

Town of Leesburg Virginia Police Department



2006 Annual Report

Joseph R. Price
Chief of Police



LEESBURG POLICE 2006 FACTS AT A GLANCE

CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

SERIOUS INCIDENTS (GROUP

A) 7% increase

POLICE ACTIVITY (CALLS FOR SERVICE AND OFFICER INITIATED CALLS)

19% increase

RESPONSE TIMES

Emergency 4 minutes 7 seconds

Non-Emergency 8 minutes 43 seconds

ARRESTS

Total – 1,477

Adult – 1,213

Juvenile – 264

TRAFFIC ACTIVITY

CRASHES

- 9% decrease overall
- 48% decrease in injury crashes
- Intersection with highest number of crashes – Sycolin Rd @ Bypass
- Causation Factor – Driver inattention

TRAFFIC TICKETS – 5,770

DUI Arrests – 202



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Dear Members of the Leesburg Community:

I am pleased to present you with the Police Department's 2006 Annual Report. The mission of the Town of Leesburg Police Department is to work in partnership with the community to provide the highest quality of police services using innovative, proactive approaches to improve Leesburg, while at the same time maintaining respect for the rights and dignity of all.

During 2006, the Leesburg Police Department and its members received significant recognition in the form of Accreditation, and national and regional awards. While we experienced a significant increase in workload, the Department still managed to achieve a drop in the crime index and a significant drop in the number of crashes occurring in our community. In addition to crime reduction strategies, the Department continues to focus on prevention programs such as the Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT) program and our continuing partnership with Leesburg Parks and Recreation Department with the ROCK program and Loudoun County Parks and Recreation with the Midnight Madness program.

I know that I speak for every member of the Leesburg Police Department in saying that our success would not be possible if it were not for the strong partnership that we have with the Town leadership, other Town departments and most of all you the community. We pledge to continue to work with our partners to achieve our shared vision for Leesburg.

Lastly, I want to thank and commend the members of the Leesburg Police Department and the Leesburg Citizens Support Team for their individual and collective efforts, hard work and contribution throughout the past year. The cornerstone of our success is the skill, dedication, and commitment of the men and women of this Department. These accomplishments reflect every member's strong commitment to our organizational values of Leadership, Pride and Dedication.

Joseph R. Price
Chief of Police

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Major Accomplishments in 2006

Leesburg Police Achieve Accredited Status

In 2006, the Leesburg Police Department received formal accredited status from the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission.

A team of three assessors from the Virginia Law Enforcement Accreditation Coalition spent June 11-13, 2006 at the Leesburg Police Department reviewing 180 standards that a law enforcement agency must meet in order to achieve this status. The standards cover all aspects of law enforcement to include administration, operations, personnel, and training.

A presentation of the accreditation team's findings was made to the Executive Board of Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission (VLEPSC). The Executive Board is made up of 12 Sheriffs and Chiefs of Police from across the State and is currently chaired by Sheriff Charlie Jett of the Stafford County Sheriff's Office. VLEPSC Executive Board members made the findings official with a formal vote in which Sheriff Jett stated that the report on the Leesburg Police Department was *"one of the finest reports that has ever been presented"* to the Commission. Out of the 180 standards that were required to be met; only 5 items needed minor additions which accounted for 2.9% of the total files. These additions were quickly located and made available during the assessment. "I am extremely proud of the contributions of members of the Leesburg Police Department in achieving Accreditation. Receiving Accreditation is a milestone for any professional law enforcement agency and demonstrates that our policies and practices are recognized by professionals in the field as being in compliance with professional standards and best practices in the field of law enforcement," stated Chief of Police Joseph Price.



