

**Hendersonville Police Department**  
**Public Monthly Report**  
**December 2024**



## Chief's Monthly Summary

As I write this report, I cannot help but think of the tragic events we have seen in North Carolina and the country since our last monthly report. Strange are the times we live in. I feel compelled to once again reiterate that we need to come together and detest violence rather than fighting amongst ourselves over things outside of our control.

On December 23, 2024, just two days before Christmas, Greensboro Officer Michael Horan was shot and killed in the line of duty after responding to a man with a gun call. His death marks the second time in less than a year that a Greensboro Police Officer was feloniously killed in the line of duty. Their deaths only highlight the dangerous nature of this profession and the willingness of men and women to put their lives on the line to protect their communities. What an honor it is to work alongside selfless heroes every single day.

Looking outside our state are the tragic events in New Orleans and Las Vegas. There is still so little that we know about these attacks. From my conversations with the FBI and other involved police leaders, investigators believe these events to be unrelated by individuals rather than groups. That belief could change if evidence begins to indicate otherwise.

What we are reminded of is the tactics being deployed by people intent on harming others and the frequency in which they happen. It is our duty as public safety personnel to plan for and mitigate these types of threats to our community. We take your safety during large scale events very seriously and we spend many hours thinking through every conceivable scenario.

I can say, because of our elected and city leaders, we have been able to stay at the forefront of all available protective measures. We own and deploy anti-vehicle barriers during special events. These barriers are designed and built in such a way to deny access to vehicles in a certain area. You can see videos of their capabilities here: [Mobility & Stopping Power - MVB3X Modular Vehicle Barrier System](#)

While we cannot prevent every threat, we work diligently to ensure we are least likely to be a target for bad actors. We promise to always be cognizant of emerging threats and to plan accordingly. We will look at each event individually and will employ the resources and personnel we feel are necessary to protect you. At the end of the day, we feel pride in knowing that most of you can enjoy your time in public without any concern for your safety. A boring event is a good event in our eyes and the measure of success.

Now, let's kick off 2025 and start things anew. Cheers to it being a great year for everyone. Thank you again for your support and trust in us as your public safety partner.  
#MountainExcellence



Blair Myhand  
Chief of Police

**Calls Answered**

*Emergency and non-emergency calls received*

2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
5,624	4,920	5,507	5,147	5,262	5,009	5,374	4,459	4,950	5,734	4,696	4,482	5,097

*Calls Dispatched*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
3,220	3,308	3,273	2,863	2,753	2,421	2,537	2,899	2,747	2,607	2,726	2,517	2,863
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
2,881	2,787	2,776	2,850	2,809	2,792	3,024	3,304	2,897	3,074	2,574	2,633	2,867

**Traffic Safety**

*Total Traffic Stops:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
546	419	459	262	274	224	309	289	281	217	204	242	311
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
563	396	138	221	319	441	490	367	307	392	296	357	357

*Total Citations Issued:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
382	277	293	204	200	175	189	239	191	176	138	129	216
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
303	250	250	174	233	272	265	176	168	187	152	184	218

*DWI Arrests:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
12	2	7	6	8	4	1	7	12	9	5	5	7
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
8	5	10	4	8	5	7	4	7	15	8	9	8

*Total Motor Vehicle Crashes:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
117	105	114	104	133	131	107	123	128	137	107	117	119
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
108	115	104	126	115	102	133	116	98	134	114	104	114

*Motor Vehicle Crashes with Injury:*

2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
19	16	17	13	12	7	22	9	8	11	10	8	13

*Top five crash locations:*

#1	Four Seasons Blvd at Thompson St
#2	Chimney Rock Rd at Francis Rd
#3	Chimney Rock Rd at Highland Square Dr
#4	7 <sup>th</sup> Ave E at King St
#5	Martin Luther King Blvd at Ashe St

**Crimes, Reports, and Arrests**

*Criminal Arrests:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
72	87	93	63	71	58	54	56	60	67	59	51	66
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
51	49	80	56	69	62	84	77	64	75	63	52	65

*Incident Reports:*

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
136	105	185	146	138	116	108	131	97	116	109	106	124
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
170	131	131	129	108	141	106	148	94	116	103	93	123

**Drug Offenses:**

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
30	22	19	26	48	20	26	32	28	45	23	15	28
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
19	25	31	30	20	29	31	44	39	29	13	8	27

**Larcenies:**

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
45	29	8	19	37	25	35	44	20	31	36	29	30
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
24	45	26	33	30	45	39	31	24	44	33	32	34

**Assaults:**

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
9	17	7	15	11	9	7	11	14	17	10	16	12
2024												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
8	11	14	6	11	9	12	17	16	12	18	11	12

**Employee Actions**

- Captain Rich Olsen retired on December 31<sup>st</sup> with 30 full years of service. His many years of honorable service and dedication to the City of Hendersonville is commendable. We wish Rich the best in his retirement.
- Captain Trae Laws attended his orientation session for the FBI National Academy. His session starts January 6, 2025.
- Sergeant Kyle Gyurina has been assigned as the department’s Recruitment Team Leader. His efforts will help the agency become more proactive in seeking out and recruiting qualified people to fill vacancies.

