



# KENSINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

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[www.kppcsd.org](http://www.kppcsd.org)

**DATE:** October 31, 2023

**TO:** David Aranda: General Manager

**FROM:** M. Gancasz, Chief of Police

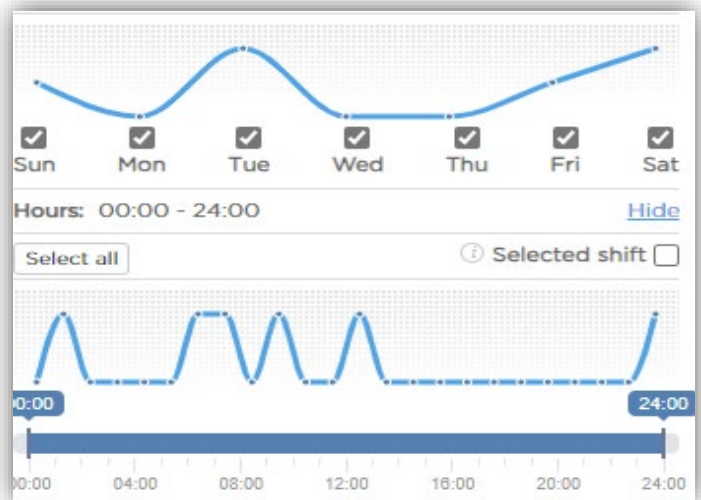
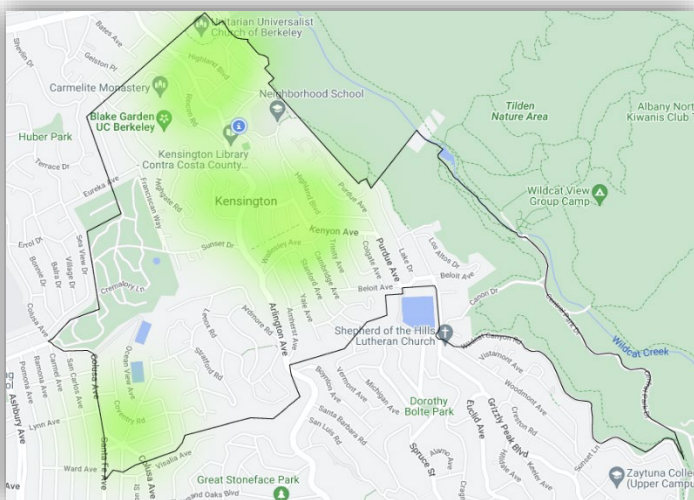
**RE:** Police Chief’s Monthly Report, October 2023

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The Kensington Police Department handled 627 incidents during September (down from 700). Three hundred ninety-three were officer-initiated events, including 56 traffic enforcement stops resulting in 47 citations (up from 34 in the prior month). Officers responded to 234 dispatched calls for service (down from 238) and took 24 reports (up from 28). Officers focused on deterring auto burglaries and vandalism around Grizzly Peak Blvd and Beloit Ave, where there has been an increase in reported crimes. Three misdemeanor arrests were made. Officers received no reports of a catalytic converter theft, four stolen vehicle reports, one stolen vehicle recovered, zero residential burglary, two misdemeanor vandalisms, and two vehicle burglary reports, all of which are being investigated. Officers are pursuing leads and working with our partner agencies to reduce and prevent similar crimes. Response time for officers decreased from 5.8 minutes to 4.17 minutes.

Kensington PD obtained crucial information from the City of El Cerrito's Flock Automated License Plate Reader cameras. A vehicle being used to case houses in the District attempted to evade Officers in the Beloit cluster. KPD was able to obtain images of the vehicle from ECPD’s Flock system and reach out to other agencies for help identifying the car. The investigation is ongoing. Officers are conducting regular security checks at the Kensington Community Park bathrooms due to graffiti. No new cases of graffiti have been reported since the extra patrols began. Officers responded to assist Albany PD with a high-risk felony arrest at the Oceanview Elementary School, in Albany. The suspect was arrested without incident. Mapping data revealed that highlighted areas are experiencing more criminal activity than other parts of the District. Our crime analysis software helps us direct patrols to areas at risk. Sunday and Thursday, in the afternoon, had the highest frequency of property crime.

