



THE ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY  
POLICE DEPARTMENT

2021  
ANNUAL REPORT





Table of Contents	3
Message from the Chief	4
Athens-Clarke County	6
Mayor and Commission	6
ACC Districts	7
Quick Facts	8
Budget	9
Athens-Clarke County Police Department	10
Principles	10
Leadership	11
Organizational Chart	12
Quick Facts	14
ACCPD Bureaus and Units	16
Field Operations	17
Operational Support	18
Administrative Services	19
Community-Oriented Policing	20
Crisis Intervention	24
ACCPD Retirements and Advancements	26
Professional Standards	28
Crime Report	30
Crimes Against Persons	34
Crimes Against Property	36
Crimes Against Society	38
In Memory of Our Fallen	42

As Covid restrictions allowed, ACCPD resumed Community-Oriented Policing activities. Safety Town students learned how to use crosswalks, ride bicycles safely, and understand street signs.





# Message from the Chief



On behalf of the Athens-Clarke County Police Department, I am pleased to present our 2021 Annual Report. This report is a sampling of the dedication that the men and women of the Athens-Clarke County Police Department contribute to the community day in and day out.

I could not be prouder of the hard work that our staff displayed throughout 2021. Their efforts led to positive outcomes for our community, such as a five percent overall crime reduction in Athens-Clarke County when compared to 2020; the implementation of a new public safety step-plan for sworn personnel; the execution of successful, large-scale operations such as Operation Tourniquet; added public outreach initiatives such as Safety Town; the creation of a new, leading-edge recruitment website [accpdcareers.com](https://accpdcareers.com); and so-on. I cannot stress enough the appreciation I have for ACCPD staff during the successes and challenges of 2021.

As you will see illustrated in this report, 2021 demonstrated our commitment to maintaining positive community relations and implementing police strategies that professionally ensure the safety of our citizens and visitors located within Athens-Clarke County.

