From: Asheville Blade <ashevilleblade@gmail.com>
Sent: 7/23/2018 2:41:22 PM
To: Christina Hallingse <CHallingse@ashevillenc.gov>
Cc: Records Request Mailbox <opengov@ashevillenc.gov>
Subject: [Public Records Request] Re: Follow-up on error/crime stat numbers in WLOS story

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Thank you. After checking over this information, I have a further open records request: please make the google sheets doc mentioned in your July 18 email public so that we can see the whole context for how the error occurred.

Thank you for your help in this matter.

Best,

David

On Jul 20, 2018 11:14 AM, "Christina Hallingse" <challingse@ashevillenc.gov> wrote:

> David,
>
> Attached please find the request made by Kim King, reporter at WLOS, on June 25, 2018 for statistics related to part 1 crime in Asheville and in Asheville Housing Authority communities.Â
>
> Thank you,
> Christina Hallingse
>
> On Fri, Jul 20, 2018 at 11:07 AM Asheville Blade <ashevilleblade@gmail.com> wrote:
>
>> I appreciate the information. Please send me a copy of the WLOS records request.
>>
>> Sincerely,
>>
>> David
>>
>> On Jul 18, 2018 2:28 PM, "Christina Hallingse" <challingse@ashevillenc.gov> wrote:
>>
>>> David,
>>>
>>> Good afternoon. Thank you for the opportunity to further explain the cut and paste error. Kim King, a reporter with WLOS, requested Part 1 crime statistics for both the City of Asheville as a whole and Asheville Housing Authority communities. I requested the assistance of the Asheville Police Department's crime analysts to pull this information. The information that was sent to me from the crime analysts was correct. However, when I cut and pasted the crime statistics from Google Sheets to Gmail the totals recalculated.Â All of the information in the columns was correct, only the totals were incorrect. I take full ownership of the error and will work diligently in the future to make sure that all data being distributed reflects accurate information.
>>>
>>> Crime statistics are available to the public through a number of different data sharing tools - Community Crime Map, Simplicity and the Open Data Portal. The data is updated daily and is available to everyone, including media representatives. In addition, Chief Hooper shared crime stats with the Public Safety Committee in May and the Asheville City Council also received regular updates on crime stats throughout the budget process.

The Asheville Police Department is committed to making data available for public consumption. In order to avoid any confusion, and make data easier for everyone to understand, APD is working on creating and maintaining a consistent format for data to make its consumption easier.

Thank you,
Christina

On Wed, Jul 18, 2018 at 1:23 PM Asheville Blade <ashevilleblade@gmail.com> wrote:

Hello Christina, hope you're well. I have two follow-up questions about the crime numbers released to WLOS and the correction when the initial totals of those numbers turned out to be wrong.

1) The APD's Facebook statement on the issue attributed the erroneous numbers to "a cut-and-paste error." What was the nature of this error? How did it take place?

2) The WLOS story noted that the APD "also sent data that confirmed crime has increased in specific inner city neighborhoods, including Hillcrest and several other subsidized housing developments." Was the decision to send this specific data, focusing on those neighborhoods/public housing developments, sent out at the APD's decision or did WLOS specifically request the data focusing on those areas?

Thanks for your time and cooperation.

Best,

David Forbes
Editor, Asheville Blade
ashevilleblade.com
Support us and subscribe at: patreon.com/avlblade
Or donate: paypal.me/AshevilleBlade

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Thank you,

Christina Hallingse
Asheville Police Department
Public Information Officer
(O): 828-259-5881
(C): 828-230-4471

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Thank you,

Christina Hallingse
Asheville Police Department
Public Information Officer
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