

2015 Annual Report

Arkansas City Kansas Police Department





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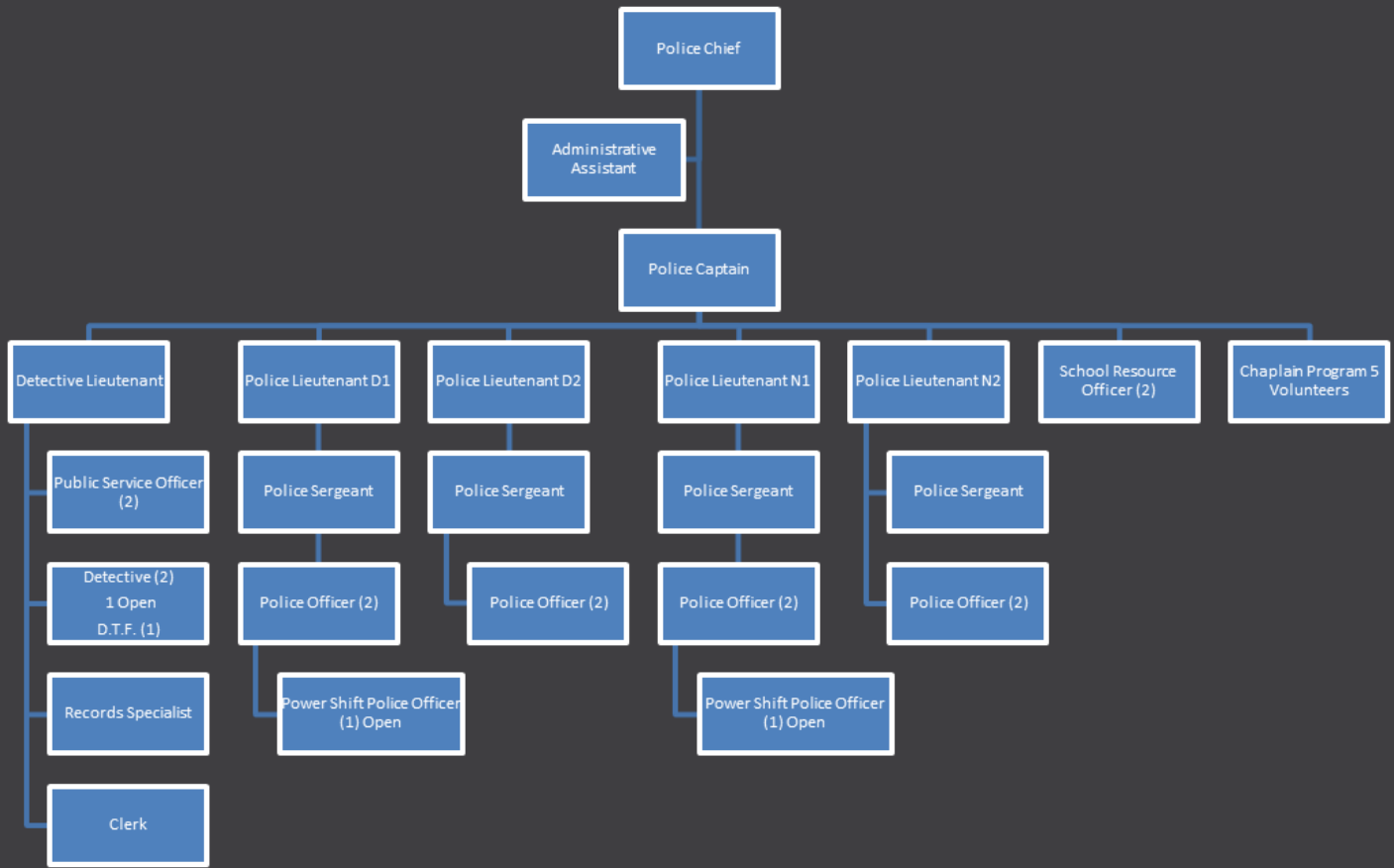
Message from the Chief

Beginning in 2014 the Arkansas City Police Department gathered internal and external input by meeting with employees, civic groups, and participating in town hall meetings as well as conducting public surveys. At the same time an inventory and inspection of equipment and facilities was completed. Information obtained over a seven month period was used to determine the department's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats and provide guidance for the 2015-2019 strategic plan. Copies of the department's strategic plan can be found on our web site, Facebook page, and in our front lobby.

January of 2015 marked the beginning of our attempt to put into place our five year strategic plan. As a result, the department has experienced a great deal of change throughout 2015. In fact, I would say the employees came out of the starting gate at a full sprint as we began our progress forward. Some of the major items include entering the Commission on Law Enforcement Accreditation process, developing a benchmark statistic report, configuring and implementing a new records management system, adding mobile CAD computers to the patrol vehicles, adding body worn cameras, implementing an employee early warning system, updating critical department processes pertaining to pursuits and use of force. I am very proud of the progress we have made over the past year and this annual report is intended to document the hard work and dedication of each member of the Police Department.

As 2015 has concluded and we begin to look at 2016, we realize we have a great deal of work ahead of us. Every citizen of Arkansas City should know their police department will continue to work hard to improve the quality of life in this community. Keeping the citizens safe and providing exceptional customer service is always our goal. Copies of this annual report can be found on our web site, our Facebook page, and in our front lobby. Anyone with questions, suggestions, or comments are encouraged to contact me or any member of the Police Department.

Arkansas City Police Department Organizational Chart





ARKANSAS CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

MISSION – PROMISE – VALUES

Mission Statement

Service, justice, and fundamental fairness are the foundational principles of the Arkansas City Police Department's mission to enhance the quality of life for all citizens. We will accomplish this mission by treating everyone equally with respect, dignity, and courtesy. We will reduce crime, enhance traffic safety, and make Arkansas City a pleasant place to work and live while continually building a greater bond between the department and the public we serve.

Our Promise

To do the right thing,

To do the best we can, and

To treat others the way we

would want to be treated.

Our Values

Accountability—Acting Responsibly

Character—Maintaining Moral Excellence

Pride—Committed to Perfection

Dedication—Self-Sacrificing Devotion



2015 Strategic Successes

Category: BEST PRACTICES

Action Step: Review and revise, as appropriate, all department policies and practices with an emphasis on low frequency/high risk activities.

- Received a small agency assist grant (\$11,000) to cover cost of starting accreditation process through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies
- Began the self-assessment phase of accreditation
- Implemented new document management software for policy development and management
- Full implementation of new pursuit policy which includes after action review, data collection, and annual analysis

Action Step: Focus internal and external training efforts providing employees with an opportunity to become proficient with the decision making process with an emphasis on high risk/low frequency.

- Sent eight officers to Crisis Intervention Training
- Trained all officers on Mental Health First Aid
- Added firearms training events which emphasized the decision making process
- Trained new K9 handler
- Officer Involved Shooting Investigation training for detectives
- Taser certification training
- Instructor course for OC Aerosol, less lethal impact munitions, and chemical munitions
- Vehicle pursuit training for all officers
- Use of force liability instructor course
- Supervisors role in managing the use of force incident course
- Police and dog encounters training for all officers
- Trauma first response training for all officers
- Less lethal basic instructor course

2015 Strategic Successes

Category: PERSONNEL RESOURCES

Action Step: Review and revise the Department's officer recruitment process with an emphasis on recruiting applicants who reflect the diversity of the community.

- Hired four new Police Officers
- Hired one new Public Service Officer
- Updated wording on job announcement to connect with today's candidates
- Updated equipment/supplies utilized at job fairs and recruitment events

Action Step: Review and revise, as appropriate, the selection criteria for both sworn and non-sworn employees, with an emphasis on education requirements.

- Revised and implemented a new employee selection policy

Action Step: Emphasize the importance of exceptional customer service with all employees.

