

2023 BEAUFORT POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

01 Interim Chief's Welcome

02 Vision, Mission, & Values

03 2023 Command Staff

04 Department Facts

05 2024 Fiscal Year Budget

06 Grants

07 Annual Crime Statistics

09 Arrest Demographics

10 Patrol Division

11 K9 Team

12 Criminal Investigations Division

14 Court Security/Victim's Advocate

15 Administrative Division

17 Training Division

18 Evidence and Property

19 Fleet

20 School Resource Officers

21 Community Events

23 Records Division

24 Accreditation

25 Social Media



INTERIM CHIEF'S WELCOME

Dear community,

It is with great pride and gratitude that I address you as the Interim Chief of the Beaufort Police Department. As we reflect on the past year and set our sights on the future, I am honored to lead the Department into 2024 with a profound dedication to the safety, well-being, and unity of our community.

Firstly, I would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to Chief Dale McDorman for his remarkable 29 years of service to the Beaufort community. Chief McDorman's dedication, leadership, and commitment have left an indelible mark on the Beaufort Police Department and the city we proudly serve.

As we stand at the threshold of a new year, our focus remains unwavering: to ensure our community is safe and treated with the highest level of dignity and respect. We recognize that effective policing goes hand in hand with community engagement, and we are committed to fostering relationships built on trust, respect, transparency, and compassion.

In the pages that follow, you will find a comprehensive overview of our department's activities, achievements, and plans for the future. From community outreach initiatives to crime reduction strategies, each facet of our work is driven by a singular objective – to create a safer and more resilient Beaufort.

I would like to extend my gratitude to the City Council and City Manager, Scott Marshall, for their steadfast support and collaboration. Thank you for being the voice of our community and soundly guiding the decisions that make the City of Beaufort our home.

To the residents of the City of Beaufort, your trust and partnership are the very foundation of our success and the reason behind the badge. We remain dedicated to maintaining the highest standards of professionalism, fostering community partnerships, and ensuring the safety and well-being of all residents.

Lastly, to the officers of the Beaufort Police Department, I commend your unwavering commitment to the principles of service, integrity, and professionalism. Your dedication is the driving force behind our collective efforts. I am very proud to work alongside you and I am continually impressed with the care and compassion you all display every day.

As we embark on the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead, the Beaufort Police Department remains resolute in our mission. Together, let us continue to build a community that is safe, inclusive, and united.

Sincerely,



Stephenie Price
Interim Chief of Police



VISION, MISSION, & VALUES



Vision

That the citizens of Beaufort will feel safe in all areas of the community, work together to solve community and neighborhood problems, and have a high level of respect, trust, and confidence in their Police Department.

Mission

We, the members of the Beaufort Police Department, are committed to being responsive to our community in the delivery of quality services. Recognizing our responsibility to maintain order, while affording dignity and respect to every individual, our objective is to improve the quality of life through a community partnership that promotes safe, secure neighborhoods.

Values

We, the employees of the Beaufort Police Department, believe that providing superior service to the citizens, merchants, and visitors of Beaufort is our primary responsibility and that all of our work should be structured with that goal in mind. We further believe that in meeting this goal, we shall be responsible to decisions made by the City Council, City Manager, the Police Chief, and the citizens of the City of Beaufort.

2023 COMMAND STAFF



Dale McDorman
Chief of Police

Meet the Beaufort Police Department Command Staff. Throughout the year, the command staff exhibits proactive approaches to addressing evolving challenges, emphasizing community-oriented policing and fostering positive relationships with residents. Together, they bring a wealth of experience, leadership, and commitment to ensuring the safety and well-being of our Department and our community.



Stephenie Price
Deputy Chief



Richard Poole
Operations
Captain



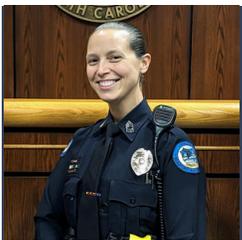
Jason Day
Administrative
Captain



Joseph Dobbins
Patrol
Lieutenant



Charles Squires
Community Relations
Lieutenant



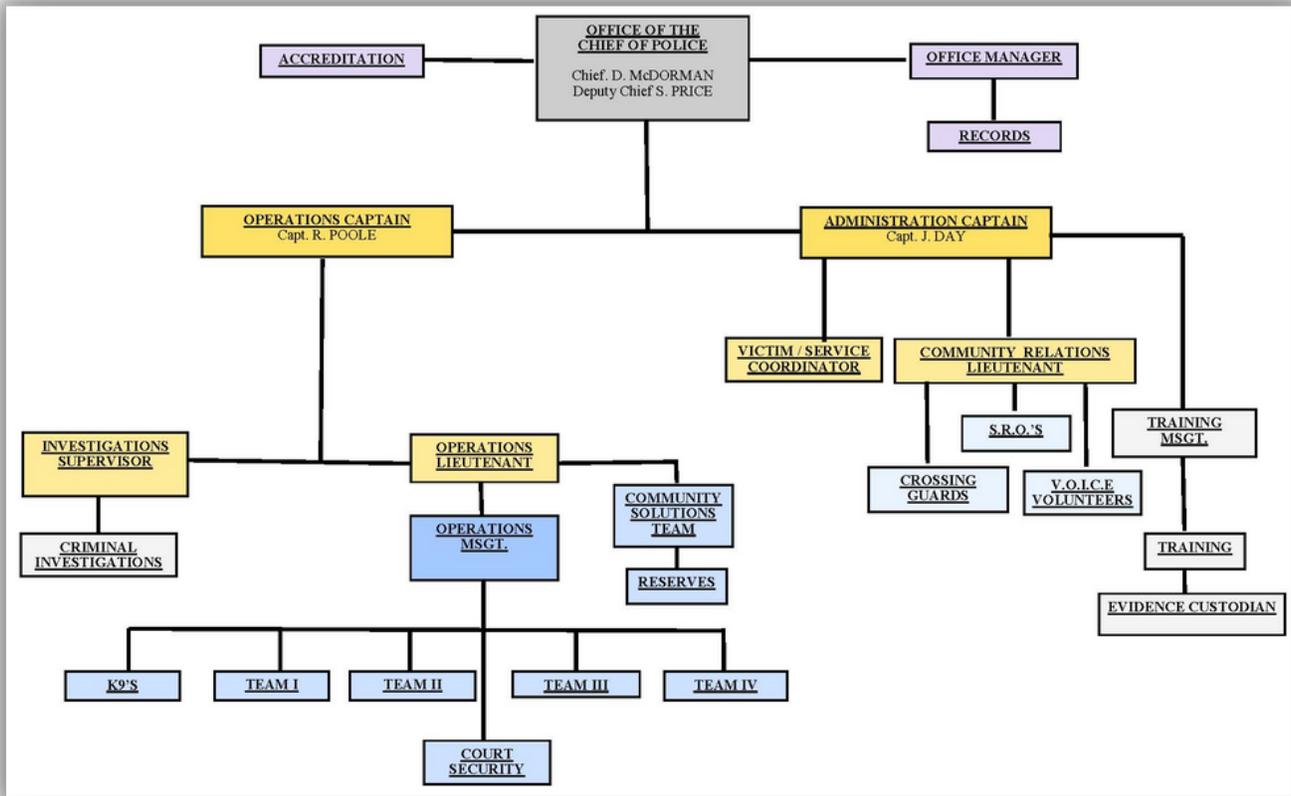
Trisha Mendicino
Investigations
Master Sergeant