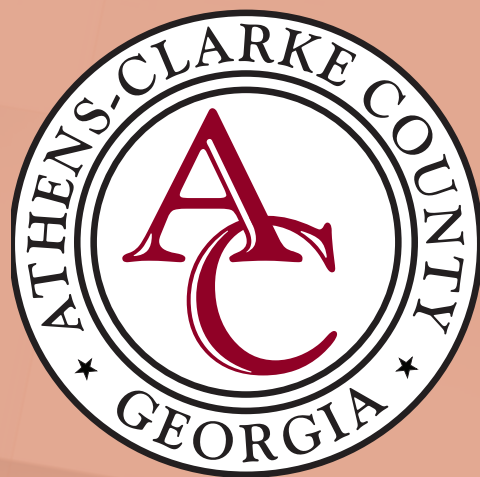
Sincerely,

Cleveland L. Spruill, Sr.  
Chief of Police





# Athens-Clarke County Government



**Kelly Girtz**  
Mayor

**Form of Government**  
Mayor and Ten Commissioners  
(Mayor elected at large and  
Commissioners elected by district)



**Patrick Davenport**  
District 1



**Mariah Parker**  
District 2



**Melissa Link**  
District 3



**Allison Wright**  
District 4



**Tim Denson**  
District 5



**Jesse Houle**  
District 6



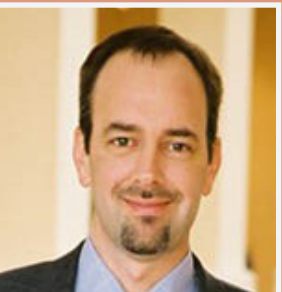
**Russell Edwards**  
District 7



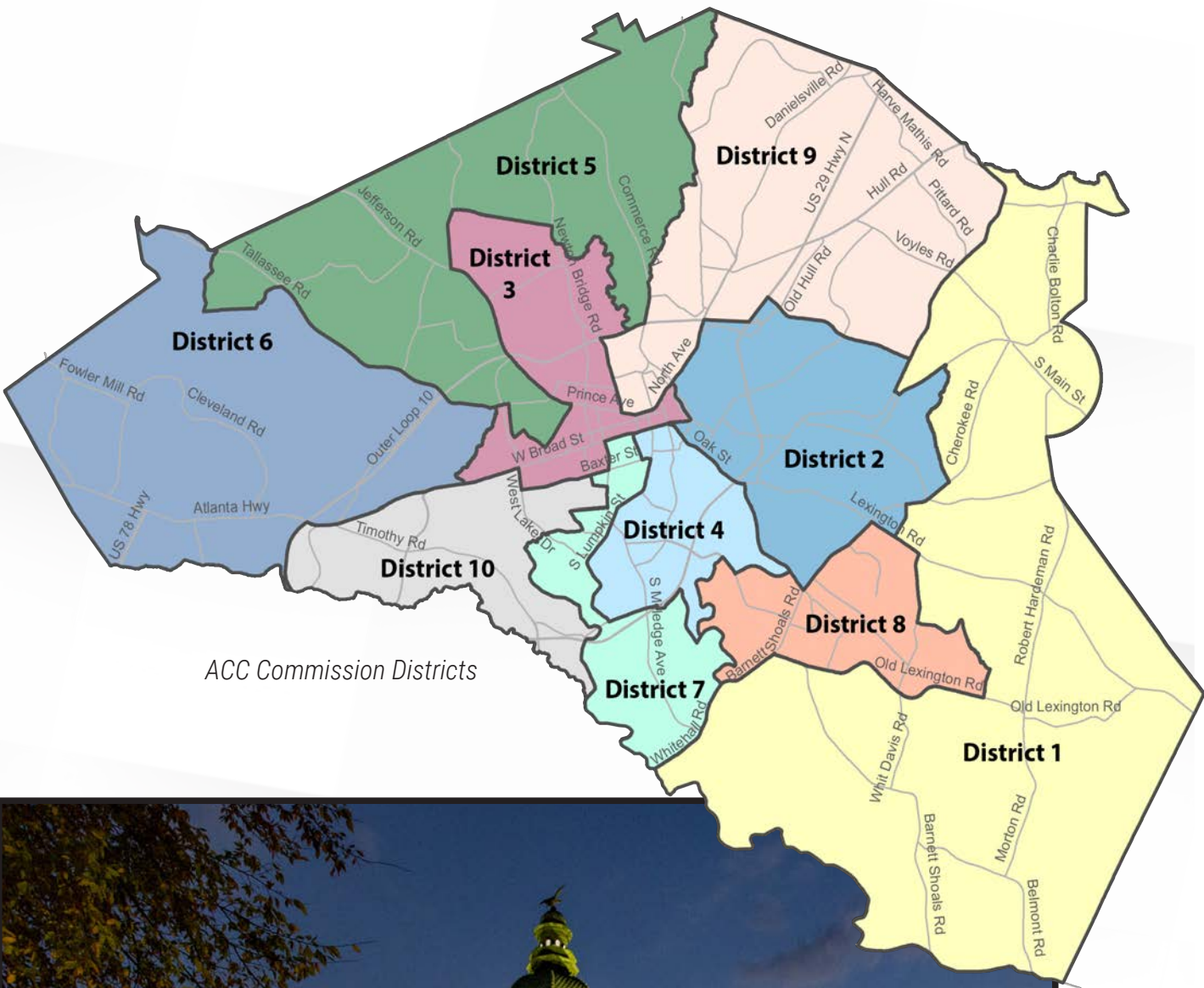
**Carol Myers**  
District 8



**Ovita Thornton**  
District 9



**Mike Hamby**  
District 10



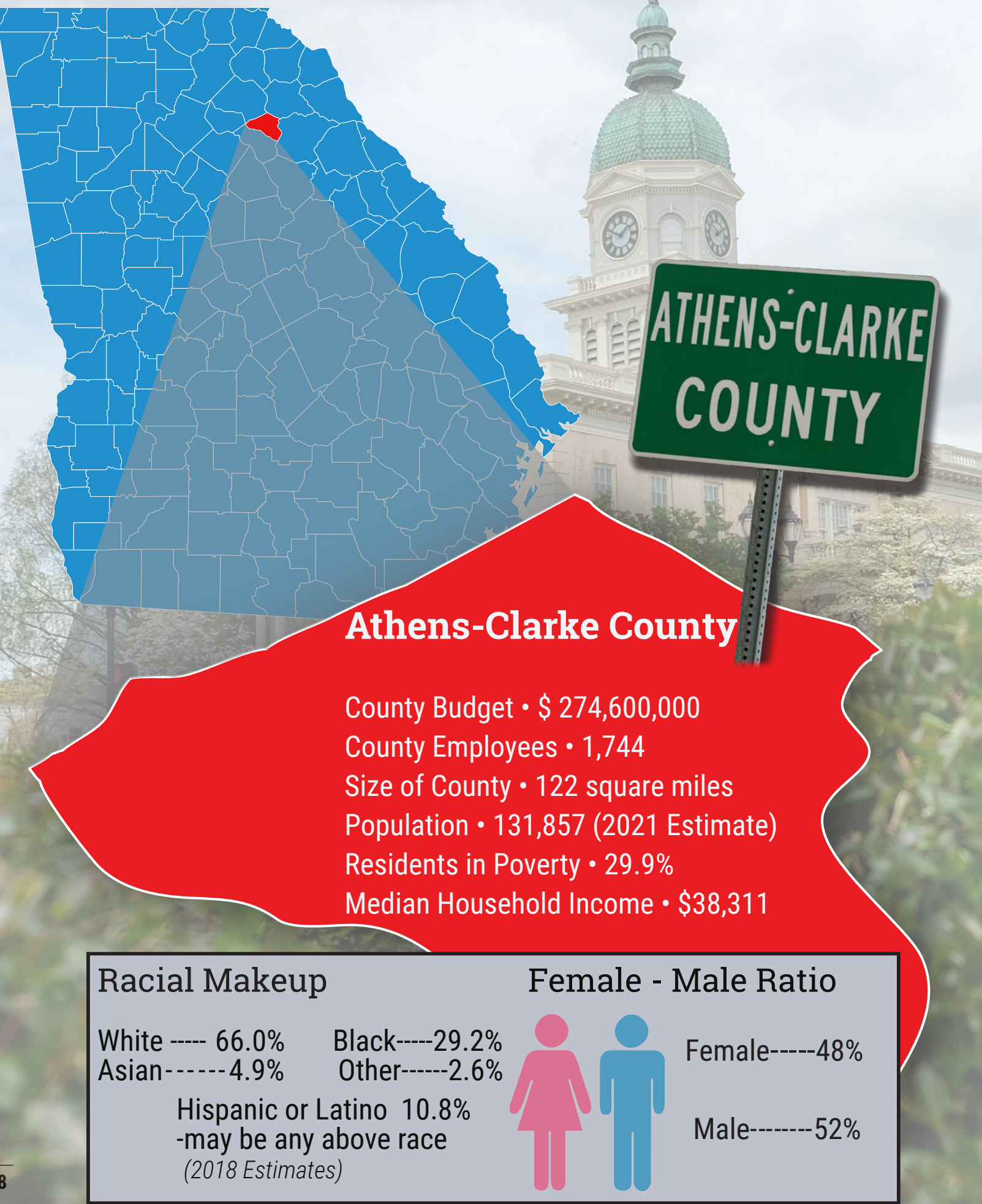
*ACC Commission Districts*



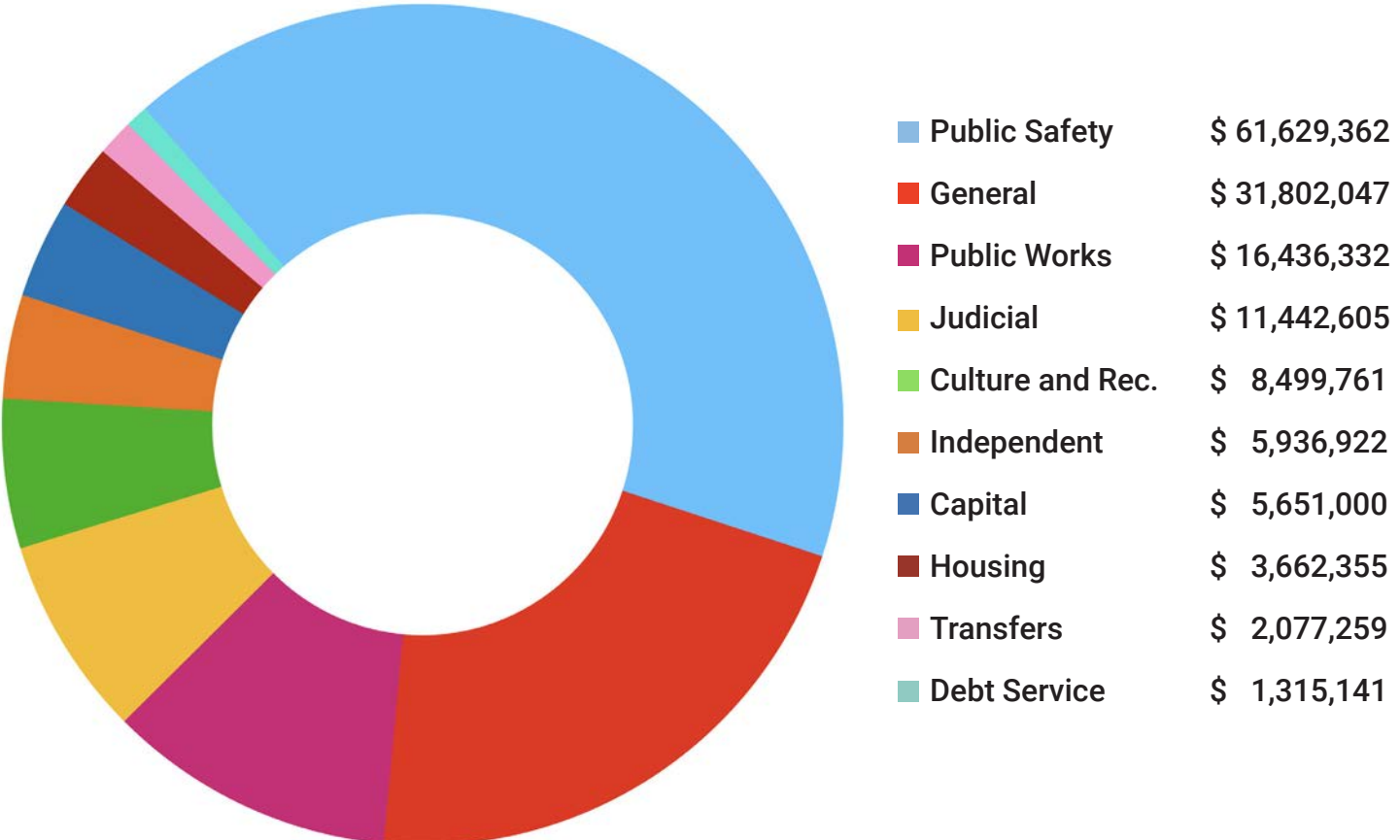
*City Hall, Athens-Clarke County*



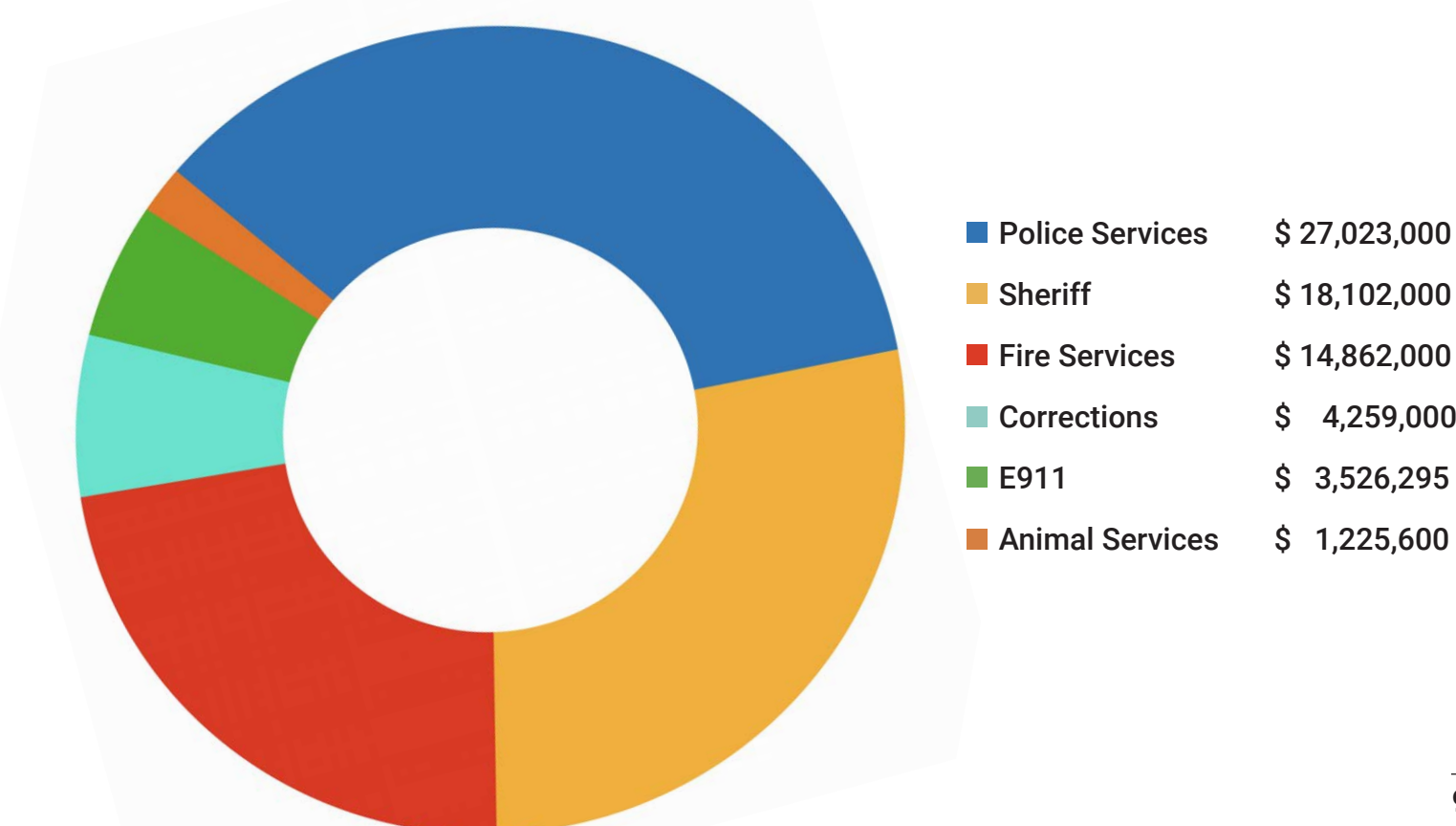
ACC Quick Facts



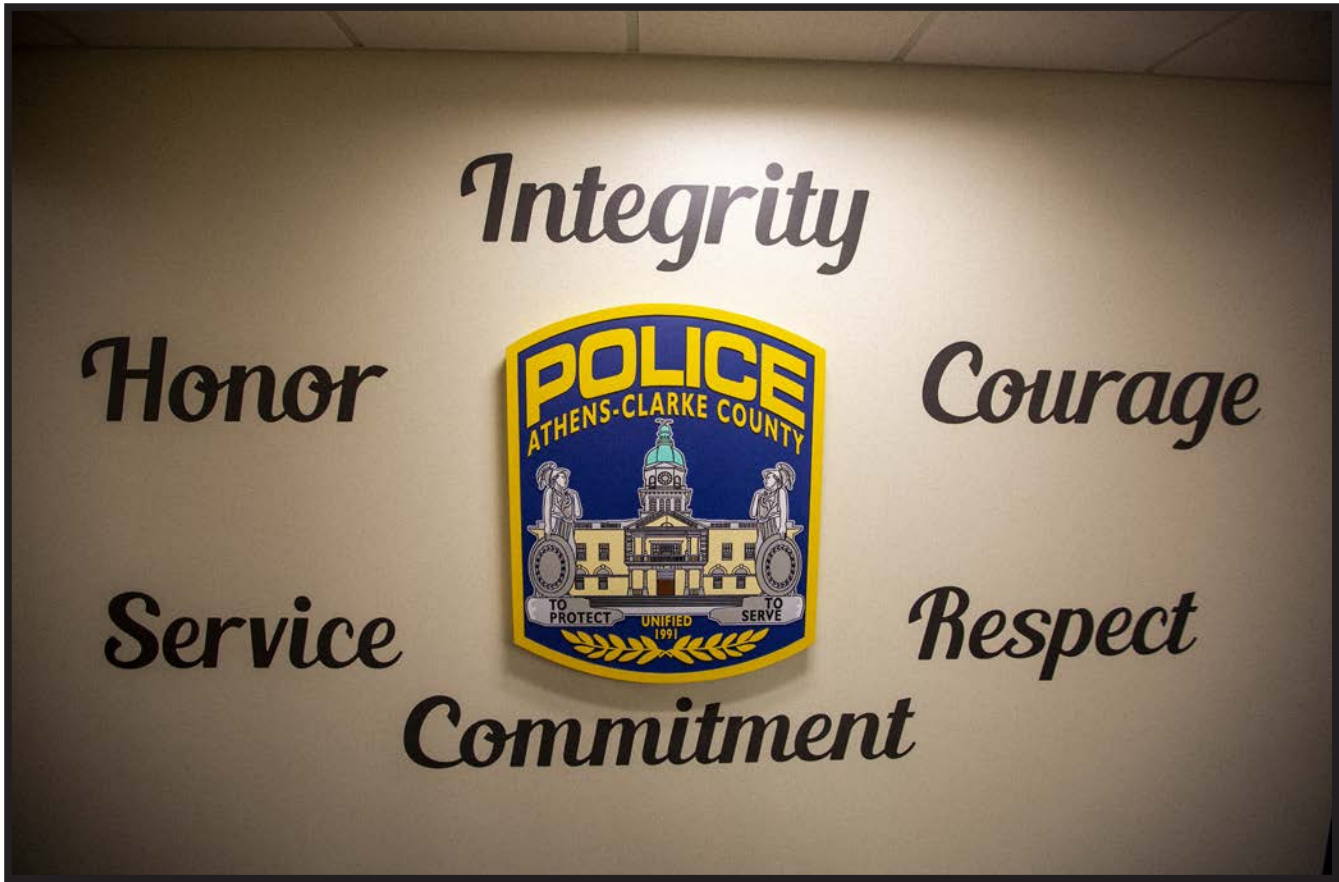
Athens-Clarke County - Approved Budget FY 2022



