

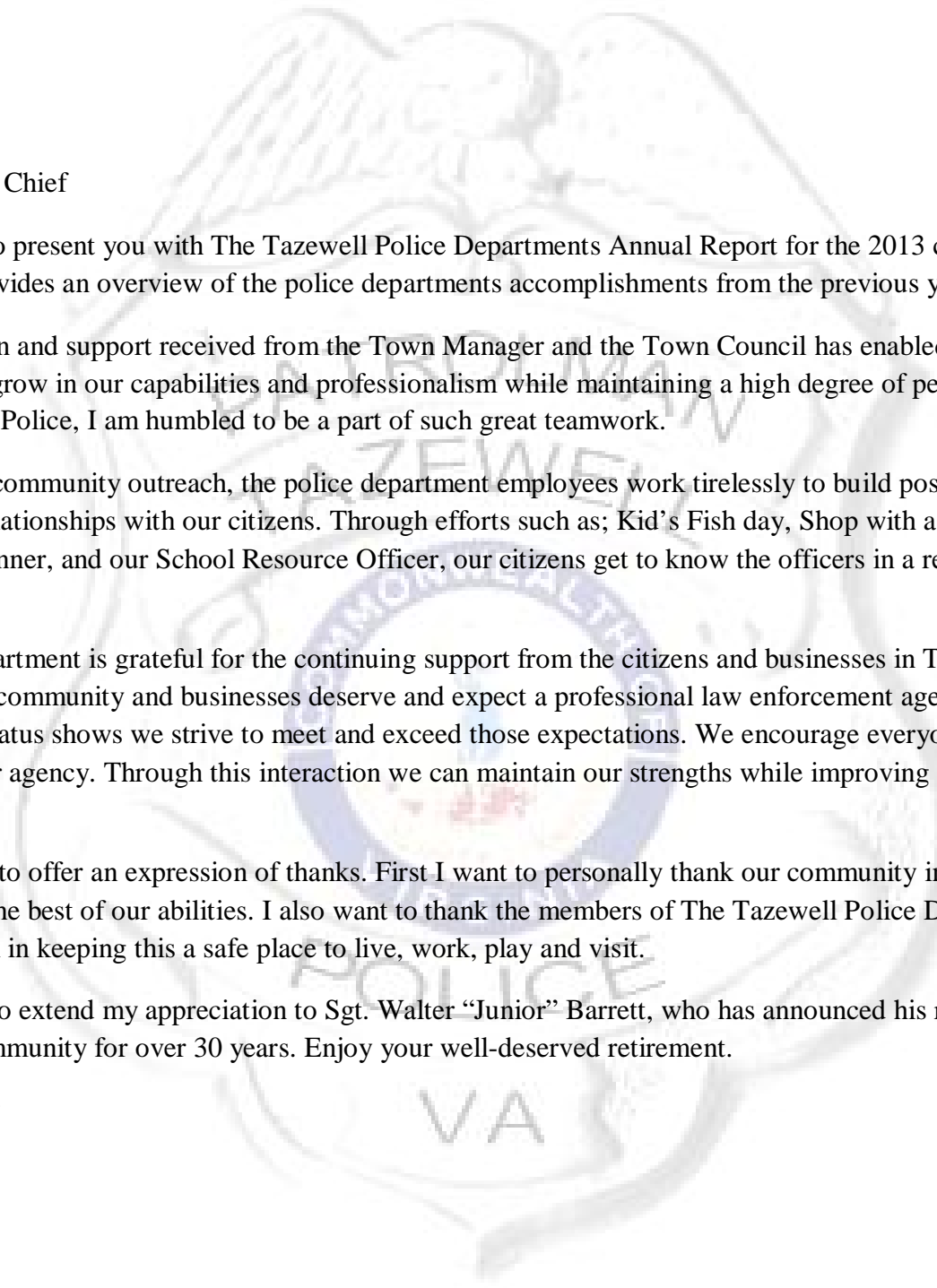


TAZEWELL POLICE

DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT

2013



Letter from the Chief

I am honored to present you with The Tazewell Police Departments Annual Report for the 2013 calendar year. This report provides an overview of the police departments accomplishments from the previous year.

The cooperation and support received from the Town Manager and the Town Council has enabled the police department to grow in our capabilities and professionalism while maintaining a high degree of performance. Being Chief of Police, I am humbled to be a part of such great teamwork.

As part of our community outreach, the police department employees work tirelessly to build positive professional relationships with our citizens. Through efforts such as; Kid's Fish day, Shop with a Cop, The Community Dinner, and our School Resource Officer, our citizens get to know the officers in a relaxed atmosphere.

The police department is grateful for the continuing support from the citizens and businesses in The Town of Tazewell. Our community and businesses deserve and expect a professional law enforcement agency. As our accreditation status shows we strive to meet and exceed those expectations. We encourage everyone to provide feedback to our agency. Through this interaction we can maintain our strengths while improving on our weaknesses.

Finally, I want to offer an expression of thanks. First I want to personally thank our community in trusting us to serve them to the best of our abilities. I also want to thank the members of The Tazewell Police Department for their hard work in keeping this a safe place to live, work, play and visit.

