



# TOWN OF WARRENTON

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

333 Carriage House Lane • Warrenton, Virginia 20186  
Telephone (540) 347-1107 • Fax (540) 341-4190



### Police Department Quarterly Report 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter April 2023 through June 2023

#### Calls for service:

For the reporting period between April through June of 2023, the Warrenton Police Department handled 4833 calls for service. Most of these calls for service that involved crimes were for larceny related offenses followed by fraud related offenses, with traffic enforcement accounting for 15% of all sworn officers' total work time.

The police department continued to experience a significant decrease in quality-of-life (QOF) related offenses, (drunk in public, drug distribution, and noise violations) within the Haiti St. Community. We are continuing our outreach within the community and continue to see a reduction in calls for service to date. Last month we participated in a Cookout/Block Party on Haiti Street sponsored by Fauquier Habit for Humanity and enjoyed the fellowship with the residents.

#### Traffic stop data:

Previously Council requested elaboration on data in the following table which they extracted from the 2022 Town of Warrenton Comprehensive Annual Report. It was stated that the data showed a significant decline in traffic violations from fiscal year 2021 to fiscal year 2022.

Fiscal Year	Physical Arrests	Traffic Violations	Total	YOY Difference
2022	218	933	1151	-845
2021	239	1757	1996	-924
2020	232	2688	2920	-1112
2019	307	3725	4032	1422
2018	320	2290	2610	424
2017	164	2022	2186	-1383
2016	194	3375	3569	-43
2015	295	3317	3612	-1991
2014	248	5355	5603	-1344
2013	390	6557	6947	

Many factors contributed to the decline in what is listed as "Traffic Violations". This number includes both summonses and written warnings issued. This number is also based on the fiscal year, not the calendar year. Calendar year numbers were 1641 for 2021, and 1161 for 2022. Not as much of a decrease as fiscal year numbers, but a decrease nonetheless.



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Fiscal year 2022 ran from July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022. It should be noted that month-for-month statistics show that as many or more summons and written warnings were produced for every month in 2021, as compared to 2020, except October-December. The following events had an effect on fiscal year 2022 traffic violation numbers:

- March 1, 2021 – new laws went into effect that banned pretextual traffic stops for many minor offenses. Prior to the law change, many of these offenses were frequently observed and addressed by our officers, and some of them routinely were indicators of additional and/or more serious offenses.
- August 2021 – Following annual legal update training, our approach to traffic enforcement went through a period of transition focused more on community engagement and targeting problems areas vs. blanket enforcement.
- January & August 2021 – The department lost two high-volume ticket writers. This loss of volume and staff addressing traffic violations had an impact on total numbers month to month.
- April through September 2021 – Five new sworn officers were hired to fill vacancies. Training time for new officers is five months for the academy and four months for field training. Field training is comprised of all facets of police work, not just traffic enforcement, which leads to a reduction in summons and written warnings from officers in training vs. seasoned officers.
- Covid protocols were still in effect for the police department which included only necessary contacts with the public, targeted traffic enforcement in problem/complaint areas, and an emphasis on relational policing vs. transactional policing and empathy for the effects of the pandemic on citizens.

It should be noted that fiscal year 2023 numbers for traffic violations were up significantly from fiscal year 2022 and calendar year 2023 numbers are on pace to be higher than 2022 numbers.

Also requested by Council were statistics regarding the enforcement of the 15 mph zones affected by the traffic engineering study completed last year. The following table lists statistics for the calendar year 2022 up to the notification of Council that the study was needed (11/9/22), the notification to Council of the study results (4/12/23), the study results to the completion of the table, and the same period the previous year (for comparison purposes). Note that summons issued were up significantly after the study was completed.



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STREET	11/9/22 thru 4/11/23		4/12/23 thru 7/10/23		4/12/22 thru 7/10/22		1/1/22 thru 11/9/22	
NAME	W	S	W	S	W	S	W	S
FOXCROFT ROAD	1	0	4	3	0	0	10	7
PIEDMONT STREET	0	0	0	1	2	0	2	1
SYCAMORE STREET	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
BLUE RIDGE STREET	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0
RAPPAHANNOCK STREET	1	2	0	0	1	0	4	0
NORFOLK DRIVE	3	8	4	19	2	2	6	20
DOVER ROAD	0	0	0	5	0	0	0	0
PLAIN ROAD	0	0	2	11	2	0	8	6
GAY ROAD	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
BEACON ROAD	0	0	1	10	0	0	0	3
SHORT STREET	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
GOLD CUP DRIVE	2	5	1	0	0	0	0	6
MEADOWVIEW LANE	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
MAIN STREET	5	4	2	1	2	0	4	5
TOTALS	12	19	15	51	9	2	34	48
ALL of TOWN	258	369	142	187	114	118	506	451

### Promotions/Transfers/Retirements:

During the second quarter of 2023, the Warrenton Police Department held promotional processes for the ranks of Lieutenant, Sergeant, and Corporal. Sergeant Justin Pierce was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant and Officer Stephen Hall was promoted to the rank of Sergeant following competitive promotional processes. Additionally, Officers Hannah Stewart and Maribeth Howser successfully completed a competitive promotional process for the rank of Corporal and both will be promoted to that rank as soon as positions become vacant, which is anticipated to be sometime in early August following a second Sergeant promotional process and an upcoming retirement.

And last but not least, Corporal Christopher Ford retired from Virginia law enforcement on August 1, 2023, following an eight-year career with Warrenton PD and a career spanning a total of 22 years, including service with Leesburg Police Department, Middleburg Police Department, and Loudoun County Sheriff's Office. He and his family will be moving to South Carolina where Corporal Ford will continue his law enforcement career there. We wish Corporal Ford and his family all the best in their new endeavors!