

# JONESBORO POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT

2019



## MISSION STATEMENT

“THE CITY OF JONESBORO POLICE DEPARTMENT SHALL STRIVE TO ENSURE THAT ALL OF OUR CITIZENS ARE SERVED IN A PROFESSIONAL, ETHICAL AND EQUITABLE MANNER THAT RESPECTS INDIVIDUALS, PROTECTS OUR DEMOCRATIC IDEALS AND SYSTEM OF GOVERNMENT, PURSUES GREATER ACCOUNTABILITY OF POLICE, GREATER PUBLIC SHARE IN DECISION MAKING AND GREATER CONCERN FOR CIVIL RIGHTS AND LIBERTIES.”



Dear Community Members,

The Jonesboro Police Department strives to ensure that all citizens are served in a professional, ethical and equitable manner that respects individualism. Our goal is a greater accountability of officers while respecting civil rights and liberties.

We issue this yearly report to inform our citizens and elected officials about our applied efforts and subsequent results. We utilize the standard format of the Federal Bureau of Investigation; the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS).



In the coming year, I have set some ambitious goals for your Officers and the Department as a whole. Operating on a budget of \$12,369,145, I have asked Officers to reduce the number of street accidents by aggressively enforcing and seeking out drivers that are distracted, not wearing their seatbelt, or are impaired by drugs and alcohol. Another mission I will be asking Officers to complete is to reduce crime and the fear of crime by further implementing our new Gang Task Force and continuing partnerships with local and national agencies. These units have begun and will continue to seek out gang intelligence and will educate community members to help reduce gang violence. We also aim to empower our community through continued outreach efforts and partnerships with local schools, neighborhoods, churches, organizations, and more.

A number of new programs were added to the department in 2019. We implemented a new Victim Services division to assist citizens of Jonesboro who have been victims of crime and need help navigating the court system and beyond. We also implemented the use of Social Media to help Bridge the Gap between the community and the officers who serve them. This approach has already yielded hundreds of tips received and cases closed due to the overwhelming support and willingness to help us solve crimes in this digital age.

Our success is attributed to how the community and police work together to deter crime in our community. Our department would not be able to provide an outstanding level of service were it not for the diligence of our dedicated group of men and women who compose the Jonesboro Police Department. It is our honor to continuously protect and serve our community.

Thank you for your continued support, we look forward to a safe and prosperous 2020.

Respectfully,  
Rick Elliott  
Chief of Police



**CHIEF RICK ELLIOTT**  
Chief of Police



**TIM EADS**  
Assistant Chief of Police



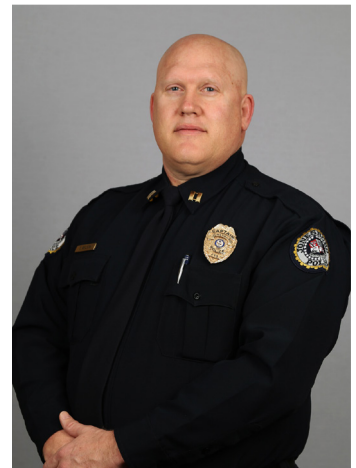
**LYNN WATERWORTH**  
Captain  
Criminal  
Investigation  
Division



**SCOTT ROPER**  
Captain  
Patrol  
Division

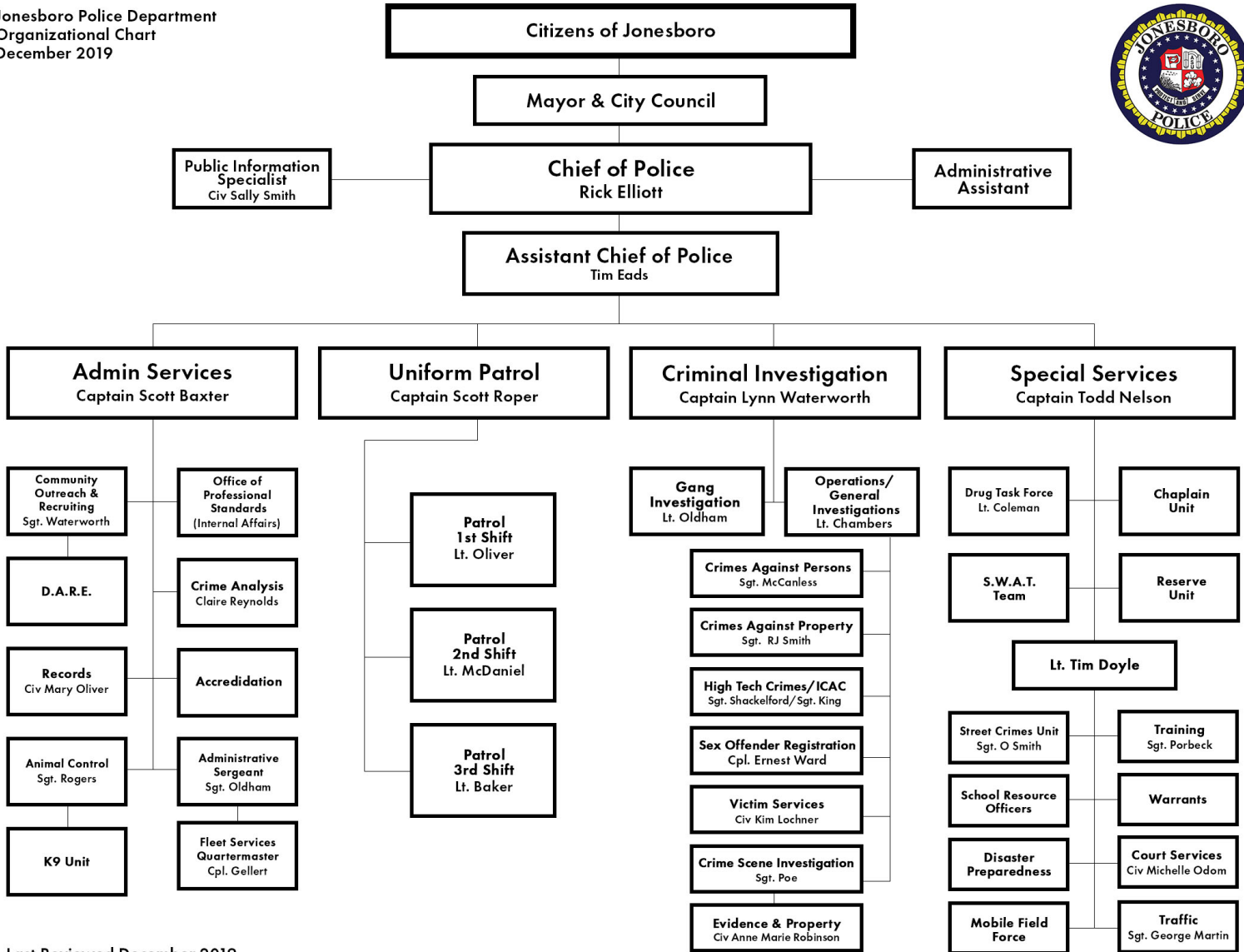


**SCOTT BAXTER**  
Captain  
Administrative  
Division



**TODD NELSON**  
Captain  
Special  
Services  
Division

Jonesboro Police Department  
Organizational Chart  
December 2019



Last Reviewed December 2019



Investigator Jefferson and Officer Henry at Tip-A-Hero



Detective Daffron at SWAT Training



K9 Cash and Handler Loggains taking a break at training



Officers Baggett and Butler receive awards from the Sons of the American Revolution



Sergeant Holmes and Officer Thomas HOWL for the Red Wolves!



SRO Kiandra Romine received the "Most Honest" award during Kindness Week at UHE

## GOALS & OBJECTIVES

### REDUCE THE NUMBER OF STREET ACCIDENTS

Increase DWI enforcement efforts throughout the year in order to increase the number of DWI arrests and reduce the number of DWI drivers

Increase seatbelt enforcement checkpoints and traffic enforcement throughout the year to reduce the number of drivers not wearing seatbelts

Reduce “texting and driving” by increasing distracted driving enforcement efforts and special assignments

Use analyst data to determine high crash locations in order to deploy selective traffic enforcement in these areas to reduce the number of motor vehicle accidents

### REDUCE CRIME AND THE FEAR OF CRIME

Increase training by assigning Sergeants and senior patrol officers to research and present relevant training opportunities

Provide additional specialized training in the area of crisis intervention when dealing with the mentally ill

Work toward identifying repeat offenders who pose a high risk of committing serious crimes and work with federal partners to attain stronger penalties

Continue to develop a “Gang Task Force” and establish a usable database of gang information and train additional detectives in gang investigation and intelligence training

Develop guidelines that address means of identifying and persecuting criminally responsible parties in the growing prescription drug abuse and misuse epidemic

### EMPOWER OUR COMMUNITY

Improve follow-up contact with crime victims by adding a new victim/witness coordinator to better serve our community.

