



2016 ANNUAL REPORT

OCEAN CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT





MISSION

The Ocean City Police Department, as part of and empowered by the community, is committed to a safe and peaceful environment, rendering aid to those in need and protecting the lives, property and rights of visitors. We shall provide the highest degree of ethical behavior, professional conduct and quality police services. We shall actively seek to identify community problems and their solutions, enhancing the quality of life in our community.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF	2	SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION	7
2016: YEAR IN REVIEW	3	AUXILIARY OFFICER PROGRAM	8
ORGANIZATIONAL CHART	4	COMMENDATIONS & PROMOTIONS	9
PATROL DIVISION	5	CALLS FOR SERVICE	10
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION	6	CRIME STATISTICS	11





MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF



CITIZENS OF OCEAN CITY, COLLEAGUES AND FRIENDS:

I am proud to share this 2016 Annual Report with the residents and visitors of Ocean City and to show once again how Ocean City Police Department employees exceeded my expectations following historically low crime rates in 2015. In the following pages, you'll see a brief summary of what the department has accomplished in 2016, in addition to crime figures and statistics.

In 2015, we saw a 25-year low in serious crime and I commend the hard work of the men and women of this agency for keeping our town safe, and for the continued decrease in crime. I applaud their efforts and the cooperation and assistance from our residents, visitors and business owners in fighting and preventing crime. We truly could not do our jobs without the partnerships with our community that we are so fortunate to have.

Although we saw record low crime rates again, we are still faced with challenges that my staff and I work to overcome. In 2016, we continued to evaluate ways for improvement to make us even more efficient and provide even better service to our citizens.

I would like to close by thanking the men and women of this department for their continued commitment and dedication to this great community of ours. Their sacrifice and hard work coupled with the positive partnerships we share with our community make it possible to maintain the high quality of life that we enjoy here in Ocean City.

Ross Buzzuro
Chief of Police



2016: YEAR IN REVIEW

PFC. MORGAN NAMED 2015 OFFICER OF THE YEAR

On Friday, January 29, the Neighborhood Watch Associations of Ocean City and OCPD staff gathered at the Grand Hotel & Spa for the Annual Officer of the Year Ceremony. Pfc. Aaron Morgan was honored with the title of 2016 Officer of the Year and Colleen Douglas was named the Auxiliary Officer of the Year. Numerous other officers and volunteers were recognized for going above and beyond the call of duty in 2015.

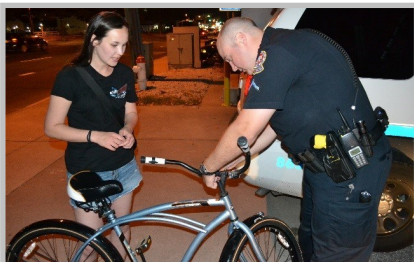


DOZENS OF CITIZENS GRADUATE FROM CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY

The Ocean City Police Department held two Citizens Police Academies and hosted a total of 25 citizens interested in learning more about the OCPD. During the course, attendees learn about nearly every facet of the OCPD including firearms awareness, narcotics enforcement, traffic safety, and patrol techniques.

OFFICERS RUN BOARDWALK AND BERLIN MAIN STREET FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS MARYLAND

On June 6, officers from OCPD and across Worcester County came together to run in support of Special Olympics Maryland as part of the Law Enforcement Torch Run. Officers begin the leg of the Torch Run on the boardwalk and carry the Flame of Hope in the first leg of this state-wide run.



OFFICERS DISTRIBUTE BIKE LIGHTS INSTEAD OF TICKETS

Over the summer, officers completed an initiative designed to improve the visibility of bicyclists during night time hours. During the initiative, officers conducted traffic stops on individuals riding bikes at night without lights installed. Rather than giving the citizen a ticket, officers installed bike lights free of charge.

LOCAL HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS ASSIST DURING MOTOR EVENTS

During the many special motor events, dozens of law enforcement officers from across the state of Maryland assisted the OCPD in enforcement efforts, many of which traveled several hours from their home jurisdictions. Seven area hotels offered free hotel rooms to these visiting officers and nine restaurants offered meals for discounted rates. "We are extremely grateful for the many local business partners that have shown their dedication to public safety in Ocean City," commented Chief Ross Buzzuro.

