

TOWNSHIP OF KALAMAZOO

POLICE DEPARTMENT



**2024
ANNUAL
REPORT**

A LETTER FROM THE CHIEF

Bryan N. Ergang, Chief of Police



It is my privilege as Chief of Police for the Township of Kalamazoo Police Department to present our 2024 Annual Report. This report reflects the pride I have in the dedicated work of our officers and staff, as well as our continued commitment to the community we proudly serve.

This year, TKPD achieved two extraordinary milestones. First, we completed a multi-year effort to attain accreditation through the Michigan Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission. Fewer than 90 agencies statewide have earned this distinction, marking TKPD as a leader in professional policing. Second, we successfully reestablished a Community Policing Unit in Kalamazoo Township. Through grants and community partnerships, officers began working in assigned districts in late 2024, already fostering meaningful connections.

Crime in Kalamazoo Township and the City of Parchment remained stable, affirming our community is a safe place to live, work, learn, and play. TKPD continues to enhance technology for public safety, including updated body-worn and in-car cameras, improved less-lethal systems, and advanced data analysis tools to better allocate resources.

Beyond technology, we remain focused on operational transparency, employee development, and community outreach. Our updated strategic plan aligns with the Township's broader goals, guided by input from our dedicated personnel. Our growing social media presence has expanded through new platforms and collaborative tools with township and fire partners, helping us strengthen community engagement.

The training, wellness, and career development of our staff are top priorities. Despite a competitive hiring environment, TKPD continues to attract and hire qualified candidates who reflect our commitment to professional policing.

With our MLEAC Accreditation and my selection as President of the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police for 2024-2025, TKPD remains a respected leader in law enforcement. I am grateful for the strong relationships we have built and remain committed to leading with professionalism, compassion, and integrity.



MISSION, VISION & VALUES

MISSION

In partnership with our community, our purpose is to preserve life, protect property, and improve quality of life for those we serve.

VISION

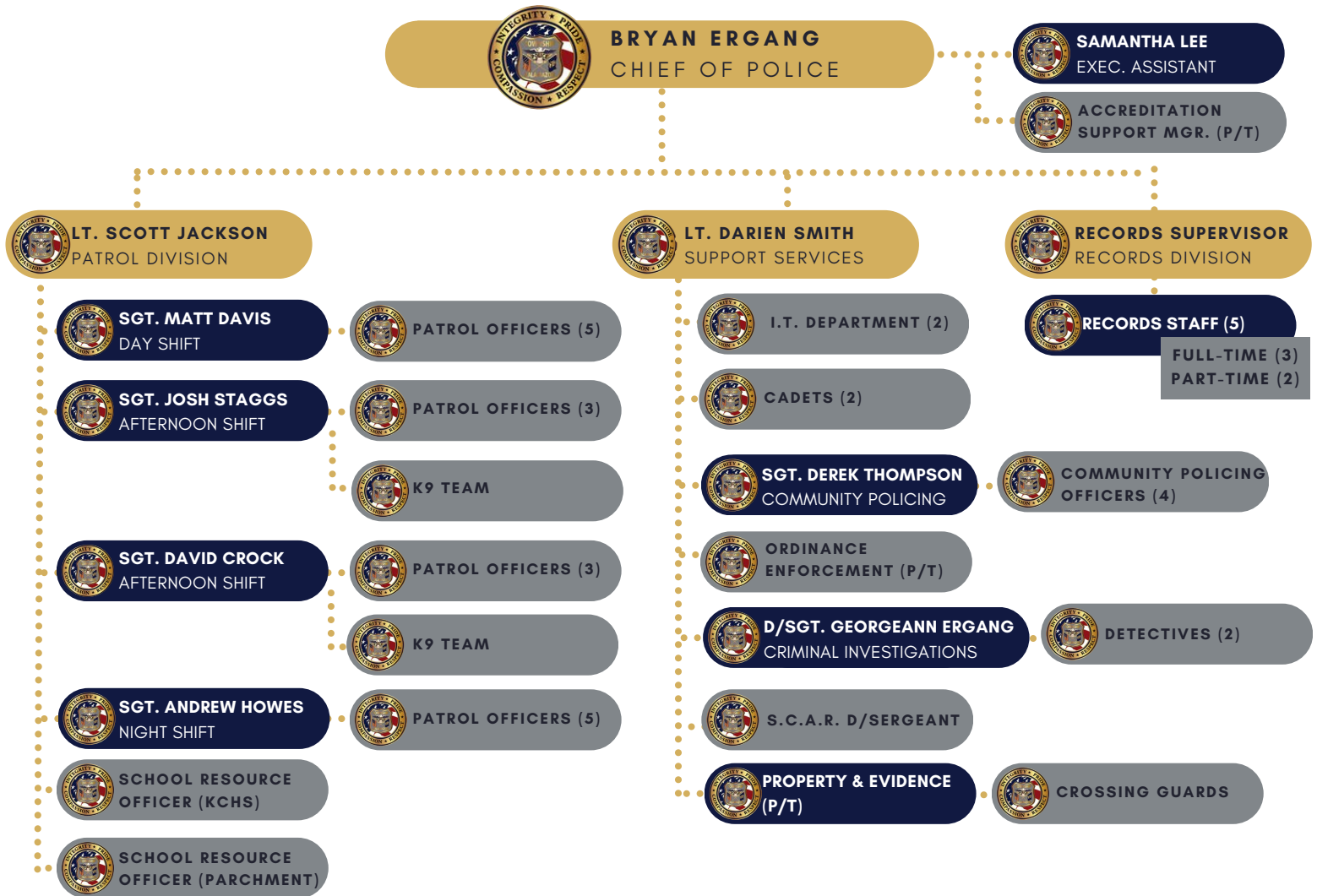
We seek to be a progressive and successful police department that is respected by the people we serve, our elected officials, and our colleagues in criminal justice.

VALUES

To accomplish our mission and vision, we will model integrity and professionalism, treat the diverse people we serve and each other with respect and fairness, and prioritize our actions in the interest of:

- (1) our community,
- (2) the department, and
- (3) the individual employee.