**Figure 1. Property theft heat map for October 2023.**



## **Traffic Safety**

There were four traffic collisions reported in October. Two collisions were non-injury, one was a hit-and-run related to a stolen vehicle, and another was the result of a drunk driver on a motorcycle. Community members provided one online supplemental traffic report which was resolved.

## **Administration**

We have one reserve officer and one lateral officer in the background process and an additional three in the application stage. KPD was awarded a second traffic safety grant in the amount of \$41,000.00 to purchase an electronic traffic citation program which includes equipment, software and training. This funding will upgrade and modernize KPD's traffic citation program and lessen the process time required with our current procedures. KPD's newest officers are performing exceptionally well, and we are confident they will continue to do so.

## **Training**

Department training focused on perishable skills. Sgt. Lande provided Advanced Arrest and Control/De-Escalation courses with a focus on controlling suspects in vehicles. Sgt. Lande also attended the CHP's Standardized Field Sobriety Test course to become a DUI trained supervisor. Officers Payne, Thota, Fajardo, and Sgt. Lande participated in Advanced Patrol Tactics, and the 2023 Officer Survival Training. Chief Gancasz attended the International Association of Police Chiefs Conference in San Diego.

## **October Patrol Log**

- On Sunday, October 1, at 1421 hours, officers responded to the Golden Gate Mausoleum at 101 Colusa Avenue and took a report of vandalism. The damage was approximately \$700.00. The investigation is ongoing.
- On Monday, October 2, at 1101 hours, officers were dispatched to the 200 block of Coventry Road for a theft from a vehicle. The loss was estimated to be approximately \$700.00.
- On Tuesday, October 3, at 0507 hours, officers conducted a traffic enforcement stop for a vehicle with expired registration. The vehicle was impounded and during the inventory search, narcotics were located. The case was forwarded to the District Attorney's Office.
- On Thursday, October 5, at 0712 hours, officers attempted to stop a vehicle at Mosser Avenue and King Drive. The vehicle failed to yield and drove recklessly through city streets. Officers did not pursue the suspect due to the risks. El Cerrito Flock cameras captured video of the suspect's car allowing for follow up investigation.
- On Friday, October 6, at 1927 hours, officers responded to a non-injury collision on Arlington Avenue at Oberlin Avenue.
- On Saturday, October 7, at 1255 hours, officers responded to the one hundred block of Cowper Avenue for a report of a stolen vehicle. On Monday, October 9, the vehicle was located by Oakland PD and returned to the victim.
- On Tuesday, October 10, at 0744 hours, officers responded to the three hundred block of Berkeley Park Boulevard for a report of a stolen vehicle.
- On Wednesday, October 11, at 1150 hours, officers responded to an abandoned stolen vehicle in the one hundred block of Cowper Avenue. The vehicle was returned to its owner.
- On Saturday, October 14, at 0925 hours, officers responded to the two hundred block of Lake Drive for an attempted vehicle theft.
- On Tuesday, October 17, at 2349 hours, officers took a report of a stolen vehicle from the one hundred block of Highland Boulevard. On Friday, October 20, at 0053 hours, the vehicle was found in a

neighboring jurisdiction and the occupants were arrested. The case was forwarded to the Contra Costa County DA Office for prosecution.

- On Wednesday, October 18, at 1507 hours, officers responded to Kensington Community Park for a report of vandalism to the restrooms.
- On Friday October 20, at 1613 hours, officers stopped a vehicle in the four hundred block of Colusa Avenue for vehicle code violations. The driver was identified as a wanted person and arrested for outstanding warrants.
- On Saturday October 21, at 0111 hours, officers were dispatched to a solo motorcycle traffic collision, the driver was identified and later arrested for suspicion of DUI. The case has been submitted to the Contra Costa County DA Office for prosecution.
- On Monday October 23, at 0911 hours, officers in the one hundred block of Eureka Avenue saw a known offender of a restraining order. The suspect was contacted and confirmed to be in violation of a court order. The person was arrested, and the case was sent to the Contra Costa County DA Office for prosecution.
- On Wednesday October 25, at 1554 hours, officers at Arlington Avenue and Sunset Drive contacted an extremely intoxicated individual. He was detained and an ambulance was called to assist. Officers wrote an investigation which was sent to the DA for prosecution.
- On Thursday October 26, at 0839 hours, officers were dispatched to the 100 block of Arlington Avenue for a non-injury collision.