Conduct additional educational presentations for churches, schools, and other organizations on crime prevention and other law enforcement related topics.

Continue to develop other outreach programs including the Jonesboro Shooting Sports Complex, Citizen Police Academy, Copsicles, Fuzz for Food, and CRASE.



JPD Officers, Chaplains, and Reserves participated in the Firetruck Pull benefitting Special Olympics of Arkansas



Officer Hampton hands out "Copsicles" to patrons at Craighead Forest Park



Investigator Dustin Smith smiles with his plate at the Annual Riceland Fish Fry to celebrate National Police Week



E911 DISPATCH

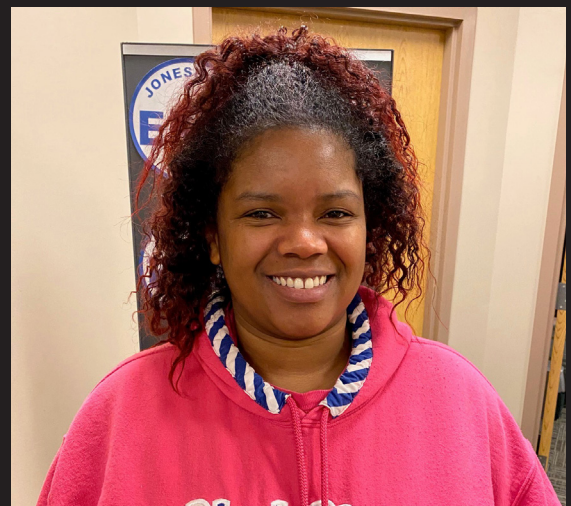
	2019	2018
<b>TOTAL CALLS RECEIVED</b>	<b>225,417</b>	<b>233,804</b>
<b>EMERGENCY</b>	<b>62,662</b>	<b>62,577</b>
<b>NON-EMERGENCY</b>	<b>162,755</b>	<b>167,024</b>
<b>AGENCY DISPATCHES</b>		
<b>JPD</b>	<b>73,411</b>	<b>74,861</b>
<b>FIRST RESPONDERS</b>	<b>11,010</b>	<b>10,634</b>
<b>OTHER</b> (JFD, CCSO, ASP, ETC.)	<b>24,135</b>	<b>34,654</b>

On January 31, JPD was dispatched to a structure fire on Prescott Lane alongside JFD and First Responders. E911 dispatchers Christy Hundley and Danyea Taylor were instrumental in collecting information from a frantic 911 caller. In a quickly evolving fire and rescue scenario, their actions and ability to calmly relay information allowed fire personnel to quickly form a plan to attack the fire and conduct rescue operations.

Upon arrival, fire crews reported heavy fire and smoke throughout a large portion of the structure. The first arriving units were handed a young child, in obvious distress from exposure to fire and smoke conditions, and began immediate lifesaving medical treatment. With reports that more victims were still inside the structure, firefighters immediately initiated interior fire attack and rescue operations.



Firefighting teams kept the fire at bay, while search teams entered the structure to find the two more victims. Once located, the victims were removed from the structure and other fire department personnel initiated lifesaving medical efforts, while waiting on EMS units to arrive. Because of the actions taken by all the personnel involved in this incident, lives were saved and Dispatchers were commended for their instrumental efforts.



Great job by Jonesboro E911 dispatcher Tiffany Parks who coached a new mother through the birth of her child over the 911 dispatch phone. The mother was unable to get to the hospital in time and was coached through the entire process by Parks, who remained calm and collected during the call.

ALARM

4,536

WELFARE CHECK

2,266

CHECK AREA

1,452

CRIMINALLY BANNED

1,188

OUT WITH SUBJECTS

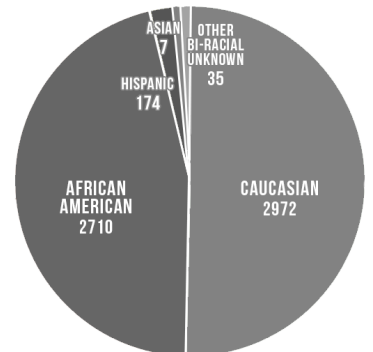
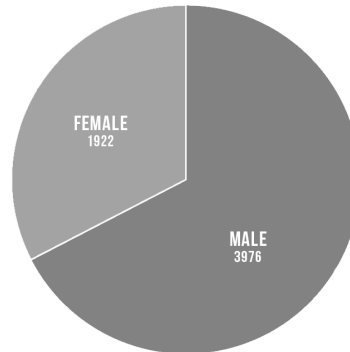
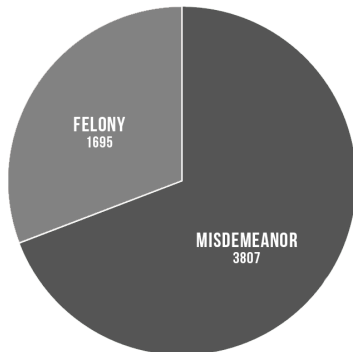
1,178

# CALLS FOR SERVICE

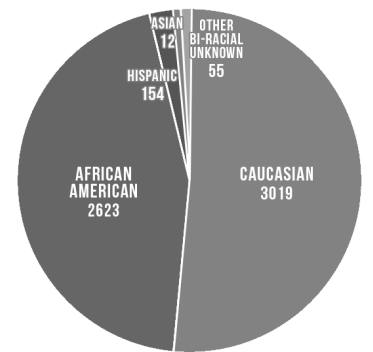
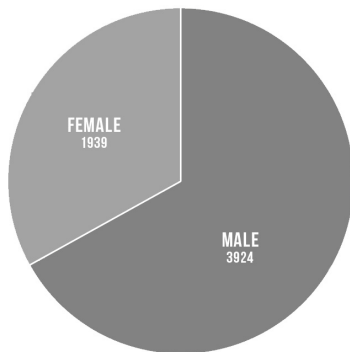
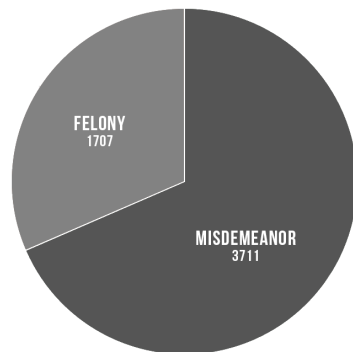
	2019	2018
TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE	72,193	73,060
INCIDENT REPORTS FILED	12,303	11,638
WARRANTS SERVED	7,916	8,563

## ARREST DEMOGRAPHICS

2019  
TOTAL:  
5502



2018  
TOTAL:  
5418



Tiffany McDonald's 13-year old son, David, was diagnosed with congestive heart failure and was placed under the care of Dierksen Hospice. David was having a "good day" in August and his nurses were talking with David about what he would like to do that day- he said he would like to go on a ride in a police car! David's Hospice nurses made some phone calls and JPD Officers Adam Hampton and Zac Nead were on their way.

David got to sit in the front and back of the police cruiser, activated the sirens and lights, made a traffic stop, and talked on the PA speaker. Officer Hampton even gave him his own Junior Officer sticker. David's brother and sisters enjoyed looking around the patrol cruiser as well. He was also able to go for a car ride later that afternoon and really enjoyed being able to get out of the house. SCU Investigators Bryan Bailey and Chris Jefferson paid David another visit later in the week.

Sadly, David passed away a short time after our visit. JPD is honored to have gotten to know him and see him smile.



On July 8th, Officer Aasin Lester responded to 504 State Street in regards to a vehicle accident. He was advised that the driver of the vehicle struck a home at this location and the driver was possibly injured. When Lester arrived, he noticed that he was



the first on the scene and the driver was still inside the vehicle. The vehicle was on fire and the driver was not responding. Officer Lester took action and ran up to the vehicle and could not get the door open. He ignored the danger of the flames, broke the drivers side window from the vehicle, and pulled the driver to safety. Later it was found that the driver had a seizure and was incapacitated. Had he not taken action and pulled the driver from the flames, he would have burned to death inside the vehicle. Officer Lester's quick actions saved the drivers life and he was commended for his quick response.