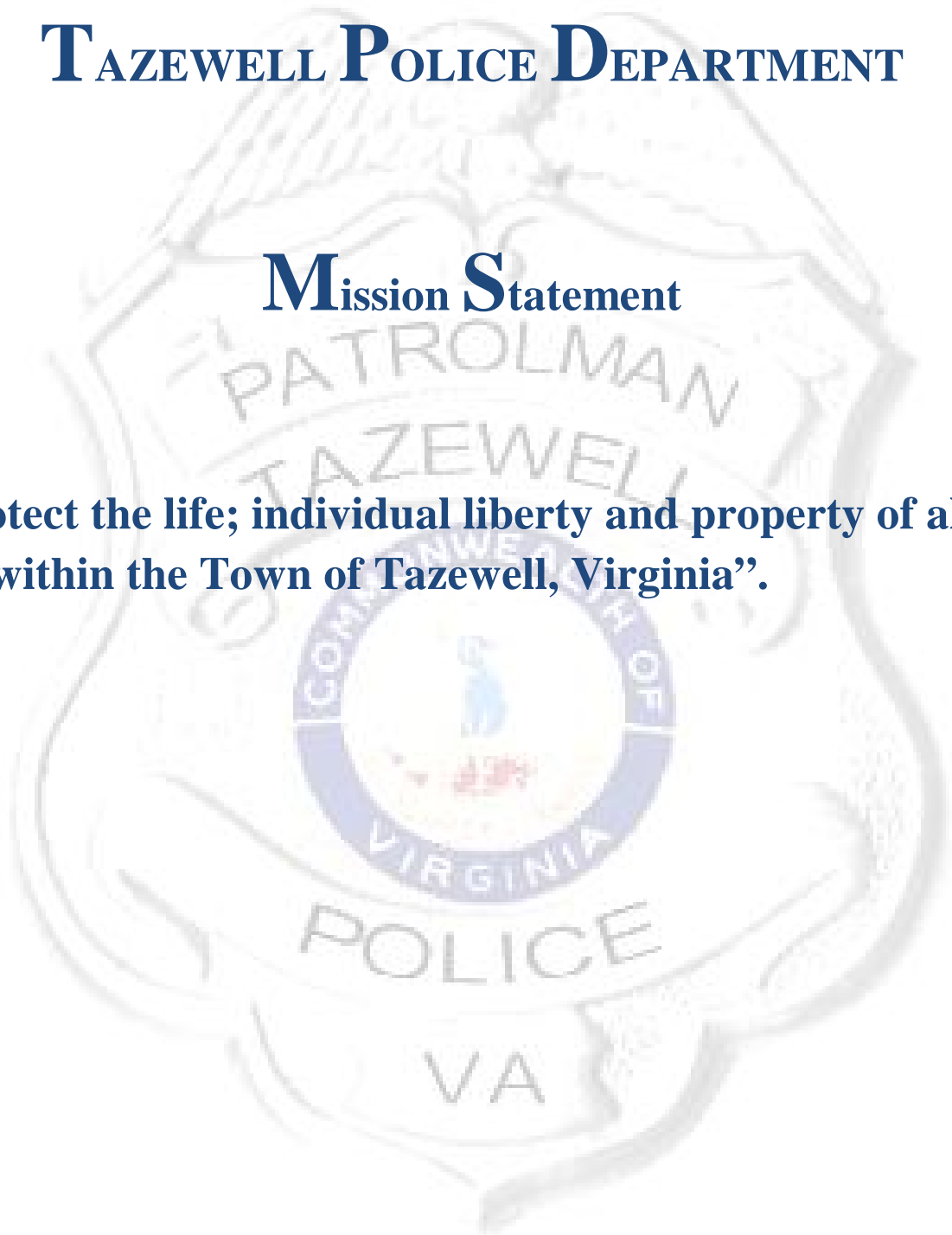
Lastly, I want to extend my appreciation to Sgt. Walter "Junior" Barrett, who has announced his retirement after serving the community for over 30 years. Enjoy your well-deserved retirement.

DeWitt Cooper

TAZEWELL POLICE DEPARTMENT

Mission Statement

“To protect the life; individual liberty and property of all people within the Town of Tazewell, Virginia”.



VISION STATEMENT

The Vision of The Tazewell Police Department is to provide progressive, professional law enforcement services to the Town of Tazewell recognizing that public safety begins with a strong bond with the community in which we serve.

PHILOSOPHIES & VALUES

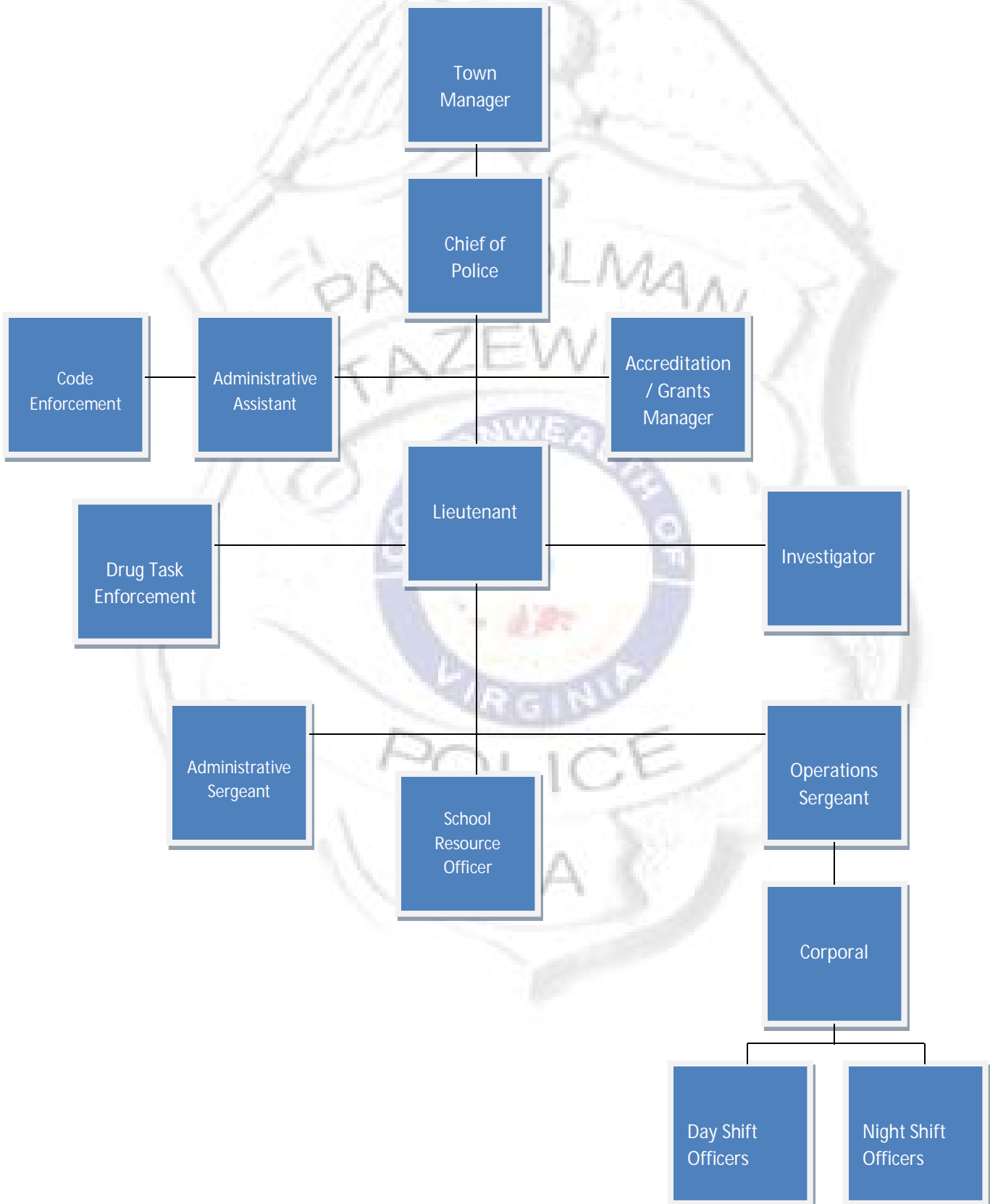
The Tazewell Police Departments' philosophy and values reflect a modern, quality law enforcement concept involving every member of the police department.