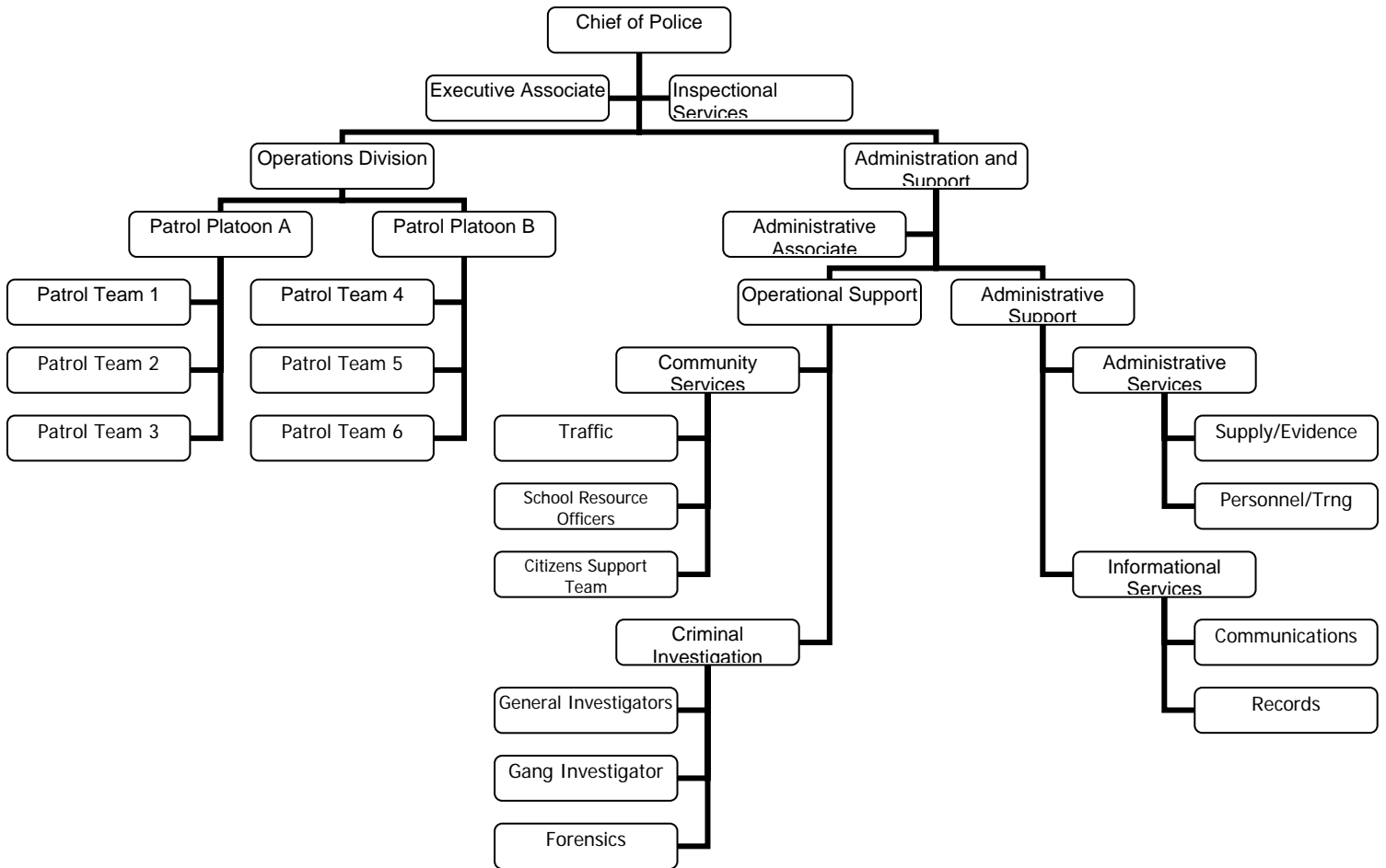
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Other Accomplishments

1. Continued reduction in crime index
2. Reduction in traffic crashes
 - a. Significant reduction in injury crashes
3. Continuation of prevention programs
 - a. GREAT program- recognition by Bureau of Justice Affairs as a model program
 - b. ROCK
 - c. Midnight Madness
 - d. Junior Police Camp
 - e. CYCLE
4. Emergency Preparedness
 - a. Developed Town Pandemic Flu Response Plan
 - b. Developed and published Citizens Emergency Preparedness Guide
 - Evacuation plans
 - Invacuation plans
5. Continued implementation of the Department Strategic Plan
6. Completed evaluation for in-car video camera systems funded by Uran donation and Justice Assistance Grant (JAG)
7. Obtained grant funding
 - a. Homeland Security Grant of \$34,631 to increase readiness of Police Department and Town of Leesburg
 - b. COPS Technology grant of \$74,042 to provide for replacement of police HQs phone system
 - c. Grant from Loudoun Crime Commission for critical incident communication system
 - d. Grant from Target Corporation for night vision equipment
 - e. Award of Generation 3 Night Vision Equipment from ITT

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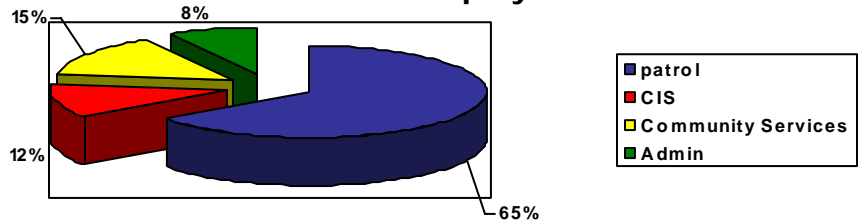
Organizational Chart - 2006



DEMOGRAPHICS

2006 Population: 37,810
 Land Area: 12 square miles
 Total LPD full-time employees: 93
 Total full-time sworn officers: 74
 Officer per 1,000 ratio: 1.96

Officer Deployment



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Department Awards & Recognition

First Place 2006 Community Policing Award

Since 1998, the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) and ITT Night Vision have recognized law enforcement agencies worldwide that empower officers to work in partnership with local resources to make their communities safer. The Community Policing Award honors agencies and spotlights initiatives that exemplify successful implementation of the community policing philosophy. These agencies join forces with their communities, businesses, schools and individuals to prevent crime by addressing its root causes. In 2006, more than 100 agencies from 11 countries submitted entries. All of the entries demonstrated the value of community policing to law enforcement agencies as well as to the citizens of the communities in which they serve. After a rigorous judging process, the winners and finalists emerged as stellar examples of how a strong commitment to community policing can transform the way communities handle crime. The Leesburg Police Department was honored at the International Association of Chiefs of Police Conference in Boston, MA for their First Place Award Winning Achievement in Community Policing. LPD's work in the Northeast Quadrant of Leesburg resulted in positive trends. Through a proactive partnership with law abiding citizens, crime reduction and quality of life strategies were implemented as part of a commitment to partnership, problem solving and a preventative approach to public safety services.

Employee Commendations

Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce Valor Awards

Five (5) Leesburg Police Officers were recognized through the Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce Annual VALOR Awards for their exemplary efforts during 2006.

