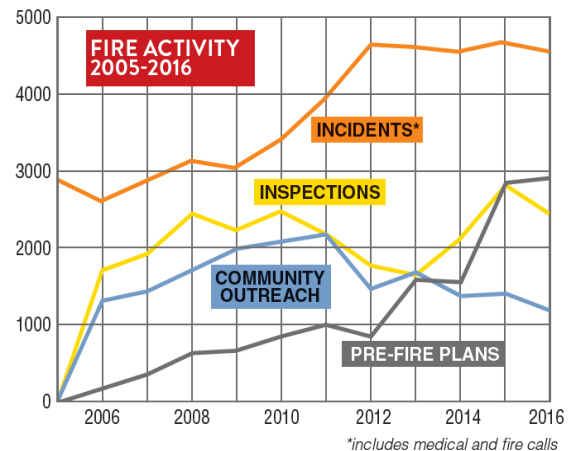


## I. Overview

The LaGrange Fire Department is among the top 2 percent of fire departments in the State of Georgia with an Insurance Services Organization (ISO) rating of 2. Since this rating offers a significant reduction in homeowner and development insurance premium, it serves as a key component in the future development of a community. Additionally, the Fire Department has been working towards becoming accredited with the Center for Public Safety Excellence for the last five years.

The LaGrange Fire Department consists of 60 personnel and located in four stations positioned around the city, with a centrally located headquarters from which administrative personnel work. The Fire Department's administration consists of four Deputy Chiefs that report to the Chief of Public Safety. The Chief of Public Safety provides focus and direction in policy development, implementation and leadership philosophy. Each of the Deputy Chiefs rotates through an annual assignment within the administrative office position. While serving in this administrative role, the respective Deputy Chief is responsible for customer needs, day to day operations of the department, and other assigned duties. The remaining Deputy Chiefs are each assigned to one of three Battalions as the shift commander and associated duties.



The LaGrange Fire Department has four main divisions: Operations, Fire Prevention, Training, and Maintenance. The Operations Division responds to calls for service from four strategically located stations to ensure a timely response. The Fire Prevention Division is responsible for ensuring people's safety within our community through code enforcement, inspections, pre-planning, public fire education, and engineering measures. The Training Division coordinates and facilitates training for all fire personnel in compliance with the standards as set forth by the Georgia Firefighters Standards and Training Council (GFSTC) and Georgia Department of Human Resources (DHR) EMS Division. The Maintenance Division is responsible for the operational readiness of all apparatus, coordination of equipment repair, small tools acquisition, inventory control, uniform and protective clothing storage, as well as maintenance of water hydrants throughout the City of LaGrange and Troup County.



## II. 2016 in Review

2016 was a busy year for the LaGrange Fire Department. The department upgraded a number of key equipment, fire personnel were awarded for their great works, and the department participated in a number of community events.

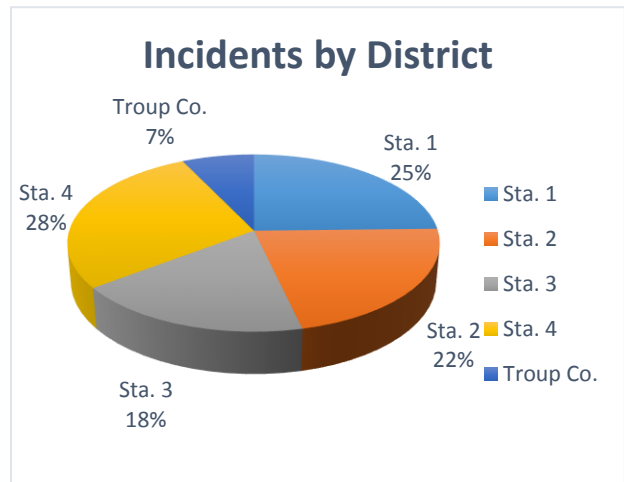
- **January** - A new Sutphen Fire Truck was placed in service at Station Four.
- **February** - The Fire Department held its annual management training for supervisors.
- **March** - Two new state of the art thermal imaging cameras were purchased to replace older models.
- **May** - Firefighter Lance Horne was recognized as the LaGrange Firefighter of the Year by the local Optimist Club.
- **July** - Individualized workstations were added providing dedicated work space for each firefighter to enhance work preparation and performance.
- **July** - The department rotated Training Officers to put a different perspective on training
- **August** - Dell tablets were purchase for each fire truck, assisting with truck maintenance, pre-fire plans and cutting down on paper.
- **August** - Over 30 participants from the Fire Department and the Police Department participated in donating blood in support of the local area community during a blood drive.
- **September** - The LaGrange Fire Department had several people nominated for various types of awards at the Annual Banquet hosted by the Troup County Chamber of Commerce. Department members Deputy Chief Willie Bradfield, Lieutenant Caleb Harrison, Sergeants Jonathan Williamson, Chris Greathouse, Josh Williams, Lance Horne, Garret Brubaker and Firefighter Randall Heard were recognized as the 2016 Public Safety Unit of the Year. Lieutenant Chris Taylor was awarded the Medal of Merit for his work on Smoke Signals, a Public Education Program. Sergeant Lance Horne also received a Life Saving Award.
- **September** - The department completed all of its Accreditation requirements and submitted all documents to the Center for Public Safety Excellence (CPSE).
- **October** - For Fire Safety Month the department participated in several events and engaged with 3,630 residents. The annual Citizen's Day at LaGrange Mall resulted in contact with 750 people. There were events such as the *kid's firefighter agility course*, *fire truck rides*, *blood pressure checks*, *balloons*, *K-9 demonstration*, *helicopter display*, and education materials were provided to the public. The department's members teamed up with the surrounding high schools and once again had a huge success with the Teen Maze. The department and American Red Cross representatives, along with several volunteers in our community (including City Council member Mrs. Norma Tucker) presented a smoke detector campaign and installed 309 smoke alarms in our community in one day.
- **November** - Three cardiac monitors were purchased to replace existing departmental monitors. These new monitors replicate those utilized by our local emergency medical services (EMS) providers, providing for a seamless patient care transition from the LFD's first-on-scene care to that of EMS.

- **November-** the LaGrange Fire Department presented to the City Manager and City Counsel the proposal for adding a fifth fire station. Recognizing the vital need for this additional community resource, this council-approved addition is now in its preliminary construction phase and is anticipated to be fully operational in calendar year 2017.

### III. Operations Division

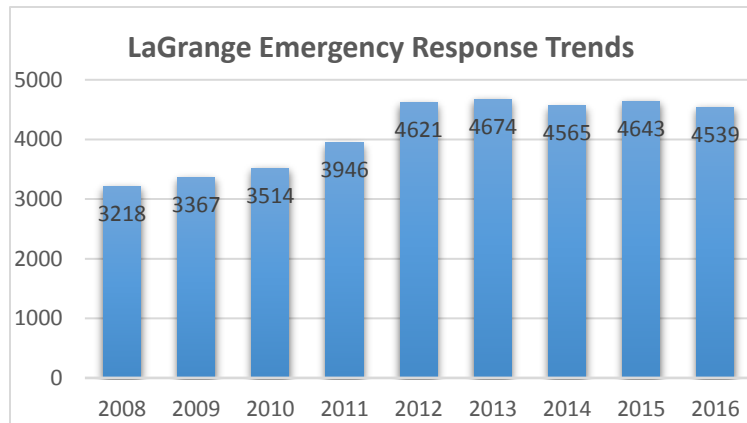
The Operations Division of the LaGrange Fire Department is comprised of three rotating battalions whose personnel work on a 24/48 work schedule to ensure appropriate response to all calls for service. Each battalion is composed of 17 personnel with additional support coming from staff personnel and off-duty on-call lists. The Operations Division responded to 4,539 calls for service during 2016 with 89.5% being single company responses. In terms of delivery of services, 3% of the call volume involved actual fire conditions, while 71% involved medical responses.

A majority of the incidents occurred between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 9:00 p.m. which corresponds with national trends. During 2016, the average response time for calls originating in LaGrange was 4:31 minutes and 5:19 minutes for automatic aid responses originating in Troup County. Through the course of the year, LaGrange Fire Department received mutual and automatic aid from Troup County Fire Department on 87 occasions while providing mutual and automatic aid to Troup County on 247 occasions.



