



Villa Hills Police
2019 Year-end Report

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Villa Hills Police Department

The Villa Hills Police Department maintains a three year plan to provide direction for the future development of the department. This plan identifies the needs and improvements so that proper planning and budgeting can be done to achieve success in the implementation of the goals of the department and to provide excellent service to the community.

Villa Hills is a bedroom community located in the northwestern portion of Kenton County. The city has a population of approximately 7400 residents. The community is comprised of mainly residential property with a few businesses located in the city. The city has located within the borders three schools and some businesses. The population fluctuates during the evening and day hours due to the level of activity at these locations. Located within the city are River Ridge Elementary, Villa Madonna Academy, Villa Montessori, and Madonna Manor Nursing Home. Also located within the city is the Wahlberg Monastery.

The Villa Hills police department also serves the City of Crescent Springs. The agreement between the cities began July of 2018. The cities have a 5 year contract for police services. This agreement is beneficial to both cities. The agreement allows the City of Crescent Springs to save a substantial amount of money for police services as well as allow both cities to have an ability to build on to an already good police agency. The addition allows the department to expand its services and police in two communities that are very closely related and intertwined. With the addition of Crescent Springs, the police department can get involved in issues that affect Villa Hills sooner. The joint venture with both Villa Hills and Crescent Springs has gone well. Both cities have benefitted from the new partnership. I feel this partnership is a great success and something that will benefit both cities. As the department head I felt it important to be involved in both communities since they are so intertwined.

Accomplishments

Crescent Springs Addition- We have successfully partnered with the City of Crescent Springs and are now providing police services. The partnership is a win for both cities and I believe will be a great partnership for many years. This partnership allows two cities that are intertwined to have a good department to protect the citizens and properties of both cities. When we drew up this partnership I knew it would be successful and one both cities would be proud of.

Personnel- The department continues to evolve. We have added five new officer positions to cover the addition of Crescent Springs. The department has also added a

School Resource Officer to River Ridge School. The SRO position is a joint venture with the Kenton County Board of Education and the City of Villa Hills. With this agreement part of the cost of the SRO position is paid by the school board. The new position has been met with great success and has so far been a very beneficial position. The number of sworn officers has grown to 14 total officers. With this addition we have had changes in the department. James Bird has been promoted to Sergeant giving the department two sergeant positions due to the growth of the department. Officer Emily Horseman has been moved to the detective's position. With the addition of the new officers we have added several specialties such as Accident reconstruction, Canine, RAD, and evidence room technician.

Canine Program- The Department's canine program has started with great success. Officer Dooley and Canine Onexx have shown to be a great team. The canine team has received national accreditation and has been deployed successfully several times since the introduction. The canine team gives the department another tool to keep the cities safe. Officer Dooley has worked very hard to learn to be a good canine officer. The process the department followed gave us the greatest success.

Vehicles- The police fleet has been updated and regular maintenance schedules are set up. The fleet has a rotation schedule set up to ensure that we rotate the vehicle in a manner that allows the department to keep the fleet up to date. We will begin to replace the 2013 year vehicles. The city has decided to move away from the lease option program so we will need to begin replacing vehicles due in 2023 now as we are getting only 1 per year.

Training- The department continues to keep training at its highest level. All officers have met the state required annual 40 hours recertification. Officers also continue to receive in house training on policy and skills. Officers this year totaled 1377 hours of training. We have implemented a change in the training in an attempt to improve the effectiveness. With this training we are able to get a better and more intense training effort.

Web site/Social Media- We continue to use several social media sites to better connect with the community. The department utilizes Facebook, Twitter, department webpage, and Code Red media sources.

Traffic Safety/Safety Programs - The department received the Platinum award for traffic safety from AAA for the third year in a row. The department has received the AAA award for the last 13 years and we received the Platinum award for the last three years. This award is the highest a department can achieve.

School Resource Officer (SRO) - The department in partnership with Kenton County School board has placed a School Resource Officer in River Ridge Elementary. The program so far has been a great success. The officer assigned to the school has developed a very good working relationship with the students and staff of the school.

