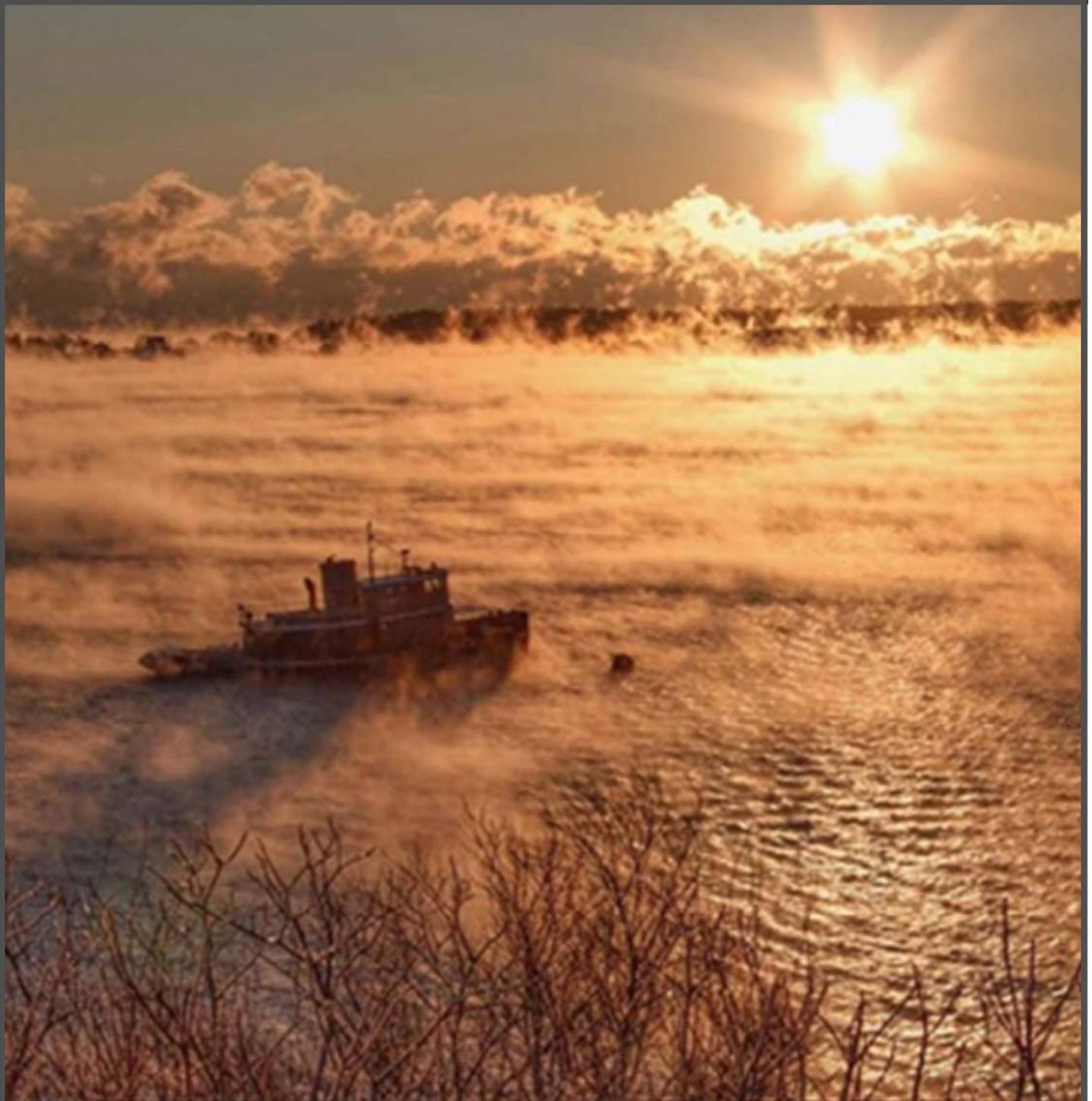


**PORTLAND MAINE
POLICE DEPARTMENT
2017 ANNUAL REPORT**





THE MISSION
OF THE PORTLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT
IS TO MAINTAIN A SAFE CITY
BY WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP
WITH THE COMMUNITY TO PREVENT AND REDUCE CRIME,
PROTECT LIFE AND PROPERTY,
HELP RESOLVE NEIGHBORHOOD PROBLEMS AND
PROTECT THE RIGHTS OF ALL.





A Message from the Chief

Welcome to the Portland Police Department's 2017 Annual Report. I am exceptionally proud to represent the professional, committed men and women who comprise this department. They serve with pride and a willingness to put community before self each and every day.

While the City of Portland saw unprecedented growth and prosperity in 2017, we are not without problems: the heroin epidemic continues to plague our community, while mental illness and homelessness remain at the forefront of our concerns. We continue to work with other stakeholders to devise compassionate, effective solutions to these complex issues.

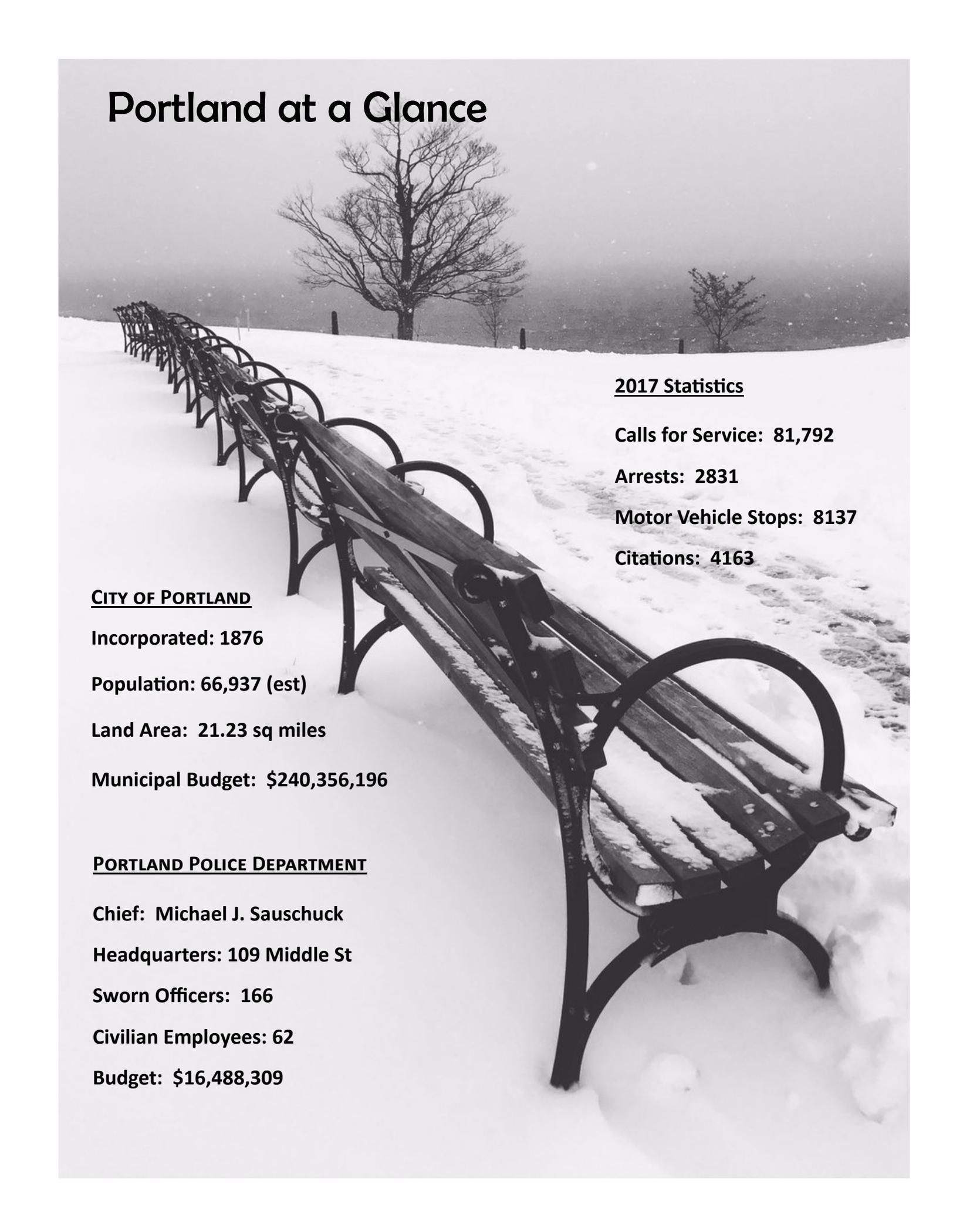
Crime numbers were variable in 2017. Robberies reached a ten year low and homicides held steady at 2 while rapes and aggravated assaults rose slightly over the previous year. In terms of property crimes, burglaries reached a ten year low and larcenies remained steady while motor vehicle thefts and arsons increased over the previous year.

