



2024

ANNUAL REPORT

Thomas Coleman, City Manager
Mark Farrall, Chief of Police



MISSION AND VALUES

The Newark Police Department exists to preserve life and property, to enforce the law, to solve community problems, and to protect the right of all citizens to live in a safe, peaceful environment

Human Life

We give first priority to situations which threaten life and treat all persons with courtesy and respect. We make our decisions and take our actions with the intention to minimize any danger to innocent citizens.

Integrity

We hold ourselves to high standards of moral and ethical conduct. We support the principles embodied in the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Delaware.

Service

We protect and respect the rights of all people, while treating all persons fairly and without favoritism. We display a helpful, caring, and cooperative attitude toward the people we serve. We go beyond merely responding to calls for service in an attempt to solve community problems.

Professionalism

We believe that each employee is committed to the Law Enforcement Code of Ethics, dedicated to serving our community, self-disciplined, and interested in improving their level of knowledge and competence.



Mark A. Farrall
Chief of Police

Message from the Chief

Mayor and Council Members:

It is with great pride that I submit to you the 2024 Annual Report for the Newark Police Department. This report highlights the exceptional work accomplished by the dedicated men and women of our department and I continue to be amazed by their work ethic, professionalism, and commitment to the safety of our community.

During the year, we made significant strides with our hiring initiative, adding 10 new police officers and one new communications officer. As we move into 2025, we will continue to recruit high-caliber applicants through our JoinNewarkPD.com recruiting site. To ensure we maximize our outreach to potential candidates, we have partnered with the Delaware Association of Chiefs of Police to support a statewide law enforcement recruiting initiative via the recruiting website JoinDelaware.com. We are optimistic that these efforts will help us move closer to filling our remaining six police vacancies.

We also successfully implemented several new initiatives including My90, an automated survey tool designed to engage the public, collect feedback, and build trust following police calls for service. The results show that 70% of respondents rated the agency "very positively," while another 20% provided a "positive" rating. I am very pleased that this community sentiment reflects a 90% positive review of our agency. In 2025, we will add a new transparency page to our website where the My90 survey results will be posted in real-time and viewed by the public.

With the assistance of a Federal Bureau of Justice Assistance COPS grant, we created a new Community Engagement Unit in 2024. This unit continues to establish and build upon partnerships between the police department and the community, and I look forward to the new initiatives this unit will create and implement in 2025.

We also established our Police Advisory Committee in 2024. Comprised of a diverse cross-section of our community, this committee will provide advice on policy, training, and other issues relating to or affecting the Newark Police Department and the community we serve. I eagerly anticipate the valuable contributions of this committee as we continue to provide transparent and comprehensive service to our community.

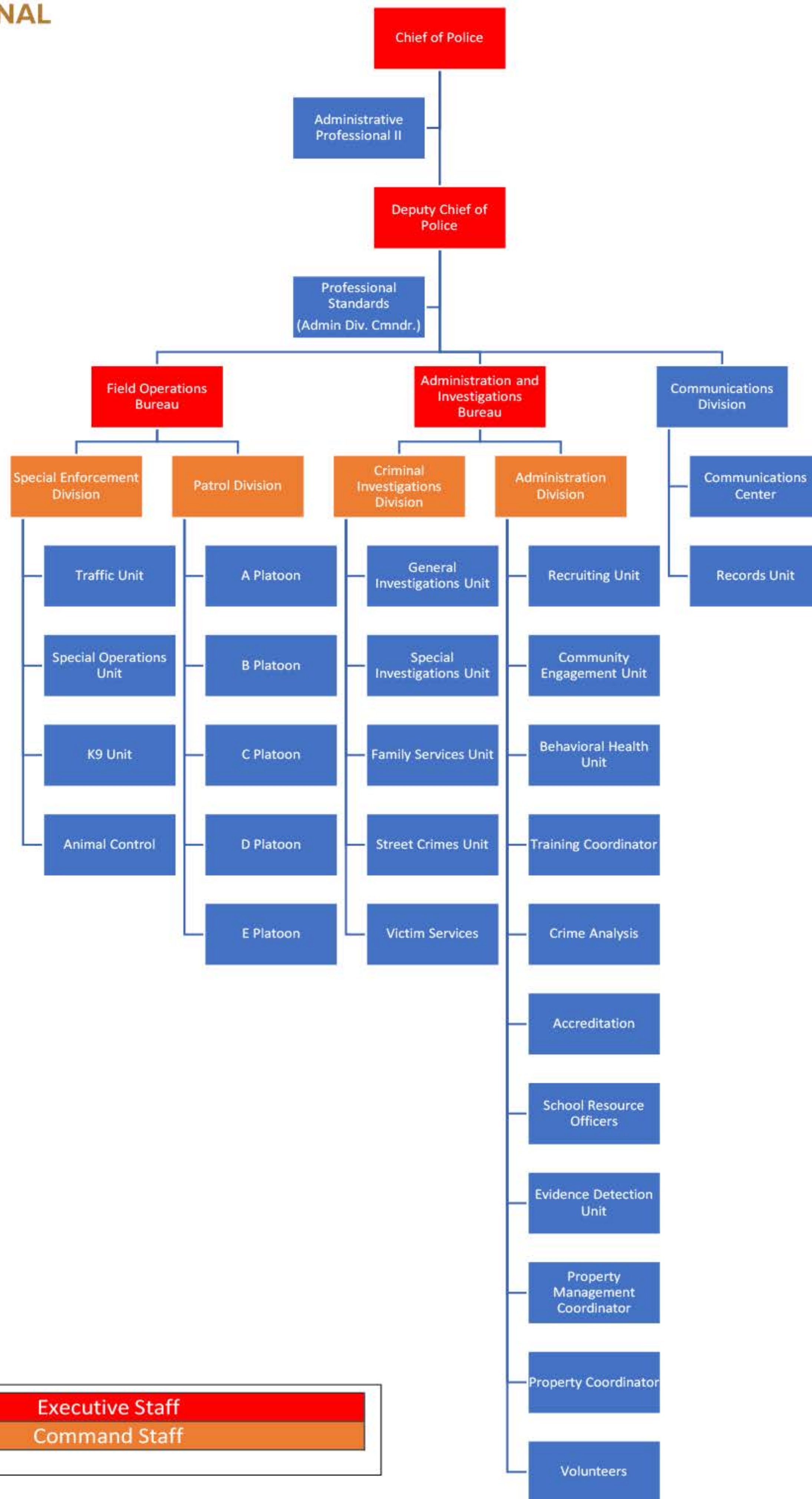
Perhaps the most exciting development of 2024 is the creation of the Newark PD Behavioral Health Unit. Our Mental Health Case Manager will provide follow-up services to individuals experiencing mental health and behavioral crisis, assess their needs, and connect them to treatment or follow-up services. The case manager will also assist families in connecting with support resources.

I am incredibly grateful to City Manager Tom Coleman, Mayor Clifton, City Council, and the Newark community for their continued support. Leading this exceptional organization is a privilege, and I am extremely proud of our team's hard work and dedication. Our successes are a direct result of their efforts, and I hope you share my pride in their accomplishments.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark A. Farrall
Chief of Police

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



DEPUTY CHIEF



Kevin Feeney
Deputy Chief

Deputy Chief Kevin Feeney plays a key role in overseeing the agency's daily operations while directly supervising the Professional Standards Unit. He is also responsible for managing grants and grant funded procurement for the organization. In 2024, Deputy Chief Feeney successfully leveraged the Connect and Protect Grant to establish a Behavioral Health Unit and create a Case Manager position to support the department. Additionally, he plays a crucial role in departmental budgeting, staffing, recruitment, and vehicle fleet management.

ADMINISTRATION & INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU



Michael Van Campen
Captain

The Administration and Investigations Bureau consists of the Administration Division and the Criminal Investigations Division. The Administration and Investigations Bureau is led by Captain Michael Van Campen. In addition, Captain Van Campen is responsible for overseeing information technology projects, including the Body Worn Camera and In-Car Camera programs. In 2024, Captain Van Campen oversaw and implemented the growth of multiple technology projects, including the expansion of the City of Newark Public Safety Camera system and Automated License Plate Readers

COMMUNICATIONS

The 911 communications center is the Public Safety Answering Point (PSAP) for the incorporated city limits of Newark, Delaware. The center answers emergency and non-emergency calls for service 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, as well as calls for city utility emergencies after regular business hours. Police emergencies are dispatched to officers on duty and requests for medical and fire services are connected to the New Castle County 911 Center. The Communications Officer remains on the line to determine if police services will also be needed. Communications Officers often handle multiple tasks simultaneously. Communications Officers also monitor the City of Newark Public Safety Camera System as well as maintain active warrants to include filing, entering, updating, and clearing them in the Criminal Justice Information Systems. The Communications Division is responsible for the maintenance and operation of the department's Mobile Command Post. This unit is used primarily for special events held within the city and may also be used in the event of a prolonged incident. During these events, the Mobile Command Post is operated and staffed by a Communications Officer. The Mobile Command Post has full dispatch capability including CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch), two-way radio, internet, and phones.

The 911 communications center is staffed by 14 Communications Officers and the center's manager, who also oversees the records department. Three Communications Officers are assigned to each shift with a minimum staffing level of two Communications Officers on all shifts. Two communications officers are assigned to a power shift which provides increased staffing during the average peak time for calls for service. In 2024, Communications Officers processed a total of 65,175 phone calls and entered 44,180 calls for service.

RECORDS

The Records Division is staffed by one full-time Administrative Professional and two part-time Records Clerks, managed by the Police Communications and Records Manager. The records office is staffed Monday – Friday during regular business hours. The Records Division is the first point of contact for walk-in matters to the police department and operates the police information window. The staff are also responsible for maintaining police reports and supporting documents, processing requests for copies of reports, data entry, background checks, responding to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests, and providing discovery for court cases. Records staff reviewed and processed over 9,000 new reports in 2024



Brian Cannon
PSAP Manager



TRAINING UNIT

M/Cpl. James Marconi is the agency's Training Coordinator. The Training Coordinator is responsible for all aspects of departmental employee training. The responsibilities of the Training Coordinator include ensuring that all sworn and civilian members of the department receive training in compliance with the standards established by the Police Officer Standards and Training Commission (POST), departmental policies, CALEA standards, State of Delaware law, and federal mandates. The Training Coordinator also offers select training opportunities to outside agencies. The Training Coordinator is also responsible for all newly hired police officers, from their date of hire through completion of the Field Training Program, including while the newly hired officers attend an accredited Police Academy. Newark Police Department recruits attend the Delaware State Police Academy in Dover, DE or the New Castle County Police Academy in Newark, DE. In 2024, sworn officers recorded approximately 7,910 total hours of training and civilian employees recorded approximately 449 hours of training.

