

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

Beaufort Police Department

Chief Dale McDorman



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CHIEF'S WELCOME

The members of the Beaufort Police Department give me additional reasons every day to be honored and humbled by the dedication they have shown during another difficult year. I am proud to serve the citizens of Beaufort as Chief of such an outstanding force and to present our Annual Report.

Although 2021 brought some new challenges, many that we dealt with in 2020 persisted throughout the year. Members of the Department continued to contend with the effects of the COVID 19 pandemic while trying to bring back some degree of normalcy to our community. We saw some neighborhood events return when COVID cases were low. Officers organized community events and were able to host events such as Chill with a Cop, a Movie Night in the Henry C. Chambers Waterfront Park, and Shop with a Cop.

Like most employers, we experienced a drop in the workforce in 2021 and saw a sixty five percent drop in applications for employment. The Department participates in job fairs and other community events in an attempt to recruit strong applicants. We are seeking a partnership with local military installations to speak with members as they exit their term of military service. Despite these challenges, we remain dedicated to providing the most professional and fair law enforcement service to our city. Almost one third of our officers have been with the department for over 10 years, a sure sign of their devotion.

In 2021 the Beaufort Police Department continued our commitment to transparency by posting monthly statistical information. I invite you to visit our website at [Data & Transparency | Beaufort SC \(cityofbeaufort.org\)](https://www.cityofbeaufort.org/Data-Transparency) for more information about our agency and to contact us at any time with your questions or concerns.

In closing, I would like to thank the City Manager, Mayor, and the City Council for their continued support of the Beaufort Police Department. The members of the Department remain strongly committed to providing the safest experience for our citizens and visitors and we remain prepared for any challenges in the future.

Sincerely,



Dale McDorman
Chief of Police



MISSION, VISION, AND VALUES

Mission

We, the members of the Beaufort Police Department, are committed to being responsive to our community in the delivery of quality services. Recognizing our responsibility to maintain order, while affording dignity and respect to every individual, our objective is to improve the quality of life through a community partnership that promotes safe, secure neighborhoods.

Vision

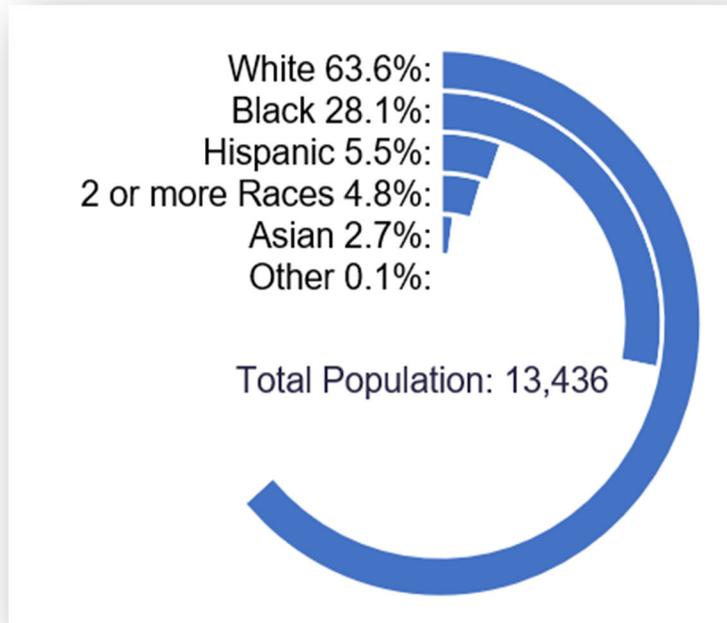
That the citizens of Beaufort will feel safe in all areas of the community, work together to solve community and neighborhood problems, and have a high level of respect, trust, and confidence in their police department.

Values

We, the employees of the Beaufort Police Department, believe that providing superior service to the citizens, merchants, and visitors of Beaufort is our primary responsibility, and that all of our work should be structured with that goal in mind. We further believe that in meeting this goal, we shall be responsible to decisions made by the City Council, city manager, the police chief, and the citizens of the City of Beaufort. To achieve and maintain superior standards in our work performance, we are committed to the following values:

- Concentrated planning and decision-making involving employees' participation to the greatest extent possible
- Consideration for the importance of the employees and recognition of individual contributions and initiatives
- Discussion and information shared in a constructive, open, and supportive manner
- Energetic in the pursuit of proficiency and responsibility in the performance of our work
- Excellence in the delivery of services to our city's citizens, merchants, and visitors
- Impartial treatment and opportunity for all employees
- Integrity and honesty in all aspects of service

