



2020 Annual Report Danville Police Department



Foreword from the Chief of Police

Annual Report Foreword – 2020



I proudly share with you the 2020 Danville Police Department Annual Report. Since 2018, we have made both community engagement and reduction of crime a priority for our agency. Because of the hard work from the women and men of the police department – and the trust given to us by our community – we have been successful with this. In 2020 we experienced a significant reduction in our violent crime, property crime, and overall major crimes, reaching 30-year lows in most crime categories. This is contributed to a community working together with a common goal, making Danville a safer city.

In December of 2020 we moved to Neighborhood-Oriented Policing (NOP). Neighborhood-Oriented Policing allows us to increase our accountability within the department by assigning police supervisors – lieutenants, sergeants, corporals – and police officers to one of four geographic quarters – Northwest (NW), Northeast (NE), Southwest (SW), and Southeast (SE). This will allow us to provide consistent leadership and service to specific areas of the city as well as improving our ability to effectively problem-solve with our community as we continue to reduce crime and increase our quality of life.

We continue to use a stratified policing model as a focusing framework for the department. Stratified policing is an organizational model for crime reduction that ensures that ALL members of the department – from the Chief to the officer on the street – play an active role in recognizing and responding to crime in our community by emphasizing the use of data and ensuring that we remain transparent and accountable to the community, each and every day.

You can be proud of your police department. The women and men of the Danville Police Department consistently go above and beyond the call of duty. You can see this in our response to the highest priority calls for service, when we are on community/neighborhood walks, and when asked to problem-solve with community leaders. In 2020, when the nation was experiencing a considerable amount of social unrest in response to the murder of George Floyd by a Minneapolis police officer, our community experienced two weeks of peaceful protests without a single incident or arrest. This speaks not only to the compassion and professionalism of our officers, but also to our community coming together, standing in solidarity and seeking a better way forward through constructive dialogue and collective action.

Thank you for standing with us. We are honored to serve the citizens of Danville and look forward to their continued collaboration and support.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Scott C. Booth".

Scott C. Booth
Chief of Police

Table of Contents



Foreword from the Chief.....	2
Table of Contents.....	3
About the Department	4
Command Staff.....	6
Senior Staff	7
Department Organization	8
By the Numbers	10
Operations and Investigations	12
Professional Standards.....	13
DPD Community Engagement	14
Pass the Perspective.....	18
Positively Pretty.....	19
DPD 2020 Events.....	20
New Hires and Retirees	21
Achievements and Rewards	23
Innovative Use of Technology	26
Innovative New Program	28
In Memoriam.....	29
Looking Ahead	30

About the Department

Danville

The City of Danville, located midway on Virginia's southern border with North Carolina, was founded in 1793 on the banks of the Dan River. The Danville Police Department had its beginnings on May 21, 1833, when a citizen patrol with compulsory service was established. By 1860, the citizen patrol had expanded to include two sworn police officers. Today the Police Department is a modern, accredited agency with a maximum capacity of 131 sworn police officers, two animal control officers, 13 civilian staff and six school crossing guards. The fiscal year 2020 adopted budget was \$10,959,240.

Mission Statement

The Danville Police Department will provide quality service to the community through a process of continuous improvement. We will maintain a safe environment for all by protecting life, individual liberty and property through partnerships with citizens and businesses.

Motto

The Danville Police Department motto is "Deeds Not Words".

Re-accredited Agency

The Danville Police Department has been accredited through the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standard Commission. Accreditation is accomplished by meeting or exceeding over 180 standards that cover every aspect of law enforcement. Accreditation increases the law enforcement agency's ability to prevent and control crime through more effective and efficient delivery of law enforcement services to the community it serves.



Accreditation also enhances community understanding of the law enforcement agency and its role in the community as well as its goals and objectives. The partnership helps citizens to understand the challenges that confront law enforcement. As a result, law enforcement receives clear direction from the community about its expectations. Thus, a common set of goals and objectives is established and implemented.

Department Patch



The patch of the Danville Police Department features the city seal. It is divided into four quadrants representing the four cornerstones of Danville's economy. The top quadrant depicts the textile industry that dominated Danville for over 50 years. The right quadrant depicts the higher education opportunities available in Danville. Danville's reputation as the hub of the region's tobacco industry is represented in the bottom quadrant. The confluence of roads, railroads, and air traffic in the left quadrant symbolizes Danville's status over 200 years as the "Gateway to the South".

About the Department

Overview

The Danville Police Department accomplishes its mission by actively engaging the community through the application of evidence-based policing practices. The department utilizes a neighborhood policing strategy dividing the city into two areas - four quarters. The department is organized into multiple divisions:

- The Operations Division is the section of the department responsible for routine day-to-day and emergency tactical execution of law enforcement responses. The patrol, investigations, crime analysis and CDI units perform these functions.
- The Services Division has the responsibility to support the other divisions and units of the department. It is comprised of support units including records, crime scene, crime prevention, school resource officers, animal control, parking, evidence room, school crossing guards, training, quartermaster, video technician, recruitment and community engagement.
- The Professional Standards Division provides the policy and inspection criteria necessary to maintain a professional organization. This unit is primarily responsible for internal affairs investigations, use of force investigations, citizen complaints and accreditation.



