

Bridgewater Township Police Department

2019 Annual Report



Paul Payne

Acting Chief of Police

2019 ANNUAL REPORT
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Introduction

The year 2019 marked our 54th anniversary of providing professional police service to the residents of Bridgewater Township. It is our responsibility to protect and serve the members of our community and provide the highest level of commitment, integrity, and professionalism. We strive to be leaders in our community by providing police services that embody the spirit of community partnerships by being efficient, transparent, and proactive in resolving community issues and concerns.

This year's annual report contains many statistical graphs and charts for you to view. Equally important are the community programs and relationships that have been created with many community members this past year. As we move into 2020, we envision stronger community partnerships with old and new community members and a steadfast commitment to excellence.

The calendar year 2019 demonstrated the ability of its members to adapt to the ever changing environment within the police profession while still providing programs and services that are necessary for the operation of an efficient police department. Small community meetings within the township have relieved stress and anxiety and have fostered positive relationships and information sharing. In the upcoming year, we look to increase these community meetings and start a positive movement. We hope to implement a full-time community policing unit in effect to prevent crime and build a culture of safety for all that reside, work and visit Bridgewater Township.

The Police Department has witnessed the retirement of the Chief of Police, Alfred Nicaretta, on December 1st, 2019 after 30 years of committed service to the township. On that date, Captain Paul Payne took over as Acting Chief until the process is started to select the new Chief. With 2020 quickly approaching, the agency will lose four more supervisors on February 1st, 2020, to retirement. The agency started planning for those retirements with the testing process for promotions.

In January of 2019, the following officers were hired with the agency: Kevin Geisel, Cody Silverman, Brittany Hruska, and Monika Theil. Officer Geisel started immediately since he was PTC certified, while Silverman, Hruska, and Theil attended the Union County Police Academy. They graduated in July of 2019 and provided much needed support to our current ranks. Each one of these officers possesses the qualities, knowledge, and initiative to become an outstanding Officer of the Bridgewater Township Police Department.

In April of 2019, Officers Michael Macchia and Nicholas Grasso were hired by the agency. They both were certified as Class II Officers in the State of New Jersey and attended several classes at Morris County Police Academy to receive their full certification as Police Officers. During their training period, both officers were able to supplement patrol with coverage on the road, which greatly helped our agency.

Each Officer hired in 2019 quickly filled vacant spots that were left by retirements or officers leaving for other agencies.

My staff and I look forward to the continued cooperation from the Township Administration and Town Council throughout the 2020 calendar year.

The Bridgewater Township Police Department will continue to maintain our established maxim “Dedicated to Service, Committed to Community.” Our Mission Statement, along with our Core Values, serves as a standard of expectations that we demand and expect from each and every Officer.

Mission Statement

“The men and woman of the Bridgewater Township Police Department are committed to providing effective police service to all persons within our jurisdiction. We endeavor to reduce crime along with the fear of it, through cooperative interaction with the community. We strive to enhance the quality of life for all members of the community.”

Core Values

Service: Providing service and resources that are responsive to the needs of every citizen in our community.

Integrity: We adhere to the honest, fair and ethical treatment of the people with whom we interact, while promoting justice and fulfilling our duty to uphold the law.

Compassion: We exercise empathy and provide aid to all persons who require our assistance.

Pride: We possess pride in our profession, holding ourselves to higher principles and standards in the performance of our duties and personal conduct.

Respect: We respect the rights and beliefs of others and have an appreciation for the diversity of our community.

2019 Goals Met

New Jersey Chiefs of Police Re-Accreditation Process – Our agency successful completed all the requirements established by the NJCOP to be Re-Accreditation. This accreditation will expire in 2023, and we have begun the process again to get re-accredited.

Implementation of Police Officer Class III Program – add additional Officers to our Table of Organization to provide an additional layer of safety to our school district.

Complete Threat Assessment for all Schools within our District – perform school walk- through assessments of all schools.

Operation Blue Angel - is a program to assist residents who, due to advanced age, mobility, or medical concerns, may be unable to answer their door in an emergency situation. A Police Department owned lock box similar to a realtor's lock box is mounted to a door of the home. A key, supplied by the resident, is locked inside the box. In the event of an emergency, responding police officers are able to retrieve the key by using a code accessed by our Communications Center, allowing us to quickly enter the home without causing damage.

Nextdoor App – this App is up and running and available to anyone that downloads the software. The Administrative Staff monitors the App on a regular basis.

Social Media – we have increased our social media footprint by creating a new, more interactive Police Department website.

The upcoming year will bring a new set of challenges to our police department. I am extremely optimistic that the men and women of the Bridgewater Township Police Department will meet any challenge encountered. They all serve the citizens' of Bridgewater with Honor, Pride, Integrity, and Dedication.

2020 Goals

Increase Police Officer Manpower – The Administrative Staff of the Bridgewater Police Department has evaluated the current staffing levels and have determined there is a need to increase our workforce. This can be accomplished with a schedule change, which we hope to implement in 2020. The administration will report to the Township Administrator and Mayor the effectiveness and efficiency of this new schedule, as well as any additional personnel that may be needed in the future.

Community Policing Unit – no additional personnel was allocated for 2020; however, our goal for 2020 is to plan for a Community Policing Unit in the near future.

Implement the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS) - this system will replace the Uniform Crime Reporting System. (UCR) We are still in the planning phase with QED and the New Jersey State Police. We anticipate a mid-2020 implementation.

Vision Statement

To maintain our position as recognized leaders in our community, both on and off duty, working together as a progressive, professional and interactive agency.

To be an organization that promotes the professional development of its members.

To be an organization that continues to anticipate and influence change

To be recognized for excellence in service to our citizens

To be the leading resource for community safety, education and information

To provide our personnel with the necessary equipment for their safe and effective job performance. My goal and vision for the police department is to deliver unsurpassed police services to the township residents and to maintain our status as one of the top law enforcement agencies in the State.

Acting Chief Paul Payne

Roster

Acting Chief Paul Payne

Captain Michael Maxwell

Lt. Sean O'Neill
Lt. William Kelly

Lt. John Mitzak
Lt. Kevin Tennant

Lt. Michael Packwood
Lt. Robert Stasiulaitis

Sgt. Chris Fischer Sgt. Jeff Savare
Sgt. Joseph Dolinski Sgt. Peter Ochs
Sgt. Kevin Lamey (TSB)

Sgt. Al Mele Sgt. James Edwards
Sgt. Brian Blath Sgt. Todd Mele
Det. Sgt. Thomas Rice (CIB)

Officers:

J. Cooper	D. Hennessey	B. Schubert	P. Knapp	S. Black
V. Stetsko	K. Bernhard	D. Giraldo	R. Cerro	J. Greco
K. Florczak	S. Woodruff	J. Doesburgh	J. Dailey	A. Alosi
R. Pelley	J. Bezak	T. Kochanski	K. McDonough	A. Alosi
S. Zeichner	M. Sommers	M. Leight	C. Rini	J. Conroy
M. Ziarnowski	P. Forgione	B. Eitner	A. Mendoza	S. Rini
R. Veneman	T. Barnett	P. Kaczynski	A. Milito	B. Hruska
C. Taggart	K. McGarry	F. Flores	C. Outerbridge	D. Thorsen
A. Digraziano	T. Weiss	M. Hoelzel	M. Macchia	N. Grasso
K. Grimm	K. Geisel	M. Thiel	C. Silverman	

Detectives:

C. Delaney M. Coletta B. Sujansky (IDO) R. Dunlop M. Foster (IDO) R. Reilly
C. Bowers

Youth Services:

J. Han G. VanDoren

Class III Officers:

M. Christensen M. Szczecina P. Ayala

Traffic Safety Bureau:

J. Kennedy F. Brittain

Confidential Assistant:

Cathy Hamilton

Records Bureau:

Stela Bogdan Janice Mathewson
Victor Palumbo Sr.

Police Support Services: Danielle Tufaro Richard Larsen

Licensing Bureau: Robert Hanlon

Information Technology: William Nuse

PART I

POLICE DEPARTMENT BUREAUS

Patrol

The Patrol Division (Operations) is the cornerstone of Police work and makes up the largest portion of the Police Department, which serves approximately 45,000 primary residents and approximately 250,000 daily citizens. The primary duties of the Patrol Division is to protect human life, maintain order, enforce criminal law as well as motor vehicle law, investigate motor vehicle collisions, provide emergency medical services and promote community relations. Patrol Officers impartially gather facts, prepare reports, and provide testimony in civil, municipal and superior courts. Patrol Officers respond to and investigate a wide variety of calls for service, to include, but are not limited to the following; domestic violence incidents, robbery, burglary, larceny, assaults, sexual assaults, homicide, missing persons (adult/juvenile). During the calendar year of 2019, the Patrol Division responded to 40,912 calls for service.

The Patrol Division is comprised of forty-seven Patrol Officers, in which an officer left to work at another agency. This was a decrease from 2018, which consisted of forty-eight officers. The Patrol Officers are assigned to six squads with eight Sergeants supervising these squads. There are four Lieutenants who act as Watch Commanders and oversee the Sergeants and Patrol Officers. There is one Captain who is the Operations Division Commander. The Captain oversees the day to day operations of Patrol.

Each year, our Patrol Officers have received advanced training in Crash Investigations, Rifle Operations, and Emergency Medicine as EMT's. Several Patrol Officers are active members of the Somerset County Emergency Response Team (S.C.E.R.T.) responsible for SWAT, Hostage Recovery (HRT), and Dive Rescue Team. In addition, several of our Officers have collateral duties with other Somerset County teams, such as Arson Investigation and the Collision Analysis Response Team (C.A.R.T.). The advanced training and experience that our Patrol Officers bring to their daily duties allow them to be in a state of readiness to take control of the most complex incidents to ensure a successful outcome for our residents.

The goals established in 2019 were met except for expanding community policing into other neighborhoods. This was mainly due to the lack of personnel available and calls volume.

Goals for 2020 include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Continue our efforts to be more involved with the community using Community policing efforts to other neighborhoods within the township.
- Train additional Patrol Officers as Drug Recognition Experts (DREs).
- Continue to provide advanced training to all officers within the agency, so that they can excel in their profession.
- Continue to provide advanced leadership training to all supervisors within the agency, so that they can excel in their position.
- Increase our Social Media presence so that information is transmitted in a timely manner to our community.
- Continue to work with the Pitman Schedule since it is new to our agency for 2020.

Criminal Investigations Bureau

The Criminal Investigation Bureau (CIB) consists of a Lieutenant John Mitzak, Detective Sergeant Thomas Rice, and five Detectives: Clifford Delaney, Russell Dunlop, Robert Reilly, Louis Bowers and Michael Coletta, and Identification Officer Melinda Foster, who was assisted by Officer Brian Sujansky.

Our Identification Officer is our primary evidence custodians, overseeing approximately twelve thousand five hundred eighty one (12,581) pieces of evidence. The identification officer's primary function is to identify, preserve, gather, and evaluate evidence collected at crime scenes. After the evidence has been collected and evaluated, the identification officer then catalogs the evidence into our evidence vault. The identification officer's secondary duties include transferring evidence to the NJ State Police Lab or the SCPO Forensic Lab for analysis. In 2019, approximately one thousand nine hundred eighty six (1,986) pieces of evidence was logged into and out of our evidence vault. There were forty-five (45) motor vehicle burglaries and twenty six (26) burglaries to structures within the Township, with the vast majority requiring identification work. Two full audits were conducted on all pieces of evidence this year due to the training of Officer Sujansky and the retirement of Chief Nicaretta.

Detectives within CIB have a number of responsibilities as well. CIB personnel investigate adult and juvenile related crimes, missing persons/runaways, conduct surveillances as well as undercover operations, identify, locate and arrest criminals including fugitives, obtain and execute search / arrest warrants, conduct background investigations on potential Police Officers and screen criminal complaints with the Somerset County Prosecutor's Office, just to name a few. In addition, Detectives also process crime scenes, assist the identification officers and also assist patrol officers whenever needed. There were 200 reported missing persons/runaways. To date there are still 6 of them missing with 5 of them being runaways from a group homes.

Each detective has their own collateral responsibilities as well, to include, but are not limited to, Counter-Terrorism, Megan's Law, Bias Crimes, Alcohol Beverage Control (ABC) Investigations, the Pawn list and Gangs and Guns.

Our counter-terrorism detective collects and shares information on threats and suspicious activity related to unattended parcels, storage facilities, and chemical facilities with our Somerset County Prosecutor's Office (SCPO) liaison to the New Jersey Joint Terrorism Task Force (JTTF) and the New Jersey Office of Homeland Security (OHS&P). Our Megan's Law detective is charged with overseeing new and current sex offenders that reside or work within our township, as well as making periodic notifications when required depending on the tier classification. There are currently twenty-five (25) registered sex offenders (Megan's Law) living within the Township. Twenty-two (22) of these offenders must re-register with the police department once a year, while three (3) must check in every three months.

Our bias crimes detective is tasked with reviewing all reports of crimes committed based on the victim's creed, ethnicity, race, religion or sexual orientation and then submitting those reports to our SCPO and New Jersey State liaison.

The ABC detective is responsible for determining whether our applicants for liquor licenses have disclosed the sources of all funds used to purchase the license, the financing associated with any corporate held licenses, background investigations on the establishment's employees, and compliance with our township ordinance(s). In 2019 three (3), of the Township's forty (40) liquor licenses was transferred, requiring full investigations on all parties involved. There are five (5) licenses in an inactive state, three (3) due to businesses closing and two (2) licenses are being held pending sale and transfer.

Goals for 2020:

- To ensure an updated threat assessments for houses of worship within the Township, and to continue to work with the Bridgewater-Raritan school administration in regards to the safety and security of staff and students.
- Increase undercover operations to include high crime areas, motels, hotels and shopping centers.
- Utilize CIB/Identification Officers to train entire Department on the collection/bagging and labeling of evidence.
- Supplement CIB staff with Patrol Officers to assist with surveillance/undercover operations.

The following are some of the high profile case that CIB has investigated during 2019:

January

Members of CIB and OEM met with representatives of Temple Shalom. Together we conducted a risk assessment of the Temple. This is a unique facility since it is both a house of worship and a school. A full report offered suggestions for securing the temple during services and security for the school. The report will also assist the Temple in applying for grant money to be used at the Temple.

February

Officers and Detectives responded to a reported planned home invasion. The victim learned that friends of his had burglarized his home in the past and planned a home invasion to steal money and drugs. Detectives investigated the incident and through several subpoenas and Communication Data Warrants (CDW's), several suspects including the victim's son were developed. The investigation is ongoing with charges of Conspiracy to commit Robbery, Burglary, Theft, and CDS distribution are expected against several suspects.

March

Detectives and Traffic Officers worked a detail with the Somerset County Prosecutors Office and several other jurisdictions in Somerset County to conduct surveillance on two separate criminal groups operating in Bridgewater and surrounding towns. The first crew was responsible for several residential burglaries and the second crew is responsible for retail thefts totaling over \$100,000, with \$15,000 coming from Bridgewater stores. Several suspects have been identified and charges were authorized against the retail theft crew for Theft. The burglary crew is still under investigation.

April

Two separate storage unit facilities were burglarized. There were 5 victims from one facility and 3 from the second storage unit. All of the units were burglarized with the same modus operandi. There were three additional residential burglaries. There were also two additional retail thefts of a large amount of products totaling over \$5,000.00. Arrests were made in the retail theft charging two people with Theft.