- Obtained DOJ grant funding (\$8000) to host a two day Blue Courage Heart and Mind of a Guardian Seminar

Action Step: To aid in employee retention, identify additional means of recognizing and re-warding exceptional work.

- Converted one part-time clerk to a full time position
- Increased pay for officers who have completed basic training to be more competitive with area agencies
- Full implementation and use of Guardian Tracking software to document exceptional work

Action Step: As part of the Department's overall training program, develop and implement a leadership training process for supervisory personnel.

- Sent all supervisors to Jack Enter's Narrow Road of Leadership training seminar
- Sent three supervisors to the Wichita State Management Certification program
- One Lieutenant completed the Police Staff and Command School through Northwestern University
- One Lieutenant completed the Central States Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar
- Chief attended the Rural Law Enforcement Executive Management Seminar (DOJ grant funded)
- Chief attended the International Association of Chief of Police conference

Category: CRIME PREVENTION

Action Step: Utilize the Internet and Social Media to disseminate crime prevention information.

- Leveraged social media to connect with citizens

Action Step: Continue and improve youth programs as a way to reduce crime and improve community relations.

- Held week long DARE Camp

2015 Strategic Successes

- Girl 2 Girl Self Defense Program
- National Night Out
- I Make a Difference child recognition program
- Bucks for Buckles
- Seatbelts Are For Everyone (SAFE Program)
- SADD
- ACPD Bike Rodeo
- Bike patrol
- Cowley County Health and Safety Fair

Action Step: Reinforce with all personnel the importance of problem-solving partnerships with the community.

- Citizen survey online
- Monthly follow up citizen satisfaction survey done for each patrol officer
- Officer Ted Shinneman was recognized by the VFW as Police Officer of the year in Ark City

Category: CRIME SUPPRESSION

Action Step: Blend “hot spot policing” and “intelligence-led policing” into the Department’s philosophy of community-oriented policing.

- Implemented intelligence led policing and hotspot methods to patrol deployment
- Utilized Laser Point methods to reduce crime in specific and targeted areas
- Reduced property crimes in first six months of 2015

Action Step: Department-wide emphasis on the arrest and prosecution of known career criminals.

- Drug Task Force investigation resulting in the arrest of 23 known offenders
- Participated in county wide DROP program, Dangerous Repeat Offender Program to take candidates off the streets in an attempt to reduce crime

Category: TRAFFIC SAFETY

Action Step: Participate in state wide enforcement campaigns.

- Participated in KDOT Labor Day click it or ticket program (\$7,689 reimbursed from KDOT)
- Participated in KDOT Memorial Day click it or ticket program (\$2,463 reimbursed from KDOT)
- Participated in KDOT Thanksgiving click it or ticket program (\$3,849 reimbursed from KDOT)

Action Step: Use intelligence-led methods to determine traffic enforcement needs.

- Drunk driving saturation patrols
- Received the AAA Gold Award for traffic safety (4th year in a row)

2015 Strategic Successes

Category: TECHNOLOGY AND EQUIPMENT

Action Step: Establish a realistic replacement schedule for the Department's vehicle fleet.

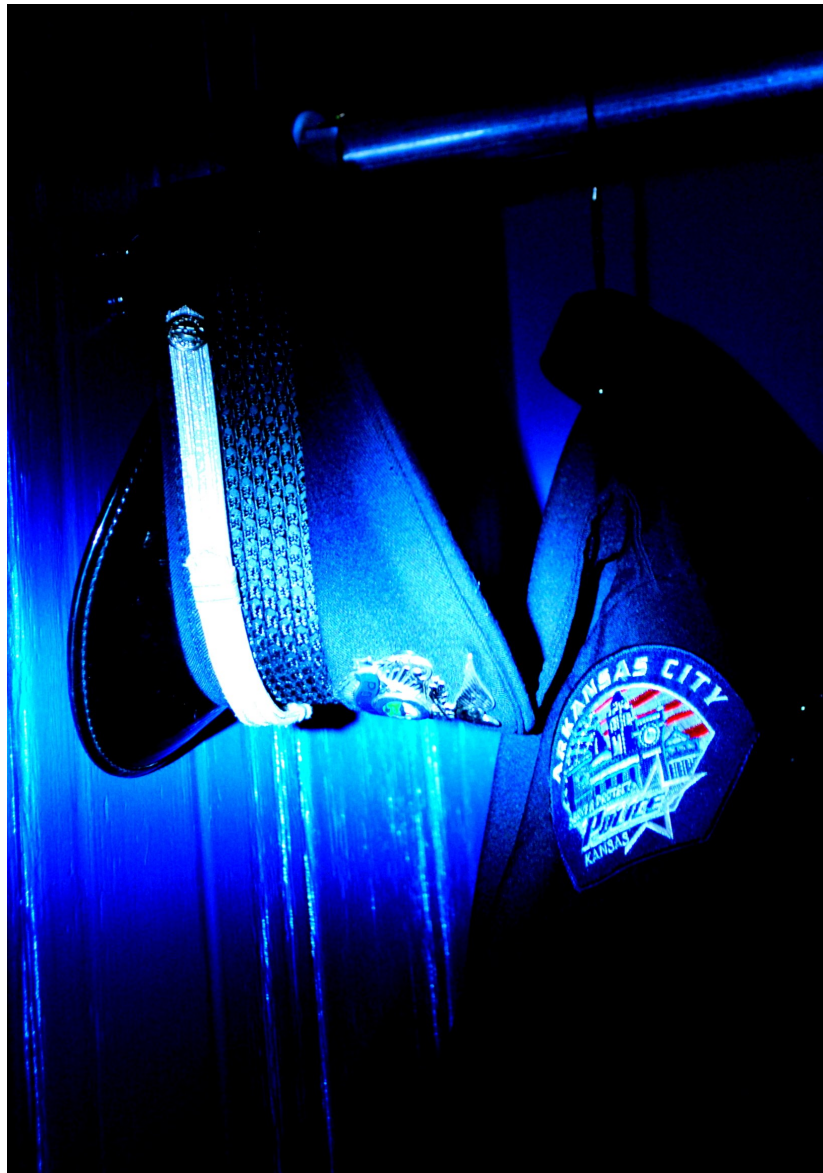
- Replaced three older patrol cars and standardize the graphics on all patrol fleet vehicles

Action Step: Research in-vehicle technology that will increase the safety, efficiency and effectiveness of police officers. Obtain proven technology as finances permit.

- Researched, purchased, and deployed body worn cameras for patrol officers
- Added four new Tasers for Officers
- Implemented new Records Management System
- Outfitted all patrol cars with in-car mobile Computer Aided Dispatch systems
- Replaced aging polygraph machine with new unit

Action Step: Update radio communication equipment.

- Replaced part of the aging radio equipment. (Eight new radios)



Social Media and Outreach Efforts

As defined in our Strategic Plan, the Arkansas City Police Department utilizes the Internet and Social Media to disseminate crime prevention information.

Today's citizens turn to the internet and its related electronic media for news and information of all kinds. Social media such as Facebook is an example of this quickly-expanding, instant-communication universe. The Police Department recognizes that it must use the information superhighway to communicate important information to the public.