Command Staff



Scott C. Booth
Chief of Police



Lt. Col. Ronald D. Hairston
Deputy Chief of Police



Major Christopher K. Wiles
Operations Division Commander



Major Timothy W. Jones
Service Division Commander

Senior Staff



Captain E. Keith Thompson
Northside Area Commander



Captain Jerry L. Pace
Southside Area Commander



Captain Richard E. Chivvis
Professional Standards



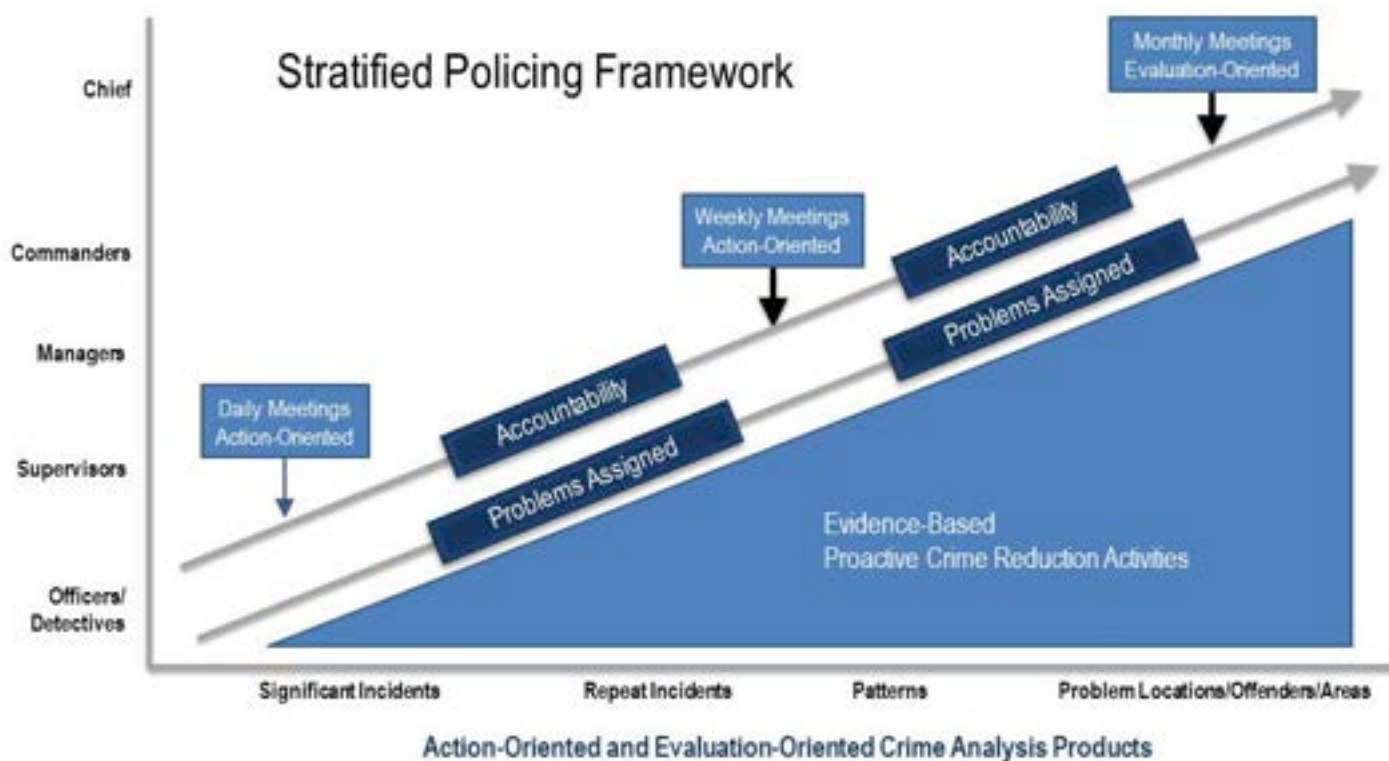
Captain Henry S. Richardson
Investigations Bureau

