



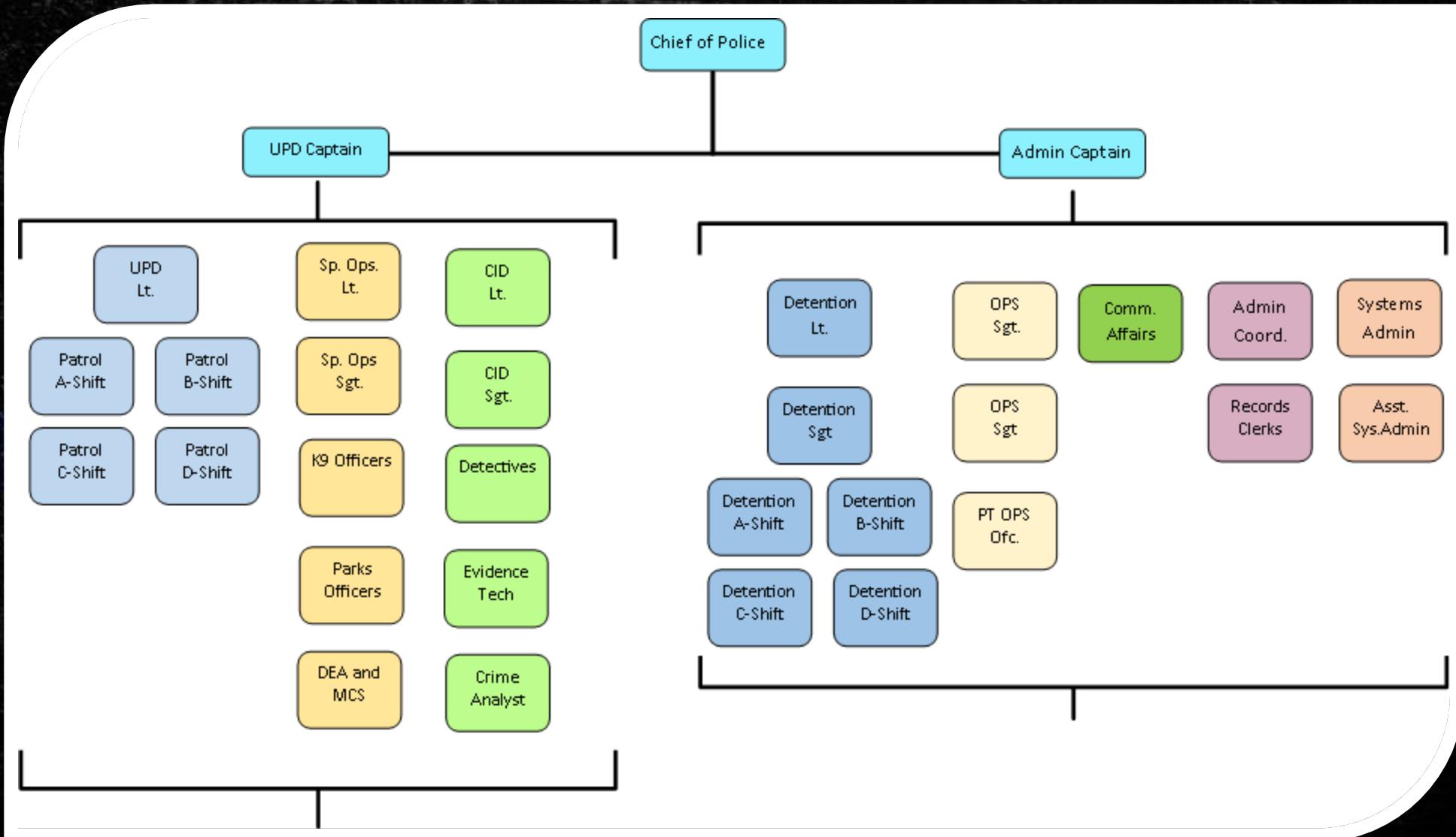
2021 Annual Report

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
- Expand Special Ops Division
- Refine sustainability of Parks Patrol

