



FRESNO POLICE DEPARTMENT

2 0 2 0 A N N U A L R E P O R T

The Fresno Police Department

Vision

To serve our community with honesty, compassion and respect.

Mission

To enhance safety, service and trust with our community.

Keep our Community safe by preventing citizens from becoming victims of crime or from being injured in traffic collisions.

This is our highest priority!

Provide excellent service to the numerous requests we receive from our community.

Our principal duty is to serve.

Maintain the trust of our community. This trust provides every Department member with the foundation required to carry out our duties.

Without trust, we simply do not have the authority to serve our public.

The phrase “our community” reflects our desire to work side by side, in partnership with our community as we collectively fulfill our mission.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

2	Mission	
4	Year in Review	<u>Support Division</u>
6-9	Crime Statistics	20-21 Records/Dispatch
		22-24 Traffic Bureau
	<u>Administrative Division</u>	25 Skywatch/K-9
10	Internal Affairs	26 SWAT
11	Training	28 Mutual Aid
12	Personnel	
13	Valley Crime Stoppers	<u>Investigations Division</u>
		30-31 Street Violence Bureau
	<u>Patrol Division</u>	32-33 Family Justice Bureau
14	Southwest	34 Special Investigations
15	Central	
16	Southeast	
17	Northeast	
18	Northwest	
19	SROs/HTF/RTF	



POLICE DEPARTMENT

The year 2020 was a landmark year for the City of Fresno and the Fresno Police Department, as it was for the entire nation. The country experienced the devastation of a global pandemic brought on by COVID-19. Our agency was tasked with rapidly changing protocols to mitigate the spread of the virus, including the protection of the public and our employees. This was no small task given law enforcement, like other first responders and other essential workers continued to respond to the needs of the people who rely on us regardless of the circumstances.

Cities across the country have been faced with issues such as zero dollar bail and the judicial orders for early release from prisons, to include the inability of the courts to hold criminal hearings. The nation has seen a catastrophic rise in violent crime and Fresno was no exception.

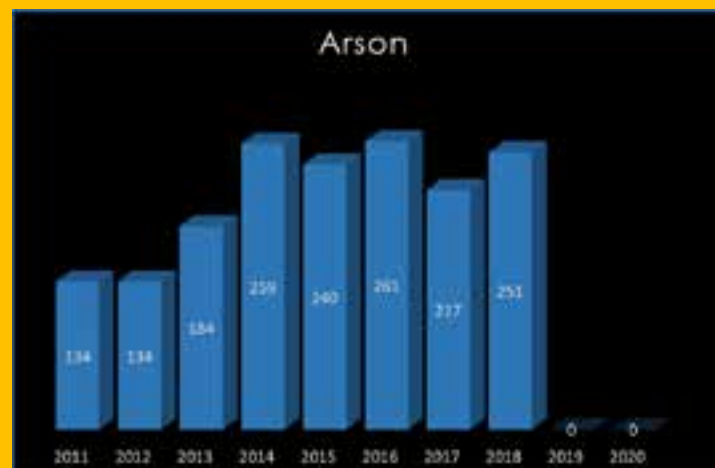
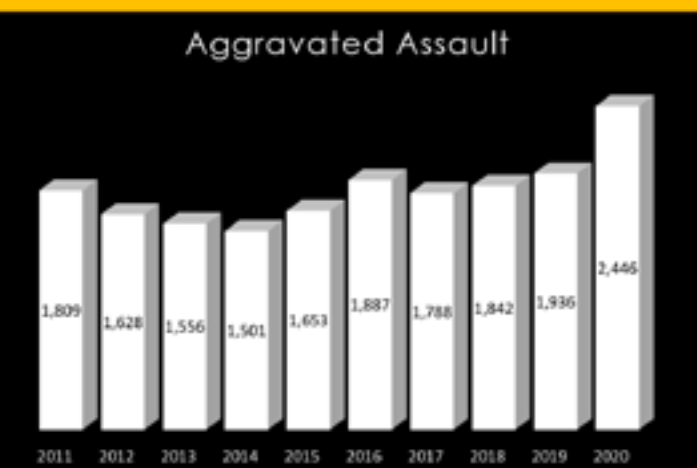
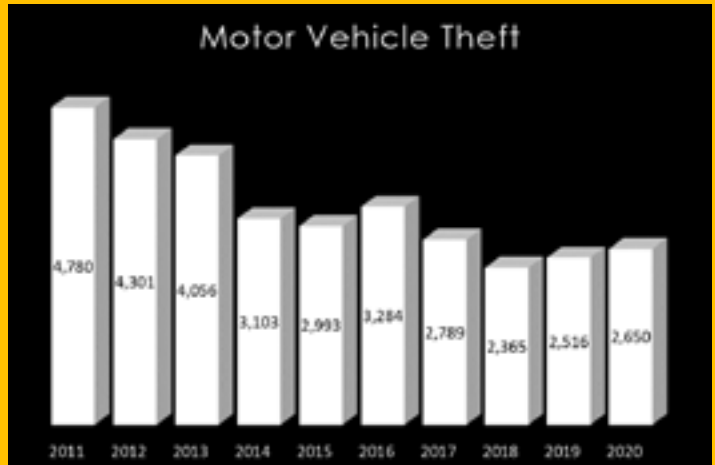
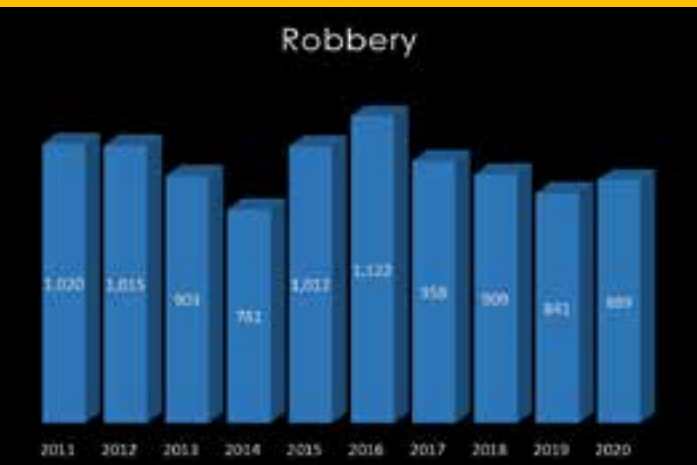
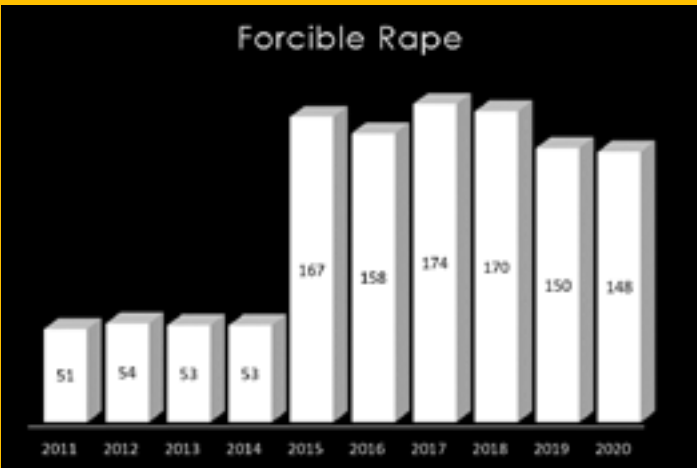
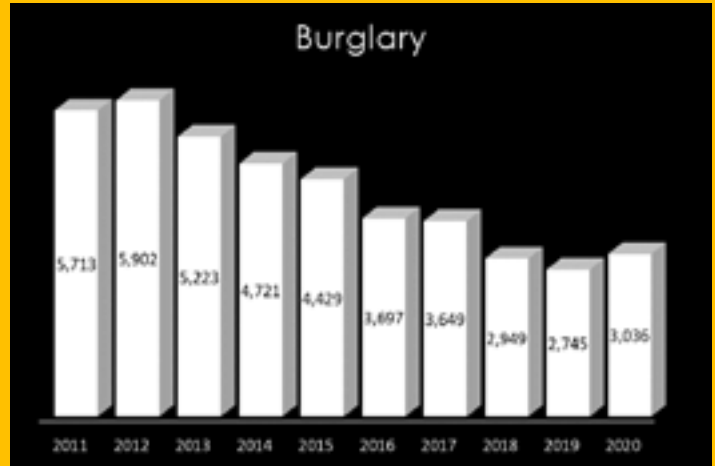
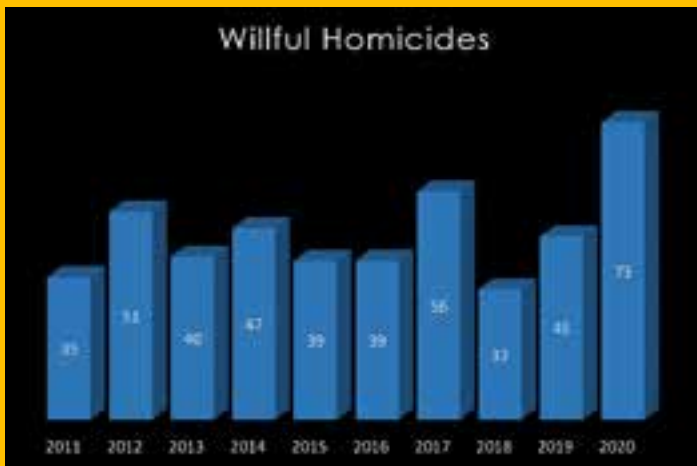
This has been a year of evolution in the way the Fresno Police Department has addressed enforcement of laws, communication and transparency in our interaction with the community. I credit our community leaders for their tireless efforts to discourage civil unrest. While we still have much work to do to address our community's concerns, transparency and communication are the keys to success.