May

An additional retail theft totaling over \$5,000.00 was reported. Investigation led to the arrest of 3 subjects who were all charged with Theft in Bridgewater. Information developed in the investigation led to the crew also being charged for a retail theft in Plainfield.

Members of CIB and OEM met with representatives of Saint Bernards Church. Together we conducted a risk assessment of the Church, school and mausoleum. A full report offered suggestions for securing the church and school during services and security for the school. The report will also assist the church in applying for grant money to be used at the church and school.

June

An incident of road rage where the arrestee produced and pointed a hand gun at the victim and his wife. The suspect was located in Somerville on Main Street. Detectives' responded there and met with the suspect. The suspect granted consent to search his vehicle. A loaded and charged black and silver BB gun was located under the driver's seat. Also found during the search was a prescription bottle in a females name located in a back pack, and a wooden blackjack was located on the front passenger seat. The suspect was arrested and charged with Aggravated Assault, Possession of a Weapon, Possession of a Weapon for Unlawful Purpose and Possession of CDS (prescription of another).

The Vice President of the NJ Chapter of the Hells Angels Outlaw Motorcycle Club passed away. His wake and funeral took place in Bound Brook, NJ. His repass was held at the American Legion, 77 Old York Road in Bridgewater NJ. We assisted Bound Brook with their operational plans and coordinated our operation plans with them. There were over 1000 outlaw motorcycle riders in attendance for both events. The event went off without any issues.

July

There were two reported vehicle burglaries and one residential burglary on Chimney Rock Road. The victim of the residential burglary also had his vehicle taken from the driveway. The stolen vehicle was then involved in a motor vehicle crash on I287. After the crash the operator of the vehicle attacked and assaulted a bystander who offered his assistance. The suspect then stole the bystander's vehicle while dragging the bystander with his vehicle. The suspect was then spotted in Patterson in the vehicle and was shot by the police. We are still waiting on DNA to return from the State Police lab to link the suspect to our burglary/theft.

July

An individual from New York was canoeing on the Raritan River in the area of Duke Island Park with his five-year-old granddaughter. The canoe capsized and both individuals went into the river. The granddaughter was rescued by another person in a canoe, but the grandfather drowned. Detectives conducted an investigation, and the cause of death was determined to be an accidental drowning.

August

Somerset County Communications received a telephone call from an unknown person stating he just shot his mother in the chest with his father's gun and needed help. The caller also stated he was unsure if his mother was alive or dead. Officers' and Detectives responded. A perimeter was set up and Somerset County S.W.A.T and the Crisis Negotiation Team were requested and responded. Several residences on Funderne Avenue were evacuated and Kemper KIA was used as a staging area for the displaced. SWAT eventually made entry and learned that the above information was a hoax. Detectives investigated the incident and several subpoenas' were obtained. With the assistance of the F.B.I., it was learned that the incoming call was rerouted several times and is untraceable. The residence where the Swatting was called into had a son who was playing Call of Duty on his Xbox. He was playing with unknown persons and they told him they were going to call the police on him. The victim was able to hear the phone call being made to the police but was scared and did not say anything to the responding officers.

Detectives learned that the application "Discord" was used to reroute the phone call, thus making a connection to the game impossible to trace.

Officers responded to Washington Valley Park in the area of "White Rock" for an attempted abduction and rape. A forty-four-year-old female was walking in the park, when she was grabbed from behind, dragged off the trail she was walking on, and then sexually assaulted and choked by an eighteen-year-old suspect. The victim bit the suspect and was able to flee from the assault. A detective located the suspect and he was arrested. After confessing to the assault, he was charged with Criminal Restraint 3rd degree, Criminal Coercion 3rd degree, Criminal Sexual Contact 4th degree and Simple Assault D.P. U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement also placed a detainer on the suspect, due to the fact he is a citizen of Honduras and was in the United States illegally. He was lodged in the Somerset County Jail.

September

A voicemail was left on the main phone for the Jewish Community Center (JCC). A male called and left a strange voicemail. The message stated "I apologize for this call I just wanted to say goodbye. I was wondering if you're tracking, that we're all tracking on the west coast and even Texas. We're all tracking. I wanted to say goodbye that we're not family. Because I'm not in New Jersey, I'm not from New Jersey. And I also wanted to let you know that this homosexual actually slept with females and this homosexual has done it more than once. And I want you to know that I'm not your family, I'm not Jewish. I don't like Jewish people. Goodbye. That's from God to you. Goodbye." Steinberg advised that the JCC has received strange messages like this before possibly from the same individual. At the time of the call, no one at the JCC knew who this person was. Detectives investigated this incident and learned that the F.B.I. is aware of the suspect and advised he has a history of mental illness and similar activity in multiple jurisdictions on the East coast. All information was turned over to the F.B.I.

October

Officers responded to Greenway Park located at 517 Milltown Road for the report of a suspicious package in the parking lot. Somerset County Communications advised an individual observed a small acetylene tank with iron "bomb making materials" near it in the parking lot of the park. Officers responded and secured the scene. The New Jersey State Police Bomb Squad was notified and responded to the scene to investigate. They located the device and determined the device was a "hoax device". The Trooper stated the cylinder appeared to still have gas inside, which was believed to be acetylene as indicated by the sticker on the side.

He also advised the cylinder's nozzle was partly open, and the tank was making a hissing sound-leaking a small amount of content in the air. The Trooper stated he closed the cylinder. He also advised the pipe was empty and the caps on the side were lightly screwed on. Detectives

responded to the scene to assist with the investigation. No suspects were developed in this case and the person who located the device has been uncooperative with the investigation and referred all questions to his lawyer.

November

There was a reported burglary interrupted by the homeowner. The victim stated when he arrived home he heard someone upstairs in his house. He yelled to the unknown person and the suspect fled from his house. Several officers and detectives responded to the area and conducted a thorough search of the area to include tracking by a K9. Ultimately, the suspect was located inside his vehicle. He was arrested and the vehicle was towed. A search warrant was applied for and granted. The search of the vehicle produced some of the stolen items from the victim. Detectives conducted the investigation and determined that the vehicle used during the commission of the crime was obtained by fraudulent means. Detectives worked with the New Jersey Attorney General's Office and they are investigating the suspect and a ring of people for fraud. This investigation continues.

December

Somerset County Communications (SCC) received a telephone call from the victim of a domestic dispute with her husband. The victim claimed that her husband was suicidal and possibly armed. While officers were enroute, SCC advised they heard a shot fired over the phone. When officers arrived at the residence, they observed the victim frantically pacing in a front window. Officers walked up the driveway calling out to the victim and asking her where her husband was. Another shot was heard from the garage and officers ran for cover due to the shot coming through the door. Officers took cover and then evacuated the victim and her two children from the residence and immediately transported them to Robert Wood Johnson Hospital in Somerville. Officers and detectives set up a perimeter and began to evacuate nearby residents. Roadblocks were set up and Somerset County SWAT and Crisis Negotiators were called in. When SWAT members arrived they replaced the positions of the Bridgewater Officers. Shortly after arriving, the suspect surrendered without further incident. The suspect was charged with the following: Possession of a Weapon for Unlawful Purposes (2C:39-4A (1) 2nd Degree), Endangering another Person (2C:24-7.1A (3) 3rd Degree), and Aggravated Assault (2C:12-1B (4) 4th Degree).

Officers responded to the Provident Bank located at 477 Union Ave. for a reported attempted bank robbery. A subject walked into the bank, removed a large white plastic bag out of his pocket, placed it on the teller counter in front of a bank teller and stated, "Fill it." The teller ignored the suspect, removed herself from the teller's booth and responded to the back room. A second teller finished a transaction with his customer, and asked the suspect, "Can I help you?" The second teller stated the suspect replied, "Never mind" and exited the front double doors of the bank without any proceeds.

At approximately 1530 hours Chase Bank in Somerville, NJ was robbed for cash. The suspect was located a short distance away in his vehicle with the proceeds. The suspect confessed to the Bridgewater attempted theft and was charged with Criminal Attempt with Theft as the Underlying Offense 3rd Degree 2C:5-1a(3) 2C:20-3a.. He was lodged in the Somerset County Jail.

Youth Services Bureau

The Youth Services Bureau (YSB) consists of two (2) officers; Jonathan Han and Garret Van Doren who report directly to the Detective Sergeant in charge of the Criminal Investigations Bureau. These officers are commonly referred to as School Resource Officers (SRO). The Youth Services' main objective is to ensure a safe learning environment for both students and teachers. Secondary responsibilities are to interact with students, school administrators, and school staff. Additionally, conduct investigations, educate through presentations and address problems as they occur. Youth Service Officers conduct criminal investigations involving juveniles, as well as investigating missing/runaway juveniles. They also conduct background investigations and assist members of the Criminal Investigations Bureau and the Patrol division when school is not in session.

These Officers present a variety of educational programs for the school staff and students, such as drug and alcohol awareness, conflict resolution, civics, internet safety and etiquette, bullying and driver's education. In the past few years, there has been a steady increase in the use of social media applications that led to the exploitation of students through photographs and videos. These photographs and videos were sexually inappropriate that were obtained by other students alike and to unknown individuals. This has been an ongoing danger to the students and it has impacted the educational community. In response to these incidents, the Youth Services Bureau has developed presentations and educated students on a one on one basis to raise awareness of the dangers of misusing the internet and social media applications. The primary focuses of these presentations were to educate and help our students understand the risks of the internet and social media applications. Specifically, the educational sessions served the purpose of increasing the awareness on "Sexting" and preventative measures to protect students from becoming victims. The Youth Services Bureau also provided a "Pills to Heroin" presentation to the students which focused on raising awareness about Opioid abuse. Every year, Youth Services are also involved in various community programs that include: Martinsville Community Center, The Municipal Alliance, Trauma Bears for Children, and Thanksgiving Meal Vouchers for families in need. Additionally, Youth Services personnel provide tours of Police headquarters for the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts of America and children that are interested in Law Enforcement.

The Somerset County Prosecutor's Office (SCPO) continues their emphasis on juvenile offenders being offered the opportunity to participate in the Station House Adjustment Program. This program enables Youth Services to assign juveniles to community services in lieu of filing a formal complaint for certain offenses and non-violent crimes. The community based agency, Middle Earth, located on North Bridge Street in Somerville, NJ, oversees the community service program. This program is offered to juveniles who reside in Somerset County. There have been forty-four (44) juveniles enrolled in the Station House Adjustment Program during 2019.

The Youth Services Officers have additional responsibilities as liaisons to the Bridgewater-Raritan Youth Services Commission, The Municipal Alliance for the Prevention of Drug and Alcohol Abuse, and the Somerset County Juvenile Officers Association.

Youth Services Goals for 2020:

- Introduce new curriculum for both students and their families to address new challenges they face during the school year.
- Advance the existing curriculum on the internet and social media to inform students and staff on issues that are relevant to current times.
- Attend more training specifically on school safety, current drug trends, technology and the internet, driver's education and community outreach.
- Maintain a close working relationship with the school administration and staff.
- Establish new security protocols due to the recent decline in school security staff members.
- Understand more about the programs available for juveniles going through a crisis.

Traffic Safety Bureau

During the year of 2019, the Bridgewater Township Police Department's Traffic Safety Bureau provided traffic safety services to township residents, businesses and all who traveled the roads in Bridgewater Township. The primary function of the Traffic Safety Bureau was and continues to be the investigation of serious and fatal motor vehicle crashes, along with the enforcement of traffic laws within the township. The Traffic Safety Bureau is responsible for: traffic safety presentations, hazardous busing, school crossing guards, traffic surveys, crash data collection, tow wrecker management, junk titles and training.

The Traffic Safety Bureau was comprised of the following personnel during 2019:

Sergeant Kevin Lamey

Officer Frederick Brittain

Officer Douglas Thorsen (transferred to patrol on June 9th)

Officer John Kennedy

The Traffic Safety Bureau investigated 2 serious motor vehicle crashes in 2019.

1. April 7th - Pedestrian stepped in front of a vehicle on Chimney Rock Road in an attempt to commit suicide
2. May 21st - Pedestrian was struck by a Bridgewater-Raritan Board of Education bus on Traci Road near the intersection of Marsillo Way.

The Traffic Safety Bureau investigated 290 motor vehicle crashes in 2019 and issued 676 motor vehicle summonses. The Traffic Safety Bureau made 13 arrests 5 of which were for DWI. The Traffic Safety Bureau served 2 warrants and issued 4 summonses (non-motor vehicle).

During 2019, Sergeant Lamey, Officer Brittain, Officer Thorsen and Officer Kennedy continued their education through formal training and served on the Somerset County Collision and Reconstruction Team where they assisted in the investigations of serious and fatal motor vehicle crashes throughout Somerset County. Officer Kennedy remained a certified Drug Recognition Expert and assisted investigations within Bridgewater and surrounding jurisdictions by conducting evaluations of suspected impaired drivers due to the use of narcotics.

All four members of the bureau are certified Child Seat Technicians. Township residents and individuals who work in Bridgewater can contact the police department and schedule an appointment with one of the officers to have their child seat inspected and ensure the seat is properly installed. In 2019, officers inspected 13 cars seats at our headquarters.

During 2019, construction projects continued on township roadways, with one of the largest projects closing Washington Valley Road. Bureau personnel regularly attended construction meetings and consulted with the Bridgewater Engineering Department to ensure safe work zones and properly installed detour routes.

2019 Goals for the Bridgewater Traffic Safety Bureau are as follows:

1. Continue to address speeding complaints utilizing our radar recorders, radar signs, targeted enforcement and directed patrol.
2. Continue to utilize social media to keep citizens apprised of road closures, detours and upcoming events that will affect traffic in Bridgewater.
3. Increase awareness and enforcement of vehicles passing stopped school buses.
4. Continue efforts to increase DWI enforcement.

The Traffic Safety Bureau met most of the goals set in the 2018 annual report. Speeding complaints will always be an issue in a town the size of Bridgewater. We continue to address these complaints by first conducting a speed survey utilizing one of our radar recorders or speed signs to determine whether the complaint is valid or simply a perception problem. If a speeding issue is determined to exist on a particular road, the Traffic Safety Bureau, as in years past, will conduct targeted enforcement of said road with periodic follow up. The Traffic Safety Bureau has continued to keep our citizens informed of road closures and detours, through the use of Nixle and social media. Our department's DWI enforcement has increased once again and is up 36% from 2018. The Traffic Safety Bureau has two message boards that are used regularly throughout Bridgewater. This year, they were particularly useful in keeping our residents up to date with the Washington Valley Road closures. They've also been used to advise motorists of community events and construction projects. This will continue in 2019.

2020 Goals for the Bridgewater Traffic Safety Bureau are as follows:

1. Increase DWI enforcement through specific patrols that will be scheduled during times of high probability.
2. Continue to address speeding complaints utilizing our radar recorders, radar signs, targeted enforcement and directed patrol.
3. Increase the utilization social media even more, to keep citizens apprised of road closures, detours and upcoming events that will affect traffic in Bridgewater.
4. Continue our increased awareness and enforcement of vehicles passing stopped school buses.

