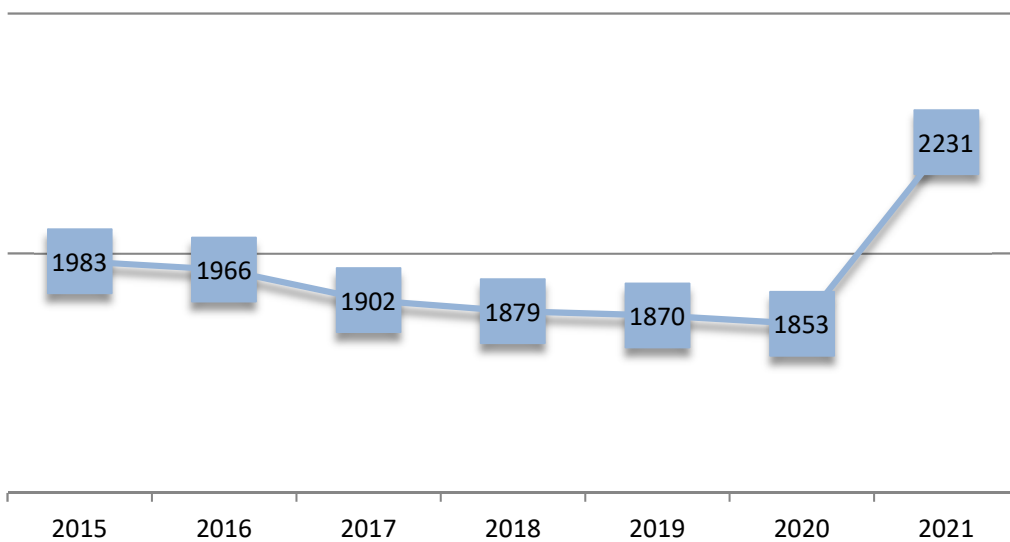


VIOLENT CRIMES



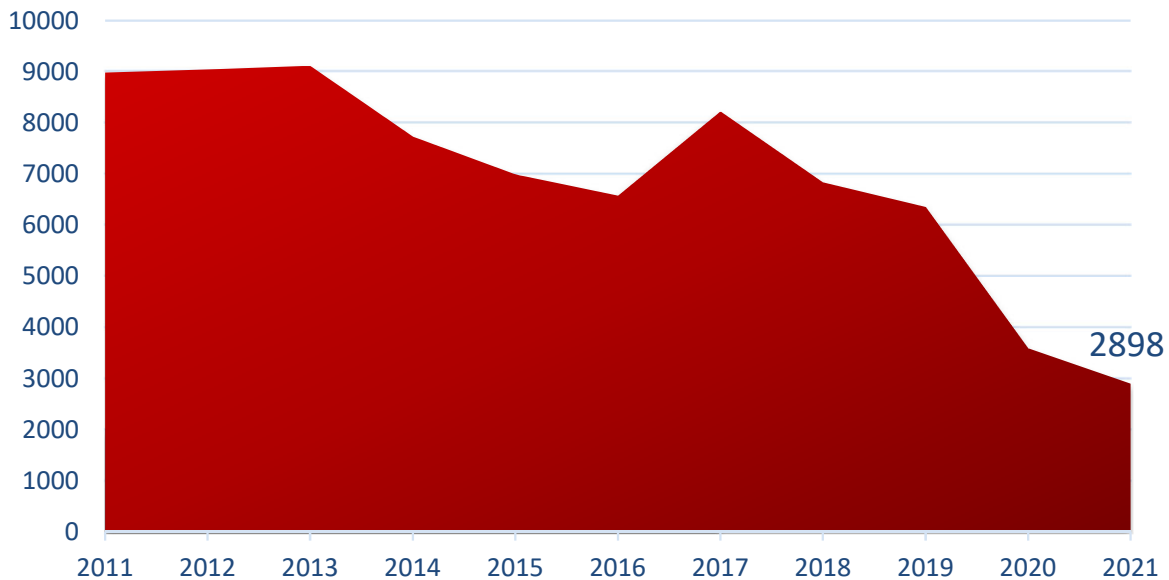
Following a 33.9% increase in 2020 of Part I Violent Crimes (Homicide, Rape, Robbery and Aggravated Assault incidents), that number decreased in 2021 by 10.8%.

