

HUNTERSVILLE POLICE DEPARTMENT



2017
Annual Report

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Message from the Chief



On behalf of the women and men of the Huntersville Police Department, I present the 2017 Annual Report. I am pleased to announce that crime overall was down by 12% in calendar year 2017 versus 2016. This includes a 15% reduction in Part I Crime and an 9.44% reduction in Part II Crime, and represents the second lowest crime rate in the last 15 years. Huntersville's historically low crime rate reflects well on our community and the hard work of the employees of the Huntersville Police Department.

I promise that we will continue community outreach and engagement efforts in 2018. The Huntersville Police Department realizes that our crime reduction successes and ability to maintain a safe Town relies on the strong relationships we have formed with the community. By working to continue and strengthen our community partnerships we can keep Huntersville a safe Town for all those who live, work or visit.



Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Chief Cleveland L. Spruill.

Chief Cleveland L. Spruill

Town of Huntersville Government Leaders



Mayor
John Aneralla



Mayor Pro-Tem
Melinda Bales



Commissioner
Dan Boone



Mayor Pro Tem
Melinda Bales



Commissioner
Brian Hines



Commissioner
Danny Phillips



Commissioner
Nick Walsh

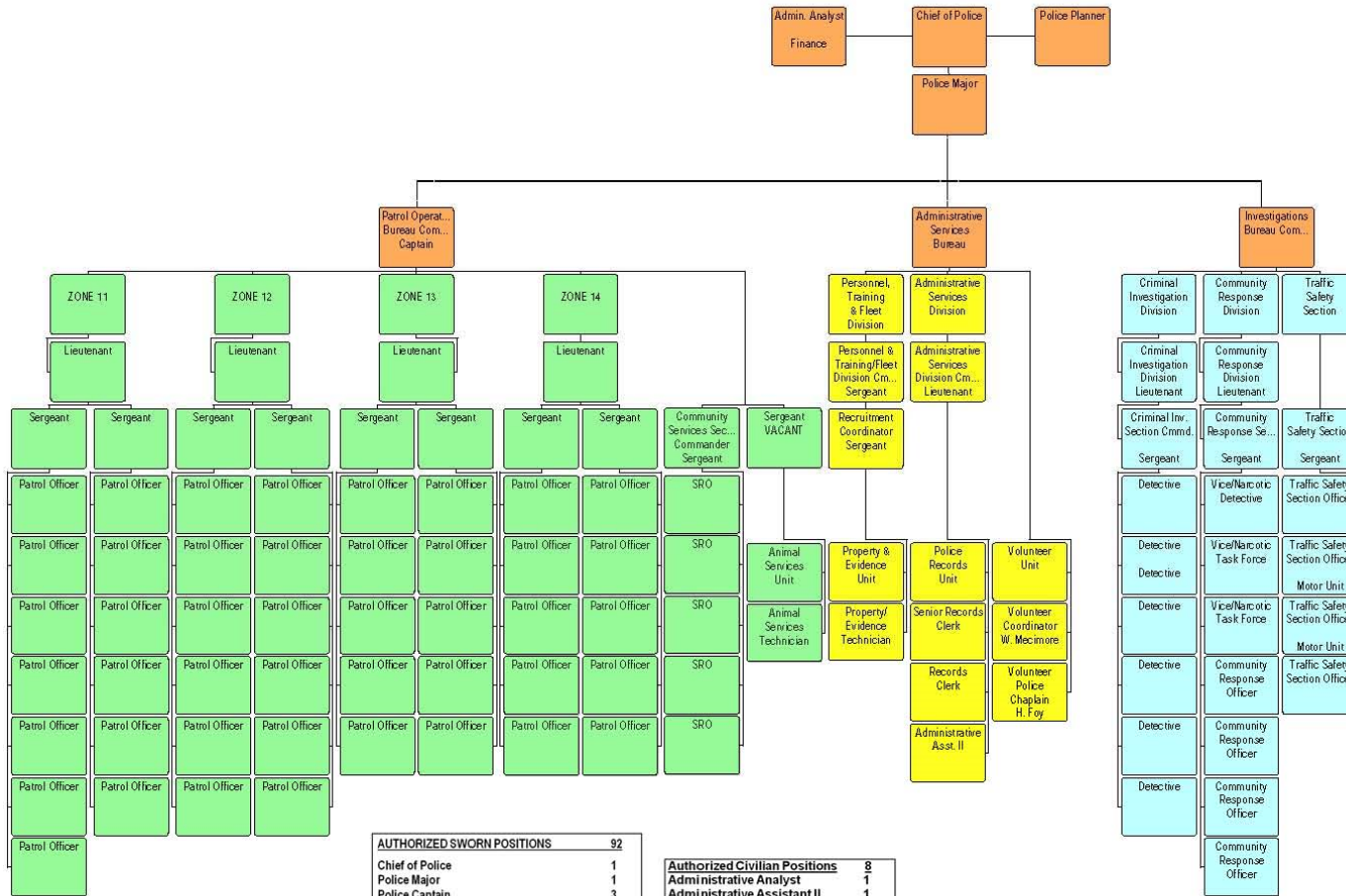


Town Manager
Gerry Vincent

Organizational Chart



Huntersville Police Department
ORGANIZATIONAL CHART
 January 27, 2017



AUTHORIZED SWORN POSITIONS	
Chief of Police	1
Police Major	1
Police Captain	3
Police Lieutenant	7
Police Sergeant	13
Detectives	10
Community Response Officers	6
Patrol Officers	48
Traffic Safety Officer	4
School Resource Officer	5