The Operations Division is based on a three engine company platoon system and one aerial unit. Each engine and the aerial unit have a rated pump capacity of 1500 GPM with a minimum 500 gallon water tank. In reserve, there are four additional engines rated at 1500 GPM, one aerial unit, and various support vehicles. The Aerial units are 78' and 85' Quints capable of independently operating as either an engine or aerial depending upon the need and circumstance. The Operations Division also has an enhanced Advanced Life Support Service. Members are licensed either as Emergency Medical Technician - Basic, Intermediate, Advanced or Paramedic level. An audit by the State Office of EMS for Georgia has certified the LaGrange Fire Department as an Advanced Life Support (ALS)/First Responder Service. The Incident Management System is utilized as standard practice on all incidents, regardless of size or intensity, and all personnel are required to undergo the completion of NIMS Level 100, 200, 700, and 800 training. All ranking officers and potential officer candidates are certified at NIMS Level 300 and 400.

The leading cause of accidental fires was cooking related. Other causes for fires included negligent acts, smoking materials, chimney fires, criminal acts, and electrical malfunctions. False alarms continue to occur with over 360 false alarms having been reported during 2016. This figure has continued to drop over the past few years due to inspections and education efforts by department personnel.



The Operations Division continues to implement value and loss control as a standard priority in its tactical considerations. This loss control is inclusive of property evaluations based upon the Troup County Property Tax Records Index with damage assessments based upon current construction and reconstruction costs by local appraisal models.

## 2016 Value and Loss Analysis

Incident Type	Count	Value	Loss	Total Save \$	% Lost	% Save
Building Fire	43	\$8,442,335	\$701,327	\$7,741,008.00	8.31%	91.69%
Other Structure Fires	3	\$5,300	\$1,200	\$4,100.00	22.64%	77.36%
Cooking Fires	11	\$936,768	\$6,240	\$930,528.00	0.67%	99.33%
Incinerator Fires	1	\$400	\$200	\$200.00	50.00%	50.00%
Mobile Property Fires	5	\$110,150	\$46,010	\$64,140.00	41.77%	58.23%
Passenger Vehicles	18	\$107,750	\$50,910	\$56,840.00	47.25%	52.75%
Road Freight or Transport	3	\$55,000	\$32,500	\$22,500.00	59.09%	40.91%
Brush/Vegetation Fire	4	\$551,700	\$350	\$551,350.00	0.06%	99.94%
Rubbish Fire	2	\$1,800	\$200	\$1,600.00	11.11%	88.89%
Dumpster Fire	2	\$469,123	\$5,000	\$464,123.00	1.07%	98.93%
Outside Equipment Fire	1	\$200	\$200	\$0.00	100.00%	0.00%
Miscellaneous Calls	5	\$3,223,200	\$250	\$3,222,950.00	0.01%	99.99%
Hazardous Condition	4	\$322,900	\$16,500	\$306,400.00	5.11%	94.89%
Electrical	6	\$4,048,000	\$28,400	\$4,019,600.00	0.70%	99.30%
Severe Weather	2	\$275,000	\$16,500	\$258,500.00	6.00%	94.00%
<b>Grand Totals</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>18,549,626</b>	<b>905,787</b>	<b>\$17,643,839.00</b>	<b>4.88%</b>	<b>95.12%</b>

## **IV. Fire Prevention**

The Fire Prevention Division of the LaGrange Fire Department is tasked with the responsibility for ensuring the public's safety through aggressive code enforcement, inspections, pre-planning, public fire education, and engineering measures.

The Fire Prevention Division is headed by the Local Fire Marshal designated by the State of Georgia Fire Marshal's Office. Other personnel within this division include one full-time Inspector and one part-time Inspector, each with specific responsibility and assignments. Some of the duties that are within the responsibilities of the Fire Prevention Division include offering technical assistance to architects, engineers and contractors in reference to code interpretation, approval of blue prints or plans review, construction, occupancy requirements, passive and active fire protection features, permitting and design build approvals.

During 2016 the Fire Prevention Division conducted 2450 inspections with an average of 204 initial fire inspections and re-inspections per month within the city limits of LaGrange. Changing over to a new computer system for reporting, the Fire Prevention Division implemented several changes within this division in order to accomplish annual goals. The Prevention Division was issued tablets so that inspections could be completed in the field rather than duplication of work. A modified schedule was established to reduce travel time.

The Fire Prevention Division also conducted, through the use of shift personnel, pre-fire plans and risk assessments of all businesses within the City's jurisdictional boundaries. The Fire Prevention Division and shift personnel conducted 2883 pre-fire plans with risk assessments, which is a great increase from prior years. The Division's personnel also maintains responsibility for inspections of facilities that fall under the jurisdiction of the State of Georgia Fire Marshal's office (churches, assembly occupancies, general commercial, educational facilities, health care, and prison and detention centers). A total of 183 fire inspections were conducted for the State of Georgia with monthly reports forwarded to the State Fire Marshal for review. The Fire Prevention Division works very closely with the City's Building Department, issuing Certificate of Occupancy at a local level before any new business can open for business, to assure that a minimum level of code compliance is met. During 2016 the Fire Prevention Division issued 149 Certificate of Occupancies for new businesses.

Fire prevention education has an impact in reducing the number of fire related incidents within the community. The Fire Department has made it a priority to provide fire prevention education to the local school systems, daycare centers, group homes, and healthcare facilities.

## Inspection Division Workload Annual Comparison

Year	Inspections	Pre-Fire Plans	Invest.	Plan Reviews	New Business
2016	2,450	2,883	56	87	149
2015	2,826	1,523	46	58	129
2014	2,132	1,522	48	67	123
2013	1,644	1,600	32	90	153
2012	1,741	841	22	93	162
2011	2,154	968	15	100	146
2010	2,459	834	16	47	N/A

### V. Maintenance Division

The Maintenance Division's responsibilities are assigned to the four Deputy Chiefs, ensuring for the operational readiness of all apparatus, coordination of equipment repair, small tools acquisition, inventory control, uniform and protective clothing storage, as well as maintenance of water hydrants throughout the City of LaGrange and Troup County.

Fire hydrant maintenance was performed by part-time personnel on over 2,000 hydrants, 2,017 flow tests were completed, and 67 hydrants were determined to be in need of repair by the City's Water Department. 516 hydrants were specifically painted in an effort to reach a 100 percent compliance goal for all local hydrants to match the NFPA color-scheme standard.

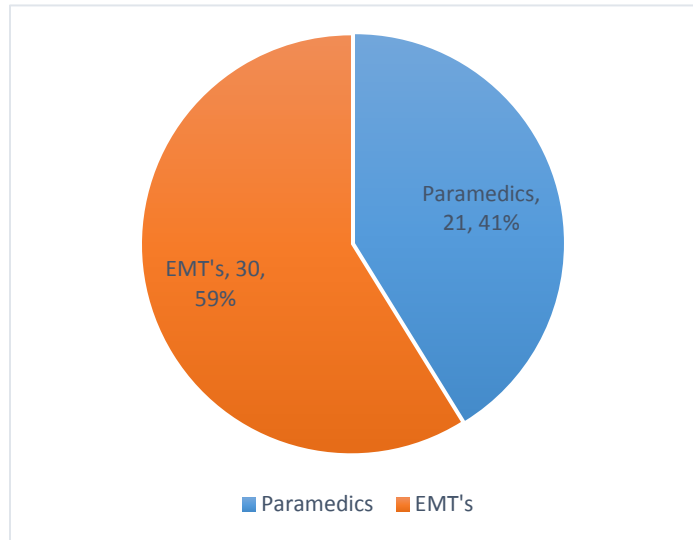
During 2016, the Maintenance Division ensured inventory control for departmental protective clothing and Nomex uniforms. Ten sets of structural firefighting gear were purchased and distributed. Personnel refilled 668 air cylinders and conducted facility repairs as needed. Apparatus and vehicles are the responsibility of the designated Deputy Chief. Weekly vehicle inspections are completed on a shift level and issues impacting the operational readiness of the hardware are forwarded to the Deputy Chief for the coordination of maintenance and repairs.

Maintenance Division personnel also regulate the distribution of janitorial supplies to each station. During 2016, the program of accountability continued whereby station personnel submit supply requisitions which are systematically delivered on a weekly basis. This material management process continues to support an effective inventory control system.