### **California Highway Patrol DUI/DUID Grant**

On Friday, October 20, Kensington Officers were on the lookout for impaired drivers as they took part in grant funded saturation patrols. Fourteen traffic stops were completed, ten citations were issued, four warnings were given, one misdemeanor warrant arrest was made, one misdemeanor DUI arrest was made, and one traffic collision was documented.

### **Community**

On Saturday, October 28, Sgt. Lande, Ofc. Thota, Volunteers Luke Stokes and Mike Logan represented the Kensington Police Department at the 25<sup>th</sup> National Drug Take Back Day/Shredding event held by the Kensington Fire Protection District.

On Sunday, October 29, Sgt. Lande, Ofc. Thota, and Volunteers Logan represented the Kensington Police Department for the Halloween Harvest Festival at Colusa Circle. Increased staffing was also on hand for Halloween night promoting the safety of trick-or-treaters and motorists out and about that evening. There were no incidents to report during the night.

**PATROL AREA: Kensington**

**SHIFT: -**

**MISSION: Cases**

Incident Statistics for October 1, 2023 - October 31, 2023

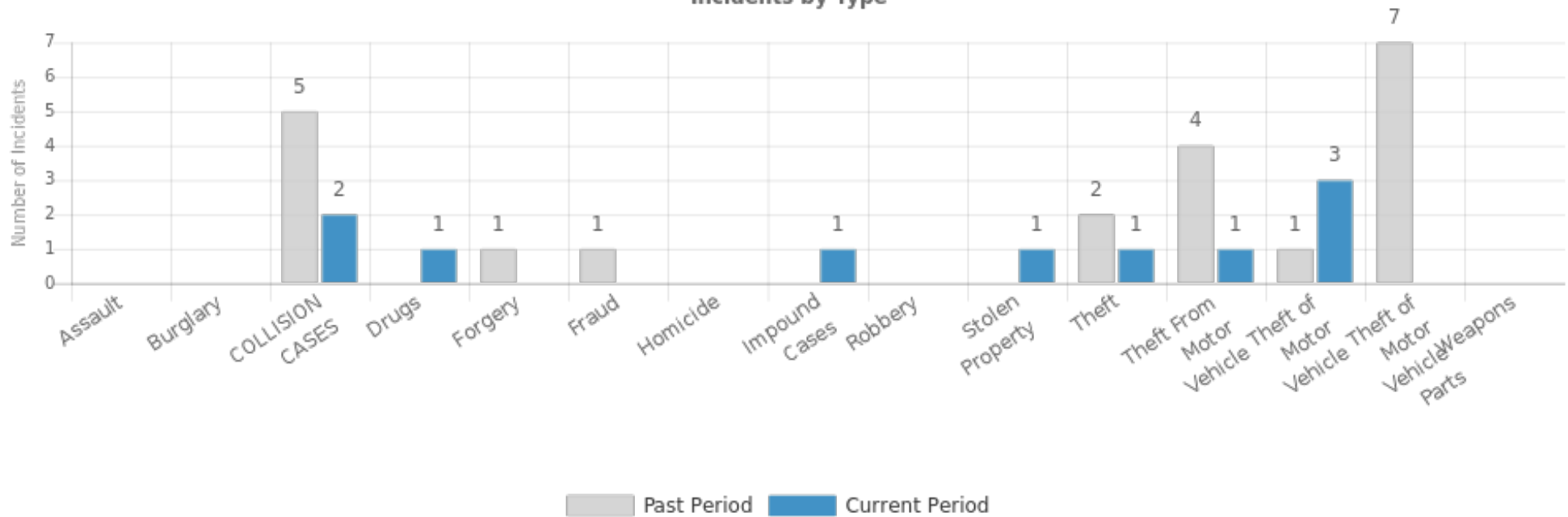
**Theft of Motor Vehicle** had the highest number of incidents, **up 200.0%** from the previous year.