SERVICE POPULATION

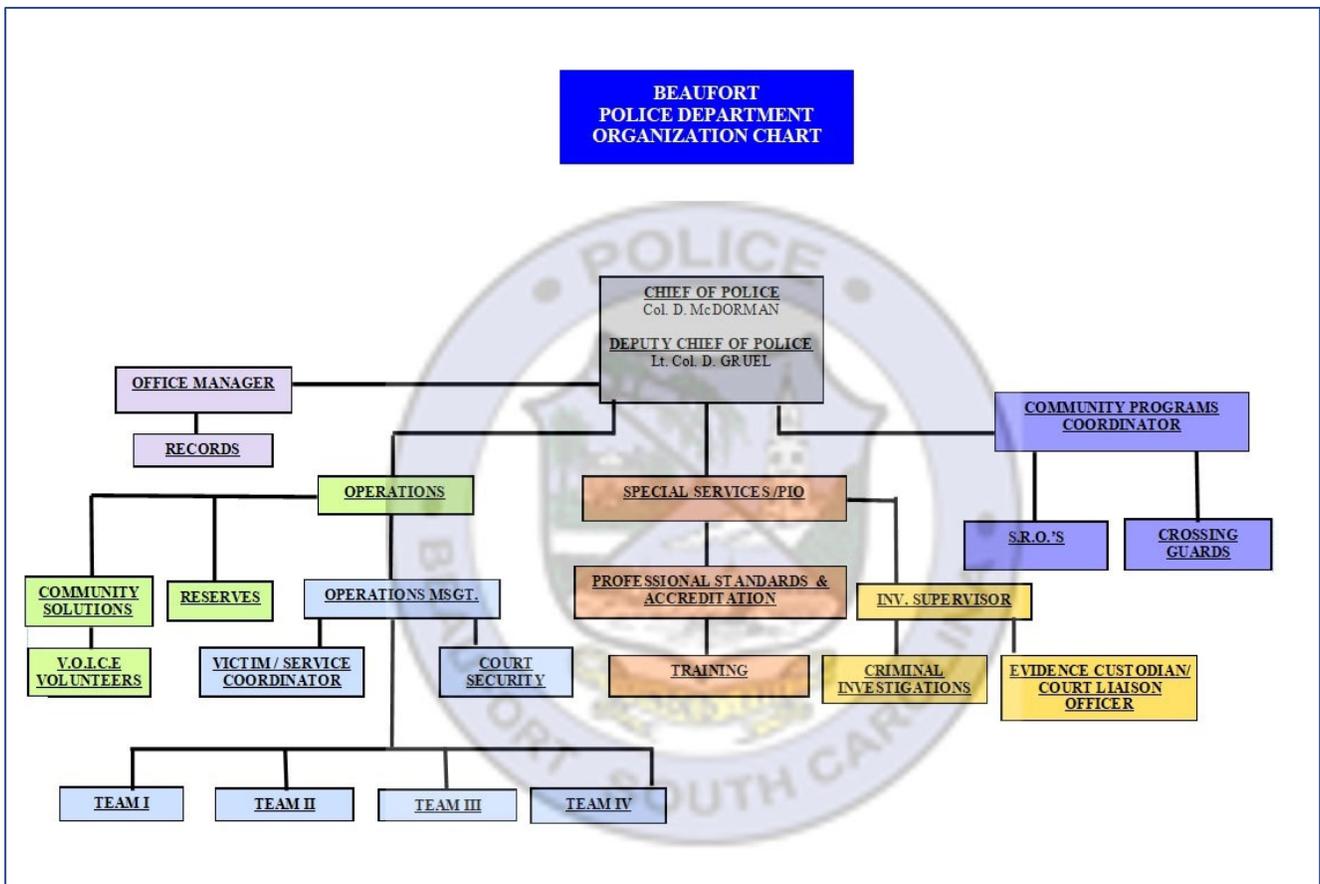


Total Square Miles: 27.6 Median Household Income: \$54,873



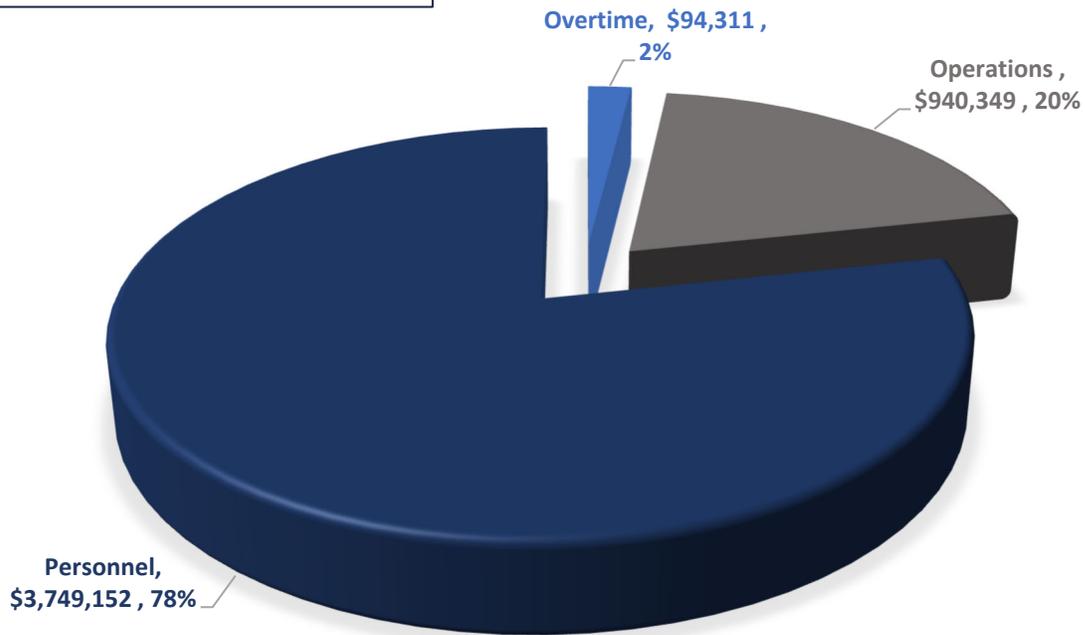
DEPARTMENT FACTS

Department Staff	
Sworn Full-Time Officers	48
Sworn Special Officers	0
Part-Time Court Officers	3
Reserve Officers	1
Civilian Employees	5
Crossing Guards	2
Volunteers	7
Vacancies	8

