



2023

ANNUAL REPORT

Message from the Chief

I am proud to represent the dedicated men and women of the Albemarle Police Department and the City of Albemarle. On their behalf, I am honored to introduce our 2023 annual report. This report demonstrates the efforts of both sworn and civilian employees working in collaboration with the community we serve. I want to thank Honorable Mayor Ronnie Michael, the City Council, City Manager Michael Ferris (Retired) and the Assistant City Manager Darren Rhodes for their leadership and commitment to provide the needed resources to the Police Department to enhance our services.

I am honored to work with some of the most committed professionals in law enforcement here at the Albemarle Police Department (APD). Our number one priority is to work with the community to combat crime and the fear of crime and keep our neighborhoods safe. We do this in partnership with the community we serve. Further, the members of APD are continuously looking for improved ways to be proactive in law enforcement with the detection and investigation of crimes.

APD utilizes the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) in conjunction with the North Carolina and the Federal Bureau of Investigations to calculate the crime data for the City of Albemarle. North Carolina and the FBI utilizes data from Part I NIBRS reporting to calculate the crime statistics for cities.

Part I offenses are categorized by two specific areas, violent crimes, and property crimes. Violent crimes are comprised of the following: homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. Property Crimes contain the following: burglary, motor vehicle theft, larceny, and arson. Over the last 5 years, Albemarle has seen a significant decrease in overall crime. The Part I Crime dropped 24% from the 5-year total crime average during 2023. These results are in a large part due to the proactive engagement by all members of the Police Department in collaboration with the Community.

Traffic Safety is a huge concern for many of our citizens. APD focused on specific areas to combat reckless driving through high visibility enforcement actions. The officers' approach to traffic safety is designed to create deterrence through education and enforcement actions.

***“Part I Crime
dropped 24%
from the
5-year total
crime average.”***

**Jason Bollhorst
APD Chief**



Message from the Chief Continued

There are several new partnerships and initiatives either recently implemented or in the process to be implemented soon. APD understands that we cannot be successful without having a strong relationship with the community. Our focus on police and community relations is a high priority within our department goals. APD is strategically improving our police-community relations with a focus on building trust and legitimacy with those we serve.

I believe, through a strong partnership, we can work together to overcome the many challenges that face us. APD will continue to combat the crime challenges through "Community Policing" strategies. Our tactics will continue to demonstrate our dedication to integrity, accountability, fairness to all, and the value of our continued and future positive relationships. I will remain vigilant in the efforts to reduce the level of violence in the City of Albemarle in the hopes of an excellent year in 2024. APD will continue to work with the community and many partners to build a stronger healthier environment for all living, working, or visiting our great city.

**- Jason Bollhorst
APD Chief**

COMMAND STAFF



J.T. Cranford
Assistant Chief of Police



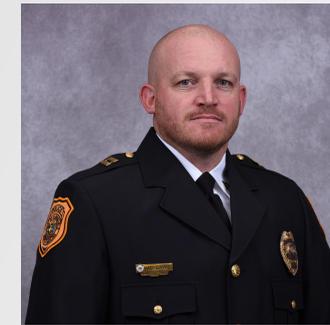
Captain D. Hicks
Internal Affairs/ Professional Standards



Captain K. Swink
Administrative Operations



Captain J. Clark
Patrol Division



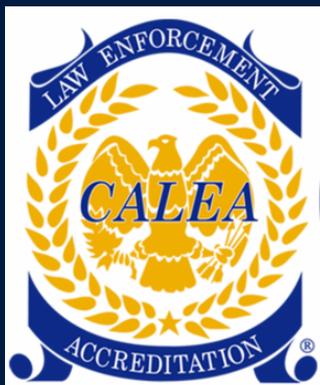
Captain J. Laws
Criminal Investigations Division



ABOUT THE ALBEMARLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

NATIONALLY ACCREDITED

The Albemarle Police Department (APD) is a law enforcement agency with an authorized staff of 52 sworn officers and 7 civilian personnel. The department is nationally accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA) the gold standard in public safety.



OUR VISION AND MISSION

Our vision is to take a leading role in making the City of Albemarle a place where people want to live, work, and play.

The Albemarle Police Department is committed to fairness, compassion, and excellence while providing police services in accordance with the law and sensitivity to the priorities and needs of the community.