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



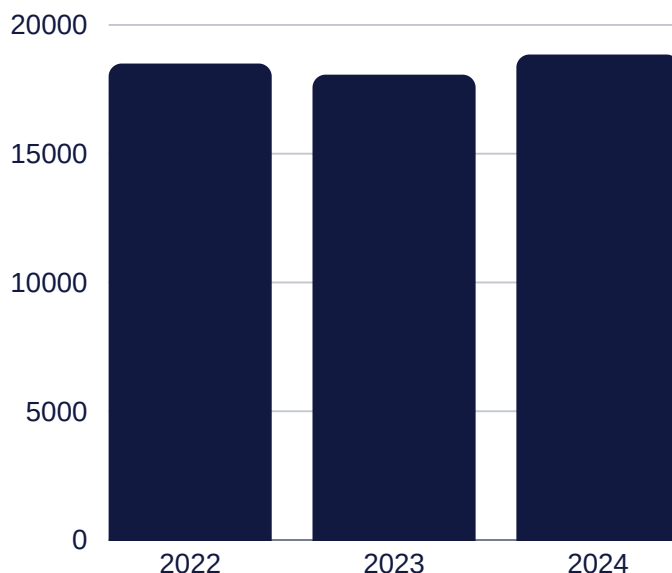
12.31.2024

A YEAR IN REVIEW

The Township of Kalamazoo Police Department continued to provide full police services to the Township of Kalamazoo, as well as the City of Parchment, during 2024. The department saw a slight increase in calls for service and an increase in property damage crashes. Personal injury crashes decreased in the Township, and slightly increased in the City of Parchment compared to the previous year. There was an overall decrease in Part I violent and property crimes compared to the previous year, with the exception of motor vehicle thefts.

TKPD earned the certificate of accreditation through the Michigan Law Enforcement Accreditation Commission (MLEAC) this year and began the reaccreditation process, which is a three-year cycle. In partnership with Dams & Associates, TKPD updated the strategic plan and began implementing some key department goals by reestablishing the TKPD Community Policing Unit, engaging with the community through events and social media, and partnering with local organizations, including Kalamazoo Protect and Connect (KPAC).

CALLS FOR SERVICE



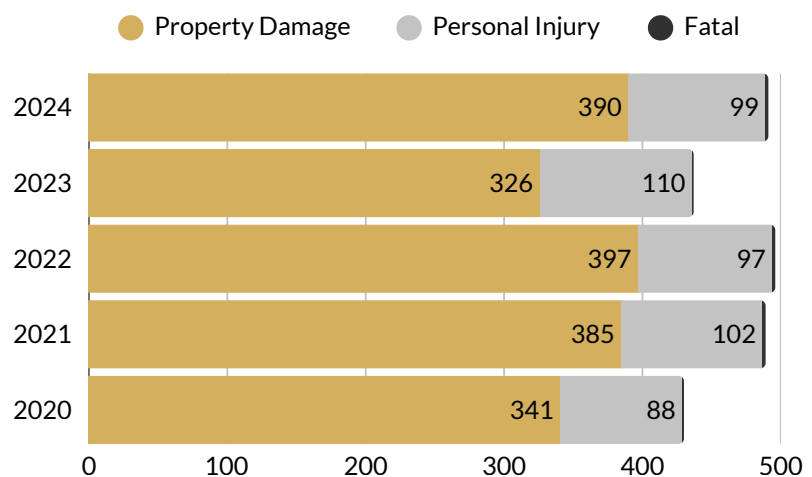
TKPD logged 18,851 calls for service in 2024, not including traffic stops and directed patrols. These events are a mixture of community member calls for service, calls referred from other agencies, and officer-generated on-view calls. Approximately 10.09% (1,902) of the total calls for service originated in the City of Parchment, while the remainder originated in the Township of Kalamazoo or were related to TKPD officer assistance to other neighboring jurisdictions.

TRAFFIC CRASHES & ENFORCEMENT

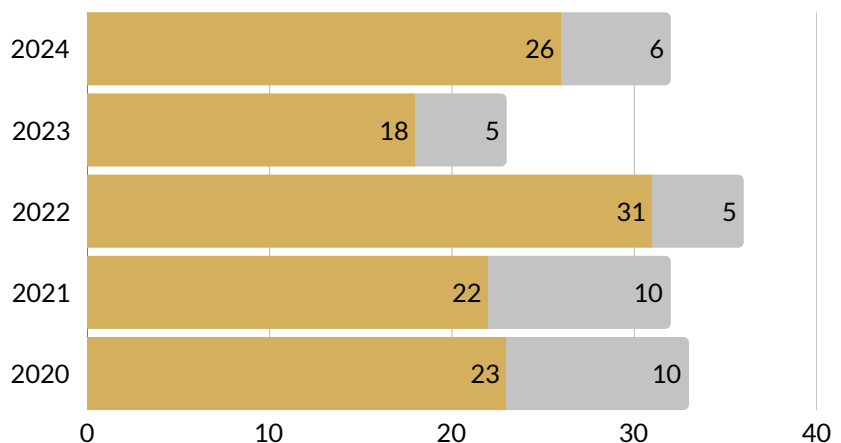
Township of Kalamazoo Police Department officers issued 2,272 citations within the Township of Kalamazoo and 221 citations within the City of Parchment. These citations included a total of 2,845 traffic code violations, 27 criminal and state regulatory code violations, and approximately 119 ordinance code violations.

TRAFFIC CRASHES

TOWNSHIP OF KALAMAZOO



CITY OF PARCHMENT



OWI RESTITUTION

The department continues to seek restitution through the courts as part of the criminal prosecution in each OWI case charged by the Prosecutor. Each judge has the option of ordering all, part, or none of the expense reimbursement requested. Not all defendants ultimately pay the restitution ordered. In 2024, TKPD received \$3,161.54 in restitution.