Officer Josh Beasley's supervisors noticed his excellent work as Patrol Officer in the recent past. He made an arrest and built the foundation of a felony theft case that were the direct result of solid work ethic and initiative. On the morning of Saturday, August 17, 2019 he sought out and was able to arrest a subject that had fled from officers on an earlier date. The subject that fled had an outstanding warrant for their arrest and he took note of that information and followed up at that location at a later date and was able to arrest the subject at that time. On Sunday, August 18, he conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle that had a large amount of copper plumbing supplies in the bed of the truck.

He recognized the potential evidence of a recent theft and followed through with appropriate questioning and fact checking. He was able to determine that a felony theft had occurred and helped to build the foundation of a solid case against the suspects. Officer Beasley has consistently demonstrated a high level of work ethic and dedication to his profession. He was commended for his outstanding performance.



“After several years working in the Criminal Investigation Division, I was assigned as the Shift Lieutenant for Second Shift Patrol Division. It was my second day on the shift when, at approximately 1800 hours that day, the dispatch center alerted us to a call of a shooting incident involving numerous victims on Galaxy Street in east Jonesboro. Upon hearing the dispatch call, several officers rapidly responded to the residence where it occurred. Once there, they found themselves on the scene of a terrible crime which had occurred only moments before.



Almost immediately, officers moved throughout the small house to insure the residence was secure. Inside they located three gunshot victims who were badly wounded, as well as an infant and another person who were unharmed. A short time later, officers were able to develop information which led them to another gunshot victim who had fled the house and collapsed in the back yard of that residence.

The officers quickly and efficiently assessed the injuries and applied life-saving measures to stop bleeding such as tourniquets, chest seals, and bandages. In addition, they provided transport assistance to ensure the wounded persons were quickly taken to local hospitals.

Specifically, Officer Ethan Sanderlin applied chest seals and bandages to one victim. Officer Jeremy Wheelis rendered first aid to the victim who was located in the back yard. Officer Jeremy Smith assisted with chest seals and gave comfort and aid to a victim. Sergeant Trey Dupuy assessed victims, applied chest seals, and coordinated the efforts of other first responders. Officer Rayonica Thomas assisted in applying bandages. Sergeant Lane Holmes treated victims and applied bandages. Officer Jeremy Taggart provided medical supplies and assistance. Investigator Jason Chester applied chest seals and assisted other officers with medical care. Investigator Josh Landreth applied a tourniquet and bandages. Officer Casey Moore performed CPR on a victim. Officer Nathan Ivy applied bandages and packed gauze into a severe wound, and Officer Nathaniel Cole applied tourniquets along with Sergeant Shon Morris. Officers from the Street Crimes Unit responded to the call to provide assistance and also rendered aid.

There are many occasions in which police officers are going about their normal routines one moment, and then are called upon in the next moment to respond to dangerous, uncertain and chaotic crime scenes. This incident undoubtedly qualified as one of those calls. The officers who responded did so with a level of professionalism, skill and fearlessness which too many times goes unnoticed. Because of their remarkable actions and the help of many others including paramedics, firefighters, and various first responders, the chaos they initially encountered was quickly controlled and the lives of several victims were surely saved.”

- Lt. Stephen McDaniel  
2nd Shift Patrol Lieutenant

On December 27, while on routine 1st shift patrol, it was brought to officer Taggart's attention that a vehicle on the lot at Dollar General might be being operated by someone who was impaired. After an investigation into the situation, it was determined that the vehicle was involved in several recent break-ins and could be linked to several stolen items.

Officer Taggart's teamwork, intuition, and attention to detail lead to the recovery of several items taken from multiple vehicle break-ins and a stolen vehicle. The arrest also netted the closure of six vehicle break-ins, the recovery of a stolen vehicle, stolen property, and the arrest of the suspect.



On December 7, officers responded to a residential burglary in progress on north Caraway Rd. The homeowner had returned home and found two individuals in her residence stealing items. She confronted the burglars and they fled on foot out the rear of the residence.

Ptl Michael Steele was responding to the call when he saw two individuals matching the description of the suspects a few blocks from the incident location. Ptl Steele returned to the incident location with the possible suspects. Ptl Steele was able to give officers information on the location of where he located the suspects and Ptl Harris and Sgt Chester were able to locate property stolen from and used in the crime.

Due to Ptl Steele's keen eye en route to the residence, officers were able to locate and recover the victims property, and recover evidence to convict the individuals. For his actions he was commended.

On December 4, a citizen sent a message to the Jonesboro Police Department Facebook page expressing gratitude for Officer Dalynn Johnson’s help in moving a disabled vehicle from the roadway. It was reported that Johnson was both helpful and kind to the gentleman in the disabled vehicle. It was later found that this act was committed outside of his normal shift at a time where he could have called it in and kept going. In the words of the citizen that took the time to contact this department, “It’s easy to find people to do high-profile things, even if they’re hard, but it’s rare to find people who will do something hard with no reward in obscurity. Doubly so when your officers are so often faced with opposition, disrespect, and even outright violence. The courage to simply engage in a difficult, anonymous, and kind act is probably the finest thing we can do on this earth for one another.” Officer Johnson was commended for his actions.

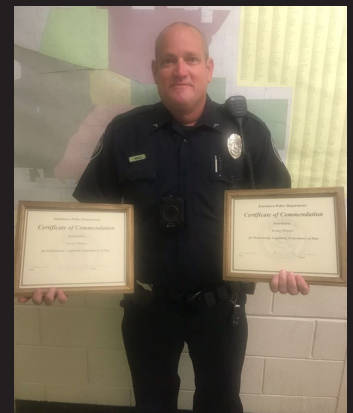


Officer Joseph Branstetter was on routine patrol when he observed a vehicle with expired tags that he recognized as a known drug dealer. During the course of the traffic stop, he conducted a probation search of the vehicle and the driver was found to be concealing a large bag of marijuana in his waist band. The suspect began to fight Branstetter and was able to break free for a short time and discard the marijuana. After a brief struggle, Branstetter was able to arrest the suspect and recover most of the marijuana which weighed approximately one half pound. For his actions on this day, Officer Branstetter was commended.

In addition, Bryan Smith, a 39 year Constable came by the Police Department to express his gratitude during a run in with Officer Branstetter on December 9th (19-11596). He wanted us to know that Officer Branstetter was kind and had outstanding professionalism. He stated that if all of the young officers were as professional as Officer Branstetter, we would have an outstanding department.



On July 7, Officer Jeremy Wheelis was on general patrol and noticed a vehicle parked in the back of a cemetery on Strawfloor Road. He got out to check on the vehicle and noticed that a male and female were inside. Officer Wheelis contacted them and learned that the male was middle aged and the female was only 17 years old. During his investigation, he found that the male subject was a wanted fugitive from Missouri. Further investigation found that the male subject was wanted for several violent sex crimes to include rape, kidnapping, and several others. His actions and vigilance removed a violent criminal from the City of Jonesboro to face justice in Missouri. Officer Wheelis was commended for his hard work and making Jonesboro a safer place for all of us.



In September 2017, the JPD publicly announced our commitment to the implementation of a BWC program as a top priority in our desire to embrace community-oriented policing strategies and furthering public trust. As stated in the President’s Task Force on 21st Century Policing, “Trust between law enforcement agencies and the people they protect and serve is essential in a democracy. It is the key to the stability of our communities, the integrity of our criminal justice system, and the safe and effective delivery of police services.”



2019 saw the successful culmination of months of research and planning as the department was awarded a grant for over \$300,000 to finalize full implementation of our body worn camera program. Citizen discussions and public hearings indicated broad support for the program and our first year has evidenced the value of this tool to broaden our ability to identify training issues, collect evidence and promote officer safety.



The goal of the Chaplain program is to provide support to local law enforcement officers, their mission, and offer a special understanding of their unique work; supporting them and their families. Some of the specific ways that chaplains encourage and support officers are by riding along with officers on duty, visiting police department offices and special assignment sites, providing on-scene support during death notifications and appropriately recognizing individual achievements. The most important of the Chaplain duties is the commitment to regular prayer for officers and their families.