OCPD HOLDS ANNUAL TOY DRIVE TO BENEFIT WORCESTER GOLD

Yet again, OCPD held the Annual Holiday Toy Drive and for the first time all of the toys benefited Worcester GOLD, a local non-profit organization who strives to promote dignity by providing financial aid to families in crisis, vulnerable adults and children in foster care in Worcester County. Citizens ultimately donated hundreds of toys and over \$1,000 in monetary donations.

THREE NEW OFFICERS JOIN OCPD

On December 19, three new officers graduated from the Eastern Shore Criminal Justice Academy's 77th entry level police academy class. The newest Ocean City officers are Samuel Faggert, Jessica Johnson and Corwin Vincent. Officers Faggert and Johnson each earned the Physical Fitness Award. The Firearms Proficiency Award was given to Officers Faggert and Vincent. Officer Vincent also received the Leadership Award.





ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



* As of February 6, 2017



PATROL DIVISION

WORKING AROUND THE CLOCK TO KEEP YOU SAFE

The Patrol Division provides the initial response to all calls for police service and works around the clock every day to prevent crime in Ocean City. The Patrol Division is the largest division in the department and over two-thirds of our officers are currently assigned to this division.

ASST. PATROL COMMANDER EARNS NATIONAL AWARD

In April, Lt. Scott Harner accepted the Award for Public Service from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) for his dedication to making Ocean City's roadways safer and contributing to the significant progress that the resort has seen in reducing traffic-related deaths, injuries and crashes. He was presented this award at the 2016 Lifesavers Conference, the premier highway safety meeting dedicated to reducing deaths and injuries on our nation's roadways. Lt. Harner is credited with being the driving force behind the popular safety campaign, *Walk Smart*.



NHTSA Administrator Mark Rosekind, Ph.D., with Lt. Scott Harner

K-9 UNIT ADDS TWO TEAMS AND TRAINER

Pfc. Sean McHugh and Pfc. Danielle Braniff each joined the K-9 Unit in 2016 with their partners Rocco and Klem, respectively. Both officers graduated from a six-week training program before becoming certified patrol and drug-detection police K-9 teams by the North American Police Work Dog Association.

In addition, Pfc. Kevin Flower, a 12-year member of the K-9 Unit, graduated from a 12-week training program to learn how to train new K-9 handlers and their dogs. Pfc. Flower will now be responsible for the K-9 Unit's monthly maintenance training, a task formerly done by an outside vendor.



Pfc. Kevin Flower with Pfc. Danielle Braniff and her K-9 partner Klem.

MOUNTED UNIT MOVE TO NEW BARN

In January, the department's Mounted Patrol Unit, which had been housed in Bishopville for many years, moved to a new, state of the art boarding facility near Ocean Pines. The new facility provides lots of room for up to five police horses and the necessary gear and vehicles associated with our year-round Mounted Unit operations. The horses are under the watchful eye of equestrian professionals 24 hours a day. Thanks to a large indoor arena, the horses are able to receive additional specialized training when they are not patrolling the streets, boardwalk and beaches of Ocean City.





CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION

SOLVING CRIMES TO REMOVE CRIMINALS FROM OC

The Criminal Investigation Division is made up of six specialized units: Major Crimes, Forensic Services, Crime Analysis, Narcotics & Vice, Intelligence, and Special Enforcement.

WORKING TO BRING PEACE OF MIND BACK TO VICTIMS

The mission of the Major Crimes Unit is to investigate the most serious crimes and incidents that occur in Ocean City. The Unit has the investigative responsibility for all serious offenses as defined by the FBI's Uniform Crime Report. In 2016, the Major Crimes Unit investigated 155 cases, including 47 Part I offenses.

One of the most notable cases investigated by detectives in 2016 was a homicide that occurred near 136th Street. Detectives were given a very vague description of the suspect but after extensive review of surveillance footage, forensic evidence, multiple witness statements and citizen tips, detectives were able to identify and charge the suspect. The suspect was later convicted of manslaughter among other charges.

THE SCIENCE BEHIND SOLVING CASES

The Forensic Services Unit is staffed by three civilian crime scene technicians. In 2016, FSU processed 127 crime scenes and collected 2,762 pieces of evidence. One of the primary components of processing crime scenes is to collect latent fingerprints and DNA samples. This year, FSU was able to get a hit on 23 suspects as a result of latent fingerprints and ten DNA hits to suspects. FSU also collected 24 firearms that were in Ocean City illegally.

