

The background of the entire page features a stylized American flag motif. The top half is black with a grid of small, light gray stars. The bottom half consists of horizontal stripes: a blue stripe, followed by two dark gray, textured stripes, and a final dark gray, textured stripe at the very bottom. The text is overlaid on these stripes.

Willkesboro Police

Department

2017

Annual Report

# **Table of Contents**

## ***Letter from Chief of Police***

## ***Agency***

- I.     *Mission Statement***
- II.    *Organizational Chart***
- III.   *Accreditation***
- IV.    *Retirement***
- V.     *Promotions***
- VI.    *New Employee***
- VII.   *Patrol Operations Division***
- VIII.   *Support Operations Division***

## ***Annual Review and Analysis***

- I.     *Response to Aggression***
- II.    *Internal Affairs/Complaints***
- III.   *Vehicle Pursuits***

## ***Performance Reports***

- I.     *Crime Index***
- II.    *Non-Index Crimes***
- III.   *Traffic Data***
- IV.    *Drug Summary***
- V.     *Arrest Data***
- VI.    *Department Training***
- VII.   *Community Service***

**Message from the Chief of Police,  
Craig Garris**



*Welcome to the Wilkesboro Police Department,*

*I invite you to learn more about us by reviewing our Annual Report, telephoning us, or visiting us in person or online. The men and women of our department take great pride in serving this beautiful historic community.*

*I am honored to serve the residents of the Town of Wilkesboro as your Chief of Police. I am also proud to support the accomplishments and fine work of the men and women of this department that continually provide quality service each and every day, to provide you with the best policing services available.*

*Allow me to extend my personal appreciation to our fine citizens, local officials, and the officers and employees of the Wilkesboro Police Department for their gracious support of me and the professional law enforcement services we provide.*

*It is my goal our officers work each and every day to strive for the Responsibility of Service and Leadership with Integrity and Conviction.*

*Sincerely,*

*Craig Garris*

## **Mission Statement of the Wilkesboro Police Department**

The mission of the men and women of the Wilkesboro Police Department is to strive for the impartial enforcement of state and local laws to foster the peaceful environment of our citizens. We will establish community partnerships by providing proactive police services aimed at crime reduction and the protection of life and property. By ethical interactions with those we serve, we will garner the mutual respect that provides the cornerstone of trust our citizens deserve.

## **Law Enforcement Code of Ethics**

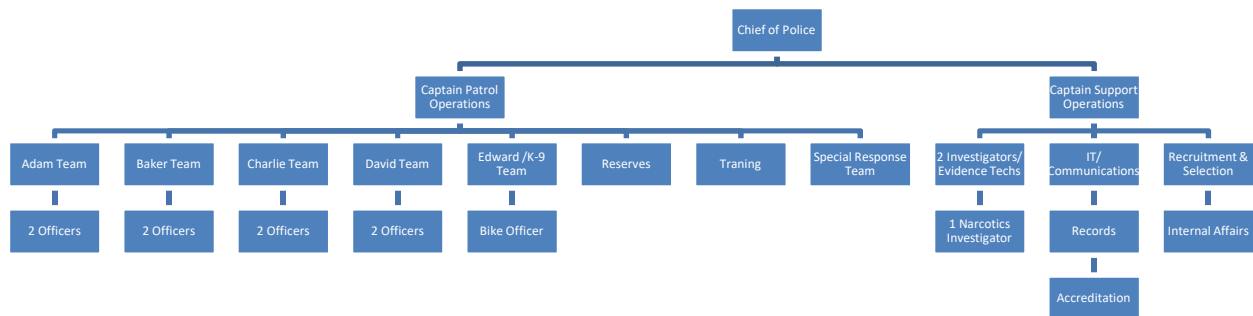
As a Law Enforcement Officer, my fundamental duty is to serve mankind; to safeguard lives and property; to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation, and the peaceful against violence or disorder; and to respect the Constitutional rights of all men to liberty, equality and justice.

I will keep my private life unsullied as an example to all; maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn, or ridicule; develop self-restraint; and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed in both my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the laws of the land and the regulations of my department. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature or that is confided to me in my official capacity will be kept ever secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duty.

I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings, prejudices, animosities, or friendships to influence my decisions. With no compromise for crime and with relentless prosecution of criminals, I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice or ill will, never employing unnecessary force or violence and never accepting gratuities.

I recognize the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of the police service. I will constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession...law enforcement.

# 2017 Organizational Chart





## **CALEA**

CALEA is an acronym for the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. The purpose of this program is to improve the delivery of public safety services by maintaining a body of standards developed by public safety practitioners, establishing and maintaining an accreditation process, and recognizing professional excellence. The accreditation process involves a complete review of departmental standards and an inspection of compliance with those standards. The review is conducted by independent experts

in the field of law enforcement, who come from all over the United States. The auditors spend time with officers to ensure their understanding and knowledge of the CALEA process, and they also reach out to the community by allowing public comments on the quality of services provided by the Department.

CALEA is a departmental-wide function and is administered by the Support Operations Division Captain. Various compliance reports are assigned to different personnel within the department. Compliance reports include analyses, summaries, and evaluations that must be completed on a time sensitive schedule. The Support Operations Division Captain ensures that reports are completed and the Accreditation Manager maintains files of corresponding standards. Although CALEA requires a great deal of hard work on behalf of the Police Department and Town, it produces a number of benefits. Examples of benefits include international recognition, agency accountability, and professional excellence.

The Department was first awarded the CALEA accreditation on November 19, 2011. The Department went before the Commission and received our second reaccreditation at the CALEA conference in Jacksonville, Florida in November 2017.

## **2017 Promotions**



In September 2017, Investigator Rocky Moore was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. Lieutenant Moore has been with the Wilkesboro Police Department since March 2003.

## **2017 New Officer**



Officer Amber Toombs came to the department in September 2017. Officer Toombs completed her Basic Law Enforcement Training at Wilkes Community College.