Three Year Plan

The following will be the plan for improvements and continued excellence in community service. The goal as always is to give the citizens in the community a department that they can rely on to provide a secure, livable community. This plan, while a guide, will be fluid and will reflect the needs of the community and the department to be successful and viable in the region.

Radio System- The department has begun preparing for the transition by Kenton County Communications center to the 800 MHz radio system. The new date for switch over will be summer 2020. This is due to construction delays and testing that has set the project back several months. The city was responsible for the purchase of the radios for the switch over. The cost for the city was about \$90,000.00. Part of this will be paid by the City of Crescent Springs. The radios have been delivered and are currently awaiting programming, which will take place in the spring of 2020.

State Accreditation- The department is preparing for the re-accreditation process. The policy and operations of the department will be reviewed and new standards implemented. It is anticipated that the final review by KLC will happen in the early spring of 2020 and accreditation awarded June 2020. This will be the department's sixth accreditation award and we will be one of only seven agencies in the state to have received the accreditation for the last 30 years.

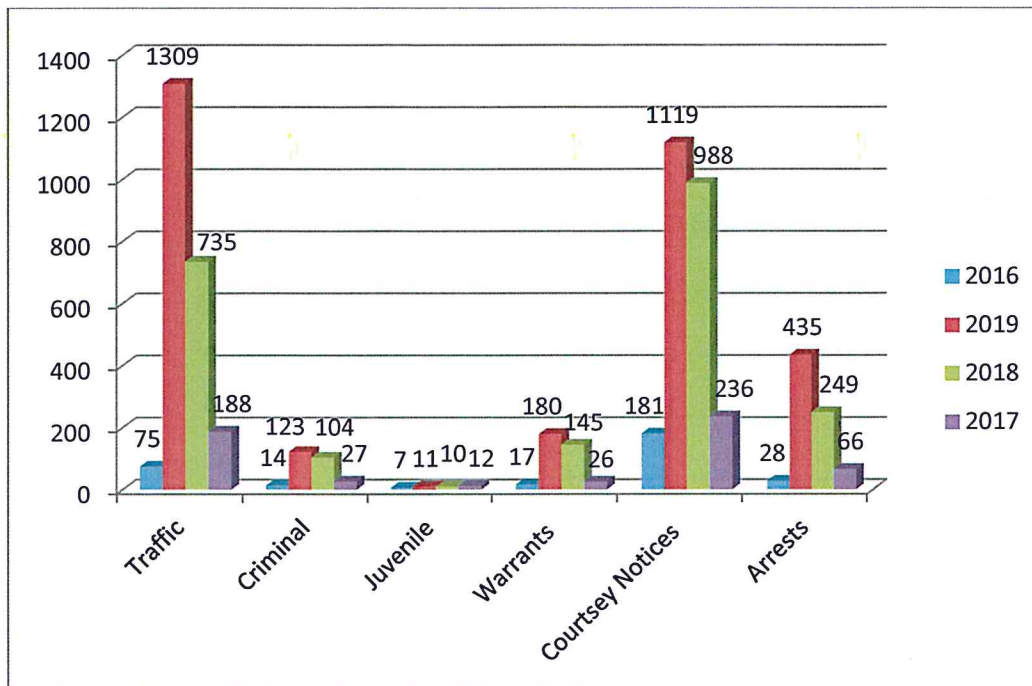
Canine Program- We will have continued support for the program. We will ensure the program's success through training and utilization. I anticipate the team to be together at least the next 5-6 years.

School Resource Officer- The department will continue to support the SRO program. The program is a valuable community program and we will work to add to this program.

Supervisor Development – We plan to build to the future with our supervisors and our officers. We anticipate on sending SGT Matt Hall to Southern Police Training – Administrative Course in fall of 2020. This course is instrumental in building future leaders in the department. It is also the next step in training our supervisors and satisfying accreditation standards. It is anticipated that SGT Bird will be sent the following year to SPI or the FBI NA academy. We are also building our future sergeants. We will be identifying our future leaders and will begin grooming them for the positions when open.