Department Organization

Stratified Policing Overview

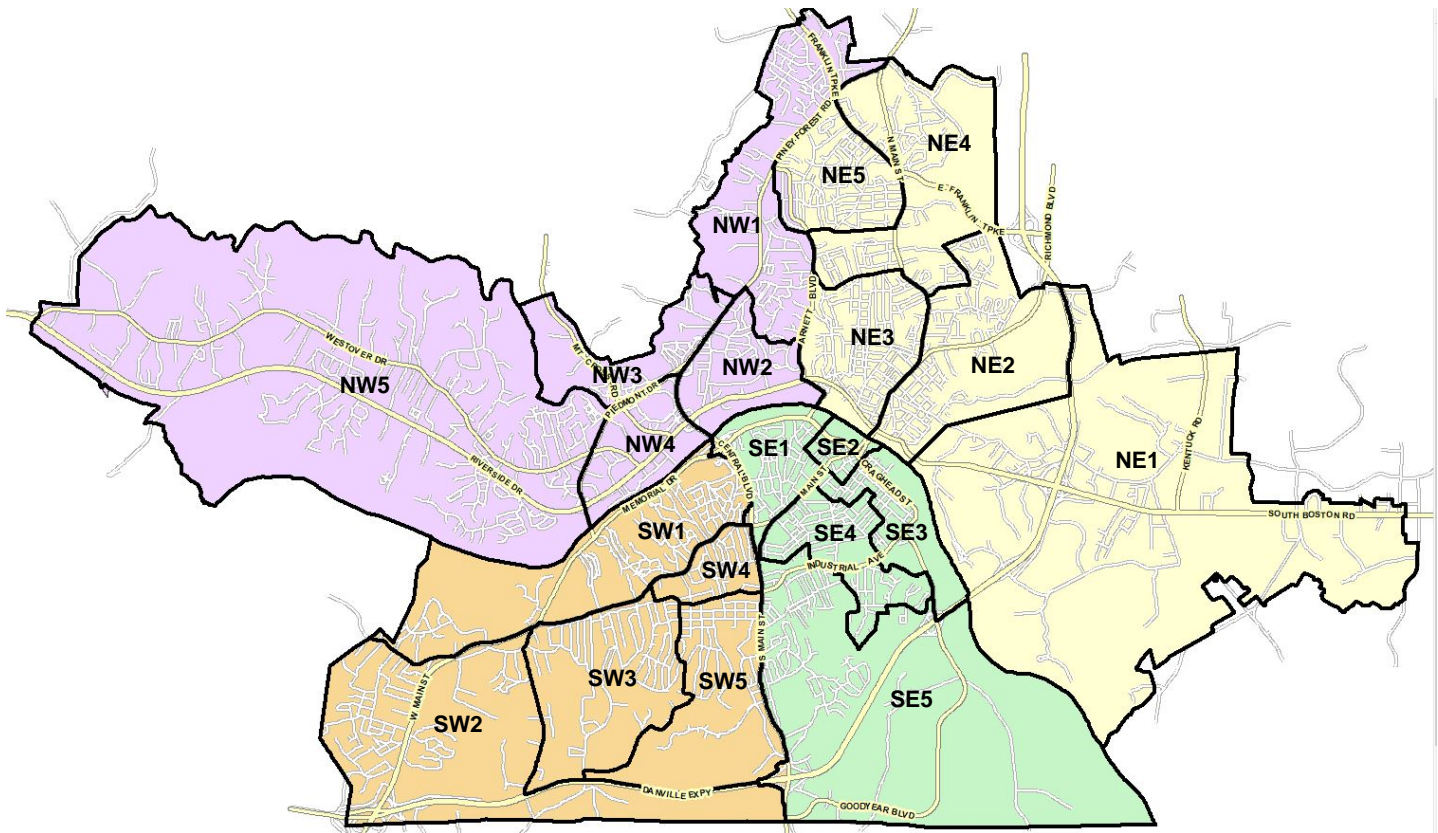
Danville Police formally adopted Stratified Policing as its organizational model for crime reduction. Stratified Policing begins with the fact that the police address crime, disorder, and quality of life issues at different levels within the community that include immediate, short-term, and long-term problems. It takes what we know works from research and best police practices and “makes them work” in the police organization. Stratified Policing is an organizational model that includes specific processes to implement evidenced-based proactive crime reduction strategies and impact problems at each level. Within the day-to-day operations of the police agency, place-based, problem-solving, person-focused, and community-based approaches are implemented for each type of problem in the most effective and efficient ways.

Problem stratification is matched to the rank structure of the police department which spreads the work across the organization and creates realistic expectations for each person based on their current responsibilities. By separating and distinguishing the types of problems by their complexity, different analyses, responses, and accountability mechanisms are carried out by different personnel within the agency which “stratifies” the workload and responsibility for proactive crime reduction. A structure of specific accountability meetings brings people together to regularly facilitate coordination and communication as well as reaffirm crime reduction priorities of the agency and community. Stratified Policing reduces crime, disorder, and improves quality of life in the community by implementing the most effective strategies in meaningful and efficient ways. In addition, it improves communication within the department, as well as enhances transparency, promotes leadership, and ensures the work is being done effectively and consistently.



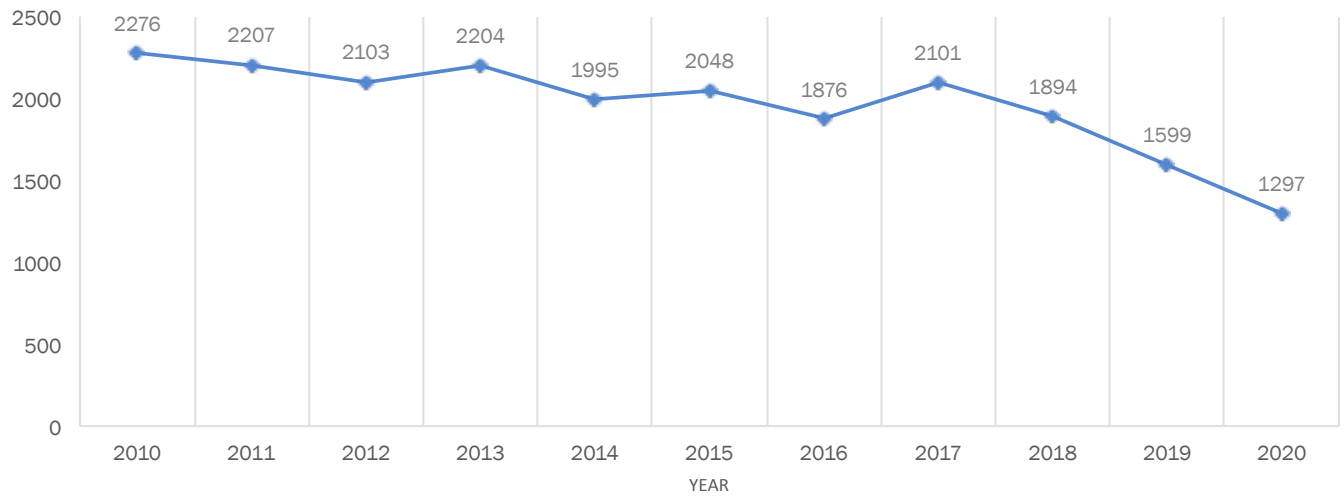
Department Organization

In 2020, the department integrated Neighborhood Oriented Policing (NOP) into its model to take geographic responsibility and group officers together to meet as many of the needs of a particular area as possible. This broke the city up into four quarters, Northwest, Northeast, Southwest and Southeast, assigning a Lieutenant and their officers to each quarter to provide consistency and leadership over each quarter of the city. NOP is designed to promote communication between officers and the people they serve in order to promote cooperative peacekeeping and the identification of local problems. This would naturally increase interaction between the police and the public while holding the Danville Police Department officers more accountable to the citizens who we serve. While we introduced the Neighborhood Oriented Policing in December of 2020, we will have more information to follow on the positive impact it had on the city in 2021.