Authorized Civilian Positions	
Administrative Analyst	1
Administrative Assistant II	1
Animal Services Technician	1
Police Planner/Accred. Mgr.	1
Property/Evidence Tech.	1
Records Clerk	1
Senior Records Clerk	1
Volunteer Coordinator (PT)	1
Crime Analyst (Contracted)	1

Part I and Part II Crime Comparison 2012-2017

Part 1 Crimes (UCR)	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Avg.	2017 % Change From Average	% Change 2016 to 2017
Murder	0	0	1	0	0	2	0.5	300%	n.c.
Rape	6	4	6	3	7	2	4.7	-57%	-71%
Robbery	20	13	15	12	18	16	15.7	2%	-11%
Aggravated Assault	59	33	35	58	37	39	43.5	-10%	5%
Burglary	182	179	149	138	150	101	149.8	-33%	-33%
Larceny	844	714	822	735	959	841	819.2	3%	-12%
Auto Theft	25	26	28	22	48	33	30.3	9%	-31%
Arson	13	3	5	3	3	5	5.3	-6%	67%
Total	1,149	972	1,061	971	1,222	1,039	1,069	-3%	-15%

Huntersville's Part 1 crimes decreased from 1,222 in 2016 to 1,039 in 2017. This represents a 15% decrease. Overall town wide in Huntersville, Part I crimes decreased in Rape, Robbery, Burglary, Larceny, and Auto Theft. Slight increases were recorded for Murder, and Arson.

Part 2 Crime	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	Avg.	2017 % Change From Average	% Change 2016 to 2017
Drug Offense	281	123	218	310	354	323	268.2	20%	-9%
Simple Assault	399	218	252	244	259	226	266.3	-15%	-13%
Fraud	130	125	159	206	218	223	176.8	26%	2%
Vandalism	153	126	136	141	129	107	132.0	-19%	-17%
Weapons Violation	23	13	12	18	24	13	17.2	-24%	-46%
All Other Sex Offense	22	9	13	14	11	16	14.2	13%	45%
DWI	195	111	85	83	77	45	99.3	-55%	-42%
Liquor Law Violation	4	5	14	12	7	1	7.2	-86%	-86%
Disorderly Conduct	50	14	19	18	8	5	19.0	-74%	-38%
Kidnapping	1	0	0	0	0	0	0.2	-100%	n.c.
All Other Offenses	82	125	160	176	131	144	136.3	6%	10%
Total	1,340	869	1,068	1,222	1,218	1,103	1,137	-3%	-9%