- The Albemarle Police Department believes that the protection of life and property is our highest priority.
- The Albemarle Police Department will respect and protect the rights and dignity of all persons and conduct all citizen contacts with courtesy and compassion.
- The Albemarle Police Department will strive for excellence in its delivery of police services and will utilize training, technology, and innovation to achieve that goal.
- The Albemarle Police Department recognizes its inter-dependent relationship with the community it serves and will remain sensitive to the community's priorities and needs.
- The Albemarle Police Department will enforce the law impartially throughout the community.
- The Albemarle Police Department recognizes the individual worth of each of its members.



CRIME STATS

OVERALL
CRIME

↓ 3.7%

OVERALL
CRIME
FIVE YEAR
AVERAGE

↓ 23%

VIOLENT
CRIME

↓ 1%

VIOLENT
CRIME
FIVE YEAR
AVERAGE

↓ 15%

BURGLARY

↑ 23%

13% lower than
five year average

PROPERTY
CRIME

↓ 4%

LARCENY

↓ 6%

VEHICLE
THFTS

↓ 28%

AGGR.
ASSAULTS

↑ 12%

HOMICIDE
TOTAL 1

ROBBERY
TOTAL 2

RAPE
TOTAL 4
Down from 10
in 2022

ARSONS
TOTAL 4
Down from 9
in 2022

 **1,306 Total Arrests**



Crime Trends

Data from 2023 shows for the third consecutive year the City experienced a decline in total crime. Total crime has also decreased significantly over the past five years.

Case Clearance Data

HOMICIDE

CLEARANCE RATE

1

100%

APD's Criminal Investigation Division successfully cleared, with arrests, the City's only homicide that occurred in 2023.

NOTE: Some cases are uncleared as they remain active

OFFENSE TYPE	NUMBER OF OFFENSES	OFFENSE CLEARED	NATIONAL AVG. CLEARANCE RATE
RAPE	4	0%	35%
AGG. ASSAULT	90	69%	53%
LARCENY	447	24%	19%
ROBBERY	2	0%	29%
ARSON	4	0%	21%
BURGLARY	114	22%	14%
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	23	21%	13%

Criminal Investigation Division

The Criminal Investigation Division (CID) is assigned a variety of responsibilities. CID personnel perform their duties in conjunction with the department's Patrol Division, Administration, and Records Division. CID personnel are also involved with a number of State, County, and other local organizations. Staffing for CID consists of one Captain, two Sergeants, and seven Detectives.

A total of 858 cases were handled by APD's Criminal Investigation Division in 2023.

APD has a detective on the DEA/HIDTA task force for the Piedmont Region. In 2023, the group seized approximately 975 Kg of narcotics 201,210 dosage units, 32 firearms, and over \$2,000,000 in cash seizures. These efforts resulted in 49 arrests for 2023.

CALLS FOR SERVICE

In 2023, the total number of calls for service dropped by approximately 5% compared to 2022. Calls for service are categorized as citizen initiated or officer initiated. Citizen initiated calls are received by the Stanly County 911 Communications Center. Officer initiated calls take place as a result of realtime field observation.

29,182
TOTAL CALLS
FOR SERVICE

Calls for Service
from Citizens

20,524

Officer Initiated
Calls

4,280

Officer Initiated
Vehicle Stops

4,378

CALLS FOR SERVICE BY MONTH

JANUARY	2,181
FEBRUARY	2,021
MARCH	2,272
APRIL	2,374
MAY	2,660
JUNE	2,930
JULY	3,025
AUGUST	2,657
SEPTEMBER	2,327
OCTOBER	2,293
NOVEMBER	2,178
DECEMBER	2,254

TRAFFIC OPERATIONS

APD is an active participant in the North Carolina Governor's Highway Safety Program. The program is dedicated to promoting efforts to reduce traffic crashes through safe-driving initiatives including Click It or Ticket and Booze It & Lose It. These initiative help address issues such as impaired driving, seat belt use, speeding, distracted driving, motorcycle safety, bicycle safety, pedestrian safety and other aspects of highway safety.



**FATAL
CRASHES**

2

**INJURY
CRASHES**

72

**TRAFFIC
CITATIONS**

1,461

**TRAFFIC
STOPS**

4,378

**DWI
ARRESTS**

65

**TOTAL
COLLISIONS**

1,101

**SEAT BELT
VIOLATIONS**

14

**SPEEDING
VIOLATIONS**

141

**ALCOHOL
CRASH RELATED**

16

**RECKLESS
DRIVING**

28

**CHILD RESTRAINT
VIOLATIONS**

9

K-9 UNIT

In 2023, the Albemarle Police Department reestablished the Police K-9 Unit. This unit is utilized for narcotics detection and patrol work. The K-9 Officer, Lord, is trained to search for and locate illegal drugs; perform tracks; evidence searches; building and subject searches; and criminal apprehension.