This unpaid job requires many hours of training and commitment on the part of the individual serving as chaplain. Current chaplains have participated in a number of different training opportunities, including Law Enforcement Chaplain Certification Training and Reserve Police Officer training.



The Jonesboro Police Department Reserve Police Officer Unit is comprised of non-paid officers with reserve certification from the State of Arkansas. The unit is a valuable resource for the agency and supplements the day-to-day operations of the department. In doing so, it is the policy of the Jonesboro Police Department to ensure that its reserve police officers meet comparable training and proficiency requirements as required of regular full-time police officers.

Members of the Jonesboro Police Department’s Reserve Police Officer Unit, while on-duty, can exercise the same authority and have legal protection afforded full time sworn police officers.

**SKYCOPS INSTALLED 12**

**DIGITAL MEDIA**

**FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS 20,008**

**WEBSITE VISITS 80,534**

**APPLICATIONS RECEIVED 303**

**ONLINE REPORTS FILED 98**

**WEB FORMS RECEIVED 269**

**PUBLIC INFORMATION**

**REPORTS RELEASED 12,303**

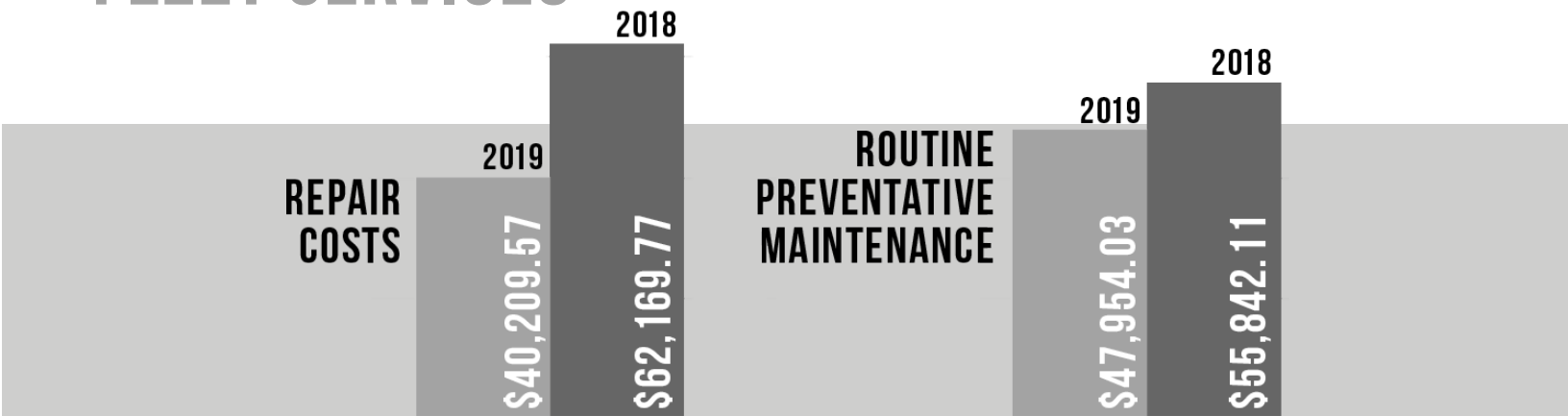
The Jonesboro Police Department decided to take on our own version of the #BottleCapChallenge at 100 yards. This viral sensation challenges brave souls to spin the top off of a water bottle “roundhouse kick” style.

JPD SWAT Team Sniper Sgt Lane Holmes was more than willing to take the challenge using his SCAR weapon. He made it look easy to shoot the cap off of a bottle from 100 yards away, showing the skill and talent of our Specialized Teams. All JPD officers take training very seriously and call on these skills daily in a multitude of situations... including bottle cap removal!





# FLEET SERVICES

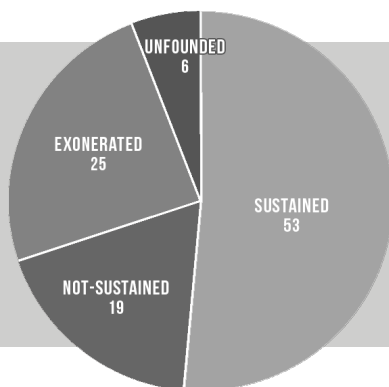


# RECORDS DIVISION

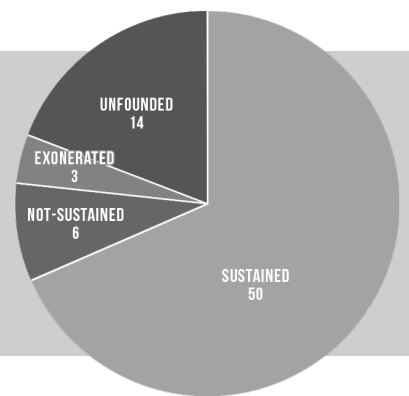
	2019	2018
INCIDENT AND ARREST REPORTS PROCESSED	12,816	11,675
ACCIDENT REPORTS PROCESSED	3,366	3,182
ACCIDENT REPORT REQUESTS	7,540	5,785
ONLINE ACCIDENT REPORT REQUESTS	3,751	1,872

# PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

**2019**  
**OPENED: 104**  
**CLOSED: 102**



**2018**  
**OPENED: 73**  
**CLOSED: 73**





As JPD's DARE program celebrated it's 30th year, Jonesboro's newest DARE Officer training graduate Cpl Anthony Zaffarano joined Ptl Jamie Seaborn.

Zaffarano spent 2 weeks at the Oklahoma DARE Officer Training Seminar in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Both Officers are certified to teach DARE Programs from Kindergarten through Jr. High.



On July 3, Officer Christopher Pigg was dispatched to a home in south Jonesboro to assist ACO Ashlee Jackson with a welfare check of children and animals inside the residence. ACO Jackson had received a complaint that there were approximately 20 dogs inside the residence and she expressed concern about the living conditions inside the home. Both officers arrived at the incident location and were invited in by the occupants. The smell of urine and feces emitted from the home as they walked through the front entrance. Dog feces and urine were observed throughout the home along with adult dogs and puppies that were contained in small cages and rooms.

The children and elderly lady that were present that day did not look to be malnourished like the dogs but DCFS and Area Agency on Aging were called to investigate their well being in the living conditions.

ACO Jackson wrote the owner of the home a citation for cruelty to animals and began the process of getting a Search and seizure warrant for the dogs that were discovered. On July 5th, the warrant was issued. She was accompanied by two JPD officers along with ACO Matt Gragg. They proceeded to rescue the dogs from the small crates and searched every room. Overall, 17 dogs and puppies were seized and taken to Animal Medical Center to be treated for their illnesses and injuries. All of the dogs were malnourished.

The owners plead guilty to 17 counts of animal cruelty and were court ordered to surrender the dogs to Animal Control. All treatments for the dogs, performed by Animal Medical Center, was paid for by the owners.

# ANIMAL CONTROL



Officer Austin Morgan is assigned to the JPD K9 Unit. Officer Morgan is always willing to help his fellow officers and is a positive influence to those around him. He has consistently demonstrated leadership values that set an outstanding example. Morgan volunteers to take calls for service for other officers when they need assistance,

and his supervisors have taken note of his willingness to assist officers in the field as their backup. He has reached out to his supervisors to make sure they have noticed the good works of other officers and, in doing so, put their needs before his own. These qualities are ones that every officer at this department should strive to put into practice and Officer Morgan has done so in a genuine selfless manner. Morgan was commended for his outstanding performance.

	2019	2018
BARKING COMPLAINTS	52	84
BITE REPORTS	87	125
PUBLIC RELATIONS	4779	3940
CITATIONS ISSUED	885	722
WARNINGS ISSUED	1056	1125
ARRESTS	27	67
EUTHANIZED	514	629
SENT TO RESCUE CENTERS	239	148
ADOPTIONS	318	368



K9 Cash has been with the Jonesboro Police Department K9 Unit since 2016 and is assigned to his handler, Cpl Heath Loggains. During their time together, this great team has executed over 537 searches (including vehicles, buildings, persons, and areas), 32 tracks, 30 patrol assists, 57 felony arrests, 173 misdemeanor arrests, 11 suspect apprehensions, and a SWAT assist.