TECHNICAL SERVICES BUREAU

The Technical Services Bureau (TSB) is responsible for the planning, procurement, installation and maintenance of the department's information technology (IT) resources. The department's IT infrastructure is currently composed of:

- Law Enforcement Records Management (LERMS) – Queues Enforth Development, Inc. (Q.E.D.)
- QED Mobile Client – Queues Enforth Development, Inc. (Q.E.D.)
- New Jersey State National Crime Information Center 2000 interface
- Windows Server 2016 – Microsoft
- Windows Exchange Server 2007 – Microsoft
- Worry Free Business Security Antivirus – Trend Micro
- CheckPoint Firewall – CheckPoint
- Windows 7, 8.1 and 10 Professional – Microsoft
- Definity Telephone System and Voicemail - Avaya
- Digital Voice Logger – Eventide
- MobileVision L3 and Data911 in-car Mobile Video Recorders (MVRs)
- Five Servers (Linux and Microsoft operating systems).
- Over 55 desktop / laptop pc clients (MS Windows OS).
- Over 25 in-car Mobile Data Terminals (MS Windows OS, QED Mobile client)
- 2 patrol vehicles fitted with ELSAG License plate readers

The Queues Enforth Development, Inc. LERMS system is the repository of computerized data related to the daily functions of the department. LERMS contains digital records of all department enforcement and investigative activities as well as digital images of all original police reports. This information is supplied to clients as requested, used for crime analysis and development of monthly Uniform Crime Report (UCR) as required by State and Federal regulations.

The switch to Data911 mobile video recording (MVR) system is fully implemented in all of our patrol vehicles. The switch has been accomplished through attrition as older vehicles are retired and replaced or replaced due to an accident.

Implementation of generation 2 of the body worn cameras is progressing. The BX2 cameras are on site. Finalization of software testing should be completed the first quarter of 2020.

Our transition to a virtual server environment is progressing well. We are approximately 50% complete with our project and expect to be fully completed by the end of the first quarter 2020.

Due to the virtualization project, there were no new desktop computers added to the network environment in 2019. After the completion of the project we will assess the needs of the department and procure the proper equipment required to keep us current with technology.

Our move to ruggedized tablets in our patrol vehicles has been completed as well. All of our patrol vehicles are now equipped with Getac F110 ruggedized tablets. These consist of Version 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the Getac F110 tablet. We have found these tablets to be very reliable and durable.

2020 Goals

- Complete the implementation of the generation 2 body worn cameras. Train personnel on the proper use and functions of these new items.
- Complete the server virtualization project.
- Assess the technology equipment needs of the department moving forward.

Records Bureau

The responsibility of the Records Bureau is to process and file all police reports, process all Firearms and Solicitors Permit Applications, distribute police reports to the appropriate requesting agencies and the public, and to prepare case files. The Records Bureau is also responsible for maintaining archives and entering data into the computer system.

As of **December 31, 2019**, the Records Bureau processed the following:

Case Files	3573
Discovery Requests	1627
OPRA Requests	220
Background Checks	854
Insurance Requests	320
Firearms Applications	979
Solicitors/Peddler Permits	86
Total Fees Collected	\$41,644.70

During 2019, the Records Bureau experienced similar to slightly lower numbers in the areas of OPRA requests and insurance requests. Formal Open Public Records Act (OPRA) applications from the Township Clerk can be extensive and require from one to over one hundred separate reports. OPRA requests made to the police department remained virtually the same. We had 219 in 2018 to 220 in 2019. There was a substantial increase in the number of background checks conducted. Background checks include Letters of Good Conduct, DCPD requests and requests from other law enforcement agencies about employee applications. Insurance requests include insurance agency requests for accident reports and requests from law firms. These requests can be time consuming to prepare.

Firearms and Solicitors Permits continue to be in high demand for applications and inquiry. Requests for Firearms Applications decreased slightly from 1,101 in 2018 to 979 in 2019. The Solicitor/Peddler Permits decreased from 111 in 2018 to 86 in 2019.

In 2019 the Records Bureau had a staff of six civilian personnel. The staff was comprised of: one Senior Records Clerk, two full-time Records Clerks, one Criminal Investigative Clerk-B, one Account Clerk and a Licensing Coordinator. Additionally, the Criminal Investigative Clerk is handling the accreditation process for the Bridgewater Police Department this calendar year.

The Records Bureau also handles all the court discovery duties since 2010. This responsibility includes processing all Bridgewater Police Department and NJ State Police discovery requests as well as assisting the Bridgewater Municipal Court Prosecutor with court duties on all scheduled

court days. In 2019 there was a significant increase in discovery requests processed. They increased by 7% from 1,514 in 2018 to 1,627 in 2019.

LICENSING BUREAU

State statute and local ordinance charge the police department with the responsibility of issuance of certain licenses and permits. That function is handled by the Licensing Bureau. Bureau personnel help a license applicant through the required pre-issuance process. The Bureau then performs an investigation and gathers necessary documentation. This is assembled into a report which is submitted to the Chief of Police who makes the final decision regarding the granting of the permit or license.

License Bureau Statistical History 2013 to 2019

Permit Type	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Permit to Purchase a Handgun	660	549	457	837	671	652	539
Permit to Purchase a Handgun - Extension	202	74	81	116	154	124	141
Permit to Purchase a Handgun - Denied	9	0	0	27	4	0	1
Permit to Purchase a Handgun – Closed	--	19	8	27	61	20	23
Permit to Purchase a Handgun – Withdrawn	--	--	--	--	5	2	0
Handguns Purchased	393	351	300	525	379	416	322
Firearms Identification Card	247	146	90	235	180	148	132
Firearms Identification Card – Change	82	52	59	73	81	69	65
Firearms Identification Card – Replacement	17	9	9	14	7	12	12
Firearms Identification Card - Denied	6	0	1	18	5	1	3
Firearms Identification Card – Closed	--	19	7	23	55	30	25
Firearms Identification Card – Withdrawn	--	--	--	--	0	1	0
Voluntary Registration Firearms	12	2	1	2	1	2	2
Voluntary Registration Firearms – Denied	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Retired Police Carry	34	30	25	30	34	29	30
Carry Permit (Civilian)	1	2	0	0	0	0	0
Carry Permit (Civilian) - Denied	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Multiple Handgun Purchase	1	3	7	3	7	6	2
Multiple Handgun Purchase – Denied	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Collector of Curio & Relics	0	2	0	0	0	1	2

Permit Type	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Peddler Permit	14	14	25	25	8	7	7
Peddler Permit – Denied	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Solicitor Permit	31	104	50	50	33	24	11
Solicitor Permit – Denied	0	4	2	2	1	1	2
Solicitor Permit – Withdrawn	--	--	--	--	2	1	0
Solicitor Permit – Closed	--	--	--	--	2	8	5
Transient Merchant Permit	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Transient Merchant Permit – Denied	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Canvassing Permit	7	0	0	0	0	60	57
Canvassing Permit – Denied	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Roadside Solicitation/Coin Toss Permit	2	2	0	0	3	3	1
Roadside Solicitation/Coin Toss Permit – Denied	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Parking Permits	5	4	24	24	0	2	0
Visitor Parking Permits	10	6	36	36	4	4	0
1-Day Parking Permits	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Temp. Disability Park Placard	-	-	-	-	128	132	176
Temp. Disability Park Placard – Ext.	-	-	-	-	16	21	27
Total	1733	1392	1182	2257	1841	1776	1588

Permits under investigation as of 12/31/2019:

Firearms - 138

Peddler/Solicitor – 4

TRAINING

Lieutenants Tennant and O'Neill are assigned to the Professional Development Bureau and serve as the Department's Training Coordinators. Their responsibilities include identifying training needs, coordinating training schedules and ensuring annual mandatory training and certifications are completed in accordance with the guidelines of the N.J. Attorney General's Office and the N.J. Police Training Commission. Training a police officer is divided into four phases. Those phases are Basic Police Recruit Training, Performance Objective Standardized Training (POST), Field Training and In-Service Training. A review of each phase in 2019 is listed below.

Basic Police Recruit Training

In 2019, one officer, who was hired in 2018, graduated from the Mercer County Police Academy in February 2019. In addition, the agency hired six police officers from the 2018 applicant testing process. One of these new hires was already PTC certified, three attended the John Stamler Police Academy, and one attended the Mercer County Police academy. These officers are in different areas of the Field Training Program depending on their graduation date from the police academy. An officer from the 2018 applicant testing process will be hired in January of 2020 and will attend the Mercer County Police Academy.

Also in 2019, the Department began the process for another entrance exam for position of police officer. The Department contracted with PoliceApp.com to manage the initial application process. The application process started in December of 2019 and unlike in the previous two testing processes, no limit was put on the applicants. The 2020 applicant testing process will encompass the assistants of the New Jersey Chiefs of Police and the Somerset County Prosecutor's Office.

P.O.S.T Training

Performance Objective Standardized Training (POST) is State mandated training given to each new police officer prior to his/her assignment to a Field Training Officer. POST training is commonly referred to as "agency training" wherein the new police officer learns about his/her agency and about the agency's day-to-day operations, rules and regulations and policies and procedures. This training must be completed within the department in order to complete the requirements set forth by the New Jersey Police Training Commission for certification as a police officer. In 2019, six officers completed P.O.S.T. with the Training unit.

Field Training Program

Upon graduation from an accredited Police Academy, each probationary police officer enters the Probationary Police Officer's Field Training Program. The program provides the officer with orientation and guidance from skilled, experienced and trained police officers who are chosen and assigned as Field Training Officers (FTO). The probationary police officer will be evaluated daily by the FTO and weekly by the Squad Supervisor. Reports are utilized to document, address and correct specific deficiencies noted during

the probationary period. Prior to completing his/her probationary period, the officer must pass a comprehensive written and practical test based on knowledge in areas of department rules and regulations, policy and procedure, New Jersey criminal and motor vehicle law, township ordinances, patrol areas, business locations and overall patrol practices. Upon successfully completing the program, the officer will be recommended for permanent status with the police department which is granted by the Chief of Police.

In-Service Training

Department personnel attended approximately 75 mandatory, certification, re-certification and in-service courses during 2019. The Department provides mandated annual training to all of its members as prescribed by the State Attorney General's Office. The police department continued its proactive approach by assigning training in incident command systems, terrorism awareness, safe schools, school violence preparedness, and baton training. Certifications were maintained/obtained in the following areas; Mandatory Agency Training (MATS), Community-Law Enforcement Affirmative Relations Training (CLEAR), Alcotest 7110 MK IIC, C.P.R. / A.E.D. Instructor Re-certification, Field Force Operations and Radar Operation. Training was offered by federal, state, county and local agencies as well as given in-house by officers trained as instructors.

Goals

The training goals for 2019 were met with the exception having officers attending training classes at the New Mexico Tech and FEMA Training Center in Alabama. This was due to man power issues officers could not be sent to out of state training.

Goals for 2020

Complete all mandatory training as prescribed by State and County laws and guidelines.
Train newly promoted supervisors in accordance with the Department's training/internal affairs policy.

Maintain all of the training NJSCOP Accreditation Standards.

Integrate the mandatory training session into the new Pitman patrol schedule.

Identify and train additional Field Training Officers to meet the Agency's needs.

PART II

COLLATERAL DUTIES

Awards

During 2019, Sergeant Christopher Fischer and Lieutenant Robert Stasiulaitis oversaw award requests by assigning to an awards committee for approval.

As with every year the men and women of the Bridgewater Police Department did an outstanding job and we were fortunate enough to honor several officers and civilians for their performances with the following below listed awards carried out through 2019.

Letter of Commendation

- Sgt. Christopher Fischer
- Off. Kurt Bernhard
- Off. Randy Pelley
- Off. Brian Schubert
- Off. Stephen Black
- Off. Thomas Kochanski
- Off. Vincent Stetsko
- Off. Brian Eitner
- Off. Typan Barnett
- Off. Cody Silverman

Life Saving Award

- Off. Kurt Bernhard

CPR Save Award

- Off. Anthony Mendoza
- Off. Brian Eitner (2 Awards)
- Off. Typan Barnett (2 Awards)

Unit Citation

- Sgt. Christopher Fischer
- Off. Kurt Bernhard
- Off. Randy Pelley

- Off. Brian Schubert
- Det. Russell Dunlop
- Off. Patrick Knapp
- Off. Douglas Thorsen
- Off. Michael Ziarnowski
- Off. Stephen Black
- Off. Anthony Digraziano
- Off. Vincent Stetsko
- Off. Brian Eitner
- Off. Piotr Kaczynski
- Off. Typan Barnett
- Off. David Giraldo
- Off. Cody Silverman
- Off. Brittany Hruska
- Off. Brian Gianotta (Bound Brook P.D.)
- K-9 Crusader

CPR Save Award

- Officer Anthony Milito
- Officer Ryan Veneman
- Officer Randy Pelley
- Officer Brian Sujansky
- Officer Jonathon Conroy

Civilian Award

- Jonathan Sabella
- Jacqueline Richards
- Bryan Richards

Domestic Violence

Based on domestic violence response statistics derived from call history files, there were 427 domestic violence related calls for service in 2019, of which 156 were completed investigations. In 2018 there were 302 domestic violence calls for service, with 142 completed investigations, and in 2017, 256 domestic violence calls for service, with 155 completed investigations.

Domestic Violence Liaison Officers

During 2019, Lieutenant Sean O'Neill and Sergeant Christopher Fischer served as the department's domestic violence liaison officers. The liaison officers acted as the point of contact with the Somerset County Prosecutor's Office, the Office of Victim-Witness Advocacy, the Somerset County Family Court, Safe and Sound of Somerset (previously known as the Resource Center for Women and Their Families) and the Bridgewater Township Domestic Violence Response Team. The liaison officers attend Domestic Violence Response Team meetings; Somerset County Family Court Domestic Violence Working Group meetings and annual domestic violence law update training.

The liaison officers are also responsible for coordinating and instructing the annual state mandated training in domestic violence response to all sworn police officers. Additionally, the liaison officers frequently serve as the first contact for victims of domestic violence who call or respond to the police department for advice or assistance.

BURGLAR ALARMS

The Bridgewater Police Department responded to just over 2,400 calls for service involving burglar, panic and hold up alarm activations in 2019. Generally these alarms require two officers to be dispatched to the alarm activation. These alarm activations are considered high priority which requires an expedited response until the situation is evaluated by the initial responding officer(s).

In addition to burglar alarms, officers respond to medical alarms, vehicle alarms and fire alarms which include water flow and carbon monoxide alarms. As per township ordinance, all burglar alarms in the township need to be registered and maintained so retrieval of information is possible. While the main QED computer system and software is maintained by Somerset County Communications, all false alarm reporting and alarm registration data is inputted and maintained by the Police Department Alarm Manager. In 2019, 184 township residences and businesses were found to have not registered their burglar alarm systems. Alarm packets were sent out to all these Bridgewater properties asking for alarm registrations to be completed and returned. The rate of compliance has been 40% by the end of 2019. 199 alarm registrations needed to be inputted into the county QED system during the year. Outdated alarm registrations continue to be found and are deleted from the system and hardcopy information is removed from the alarm registration books.

The QED software creates alarm violations during a calendar year period. Following township ordinance at the fourth false alarm the owner is assessed a \$50 fine, for false alarms five thru nine the owner is assessed a \$75 fine per occurrence and for ten plus alarms the violation fine is \$100 per occurrence. All alarm activations are reviewed by the Alarm Manager using the incident notes by the police officer and/or county dispatcher to determine if the activated alarm fits the township ordinance definition of being a false alarm. Violation notices are sent out on a quarterly basis. Through the 3rd quarter billing cycle of 2019 paid fines amounted to \$20,100 by the end of 2019.

Alarm systems are for the protection of homeowners and business owners, however, false alarms are a substantial drain on the police department and other township emergency services and needs to be closely monitored.