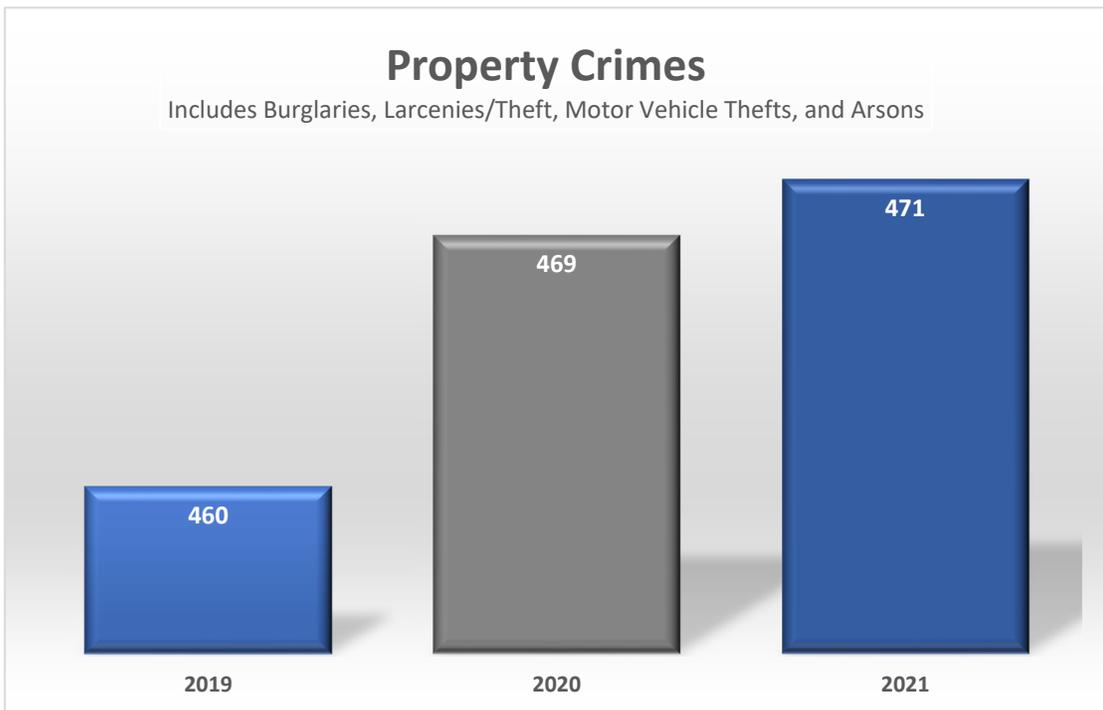
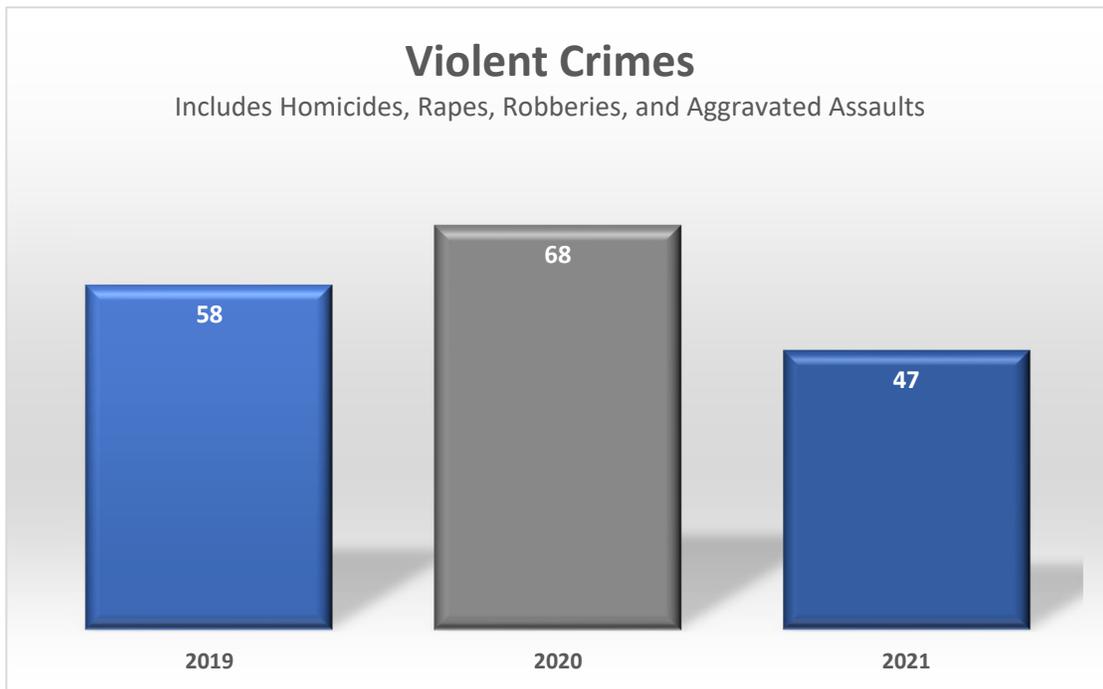