Technology Enhancements

- Stationary LPR Consideration – Expand footprint through partnership with HOAs

Community Affairs and Information

- Social Media: Improve Social Media Presence 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 training personnel, certification personnel, and CALEA Accreditation.
- Continued Leadership Development

**ONE HUMANITY
ONE COMMUNITY
ACWORTH POLICE**

Officers of the Year



This year's Officers of the Year are Sergeant Cantrell, Officer Severtson, Officer Negrete, and Officer Hall. They were selected by a committee of their peers for this recognition, and it is an honor befitting the outstanding actions that they took on the evening of February 8th, 2020. That evening, it was extremely cold, and temperatures were expected to continue to drop throughout the night. Corporal Cantrell became concerned for homeless individuals residing in the City, and endeavored to locate anyone who was without shelter to offer assistance. Officer Severtson, Officer Negrete, and Officer Hall accompanied Sergeant Cantrell and they all located a man who was lying in a drainage pipe far down a dirt path near the wooded area of an empty lot. His clothing was completely soaked and he was having difficulty communicating. His hands were dark purple, and he had a laceration on his head that was covered in mud. The officers believed that he might be suffering from hypothermia and exposure to the elements, and they immediately began to formulate a plan to extricate the man from the woods and get him medical assistance.

After calling for an ambulance, officers retrieved blankets from their vehicles. The blankets had been donated by the Allatoona Quilters' Guild, and all of our officers keep them in their patrol vehicles. Officers used the blankets to wrap the man up and also used them to form a makeshift stretcher to carry him. They carefully lifted him and carried him through the muddy field (the length of two football fields) to the roadway where the ambulance crew would be able to easily reach him. As they carried him, they comforted him and reassured him that everything would be ok.

Once they reached the roadway, the ambulance crew took charge of the victim. They advised the officers that if the man had stayed in the woods much longer in his condition, it is likely that he would not have survived. Sergeant Cantrell, Officer Severtson, Officer Negrete, and Officer Hall all care deeply about others, and it was their desire to help that enabled them to locate someone in need who was unable to call for the help he desperately needed. It is because of the actions of these officers that a tragedy was prevented that evening.



Sergeant R. Cantrell



Officer T. Severtson



Officer M. Negrete



Officer J. Hall

Uniform Patrol Division

2021 Division Goals

While most of the country was sheltering in place in 2020, our Patrol Division was establishing new protocols and procedures in order to ensure that we continued to provide exceptional service to our community. In addition to keeping ourselves and our community safe by wearing facemasks and social distancing when possible, we were also able to decrease our level of exposure by taking some reports over the phone when possible. As the pandemic nears its end, patrol officers are placing a high priority on community policing, traffic enforcement, and preventative patrols.