Athens-Clarke County - Approved Public Safety Budget FY 2022







CORE VALUES

***Integrity - Courage - Respect - Commitment - Service - Honor***

As the foundation of the department, these fundamentals represent our officers' values when interacting with the public, other law enforcement agencies, and each other.

MISSION

To support and defend the U.S. Constitution, protect and safeguard all life, and ensure the equal protection of rights for all as we work to reduce both crime and fear of crime.

COMMUNITY-ORIENTED POLICING

The Athens-Clarke County Police Department has adopted community-oriented policing as our crucial management tool and operational philosophy. Community policing is a philosophy that promotes organizational strategies that support the systematic use of partnerships and problem-solving techniques to proactively address the immediate conditions that give rise to public safety issues such as crime, social disorder, and fear of crime. Under this form of policing, officers are assigned to specific beats or neighborhoods, where they actively work to build positive relationships with the residents of that area. They have the responsibility and are held accountable for ensuring order and safety within their designated communities.



**Cleveland Spruill**  
Chief



**Jerry Saulters**  
Deputy Chief  
Administrative  
Services Bureau



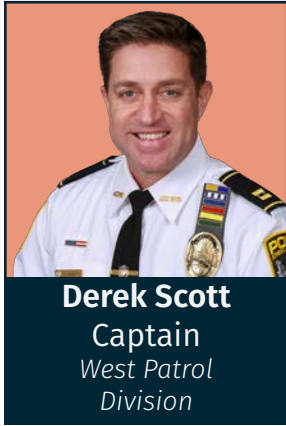
**Harrison Daniel**  
Deputy Chief  
Operational Support  
Bureau



**Keith Kelley**  
Deputy Chief  
Field Operations  
Bureau



**Jeffery Johnson**  
Captain  
East Patrol  
Division



**Derek Scott**  
Captain  
West Patrol  
Division



**Aubrey Epps**  
Captain  
Investigations  
Division



**William Hood**  
Captain  
Special Services  
Division



**Chris Nichols**  
Captain  
Standards/Records/  
Training Division

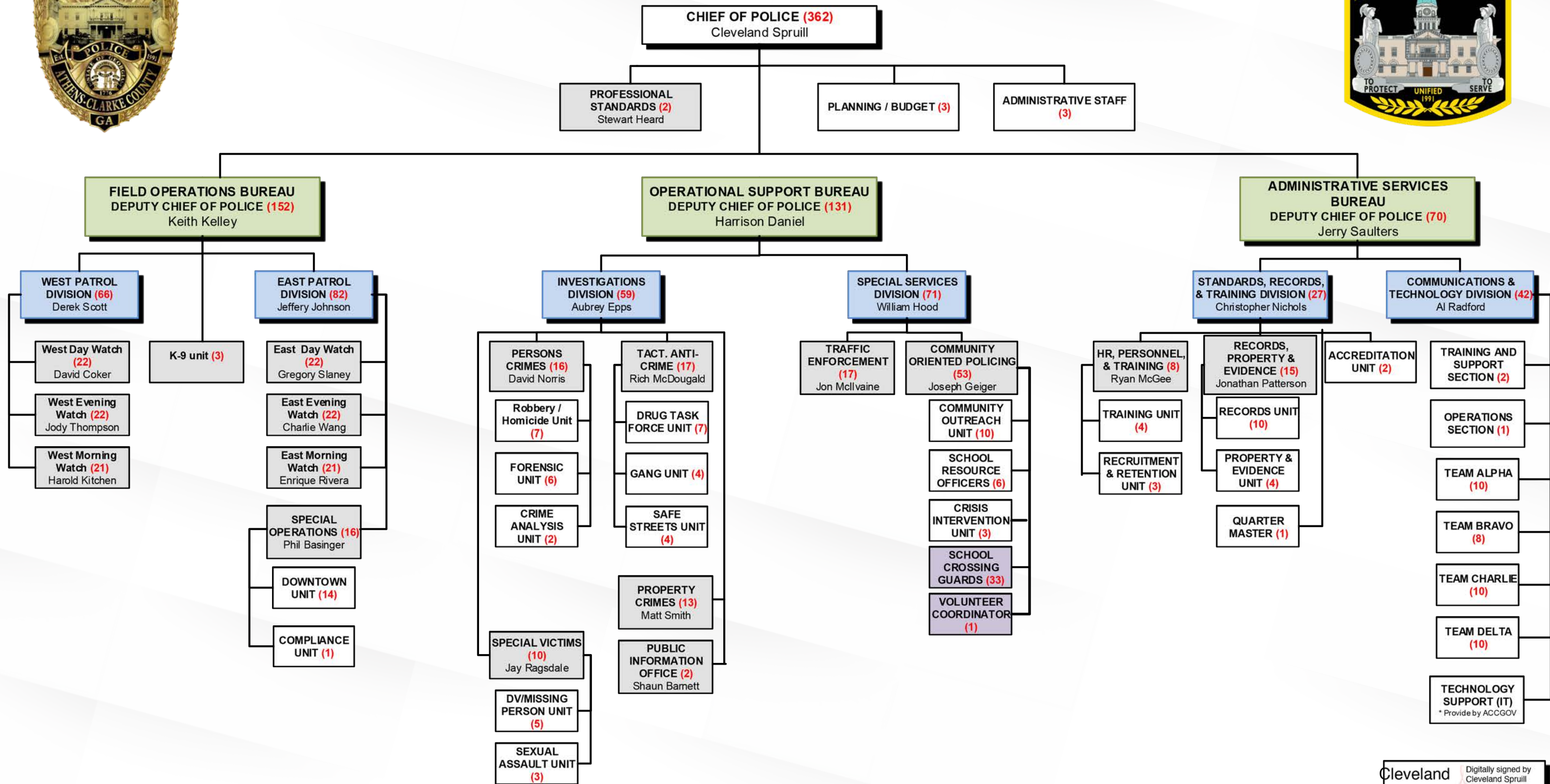


**Al Radford**  
Captain  
Communications/  
Technology Division





DEPARTMENT OF POLICE SERVICES ORGANIZATIONAL CHART:  
December 16, 2021



Cleveland Spruill  
Digitally signed by Cleveland Spruill  
Date: 2021.12.16 11:07:39 -05'00'

Blaine Williams  
Digitally signed by Blaine Williams  
DN: cn=Blaine Williams, o=Athens-Clarke County, ou=Government of Athens-Clarke County, email=blaine.williams@accgov.com, c=US  
Date: 2022.01.04 09:08:48 -05'00'

Police Chief  
Manager



# ACCPD Quick Facts

A small selection of ACCPD statistics shows that the average crime rate has declined over the past two years. Unfortunately, the number of traffic crashes and crash fatalities has increased. Additional and more detailed statistics begin on page 30 of our report. To learn more about the department, visit the ACCPD Transparency website, <https://accpd-public-transparency-site-athensclarke.hub.arcgis.com/>.

	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Athens-Clarke County Population	127,064	127,268	128,331	129,394	130,457
Select Group "A" Offenses	4,686	5,012	5,002	4,782	4,617
Crime Rate	36.9	39.4	39.0	37.0	35.3
Traffic Crashes	8,137	7,394	7,547	4,047	4,432
Crash Fatalities	7	11	11	15	24
911 Calls for Service	109,340	107,235	106,987	100,072	102,745
Non-Emergency Calls for Service	55,134	50,465	52,734	45,125	42,052
Calls for Police Services	112,304	95,927	98,216	89,061	96,380
Calls for Fire Services	6,832	5,953	6,282	7,622	8,187



SWORN POLICE OFFICERS  
(AUTHORIZED)

256



CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES  
(AUTHORIZED)

75



SCHOOL CROSSING GUARDS  
(AUTHORIZED)

33



CALLS FOR SERVICE

102,745

ATHENS-CLARKE COUNTY POLICE  
FIELD CASE REPORT

OCCURRED INCIDENT TYPE		LOCATION OF OCCURRENCE
Entering Auto		235 SYCAMORE DR
OCCURRED THRU DATE/TIME		Athens, GA
12/13/2021	23:00	
File/Other MV w/ Intent to Commit Theft or Felony		