The Tazewell Police Departments leadership at all levels reflects the agencies commitment to a strong work ethic, while valuing diversity, promoting effective learning and enhancing and maintaining flexibility.

All members of the Tazewell Police Department will be courteous and professional in enforcing and abiding by the laws of the Town of Tazewell, Commonwealth of Virginia and the Constitution of the United States.

TAZEWELL POLICE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

CHAIN OF COMMAND



Fact Sheet

2013 Population for Town of Tazewell.....	4,589
Square Miles.....	10 Sq. Miles
Town Budget (FY 2013).....	5,710,253.00
Town Police Budget.....	1,024,236.80
Total Employees.....	63
Police.....	15
Non-Sworn Employees.....	1
2013-Total Calls for Service.....	12,984
<u>Non-Violent Offenses</u>	
Total	88
Burglary.....	14
Larceny.....	71
Motor Vehicle Theft.....	3
<u>Violent Offenses</u>	
Total	6
Murder.....	0
Rape.....	0
Robbery.....	1
Aggravated Assault.....	3
Criminal Arrests.....	366
Driving Under the Influence.....	25



5 Year Statistical Comparison Chart

Year	Aggravated Assault	Simple Assault	Burglary	Homicide	Counterfeiting / Forgery	Kidnapping/ Abduction	Larceny	Forcible Rape	Forcible Sodomy	Sexual Assault with an object	Forcible Fondling	Incest	Statutory Rape	Total
2009	3	55	18	0	24	4	74	1	1	1	1	0	1	183
2010	6	57	23	1	13	2	106	2	1	0	0	0	0	211
2011	2	54	15	0	15	0	82	2	0	0	1	0	0	171
2012	6	50	38	0	42	1	87	1	0	0	1	0	0	226
2013	5	30	14	0	35	0	71	0	0	0	1	0	0	156

Source:

IBR- Statistical Comparison Chart:

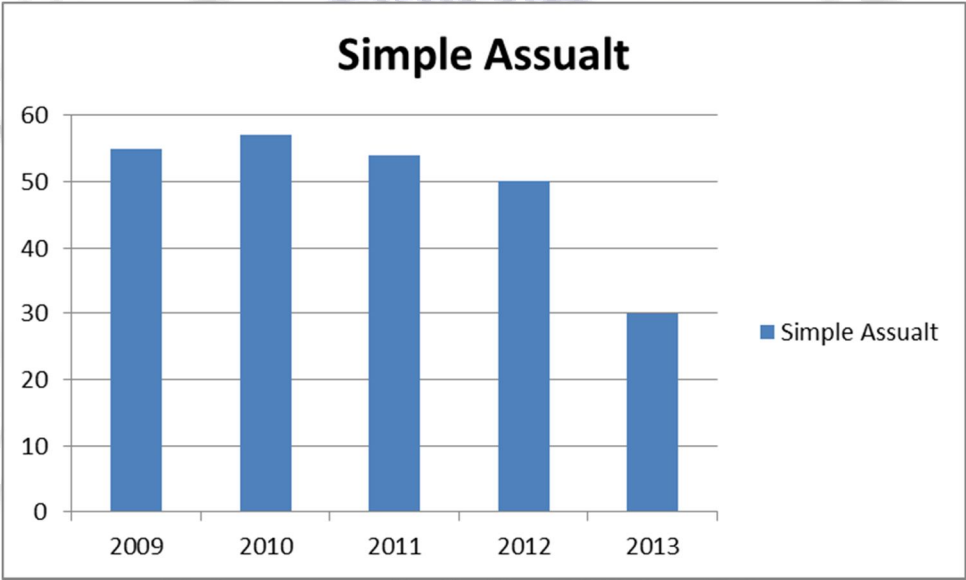
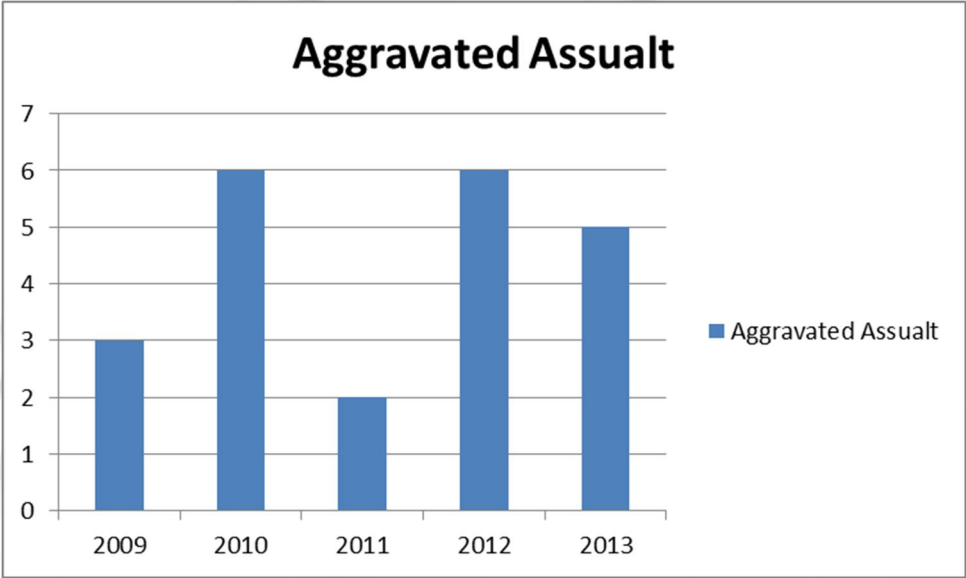
Population - 2009----4,267