1. Officer Matthew Hackney – Silver Medal of Valor

On July 17, 2006, Officer Hackney and other Leesburg officers responded to investigate a report of narcotics sales. Officer Hackney identified and approached a suspect vehicle. Officer Hackney reached into the vehicle to prevent the vehicle from being started. Unsuccessful, the vehicle was placed in motion and Officer Hackney was violently knocked to the ground. Officer Hackney heard tires spinning as the vehicle came toward him, striking him and momentarily rendering him unconscious. In spite of his injuries, Officer Hackney continued to pursue until other officers stopped the suspect vehicle.

2. Officer Jennifer Shaw – Lifesaving

On September 6, 2006, Officer Shaw, while assigned as a School Resource Officer at Smartts Mill Middle School, observed an 11 year old student choking in the cafeteria. The student was unable to speak and was becoming

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cyanotic. Officer Shaw performed the Heimlich maneuver on the child dislodging food which was blocking the child's airway.

3. Unit Citation:

- o ***Lt. Wesley Thompson***
- o ***Officer Michael Greene***
- o ***Officer Dale Depoy***

On May 29, 2006, Lt. Thompson, Officer Greene and Officer Depoy were investigating a call involving a suicidal man. The man was armed with two knives and had already inflicted injury upon himself. In a narrow outside hallway, the officers, working in synch, distracted his attention, deployed pepper spray and disarmed the man without further injury. The man was then detained and received medical and mental health treatment.

Town of Leesburg Employee Achievement Award – Safety Award –

Detective Bob Thompson, Patrol Assignment, Field Operations.

Officer T. R. Thompson clearly established the benchmark for caring, professional, responsive service to the residents and businesses of Leesburg and his coworkers. The Leesburg Police Department and the Town of Leesburg have directly benefited from his continued efforts.

MADD DUI Excellence Award:

Officer Travis Lotz – Third Consecutive Year as an Award Winner

In 2005, Officer Lotz led the Leesburg Police Department by removing 32 impaired drivers from Leesburg's streets through arrest. He provided assistance to other officers by performing 42 breath tests.

National Capital Region Smooth Operator Program:

MPO Bill Wolff and Officer Robert Hall were recognized for their efforts enforcing driving laws in Leesburg in coordination with regional objectives to reduce crashes and incidents involving aggressive driving behaviors.

Commanders Awards:

The Field Operations Division Commander issues Commanders Awards or Certificates of Achievement in cases where an officer or civilian go above and beyond the call of duty or deliver exceptional service. In 2006, the following people were recognized as indicated below

1. MPO Matthew J. Bennett

On March 14, 2006, MPO Bennett was handling a traffic stop when he observed flames and smoke coming from a nearby residence. MPO Bennett was commended for his quick thinking and initiative in his response placing himself in a position of danger in an effort to ensure all occupants safely escaped.

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2. Officer Mark Manocchio; Officer Vanessa Mertz-Myers

On March 19, 2006, Officer Mark Manocchio and Officer Vanessa Mertz-Myers responded to a report of a mentally handicapped youth threatening to jump from a 3rd floor apartment window. Officer Mertz-Myers maintained communication from the ground, while Officer Manocchio forced entry through the apartment front door to gain access to the youth. Once inside, the officers were able to secure the youth and alert a sleeping parent to the imminent danger.

3. Officer Matthew Hackney; Officer Robert Hall

On June 17, 2006, Officer Hackney and Officer Hall conducted a thorough breaking and entering investigation which resulted in the processing of multiple youth offenders. The method and manner of the investigation achieved a positive outcome reflecting the professionalism of Officers Hackney and Hall.

4. Officer F. Joseph Ojeda

On October 13, 2006, Officer Ojeda observed three juveniles and engaged the youths in conversation. Officer Ojeda learned that two of the juveniles were truant. Follow up investigation revealed the juveniles were affiliated with a criminal gang and had been involved in prior criminal activity. Subsequent investigation of information gleaned during this 'routine' check netted four arrests, with 25 charges including 16 felonies and 2 INS detainees.

5. Sergeant Carl Maupin

During the summer of 2006, Sergeant Maupin distinguished himself through the utilization of crime analysis and mapping tools to create a strategic response by patrol officers to disrupt a series of construction site larcenies. The initiative of Sergeant Maupin to coordinate high visibility patrols in the target areas is attributed to successfully disrupting a property crime series in Leesburg.

6. Officer Chris Loran

During the summer of 2006, Officer Loran identified a trend occurring in his Community Policing Sector 7. Officer Loran prepared an operational plan that utilized the talents and skills of many officers in uniformed and plain clothes assignments. The operation resulted in the gathering of valuable intelligence and the execution of a drug search warrant. Arrests were made to include Possession of PCP, Underage Possession of Alcohol and Drunk in Public.

7. Lieutenant Vanessa Grigsby

Lieutenant Vanessa Grigsby is commended for her dedication and commitment to the **Domestic Abuse Response Team**. D.A.R.T. is a consortium to create strategies to effectively investigate, prosecute, mediate and reduce domestic violence. Lt. Grigsby is commended for her contribution of time and talent as a representative of law enforcement to promote best practices in the domain of domestic violence.