**10 total incidents** occurred during this period, **down - 52.4%** from the previous year.

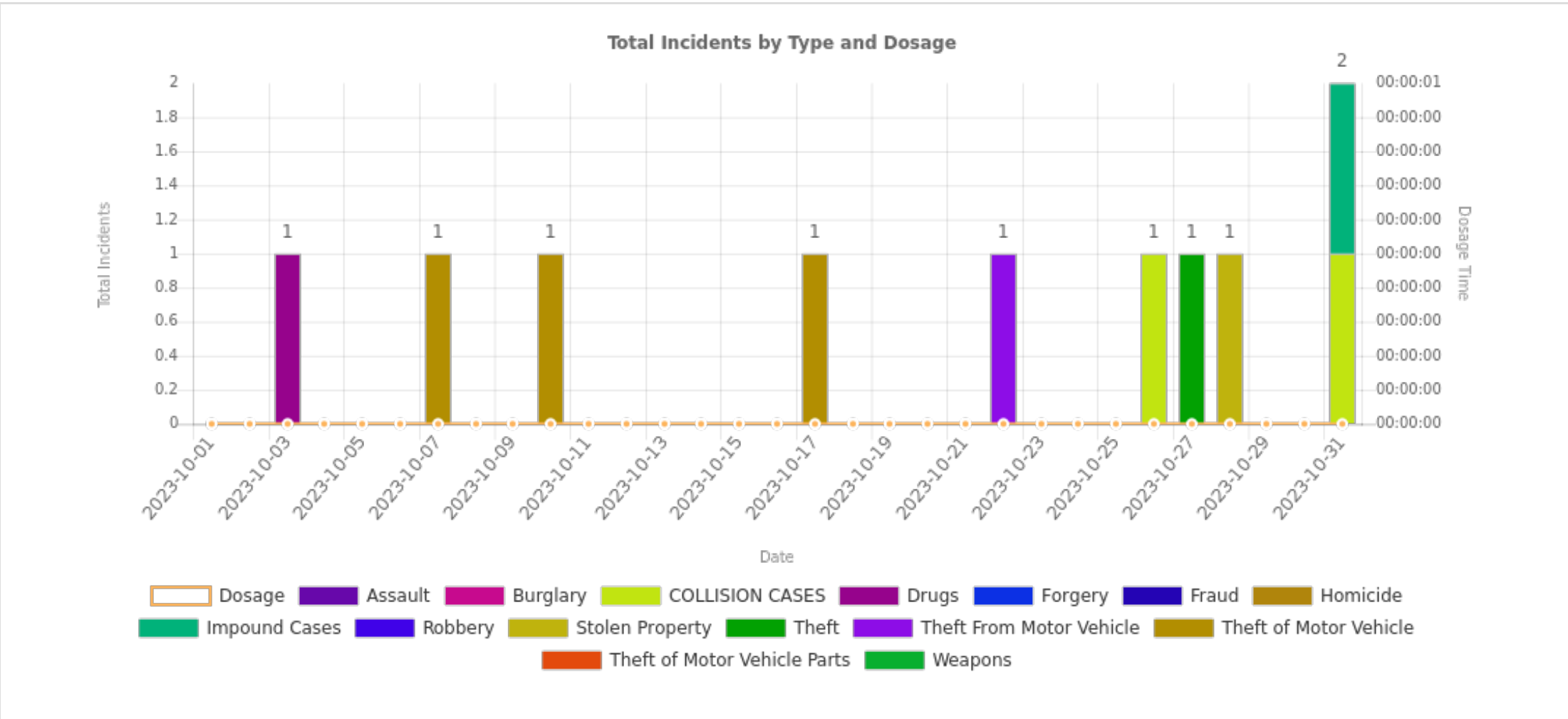
**Tuesdays** had the most number of incidents occurring during the selected period.