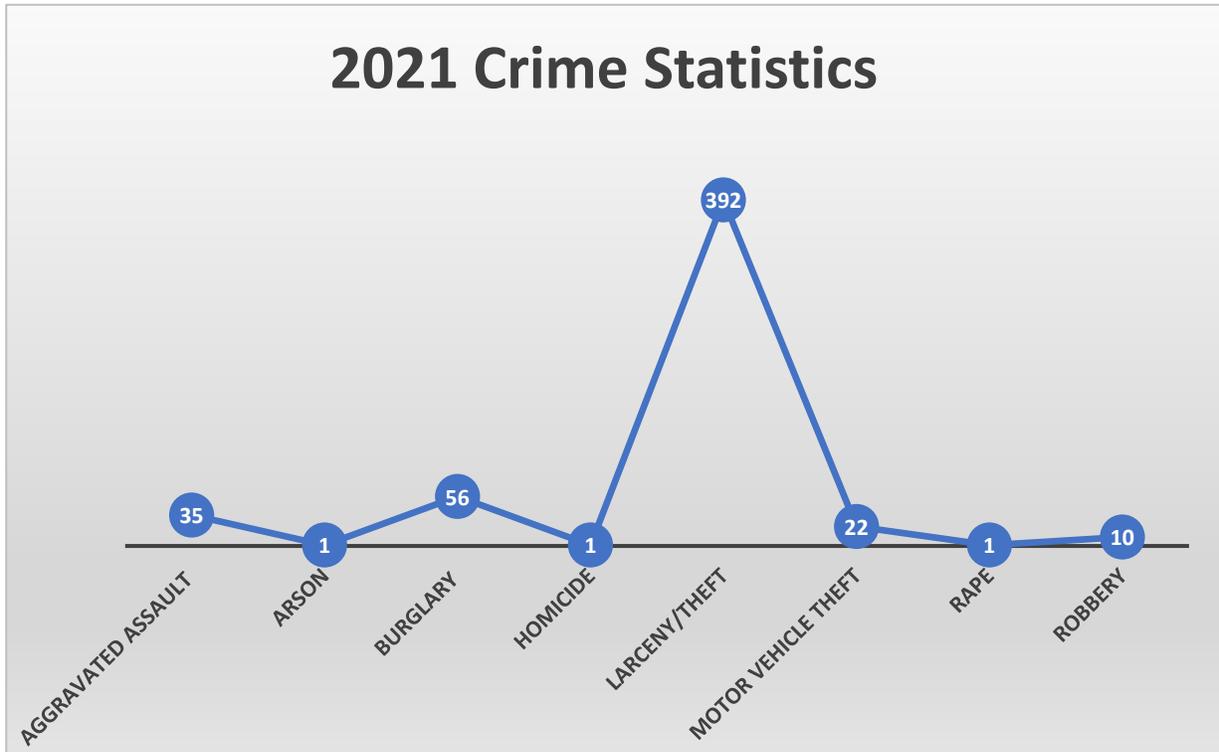
DEPARTMENT BUDGET

FISCAL YEAR BUDGET 2022
\$ 4,783,812



ANNUAL CRIME STATISTICS

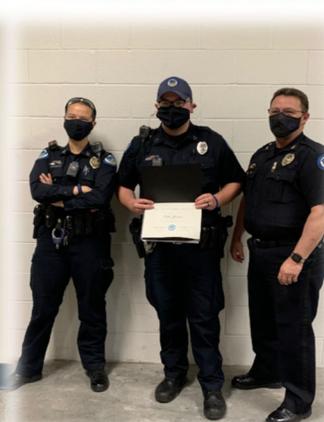




- Aggravated assault is defined as an unlawful attack by on person upon another wherein the offender uses a dangerous weapon or displays it in a threatening manner, or the victim suffers obvious severe or aggravated bodily injury, or where there was a risk for serious injury/intent to seriously injure.
- Larceny is defined as the unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession of constructive possession of another person. There are eight subcategories that make up the total for larceny offense: Pocket-picking, purse-snatching, shoplifting, theft from a building, theft from coin operated devices, theft from motor vehicles, theft of motor vehicle parts/accessories, and all other larcenies.
- Burglary is defined as the unlawful entry into a building or some other structure to commit a felony or a theft. By definition, a structure has four walls, a roof, and a door.
- Robbery is defined as the taking of anything of value from the control, custody, or care of another person by force or threat of force and/or by putting the victim in fear of immediate harm.

OPERATIONS

Operations consists of Patrol, Community Solutions, Victim Advocacy, and Court Security.



Victim Advocacy

Telephone Contacts	159
Investigative Notes	224
Bond Hearings Attended	40
Municipal Court Hearings Attended	20
Magistrate Court Hearings Attended	2
Family Court Hearings Attended	1



PATROL DIVISION

Patrol consists of four patrol teams, each led by a First Sergeant. The Patrol division is supervised by an Operations Lieutenant and is assisted by a Master Sergeant.



The Beaufort Police Department responds to various types of incidents. Each response is classified as a “Call for Service”.