Lori Reeves
Administrative
Master Sergeant

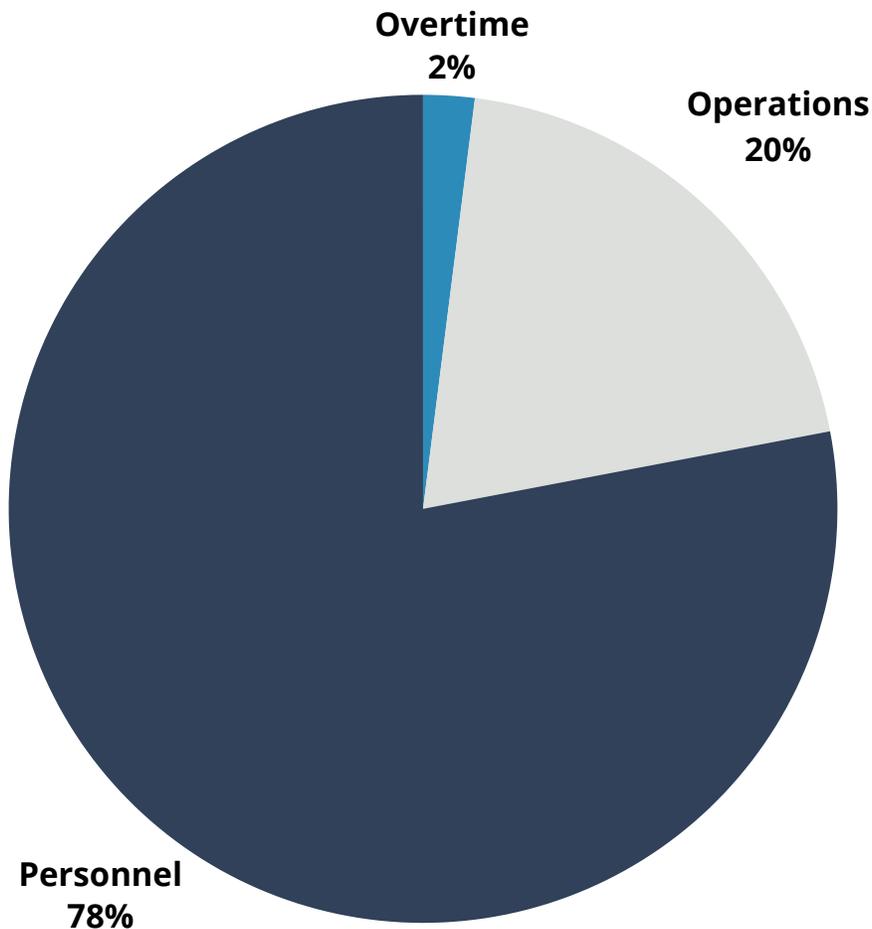
BEAUFORT
POLICE

2023 DEPARTMENT FACTS



2024 FISCAL YEAR BUDGET

TOTAL BUDGET: \$7,556,737



GRANTS

2023-24 SC Department of Public Safety Office of Highway Safety and Justice Program, School Resource Officer

Total Award: \$295,038

Covers salary and fringe benefits for two schools (Beaufort Elementary School and Mossy Oaks Elementary School). The grant also covers vehicles (two new Broncos), to include mileage and maintenance. All equipment and training for the two school resource officers.

SC Opioid Recovery Fund

Total Award: \$25,000

For use in education and training of public safety personnel on how to prevent, treat, and educate the public on recognizing signs of opioid addiction. Also provides resources for family members of those with addiction.

2023 Body Armor Assistance Grant (BAAG)-FEB 2023

Total Award: \$13,695

100% covered (no match required)

This grant is utilized for replacing officer ballistic vests and getting new vests for new officers.

Vested Interest in K9s

Total Award: \$2,500

Received 2 ballistic and stab vests for K9 Jampi and K9 Supra.