Retired Chief, Andrew Hall



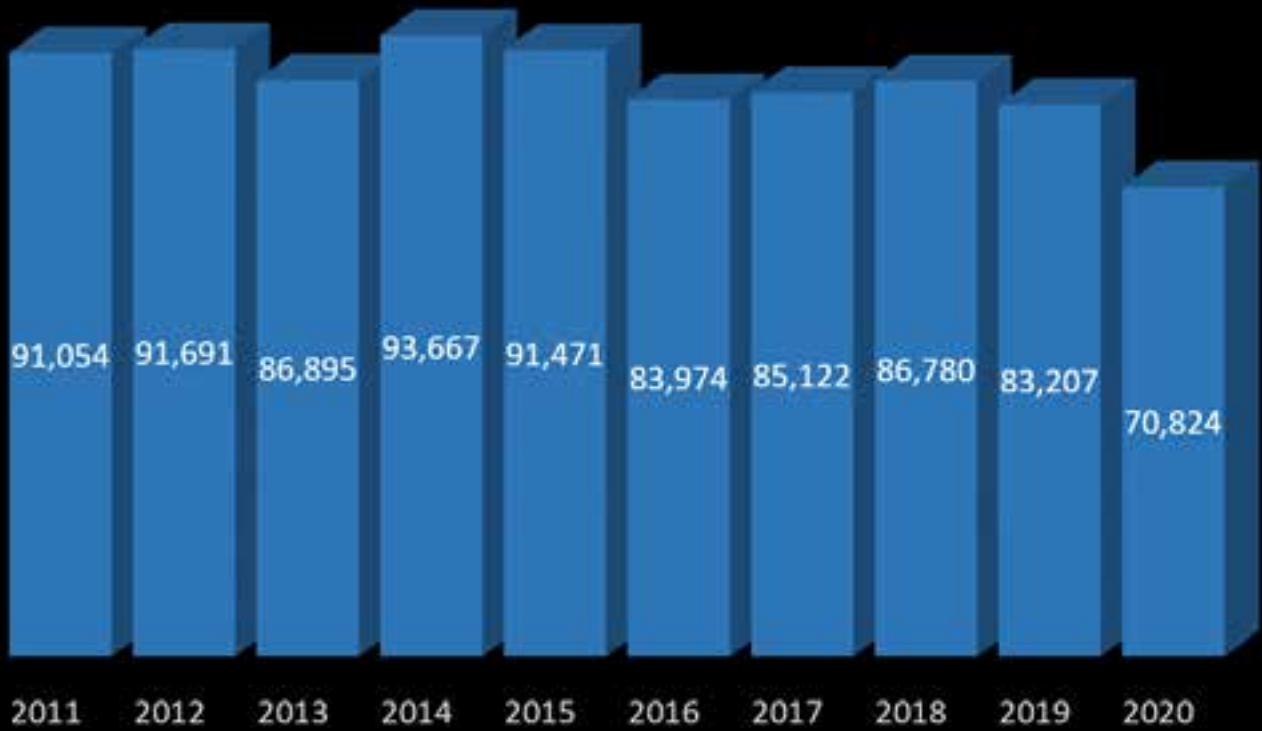


PART 1 CRIMES

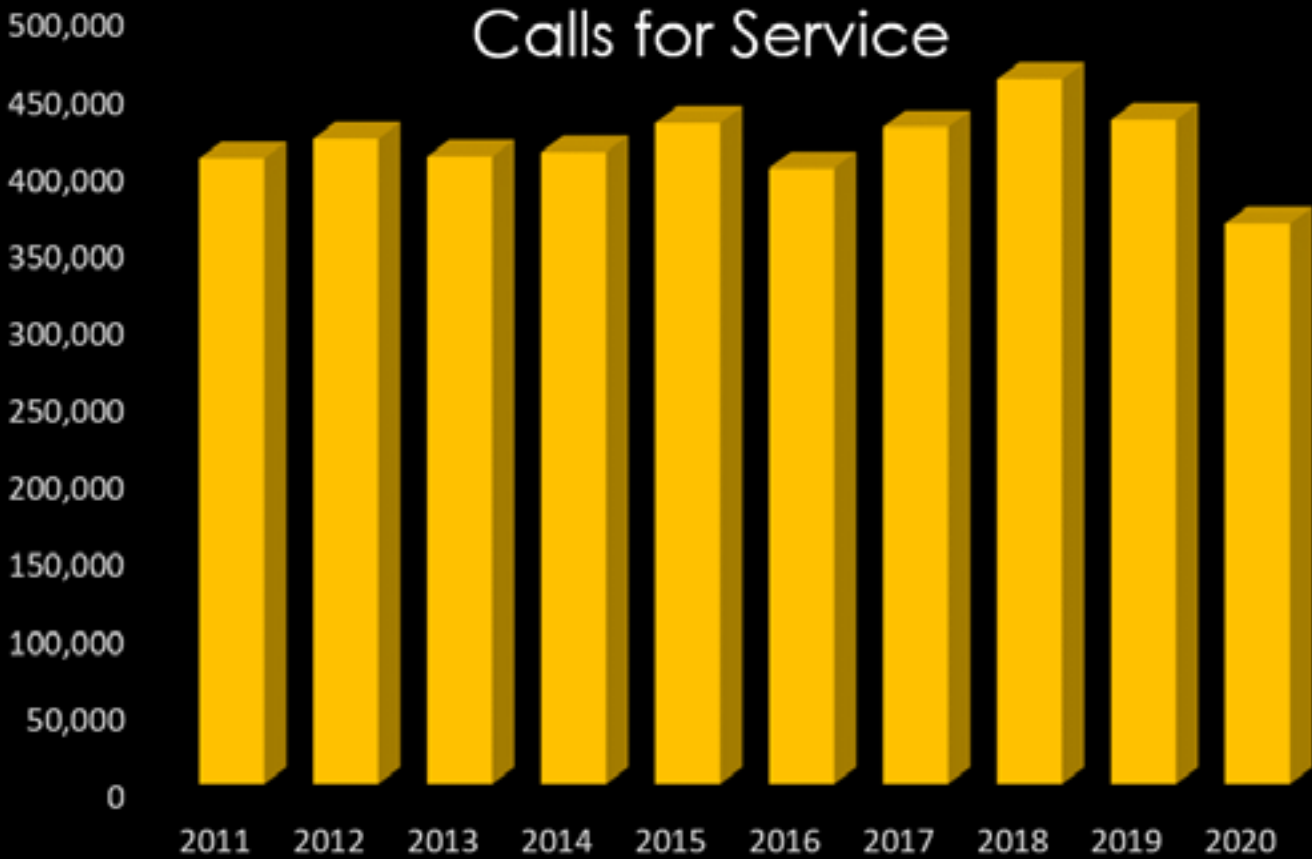


General Statistics

Police Reports



Calls for Service



ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

2020 FPD ANNUAL STATS - FOR INTERNAL AFFAIRS INVESTIGATIONS

IA CASES	TOTAL # OF IA CASES ASSIGNED IN 2020
DEPT GENERATED IAs	86
CITIZEN GENERATED IAs	29
WITHDRAWN/CASE SUSPENDED IAs	8
TOTAL	123
OPEN	57

FINDINGS FOR FORMAL IA INVESTIGATIONS (Based on Closed Date and includes 2019 IA cases closed in 2020)	TOTAL # OF FINDINGS FOR IA CASES CLOSED IN 2020			
	DEPT	CP	OIS	TOTALS
SUSTAINED	68	15	0	83
NOT SUSTAINED	4	4	0	8
UNFOUNDED	1	5	0	6
EXONERATED	3	12	0	15
WITHIN POLICY*	0	0	4	4
*OIS-Person/OIS Dog/Firearm Discharge/Lethal Force				
WITHDRAWN/CASE SUSPENDED	13	1	0	14
TOTAL FINDINGS	89	37	4	130
OPEN AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2020	35	19	7	61

INQUIRIES (INQ) IN 2020			INFORMAL COMPLAINTS (ICs) IN 2020				
RE-SOLVED	UNRESOLVED	SUSPENDED	SUST	NOT SUST	UNFD	EXON	SUS-PEND
126	36	1	42	16	73	26	1
TOTAL 163 Inquiries			TOTAL 158 Informal Complaints				
TOTAL INQUIRIES AND INFORMAL COMPLAINTS						321	

REPORT 1 AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2020

DISCIPLINE ISSUED FOR FORMAL IAs IN 2020 (Based on Closed Date - includes 2019 IA cases closed in 2020) SUSPENDED CASES ALSO COUNTED	# OF EACH			
	DEPT	CP	OIS	TOTALS
TERMINATIONS	2	2	0	4
PROBATIONARY TERMINATIONS	1	0	0	1
RESIGNATIONS	8	0	0	8
RETIREMENT	3	0	0	3
MEDICAL SEPARATIONS	0	0	0	0
DEMOTIONS	0	0	0	0
SUSPENSIONS	43	9	0	52
PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF	1	0	0	1
FINES	0	0	0	0
LETTERS OF REPRIMAND	12	3	0	15
TOTAL	70	14	0	84

CASES SUSPENDED DUE TO TERMINATION ON ANOTHER IA INVESTIGATION	2020 (JAN- MAR)	2020 (APR- JUNE)	2020 (JULY- SEPT)	2020 (OCT - DEC)	2020 TOTALS
		0	1	0	0

INTERNAL AFFAIRS BUREAU

The Internal Affairs Bureau investigates allegations of misconduct by members of the Fresno Police Department, in a fair and unbiased manner, in order to determine an appropriate administrative response.