**Safety Tip – Winter Weather Reminders**

As winter weather rolls in, it’s important to stay safe and know when to call for help. Here are some tips to help you prepare and keep our community safe:

## *Stay Safe in Winter Weather*

- Avoid driving unless necessary.
- If you must drive, slow down and leave extra space between vehicles.
- Keep a winter emergency kit in your car (blanket, water, flashlight, etc.).
- Dress warmly in layers and avoid prolonged exposure to the cold.
- Check on neighbors, especially the elderly or those who may need assistance.

## *When to Call 911*

- Life-threatening emergencies: accidents with injuries, fires, medical emergencies.
- If you're stranded in your car and in immediate danger.
- When hazardous road conditions cause a serious risk to drivers.

## *When NOT to Call 911*

- To check weather forecasts - use local news or weather apps.
- Hendersonville Alerts at [www.hvlnc.gov/alerthvl](http://www.hvlnc.gov/alerthvl) and the HPD app offer opt-in weather alerts from the National Weather Service.
- Road alerts - use NCDOT's [www.DriveNC.gov](http://www.DriveNC.gov) or other navigation apps.
- Power outages - contact your utility provider.

Remember, 911 is for emergencies only. Let's work together to keep the lines open for those who truly need it. Stay safe, Hendersonville!

## **Complaints and Findings**

- A citizen filed a complaint alleging he was improperly detained. The detention, while done in earnest, did not meet the rules for an intoxicated persons hold at the county jail and the complainant was immediately released. This complaint was sustained as a supervisory failure and corrective action was taken.

## **Vehicle Pursuits and Findings**

- None

## **Use of Reasonable Force (UORF) Incidents and Findings**

- Officers responded to a residence for a disturbance. Officers determined that the suspect was in violation of a Domestic Violence Protective Order. The suspect attempted to flee on foot to avoid arrest. An officer deployed a Taser to apprehend the suspect. Neither the suspect nor the officer sustained injuries during the arrest. This use of force is currently under review.
- Officers responded to a shoplifting investigation and located the suspect. As the officer approached, the suspect fled on foot, ignoring lawful commands to stop. The officer

pursued and ultimately caught the suspect by taking him to the ground. Neither the suspect nor the officer sustained injuries during the incident. This use of force is currently under review.

- Officers responded to a disturbance at a business involving a suspect who was pointing a knife at employees. Officers utilized soft-hand techniques to take the suspect into custody. Neither the suspect nor the officers sustained injuries during the incident. This use of force is currently under review.

### **Operations/Notable Events**

- Sam Ivey, the person who shot and killed Jackie Reed inside the McDonald's on Four Seasons Blvd., in October 2023, plead guilty to 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Murder among other charges. He will be sentenced on January 18, 2025.
- The Hendersonville Police Department participated in a mobile saturation patrol focused on designated areas for targeted enforcement for New Year's Eve. The initiative was a collaborative effort, joined by the Henderson County Sheriff's Office, North Carolina Highway Patrol, and Laurel Park Police Department. A total of eleven officers participated resulting in 4 arrests, 17 citations, and 19 written warnings.
- Officer responded to a call of a male lying in the roadway near 7th Ave., E and Cherry St. Officers located a male who had been stabbed. Unfortunately, the male died at the hospital from the injuries he sustained in the assault. This investigation is still active, and all leads are being pursued. Anyone with information about the incident is encouraged to contact the police department.

### **Budget Summary**

- We are approximately 51% through the fiscal year.
- We have spent or reserved \$3,571,193 or 48% of our budget.
- Link to the budget dashboard: [City of Hendersonville Budget](#)

### **Community Outreach/Special Events**

- Officers and other employees participated in the annual "Shop with a Hero" event at Walmart. During this event, Officers helped students chosen by their school to shop for Christmas gifts. Amazingly, most of the children spend the money allocated to them to buy gifts for their families.



### **Grants Management**

- Embedded Mental Health Grant – Pending Reimbursements
- CALEA and NCLEA Accreditation – Grant that ended on September 30, 2024
- GHSP Grant – Grant ended on September 30, 2024

### **Recruiting/Retention**

- 0 of 14 non-sworn employee vacancies exist.
- 4 of 48 Police Officer vacancies exist.
  - (3) applications received
  - (1) in background
  - (0) conditional offer made
  - (0) rejected
  - (0) withdrew