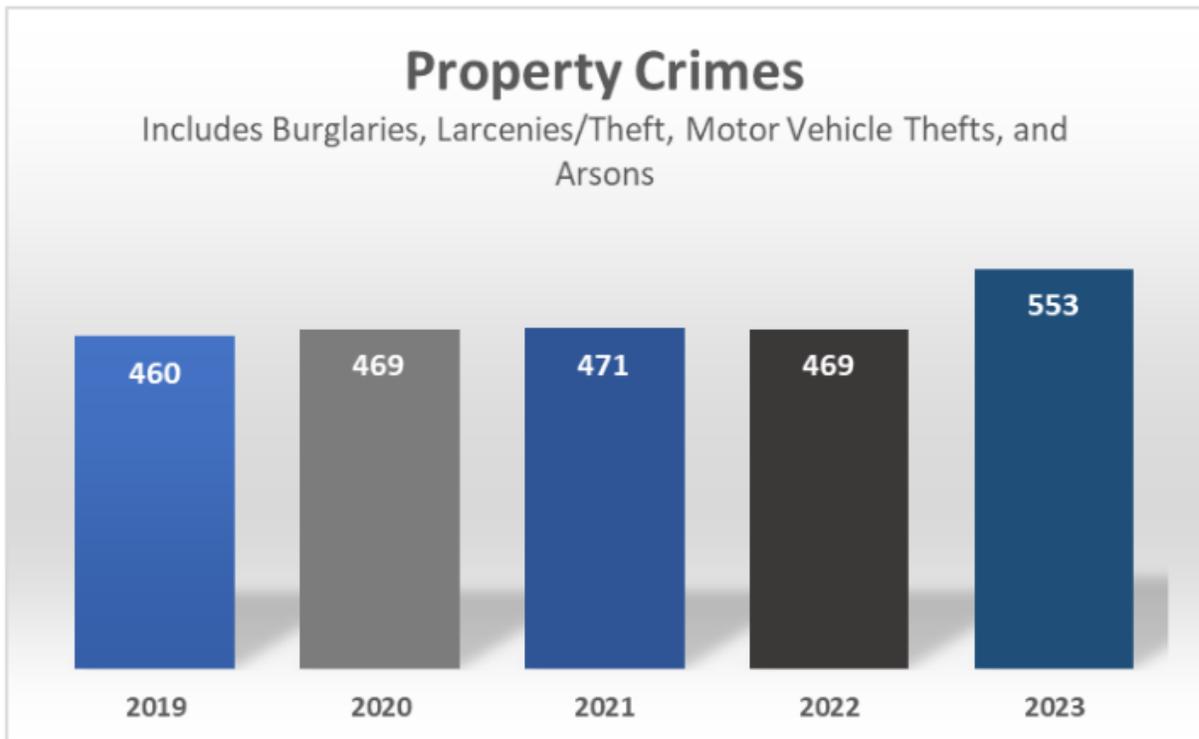
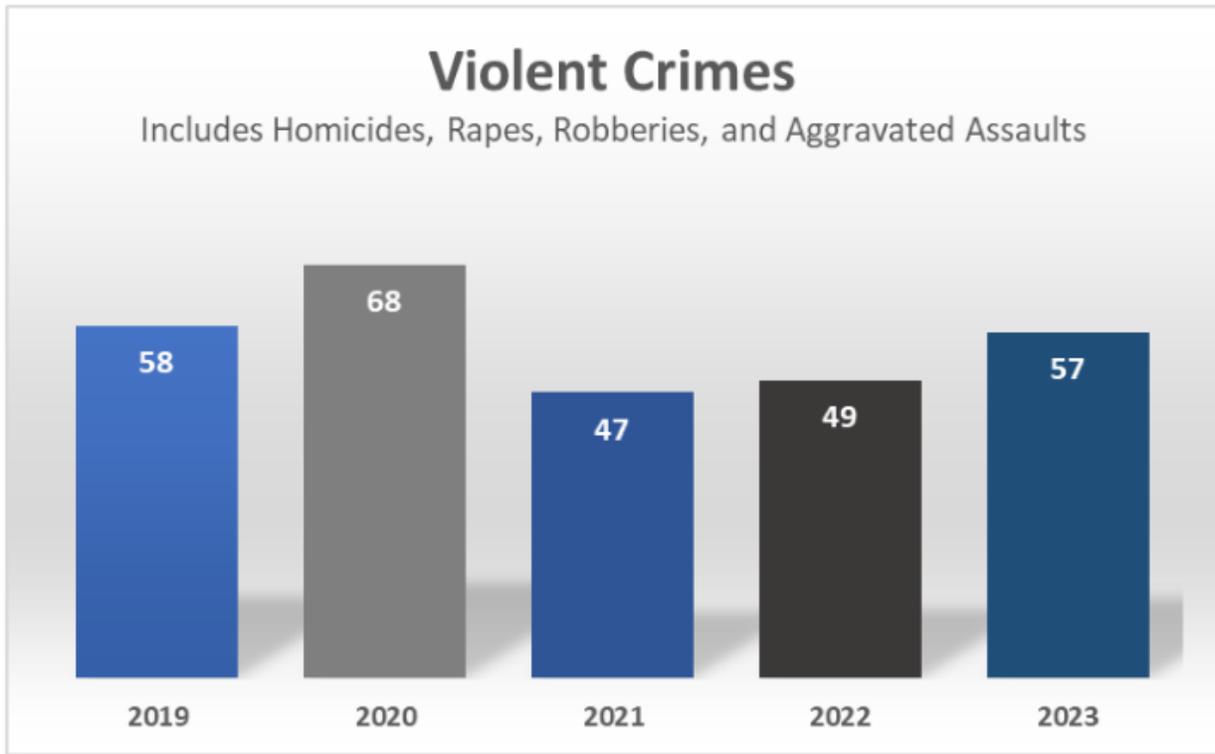