We remain committed to launching and maintaining innovative programs such as our nationally recognized behavioral health team, our cadet program, and our street crimes unit. Additionally, we are moving steadily toward the purchase and deployment of Body Worn Cameras. In 2017, we secured funding for a pilot program and began policy development. I look forward to deploying cameras department-wide by the end of 2018 as part of my commitment to transparency.

Thank you for taking the time to view this report and familiarize yourself with the PD. Your support is a critical piece of our keeping the City of Portland a safe, welcoming place to live, work and do business.

Mike

Portland at a Glance



2017 Statistics

Calls for Service: 81,792

Arrests: 2831

Motor Vehicle Stops: 8137

Citations: 4163

CITY OF PORTLAND

Incorporated: 1876

Population: 66,937 (est)

Land Area: 21.23 sq miles

Municipal Budget: \$240,356,196

PORTLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief: Michael J. Sauschuck

Headquarters: 109 Middle St

Sworn Officers: 166

Civilian Employees: 62

Budget: \$16,488,309

Inside the Department



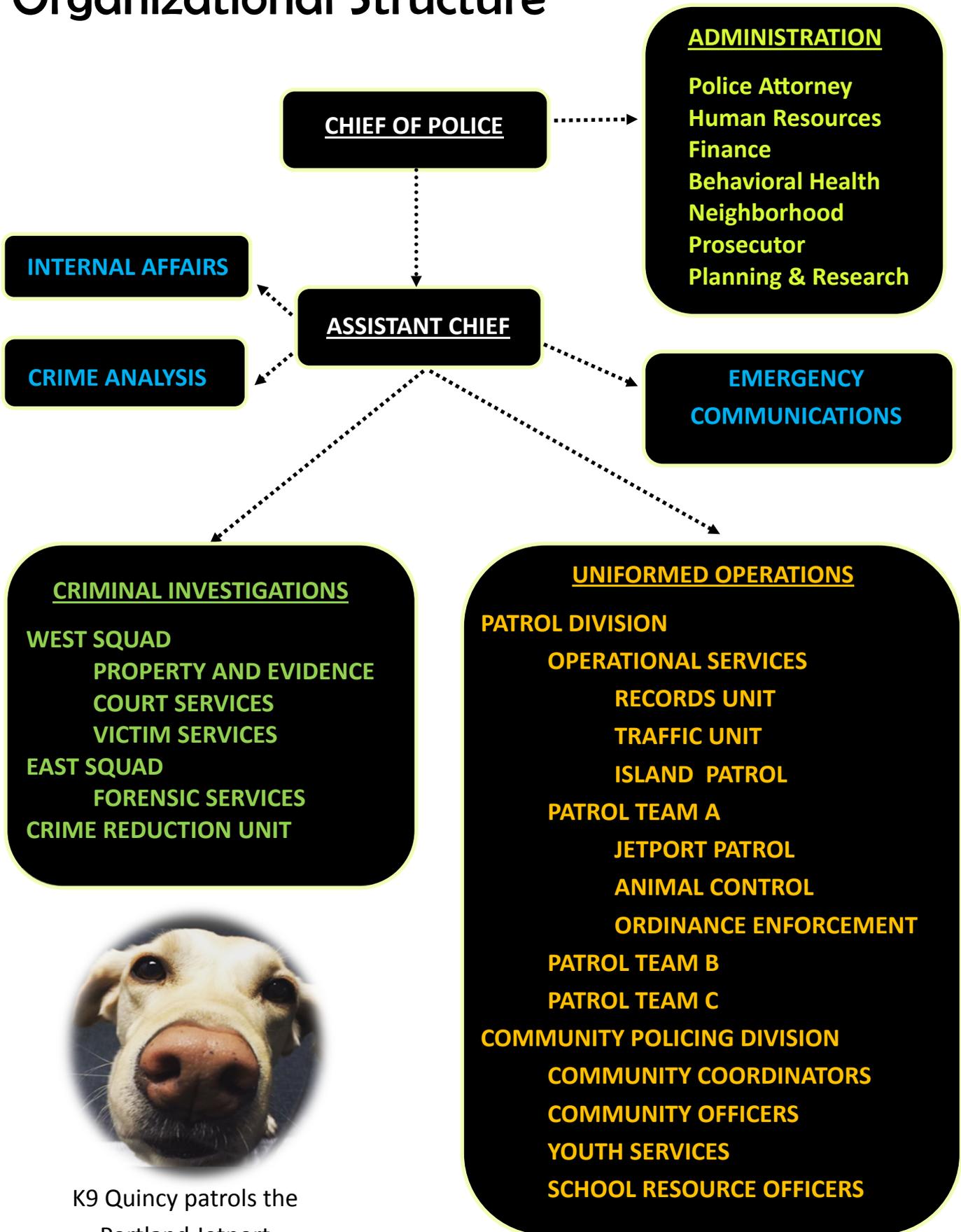
With an authorized strength of 166 Officers, the Portland Police Department is the largest municipal law enforcement agency in the State of Maine. The Department's Uniformed Services Group provides 24/7 patrol and law enforcement response while the Criminal Investigations Division investigates criminal incidents and provides forensics services.

The Department also fields a number of specialty teams/capabilities to include a Hazardous Devices Unit, Dive Team, Crisis Negotiators, Special Reaction Team, and a Canine Unit. Special capabilities include a nationally recognized Mental Health Co-Responder Program as well as accident reconstruction, arson investigation, and victim services capabilities. The Department also provides patrol services on Peaks Island and at the Portland International Jetport and assigns personnel to the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency and an FBI Safe Streets Task Force.

Additionally, the Department is staffed by a number of support personnel including human resources professionals, financial and legal services, property and evidence handling, and administrative support. A training unit ensures that all personnel, sworn and civilian, receive state mandated training as well as advanced training in order to best serve the community



Organizational Structure



K9 Quincy patrols the Portland Jetport

Programs and Initiatives

Hiring Bonuses

Faced with a considerable number of officer and dispatch vacancies combined with competition from law enforcement agencies around the state who are also looking to fill vacancies, the Portland Police Department began offering hiring bonuses in May of 2017. New officers receive \$2500 when they are sworn in, \$2500 when they complete training, and \$5,000 upon completion of two years of service. Dispatchers receive \$2500 upon hiring, \$2500 after 6 months of service and \$5,000 after two years of employment.

Body Worn Cameras

In 2017, the Department took several steps toward the introduction of Body Worn Cameras (BWC's). Grant money was secured to fund a pilot program, two labor contracts requiring sworn personnel to wear BWC's were approved, and a group was convened to write a policy regulating the use of the cameras. The pilot program was scheduled to launch in early 2018 with full implementation expected by the end of the year.



Radio System Upgrade

With its late 1990's vintage public safety communication system reaching the end of its usable life, the City contracted with Motorola Solutions to replace the existing system. Throughout 2017, Motorola worked with the City to build out the infrastructure to support the new state of the art system. Expected to be fully operational in 2018, the new system offers enhanced reliability, interoperability, and voice/data sharing across applications and devices.



Commendations and Awards

Commendation for Bravery

*For pursuing and capturing an armed suspect on
Cumberland Avenue.*

Officer Zachary Finley

*For locating and capturing the suspect in an Old
Port shooting .*

Sergeant Robert Miller

Sergeant David Mulry

Commendation for Heroism

*For saving a women attempting suicide by
jumping from the Casco Bay Bridge.*

Sergeant Benjamin Noyes

Officer Erik Richard

Commendation of Merit

*For the investigation and arrest of a suspect in a
sexual assault of a special needs victim.*

Detective Bryan Letarte

*For their efforts in building rapport with a
woman threatening suicide.*

Sergeant Benjamin Noyes

Officer Graham Hults

Officer Brent Abbott

*For providing critical medical assistance to the
victim of a motor vehicle accident.*

Officer Matthew Eide

*For the investigation and arrest of a suspect in an
armed robbery*

Detective Andjelko Napijalo

For locating and capturing a fleeing robbery suspect.