FIREARMS TRAINING UNIT

The New Jersey Attorney General's Policy on firearms qualifications requires that all sworn law enforcement officers who are authorized to utilize firearms and Conductive energy Devices (Taser) must demonstrate their proficiency and qualify with each weapon they carry while on and off duty. These requirements pertain to handguns, shotguns, Taser and rifles. At the end of each calendar year, the Supervising Firearms Instructor is responsible for the completion and submission of a year-end report through the Chief of Police to the Somerset County Prosecutor. The report contains information pertaining to the number of officers who were qualified, each weapon with which they qualified a listing of how many officers did not qualify, and an explanation of the circumstances of the latter.

In 2019 the Bridgewater Township Police Department has complied with all requirements of the New Jersey Attorney General relating to handgun, shotgun, Taser, and assault rifle qualifications.

Throughout the year, the members of the department trained on small unit tactics while at their handgun qualification day. On September 18th, the members that are qualified with the patrol rifle trained exclusively at Camp Cromwell on small unit tactics.

Our police department has had several requests from private businesses to conduct Active Shooter seminars with their employees. This year three of our officers were assigned to give the presentations. These presentations included the Department of Homeland Security's "Run, Hide, Fight" training. The presentations were given to Costco and the Hampton Inn. Due to the ongoing demand, we expect to conduct more of these seminars in the upcoming year.

We sent two officers to firearms instructor school. We also sent two officers to an advanced FBI sponsored Active Shooter Tactics class. In addition to this, we also sent officers to tactical handgun; tactical shotgun, and forcible entry for patrol. Four additional officers were also trained as Taser operators. We now have a total of twelve officers trained as Taser users.

Maintenance on our patrol rifles included the replacement of three rifles with the same model. All of the patrol rifles now include Aimpoint Micro optics.

Firearms Goals for 2020

- To Train additional officers as users for the Taser X2.
- To conduct Active Shooter training at the Bridgewater Commons Mall.
- To certify at least one more of our officers as a Rifle Instructor.
- To continue and expand the Active Shooter seminars at private businesses throughout Bridgewater and expand the instructors that present them.

The members of the Firearms Unit are:

Lieutenant Kevin Tennant Supervising Firearms Instructor

Sergeant Allen Mele

Sergeant Jeffrey Savare

Sergeant Joseph Dolinski

Sergeant Brian Blath

Sergeant Kevin Lamey

Officer Kurt Bernhard

Officer John Cooper

Officer Frederick Brittain

Officer Douglas Thorsen

Officer Stephen Black

Officer Michael Coletta

Officer Adam Alosi

Officer Vincent Stetsko

Bridgewater Police Honor Guard

The Bridgewater Police Honor Guard was officially created in 2002. The Honor Guard was established to represent the Bridgewater Police Department, its officers, and families at funerals, parades, and other ceremonial functions. The Bridgewater Police Honor Guard is designed to provide the department with a specially trained ceremonial unit, to render honor, preserve tradition, stimulate Esprit-de-corps and instill pride. It is our intention to assist all officer and their families during their time of emotional duress due to the loss or debilitating injury of their loved one. The Honor Guard accomplishes this by providing guidance and uniformity in the conduct of ceremonies and by establishing a specific sequence of events during those ceremonies. The Honor Guard consists of hard-working, dedicated officers that have given, and will continue to give, their greatest effort to ensure that this department and this township are represented with pride, dignity, and professionalism. Since the implementation of the Honor Guard Unit, it has taken part in many ceremonies and has established itself as an award winning unit.

In 2019, the Honor Guard participated in the following events:

- 3/29- Blue Mass, Somerville NJ
- 5/21- New Jersey Fallen Officers Memorial, Ocean Grove NJ
- 5/27- Memorial Day Parade, Bridgewater NJ
- 9/11- Bridgewater 9/11 Memorial Service
- 9/22- Basilone Parade, Raritan NJ
- 10/17- Blue Mass, Metuchen NJ
- 10/18- Somerset County Officer Down Memorial Dedication, Somerville NJ
- 11/26- Funeral for Robert Boughner, Bridgewater Police Officer (Retired)
- 12/17- Funeral for Jersey City Police Department's Detective Seals, Jersey City NJ

With the guidance and vision of the police department's leadership, 2019 was a year dedicated to realizing the primary goal set forth in 2018, training its five (5) new members. The Honor Guard received six (6) days dedicated to training in various forms of close order and ceremonial drill which greatly increased the unit's ability to perform at the highest level. This was realized when the Honor Guard was one of two Honor Guard Units asked to present the Colors during the dedication ceremony for Somerset County's Officer Down Memorial.

The 2018 Honor Guard consisted of the following members:

- Officer Frederick Brittain- Honor Guard Commander
- Detective Michael Coletta- Assistant Honor Guard Commander
- Officer Jack Kennedy
- Officer Brian Eitner
- Officer Douglas Thorsen
- Officer Patrick Knapp
- Officer Brian Sujansky
- Officer Kenneth McGarry

The primary goal for 2020 will continue to be training. It is also the intent of the Honor Guard Commander to add two (2) more officers to the unit. This will bring the unit total to ten (10) officers, a number that would be needed for a line of duty death sustained by this department.

Internal Affairs Unit

The Bridgewater Police Department Internal Affairs Unit is responsible for the receipt, investigation, and resolution of allegations of misconduct by members of the department. The Bridgewater Police Department is committed to providing law enforcement services that are fair, effective, and impartially applied. Our Officers are held to the highest standards of conduct in both their personal and professional lives. All citizens will be treated equally with courtesy, consideration and dignity. An Officers' adherence to these standards is the ultimate objective of this agency.

The effectiveness of a law enforcement agency is dependent upon public approval and acceptance of law enforcement authority. A police department must be responsive to the community by providing formal procedures for the processing of complaints from the public regarding individual officer's performance. A complaint may be made in any way (phone, written, oral, etc) and upon receipt of a complaint the incident is reviewed to determine if an investigation is warranted; if the complaint contains an allegation of misconduct, an internal investigation is initiated. An incident of misconduct or inappropriate behavior may fall into one or more of the following categories:

- Excessive Force
- Improper Arrest
- Improper Entry
- Improper Search
- Differential Treatment
- Demeanor
- Other Rule Violation
- Other Criminal Violation
- Domestic Violence

Those superior officers who are assigned the responsibility of an internal affairs investigation act at the behest of, and are directly responsible to the Chief of Police. All internal affairs investigations are confidential. The investigator based upon his/her investigation, renders a conclusion of fact, or disposition, for each allegation. Possible dispositions include:

- Exonerated: The alleged incident did occur, but the actions of the officer were justified, legal, and proper.
- Sustained: The investigation disclosed sufficient evidence to prove the allegation by a preponderance of the evidence.
- Not Sustained: The investigation failed to disclose sufficient evidence to clearly prove or disprove the allegation.
- Unfounded: The alleged incident did not occur.
- Administratively Closed: The complainant voluntarily withdraws the complaint, or the officer terminates employment prior to disposition of the complaint.

Upon completion of the investigation, all findings are forwarded to the Chief of Police for further action, as necessary. In 2019, a total of nineteen (19) allegations of misconduct or inappropriate behavior were reported. Of those complaints, five (5) were reported by members of the public.

Municipal Court

The Bridgewater Municipal Court maintains the authority to govern violations within its statutory jurisdiction, including disorderly person's offenses, other non-indictable offenses not within the exclusive jurisdiction of the Superior Court, violations of motor vehicle and traffic laws, fish and game and boating laws. The Court is granted by statute the authority to collect penalties for such violations of county and municipal ordinances and all other proceedings for which jurisdiction is granted.

The Bridgewater Municipal Court is under the direction of Judge William T. Kelleher Jr. Judge Kelleher is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to address domestic violence issues. The Judge is also available to issue Temporary Restraining Orders in domestic violence matters whenever Superior Court is not in session. The Municipal Prosecutors for Bridgewater Township are Senator Christopher (Kip) Bateman and Brian Glicos. It is the responsibility of the Prosecutor to review the State's position, determine if proper charges have been filed, all criteria has been met and present the facts in a proper lawful manner. Scott Mitzner serves as the Public Defender. The Public Defender represents those who qualify for public assistance in defense of their position. Audrey Lipinski is the Court Administrator and Jacqueline Tamashiro is the Deputy Court Administrator. The remaining Municipal Court staff consists of Violations Clerks Wendy Wheatley, Sue Perry, Judy Cosentino and Suzanne Steiner. The court uses the Language Line Telephonic Service for any language translations needed during court sessions.

The Violations Bureau is open from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM on business days. Court sessions are on Tuesday and Wednesday beginning at 8:30 AM and ends when all cases are completed. Video conferencing sessions are held twice a week enabling the court to arraign prisoners from the Somerset County Jail and other jails throughout the state as required.

The Bridgewater Police Department is responsible for courtroom security. The security detail requires a minimum of three officers during Tuesday sessions and four officers during Wednesday sessions. These officers monitor the metal detector, as well as the interior and exterior of the courtroom. The court officers are responsible for searching all persons entering the court, directing those attending the court to proper areas and providing security for the judge and court clerk presiding over the proceedings. Court officers also assist the Prosecutor by arranging the appearance of witness officers. The security detail is staffed by on duty personnel or overtime when duty personnel are unavailable. Our officers provided 502 hours of court room security in 2019 which was increased to the 317.5 hours provided in 2018.

Through a shared services agreement with Somerville Borough, their Municipal Court sessions are held twice a month, on Thursdays during the daytime. Three of our officers provide security for their courtroom sessions. This is an overtime position which is paid for by the Borough of Somerville. Our officers provided 384 hours of court room security in 2019 which was very similar to the 382 hours provided in 2018.

A review of the Bridgewater Police Municipal Court overtime totals for the last five years are as follows:

Somerville Court	
2015	497 Hours
2016	409.25 Hours
2017	484.75 Hours
2018	382 Hours
2019	384 Hours

Bridgewater Court	
2015	326 Hours
2016	302 Hours
2017	317.75 Hours
2018	317.5 Hours
2019	502 Hours

PATROL FLEET

The Bridgewater Police Department's marked patrol vehicle fleet consists of thirty-six marked patrol vehicles, twenty-six allotted for patrol duties, three allotted for traffic safety, and seven allotted for road jobs (only). The fleet consists of five Chevrolet Sedans, four Chevrolet Tahoe SUVs, six Ford Police Interceptor AWD Sedans, nineteen Ford Police Interceptor SUVs, one Ford Crown Victoria Sedan, and one marked (two wheel drive) Ford Pickup Truck. Of these thirty six vehicles, three marked police vehicles are assigned to the Traffic Safety Unit and three marked police vehicles are assigned to the Class III school resource officers. The SUVs are extremely useful for patrolling in inclement weather, special details and events, as well as providing more room inside the vehicle for equipment. The larger Chevrolet Tahoe SUVs are utilized by supervisory personnel in an effort to limit the mileage, thereby extending the life of these vehicles.

The department implemented an assigned vehicle program in 2017, which was continued throughout 2019, where two or three officers are assigned to one vehicle. This has decreased the overall mileage on each vehicle and has allowed the MVRs to fully download while the vehicles are parked at headquarters (not being used for patrol duties during certain times of the day/night). It also makes the officers accountable for "their" vehicle. In conjunction with assigning vehicles to officers, the department has assigned seven older marked units as road job only vehicles. These seven vehicles have the highest mileage (over 100,000 miles) and were replaced over the last two years by newly purchased patrol vehicles. By using these older vehicles for road jobs, we have decreased the amount of hours and mileage put on patrol vehicles that were once used for road jobs. The implementation of these two programs has been positive in two ways, officer's morale has increased and vehicles requiring maintenance has decreased.

Between January 1, 2019 and December 31, 2019 the entire marked fleet traveled approximately 471,596 total miles. Deducting the mileage accumulated by vehicles assigned to Operations Supervisors (2) and the Traffic Safety Supervisor (1), as well as the Pickup Truck (1), the remaining thirty-two patrol vehicles, which include the vehicles assigned as road job vehicles, traveled approximately 445,399 miles. This is an average of approximately 13,100 miles per year for each.

In July of 2019, six Ford Police Interceptor SUVs were purchased from the 2019 budget. Five of these vehicles were equipped with Noptic infrared cameras which allow officers to see in low light environments. Five of these vehicles replaced vehicles previously assigned to patrol, which for various reasons were either taken out of service or reassigned to support implementation of the Class III school officers. Two were removed from patrol and assigned to road job vehicles due to repetitive mechanical/electrical issues. The two road job vehicles replaced were taken out of service completely due to serious mechanical issues that made them unsafe to operate. The other three vehicles replaced by the new purchases were assigned to the Class III officers for use in their daily school activities.

The police department is determined to conform to the strong interest of the Town Council and public in maximizing economic, energy (ecological "footprint", fuel consumption, etc.), and efficiency interests in the selection and utilization of its patrol vehicles. In furtherance of

these interests the police department has conducted research and inquiries into available equipment that will enable the police department to meet a parallel interest of public and officer safety and still provide high quality service. An adequate vehicle replacement program is vital for the police department to meet its goals and maintain the highest quality of service to the citizens of Bridgewater.

We were able to accomplish all of our goals for 2019. The police department along with the township garage was able to lower the amount of time a patrol vehicle spent at the garage getting repaired, with the continuation of assigned vehicles.

2020 Goals

- 1) Increase the amount of vehicles assigned to the patrol fleet to account for increased amount of officers on the road with the implementation of a new patrol schedule.
- 2) Continue to replace older vehicles.
- 3) Lower the time and cost of maintenance needed for patrol vehicles by continuing with vehicles dedicated for road jobs.

RETIREMENTS/PROMOTIONS/NEW HIRES

There were no promotions for the Bridgewater Police Department in 2019.

The following retired from Bridgewater Police Department in 2019:

- Chief Alfred Nicaretta

The following officers left Bridgewater Police Department in 2019 for employment with other agencies:

- Russell Yarnell

The following were hired as Bridgewater Police Officers during 2019:

- Kevin Geisel
- Cody Silverman
- Brittany Hruska
- Monika Thiel
- John McDonough
- Michael Macchia
- Nicolas Grasso
- Mark Christensen (Class III Officer)
- Mark Szczecina (Class III Officer)
- Paco Ayala (Class III Officer)

Special Events

The Bridgewater Township Police Department hosted and participated in several special events during the 2019 calendar year. Bridgewater's geographical and physical attributes continue to attract non-profit organizations that sponsor various fund raising events; specifically: walk-a-thons, road races, historical ceremonies and annual county sponsored events. The special events we take part in allow the Police Department to work in conjunction with county agencies, private sector businesses, local merchants and citizens fostering a renewed sense of community spirit to Bridgewater Township.

March

On March 29th, our officers attended the Blue Mass at the Immaculate Conception Church in Somerville, NJ. The officers attended mass to pray for fallen officers and honor those who made the ultimate sacrifice.

April

The 19th Annual Good Friday Procession was held on April 19th. It began at North Branch Reformed Church and ended at Saint Bernard's Cemetery. Congregants from both churches participated in the walk. The Traffic Safety Bureau provided an escort to keep the participants' safe while on their journey.

The Bridgewater Police Department assisted in escorting the Police Unity Tour Training Ride on April 27th. This ride is a practice ride before participants leave for Washington DC with the Police Unity Tour.

May

On May 4th, our officers provided security at the ECO Blast and Gourmet Food Truck Extravaganza, which was a free community event that took place at the Bridgewater Municipal Complex from 11am to 3pm.