Year-end review statistics

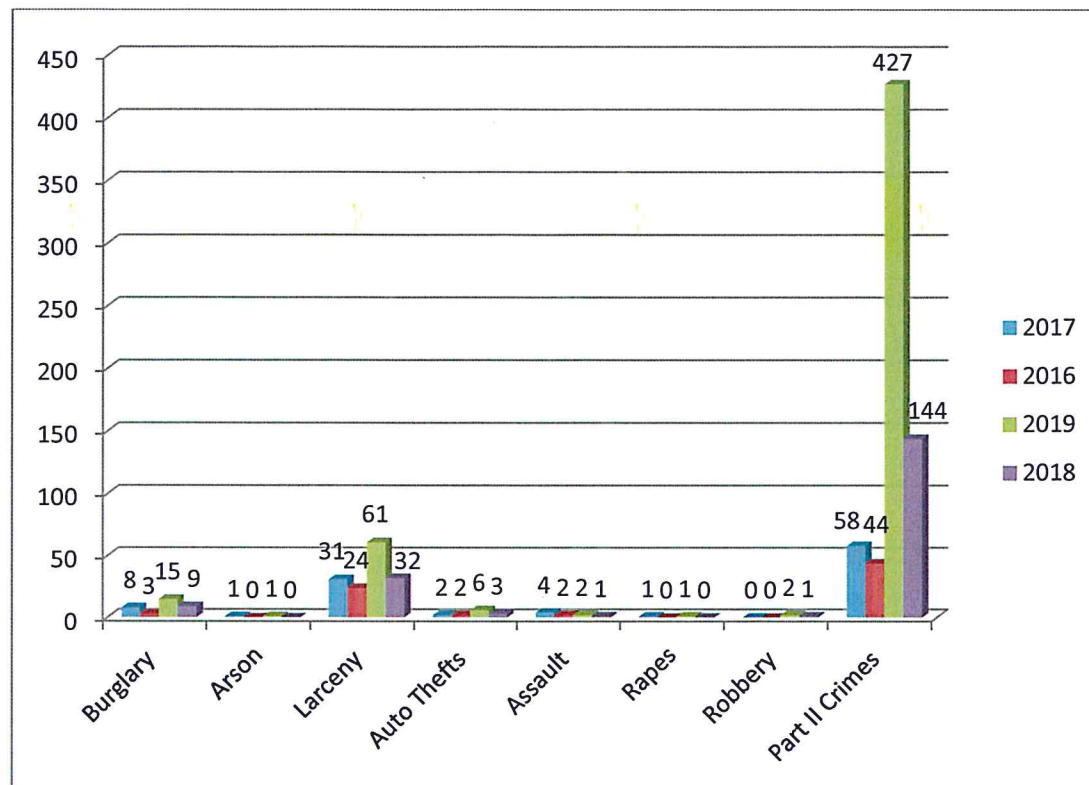
Citations issued



		2017	2016	2019	2018
Traffic		188	75	1309	735
Criminal		27	14	123	104
Juvenile		12	7	11	10
Warrants		26	17	180	145
Courtesy Notices		236	181	1119	988
Arrests		66	28	435	249

The department has continued to work on traffic concerns as well as community concerns. We have seen an increase in citation and courtesy notices in an effort to bring awareness to the speed limit. We have also invested in a speed sign and a speed trailer to work in areas of high complaints. The sign gives visual warnings for the drivers as well as gives us the data to analyze the times we are having issues with speeding. You will see a significant jump in the numbers. This is a result of a year of data from the Crescent Springs partnership.