California law requires every police agency to have a procedure for investigating citizen complaints, and to have a written description of the procedure available for review. The law also stipulates that these internal investigations, reports, and findings shall be retained for at least five years. Internal investigations are administrative investigations, which are civil in nature, and deal with the question of compliance or noncompliance with Departmental rules, policies, and regulations.

Citizens have a right to expect fair and impartial treatment from law enforcement personnel. Therefore, it is imperative that any police misconduct be reported and corrected as quickly as possible.

For further information, go to:

www.fresno.gov/police/services-specialunits/internal-affairs/

BODY CAMERA UNIT

The use of body worn cameras by the Fresno Police Department assists with the Department's goal of transparency and accountability. The Body Camera Unit is responsible for issuing and maintaining 556 Body Cameras, training officers in the use of Body Cameras, and the maintenance of electronic docking stations throughout the Department. Members of the unit also ensure video evidence is properly stored and shared with the District Attorney's Office in a timely manner for the successful prosecution of criminal cases.



REGIONAL TRAINING CENTER

The Regional Training Center (RTC) was opened in September 2010 and serves as the primary training grounds for all Fresno PD personnel, as well as officers throughout the state. The facility sits on 78 acres and offers several amenities that enhance the training experience, which allows for a more realistic and meaningful training. The RTC consists of several classrooms, seven firearm ranges including a 200 yard rifle range, multi-level training tower, multi-functional "Tac-House", and new virtual reality (VR) training equipment which facilitates in training officers with De-Escalation and use of force options. The RTC has a high-speed emergency driving track that includes a 30-degree bank turn, a decision reaction system, and a skid-pan where officers can learn vehicle operations and pursuit intervention techniques (P.I.T.). A wide range of skill levels are trained at the RTC from academy cadets to tactical teams.