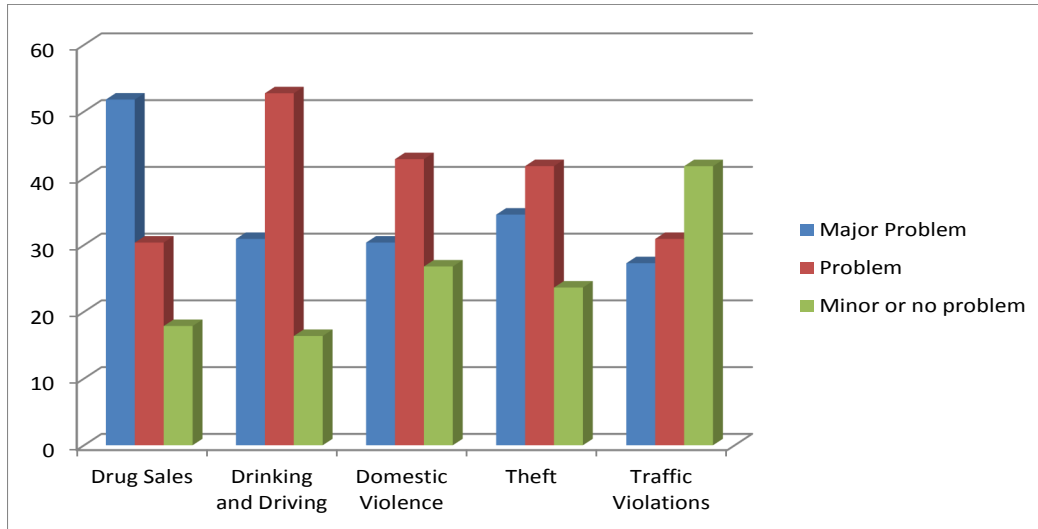
In 2015 our Facebook likes grew from 1,063 to 1,896. That is a 78% increase in our Facebook popularity in just one year. This growth trend is continuing as we had 2,046 likes by March of 2016.

Having a strong social media presence in the community is one of the keys to keeping the public informed and gaining their support. This past year has demonstrated this to be true. The three most popular posts on our Facebook page included 1) December 9, 2015 post about our officers who helped a hungry family by purchasing groceries using their own money. (Total reach 19,652, likes 1,314 , and 112 comments) 2) September 2, 2015 post asking the public's help to identify an individual who committed a theft at Walmart. (Total reach 13,457, likes 261 , and 250 comments) 3) November 18, 2015 post asking the public's help identify an individual who committed a theft at Walmart. (Total reach 12,007, likes 246 , and 263 comments)

We are fortunate to have an engaged community who is willing to help us solve crimes and who appreciate our officers hard work.

2015 Citizen Survey

The Arkansas City Police Department values the feedback from the citizens we serve. We recognize that without citizen support we would not be as effective in addressing crime and disorder. One way we seek to gather feedback is through the use of an online citizen survey. The results of the surveys are evaluated quarterly and posted on our Facebook page. At the end of the year, the survey results are tabulated and included in the annual report. In addition to the online survey, each month supervisors contact citizens and complete a condensed survey in regard to the officers recent contact. Supervisors also randomly review officer video footage to ensure we are providing the best police service.



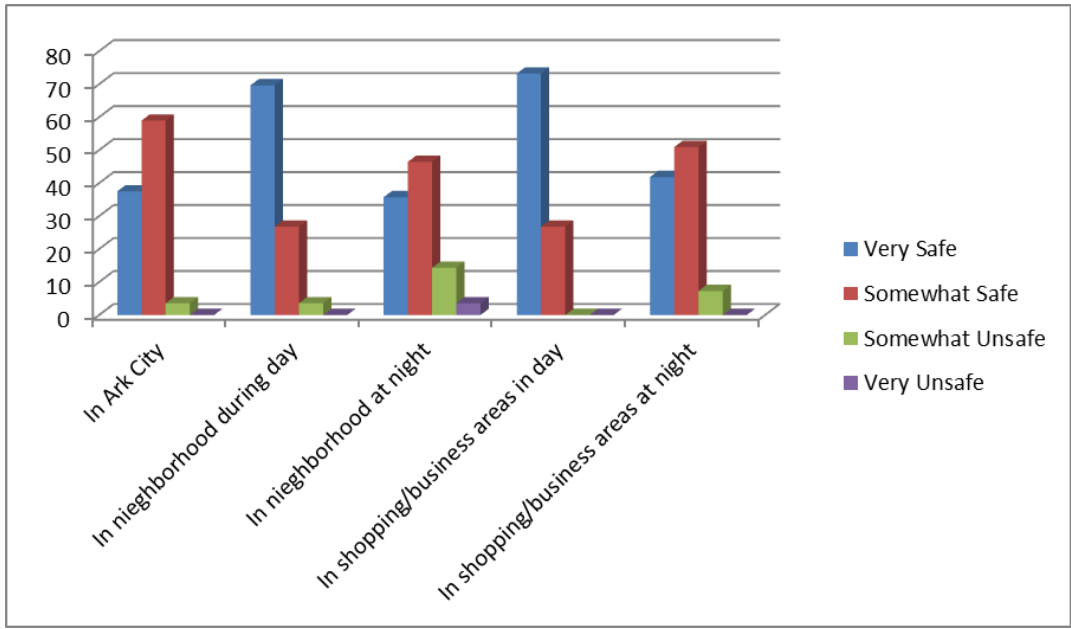
When asked to identify the most serious problems the Police Department should be addressing, the citizens identified drug sales, drinking and driving, domestic violence, theft, and traffic violations.



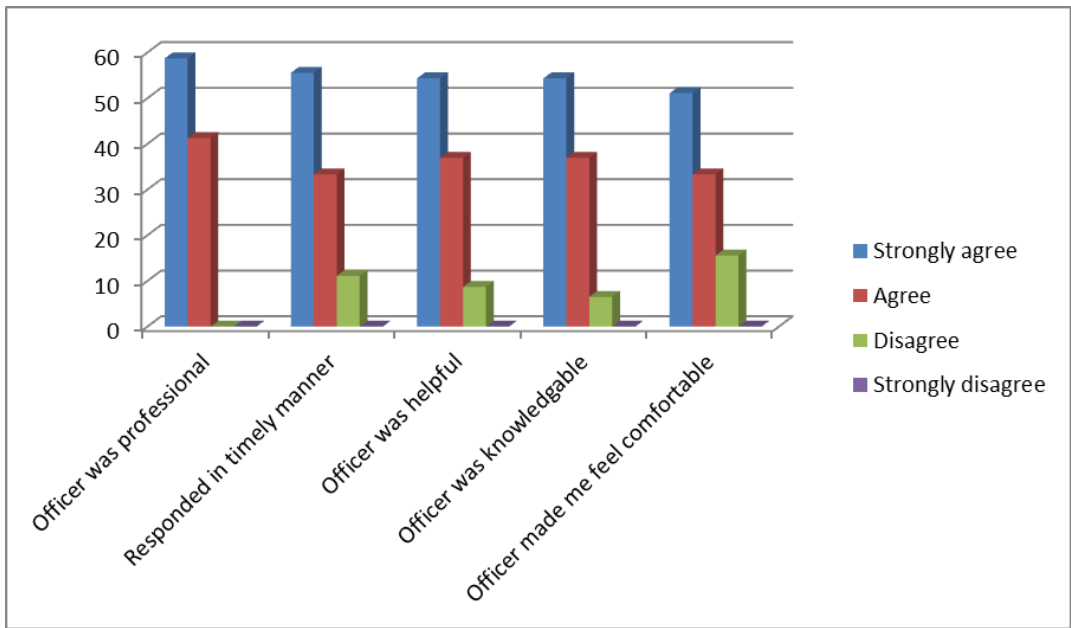
We are very pleased to announce that 77% indicated they were either satisfied or very satisfied with the Police Department overall.

Safety in Arkansas City

One way to evaluate the effectiveness of a Police Department is to review how safe the citizens feel in their neighborhoods and business areas in both day and night times. As you can see from the chart below, most people surveyed reported they felt safe most of the time. It is of particular interest that everyone reported they felt safe in the business areas during the daytime.



In addition to asking respondents if they are satisfied with the department overall, we also ask how satisfied they were with the officer who assisted them. As you can see in the chart below, our officers do an amazing job assisting citizens even though most of the situations in which we have contact are not pleasant.