## **Division Commander**

*Captain Jason Delbert*

## **Team Supervisors**

### ***Adam Team***

*Sgt. Nathan Wells*

### ***Baker Team***

*Sgt. Brian McManus*

### ***Charlie Team***

*Sgt. Philp Brown*

### ***David Team***

*Sgt. Ronnie Price*



## **Patrol Operations Division**

The Patrol Division is commanded by Captain Jason Delbert and is the largest section in the agency. There are 15 full-time and 2 part-time sworn officers assigned to the patrol division. The officers are divided into four teams of three officers. The four patrol teams each have a Sergeant. These teams work a rotating 12-hour schedule and they are the first staff members to respond to all crimes, including responding to 911 calls, calls for service, domestic disturbances and shopliftings. The Patrol Division operates under a patrol-based investigation approach to all crimes. All personnel assigned to the Patrol Division are responsible for taking a proactive approach to partnerships, prevention and problem solving in the Wilkesboro Community.

In 2017, the Patrol Division responded to 10,483 calls for service and completed 520 Crash Investigations, 685 Incident Reports, and 367 Arrest Reports and issued 1,546 Traffic Citations totaling 1,939 charges.

In September 2017, the Wilkesboro Police Department started a Police Explorer Program. The program is a youth lead organization designed to expose youth ages 14 – 20 years old to the Law Enforcement Profession.







### Division Commander

*Captain Tommy Rhodes*

### Investigators

*Lt. Rocky Moore*

*Inv. Chris Handy*

*Inv. Steve Rose*

*Inv. Chris Arnder*



## Support Operations Division

The Support Operations Division is commanded by Captain Tommy Rhodes and is staffed by four Investigators. Three of these investigators are assigned to handle felony crimes including homicide, rape, robbery, theft and fraud cases. One investigator is assigned to investigate drugs and vice cases. The investigators employ a team approach to major crime investigations, where multiple investigators are assigned to all major crimes such as a homicide, robbery and missing person cases. This division is also responsible for several other duties within the department to include; Evidence and Property Management, Quartermaster, Recruitment and Selection, Information Technology, Background Investigations and Law Enforcement Accreditation.

Two Investigators are trained in Crime Scene Investigation which allows the department to process most crime scenes without calling for assistance from outside agencies.



In 2017, the department had an officer involved shooting incident. While searching a home during a Breaking and Entering in Progress call officers were attacked by the suspect with an axe.

The agency recovered and or seized property valued at \$141,203. These items included 7 seven automobiles, 20 twenty firearms and miscellaneous jewelry. The agency had one Arson case reported in 2017. This case resulted in \$11,080 in damage to four businesses. The suspect was located a short time after the fires were set and arrested.

# ANNUAL REVIEW



# AND ANALYSIS

## **Response to Aggression**

Because the application of force on an individual by a police officer is subject to close scrutiny by society, the Wilkesboro Police Department investigates all incidents involving officers where some type of response was used on an individual. All responses must be reasonable and necessary. Each response to aggression incident is reviewed by the Division Commander and then by the Senior Command staff for compliance with policy and reasonableness of the response used.

During 2017, Wilkesboro Police Department Officers were involved in 9 Response to Aggression incidents. This was a 44% drop from the previous year. Part of this drop was the introduction of our reality-based training program to better teach officers how to deal with the public without having to use force unless necessary. All incidents in 2017 were reviewed and found to be within departmental policy. Below is a listing of the incidents for the last three years.

<b>Shift</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
<b>Day (0700-1900)</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Night (1900-0700)</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Division</b>			
<b>Patrol</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Support</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Suspect Activity</b>			
<b>Assaultive</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Non-Compliant</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Running/Evading</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Fighting</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Known Threat/Felony Stop</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Weapon Found on Suspect</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Officer Response</b>			
<b>Firearm (Drawn)</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Firearm (Fired)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Hands</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Taser</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Pepper Spray</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Response by Race</b>			
<b>White</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Black</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Other</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Response by Sex</b>			
<b>Male</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Female</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>5</b>

## **Internal Affairs/Complaints**

The Wilkesboro Police Department investigates all complaints received by the agency. Complaints may be received in writing, in person, by telephone, by email; anonymous complaints are accepted. The preferred method is in writing on a *Citizen Complaint Form*.

The agency uses a two-tiered investigative system that involves the First Line Supervisors for minor complaints that may be a misunderstanding of policy or procedures and a formal investigation for more serious complaints. All officers assigned to internal investigations have specialized training in internal investigative affairs. The Chief of Police assigns all complaints to either a First Line Supervisor, Division Commander or to Internal Affairs for a complete investigation.

The agency investigated three complaints filed in 2017 on employees of the Wilkesboro Police Department. Of the complaints all were on full-time officers from the Patrol Operations Division. The three complaints were received from citizen/officer encounters. Below is a breakdown of the complaints:

<b>Complaint Origin</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>
<b>Citizen</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Internal</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Originating Action</b>			
<b>Traffic Stop</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Arrest</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Officers Conduct</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Disposition</b>			
<b>Sustained</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Not Sustained</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Unfounded</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Exonerated</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>

### **Definitions**

**Sustained-** The allegation is supported by sufficient evidence to believe the incident complained of occurred

**Not Sustained-** Investigation discloses insufficient evidence either to prove or disprove the allegation

**Unfounded-** The investigation disclosed that the act complained of never occurred and therefore is false

**Exonerated-** The incident complained of occurred; however, the actions of the staff member were lawful and proper

## **Vehicle Pursuits**



During 2017, the Wilkesboro Police Department had six (6) Motor Vehicle Pursuits. In 2016, the agency had five Motor Vehicle Pursuits. Of the six pursuits in 2017 only two occurred during day shift and four occurred during night shift. The average duration of the pursuits was 7.5 minutes. The average distance the pursuits covered was 3.9 miles. The longest pursuit traveled 12.57 miles and lasted twenty-nine minutes. The pursuits were initiated due to a variety of driving behaviors to include Careless and Reckless Driving, Speeding and Prearranged Speed Competition. A total of forty-four charges were filed in 2017 involving police pursuits. Three of the pursuits were terminated due to the suspect driving careless and reckless and driving toward a populated area. The longest pursuit was terminated due to the suspect driving careless and reckless. This pursuit was traveling into Alexander County when the officer stopped. The suspect continued into Alexander County where he crashed and was apprehended with no injuries. All of the pursuits were reviewed by the agencies command staff and found to be within departmental policy.