In January, 2020, the RTC staff began preparing logistics for a firearm transition. This included firearm testing, budgeting, planning and training, and certification with Peace Officer Standards and Training (P.O.S.T.) Ultimately, the Department decided on the GLOCK G45 as the new duty pistol, and began training officers on the new platform in July, 2020. The RTC staff exceeded all expectations by developing a transition class that covered safety, fundamentals, and several components of state mandated De-Escalation objectives. The projected time of completion is July 2021.

Staffing for the RTC consists of one lieutenant, two sergeants, 10 officers, and three professional support staff. The RTC continually provides training on many of the 58 P.O.S.T certified classes that the agency holds, including "Instructor Courses." The RTC facility is set up as both a presenter of training by our training staff and is also available to outside agencies and presenters as a host site.



PERSONNEL BUREAU

The Personnel Bureau consists of the Personnel Office, Recruiting Unit, Background Investigations Unit, Field Training Officer (FTO) and Cadet Units. The Personnel Bureau coordinates the application process, hiring of employees, and the maintenance for personnel records. The Recruiting Unit works to attract the best candidates from the community to work for the Department. The Background Investigations Unit conducts backgrounds on all our applicants prior to hiring. The Cadet Coordinator works with the cadets to get them ready for the Police Academy. The FTO Unit coordinates the training program for all newly hired officers.



2020 presented challenges for the Bureau since we were not able to go out into the community and attend recruiting events. The year started off strong with recruiters attending 4-6 events per month. With the pandemic restrictions, we had to move to social media and virtual meetings to recruit. We look forward to 2021 and continuing our efforts to hire outstanding and highly qualified candidates to join our Department family.

Total Sworn Hired: 24

Total Civilian Hired: 22

Promotions in 2020:

Deputy Chief 1

Captains 2

Lieutenants 3

Sergeants 4

VALLEY CRIME STOPPERS

Valley Crime Stoppers is a citizen-run non-profit organization. The Board of Directors is made up of citizen business professionals that volunteer their time to Valley Crime Stoppers.

In late 2019, the City of Fresno experienced one of the worst homicides in years. Four people were killed, and six people were shot. Crime Stoppers received multiple tips as to who the shooters were. The city council, Mayors office, Assemblyman Jim Patterson and other donors collectively donated over \$50,000 in reward money. Crime Stoppers, working closely with the Homicide unit, was able to utilize the P3 Tip software system to its highest potential. Tips were sent directly to Homicide 24 hours a day, seven days a week as they came in. Homicide arrested six suspects and Crime Stoppers paid out the reward money to multiple tipsters.

Our media partners continue to go above and beyond to assist in our mission of providing the public with an anonymous way to provide law enforcement information to solve crimes. Some of those partners are, KMPH FOX 26, Cumulus Broadcasting Group, KFSN 30, Univision 21, Jeffrey Scott Agency, Outfont Media, CBS47/KSEE24 and The Fresno Bee. Without their help, Valley Crime Stoppers would not be as successful as we are.



SOUTHWEST POLICING DISTRICT

The Southwest Policing District, affectionately known to the residents as the "Golden West Side," is home to a culturally rich community. The district encompasses approximately 36 square miles, has many of the City's historical landmarks, and includes the downtown business district. From the Chaffee Zoo, to the Water Tower, Southwest is one of the most diverse areas in the City of Fresno. Our officers prevailed through challenges including the COVID-19 pandemic, increased crime rates, and civil unrest occurring throughout the nation. The Downtown Area saw 22 peaceful demonstrations where officers were assigned to keep the peace and ensure that individual's rights were upheld. Southwest officers received over 71,000 calls for service, saw a 30 % increase in violent crime, and removed 176 firearms from the streets. Additionally, the District experienced a 6% decrease in property crime, a 14% decrease in thefts, and ended the year with a 2% overall increase in Part One Crimes.



Community engagement and partnerships are at the cornerstone of the District's priorities. Even with COVID-19 impacting community events, Southwest Officers incorporated new ways to maintain relationships using technology and virtual meetings to stay in touch. Officers continued to be involved in a variety of events including Bringing Broken Neighborhoods Back to Life (BBNBTL), drive-through community events, and other crime prevention meetings. We provided needed resources for those in need, while adhering to social distancing guidelines to limit the spread of Covid-19.



Santa's Village, the district's flagship community engagement event, was forced to change its traditional outreach plan. Instead of canceling this year's Christmas extravaganza, we launched the first ever citywide drive-thru Santa's Village in partnership with the other four policing districts and community groups. This vibrantly decorated holiday affair, saw tens of thousands of community members transported to a magical place filled with Christmas spirit.



As we move past 2020 and into 2021, District personnel are looking forward to businesses reopening, kids returning to schools, and getting back to in person community events.

CENTRAL POLICING DISTRICT



The Central Policing District is continuing to enjoy its new home within the Manchester Mall. We have seen a positive impact from being located in the center of Fresno and within a refurbished shopping center that continues to be improved. This gives our officers the unique opportunity to interact with all members of the community. Our officers have positive interaction with members of the public on a daily basis.

The Central Policing District is home to the Tower District, Fresno City College, and numerous other landmarks of Fresno. It is truly a wonderfully unique and diverse area of our City. Our officers have been instrumental in the efforts to break down barriers and form relationships in every corner of this community even through the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Officers navigated through safety guidelines to participate in events to help build trust and faith within the community. Some of these events included taking part in drive by parades, maintaining relationships within the Tower District community, providing holiday gifts to children, and our continued participation with Christmas Tree Lane. While we did not take part in many large-scale events as usual, it is the smaller one-on-one moments that make the biggest impact. Our dedication to reducing crime is of the utmost importance. Those efforts are carried out by our amazing patrol officers, detectives, and the Neighborhood Safety Team. We know it takes a team to combat crime, work together as a district, and work collaboratively with our community partners to make results possible. Simply arresting someone for a crime is not enough to make lasting change. Using Problem Oriented Policing (POP) and the efforts from our Neighborhood Safety Team, we can reduce crime and create long-term solutions. While we may only have one dedicated POP officer, we encourage every patrol officer to become a POP officer in their own beats. This gives both the officers and the citizens a sense of community.

The Tower District lends itself to having a dedicated presence due to its small footprint. Thankfully, we have been blessed with the Tower Bicycle Unit. This resource has proven itself as a valuable tool in not only combating and preventing crime, but in building relationships with our business partners.

“While we did not take part in many large-scale events as usual, it is the smaller one-on-one moments that make the biggest impact. “



SOUTHEAST POLICING DISTRICT

In 2020, the Southeast Policing District had the pleasure of opening the new district station at Fancher Creek. This location was chosen for its proximity and the future growth of our City. The station is 10,200 square feet and includes state of the art design and equipment. The station houses ninety sworn and non-sworn personnel and has the ability to host community meetings.

The district has the largest population of Hispanic, Asian and American Indian citizens in the city. Community engagement continues to be a priority for the district. The Southeast District has faced unique challenges due to COVID-19. We continue to invest in relationships to enhance trust within the community.

