

# Kensington Police Department 2020 Annual Report

Integrity, Empathy, Courage, &  
Professionalism



Kensington Police Protection and  
Community Services District





# Message from the Chief

It is my pleasure to present to you the Kensington Police Department's Annual Report for the calendar year 2020.

Kensington PD has gone through many challenges and positive changes this past year as we continue to improve the service to our community. The Police Department strives to maintain Kensington as one of the safest and best places to live in California. We do this by our new mission which requires us to be "Fully Engaged" in everything we do; from the day to day, to the life threatening. We focus those efforts on the Community, Quality Service, Crime Prevention, Traffic Safety, Quality of Life Issues, and Responsive Patrol Operations.

In the last half of this year, the police department became fully staffed for the first time in many years. We have also hired a Volunteer Reserve Officer and started our volunteer program with two volunteers in the hiring process. Once Covid-19 is behind us our Community Engagement Program will come into full swing with our Community Police Academy, Enhanced Volunteer Program, Coffee with a Cop, Community Meetings, and Problem-Solving sessions.

We have focused this year on improving the efficiency and quality of the police department through technology, policies and procedures, training, and positive community relations. This report gives a snapshot of KPD, its accomplishments, and its future goals and objectives.

We welcome feedback so please feel to contact us anytime.

Sincerely,

Walt Schuld  
Interim Chief of Police





# Mission Statement

**“PUBLIC SAFETY REQUIRES US  
TO BE FULLY ENGAGED.”**

The Kensington Police Department strives to be “fully engaged” in everything we do; from the day to day, to the life threatening. We focus our efforts and resources on several key areas:

- Community
- Quality Service
- Crime Prevention
- Traffic Safety
- Quality of Life Issues
- Responsive Patrol Operations

