

The background of the entire image is a stylized American flag with a dark, textured appearance. The stars are small and light-colored, while the stripes are horizontal bands of varying shades of gray and blue. A prominent blue horizontal stripe runs across the middle of the image. In the upper left, there is a blue, rounded rectangular graphic element that frames the police department's name. The text "ACWORTH" is in white, and "POLICE" is in a large, blue, italicized font with a white outline.

ACWORTH  
**POLICE**

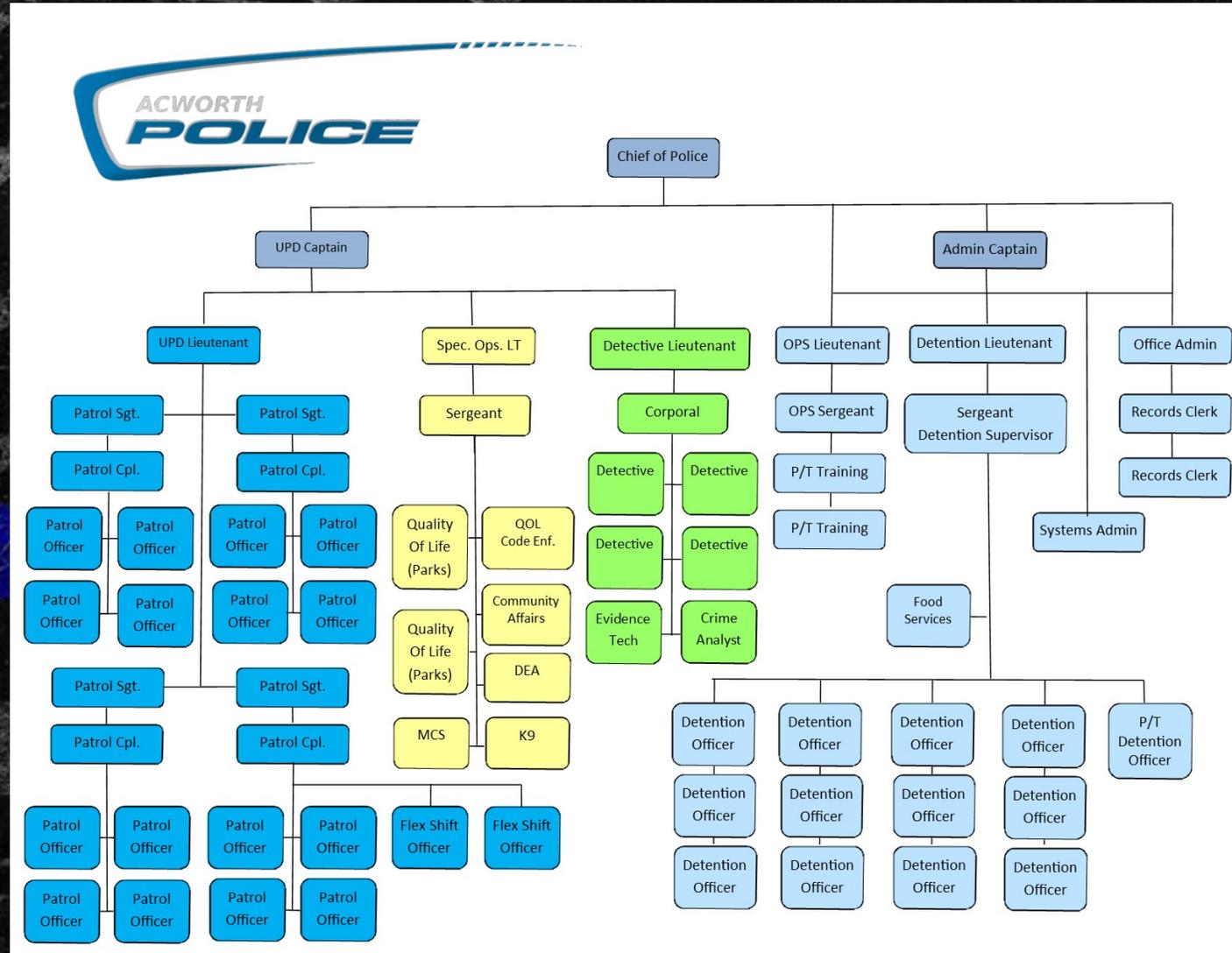
**2019 Annual Report**

# Mission Statement

It is the mission of the Acworth Police Department to provide fair, impartial, and excellent law enforcement service to our community. To that end, we pledge to pursue the highest levels of training and education available, and to offer our community the highest levels of professionalism to the best of our ability.