INCIDENT REPORTS

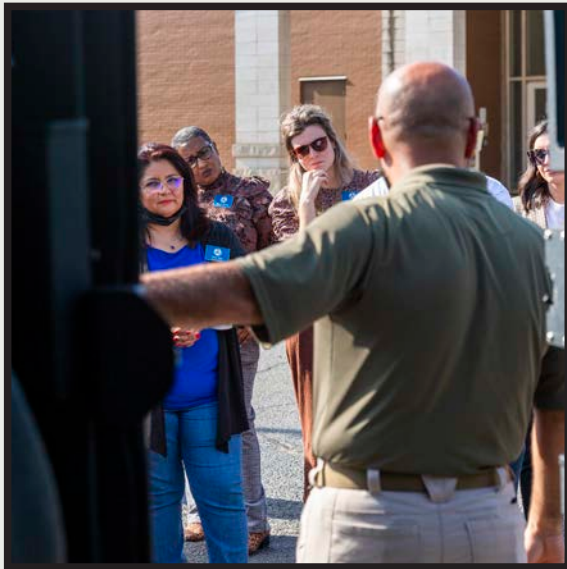
14,364



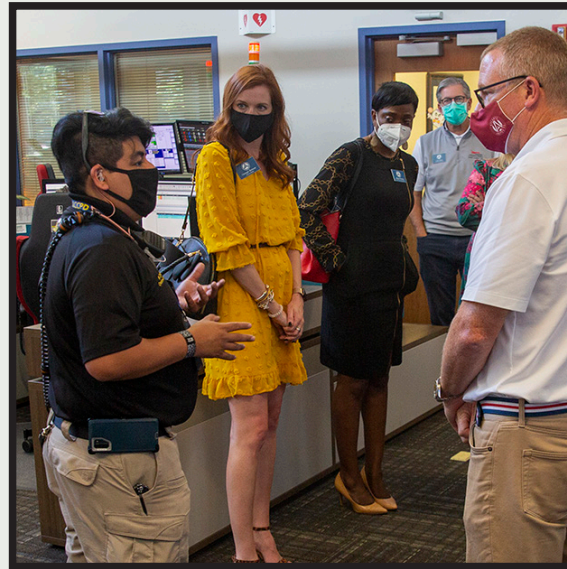
EMPLOYEE TRAINING HOURS

28,955

# ACCPD Good News



Whether it is our own Citizen Police Academy or a visit from other adult or youth programs, the interaction between citizens and our department is essential to our community policing efforts.

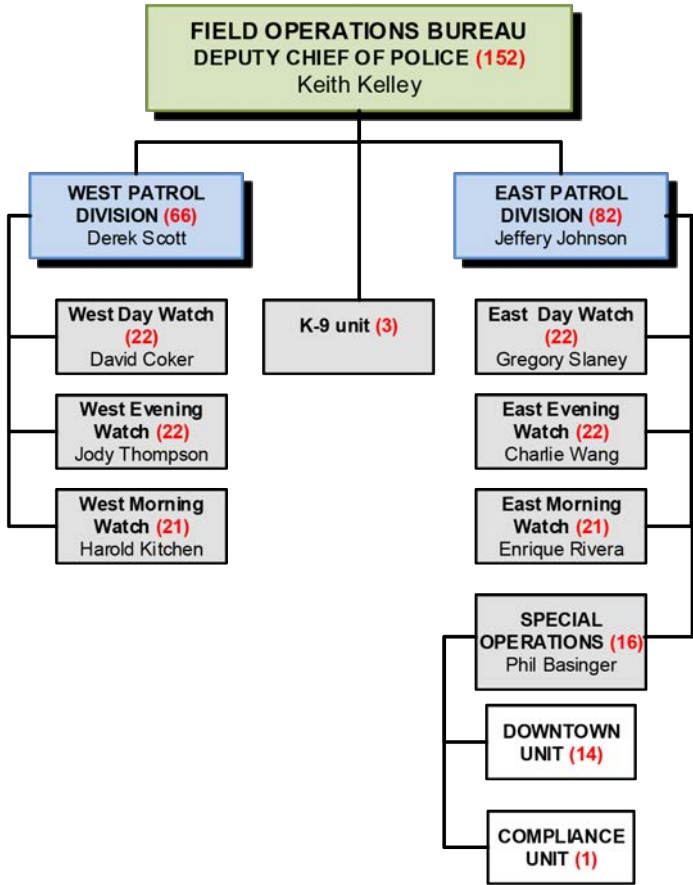






Officer First Class Trotter (above), members of the Traffic Unit, and Uniform Patrol conducted over 12,950 traffic stops in 2021, compared to 8,049 in 2020. That's a difference of 4,901. Their goal is not writing tickets but educating the public on safe driving practices.

# Field Operations Bureau



The most publicly visible of all the bureaus include the West Patrol Division, East Patrol Division, Downtown Unit, Compliance Unit, and K9 Unit.



## East and West Patrol Divisions

The dividing line between East and West Divisions for most of Athens-Clarke County is Milledge Avenue. Further dividing the divisions, approximately 15 to 20 officers make up three watches or shifts- Days, Evenings, and Mornings.



KEITH KELLEY  
DEPUTY CHIEF



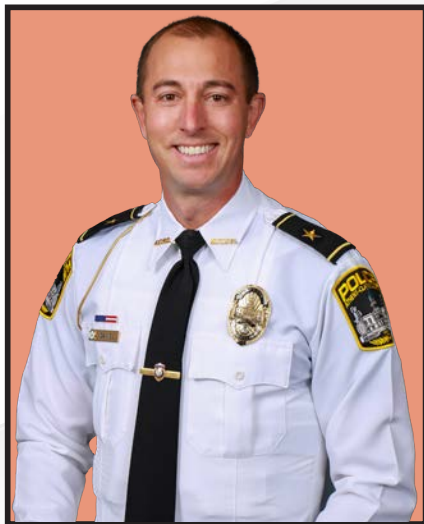
KAYANTE GRESHAM  
OFFICER  
EAST MORNINGS  
WATCH



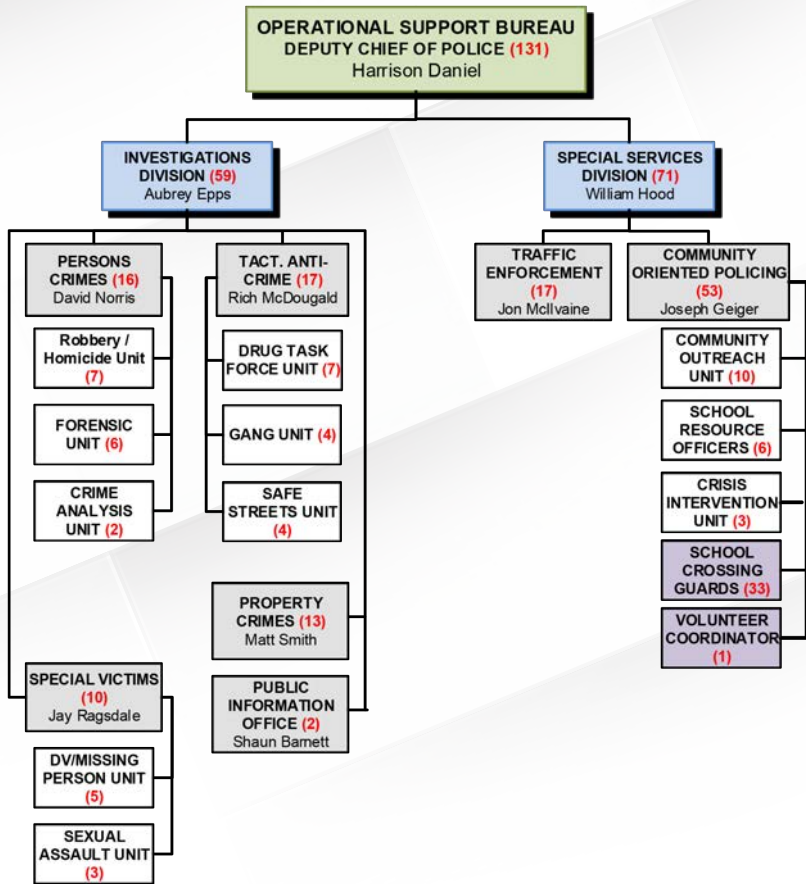
SARAH WEXEL  
OFFICER FIRST CLASS  
WEST EVENINGS  
WATCH



# Operational Support Bureau

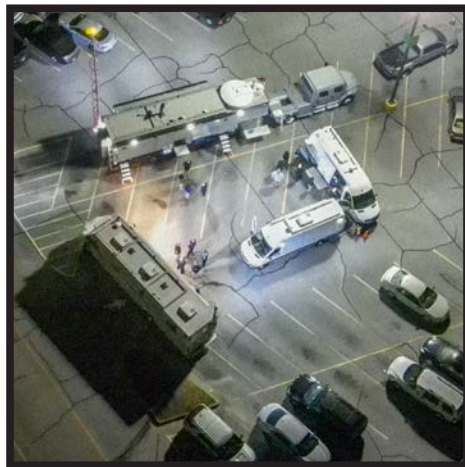
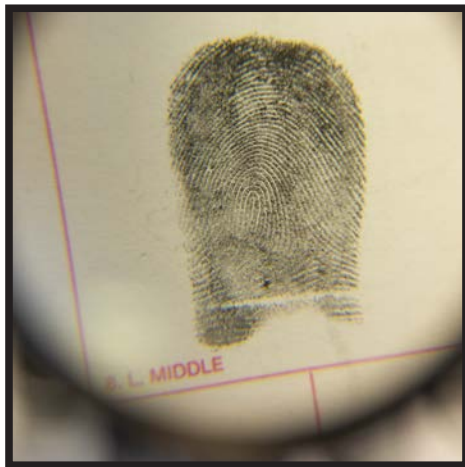


HARRISON DANIEL  
DEPUTY CHIEF



The Operational Support Bureau is comprised of highly trained, experienced officers and investigators who are responsible for conducting and following-up on high-level investigations or more complex crimes that are beyond the capacity of regular patrol officers.