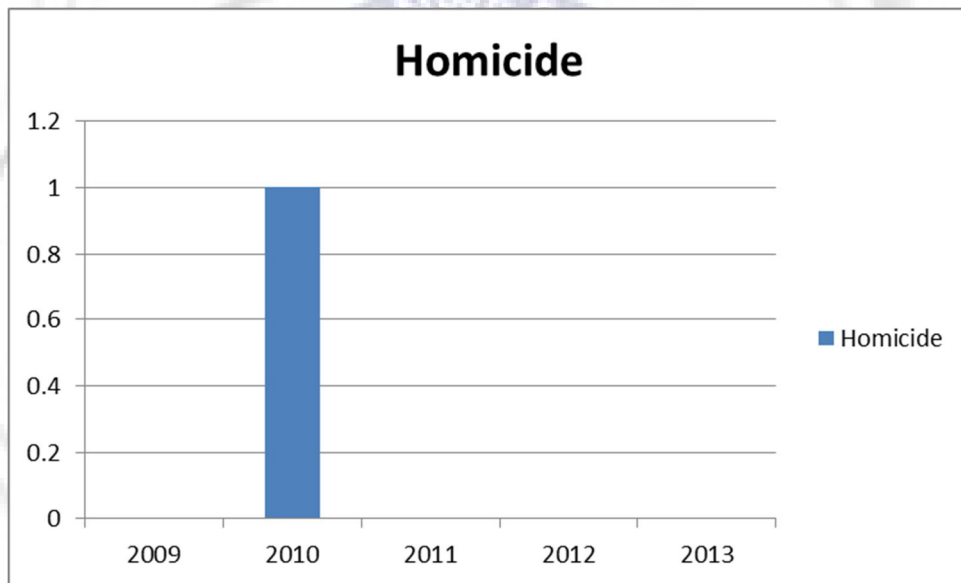
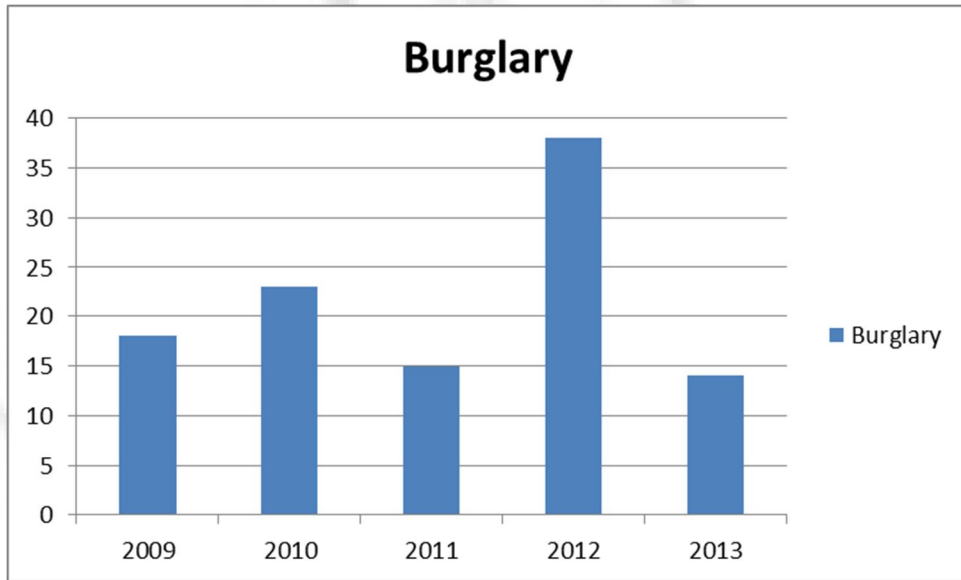
2010----4,627