## VI. Fire and EMS Training Division

The Fire and EMS Training Division coordinates and facilitates training for fire personnel in compliance with the minimum standards as set forth by the Georgia Firefighters Standards and Training Council (GFSTC) and Georgia Department of Human Resources (DHR) EMS Division. GFSTC requires firefighters receive 24 hours of annual training in various Fire and EMS topics while DHR requires 24 to 48 hours bi-annually for EMS certified firefighters, depending on the level of licensure. In addition, firefighters must complete hazardous material re-certification, and/or other specific requirements as set forth by the GFSTC and DHR. The division is also responsible for coordinating on-site tours of local businesses and industrial sites.



In 2016, 4,387 hours were related to Officer Development (OD) to include strategy and tactics, leadership, financial management, time management, report writing, reading smoke, etc. These hours also include Acting Officers in Charge (AOIC) time on shift. Of the 4,387 hours of OD, 34% were acquired by current Lieutenants and AOIC's with the remaining 66% acquired by Sergeants working on developing their skills to become future Officers. Driver training consisted of 4,338 hours and were compiled by current and new CRD's and Sergeants. This training includes territory knowledge, pumping operations, and apparatus operation technique.

During 2016, the Fire and EMS Training Division developed a variety of new training courses for department members. Courses that were added include: Active Shooter/Mass Casualty Response (AS/MC), Advanced Thermal Imaging, Sutphen Engine Operations and Pumping, Technical Confined Space Rescue, Mass Casualty/hemorrhage control kit In-service, Introduction to the VAN Stroke Assessment, and Image Trend Incident Reporting implementation.

Other classes that have been researched, improved upon and redelivered include: Live Structure Fire Control, Fire and Life Safety Educator Refresher, Coordinated Fire Attack, Pre Fire Planning, Officer Development, Inspecting and Servicing Fire Hose, Medical policies and procedures, SCBA Familiarization Annual Refresher, and Thermal Imaging use and policy update. Several topics change subtly or have new strategies and tactics associated with them so retraining is necessary. Some of the training sessions re-delivered to demonstrate new trends include: SCBA IBSS system application for Firefighter Survival, 48 hour EMS refresher course, CPR, Fire and EMS Reporting with Image Trend, Excited Delirium as well as process improvement in the way Company Officers evaluate crewmember performance during Company Training.

The LaGrange Fire Department is in the process of becoming an accredited agency and to coincide with the strategic plan regarding training, information gathered on National Line of Duty Deaths (LODD's) are now being utilized to ensure that the LFD Training Division is developing training that is current, relevant, and safe for all personnel.

2016 was a year of change for the LaGrange Fire Department as it relates to training. The implementation of new processes in evaluation, development, and delivery of training will enable LFD to continue on the path of positive, safe and effective training for LFD's Firefighting/Rescue force.



# **LAGRANGE POLICE DEPARTMENT 2016 ANNUAL REPORT**



With efforts to keep the public informed of the activities of the LaGrange Police Department, this annual report is submitted. The report lists specific activities of the divisions within the police department, as well as changes within the organization that have or will result in increased service to the community. The various areas of the reporting are as follows:

**I. Administration**

- 2016 Highlights
- Law Enforcement Accreditation/State Certification
- Office of Professional Standards

**II. Uniformed Patrol Division**

- Patrol
- Community Outreach Unit
- Traffic Unit
- Crime Suppression Unit
- Training Section
- Field Training Officer Program
- DARE/School Resource Officers Unit
- Crime Prevention
- Court Services/Warrant Unit
- Canine Unit
- Code Enforcement
- Animal Services

**III. Administrative Services Division**

- Criminal Investigations Section
- Polygraph Unit
- Domestic Violence Unit
- Child Abuse Unit
- Special Investigations Unit
- Emergency Services Unit
- Property and Evidence
- Building and Grounds

**IV. Support Division**

- Records Section
- Community Service

## VII. Administration

The LaGrange Police Department is committed to fairness, compassion and excellence; providing police services in accordance with the law, while being sensitive to the needs of the public we serve. We are committed to community partnerships through which we can address crime and public safety concerns. The Chief of Police is responsible for giving direction to the various divisions within the department through the development and implementation of policies. The Office of the Chief creates and monitors long range goals that determine how resources will be applied to achieve the mission of the police department.

### **2016 HIGHLIGHTS**

In 2016 there were 51,188 calls for service. The department conducted 10,761 traffic contacts and made 4,205 custodial arrests, with none of the arrests receiving a biased based complaint. There were two complaints of bias-based profiling lodged against officers during traffic contacts. Resulting inquiries promptly unfounded both complaints, based extensively on reviews of video-recording documentation of each encounter. Each Department members is provided with agency-issued video recording equipment, along with an agency mandate that every call for service and officer-initiated enforcement action be video recorded.

The police department continued its work with the LaGrange - Troup County Homeless Coalition (comprised local agencies, non-profits and community members) to ensure ready access to all possible resources for those dealing with homelessness. In 2016, the coalition and New Ventures, Inc. entered into a partnership to offer a portion of their property for use as a multi-year "overnight warming center." There was an out-pouring of community support and financial donations, which facilitated significant remodeling of the dedicated space. The center opened on November 21, 2016. With a protocol established for service activation any night when the weather was predicted to fall below 40 degrees Fahrenheit.

During 2016 the Troup County Adult Mental Health Court maintained an active roster of at least 25 participants. The Mental Health Court is a multi-agency partnership that provides wrap-around services to each participant. In order to participate in the Mental Health Court program, participants must agree to comply with their individualized treatment plan, must take medications as prescribed through medical professionals, must agree to intensive case management, which includes community policing in the form of home visits conducted by law enforcement officers.

In early September, Officer Unricky Parks and Officer Lane Hamer with the LaGrange Police Department were honored at the second annual Troup County Valor Awards Ceremony was held.

In October, the LaGrange Police Department conducted its annual management training/planning retreat. As in previous years, members of the Troup County Sheriff's Department and the Troup County Emergency 911 Communications Center also participated in the training. The participants received training on the National Incident Command System and

on organizational legitimacy and leadership. This process provided focus for the allocation of resources, purpose of activities within the department, and creates a standard by which individual members may gauge their activities in relation to goal attainment.

Various members of the LaGrange Police Department are involved in the following Community and Professional Boards and Initiatives:

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1. Teen Maze                                   | 11. Boy Scouts of America                                 |
| 2. Troup Transformation                        | 12. West Point First United Methodist Church              |
| 3. Mental Health Court                         | 13. Hollis Hand Elementary, Gardner Newman, Callaway High |
| 4. United Way                                  | 14. Camp Viola  |
| 5. Harmony House Domestic Violence Shelter     | 15. Boys and Girls Club of West Georgia                   |
| 6. Troup County 911 Advisory Board             | 16. LaGrange-Troup County Homeless Coalition              |
| 7. Certified Literacy Community Program (CLCP) | 17. Greater Achievement Youth Empowerment Academy, Inc.   |
| 8. Downtown Development Authority              |   |
| 9. LaGrange College                            |   |
| 10. Chamber of Commerce                        |   |

### **OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS**

During 2016 there were 44 Response to Aggression (RTA) incidents, 16 vehicle pursuits and two OPS internal investigations. In reviewing these RTA incidents, all but two incidents were found in compliance with departmental policy and Georgia State Law. This was a decrease of one Response to Aggression/Resistance incidents when compared to the 2015 totals and a decrease of 11 when compared to 2014, or one use of force for every 96 arrests or 1163 calls for service or enforcement contacts.

In 2016 the LaGrange Police Department received one complaint of biased based profiling which was investigated by the Office of Professional Standards and the officer was exonerated. Two similar complaints were filed in connection with traffic contacts and they were also determined to be unfounded.

### Three Year Overview

Year	2014	2015	2016
Use of Force	55	45	44
Out of Compliance	2	0	2
Calls for Service	51,894	52,192	51,188
Total Arrest	5,612	4,937	4,205
Arrest Resulting in Use of Force	.98%	.91%	1.05%
Complaints Resulting from RTA	2	1	3

### Use of Force Five Year Summary

	Force Incidents	Officer Injuries	Suspect injuries	Total arrests	Arrests Resulting in Use Of Force	Incidents out of compliance	External Complaints
2012	68	1	5	5,715	1.19%	1	2
2013	58	0	8	6,205	.93%	2	4
2014	55	0	4	5,612	.98%	2	2
2015	45	2	7	4,937	.91%	0	1
2016	44	0	4	4,205	1.05%	2	3

All injuries, for both officers and suspects, are injuries that required medical treatment.