SRO Grant Bronco

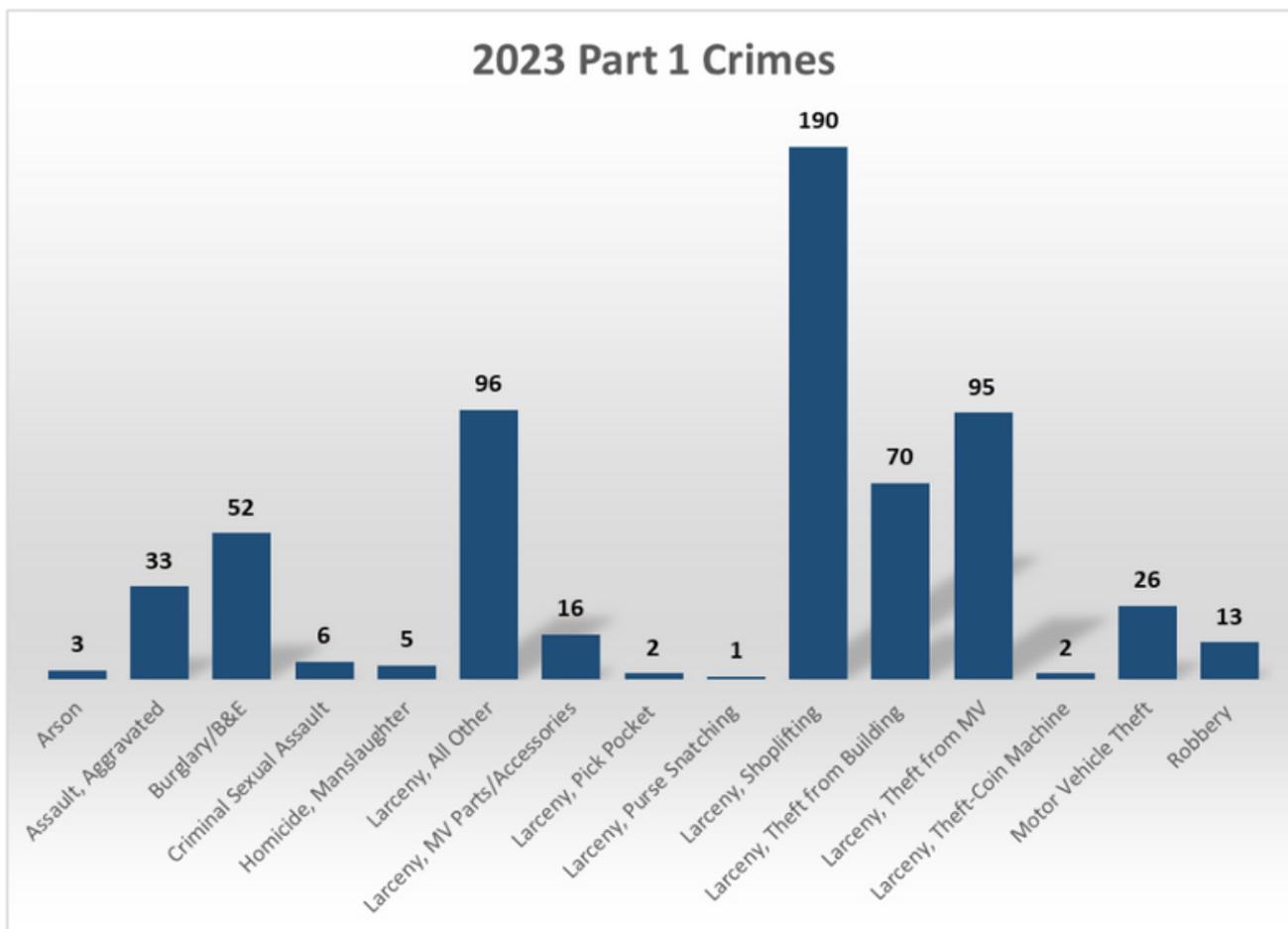


1st Sgt. Supra in Grant Vest

ANNUAL CRIME STATISTICS



ANNUAL CRIME STATISTICS



Larceny is defined as the unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another person or business. There are eight subcategories that make up the total for larceny offense: Pocket-picking, purse-snatching, shoplifting, theft from a building, theft from coin operated devices, theft from motor vehicles, theft of motor vehicle parts/accessories, and all other larcenies.

Burglary is defined as the unlawful entry into a building or some other structure to commit a felony or a theft. By definition, a structure has four walls, a roof, and a door.

Robbery is defined as the taking of anything of value from the control, custody, or care of another person by force or threat of force and/or by putting the victim in fear of immediate harm.

Aggravated assault is defined as an unlawful attack by one person upon another wherein the offender uses a dangerous weapon or displays it in a threatening manner, or the victim suffers obvious severe or aggravated bodily injury, or where there was a risk for serious injury/intent to seriously injure.

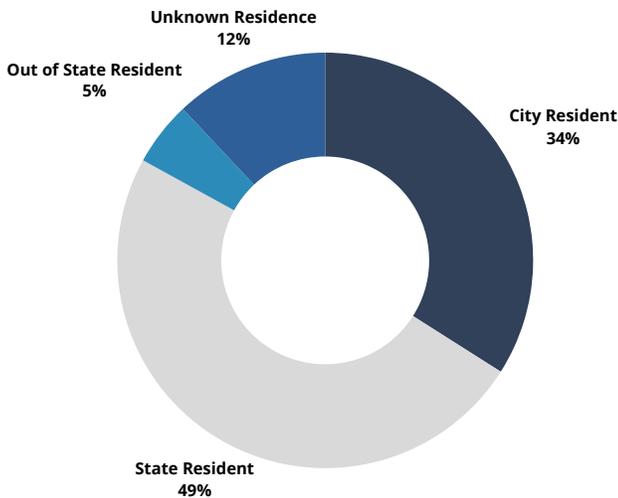
ARREST DEMOGRAPHICS

Total Arrests: 475

Male: 344 / 72%

Female: 131 / 28%

Race	Male	Female	Total	
Unknown / Not Recorded	1	0	1	0.2%
Asian	8	0	8	1.7%
Black	170	66	236	49.7%
Indian	1	0	1	0.2%
White/Hispanic/Latin	20	7	27	5.7%
India Native	0	0	0	0.0%
White	144	58	202	42.5%
Age				
1 to 18	5	1	6	1%
19 to 25	68	22	90	19%
26 to 50	201	87	288	61%
51 & Over	70	21	91	19%



City Resident	160	34%
State Resident	232	49%
Out of State Resident	26	5%
Unknown Residence	57	12%

PATROL DIVISION



Patrol is the largest and most visible division within the Beaufort Police Department. The City of Beaufort is 26.7 square miles and has a population of 13,607.