National Night Out



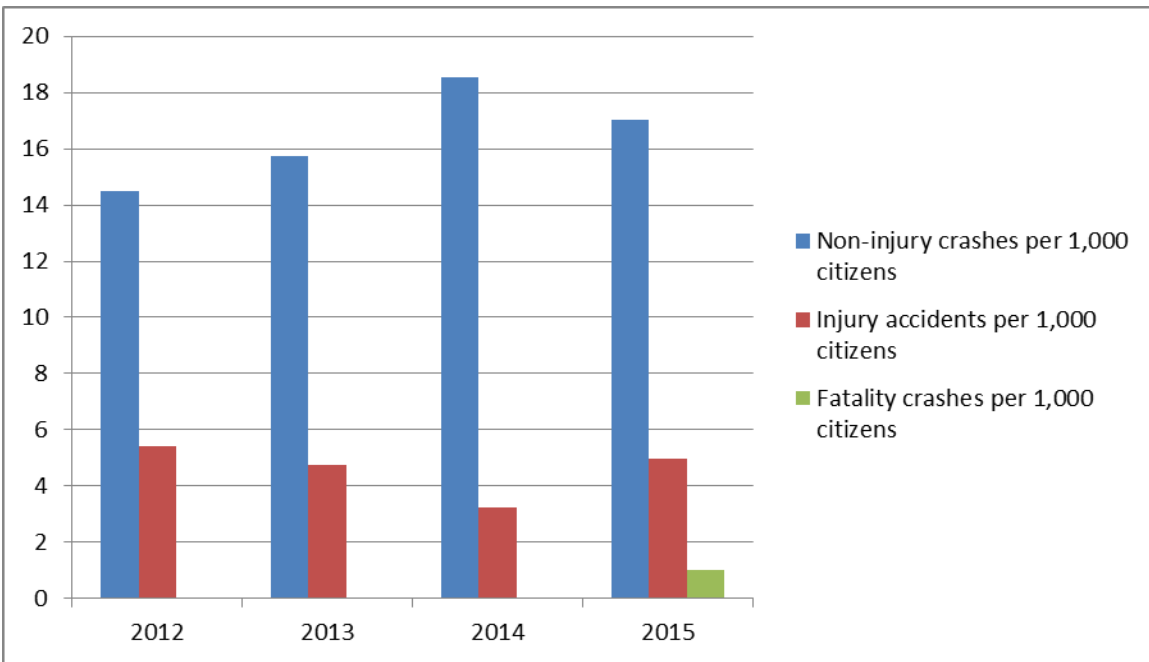
The Arkansas City Kansas Police Department has been hosting a National Night Out event since 1996. Over the past 19 years the event has grown to become a favorite event for many citizens. The event spans over two nights with a kickoff party the first night and the block parties the second night.

The kickoff party is a picnic style event with free food, games, and activities. In 2015 we served 500 hamburgers and hotdogs to hundreds of attendees. The inflatable bounce house is always a big hit with the kids.

The block parties on the second night are an opportunity for neighbors to develop a bond with each other which encourages citizens to watch out for each other. In 2015 we had a total of 12 different block parties. Representatives of the police department stop by each of the block parties and distribute products that neighbors can use to keep their homes and valuables safe. The donut eating contest is always a big hit with the officers.

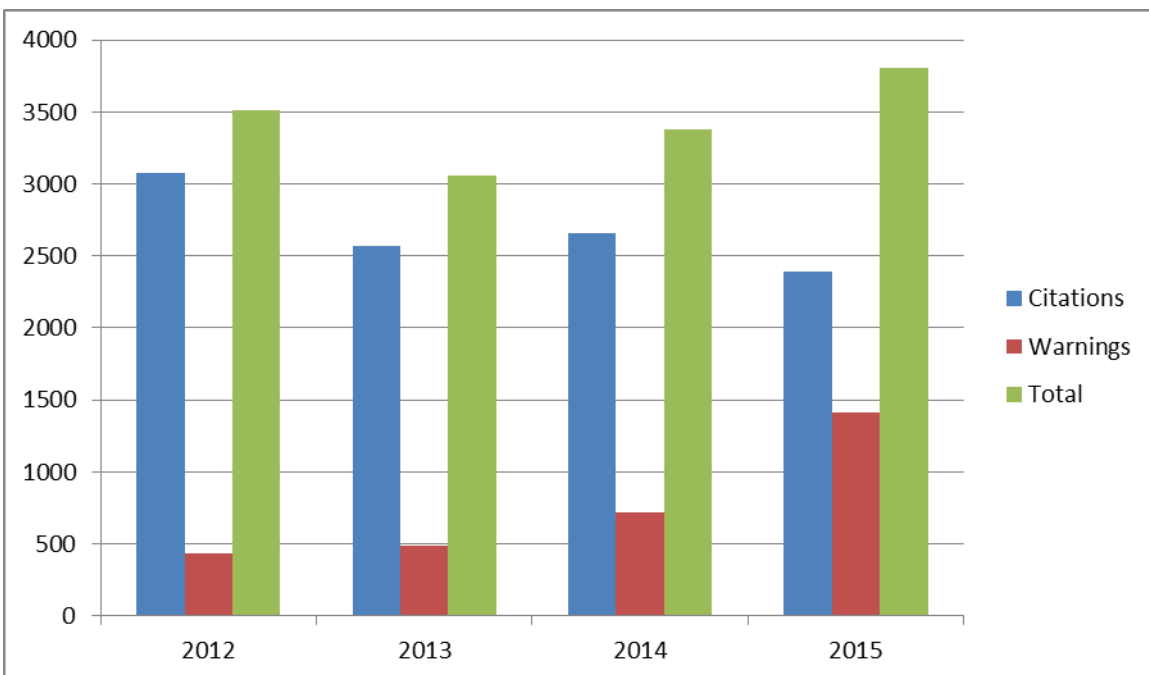


Accident Rates and Citations



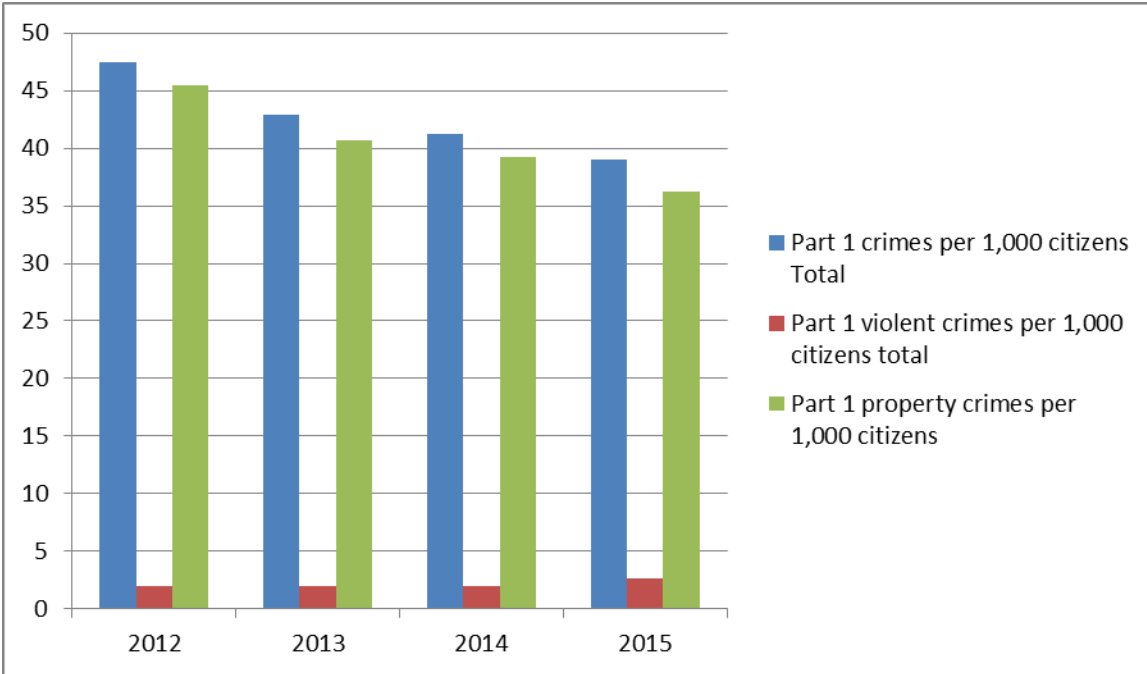
As you can see from the above graph, non-injury accidents have steadily increased over the past four years. Injury accidents were on the decline until this past year when they took a slight jump. Unfortunately, we had one fatality accident in 2015.