On May 27th, our officers participated in the Memorial Day Parade held in Bradley Gardens. The Honor Guard marched in the parade route while our Traffic Safety and Patrol Officers provided scene security and street closures that kept all participants safe.

June

On June 2nd, our officers assisted with the Run for Danielle 5K Charity Run. The officers assisted with escorting the runners and closing down roadways, which helped to provide a safe course for the participants.

The annual Special Olympics Torch Run took place on June 7th. Our officers escorted the run through our township, providing traffic control and security. Additionally, many of our officers volunteered their time to run in or assist with the event, in an effort to raise money for this worthwhile cause.

July

On July 4th, our officers worked at special firework details throughout the township. Details were held at North Branch Park and the Raritan Valley Country Club.

August

On August 6th, the Bridgewater Police Department hosted our 4th National Night Out at the Bridgewater Municipal Building. National Night Out provided residents with the opportunity to interact with various first responders and community partnerships. It is an annual community building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie.

The Somerset County 4H Fair was held August 7th thru August 9th, 2018, at North Branch Park. Sponsored by the Somerset County Parks Commission and the local 4H chapter, the event attracts thousands of visitors, vendors and contestants and required a police presence for security and traffic.

On August 17th, our officers conducted a security detail at the Low Riders Motorcycle Event held at the American Legion on Old York Road. This event brings in numerous members of Outlaw Motorcycle Clubs. As a precaution, officers are assigned to the area to provide general security to the public and attendees.

September

On September 7th, our officers assisted with the 9/11 Heroes Run at Ethicon. Our officers escorted the run through our township, providing traffic control and security. This event helps to raise money for the Travis Manion Foundation.

On Tuesday, September 11th, our Honor Guard along with officers participated in the township 9/11 ceremony.

On September 15th, our officers attended the Bridgewater Community Day at the Somerset County Vocational Technical School. Officers interacted with the public by providing access to our police vehicles and conducting demonstrations.

On September 17th, our officers provided Costco Employees with a presentation on how to respond to an Active Shooter in the Workplace. The presentation gave employees insight on what they should expect if ever presented with an active shooter and what they can do to remain safe.

October

On October 30th, our officers provided scene security and traffic control for the annual Halloween Festival held at the municipal complex.

November

On November 1st, our School Resource Officers provided a Safe Driving presentation to the Bridgewater-Raritan High School Sophomores. The presentation provided students with information about common motor vehicle laws, highway safety and most importantly the risks associated with being involved in a motor vehicle crash.

December

On December 18th, our School Resource Officers presented information on the Heroin/Opioid Crisis to the students of BRHS during all Health classes. Somerset County K-9 assisted with the presentation.

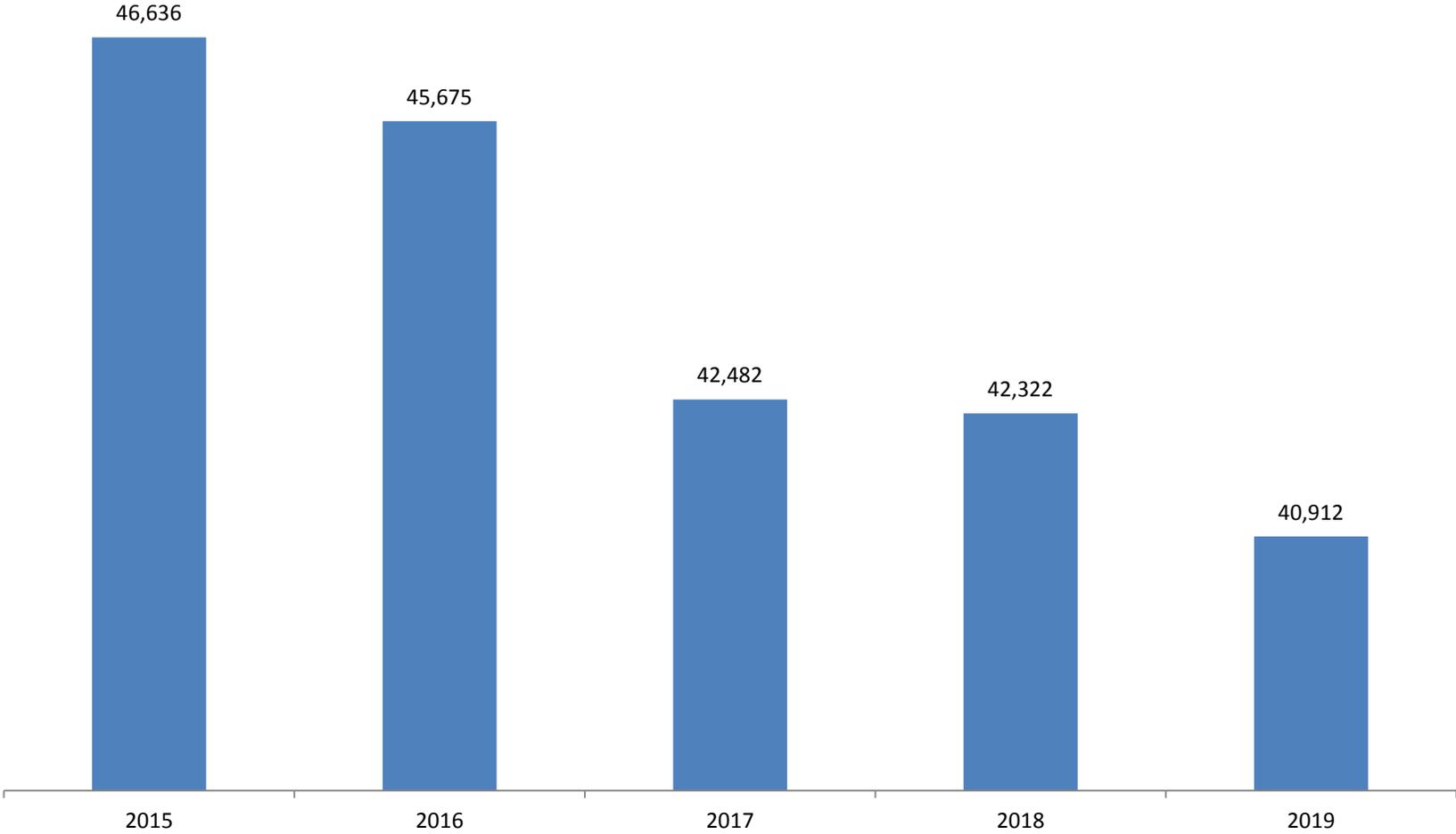
On December 10th, our Officers participated in the Heroes & Helpers Program at Target. Target supplied our Officers with \$12,000 in gift cards, which were then distributed to children from Bridgewater as well as neighboring towns. The children were then given the opportunity to shop with an officer, who helped them pick something nice for the holiday season. Officers from Bridgewater, Bound Brook, Somerville and Raritan all participate in the program.

Throughout the year Bridgewater Township Officers also conducted numerous Security Assessments. These assessments were conducted at: the Balaji Temple, the Saint Bernard's Church and School, the North Branch Reformed Church and Temple Shalom.

PART III

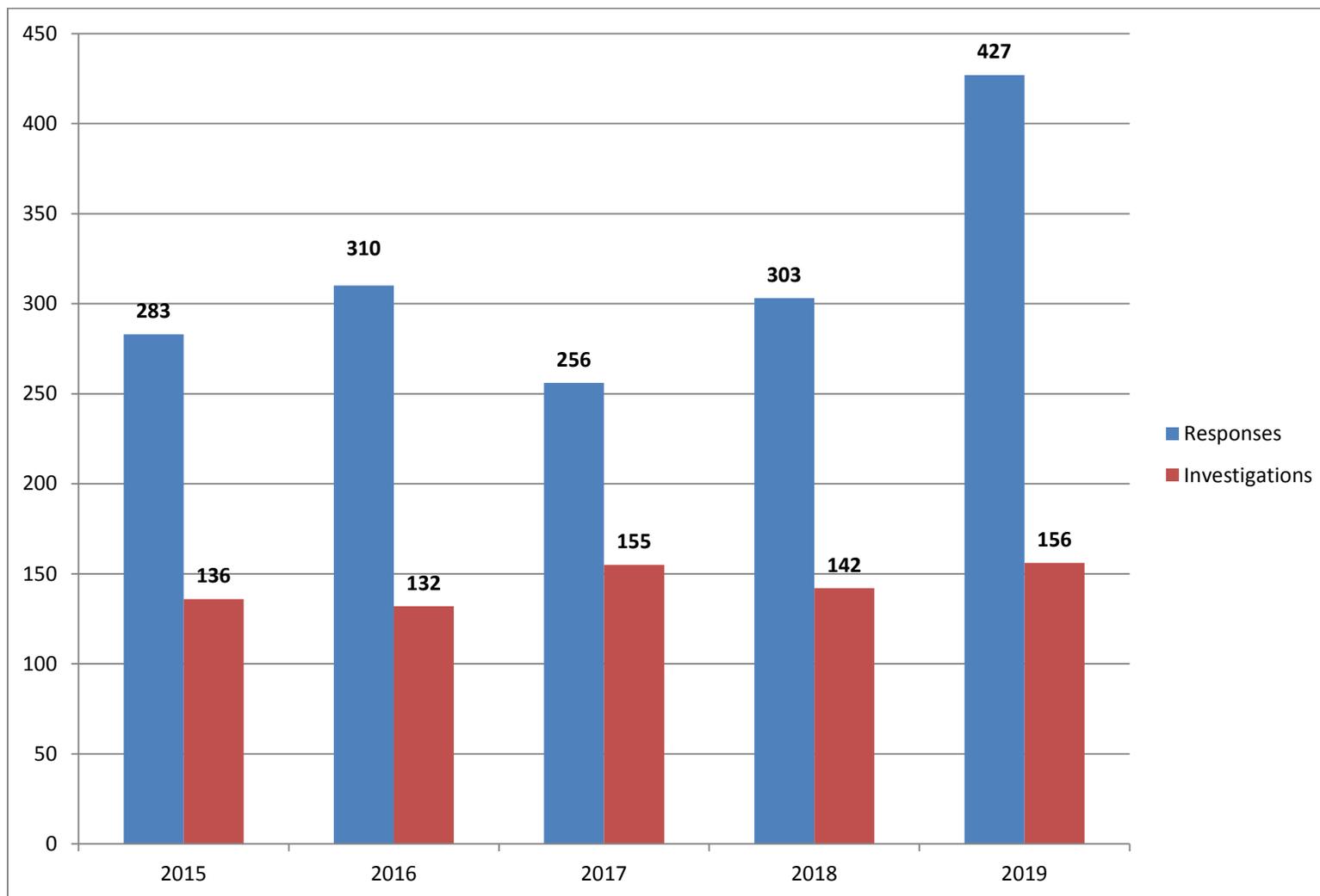
STATISTICS

Bridgewater Township Police Department 2015-2019 Calls for Service

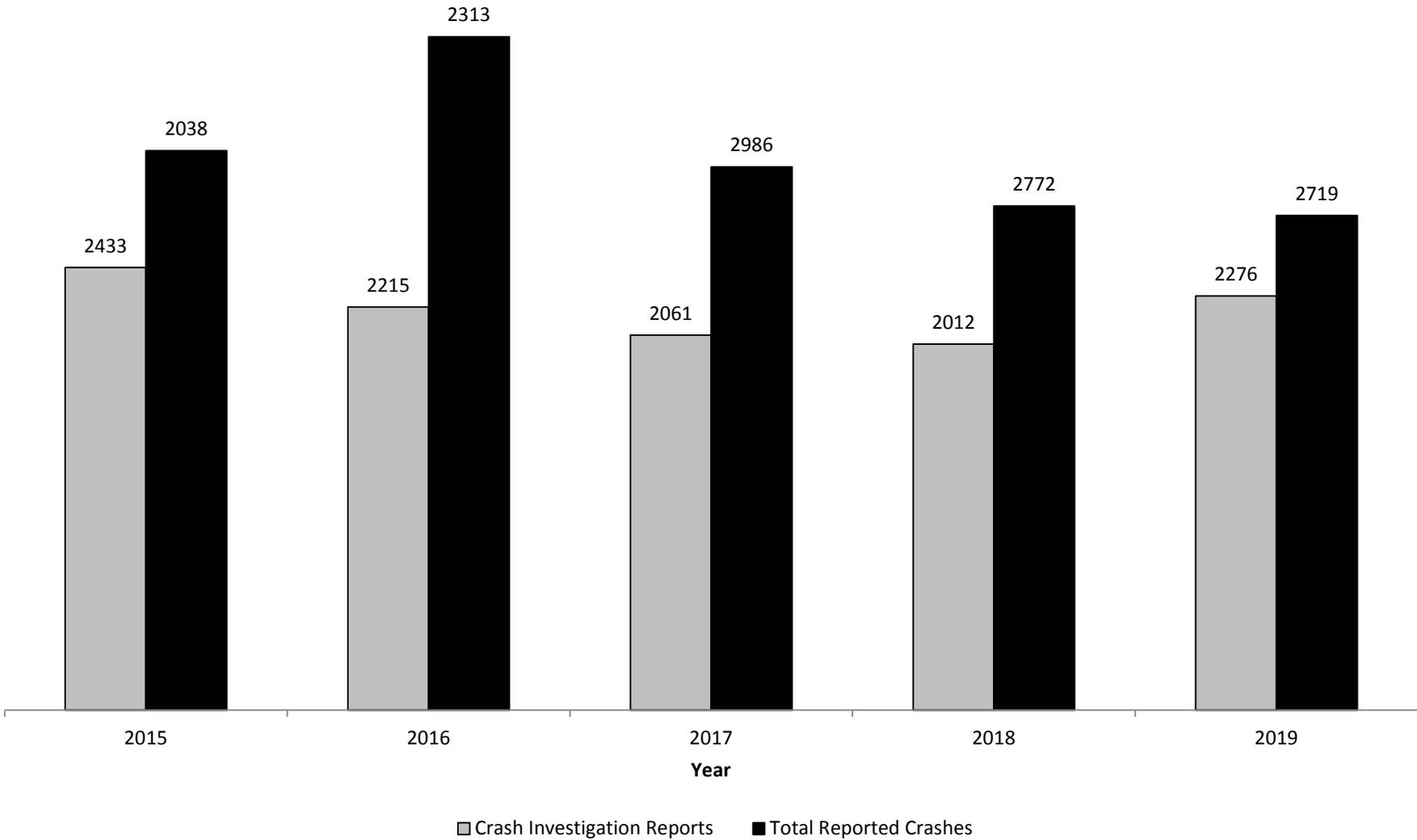


	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Year	46,636	45,675	42,482	42,322	40,912