Notable Training Programs in 2024 Include:

Active Bystandership for Law Enforcement (ABLE) Update and re-fresher	DRE Conference
Anti Bias Training with the Anti-Defamation League (ADL)	- MADD Law Enforcement Impaired Driving Summit - Axon Conference
National Tactical Officers Association (NTOA) S.W.A.T. Week-Long Workshop	National Organization of Victim Advocates Conference
NY Tactical Officers Association (NYTOA) Annual Conference	Crisis Intervention Team Training
BODE Forensics DNA Conference	Veterans Response Team Training
NJSCOP West Point Command & Leadership Academy	Crisis Intervention Team for Public Safety
FBI LEEDA: Command and Executive Leadership Institute,	Communication Staff Development and Protocols
Culture and Diversity trainings	Midwest Crisis Negotiations Conference
Professional Law Enforcement Community Engagement Training (PLECET) National Conference and Training Center	Daigle Law Group Use of Force Summit
Narcotics Training Conference	Neurodiversity and Autism Training Solutions (NDATS) : Neurodiverse and Autism Safe Encounters for First Responders Training
CALEA Conference	Mental Performance/Performance Psychology Consulting for High Performance and Overall Officer Wellness
Concerns of Police Survivors (C.O.P.S.) National Wellness Conference	

CRIME ANALYSIS
& CRIME
PREVENTION/CRIMINAL
INTELLIGENCE OFFICER



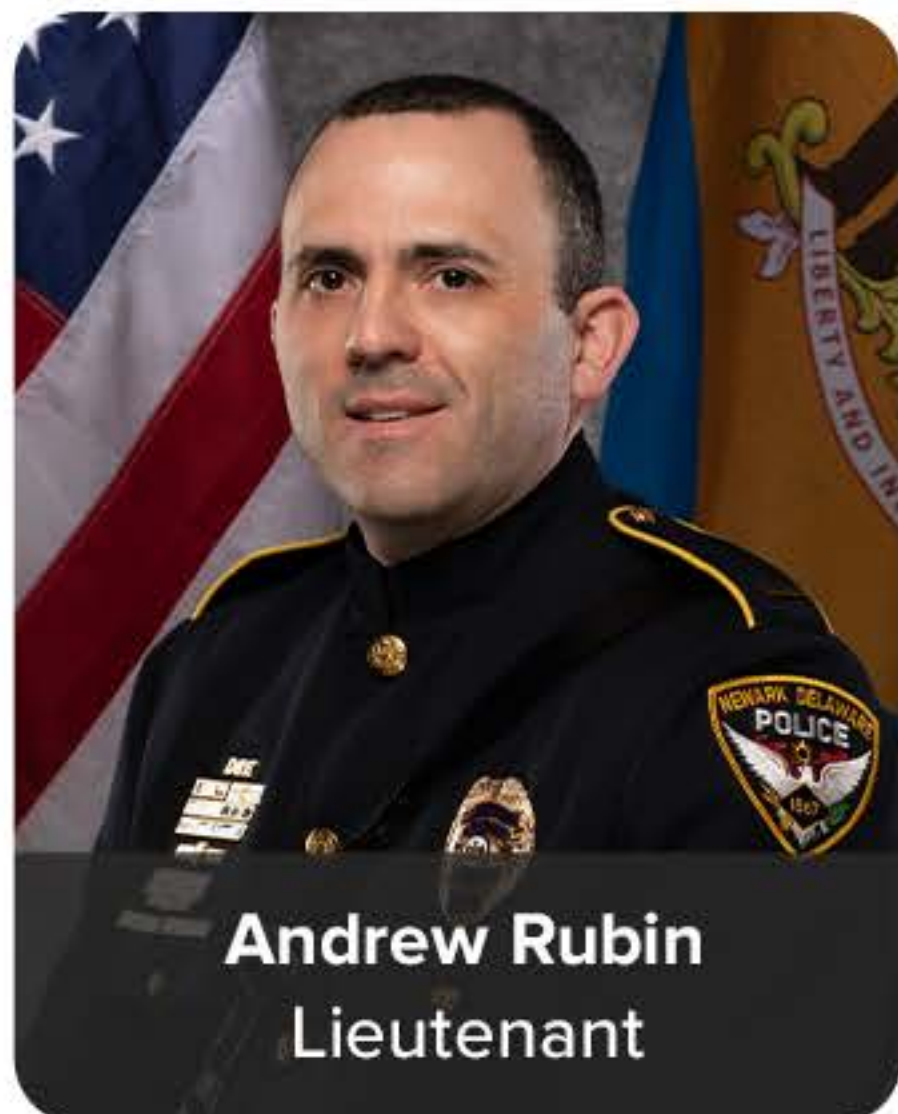
The Crime Analysis and Crime Prevention/Criminal Intelligence Officer serves multiple, yet related functions. The crime prevention function is responsible for working with members of the department and the community in implementing crime prevention strategies and measures throughout the city. This includes such endeavors as security and safety assessments of local businesses, schools, and houses of worship. The crime analysis function focuses on crime trends in and around the city. This includes working with our allied law enforcement partners in helping to address and investigate crime trends in our region. In 2024, this position was filled by Sgt. Conover, while also acting as the supervisor of the Administration Division.

In 2024, Sgt. Conover, worked continuously with allied law enforcement agencies in Delaware, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and the federal system to help address crimes that occur across jurisdictional boundaries. Statistical analysis and the use of the agency’s technological advancements have enabled the agency and its partners to better analyze and respond to crime trends and community concerns. This partnership allows the agency to plan deployment strategies, address the concerns of the community, and identify crime trends early.

EVIDENCE DETECTION

The Evidence Detection Officer is responsible for all procedures relating to the collection, preservation, and analysis of physical evidence. This is accomplished by coordinating the processing of major crime scenes, analyzing agency wide evidence for fingerprints and DNA, and submitting evidence to outside laboratories for special processing. The Evidence Detection Officer is responsible for responding to callouts to major crime scenes. The position maintains a special crime scene response vehicle, trailer, and numerous pieces of specialty evidence equipment.

Major Evidence Detection Activities in 2024 Include:	Amount
Crime Scenes Processed	18
Lab/Article Requests	82
AFIS Entry	75
DNA Submissions	144
Firearms Entries	19
Off Duty Crime Scene Callouts	6



Andrew Rubin
Lieutenant



Gerald Bryda



ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

The Administration Division is under the command of Lieutenant Andrew Rubin, who also serves as the department's Professional Standards (Internal Affairs) Officer and primary Public Information Officer (PIO). The Administration Division is staffed by eight officers, two full-time civilian employees and one part-time civilian employee. It consists of the following positions: Accreditation Manager, Training Coordinator, Crime Analysis and Crime Prevention/Criminal Intelligence, Evidence Detection, Property Management, School Resource Officers, and the Community Engagement Unit. In 2024, members of the Administration Division conducted continuous recruiting, retention and testing for new applicants. In addition, the Administration Division put on the 16th Citizens Police Academy and again took on the role of leading and growing the Presents with Police program, which helps to provide gifts to children in the community who may otherwise do without.

ACCREDITATION MANAGER

The Accreditation Manager for the department is retired Newark Police Sergeant Gerald Bryda. The Accreditation Manager is responsible for ensuring that periodic reports, reviews, and other activities mandated by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) are accomplished. The purpose of CALEA's Accreditation Program is to improve the delivery of public safety services, primarily by maintaining a body of standards developed by public safety practitioners covering a wide range of up-to-date public safety initiatives; establishing and administering an accreditation process; and recognizing professional excellence.

The goals of CALEA are to:

- Strengthen crime prevention and control capabilities
- Formalize essential management procedures
- Establish fair and non-discriminatory personnel practices
- Improve service delivery
- Solidify interagency cooperation and coordination
- Increase community and staff confidence in the agency.

The Newark Police Department has been accredited since 1997 and participates in the Advanced Law Enforcement Program. The Newark Police Department Communications Division has been accredited since 2022 and participates in the Standards for Public Safety Communications Agencies.

The Accreditation Manager is responsible for developing and maintaining the department's rules and procedures manual while ensuring that compliance with the accreditation standards is met and maintained. Annually, CALEA conducts web-based assessments to ensure the department's continued compliance with the standards. The annual reviews are followed by an on-site assessment every four years. Between the two accreditation programs, the Accreditation Manager completes the 670 standards required each year. The Newark Police Department will have its next on-site assessment in November of 2025, where the department is seeking its 10th reaccreditation for the Advanced Law Enforcement Program and its 1st reaccreditation for the Standards for Public Safety Communications.

The Accreditation Manager is also an assessor for the Delaware Police Accreditation Commission (DPAC). The DPAC governs the state level police accreditation program, which is mandatory for every law enforcement agency in Delaware. The Newark Police Department is recognized by the state program through reciprocity based upon CALEA accreditation. During 2024, the Accreditation Manager was a Team Leader Assessor for two agency on-site assessments, facilitated several new accreditation manager trainings throughout the state, and assisted in the update of the state accreditation standards manual.



William Hargrove



Sally Reutter

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

The property management function is comprised of one full-time civilian evidence custodian/property maintenance coordinator, retired Newark Police Lieutenant William Hargrove, and one part-time civilian property coordinator, Mrs. Sally Reutter. The department's evidence custodian is responsible for storing all evidence received from police officers as well as found or recovered property. This position is also responsible for the management of the police department's vehicle fleet. The property coordinator is responsible for purchase, distribution and inventory of all departmental property and equipment.