CYBER CRIMES AGAINST CHILDREN

The City of Albemarle's Criminal Investigation Division has dedicated staff to incidents involving children and cybercrimes. This staff participates in the North Carolina Internet Crimes Against Children Taskforce. APD staff receives information from the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children in reference to possible exploitation and other crimes against local children.

Albemarle Police, DA's office work together to convict sex offender

Published 4:09 pm Tuesday, November 14, 2023

By Charles Curcio



Albemarle Police Department, The Butterfly House and District Attorney T. Lynn Clodfelter and his office combined forces to convict a habitual felon. Derrick Lindsey was found guilty on four counts, including a B1 felony for first degree statutory sexual offense, two C class felonies for two separate instances of indecent liberties with a child and second degree trespassing. The defendant was sentenced to between 420 and 560 months for the B1 felony and one of the indecent liberties charges, and between 110 and 192 months for the other indecent liberties charge and habitual felon status.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

APD has four School Resource Officer (SRO) positions, one for each school in the City. SROs assist school administration in maintaining a safe and secure environment. The officer in the Middle School also offers instruction in the D.A.R.E. program, a drug abuse prevention education program intended to give children skills to resist peer pressure to use tobacco, drugs, and alcohol.



YOUTH OUTREACH

APD operates a summer Junior Academy for middle school age students. The academy features a variety of activities that explain the roles and responsibilities of police in the community. Students learn about everything from evidence collection to how a criminal court trial occurs.

**PARTICIPANTS IN
D.A.R.E. PROGRAM**

110

**NUMBER OF STUDENTS
IN JUNIOR ACADEMY**

15

COMMUNITY OUTREACH



CREATING CONNECTIONS

At APD, community policing isn't just a concept; it's a commitment to building relationships with the people we protect and serve each day. It's why you'll see our officers at all sorts of events and activities across our City. In 2023, APD officers engaged the community in numerous ways including: Coffee With Cop events, the Downtown Fall Festival, the Downtown Christmas Parade, Holiday Heroes Shopping, Sweets and Stories with Stanly County Partnership, the Special Olympics, Faith and Blue Weekend, Back to School Bash, and many more.

In 2023, APD was proud to once again partner with Safe Kids to host Community Night Out at YMCA Park, where more than 1,100 people were in attendance.



SEIZURES

In 2023, APD successfully removed various types of illegal drugs from the street valued at a total of \$266,812. These seizures occur in variety of ways:

-TRAFFIC STOPS

-ARRESTS

-SEARCH WARRANTS

2023 DATA

Items Seized	Amount Seized	Street Value
Marijuana	2379.22g	\$47,584
Cocaine	1434.65g	\$172,158
Pills	104 du	\$2,080
Heroin/Fentanyl	77.4g	\$38,500
Methamphetamine	197.75g	\$5,910
Other	29.5g	\$580
Firearms	82	\$41,000
U.S. Currency	\$21,330.75	\$21,330.75
Vehicles	4	\$60,000

OVERDOSE CASES

In 2023, there was a significant decline in the number of overdoses. The number of overdoses resulting in death also decreased.

OVERDOSES ↓ **55%**
2023 TOTAL: 43
DOWN FROM 94 IN 2022

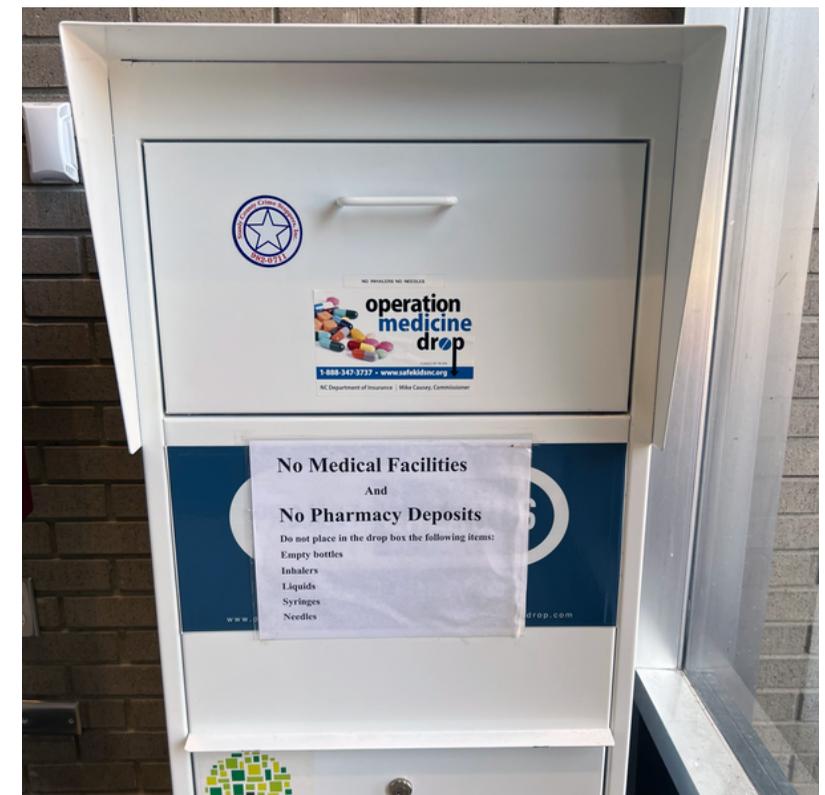
FATAL OVERDOSES ↓ **2**
DOWN FROM 4 IN 2022