Officer Brent Abbott

*For his performance and expertise as a
canine handler.*

Officer Christian Stickney

*For their investigation of a shooting which led to the
prompt identification and arrest of a suspect.*

Detective Kelly Gorham

Detective Andrew Hagerty

For their teamwork and expertise.

Officer Zachary Finley and K9 Mako

Officer of the Year

Officer Zachary Finley

2017

Civilian of the Year

Telecommunicator

Kevin Dickinson

Commendations and Awards

Distinguished Unit Commendation

For their response to a shots fired call on Congress Street in May 2017.

Lieutenant Gary Hutcheson
Sergeant Daniel Hayden **Sergeant Christopher Dyer**
Officer Ryan Gagnon **Officer Jonathan Roberts**
Officer Christopher Gervais **Officer Heather Brake**
Officer Benjamin Savage **Officer Mary Lukasiewicz**
Officer Jeffrey Druan **Officer Zachary Finley/K9 Mako**

For their response to and investigation of a stabbing on Riverside Street in May 2017.

Sergeant Daniel Hayden **Sergeant Jacob Titcomb**
Officer Ryan Gagnon **Officer Christian Stickney**
Officer Ayaovi Alognon **Officer Zahra Abu**
Officer Benjamin Savage **Officer Christopher Gervais**
Officer Matthew Dissell **Officer Jonathan Roberts**
Detective Richard Beaumont **Detective Bryan Letarte**
Evidence Technician Victor Cote
Telecommunicator Jessie Lemieux
Telecommunicator Allyson Hildreth
Telecommunicator Gennette Cardullo Branco
Telecommunicator Kylie Ireland
Telecommunicator Jennifer Lee
Westbrook Police Officer Brian Grasser

For their response to a vandalism spree at the Narrow Gauge Railroad in April 2017.

Sergeant Daniel Hayden **Sergeant Christopher Mitchell**
Sergeant Christopher Dyer **Sergeant Robert Miller**
Officer Ryan Gagnon **Officer Jonathan Roberts**
Officer Mary Lukasiewicz **Officer Ian Geib**
Telecommunicator Gennette Cardullo Branco
Telecommunicator Kylie Ireland

For their response to a woman attempting suicide by jumping from a 6th floor window.

Sergeant Charles Libby
Officer Christopher Coyne **Officer Thien Duong**

For their response to a motor vehicle burglary and theft of a motor vehicle in March 2017.

Sergeant Jacob Titcomb
Officer Jonathan Lackee **Officer Vincent Rozzi**
Officer Zachery Grass **Officer David Moore**
Officer Morgan Maclean **Officer Thomas Kwok**
Officer Jamie Beals **Evidence Technician Frank Pellerin**
Telecommunications Supervisor Cheryl Brewster
Telecommunicator Gennette Cardullo Branco
Telecommunicator Kylie Ireland
Telecommunicator Kimberly Hatstat

For their response to a burglary on Brown Street in May 2017.

Officer Ryan Gagnon **Officer Andrew Castonguay**
Officer Heather Brake **Officer Jason Nadeau**
Officer Andrew Knutson

For their response to a shooting on Wharf Street in November 2017.

Lieutenant Gary Hutcheson
Sergeant Robert Miller **Sergeant David Mulry**
Officer Kevin Murphy **Officer Jacob Demchak**
Officer Ayaovi Alognon **Officer Erik Richard**
Officer David Schertz **Officer Christopher Gervais**
Officer Matthew Dissell **Officer Graham Hults**
Evidence Technician Victor Cote
Officer Zachery Finley and K9 Mako
Telecommunicator Carolyn Bouldry
Telecommunicator Jon Cosenza
Telecommunicator Melissa Napolitano
Telecommunicator Patrick Hastings

For their response to an armed robbery on Pine Street in May 2017.

Sergeant Christopher Mitchell
Officer Morgan Maclean **Officer Andrew Castonguay**
Officer Jonathan Roberts **Officer Zachery Theriault**
Officer Jamie Beals

Commendations and Awards

Distinguished Unit Commendation

For their successful resolution of an ongoing problem at a Deering residence in March 2017.

Major Heath Gorham

Sergeant Jacob Titcomb Sergeant Christopher Mitchell
Officer Kathryn Phelan Officer Vincent Rozzi
Officer Ian Geib Officer Brent Ross
Officer Zachery Grass Officer David Moore
Telecommunicator Heather Grant
Telecommunicator Susan Gorham
Telecommunicator Kylie Ireland

For their response to an armed robbery on Pine Street in July 2017.

Lieutenant Jason King

Sergeant Christopher Mitchell
Officer Zachery Theriault Officer Jonathan Lackee
Officer Jason Leadbetter Officer Laurence Smith
Officer Benjamin Savage Officer David Moore
Officer Zachery Finley and K9 Mako
Telecommunicator Crystal Castillo
Telecommunicator Jennifer Lee
Telecommunicator Stephanie Nowicki

For their response to and investigation of an Aggravated Assault on an infant in July 2017.

Sergeant Jacob Titcomb

Officer Kevin Murphy Officer Jacob Demchak
Officer Jeff Hawkins Officer Thomas Kwok
Detective Andjelko Napijalo
Detective Richard Beaumont

For their response to a report of shots fired at a car wash on Forest Avenue in September 2017.

Sergeant Anthony Ampezzan

Officer Kevin Haley Officer Blake Cunningham
Officer Andrew Knutson Officer Michael Galietta
Officer Jeremy Turner Officer Thomas Reagan
Detective Andrew Hagerty Detective Jeffrey Tully
Evidence Technician Frank Pellerin
Telecommunications Supervisor Cheryl Brewster
Telecommunicator Joshua Dell'Aquilla
Telecommunicator Kerri Carbone
Telecommunicator Louis Leary

For their investigation of a shooting which led to the prompt identification and arrest of a suspect

Lieutenant Robert Martin

Sergeant Jeffrey Calloway Sergeant Michael Rand
Sergeant Dean Goodale Sergeant Timothy Farris
Officer Daniel Townsend Officer Nicholas Gowen
Officer Matthew Morrison Officer Eric Johnson
Officer Mark Keller
Detective Richard Beaumont
Detective Christopher Giesecke
Detective Mary Sauschuck
Detective Andjelko Napijalo

For their response to an assault on an individual with special needs in late December 2016.

Officer Matthew Dissell

Evidence Technician Victor Cote

Law Enforcement Awards

For providing assistance during the arrest of a violent suspect.

Customs Inspector Craig Hamel

For making contact with an individual waving a machete in a violent manner.

Westbrook Police Sergeant Steven Hanlon

Commendations and Awards

Citizen Awards

For providing life-saving assistance to a heart attack victim .

Gavin Kelnhofer
Dr. Jonathan Eddinger

For providing medical assistance to an overdose victim.

Nicole Nadeau

For alerting first responders to the presence of a capsized boat with two hypothermic victims.

Tristan Dewdney

For locating and intervening to save the life of a man attempting suicide .

Richard Newcomb, Jr

For saving the life of a individual attempting to jump off the Casco Bay Bridge.

Marty Zanghi
Emma Haas-Zanghi

For her ongoing partnership and support of Portland Police Department Youth Programs.

Cary Olsen-Cartwright

For providing critical medical assistance to the pedestrian victim of a motor vehicle accident.

Genevieve Macdonald

For identifying and leading authorities to the suspect in a violent assault.

Cortney Townsend
Dawney Brown



Portland Police Officers at the Pentagon Memorial, December 2017.

New Hires

Each year, we hire a contingent of new officers to replace those who have retired or moved on to other careers. All candidates must undergo a rigorous hiring process including a written test, physical fitness test, oral interview, background investigation, job suitability, and a poly-graph. New hires who are not already certified law enforcement officers must attend the 18 week Basic Law Enforcement Training program at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy. All new hires also participate in a 14 week field training program at the PD. We welcome the following officers hired in 2017:



Geoffrey
Edwards



Kyle Forbes



Jacob Gibbs



David
Lemieux



Kyle
McIlwaine

We also welcomed a number of civilian employees in 2017:

Telecommunicators



Chris Carter



Peter Googins



Tori Gray



Mary Hughes



Crystal Reinhart

Community Services
Coordinator Kelly Crotty



Office Assistant
June Michard



Promotions

Chief Sauschuck was pleased to announce the following promotions in 2017:

To Commander: Jim Sweatt

To Major: Heath Gorham

To Lieutenant: Jason King

To Sergeant: Chris Dyer and Rob Miller



Above: Commander Sweatt with Chief Sauschuck



Left: Chief Sauschuck with Lt King, Sergeant Miller, Major Gorham, and Sergeant Dyer

Retirements

Five long serving members of the Portland Police Department retired in 2017:

Commander Gary Rogers

Sergeant Steven Reece

Detective Barry Cushman

Administrative Assistant Penny Diaz

Dispatch Supervisor Sue Gorham

Collectively, these employees served the City of Portland for more than 160 years! We thank all of them for their service and wish them well in their future endeavors.