CRIME STATISTICS

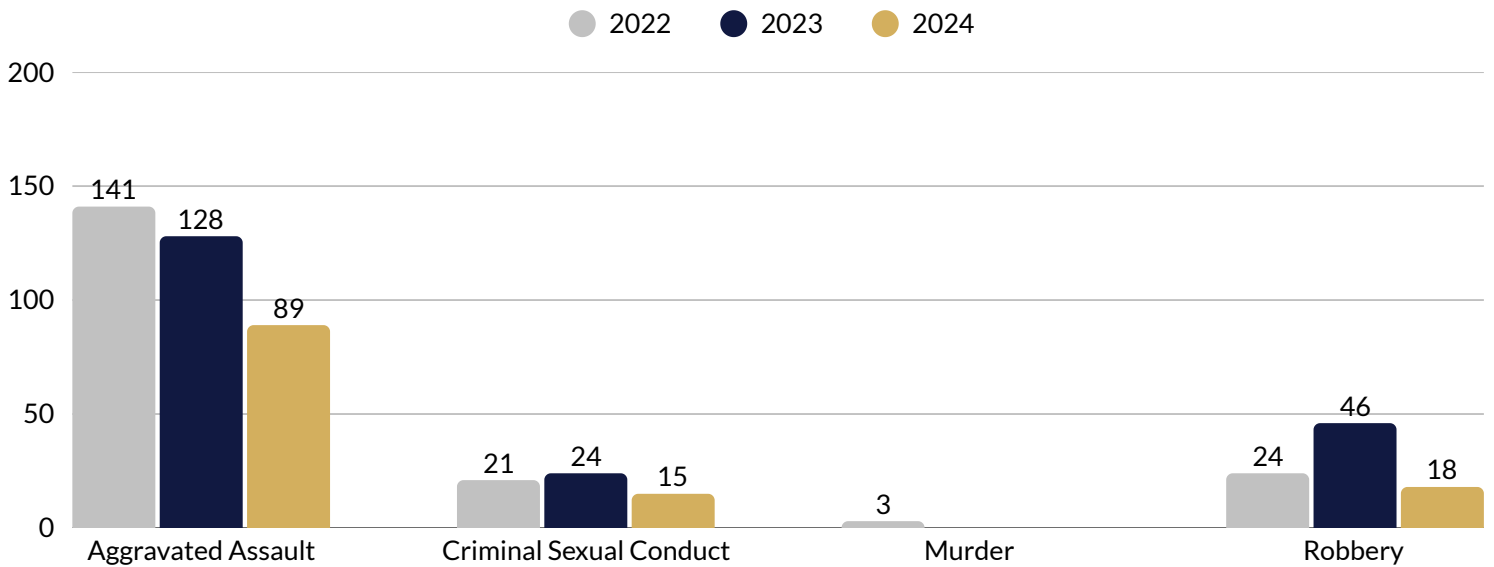
Information on crimes reported to or discovered by the Department is forwarded to the State of Michigan through the Michigan Incident Crime Reporting (MICR) System. Information is extracted from that system and sent to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Uniform Crime Report (UCR). The method by which the UCR categorizes crime does not fit neatly with the way criminal acts are defined under Michigan law, so some conversion is necessary.

The UCR divides crime into Part 1, or so-called serious crime (i.e., murder, robbery, forcible rape, burglary, aggravated assault, arson, and larceny/theft) and Part 2 crime (all other crime).

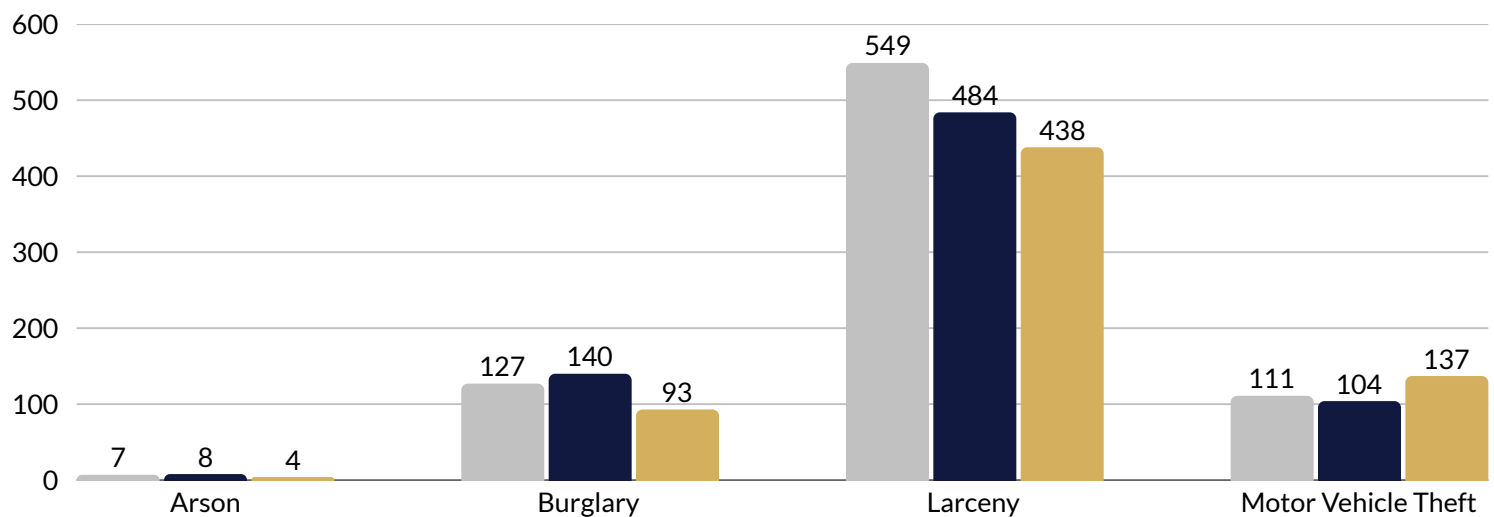
Please see Appendix A for a more comprehensive explanation of the FBI definitions for each of the Part 1 crimes. While this method of crime reporting is frequently criticized and perhaps misunderstood, it remains the basis for crime trend analysis today in the United States.