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SPOT Awards:

In addition to annual awards, the Town of Leesburg sponsors a special category of "Spot Awards" which are small monetary awards to be given by department directors and the Town Manager. The eleven (11) Leesburg Police Department employees who received a SPOT Award during 2006 are as follows: (Alphabetically)

MPO Matt Bennett

Executive Associate Sherry Bodine

Lt. Jeff Dube'

Detective John Falvey

Administrative Support Coordinator Jennifer Ford

POI Mark Manocchio – Two SPOT Awards Presented

POI Vanessa Mertz-Myers

POII John Pearson

Sergeant Doug Shaw

POIII Dale Spurlock

POIII Chris Tidmore

Promotions

Sergeant

Wayne Harrison

Master Police Officer

Mark Davis

Chris Jones

Police Officer III

Patrick Daly

Matthew Hackney

Paul Holzerland

Eric Wakeham

Police Officer II

Wael Abilmona

Robert Hall

Christian Loran

Communication Technician III

Cindy Cain

Communication Technician II

Otho Bloom

Rhea Clark

Sharon Jensen

Amanda McVay

Sherry Riley

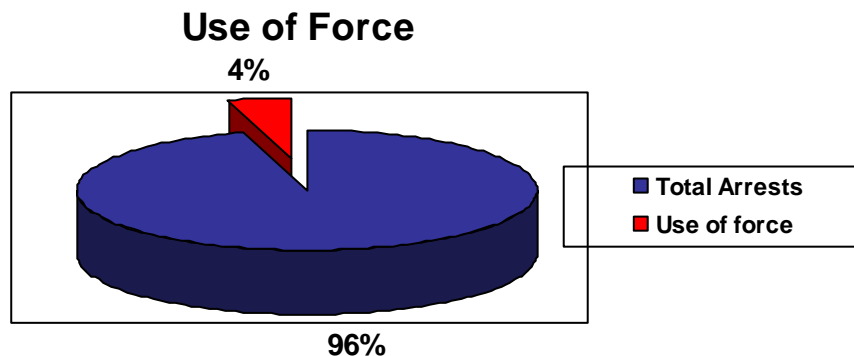
Elisha Sanders

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Citizen Complaints & Use of Force

During the calendar year 2006, the Police Department received 16 formal complaints from citizens arising from more than 34,000 documented citizen contacts. In addition to the citizen complaints, the Department self-initiated 5 complaints. An administrative investigation was initiated in each of the 21 cases. The complaints involved concerns such as improper application of law, improper application of Department policy or procedure, and allegations of misconduct. Following an internal investigation of each incident, 13 of the complaints were found to be unsubstantiated. In 8 cases, an employee was found to have violated Department policy and appropriate corrective action was taken.

During 2006, the Leesburg Police Department had over 34,000 documented contacts with citizens, including 1,477 criminal arrests, 202 DUI arrests, 5,770 traffic tickets and over 27,000 citizen-generated calls for service. In reviewing all recorded contacts for 2006, there were 4 allegations of excessive use of force by an officer (2 were based upon complaints from citizens and 2 were based upon internal review of use of force reports). None of the complaints were substantiated (this data is included in the total number of complaints from above). In 89 cases, force was used to place a suspect into custody as a result of a lawful arrest. Ten (10) of these cases resulted in officers using a chemical irritant (pepper spray) to gain compliance, 28 cases were instances where an officer drew their weapon as a result of a potentially threatening situation. In the remaining cases, officers were required to physically subdue the suspect. As a result of the use of force, 8 suspects received minor injuries and 5 officers were injured. Additionally, 11 Leesburg police officers were assaulted during 2006 while performing their duties with one sustaining injuries that resulted in hospitalization. All use of force incidents are reviewed and analyzed. The purpose of the analysis is to carefully monitor the use of force, keep all members informed of any trends concerning resistance by arrestees and to reinforce the use of sound officer safety and arrest techniques. The analysis of officer applied force aids in identifying potential training needs and serves to minimize officer injuries. Most importantly, a comprehensive review serves to ensure that only reasonable force is used to achieve lawful enforcement objectives.

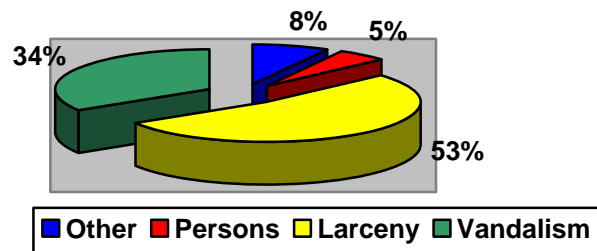


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Criminal Activity

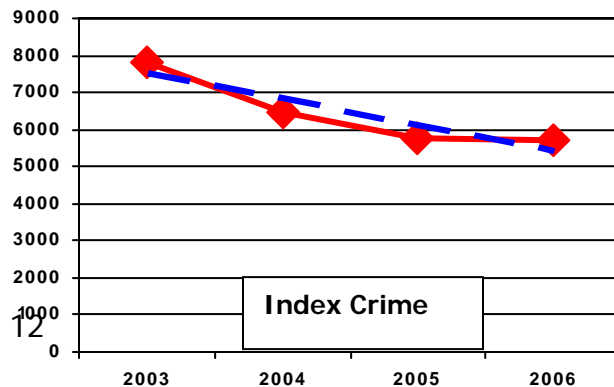
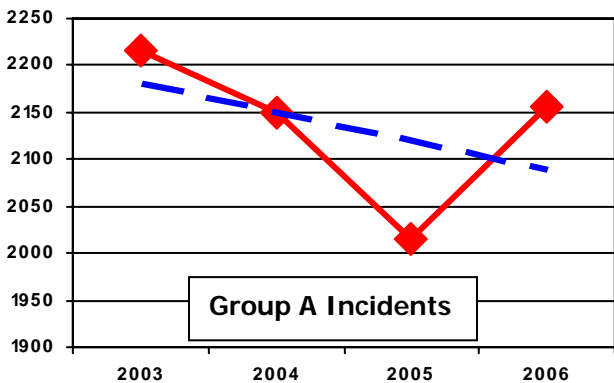
During calendar year 2006, serious crime incidents (group A) increased from 2016 to 2157 (7%) and index crime (occurrences of crime per 100,000 population) decreased by 1.5%. Property related crimes; in particular larcenies and vandalism / destruction of property continue to account for the largest categories of criminal activity in 2006.