A few of our favorite new friends from 2017



Clockwise from upper left:

After a short time on the lam, Timmy the Beagle took a ride in a police cruiser and visited police headquarters.

Lt Cashman hangs with Santacon attendees in the Old Port.

Jacoby Brissett generously shared his Super Bowl ring with Officer Shinay.

Officer Savage met some happy summer campers.

Louis came in for a tour. Then he took charge.



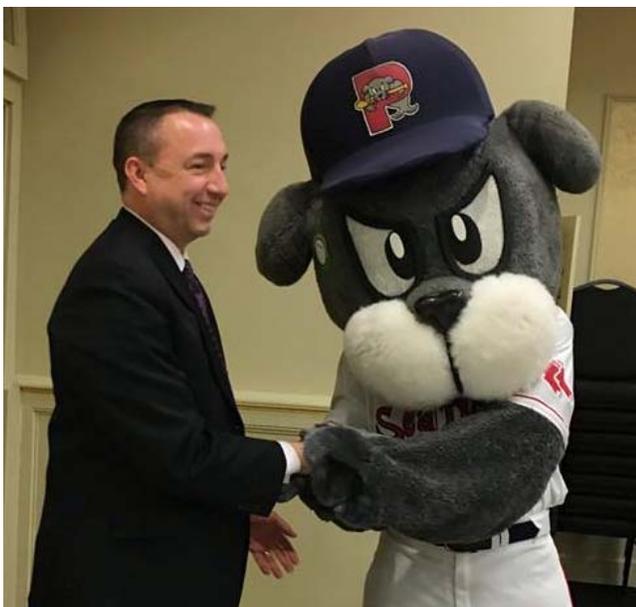
The Lighter Side



Out and About



Out and About

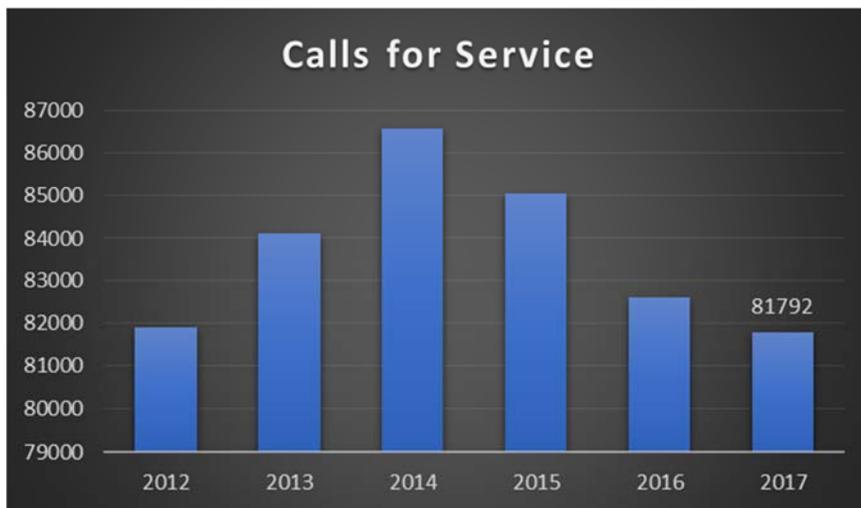


By the Numbers

Calls for Service

In 2017, the Portland Police Department responded to approximately 81,792 calls for service. This represents a 1.23% decrease in comparison to 2016.

Of those 81,792 calls for service, approximately 27,733 or 33.58% were self-initiated activity. Self-initiated activity, is any type of proactive enforcement activity when an officer is not actively responding to calls for service. In 2016, approximately 27845 calls were self-initiated which also represents approximately 33% of an officer's time.



Call Volume by Month

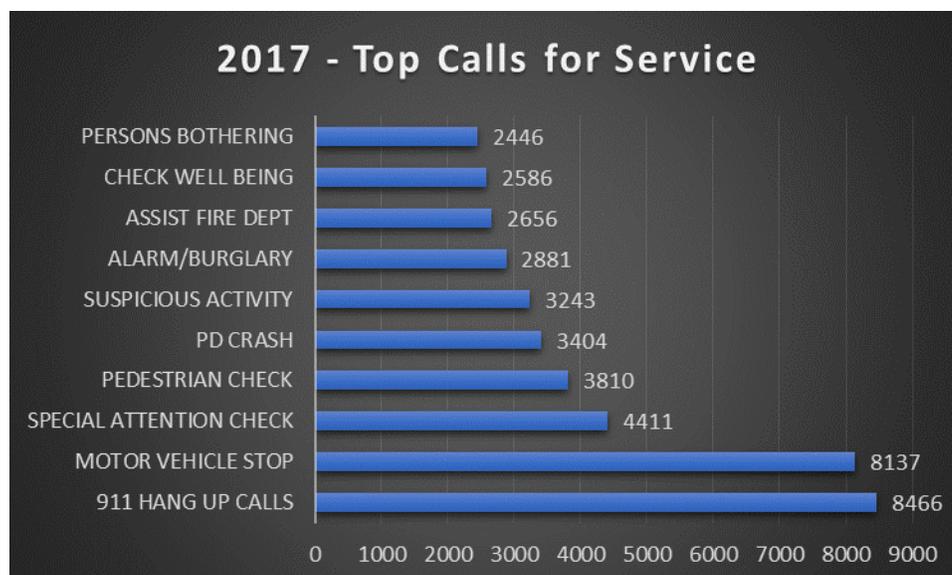
The Portland Regional Communication Center's calls for service average is approximately 6816 calls per month. Call volume is lowest in the winter months and increases significantly in the months from May through September.



Of the approximately 81,792 calls for service that came into the Portland Regional Communications Center in 2017, 911 Hang Up Calls comprised 10.35% of the total calls for service in 2017.

A 911 hang up call could often be a dropped call, a wrong number, a technical issue with a telephone, a child playing with a phone, or it could be a viable emergency where a victim needs an emergency response. Despite the fact that there may be no emergency, an officer is always dispatched to the location of the 911 call to verify there is no actual emergency.

Motor Vehicle Stops, Special Attention Checks, Pedestrian Checks, and PD Crashes round out the top five call types.



The Portland Regional Communications Center is staffed by nearly 40 dedicated, professional telecommunicators who answer 911 calls, provide emergency medical dispatch, respond to routine public inquiries and dispatch police, fire and ems personnel to Cape Elizabeth, South Portland and Portland. For more information on becoming an emergency Telecommunicator, please visit our website: <https://www.portlandmaine.gov/2294/Become-an-Emergency-Telecommunicator>

“The best thing about working in public safety is that everyday is different. When you come to work, you never know what you will encounter.”