### Type of Force Applied

	Weapon Fired	Weapon Pointed	TASER Deployed and Drive Stun	TASER Pointed	K-9 Bite	ASP Baton	O.C. and Pepperball	Hobbles	Weaponless (Hands, fist, takedowns, etc.)
2012	8*	5	27	11	5	1	11	4	68
2013	0	4	24	3	6	1	3	3	72
2014	0	4	16	15	4	0	7	4	46
2015	0	4	7	6	5	1	8	3	41
2016	0	7	21	13	3	0	5	4	32

\*2012 Seven weapons were fired at aggressive dogs.

Addition of the numbers reflected in above chart will not equal the annual number of Use of Force Incidents. Each incident of Use of Force commonly encompasses two or more types of Use of Force. Each type of force applied, in each incident, is tracked and assessed separately to evaluate legality, reasonableness, training consistency, and agency policy compliance.

**Citizen Complaints  
Supervisor Investigations**

<b>47 Violations</b>	<b>Unfounded</b>	<b>Not Sustained</b>	<b>Proper Conduct</b>	<b>Sustained/ Improper Conduct</b>	<b>Founded</b>
<b>On/Off Duty Conduct</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>		<b>3</b>	
<b>Rudeness</b>	<b>2</b>		<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	
<b>Unsatisfactory Performance</b>	<b>7</b>			<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Neglect of Duty</b>	<b>1</b>				
<b>Rules</b>				<b>1</b>	
<b>Professional Image</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	
<b>Use of Force</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>2</b>		
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Amendment</b>	<b>1</b>		<b>1</b>		
<b>False Arrest</b>	<b>1</b>				
<b>Harassment</b>			<b>1</b>		
<b>Driving Complaint</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>			
<b>Bias Based Profiling</b>	<b>2</b>				
<b>Total</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>1</b>

Ten (21%) of the Supervisor Investigations were sustained or a finding was made against the employee.

## VIII. Uniform Patrol

The Patrol Division is comprised of all uniformed officers whose assignments focus on direct service delivery to the community and also includes civilian employees assigned to Code Enforcement and Animal Services. Patrol officers respond to a wide range of calls for service, conduct preliminary and follow-up criminal investigations and process crime scenes, while enforcing state criminal and traffic laws, as well as local ordinances. Nearly 90% of an officer's time is spent providing service to members of our community, compared to 10% of their time being spent dealing with matters of law, therefore the department is committed to creating these valuable community partnerships while still responding to 51,188 calls for service or enforcement contacts throughout the year. Assigned civilian employees focus their efforts on working with the public to ensure compliance with applicable city ordinances, related to code enforcement and animal services issues.

To provide crime analysis, one operational lieutenant is assigned to work in concert with the four patrol squads. Supervisory personnel review and approve preliminary investigative work, direct targeted crime detection and prevention efforts as identified through crime analysis, and handle a wide array of supplemental administrative duties. A total of 569 targeted special operations were conducted in 2016.

### Department Arrest Information

VIOLETIONS	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
TRAFFIC	1,015	1,124	974	950	769
CITY ORDINANCE	2,372	2,597	2,386	1,881	1,535
MISDEMEANOR	1,155	1,294	1,055	899	829
FELONY	1,173	1,190	1,197	1,207	1,072
TOTAL	5,751	6,205	5,612	4,937	4,205

To ensure increased communication between officers and community members, the police department participates in the Neighborhood Watch Program. Currently there are 19 active programs located throughout the city. These relationships with citizen groups are essential for successful crime reduction and prevention, as neighborhood watch members will frequently notify the police department of developing problems or suspicious persons within their respective neighborhoods.



## **TRAFFIC UNIT**

The goal of the Traffic Unit is to reduce the number of crashes, injuries and fatalities that occur within the city while striving to gain voluntary compliance of traffic laws by those utilizing public streets and thoroughfares within the city. Members of this unit are tasked with coordinating and working special events that occur within the city (i.e. parades, marches, road races,) supervising school crossing guards, overseeing the Defensive Driving Course, enforcing state and local traffic laws and coordinating all other traffic-related activities for the Police Department. A three pronged approach, more commonly called the “Three E’s” (education, engineering and enforcement,) is applied in addressing traffic related concerns.

Education is utilized to address traffic-related issues. In 2016, Traffic Unit members instructed six Defensive Driving courses to approximately 150 students. This course is offered through our various courts as a Diversion Program as well as to members of the general public. Consistent with this educational approach, over 12 public service announcements and press releases were generated throughout the year and broadcasted on LaGrange Television (LGTV). A significant educational effort undertaken by the department’s Traffic Unit is the annual TEEN MAZE event.

The second component in the “Three E” philosophy relates to engineering. Engineering concerns are made known to the department by citizens through requests by telephone calls, letters, emails, neighborhood watch meetings, and other sources. The Traffic Unit addresses these concerns through detailed surveys with recommendations being sent through the Chief of Police to City Council should corrective measures relating to any aspect of roadway design be warranted. In 2016, 18 traffic surveys were conducted.

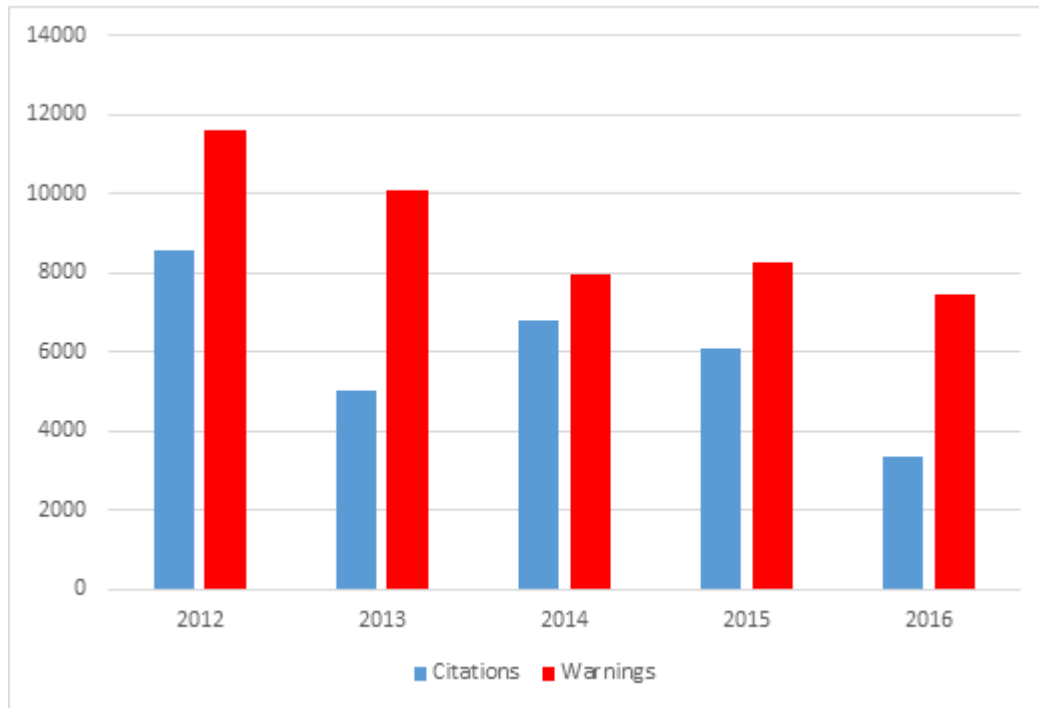
Enforcement is the final component. Unit members issued 2,296 traffic contacts during 2016. Unit members also investigated 707 traffic crashes, or 30% of the department total, two of these collisions resulted in two fatalities. Department-wide, officers issued 7,427 warning citations and 3,334 citations for a total of 10,761 contacts specific to traffic violations.

**City of LaGrange Collision Trends**

<b>Traffic Activity</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>15/16 CHANGE</b>
<b>Crashes</b>	<b>2,117</b>	<b>2,201</b>	<b>2,048</b>	<b>2,299</b>	<b>2,359</b>	<b>+2%</b>
<b>Fatalities</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>-50%</b>
<b>Accidents W/ Injury</b>	<b>408</b>	<b>418</b>	<b>374</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>-.5%</b>



### City of Lagrange Traffic Citations Issued



### CANINE UNIT

Four canine teams are assigned to the Patrol Division and are tasked with patrolling high crime areas, answering calls for service, assisting uniformed officers in apprehending fleeing offenders, and serving arrest warrants. These teams also assist with locating mentally ill or disoriented individuals who have been reported as missing. They also provided services to the Troup County Sheriff's Department, West Point Police Department, Hogansville Police Department, Georgia State Patrol, U.S. Marshall's Office and the Federal Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA.) The Department's Special Investigations Unit (SIU), Crime Suppression Unit (CSU), and Criminal Investigations Section (CIS) also utilize the department's canine teams to assist with drug searches, felony arrest warrant service, article searches, as well as vehicle and building searches.