# Performance



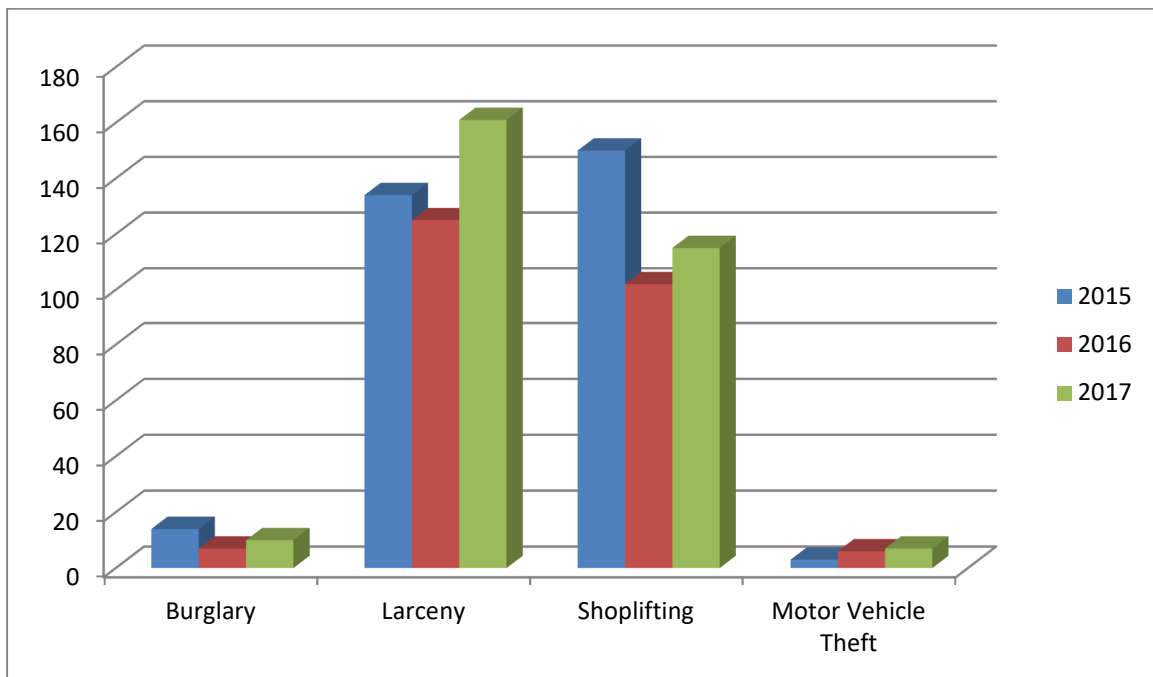
# Reports



## Crime Index

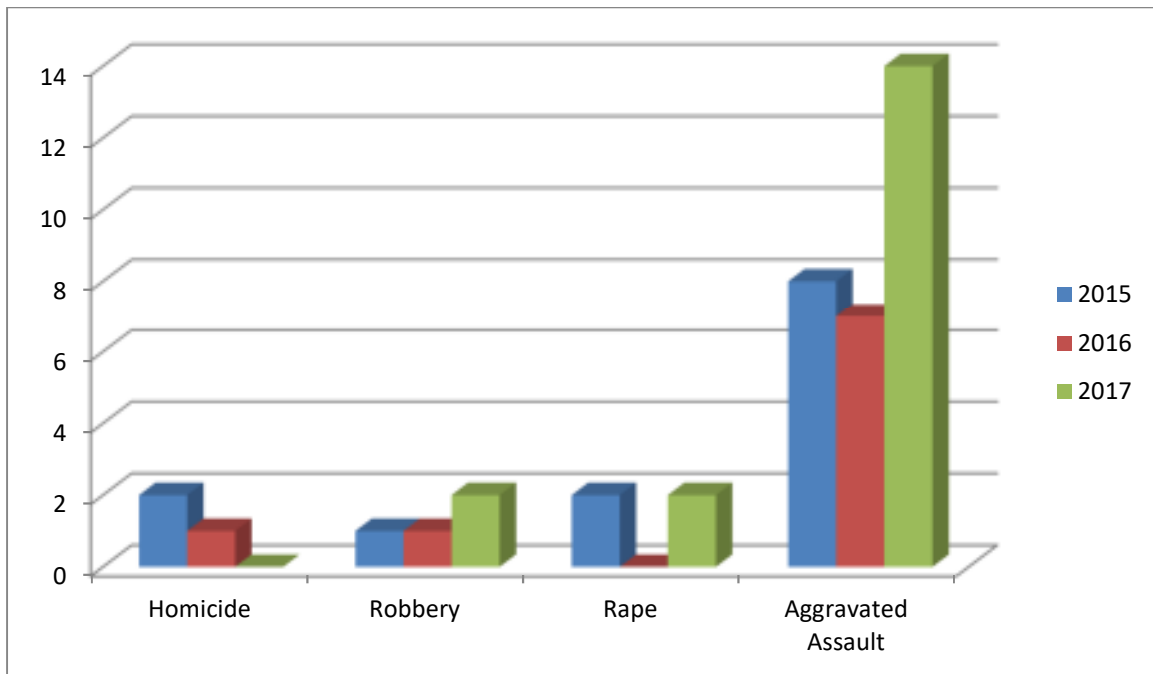
On a monthly basis, the Wilkesboro Police Department sends crime statistics to the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigation (SBI) Research and Planning Division. The SBI and FBI compile the data at the state and national levels into the Uniform Crime Reporting Program (UCR). The UCR program is based on a crime index. The Crime Index consists of seven major crimes selected for their serious nature, their frequency of occurrence and on the reliability of reporting from citizens to law enforcement agencies. The Crime Index includes the violent crimes of homicide, rape, robbery and aggressive assault; and the property crimes of burglary, larceny and motor vehicle theft. The Crime Index is used when comparing crime rates and statistics for various cities, towns and counties across the United States.