Significant Property Management Activities in 2024 Include:

- Evidence Room Articles Received - 1,744
- Evidence Room Articles Release/Disposed - 364
- Continued facilitating the purchasing and upfitting of police fleet vehicles for the agency's take home vehicle program
- Purchasing and equipment for 9 new officers who were hired in the end of 2023 and throughout 2024
- Purchasing of exterior vest carriers and accessories for the agency
- Purchasing and distribution of active shooter equipment for each assigned vehicle in the fleet



RECRUITMENT

In 2024, the agency's recruiting efforts showed continued growth due to its ongoing community engagement, working with universities and the military, its attendance at job fairs, and its relationship with the Epic recruiting campaign. This growth is demonstrated by 524 applications being received since January of 2023, with 297 (57%) of those being received in 2024. This growth was further shown in the number of applicants that took the written test for the agency. In 2022, 33 applicants tested, in 2023 and increased to 91 applicants in 2024, an increase of 175.75%. In 2024, 50 applicants completed the oral interview boards, with additional candidates, who were previously certified officers not needing to complete the structured interview testing. In 2024, the agency assigned 56 background investigations to various members of the agency and the agency's outside contractor. The recruitment campaign process is continuing to show positive results with 10 new officers being hired for the agency in 2024.



SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

The Newark Police Department is committed to working in cooperation with the students, parents, teachers, and staff of the Christina School District and the Newark Charter Schools to provide a safe and secure learning environment at all schools within the city. In 2024, the department in conjunction with Christina School District assigned two School Resource Officers (SRO), one primarily assigned to Newark High School, and one primarily assigned to the elementary schools. The SROs are assigned to Christina School District schools within the City of Newark (Downes Elementary School, West Park Place Elementary School, and Newark High School). The SROs regularly interact and provide emergency services to Newark Charter Schools (Newark Charter Primary, Intermediary, Junior High School, and Senior High School). The SROs assist school staff in providing early intervention and helping the students at our local schools. They administer a variety of youth related programs and provide classroom instruction on several topics, including Driver's Education and Impaired Driving Prevention. The SRO program is a bridge to close the divide between the students and law enforcement. The SROs help to provide the school staff and their students with guidance and mentoring.



In 2024, the School Resource Officers, in conjunction with the Community Engagement Unit, continued to assist in a program to assist the Driver's Education programs at schools in the Christina School District and partnered with the United States Attorney General's Office Community Outreach to help bridge the divide between students and the criminal justice system.. In addition to these duties the School Resources Officers assisted the Christina School District and Newark Charter Schools in the implementation and growth of their Constable programs.

In 2024, the School Resource Officers worked with allied law enforcement partners to help prevent and combat juvenile related criminal acts that occurred throughout the State of Delaware. School Resource Officers, along with the Crime Analysis/Intelligence Officer work on a continual basis with other law enforcement agencies to help identify juvenile crime trends and offenders. This allows for the pre-arrest diversion and mitigation of youthful offenders to prevent things from escalating in a school or social setting.



COMMUNITY OUTREACH/YOUTH PROGRAMS



The agency's culture embraces community outreach and engagement as a department wide effort. In 2024, the agency and its members engaged in multiple partnerships with its community share and stakeholders. Partnerships included the Newark Free Library, John R. Downes Elementary School and West Park Elementary School staff, Alder Creek Management, and many local houses of worship. In addition, the agency began a Community Engagement Unit in, with the purpose of growing and strengthening our bonds with the community that we serve.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS

In 2024, many officers from the agency attended and assisted with Special Olympics Delaware, including mentoring the athletes and distributing medals. This included members of the Community Engagement Unit attending medal ceremonies at 6 different locations throughout the state. Several officers participated in the Law Enforcement Torch run, including Officer Brown who carried the torch to the opening ceremonies for the Summer Games. Other officers provided safe escorts for the torch bearers throughout the state. Officers from the agency, including Chief Farrall, attended the annual Polar Bear Plunge in February. An example of how vital and cherished our relationship with Special Olympics Delaware is demonstrated in the fact that Chief Farrall serves as the Vice Chair of the Delaware Law Enforcement for Special Olympics Executive Committee.

NEWARK PARKS & RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Members of the agency worked in cooperation with the City of Newark Parks and Recreation Department throughout 2024 on a multitude of programs, events, and camps. These included Fishing with First Responders and summer camps. Members of the Community Engagement Unit and the School Resource Officers also conducted Bike Rodeos during the summer at the George Wilson Center

SUMMER CAMPS

In 2024, members of the agency joined with participants at multiple camps during the summer. These included multiple Newark Parks and Recreation Camps at the George Wilson Center and Rittenhouse Camp. Members of the agency helped provide orientation for camp counselors, conducted Bike Rodeos, and joined with campers for lunch and activities at multiple camp sessions.



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Unfortunately, National Night Out was cancelled for this year. It was to occur on August 6, 2024, but due to a forecast of inclement weather, the decision was made to cancel for the safety of the guests and participants.

FAITH AND BLUE WEEKEND

Faith and Blue is a nationwide series of events with the goal of building bridges with the police and communities for more inclusive communities. The series of nationwide events are held in communities and neighborhoods through a partnership of law enforcement and faith-based organizations to further grow the ties that bind us. National Faith in Blue Weekend occurred October 10 through 13, 2024. Officers from throughout the agency attended services at participating houses of worship, which represented multiple cultural and religious beliefs. The weekend culminated in the Faith in Blue Community Barbeque in Dickey Park on October 13, 2024. Every section of the agency was represented at the barbeque, from Chief Farrall to the newest officers, Officer Matic, Officer Callery and soon to be Officer Jones. The agency was joined by members of the community, our local houses of worship, and by officers from the University of Delaware Police Department and AETNA Hose, Hook, Ladder. The attendees enjoyed food, drinks, pumpkin painting, games, music, a bounce house and fellowship.



HALLOWEEN PARADE

Every October, the City of Newark hosts its annual Halloween Parade and Main Street Trick or Treat event. Many officers are assigned to work this community event, but they chose to use it as an opportunity to engage further with the community. Officers from across the agency interact with the public and hand out candy, glow in the dark and reflective bracelets, and Halloween safety tips.

PRESENTS WITH POLICE

Following the Covid-19 pandemic, Newark Police Department officers recognized the need to further support members of the community who may be in need during the holiday season. In conjunction with the City of Newark Parks and Recreation Department, they created the Presents with Police event. Beginning in November, the agency embarked on a toy and gift drive to help the community. Members of the community registered with Parks and Recreation for the event to receive some help during the holiday season. In 2024, the agency continued its partnership with The Little Caboose Daycare. On December 13, 2024, Sergeant Santa, along with his officer and community elves, held a distribution event on E. Main St and Academy St, to help showcase our community. The event included the PAL Mobile Center as Sergeant Santa's oversized "sleigh", a holiday movie on an inflatable screen, hot chocolate, and holiday treats. In 2024, the Presents with Police event was able to provide approximately 98 children, ranging from infant to 14-years old, with large bags of gifts donated by our partners, the community, businesses, and officers themselves.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & NEWARK PAL

The agency's involvement and engagement with the community took a giant leap forward in 2024 with the implementation of the Community Engagement Unit (CEU). CEU works in conjunction with the Newark Police Athletic/Activities League (PAL) to engage with our community partners to improve police and community relationships, provide positive role modeling, and participate in events and activities that aim to reduce juvenile crime and victimization.

The CEU worked continuously throughout 2024 engaging with our community. CEU often could be seen utilizing the PAL Mobile Center and the unit's marked Ford F-250 pick-up truck for events in and around the City of Newark. Some of the events included a community fair and 1st responder demonstration and gathering at the Independence School and participation in Free Comic Book Day, where CEU and PAL members handed out swag, with one PAL member representing the Mandalorians and Grogu from Star Wars fame. Upon its inception unit members began working with faith-based organizations to help their congregants and the communities they represent with barbeques, career information, crime prevention assistance, and car seat safety checks. These coordinated efforts included back to school events, clothing drives, the Faith and Blue Community BBQ, and houses of worship meetings.



CEU also worked with local schools on a multitude of events throughout the year, including welcoming back Christina School District and Newark Charter School students for the 2024 – 2025 school year. These events included working with West Park Place Elementary School on an initiative to help provide the unhoused population with personal hygiene kits. CEU participated in multiple 1st Responder demonstrations and presentations at Downes Elementary School and the Newark Center for Creative Learning. CEU provided instruction on impaired driving recognition and prevention for students at Newark High School and Newark Charter Schools. CEU members also attended multiple school pep rallies at Newark High School and Newark Charter Schools. Interactions with students continued at all levels of education, including Career Week at Newark High School and multiple career fairs at the University of Delaware, Delaware State University, and Delaware Technical Community College. CEU members did not forget the youngest members of our community by conducting presentations at area day cares and day camps to include the Newark Christian Academy Day Care and the Newark Day Nursery. CEU was also responsible for being the law enforcement component of the joint Public Safety Explorers program.



CEU continued to foster and grow its relationships with the agency's community stakeholders and its allied partners in the City of Newark, New Castle County and State of Delaware governmental services. This included continuing the agency's valued partnership with the City of Newark Parks and Recreation Department by attending numerous day camps at the George Wilson Center and Rittenhouse Park, helping to run Camp REAL and SAFE Kids camp, conducting Bike Rodeos and being active participants in the annual Halloween Parade. CEU members also worked with Parks and Recreation during the annual Community Day event, where unit members interacted with hundreds of our community members. CEU joined with the Hudson Service Center in a back-to-school event, where backpacks and supplies were provided to returning students and a CEU initiated clothing drive to help supplement and grow the Hudson Center's "Community Closet". The "Community Closet" is a resource for those who are in need of clothing items to help them re-enter the work force or better prepare their wardrobe for a work setting. CEU worked with CSX on a Rail Safety initiative, the "Jeepers Back the Blue" charity foundation, and the Christiana Care Community Blood Drive, where unit members donated blood to help minimize the shortage. One of the most cherished relationships for the agency is our relationship with Special Olympics Delaware and CEU demonstrated it throughout 2024 with its participation in the Law Enforcement Torch Run, Polar Bear Plunge and its participation in multiple medal ceremonies around the State of Delaware.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & NEWARK PAL cont.

CEU created a new partnership with one of our community's newest members, the VERO Assisted Living Community. CEU members participated in the VERO's community carnival, provided presentations and meetings for its residents, and helped to dedicate a new memorial wall for veterans of the United States Armed Services. CEU is already planning additional events with the VERO for 2025.

The holidays are a special time for many people, and police officers are included in this. In 2024, not only did CEU continue to grow the Presents with Police event by including Nemours Al DuPont Hospital for Children and Exceptional Care Center for Children in the donation of gifts, but they also promoted and worked with Newark High School on its growing Trunk or Treat event. CEU members decorated the PAL Mobile Center into a, "happy, haunted trailer." CEU did such a good job that they were awarded for their attention to detail.