TAKE DRUGS OFF WORCESTER COUNTY STREETS

Detectives in the Narcotics & Vice Unit are responsible for investigating major drug and vice crimes within the Ocean City community. Additionally, detectives work in partnership with local, state and federal agencies to enforce the laws related to the distribution and use of illegal drugs in the greater Ocean City area. In 2016, detectives, in cooperation with the Worcester County Sheriff's Office Criminal Enforcement Team (C.E.T.), conducted 28 hand to hand drug buys, made 99 arrests, and conducted 65 prisoner debriefs.

Heroin and prescription drugs continue to be the primary focus of the Narcotics Unit. Abuse of these substances often leads to many other crimes including prostitution, human trafficking

and burglaries. The Narcotics Unit conducted two Human Trafficking stings in 2016 which resulted in a total of 12 arrests. The Unit also conducted a heroin distribution and counterfeit currency investigation which solved multiple burglaries throughout the county.

TOP 5 SEIZED CONTROLLED DANGEROUS SUBSTANCES	AMOUNT
Marijuana	343.5 grams
Prescription Pills	161 pills
Heroin	85.55 grams
Cocaine	32.9 grams
Crack Cocaine	10.4 grams

** The statistics above solely reflect the efforts of the Narcotics Unit and not the total amount of controlled dangerous substances seized by the entire Department.*

USING INTELLIGENCE TO KEEP OUR CITIZENS SAFE

Gathering intelligence and gaining information from outside sources is a vital tool in solving cases and ensuring the safety of our citizens. In 2016, 2,297 pieces of intelligence information were processed by the Intelligence Unit. Much of this information was actionable intelligence that was shared with our officers and detectives.

One of the most notable tasks completed by the Intelligence Unit was assisting the FBI Violent Crimes Fugitive Task Force with the arrest of a subject wanted for committing six armed bank robberies in the Baltimore area.

USING SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT TO COMBAT CRIME

The Special Enforcement Unit was formed in September 2013 and works primarily in a plain-clothes capacity. The Unit is extremely flexible, possesses specialized training and often works during peak hours and in locations which have a high incidence of criminal activity. In 2016, SEU detectives made 46 arrests for various crimes, assisted Patrol officers a total of 347 times and assisted other CID detectives over 120 times. SEU detectives also located multiple serious criminals in 2016 through intelligence gathering and surveillance.



SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISON

SUPPORTING THE DEPT. TO ACHIEVE OUR MISSION

The Support Services Division is comprised of five Sections: Professional Standards, Human Resources (Training & Recruiting), Services Management, Budget & Financial Services and Records Management.



Pfc. Neshawn Jubilee, a member of the Recruiting Team, visited Liberty University, his alma mater, to promote the seasonal positions offered by OCPD.

BRINGING YOU THE BEST & BRIGHTEST OFFICERS

OCPD prides itself on having the best and brightest police officers in the nation and the Recruiting Team works hard to ensure that the department's high standards are met for all officers. Recruiting Team members participated in 56 trips to colleges and military institutions to recruit for the 2016 season, a 20 percent increase from the previous year. Thanks to the team's efforts, 361 applicants tested for police positions and 135 for public safety aide positions.

In 2016, the department worked to improve recruiting efforts even further by implementing video advertising. Employees worked with a professional video production group to create five videos aimed at appealing to prospective recruits in a new and exciting way. The videos provide a snap shot of what the seasonal positions at OCPD involve and the experience that recruits will gain if they choose to work at OCPD.

ENHANCED PROFESSIONALISM & SECURITY

The Detention Section continues to improve professionalism in our Detention Facility by ensuring that staff is fully trained. In 2016, one former Public Safety Aide, Earl Cecil, attended the Eastern Shore Criminal Justice Academy's Jail and Corrections Academy before being promoted to Custody Officer.

PUBLIC SAFETY THAT IS FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE

Public safety will always be our top priority while recognizing our responsibility to be fiscally responsible and prudent. OCPD frequently applies for available grants that to supplement the Department's budget. In the 2017 fiscal year, OCPD received \$633,102 in grant funding including funds for a license plate reader and highway safety initiatives.