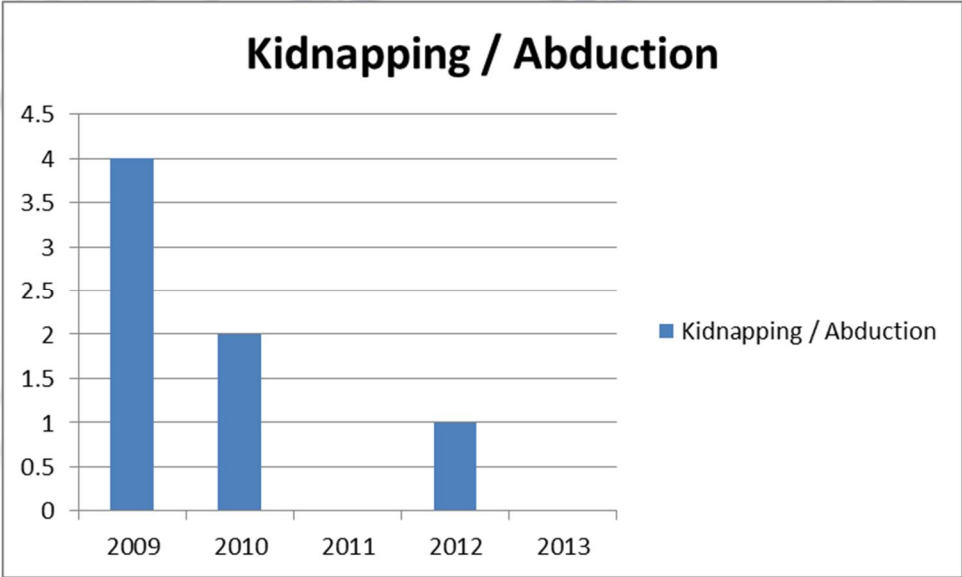
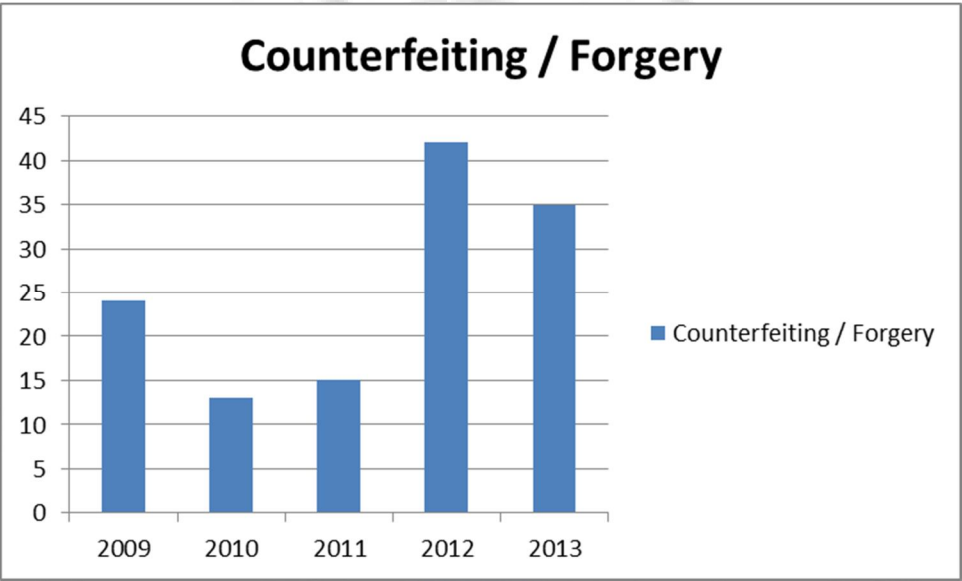
2011----4,627

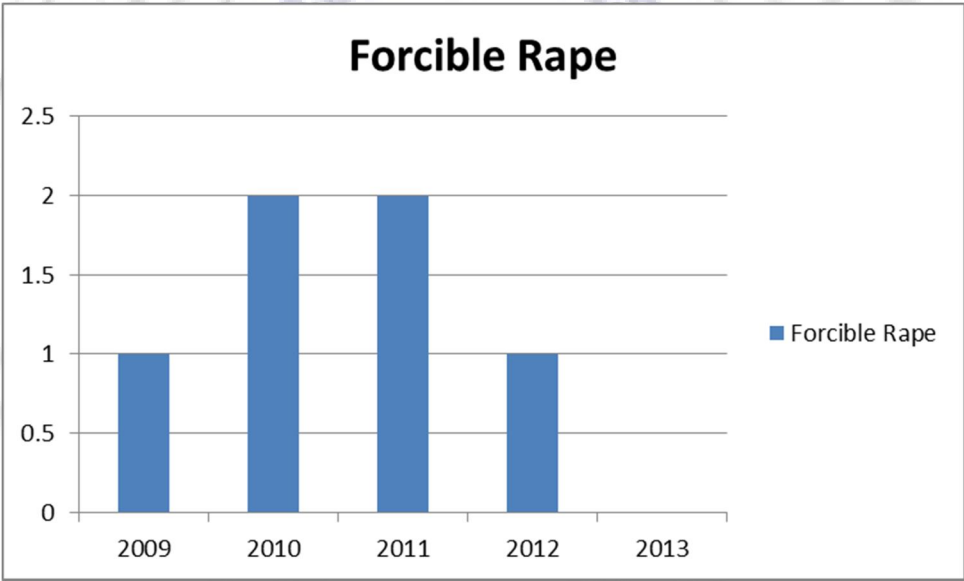
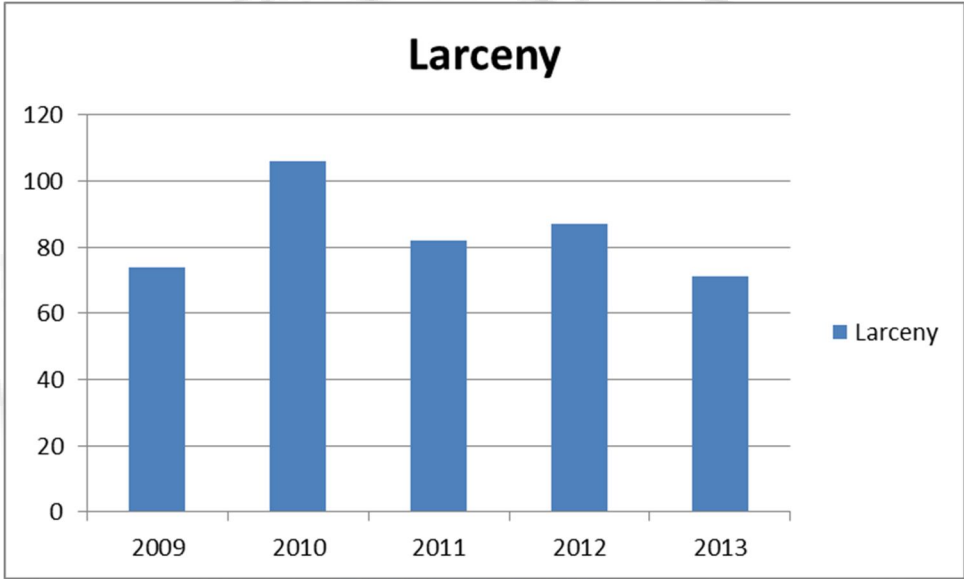
2012----4,589