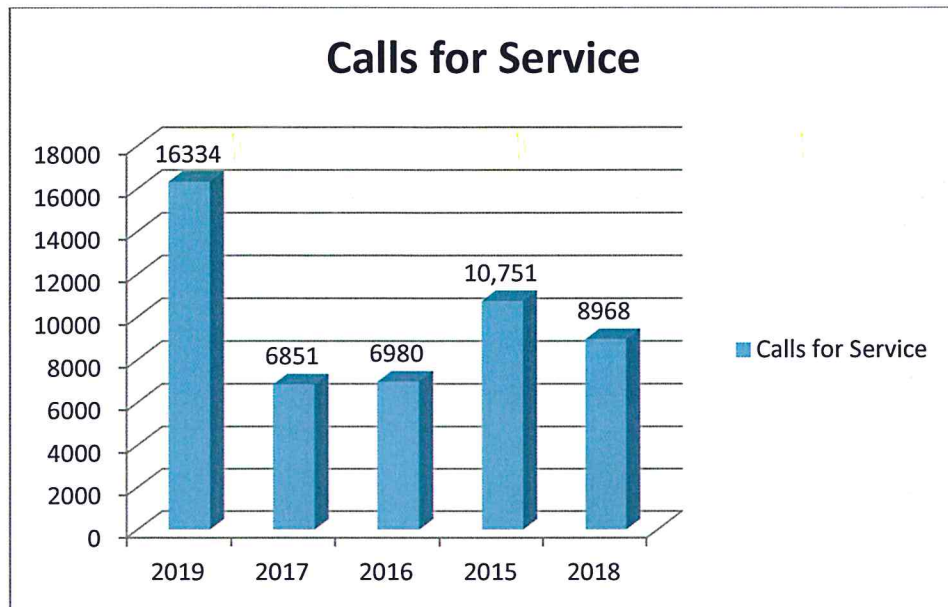
Reported Crimes



		2017	2016	2019	2018
Burglary		8	3	15	9
Arson		1	0	1	0
Larceny		31	24	61	32
Auto Thefts		2	2	6	3
Assault		4	2	2	1
Rapes		1	0	1	0
Robbery		0	0	2	1
Part II Crimes		58	44	427	144

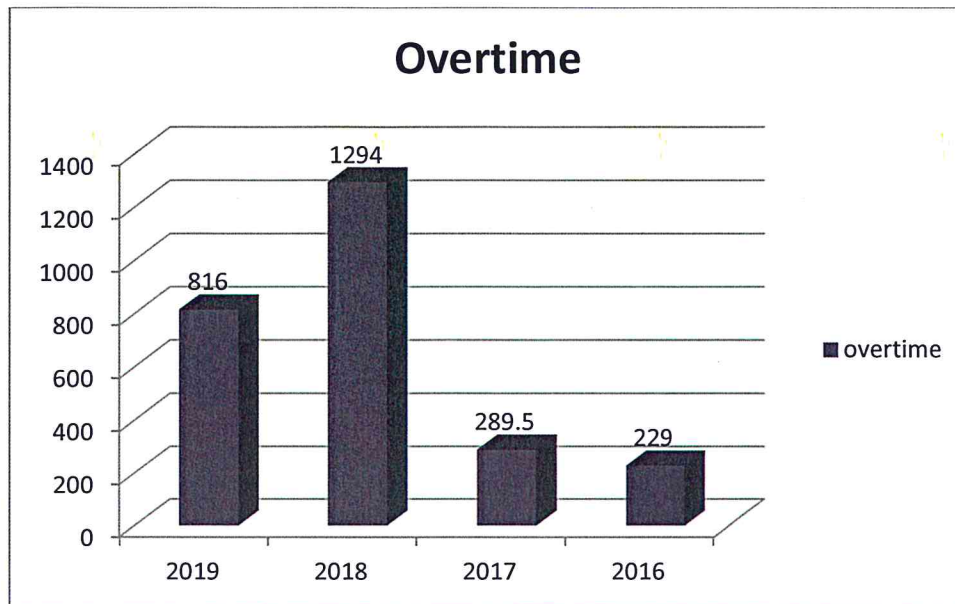
We saw crime stay relatively steady from last year. There was a slight increase in a couple of areas but overall steady. We continue to work to solve the crimes with a closure rate of 96%. The increases in numbers are due to the addition of Crescent Springs. Even with the addition the numbers are pretty steady with consideration of additional residents.