FISCAL YEAR	ADOPTED BUDGET	ACTUAL SPENDING	SAVINGS
2014	\$21,090,396	\$20,786,115	\$304,281
2015	\$19,938,963	\$19,542,914	\$396,049
2016	\$19,940,334	\$19,736,502	\$203,832

AN ESSENTIAL BEHIND THE SCENES FUNCTION

The Records Management Section serves as the central repository for police records storage. In 2016, Records personnel completed a multitude of essential tasks including reviewing 6,900 incident reports, processing 16,910 enforcement actions, preparing 2,342 case files for prosecution, processing 751 expungement orders, fulfilling 1,748 report requests and ensuring that 7,796 court summonses were recorded and delivered. In addition, Records personnel prepare the Uniform Crime Report that is provided to the FBI each month.



AUXILIARY OFFICER PROGRAM

VOLUNTEERS SUPPORTING THE OCPD

Since 1999, the Ocean City Police Department has trained civilians to support the police department staff and serve the citizens of Ocean City. These citizens provide volunteer services to supplement OCPD personnel in the performance of specific duties in important operational areas, such as:

- Administrative support for the Support Services Division including Front Desk, Training & Recruiting, Records Section, Property Section and Public Affairs
- Reducing the Availability of Alcohol to Minors (RAAM) program
- Citizens Police Academy
- Security at Play It Safe Events
- Traffic direction and security at Town of Ocean City special events such as Springfest, Sunfest and Winterfest

DONATING THOUSANDS OF HOURS TO OC CITIZENS

Since 1999, the Auxiliary Officer Program has provided 58,001 hours of service to the OCPD and the Town of Ocean City. This has resulted in a savings of \$2,030,035 to the Town of Ocean City over the last 18 years.

In 2016, 14 Auxiliary Officers contributed a total of 2,190.25 hours of service, resulting in an estimated cost savings of approximately \$76,658.75.



In January 2016, Auxiliary Officer Colleen Douglas was presented with the Auxiliary Officer of the Year award by Chief Ross Buzzuro.

ACTIVITY	NO. OF HOURS
Patrol	1,191
Support Services	585.5
Administrative Assistance	264
Auxiliary Unit Administrative Tasks	107.25
Training	42.5



Auxiliary Officers Dorothy Morse and Charlie Judd providing event security at Sunfest.

MONTH	NO. OF HOURS	MONTH	NO. OF HOURS
January	205.75	July	122.75
February	131	August	146.75
March	196.75	September	145.5
April	91.25	October	224.75
May	213.75	November	183.25
June	242.25	December	286.5



DEPARTMENTAL COMMENDATIONS

Excellent Performance

Lt. Scott Kirkpatrick	Pfc. Corey Gemerek
Sgt. Dennis Eade (2)	Pfc. Jeffrey Heiser
Sgt. Brian Mongelli	Pfc. Daniel McBride (3)
Sgt. Mark Paddack	Pfc. Kory Moerschel (2)
Sgt. Frank Wrench	Pfc. Edward Newcomb (2)
Cpl. Vance Row	Pfc. Carl Perry
Pfc. Gary Cooper (2)	Pfc. Pamela Russell
Pfc. Matthew Foreman	Pfc. Nick Simpson
Pfc. Nicholas Forsyth (2)	Pfc. John Spicer

Meritorious Service

Pfc. Jeffrey Johns

Special Commendation

Pfc. James Bird



Pfc. Nathan Kutz was awarded the Knights of Columbus Police Officer of the Year award at their annual public safety awards ceremony in March 2016.