# Departmental Organization



# Departmental Goals and Objectives



## Crime Reduction and Continued Deterrence

- Increase officer awareness for detection, deterrence, and building cases for gang-related criminal activity
- Revise and implement directed enforcement plan.
- Refine sustainability of Parks Patrol

## Technology Enhancements

- RMS Software
- Stationary LPR Consideration

## Community Affairs and Information

- Social Media:  
Extraordinary – Innovative – Creative
- Mainstream Media:  
Expand Relationships

## Professional Standards and Training

- Develop career path program for Detention Officers seeking to transition to Patrol.
- Assess necessity of additional full-time training personnel, part-time certification personnel, and CALEA Accreditation.
- Continued Leadership Development

# Officer of the Year

Officer Nicholas Parker is one of our most outstanding officers at the Acworth Police Department. His dedication to serving the community with both strength and compassion is evident in his daily actions. In addition to serving on patrol, he is also the advisor of our Police Explorer's youth group. As a result of his leadership, the group has grown and flourished.

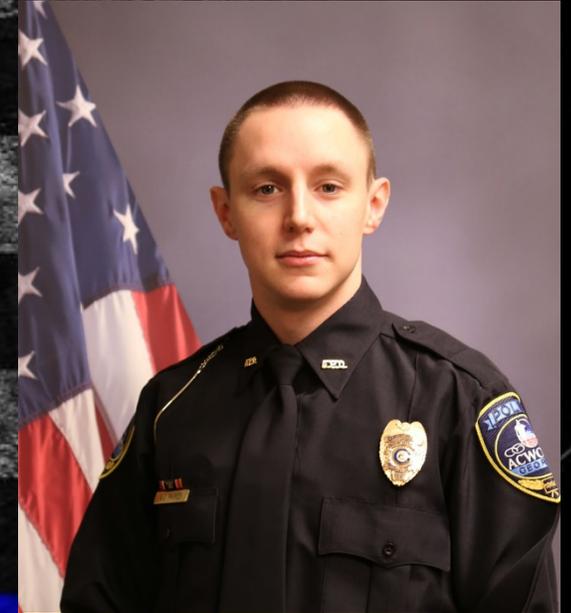
This year, he was selected as our department's Officer of the Year as a result of his advanced level of skill in working with juveniles with mental health issues. While he has been tasked with a number of challenging cases this year, there are two specific cases that stand out.

The first case involved a suicidal juvenile who was barricaded in her room in her home and armed with a gun while her parents and siblings were in the home. Officer Parker was off duty when he heard the call on the radio, and since he had previous experience with the juvenile and had developed a rapport with her, he decided to proceed to the residence to offer assistance. During the course of the interaction, he was able to evacuate the family members from the home, secure the weapon, and convince the juvenile to consent to transport to a mental facility for evaluation. The positive outcome of this situation can be attributed to Officer Parker's exceptional dedication to our citizens and his well-developed skill in crisis intervention.

The second case involved Officer Parker's response to a call that was dispatched as an unruly juvenile. Once on the scene Officer Parker made contact with the juvenile and his mother outside the home where the juvenile lived. The mother advised Officer Parker that her son suffered from Bi-Polar Disorder and that he was having an episode. The juvenile then approached Officer Parker with fists clenched, and it was obvious that he was very angry.