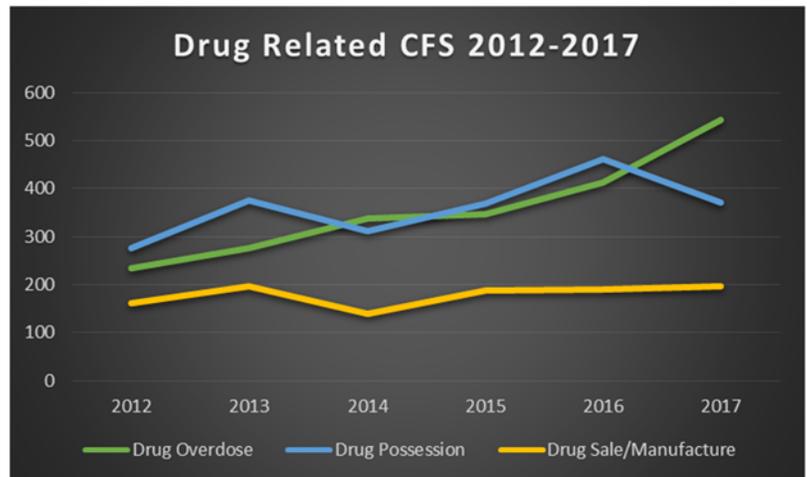
Portland RCC
Telecommunications Supervisor Cheryl Brewster



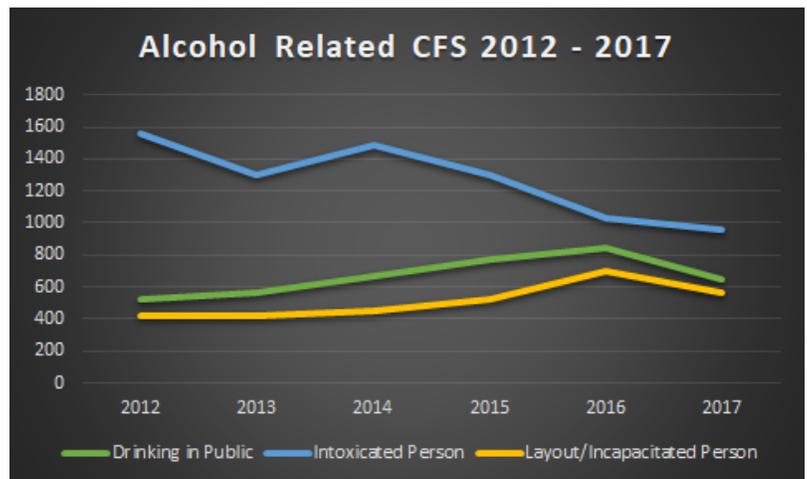
Drug and Alcohol Related Calls for Service

The Portland Police Department has partnered with Substance Use providers, clinics, and engaged in innovative partnerships to implement non-arrest solutions such as the Homeless Outreach, Mobile Engagement, and Behavioral Outreach Team in an effort to reduce substance abuse related calls for service.

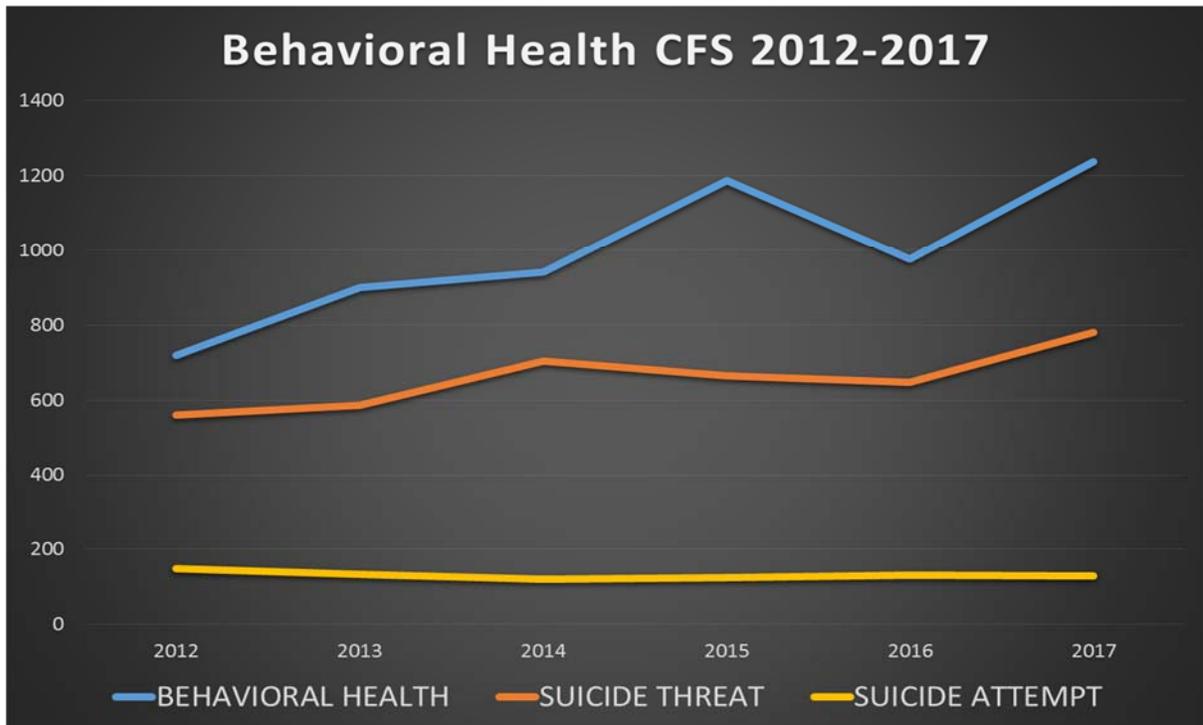
In January of 2016, the Portland Police Department launched LEAAP: The Law Enforcement Addiction Advocacy Program specifically in response to the opiate epidemic. Modeled after the Department's nationally recognized mental health co-responder program, the LEAAP added a full time Substance Use Disorder Liaison to the Police Department whose focus is on three key elements of outreach: education, community awareness and facilitation of treatment.



In 2016, Drinking in Public, Intoxicated Persons, and Layouts/ Incapacitated Persons calls for service all began to trend downward. While Drinking in Public calls for service have been steadily declining since 2014, Intoxicated Persons and Layouts had trended upward until 2016. This downward trend is likely attributed to increased enforcement in the Bayside area by Patrol and Community Policing during the summer months starting in May and the innovative partnerships with support services in the Portland area.



With the addition of the Substance Use Disorder Liaison and continued emphasis on non-arrest solutions, it is anticipated that drug related calls for service will begin to level out and eventually trend downward. However, the Opiate epidemic continues to plague most of the country and treatment resources remain scarce.



Behavioral Health Calls for Service

These calls are classified by the dispatcher as either Suicide Attempts, Suicide Threats, or Behavioral Health. In addition, many times officers arrive on the scene to a call for service and realize the call is related to a behavioral health condition and are required to advise the dispatcher to add a secondary behavioral health disposition to the call for tracking purposes.

In late 2016, Portland Police Shift Commanders began closely tracking officer's reporting of the monthly behavioral health secondary dispositions. 2017 represents the first entire year of data collection efforts. There were 3826 calls with a secondary behavioral health disposition, for a total of 5927 behavioral health related calls for service in Portland. This represents 7.25% of the total calls for service.

Whenever possible, officers are accompanied by Behavioral Health Co-responders when dispatched to a behavioral health related call. Co-responders include a full-time Coordinator, a Liaison employed by Opportunity Alliance, and master's level interns who work in a non-pay status while meeting their degree requirements. The co-responders assist officers in deescalating the situation, conduct follow-up and provider referrals to mental health providers. This frees officers to respond to additional calls while ensuring that community members in crisis get the support and treatment they need.

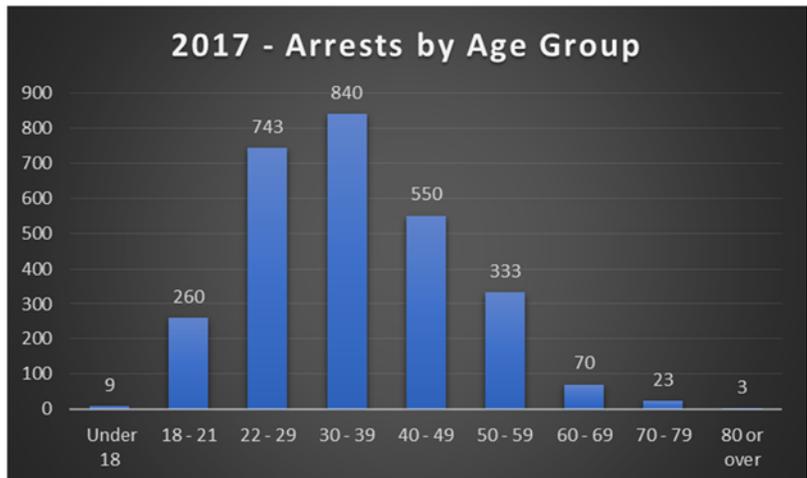
Arrests

There were 2831 arrests in 2017. This represents a 12.5% decrease from the 3235 arrests reported in 2016. While proactive policing levels remained the same in 2017, the increased emphasis on providing treatment rather than arrest for the mentally ill has contributed to the decline in arrests.