Around **9AM-10AM** had the highest number of activity during the selected period.

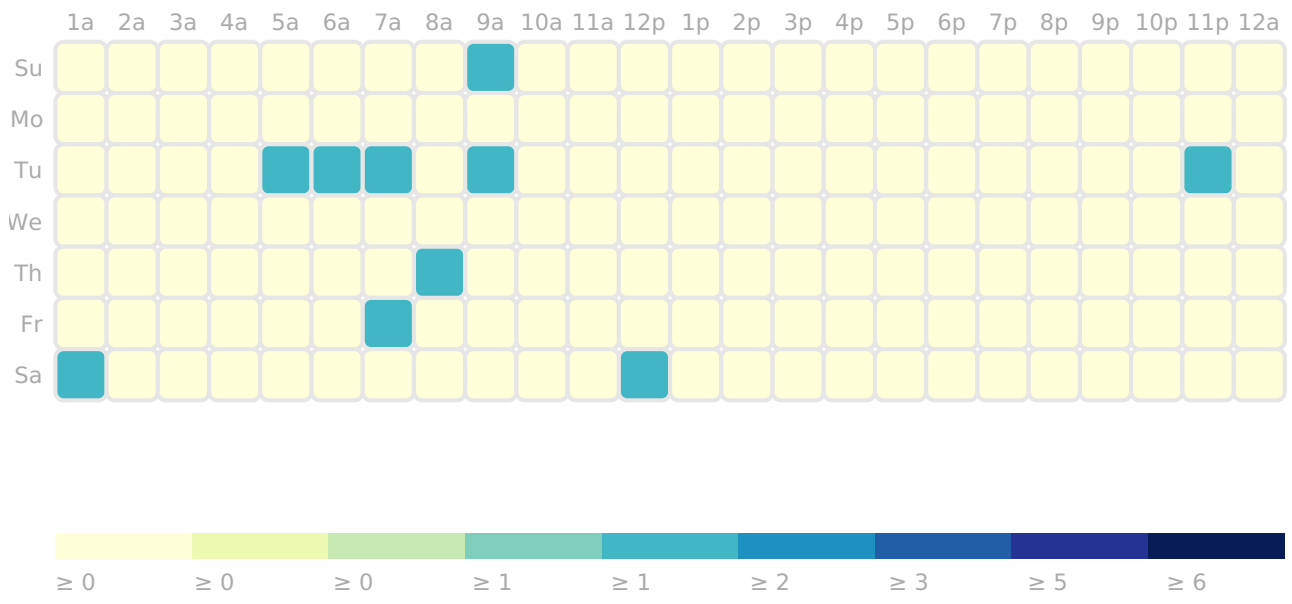
Incidents by Type



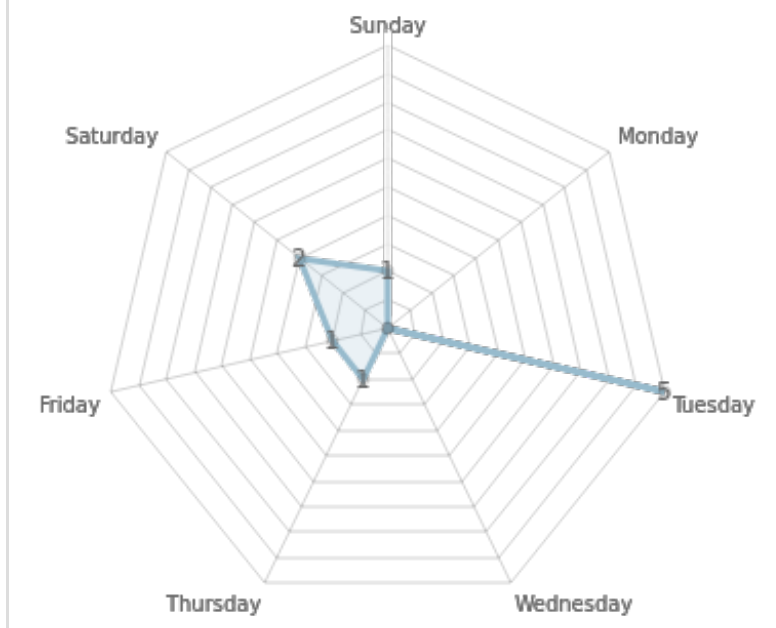
Incident Type	Last Week			Last Month			Year to Date		
	10/29/22 - 11/04/22	10/29/23 - 11/04/23	% Change	10/01/22 - 10/31/22	10/01/23 - 10/31/23	% Change	01/01/22 - 11/05/22	01/01/23 - 11/05/23	% Change
Assault	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	5	3	-40.0%
Burglary	1	0	-100.0%	0	0	0.0%	19	7	-63.2%
COLLISION CASES	1	2	+100.0%	5	2	-60.0%	30	18	-40.0%
Drugs	0	0	0.0%	0	1	+N/A	3	5	+66.7%
Forgery	0	0	0.0%	1	0	-100.0%	2	4	+100.0%
Fraud	0	0	0.0%	1	0	-100.0%	13	10	-23.1%
Homicide	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%