Calls for Service 2016-2017

Call Type	2016	2017	Change	%Change
Abandoned Vehicle	114	148	34	29.82%
ABC	59	43	-16	-27.12%
Accident	1,987	1,985	-2	-0.10%
Alarm	2,226	2,133	-93	-4.18%
Assist Med/Fire/Other	614	565	-49	-7.98%
Animal Case	1,242	1,171	-71	-5.72%
Assault WDW	39	26	-13	-33.33%
Assault	295	296	1	0.34%
Auto Theft	52	54	2	3.85%
Auto Recovery	23	25	2	8.70%
Bomb Threat	0	1	1	n.c.
Burglary	159	128	-31	-19.50%
Damage To Property	236	123	-113	-47.88%
Domestic Disturbance	502	374	-128	-25.50%
Drug	311	465	154	49.52%
911 Hang Up	321	479	158	49.22%
Hit And Run	239	258	19	7.95%
Fraud	344	450	106	30.81%
Fight	40	19	-21	-52.50%
Homicide	0	0	0	n.c.
Other	13,000	12,503	-497	-3.82%
Larceny	617	625	8	1.30%
Missing Person	43	185	142	330.23%
Noise Compliant	381	485	104	27.30%
Property Lost/Found	177	114	-63	-35.59%
Robbery	17	17	0	0.00%
Special Event	15	9	-6	-40.00%
Susp. Person	746	717	-29	-3.89%
Sex Offence	50	46	-4	-8.00%
Susp. Vehicle	1,085	1,012	-73	-6.73%
Trespassing	125	79	-46	-36.80%
Traffic Stop	6,691	7,967	1276	19.07%
Weapon	213	122	-91	-42.72%
Zone Check	28,036	28,204	168	0.60%
Total	59,999	60,828	829	1.38%

Traffic Enforcement & Collision Data

Traffic Stop Data				
Year	2016	2017	Change	%Change
Total	7,250	8,314	1,064	14.68%

Traffic Checkpoints		
Date	Type of Checkpoint	Location
2/28/2017	License/Safety Checking Station	Verhoeff Drive near Old Statesville Road
6/30/2017	DWI Checking Station	Sam Furr Road near Old Statesville Road
12/9/2017	DWI Checking Station	13837 NC Highway 73

From January to November 2017 the Department conducted approximately 23 Child Seat Safety Stations.



Promotions

Year	2016	2017	Change	%Change
Total	1,924	1,874	-50	-2.60%

Traffic Fatality Crashes 2016-2017

Date	Location	Number of Vehicles Involved	Number of Fatalities	Contributing Circumstances
02/19/2017	McCord Road at Northstone Drive	1	1	Failure to Maintain Lane/Ran Off Roadway
10/29/2017	9422 McCoy Road	1	1	Failure to Maintain Lane/Ran Off Roadway

Year	2016	2017	Change	%Change
Fatal Crashes	5	2	3	-60%



Seth Hager
Promoted to Police Sergeant
September 11, 2017



Kenjamin Libby
Promoted to Police Sergeant
December 4, 2017

Awards

2016 Annual Service Awards

John Albert Rape Memorial Service Award	Officer Mike Collins
Problem Solving Service Award	Officer Riccardo Carter
Bart Rice Memorial Service Award	Officer Jason Cousar
Leadership Award	Lieutenant Tyler Medlin
Civilian Service Award	Rachel Laurenson
Co-Worker of the Year Award	Detective Tim Lesser
Rookie of the Year Award	Officer Benjamin McCormack
Top Gun Award	Officer Michael Joseph