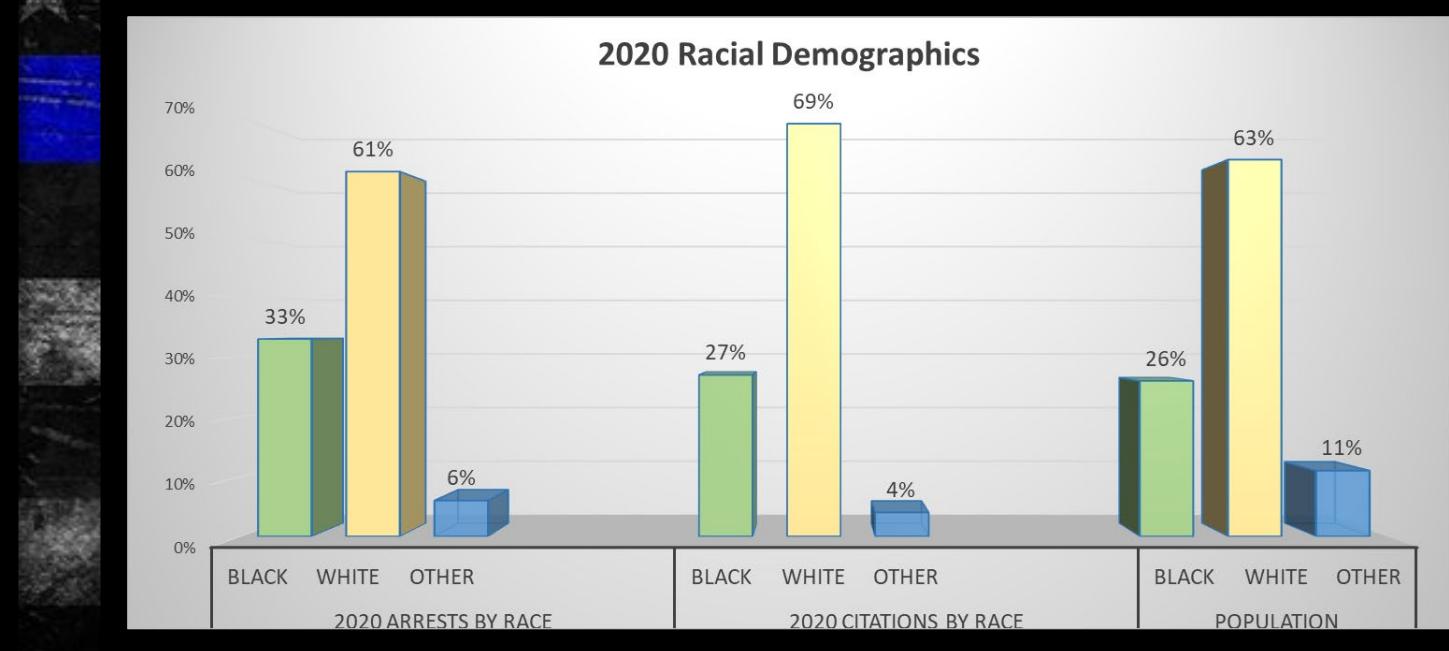
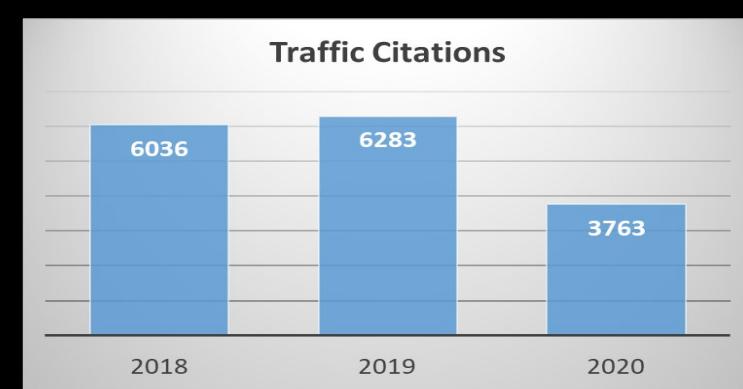


Lieutenant C. Ball
Uniform Patrol Commander



2020 Crime and Enforcement Statistics

Offense	YTD 2020	YTD 2019	Count DIFF	% Change
Murder	1	0	1	↑ NC
Agg Assault	22	12	10	↑ 83%
Rape	3	4	-1	↓ -25%
Robbery Bussiness	1	0	1	↑ NC
Robbery Individual	3	2	1	↑ 50%
Sub-Total	30	18	12	↑ 67%
Burglary Non-Forced	8	11	-3	↓ -27%
Burglary Forced	15	17	-2	↓ -12%
Shoplifting	162	299	-137	↓ -46%
Other Theft	247	264	-17	↓ -6%
Stolen Auto	12	14	-2	↓ -14%
Arson	0	0	0	- NC
Sub-Total	444	605	-161	↓ -27%
Total	474	623	-149	↓ -24%



Special Operations Division

During the past year, we experienced drastic changes to our normal operations. Parks were closed for a brief period and all events throughout the city were postponed for the year. This in itself changed the focus and obligations of the unit. During this time we were tasked with ensuring that the rules of the parks regarding the COVID mandates were being followed. Toward the start of the Summer season, attendance at the parks increased, and our we were able to return to more normal operations.