### Crime Index - Property Crimes



The agency had an increase in all areas of Property Index-Crimes. The largest increase was in the number of Larceny cases in 2017. Shoplifting cases also increased by 12.7%.

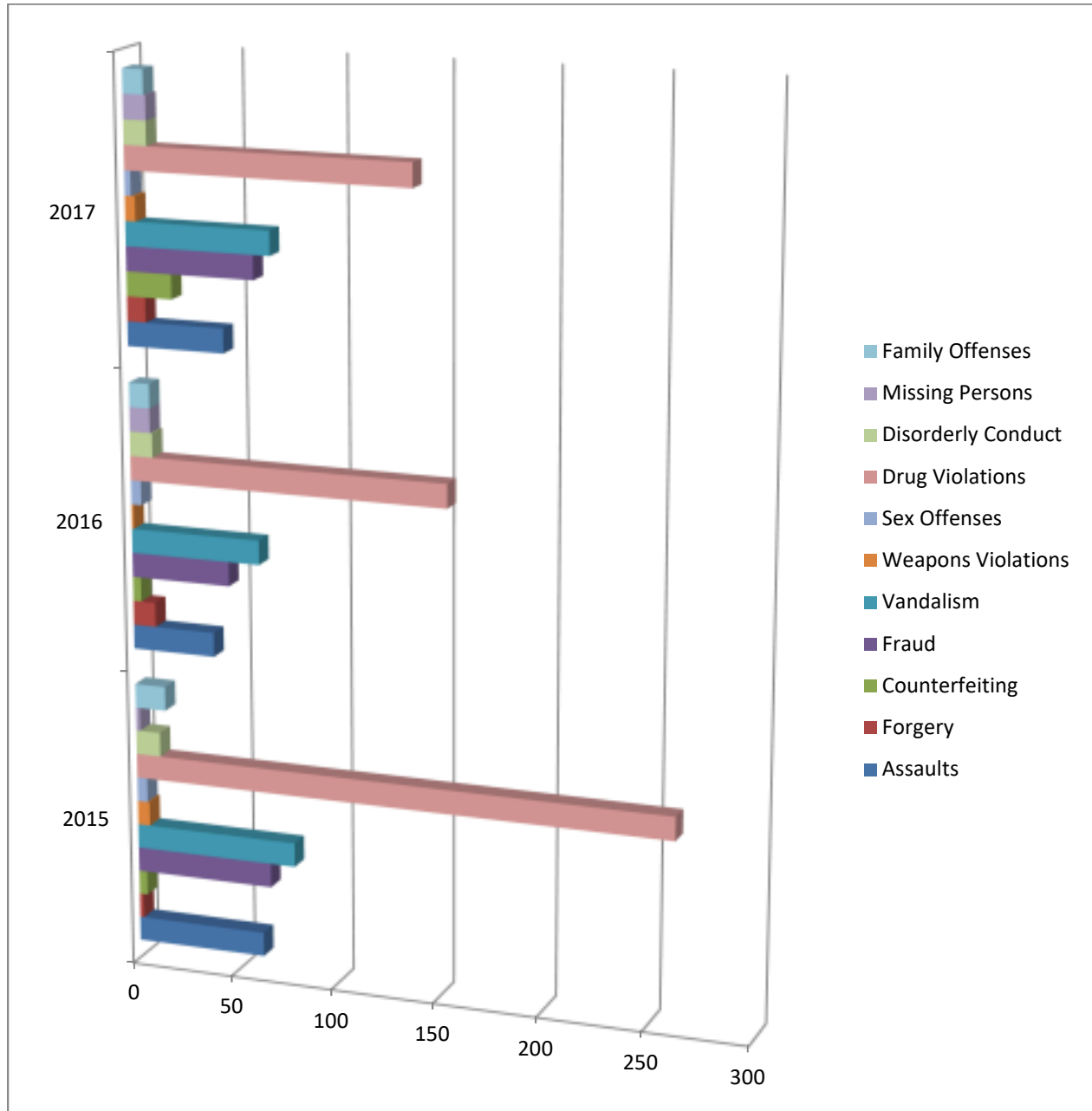
## Crime Index - Violent Crimes



In 2017, the agency did not have any Homicides. A spike in Aggravated Assaults was seen in 2017.

## Non-Index Crimes

The Non-Index crimes are crimes that consist of non-physical confrontation or incidents reported that are not considered to be life threatening. These crimes are taken seriously as many times they are an indication of the quality of life in a community.

