

Hendersonville Police Department

Public Monthly Report

August 2023



Chief's Monthly Summary

Along with other city and county departments, we spent much of August planning for the Apple Festival. As you know, this is by far the largest special event in the City. In fact, I suspect the Apple Festival is probably larger in numbers, and longer in duration, than any event in a city our size or maybe even in a larger city. I am amazed that we pull it off every year without a glitch.

I want to personally thank the men and women of the City of Hendersonville. From our public works department to the fire department to every member of the city's staff who worked many hours before and during the Apple Festival, thank you. They worked incredibly hard securing the event, keeping the trash cans empty, and responding to community needs. This is hard work, and they should be complimented for doing it. Additional thanks go to the Henderson County Emergency Management team including EMS and Rescue Squad. Also, to the Apple Festival Commission and their volunteers. These folks were instrumental in helping the City of Hendersonville pull the Apple Festival off without any significant issues.

I specially want to thank the men and women of the Hendersonville Police Department. Every single employee worked during the holiday weekend. And, while most probably wanted to be elsewhere, none of them complained. I am proud of them and appreciative of their hard work and professionalism. I have compliments already about their kindness and diligence in helping people. Keep up the good work team! I appreciate you.

When you put 300,000 of your closest friends in a confined area like Main Street, we get concerned about safety. The City has greatly improved special event planning and operations over the last few years. We have more people working behind the scenes to make sure these events are safe for everyone. There are an incredible number of manhours spent planning and operating during such an event.

Not only have we added additional personnel, but we have also added infrastructure to help us better secure the area. We are constantly monitoring emerging trends and trying to think ahead of all possibilities. We pride ourselves in a job well done when the event is over, and no significant events occurred. It is only when things have concluded that we rest only to prepare for the next event.

In closing, please know that your safety is our primary concern. We take this responsibility seriously and will always work to be the best at what we do. Thank you again for your support and your trust in us. We will always strive to provide professionalism in our service. And, as always, we strive to provide "Mountain Excellence."



Blair Myhand,
Chief of Police

Calls for Service

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					2,909
2022												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
5,247	3,281	4,479	4,340	4,373	4,399	3,162	4,112	3,076	3,215	3,023	3,905	3,884

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					348
2022												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
233	299	388	362	311	203	271	297	270	397	368	424	318

Total Citations Issued:

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg. 54
382	277	293	204	200	175	189	239					245
2022												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
151	201	243	265	207	144	146	182	185	263	281	290	213

DWI Arrests:

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
12	2	7	6	8	4	1	7					6
2022												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
2	8	9	6	9	4	9	7	12	4	7	7	7

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					117
2022												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
115	101	90	111	99	113	146	105	138	114	136	114	115

Top five crash locations:

#1	Chimney Rock Rd & Highlands Square Dr
#2	Chimney Rock Rd & I-26
#3	Four Seasons Blvd & Thompson St
#4	Asheville Hwy & Haywood Rd
#5	Four Seasons Blvd & Dana Rd

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					69
2022												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
90	93	140	94	118	114	89	141	118	102	78	79	105

Incident Reports:

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
136	105	185	146	138	116	108	131					133
2022												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
169	134	277	222	259	292	239	205	198	151	114	111	198

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
2022												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
38	34	37	36	51	60	27	45	34	21	23	29	36

Larcenies:

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
45	29	8	19	37	25	35	44					30
2022												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
42	49	47	28	35	48	46	52	32	58	32	41	43

Assaults:

2023												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
9	17	7	15	11	9	7	11					11
2022												
Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Avg.
15	10	17	15	10	11	17	10	13	14	14	11	13

Employee Actions

- The department held a promotional process for Lieutenant and Sergeant to backfill the vacancy created when Kenny Hipps was promoted to Captain. Three Sergeants competed for Lieutenant and five Officers competed for Sergeant. Promotional decisions have not been made yet. The promotional list is valid for one year.
- LT. Laws was moved from Patrol Team 4 to Special Operations, Team 5. This move was made to provide LT. Laws with additional experience and professional development. NOTE: the department has a philosophy of creating leaders with a broad foundation rather than a deep foundation. We do this by periodically moving supervisors to different assignments, so they learn new skills to better prepare them for higher levels of leadership within the organization.

Community Tip -

August is a terrific month to start prepping for fall, hoping for cooler weather just around the corner. Some tips for getting ready:

1. Go through your closets and donate clothes you are no longer wearing. Ask yourself these questions: Do I love it? Does it fit? Will I have an opportunity to wear it next year? If the answers are no, then it's time to donate.
2. Take advantage of late summer sales on school and office supplies. Consider buying extras to help those families at your child's school who are struggling financially.

3. Stock up on the staples for easy-to-make items for those busy school nights. Taking simple steps to decrease time fixing dinner can relieve stress and make time together more enjoyable.
4. Summertime can wreak havoc on the family vehicle. Proper maintenance in preparation for winter weather is important. Do it now before it is too late.
5. Set up a family drop zone or tidy up an existing one that has been neglected all summer. Add hooks and cubbies, as needed, for shoes and backpacks. Designate a basket or bin as your "action" file for school, work, and home-related paperwork that needs your attention. Create a monthly wall calendar to record schedules, activities, and family events.
6. Schedule medical and dental appointments for the remainder of the year for each member of your family. Pets included! Don't wait until the end of the year when the holidays make schedules more hectic and appointment times become scarce.
7. Most importantly, make sure that you are also engaged in some self-care! Get regular exercise. Eat healthy, regular meals and stay hydrated. Make sleep a priority. Try a relaxing activity, like reading a good book. Focus on positivity. Practice gratitude.

Complaints and Findings

- None

Vehicle Pursuits and Findings

- None

Use of Reasonable Force (UORF) Incidents and Findings

- Officers used soft hand techniques to subdue and arrest a person that had just been involved in an assault where the suspect brandished a firearm. The suspect and both officers involved received minor scrapes and abrasions, none of which required medical treatment. The force used in this incident was justified.
- An Officer used force to stop an active assault by deploying a Taser to subdue the aggressor. The person was arrested without further incident. Neither the offender nor the officer received injuries that required medical treatment. Investigation into this use of force is pending.

Operations/Notable Events

- HPD assisted HFD in a structure fire on Mastermind Ln. No foul play suspected.
- Officers and Detectives responded to a death investigation that appears to be an overdose. The investigation is ongoing and waiting on records from the medical examiner.

- Officers responded to a fight in progress at the Black Rose on Main St. Three people were arrested as a result.
- Officers and Detectives responded to the area of King St. and 3rd Ave. in reference to a shooting. The investigation determined that the shooting was the result of a previous disagreement between known parties. There was property damage, but no significant injury because of the shooting. The suspect was quickly identified and arrested early the next morning for attempted murder. The firearm used in the assault was seized.

Budget Summary

- We are approximately 16% through the fiscal year.
- We have spent or reserved \$908,132 or 20% of our budget.

Community Outreach/Special Events

- National Night Out – Oct 3, 2023, from 4-7pm in the parking lot of Blue Ridge Mall. Free food and activities for all.

Grants Management

- Additionally, the department has submitted a reimbursement request for \$11,450 out of the total \$18,931 for Year 1 of the costs associated with the CALEA and NCLEA accreditation process.
- Pending (3) Grants:
 - Continuation of GHSP Traffic Safety Grant \$20,000

Recruiting/Retention

- 1 of 47 Police Officer vacancies exist.
 - Applications - Total
 - (0) applications received
 - (2) in background
 - (1) rejected