There is a direct correlation between traffic enforcement and the number and severity of accidents. As you can see from the chart below, there has been a reduction in the number of citations issued by our officers. This is due to the fact we have been understaffed for the last couple of years. It is also interesting to point out that warnings do not have as great an impact on accidents as citations. As you can see from the chart below, in 2015 we had a reduction in citations and an increase in warnings. At that same time we saw an increase in injury, non-injury, and fatality accidents. This correlation is why the police department advocates for traffic enforcement. When police increase the number of citations issued, the rate and severity of accidents tend to drop.



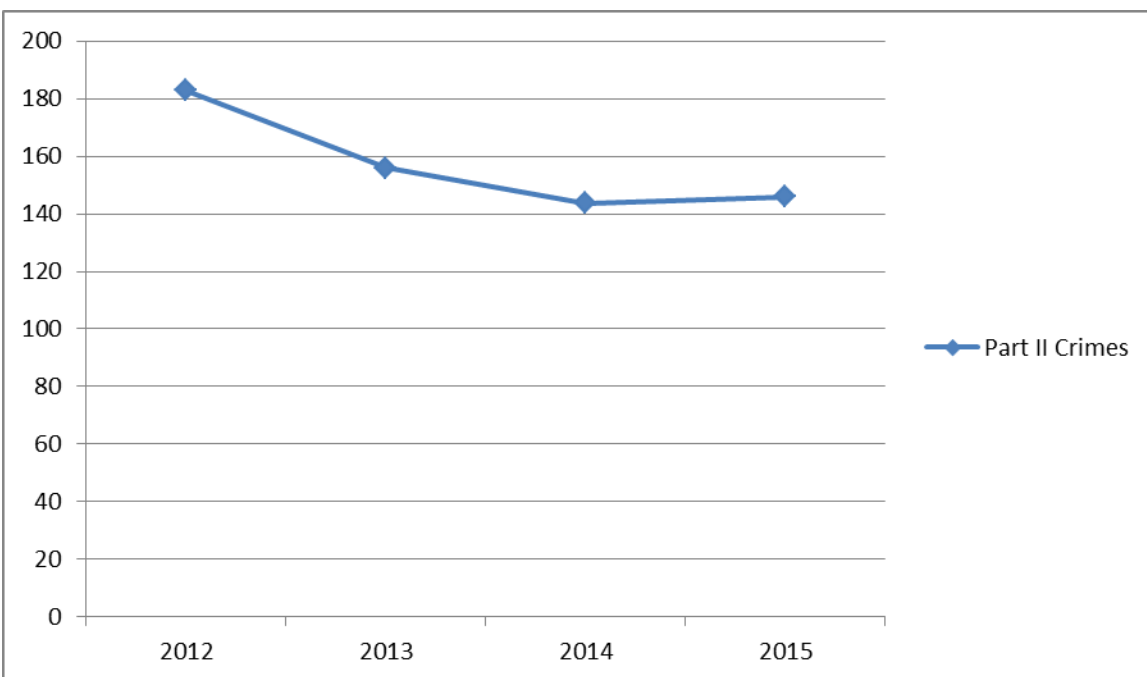
PART I OFFENSES

Part 1 crimes include homicide, robbery, rape, aggravated assault, burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft and arson. As you can see from the chart below, all of our part 1 crimes have been on a steady decrease over the past four years. You can also see that our violent crimes are minimal compared to the part 1 property crimes which includes burglary and theft. Over the past year ACPD has made burglaries and thefts a priority.

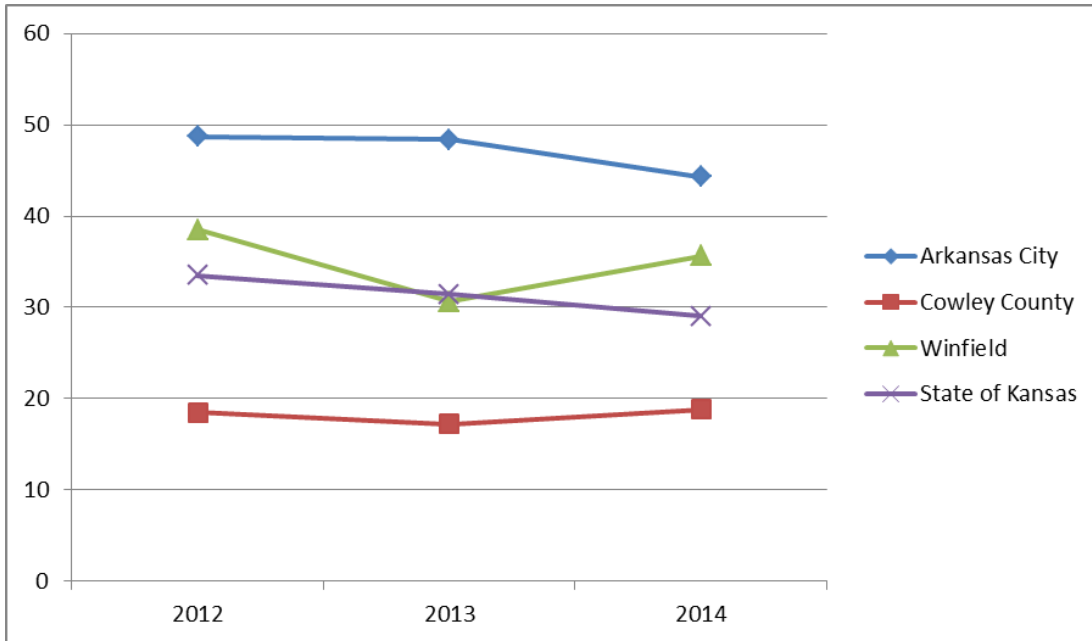


PART II OFFENSES

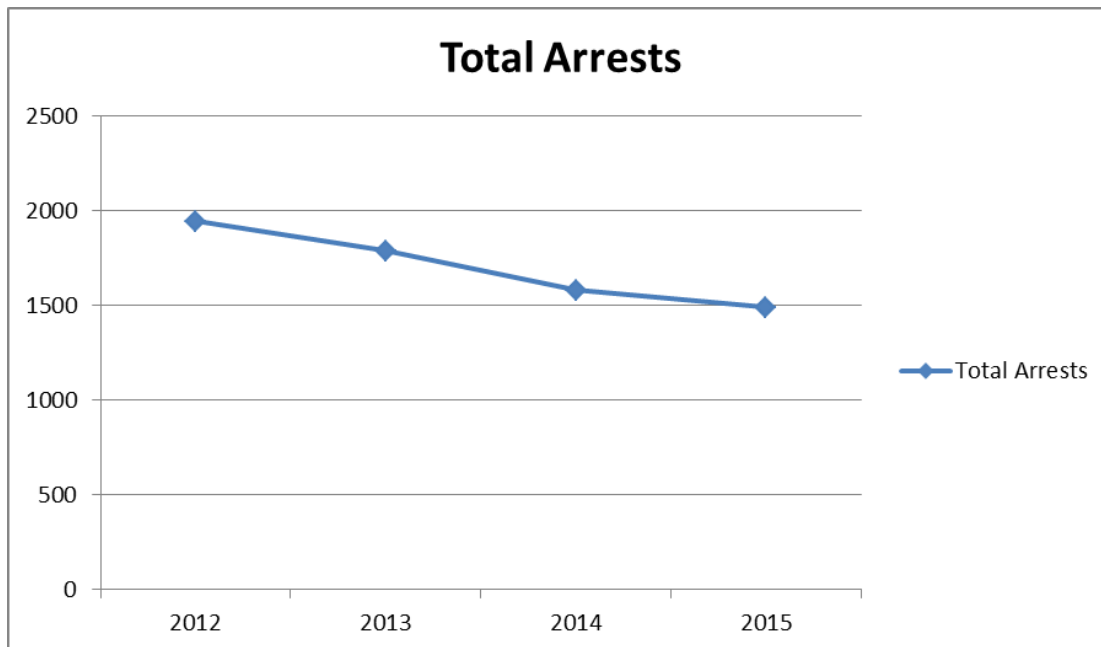
Part 2 crimes are all other crimes not included in Part 1. As you can see in the chart below, part 2 crimes have been trending downward as well over the past four years.