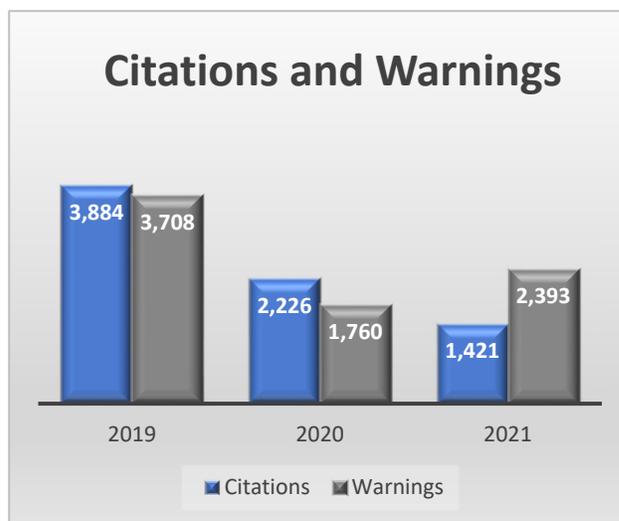
Patrol Activity

Arrests	440
Calls for Service	97,301
Uniform Crime Reports Completed	1,832

Citations are written to defendants for a variety of criminal and traffic offenses. Traffic citations are issued in order to enforce traffic laws, reduce collisions, and reduce traffic fatalities.

Traffic Enforcement

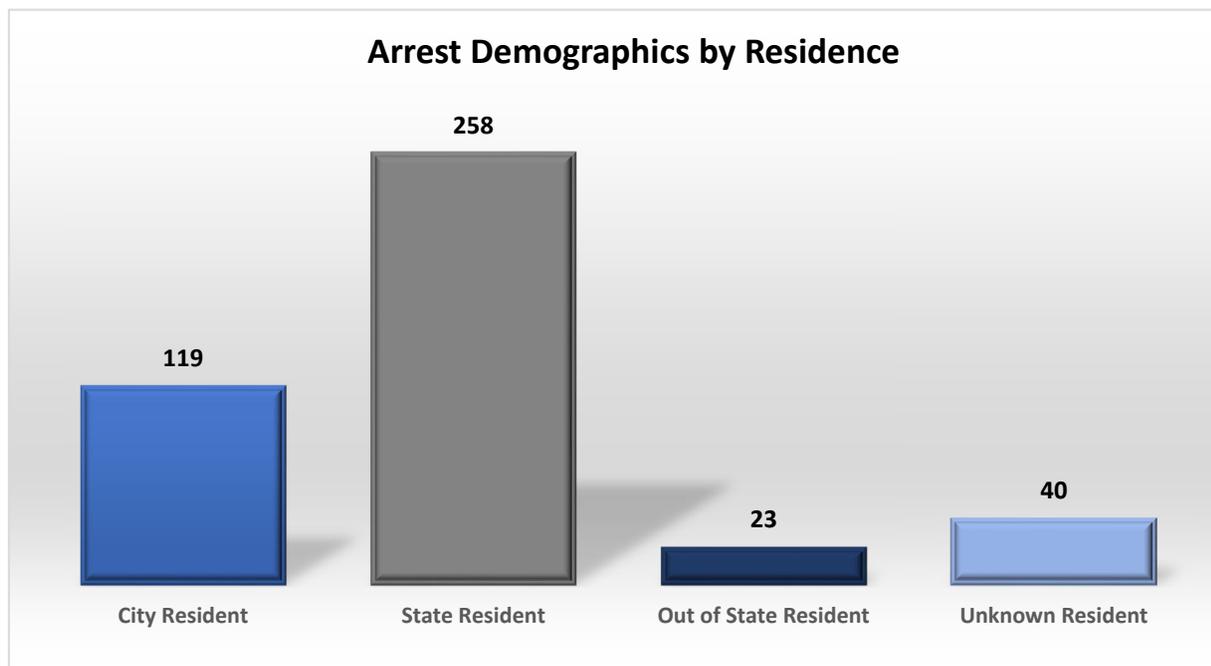
Collision Reports	627
Citations Issued	1,421
Warnings Issued	2,393
Driving Under the Influence (DUI) Arrests	32



2021 Arrest Demographics

Race	Male	Female	Total	
Asian	6	1	7	1.60%
Black	162	66	228	51.80%
Hispanic	23	8	31	7.00%
Indian	0	1	1	0.20%
White	109	63	172	39.10%
Unknown	1	0	1	0.20%
Age	Male	Female	Total	
18 & Under	3	2	5	1%
19 to 25	71	25	96	22%
26 to 50	165	103	268	61%
51 & Over	62	9	71	16%
Total	301 (68%)	139 (32%)	440	

Arrest Demographics by Residence



FLEET

Department Vehicles

Total Vehicles	77
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marked Patrol Vehicles 	59
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unmarked Vehicles 	14
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Storm Recovery Vehicles 	4
Total Miles Driven	540,712



MARINE PATROL

The Beaufort Police Department Marine Patrol Unit consists of a 19' Scout Flats Boat with a 225 HP Yamaha Outboard Engine and trailer. The boat is equipped with a 7" jack plate, power trim tabs and a tower.

Waterway Events:

- Beaufort River Swim
- City of Beaufort Fireworks
- Beaufort Water Festival Opening Ceremonies
- Beaufort Water Festival Ski Show
- Beaufort Water Festival Air Show
- Blessing of the Fleet



Marine Patrol Activity

Waterway Patrol	16
Training Exercises	2
Vessel Stops	6

COMMUNITY RESPONSE TEAM



A dedicated team of police officers using both traditional and nontraditional forms of policing. Without the primary focus of answering dispatched calls for service, it is hoped this team will be able to accomplish goals laid out in the Beaufort Police Department's Mission and Vision statements. They are dedicated to improving the quality of life through a community partnership that promotes safe, secure neighborhoods and allowing the citizens of Beaufort

to feel safe in all areas of the community. The Community Response Team will work together with citizens of Beaufort to solve community and neighborhood problems and improve the relationship with a high level of respect, trust, and confidence in their police department.