With the little to no attendance at the parks for most of the season, the officers were able to focus more time on other areas in the city, to include drug interdiction and DUI detection. The Drug interdiction investigations lead to the arrest of several individuals and the seizure of various narcotics. One of the largest MDT lab investigations and take downs in Georgia was completed by Corporal Greene while he was assigned to the unit.

Overall, the division was responsible for 315 incident reports, 1,007 citations, and 195 warnings which resulted in 209 arrests. Of these arrests there were 41 DUI investigations with arrests completed by the Special Operations Unit in 2020.



We were saddened to report the passing of retired K9 Officers, Dag and Uno. Both Dag and Uno spent their lives protecting the people of Acworth, and they will be dearly missed.

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.

During 2020, Despite Covid-19, the Explorers were able to still participate in some great causes during the year. Explorers were able to participate And Assist with collecting Christmas Toys for the city, they also put together and delivered care packages to residents at Barrington Square Apartments. Lots of restrictions due to the virus but big impacts made. Looking forward to 2021 accomplishments.

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



Community Affairs

This year, the Community Affairs Division found creative ways to make an impact in Our community. This year, Cpl. Almon took over the division as our department's Community Affairs Liaison. Cpl. Almon is a native of Acworth, and a former North Cobb High School student athlete. Cpl. Almon utilized his experience to find new ways to partner with our schools and formed lasting bonds with students in our local schools.

Throughout this year, with Cpl. Almon's leadership, our department masked up, socially distanced, and reached out to those in need in our community. In the face of many challenges, we are able to overcome them together. One Humanity, One Community.



Cpl. L. Almon



Office of Professional Standards and Training

2021 Goals and Objectives

This year, the Professional Standards and Training Division has the following goals:

1. Ensure that all officers qualify with all departmental weapons in one day to prevent officers from having to attend several training sessions on their off day.
2. Incorporate more training days with firearms drills with all weapons, not just pistols.
3. Ensure that all officers complete the required training the Chief and training department has implemented.
4. Encourage officers to achieve their intermediate and advanced certificates
5. Identify the strengths of instructors within the department and have them began teaching classes and being involved in training.
6. Complete community policing video early in the year so officers can complete the training earlier.
7. Identify departmental training needs and address those needs.

2020 Use of Force	Number	% of Total	
		Cases	
Total Number of Police Cases in 2020	16,722		
Total Number of UOF Cases in 2020	34	0.200%	
UOF Cases with White Subjects	18	53%	
UOF Cases with Black Subjects	15	44%	
UOF Cases with Hispanic Subjects	1	3%	
UOF Cases Resulting in Injury to White Subjects	5	55%	
UOF Cases Resulting in Injury to Black Subjects	4	45%	
UOF Cases Resulting in Injury to Hispanic Subjects	0	0%	
UOF Cases Resulting in Death	0	0	