Most Valuable Co-Worker Award

Patrol- A Side	Officer Chris Wade Officer Jeff Guertin
Patrol- B Side	Officer Jesse Helms Officer Brian Rouson
Criminal Investigations Division	Detective Tim Lesser
Traffic Section	Officer Riccardo Carter
Civilian	Admin. Asst. Patty Pullis

Years of Service Award

Five Years of Service Award	Sgt. Gary Kriss Officer Travis Watts Officer Robert Powers
Ten Years of Service Award	Lt. Sean Freeston Sgt. Nick Bruining Detective John Randazzo Officer Seth Hager Detective Marty London Administrative Analyst Deb James
Fifteen Years of Service Award	Sgt. Brian Vaughan Lt. Bryan Latza Officer John Hicks
Twenty Years of Service Award	Sgt. Brad Habenicht

January

Wanted Person

The Huntersville Police Department requested the public's assistance in locating William "Billy" Byrd Thompson. Mr. Thompson was wanted in reference to a First Degree Burglary that occurred on Tuesday, January 3, 2017 in Huntersville, NC. The Department obtained warrants for Mr. Thompson for warrants for First Degree Burglary and Second Degree Sexual Offense. North Mecklenburg Crime Stoppers offered a reward of up to \$1,000. On January 14, 2017, Mr. Thompson was arrested and taken into custody.



First Citizens Bank Robbery

On January 10th, Huntersville Police responded to First Citizen's Bank in reference to a robbery. During the investigation the suspect was identified as William Insco. On January 13th Huntersville detectives obtained warrants on William Michael Inscoe (DOB: 12/07/1980) for Common Law Robbery, Habitual Felon, and Felony Conspiracy. Mr. Inscoe was taken into custody without incident.



March

Operation Medicine Drop

The Department hosted Operation Medicine Drop in the Northcross Shopping Center. Medicine Drop is held in conjunction with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Agency's 10th Annual National Take Back Initiative. Officers were on hand to allow citizens to dispose of unused or expired prescription medications safely and securely. Poisoning from prescription medications is one of the leading causes of death nationwide.



Murder-Suicide

On Wednesday, March 8, 2017 shortly after 2:00 p.m. Huntersville Police Officers were dispatched to a residence in the 12300 block of Cross Meadow Road to Check the Welfare of a relative who had not responded to telephone calls. Upon arrival, officers discovered a male and female inside the residence suffering from gunshot wounds. Both individuals were pronounced deceased at the scene.

The female victim was identified as Elisa Meryl Slutzky, white female, 05-20-1969 and was the resident of the address. The male victim was identified as Kenneth Dale Henson, white male, 01-20-1962 from Hickory, NC.

The Huntersville Police Department worked closely with the Mecklenburg County Medical Examiner's Office on the investigation. Upon completion of their investigation, the medical examiner's office concluded that this was a case of murder-suicide.



April

No Second Chances

Huntersville Police Department's Traffic Safety Section, partnered with the Huntersville Fire Department, North Mecklenburg Rescue Squad, Mecklenburg County Medic, and Med Center Air, presented a program entitled "No Second Chances" at North Meck and Hopewell High Schools, and Southlake Christian Academy in Huntersville. The program included a presentation, a guest speaker, and a mock crash scene. The program focused on the consequences of teen choices, with emphasis placed on driving and vehicle collisions.



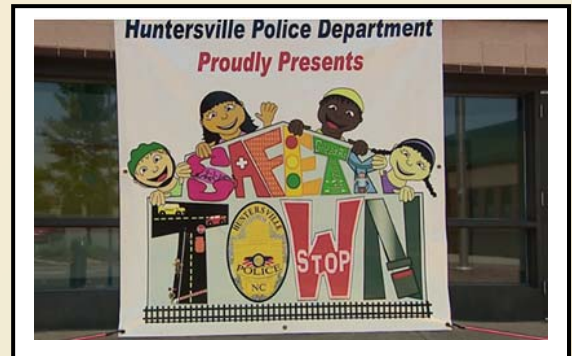
June

Safety Town

The Department conducted three sessions of Safety Town between June 13-27 at Blythe Elementary School. Safety Town is a 4-day program for rising kindergarteners that teaches life lessons. The many topics covered during the program include but are not limited to:

- Avoiding and/or dealing with strangers
- Understanding traffic signals/signs and safely negotiating street crossings
- Safe bicycle riding habits
- Playground safety
- Dangers of drugs
- Fire safety
- Gun safety

The child-sized town includes working traffic lights, miniature street signs (stop, pedestrian crossing, railroad crossing, etc.), crosswalks and eight colorful little buildings representing our town! A total of 195 children participated in the Safety Town Program in 2017.



July

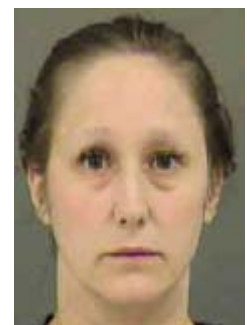
Summer Youth Camp

The Huntersville Police Department's Summer Youth Camp is designed to enhance lessons learned in the D.A.R.E. program and gives students a chance to practice those skills with their D.A.R.E. Officers or School Resource Officers. Camp involves taking fun field trips to places such as Carowinds, Discovery Place, and NASCAR Hall of Fame. The students also had the opportunity to drive a golf cart wearing Fatal Vision goggles, which allowed them to see the road through the eyes of an intoxicated person. This year camps were held June 26-29; July 17-20, July 24-27, August 7-10 and August 14-17. The camps were a huge success!!



Animal Cruelty Case

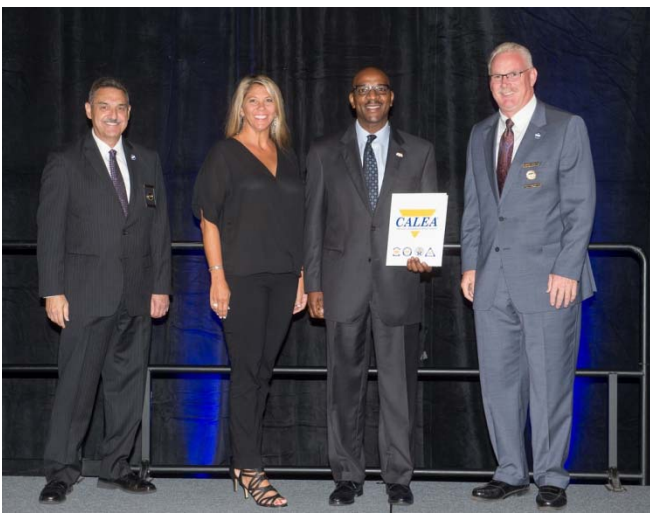
On Sunday, July 23, Huntersville Police received a call for service regarding a puppy that was left in a kennel outdoors in extremely hot conditions, with no water. Upon officer's arrival, the puppy was found to be deceased. Huntersville Police Department Animal Services and Patrol personnel conducted the investigation and at the conclusion, charged Shannon Bostic Naldony with Misdemeanor Cruelty to Animals.



Shannon Naldony

CALEA Reaccreditation

The Huntersville Police Department attended the Providence, Rhode Island CALEA (Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc.) Conference in July. There were over 500 attendees and 82 agencies were awarded Accreditation or Advance Accreditation. Huntersville Police Department received Advanced Law Enforcement Reaccreditation Award. CALEA Accreditation is an international award recognizing professional excellence in law enforcement and is considered the “Gold Standard in Public Safety.” This is the fourth law enforcement full accreditation award for the agency.