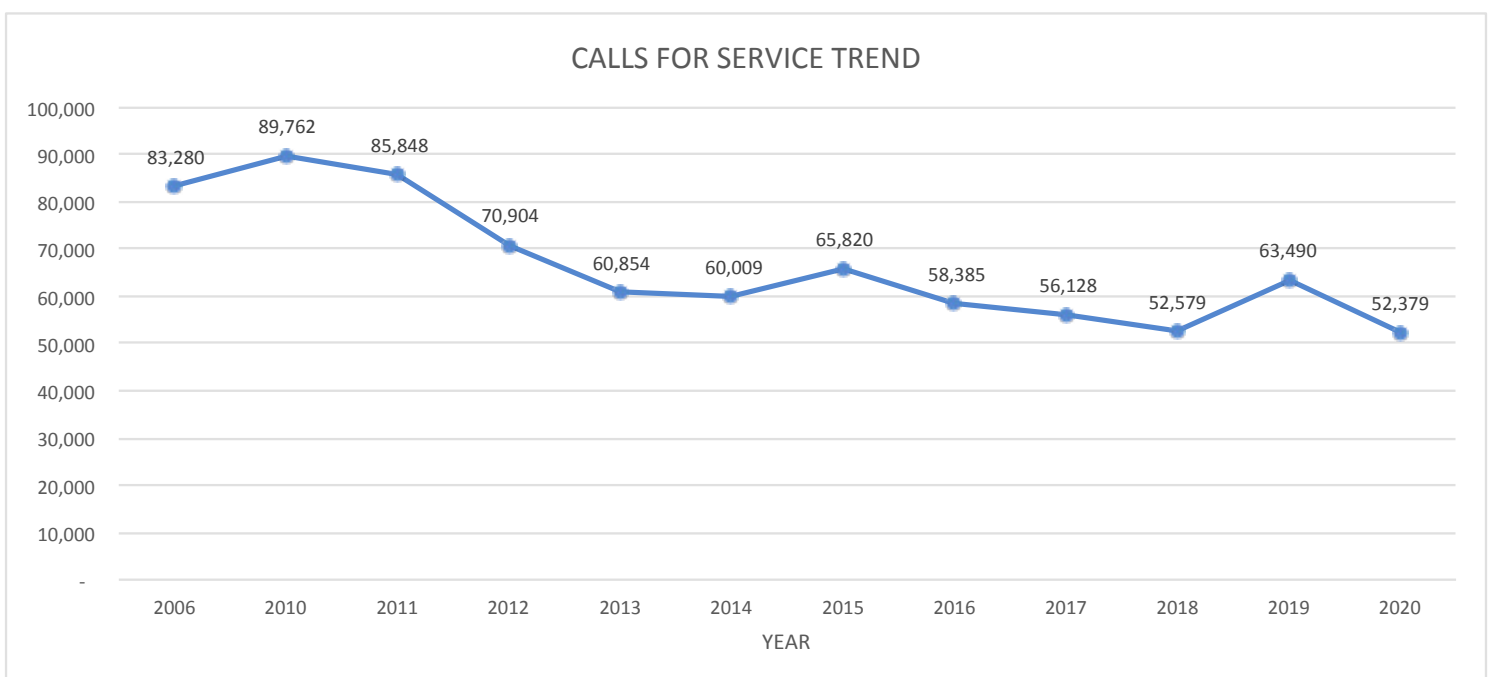
By the Numbers

MAJOR CRIME TEN YEAR TREND



By the Numbers

Call Type	Number of Calls
Alarms	4,140
Disturbance, Fight, Keep the Peace	2,863
Animal Calls	1,825
Suspicious – Person, Object, Circumstances, Vehicle	1,854
Theft	1,332
Vehicle Crash/Hit and Run	2,218
911 Hang Up Calls	3,976
Traffic Hazards	629
Trespassing	1,041
Damage, Vandalism, Mischief	656
Welfare Check	1,568
Domestic Violence	869
Hit and Run	444
Burglary – Breaking & Entering	270
Assault	472
Shots Fired	658
Community Engagement	1,704
Weapons Violation	217
All Other	25,643
Total Calls for Service	52,379



Operations and Investigations

HOMICIDES

In 2020, the City of Danville investigated five (5) homicides. All five cases were cleared by the arrest of the offender.

Ongoing cold case investigations led to homicide charges in two (2) 2016 homicides and one 2017 homicide. The 2016 homicides of Mark Graves (9-30-2016) and Jonathan McDonald Hamlett (10-05-2016) were cleared by arrest, along with the 2017 homicide of Fenqwan Tayshon Payne (5-31-2017).

Over the last 3 years the Danville Police Department has now made an arrest in 28 homicide cases while the City suffered 24 total homicides. 7 cold cases were solved over that period, while 3 of the last 24 remain open and active investigations. The Department's 3 year homicide clearance rate is now 87.5%.