Officer Parker immediately started speaking with the young man trying to establish a rapport with him and to calm him down. This appeared to be working until the juvenile's grandparents emerged from the house which sent him into a tirade. The juvenile began to yell obscenities towards his grandparents and tried to run toward them. Officer Parker had to restrain the young man and eventually had to take him to the ground. In his report, Officer Parker described the scene, "[He] then began charging towards them, while cussing and yelling. [He] began getting more upset and attempting to pull away from me. I then began pushing [him] down, in a fashion to get him on the ground safely without him getting injured. Once on the ground I was able to calmly talk [him] down and he complied with my commands, allowing me to handcuff him."

Officer Parker did an outstanding job on both of these cases, and can be credited with ensuring both the safety of the citizens and police officers involved. Officer Parker's supervisor has even recommended that the videos of these incidents should be shown in all CIT (Crisis Intervention Training) classes as an example of how an officer should act when faced with this type of incident



# Uniform Patrol Division

## 2019 Division Goals

Crime Prevention by Proactive Patrol and Traffic Enforcement – This goal can be achieved by fostering a positive attitude from supervision down to the beat officer on the importance of patrolling in the neighborhoods, business districts, and high crime areas both on foot and in the patrol car. Proactive veteran officers and supervisors can educate every officer on patrol and help to push the concept of providing an omnipresence of police in our city. Sometimes all it takes to deter a would be criminal is a set of blue lights in a given area, therefore, traffic enforcement will be encouraged and expected of all officers assigned to the Uniform Patrol Division.

Continue to Build Community Trust and Collaboration – This goal is something that we as a department have achieved over a great number of years. But the standard at which we operate did not come overnight and it did not just happen. There has been a great deal of work put in by every employee of the Acworth Police Department to build the trust we have from our community. Therefore, the officers assigned to the Uniform Patrol Division must continue to be more than just above average. They must strive to be excellent on a daily basis, because more than likely they will be the group that comes into contact with our citizens first. Therefore, their interaction or lack thereof will be the first impression that the citizen will have of the Acworth Police Department.

Work with the Training Division on Gaining Supervisory Level Training for Supervision and Field Training Officers – We must continue seeking out and providing leadership training for our supervisors and field training officers. By the end of 2019 all current supervisors assigned to the Uniform Patrol Division will have all three levels of their supervision training through Georgia P.O.S.T. completed. Also, the supervisors who have completed all three and who possess the necessary college credit hours will obtain their Supervisory Certification through P.O.S.T. All field training officers assigned to the Uniform Patrol Division will begin a path to achieve all three levels of supervision training. The importance of obtaining a college degree will be stressed to those supervisors who do not already possess one.