After seeing historic lows in crime in 2019, Southeast saw an increase in most crime areas. We saw a significant increase in Homicides, Shootings, Rapes and Robberies. We saw a small decrease in thefts.

The Southeast District is focused on decreasing violent crime and continuing our community engagement in the district. This coming year, Southeast Personnel are up to the challenge.



“We continue to partner with our community to enhance trust in Southeast within the community.”



NORTHEAST POLICING DISTRICT

The Northeast Policing District encompasses approximately 29 square miles and serves around 130,000 community members. The district covers most of the area east of Blackstone Avenue to the City of Clovis and from the area surrounding the Fresno Yosemite International Airport to the San Joaquin River at the northern end of the city. In total, 92 officers and professional staff are assigned to the district.

Policing during the pandemic presented some challenges in the Northeast Policing District. During 2020, district personnel investigated 62 more violent crimes as compared to 2019. This was an increase of 12.7% compared to the previous year. The District saw a 4.9% decrease in property related offenses from the year prior resulting in 218 fewer victims of property crimes. Overall, total combined crime in the Northeast District decreased by 3.2%.

The challenges faced during 2020 made in-person community outreach events difficult. District Problem Oriented Policing Officers and Crime Prevention Community Service Officers worked closely with businesses, churches, and area residents to create long term solutions to crime and quality of life issues facing those living within the district. Additionally, officers assigned to the district's bicycle unit spent a significant amount of time providing a visible presence within the parks and along the trails located in the Northeast District. We expect this trend to continue in the coming years.

With 2020 behind us, members of the Northeast Policing District are excited about the prospect of being able to re-engage (in-person) with our community members who live in and visit the district.



NORTHWEST POLICING DISTRICT

The Northwest Policing District continued moving forward, even when pressed by the many challenges 2020/COVID-19 presented to all of us. We can never thank you enough for the support we received from our Northwest community partners; it seems as if the donations of equipment and supplies immediately started pouring in for the Northwest officers. Two of our partners, Home Depot and Fast N Easy, provided pallets of supplies including: masks, bottles of sanitizer, rubber gloves and cleaning supplies.

Both District personnel and community members partnered in many community events. Whether it was a neighborhood event, a school function or a fundraiser, Northwest police officers were always available. 2020 just meant they needed to wear a mask! During COVID-19, volunteers teamed-up to sew and make cloth masks for all Police Department personnel, with supplies donated from Walmart, Joann Fabrics and Crafts and A&A Textiles. Volunteers cut, sewed and distributed 3,000 masks.



On the crime front, our District saw mixed results in our annual numbers for 2020. While our homicides, shootings and burglaries doubled, consistent with the national trend during COVID-19; we saw a significant reduction in robberies, rapes and arsons, which each dropped more than 55% compared to 2019.

As we roll into 2021 and continue making COVID-19 related adjustments, the officers of the Northwest Policing District remain at the ready, located in the business complex on the north-west corner of Shaw and Marks. We wish everyone a healthy 2021 and look forward to opening our public front counter once safety restrictions allow.

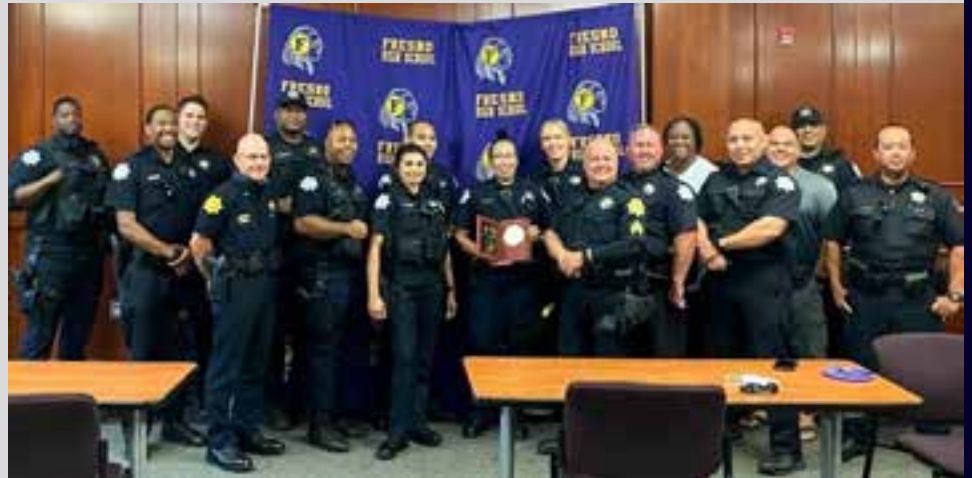


STUDENT RESOURCE OFFICERS

The SRO Unit is comprised of 14 officers and one sergeant who are assigned to 11 area high schools and four middle schools in the Fresno and Central Unified School Districts. In addition to providing a safe learning environment for students, they also facilitate a mentoring and coaching program throughout the school districts. Several current Fresno Police Officers were mentored by SROs in our school districts.

In March 2020, the Fresno area schools were forced to shut down due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Although students were not on campus, the SRO's remained in place and provided a uniformed presence for the school sites as they distributed lunches daily to parents and children. Additionally, the officers provided security to their school sites to deter crimes such as burglary and vandalism from occurring.

The SRO unit is looking forward to schools returning to in-person instruction so the officers can get back to what they enjoy the most, mentoring and developing relationships with their students.



HOMELESS TASK FORCE (HTF) / RECYCLING TASK FORCE (RTF)

The RTF and HTF is made up of eight officers and one sergeant. The three RTF officers work with sanitation to limit the theft of recyclables from our City's recycling bins. They also work with HTF to address homeless encampment issues throughout the City. In 2020, HTF and RTF cleared over 4,600 homeless encampments and addressed nearly 3,000 FresGo complaints. Every homeless citizen contacted was offered social services.



SUPPORT DIVISION

The Support Division, which is led by Deputy Chief Michael Reid, is comprised of the Communications & Data Analysis Bureau, Traffic Safety & Support Services Section, and the Special Response Section. Special Response Section is led by one Lieutenant and they oversee the K9 Unit, Property & Evidence Control Section, FAX Unit, Crisis Intervention Team, Fleet Management, Volunteers, Reserve Officers, and Crime Stoppers. Within the Communications & Data Analysis Bureau, there are four distinct Sections. The first

component is the Communications Section which is commonly referred to as Dispatch. Communications is staffed by one managing Lieutenant, six Emergency Services Dispatch Supervisors and 99 Emergency Services Dispatchers. The Department's Dispatch Center is the primary Public Safety Answering Point for all 9-1-1 calls in the City of Fresno. In 2020 Dispatchers answered over 387,000 9-1-1 and 533,000 non-emergency calls.

The Department's Information and Technology Section is led by one civilian Manager and staffed with one civilian Supervisor and nine civilian Computer, Network, and

Data Systems Specialists. The team manages and maintains all critical computer & network hardware and software for the agency on a 24/7 365 basis. In 2020 alone, the team of specialists handled 3,904 technical service requests.