## Core Values

Integrity, Empathy, Courage, & Professionalism

# Members



Interim Chief Walt Schuld



Captain Mike Gancasz



Sergeant Keith Barrow



Detective Sergeant Amit Nath



Officer Juan Ramos



Officer Theodore Foley



Officer Tamiko Fodor



Officer Brad Harms



Officer Jose Fajardo



Officer Roy Bang



Reserve Officer Thang Ho



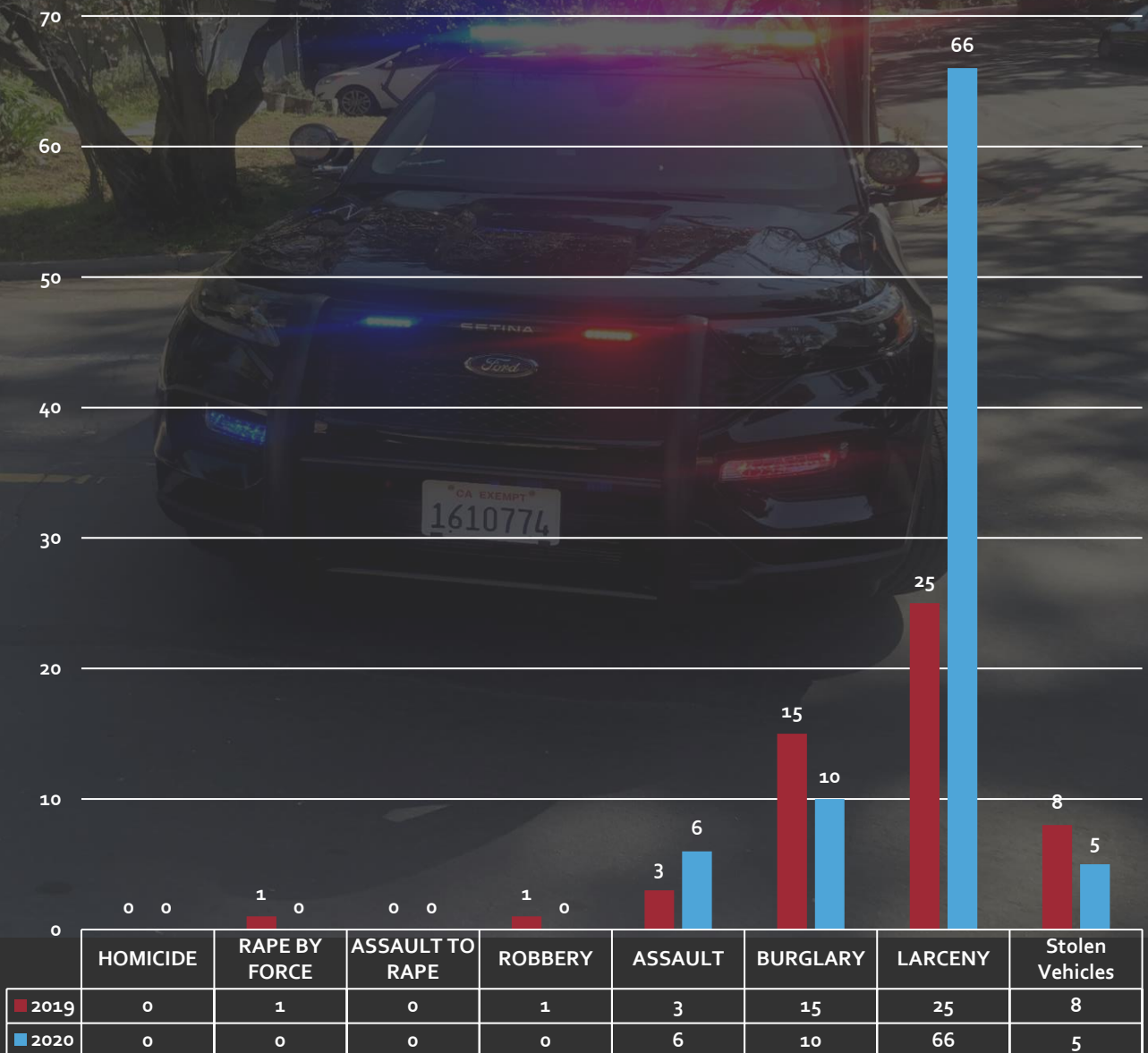
# ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- No formal citizen complaints/No legal fees
- Commissioned a contemporary police patch aligned with the image of Kensington
- Upgraded computers
- Increased Traffic Safety Patrols
- Changed KPD's reporting on Traffic Collisions to conform to SWITRS making the PD eligible for Traffic Grants
- Revised and updated entire policy manual (50 policies)
- Updated Field Training Manual and it was certified by the California Police Officers Standards and Training (P.O.S.T.)
- Implementation of Traffic Warning Citations
- Revised and updated Department and Community forms
- Purchased and outfitted three new cars
- Improved graphics on new patrol cars
- Improved Evacuation Safety
- Implemented Body Worn Cameras
- Over twenty community/neighborhood meetings