Lieutenant C. Ball  
Uniform Patrol Commander



Sgt. B. Hunt  
Sgt. K. Hutson

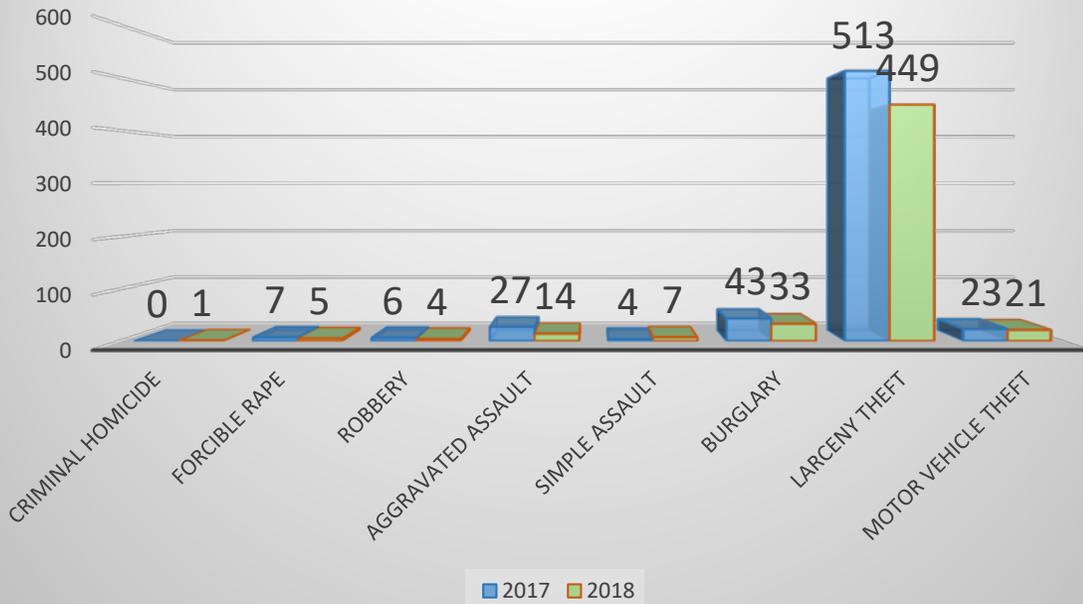


Sgt. S. B. Jordan  
Sgt. R. Mines

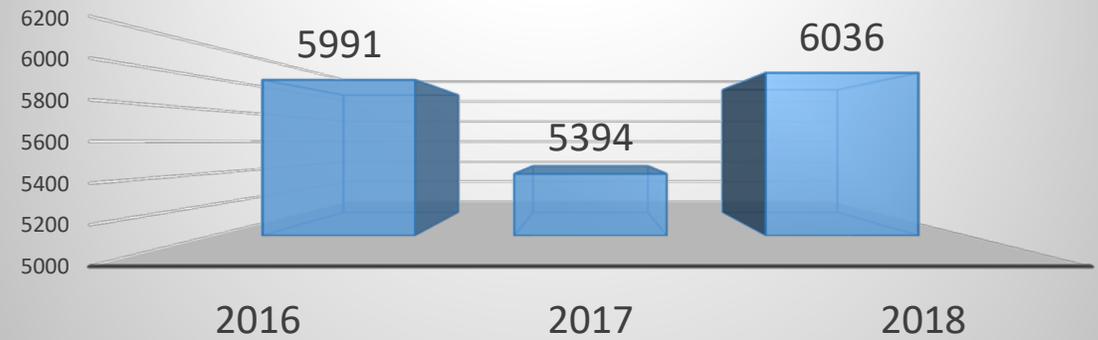


# Uniform Patrol Yearly Statistics

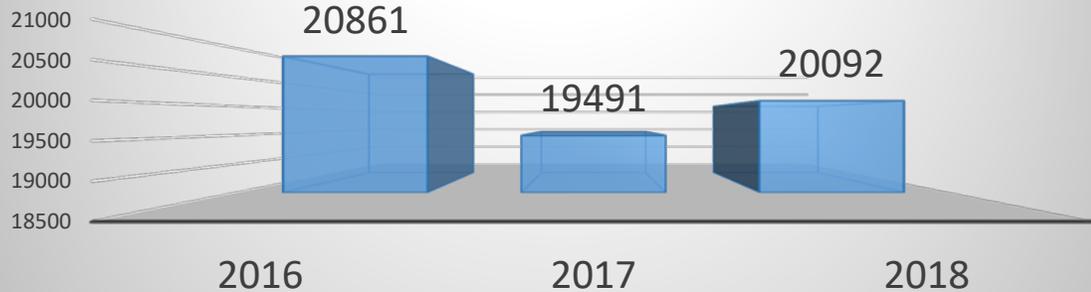
## 2017/2018 Part 1 Crimes



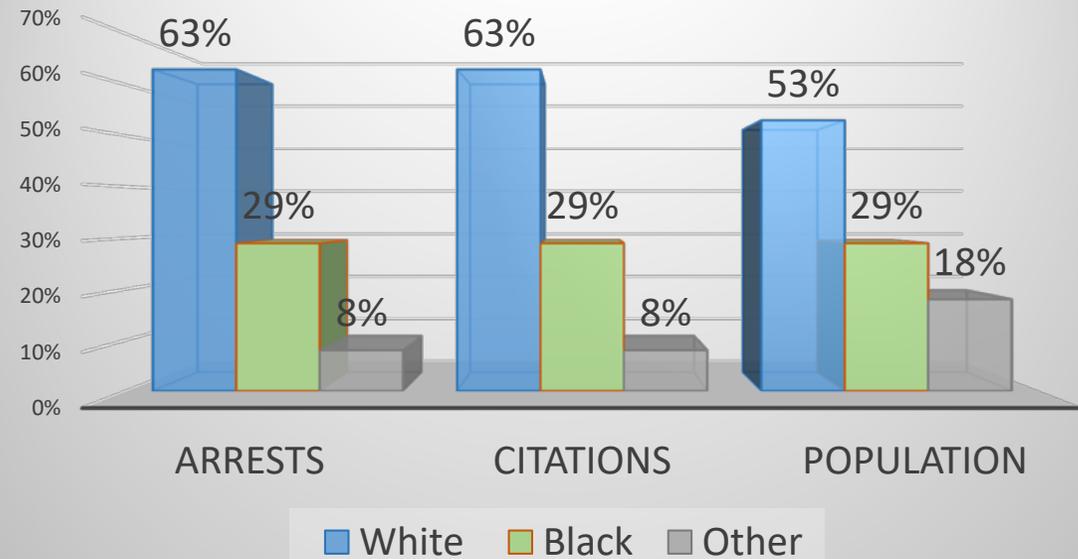
## Traffic Citations



## Case Numbers Generated



## 2018 Racial Demographics



# Special Operations Division

The Special Operations Unit is comprised of six different disciplines for the Acworth Police Department. These positions make up the areas where Patrol and CID do not regularly cover or primarily investigate. One major facet the unit covers is the handling of Special Events. The “handling” of these events covers the security and traffic direction planning to ensure the safety of all citizens and city employees assigned to the event. The others include the investigation of illegal narcotics either locally, county or metro area, Community Outreach and Code Enforcement. All these positions are considered high profile and officer's assigned are to be considered the best of the best within the department. With that comes a great part of leadership on their part. The unit is supervised by a Lieutenant, Sergeant and Corporal. The officers, who are assigned to work irregular hours throughout the week are sometimes left to manage themselves to a point and required to work in their assigned areas of expertise. With that you could say that all assigned to the unit hold a certain standard of leadership whether to other officers or themselves and the job they hold.



Top row: Lt. M. Taylor, Sgt. J. Larocque, Cpl. Y. McIntosh  
Second row: Ofc. N. Effler, Ofc. B. Greene, Ofc. J. Legere  
Bottom Row: Ofc. D. Salazar, Ofc. P. Szalay