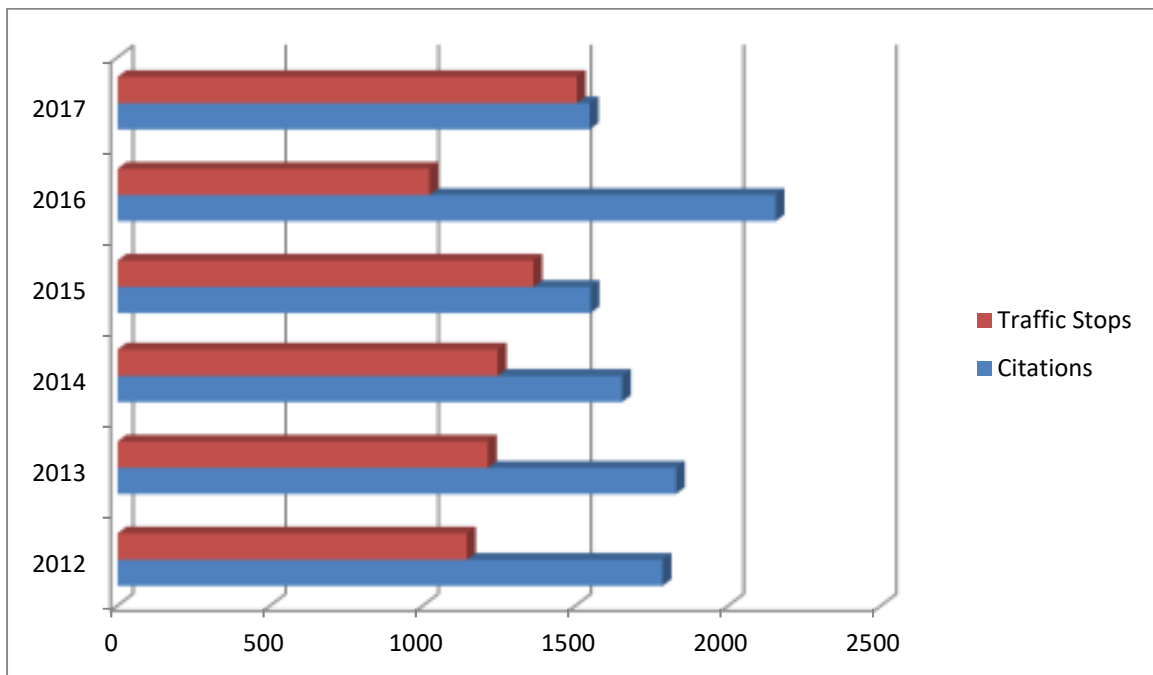


The most notable Non-Index Crime statistic in 2017 was Drug Violation Incidents. During 2017, officers have continued to be proactive in traffic stops though the Drug Violations have decreased.

## Traffic Data

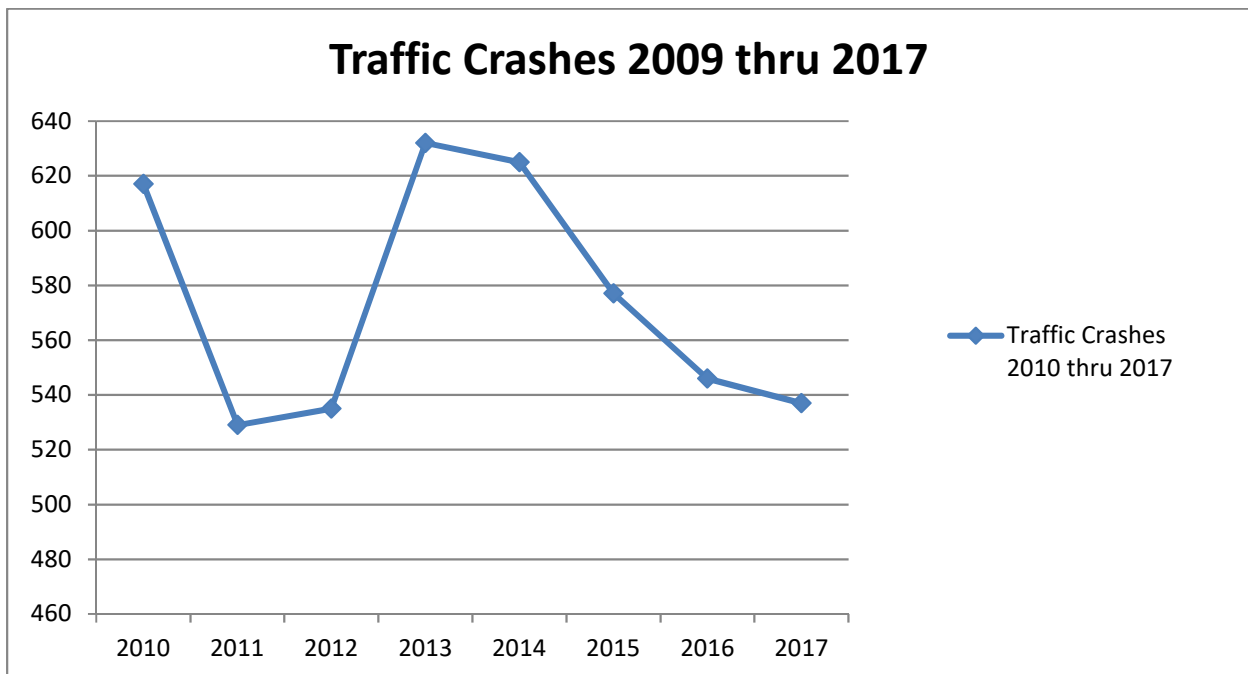
### Citations

Citations differ from arrests in law enforcement reporting. Citations are primarily issued to offenders charged with infractions or minor misdemeanors that do not require the signing or the posting of a bond (waivable offenses). Citations are written for traffic violations, violation of ABC Laws, violations of the Town Ordinances and other minor violations that are not included in the UCR totals for a given year. In 2017, officers of the Wilkesboro Police Department issued 1,546 citations and conducted 1,504 traffic stops.



## Traffic Crashes

In 2017, officers of the Wilkesboro Police Department investigated 537 traffic crashes, with one fatal crash.