In addition, they have seized over 1600 grams of marijuana, 106 grams of methamphetamine, over \$2000 in cash, and much more.

Cash has been a great asset to the department and we always look forward to working alongside him! Cash and Cpl Loggains are an invaluable resource for the 3rd shift patrol division and we are lucky to have them on our team!





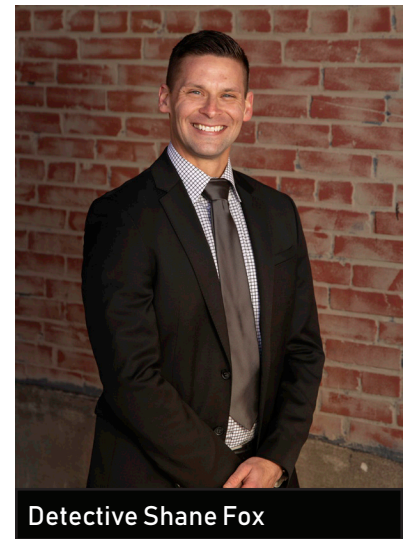
Officers Donna Johnston and Jason Bissett



Chief Elliott reads to kids at the daycare on A-State Campus



Officer Kinnard and Reserve Officer Holmes show off their patrol unit to some tiny fans



Detective Shane Fox



Four new Reserve Officers are sworn in as part of the JPD Reserve Unit



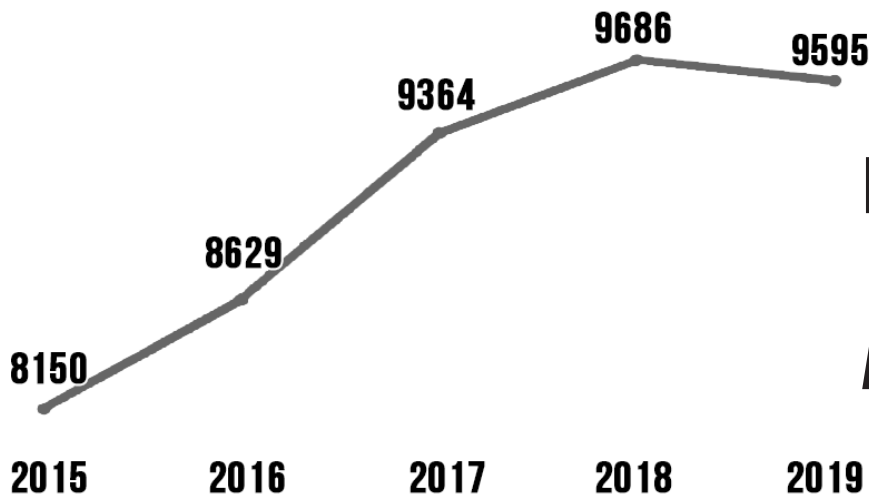
JPD Officers won 1st place in the Arkansas Municipal Police Association Golf Tournament

# CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION

**CASES ASSIGNED**  
 2019: 2538  
 2018: 1876

**CASES CLOSED**  
 2019: 2128  
 2018: 1241

	2019	2018
<b>INTERNET CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN</b>		
FORENSIC EXAMS	309	226
CYBER TIPS RECEIVED	22	40
<b>CSI ACTIVITY</b>		
CRIME SCENES PROCESSED	83	154
ITEMS PROCESSED IN LAB	426	248
<b>FINGERPRINTS ROLLED FOR PUBLIC</b>	1409	1438
<b>VICTIM SERVICES</b>		
VICTIMS CONTACTED	258	N/A
COURT APPEARANCES	185	N/A
<b>SEX OFFENDER REGISTRATION</b>		
CONTACTS MADE	351	N/A
TOTAL REGISTRANTS	118	N/A



## EVIDENCE ITEMS ACQUIRED



Busy doesn't begin to explain Lt Kenny Oldham's life during 2019. He not only assumed responsibility for the newly formed OCATF, his hard work and dedication were instrumental in the formation of the task force itself. Lt Oldham spent countless hours contacting area agencies, meeting with officers from Jonesboro and other surrounding cities and counties and made a number of public presentations to get the task force off the ground.

And just to make sure he had enough to do, he also embarked on becoming a task force agent for the ATF and attended National Integrated Ballistic Information Network (NIBIN) training. This

ability to collect and enter NIBIN information helps ensure that the weapons and casings recovered during violent crime investigations become traceable to other events. These added responsibilities help to ensure that the strongest prosecution avenues possible are available in gang related crimes.

"Within the last few years, the Jonesboro Police Departments Criminal Investigation Division has seen an extreme up-tick in violent crime investigations. Most recently, on 11/30/2019, CID was called to 3105 Parkwood in reference to a homicide (19-11311). I requested and received assistance from several detectives, including but not limited to, Det. Brian Arnold. Det. Arnold responded to the scene and was instrumental in gathering probable cause for the arrest of three individuals by interviewing numerous witnesses for several days after the incident. Due to there being several other detectives that were also instrumental in bringing this case to swift closure, I was reluctant to nominate one detective. However, on 12/01/2019, Det. Arnold was the "on call detective" and was called to another homicide (19-11566). Det. Arnold was able to develop suspect information which lead to the arrest of the suspect in that case. He spent countless hours compiling information and documentation on both major cases at the same time while also juggling his other department duties. Det. Arnold's hard work has made him a great asset to this department and the city of Jonesboro."

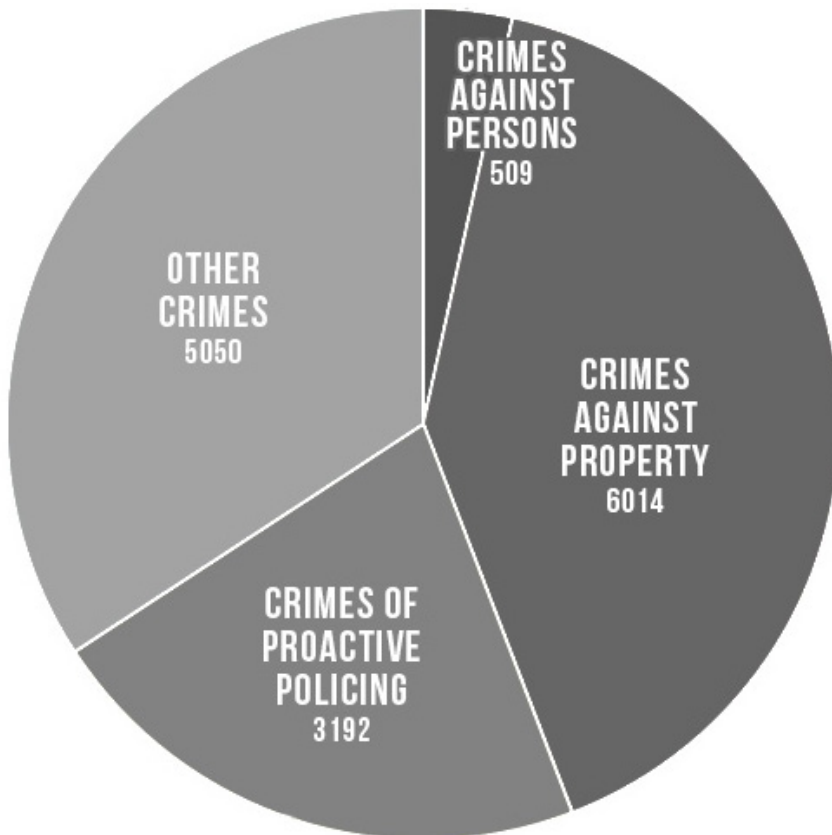
- Sgt. Chris Poe  
JPD Criminal Investigation Division