Bridgewater Township Police Department Domestic Violence – 5Year Trend

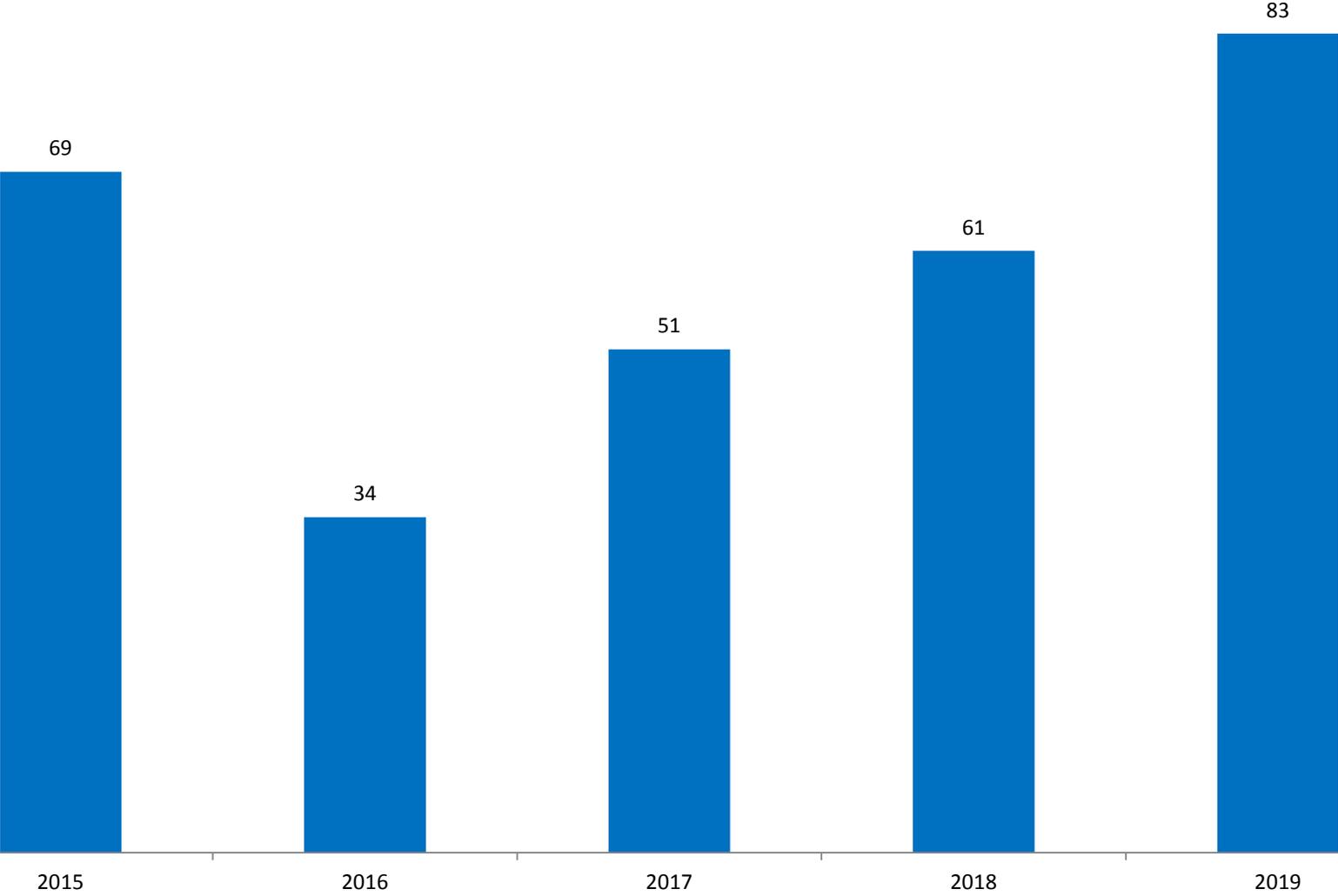


Bridgewater Police Department Motor Vehicle Crash Report 2015-2019



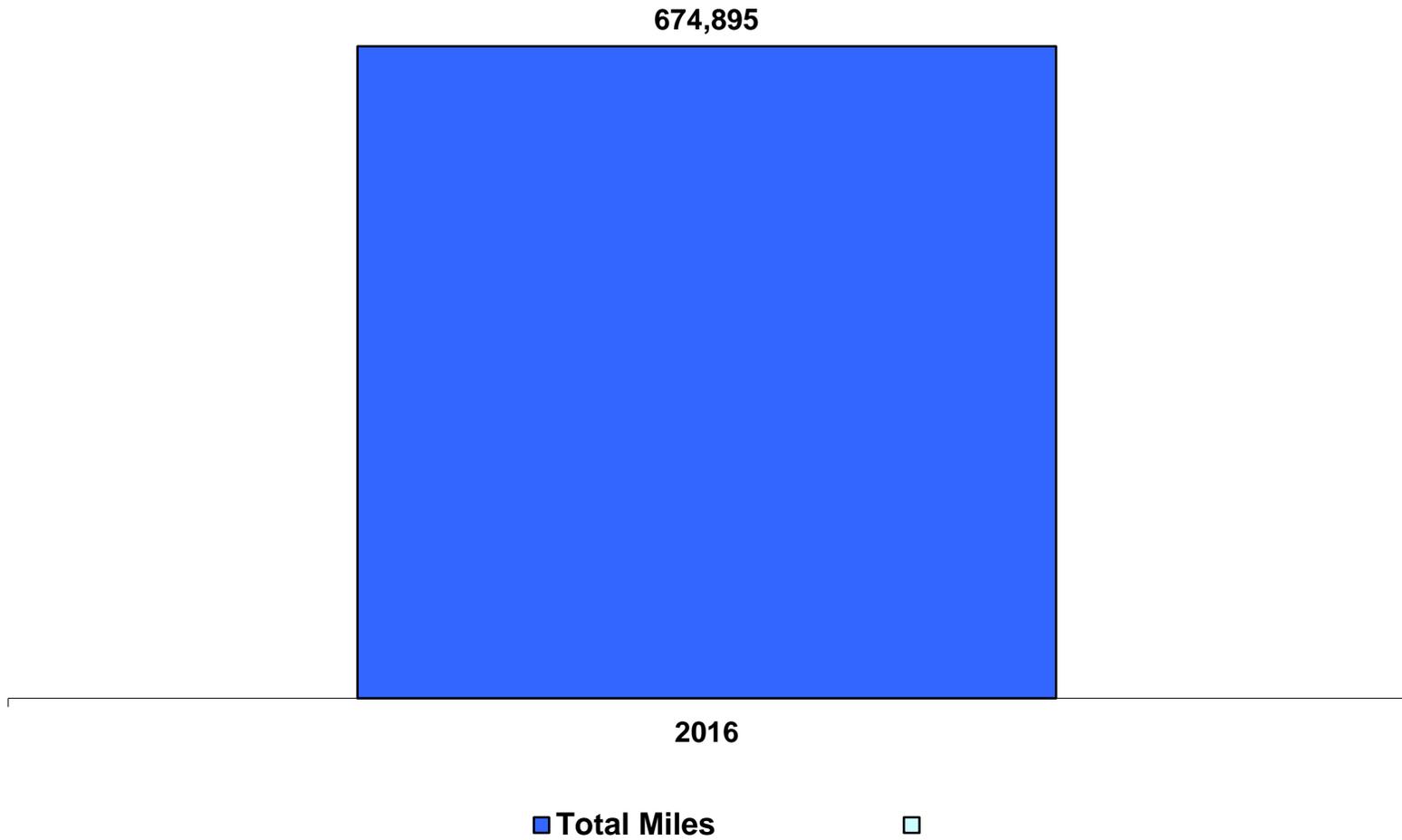
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Crash Investigation Reports	2433	2215	2061	2012	2276
Total Reported Crashes	3076	3702	2986	2772	2719

**Bridgewater Police Department
D.W.I. Arrests
2015-2019**

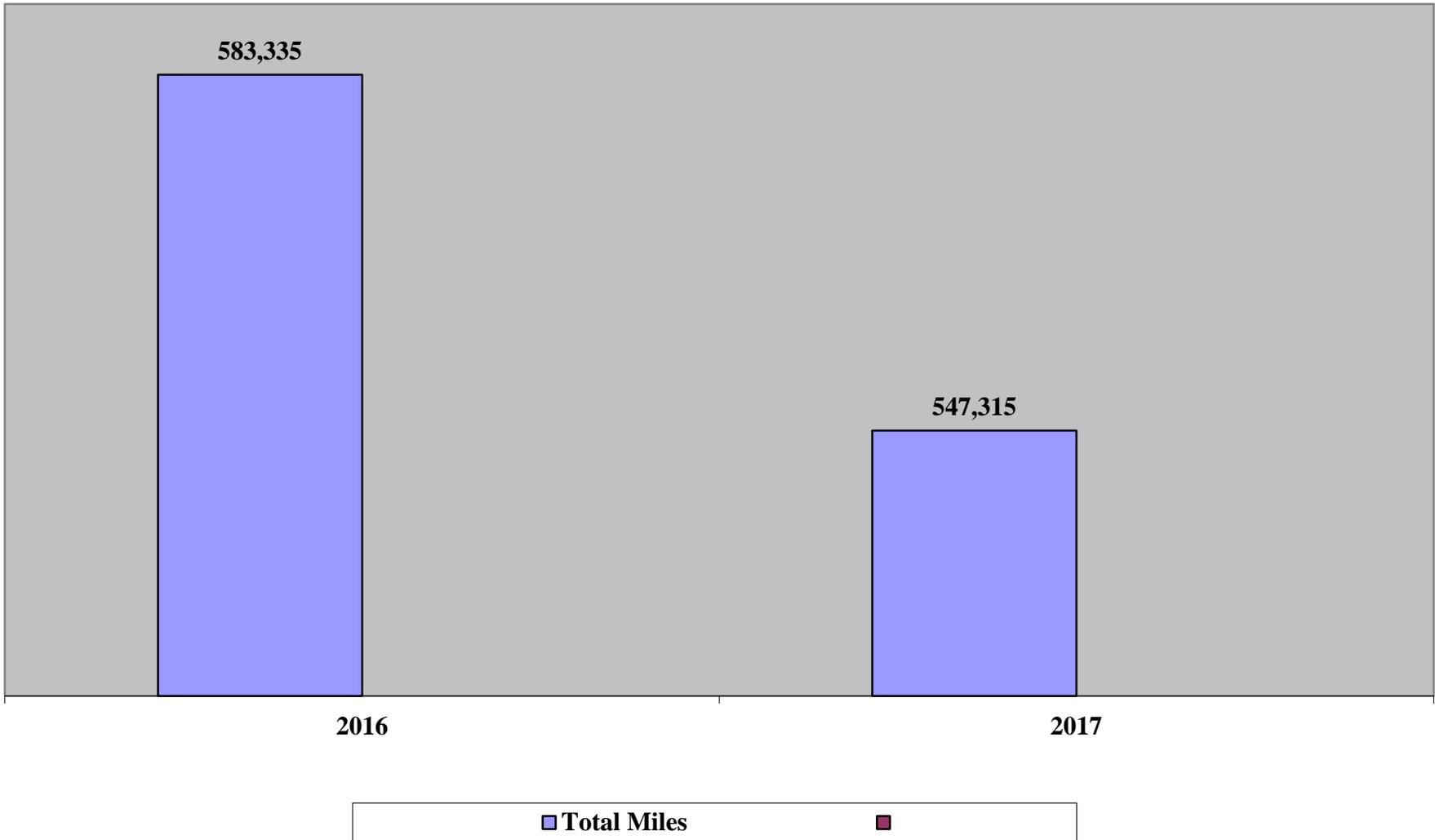


	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
DWI	69	34	51	61	83

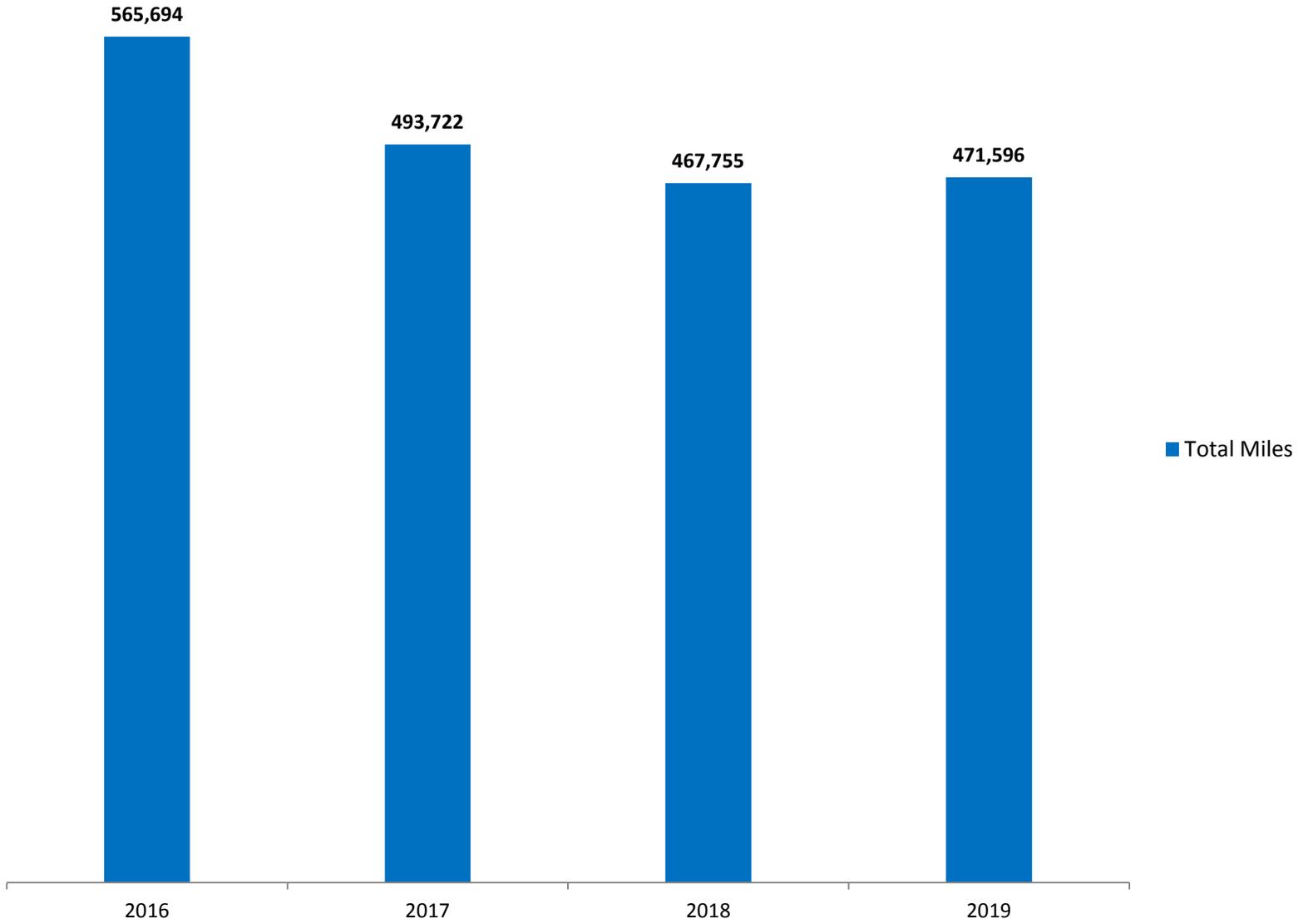
Bridgewater Township Police Department
Annual Vehicle Mileage for Patrol Vehicles
2007 - 2011