PROPERTY CRIMES

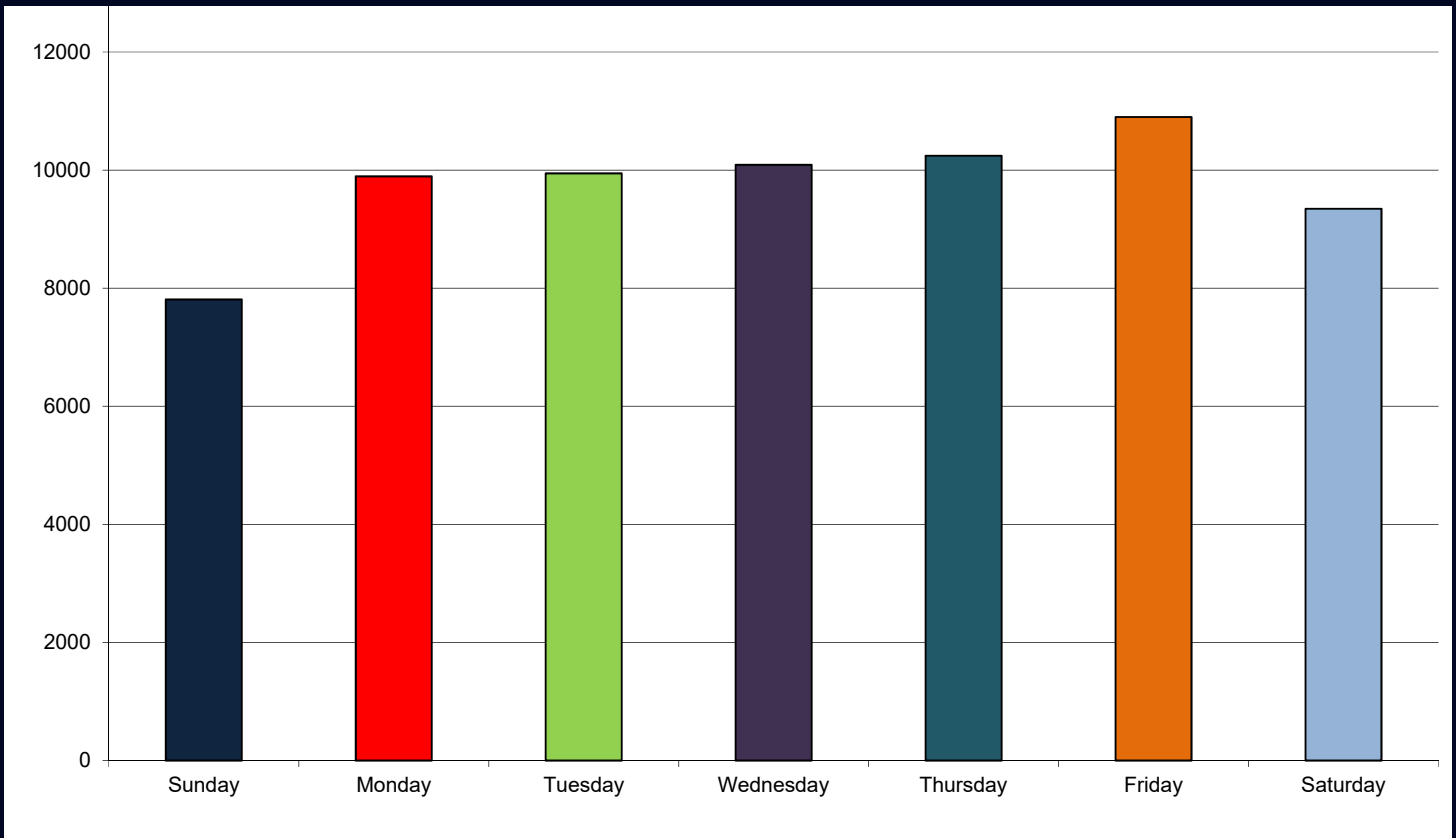


The number of Property Crimes (Burglary, Larceny and MV Theft incidents) had been on the decline since 2014. In 2021 however, the number of property crimes jumped to 2,231 incidents, a 20.4% increase from 2020.