# NIBRS REPORTABLE OFFENSES - 10 YEAR TREND

## NATIONAL INCIDENT-BASED REPORTING SYSTEM

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	% CHANGE 2018-2019
<b>CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS</b>	<b>316</b>	<b>319</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>331</b>	<b>320</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>396</b>	<b>416</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>23%</b>
<i>HOMICIDE</i>	3	2	1	4	2	4	4	4	7	4	8	100%
<i>RAPE</i>	28	30	43	25	35	37	33	20	26	32	45	41%
<i>ROBBERY</i>	75	58	85	82	59	63	58	74	62	57	58	2%
<i>AGGRAVATED ASSAULT</i>	160	183	179	178	178	205	260	229	243	259	334	29%
<b>CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY</b>	<b>5960</b>	<b>6160</b>	<b>6637</b>	<b>6043</b>	<b>5629</b>	<b>6040</b>	<b>5661</b>	<b>6624</b>	<b>6034</b>	<b>6023</b>	<b>6012</b>	<b>0%</b>
<i>BURGLARY</i>	1242	1313	1340	1192	1029	1233	1089	1566	1201	1174	1120	-5%
<i>LARCENY THEFT</i>	2465	2598	2814	2570	2486	2741	2319	2757	2525	2411	2350	-3%
<i>MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT</i>	407	433	449	119	100	88	98	126	174	184	153	-17%
<i>ARSON</i>	10	11	15	12	13	8	9	11	12	11	2	-82%
<b>CRIMES OF PROACTIVE POLICING</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>2243</b>	<b>2526</b>	<b>2509</b>	<b>2237</b>	<b>2386</b>	<b>2634</b>	<b>3066</b>	<b>3007</b>	<b>3191</b>	<b>6%</b>
<i>DRUG/NARCOTICS VIOLATIONS</i>	597	533	708	782	822	775	892	1068	1330	1350	1434	6%
<i>WEAPON LAW VIOLATIONS</i>	78	67	76	61	80	51	74	92	121	102	172	69%
<i>DRIVING UNDER THE INFLUENCE</i>	380	374	378	559	424	318	273	291	221	172	169	-2%
<i>OTHER CRIMES</i>	6496	9349	9765	8576	8270	7957	7531	8058	4769	3638	3581	-2%



**TOTALS**

**2019**  
**14,765**

**2018**  
**14,507**

“While we have encountered a number of difficult cases, the challenges for the Criminal Investigation Division over the past year have been more demanding than ever before. This year saw a record number of homicides – eight incidents with nine victims. Despite uncooperative witnesses, many



gang-involved suspects, and tremendous other caseloads, all of these homicides were solved! The success in solving these cases was not accomplished by any one individual. While not every detective responded to or worked directly on every incident, all of these cases became exemplary displays of teamwork as the others picked up extra case assignments, took calls and assisted in any way possible. Response to those homicide incidents, many other serious violent crimes, and innumerable other investigative calls has been incredible. Whether it's tromping through the weeds and woods to look for evidence, call outs to look for missing children, or working an aggravated assault, work is being completed efficiently and on time.

Every day, I am impressed by your ability to work together and tackle the tasks at hand with little direction. Everyone displays the utmost professionalism and successfully completes investigations that are involved, time consuming and often very complicated. Each of you do a marvelous job of making this job look easy when it is anything but. Each of you makes a huge difference in the success of the Jonesboro Police Department and are instrumental to the accomplishments of your CID team.”

Captain Lynn Waterworth  
Criminal Investigation Division Captain





Cpl Mike McQuay was working in the JPD Warrants Office on March 7 when he was contacted by a citizen about wanting to get a new court date. She sat down with him and began talking but became upset and started crying and yelling. The subject ended up forcing a handful of pills into her mouth and Officer McQuay jumped out of his chair and “tackled” her, he then reached into her mouth to retrieve the pills and was successful along with the help of the other officers in the Warrants office. The suspect was placed on suicide watch and Officer McQuay was commended for his brave actions that day and for possibly saving a life.

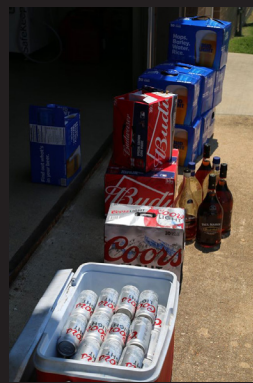
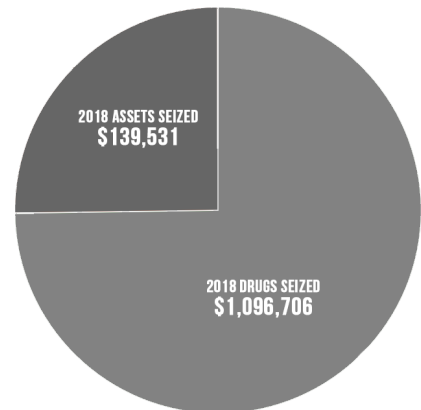
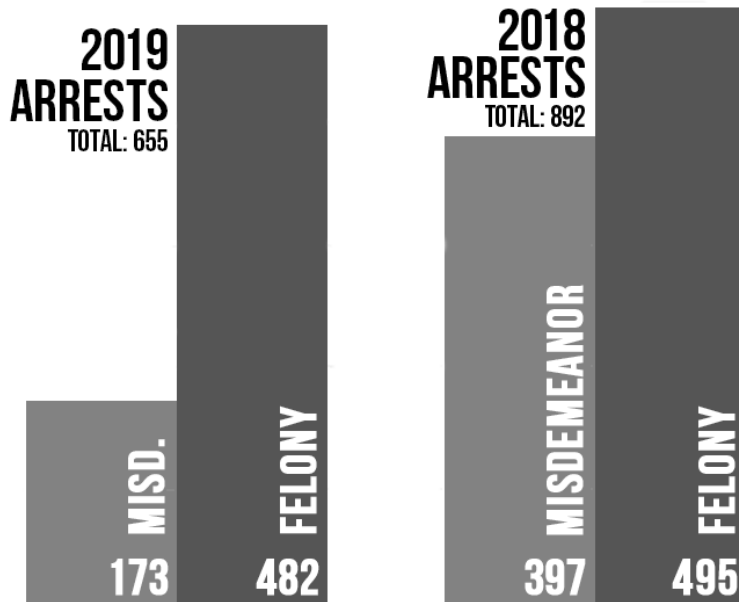
JPD’s Court Services supervised a man with both substance abuse and mental health issues who was physically and emotionally abusive to his mother. He was referred to as a high maintenance client due to attitude and addictions. Court Services spoke with his mom as much as the client himself in trying to get him services and to get their relationship on better ground. He eventually completed probation and JPD hadn’t heard anything from either of them until Christmas. She brought Court Services a big basket of goodies and the sweetest card thanking them for all that they did for them both. It may not seem like much, but in this job, Officers don’t see a whole lot of gratitude and that was pretty uplifting! It was a good reminder that kindness matters when dealing with difficult clients and family issues.



# COURT SERVICES

	2019	2018
<b>ACTIVE PROBATIONERS</b>	<b>8880</b>	<b>5602</b>
<b>ADDED</b>	<b>1510</b>	<b>1104</b>
<b>COMPLETED PROGRAM</b>	<b>592</b>	<b>554</b>
<b>REVOKED</b>	<b>647</b>	<b>500</b>
<b>TOTAL FEES COLLECTED</b>	<b>\$231,307.50</b>	<b>\$156,580.98</b>

# STREET CRIMES UNIT



During two busts this year, the Street Crimes Unit seized 3.9 lbs of marijuana, several pills, \$6180 in cash, and other drugs from a home in west Jonesboro, along with a LOT of beer and liquor that was being sold from a home in east Jonesboro. This bust included 10 full boxes of beer plus 2 coolers full of individual cans, 4 bottles of brandy, 2 bottles of gin, 1.8g of meth and drug paraphernalia. The Street Crimes Unit is tasked with aggressively seeking out street-level drug, alcohol, and prostitution crimes. It is made up of highly trained individuals with a specific skill set. This team augments the patrol division with being able to dedicate themselves to longer, more in-depth investigations. These busts are just a small glimpse of the dangers taken of the streets off Jonesboro in 2019.

STREET CRIMES UNIT

"I receive a text message every time Street Crimes prepares a search warrant. So far this year I have received 87 of those texts. Eighty Seven. That doesn't even count the 210 probation and parole searches they have done this year. To say they are hard workers is only part of the story. They are also intelligent, devoted and creative. We have one of, if not the best and sharpest, police departments in the state of Arkansas and these officers are at the tip of the spear. They have assisted CID on high profile cases, conducted saturation operations, assisted Arkansas Community Corrections, the 2nd Judicial Drug Task Force, worked with the US Marshals, and assisted patrol on calls for service. They have been put in a position that affords them the freedom and opportunity to be great, and they have seized that opportunity. The Street Crimes Unit commendation reads, "For your hard work and dedication in the past twelve months resulting in 2372 arrest charges, \$268,804 worth of assets seized and \$808,545 worth of drugs seized, you are hereby commended. You are a credit to the Jonesboro Police Department and an asset to the citizens of Jonesboro."