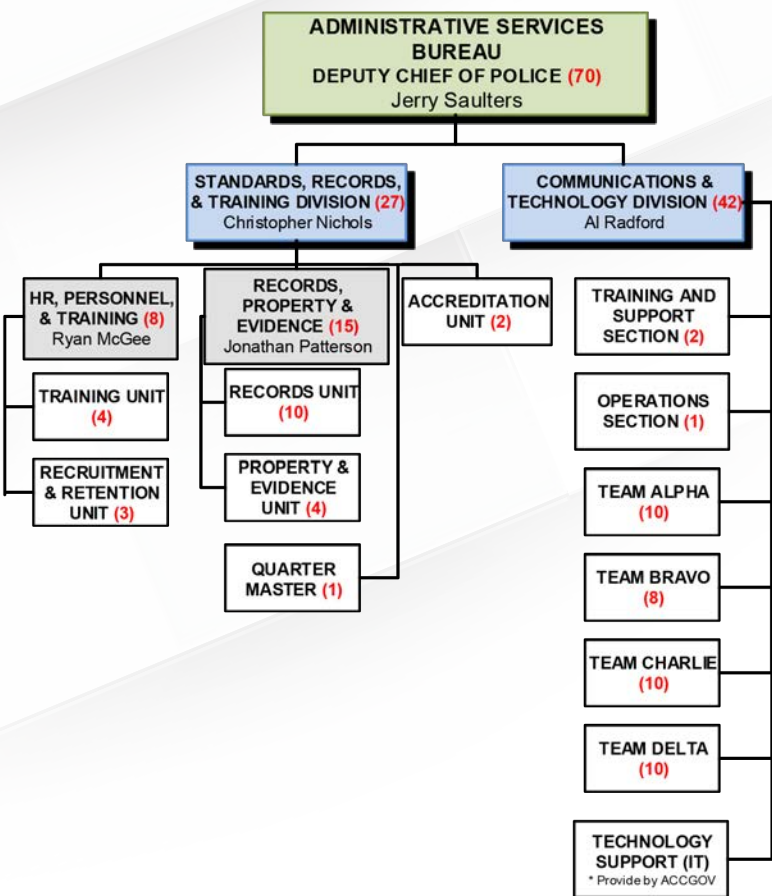
Community-Oriented Policing is included in this bureau, connecting our department to the citizens and businesses of Athens-Clarke County. This unit proactively plans and hosts events to encourage positive interactions between the police and the Athens-Clarke County community.



# Administrative Services Bureau

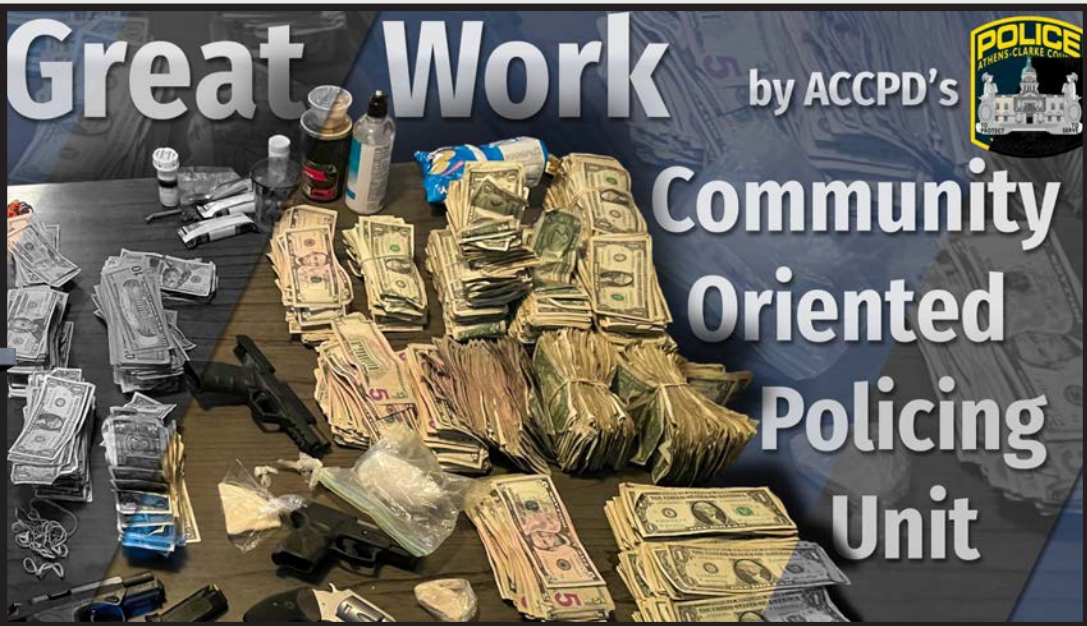


JERRY SAULTERS  
DEPUTY CHIEF



While the public sees ACCPD officers daily, these employees work behind the scenes to ensure the successful operation of the department. This bureau provides uniforms, essential training, computer support, and recruitment as well as supporting the department with evidence technicians and communications officers.





An ACCPD investigation led to the recovery of a stolen firearm and the seizure of unspecified amounts of cocaine, heroin, and methamphetamine. Our Community-Oriented Policing Unit also seized several other firearms and an unspecified amount of U.S. currency.



Long-time volunteer coordinator Mary Hamby was honored at a luncheon for her service to the department. Mayor Kelly Girtz proclaimed April 21, 2021, Mary Hamby Appreciation Day.

A Little Free Library was installed by volunteers in the front parking lot of ACCPD's East Precinct on Lexington Road.



Kevin Zapata, 911 Operations Coordinator, accepted honors on behalf of all the hard-working employees of ACCPD's Central Communications Division. Our communications officers answered more than 100,000 calls for service in 2021, serving the Athens-Clarke County community with dedication and professionalism.



After several rebuilding years, ACCPD fielded two softball teams (coed and men's) in the 2021 ACC Fall League. We're grateful for the support of the Athens-Clarke Police Foundation for their assistance in purchasing gear and jerseys for the teams.







## Community-Oriented Policing

Two of our most significant smile-producing events are Trunk or Treat and Santa Cop. Thanks to our Neighborhood Service Officers, volunteers, and Community-Oriented Police Officers, these events were very successful and provided gifts (and smiles) to a number of children.





# Jerry B. NeSmith Behavioral Health Co-Responder Unit

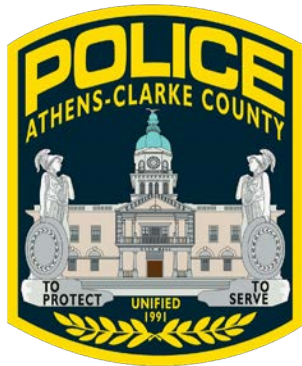
The Jerry B. NeSmith Behavioral Health Co-Responder Unit is a collaborative effort to address mental health issues related to police activity in Athens-Clarke County.

The unit was named for former Athens-Clarke County Commissioner Jerry NeSmith, who passed away in June 2020, and was a strong advocate for the creation of ACCPD's behavioral health unit.

The unit's three teams are comprised of one ACCPD officer and a mental health clinician from Advantage Behavioral Health Systems. The teams teach Crisis Intervention to all ACCPD officers to assist them when responding to calls with mental health connections. If necessary, an officer can request a Crisis Intervention Team to help an individual in crisis. Over the last five years, calls with mental health connections have mainly increased.

ACCPD Mental Health Calls	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Calls Reviewed	18,042	15,777	15,055	14,269	14,376
Calls with Mental Health Connections	1,325	1,047	1,783	2,155	2,132
Approximate Percentage of Calls	7%	7%	12%	15%	15%

Below, a law enforcement officer interacts with mental health clinician Katie McFarland (center) and Sergeant Robie Cochran (right) in a role-playing exercise. McFarland, Cochran, and the other teams are known statewide for their Crisis Intervention Training, frequently taught to other law enforcement agencies.



## 2021 CO-RESPONDER UNIT STATISTICS



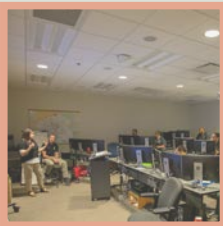
900

TEAM RESPONSES TO CALLS



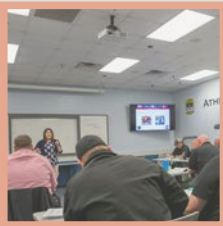
847

CARE COORDINATIONS



101

COMMUNITY MEETINGS



57

TRAININGS AND PRESENTATIONS



701

OUTREACH AND ASSESSMENTS



Sergeant Robie Cochran and  
Mental Health Clinician  
Katie McFarland



Mental Health Clinician Michael Drew  
and Senior Police Officer  
Carl Mitcham



Master Police Officer Rick Dearing  
and Mental Health Clinician  
Shane Sumner



# Retirements

Thank you for your service to Athens-Clarke County and the Athens-Clarke County Police Department



Mike Carroll



Cynthia Musillo



Paige Johnston-Skeggs



Ann Byrd



Larry Emlet



Lamar Glenn



# Advancements

Congratulations to these officers and employees who earned rank or title advancements in 2021

**Deputy Chief**

Harrison Daniel

**Captain**

Jeff Johnson

**Lieutenant**

Stewart Heard  
Harold Kitchen  
Jody Thompson  
Enrique Rivera

**Sergeant**

Troy Choudhury  
Preston Cusachs  
Katie Jenkins  
Jerry Johnson  
Brian O'Neill  
Vincent Schill  
Bob Schulte  
Jonathan Simms

**Master Police Officer**

Amanda Blair

**Senior Police Officer**

Hunter Blackmon  
Nicholas Della Fortuna  
Daniel Freeland  
William Greenlow  
David Hardgrave  
Seth Jones  
Scott Starr

**Officer First Class**

Caleb Cameron  
Alia Chovanic  
Maria Durfee  
Joshua Echols  
Nicholas Elswick  
Elmer Jaramillo  
Lee Lane  
Jesse Marsden  
Joshua Ramey  
Joshua Santos  
Kyle Sartain  
Sophia Sartain  
Sarah Wexel

**Master Communications Officer**

Tammy Cowart  
Cutina Pearson  
Jeremy Sims  
Catrena Sims

**Quality Control Supervisor**

Sue Strainovici

**Budget Specialist**

Jennifer Whitlock



**Officer First Class**  
Joshua Santos



**Quality Control Supervisor**  
Sue Strainovici



**Master Communications Officer**  
Tammy Cowart





# Office of Professional Standards

The mission of the Office of Professional Standards is to promote public trust in and effective management of the department and its personnel through a rigorous review and oversight process. This is accomplished through a systematic review of high-risk activities such as the use of force and vehicle pursuits, as well as investigation of specific allegations of wrongdoing by the department or its employees.