TOWNSHIP OF KALAMAZOO CRIME STATISTICS

PART 1 - VIOLENT CRIMES



PART 1 - PROPERTY CRIMES





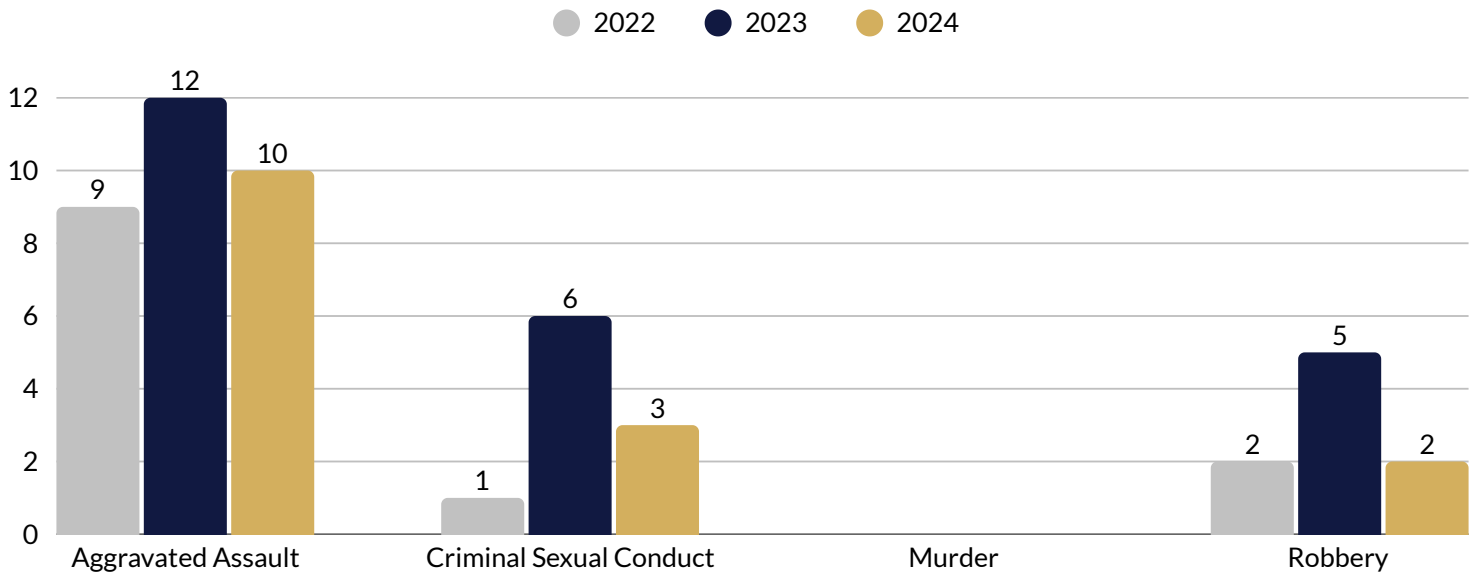
TOWNSHIP OF KALAMAZOO CRIME STATISTICS

PART 2 CRIMES

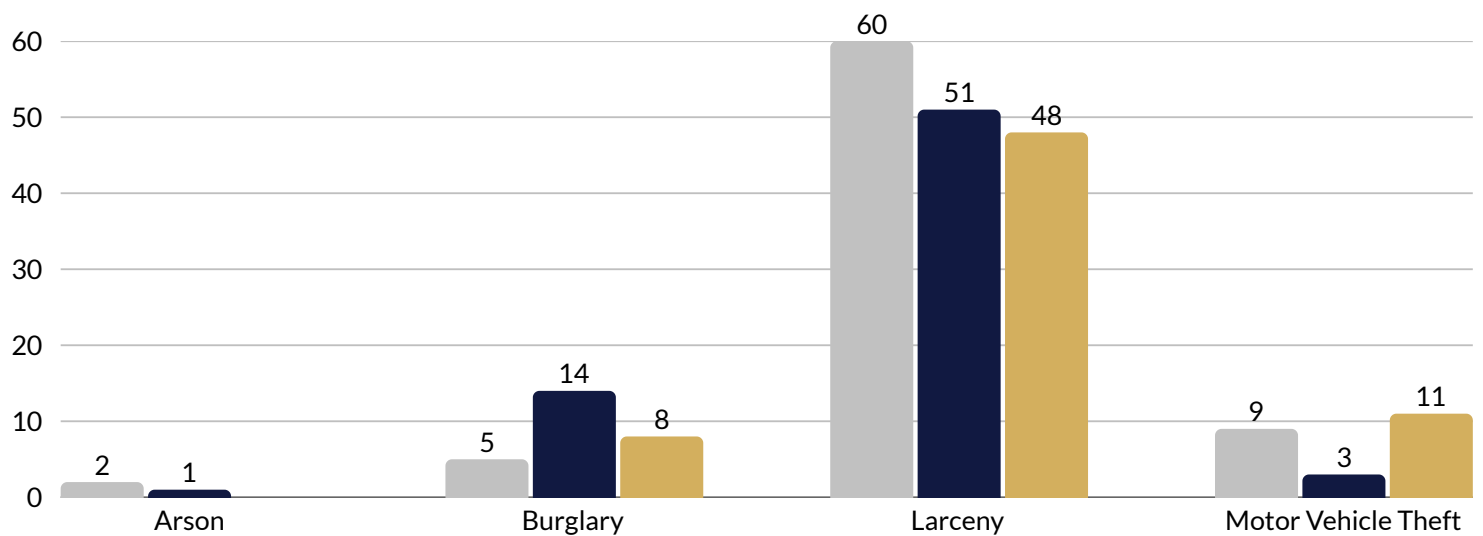
Crime	2023	2024	# Change 2023-2024
Simple Assault	228	188	↓ 40
Forgery/Counterfeiting	10	13	↑ 3
Fraud (includes bad checks & illegal use of a credit card)	137	147	↑ 10
Embezzlement	3	4	↑ 1
Malicious Destruction of Property	166	206	↑ 40
Violation of the Controlled Substance Act	104	56	↓ 48
Operating While Intoxicated	31	50	↑ 19
Trespassing	27	30	↑ 3
Disorderly Conduct	11	17	↑ 6