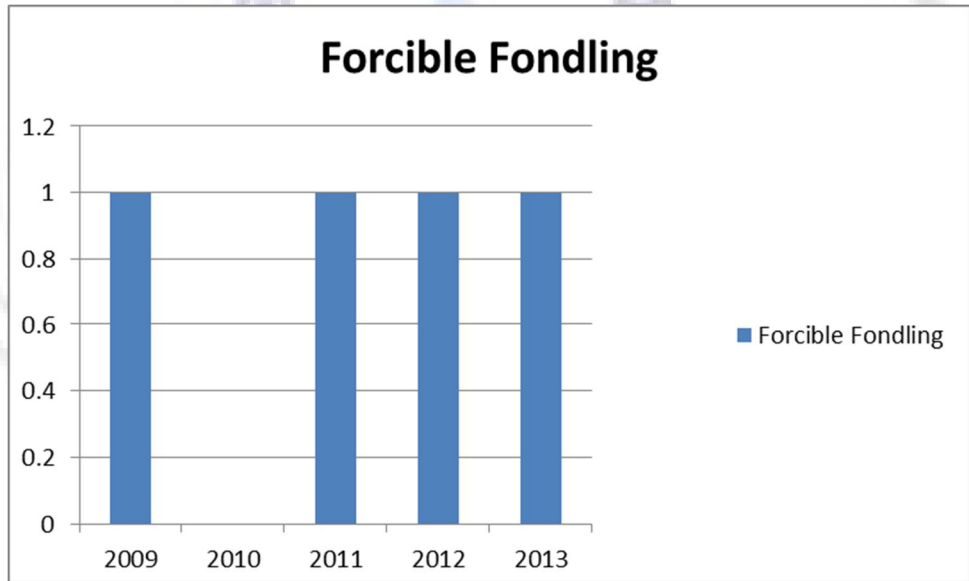
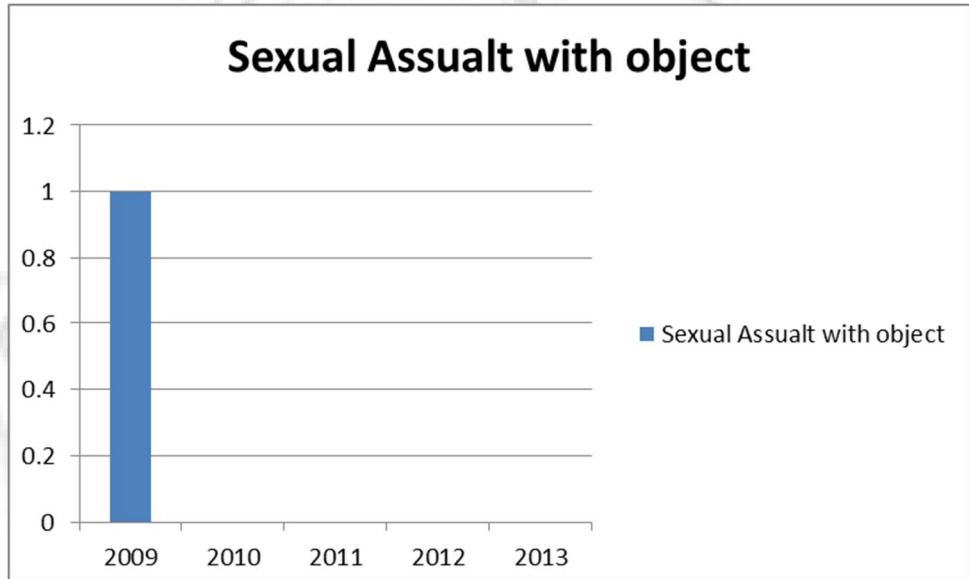
2013----4,589

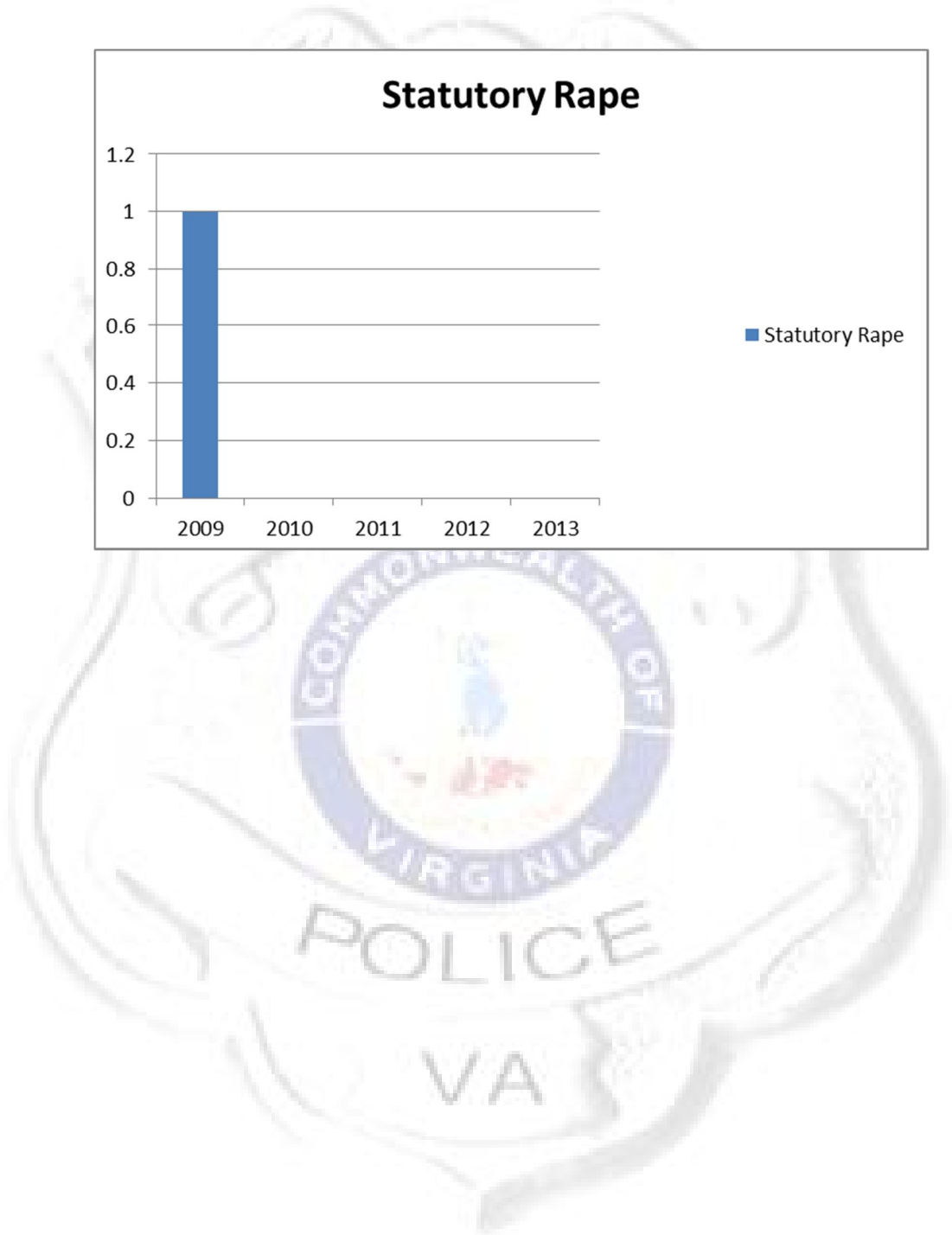
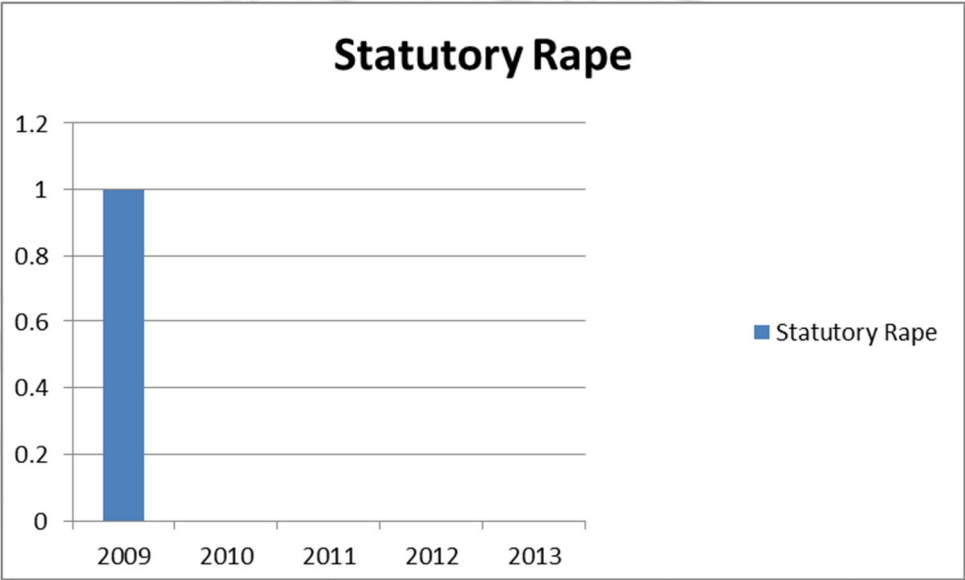