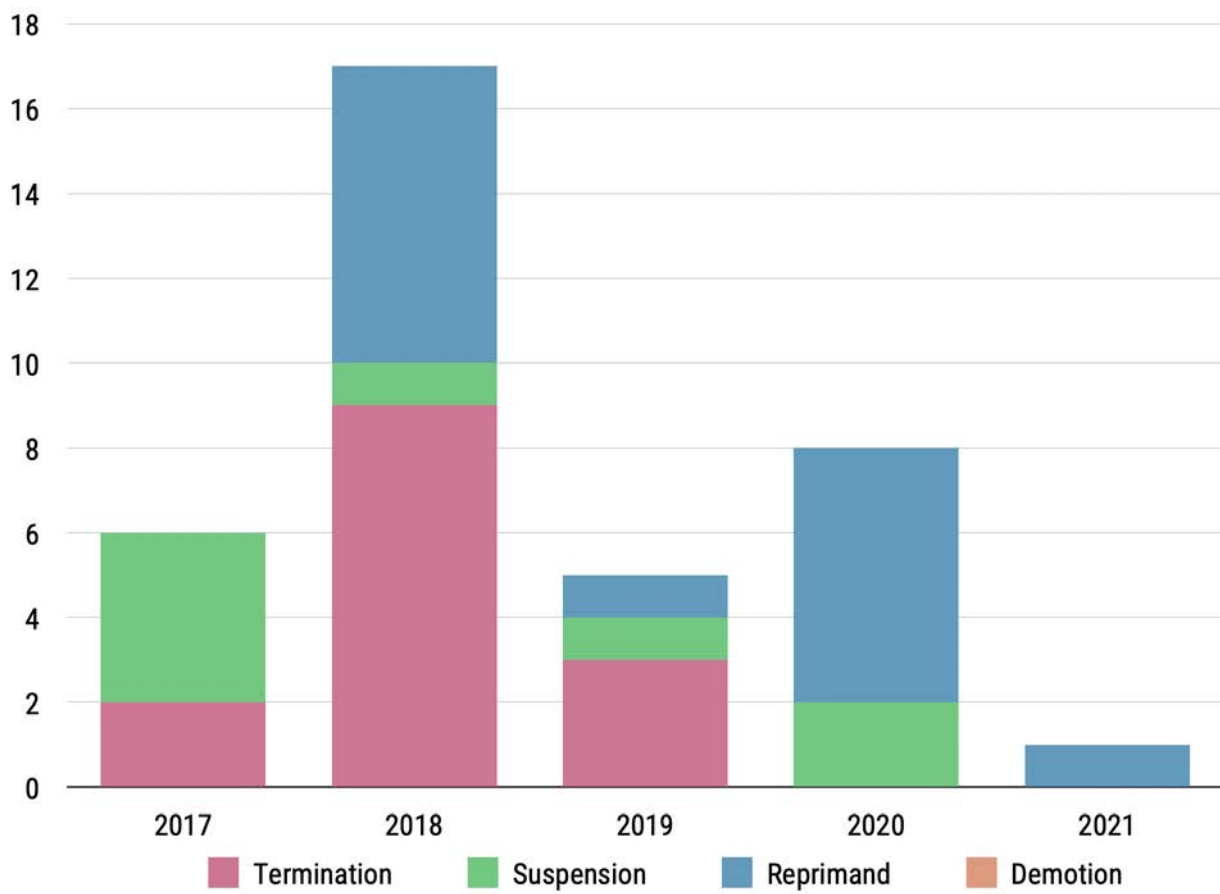
It is the policy of the department to objectively investigate all allegations of wrongdoing objectively and thoroughly and fairly administer discipline when appropriate. This office also promotes transparency and accountability as a conduit for information between the police department, other ACC agencies, the Manager’s Office, and the Commission in response to requests and inquiries from the public.

Beyond reviewing specific incidents, Professional Standards conducts annual reviews of departmental activities to identify any trends, patterns, or areas of concern related to the use of force, vehicle pursuits, complaints, discipline, and more.

In 2021, the Office of Professional Standards reported 96,380 citizen contacts with the ACCPD. Additional data in the table shows that 3.2% of encounters led to arrests, and only .12% or 111 encounters led to Use-of-Force incidents. Of the 96,380 contacts, ACCPD received 27 complaints, approximately .03%. Using the 2021 *Disciplinary Actions* chart on the facing page, only one complaint resulted in disciplinary action.

2021 ACCPD Citizen Contacts	96,380	% Total Citizen Contacts
Citations Issued	9,972	10.3%
Arrests Made	3,091	3.2%
Use-of-Force Incidents	111	0.12%
Vehicle Pursuits	8	0.008%
Complaints Received	27	0.03%
Complaint Dispositions		
Unfounded	16	
Sustained	3	
Not Sustained	6	
Exonerated	2	

## 2021 Disciplinary Actions



Use-of-Force Data	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Use-of-Force Incidents	264	298	283	204	111
Soft Control/Empty Hands	155	365	183	147	190
Compliance Tools	23	12	7	99	108
Hard Control/Strikes (Hands)	17	0	7	7	12
Impact Weapons/Baton	1	3	0	12	2
Taser, (Conducted Energy Weapon) "D"=Deployment "P"=Presentation	37D/58P	39D/66P	39D/41P	54D/29P	58D/51P
Firearm Presentation	86	214	105	339	181
Lethal Force	1	0	14*	0	7
Stop Stick Deployment	9	6	1	5	1

\*In 2019, there were only six incidents in which officers used deadly force. The data above reflects the total number of officers who used lethal force. The Georgia Bureau of Investigation independently reviewed these 2019 Use-of-Force incidents. The results were forwarded to the Clarke County District Attorney for final consideration. The district attorney determined that all deadly force incidents were legally justified.



# Crime Report

## Athens-Clarke County Overall Crime Rate Decreased 4.6% in 2021



While detectives may work behind the scenes and are not seen as often as uniform patrol officers, they play a major role in solving crimes by analyzing evidence, obtaining search warrants, and interviewing witnesses.

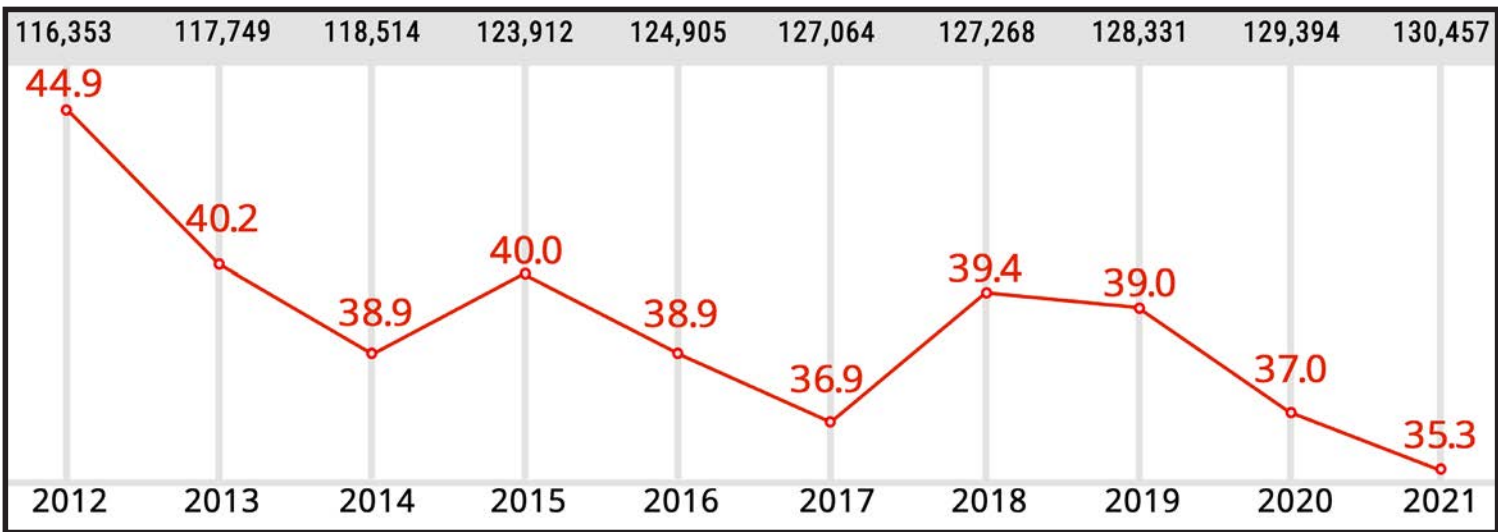
The 2021 overall crime rate measured 35.3 crimes per 1,000 residents, representing a 4.6% decrease from 2020's crime rate of 37.0.

The total number of reported select Group "A" offenses fell from 4,782 in 2020 to 4,617 in 2021.

Select Group "A" Offenses that have been historically used to determine the crime rate are Murder, Rape, Aggravated Assault, Robbery, Burglary, Larceny, and Motor Vehicle Theft.

Select Group "A" Offenses	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
Homicide: Murder	6	7	6	5	4
Sex Offense: Force Rape	56	53	60	47	67
Aggravated Assault	334	326	354	462	523
Robbery	133	137	136	113	122
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	698	661	678	605	422
All Larcenies	3,225	3,523	3,526	3,209	3,060
Motor Vehicle Theft	234	305	242	341	419
<b>Total of Select Group "A" Offenses</b>	<b>4,686</b>	<b>5,012</b>	<b>5,002</b>	<b>4,782</b>	<b>4,617</b>
For a given year, in this case, 2021, the crime rate can be determined using the total of Select Group "A" Offenses (4,617) as it relates to the Athens-Clarke County population. In 2021, the crime rate was 35.3.					
Athens-Clarke County Population	127,064	127,268	128,331	129,394	130,457
Crime Rate	36.9	39.4	39.0	37.0	35.3

## Athens-Clarke County Population with ACC Crime Rate-10 Year Range



The crime rate is intended to serve as a basic indicator of overall crime trends and is a commonly accepted law enforcement measurement. It is based on seven Group "A" offenses and is not a comprehensive tracker of all crimes.

## Four Murders in 2021 - Three of Four Closed After Investigation

One closed by adult arrest - One closed by juvenile arrest - One closed by self-defense



Murder is often considered the highest profile crime committed against a person and is defined as a willful killing of one human being by another. The classification of this offense is based solely on police investigation as opposed to the determination of a court, medical examiner, coroner, or jury.

From 2020 to 2021, the number of murders decreased by one, from five to four. This classification does not include deaths caused by negligence, suicide, accidents, or justifiable homicides.



# Crime Report



## All Crime Summary

The overall number of crime incidents decreased by 5.0% from 2020. In 2020, there were 11,630 incidents versus 11,050 in 2021. Crimes Against Persons, Crimes Against Property, and Crimes Against Society were all down from 2020 statistics.