Chill with a Cop

CRT worked with the School Resource Officers to host several "Chill with A Cop" events over the summer. The events were an opportunity for members of the community, primarily children, to get to know some of the local Beaufort City police officers in a more relaxed setting. Police officers participated in various activities with community members such as backyard Jenga, football toss, water balloons, and corn hole. Other first responders such as Beaufort City Fire/ EMS/ Marine Rescue and local vendors also participated in each event. There were a total of four "Chill with A Cop" events which included three events that took place at local parks (Southside Park, Pigeon Point Park, and Washington Street Park). The fourth event was a movie event during the school's winter break. This "Chill with A Cop" event was conducted at the Henry C. Chambers Waterfront Park, where "The Goonies" was played for community members to enjoy with their family. Additionally, a raffle was conducted for several Christmas gifts which were given out to children.



Shop with a Cop

The Beaufort City Police Department with donations contributed from downtown merchants, Walmart, and community members, hosted a “Shop with A Cop” event at Walmart. Over 150 children registered for a chance to be 1 of 10 children to go



Christmas shopping with a Beaufort City Police Officer. Each winner was provided with a \$200 gift card to Walmart for the opportunity to go Christmas shopping with a police officer from the Beaufort City Police Department. This is the third “Shop with A Cop” event that the Beaufort City Police Department has hosted.

Greg's Groceries



Greg's Groceries is a program put forth by a larger organization called Serve and Connect. The program provides boxes of non-perishable food for family's officers identify as in need of some extra assistance. Each box is designed to feed a needy family of 4 for a week. There are no requirements limiting an officer's ability to provide a

box for any family they feel would benefit from the extra assistance. Officers documented information for tracking purposes for the Police Department and Serve and Connect. Beaufort Police Department has implemented this program and plans to continue to do so for the foreseeable future to help those in our community who need it most.

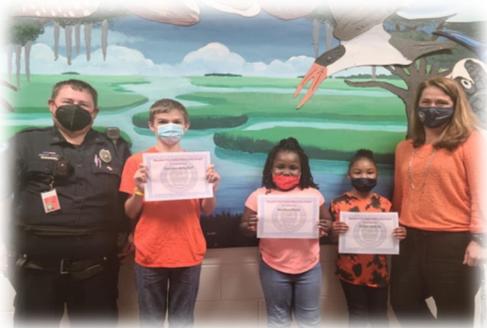
V.O.I.C.E.

V.O.I.C.E. is an acronym for the Volunteer Outreach in Community Efforts. The program was developed in 1998, being a program that has operated for approximately 23 years. Program volunteers make daily telephone calls to residents in the city who may have limited access to resources or the ability to have easy access to outside contact. These telephone calls help the Police Department identify individuals who benefit from regular health and welfare checks and provide residents a friendly voice to talk to. Many close relationships have been gained from this program even with the mitigating circumstances surrounding COVID-19. Currently there are 7 volunteers and 21 callee's actively participating in the program. If someone you know can benefit from this program, contact the V.O.I.C.E Coordinator at (843) 441-7545.



SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

School Resource Officers (SRO) establish and maintain a police presence at assigned school to promote a positive attitude toward law enforcement and to reduce crime. Beaufort Police Officers are assigned to the Beaufort High School, Beaufort Middle School, Lady's Island Middle School, and Beaufort Elementary School. SRO's conduct law enforcement, counseling, and law related education to students and staff.



DRONE

The Department acquired a DJI Mavic 2 Enterprise Dual drone during 2021. There is one FAA-licensed officer designated to operate the drone, which can be fitted with a thermal sensor for flights in darkness and a public address speaker to broadcast messages to people on the ground. In 2021, the drone logged a total of 13 hours of flight time, including flights conducted for proficiency training. The drone was also utilized to provide aerial scene photography of an outdoor crime scene. The drone aided in the multi-agency foot pursuit and capture of a suspect who assaulted a Port Royal Police Officer, as well as providing a streaming, real-time aerial view for command personnel of a joint SLED/Beaufort PD high-risk warrant service operation.