<i>Crimes by Types (*Includes attempts)</i>	2004	2005	2006
Murder	0	0	0
Rape*	13	8	12
Robbery*	11	22	19
Aggravated Assaults	27	53	36
Burglary*	74	40	55
Larceny*	738	638	678
Motor Vehicle Thefts*	43	50	48
Vandalism / Destruction of Property*	342	334	433



All members of the Department are committed to achieving our vision of making Leesburg the **Safest Community**. Even with increasing population and workload, the Department through innovative approaches such as our problem solving activities and the Crime and Traffic Accountability Program (CTAP), has been able to achieve substantial crime reduction over the past five years.

Five Year Trends



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While we have been successful in our efforts to keep our community safe as illustrated by our 5 year Crime Index trend, we have observed a different trend in narcotics. Since 2003, we have experienced a **70% increase** in narcotic related incidents. This is both good news and bad. Good in that the majority of our narcotic incidents are as a result of very proactive police work by our patrol officers. The bad news is the growing numbers indicate a sizeable problem. Many other criminal acts such as property crime (shoplifting, larceny, burglary) and gang activities often have their nexus in narcotics. Thus the potential for the increase spiral in narcotics to spill over into other criminal activity is significant.

Criminal Investigations Section

While it is our primary goal to prevent crime from ever happening, the Department prides itself on its ability to conduct effective and efficient investigative follow ups of reported criminal activity and to bring the case to closure. For serious offenses assigned for criminal investigations follow up during 2006 the Department had a closure rate of 42% compared to a national average of about 20%. The Criminal Investigations Section investigates a large number of serious offenses (Group A) and also investigates a number of other crimes (Group B) such as forgery, fraud, embezzlement, vice offenses, offenses against the family and children, etc.

Patrol Section Activity

The primary responsibilities of the Patrol Section are to respond to reported criminal activities, conduct motor vehicle crash investigations, maintain consistent enforcement of traffic and criminal laws and work proactively to partner with the community in a joint effort to improve the quality of life in Leesburg. These activities help to maintain and promote highway safety for motorists and pedestrians alike.

Enforcement activities also serve to maintain the Town's excellent quality of life for its residents and the business community. Responsiveness to neighborhood complaints about traffic and quality of life issues was a significant focus of the Patrol Section in the year 2006.

Arrests/Citations	2004	2005	2006
Traffic	4457	4913	5770
Criminal	1608	1629	1903
DUI	231	257	202
Parking	2387	2477	1416*

* Meter enforcement now done by Finance Department

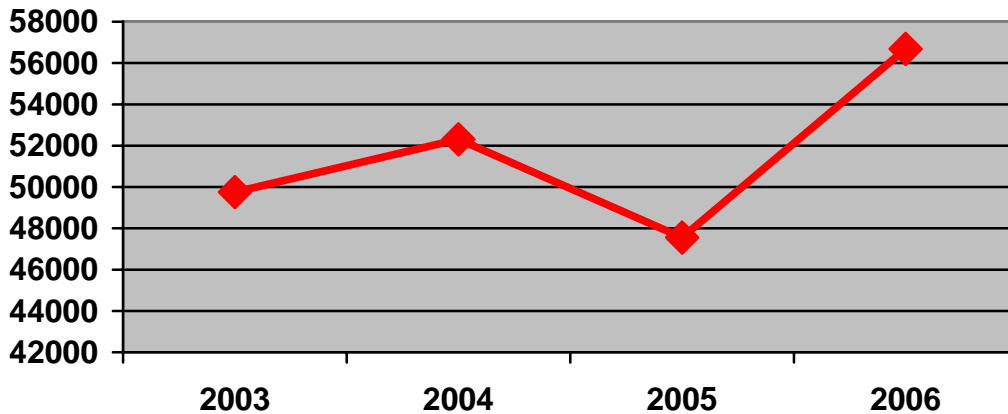
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Calls for Police Service: 2003 - 2006

Citizen calls for police service and officer generated calls totaled 56,682 in 2006, an increase of 19% over 2005. As part of its community policing philosophy, the Department strives towards efficient community policing and encourages the community to call the police for any suspicious activity.

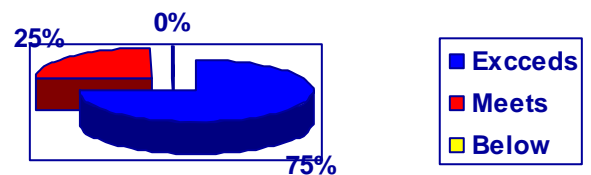
Officers are expected to take proactive steps within their assigned areas and at special enforcement locations in order to address locations experiencing crime activity and to take proactive action in addressing quality of life issues within the community. In 2006, officer generated activity increased by 7.6%.