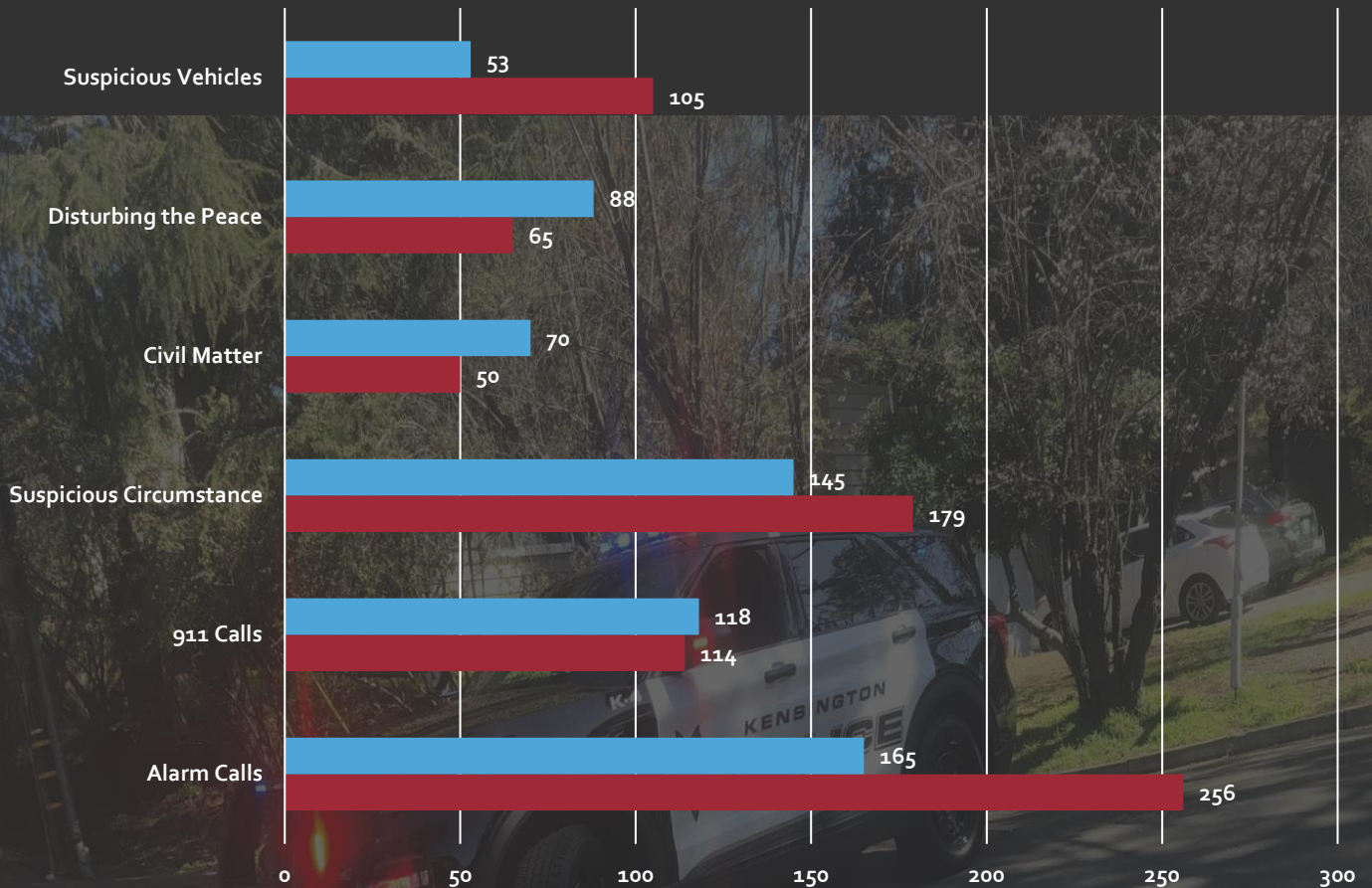
# Crime Analysis and Crime View

The Kensington Police Department handled 9299 incidents, which is 43% higher than 2019 (6520 incidents). There has been a 164% increase in thefts compared to the previous year. This increase was due to thefts from vehicles and catalytic converter and mail thefts.