Crime Scene Investigation Section is currently led by one civilian manager, three Supervising Crime Scene Technicians and staffed by 16 Crime Scene Technicians. The highly trained group provides specialized crime scene investigation and forensic support services including crime scene processing, evidence photographs, blood and DNA collection, latent finger print processing/development/comparison, cartridge casing entry into ATF database, drug testing, fingerprinting of arrestees and expert court testimony. In 2020, they responded to 6450 crime scenes, and processed 2460 cases at headquarters. Over 600 subjects were identified via fingerprint matches and 319 evidence leads identified in the ATF system and 12,500 arrestees processed.

The Records Section, which receives, processes, and manages all report information for the agency, is led by one civilian Manager, and is staffed with three Supervisors and 47 technicians, clerks, and transcriptionists. In 2020, the Records Section handled over 92,000 police reports and 14,606 public records requests. The group also is responsible for all state and federal statistical reporting, report transcription, police report routing, and Court & District Attorney case filing as well as public requests for police reports. The Court Liaison Office issued 21,440 subpoenas for officer & civilian personnel and Prosecution Liaison Office filed 18,338 cases with the district attorney and Fresno Courts.





SUPPORT DIVISION

Traffic Safety & Support Services Section was led by Lieutenant Mike Brogdon and comprised of the Traffic Enforcement Unit, Collision Reconstruction Unit, Special Events Unit, Hit & Run Unit, Grants & DUI Unit, Tow Unit, and Skywatch Operations Unit.

The Traffic Enforcement Unit & Night Traffic Unit is staffed by four Supervising Sergeants, 38 Officers, and 1 Civilian. The goal of the Traffic Enforcement is to utilize education and enforcement activities in an effort to generate voluntary compliance to all traffic laws and reduce the number of traffic collisions and fatalities. The unit facilitates the safe and expeditious flow of vehicular and pedestrian traffic within our city.

In 2020, the unit handled almost 3,100 traffic collisions in our city. Of those, there were 854 injury collisions and 44 deaths. The city recorded 427 DUI collisions with 56 resulting in injury and 14 resulting in death. Traffic conducted 17 DUI checkpoints, 26 saturation operations and four pedestrian/bicycle operations. 2,468 DUI drivers were removed from the streets of Fresno in 2020. Traffic wrote close to 41,000 traffic citations with over 17,000 for excessive speed. Close to 16,000 vehicles were impounded in 2020 due to DUI drivers, unlicensed drivers, and drivers with a suspended license.



SUPPORT DIVISION

The Collision Reconstruction Unit (CRU) is comprised of three highly trained and experienced detectives whose focus is on the investigation of fatal and serious felony collisions, city liability collisions and providing support to other investigative units as well as other valley agencies. The team reconstructs and reports on 30 to 50+ fatalities annually. In addition, they usually double their case load with an additional 60 to 85 calls per year related to city liability, serious injury, and allied agency requests.

The Hit and Run Unit is comprised of three skilled detectives who focus on hit and run collisions in the City, investigating over 1,500 cases per year. One detective is cross trained as a CRU investigator and routinely assists in their investigations. They focus on hit and run fatalities, felonies and City of Fresno property damage collisions.

The Grant Unit / DUI Unit is comprised of two officers both working full-time on Traffic Grant related activities along with a myriad of other duties. They handle the logistical portion of our annual grant doing the scheduling, clerical, budget, and statistical portion of our \$700,000.00 award (2019/2020). They also write each year's submission for the grant which we have maintained since 1996. The Unit compiles all collision and DUI related statistics for the department and fields request from all city departments as well as public information requests.

The department employs one full-time phlebotomist. This position is critical in our efforts to combat DUI providing a ready and rapid ability to receive blood evidence in all types of cases especially DUI. Last year the full-time phlebotomist conducted 549 blood draws (349 FPD, 200 CHP).

The Tow Unit is comprised of one officer and one civilian Tow Coordinator. The unit oversees all vehicle impounds and recoveries as well as evidence tows. They are the liaison for the 30 tow companies on the rotation and evidence list. They conduct mandatory citizen tow hearings and requests for information. The unit oversees our department's computer tow software, prepares the annual contract, and manages the tow accounting.



SUPPORT DIVISION

In 2020, 64 people lost their lives in traffic related collisions. Fifty-five collisions claimed the lives of 63 citizens, all caused by violations of the California Vehicle Code. An additional traffic related death was caused by a medical event of the deceased driver.

	<i>2020 Traffic Related Deaths</i>	<i>Vehicle Code Violation Caused Death</i>	<i>Medical Condition</i>
Total	64	63	1
Percentage	100%	98%	2%

<u>Month</u>	<u>Fatalities</u>	<u>Percentage</u>
January	5	8%
February	5	8%
March	3	5%
April	5	8%
May	4	6%
June	4	6%
July	7	11%
August	6	10%
September	10	16%
October	3	5%
November	6	10%
December	5	8%
Total	63	100%

SUPPORT DIVISION

The Skywatch Operations Unit is composed of one Sergeant with three sworn pilots, three sworn Tactical Flight Officers and two civilian avionic mechanics. Skywatch provides support for Officers in order to enhance safety, quickly arrive over crimes-in-progress, and increase apprehension rates by maintaining a quick response time. In 2020, they logged 1,661 flight hours; responded to 3,598 calls with an average response time of 38 seconds; assisted in 192 arrests of suspects who would have eluded capture were it not for the aircrew overhead; took over 22 high speed pursuits, and assisted allied agencies on 145 calls for service where a helicopter was needed around the Valley.



The Fresno Police K-9 Unit is comprised of one Sergeant, 13 Officers and their K-9 partners. The Unit provides specialized field response for officers in tracking of suspects and evidence location. The team of K-9 handlers responded to over 1,725 Calls for Service in 2020.

The Mounted Unit is made up of the K-9 Sergeant and six riders which is an ancillary duty for full-time officers, reserve officers and retiree volunteers. Four horses are currently in

service and being ridden during various events like baseball games, public events, FSU football games, and other invaluable public relation and outreach opportunities.

SUPPORT DIVISION

The Fresno Police Department's Critical Emergency Response Teams is a title that describes collateral duties from experts in crisis throughout the agency. One of those collateral assignments is the Mobile Command Center. The Command Center is staffed with 1 Sergeant and 4 collateral duty officers. The team responds with a specialized mobile command center to major incidents providing on scene command capability. This includes real time dispatch capacity as well as access to all IT systems for intelligence and resource deployment. During 2020, they responded to major incidents including homicides, demonstrations, and large scale preplanned events.

The Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit, commonly referred to as the Bomb Squad, is staffed by six federally trained & certified Explosive Ordnance Technicians. The Unit is one of only 468 authorized public safety bomb squads in the nation. They are responsible for investigations, and safe disposal of suspected hazardous devices, explosives, explosive materials, to include ammunition.

The Mobile Field Force / Mutual Aid Unit is led by one Lieutenant Commander and is staffed by five Sergeants, 53 Traffic Enforcement Officers and 30 School Resource Officers. The professional approach of the unit prevents issues we see in other major cities by calming potentially violent and destructive uprisings.