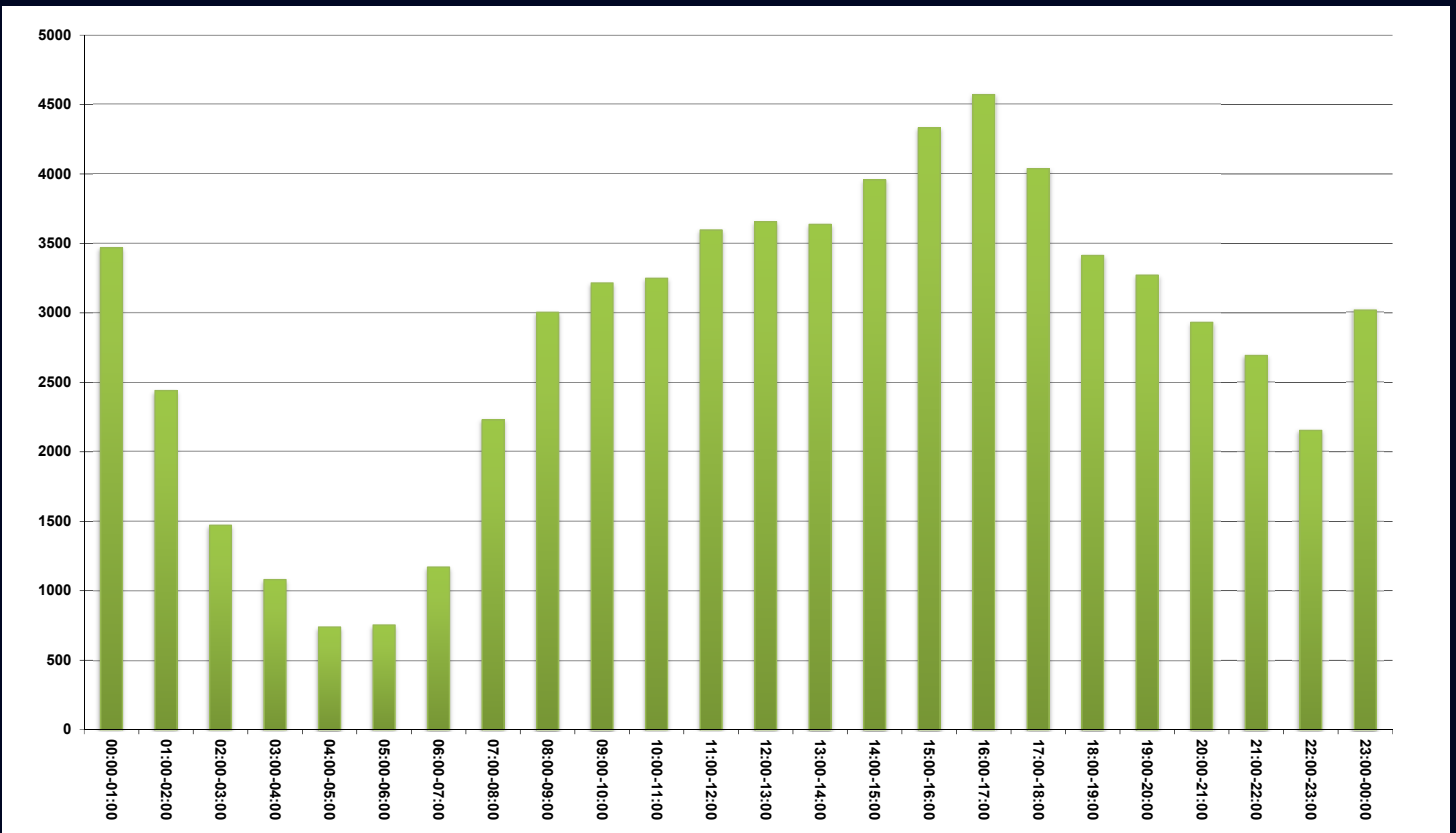
NUMBER OF TRAFFIC CITATIONS



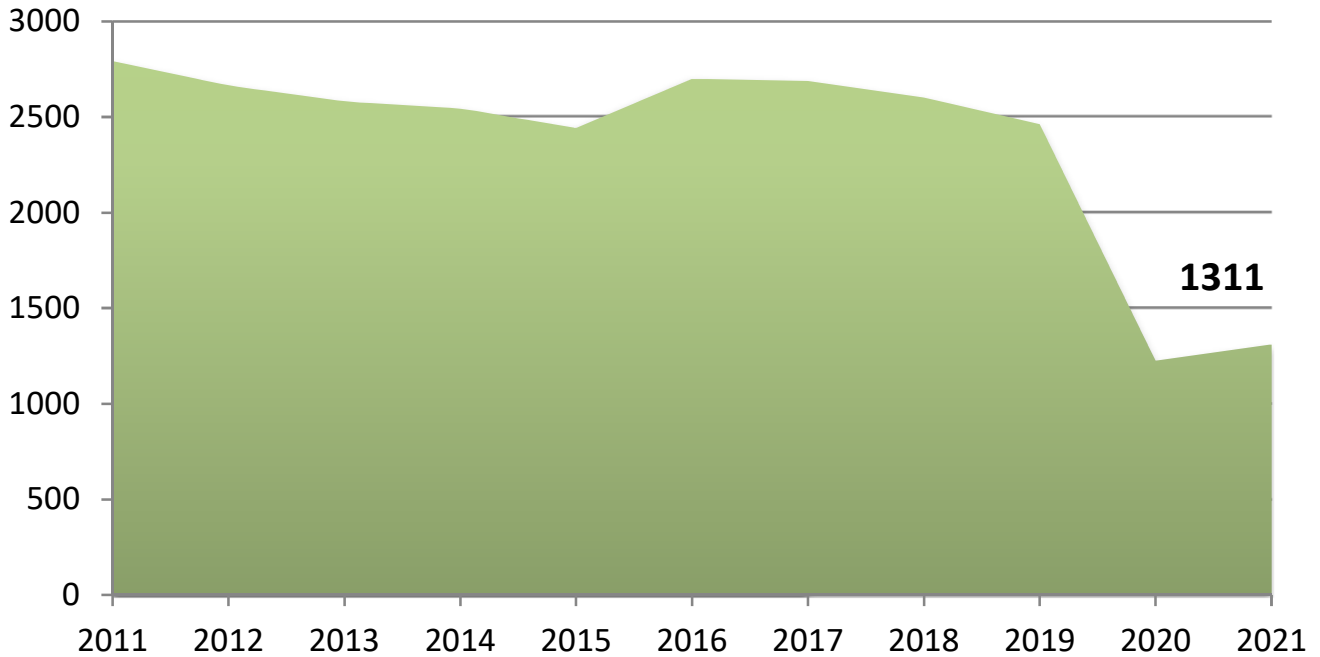
NUMBER OF CALLS BY DAY OF THE WEEK



NUMBER OF CALLS BY HOUR OF THE DAY



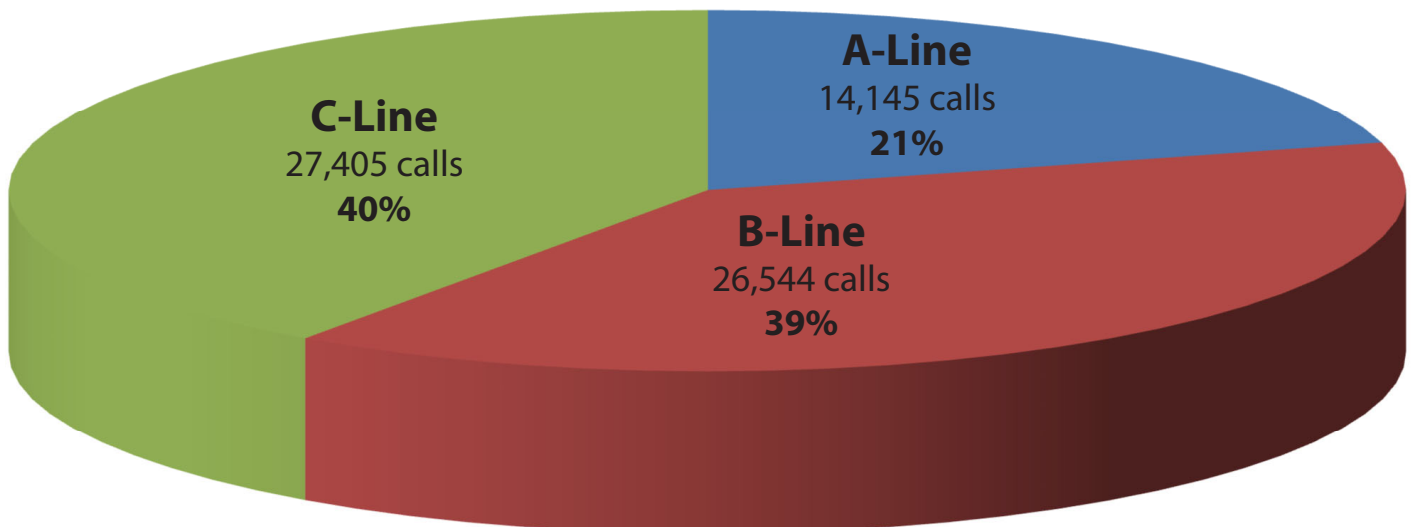
NUMBER OF DEPARTMENT ARRESTS



Adult Arrests
1,276 - An increase of 6%

Juvenile Arrests
35 - An increase of 106%

PERCENTAGE OF CALLS BY SHIFT





Colonie Police Department

Public Safety Center
312 Wolf Road
Latham, New York 12110

(518) 783-2744

Fax (518) 786-7326

www.colonie.org/departments/police

Supervisor Peter G. Crummey



Town Board:

Rick Field
Danielle Futia
Alvin Gamble

Melissa Jeffers
Jeff Madden
Jill Penn