Reported Crimes



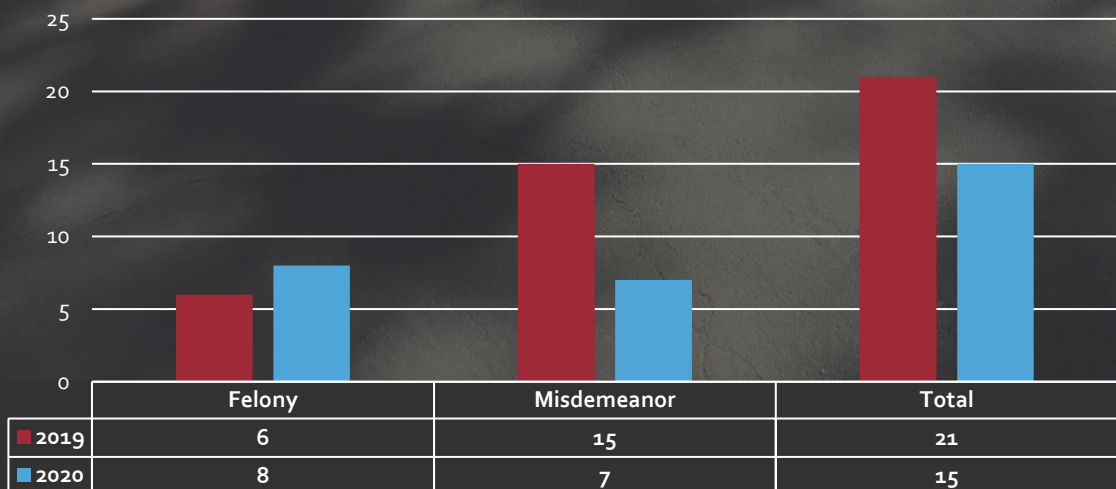
## Common Calls for Service



	Alarm Calls	911 Calls	Suspicious Circumstance	Civil Matter	Disturbing the Peace	Suspicious Vehicles
■ 2020	165	118	145	70	88	53
■ 2019	256	114	179	50	65	105

■ 2020 ■ 2019

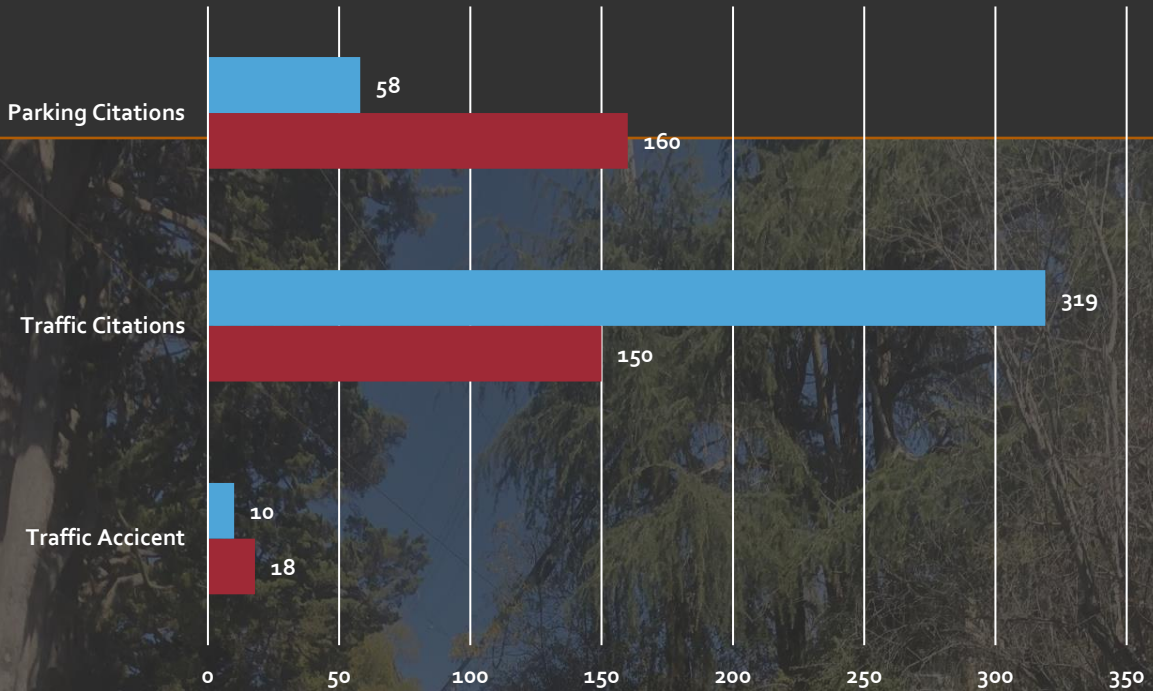
## Arrests



■ 2019 ■ 2020



# Traffic Enforcement



	Traffic Accident	Traffic Citations	Parking Citations
2020	10	319	58
2019	18	150	160

2020 2019

There has been a 44% decrease in traffic accidents compared to the previous year.

KPD officers have written a total of 319 traffic related citations compared to the previous year's 150 citations.





# New Hires

Mike comes to Kensington PD with over 20 years of experience in law enforcement including experience as a Commander. He supervised numerous units including Youth Education & Services Unit, Code Enforcement Unit, Traffic Division, Detective Division, and Gang Unit. He is a decorated homicide detective and has participated in numerous multi-agency high profile cases. He has command level experience in the Patrol Division, Community Outreach Unit, Administration, Training, and Internal Affairs. He holds a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice Management and will be graduating with a Master's Degree in Organizational Leadership later in 2021. He is a graduate of the Sherman Block Supervisory Leadership Institute and will graduate from the POST Command College, Class 67 later in 2021.