The Department's largest collateral assignment is our SWAT (Special Weapons and Tactics) Team. SWAT is led by one Lieutenant Commander and one Assistant Lieutenant Commander. The team is staffed by four Sergeants (Team Leaders), 25 Officers (Operators), and six technical support Officers (bus crew). The overall mission of the team is to save lives by providing a tactical response that increases the likelihood of de-escalation and safe resolution of high-risk incidents.

The Crisis Negotiations Team (CNT) is managed by one Lieutenant and staffed by two Sergeants and 14 Officer Negotiators. CNT deploys specially trained officers and sergeants to conduct negotiations responding to critical incident calls including; hostage situations, barricaded suspects, barricaded suicidal subjects. In 2020, the Unit deployed to 51 call outs including 33 barricaded suspects and 18 suicidal subjects.



MUTUAL AID



The Creek Fire started on September 4, 2020 near Shaver Lake, CA. The fire burned 379,895 acres and was declared 100% contained on December 24, 2020. This fire was the fourth largest fire in California history and destroyed 856 buildings.



The Fresno Police Department launched its largest mutual aid effort in the history of the city to assist in evacuations and security of vacated residences during the crisis. Over the four month effort, Fresno Police dedicated 6,972 hours to assist in this tragic disaster.



DEMONSTRATIONS



During 2020, the entire nation saw demonstrations and protests around the death of George Floyd. Of the top 35 major cities in the United States, only two avoided civil unrest causing damage and injuries, with Fresno being one.

The Fresno Police Department was also tasked with social issues arising from COVID-19 and the administrative order to close non-essential business. The leaders of the Department, along with the formal and informal leaders of our city, joined together to keep our community safe.



HOMICIDE UNIT

The mission of the Homicide Unit is to work as a team to promptly and effectively investigate, analyze, and address street violence, including murders, suspicious deaths, in custody deaths, and officer involved shootings.

The Homicide Unit consists of two Sergeants and ten Detectives. In 2020, we saw an uptick nationwide in violent crime. The Homicide Unit investigated 74 murders in 2020, which was a 64% increase in homicides for the year. They had great success with several cases and maintained a 97% filing rate with the District Attorney's Office. Much of this success, was due to the hard work and immediate follow up from the detectives in the unit.

The nature of homicide investigations is consistently changing. Modern investigations rely on the analysis of digital evidence such as cellular telephones, computers, social media, surveillance video, and body worn cameras. These new investigative techniques require detectives to possess a different set of skills. Thorough investigations of homicides are critical; they ensure that suspects are identified and apprehended to bring justice to the victims, their families, and protecting the safety of the community.

The members of the Fresno Police Department Homicide Unit have demonstrated a commitment to their profession and the community. Their success as a unit is contributed to their dedication and teamwork.



FELONY ASSAULT UNIT

The Felony Assault Unit consists of a Sergeant and eight Detectives. The unit is responsible for investigating shootings, stabbings, and other violent felony crimes. During 2020, over 750 cases were assigned to investigators for follow up investigation. Many of those cases, involved active gang members, making it difficult to get information. Detectives authored over 450 search warrants and were able to recover 61 firearms during their investigations. Detectives from the Felony Assault Unit were able to provide closure to the victims of these violent crimes. Detectives from the Felony Assault Unit investigated several high-profile violent crimes that occurred in the City of Fresno.



ROBBERY UNIT

The Robbery Unit consists of one sergeant and four detectives who are responsible for the investigations of approximately 900 cases citywide. The detectives investigate commercial robberies, carjackings, home invasions, and person robberies. For the year 2020, the Robbery Unit investigated 11 robbery series with a 93 percent clearance rate. The unit handles a high volume of cases throughout the year. They are to be commended for their work ethic and professionalism.

The Robbery Unit has solved several high-profile commercial and person robberies which include:

- A multi-state armed pharmacy robbery series, which resulted in two suspects identified and arrested in Reno, Nevada. The case resulted in federal indictments of both suspects.
- A bank robbery series where a single suspect committed five bank robberies over a two-month period.
- A person robbery series where three suspects committed six person robberies on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. All three suspects were arrested.

FAMILY JUSTICE BUREAU

The Family Justice Bureau (FJB) is comprised of the Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault, Financial Crimes, and Child Abuse/Missing Person Units. The Sexual Assault Unit also includes PC 290 detectives and cold-case sexual assault personnel (SAKI grant).

The Domestic Violence Unit is made up of one sergeant and eight detectives. The unit was responsible for the investigation of approximately 6,300 domestic violence cases that occurred in the City of Fresno in 2020. The Domestic Violence Unit partners with the Marjaree Mason Center (MMC) to provide victims and children with emergency housing, legal advocacy, crisis counseling, and restraining orders. Two advocates from MMC are assigned to the unit to provide outreach and support services to victims. The Domestic Violence Unit works tirelessly to bring justice to victims and their children.



In addition to investigating sexual assault cases involving both adults and children, the Sexual Assault Unit works to ensure compliance with PC 290 laws regarding sex registrants. Currently, the PC 290-compliance unit has one sergeant, three detectives, and two part-time registration officers that supervise approximately 2,500 sex registrants, and approximately 100 arson registrants within the City of Fresno.



The Cold Case Unit (CCU) is grant funded under the 2018, 2019, and 2020 Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) grants which fund three full-time detectives. Each grant is for a period of three years. Fresno PD is the only police department in California to receive federal SAKI funding. Over three-million dollars in SAKI grant money has been used to investigate, analyze evidence, provide victim advocacy, and prosecute cases involving prior sexual assaults in our community.

FAMILY JUSTICE BUREAU

In 2020, the Central California Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force received 3,000 CyberTips. 1,770 of those tips related to crimes in the city and county of Fresno. An undercover operation named "Covid Chatdown," resulted in 34 suspects being caught soliciting children on the Internet. ICAC detectives also conducted additional undercover child exploitation chats with suspects in order to identify and prosecute child predators. ICAC is also responsible for investigating cases of child pornography.

The Financial Crimes Unit investigates a myriad of financial crimes including: ATM/credit card fraud, forgery, identity theft, Internet fraud, and social media scams. In addition, detectives provided public presentations to various community groups regarding current financial scams and identity theft prevention. In addition, detectives provided guidance to attendees on steps to follow if they ever become a victim of fraud/identity theft. Elder Abuse Unit detectives also fall under the umbrella of Financial Crimes. They investigate reports of elder and dependent adult crimes within the City of Fresno.



The Financial Crimes Unit includes the Digital Forensic Lab, which provides forensic examinations for all units in the Fresno Police Department. Evidence examined includes computers, cell phones, hard drives, memory cards, and digital video files.

The Digital Forensic Analyst assigned to the lab, provides data and expert court testimony in cases related to forensic examinations. The analyst has conducted forensic examinations and provided expert testimony on cases involving homicides, vice, narcotics, robberies, financial crimes, and human trafficking.