Police Workload



Quality Service

The Department strives to provide quality service, *the first time, every time*. To insure that this occurs, supervisors conduct quarterly quality assurance surveys. These surveys are conducted to random individuals who had made a police call for service during the quarter. During 2006, 75.13% of respondents reported that the service exceeded their expectations. 24.7% reported that the service met their expectations, and less than 0.17 of a percent reported that service was below expectations.



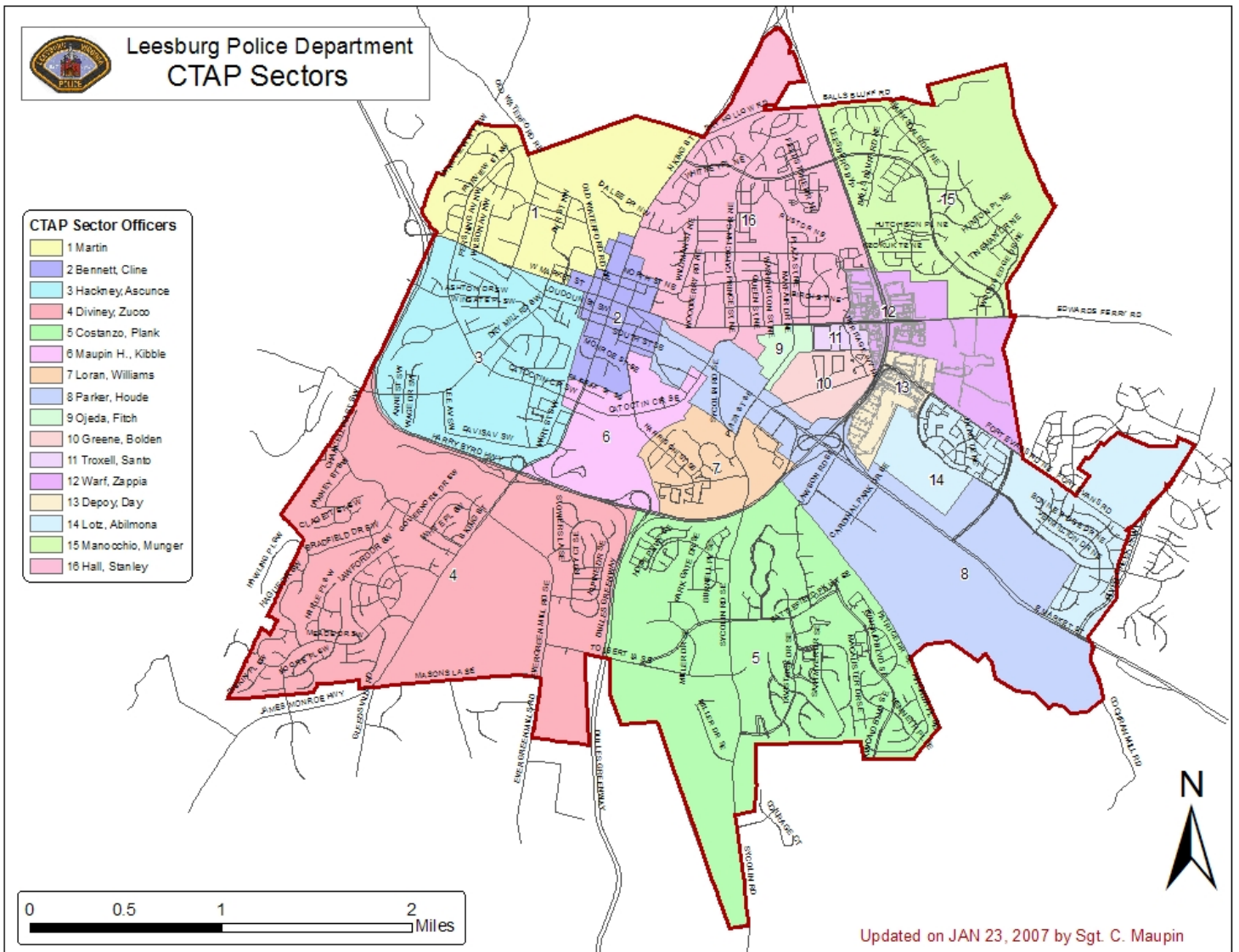
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Community Policing

Community policing is the operational philosophy of the Leesburg Police Department. In simple terms it means that every member of the Department, sworn and non-sworn, subscribes to and follows the principles of community policing in carrying out their assigned duties. The Department is committed to work in partnership with the community to solve problems and prevent crime. To facilitate this philosophy and build strong partnerships, the Department has established 16 community policing sectors (also called CTAP sectors) within the Town. Sectors are reflective of neighborhoods throughout the Town and where possible, homogenous linkage (commercial to commercial; residential to residential) has been used in establishing the sectors. Each sector has at least one officer assigned for accountability. That officer is required to monitor activities within their sector, develop partnerships with their assigned communities and develop and implement programs to address criminal activity and improve the quality of life. Citizens can locate their neighborhood on the map below and determine which sector they live/work in. The legend lists the officers assigned to the sectors. Citizens are encouraged to communicate directly with their assigned officers, and to invite the community policing sector officers to community meetings and other events. Much of our community policing efforts are prevention based and thus a significant effort is made to work with the youth of our community. The Department conducts its Junior Police Camp (JPC) over the summer months. Offering the program twice in 2006, allowed the department to provide this unique opportunity to a larger number of Leesburg children. The JPC is a structured program which affords middle school age children the opportunity to better understand the true workings of their community police department. The Department also works closely with other agencies such as the ROCK program from the Parks and Recreation Department to insure that children at all ages are involved in productive preventive activities.