2024 also showed the department's commitment to crime prevention. CEU members worked with the Newark Partnership, local bars, and restaurants on over-service and underage consumption prevention and enforcement. In response to a national vehicle theft trend involving AirTags, CEU provided prevention tips to area car dealerships.

CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY

Beginning in September of 2024, members for the Community Engagement Unit embarked on the 16th Newark Police Department Citizens Police Academy Class (CPA). The CPA was a 10-week course providing instruction and a behind-the-scenes look at the daily workings and functions of a full-service police department. Students, who represented a cross section of the Newark community, were provided instruction and given classes on a wide range of topics that included DUI recognition and investigation, traffic enforcement, criminal investigations, evidence detection, S.W.A.T. team operations, Crisis Intervention and Crisis Negotiations Team operations, and firearms safety and handling. Like the class, the CPA Instructors were a cross section from all areas and divisions within the agency, which highlighted our agency's commitment to providing excellent service to the community.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH UNIT

In 2024, the agency worked with the State of Delaware Criminal Justice Council, its allied law enforcement and behavioral health partners and its federal partners, on the planning, development, and implementation of a Behavioral Health Unit. The agency secured state and federal grant funding to hire a Mental Health Case Manager to address the growing need in our community for mental health and behavioral health services. The agency worked with Christiana Care Health Systems and hired its Mental Health Case Manager, Mr. Eric Harrington, in December of 2024. This program also exemplifies the relationship between the department and the University of Delaware's Center for Drug and Health studies.



Eric Harrington

CRIMINAL
INVESTIGATIONS
DIVISION



Fred Nelson
Lieutenant

The Criminal Investigations Division (CID) is led by Lieutenant Fred Nelson and consists of the following units/ positions: Criminal Investigations Unit (General Investigations and Family Services), Victim Services, and the Street Crimes Unit. In 2024, CID was designated to have 12 sworn officers and one civilian employee, however due to staffing, CID operated with 7 sworn officers and one civilian employee.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT

The Criminal Investigation Unit (CIU) is comprised of four Detectives, that include two General Investigation Detectives, a Detective Master Corporal who also serves as the Family Services Detective, and a Detective Sergeant. CIU handles Property Crime investigations (including Burglary and Theft), Major Crime investigations (including Robbery, Sex Offenses, Serious Assaults), and all Suspicious Death/Drug Overdose Death/Homicide investigations.

The Criminal Investigation Unit provides 24-hour investigative coverage for the Department. As such, one Detective is always assigned as the “On - Call Detective” for urgent matters. Members of CIU work in tandem with the Street Crimes Unit and the Victims Services Coordinator.

The Detective Sergeant assigns cases that require follow-up to the Detectives based on their skill, knowledge, expertise, and existing case load. One of the primary responsibilities of the Family Services Detective is to ensure compliance with Megan’s Law regarding sex offender registration and community notification of sex offenders.

In 2024, a total of 201 cases were assigned to CIU for follow-up investigations. Those include:		Amount
Rape		11
Robbery		9
Burglary		54
Assaults		8
Miscellaneous Investigations		133



STREET CRIMES UNIT

The Street Crimes Unit (SCU) is part of the Criminal Investigations Division (CID). The Street Crimes Unit consists of a Sergeant, Master Corporal, and sworn officers. The employees assigned to SCU perform a variety of functions. In 2024, SCU operated with 3 officers, including the unit supervisor.

- Aggressive enforcement of drug laws with a focus on local drug dealers.
- Follow up on drug related deaths.
- Warrant service of Newark Police Department street warrants.
- Establish a presence in the higher crime areas of the City of Newark to include crime deterrence and proactive enforcement – via pedestrian contacts and vehicle stops.
- Proactive/zero tolerance enforcement of order maintenance and quality of life issues.
- Support the Criminal Investigations Unit to include assisting with investigations, surveillance, and service of search/search warrants.
- Human trafficking/prostitution investigation and enforcement.
- Monitoring and aggressive enforcement at local hotels.

Noteworthy items regarding SCU activities:

• 72 drug related criminal warrants	• 101 alcohol related civil citations
• 71 other criminal warrants	• 4 prostitution arrests
• 26 drug related criminal summonses	• 422 traffic offenses
• 251 other criminal summonses	• 10 Driving Under the Influence (DUI) arrests
• 3 drug related civil citations	• 143 traffic offense warnings
• 95 Crime Prevention Checks (CPCs)	• 144 fugitive arrests

Summary of 2024 Drug & Asset Seizures

• Marijuana	11,678.5 grams	• Heroin	2,009 grams
• Marijuana Wax	88.5 grams	• LSD	63.25 doses
• Marijuana Edibles	5,818.6	• Mushrooms/Mushroom Edibles	559 grams
• Marijuana Cartridges	113	• Firearms	3
• Cocaine	1,430.87 grams	• United States Currency	\$204,985.96



VICTIM SERVICES

The Victim Services Coordinator (VSC), Ms. Melissa Pennachi, provides crisis intervention and trauma-informed support to victims and witnesses of crime such as domestic violence, stalking, rape, assault, robbery, human trafficking, and sudden death. Victim Services includes providing information and support during criminal investigations and court processes, as well as safety planning and appropriate referrals to services. Additionally, the VSC aids with the Victim's Compensation Assistance Program application as well as assisting victims to apply for protective orders. The VSC continues to work with victims and witnesses to ensure their needs are being met. The Victim Services Coordinator provides in-house training to officers about Trauma Informed Care, the Role of Victim Services, Sexual Assault Investigations and Trauma, and Mandatory Child Abuse Reporting. She also provides instruction to police recruits attending the Delaware State Police Academy. She has been a faculty member for the Delaware Victim Assistance Academy since its inception in 2019 and speaks to outside organizations, such as doing presentations to different classes at the University of Delaware.

The Victim Services Coordinator represents the department on a variety of committees, such as the Victims' Rights Task Force and Domestic Violence Task Force and is an active member of the joint legislative subcommittee of the two Task Forces. She co-chairs the VRTF's Crime Victims' Rights Week Planning Committee. Ms. Pennachi is an appointed Council Member of the Domestic Violence Coordinating Council, as well as an appointed Council member of the Delaware Anti - Trafficking Action Council. As a Council member for DVCC, she chairs the Criminal Justice Committee. For DATAC, she chairs the Public Awareness Committee.

Victimization Type	# of Victims Served
New victims served	202
Juvenile Physical or Sexual Abuse	6
Adult Sexual Assault	13
Domestic Violence	87
Robbery	6
Assault	39
DUI Crash	1
Survivors of homicide victims	1
*Other	49
<i>*Other includes burglaries, harassment, and terroristic threatening (not domestic related), fraud, theft, and sudden death (not homicide)</i>	

FIELD OPERATIONS BUREAU



Scott Rieger
Captain



Greg D'Elia
Lieutenant

The Field Operations Bureau is under the command of Captain Scott Rieger and is comprised of the Patrol Division and the Special Enforcement Division.

PATROL DIVISION

The Patrol Division, under the leadership of Lieutenant Greg D'Elia, is the backbone of the department, comprising five platoons, each staffed with seven officers. The patrol platoons are the primary source to respond to calls for service. Each platoon is supervised by a Sergeant and supported by a Master Corporal, who serves as the assistant shift supervisor. Patrol officers work a rotation shift schedule that ensures police coverage, 24-hours a day, every day of the year.

The Patrol Division remains the primary division for responding to calls for service, addressing community needs promptly.

In 2024, the Patrol Division achieved several significant milestones, which represent only a small sample of the hard work, professionalism, and diligence demonstrated by the division throughout the year, including:

- Officers responded to numerous incidents involving drug overdoses. They rendered critical medical aid, including administering Narcan, and performed lifesaving measures to stabilize patients. Officers collaborated closely with EMS personnel to ensure individuals received appropriate and timely medical care. These successes underscore the dedication and professionalism of the officers within the division, reaffirming their commitment to serving the community with excellence.
- Throughout 2024, officers responded to several hundred incidents involving mental health crises. In each instance, officers provided critical support and assistance, facilitating access to appropriate services and ensuring safe transportation for individuals to receive necessary treatment.
- A new initiative to address organized retail theft was implemented in 2024. Officers from each patrol shift were designated to serve as investigators on shoplifting incidents. These officers collaborated with Crime Analysis and the Street Crimes Unit to share intelligence and identify suspects. This proactive approach successfully led to numerous arrests, disrupting retail theft operations and demonstrating the effectiveness of coordinated investigative efforts.
- In one incident, an officer conducted a vehicle stop for a fictitious registration. During the stop, the driver was found to be impaired and arrested for DUI. A subsequent search of the vehicle revealed a 9mm "ghost gun" pistol, 17 grams of methamphetamine, and drug paraphernalia.
- In response to a recent increase in burglaries and vehicle thefts, an officer was patrolling the area of car dealerships on E. Cleveland Avenue during the midnight shift. A suspicious vehicle fled the area at a high rate of speed after spotting the officer. The driver ultimately lost control of the vehicle and crashed into a church before fleeing on foot. The vehicle was confirmed to have been stolen. Through the use of the City of Newark Public Safety Camera system and DNA evidence collected from the deployed airbag, the officer was able to identify and link the suspect to the vehicle. The defendant was charged with multiple felony and misdemeanor crimes.
- During another fictitious registration traffic stop on East Chestnut Hill Road, a search revealed the handgun concealed under the driver's seat. The driver was charged with felony firearms offenses as well as applicable traffic violation.
- Officers also responded to reports of thefts from vehicles in the areas of E. Main Street and N. Chapel Street. Video surveillance footage was obtained, allowing officers to identify a suspect responsible for nine counts of burglary 3rd degree, theft, motor vehicle theft, and additional crimes. The suspect was located, arrested, and charged with the associated offenses.
- In a separate incident, officers responded to a bank for a report of suspected fraud. The investigation determined that a suspect had entered the bank and attempted to withdraw funds using a fictitious identification card. The suspect, who had traveled from New York, was taken into custody while still at the bank. She was charged with identity theft, forgery, attempted theft, and other related crimes.