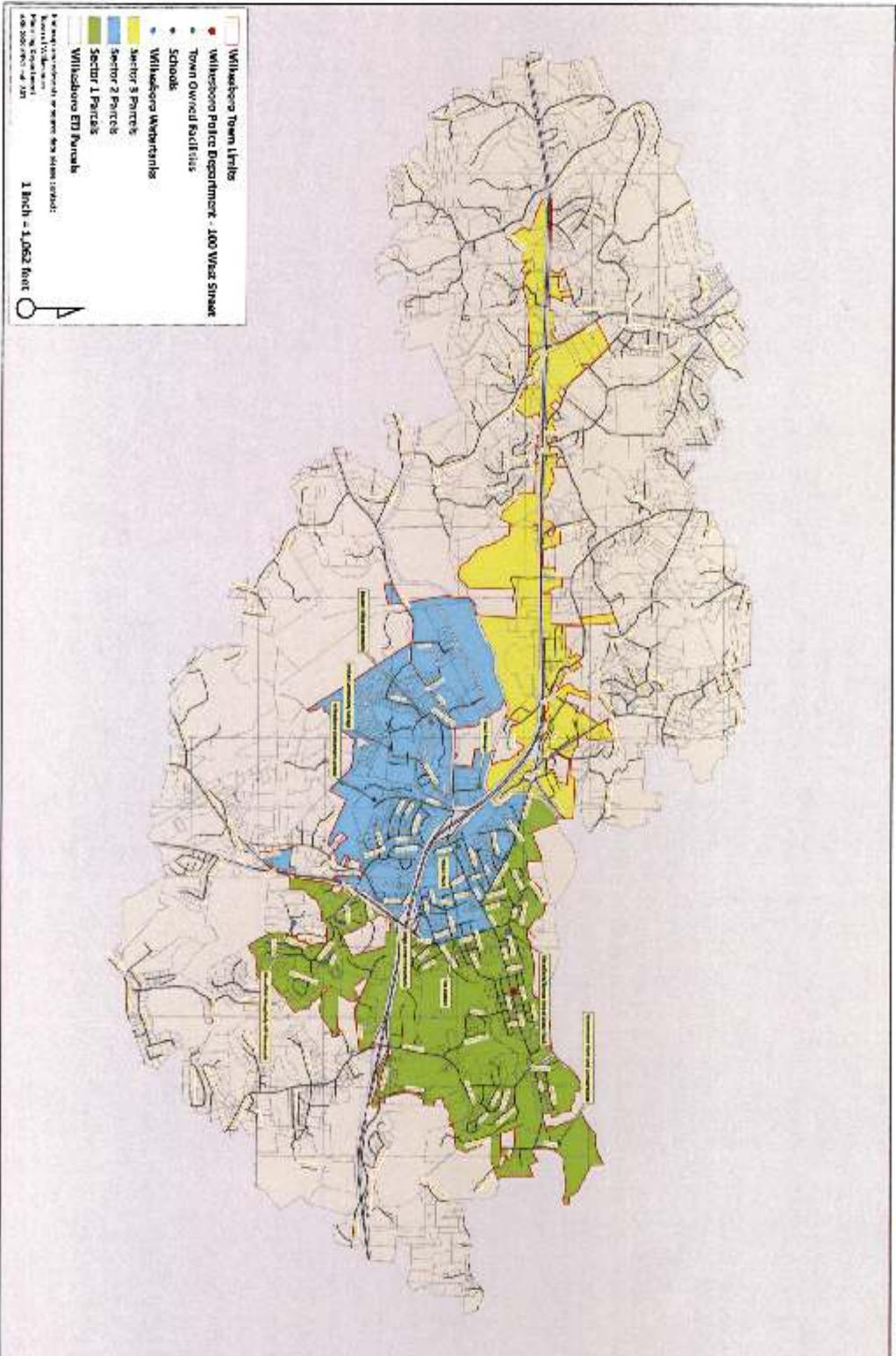


**POLICE DEPARTMENT**  
*Protecting the Community*  
Service • Accountability • Professionalism • Integrity • Dedication

## Wilkesboro Police Department Patrol Sector Map



North Carolina  
JAN 2012

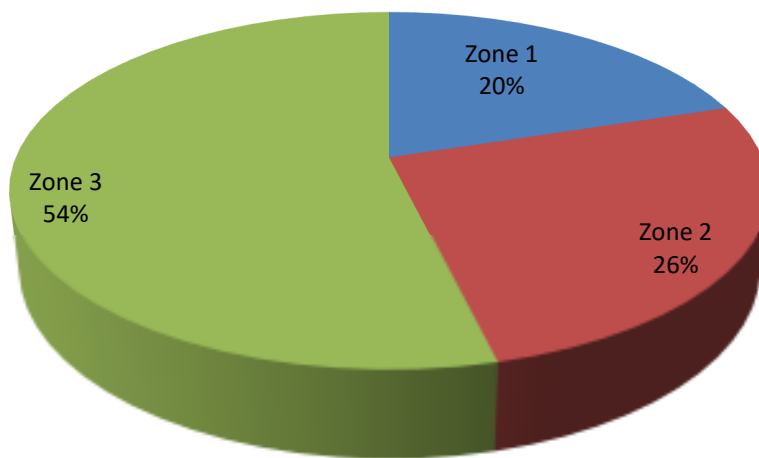




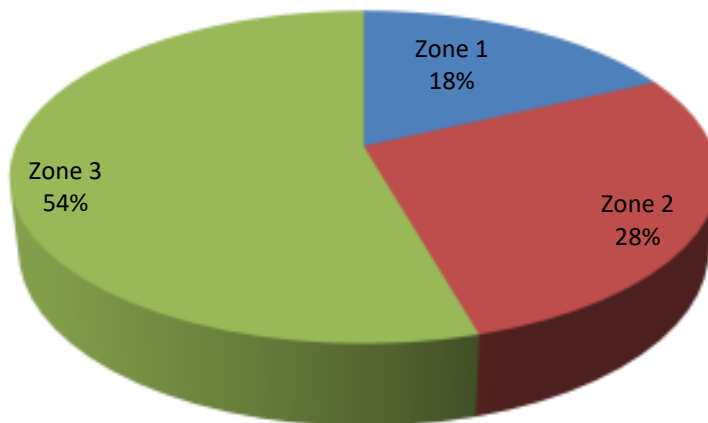
### Crashes by Area

To provide better coverage of the city the Wilkesboro Police Department has divided the city into three zones. Zone 1 consists of the East side of the city which is from NC Hwy 16 South and Cherry Street, East to the city limits. Zone 2 consists of the middle section of the city which contains River Street, NC Hwy 268 West, Curtis Bridge Road and US Hwy 421 Business. Zone 3 consists of the West side of the city which is the US Hwy 421 area. This area contains a lot of the retail stores in the city.