PROPERTY CRIMES

For 2020, a focus was placed on problem offenders who are responsible for larcenies and burglaries in the community. Using the stratified police model, adding bulletins, and sharing the responsibility for lowering these crimes saw a continuation in reductions. For 2019, Danville PD reported a total of 180 burglaries, a number lower than any year in recorded history of NIBRS (National Incident Based Reporting Standards). The trend continued for 2020 with a new reported low total of 114 total burglaries. The COVID 19 pandemic may have played a role in some property crime reductions, but the focus and model combined led to a total reduction in property crime of 24% for 2020. The property crimes unit of the Investigation Bureau solved burglaries at 43%, more than three times the FBI National average of 13.9%.

VIOLENT CRIMES

Coming off the lowest total for NIBRS violent crimes since 1989, the Danville Police Department continued positive results in its efforts to reduce violent crime in 2020. The 2020 total of 12 robberies is lower than any year since the NIBRS reporting started in 1985, and a 48% decline from 2019. The total of 5 homicides was a reduction from 2019 of 44%. Aggravated assaults saw a slight increase of 75 from 68 in 2019, a 10% increase. The Department reported a total reduction in violent crime of 4%.



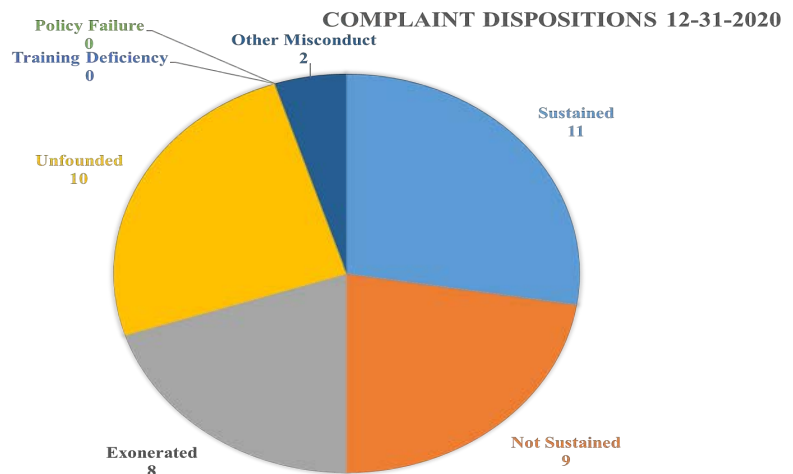
Professional Standards

Professional Standards reports directly to the Chief of Police and is responsible for the review of all use of force reports, complaints and accreditation. Policy defines force as “the application of physical technique or tactics, chemical agents or weapons to another person.” There were 121 documented use of force reports in 2020 that ranged from “hands-on” force, pepper spray and use of a Taser. Officers made 3,911 physical arrests and served 398 emergency custody orders in 2020 - meaning that 2.9 % of combined total arrests/ECO’s resulted in a documented use of force.

As anticipated, policy changes in 2020 resulted in an increased use of force reporting – particularly in the “hands-on” category of physical force. Looking ahead into 2021, the department is implementing a new internal affairs software for reporting use of force, vehicle pursuits, accidents, discipline, awards and complaints.

Currently, one use of force incident could include more than one officer using force and more than one subject having force used on them. Each use of force incident only captured what happens between one officer and one citizen. Subsequent uses of force by other officers or that involve additional offenders will have their own specific use of force identifier. Due to these differences, overall use of force incidents may appear higher after the new software implementation than previous years.

Use of Force		Vehicle Pursuits		Complaints	
Summary	2020	Summary	2020	Summary	2020
Total Use of Force Incidents	121	Total Vehicle Pursuits	13	Total Complaints	40
Primary Type of Force Used		Accidents		Categories	
Asp Baton	0	Officer	0	Conduct Unbecoming	9
Taser Probe	2	Offender	3	Criminal	1
Taser Drive Stun	1	Injuries		Demeanor	10
Physical*	77	Officer Injury	0	Job Performance	10
OC Spray	1	Offender Injury	1	Legal Procedure	6
Point Firearm	21			Use of Force	1
Point Taser	4			Other	3
Preplanned Tactical Operation	15				
Discharge Firearm**	0				
Injuries					
Officer Injury	13				
Offender Injury	24				
*Physical force includes use of hands					
**Does not include discharging firearm for the euthanization of an animal.					



DPD Community Engagement





DPD Community Engagement

The Danville Police Department Community Engagement Unit re-branded their unit to P.E.A.C.E. with Police by creating a new logo and new programs to show unity between the police and community members. P.E.A.C.E. stands for Police Embrace Active Community Engagement. The department purchased new swag (stuff we all get) items such as t-shirts, stickers, handbags, and face masks with the new logo on it to handout to community members at different programs and events. We also created brochures with the new logo that listed in detail the new programs the police department has to offer.



DPD Community Engagement



IDDU Program (Incarceration Doesn't Define Us) was created in September of 2020 by our new Community Relations Liaison, Ashtyn Foddrell. This is an 8-week program that previously incarcerated individuals can go through to help them get back on their feet and be successful. This program is offered within the Adult Detention Center and in the community upon release.

Mission: Education | Collaboration | Understanding

The IDDU Program will focus on a restorative community that values respect, opportunity, forgiveness, accountability and access for current and previously incarcerated individuals through career coaching, mentorship, and readiness skills.

Vision: This program will help previously incarcerated individuals integrate back into the community. This will lead to decreased recidivism rates, and increased partnerships within the community to create opportunities and support for a successful future.