There are four patrol teams, and each team is led by a 1st Sergeant and assisted by a Sergeant. The Patrol Division is overseen by the Operations Captain and Patrol Lieutenant.

Patrol officers provide many services during their 12-hour shifts, such as responding to calls for service, providing extra patrols, traffic enforcement, and self-initiated proactive policing. Additionally, they attend community events, conduct preliminary investigations of crimes and traffic accidents, write reports, and collect evidence.



PATROL IN NUMBERS

53,569

Calls for Service

556

Collision Reports Completed

523

Criminal Citations Issued

17

DUI Arrests

1,316

Traffic Citations Issued

1,744

Uniform Crime Reports Completed

3,444

Warnings Issued

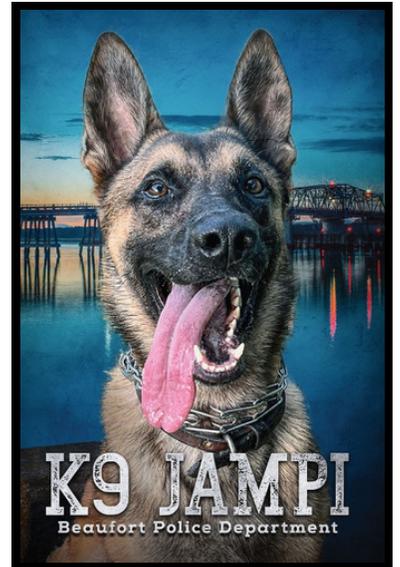


K9 TEAM

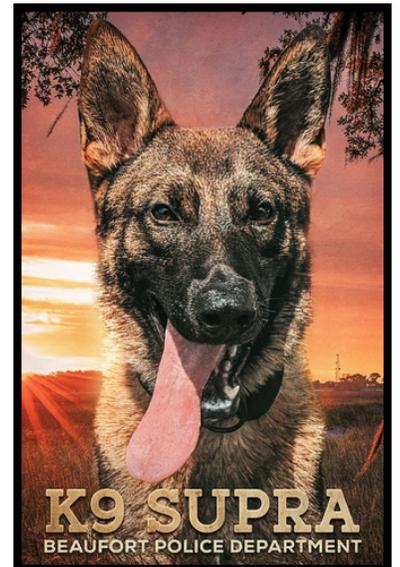


Our K9 team was established in July of 2023. The team is comprised of two sergeants and two 1st Sergeant canines. Traditionally, canines outrank their handlers.

Each dog is a certified patrol canine whose responsibilities include tracking, article searches, and criminal apprehension. These teams conduct high-visibility patrols and perform the traditional activities of law enforcement.



Community support is vital when establishing a new unit. We received gracious support from the community and grants from Irondog K9 International, National Police Dog Foundation, and Vested Interest in K9s, Inc.



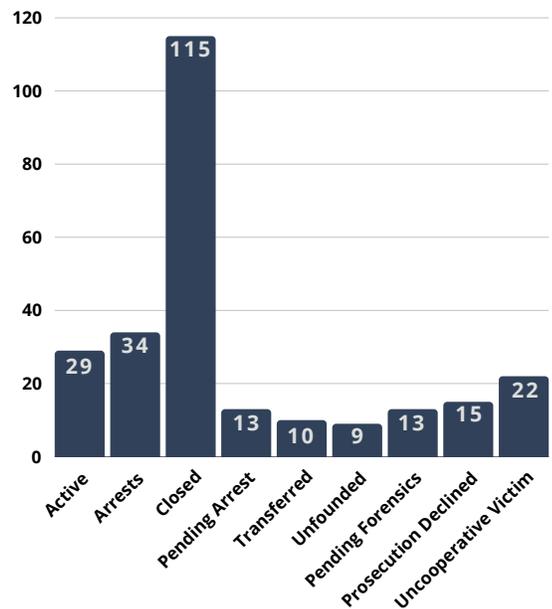


CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

The Investigations Division consists of seasoned officers who are specifically trained in conducting criminal investigations and crime scene processing. They conduct follow-up investigations and initiate preliminary investigations. Investigators' primary responsibilities is to view all available evidence and attempt to locate and gather additional evidence in developing probable cause to effect arrests of person(s) and present cases in court to obtain convictions.

The Investigations Division consists of five full-time Investigators and they are supervised by the Investigations Master Sergeant.

2023 CID CASE BREAKDOWN



CASE STATUS DEFINITIONS

Active: Cases currently assigned and under investigation.

Arrests: Case closed by arrest of suspect(s).

Closed: Cases indicate that an investigation ensued however, charges were not pursued. This includes cases where a suspect was not identified or probable cause for an arrest could not be established. These case can be reopened if new information is obtained.

Pending Arrest: Warrants have been obtained and the case is pending location and arrest of suspect(s).

Transferred: The case occurred outside of our jurisdiction. The case was referred to the respective agency.

Unfounded: A case reported to law enforcement but investigation revealed the incident did not occur as reported, deemed false, or baseless.

Pending Forensics: The case evidence sent to a forensics lab and case is awaiting results for further investigation.

Prosecution Declined: The victim(s) declined/refused prosecution on suspects developed during the investigation.

Uncooperative Victim: The case was closed due to the victim refusing to cooperate with the investigation.