The Child Abuse Unit consists of four Detectives. The Missing Persons Unit consists of two Detectives. One sergeant supervises both units. Child Abuse Detectives are responsible for conducting investigations of all physical abuse, neglect, infant death, and child endangerment cases. Detectives work with prosecutors, medical professionals, and social service professionals, to form a problem-solving partnership focusing on criminal prosecution and victim support. Detectives are relied upon on to be a voice for the victims of the crimes they investigate. In 2020, there were over 1,650 reported cases of some form of alleged child abuse.

Detectives assigned to the Missing Persons Unit are responsible for ensuring the safety of all missing persons and runaway juveniles by thoroughly investigating every occurrence and attempting to ascertain the underlying reason for the person's absence. In 2020, the Missing Persons Unit received nearly 3,000 cases.

SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU

The Major Narcotics Unit is responsible for investigating large-scale sales, possession, and distributing of illegal narcotics. This is accomplished by identifying, arresting, prosecuting individuals, businesses, and organizations. Focused and successful investigations are made possible through collaborative efforts with our Federal, State and local partners

In 2020, the Major Narcotics Unit seized:

130 gallons of liquid Methamphetamine

600lbs of Methamphetamine

20lbs of Heroin

5lbs of Cocaine

35,000 Fentanyl pills

10lbs of pure Fentanyl powder

600lbs of Marijuana

50 Firearms

120 Federal and State arrests



In 2020, The Vice/Intel Unit investigated 34 human trafficking cases, made 14 human trafficking arrests, and 78 human trafficking victim rescues. In addition, the Vice Unit conducted 166 regulatory operations of massage businesses. This effort shut down a large number of illicit or improperly permitted massage businesses in our city.

The Career Criminal Auto Theft Team's (CCATT) primary mission is to reduce the auto theft rate as well as violent crime by aggressively targeting prolific auto thieves through investigation, apprehension and prosecution, while educating the community in auto theft prevention methods. In 2020, there were a total of 2,602 vehicles stolen in Fresno at a rate of 7.1 per day. This was a vast improvement from 2011, when Fresno was ranked #1 in the nation with 4,741 stolen vehicles at a rate of 13 per day. In 2020, CCATT made 299 total arrests, 150 suspects arrested inside occupied stolen vehicles, 97 gang members arrested, 203 Probation/Parole searches of residences, 17 firearms recovered from suspects, 32 chop shops shut down, and 421 stolen vehicles returned to their owners.





MAJOR COMMENDATION AWARDS

Life Saving Medal Recipients

PO Rene Villegas
PO John Gonzalez
PO Nathaniel Palomino
PO Leobardo Jimenez
PO Samuel Marchini
PO Darin Chandler
PO Victor Barrios
PO Mike Neveu
PO Rebekah Wells
PO Adriana Ponce
PO Rebekah Wells
PO Adriana Ponce
PO Dalain Medina
PO Andrew Lopez
PO Douglas Divine
PO Andrew Galindo
PO Vincent Baez
PO Rodney Zumkehr
PO Martin Salas
PO Derek Evers
PO Andrew Galindo
PO Johnathan Jalomo
PO Craig Howard
PO Amy Gavroian
PO Eric Claiborne
PO Derek Avila
PO Fernando Rosario
PO Pete Ressler

Medal of Merit with Valor

Sgt. Sammy Ashworth
PO Mike Fortune
PO Robert Boatright

Exceptional Performance Ribbon, Quadruple Homicide Investigation

Sgt. Andre Benson
Sgt. Rich Escalante
Det. Victor Miranda
Det. Miguel Alvarez
Det. Daniel Laband
Det. Ariana Motter
Det. Cory Hastings
CSO Renee Long

Gun Pins

PO Chadwick Chang
PO Steve Baiza
PO Kaosoy Saecho Second Pin
PO Dillon Biggs
PO Mohit Kumar Second Pin
PO Chris Takemoto
PO Eric Hull
PO Arthur Barragan
PO Richard Gallegos

OFFICER/ EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Officer Katrina Lloyd
School Resource Officer

Eva Vasquez
Police Support Services Tech

Officer Bryan Craft
Traffic Bureau

Officer Jacob Snow
Administrative Division

Detective Felipe Uribe
Central Policing District

Thomas C. Broach
Volunteer Chaplain

CSO Kate Woertman
Northwest Policing District

Detective Pete Ressler
Family Justice Bureau

Officer Jesus Torres
Southeast Policing District

Detective Primo Diaz
Street Violence Bureau

Officer William McCarty
Southwest Policing District

Anitra DeAlba
Emergency Services
Communication Supervisor

Sergeant Zeke Suarez
Northeast Policing District

Retired Sergeant Kirk Pool
FPOA Volunteer



OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

On December 15th, 2020, Mayor Lee Brand, Mayor-Elect Jerry Dyer, City Manager Wilma Quan, and Chief Andrew Hall announced Paco Balderrama as the selection for the 23rd Chief of Police for the Fresno Police Department. Additionally, Chief Balderrama is the first Hispanic Police Chief in Fresno's history.

Chief Balderrama was previously a Deputy Chief with the Oklahoma City Police Department and a 25-year veteran in law enforcement (Oklahoma County Sheriff's Office and Oklahoma City Police Department). He was selected based on a long and involved citizen interview process that highlighted his communication skills, involvement with the public through programs, proactive community outreach efforts, and his proven leadership qualities.

Chief Balderrama's priorities include lowering violent crime and increasing community trust.

On January 11th 2021, Chief Balderrama was sworn in on the fountain of Fresno City Hall by his brother, Major Beto Balderrama, also from the Oklahoma City Police Department.





A Message From the Chief

I am excited and honored to have been sworn in as the 23rd Police Chief of the Fresno Police Department. It is my privilege to lead the men and women of one of the finest police departments in the nation. The culturally rich and flourishing Fresno community is deserving of a professional, highly competent, and engaging police department. As your chief of police, I make the commitment to build and maintain public trust while partnering with the community to make Fresno a safer place to live.

2020 was a landmark year for law enforcement across our nation. Various events have created a platform for important causes and movements revolving around

race, equality, and fairness within our criminal justice system. It is important to capitalize on this opportunity to make systematic improvements in the way we police and deal with members of our community. Although the Fresno Police Department is ahead of the curve in many areas, we will continue to improve on several fronts, most notably transparency with our community, public safety, and officer wellness.

Communication is essential towards building public trust. The Fresno Police Department will always strive to be open, transparent, and work hand-in-hand with the community to ensure our citizens are heard and valued. I firmly believe in the sanctity of life, meaning every person, no matter what their circumstances, is valued and their life is sacred. The job of a police officer is extremely difficult, especially in these ever-changing times. Police officers must have the support of their community and their police chief to be successful and accomplish their mission. They will always have my support when they are professional, adhere to department policy, and treat everyone they encounter with dignity and respect.

I look forward to developing innovative strategies to reduce crime and minimize fear in our community. Together, along with city leadership and the support of the community, the Fresno Police Department will be the model for success not only in the Central Valley but in the State of California.

Paco Balderrama, Chief of Police



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