Impound Cases	0	1	+N/A	0	1	+N/A	10	10	0.0%
Robbery	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%
Stolen Property	0	0	0.0%	0	1	+N/A	3	3	0.0%
Theft	0	0	0.0%	2	1	-50.0%	6	8	+33.3%
Theft From Motor Vehicle	0	0	0.0%	4	1	-75.0%	14	25	+78.6%
Theft of Motor Vehicle	0	0	0.0%	1	3	+200.0%	14	17	+21.4%
Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts	1	0	-100.0%	7	0	-100.0%	17	20	+17.6%
Weapons	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%
Total	3	3	0.0%	21	10	-52.4%	136	130	-4.4%



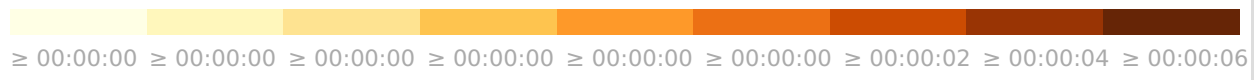
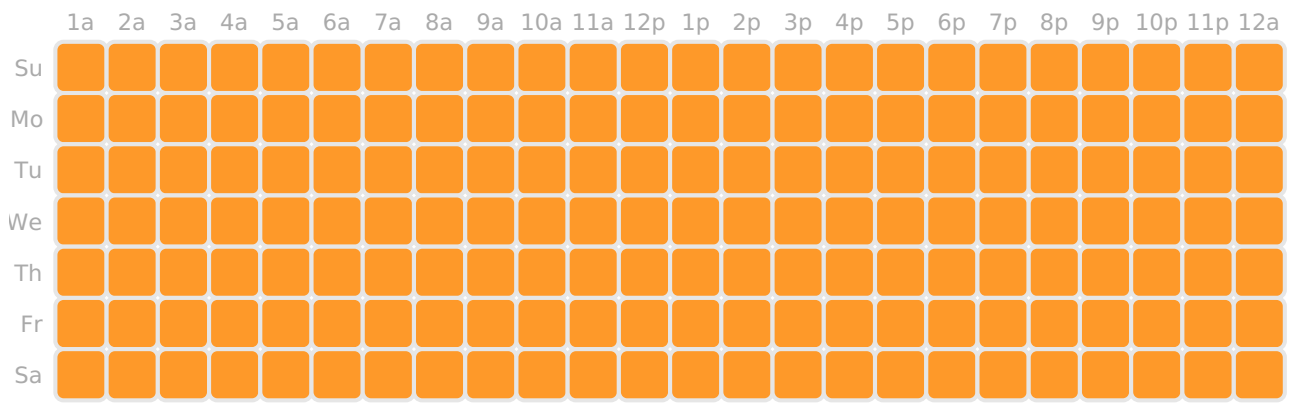
### Incidents Heatmap



### Incidents by Day



### Dosages Heatmap



### Dosages by Day