NOTABLE CASES INVESTIGATED IN 2023



- Beaufort Police responded to a report of a male shot at 325 Ambrose Run. Upon arrival, a male victim was found deceased from a gunshot wound. Through investigation, a suspect was identified and arrested.
- Beaufort Police responded to a report of shots fired at 2001 Boundary St. Officers located a male deceased on the ground in the parking lot of 2007 Boundary St. Through investigation, a suspect was identified and arrested.
- The Beaufort Police responded to 2400 Southside Blvd. regarding shots fired. A female reported that her roommate attacked her and she shot him to defend herself after a dispute over property. Through investigation, a suspect was identified and arrested.
- Beaufort Police responded to a report of a male who had been shot and was driving a toddler who had also been shot to a local area hospital from the incident location (325 Ambrose Run). A report was received that there was an additional female victim still on scene suffering from a gunshot wound. The toddler succumbed to their injuries sustained from the gun shot wound. Through investigation, a suspect was identified and arrested.
- Through investigation, it was learned that four separate cases involving the same suspect of a fraud scam ring had stolen over \$200,000 from victims within the City. Due to the large scale operation and numerous victims, this case turned over to the FBI for consideration of federal charges.



COURT SECURITY/VICTIM'S ADVOCATE

COURT SECURITY

The Beaufort Police Department employs four part-time Class-3 Court Security Officers. Their primary duties are to provide security for Court and City Council meetings. They also patrol the Spanish Moss Trail and Downtown Beaufort, work city sponsored events, and assist on prisoner transports.



VICTIM'S ADVOCATE/COURT LIAISON



The victim's advocate helps victims of crimes from the date of the incident all the way through the trial. The role of an advocate is unique. They guide survivors of crime through the aftermath of the traumatic event by:

- Assisting with court proceedings
- Crisis intervention
- Financial assistance
- Making referrals to many of the excellent service agencies in our area

They also provide information on the criminal justice system, as well as serve as a liaison between the survivor and the investigator, and simply, by just being there to talk.

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

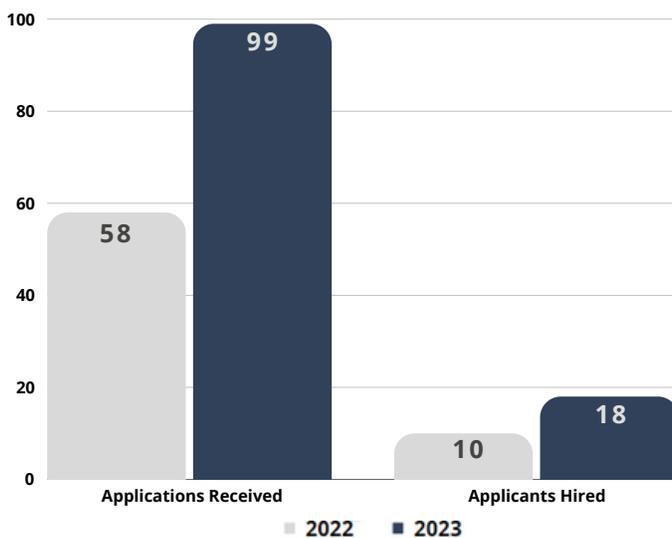


HIRING/RECRUITMENT

The Beaufort Police Department is dedicated to providing the highest quality of service to the citizens that it serves. Therefore, applicants face an extensive application process that includes a background investigation, extensive testing, interviews, and a physical fitness test.

There was a 71% increase of applications received and a 80% increase in hiring in 2023. This was a result of focused recruitment efforts by our team and officers referrals. The Department also participated in multiple hiring events with the Marine Corps Air Station, Technical College of the Low Country, and joint agency ventures with surrounding law enforcement agencies.

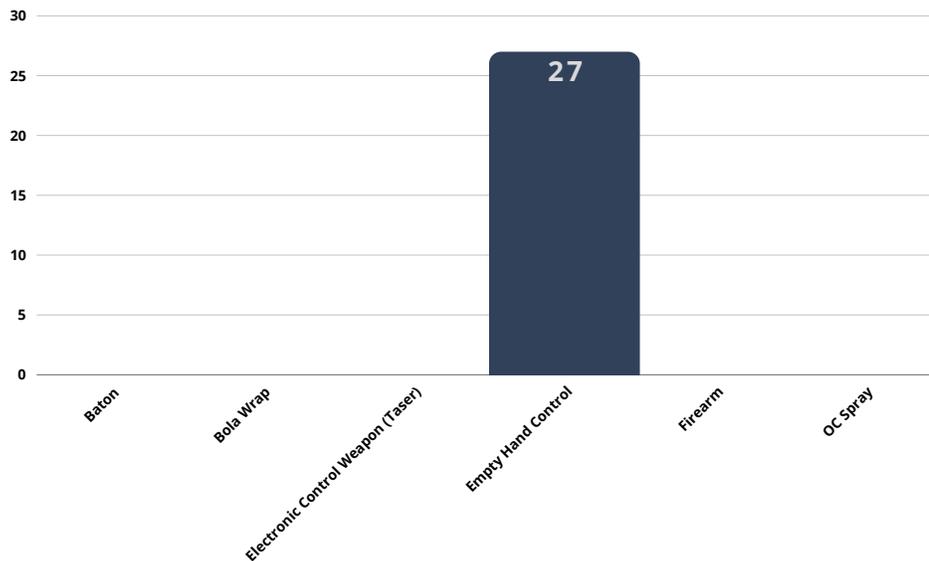
APPLICANTS PROCESSED VS. APPLICANTS HIRED



RESPONSE TO RESISTANCE

All response to resistance incidents are analyzed by Command Staff. In 2023, out of the 475 arrests, 27 incidents required officers to respond to resistance to effect the arrest of the individual. In each of the situations, it was determined that officers used the minimum amount of force reasonably necessary to bring these situations to peaceful resolution.