# Community Outreach

## Policing with Purpose



# Community Outreach

## Policing with Purpose

As a department, we believe that spending time with our community is one of the best ways to foster positive relationships with them. Our Community knows that the police are their allies. Our motto is, "Spend Time and Do the Right Thing," and that is exactly what we do every day.

We spend hundreds of hours every year in our local schools teaching drug awareness classes in the middle schools, greeting students at the school door in the mornings, eating lunch with students, reading to the elementary schools, and enjoying special activities throughout the year. We love organizing outreach events like Covering the Bases, Shoot for the Horizon, Cop-a-Treat, and our Christmas Shoppe. Most of all, we love just stopping and chatting with our residents, visitors, and business owners. Acworth is an amazing place, and we are proud to be a part of it!



# Law Enforcement Explorers

The Acworth Police Department's Law Enforcement Explorer program exists to further an Explorer's academic education, encourage an Explorer's participation in productive community service activities, and enhance an Explorer's preparation for their future roles as citizens, community members, leaders and future law enforcement officers. The Explorer program also seeks to provide young men and women with a realistic introduction to the law enforcement career field and prepare them for a future in the field.

## OUR GOALS

Introduce young people to the law enforcement career field.  
Teach young people the importance of good moral character.  
Encourage community involvement and participation.  
Develop leadership skills in young people.  
Discover the police officer's of tomorrow.