Certificate of Outstanding Service

Catherine Cartwright, Ocean City, MD

Sarah Galranek, Hackensack, NJ

Danielle Krywinski, Rochelle Park, NJ

Lia Johnston, Warminster, PA

William Legg, Hackensack, NJ

Kyle Yeager, Worminster, PA

PROMOTIONS

EMPLOYEE

James Bird
Earl Cecil
Gary Cooper
Adam Lapinski
Joseph Laughlin
Xeniya Patterson
Erika Specht

PREVIOUS CLASSIFICATION

Police Officer
Public Safety Aide
Police Officer
Police Officer
Police Officer
Police Officer
Police Officer

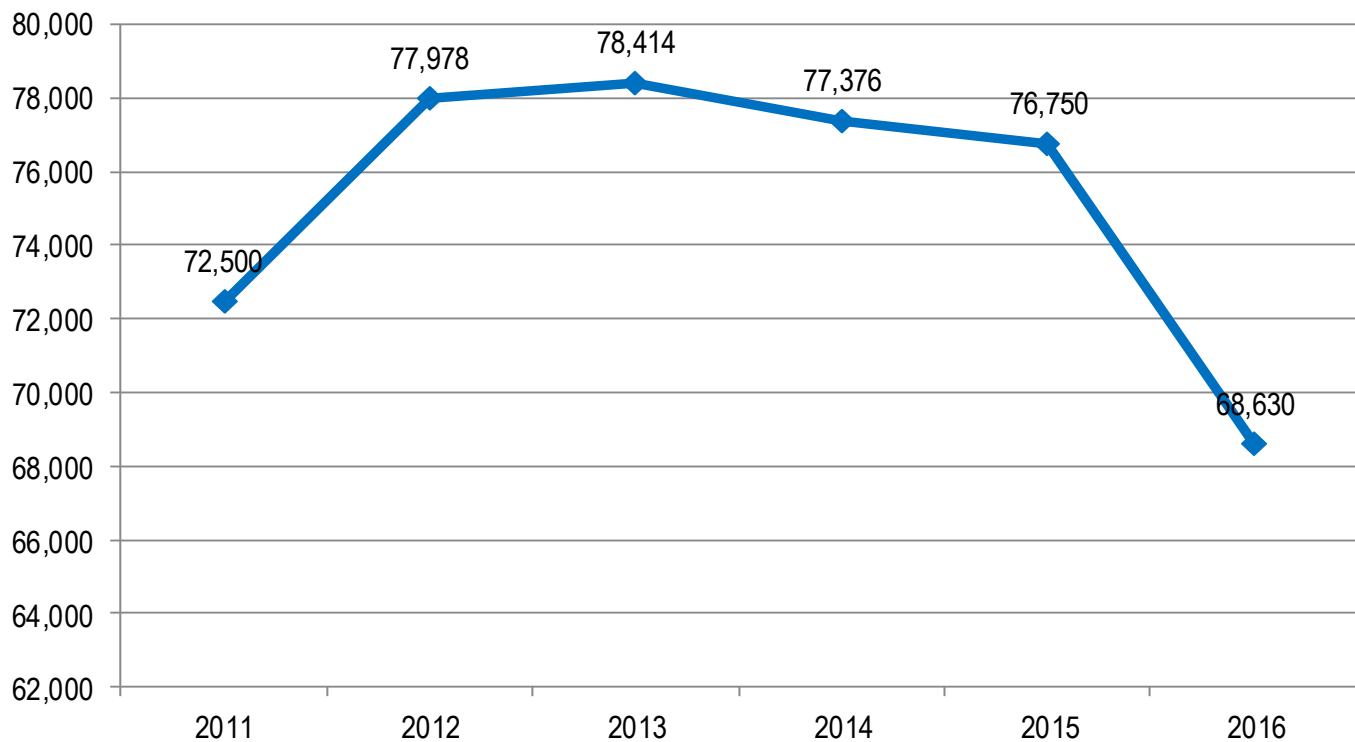
NEW CLASSIFICATION

Police Officer First Class
Police Custody Officer
Police Officer First Class
Police Officer First Class
Police Officer First Class
Police Officer First Class
Police Officer First Class



CALLS FOR SERVICE

A call for service (CFS) is generated for nearly anything that an officer does while on duty. This can include a traffic stop, residential security check, lost child or major criminal event just to name a few. Criminal and non-criminal incidents are documented equally. In 2016, the number of calls for service decreased by 10.6 percent from 2015.



MONTH	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	TOTAL
OFFICER-INITIATED	1,858	1,849	1,990	2,043	4,560	7,768	8,871	6,152	4,667	3,172	1,521	1,656	46,107
CITIZEN-INITIATED	816	628	867	997	2,420	4,018	4,499	3,585	2,099	1,277	680	637	22,523
TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE	2,674	2,477	2,857	3,040	6,980	11,786	13,370	9,737	6,766	4,449	2,201	2,293	68,630

* The number of calls for service listed on this page does not include business checks. The total number of calls for service including business checks was 77,924.