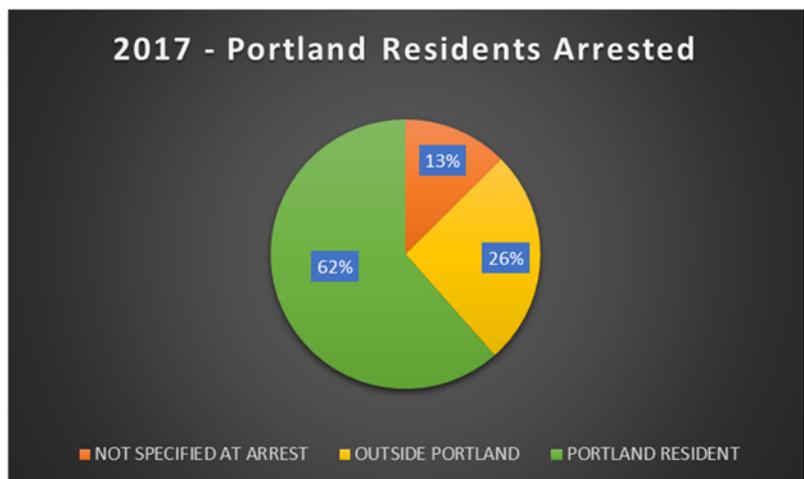
Of the 2831 persons arrested in 2017, the top ten arrest charges were: Criminal Trespass, Assault, Warrants for Failure to Appear, Public Drinking, Theft by Unauthorized Taking or Transfer, Operating Under the Influence, Operating After Suspension, Violation of Conditional Release, Unlawful Possession of Scheduled Drugs, Operation After Suspension, and Disorderly Conduct.



In 2017, persons 30 through 39 years of age accounted for 840 of the arrests followed by persons 22 – 29 years of age with 743 arrests.



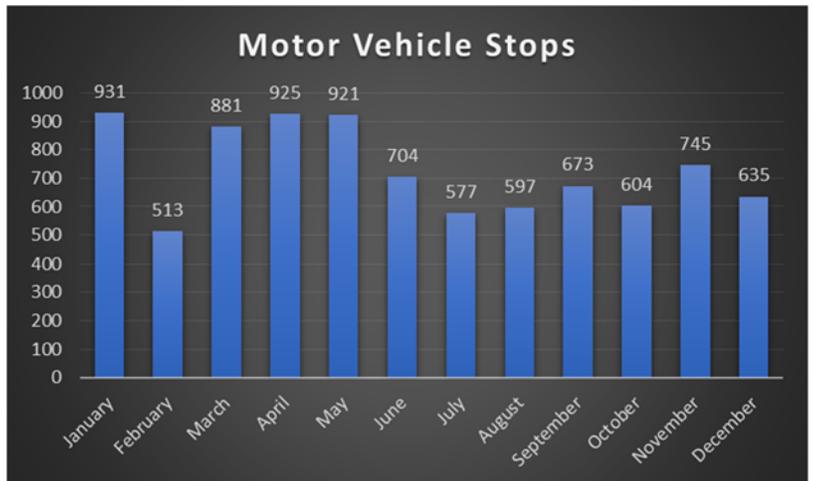
In 2017, approximately 62% of those persons arrested indicated a home address of Portland, 26% listed their home address outside of Portland, and 13% of arrestees did not give a home address at the time of arrest.



Traffic Enforcement

Traffic related issues are on ongoing priority department wide. The Portland Police Department's Traffic Enforcement Unit conducts proactive traffic enforcement and also responds to problem areas based on citizen input and data from the Maine crash reports and in-house records systems.

Officers conducted 8706 motor vehicle stops in 2017, 47.8% or 4163 resulted in written citations for vehicle related infractions.

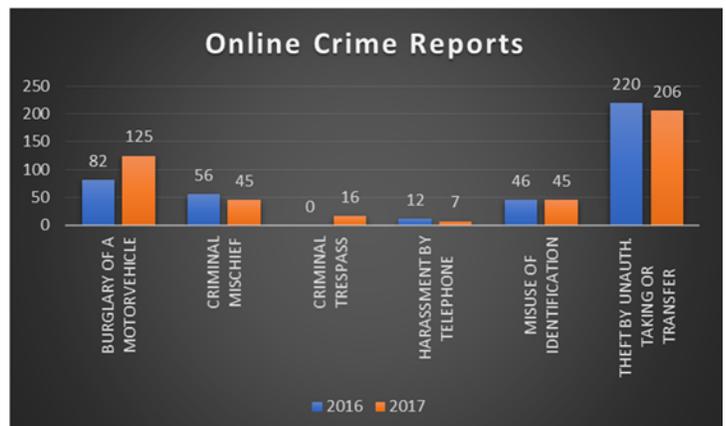
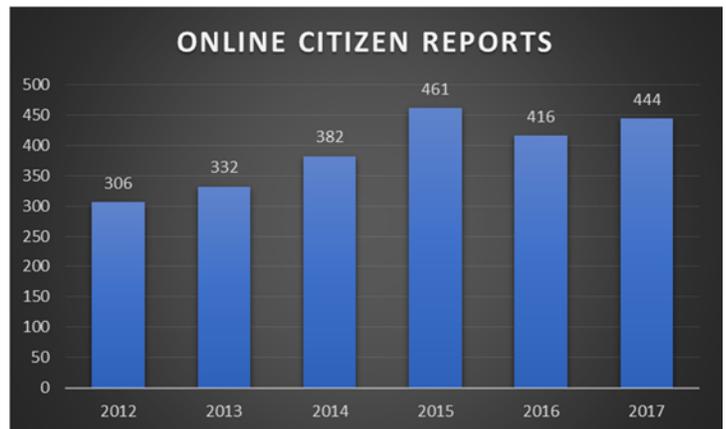


Online Crime Reporting

The Portland Police Department accepts online crime reports for a small number of crimes. Citizens are encouraged to report all crimes to the police department in an effort to accurately track and connect incidents that may be part of a pattern of crime in a neighborhood. The online reporting module allows citizens to report incidents without having to come to the police station or wait for a patrol officer.

The online reporting system should only be utilized for specific non-emergency crimes such as Burglary of a Motor Vehicle that has already occurred (please use 911 for one in progress), Criminal Mischief, Criminal Trespass, Harassment by Telephone, Misuse of Identification, or Theft by Unauthorized Taking of Transfer.

Citizens continue to make use of the online reporting system as reporting of incidents via the online system is up 6.73% over 2016.



Part One Crimes

The Portland Police Department submits monthly Part I Crime Data to the state of Maine Uniform Crime Reporting Unit. This unit submits our crime data to the FBI which then compiles that data and publishes an annual report called *Crime in the United States*. The Uniform Crime Reporting system divides criminal offenses into two major categories: Part I Offenses and Part II offenses. Part I crimes are divided into Violent and Property crimes.

Violent crimes are comprised of Murder, Robbery, Forcible Rape, and Aggravated Assault.

Property crimes are comprised of Arson, Burglary, Larceny-Theft, and Motor Vehicle thefts.

As of 2021 all police agencies in the country will be required to transition from the Uniform Crime Reporting System to the National Incident Based Reporting system or NIBRS. NIBRS will be a more robust data collection system than UCR. The Portland Police Department has begun the transition to NIBRS and will transition prior to the 2021 deadline.

COMPSTAT (Comparative Statistics Program)

The Portland Police Department tracks weekly changes in Part I Crimes through weekly CompStat meetings. CompStat is a police management accountability tool established by New York City Police Department's William Bratton in 1994. CompStat was designed to provide police administrators with a more complete picture of crime in their jurisdiction and to strategize solutions to address that crime and reduce the crime rate.

In January of 2017, CompStat was expanded to include additional crime categories and public nuisance crime for the city. The goal is to further reduce crime and disorder calls in the City of Portland through a proactive approach based on analyzing weekly trends.