All Crime Summary	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total
Crimes Against Persons	3,080	3,177	3,148	3,262	3,175	15,842
Crimes Against Property	5,935	6,394	6,433	5,714	5,313	29,789
Crimes Against Society	2,793	2,408	2,830	2,654	2,562	13,247
Total	11,808	11,979	12,411	11,630	11,050	58,878

### Note:

- All Offenses are counted • Unfounded cases are excluded
- These unofficial, preliminary National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) statistics are subject to change based on modified reporting requirements, evolving investigations, delayed reporting, and error correction. They should not be directly compared to previous Unified Crime Reporting (UCR) charts or reports.
- NIBRS is an incident-based reporting system for crimes known to the police. For each crime incident coming to the attention of law enforcement, a variety of data are collected about the incident.
- Further information about the conversion from UCR to NIBRS can be found at <https://ucr.fbi.gov/nibrs-overview>



Our Crime Analysis and Intelligence Unit provides valuable information to the department - from traffic crash heat maps and Entering Auto trends to accident locations and the use of Narcan by our officers. Consisting of Nick Barker (pictured) and Nathan Berger (inset), the unit provides monthly updates to the department. Uniform Patrol and other department leaders use the data to distribute personnel resources strategically and effectively.





# Crime Report

## Crimes Against Persons

Down 2.7% from 2020 to 2021

Crimes Against Persons	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total
Homicide: Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter	6	7	6	5	4	28
Homicide: Negligent Manslaughter	2	0	2	0	0	4
Kidnapping/Abduction	20	20	18	27	37	122
Sex Offense: Force Rape	56	53	60	47	67	283
Sex Offense: Force Sodomy	15	22	14	15	14	80
Sex Offense: Object	49	65	73	61	62	310
Sex Offense: Force Fondling	76	79	44	45	55	299
Assault: Aggravated	334	326	354	462	523	1,999
Assault: Simple	2,197	2,154	2,056	2,076	1,938	10,421
Assault: Intimidation	310	437	497	511	453	2,208
Sex Offense: Non-Force Incest	3	2	8	4	9	26
Sex Offense: Non-Force Statutory	12	11	14	9	12	58
Trafficking: Commercial Sex Acts	0	1	1	0	1	3
Trafficking: Involuntary Servitude	0	0	1	0	0	1
Total	3,080	3,177	3,148	3,262	3,175	15,842



KIDNAPPING/  
ABDUCTION  
+37%

AGGRAVATED  
ASSAULT  
+13.2%

FORCIBLE RAPE  
+42.6%

ASSAULT-  
SIMPLE  
-6.6%

ASSAULT-  
INTIMIDATION  
-11.4%



The kidnapping and recovery of a nine-month-old infant male garnered positive media coverage for the department. The infant was in the back seat of a vehicle when it was stolen at approximately 11:30 pm. The next morning, a concerned family noticed an abandoned vehicle near their house and called 9-1-1. Officers responded and located the infant, who was unharmed.





Crimes Against Property

Down 7% from 2020 to 2021

Crimes Against Property	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total
Robbery	133	137	136	113	122	641
Arson	13	21	15	20	28	97
Burglary / Breaking & Entering (includes Residential and Non-Residential Burglaries)	698	661	678	605	422	3,064
Larceny: Pocket-Picking	1,298	111	1	5	11	1,426
Larceny: Purse-Snatching	0	0	3	7	3	13
Larceny: Shoplifting	823	876	861	672	564	3,796
Larceny: from Building	2	24	53	30	33	142
Larceny: from Coin-Op. Machine	0	1	3	1	0	5
Larceny: from Motor Vehicle (MV)	603	1,075	1,112	1,141	853	4,784
Larceny: Affixed MV Parts/Accs.	65	91	71	82	199	508
Larceny: All Other	434	1,345	1,422	1,271	1,397	5,869
Motor Vehicle Theft	234	305	242	341	419	1,541
Counterfeiting/Forgery	353	373	399	220	171	1,516
Fraud: False Pretenses	440	481	422	428	285	2,056
Fraud: Credit Card/Teller Machines	293	343	513	267	283	1,699
Fraud: Impersonations	285	299	232	247	226	1,289
Embezzlement	1	0	0	0	0	1
Stolen Property Offenses	54	79	59	78	96	366
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism	206	172	211	186	201	976
Total	5,935	6,394	6,433	5,714	5,313	29,789



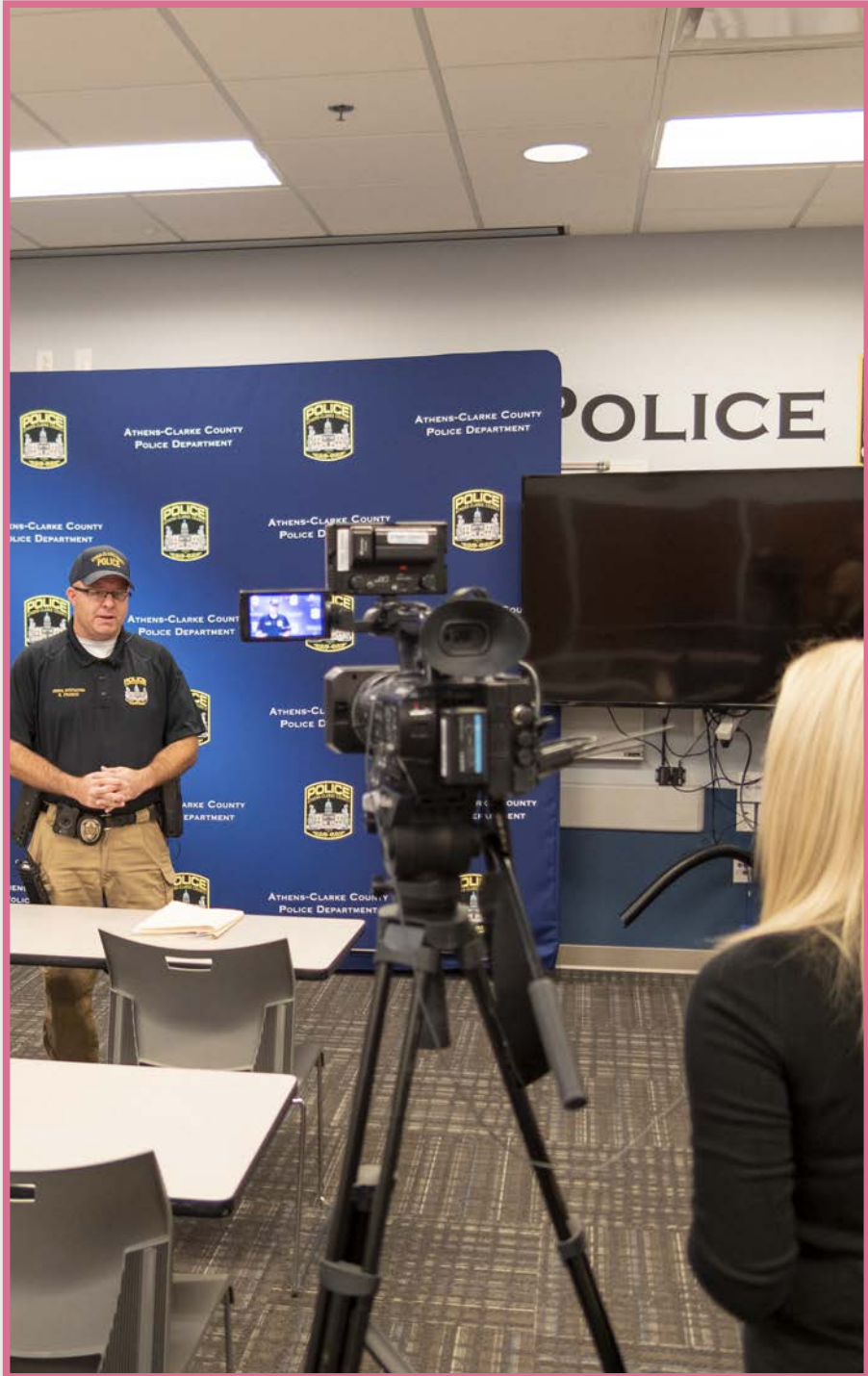
LARCENY-  
AFFIXED MOTOR  
VEHICLE PARTS  
+142.7%

MOTOR VEHICLE  
THEFT  
+22.9%

SHOPLIFTING  
-16.1%

COUNTERFEIT/  
FORGERY  
-22.3%

FRAUD-FALSE  
PRETENSES  
-33.4%



Property Crime Detective Nathaniel Franco conducts a television interview with a Fox5 News/Atlanta reporter. The resulting news story focused on the use of counterfeit currency circulating in Athens-Clarke County.



Crimes Against Society

Down 3.5% from 2020 to 2021

Crimes Against Society	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	Total
Drug/Narcotic: Violations	929	674	706	658	639	3,606
Drug/Narcotic: Equipment	116	93	150	177	162	698
Pornography/Obscene Material	19	6	120	4	19	168
Prostitution: Engaging	6	1	3	5	2	17
Prostitution: Assist/Promote	4	2	1	4	4	15
Weapon Law Violations	193	125	146	222	217	903
Curfew/Loitering/Vagrancy	0	0	0	0	0	0
Disorderly Conduct	257	227	214	286	226	1,210
Driving Under the Influence	391	364	294	269	338	1,656
Drunkenness	247	184	244	90	94	859
Family Offenses: Non-Violent	313	347	372	425	404	1,861
Liquor Law Violations	296	129	177	127	55	784
Peeping Tom	22	10	15	13	12	72
Trespass of Real Property	0	246	388	374	390	1,398
Total	2,793	2,408	2,830	2,654	2,562	13,247