CRIME STATISTICS

UNIFORM CRIME REPORTING

The Uniform Crime Report (UCR) is submitted to the Federal Bureau of Investigation each year by the Ocean City Police Department and includes all serious crimes which occurred in Ocean City. The UCR is often used as a resource for determining a community's crime rate; however, the tourist nature of Ocean City must be taken into consideration to determine an accurate crime rate based on the data below.

CATEGORY	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	5-YEAR AVERAGE	2016	% CHANGE
Criminal Homicide	0	0	2	1	0	1	1	0%
Forcible Rape	4	10	12	14	9	10	14	40%
Robbery	21	22	20	14	17	19	28	47%
Aggravated Assault	69	52	39	58	61	56	48	-14%
Simple Assault	802	924	856	793	778	831	758	-9%
Burglary	189	210	156	220	152	185	142	-23%
Larceny/Theft	1,135	1,180	1,041	1,082	999	1,087	900	-17%
Motor Vehicle Theft	7	29	32	24	12	21	16	-24%
TOTAL PART I OFFENSES	2,227	2,427	2,158	2,206	2,028	2,209	1,907	-14%

CATEGORY	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Criminal Homicide	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Forcible Rape	1	2	1	0	0	7	0	2	0	0	1	0
Robbery	0	1	0	0	2	18	2	3	0	0	1	1
Aggravated Assault	3	4	1	1	12	3	9	5	4	0	4	2
Simple Assault	20	18	29	30	99	157	134	140	60	42	11	18
Burglary	12	6	7	15	21	28	17	13	14	3	5	1
Larceny/Theft	21	17	26	38	76	209	208	147	81	41	16	20
Motor Vehicle Theft	2	0	0	1	2	4	2	3	1	0	0	1
TOTAL	59	48	64	85	213	426	372	313	160	86	38	43



CRIME STATISTICS

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS

YEAR	TOTAL CUSTODIAL ARRESTS	TOTAL TRAFFIC CITATIONS, WARNINGS & REPAIR ORDERS
2011	3,829	17,083
2012	4,355	20,124
2013	3,021	26,314
2014	2,894	23,248
2015	2,535	21,226
2016	2,079	15,893

ADDITIONAL ENFORCEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Total Court Committals & Detainers: 94

Total Criminal Citations: 108

Total Marijuana Citations (<10 grams): 543

Total Civil Citations: 366

CUSTODIAL ARRESTS & CRIMINAL CITATIONS BY MONTH IN 2016

MONTH	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
CUSTODIAL ARRESTS	50	59	88	61	186	505	428	301	173	110	57	61
CRIMINAL CITATIONS	3	3	3	2	14	26	23	14	8	13	1	0
TOTAL	53	62	91	63	200	531	451	315	181	123	58	61