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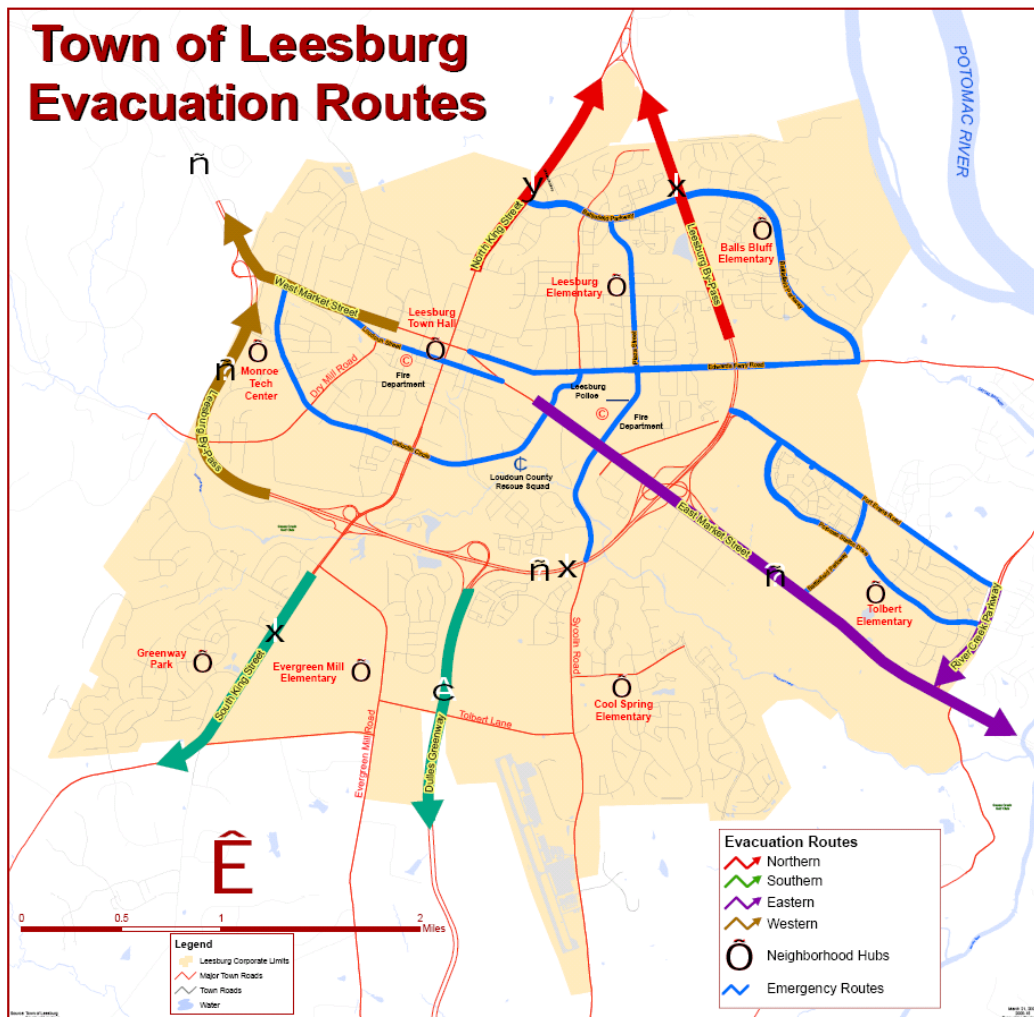


Officers can be reached by calling 703-771-4500.

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Emergency Preparedness

The Police Department continued to develop and refine emergency plans and preparedness. Training was also conducted for Town staff to insure compliance with the federal National Incident Management System (NIMS) requirements. Over the course of the year the Department used federal emergency preparedness funds to improve readiness. The Department continues to build and maintain a strong partnership with other response agencies such as the Leesburg Volunteer Fire Department and Loudoun County Rescue Squad as well as the Loudoun County Department of Fire and Rescue, Office of Emergency Management and the Health Department through integrated planning and exercises. Significant focus this year was on the development of comprehensive topic specific plans and community guides. Among those are plans to deal with evacuations both within Leesburg and from areas to the east. Additionally, a comprehensive response plan to deal with the challenges presented by a pandemic flu event has been developed. Finally, the Department also focused on refinement of its own and Town wide Continuity of Operations Plans (COOP) that are designed to deal with the response to and recovery from critical events.