CRISIS NEGOTIATIONS TEAM

The Newark Police Department's Crisis Negotiations Team (CNT) is comprised of Lieutenant D'Elia, who is the Team Commander, Sergeant Conover, who is the Team Leader and negotiator, and five officers of varying ranks who are all trained negotiators. Members of CNT are specially trained officers in the areas of crisis and hostage/barricade communications. CNT members are also members of the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT), with Sgt. Potocki also being a member of the Veterans Response Team (VRT).

In 2024, team members trained with allied law enforcement and mental health field partners to continue to grow and improve their skills. Members of the team attended continuing training in Columbus, Ohio, training with members of the Midwest Crisis Negotiators Association. CNT members attended the advanced Crisis Intervention Team training in 2024. CNT members trained and worked with its allied law enforcement partners from the New Castle County Police Department, University of Delaware Police Department, and the Delaware Department of Corrections.

In 2024, CNT responded to assist the department's S.W.A.T. team with announcements during high-risk warrant service operations. CNT members also responded to assist patrol officers with negotiations and communications skills with members of the community who are in crisis. The Team's near constant interaction with the community and those in crisis enables team members to use their highly valuable skills to help our community. Team members also negotiated with multiple people suffering crisis in 2024 leading to successful, peaceful resolutions with the person in crisis obtaining the help that they needed. Team members also conducted scenario-based negotiations and coaching training using the communications system and a role - player who was acting as a person in crisis. In 2024, CNT members negotiated with several barricaded subjects. The coordinated efforts and skills of CNT, S.W.A.T. and other assisting units led to the peaceful resolution of these incidents.

SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT DIVISION



The Special Enforcement Division is led by Lieutenant Truman Bolden and consists of the Traffic Unit and the Animal Control Officer. Lieutenant Bolden also oversees the administration of extra-duty assignments and is the Team Commander for the department's S.W.A.T. team.

TRAFFIC UNIT

The Traffic Unit is responsible for the investigation of serious and fatal collisions, developing and implementing enforcement plans in response to complaints, and the planning and execution of large-scale traffic control for events. In addition, the Traffic Unit maintains technologies used by various elements of the department for traffic enforcement. The Traffic Unit employs the use of police motorcycles for traffic enforcement efforts, as well as escort operations. The Traffic Unit was authorized for four officers but due to staffing was comprised of three officers.

The officers in the Traffic Unit receive several weeks of advanced collision reconstruction training once assigned to the unit. This intensive training involves the use of algebra, calculus, and physics (among other tools), to determine the events leading to a serious collision. When a motor vehicle collision results in a fatality, the resulting investigation to determine the circumstances leading up to the collision, as well as the mechanics of the collision itself, is extremely intensive with respect to manpower and resources used during the investigation. In 2024, the Traffic Unit investigated 2 fatal crashes.

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

Prioritizing enforcement initiatives requires a balance between locations that are identified using collision statistics vs. locations that are affecting a quality of life or presenting a perceived danger. The Traffic Unit conducts "maintenance" enforcement throughout Newark to maintain a presence and encourage vehicle operators to remain aware as they drive through town. Typically, this type of enforcement takes place on roadways that exhibit higher collision numbers year-to-year. In addition, the Traffic Unit endeavors to respond to reported concerns outside of the maintenance areas. The Traffic Unit is also responsible for the review and approval of red-light citations issued through the Electronic Red Light Safety Program administered by DelDOT. In the past year, 3063 citations were reviewed. 2986 (97%) were approved and issued to violators, while 77 (3%) were rejected and resulted in no action. A member of the Traffic Unit attends court one day each month for trials based on automated red-light citations.

TRAFFIC CONTROL & COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Traffic Unit maintains five Harley Davidson Police motorcycles for enforcement and traffic response activities. Three officers in the Special Enforcement Division have completed intensive training on the operation of a police motorcycle and utilize them for daily patrols, as well as special events. The Traffic Unit participates in the planning and implementation of funeral escorts and other escorts of various activities. In addition, members of the Traffic Unit typically work on a traffic response detail at major events that can have a wide-ranging effect on traffic, such as parades, Newark Fireworks, UD football games, and UD graduation. Community Outreach efforts in 2024 included working with CSX on Rail Safety campaigns and the University of Delaware on crosswalk safety.





S.W.A.T.

The Newark Police Department's S.W.A.T. (Special Weapons and Tactics) Team is under the command of Lieutenant Truman Bolden and led by Sergeant Will Smith. S.W.A.T. is a highly trained and specialized unit that handles complex and dangerous situations, including high-risk warrant service, vehicle stops, and crisis management.

Key aspects of the S.W.A.T. Team's operations include:

Training & Rediness:

- o The S.W.A.T. team conducts bi-weekly training sessions to stay proficient in tactical maneuvers and firearms skills.
- o Annually, the team participates in a five-day consecutive training event to further enhance their capabilities.
- o In April 2024, the team hosted a 40-hour course from a National Tactical Officers Association instructor to improve their skills.
- o The team also has a Sniper/Observer unit, which trains monthly and has dedicated training days.
- o Two new members and a Tactical Medic were added to the team in 2024, bolstering their operational capacity.

S.W.A.T. Operation Summary:

- o The S.W.A.T. Team is called upon for high-risk operations, often working alongside the Criminal Investigations Unit. This includes executing high-risk search and arrest warrants, particularly for violent offenders.
- o The team's expertise extends to supporting surveillance and responding to evolving crisis situations as determined by the executive staff.



K-9 UNIT

Cpl. Spencer and his K-9 partner, Luto, were assigned to the Patrol Division in 2024. While in the Patrol Division, Cpl. Spencer helped trained multiple new Police Officers who had just graduated the Police Academy or had joined the agency from other police departments.

ANIMAL CONTROL

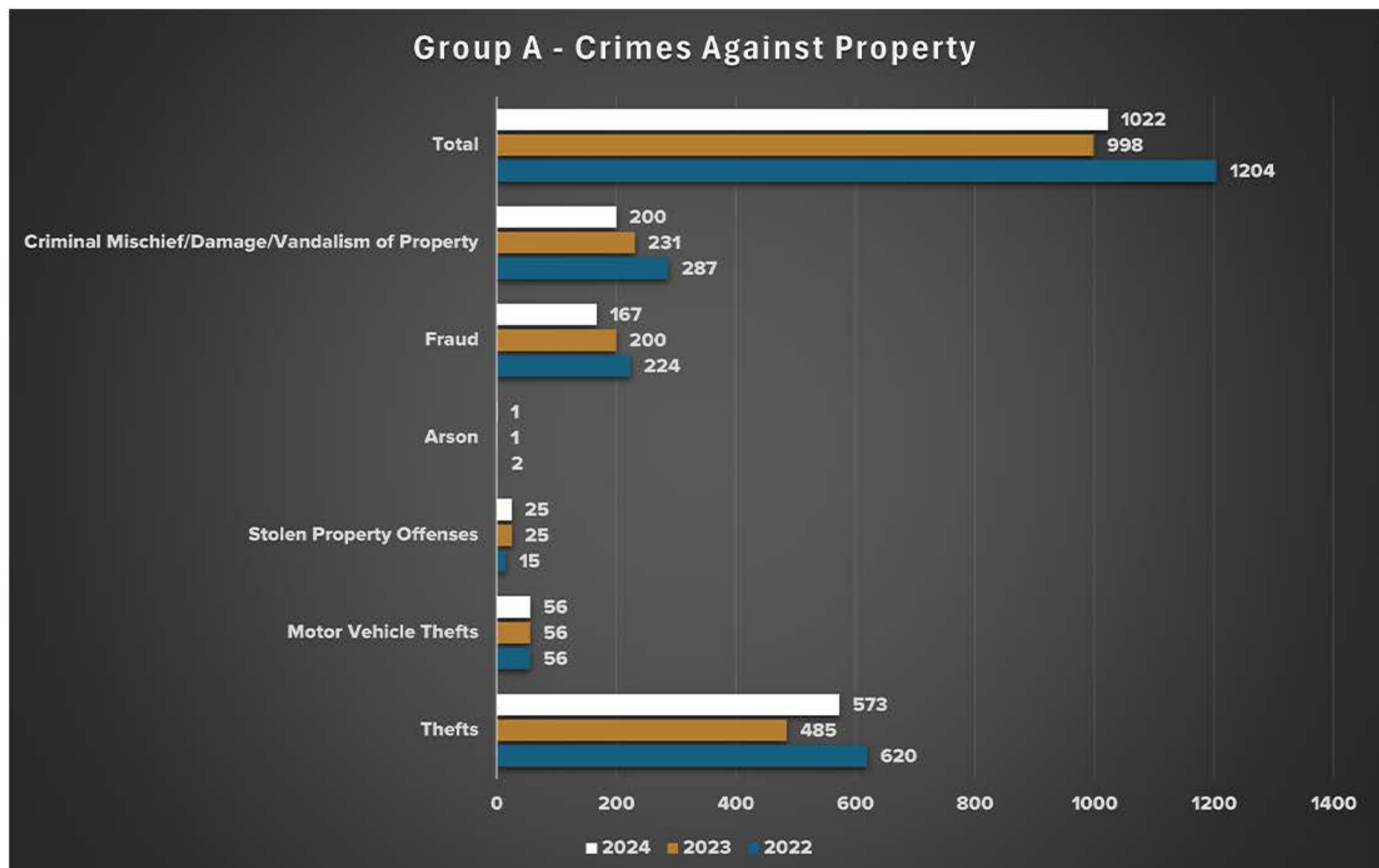
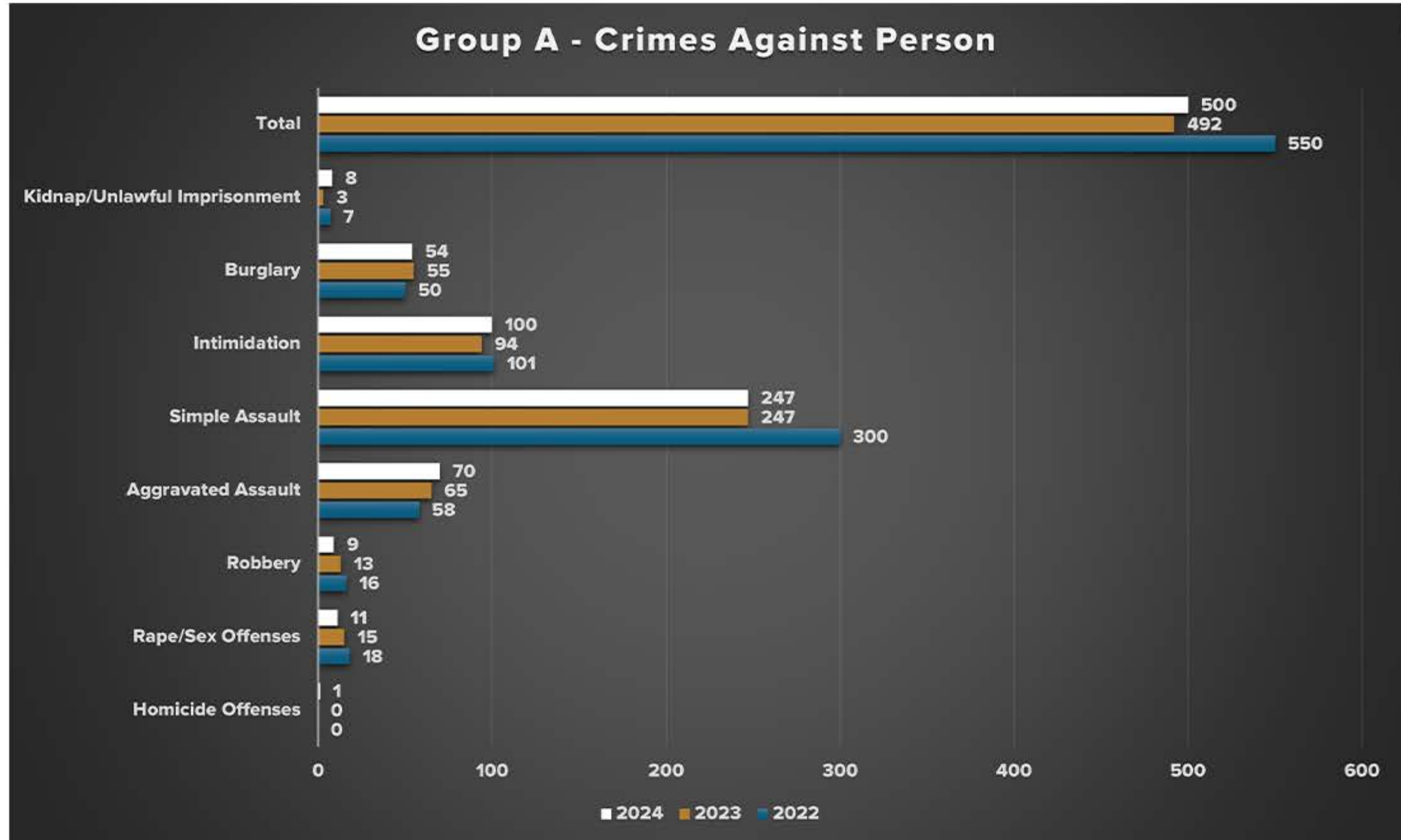
The City of Newark has one Animal Control Officer (ACO), Mrs. Donna Vickers. This Officer is state certified to handle and trap wild animals. Mrs. Vickers has several duties including the rescue of sick or injured animals, the investigation of dangerous dogs, cases of neglect and cruelty or abuse, and often assists Code Enforcement with animal related issues. In 2024, the Animal Control Officer investigated a cruelty to animals' case which resulted in the arrest of defendants for the crime. Additionally, the Animal Control Officer manages the welfare cases for ill or wounded wildlife, exotic animals and unlawfully possessed animals. Mrs. Vickers handled 25 bite cases in 2024 and works diligently to return stray animals to their owners. The Animal Control Officer participates in the Trap, Neuter, Vaccinate and Return Program. This program is designed to prevent the spreading of various diseases such as rabies and feline immunodeficiency virus. In December of 2024, Mrs. Vickers participated in the Mega Adoption event held at the Brandywine Valley SPCA, which has helped home over 18,000 pets since 2016.