## OUR VALUES

QUALITY - Providing excellent quality service to the community  
COURAGE - Demonstrating courage by confronting and overcoming challenges and adversity  
RESPECT - Respecting all the rights and privileges guaranteed to the citizens of the community by the US Constitution  
CHARACTER - Protecting my character by always speaking the truth  
INTEGRITY - Upholding my integrity by maintaining the highest moral and ethical standards,  
PROFESSIONALISM - Acting professional by committing myself to proficiency, competency, reliability, and excellence in all aspects of my performance  
TEAMWORK - Fostering teamwork for the achievement of shared goals



# Office of Professional Standards and Training

## 2018 Program Highlights

In March of 2018, the Office of Professional Standards completed our Georgia Association of Chiefs of Police State Certification renewal for 2016-2018 via the PowerDMS software which was placed in service at the end of 2017. Preparations for the next three year renewal have already begun.

A total of 5 Citizen Complaints were processed through the Officer of Professional Standards for 2018 with the following outcomes: 2 Exonerated, 2 Unfounded, and 1 Not Sustained.

All Use of Force events during 2018 were individually reviewed, and were found to be justified. The following are the

Use of Force Report totals for 2018:

Force Type	Number of Incidents
Soft Hand Controls	7
Hard Hand Controls	8
TASER Discharged	8
TASER Display Only	7
Handcuffs / Animal Related / Other	8
Firearms Discharges	0
Total Use of Force Events	38

All sworn personnel completed all annual training required by the Georgia Peace Officer Standards and Training Council, and no full-time, sworn officer active for the entire year received less than 31 hours of training. The vast majority of officers received more than 60 hours of training, or at least three times the minimum State requirement.

A new firearms training session involving close quarters combat was planned and implemented for all sworn personnel in June in addition to the completion of all other required firearms training. All sworn personnel qualified on all lethal weapon systems.

Active Shooter simunition training was conducted at Fortney Sales for all sworn personnel and was received with positive results and feedback.

Taser recertification for all sworn personnel was completed as scheduled in November.

All Patrol Officers and Detectives received quarterly training on the Ti use of force simulator.



Sergeant L. Montcalm

Officer M. Payne



Defensive Tactics Training

# Criminal Investigations Division

In 2018, the Criminal Investigations Division added several new resources and none were more appreciated than a full time evidence custodian and an Intelligence Analyst. Teresa Rentz was transferred from our records division to evidence custodian and immediately made progress toward overdue goals. Intelligence Analyst candidate selection and interviews began in June with Gabrielle Moore being recognized as best suited for our agency. A ballistics program was identified and coordinated between MCS, the Cobb County Police Department, and the Acworth Police Department. A prioritized list of firearms and spent shell casings has been compiled by Teresa Rentz and will be analyzed with the NIBIN protocol. Utilizing additional outside resources, the United States Secret Service offered their Electronic Crimes laboratory to analyze hardware seized during a 2018 ICAC case. Case 1817433 pertained to four NCMEC cybertips all pointing to same target at 5030 Edinburgh Terrace. The Atlanta USSS field office has been extremely welcoming and responsive.

Facebook has continued to be a go-to means for resolving cases, especially the numerous shoplifting cases assigned to CID. With the help of Facebook, CID identified Crystal Ray as the person shoplifting from WalMart (1810829). Citizens also assisted with the identification of a suspect stealing from WalMart on two occasions, one being a felony amount. A forgery case was cleared after the offender passing two counterfeit \$100 notes at Cloud 9 smoke shop was identified through user comments. Prior to making contact with the suspect, he saw his BOLO on the city's Facebook page and paid the money back to the business. The business declined any further involvement from police.

CID has done a fine job at creating our own useful tools. With the assistance of Analyst Moore, CID completed a "frequent encounters" informational PDF made available on the intranet. The list includes names and pictures of persons with behavioral issues, or simply historically difficult to deal with. These brief synopses are to be used as part of field training and reviewed by shift supervisors when new persons are added to the list. With regional widespread burglaries of convenience stores, CID was proactive and visited all local stores that fit the characteristics of the "yellow crowbar" targets. A checklist was reviewed with the proprietors going over policies, alarm functionality, and suggestions to limit their vulnerability.