Uniform Crime Statistics and Crime Index



When looking at overall crime rates it is important to compare our jurisdiction with others. In the graph above we compared our crime index with Cowley County, Winfield, and the State of Kansas. As you can see, our crime index in Arkansas City is higher. It is promising that we saw a slight drop in 2014. At the time of this publication, the state had not released the figures for 2015.



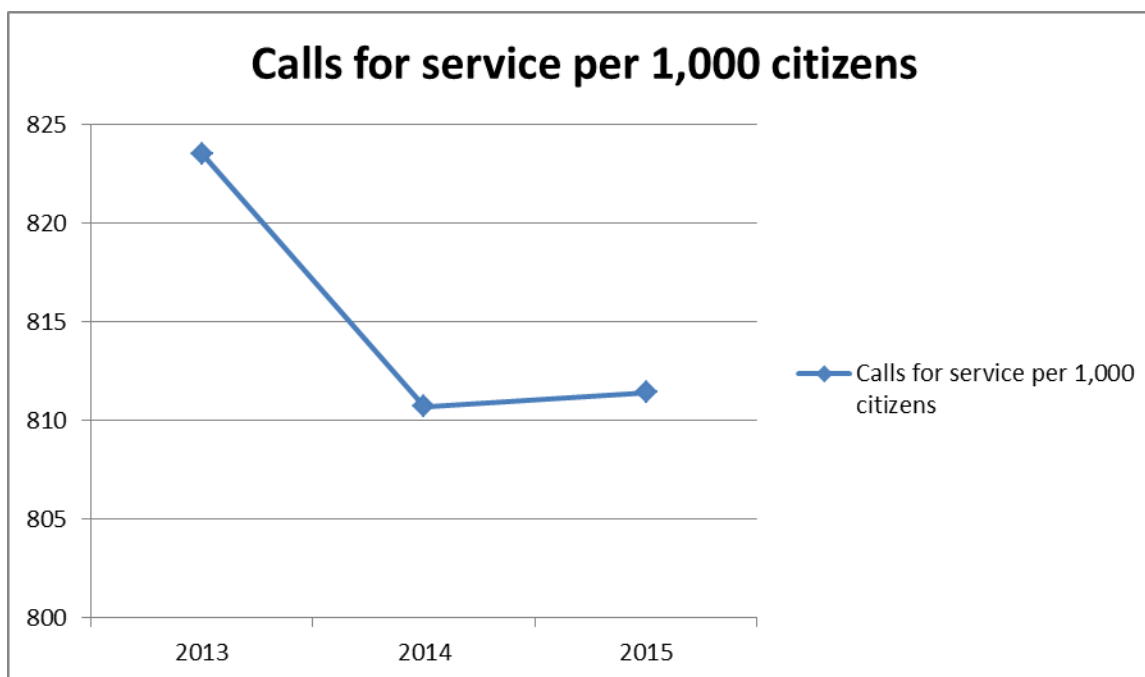
In the graph above you can see ACPD makes between 1500 and 2000 arrests per year. While this number has decreased over the past years, most of the decrease is likely due to a lack of staffing.

Alcohol Arrests

As you can see in the graph below, driving while intoxicated has been on a steady decline over the past few years. This is very promising as this makes driving safer for everyone in town.



One way to measure the workload of a police agency is by examining the number of calls for service. While we looked at crimes and accidents cases earlier, there are many other functions police fulfill. We recognize that our community expects much more out of us than just crime fighting. As you can see below, our officers respond to over 10,000 calls for service annually. This equates to a heavy workload considering the number of officers we have working the streets on any given day.



2015 Vehicle Pursuits

In comparing our pursuits in 2015 with the 2015 pursuits from 26 similar sized agencies across the nation we found those agencies averaged 4.5 pursuits each in 2015. In the majority of pursuits across the nation, traffic violations were the number one reason officers initiated pursuits. In 2014 our policy covering pursuits made traffic infractions a non-pursuable offense. This change had a significant impact and will continue to reduce the number of pursuits in which we are involved. The current policy includes a pursuit matrix that indicates when an officer may pursue depending on the nature of the offense and degree of risk. Pursuits are also restricted to two police vehicles and may be terminated by either the officer involved or the supervisor monitoring the pursuit.



Pursuant to General Order PD-01.1 Emergency Vehicle Operations, it is required to analyze departmental pursuit activity annually and identify any training needs and additions, deletions or modifications warranted in departmental pursuit procedures.

In the calendar year of 2015, the Arkansas City Police Department was involved in four pursuits which involved four different officers. This was the first year the Police Department began tracking and reviewing pursuits.

Statistical Data

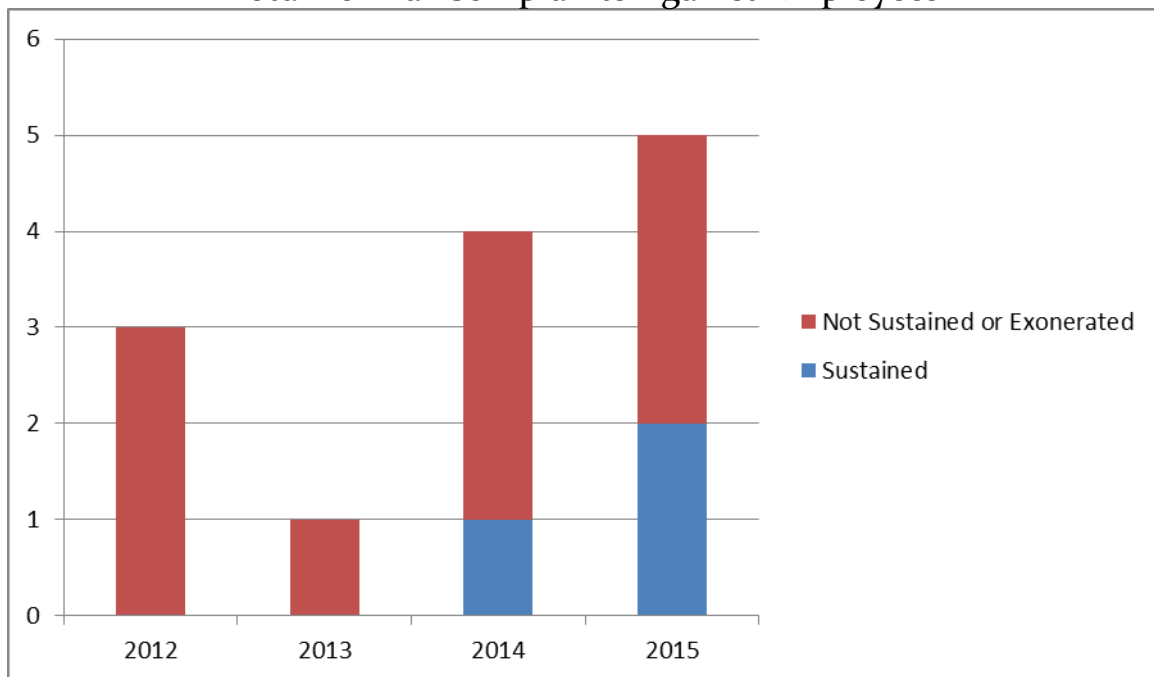
PURSUITS	2015
Total Pursuits	4
Terminated by agency	1
Policy Compliant	1
Policy Non-compliant	3
Accidents	1
Injuries Officer	0
Suspects	0
Third Party	0
Reason Initiated:	
Traffic offense	1
Felony	0
Misdemeanor	3

Professional Accountability

The Arkansas City Police Department provides a formal internal system for the processing of complaints relative to the agency's operations, policies and procedures, and the conduct of police personnel. The character and reputation of the Arkansas City Police Department rests on an adequate program of fair and impartial investigations. Adhering to the core values and missions of the department, investigators act efficiently and timely to resolve complaints in a fair and impartial manner.