8-Week Program Agenda:

Week 1: Introduction to the Program/Get to Know

Week 2: Job Readiness

Week 3: Jobs Continued

Week 4: Housing

Week 5: Education

Week 6: Laws and Possible Consequences- Pass the Perspective

Week 7: Identification Card and Managing Money

Week 8: Graduation

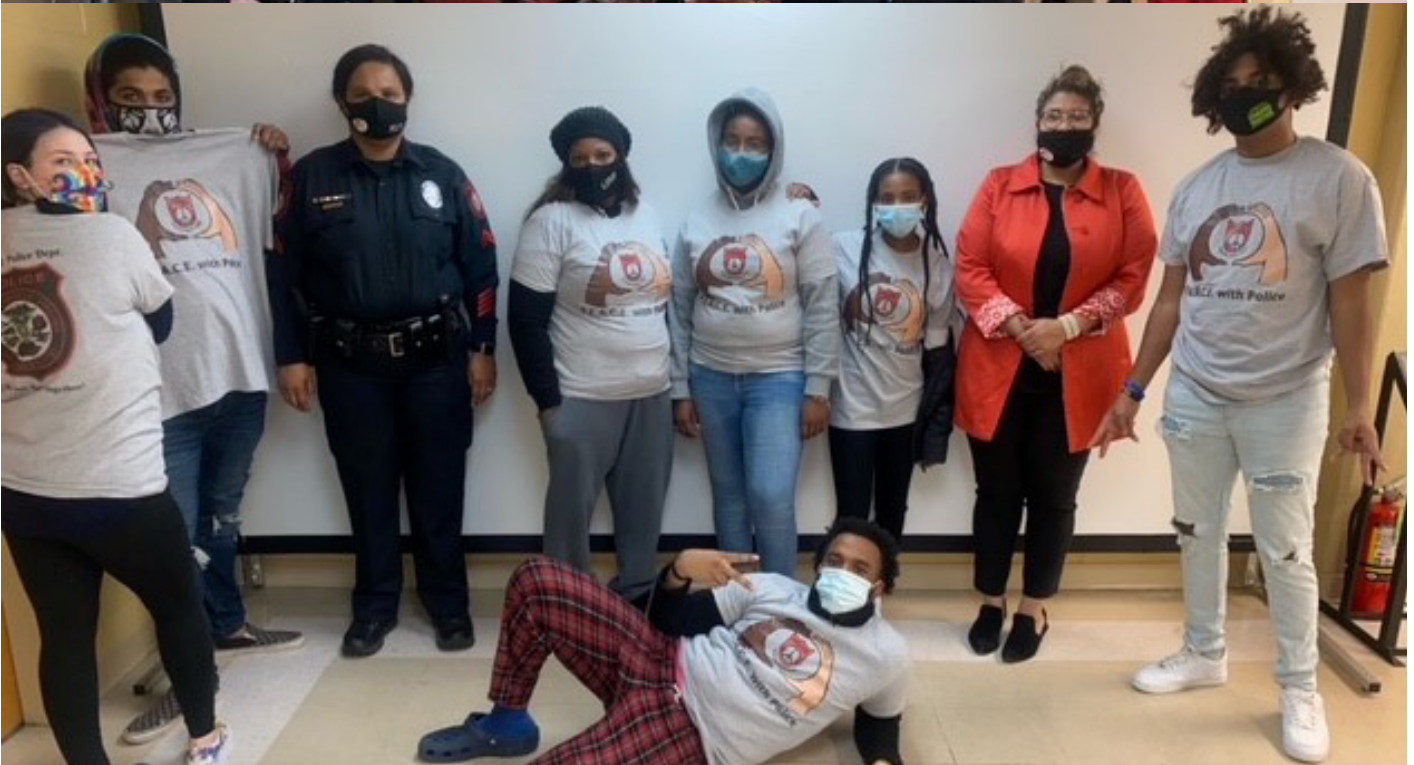
Clothes Closet- A Clothes Closet was also opened in result to this program at Holy Grounds Café and Gathering Place on Piney Forest Road for individuals who are going through the program to get access to clothes and shoes for work and interviews.

In 2020, we had eight individuals graduate from the program.

IDDU

Pass the Perspective

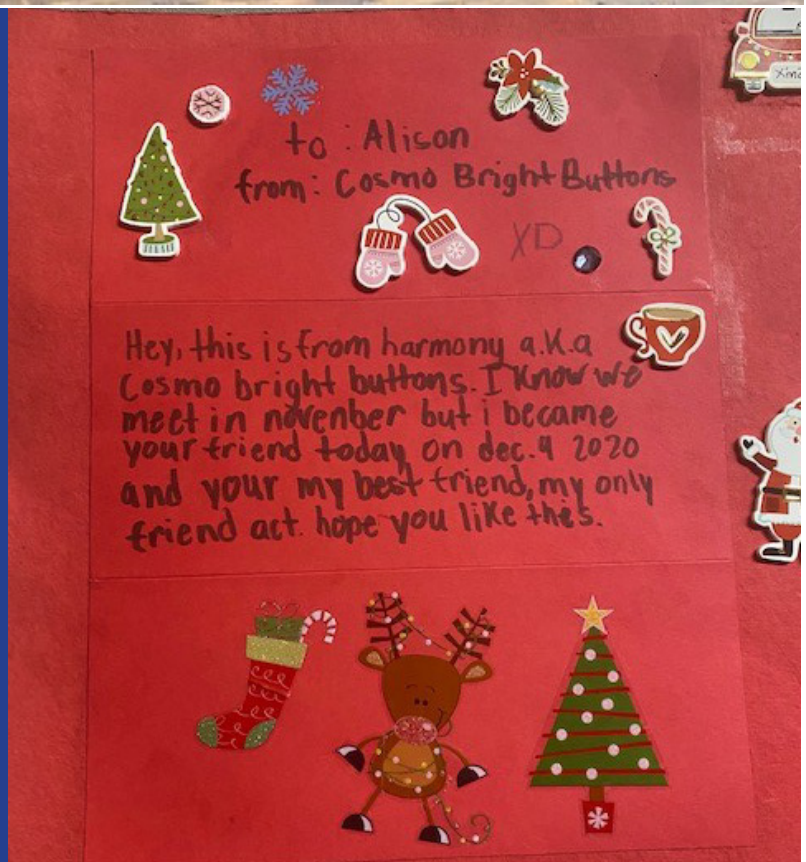
This program is designed for youth ages 13-17 and adults to gain the inside perspective on police work as well as openly share their thoughts on police officers and ways we can better serve the community and our youth. Along with the discussion is information on what to do when pulled over by the police and our Milo system (interactive video-trainer).