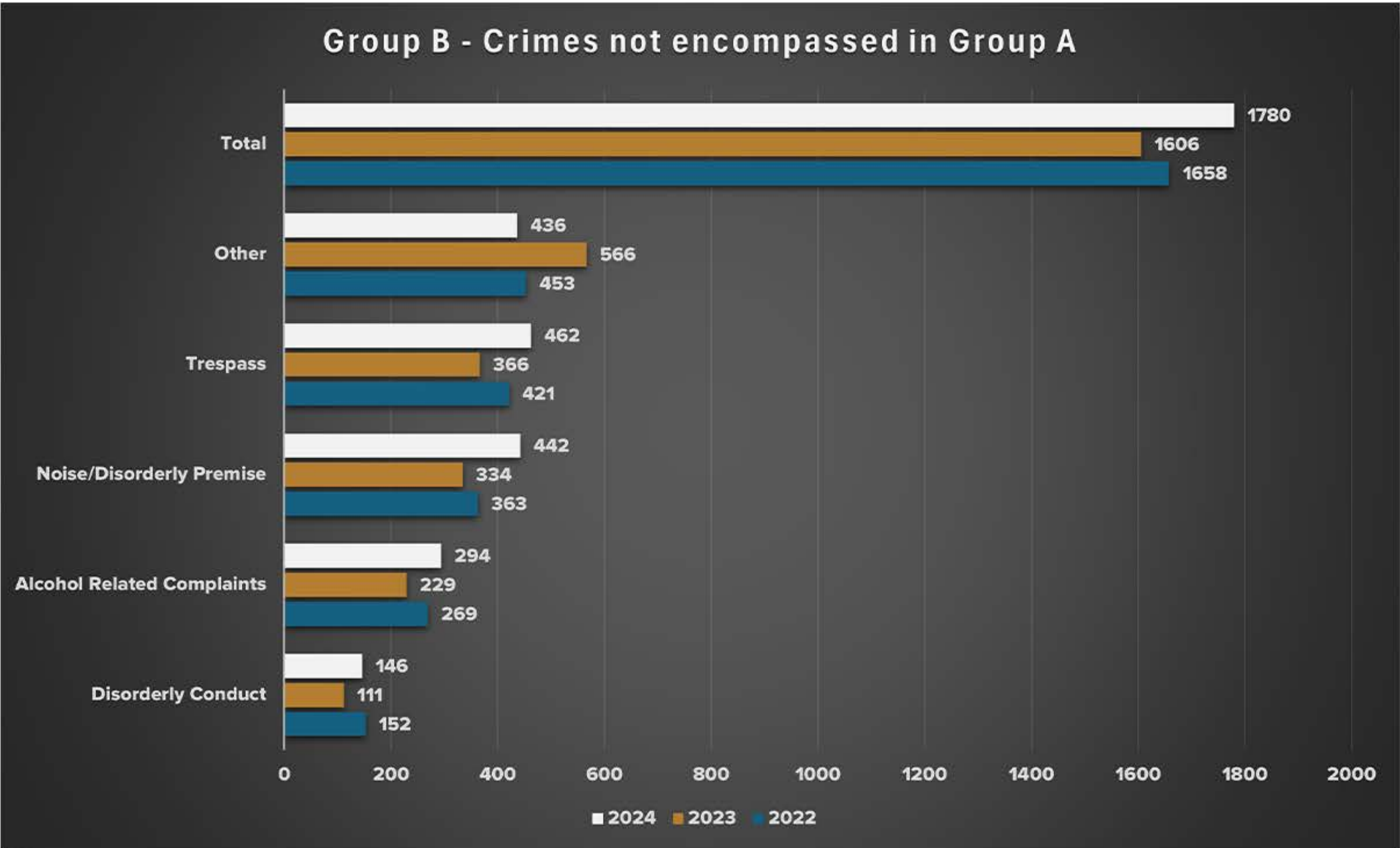
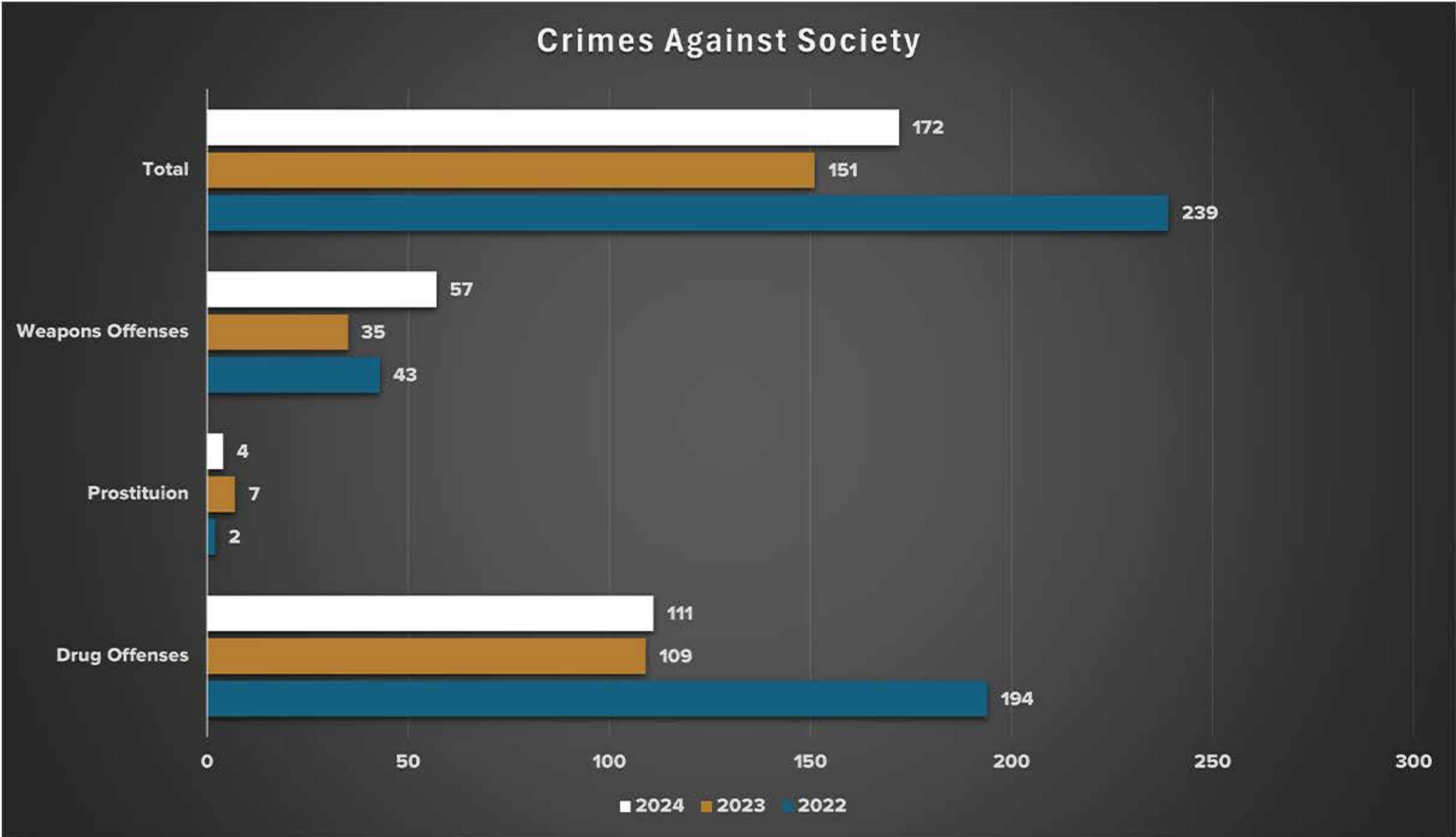