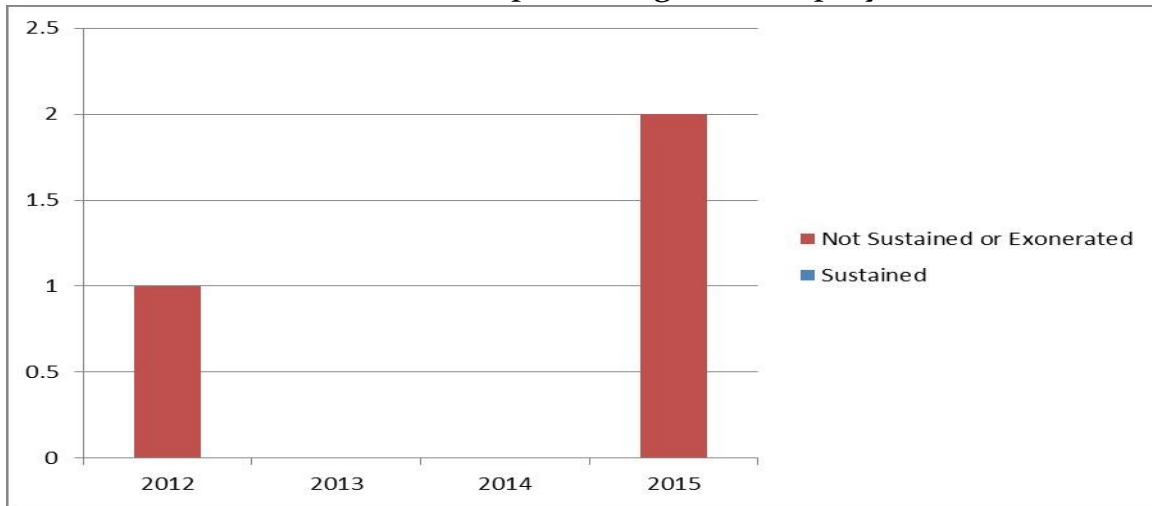
Complaints are divided into formal and minor complaints. Formal complaints can include reports which are more serious and actions which bring the department into disrepute or reflects discredit upon the employee as a member of the department. Minor complaints typically include demeanor and minor rules and regulations, or policy and procedure violations.

Total Formal Complaints Against Employees



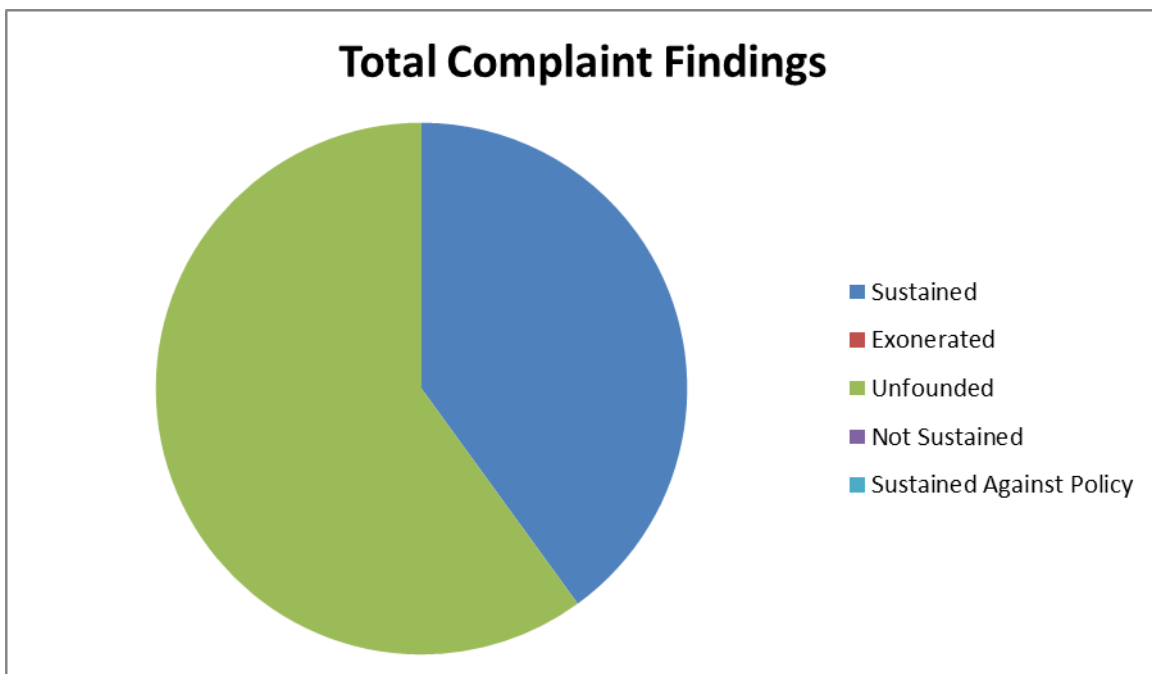
As you can see we had a total of five formal complaints in 2015 with two of them being sustained. All sustained complaints received corrective measures to ensure they are not repeated. Given the amount of contacts our officers have with the public, the low number of sustained complaints is an indicator of the officers professionalism.