In 2016, the department's four canine teams participated in an annual North American Police Work Dog Association (NAPWDA) certification workshop in Douglas County, Georgia. During this certification process three canine teams earned "Utility Dog" certification, the highest recognition issued by this organization. Each canine team also successfully completed PsP certification training which is offered annually by the Alabama Canine Law Enforcement Officer's Training Center.

## Canine Unit Activity

	2013	2014	2015	2016
<b>Calls for Service</b>	<b>6,242</b>	<b>4,427</b>	<b>5,758</b>	<b>4,259</b>
<b>Traffic Contacts</b>	<b>1,550</b>	<b>1,392</b>	<b>1,080</b>	<b>824</b>
<b>Arrests/Apprehensions</b>	<b>552</b>	<b>344</b>	<b>432</b>	<b>242</b>
<b>Demonstrations</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Outside Agency Assists</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>Tracking Assignments</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>115</b>	<b>86</b>
<b>Building Searches</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>66</b>
<b>School Searches</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>Canine Training Hours</b>	<b>1,517</b>	<b>2,327</b>	<b>1,500</b>	<b>1,767</b>
<b>Handler POST Training Hours</b>	<b>773</b>	<b>830</b>	<b>949</b>	<b>577</b>
<b>Apprehension – injuries/bites</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>3</b>



## CRIME SUPPRESSION UNIT

The LaGrange Police Department operates a Crime Suppression Unit (CSU) which is tasked with the detection of criminal offenders through direct contact and covert surveillance in specifically identified areas while also completing field interviews on suspicious persons, executing search warrants, and pursuing and apprehending individuals who violate state laws and gather and act on criminal intelligence information, while coordinating with other components of the LaGrange Police Department, and other local and state law enforcement agencies. Examples of this occurred this year, when unit members made approximately 100 drug-related arrests and 150 city ordinance, traffic, misdemeanor, and felony arrests throughout the year.

## **COMMUNITY OUTREACH UNIT**

In October 2013, a Community Outreach Unit was created to enhance working partnerships with various community groups, faith-based organizations, formal and informal neighborhood associations and concerned citizens while addressing local quality of life issues. The Community Outreach Unit is responsible for assisting in developing and maintaining Neighborhood Watch Programs and serves as the primary liaison between the police department and citizen groups that wish to participate in strategic planning for long-term solutions to quality of life and law enforcement issues in those focused areas. The Community Outreach Unit continues to participate in the Mental Health and DUI Court programs as well as the Troup County Homeless Coalition. In a collaborative effort with the local Feeding the Valley food bank, this Unit maintains an availability of shelf-stable food for officers to distribute to homeless or other members of the community who are found to be without other food sources.



In July 2016, a new police services caseworker position was created within the Community Outreach Unit. This officer aids individuals in need of services associated with homelessness, mental illness, medical needs, and poverty.

Additionally, officers with the department conducted 120 visits within our local schools while also attending 57 neighborhood watch meetings and 378 events sponsored by local civic groups, businesses and faith based organizations. These officers were also involved in more than a dozen activities involving our homeless population. Finally, in 2016 this Unit held its first ever “National Night Out” event which while also organizing a department sponsored Public Safety Explorer Post.

## **BIKE PATROL TEAM**

The Police Department’s Bike Team has been in place for over a decade. This team is currently comprised of 12 officers who deploy in this capacity on a part-time basis. The department was attracted to this deployment technique based the ease of movement that bicycles provide in both rural, urban and residential settings in addition to the value that this teams adds from a community outreach perspective. In 2016, team members deployed in this capacity while riding

798 miles within the city. While performing in this capacity, team members made 23 arrests, issued 53 traffic contacts, generated 31 field interview cards, and made 460 community contacts.



## **TRAINING SECTION**

The Training Section schedules and conducts initial and on-going training for all of the Department's personnel and hosts regional agencies wishing to utilize the department's facilities. While Georgia Police Officer Standards and Training (P.O.S.T.) Council requires that certified officers receive 20 hours of training annually, the department has an annual goal for each sworn officer to receive at least 80 hours of training. Employees received a total of 17,721 training hours in calendar year 2016, which includes Georgia P.O.S.T. approved training and agency required training. Courses conducted at the department include high liability training topics such as, Workplace Harassment, Handling Foreign Nationals, Firearms Skills, Vehicle Operations, and Ethics in addition to an array of other job-specific training.

During the past year, several regional training sessions were hosted at the Department's Training Center. These events included a Human Trafficking Investigation class, Law Enforcement Against Drugs Instructor Training, multiple Crisis Intervention Team Training Courses, Pepperball Instructor Course and a Tactical Medic Instructor Course. These blocks of instruction included participants from the LaGrange Police Department, Troup County Sheriff's Department, West Point Police Department, Hogansville Police Department as well as other law enforcement agencies throughout the State and Country.

Several members of the department received or renewed specialized instructor certifications in varied subject matter areas such as defensive tactics, firearms, tactical first aid, and active shooter training. Finally, in 2016 the Training Section hosted another extremely successful Citizen's Police Academy graduating 22 participants from the 10 week program which covered a variety of important topics such as use of force, Traffic Safety and Enforcement, Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events, Shoot/Don't Shoot awareness, Community Outreach Programs, Constitutional Policing/Procedural Justice, and Gang Awareness.

## **FIELD TRAINING OFFICER PROGRAM**

The Department's Field Training Officer (FTO) Program provides recruit officers with on-the-job instruction from experienced and qualified officers. Throughout the majority of the year, seven patrol officers and two traffic officers served in this training capacity. This 500-hour in-house program follows a recruit's graduation from a State of Georgia Peace Officers' Standards and Training (P.O.S.T.) Academy, which is comprised of 408 hours of basic mandate training. The FTO program may be slightly modified for officers who are hired with previous law enforcement experience. In calendar year 2016, the Department's Field Training Officers provided 2,935 hours of training to eight recruit officers.

## **SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS**

Specially trained officers deliver educational courses through the D.A.R.E. Program (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) in elementary schools, while other officers serve as School Resource Officers (SROs) at the two city-based high schools as well as the City middle school. Approximately 675 fifth grade students graduated from the D.A.R.E. Program in calendar year 2016.

In 2016, three officers were instructed on the Law Enforcement Against Drugs (LEAD) Program, "Too Good for Drugs," at Berta Weathersbee School. The program was very well received, so much so, that the school's Principal requested that this Too Good for Violence program be offered to each of the 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes at this school.

The Department's School Resource Officers serve on the Troup County School System's county-wide school safety committee and are tasked with developing and revising safety and security protocols that are in place at each of the public schools. The SRO program operates under the guidelines of the National Association of School Resource Officers (NASRO) TRIAD concept where the SRO's work in the schools as law enforcement officers, teachers, and counselors.

## **CRIME PREVENTION**

Numerous members of the Department are engaged in crime prevention activities at various local businesses, schools, professional associations, and civic groups. Officers addressed topics ranging from personal safety, defensive driving, drug awareness, identity theft, elder abuse, departmental operations, and the benefits of becoming involved in neighborhood watch groups. Overall, members of the Police Department attended and shared information at more than 125 events throughout the year. Although adults were targeted during the business events, the Department also focused resources to address topics relevant to youth, focusing on character development and positive decision-making. Officers spoke at various schools, day-care centers, Cub Scout meetings and safety fairs regarding personal safety, bike safety, child passenger safety,

traffic safety, and holiday safety. At the high schools and at LaGrange College, officers provided classroom instruction on campus safety, personal safety, drug awareness, and traffic safety.

Enforcement action is yet another component of any crime prevention strategy. These operations consisted of community roll call events, traffic safety checkpoints, concentrated patrols, “bait” vehicle and “bait” house operations, burglary and robbery suppression details, traffic enforcement details, and general “walk-through” details in specific areas experiencing an increase in criminal activity and/or an increase in the number of citizen complaints.