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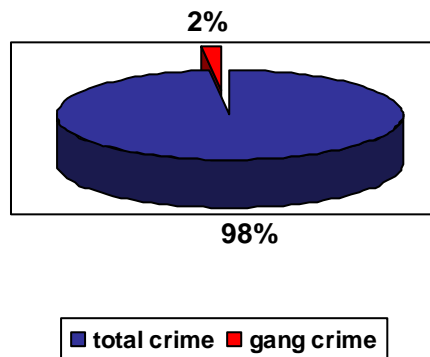
Gang Activity

Gangs are an issue of concern throughout the Northern Virginia region. The Leesburg Police Department is one of the founding members of the Northern Virginia Regional Gang Task Force. The task force is made up of 15 local jurisdictions and includes state and federal partners. Our strategy for dealing with gangs works on a number of levels. We work diligently to investigate gangs and gang related/motivated criminal activity. Additionally, in conjunction with Loudoun County Public Schools, we offer the Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT) program for all 6th graders. Our Department is committed to continue to work diligently to prevent and suppress gang activity in Leesburg. As can be seen by the table and chart, gang crime accounts for a very small percentage of the overall criminal activity in Leesburg.

2006 Gang Statistics

Category of Crime	Total	Gang
Criminal Homicide	0	0
Forcible Rape	12	0
Robbery	19	3
Aggravated Assault/Malicious Wounding	36	3
Burglary(Break/Enter)	55	1
Larceny/Theft	678	0
Motor Vehicle Theft	48	1
Arson	4	0
Simple Assault	358	1
Weapons Offense (Carry/Possess)	54	1
Drug Offense (Possess/Sale/Use/Manufacture)	349	3
Disorderly/DIP	313	16
Graffiti/Vandalism/Destruction of Property	433	20

2006 Leesburg Gang Stats



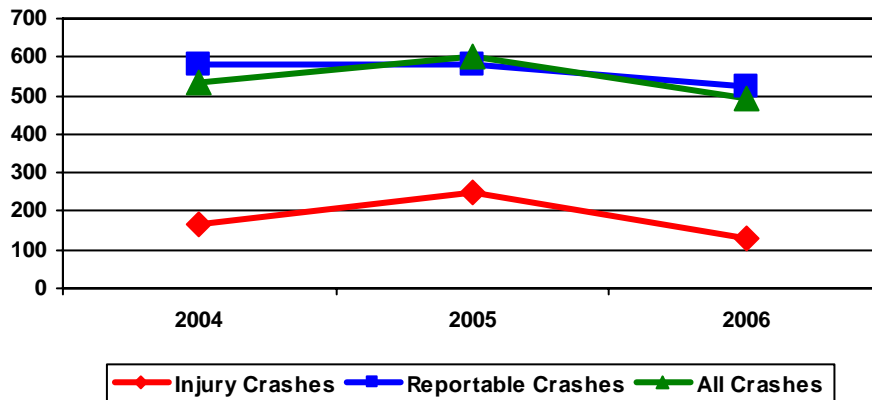
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Traffic Activity 2004 through 2006

- The Town of Leesburg saw a 9% decrease in reportable crashes, 525 in 2006 compared to 580 in 2005. There was one fatal crash in 2006. The number of injury crashes decreased from 250 in 2005 to 130 in 2006, and alcohol related crashes decreased from 36 to 30. Crashes involving pedestrians increased with 9 occurring in 2006, from 5 in 2005. A noticeable decrease in Hit and Run crashes also occurred with 275 in 2005 and 133 in 2006.
- There were 491 non-reportable crashes* during 2006, a decrease of 109 over 2005.
**A non-reportable crash is not reportable to Virginia DMV and is defined as a crash with less than \$1,000 of combined property damage and no personal injuries. Crashes that occur on private property are also classified as non-reportable.*
- Driver Inattention, Fail to Yield Right of Way and Following Too Closely were the most frequent cause of vehicle crashes.

Crash Data

Type	2004	2005	2006
Fatal Crashes	2	0	1
Injury Crashes	165	250	130
Total Reportable Crashes	581	580	525
Non-Reportable	533	600	491
Total All Crashes	1272	1396	1016
Alcohol Related Crashes	12	36	30
Hit And Run	249	275	133
Pedestrian Crashes	5	5	9



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Traffic Management

Activity	2004	2005	2006	% Change
Special Enforcement activity (in hours)	526.98	708	785	+11%
Funeral Details	97	101	118	+15%
Citations during Special Enforcement	467	790	1570	+ 98%



Intersections with the highest number of crashes:

	<u>Number</u>	<u>Location</u>
Calendar Year 2006:	29	Sycolin Rd. @ Bypass
	23	Ed. Ferry @ Bypass
	23	E. Market St. @ Cardinal Park.
	20	E. Market @ Plaza St.
	17	E. Market @ Battlefield Pkwy.

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Calendar Year 2005:

41	Ft. Evans Rd @ Bypass
35	Sycolin Rd @ Bypass
28	Cardinal Park @ E. Market St
24	Battlefield Pkwy @ E. Market St.
18	Plaza St @ E. Market St.

Calendar Year 2004:

40	East Market St @ Cardinal Park Dr
38	Leesburg Bypass @ Sycolin Rd
24	S. King St @ Leesburg Bypass
23	Leesburg Bypass @ East Market St
22	Leesburg Bypass @ Battlefield Pkwy

Community/ Volunteer Involvement

During 2006, the Department and community continued to benefit from the dedication and support provided by the Leesburg Police Citizen Support Team. These dedicated citizen volunteers provide tremendous support in areas such as special events, traffic control, searching for missing persons and community safety events. In 2006, the Support Team provided 8,479 staff hours saving the Town over \$43,000.

Community Patrol

Number of staff hours needed for specified proactive patrol activities	2,119
Number of patrol FTEs replaced by support team	1.5
Emergency/ Disaster Call Outs	8