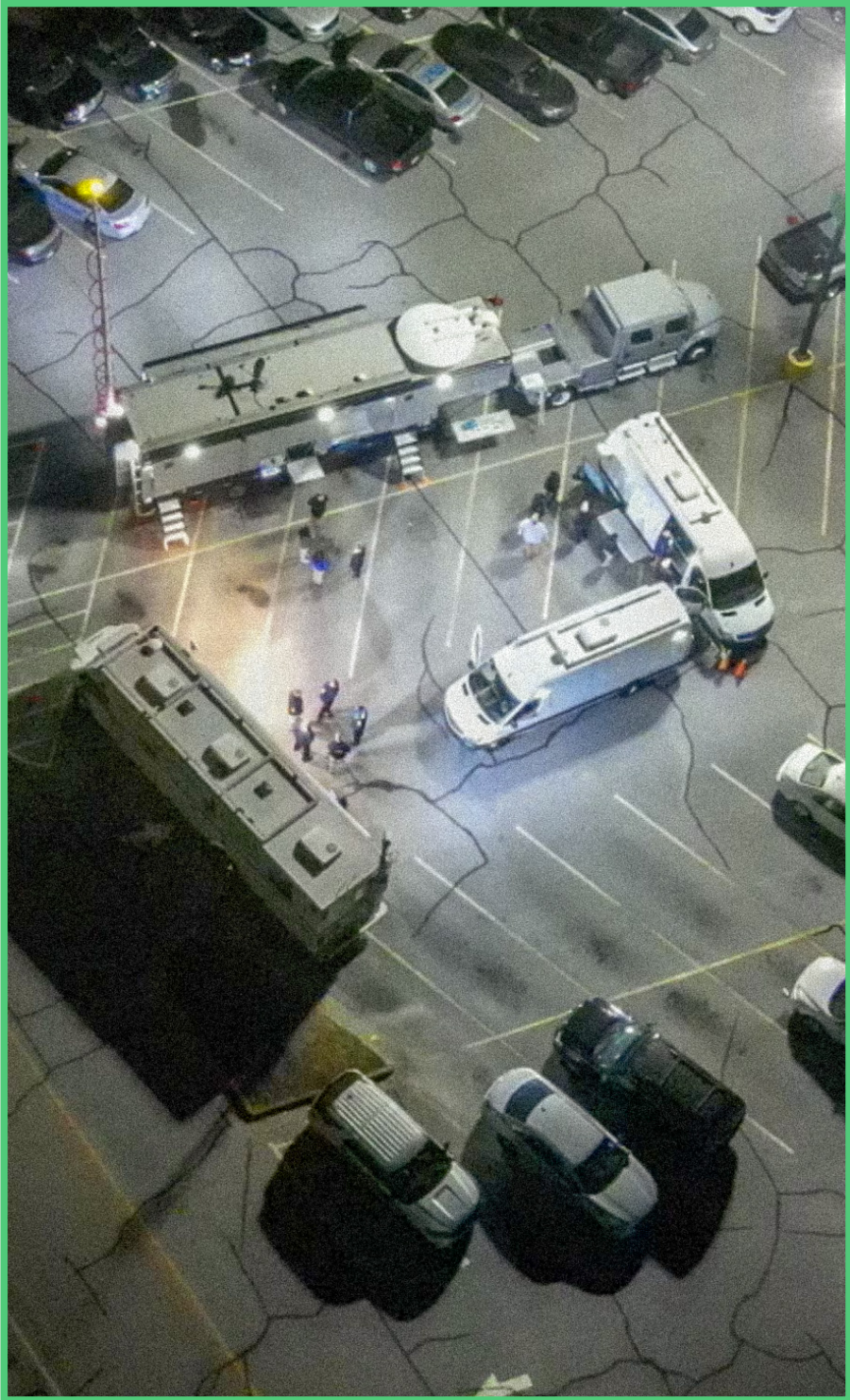


DRIVING UNDER  
THE INFLUENCE  
+25.7%

TRESPASS OF  
REAL PROPERTY  
+4.3%

DRUG/NARCOTIC  
VIOLATION  
-2.9%

LIQUOR LAW  
VIOLATIONS  
-56.7%



ACCPD teamed up with multiple law enforcement agencies in Operation Tourniquet in November 2021. Thirteen subjects were arrested, 60 firearms seized, and more than one million dollars in cash was confiscated. The undercover investigation also seized drugs (fentanyl, heroin, and cocaine) worth an estimated street value of \$800,000.





We were well represented at the 2021 Georgia Police & Fire Games competition. Congratulations to Motors Unit Officers Zachary Compton, Joey Lewis, Dustin Tilley, James Trotter, and John McIlvaine for earning seven awards during the games. Police motorcycle rodeos are great fun, but the primary purpose is to hone an officer's motorcycle handling skills while performing their duties.

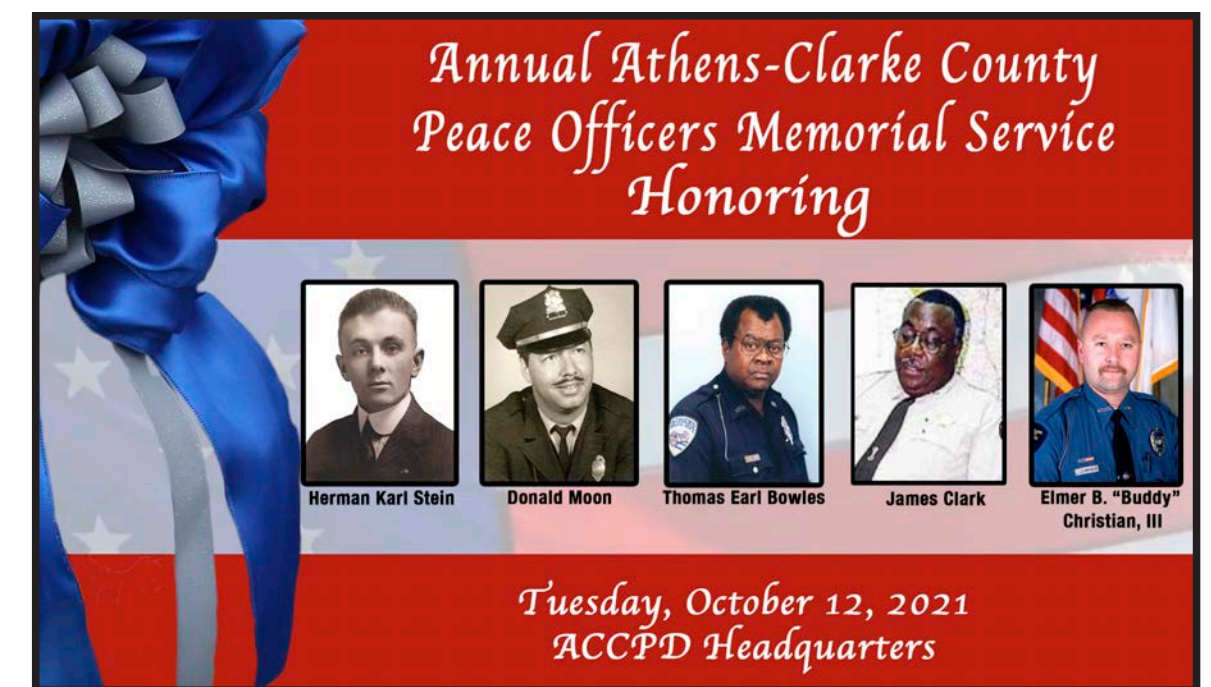


#### ACCPD K9 Unit Competes at U.S. Canine Biathlon

"This was an opportunity to expose our K9s to different terrain and situations they haven't experienced before," said Sgt. Scott Blair (right with K9 Vilma), who leads the unit. "This course provided great feedback about the training needs of our unit." In the competition, all three teams completed the course, and Officer First Class Marcus McQuien and Tina (left), were fourth overall in the police K9 division. Also pictured is Officer First Class Craig Turner and Bruno (center).



In October, we honored five local Peace Officers for their ultimate sacrifice to our community. We are grateful for the family members who attended and participated in the ceremony and appreciate all the law enforcement agencies that assisted with the service.





# In Memory of Our Fallen



**Senior Police Officer Elmer Basco "Buddy" Christian, III**  
**Athens-Clarke County Police Department**  
**End of Watch: March 22, 2011**

Senior Police Officer Buddy Christian was shot and killed while responding to an incident where another officer had been shot and wounded at an apartment complex on Sycamore Drive in Athens. Multiple officers were investigating a carjacking and kidnapping incident when one officer stopped a vehicle owned by a relative of the carjacking suspect. The suspect exited the vehicle and shot and wounded the officer twice before fleeing on foot.

Officer Christian had just responded to the area when he encountered the suspect. The man shot and killed Officer Christian through the window of his patrol vehicle. He then fled the scene and remained at large until being apprehended three days later.

On July 27th, 2015, the 37-year-old suspect was sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole.

Senior Police Officer Christian is survived by his wife, two children, parents, and a brother.

**Police Officer Donald Moon**  
**Athens Police Department**  
**End of Watch: November 3, 1963**

Police Officer Donald Moon was shot and killed by a 15-year-old juvenile seeking revenge against him. Officer Moon was off duty and teaching his girlfriend how to drive when the subject approached them and opened fire without warning.

The suspect was convicted of first-degree murder and sentenced to life. He died in prison on June 5, 2000.

Officer Moon had served with the Athens Police Department for only 19 months. Hired along with his cousin, they were Athens' first black police officers. Officer Moon was a Korean War Veteran.

One child survived Officer Moon.



**Corporal Thomas Earl Bowles**  
**Athens Police Department**  
**End of Watch: January 16, 1985**

Corporal Thomas Bowles died as a result of a cerebral hemorrhage that he suffered after being assaulted four days earlier. He was attempting to arrest a man for DUI when the man resisted and struck Corporal Bowles in the head.

Despite his injuries, Corporal Bowles was able to place the man under arrest and started driving him to the jail. During the drive, Corporal Bowles began experiencing chest and head pains. He radioed for medical assistance and backup.

He was transported to a local hospital and lapsed into a coma. Corporal Bowles remained in the coma until his death four days later.

Corporal Bowles served with the Athens Police Department for 20 years. His wife and three children survived him.

**Police Officer Herman Karl Stein**  
**Athens Police Department**  
**End of Watch: November 29, 1936**

Officer Stein was shot and killed after responding to a business where a robbery was in progress. When Officer Stein arrived at the scene, the suspect fled.

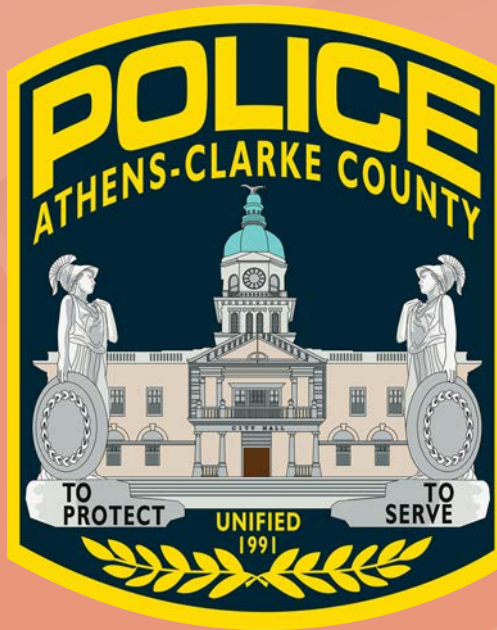
Officer Stein caught the suspect, and a struggle ensued. The suspect gained control of Officer Stein's gun and shot him in the head.

The suspect was apprehended two days later near Lula, Georgia. He was convicted of murder and executed in the electric chair on December 27, 1937.

Officer Stein served with the Athens Police Department for five years. His wife and three children survived him.







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**[www.accgov.com/police](http://www.accgov.com/police)**  
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