CITY OF PARCHMENT CRIME STATISTICS

PART 1 - VIOLENT CRIMES



PART 1 - PROPERTY CRIMES





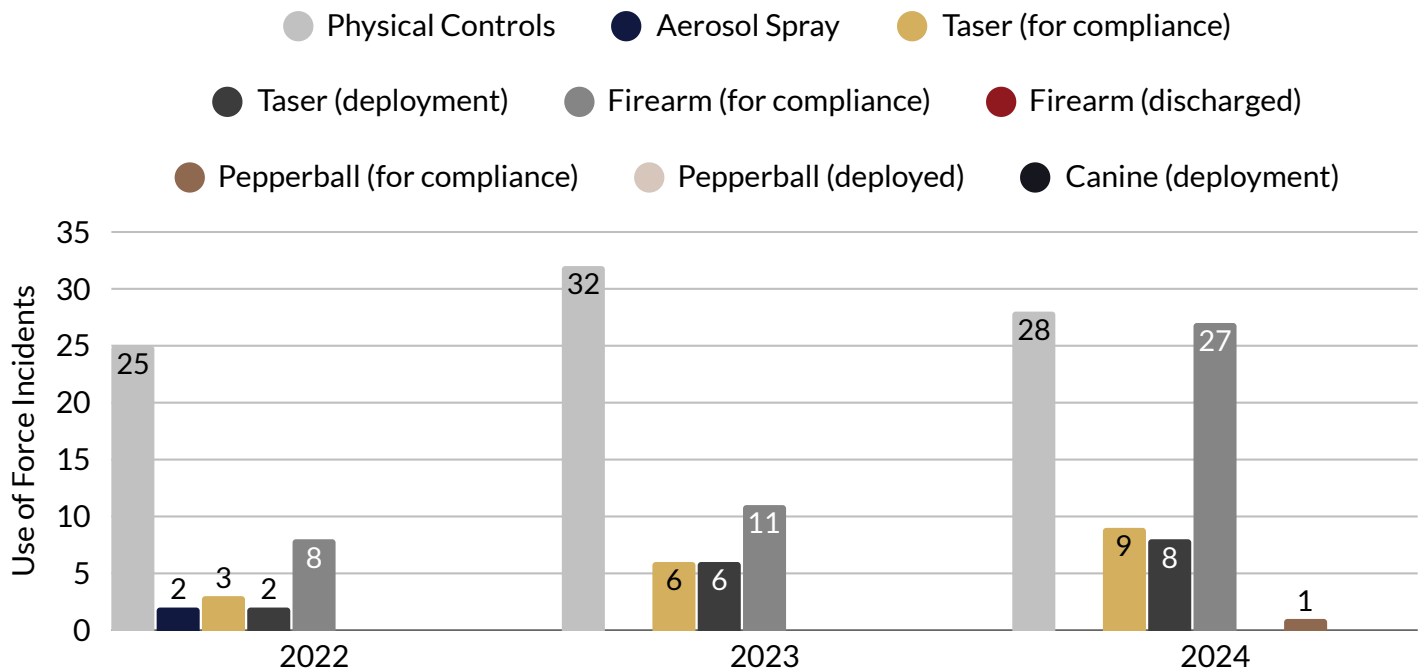
CITY OF PARCHMENT CRIME STATISTICS

PART 2 CRIMES

Crime	2023	2024	# Change 2023-2024
Simple Assault	46	20	↓ 26
Forgery/Counterfeiting	2	3	↑ 1
Fraud (includes bad checks & illegal use of a credit card)	14	16	↑ 2
Embezzlement	1	1	0
Malicious Destruction of Property	32	31	↓ 1
Violation of the Controlled Substance Act	1	8	↑ 7
Operating While Intoxicated	4	1	↓ 3
Trespassing	14	8	↓ 6
Disorderly Conduct	2	1	↓ 1

USE OF FORCE

The value of human life is immeasurable in our society. Police officers have been delegated the responsibility to protect life and property and apprehend criminal offenders. This is a responsibility that, oftentimes, puts them in harm's way and may require them to use force. TKPD is dedicated to utilizing other means of de-escalation and training to reduce the need for use of force applications. In 2024, TKPD responded to a total of 23,253 calls for service (including traffic stops and directed patrols) and utilized force in just 0.31% of those contacts. Of the 73 incidents involving use of force in 2024, 55 occurred while an arrest was being made and 18 were involving behavioral health crises. The increase in the use of firearms for compliance may be due to an increase in high-risk traffic stops of stolen vehicles. Policy requires the officer draw their firearm in these situations. Officers continue to receive integrated use of force and decision-making scenario training and annual use of force policy training. De-escalation training continues to be incorporated into the physical control training conducted.



CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS



The Criminal Investigations Unit (CIU) continues to play a crucial role within the department by investigating major crimes, coordinating cross-jurisdictional investigations, building relationships with federal, state, and local agencies, and assisting the Patrol and Community Policing Divisions.

The CIU is responsible for processing all authorized warrants, including weekend in-custody and priority case reviews, and all police department background investigations.

CIU detectives have taken on additional responsibilities monitoring and engaging with the community via the department's social media platforms. In 2024, detectives attended several trainings related to emerging crime trends and the use of social media in investigations to keep the team at the cutting edge of modern investigative techniques.

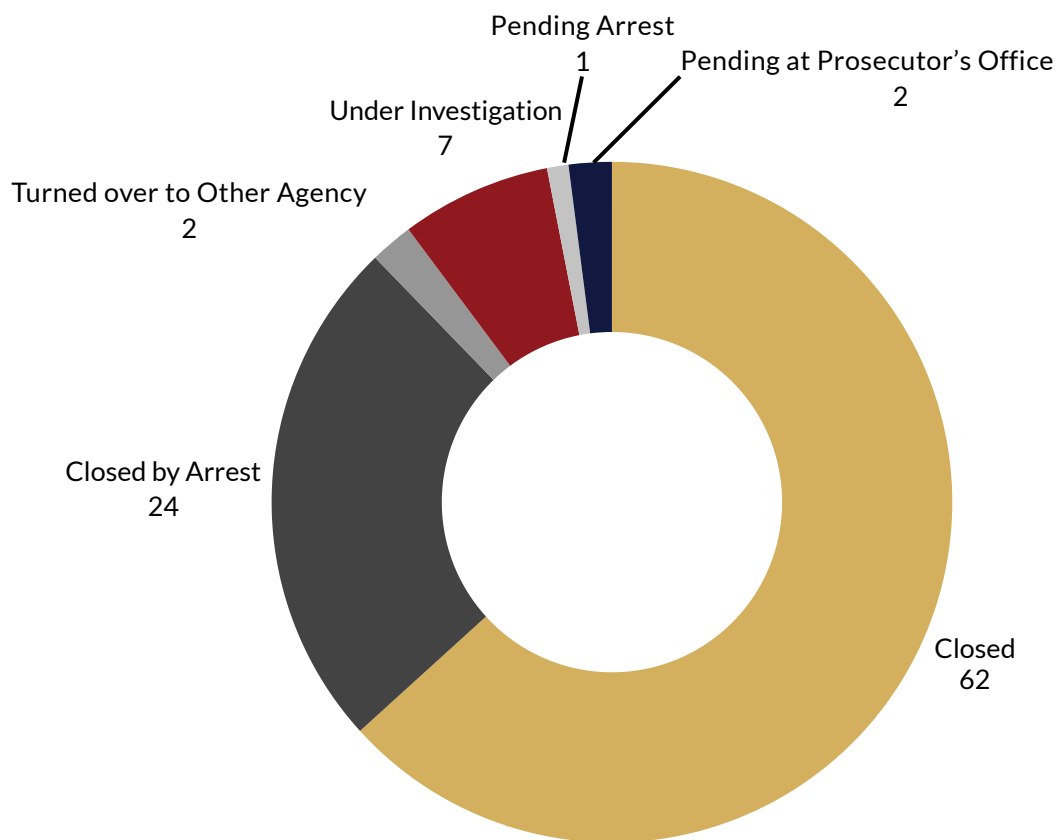
Additionally, the TKPD CIU is very active in fostering interagency partnerships and information sharing by hosting the area detectives meetings each month and participating in a variety of regular meetings hosted by partner organizations, including Silent Observer, Children's Advocacy Center Multidisciplinary Team, Area Fraud Investigators., KDPS Crime Reduction, Child Death Review, and Overdose Fatality Review Board. Detectives also attend crime reduction meetings in neighboring counties.