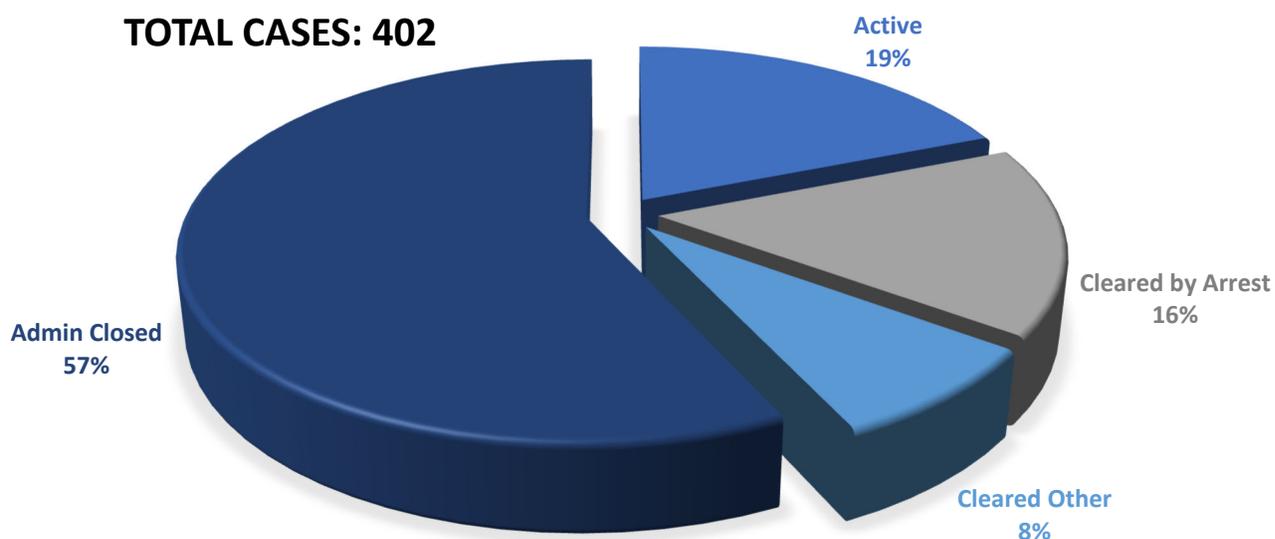


INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

The Investigations Division consists of four full-time investigators and an Evidence Custodian/Court Liaison. They are supervised by an Investigative Master Sergeant.

STATUS OF 2021 ASSIGNED CASES

TOTAL CASES: 402



“Admin Closed” cases indicate that an investigation ensued, but for a multitude of reasons, charges could not be pursued. This includes cases where a suspect was not identified or probable cause for an arrest was not obtained.

“Cleared Other” included cases that were unfounded, transferred to other jurisdictions, or that were exceptionally cleared. Cases may be exceptionally cleared if the victim refuses to prosecute, the suspect dies, or prosecution of a known offender is declined.



Notable cases investigated in 2021:

- Investigators observed a hand-to-hand narcotics transaction at a known drug house. Subsequently a traffic stop was conducted, and the subject arrested for being a felon in possession of a firearm. The subject is being Federally indicted.
- New Year's Day home invasion in which four suspects forced their way inside of a residence and held the occupants, including a young juvenile, at gunpoint. Subsequently, the suspect was identified and arrested.
- Three suspects were arrested after a man was shot to death on Southside Boulevard.
- A father and son committed a brazen aggravated assault as they chased the victim down and assaulted him in broad daylight. One subject held a gun to the victim while the other beat him with a baseball bat. Subsequently, both subjects were identified and arrested.
- Phone negotiations that resulted in the ultimate return of a child from a parent with no custodial rights to the child.



Property and Evidence

Total Evidence Held	7,713
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Firearms 	218
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drugs 	381
Evidence Destroyed	240
Property Returned to Owner	102
Evidence Being Analyzed	310



PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

Recruitment and Hiring

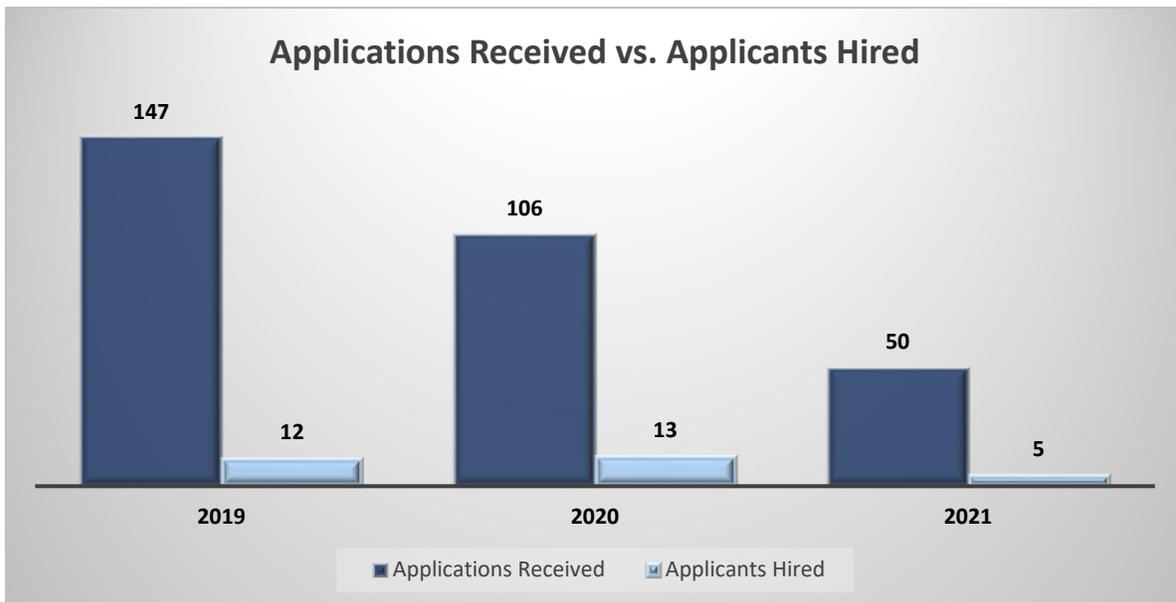
Applicants to the Beaufort Police Department face a rigorous application process that includes a background investigation, extensive testing, interviews, and a physical fitness test. Candidates must successfully complete all phases of the hiring process to be considered for employment.