Sergeant L. Montcalm

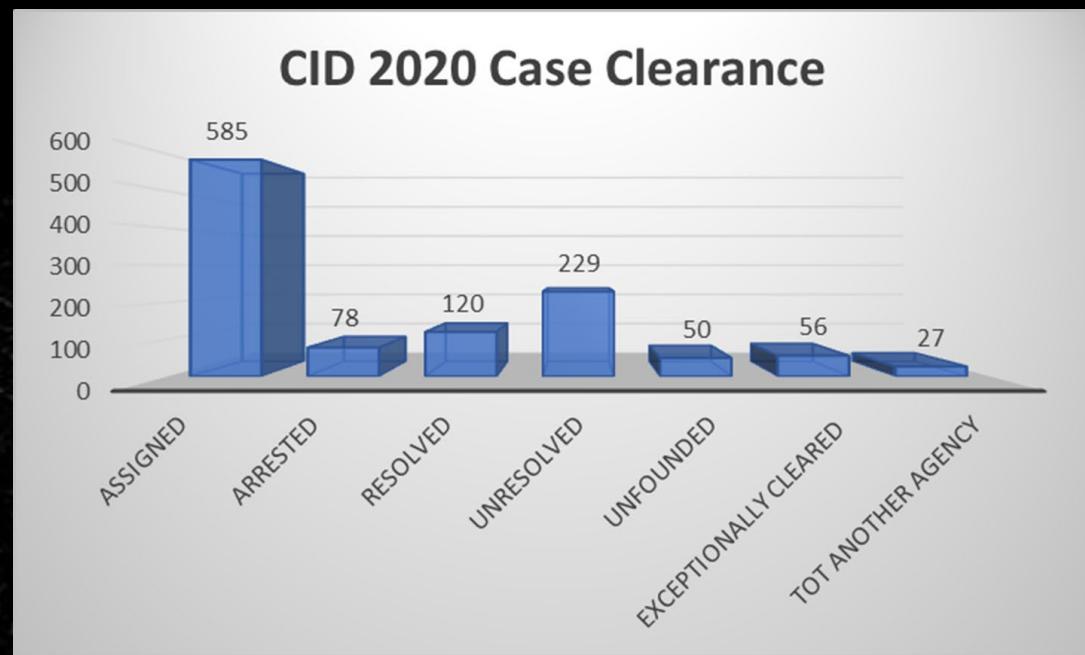
Sgt. Brian Hunt

Officer M. Payne



Criminal Investigations Division

Despite the need to modify goals and plans in 2020, the Criminal Investigations Division was able to continue efforts in community policing. Through another video doorbell (Nest) donation by WalMart, CID was able to have a contest that was posted on Facebook bringing attention to the Acworth Camera Connection. This contest also brought a great deal of traffic to our department's Facebook page. CID began composing letters directed toward rental property owners giving notification when a police response was made to their investment. Participation in community groups such as the ABA, and online meetings carried on the connections we have within the county. This includes task force involvement pertaining to sexual assaults, domestic violence, elder abuse, child victims, and Opioid addiction. The Criminal Investigations Division had great success rates when investigating crimes such as entering autos, aggravated assaults, and burglaries.



Family Violence Survivor, Janet Paulson, thanks first responders and caregivers at Wellstar Hospital event.

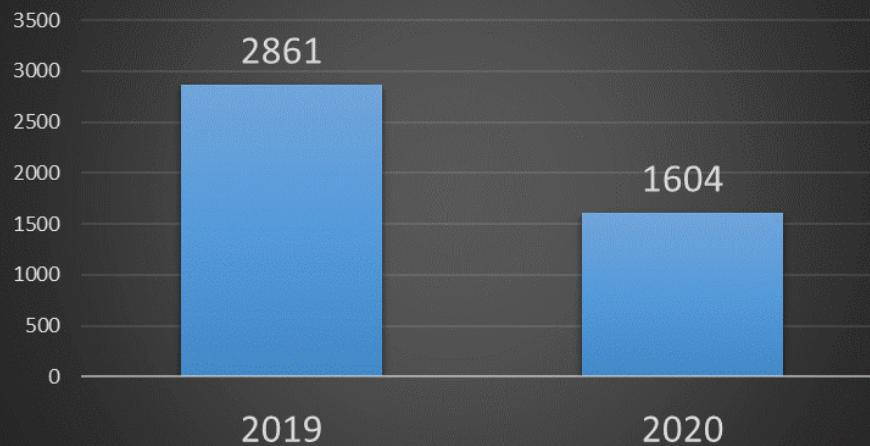
Detention Division

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 and the City of Dallas.

In 2020, the Detention Division received 1,604 inmates from all 5 jurisdictions. This year was especially challenging due to the Covid-19 epidemic, and our officers were able to ensure the health and well-being of all persons entrusted to our care.

We know that both inmates and their families may be experiencing difficult times, and our staff is committed to helping them navigate through the experience of being in jail with compassion and empathy.