August

National Night Out

On August 1st, neighborhoods throughout Huntersville joined forces with thousands of communities nationwide for “National Night Out” (NNO) promoting crime and drug prevention. National Night Out, which is sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW) and co-sponsored locally by the Huntersville Police Department, ElectriCities Public Power and Target, joined over 11,000 communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities and military bases around the world. National Night Out is designed to: (1) Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; (2) Generate support for and participation in local anticrime efforts; (3) Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and (4) Send a message to criminals letting them know neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Events were held in three Huntersville areas: Northcross Shopping Center; Waymer Park and Huntington Green. There were numerous activities for children such as slides, moon bounces, a dunking booth and displays of police, fire, and medical vehicles and music. Local EMS departments competed against each other in friendly games. Also on hand was document destruction offered by Shred-It as well as a cell phone drop off/collection for 911 Victim Assistance.



September

Second Degree Murder

In September, Huntersville Police charged Amanda Leigh with Second Degree Murder, Sale of a Controlled Substance: Schedule II (2 counts), Deliver of a Controlled Substance: Schedule II (2 counts), and Possession of a Controlled Substance with Intent to Manufacture, Sell or Deliver Schedule II (2 counts). Earlier in May, police responded to a residence on Dallas Street in Huntersville, in reference to a report of an Assist MEDIC. Billy Ray Bullabough was transported to a local hospital where he was later pronounced deceased. During the course of the investigation into the death of Billy Bullabough, it was determined he purchased illegal narcotics from Amanda Leigh. Autopsy results received in August confirmed Billy Bullabough's cause of death to be "Fentanyl toxicity." At the conclusion of an extensive 3-month investigation, Amanda Allen was charged with the above listed charges for her involvement in the death of Billy Ray Bullabough.



Billy Ray Bullabough



Amanda Leigh Allen

Officer Involved Shooting

On September 10, 2017 at approximately 11:40 PM, officers with the Huntersville Police Department responded to Presbyterian Hospital at 10030 Gilead Road in Huntersville in reference to a man with a gun who had fired several shots. Upon arrival, hospital staff and witnesses directed officers to the area where the man with the gun was last seen. During a search of the area, officers located the man still armed with the gun. An encounter ensued, during which, the officers, felt threatened by the man's actions and fired several rounds striking him. The man involved was pronounced deceased at the scene. The man was later identified as Joseph Charles Cook. In accordance with Department procedure, the case was turned over to the North Carolina State Bureau of Investigations (SBI) for investigation and was subsequently reviewed by the Mecklenburg County District Attorney's Office (DA). The DA concluded that the officers acted within the bounds of law and that no charges will be sought against them.



Officers Awarded Life Saving Award



Sgt. John Allen, with Officers Benjamin McCormack, Breanne Williams and Jeff Guertin were awarded for their work when responding to a call involving a suicidal subject on Boren Street. These officers' admirable courage and quick thinking surely saved this individual's life. Each officer was awarded the Life Saving Award and a Police Commendation for their performance, compassion, and teamwork.

Marijuana Grow Operation

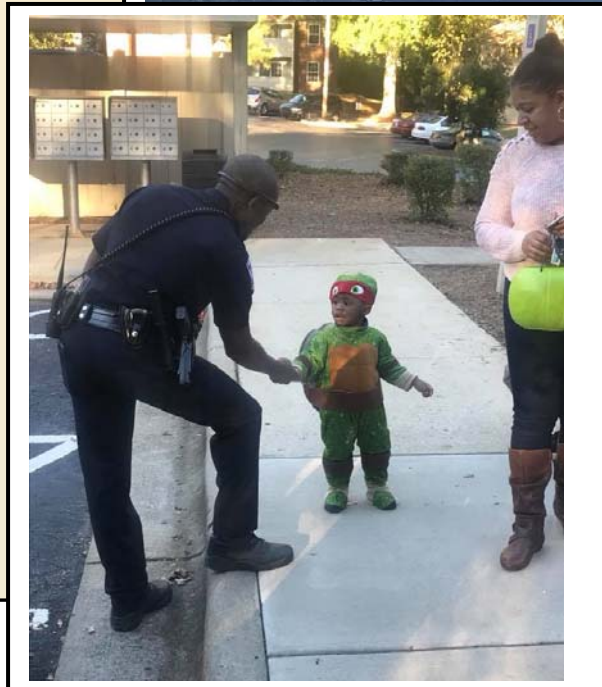
In September, the Department concluded an investigation of a marijuana grow operations. On September 15th, the Community Response Division executed a search warrant at 14624 Devin Allen Drive. A large marijuana growing operation was discovered inside the residence. Detectives recovered 94 actively growing marijuana plants. The plants were in various stages of growth with some plants being more than six feet tall. In addition to the plants, approximately 50 pounds of usable marijuana and 17 firearms (13 handguns and 4 long guns) were seized. Robert Somerwell was charged with Trafficking Marijuana by Possession, Trafficking Marijuana by Manufacturing, Trafficking Marijuana by Sell, Conspire to Traffic Marijuana more than 50 pounds, Maintaining a Dwelling to Keep/Sale Controlled Substance, Possession with the Intent to Sell and Deliver, and Possession of Drug Paraphernalia.