In 2024, the CIU completed a total of 13 background investigations - eight (8) for police officer candidates, and five (5) for civilian positions.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS

CIU detectives processed 475 affidavits of probable cause for authorized warrants in 2024. Of those, 148 were in-custody cases. The CIU is responsible for all in-custody cases on weekends. Detectives rotate weekend duty for these in-custody cases. Detectives completed 44 affidavits of probable cause during weekend review.

During 2024, the CIU investigated 98 cases, including high-profile criminal investigations involving attempt homicide, felonious assault, arson, armed robbery, child trafficking, criminal sexual conduct, torture, fraud, fatal crash, and violation of safe firearm storage.





SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS

Special Assignments outside of our agency allow us to bring other officers assigned to these teams into the Township to assist with investigations, enhancing our ability to provide full-spectrum services to our community, while also advancing the skills of our own officers.

SOUTHWEST ENFORCEMENT TEAM

A TKPD officer is assigned as a detective to the Southwest Enforcement Team (SWET), a nine-county regional concept narcotics enforcement team supervised by the Michigan State Police. The officer assigned to SWET is supported partially by grant funding and is our only dedicated narcotics enforcement officer.

SOUTHWEST COMMERCIAL AUTO RECOVERY

A TKPD sergeant is assigned to the Southwest Commercial Auto Recovery (SCAR) Unit and is supported by grant funding. This sergeant works auto-theft-related cases on both the local and regional levels.

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

In addition to engaging with area schools through the “Every School Every Day Program,” a TKPD officer visits every school in their patrol district daily to engage with students, build relationships, and promote consistent, positive daily interactions. In addition to this program, two officers are assigned as school resource officers to local schools.

Officers Lucas Simmons completed his assignment as Kalamazoo Central High School’s School Resource Officer (SRO) for the 2023-24 academic year. Officer William Gaborek (pictured) began his assignment as SRO in the 2024-25 academic year. Officer Gaborek also volunteers his time to assist in coaching the Giants’ wrestling team. TKPD responded to approximately 115 calls for police service at Kalamazoo Central High School in 2024, not including directed patrols. In those matters, 29 reports were recorded, 10 were investigated as criminal complaints, eight (8) cases were submitted to the Prosecutor’s Office for review of potential criminal charges, and no custodial arrests were made.



SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

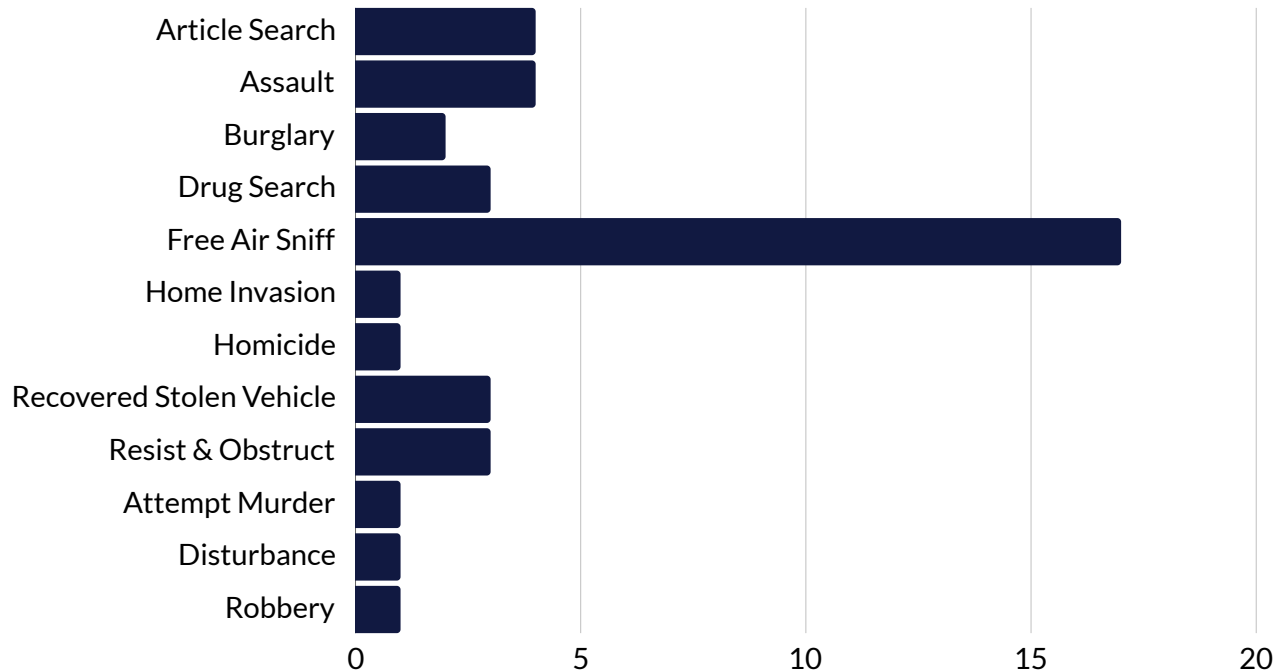
Officer Halley Cummins began her assignment as the School Resource Officer to Parchment Schools in 2022 and continued her service in the 2023-2024 and 2024-2025 academic years. TKPD responded to 232 calls for service at Parchment Schools in 2024 (not including directed patrols for the Every School Every Day Program). Thirty-one (31) cases were written as a result of the calls for service to Parchment Schools, 21 were investigated as criminal complaints, and 12 were submitted to the Prosecutor's Office for review of potential criminal charges, and no custodial arrests were made.