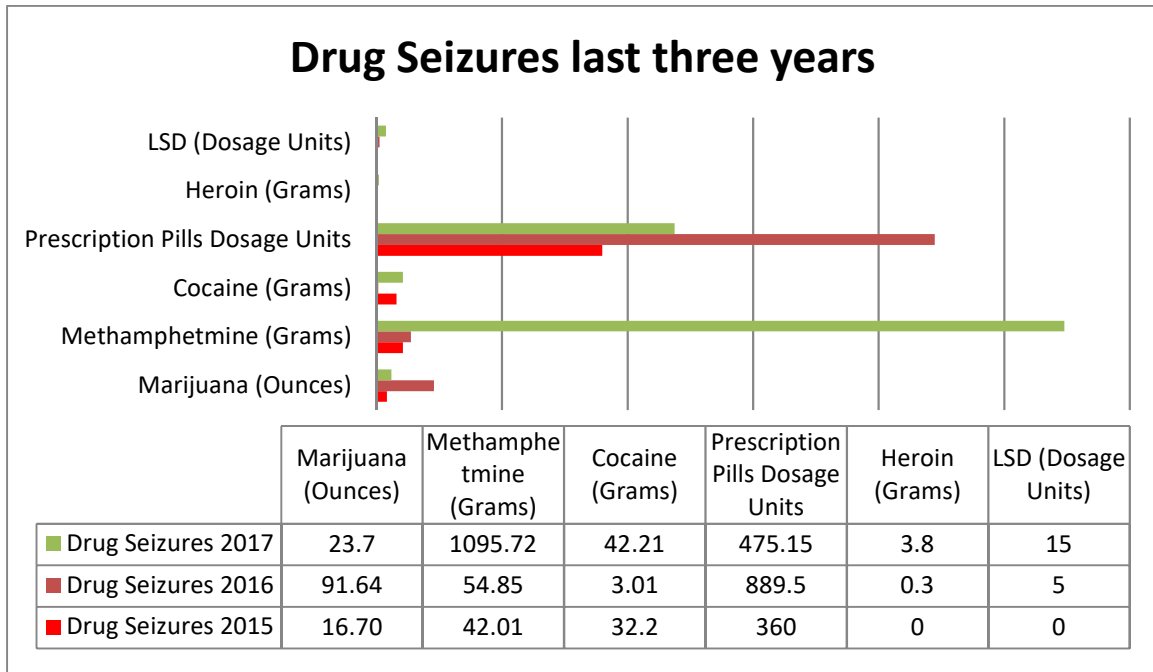
#### **2017 Crashes by Area**



#### **2016 Crashes by Area**



## Illegal Drug Summary Report



During 2017, the agency seized \$8,491.00 in cash and narcotics from a total of 200 drug related arrest and charges. The agency had 93 Felony and 107 Misdemeanor charges. In 2017, the Wilkesboro Police Department ended a joint investigation with federal, state and local agencies that consisted of the importation and distribution of methamphetamines in the Wilkes County area, primarily in Wilkesboro and North Wilkesboro city limits. The investigation ended with the charges and arrest of 32 defendants. This case was part of a federal Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force investigation called Operation Dixie Crystal that targeted large scale methamphetamine traffickers and distributors.



Photos from 2017 drug arrests

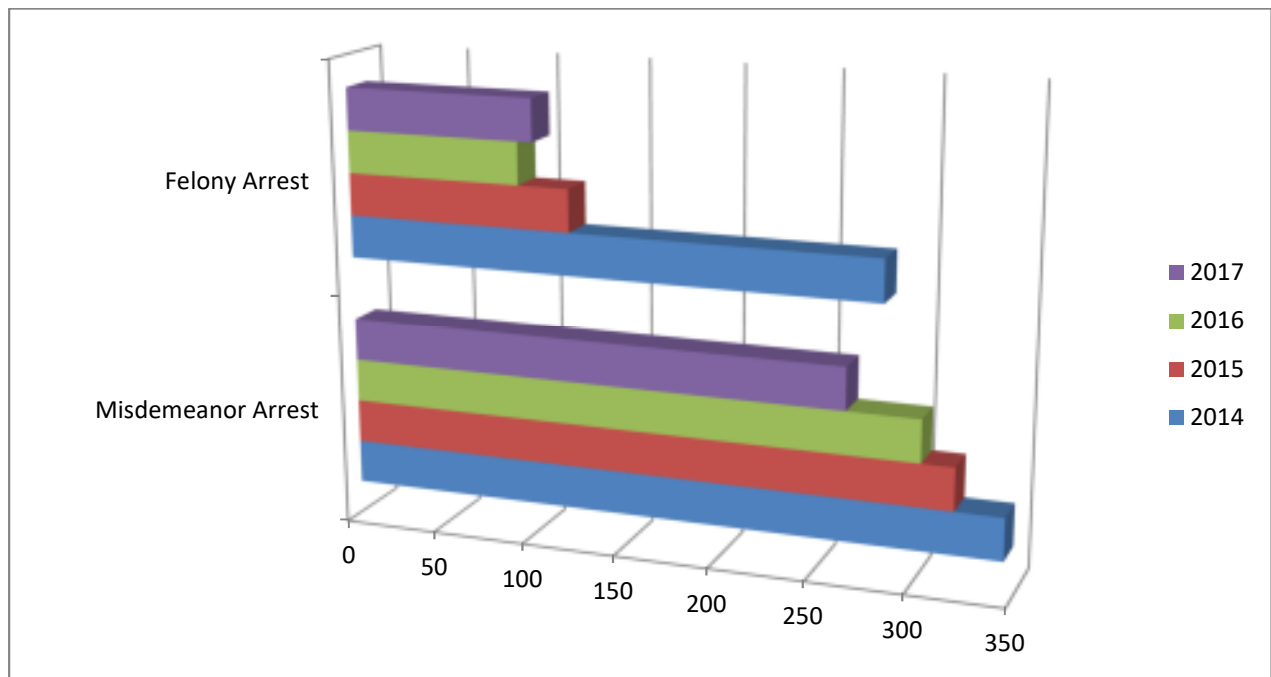
## Arrest Data

### Misdemeanor Arrest Charges

In 2017, the Wilkesboro Police Department made 468 Misdemeanor Arrest Charges and made 265 Misdemeanor Arrest.

### Felony Arrest Charges

In 2017, the Wilkesboro Police Department made 305 Felony Arrest Charges and made 102 Felony Arrest.