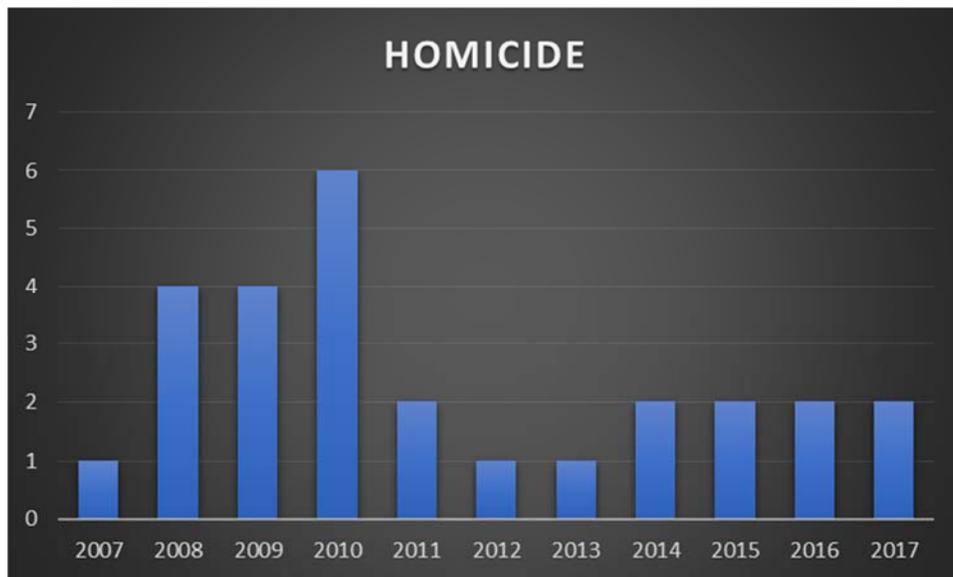
2017 Part One Crimes

Total Part One Violent Crime increased 8.60% over 2016. Total Part One Property Crime decreased 1.83% over 2016. Total Part One Crime in the City of Portland decreased .86% from 2016 to 2017 and has been steadily declining since 2012.

The Portland Police Department's use of CompStat as well as the continued focus on innovative strategies to address mental illness and substance abuse has contributed to the yearly decrease in the crime rate.

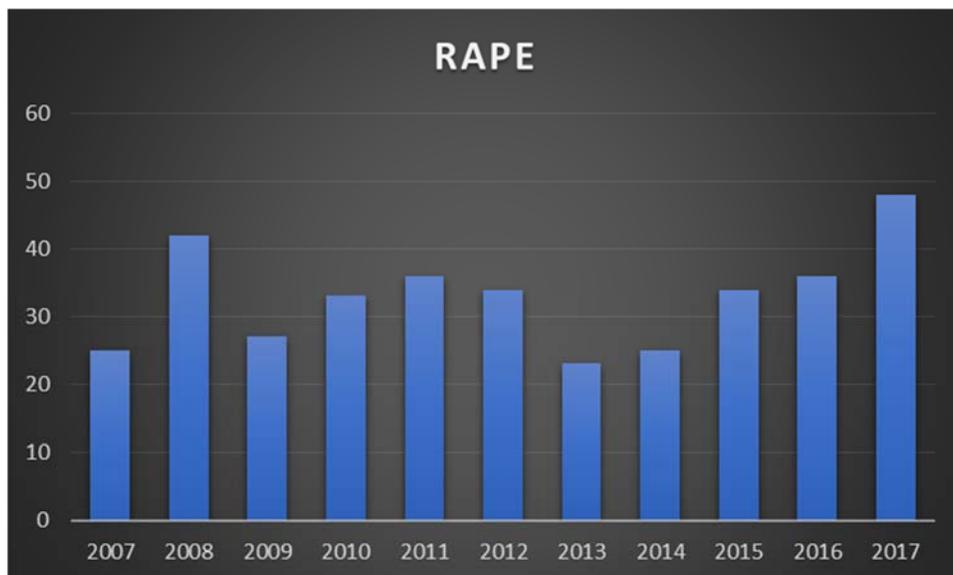
The charts on the following pages provide a ten year break down of each Part I crime.

Homicide



There were 2 reported homicides in Portland in 2017. The ten-year average for homicide in Portland is 2. Both homicides are still under investigation and no arrests have been made.

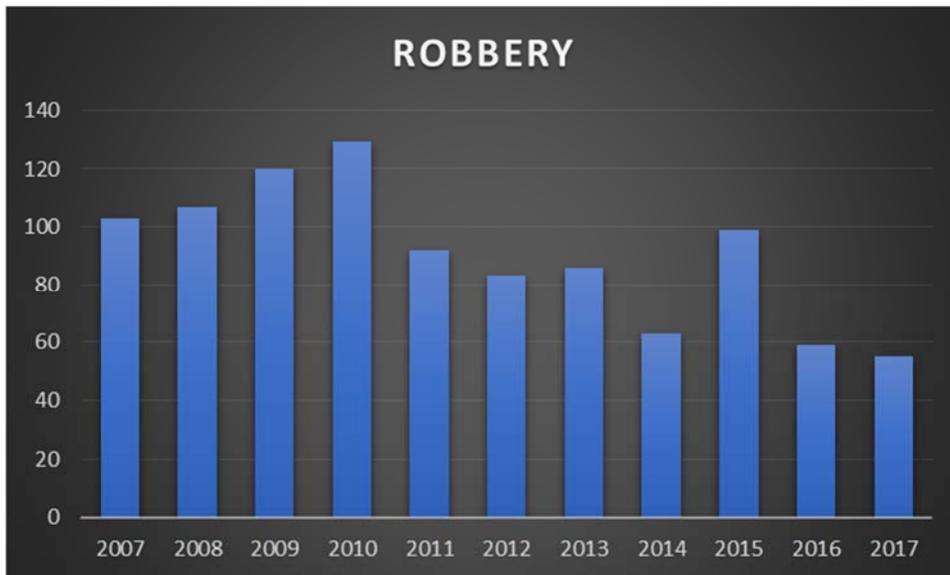
Rape



There were 48 reports of Rape in 2017. The ten-year average for Portland is 32.

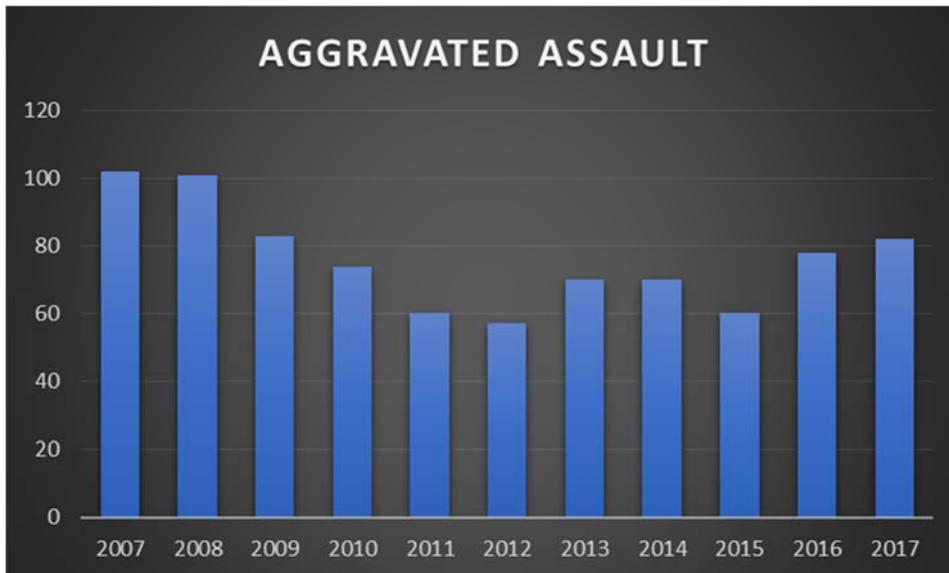
The FBI UCR program revised the definition of rape in 2011 so that males are now counted as victims of rape for reporting purposes. Previous to that time, UCR only counted female rape victims. The majority of rapes in Portland are perpetrated by a person known to the victim, the number of stranger related rape in the City of Portland remain low. All reports of rape are taken seriously by the department and thoroughly investigated. Additionally, all victims crime are referred to Sexual Assault Response Services of Southern Maine (SARSSM) for support and advocacy.

Robbery



There were 55 reported robberies in the city in 2017, this represents the lowest number of robberies in the past five years. The ten-year average for robbery in Portland is 91, and this year's numbers represent a 40% decrease from the average.