SWAT TEAM

"I deployed for Desert Storm in 1991. In 2011 I went to Colorado to send my son off to Afghanistan. The latter was far harder than the former. I have never had much pause in putting myself into harm's way, after all, I'm not the brightest guy in the world, but I have great pause in sending people I care about into the fight. This past year, your SWAT team responded to two high risk situations involving subjects who had used deadly force against their victim. In both, the only solace I had was resting in the knowledge that they are all exceptional operators; and in both they used their professionalism, bravery and tactical presence to resolve the situation. They are dedicated to training, hardworking and courageous. They embody a hero's willingness to risk their own wellbeing for the security of our community. I was asked by Chief Elliott in 2016 to come back to the SWAT team as part of their leadership. My goal was to work hard and earn their trust and respect. I continue to work to that end, but know gentlemen, you have earned mine. Your commendation reads, "For courage and professionalism shown by the Jonesboro Police Department S.W.A.T. Team members, in response to critical incidents on December 11, 2018, and June 5, 2019, as well as your dedication to training and preparedness in service to the City of Jonesboro, you are hereby commended."

Captain Todd Nelson  
Special Services Division

# DRUG TASK FORCE

The Second Judicial Drug Task Force investigates major drug traffickers in our area and responds to the needs of our community. DTF was established through a cooperative effort of the Second Judicial Prosecutor and District law enforcement agencies to combat narcotics and organized crime.

The Task Force is governed by a Board of Directors, which consists of the Prosecuting Attorney, Task Force Coordinator, a representative on the Arkansas State Police, and the Chiefs and Sheriffs of all the local law enforcement agencies within the Second Judicial District that either provide manpower to the Task Force, or for whom the Task Force prosecutes its felony cases or civil drug forfeitures.

## TOTAL ARRESTS: 1168

MARIJUANA 145

CRACK/COCAINE 23

METH 339

LSD/ECSTASY 32

PRESCRIPTION/OPIATES 105

ALL OTHER DRUG OFFENSES 524

# ORGANIZED CRIME ACTIVITY TASK FORCE



A project that has been in planning stages for almost 2 years came together in 2019 with the formation of the Organized Criminal Activity Task Force (OCATF). These investigators focus solely on establishing the gang affiliations surrounding violent criminal activity and gang related drug activity. The goal is to reduce the crime that puts all the public at risk and diminishes our quality of life. Multiple meetings and public forums have taken place and will continue during 2020. We will continue to work on full implementation of this program in the coming year to get our gang related criminal activity controlled.

# TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

2019		2018
3,370	STREET ACCIDENTS	3,181
977	PRIVATE PROPERTY ACCIDENTS	1004
12	FATALITY ACCIDENTS	11
23,395	TRAFFIC STOPS	23,066
5,949	WRITTEN CITATIONS	4,017
4,272	WRITTEN WARNINGS	3,598
169	DWI	172

Ptl. Ryan Crawford initiated a traffic stop at the intersection of Highland and Bernard on the morning of September 6. He made contact with the driver, 87 year old Nola Houston, and informed her that her license plate registration had expired in June of 2017 and her drivers license had expired in 2018. Mrs. Houston’s husband had passed away recently and had always handled this type of thing. She was distraught and didn’t know what to do to make things right. Officer Crawford assisted Mrs. Houston to the Craighead County Assessor’s Office, helped her pay her Personal Property Taxes, escorted her to the DMV, and helped her renew her license plate tags and get a new driver license. Great work to Officer Crawford for going above and beyond the call of duty for Mrs. Houston! We appreciate all you do for the JPD Traffic and Motor Division.





Sergeant Dupuy smiles with Citizen Police Academy member Latonya Tidwell



Officer McKenzie shows his appreciation for the donation of cookies from a few of his biggest fans!



Officer Brian Arnold shows his support for Special Olympics Athletes



#BlueBonnettChallenge with Motor Officer Zach Kaja

# RECRUITING AND RETENTION

Hired 12  
Retired 6  
Promoted 11  
Hired Civilians 5

## Officers Hired in 2019

Lydia Mitchell  
Corey Obregon  
Madison Hicks  
Trevor Sutton  
Gage Hay  
Claudia Burnett  
Zach Nead  
Joseph Harris  
John Burcham  
Michael Steele  
Michael Bush  
Ronny Matthews

## Promotions

Sgt. David McDaniel	Cpt. Todd Nelson
Sgt. Nathan Coleman	Lt. Tim Doyle
Lt. Kenny Oldham	Sgt. William Brumfield
Cpt. Scott Baxter	Sgt. David Stout
Lt. Scott Baker	Sgt. Jason Chester
Sgt. Shay Racy	

## Retirements

Cpl. Wayne McClard  
Cpt. BJ Smith  
Cpl. John Shipman  
Lt. Cooper Taylor  
Cpt. Kelly Baggett  
Sgt. Derick Goodrich





# OFFICER OF THE YEAR INV ERIK JOHNSON

Officer Erik Johnson has always been a hardworking and dedicated officer for this department and has been worthy of this award over the past several years. Erik is assigned to the Street Crimes Unit, K9 Unit, ACC Fugitive Task Force, and the U.S. Marshal Service Fugitive Task Force. These assignments require his services beyond an 8 hour day and he is always eager to respond and go find the “bad guy.” He has exemplified his hard work many times throughout this year including a lifesaving award, suspect apprehensions, SWAT callouts, officer assists, and more. Had it not been for his courageous, brave, and self-sacrificing actions and beyond the call of duty, some of these situations could have had a different outcome. Erik brought national attention to the department through the Vested Interest in K9s organization. By his partnership with VIK9s, the company ended up supplying our K9 Unit along with several area agencies with ballistic vests. As a TFO, Erik has made numerous arrests on many fugitives not only from our department but other departments in our area of the state. His actions reflect great credit upon him and the Jonesboro Police Department. Many of our officers are worthy of this award; the dedication of the men and women of this department is shown every day.

## MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

Detective Josh Wiest has shown a superior work ethic and initiative in CID. There is rarely a time in which he is not working hard, and has even been told to “slow down” so that he will not create a burn out for himself. He has received a commendation for that work ethic, in which it cites examples or specific cases. He is the example I use when speaking to others about hard work, initiative and quality of work. Josh doesn’t know the word “quit”. He is relentless in each of his investigations, regardless of the severity of the crime. He won’t give up and never passes up an opportunity to work or assist on a case. Supervisors constantly have to tell him to go home because he is always enthralled with his work with a passion and dedication that I wish every detective and officer shared. Det. Wiest is exemplary in his attention to detail and quality of work. He has an uncanny ability to recall names, faces and information. In one specific set of robberies, he interviewed and obtained confessions to close out multiple cases, without any information in front of him to recall the complexity of what was involved. He was in another jurisdiction working on another case when this was accomplished. Over the past year, there have been almost no kicked back reports or case files sent to the Prosecutor’s Office, as well as turned into the CID supervisors. If anything needed to be corrected, it was a simple issue. Det. Wiest is fantastic at providing all details in narratives and has a strong attention to detail. I have been told by the Prosecutor’s Office that his case files are among the best they have seen. He consistently provides all the necessary documents to cases and goes above and beyond to provide further evidence (video, interviews, etc) for those cases. I can trust that Det. Wiest will produce these results for every case, which is why he is involved with the majority of homicides and high profile cases. In addition, the majority of his cases result in an arrest, a warrant or otherwise sought after dispositions. These qualities, mixed with his superior work ethic, make him the highest caliber employee to be rivaled anywhere in Jonesboro, much less JPD.