## **Wilkesboro Police Department Training**

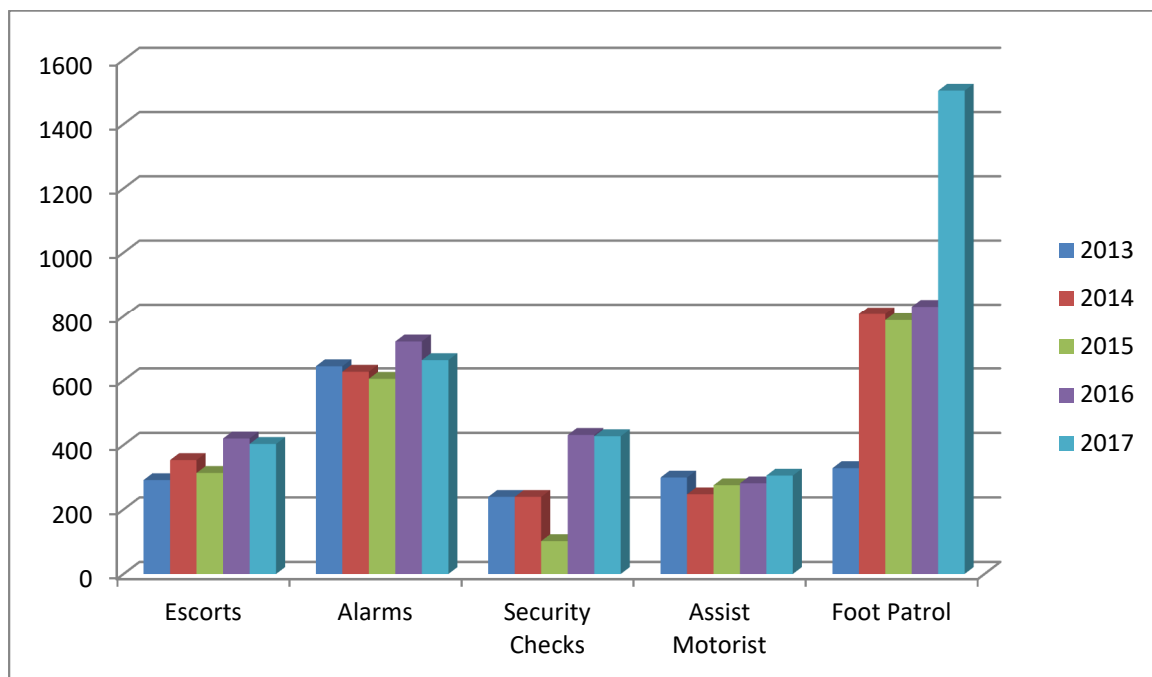
In 2017 all officers within the department completed 56 hours of In-Service Training. Of those 56 hours, 24 hours are mandated by the State of North Carolina Training and Standards



Commission. The additional 32 hours of in-service training is mandated by the department. Members of the department also attended 1,922 hours of additional training throughout the year. The department sent officers to 208 hours of advanced crash investigation courses, 1,010 hours of Special Response Team Training, 16 hours of K-9 Operation courses. Every year officers receive an eight-hour block of instruction on Law Enforcement Driver Training, and we have begun sending officers each year to the North Carolina State Highway Patrol Driving School which is an additional 40 hours per officer who attend. The department also sent officers to several conferences including the Southern Software Conference, State and National SWAT Conference, Management Development Conference and the Fall CALEA Conference. All other training hours were devoted to re-certifications.

## Community Service

The Wilkesboro Police Department has maintained the community service philosophy during 2017. With community service in mind, every police officer is encouraged to interact with the public during their shifts. These activities have included vacation/residence checks, funeral and business escorts, responding to alarms and emphasis patrols in addition to the daily community policing contacts in retail and residential areas of the town.





## 2017 North Carolina Torch Run for Special Olympics

In July 2017, the Wilkesboro Police Department held the annual golf tournament to benefit the North Carolina Special Olympics. The agency also participated in



the North Carolina Special Olympics Torch Run in 2017. The run started at Wilkes Community College and traveled through downtown Wilkesboro and North Wilkesboro ending at West Park in North Wilkesboro. Officers of the Wilkesboro Police Department have carried the torch through the two towns for many years. Often runners are joined by Special Olympians for portions of the run. In 2017, the agency raised approximately \$10,360.00 to benefit North Carolina Special Olympics. The Wilkesboro Police Department received the Gold Standard Agency Award for our continued efforts in supporting North Carolina Special Olympics.





## **Halloween Fun Walk**

The Wilkesboro Police Department participated in the Halloween Fun Walk in North Wilkesboro on the Yadkin Greenway. This event is designed to give kids a safe alternative for Trick or Treating. The police department purchased bags of candy and passed them out during the event. Each year the event hosts approximately 3,000 kids.




## **Operation Christmas Cheer**

For several years the Wilkesboro Police Department has conducted Operation Christmas Cheer. This program was developed to assist citizens in Wilkesboro by delivering food boxes to them. Every year, the program has been funded by donations from Kulynych Family Foundation One, Wilkesboro Business and Professional Club, Cook Family and the Town of Wilkesboro.



## **Community Policing Meetings**

In 2017, the Wilkesboro Police Department started having Community Policing Meetings with the citizens of Wilkesboro. These meetings allowed citizens to hear new crime trends in the town. Citizens are also able to voice any concerns they have involving the police department. The meetings are held quarterly at the Wilkesboro Civic Center.



The seal of the Wilkesboro Police Department is circular. It features a central shield with a blue background and a white star. The shield is surrounded by a gold border with the words "OFFICER" at the top, "STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA" on the sides, and "WILKESBORO" at the bottom. Below the shield is a banner with the word "POLICE" and "NC" below that.

### **Community Policing Meeting**

**June 12, 2017 at 6:00 pm  
at Wilkesboro Civic Center**

We look forward to speaking about your opinions & concerns. Our goal is to reduce crime & provide neighborhoods with a sense of security, pride & unity.

The Wilkesboro Police Department is committed to building & maintaining positive relationships within our community.

You will meet your police officers & they will inform you as to what is being done to keep you safe.

This meeting will allow you to voice your concerns about your neighborhoods that we aren't aware of.

**Meeting is for Citizens within the  
Wilkesboro town limits.**

**Meeting Agenda**

6:00 pm Welcome

6:15 - 6:30 Introductions

6:30 - 7:00 Group Discussions

7:00 - 7:30 Discuss Reporting Activity

7:30 pm Adjourn