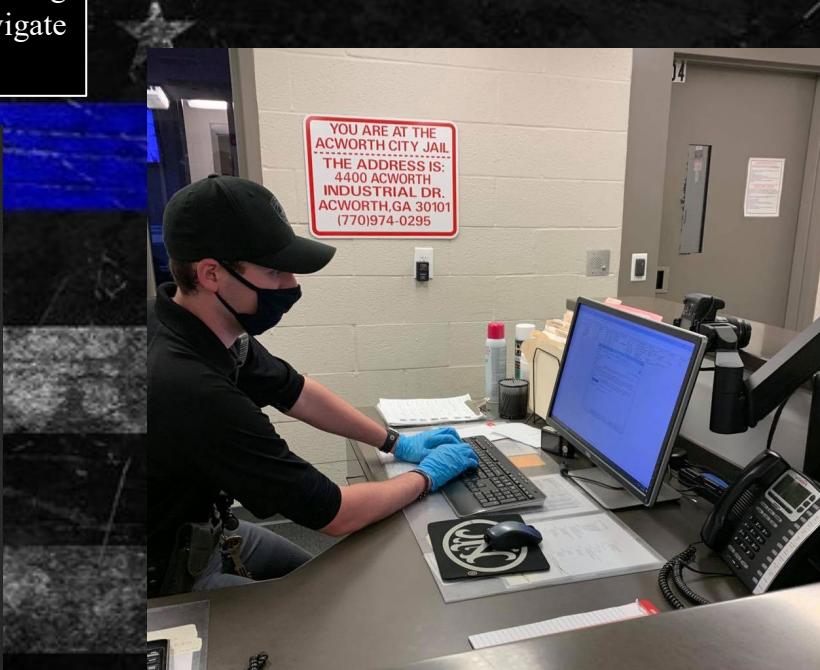
Inmates Processed



Lieutenant K. King



Sergeant A. Bryant



Records Division

Our division worked from home from March 18th through May 18th, and we were able to meet the needs of all of our citizens through online methods and phone calls forwarded to our home phones. You might think that the division would have received fewer open records requests in 2020 than in previous years, but actually, in 2020 the division processed 2,118 reports, which is a 54% increase compared to last year. We are pleased to report that our average processing time is still less than one day, even with the increase in requests.

Last year, we worked on streamlining our records filing system and changing to an open-system. The process is ongoing, but the change in the overall organization in the filing room is already apparent. It is much more open and has plenty of space available to provide for our department in the years to come.

One goal that we did not accomplish last year, but that we would still like to make a reality this year, is 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.

In 2021, we are testing out a new personnel schedule that will enable us to hire for two part-time records positions in place of 1 of our full-time positions. Our hope is that the part-time employees will enable our division to have more flexibility in terms of scheduling, and to allow our employees to be able to provide additional support to other divisions in our department on an as-needed basis.

As always, our primary goal is to provide the best possible service to our community.



Jaime Mullinax
Administrative Coordinator



Dori Askew
Records Clerk



Chancie Brown
Records Clerk



Carol Turcotte
Records Clerk

Information Technology

2021 Goals & Objective

A major goal of the IT Department will be the continued implementation and tweaking of our backup and recovery plan. While this was the exact same goal of 2019-2020 it is still valid due to the ever changing need to adapt our storage options to compete with things such as ransomware. We are currently in the process of implementing on-site and off-site storage solutions to complete the goals of 2019-2020.

In addition, the IT Department is start training the new Assistant Systems Administrator position in all areas of support for the city. This will include computers, servers, networking, phone, cameras, in-car systems, etc.

Another key goal of the IT Department is to change out the current internet and phone system company with a new provider that will allow for better support and uptime.

Also, this year, it is the goal of the IT Department to begin interacting with contractors on projects that are included in the 2022 SPLOST so they are ready to go when funding is available and all the systems are correctly designed before implementation.



Matthew Sender
Systems Administrator



Ben Ayers
Assistant Systems Administrator