### **COURT SERVICES / WARRANT UNIT**

The LaGrange Police Department is tasked with providing courtroom security in the LaGrange Municipal Court building during both civil and criminal arraignments and trials. Currently, the officers assigned to this Unit provide courtroom security three times per week for criminal trials, once per month during civil trials and weekly for arraignments. Throughout the year, court security officers spent a total of 655 hours providing security services to the Court.

Officers assigned to this Unit also serve subpoenas issued by the Municipal Court, serve active arrest warrants, transport prisoners to and from the local jail for Municipal Court proceedings, and pick up offenders who have been arrested in other law enforcement jurisdictions on warrants issued through the local Municipal Court. Toward this end, these officers made 120 out of town trips, served 564 Municipal Court subpoenas and affected 549 arrests.

### **CODE ENFORCEMENT**

Code Enforcement officers are responsible for identifying, investigating, and notifying citizens when they are in violation of city ordinances related to environmental issues, such as, overgrowth of grass and weeds, excessive litter, trash, refuse, abandoned and inoperable vehicles, nuisances, sewage, and general health standards. This function is assigned to the Police Department because the issues and ordinance violations addressed by these civilian employees commonly coincide with the problem-solving initiatives being pursued by police officers. These efforts contribute to the improvement and maintenance of citizens’ quality of life. Code Enforcement officers work to ensure cleaner neighborhoods, with the primary goal being to correct the violation and to gain on-going voluntary compliance from citizens in the orderly maintenance of their property. Code Enforcement officers work closely with citizens, patrol officers, community service work crews, the city’s sanitation department, various neighborhood watch groups, and the Troup County Marshall’s Office, while performing their duties.

During 2016, this Unit was staffed by one full-time officer and one part-time officer. The Code Enforcement Unit addressed 2,319 violations. Of the 2,319 notices of violation issued, only five resulted in a citizen having to appear in Municipal Court to resolve the noted violation(s), which puts the voluntary compliance rate at 99.7%.

### **Annual Summary of Issued Notices of Violation**

Activity	2014	2015	2016
Inoperable Vehicle	126	105	252
Litter	303	752	503
Property Maintenance	1,495	712	633
Nuisance	23	272	96
Other Misc. Codes	407	731	835
Total	2,354	2,572	2,319

### **ANIMAL SERVICES UNIT**

The LaGrange Animal Shelter, located at 1390 Orchard Hill Road, is designed to house domestic dogs and cats, and contains animals primarily from three sources: owner/citizen turn-ins, LaGrange Animal Service Officers' seizure and apprehension efforts, and similar efforts in the unincorporated areas of Troup County as conducted by the local Marshal's Office and the Animal Control Officer in Hogansville. The Shelter is operated daily by the LaGrange Animal Services Unit which is comprised of a supervisor and three animal services officers. These officers work in concert with the local Humane Society, which is also housed at the shelter facility. They address the mutually shared concerns of ensuring a healthy and safe environment for the animals and to increase animal adoptions, whether directly through the shelter or through the Humane Society. Employees worked to cultivate a mutually beneficial relationship with the shelter and the Atlanta Humane Society, Puppy Pipe Line, and Paws Humane of Columbus, Ga. In April of 2016 the animal shelter began microchipping all animals that were adopted from the shelter.

In addition to operating the Shelter, Animal Services Officers patrol throughout the City in search of stray and potentially dangerous animals running at large and respond to citizen complaints. Officers also investigate animal cruelty cases, while working with police officers when criminal charges are necessary. There were 5,564 animal-related complaints and officer-initiated investigations within LaGrange in 2016. The success of Animal Services efforts in working to effectively reunite impounded animals with their owners and/or otherwise humanely transfer animals from the facility is highlighted in the below chart.

### Four Year Trend

	2013	2014	2015	2016	Year 15-16 % Change	Year 13-16 % Change
Impounded	3199	2753	2678	2867	7%	-10%
Euthanized	1704	1383	1266	1119	-12%	-44%
Redeemed	292	282	283	345	22%	18%
Adopted	487	363	353	309	-12%	-37%
Transferred to Rescues	651	740	831	1011	22%	55%
Complaints / Investigations	2858	3062	4612	5564	17%	95%

2016 was the first year that Animal Services employees addressed the City's newly enacted Tethering ordinance, which is designed to prevent direct-point chaining of dogs. Significant time and effort was invested in educating the community on these ordinance requirements, with a focus on achieving voluntary compliance from dog owners. Through the course of the year, these workers met with numerous individual pet owners, educating them on the dynamics of this ordinance. Despite these education efforts, Unit members issued 84 warnings and 20 citations.

### **CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS SECTION**

The Criminal Investigations Section (CIS) conducts follow-up investigations involving felony and serious misdemeanor crimes. Members also process crime scenes, conduct surveillance, and prepare investigative case files for prosecution of criminal offenders. Detectives within this section are assigned to smaller units, based on specialized training to conduct thorough investigations within their respective fields. The units include, General Investigative, Fraud, and Special Victims. Detectives assigned to the General Investigative Unit conduct criminal investigations ranging from murder to theft. The Fraud Unit conducts investigations into crimes ranging from identity theft to forgery. Detectives assigned to the Special Victim's Unit investigate physical, sexual, and neglect crimes involving children, sexual assaults, family violence, missing persons, and crimes against vulnerable adults. CIS represents the LaGrange Police Department on the Troup County Children and Family Advocacy Council's Child Death Review Committee and monthly Team Case Reviews; Troup County Crime Stoppers Board of Directors; and the Juvenile Court Stakeholders Association.

Additionally, the LaGrange Police Department is a cooperative member of the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force (ICAC) which is a program that was created by the United States Department of Justice to help state and local law enforcement agencies enhance their investigative response to offenders on the Internet or other computer technology that seek to sexually exploit children or otherwise contact them via electronic means. The LaGrange Police Department ICAC Task Force initiated six criminal investigations and made three arrests related to various infractions of the Georgia Computer or Electronic Pornography and Child Exploitation



Prevention Act. There were seventeen internet safety presentations completed during 2016 which were attended by over four hundred and seventy five students at LaGrange High School and LaGrange Academy. Plans have also been completed to work extensively with the Troup County School system during 2017 to ensure that every student in middle school grades receive internet safety training.

### **CRIME AND INTELLIGENCE UNIT**

The Crime Analyst studies crime reports, arrest reports, field interviews, and police calls for service in an attempt to identify emerging patterns, series, and trends as quickly as possible. This analyst looks for all relevant factors in these reports and issues bulletins, reports, and alerts to department personnel while attempting to prevent future occurrences, based on recognized patterns and trends.

The Analyst prepares statistics, data queries, charts and maps on demand to assist others in their crime intervention efforts; prepares information for community or court presentations; and provides data and information for the Department's Command Staff. The Analyst also maintains social media web pages and publicizes Departmental and community activities to keep the public informed and to provide transparency.

Information provided by the Crime and Intelligence Unit during 2016 resulted in 567 Special Operations resulting in 232 arrests; 751 traffic contacts being issued; and 63 field interviews being conducted.

### **POLYGRAPH UNIT**

The Polygraph Unit has assisted in multiple investigations, both for members of the LaGrange Police Department and for surrounding law enforcement agencies. In 2016, a total of 194 polygraphs were conducted. Polygraph examinations are utilized for criminal, background, and internal investigations, and as a component of pre-employment applicant assessments. The table below reflects the number of polygraphs conducted in each category and the results for each category.

**Examinations Completed**

Type	Deception	No Deception	Inconclusive	Total
LPD Criminal	19	30	7	56
Other Agency Criminal	20	29	1	50
LPD Pre-employment	2	29	1	32
Other Agency Pre-employment	1	49	0	50
LPD- Internal Affairs	1	1	0	2
Other Agency –Internal Affairs	1	4	0	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>195</b>

## Criminal Offenses

Investigative units are gauged on their effectiveness through clearance rates of Part I Crimes. During 2016, the Criminal Investigations Section exceeded the national average in a majority of the listed categories.