Donna Vickers
Animal Control Officer

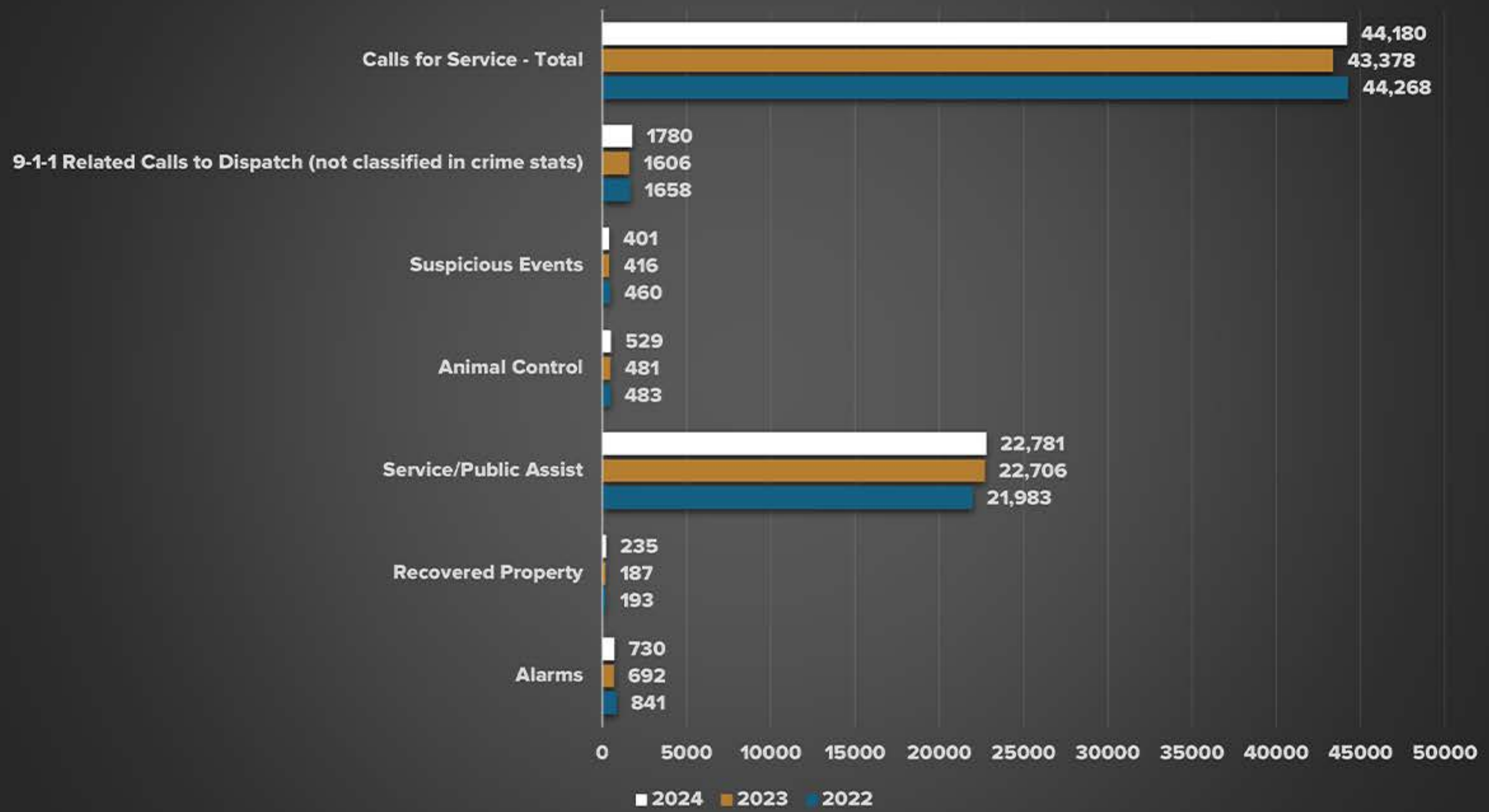
NEWARK POLICE DEPARTMENT STATISTICS

Statistics gathered in this section are compiled using State of Delaware analytics programs for crimes reported to and investigated by the Newark Police Department. Crime statistics are updated periodically due to reclassifications and investigative measures. Part I Crimes are now referred to in FBI reporting as Group A and Part II Crimes are referred to in FBI reporting as Group B:

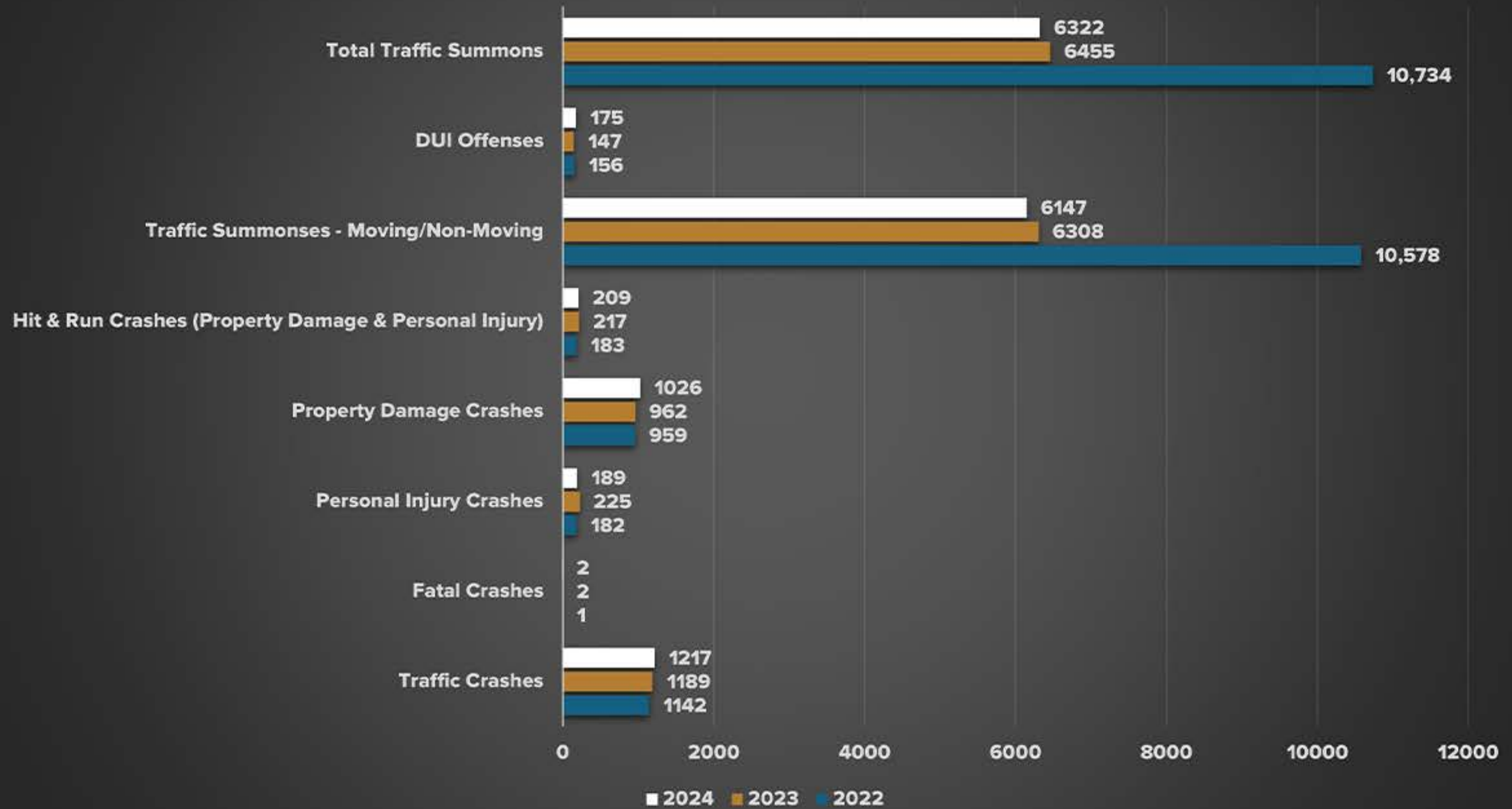




Miscellaneous/Calls for Service



Traffic Related Calls for Service



Lions Club Officer of
the Year

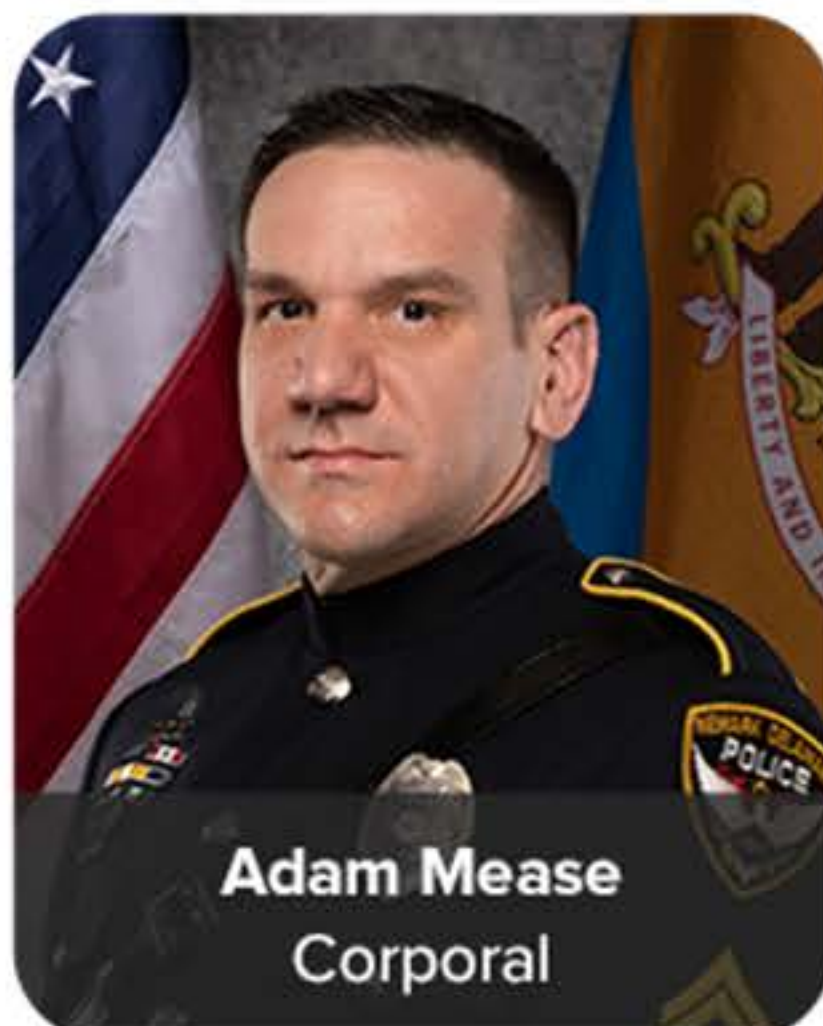
Newark Rotary Club
Officer of the Year

Newark Rotary Club
Officer of the Year

VFW Office of
the Year



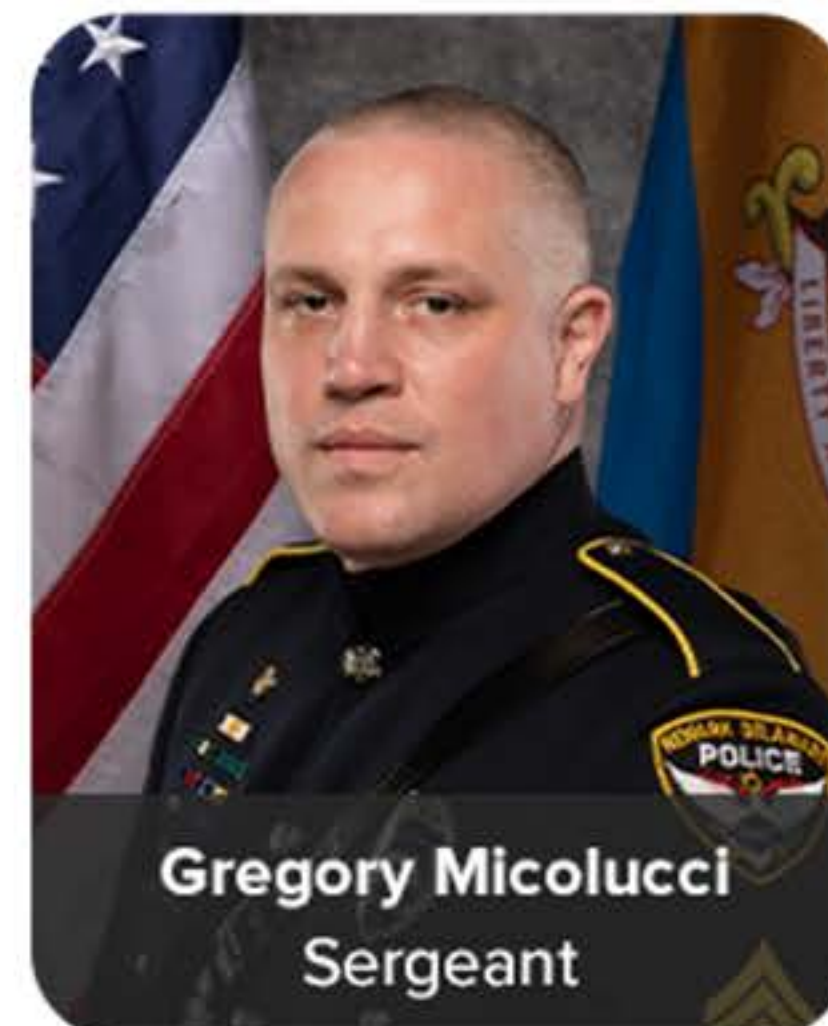
Carter McKennon
Master Corporal



Adam Mease
Corporal



Donte Faulk
Corporal



Gregory Micolucci
Sergeant

Knights of Columbus
Officer of the 2nd Quarter

Knights of Columbus
Officer of the 2nd Quarter

Knights of Columbus
Officer of the 2nd Quarter



Joseph Kendrick
Master Corporal



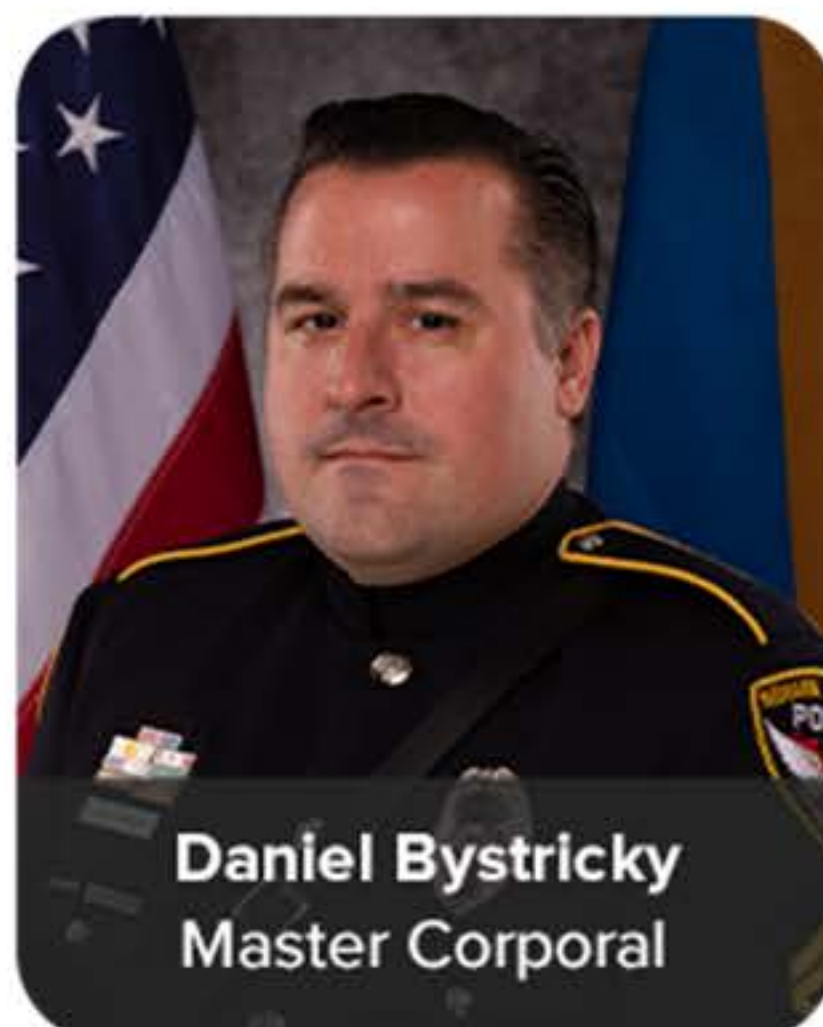
Gregory Micolucci
Sergeant



Ryan Hultberg
Patrolman First Class

Knights of Columbus
Officer of the 3rd Quarter

Knights of Columbus
Officer of the 4th Quarter



Daniel Bystricky
Master Corporal



Carter McKennon
Master Corporal

OTHER INDIVIDUAL AWARDS

- **DUI Enforcement Ribbon:** Cpl. John Saitis (MADD) M/Cpl. Carter McKennon & Cpl. Corey Spencer
- **Citation for Merit:** M/Cpl. Carter McKennon (twice), P/O Kevin Conner
- **Letter of Commendation:** M/Cpl. Carter McKennon, Cpl. Jon Lee, Cpl. Justin Roberts, P/O Josh Marrero, P/O Avery Cook

UNIT CITATION RECIPIENTS

- **Unit Citation:** Sgt. Darryl Saunders, Cpl. Daniel Burgess, Cpl. Paige Klein (twice), Cpl. Jon Lee, Cpl. Andrew Maiura, P/O Myles Tornetta, Sgt. Thomas Maiura, Sgt. Gregory Micolucci, Sgt. Aaron Olicker, Sgt. Blake Potocki, M/Cpl. William Anderson, M/Cpl. Wayne Aston, M/Cpl. Daniel Bystricky, M/Cpl. Joseph Kendrick, M/Cpl. Andrew Golden, Cpl. Justin Roberts, Cpl. Domingo Velasquez, Cpl. Robert Young, Cpl., Ronald Zappaterrini, Cpl. Corey Spencer, Cpl. Andrew Vari, Pfc. Ryan Hultberg, P/O Avery Cook, P/O Everett Brown, P/O Ethan Ritchie, P/O Alexander Lozano, CO II Andrew Vernon, CO Nicole Bollettiero, Ms. Melissa Pennachi



NEW OFFICERS

- **On Patrol:** Christopher Jones, Alexander Lozano, Lawrence Matic, Beau Callery
- **On Field Training:** Xavier Glanzel, Ulas “James” Ozturk, Sameerah Jones
- **Attending New Castle County Police Academy:** Katie Lacosta, Matthew Davis
- **Communications Officer:** Nate DelCoglin

RETIREMENTS

- **Master Corporal Paul Keld**

Connect with the

NEWARK

POLICE DEPARTMENT



NewarkDEPD



NewarkDEPD



newarkdepd

InformMe

Citizen Notification System

Sign up at **NewarkDE.gov/InformMe** to receive important alerts from the Newark Police Department



Newark Police Department
220 South Main Street
Newark, Delaware 19711



(302) 366-7100



newarkde.gov/police
newarkdepolicepress.com