ADMINISTRATION OPERATIONS

Administration Overview

The Tazewell Police Department is a state accredited agency employing fifteen sworn officers and one civilian. The department consists of the Chief of Police. In his chain of command, Lieutenant, Administration Sergeant, Operations Sergeant, Corporal, Investigator, Code Enforcement Officer, two School Resource Officers, Accreditation Manager, Administrative Assistant and five Patrol Officers. The department strives to provide the best service and protection to the citizen's of the town. The mission of the police department is "To protect the life; individual liberty and property of all people within the Town of Tazewell, Virginia".

Personnel Training

The Tazewell Police Department takes great pride in providing all personnel with the best training available. All sworn officers have received basic law enforcement training. The department also has officers trained in specialized areas of law enforcement to provide citizen's with the best protection that can be provided. In 2013 the police department had two officers graduate from basic law enforcement training at the Southwest Virginia Criminal Justice Training Academy.

Range Training

All officers are required to undergo annual qualification with all weapons carried on patrol and special operations. The department also qualifies officers with their off-duty weapon that is approved by the Chief of Police. Qualifications are mandatory within the department as well as state mandated. All officers are encouraged to practice and maintain strong skills in handling their weapons on a regular basis. Currently the department makes it mandatory for a minimum of two officers to do range training monthly; to assure they stay proficient in the use of their weapons. Officers are also required to review the departments Use of Force policy regularly and are trained annually on less than lethal weapons, such as baton and oc. spray. Each officer receives at least 8 hours of range training yearly which includes both day and night firing of their weapons. The police department has and maintains its own firing range that is available 24 hours a day for training.



Occupational Safety and Training

The Safety Committee meets bi-monthly to ensure the implantation and updating of required written Safety Health programs and plans. Each departmental Supervisor or head of the departments makes up this committee. We have one Safety Coordinator who does spot checks and briefing, to make sure that we are complying with OSHA (Occupational Safety Health Administration). We were happy to report only 1 injury for the year of 2013, which helped keep the Town of Tazewell's Insurance premium down.

Code Enforcement

The Code Enforcement position has evolved since 2012. The Code Enforcement Officer is responsible for enforcing Town Code to ensure a safe and healthy environment. In addition to handling animal complaints, domestic and wild, the code enforcement officer also handles noise ordinances, trash disposal, other environmental concerns, zoning requests, attends planning commission meetings and other aspects of public safety. The department handled several code violations in 2013. In 2013, code enforcement officer handled 20 animal complaint calls and had several dilapidated buildings condemned.

Evidence Handling and Control

The Tazewell Police Department collects and handles evidence and property with extreme care and consideration. The department follows and abides by Virginia State Code in the collection, preservation, and destruction/ return of all property. The Evidence and Property Room is overseen, supervised, and maintained by the Lieutenant and the Corporal.

Accreditation

The Tazewell Police Department has been a state Accredited Agency since 2006 when it became the smallest agency in the Commonwealth of Virginia to attain this status. The department is working on its third accreditation. We will be assessed in 2014 by Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission (VLEPSC) assessors to receive our third certificate of accreditation. The department must comply with 187 standards set forth by the commission to maintain accredited status. This is a continual process that each member of the department is responsible for. Our accredited status proves that we are in compliance with all applicable standards and that we are a professional agency, providing the best service possible to the citizens of Tazewell. As stated in the VLEPSC program manual “Accreditation is the ongoing process whereby agencies evaluate policy and procedure against established criteria, and have compliance with that criteria verified by an independent and authoritative body. VELEPSC accreditation demonstrates The Tazewell Police Department’s commitment to utilizing the best operational practices and maintaining strict compliance with performance standards.