Positively Pretty



Positively Pretty will assist girls in middle and high school to develop positive self-esteem, confidence and value in how beautiful they are inside and out. Through this program, girls will receive mentorship from empowering women on good health and hygiene tactics, positive body image, and provide inspirational talks and group activities. This program is once per month and is open to any middle or high-school aged female in the City of Danville.



DPD 2020 Events



DPD Halloween Event- Due to Covid-19 and kids not able to trick-or-treat like normal, the police department hosted a drive through event for kids to receive candy from different officers and members of the department. We handed out 2,000 bags of candy to kids 16 and under. We used all of the CDC's guidelines and protocol to follow best practices, providing our own PEACE with Police candy bags while wearing face masks and not allowing citizens to get out of their cars.

Many community members stepped up to donate the candy for the event.



Operation Turkey Giveaway: The police department along with community partners held a boxed turkey dinner giveaway for citizens in Danville who may have not had the extra funds to provide Thanksgiving for their family. We were able to handout 100 turkey boxed dinners. The dinners included a turkey and/or ham, canned good items, dessert, potatoes, rolls and more.



The Danville Police Department held the Toy Express at our Green Street Precinct for kids to be able to come and pick out a toy for free. We were able to give away over 1,000 toys to the community while offering holiday music and snacks.



New Hires and Retirees

The swearing in ceremony is a special moment for new officers and veteran officers alike. Along with the Oath of Office, all officers take the Law Enforcement Oath of Honor. The International Association of Chiefs of Police develop the Oath of Honor to provide “the law enforcement profession with a concise, powerful and universal process by which officers can affirm and periodically reaffirm their ethical values and beliefs¹”.



Law Enforcement Oath of Honor

*On my honor, I will never
betray my badge, my integrity,
my character or the public trust.*

*I will always have the courage to hold
myself and others accountable for our actions.*

*I will always uphold the
constitution, my community, and the
agency I serve.*

¹theiacp.org

New Hires and Retirees

Seven new support staff joined our team in 2020.



Ashley Crowder
Animal Control Officer



Penny Bryant
Quarter Master



Carolyn Cooper
Police Records Clerk



Chelena Merriman
Senior Administrative Asst.



Ashtyn Foddrell
Community Relations Liaison



Scott Spalding
Police Chaplain



Ernest Coppage
Police Chaplain



Officers: (Left to right)
M.K. Cagle, Z.T. Davis,
T.J. Graves, S. L. Hughes,
B.T. McLaughlin,
C.D. Young

We bid a “Happy Retirement” to six of our personnel in 2020.



Officer R.T. Payne



Corporal S.G. Wiles-Lipscomb



Lieutenant G.A. Wilson



Lieutenant S.A. Eanes



Lieutenant S.R. Yeaman



Captain M.V. Carter

Achievements and Awards

Chief Booth promoted eighteen officers in December of 2020

Corporals



(Left to Right)- J. Wood, W. Shively, B. Langley, K. Shackett, S. Cannaday, J. Amos, B. Crozier



Sergeants

(Left to Right)- E. Wilson, C. Goins, C. Morris, D. Ferguson, A. Harn, J. Dixon,

Lieutenants



(Left to Right)- J. Pulley, C. Snead, J. West, E. Ellis, S. High



Captain R. Chivvis

Achievements and Awards

Department Awards



Unit Commendation - Property Crimes

Lt. Michael Wallace, Off. Peter Bailey, Lt. John Pulley,
Det. Randy Merrill, Cpl. Benjamin Langley, Det. Roger Woody

Unit Commendation - Vice Narcotics

Lt. David Whitley, Cpl. William Shively, Sgt. Jonathan Epps,
Det. Tyrone Russell, Cpl. Derrick Lancaster

Meritorious Service Medal

Cpl. Samantha Wiles-Lipscomb

Officer of the Year

Off. Jesse Booth

Specialty Officer of the Year

Cpl. William Shively

Supervisor of the Year

Lt. Johnny West

Life Saving Medal

Off. Jesse Booth, Off. Walker Eason, Off. Gerritt Clay, Off. Jordan Land

Partnership Award

Norma Brower (Danville Community Development Department),
Melanie Tosh (Danville-Pittsylvania County Community Services),
Amanda Oakes (Regional Alliance for Substance Abuse Prevention),
Special Agent Matt Wade (Virginia State Police),
Rachel Swartz (U.S. Attorney's Office Western District of Virginia)

Distinguished Service Medal

Capt. Henry Richardson, Capt. Keith Thompson

Chief's Award

Ashtyn Foddrell, Donald Smith, Lt. David Whitley



Achievements and Awards

Excellence in Policing

Chief Scott C. Booth was the Radford University Center for Police Practice, Police and Research's 2020 Excellence in Policing award recipient. The annual award is given to a current sworn police officer, supervisor, commander or executive who is a leader in his or her agency and has been a champion for implementing innovative strategies that bring about change and improving policing. Chief Booth was recognized for his implementation of the stratified policing approach to reduce one of the highest violent crime rates in Virginia. Through his leadership, the City of Danville saw significant reductions in both property and violent crime rates.