2023 RESPONSE TO RESISTANCE INCIDENTS

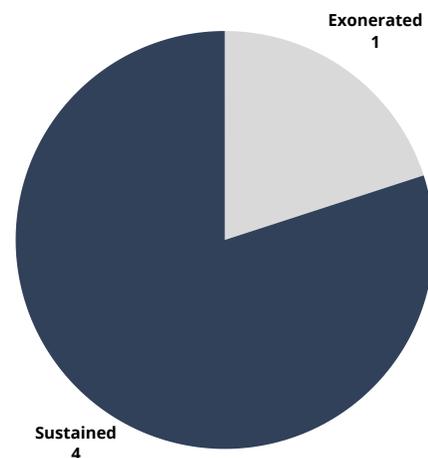


ADMINISTRATIVE INVESTIGATIONS

The Beaufort Police Department has an established process for receiving, investigating, and adjudicating complaints. The complaints can be received from citizens, staff, or anonymous sources regarding investigations of employee misconduct. Complaints are accepted in any form, including verbal, written, or from anonymous sources.

Complaint Category	Count
Discrimination	0
Improper Conduct	1
Improper Procedure	4
Neglect of Duty or Actions	0

DISPOSITIONS OF COMPLAINTS





TRAINING DIVISION

Every year, each Beaufort Police Officer is required to undergo hours of training to prepare them to deal with all aspects of their job, both mentally and physically. Officers are taught to be critical thinkers, ethical decision-makers, and technically proficient officers who operate within the agency's guidelines and policies. The ultimate goal is to help officers better serve the City of Beaufort. In 2023, personnel received a total of **10,493** hours of training.

Annual Training

- Mental Health
- Ethics
- Biased-Based
- De-Escalation
- Active Shooter
- Driving
- Defensive Tactics
- Firearms



- NAMI Crisis Intervention Training
- FBI-LEEDA (Supervisor, Command, & Executive Institutes)
- FBI Tactical Medical for 1st Responder/Critical Care
- Evidence Management
- Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Training
- SIRCHIE Crime Scene Technician Training



EVIDENCE & PROPERTY

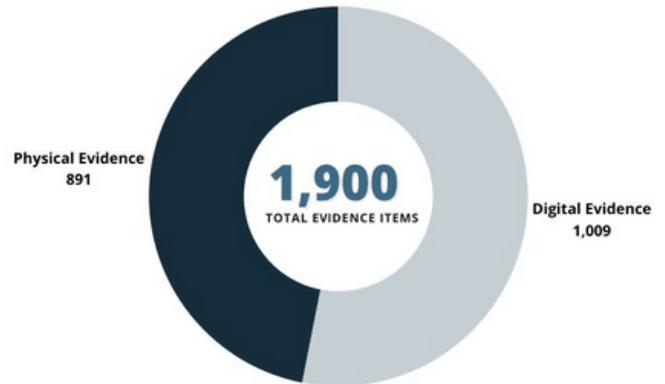
The Evidence Division is responsible for all property and evidence submitted by Beaufort police officers and investigators:

- Receiving and documenting
- Maintaining integrity and security
- Coordinating specialized processing

In addition to receiving and maintaining control of these items, the property and evidence custodian is responsible for monitoring and arranging the disposition of each item as soon as possible.



EVIDENCE IN NUMBERS



74
TOTAL FIREARMS

130
TOTAL DRUGS

1,028
TOTAL EVIDENCE ITEMS
DESTROYED

74
TOTAL EVIDENCE ITEMS
RELEASED TO OWNER

291
TOTAL EVIDENCE ITEMS
BEING ANALYZED



FLEET

The Beaufort Police Department Fleet consists of a diverse array of 80 units, including police vehicles, trailers, bicycles, and a boat. This comprehensive fleet is essential for ensuring the department's operational efficiency and effectiveness in maintaining public safety.

In the year 2023, the fleet collectively covered a total of **546,935** miles. This mileage reflects the commitment of the Beaufort Police Department to patrolling, responding to incidents, and safeguarding the community.

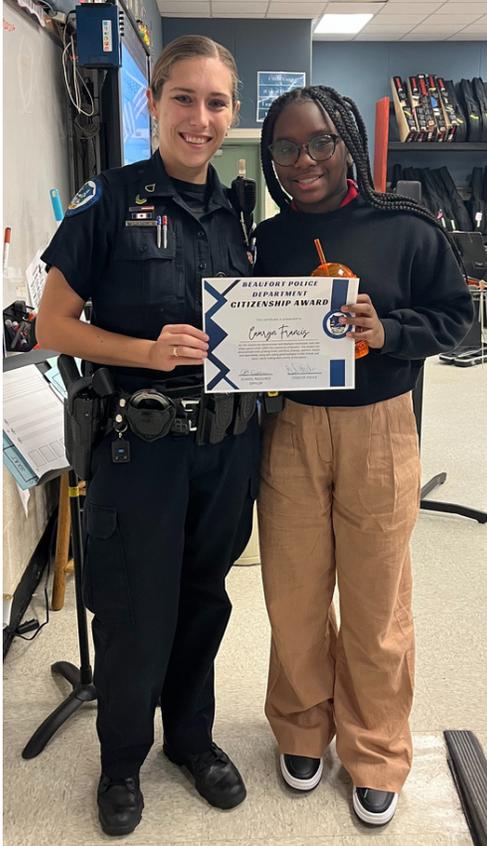
In 2023, the Department introduced a new electric golf cart, speed/message board trailer, and two SRO Grant Broncos.





SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

The Beaufort Police Department School Resource Officers establish and maintain a police presence at assigned schools to promote a positive attitude toward law enforcement, increase safety and reduce crime. Beaufort Police Department School Resource Officers are assigned to the Beaufort High School, Beaufort Middle School, Lady's Island Middle School, Mossy Oaks Elementary School, and Beaufort Elementary School. SROs conduct law enforcement, crime prevention, counseling, and law related education to students and school staff. Through grant funding, there is an SRO for every school and two SROs in the High School.