Inspections

The Tazewell Police Department conducts several inspections at different times throughout the year. Every employee is inspected and evaluated in appearance and performance. The vehicles and equipment are inspected for operational readiness as well as appearance. The police department and its members take pride in their appearance and professionalism. All aspects of the officer and their equipment need to be of the highest quality. The efficiency of our equipment plays a large role in our ability to perform our duties.

Special Operations

Our ERT (Emergency Response) Team was established in 2005. Members from the team were sent to special training to include; Basic Swat School and Active Shooter. The team also conducted in-house training at Tazewell High School to practice for an active shooter incident. Training was also conducted with live fire training at our firing range. The team completed approximately 60 hours of in-house training throughout the year. In 2013, we equipped the ERT vehicle with required equipment needed to respond to any type of emergency. On June 15, 2013 a team member was sent to Basic Swat Medic School and completed the course. In 2013, the team responded to only one incident involving possible narcotic violations.

Warrants

During 2013, The Tazewell Police Department had several officers sworn in to serve town warrants outside the town limits. This reduced the backlog of warrants needing to be served and increased cases being closed. Total warrants for 2013 were 460.

Administrative Sergeant

The Administrative Sergeant plans, organizes and coordinates activities for the patrol unit. The administrative sergeant arranges work schedules and reviews information at the beginning of a shift. The administrative sergeant, along with other supervisors, reviews reports for accuracy and completeness.

The administrative sergeant also maintains records, reports equipment for compliance, provides guidelines and training to staff, maintains budget analysis and oversees equipment order and maintenance.

Administrative Assistant/Dispatch

The role of an administrative assistant consists of answering the telephone, radio, filing papers, and communicating effectively with everyone. The administrative assistant works directly under the command of the Chief of Police, but assists others in whatever task is necessary. The administrative assistant is responsible for records management, and ensuring our internal, as well as our external community receives information needed in a timely manner. The administrative assistant helps organize community events for the police department. The Dispatching is done from 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. Monday – Friday. Outside of those hours the 911 center handles calls. The Tazewell Police Department dispatch handled over 8, 511-reportable and non-reportable calls for 2013.



INVESTIGATIVE OPERATIONS

The Criminal Investigation Division is comprised of one full-time investigator. The investigative division is overseen and supervised by the Lieutenant. The investigator handles most felonies and some misdemeanors reported to the police department. The investigator also works closely with surrounding jurisdictions and assists those jurisdictions when called upon to do so. The investigator presents all indictments to the Grand Jury for the department.

In 2013, the Tazewell Police Department had **507** reported incidents. At the end of the year, **380** of those reported incidents were closed leaving **127** open. These totals left the police department with a **74.9%** clearance rate for the year. The current investigator worked a total of **77** cases, clearing **70** leaving **7** open for 2014. These totals show the investigation unit with a **90.9%** clearance rate for the year.

The police department worked cases involving; assault and battery, malicious wounding, abduction, sexual assault, child abuse/neglect/endangerment, grand larceny, petit larceny, distribution, possession, contributing, arson, indecent liberties with children, indecent exposure, fraud, forgery and uttering, breaking and entering, perjury, identity theft, escape from jail, suicides, overdoses and unattended deaths.

The police department has worked very diligently in 2013 to bring closure to many victims and to provide service to many individuals as well. It can be seen in how many reported incidents that this small town received and how many were successfully closed. We look forward to serving this great town and its citizens for many years to come.



PATROL OPERATIONS

Patrol Operations is comprised of two 12 hour shifts, day and night. Officers are responsible for providing 24 hour service to the Town of Tazewell providing police services to approximately 6,000 residents. Patrol duties include but are not limited to the following: answering calls for service, enforcing all Federal, State, and local ordinances and laws, enforcing all traffic laws, investigations, drug interdictions, accident investigations, and safeguarding the lives, property, and public peace that the citizens and visitors of the town are entitled too.

The police department answered over 12,000 calls for service last year. When officers are not answering calls for service they are patrolling streets and neighborhoods. Patrolling each part of town is a deterrent and an extremely important duty. Night Shift Patrol also conducts “Business Checks” by checking a minimum of 20 businesses a night and leaving business cards for business owners with the date and time of the check. Several times a year the Patrol Division operates special assignments that include road checks, seat belt enforcement, and traffic control for local events, security for events, and security for local athletic games.

The rank structure of the patrol division is operated by 2 supervisors, a day shift Sergeant and night shift Corporal. These supervisors oversee 7 patrol officers which include a School Resource Officer. Patrol Officers have a large amount of public interaction. Patrol is a very important aspect of a police department and combined with all other divisions bring the safety and security that the citizens of the town deserve and desire.



SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT

Throughout 2013, the Special Enforcement Unit participated in various "Click it or Ticket" operations, conducted sixteen checkpoints and four saturated patrols, and assisted Patrol Operations with numerous other initiatives. The patrol units handled 161 funeral escorts with all being led by the Patrol Vehicle. The patrol unit personnel issued 574 citations. There were 123 citations for speeding and 434 for other traffic violations, 11 arrests for other DUI, DUID violations, and 7 citations for seat belt violation and 4 for child for child restraint violation, Additionally the unit wrote 56 parking tickets, made 50 felony arrests, and 150 misdemeanor arrests.

Several agencies in southwest Virginia attended the "Click it or Ticket" kick-off event, emphasizing the country-wide mobilization to save lives by strongly enforcing occupant protection laws, to include both belt and child restraint violations. This ten year old campaign is a statewide law enforcement and public awareness effort to detect and impaired drivers in Virginia, focusing on the use of sobriety checkpoints to prevent drunk driving.

The Tazewell Police Department partnered with Tazewell High School, Tazewell Fire, and many other organizations to promote safe driving for Tazewell teens. The one day event included live demonstrations related to distracted driving, impaired driving, and blind spot identification. Featured courses were the Distracted Driving Golf Cart Course, Impaired Driving Simulator, DUI Fatal Vision "Walk the Line," and Demonstration. Over 600 high school students from Tazewell attended.



TAZEWELL, VIRGINIA