BEAUFORT
SOUTH CAROLINA

WHY WORK FOR BPD?

- **GREAT PAY:** Starting salary range \$42,484 – \$50K, depending on experience & education. Annual performance-based raises. Overtime and longevity bonuses.
- **BENEFITS:** Take-home car, free gym membership, tuition assistance, paid vacation time, Health, dental and vision insurance, Employee Assistance program, SC Police Retirement pension.
- Up to \$5K sign-on bonus for in-state and lateral transfer officers depending on experience.

VISIT JOINBEAUFORTPD.COM



Vehicle Pursuits

In 2021, officers were involved in one vehicle pursuit while assisting another agency. No damages or injuries occurred during the pursuit. A review of the pursuit found the officer's to be in compliance with Departmental policy.



Use of Force

All Use of force incidents are reviewed by the Professional Standards Lieutenant. In 2021, out of the 440 arrests that occurred, 27 incidents required officers to use force to effect the arrest of the individual. In each of the use of force situations, it was determined that officers used the minimum amount of force reasonably necessary to accomplish their lawful objective. Further, it was also determined in several instances, that officers used a lower level of force than what would have been legally justified. There were no discernable patterns or trends related to race, age, gender, or injury pertaining to the suspect or officer.

Use of Force			
	2019	2020	2021
Baton	-	-	-
Bola Wrap	-	1	-
Electronic Control Weapon (Taser)	-	-	2
Empty Hand Control	28	19	25
Firearm	-	-	-
OC Spray	1	-	-

Complaints

The Beaufort Police Department has an established process for receiving, investigating, and adjudicating complaints made by citizens, co-workers, and supervisors regarding allegations of employee misconduct. Complaints are accepted in any form, including verbal, written, or from anonymous sources. The Office of Professional Standards' mission and responsibility is to ensure the continued public confidence in the Department through objective and thorough investigations of all allegations of offenses by its employees.

A total of three complaints were received and investigated by the Office of Professional Standards in 2021. One complaint was found to be sustained due to improper dissemination of information.

2021 Complaints and Dispositions		
Complaint Type	Number of Complaints	Disposition
Discrimination	1	Unfounded
Improper Conduct	1	Not Sustained
Improper Procedure	1	Sustained
Neglect of Duty or Actions	-	-

TRAINING

In 2021, officers attended over **4,479** hours of training to include:

Crisis Intervention Training
 Averting School Violence
 Community Policing
 Gracie Survival Tactics
 Alzheimer's Response
 Principles of Supervision
 HAZMAT for 1st Responders
 Suicide Prevention
 Cultural Awareness & Diversity
 Counter Terrorism



Annual Training, Including:

- Ethics
- Firearms
- Driving
- Defensive Tactics
- Bias-Based Training
- Active Shooter Training



TRAINING EVENTS

SERSUN Conference

In May, Beaufort Police Department hosted the annual Spillman Flex User's Conference for the southeast region, a group known as SERSUN. First Responders from 12 states along with trainers from Spillman made up the almost 100 attendees. A welcome Lowcountry Boil dinner was hosted at the department the evening before classes started. USCB and the Hilton Garden Inn served as meeting and classrooms for the four-day event. Lunches were provided three out of the four days by local businesses to include a Waterfront Park pavilion lunch catered by Alvin Ord's. Attendees and trainers loved Beaufort and often remarked how envious they were that we got to live and work in the Lowcountry.



Dolan Verbal De-Escalation Training

In October, Beaufort Police Department hosted a Dolan verbal De-Escalation training event. The event was held at The Officer's Club on the Marine Corps Air Station. Ninety officers were in attendance from various agencies across Beaufort County. Course training objectives included:

- Diffusing potentially volatile verbal encounters
- Improving public safety professionals' verbal communication skills
- Raising organizational morale and grasp the concept of "Police Legitimacy"
- Practicing "Verbal Contact & Cover" principles



RECORDS

The Records Division ensures the Beaufort Police Department runs smoothly and is a critical component of our ability to provide exemplary services to the community. Comprised of an Office Manager and three full-time Admins, the Records Division is responsible for maintaining all Department records efficiently and in accordance with State and Federal guidelines. Although cross trained, each have specific duties they are responsible for to include considerable work in attaining and sustaining our accreditation status.



They are also tasked with the timely distribution and destruction of these records, as well as interacting with other agencies and the public (including victims, suspects, and witnesses after an incident). This Division also provides continual support to sworn personnel so they can effectively carry out their respective duties unhindered. Our Office Manager is also tasked with a variety of other duties such as Employee Records, Payroll, Budgeting, Quartermaster, Scheduling, and other clerical assistance as needed. These ladies also play a huge role in the care of the department Comfort dog, Missy. Another important feature these ladies specialize in is treating the officers to thoughtful goodies throughout the year such as Police Week activities, holiday treats, birthday cards, and handmade Christmas ornaments.



Accident Report Disseminated	443
Background Checks	464
Expungements	214
Freedom Of Information Act Requests	251
Incident Report Requests	343
Juvenile Petitions	93
Attorney Discovery Requests (Municipal Court Cases)	262
Solicitor Discovery Requests (General Sessions Cases)	108
Subpoena Responses	38

2,216



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Website: [Police Department | Beaufort SC \(cityofbeaufort.org\)](#)