The Beaufort Police Department has been actively engaged in fostering positive community relationships through various events. Traditionally, the department has organized popular initiatives like "Shop with a Cop", "Coffee with a Cop", and "Chill with a Cop," which encourage interactions between community members and police in a relaxed setting.

Furthermore, the department hosts "Movie in the Park" events, creating a family-friendly environment for residents to enjoy outdoor films while promoting community bonding.

This year, the Beaufort Police Department has introduced innovative initiatives, including "Lollipops with a Cop," to connect with young community members through sweet interactions. The Beaufort Police Department held its first "Open-House" event in August. The public was invited to explore the police department, fostering transparency and understanding.

Additionally, the department has launched "Playoff with Patrol," a initiative combining community engagement with physical activities. Thanks to a generous donation from the Exchange Club of Beaufort of 150 various sports balls, our officers now have the opportunity to interact with kids in a positive and healthy way. While out on patrol, they can engage with children by giving them a ball and even play a few games with them! This type of contact will lead to ongoing and positive relationships long into the future.





COMMUNITY





RECORDS DIVISION

The Records Division handles the administrative and clerical needs of the Beaufort Police Department. This division is comprised of an Office Manager, two full-time administrative assistants, and one part-time assistant. This division oversees the police department's files and record retention.

It is their role to provide immediate assistance on record requests including; victim reports, subpoenas, and discovery requests for court proceedings, background checks, and expungement orders. Further, this division handles the records management technology systems, payroll, and fiscal needs.



RECORDS IN NUMBERS

542

Accident Report Requests

698

Background Checks

233

Expungements

356

FOIA Requests

672

Incident Report Requests

268

Rule 5

6

Subpoenas



ACCREDITATION

South Carolina Law Enforcement Accreditation (SCLEA) is the official South Carolina state accrediting body and is responsible for administrative tasks associated with accreditation. Since 1999 SCLEA has been recognized as a means of maintaining the highest standards of law enforcement accreditation.

The SCLEA Accreditation Program is a voluntary initiative for professional improvement, fashioned in ways that best meet local needs while simultaneously expressing commitment to professional law enforcement practices.

Standards for the program are developed from multiple sources, including South Carolina State Law, stakeholder expertise and best business practices. The standards are designed to be attainable for all South Carolina agencies, regardless of size. All SCLEA standards are mandatory and have specific requirements the agency must address, the actual way the standards are met is determined by the agency CEO.

The Beaufort Police Department achieved re-accreditation through South Carolina Law Enforcement Accreditation's (SCLEA) rigorous assessment process in December 2023, which included ensuring compliance with 626 policy and procedure standards and an onsite assessment. The Department is reviewed for re-accreditation every three years.

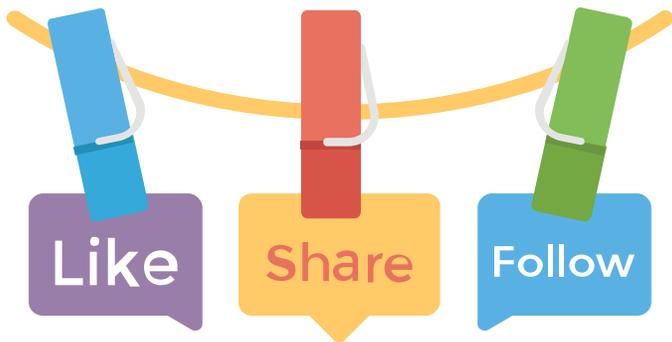
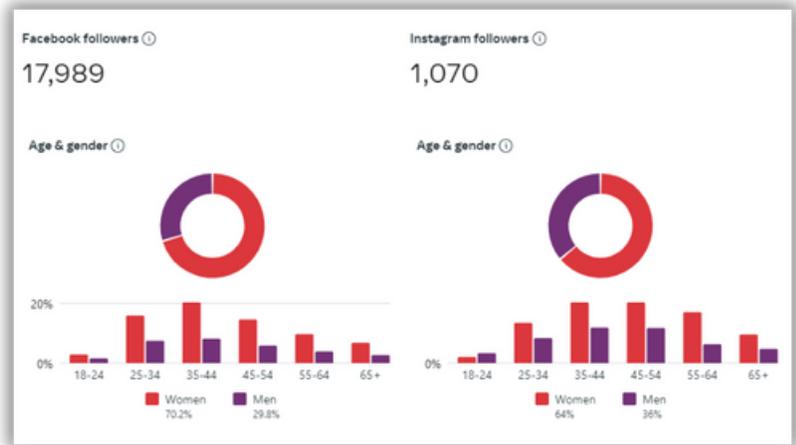


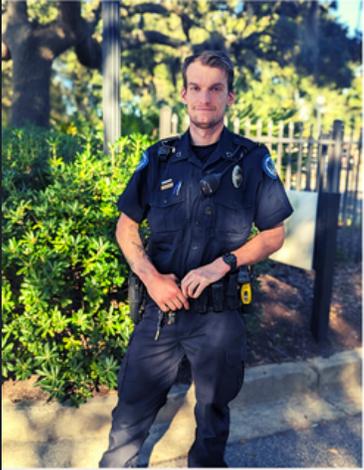
Beaufort Police Department
STATE Accreditation
Chief Dale McDorman
Accreditation Manager: [Lindsey Edwards](#)
Reaccreditation Anniversary Date: December 1, 2026



Social media has become a vital tool and remains one of the primary methods for the Beaufort Police Department to relay important information to our residents.

The Beaufort Police Department will continue to utilize social media platforms with the goal to maintain a positive and transparent line of communication with our community, engaging with our citizens, recruiting, and highlighting important work that the Department accomplishes every day.





 **JOIN OUR TEAM** / JOINBEAUFORTPD.COM

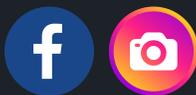


Beaufort Police Department

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