**Captain  
Mike Gancasz**

Jose attended Mt. Diablo Valley High School where he played baseball and upon graduation attended Diablo Valley College where he studied Administration of Justice. While going to college he worked for his father in construction and trained dogs. He attended the Contra Costa County Sheriff's Academy before being hired with the Concord Police Department. He worked as a Concord Police Officer and a Recycling Theft Prevention Specialist before joining the Kensington Police Department. Jose is bi-lingual and fluent in Spanish.



**Officer  
Jose Fajardo**



# New Hires



**Officer Roy Bang**

Roy worked as an EMT for 5 years before becoming interested in law enforcement. He entered the Police Academy in 2015 and was hired by the Oakland Housing Authority Police Department before being hired by Kensington PD. Roy incorporated his EMT skills as a police officer and was able to provide medical treatment during 911 incidents including being awarded a commendation for delivering premature twin babies inside a vehicle. He is bi-lingual and speaks fluent Korean.



**Reserve Officer  
Thang Ho**

Thang was raised in the Bay Area and he is currently working full time at NASA Ames in Mountain View for their Protective Services Department. Thang was a former Stockton Unified School District Police Officer where he was assigned to numerous schools within the district. Thang is currently in the Field Training Program and volunteers over 10-hours a week.



# Promotion



**Detective Sergeant  
Amit Nath**

Amit was promoted to Police Sergeant on January 4, 2021. He has prior experience with the Richmond Police Department and has done an outstanding job for the Kensington Police Department. He has been instrumental in assisting the Chief of Police in improving the operations of the department. He has several letters of appreciation and commendations during his career and was recently presented with a leadership award. He has two Associate Degrees in General Education and Electronic Engineering. He holds a Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice and is registering for classes for his Master's Degree in Administrative Leadership.

# Retirement



**Captain Rickey Hull**

Rickey officially retired on December 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020. He was hired in 1997. Prior to being hired in Kensington he spent six years in the United States Air Force and was a jailer for the Concord Police Department. During his 23-year career with Kensington PD he held the ranks of Police Officer, Sergeant, Master Sergeant, Interim Chief of Police, and Captain. Rickey has received numerous letters of appreciation throughout his tenure and is well-known in the community. We wish him the best in his retirement!





# Recognition and Awards

## Officer of the Year – Officer Brad Harms

The recipient of this award is nominated by members of the department and submitted to the Chief of Police. The Officer must demonstrate a consistent performance throughout the year that is exemplary and sustained.

## Leadership Award - Detective Sergeant Amit Nath

This award is granted to any department staff for exemplary service, dedication, and leadership. It is awarded to those who perform their duties with dedicated professionalism, operational excellence, exhibits zeal in their performance, inspires enthusiasm in their fellow department members, and demonstrates a sense of community awareness.

## Chief's Award Officer Tamiko Fodor & Officer Roy Bang

The Chief's award is granted by the Chief of Police to an employee who significantly contributes to and assists the Chief of Police in achieving the overall goals and objectives of the police department.

# Kensington Evacuation

With the dangers of wildfires in California, Kensington PD is working hard on being prepared. This past year, Officer Brad Harms worked closely with Sunset View Cemetery.

During an emergency when there is a need to evacuate, Sunset View Cemetery will provide access at Sunset Drive and Franciscan Way allowing an additional route for residents to evacuate.

By providing Kensington residents another way to travel out of the district, traffic congestion will be reduced by thirty percent.

Below are pictures of Interim Chief Schuld and Officer Brad Harms digging and installing evacuation signs.



# GOALS/OBJECTIVES for 2021

- Formalize a Community Outreach Plan
- Initiate process for Kensington PD to become certified through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement (CALEA)
- Initiate a long-term Strategic Planning Process which includes input from Community, Board, and Employees
- Improve professionalism by increasing training
- Complete a departmentwide Team Building Workshop professionally monitored by P.O.S.T.
- Increase use of technology to improve service and efficiency
- Succession Planning for future department leadership

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POLICE





# Kensington Police Department



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