OPERATION MEDICINE DROP

You can make your home a safer place by using the Operation Medicine Drop box at APD to dispose of expired or unneeded medications.

The drop box is located in the lobby at APD and is open 24 hours a day. APD's Evidence Custodian makes sure the medications are disposed of properly.

In 2023, 181,076 grams of medication were put in the drop box.



**DIAL EMERGENCY
911**

INTERNAL AFFAIRS

15
TOTAL COMPLAINTS

5
COMPLAINTS BY
THE COMMUNITY

10
SUPERVISOR
INITIATED
COMPLAINTS

0 OFFICER-INVOLVED
SHOOTING INCIDENTS

15 RESPONSE TO RESISTANCE /
USE OF FORCE INCIDENTS

16 EMPLOYEE
COLLISIONS

10 PURSUIT
INCIDENTS

The Internal Affairs Division conducts internal and administrative investigations regarding police personnel, firearm discharges, use of force investigations, employee misconduct, and any other investigations as directed by the Chief of Police.

In 2023, out of 29,185 calls for service, the department received 15 complaints, just .00051% from all citizen contacts.

The police department recorded 5 citizen complaints in 2023 and 10 supervisor reported complaints.

Complaints may be made in person, by phone, in writing, or online at www.albemarlenc.gov/apdcomplaint



RECORDS SERVICE

The Records Division is comprised of five full-time civilian employees, one assigned to each Patrol Team and a Records Supervisor. We are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Two part-time employees are also employed and can be called to work when needed. Record Specialists work 12-hour shifts on a schedule identical to the Patrol Teams, allowing them to be available to assist the Patrol and Detective Divisions as well as the public at all times. Records personnel directs and advises all visitors to the Police Department and answers all incoming calls. Customer Service is our top priority at all times, both when interacting with the citizens of our city and when assisting members of Law Enforcement.

The Records Division maintains records through ONESolution Records Management Software (RMS), provided by CentralSquare Technologies. Criminal reports are vetted by the Records Division personnel to assure they comply with National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) requirements. Reports are then submitted to the NC State Bureau of Investigation.

2023 RECORDS REQUESTS

Request Type	2023	Percentage Change from 2022
Incident Reports	2,116	+1%
Arrest Reports	1,291	-1%
Accident Reports	1,101	+7%

RECRUITMENT



New recruits are hired by the department and sent to Basic Law Enforcement Training to become sworn police officers. In 2023, we hired four students with 4 graduating and starting their career with the department in 2023.

The City of Albemarle is dedicated to supporting its law enforcement professionals. Our police officers have received 6% pay increases each of the last two years. We've also instituted merit pay, making police officers eligible for a pay increase up to 10% in the 2023/2024 fiscal year.

Other benefits include 401 K, free health insurance, longevity package, and take home vehicle. Lateral sworn officers may receive compensation consideration for experience, education, bi-lingual skills, and adjustment of leave accrual with time in law enforcement.

117 PEOPLE APPLIED TO JOIN APD  **43%** COMPARED TO 2022

BUDGET



TOTAL BUDGET
\$5,910,144

BUDGET BREAKDOWN

\$4.7 MILLION
PERSONNEL - 81%

\$967,412
OPERATING - 16%

\$177,000
CAPITAL OUTLAY - 3%

DIRECTORY

Main Office
155 W South St
(704) 984-9500

**Office of the
Chief of Police**
155 W South St
(704) 984-9515

Internal Affairs
155 W South St
(704) 984-9556



**Stanly County
Communications**
(704) 986-3700

Investigations Division
155 W South St
(704) 984-9516

Records Division
155 W South St
(704) 984-9500

**Patrol Division
East Office**
1610 E Main St
(704) 984-9550