Intern Emily Hall served CID displaying great drive and professionalism through the end of April 2018. She was by far the best intern I have worked with and was pleased to see her added to the department in a full time capacity. Ms. Hall has aspirations to serve as a victim witness advocate and will assist CID when suitable, attending meetings at LiveSafe when situations allow. In May, CID was able to fill the long vacant position with Tamara Clayton who unfortunately resigned a few months later. A replacement was quickly identified and the division was grateful to have Evan Wallace added in November and having CID back at full operation.

CID was active in community outreach as well. Lieutenant St. Onge assisted with elder abuse informational meetings at both Walton properties. Detective Almon also made appearances at Palmer Middle School relating to their mentoring program and had much involvement with the Power of Peace Project (POPP) At North Cobb High School. Lieutenant St. Onge attended the Acworth Fall town hall meeting, and delivered a fraud presentation to the Kennworth Kiwanis club in October. Detective Guevara appeared at Barber Middle School for Red Ribbon Week and the kickball event.



Lt. D. St. Onge

Sgt. T. K. Arnold



Top Row: Det.  
E. Wallace, Det.  
S. Almon,  
Det. V. Guevara  
Bottom Row:  
Ms. T. Rentz,  
Ms. G. Church

# CID Yearly Statistics

2019 Cases



# Detention Division

The Acworth Detention Facility is staffed by 12 certified detention officers, one food services coordinator, one detention sergeant, and one lieutenant. The Detention Center has the capability to house 41 male and female inmates. In addition to Acworth inmates, we also house inmates for the City of Kennesaw, the City of Dallas, and overflow housing for the City of Powder Springs and the City of Marietta.

In 2018, the Detention Division received 2,898 inmates from all 5 jurisdictions. Our officers are tasked with the massive responsibility of ensuring the safety and security of our facility as well as that of the inmates who are housed within, and they participate in hundreds of hours of training to enable them to be the best of the best.

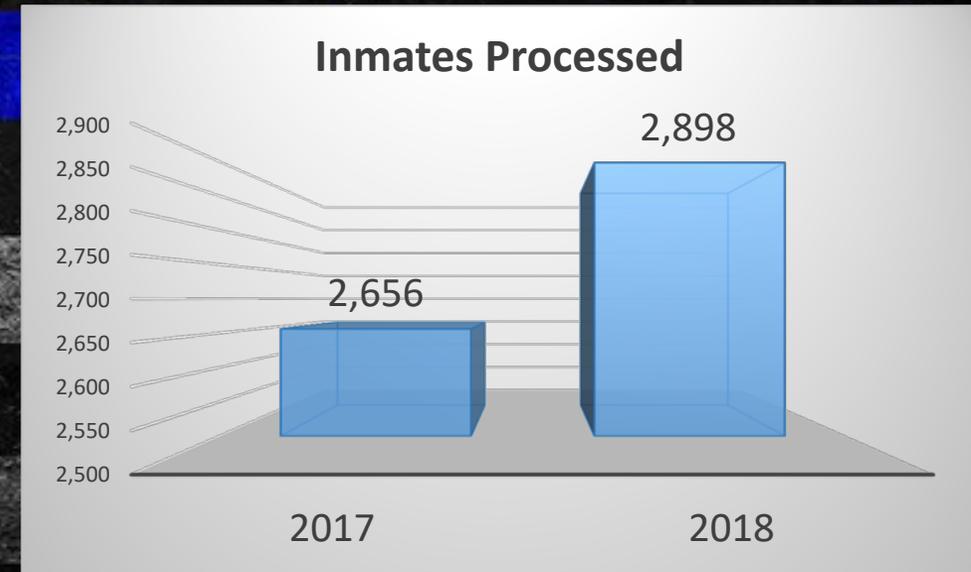
While inmates and their families may be experiencing difficult times, our staff is committed to helping them navigate through the experience of being in jail in the most compassionate and empathetic way possible.