Calls for Service



The departments' calls for service have gone up since last year. The increase is due to the addition of Crescent Springs to our call volume. However, this increase was anticipated and is not an issue for the department. We have anticipated this and have increased the manpower accordingly. We will monitor the calls but it is not anticipated that the need will outweigh our resources.

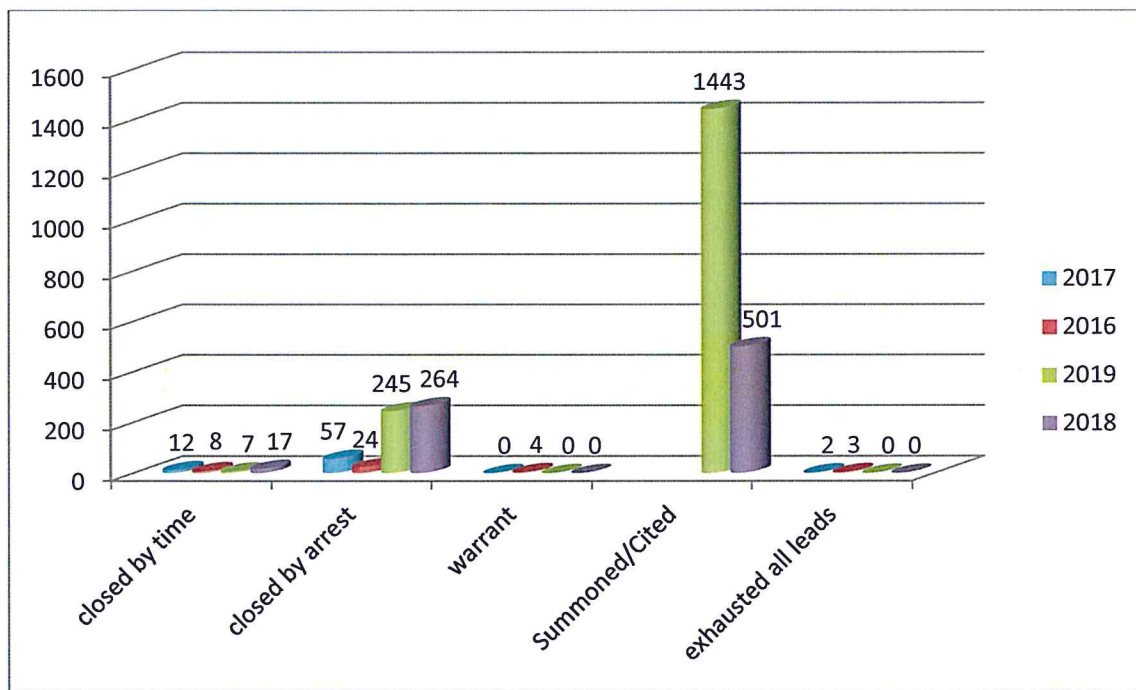
Overtime



We have seen a decrease in overtime. A large portion of this is due to the addition of Crescent Springs and getting the manpower to suggested levels. The overtime we were seeing was due to some unforeseen manpower issues but overall there was an improvement. I do anticipate another drop in the overtime for next year due to steady manpower.

Case Status

We continue to improve on the case clearance rate. We see a significant increase in some areas due to the increase from Crescent Springs. Our solve rate is at 96%. We are seeing more cases closed due to arrest or solved. Closing the case through "exhausted all leads" has been reduced to 0 from 23 in 2015. We continue to solve most cases. The increase in numbers was anticipated due to the addition of Crescent Springs but, is not something that was surprising and based on the numbers before their addition. The numbers are what we had anticipated and we have begun to slowly eradicate some of their problem areas and will continue to do so.



		2017	2016	2019	2018
closed by time		12	8	7	17
closed by arrest		57	24	245	264
warrant		0	4	0	0
Summoned/Cited				1443	501
exhausted all leads		2	3	0	0