Offense	Reported	Cleared	LPD Clearance Rate	*National Clearance Rate
<b>Murder</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>61.5%</b>
<b>Rape</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>36.2%</b>
<b>Robbery</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>45.5%</b>	<b>29.3%</b>
<b>Aggravated Assault</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>52.1%</b>	<b>54%</b>
<b>Burglary</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>11.4%</b>	<b>12.9%</b>
<b>Motor Vehicle Thefts</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>13.1%</b>
<b>Larceny</b>	<b>1295</b>	<b>454</b>	<b>35.1%</b>	<b>21.9%</b>

\*National Source - Uniform Crime Report – 2015

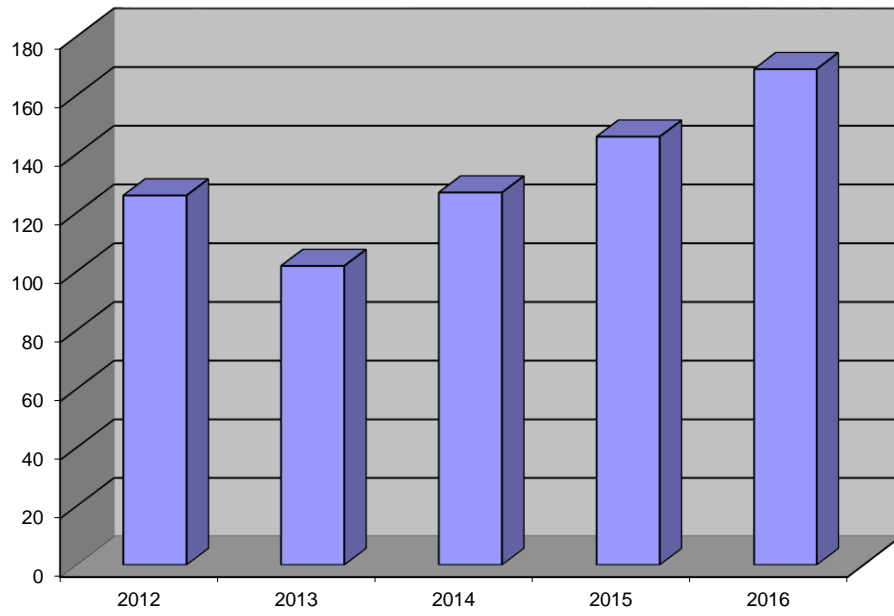
## 20 Year Comparison

OFFENSE	REPORTED 1996	REPORTED 2016	CHANGE
<b>Murder</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>Rape</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>-72%</b>
<b>Robbery</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>-4%</b>
<b>Aggravated Assault</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>-8%</b>
<b>Burglary</b>	<b>489</b>	<b>289</b>	<b>-41%</b>
<b>Larceny</b>	<b>1,797</b>	<b>1,295</b>	<b>-28%</b>
<b>Motor Vehicle Thefts</b>	<b>163</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>-42%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2,640</b>	<b>1,848</b>	<b>-30%</b>

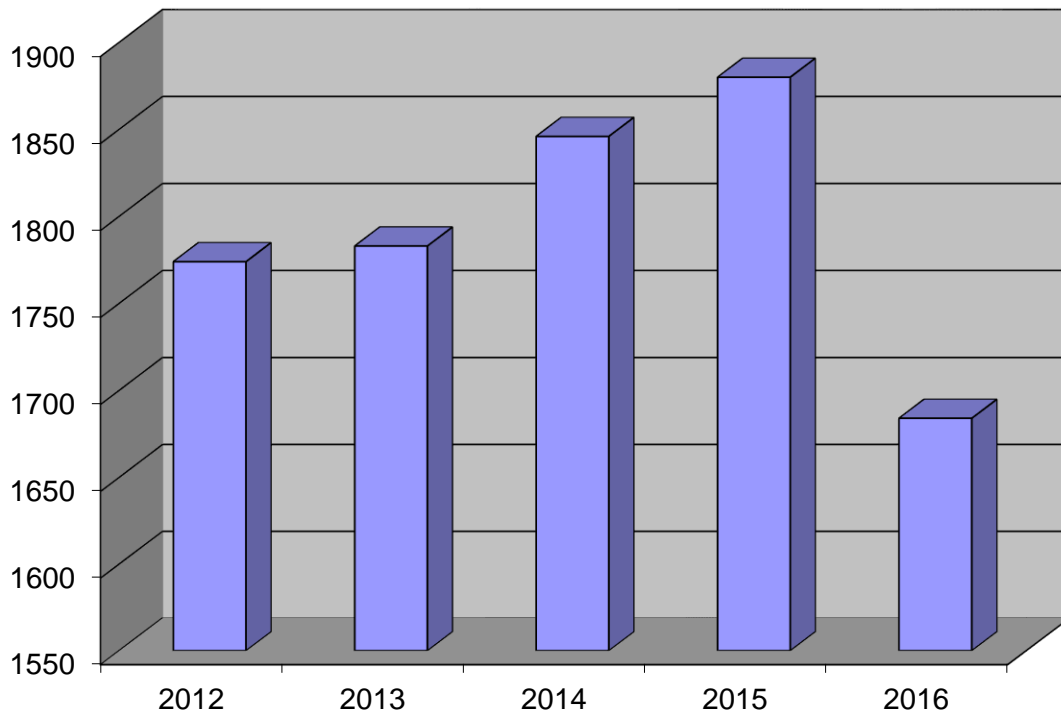
**Federal Bureau of Investigation Uniform Crime Report  
Part I Offenses**

Offense	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	5 year Average
Homicide/Murder	3	4	3	3	4	3.4
Rape/Attempt	8	5	5	6	5	5.8
Robbery	65	47	57	66	66	60.2
Aggravated Assault	50	46	62	71	94	64.6
Sub Total	126	102	127	146	169	134
Burglary/Attempt	459	350	385	359	289	368
Larceny/Theft	1,237	1,347	1,379	1,433	1,295	1,338
Motor Vehicle Theft	72	80	81	85	95	83
Arson	6	6	1	3	5	4.2
Sub Total	1,774	1,783	1,846	1,880	1,684	1,793
Total	1,900	1,885	1,973	2,026	1,853	1,927

**VIOLENT CRIMES FIVE YEAR**



**PROPERTY CRIMES FIVE YEAR TRENDS**



## **SPECIAL VICTIM'S UNIT**

The Special Victims Unit maintains an active relationship with the State Court Solicitor's Office in an attempt to ensure the proper handling of all domestic violence prosecutions. In 2016, the Unit also participated in the quarterly Family Violence Task Force meetings, which consists of representatives from various agencies, including law enforcement, Solicitor's Office, State Court Judge's Office, and Advocacy Groups. Participants discuss case law updates and their application to law enforcement and court proceedings. These meetings are also used to identify new resources to assist victims of domestic violence.

### **Domestic Violence**

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Reported Domestic Violence	514	490	440	393	343
Domestic Violent Arrests	267	245	177	108	148

During 2016, members of the Special Victims Unit investigated 66 reports of at-risk adult abuse or neglect cases; 28 of these cases proved to be unfounded, 1 case was cleared by arrest, and the remaining cases were suspended based on a lack of evidence or were otherwise exceptionally cleared. The Special Victims Unit works with Adult Protective Services on investigations involving allegations of at-risk adult abuse. This Unit also investigated 195 reports of child abuse or neglect; 89 of the reported cases proved to be unfounded and 10 resulted in arrests. The remaining cases were suspended based on a lack of evidence or exceptionally cleared. The Unit works closely with the Office of Child Protection on every investigation involving alleged child abuse or neglect.

## **SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT**

The Special Investigations Unit (SIU) concentrates its efforts on illegal and controlled substances, vice, and alcohol violations. Property and Evidence Control, Buildings and Grounds and the Gang Squad are also coordinated through this Unit.