October

Trunk or Treat

On October 30 Officers participated in the Deer Hill Community's Trunk or Treat event. Trunk-or-Treating is much like classic trick-or-treating where kids dress up in costume and ask for candy. However, with trunk-or-treating, issues with walking from house to house or encountering a stranger are diminished because the event is held in a parking lot with parents and guardians. This was a great opportunity for officers to get out and meet people in this community.



November

East Huntersville Community Outreach

On November 21, Chief Spruill met with the Kids Klubb, part of the East Huntersville Community Outreach. Chief Spruill read a thanksgiving themed story to the children. The East Huntersville Community Outreach is a non-profit entity whose mission is to revitalize an under-served community



Veteran's Day Parade and Ceremony

On November 11, the Town of Huntersville held its Second Annual Veteran's Day Parade and Ceremony. The Police Department was represented by our Motor Unit and Emergency Rescue Vehicle. This event was a huge success.



Career Fair

On November 29 representatives from the Department participated in a Law Enforcement Career Fair in Charlotte, NC. The Career Fair provided an opportunity for those interested in a career in law enforcement to obtain information and ask questions regarding this challenging career. This year the Department continued to partner with local colleges and Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET) programs in the area and were able to present information to six (6) BLET classes, attend three (3) BLET graduations and attend two career fairs.



Commercial Breaking and Entering Arrests

On November 27, the Huntersville Police Department investigated six (6) Commercial Breaking and Entering cases. During the investigation, Huntersville Police learned that six (6) businesses had been broken into. The businesses were Subway, Little Caesar's, Small Cakes, Papa Murphy's, Pinky's and NY Bagel. Two suspects were identified and subsequently arrested. Douglas Mobley was charged with Breaking and Entering (6 counts), Conspiracy to Commit Breaking and Entering (6 counts), Larceny After Breaking and Entering (4 counts), Possession of Firearm by Minor, and Possession of a Stolen Firearm. Lamariay Witherspoon was charged with Breaking and Entering (6 counts), Conspiracy to Commit Breaking and Entering (6 counts), and Larceny After Breaking and Entering (4 counts).

In addition, Lamariay Witherspoon was also charged for his involvement in five (5) Breaking and Enterings in Charlotte that occurred on November 27, 2017 in South Division.



December

Christmas in Huntersville

The Department participated in the Town's annual "Christmas in Huntersville" event. This event provides adult and child entertainment and shopping. It serves the community and local businesses by providing a venue for encouraging the public to walk around, listen to music and allow their children to play while speaking to vendors who participate in the event. This event was a huge success!



Helping Hands for the Holidays Program

Sgt. Brad Habenicht coordinated the Helping Hands for the Holidays program. This is an annual event where donated items from the community are distributed to families in need. With the assistance of other police employees and community volunteers, the Department was able to provide 39 families with gifts and food during the holiday season.



Sgt. Brad Habenicht

Attorney General Meeting

In December, Chief Spruill along with other regional law enforcement executives met the Attorney General Session to discuss challenges faced by law enforcement agencies.