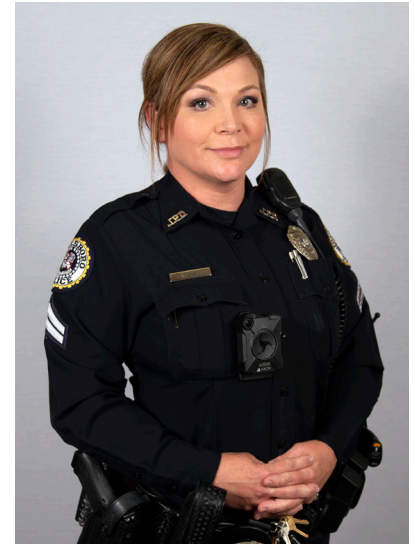




MAJOR INVESTIGATION AWARD MAJOR ARREST AWARD

On 9/19/19, Cpl. Susan Gray was dispatched to a welfare check call at 828 S. Caraway. As with so many calls that officers are dispatched to, when they arrive, they often find the circumstances to be much different from the call title. When Cpl. Gray arrived, a visibly shaken woman ran toward her across the parking lot. The woman told her that a man had broken into her home, hid in the closet and forced her to have sex with him at gunpoint.

Cpl. Gray then observed the suspect fleeing from the back of the apartment and without hesitation, she pursued the suspect who was assumed to be still be armed. As she circled around the apartment complex, she eventually located him hiding in some brush. Single-handedly, Cpl. Gray ordered him to the ground and placed in in handcuffs. The suspect was later charged with Rape and Aggravated Residential Burglary, along with other charges (see 19-8778). Cpl. Gray's actions in pursuing and taking a potentially armed subject into custody without hesitation was not only heroic, but an example of her commitment to keeping our community safe.



While general intelligence is often hard to associate with any one particular outcome, it also adds to the capacity to gather intelligence specific to crimes in a timely manner right after they happen. The skill to make contacts, research files and collect knowledge that helps decipher a suspect's identity quickly. The value of such work to today's investigative tasks is immeasurable.

Det. Keri Varner has gone above and beyond to in developing the skill set that makes a successful intelligence officer. One of her co-workers specifically stated 'the public knows her and trusts her' and that trust is one of the things that strengthens her ability to garner information from a variety of sources. Other comments from co-workers is that she is 'always there when needed' and 'brings a light hearted personality with her... which makes her very easy to work with...' That extra work, outside of normal duties, has enabled the criminal investigation division to solve a number of crimes, as well as afforded our agency the opportunity to charge certain repeat and gang involved offenders in a more substantial way that will affect future crime in our city. For this, Det. Keri Varner is being recognized with a Major Investigation ribbon.





Chief Elliott, Inv Johnson, and K9 Gabo speak at Rotary Club



Det Fox, AR First Lady Susan Hutchinson, and Det Varner



Officer Griffin hands out Copsicles



Sergeant Coleman, Officer Brown, Chief Elliott, and Detective Brown show their support of the Special Olympics of Arkansas



Investigator Landreth with a SOAR Athlete



Motor Officer Ryan Crawford

# LIFESAVING AWARDS

**Calvin Newman**

Responded on 10/21/19 to a shooting on W Nettleton. Applied tourniquet to gunshot wound victim's leg, ultimately saving his life

19-9933

Sgt Trey Dupuy, Sgt Shon Morris, Sgt Lane Holmes, Inv Jason Chester, Cpl Jeremy Smith, Cpl Jeremy Wheelis, Pfc Ethan Sanderlin, Pfc Nathan Ivy, Pfc Josh Landreth, Pfc Nathan Cole, Ptl Rayonica Thomas, Pft Jeremy Taggart, Ptl Casey Moore

Responded to a shooting incident that occurred on Galaxy St on 1/2/19. All officers showed exceptional teamwork that saved or prolonged the lives of four victims.



**Cody Jackson**

responded on 6/1/19 to a motorcycle accident with injury. Applied tourniquet to a victims leg just before he was transported to Memphis via Hospital wing.

19-5899

**Heath Loggains  
Daniel Gifford**

Responded to a fight in mango's parking lot, applied chest seals to gunshot wound victim, ultimately saving his life

19-4670

**JR Chambers**

Applied tourniquet to gunshot victim at Cedar Heights on 8/17/19 - 19-7546

Applied tourniquet to gunshot victim on Arch St on 8/27/19 - 19-7915

Applied tourniquet to gunshot victim on State St on 10/19/19 - 19-9884

**Tanner Huff**

Responded to the Trim Gym on 4/18/19, applied a tourniquet to victim's left arm, applied compression bandage, and seal, ultimately saving her life

19-3447

**Inv. Erik Johnson  
Res. Kurt Beason**

Responded to a shooting incident that occurred at the Gladiolus Apartment Complex on 12/8/18 that resulted in K9 Gabo being shot. Officers rendered aid to another shooting victim and ultimately saved his life.

19-11036

**Jordan Fowler**

Responded on 8/7/19 to a shooting in progress call, applied tourniquet to gunshot victim on French St.

19-7132



**Cody Howard  
Tommy Miller**

Responded on 7/16/19 to an attempted suicide and applied a tourniquet to the victim's arm and gauze compress to other injuries, ultimately saving her life

19-6407

**Aasin Lester**

responded to a vehicle on fire on 7/8/19 and pulled a victim from the burning vehicle. It was later discovered that the driver had a seizure and was incapacitated.

19-6121

**Chris Shull**

was working the desk on 6/7/19 when a father came running in to the PD because his son was in the parking lot choking on a sucker. Shull ran outside and was able to remove the sucker from the child's airway, saving his life.

**Keith Baggett**

Responded to accidental gunshot wound by a 14 year old, rendered EMS aid to the victim, ultimately saving his life

19-4303

### Narcans Deployments

Matt McDaniel	19-0357
Matt McDaniel	19-3813
Jeremy Smith	19-5582
Chris Shull	19-5800
Chris Shull	19-6466
Chris Jefferson	19-6948
Daniel Gifford	19-7922
Jake Jones	19-8116
Nicholas Carmichael	19-8159
Daniel Gifford	19-9736
Victor Garcia	19-9736
Dustin McKenzie	19-9398

### Officer of the Month

- January - Aasin Lester
- February - Joseph Branstetter
- March - Trey Dupuy
- April - Keith Baggett
- May - Brandon Butler
- June - Chris Shull
- July - Rachel Griffin
- August - Joe Robinson
- September - Scott Byrd
- October - Jeremy Wheelis
- November - Logan Butler
- December - Michael Steele

YEARS OF SERVICE AWARDS

#### 5 Years

- Rayonica Thomas
- Pete Lochner
- Logan Butler
- Victor Garcia
- Chris Pigg

#### 10 Years

- Blake Anderson
- Keith Baggett
- Josh Beasley
- Erik Johnson
- Josh Wiest

#### 15 Years

- Amy Elrod
- Chad Elrod
- Mike McQuay

#### 20 Years

- Bob Geha
- Chris Perry
- Royce Smith
- John Porbeck
- Lyle Waterworth

#### 25 Years

- Mary Oliver
- John Eidson

#### 30 Years

- Rosie Woods
- Les Haggard
- Steve McDaniel



Investigator Nathan Ivy spends time with neighborhood kids during a SCU bust



Sergeant Lyle Waterworth meets his future replacement at a Jonesboro Public Library event



JPD is thankful for the ongoing support and partnership with Arkansas State University. HOWL stopped by for a pic!



## JONESBORO POLICE DEPARTMENT

THIS DOCUMENT PREPARED AND EDITED BY:

CHIEF RICK ELLIOTT

DIGITAL MEDIA SPECIALIST RACHEL CARMACK

CRIME ANALYST CLAIRE REYNOLDS



JPD K9 Gabo passed on January 16, 2020. Gabo served the Jonesboro Police Department for 7 years and was assigned to his handler Inv Erik Johnson the entire time. This incredible K9 Team specialized in narcotics detection, patrol work, tracking, building search, handler protection and suspect apprehension. Most notably, Gabo assisted in a SWAT callout on December 11, 2018 where he was shot five times at point-blank range. A bullet- and stab-proof vest presented to him by Vested Interest in K9s stopped the bullet that would have been fatal. Gabo returned to duty just two months later and didn't skip a beat in working alongside his partner, Inv Erik Johnson, again.

Gabo and Johnson were awarded the 2019 Officer of the Year award by the Jonesboro Police Department, and the 2019 Persons of the Year award by CrimeStoppers of Jonesboro. Gabo was also awarded a Medal of Valor for his courageous service and actions on December 11, 2018.

We will never be able to express how appreciative we are for Gabo, Erik, and the entire K9 Unit. Their work does not go unnoticed and we grieve with Erik at the loss of his irreplaceable partner.

Rest easy, Gabo. We'll take it from here.  
E.O.W. 1-16-2020