Innovative Use of Technology

Faro Focus S70 Scanner & Dell Precision 7740 Laptop



The Danville Police Department acquired this Faro Focus S70 Scanner and all of the necessary equipment to operate it in early 2020. The funding for the equipment came partially from a grant and the rest came out of the department's budget (\$34,281 from Grant, \$23,410.81 from budget). Training on how to operate the equipment was part of the purchase and four of the department's crime scene technicians received operator certificates. This equipment is used to create a scaled 3D rendering of crime scenes that can later be used to assist the investigation and prosecution of a case. It can also be used in court by the Commonwealth Attorney to allow the jury to virtually walk through the crime scene as it appeared at the time it occurred. This technology has already been used on 27 crime scenes.

Innovative Use of Technology

In 2020, the Danville Police Department elected to purchase and utilize SmartForce, a web-based, share point application for optimizing communication and police operations. SmartForce enables department-wide personnel to organize and visualize information; thereby, providing a forum for two-way communication and collaboration. The enhanced technology of SmartForce removes the Danville Police Department's reliability on e-mail as it's primary form of communication when dissemination of information is critical.

The shift briefing dashboard enables officers that miss a roll call briefing to quickly get back up to speed and search past briefing data, "be on the lookout" (BOLO) alerts, photos, and videos. The Operational Discussions provide for increased collaboration and speed with your crime projects so your officers can problem solve and make arrests instead of writing more reports on crimes that have already happened. Breaking Alerts and Announcements keeps officers informed with up-to-date information on critical events, officer safety, or other need-to-know information.

SMARTFORCE Search this site

Command ▾ Operations ▾ Patrol Quarters ▾ Tactical ▾ Services ▾ Community ▾ Committees ▾ Support User Guide

Home

+ New ▾ Page details Analytics Published 5/21/2021 Edit

Alerts

Training Alert	Youth Mobile Crisis Program Remember to take advantage of the new Youth Mobile Crisis Program. While this program is currently avail...
Admin Alert	DPCS Emergency Services has returned to routine operations effective 6/1/2021 DPCS Emergency Services has returne...
Award Alert	May 2021 Specialty Officer of the Month - Congratulations Corporal R.P. Wright! In May of 2021, Corporal R. P. Wriht...
Award Alert	May 2021 Officer of the Month - Congratulations to Officer N.E. Pickrell! On May 20, 2021, Officer Pickrell answered a call...

Announcements

Executive Order 72 - COVID-19 Restrictions - Effective May 15	Operations
Danville General District Court 2021 Schedule - Updated 5-10-2021	Operations
NOP Quarter and Zone Map	Command

Shift Briefings

Patrol Shift Bulletin	Patrol Bureau	Night	6/15/2021
Patrol Duty Roster	Patrol Bureau	Summary	6/15/2021
RMS Daily Bulletin	Records	Summary	6/15/2021
Active Warrant List	Records	Summary	6/15/2021

Photo: A group of police officers standing in front of a Danville Police patrol car.

Innovative New Program

OPIOID RESPONSE/ C.O.R.E/ NALOXONE DISTRIBUTION

In early 2020, the Danville Police Department led an Opioid Response partnership, bringing together public health and public safety partner to better address opioid addiction within the community. This model added a new emphasis on treating addicts as victims, while partnering with agencies to get services to the individuals in need. The Virginia Health Department provided Naloxone/ Narcan for every Danville Police officer, as well as training on the use of the equipment.



Danville Pittsylvania Community Services and RASAP provided the funds for carrying cases for each officer, which allowed for Naloxone to be deployed on every officer in May of 2020. The opioid response included new policies as DPD took the lead in responding to all overdoses or even suspected overdoses by healthcare partners. The incident were then tracked through incident reports and added to OD Map for national tracking. The Danville Police Department opioid response included a new partnership with Danville Pittsylvania Community Services titled C.O.R.E. for Community Opioid Response and Engagement. The C.O.R.E. program is another potential life-saving program aimed at intervention for victims of addiction. On every reported overdose case, a Danville detective partners with mental health experts to go meet the victim

and their families to offer services. Public messages on the dangers and options for assistance were issued through River City TV, Danville PD social media, public service announcements funded through RASAP, and public events such as the RASAP drug take back days.



The results of the intervention programs are hard to quantify as 2020 was the first full year of data, but deaths and total overdoses appear down from

2019 by all measurable data, which is a contrast to the national trends of 2020. The Danville Police Department deployed Naloxone in at least 5 life-saving situations after being deployed in May 2020

Moving forward, the opioid response group, led by the Danville Police Department, is looking at 24-hour phone lines for individuals seeking assistance and new programs as COVID 19 restrictions are lifted.



In Memoriam



Chelena L. Merriman

Chelena joined us on May 1st, 2020 and passed away on April 25th, 2021

Looking Ahead

Looking ahead into 2021 we anticipate a continued focus on our main goals of reducing violent crime and community engagement. It has been a long year for all of us with the negative effects of the pandemic. We are excited to emerge and create new and exciting programs and events for our community. Nationwide, COVID-19 has created an issue with filling departmental vacancies. Although this may continue to be a challenge, we are excited to focus heavily on our recruitment and retention efforts. We plan to create a wellness and appreciation program for our officers over the next year. The department would love to get community members, businesses and organizations, and other local capacities involved in helping us with this priority. Furthermore, we look forward to the construction of our new police department and the revitalization of our Green Street Precinct into a community center. We continue into 2021 where we will work on bridging gaps and connecting communities.