**Bridgewater Township Police Department
Annual Vehicle Mileage Report for Patrol Vehicles
2011 - 2015**



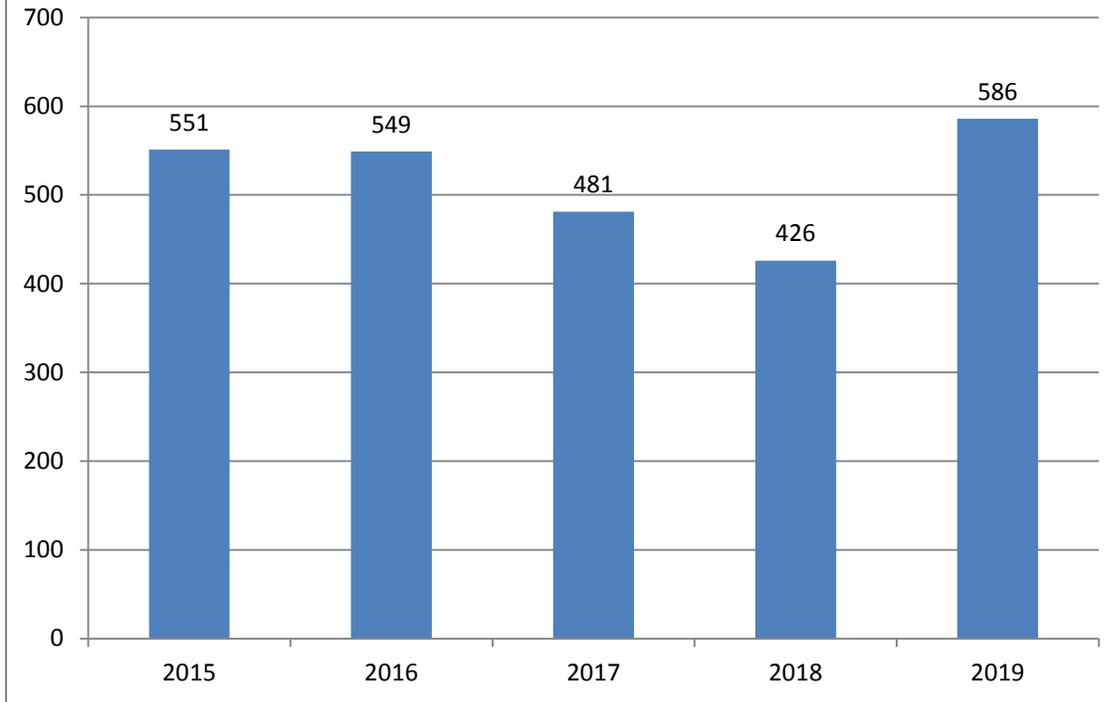
Bridgewater Township Police Department Annual Patrol Mileage



Total Miles

2016	565,694
2017	493,722
2018	467,755
2019	471,596

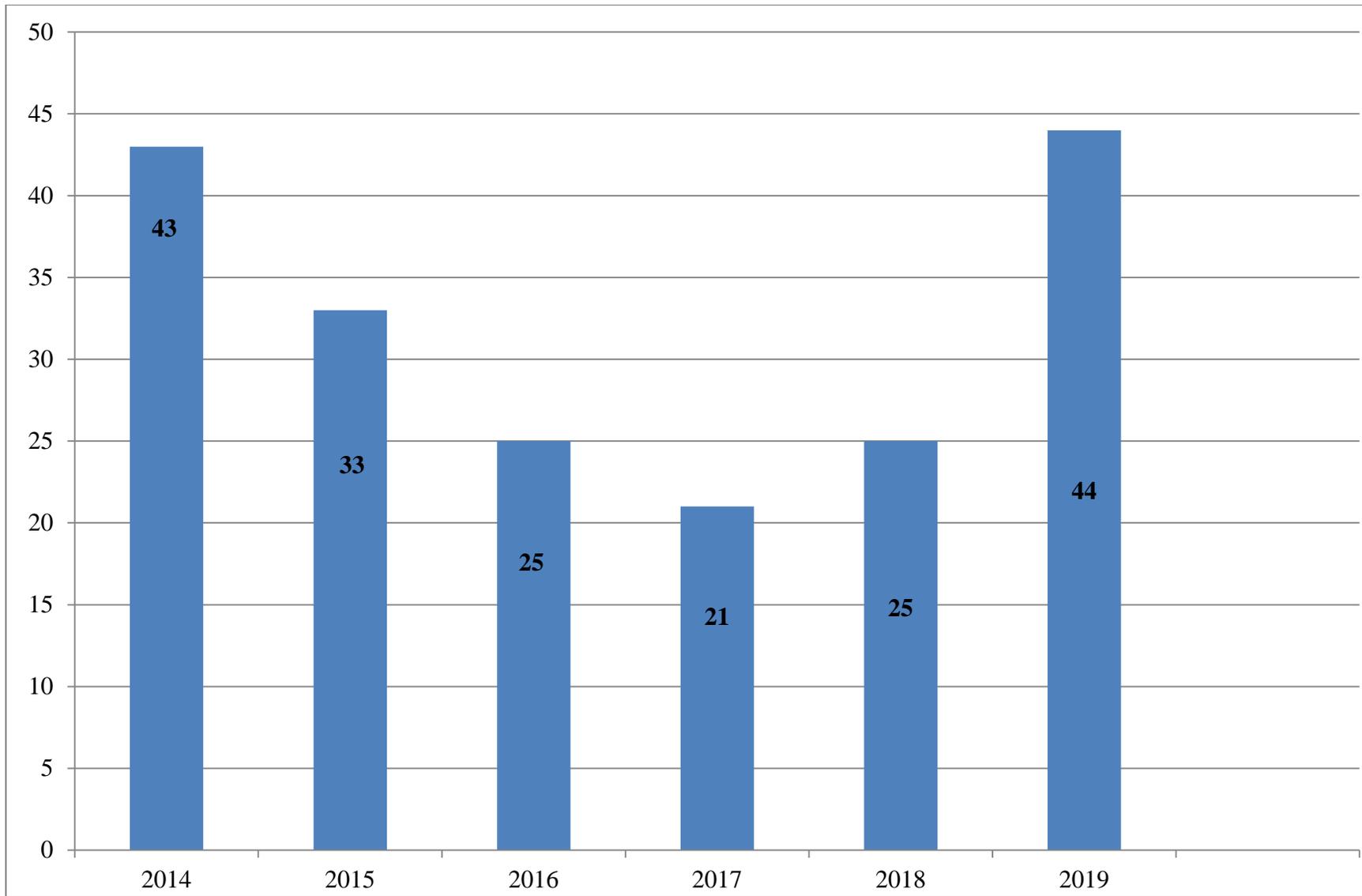
2015-2019 Part 1 Offenses



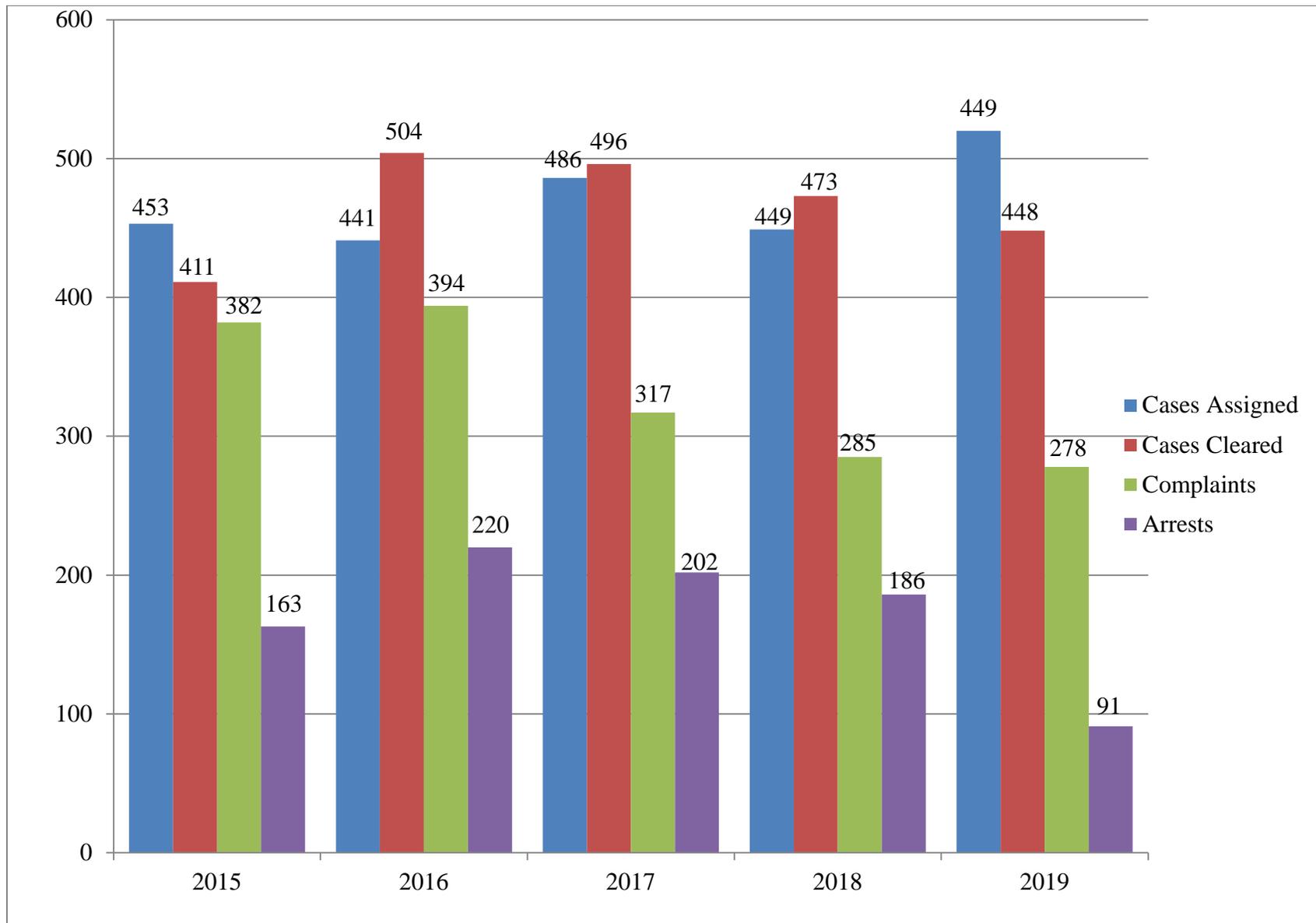
Bridgewater Township Police Department Uniform Crime Report Part 1 Offenses

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Homicide	0	0	1	0	0
Rape	2	1	0	0	0
Robbery	4	6	4	9	3
Assault	115	100	87	62	128
Burglary	64	65	61	56	36
Larceny	345	365	315	287	400
MV Theft	21	11	13	12	18
Arson	0	1	0	0	1
Total	551	549	481	426	586

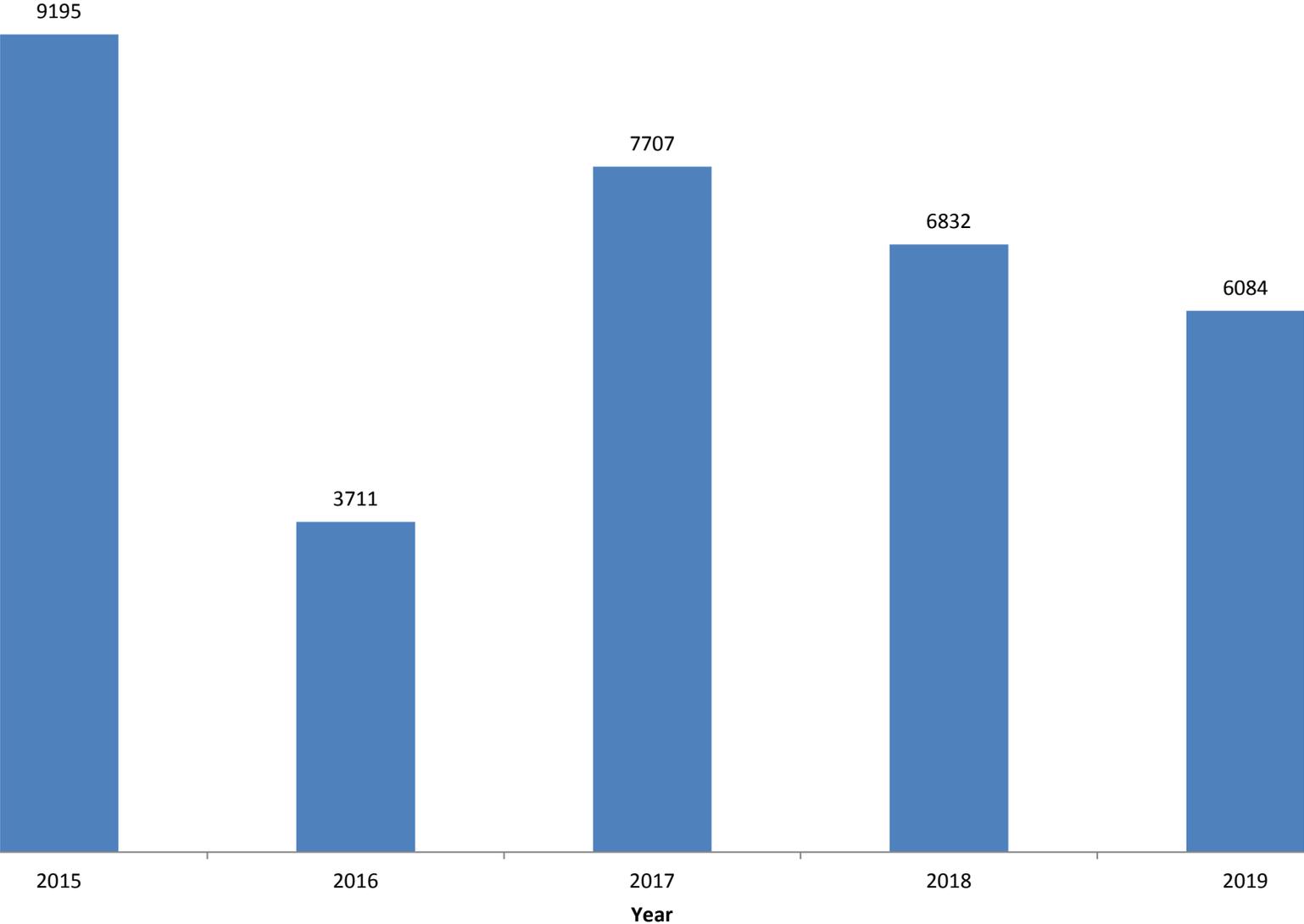
**Youth Services Bureau
Stationhouse Adjustment
2014-2019**



**Criminal Investigation Bureau
Youth Services Bureau
Yearly Comparison 2015 – 2019**



**Bridgewater Township Police Department
2015-2019 Motor Vehicle Summonses**



	Column1	Column2	Column3
2015	9195		
2016	3711		
2017	7707		
2018	6832		
2019	6084		

To resize chart data range, drag lower right corner of range.