WEAPON & DRUG ARRESTS*

YEAR	WEAPONS ARRESTS	CDS ARRESTS
2011	50	1,166
2012	112	1,351
2013	109	1,287
2014	77	1,325
2015	74	820
2016	79	611

REPORTED NOISE COMPLAINTS

YEAR	NOISE COMPLAINTS
2011	366
2012	847
2013	810
2014	593
2015	552
2016	586

**According to Uniform Crime Reporting.*

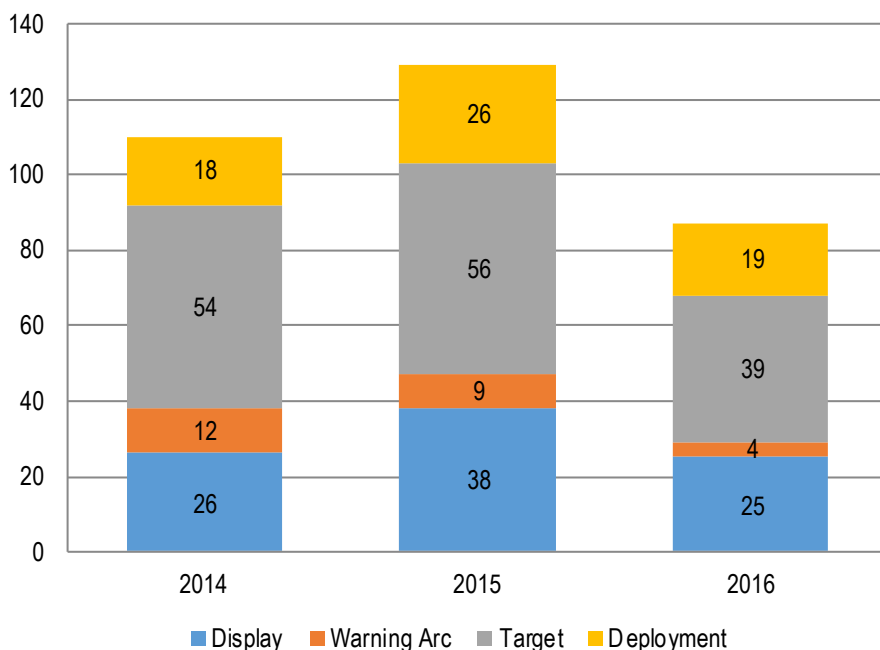


CRIME STATISTICS

TASER USE IN OCEAN CITY

The Ocean City Police Department began using conducted electrical weapons (C.E.W.), commonly referred to as TASER's, in February 2012 in an effort to decrease injuries to officers and suspects.

NOTE: In many cases, more than one C.E.W. use may take place during an incident. For example, an officer may display his/her C.E.W. in order to gain compliance but if the suspect refuses to cooperate the officer may deploy his/her C.E.W. This one incident counts as a "Display" and a "Deployment."



- **Display:** C.E.W. is removed from the holster, not aimed at the suspect. This is done to simply make the device visible to the suspect.
- **Warning Arc:** C.E.W. is removed from the holster and the officer engages the noise of the electrical charge to get the suspect's attention.
- **Target:** C.E.W. is aimed at the suspect with the lasers clearly indicating where probes will hit the suspect if the officer were to activate the device.
- **Deployment:** C.E.W. was deployed in order to gain compliance. A deployment involves the probes entering the suspect's body, in addition to drive stuns.

ASSAULTS ON OFFICERS

In 2016, OCPD officers were assaulted a total of 85 times, 13 of which resulted in an injury to the officer. This shows just how dangerous the job of a police officer can be. Assaults may be in the form of physical or non-physical violence and may or may not result in injury to the officer involved.

YEAR	OFFICERS ASSAULTED
2011	63
2012	47
2013	72
2014	84
2015	73
2016	85



CRIME STATISTICS

ALCOHOL IN A RESORT TOWN

In the town of Ocean City, we are dedicated to ensuring that all of our residents and visitors stay safe while out enjoying themselves. OCPD officers work year-round on initiatives such as DUI enforcement, the Reducing the Availability of Alcohol to Minors Program (R.A.A.M.), compliance checks on area bars and liquor establishments and ID training.

YEAR	DUI ARRESTS	% CHANGE
2011	267	-25.8%
2012	445	+66.7%
2013	429	-3.6%
2014	375	-12.6%
2015	422	+12.5%
2016	246	-41.7%

YEAR	ALCOHOL CITATIONS
2011	1,813
2012	1,431
2013	1,015
2014	652
2015	719
2016	445

* According to Uniform Crime Reporting.

WORKING HARD TO MAKE OUR ROADS SAFER

The Town of Ocean City, in cooperation with the Maryland State Highway Administration, Maryland Highway Safety Office and members of the Ocean City community, have worked diligently over the years to make Ocean City roadways safer for our residents and visitors. While there was a slight increase in traffic collisions, pedestrian collisions decreased by nearly fifty percent. The Walk Smart campaign, which was initiated in 2012, continues to gain popularity among residents and visitors and it will continue in 2017 with the installation of median fencing in the most heavily travelled area of Coastal Highway and additional plans to focus on increased bicycle safety.

TOTAL REPORTABLE TRAFFIC COLLISIONS

YEAR	COLLISIONS	FATAL
2011	494	0
2012	585	3
2013	504	0
2014	533	0
2015	594	0
2016	651	2

PEDESTRIAN COLLISIONS

YEAR	COLLISIONS	FATAL
2011	17	0
2012	40	2
2013	26	0
2014	33	0
2015	17	0
2016	22	1