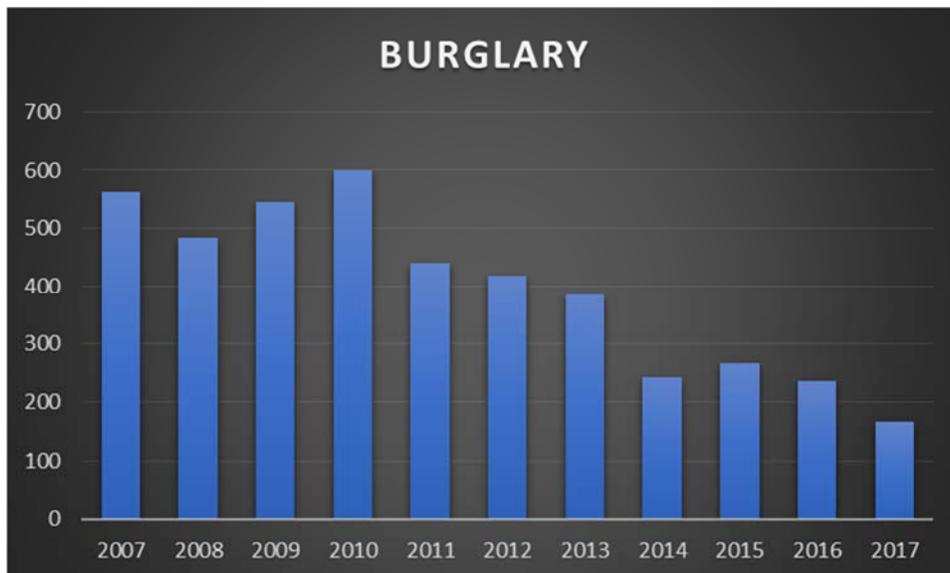
Aggravated Assault



Aggravated assaults are defined as an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. Aggravated assaults can be classified as either an aggravated assault or an elevated aggravated assault depending on the severity.

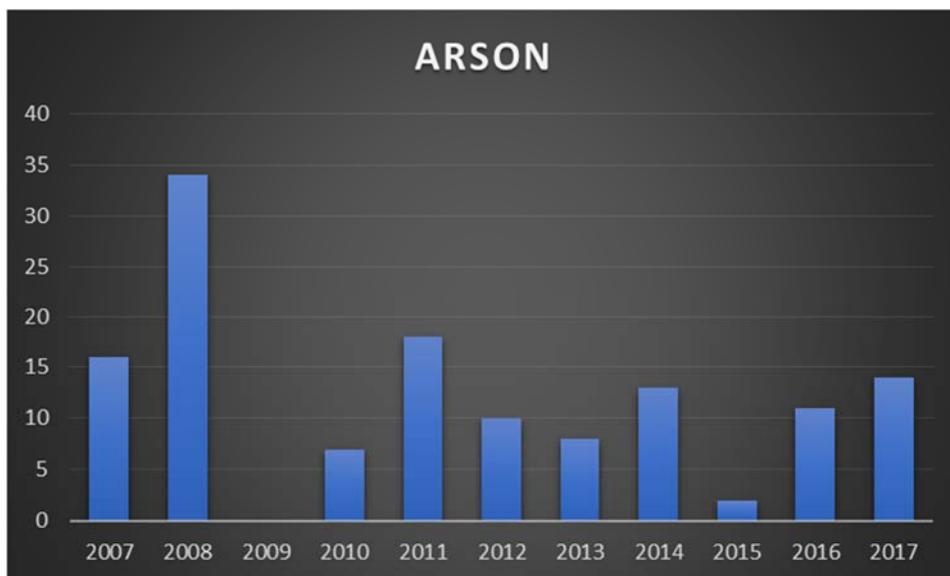
There were 82 reported aggravated assaults in 2017. The ten-year average for aggravated assault in Portland is 76, and this year's numbers represent an 8% increase from the ten-year average.

Burglary



Burglaries are at their lowest level in over ten years. There were 166 reported burglaries which include commercial, residential, and attempted. The ten-year average for burglary in Portland is 395, and this year's numbers represent a 58% decrease from the average.

Arson

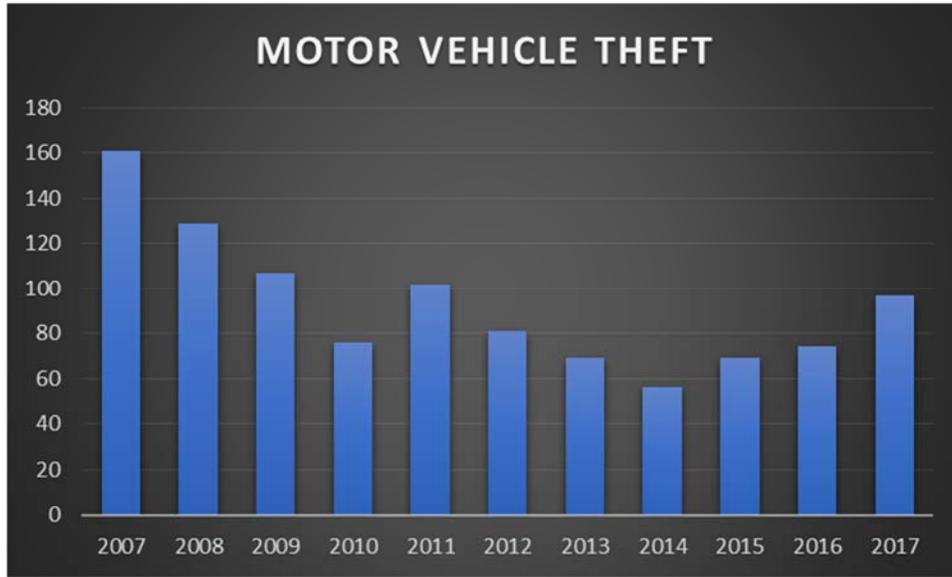


There were 14 separate arson incidents in 2017. The ten-year average for arson in Portland is 12, and this year's numbers represent a 17% increase from the average.

Arson has the most potential for property damage and also risk to human life, so every arson is reported to the State Fire Marshal and thoroughly investigated by either the State or Criminal Investigation Division.

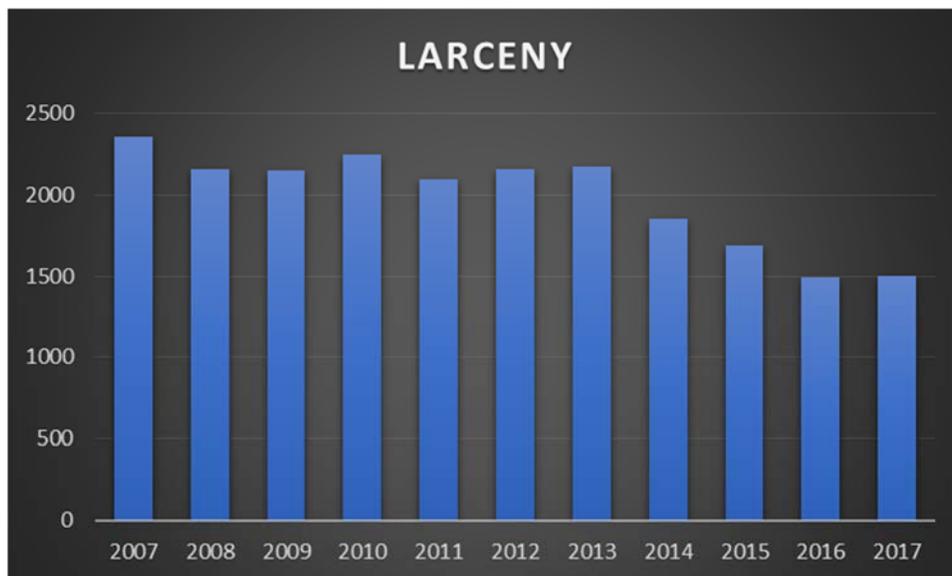
In 2017, there were several dumpster or trash can fires, two motor vehicle arsons, criminal mischief related arsons to the railroad trestle, and some residential arsons.

Motor Vehicle Thefts



There were 97 reports of motor vehicle thefts in 2017. The ten-year average for motor vehicle thefts in Portland is 93, and this year's numbers represent a 4% increase from the average. In many of these cases, the stolen vehicles were left running, unlocked, and a key was left in the vehicle. The best crime preventive measure a person could take to avoid having their car stolen is to lock the vehicle and hold on to the keys.

Larceny



Larceny crimes include Theft by Unauthorized Taking and such crimes as shoplifting, thefts of items from motor vehicles, and stolen bicycles. There were 1504 larceny reports in 2017. The ten-year average in Portland is 1989, and this year's numbers represent a 24% decrease from the average.

The Portland Police Department recommends locking your vehicles, not leaving valuables in plain sight, and if using a bike utilize a heavy-duty lock that can't be cut and attach the lock to the rim of the bike. It also helps to have a photo of the bike and the serial number handy if the bike is stolen.



PORTLAND POLICE DEPARTMENT

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