2019 Traffic Safety Bureau Year End Report

To: Acting Chief Paul Payne

From: Sgt. Kevin Lamey

2019													
	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
M.V. Crash Investigations	36	31	27	34	38	13	16	11	10	33	10	31	290
M.V. Crash Summonses	14	14	20	19	17	6	6	4	7	13	5	16	141
Radar	72	30	28	26	22	24	16	1	20	11	9	7	266
Hazardous	27	25	13	13	16	10	8	1	6	10	4	3	136
Non- Hazardous	29	16	11	10	9	5	8	0	9	9	4	4	114
Revoked Driver 39:3-40	3	1	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
Parking	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	4
													669
Car Seat Inspections	3	0	3	2	1	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	13
Arrests	3	0	3	4	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	13
Warrants Served	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Complaint Summonses Issued	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	4
DWI	0	1	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	5

2018 Traffic Safety Bureau Year End Report

To: Chief Alfred Nicaretta

From: Sgt. Kevin Lamey

2018													
	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
M.V. Crash Investigations	40	26	36	35	28	30	17	17	34	30	29	25	347
M.V. Crash Summonses	26	16	34	31	20	21	12	15	25	16	9	17	242
Radar	42	41	42	39	35	18	31	31	29	23	25	18	374
Hazardous	23	24	22	59	26	13	16	28	20	19	16	16	282
Non- Hazardous	19	16	19	31	24	11	12	14	12	12	10	7	187
Revoked Driver 39:3-40	5	1	4	5	3	1	2	2	0	0	5	0	28
Parking	0	0	1	0	0	20	0	2	0	0	0	0	23
													1,136
Car Seat Inspections	3	2	3	3	2	3	0	5	2	0	3	0	26
Arrests	1	1	0	4	1	2	0	1	1	2	0	1	14
Warrants Served	1	0	0	3	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	8
Complaint Summonses Issued	0	0	1	3	1	3	0	0	1	0	0	0	9
DWI	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	7

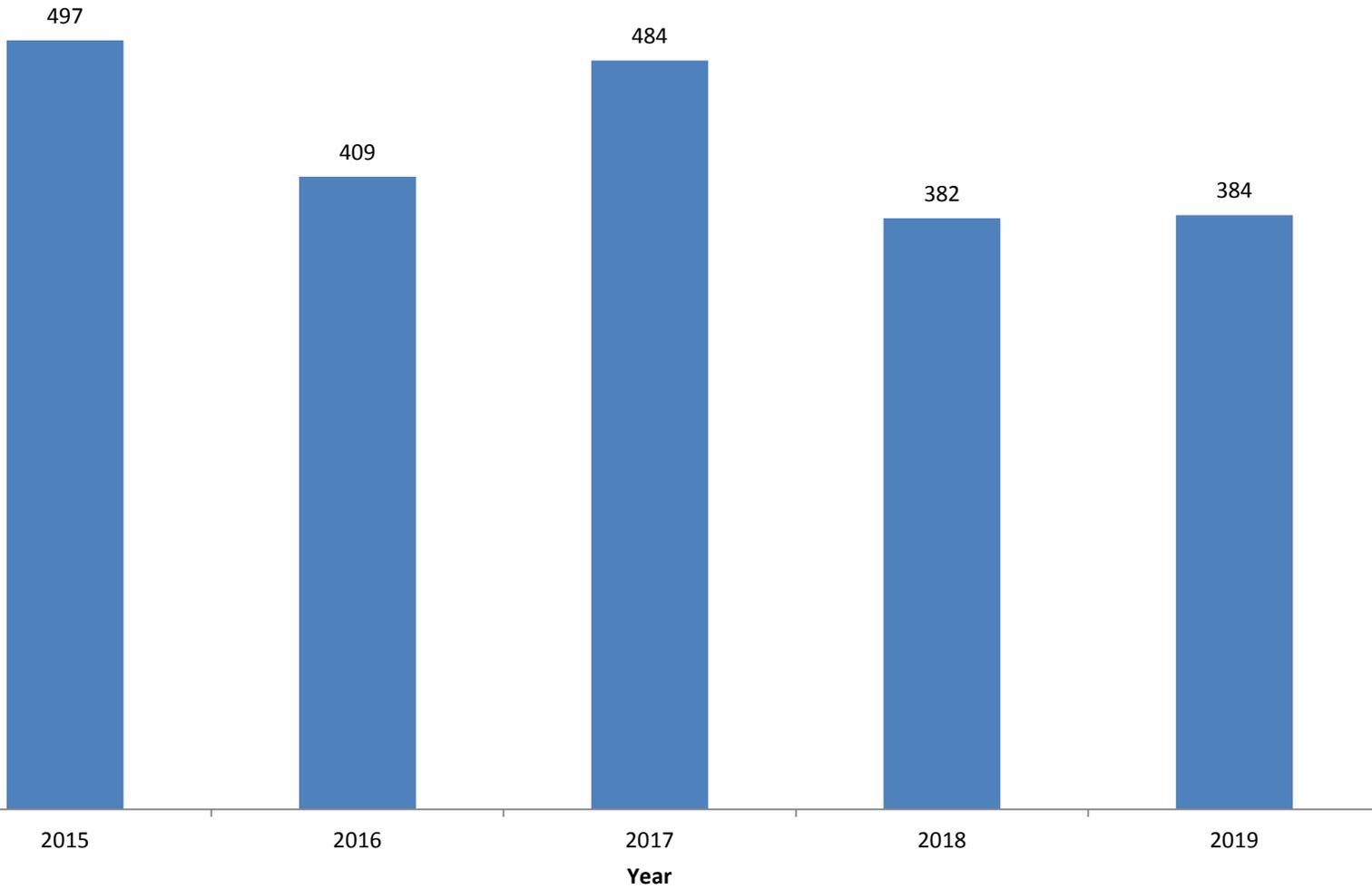
2017 Traffic Safety Bureau Year End Report

To: Chief Alfred Nicaretta

From: Sgt. Robert Stasiulaitis

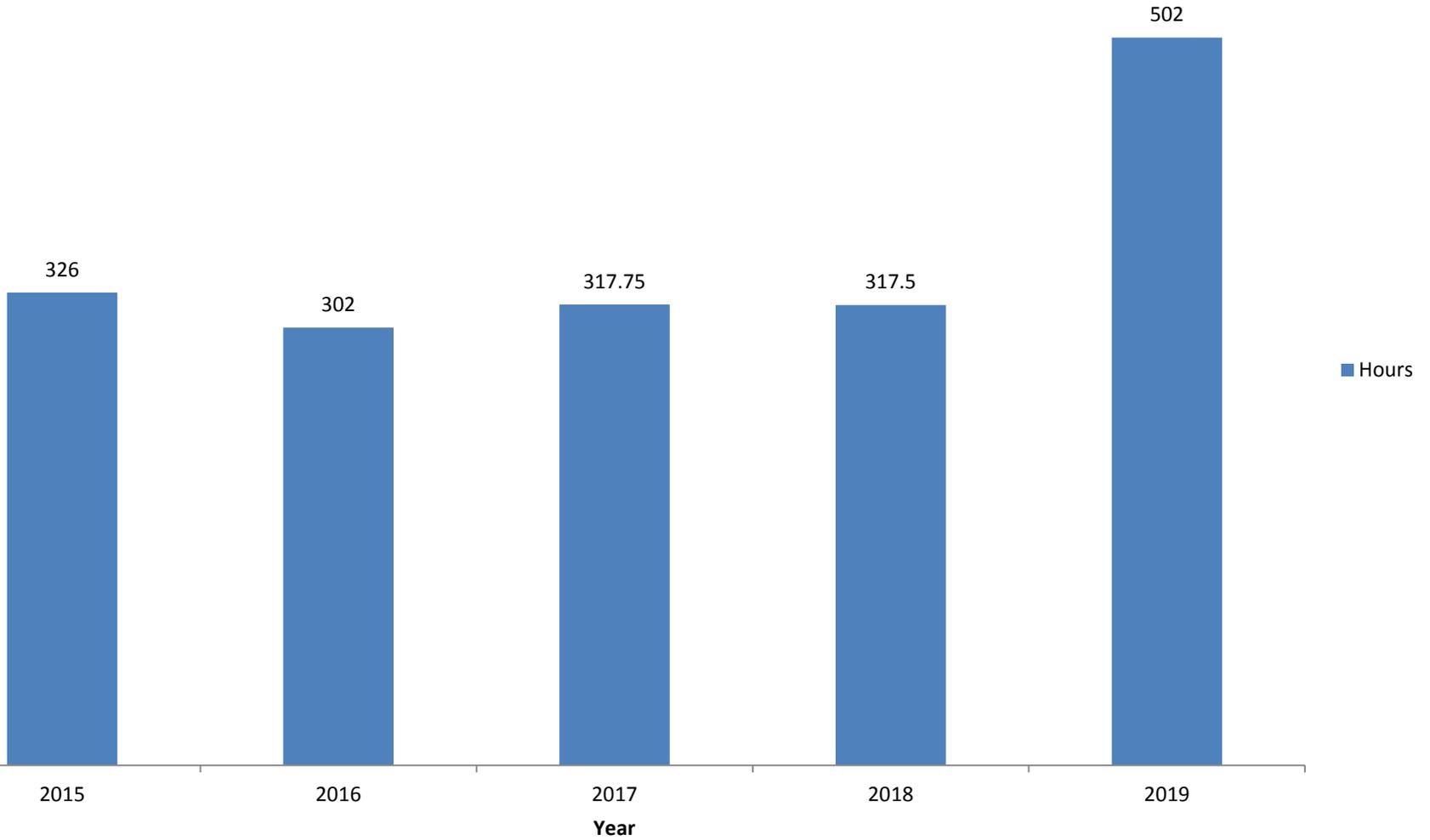
2017													
	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
M.V. Crash Investigations	20	25	16	10	24	18	15	26	19	29	43	41	286
M.V. Crash Summonses	11	15	6	5	20	14	14	15	15	17	27	31	190
Radar	15	21	13	24	13	16	29	20	20	35	28	20	254
Hazardous	11	14	17	14	32	15	16	15	9	24	28	12	207
Non- Hazardous	11	13	11	12	19	8	14	8	7	16	18	11	148
Revoked Driver 39:3-40	2	2	0	0	5	0	1	0	2	3	1	0	16
Parking	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
													744
Car Seat Inspections	2	1	1	3	2	4	4	2	2	0	4	2	27
Arrests	3	2	0	0	3	1	0	1	1	2	1	1	17
Warrants Served	4	1	0	0	2	1	0	1	1	1	2	0	13
Complaint Summonses Issued	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	6	2	0	11
DWI	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	5

Somerville Municipal Court Overtime Yearly Comparison



■ Series1

Bridgewater Municipal Court Overtime Yearly Comparison



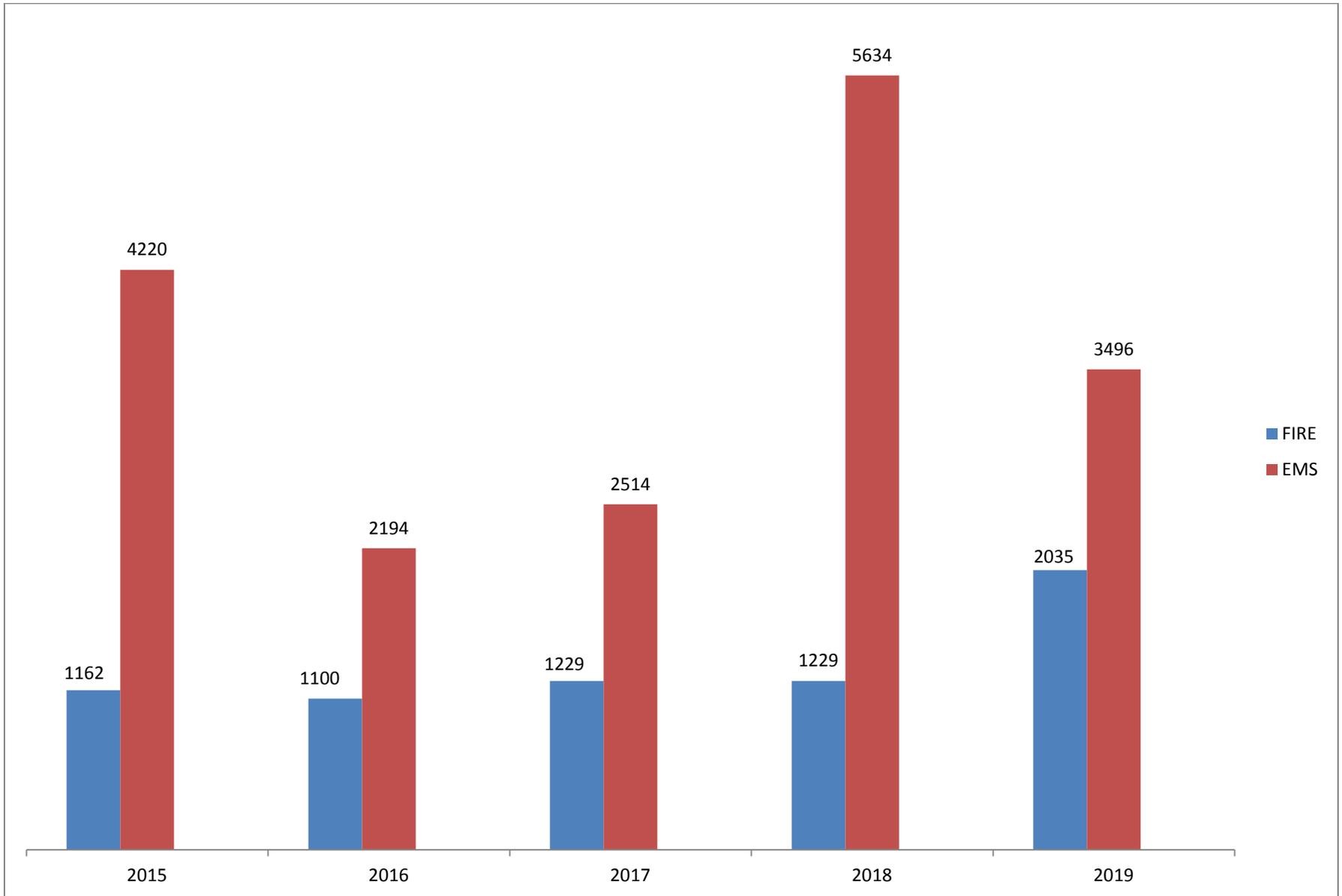
Somerville Municipal Court Overtime Yearly Comparison

Year	Hours
2015	497
2016	409
2017	484
2018	382
2019	384

Bridgewater Municipal Court Overtime Yearly Comparison

Year	Hours
2015	326
2016	302
2017	317.8
2018	317.5
2019	502

Bridgewater Township Police Department
2015-2019 Fire / EMS Calls for Service



**Monthly Operations Division Activity Statistics Comparison
2018 - 2019**

Month	Adult Arrests	Juvenile Arrests	MV Arrests	Traffic Summons	Revoked DL	DWI	Served
January-18	31	4	7	618	33	3	37
January-19	37	9	9	612	44	6	23
February-18	23	4	21	581	27	8	36
February-19	18	4	6	515	24	5	31
March-18	27	6	17	602	29	4	39
March-19	33	3	10	609	29	8	17
April-18	51	5	16	688	35	4	49
April-19	40	7	10	555	32	5	27
May-18	18	5	17	733	39	7	35
May-19	59	7	18	509	20	11	60
June-18	30	12	13	644	30	5	61
June-19	44	4	15	508	34	9	49
July-18	38	7	12	564	26	6	36
July-19	38	6	8	468	27	6	21
August-18	31	13	17	576	34	6	37
August-19	26	4	6	493	27	2	19
September-18	25	3	12	511	28	3	20
September-19	35	5	12	521	34	8	34
October-18	24	2	11	469	31	5	42
October-19	36	2	9	520	24	7	29
November-18	33	2	14	479	36	7	41
November-19	36	7	8	435	23	7	49
December-18	40	8	11	367	16	10	26
December-19	24	5	16	339	17	9	27
YTD TOTAL 2018	371	71	168	6832	364	68	422
YTD TOTAL 2019	426	63	127	6084	335	83	386