The purpose of our SROs is to provide public safety services to assigned schools through mentoring, prevention, education, and problem-solving via community-based relationships. School Resource Officers Cummins and Gaborek have innumerable contacts with students and staff every school day, most of which are informal. Not only do SROs interact with students during the regular school days, they are present to support the community at many extracurricular events.



K9 PROGRAM

TKPD deployed two (2) canine teams a total of 41 times in 2024. Neither of the canine handlers deployed the canines for a bite during the year.



COMMUNITY POLICING UNIT

With significant input from the community and our elected officials, the TKPD Community Policing Unit was reinstated in this summer. Utilizing committed local funds, along with grants from the state and federal government, we continue to develop our unit as it prioritizes relationships within several neighborhoods throughout Kalamazoo Township. This unit prioritizes problem solving, community safety, and improving quality of life for those in their respective districts.

TKPD is excited about the opportunity this unit will bring to the community, as well as the increased interaction to build relationships with our neighborhoods.

Boundary Spanner Yazmene Vanderbor, LLMSW, from Integrated Services of Kalamazoo (ISK) spent time working out of the department three days each week, working closely with the Community Policing Unit and the Patrol Division, to identify, respond to, and follow-up on mental health-related calls for service. In 2024, approximately 1,141 (6.05%) TKPD calls for service were identified as behavioral health-related, and these calls originated from 525 unique individuals in our community.



Two individuals in our community accounted for 12.0% of behavioral health-related calls for service in 2024, and the top four (4) call for service locations accounted for 22.2% of all behavioral health-related calls for service. With Yazmene's help, officers are able to provide access to resources and care to these individuals and others in other community who are struggled to connect with the help and services they need. Township officers also responded to 135 behavioral health-related calls for service involving juvenile subjects in 2024, and Yazmene was able to assist in referring 47 of the 64 individual juveniles to other Integrated services of Kalamazoo service and make provider notifications for 11 other juvenile subjects.



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The TKPD Community Policing Unit participated in several community engagement events this year, including events with Kids for Christ, First Day of School events, passing out Halloween candy, and the Holiday Parade. TKPD officers participated in Shop with a Hero again this year, as well as the Kalamazoo Regional Citizens Police Academy sessions. Officers represented the department at the MI COPS Memorial and the Annual September 11th Ceremony at the State Capitol.

The Chief of Police continues to support local entities and organizations by serving on several local, regional, and statewide leadership boards, in addition to serving as the President of the Michigan Association of Chiefs of Police for the 2024-2025 term. The Chief serves on leadership boards for Kalamazoo Probation Enhancement Program (KPEP), Kalamazoo County Consolidated Dispatch Authority (KCCDA), Michigan High-Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA), Southwest Commercial Auto Recovery (SCAR), Southwest Enforcement Team (SWET), Kalamazoo Valley Community College (KVCC), and Kalamazoo Protect & Connect (KPAC).





ORDINANCE ENFORCEMENT

The Township Ordinance Enforcement Officer (OEO) plays a key role in making the Township a great place to live, work, visit, learn, and play. The stated goal of ordinance enforcement is to always strive towards compliance from our community partners. If efforts to gain compliance through communication and collaboration are unsuccessful, the Ordinance Enforcement Officer moves forward with a process to facilitate compliance through the court system. Of the hundreds of contacts with Township residents regarding ordinance issues, there were 176 violations resulting in 53 citations and 38 compliance orders issued by the court this year. Eleven (11) of these court orders were violated by the recipient, necessitating further show-cause hearings. Six (6) properties were demolished, two (2) at the expense of the Township and four (4) by court order or order of the building inspector. There are currently no property demolitions slated for 2025.

2809 LAKE STREET DEMOLITION



RECORDS DIVISION

The TKPD Records Division is currently staffed by one full-time records supervisor, three full-time administrative assistants, one part-time administrative assistant, and one part-time typist. The wide array of responsibilities of the Records Division includes transcribing police reports, case submissions to the Kalamazoo County Prosecuting Attorney's and the Township of Kalamazoo Attorney's Offices, fingerprinting services, sex offender verification, processing and often redacting Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests, processing inter-agency requests, managing records retention, reporting police data for both federal and state requirements, and processing expungements and conviction set-asides. In 2024, the Records Division processed approximately 566 FOIA requests, not including requests for traffic reports or inter-governmental agency requests, and submitted 532 cases to the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney and 95 cases to the Township of Kalamazoo Attorney for review.

REVENUE

The department received revenue from a number of external sources and entities in 2024 in the amount of \$1,016,258.43.

TKPD receives a less-significant amount of revenue as a result of services provided to the community, including, but not limited to, FOIA fees, applicant fingerprint fees, District Court fines, and OWI reimbursements.

This year, the Township of Kalamazoo received \$1,487.00 as a result of asset forfeiture.

MLEAC ACCREDITATION

With the support of the Community Policing Development (CDP) grant awarded by the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) in 2021, TKPD earned accreditation by the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MLEAC) in June. The COPS Office funds allowed our department to hire an accreditation consultant in 2021, as well as an accreditation specialist in 2022. These two accreditation professionals played a key role in promoting an efficient use of time and resources for our internal process, as we continue to work toward full police department staffing. To earn accredited-status, TKPD demonstrated compliance with MLEAC standards for application and implementation of professional objectives aiming toward a comprehensive, obtainable, and standards-based public safety service delivery. While TKPD already implemented many of the standards outlined by the Commission, accreditation assists our department in demonstrating concrete accountability to upholding these professional standards and increase transparency by retaining extensive proofs of compliance with the standards.



TRAINING

TKPD reaffirms its commitment to provide continuous, high-quality training that meets the needs of our officers and our community. Officers receive numerous hours of training in firearms, defensive tactics, scenario training, defensive driving, and other topics pertinent to police-related matters. All TKPD officers receive a 40-hours Crisis Intervention Team (C.I.T.) training designed to help deescalate situations, particularly those involving people experiencing a behavioral health crisis or co-occurring substance use disorders, and Fair and Impartial Policing training, which is designed to make officers aware of issues surrounding the implicit bias innate to all human beings. TKPD officers receive training at least annually on the following topics: use of force, firearms, less-lethal weapons, subject control, legal update, hazardous materials, bias-influenced policing, ethics, critical incident stress recognition, and mental health.