Total Minor Complaints Against Employees

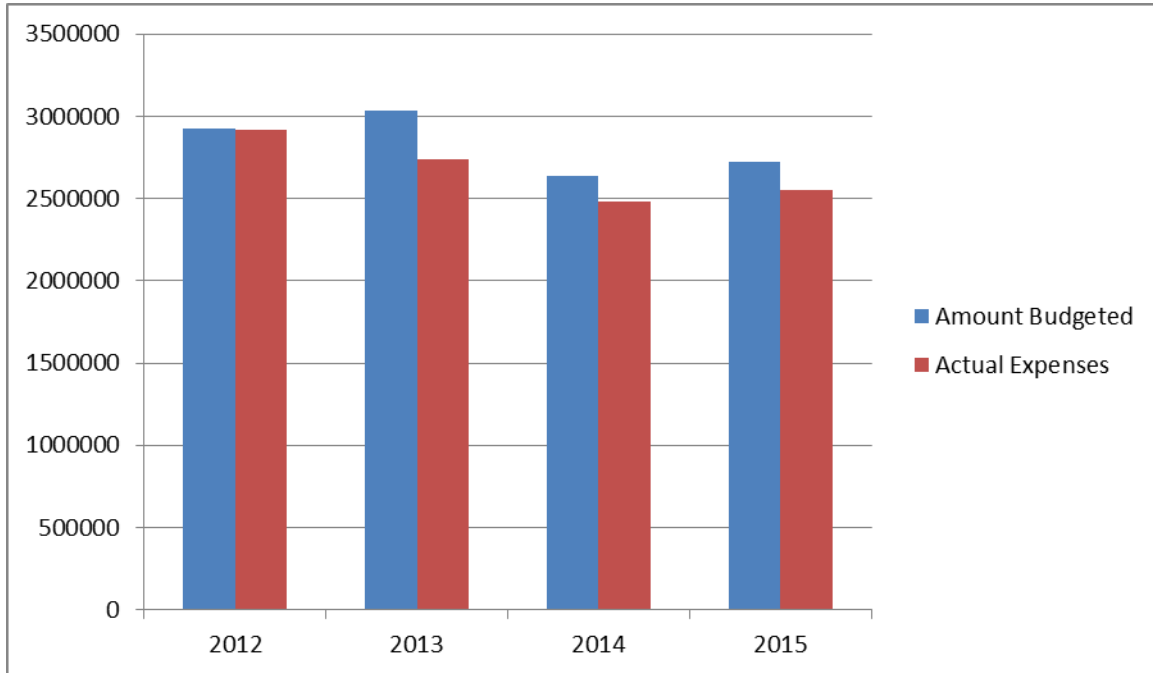


Complaint findings are classified as one of the following: Unfounded – The investigation conclusively proved that the act complained of did not occur. Exonerated – The act which provided the basis for the complaint or allegation occurred; however, the investigation revealed that the act was justified, lawful and proper. Not Sustained – The investigation failed to disclose sufficient evidence to clearly prove the allegation made in the complaint or to conclusively disprove such allegation. Sustained – The investigation disclosed sufficient evidence to clearly prove the allegation made in the complaint. Sustained Against Policy – The investigation revealed a faulty policy and/or procedure.

In the graph below you can see that in 2015, less than half of all complaints were sustained. The use of in-car and body worn cameras greatly aid investigators in determining what actually occurred.

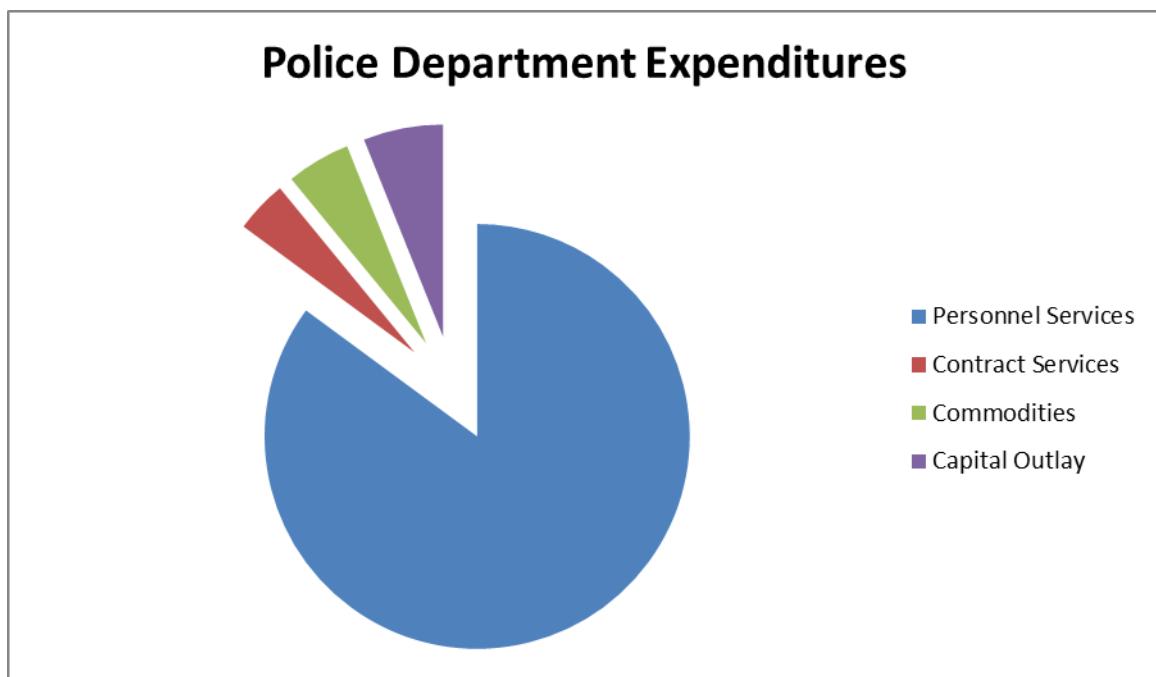


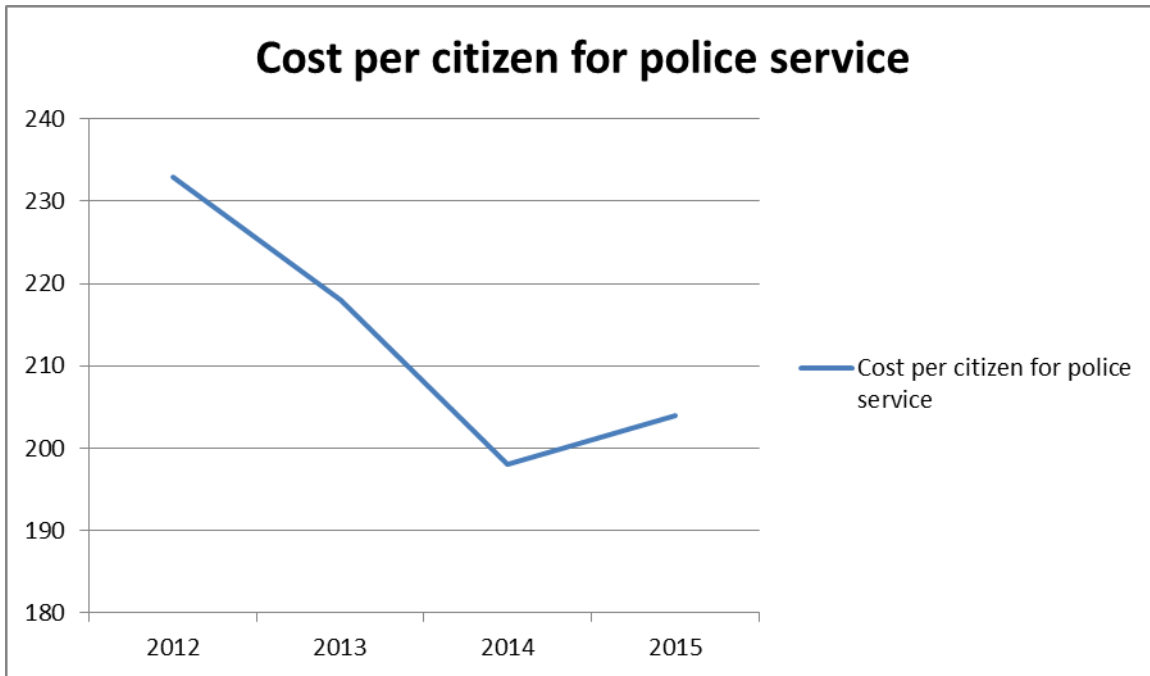
Budget and Expenditures



The police department is funded by the City through the general fund. Annually the police budget accounts for approximately 30% of the general fund expenses.

In the graph above you can see the actual expenses for the police department has decreased over the last few years. The main reason for this decrease is unfilled police officer positions. At one point in 2015 ACPD had six open positions. As you can see in the graph below, personnel costs account for 86% of our total budget. By the end of 2015 ACPD filled three open positions leaving us with three unfilled positions.





The cost of police service is less than what most people think. In 2015 each citizen paid \$204.35 for police service. That is less than \$17 per month. When compared to other services such as home security systems, cable TV, and cell phones, you can see citizens are getting a lot for their money. As the graph above shows, the cost of police service was less in 2015 than it was in 2012 or 2013.

Conclusion

I hope you have found the 2015 annual report for the Arkansas City Kansas Police Department interesting and informative. As stated at the beginning of the report, it has been a busy year and our officers have performed very well. While each year brings new and different challenges, we are confident we are on the right path and we will continue to improve in our efforts to provide professional police service to the citizens we serve. If you would like any additional information or have questions, please feel free to contact us by phone, email, or in person. We would love to hear from you. Copies of this report are available on our Facebook page, web site, and in our lobby.



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