Lieutenant K. King



Sergeant A. Bryant



# Records Division

The Records Division is responsible for a number of key police department functions. Our primary responsibility is to provide outstanding customer service to our citizens. Often, people are unfamiliar with the process of obtaining reports, background checks, fingerprinting, and other services. Our staff always takes the time to patiently explain and help citizens navigate through all processes. This year, the division processed a total of 3,459 criminal histories and 165 fingerprints. The total amount of funding received for these services was \$23,790. We are pleased to report that this year, in a Georgia News Lab investigation that was published by the Atlanta Journal Constitution, Acworth was recognized for excellence in expeditiously responding to requests. In fact, the article noted that our rate of response was just one day. While this is excellent, we are always looking for ways to improve, and one way is with the purchase of JustFOIA Open Records Request processing software.

In addition to improving our Open Records process, in 2019, we will also be pursuing the possibility of enabling Records personnel to take minor reports at the front desk. Often, officers are called off of the road to take simple reports that could be handled by Records personnel. This added responsibility would decrease the wait-time for citizens who come to the department for minor reports and ease the burden on Patrol shifts, allowing them to spend even more time in the community.

We recognize that many times, the first contact that people in crisis make with our department is with our Records staff. In 2018, we hired our former Victim's Advocate Intern, Emily Hall, as our newest Records Clerk. In 2019, she will be working on registering for new Victim's Advocacy training classes and also integrating Victim's Advocacy into her regular responsibilities. Victim's Advocacy is one area that our department has not focused on in the past, and we believe that it is an important aspect of providing service to our community.



Jaime Mullinax  
Office Administrator

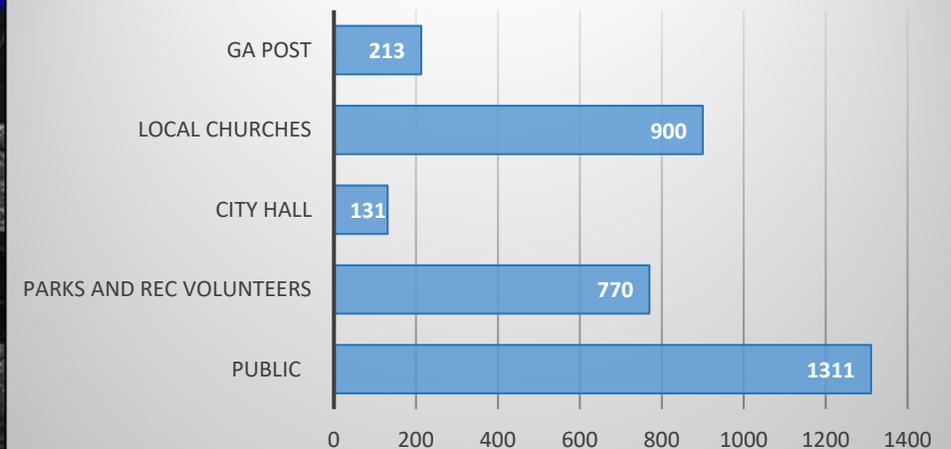


Dori Askew  
Records Clerk



Tiffany Ellsworth  
Records Clerk

## Criminal History Checks



# Information Technology

## **2018/2019 Goals & Objectives**

During 2018 and 2019, the IT department's main goal is the transition of the PD & Jail to a more cohesive records and jail management system. This system will be designed to create better flow of information and far more effective use of the information that is being collected.

A side goal of the PD IT Department will be the continued help with the successful construction of the new parks & rec. community center network & security systems. These systems will be laying the groundwork for the entire city to transition to an all-in-one card access & security camera solution. This system will help unify the city in their operations thus allowing better control of the city's security and an overall more fluid ability to expand the infrastructure when needed.

## **Last Year's Objective:**

During 2017/2018 the IT department was able to complete all of its projected goals. The city as a whole was able to transition all of their servers to a virtualized infrastructure giving the city the foundation it needed to easily scale its IT infrastructure in ways that were not possible before. The systems created a greater redundancy allows for nearly 100% up-time. These systems have already proven



Matthew Sender  
Systems Administrator