This year, TKPD partnered with The Zekelman Holocaust Center in Farmington Hills, MI to participate in a pilot program for law enforcement centric training across the state. This programs intent is to deliver on-line and in-person education to our officers. This program encouraged officers to think critically about their role in the community while building professional ethics, decision-making abilities, leadership skills, and to better understand hatred and identity-based violence.





OFFICER WELLNESS

As referenced by the United States Department of Justice Community-Oriented Policing Services (COPS) Office, “The occupational fatality rate for law enforcement is three to five times greater than the national average for the working population. The officers who protect (*their communities*) must also be protected against the hazards of their job.” In order to promote and support the wellness of all TKPD sworn and non-sworn personnel, the department has continued to make the following programs available, targeting emotional, physical, and spiritual wellness:

- **SHIFT STRENGTH FITNESS CENTER** - TKPD has a fully-equipped fitness center on-site, which is available to all sworn and non-sworn police employees.
- **CHAPLAIN PROGRAM** - Chaplain Mike Kemple provides emotional and spiritual support to all sworn and non-sworn department personnel.
- **EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (EAP)** - TKPD contracts with HelpNet to provide confidential personal counseling to personnel and their families 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. HelpNet offers department personnel assessment, counseling, and community referrals, if necessary.
- **PHYSICAL PREPAREDNESS INITIATIVE** - Each year, officers voluntarily complete the Michigan Commission on Law Enforcement Standards (MCOLES) Physical Fitness Test with financial incentives.
- **CRITICAL INCIDENT STRESS MANAGEMENT (CISM) PARTICIPATION** - TKPD participates with other agencies within our region in providing and receiving CISM debriefings following traumatic events.
- **PEER SUPPORT** - Trained peer support officers provide their colleagues with an opportunity to share their experiences with other officers who are often best able to relate and provide support following traumatic and/or everyday experiences in the line of duty.

STAFFING

The Township of Kalamazoo Police Department began 2024 with 34 sworn officers and ended the year with 39 sworn officers. The hiring environment continues to be extremely competitive; however, strategies and solutions implemented by TKPD leaders proved successful in efforts to recruit and retain dedicated public servants of the highest quality in 2024.

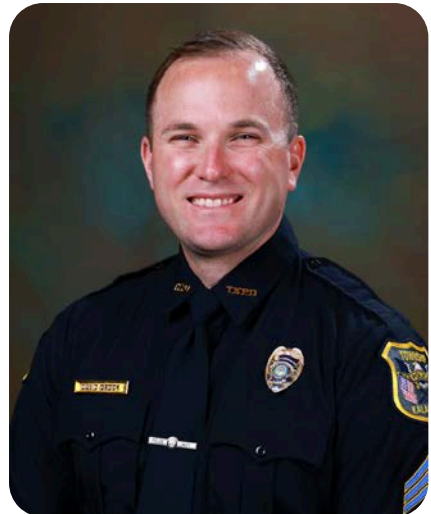
NEW HIRES

Officer Brandon Dahl
Officer Claire Houtman
Officer Evan Finch
Officer Riley Coffey
Officer Sydney Plochocki
Officer Tim Barnes
Officer Christopher Hill

Officer Shane Lisk
Officer Megan Bresnahan
Officer Zoltan Ezer
Officer Alex Westphal
Administrative Assistant Michael Houseman
Administrative Assistant Lisa Jensen

PROMOTIONS

David David Crock was promoted to Sergeant in June. Sergeant Crock began his career at TKPD in 2017 and has served as a field training officer, defensive tactics instructor, school resource officer, and peer support counselor. Dave is a graduate from the Kalamazoo Valley Community College Police Academy and holds a bachelor's degree from Liberty University.







APPENDIX A - FBI UNIFORM CRIME REPORTING DEFINITIONS

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) defines Part 1 Criminal Offenses as outlined below:

- **MURDER - the willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another.** The classification of this offense is based solely on police investigation as opposed to the determination of a court, medical examiner, coroner, jury, or other judicial body. The UCR Program does not include the following situations in this offense classification:
 - Deaths caused by negligence, suicide, or accident.
 - Justifiable homicides.
 - Attempts to murder or assaults to murder.
- **FORCIBLE RAPE (CRIMINAL SEXUAL CONDUCT) - the carnal knowledge of a person forcibly and against their will.** Assaults and attempts to commit rape by force or threat of force are also included; however, statutory rape (without force) and other sex offenses excluded.
- **ROBBERY - the taking or attempt to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person(s) by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear.**
- **AGGRAVATED ASSAULT - an unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury.** The FBI UCR Program further specifies that this type of assault is usually accompanied by the use of a weapon or by other means likely to produce death or great bodily harm. Attempted aggravated assault that involves the display of - or threat to use - a gun, knife, or other weapons is included in this crime category because serious personal injury would likely result if the assault were completed. When aggravated assault and larceny-theft occur together, the offense falls under the category of robbery.



APPENDIX A - FBI UNIFORM CRIME REPORTING DEFINITIONS

- **BURGLARY - the unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft.** To classify an offense as a burglary, the use of force to gain entry need not have occurred. The FBI UCR Program has three subclassifications for burglary: (i) forcible entry, (ii) unlawful entry where no force is used, and (iii) attempted forcible entry. The UCR definition of “structure” includes, for example, an apartment, barn, house-trailer or houseboat, when used as a permanent dwelling, office, railroad car, stable, and vessel (i.e., ship), and excludes automobile.
- **LARCENY (THEFT) - the unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another.** Examples are thefts of bicycles, motor vehicle parts and accessories, shoplifting, pocket-picking, or the stealing of any property or article that is not taken by force and violence or by fraud. Attempted larcenies are included. Embezzlement, confidence games, forgery, and check fraud are excluded.
- **MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT - the theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle.** In the UCR Program, a motor vehicle is a self-propelled vehicle that runs on land surfaces and not on rails. Examples of motor vehicles include sport utility vehicles, automobiles, trucks, buses, motorcycles, motor scooters, all-terrain vehicles, and snowmobiles. Motor vehicle theft does not include farm equipment, bulldozers, airplanes, construction equipment, or watercraft such as motor boats, sailboats, houseboats, or jet skis. The taking of a motor vehicle for temporary use by persons having lawful access is excluded from this definition.
- **ARSON - any willful or malicious burning or attempting to burn, with or without intent to defraud, a dwelling house, public building, motor vehicle or aircraft, personal property of another, etc.**

PRIDE
INTEGRITY
COMPASSION
RESPECT

CONTACT US

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