The majority of investigations handled within this Unit are self-initiated while utilizing a wide range of covert and overt techniques in order to identify and gather evidence to support arrests and prosecutions. Techniques for conducting such investigations commonly include:

- Use of confidential informants
- Use of surveillance operations
- Covert video and audio recordings
- Buy-bust operations
- Use of undercover police officers
- Executions of search warrants

### **SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS UNIT ARRESTS**

<b>Felony Arrests</b>	<b>195</b>
<b>Misdemeanor Arrests</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>City Ordinance Arrests</b>	<b>119</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>347</b>
<b>VGCSA CHARGES</b>	
<b>Cocaine</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Marijuana</b>	<b>111</b>
<b>Methamphetamine</b>	<b>33</b>
<b>Misc. Controlled Drugs</b>	<b>34</b>
<b>Other Offenses (forged prescription, ABC cards)</b>	<b>305</b>

The Special Investigations Unit initiated 49 search warrants, authorizing the search for controlled substances through the course of the year. There were 39 special operations conducted which included covert “controlled buys.” These operations were designed specifically to identify and arrest those selling illegal or controlled drugs as well as to address any criminal street gang activity. Through these and other investigations, the Department seized \$569,942 worth of controlled substances, U.S. currency, and personal property that was derived from or utilized in the distribution of illegal drugs. Those seizures are categorized as follows:

### **SIU Seizures**

<b>Illegal Drugs</b>	<b>\$478,915</b>
<b>Property Seized</b>	<b>\$59,518</b>
<b>Cash Seized</b>	<b>\$31,509</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$569,942</b>

In addition to investigating illegal and controlled substance violations, the Special Investigations Unit is responsible for enforcing city ordinance and state statutory regulations on the distribution of alcoholic beverages from commercial businesses. The primary focus is the prevention of alcohol distribution to those under 21 years of age. During 2016, SIU regularly initiated enforcement details by conducting covert inspections of commercial establishments with licenses to distribute alcoholic beverages. These inspections occurred at least quarterly, and involved sending a confidential informant, who is under the age of 21, into these businesses to purchase alcohol. As a result of these inspections there were 32 criminal cases initiated as compared to 34 criminal cases in 2015.

## **GANG SQUAD**

The Gang Squad is responsible for collecting intelligence, providing training to community members and police officers, and works collaboratively with other officers in investigating and prosecuting gang cases.

In 2016, the LaGrange Police Department completed 80 Criminal Street Gang Investigations, resulting in 278 Participation in Criminal Street Gang arrest warrants being secured for 134 different suspects. There have also been approximately 25 separate gang presentations completed with over 1,200 community member attendees, providing valuable information to enable the general public to recognize indicators of criminal gang-related activity.

During 2016 the Gang Squad referred 6 criminal street gang cases to alternatives dispositions, other than criminal prosecution. These referrals are to programs, such as the Work To Learn programs, that strive to break the cycle of gang involvement by offering job training skills, High School equivalency classes and college classes. The Gang Squad has also partnered with the Boys and Girls Club of West Georgia during 2016 to develop and implement programs throughout the community aimed at gang prevention. These programs offer safe alternatives for at-risk groups in the place of criminal street gangs.

## **EMERGENCY SERVICES UNIT**

Operating for fifteen years, this Unit was formed to address special high risk situations within LaGrange to include, Hostage Incidents, Barricaded Suspects, Suicidal Suspects, Woodland Searches, Civil Disorder/High Risk Demonstrations, Dignitary Protection, and High Risk Search/Arrest Warrant Service.

The Unit consists of two specialized working teams. The Negotiation Team, comprised of five, well-trained Crisis Negotiators, one of which supervises the team. The other is the Tactical Team, which contains the specialized positions of Team Commander, Tactical Leader, Element Leaders, Marksman, and Medics.

The Emergency Services Unit was deployed on two occasions during 2016. The deployments were for the purpose of serving high risk arrest and search warrants at locations where the suspects had violent criminal histories, were involved in suspected gang activity, were armed and were distributing illegal drugs. The search warrant services resulted in the seizure of evidence of the crimes, including drug and gang evidence, and firearms.

## **PROPERTY AND EVIDENCE**

The Evidence Custodian is responsible for maintaining all property, whether evidence in criminal cases or lost/abandoned items that are taken into police custody. These items are maintained for safekeeping and retrieved by the custodian, who also conducts weekly transfers of evidence to the State Crime Laboratory for analysis. Additionally, the custodian works to properly dispose of all property and evidence, previously submitted, when it is of no further evidentiary value.

In 2016, there were 4,533 separate submissions of property or evidence. Of these, 638 items of evidence were transferred to the State Crime Lab for analysis and 562 previously submitted items were returned from that facility. In addition, there were 316 submissions of marijuana transferred to various in-house technicians for analysis.

In 2016, 500 pieces of property were destroyed, 200 pieces were returned to owners, 376 pieces were sold in the auction and 1,260 DVD's were archived. Through authorization of the Troup County Superior Court, a total of \$37,579.93 was deposited into the City's condemnation fund during 2016.

## **BUILDINGS AND GROUNDS**

During 2016, several significant projects were completed in an effort to improve the appearance and service capabilities of the Police Department, Training Center, and the Animal Services Facility. The Police Department's heating system was upgraded with a new flue pipe for the boiler. The Training Center was equipped with foam insulation in the rear training area in order to allow it to be usable in summer and winter months.

In addition, more insulation was added to the above training room and office areas for heating and cooling efficiency. Several new HVAC units were installed to replace old and outdated systems that were not operating properly at the Animal Services Facility. Additional projects were completed at each facility including interior painting, carpet replacement, and parking lot asphalt repair and sealant application.

## **IX. Support Division**

### **RECORDS SECTION**

The Records Section is responsible for the storage of all investigative case files, hardcopy official documents generated by Department members, permit applications, and other various forms, and houses the computer terminals containing criminal history records information. This Section is also responsible for establishing guidelines for the preparation, retention, dissemination, accountability, auditing, ordering, and processing of official forms, reports, and documents



initiated and maintained by the LaGrange Police Department. This includes issuance of official documents, such as citation books, and Chauffeur's, Solicitor's, and Alcoholic Beverage Permits, pursuant to the ordinances of the City of LaGrange.

The Records Section is the official recipient for any requests made of the LaGrange Police and Fire Departments under the Georgia Open Records Act, and the Support Division Commander is the official Records Officer for both Departments. There were approximately 130 substantial Open Records Requests in 2016 processed between the two Departments.

The Records Section processed 322 Alcohol Beverage permits and 6 Solicitor's permits in 2016. Chauffeur's permits and taxi cab inspections are now the responsibility of the State Government.

### **COMMUNITY SERVICE**

The Community Service Program is under the auspices of the LaGrange Police Department. The intent of the program is to provide general services in the form of labor and skill to local State, County, and Municipal government agencies, and non-profit organizations within the City of LaGrange. The Community Service Program is designed to manage community work programs for persons convicted of crimes, primarily in the City of LaGrange Municipal Court, and who are ordered by the Courts to complete community work as part of their probationary dispositions.

Services provided include: eliminating trash and graffiti from city streets and right of ways, landscaping city owned properties, cleaning facilities, and other general maintenance required of various departments and non-profit organizations within the City. Community Service collected 1,694 tires that had been thrown along roadsides or otherwise improperly discarded within the city's boundaries.

The Unit also provides cleaning and general maintenance services at the LaGrange Police Department's off-site Training Facility and Firing Range. In 2016, Community Service provided labor for the following agencies:

<b>AGENCIES</b>	<b># OF WORKERS TO SIGN IN</b>	<b># OF HOURS WORKED</b>	<b>LABOR COST SAVINGS @ \$7.25/Hour</b>
<b>ROADWAY, GRAFFITI, ETC.</b>	<b>1,894</b>	<b>11,887</b>	<b>\$86,180.75</b>
<b>FELLOWSHIP DELIVERANCE MINISTRIES</b>	<b>670</b>	<b>3,659.16</b>	<b>\$26,528.91</b>
<b>GRIGGS RECREATION CENTER</b>	<b>953</b>	<b>3,240.5</b>	<b>\$23,493,625</b>
<b>HABITAT FOR HUMANITY</b>	<b>1,323</b>	<b>6,924</b>	<b>\$50,199.00</b>
<b>EMMAUS HOUSE SHELTER</b>	<b>349</b>	<b>1,501.4</b>	<b>\$10,885.15</b>
<b>FEEDING THE VALLEY</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>2,524.4</b>	<b>\$18,301.90</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>5740</b>	<b>29,736.46</b>	<b>\$215,589.34</b>

## **X. Summary**

During the past year, the LaGrange Departments of Public Safety worked actively in developing, expanding and sustaining strong partnerships with local groups, organizations and individuals of LaGrange in order to effectively address the occurrence and perception of crime and to have a positive impact on the community's quality of life.

Our focus continues to be employing "best practices" relating to community outreach efforts and maintaining sound policies and protocols that are addressed through strong accrediting organizations, such as the police department's CALEA Accreditation and State Certification and the fire department's pursuit of Fire Service Accreditation which results in continual refining of the responsiveness and effectiveness of both fire and police services.

The members of the Departments of Public Safety remain committed to serving and adding value to our shared community by building upon the successes in 2016 in the coming year. We look forward to all 2017 has to offer for our police and fire professionals, and are excited to work with and for the people of the City of LaGrange.