



KENSINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

10940 San Pablo Avenue • El Cerrito • CA • 94530

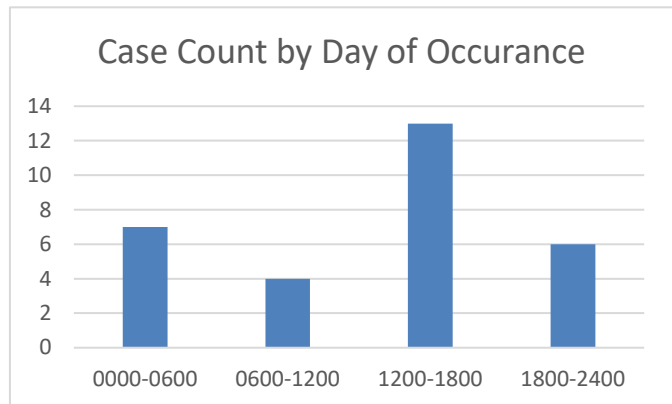
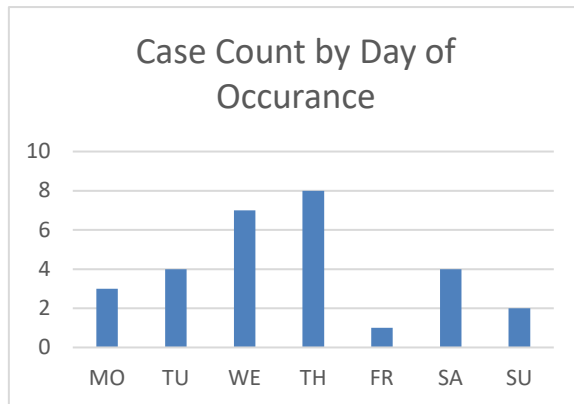
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DATE: January 31, 2024
TO: David Aranda: General Manager
FROM: M. Gancasz, Chief of Police
RE: Police Chief's Monthly Report, January 2024

Patrol Operations

The Kensington Police Department handled 811 incidents during January (up from 665 the prior month). 550 were officer-initiated events, including 49 traffic enforcement stops resulting in 25 citations (up from 23 in the prior month). Officers responded to 261 dispatched calls for service (up from 251) and took 31 reports (up from 26 in December). During January, 1 felony and 1 misdemeanor arrest were made. Officers investigated two vehicle thefts, two hit-and-run collisions, 1 domestic battery, 5 residential burglaries, and two thefts from motor vehicles. Six missing persons investigations were conducted. Twenty-six percent of this month's investigations were felony crimes. Average response times for officers decreased from 5.9 to 5.4 minutes.



Traffic Safety

There were 5 traffic collisions reported in January. Three of the collisions were hit-and-runs, of which one was a felony hit-and-run with injuries. There was one online supplemental traffic report, but it pertained to an issue in another jurisdiction.

Administration

Three candidates for Police Officer were interviewed and their files reviewed. Two applicants are in the final phase of their background with one applicant set for a Chiefs interview on February 8.

Training

Sgt. Lande completed the Firearms and Use-of-Force Perishable Skills Program training with El Cerrito PD at the Rex Cliff Training Facility in Fairfield. Officers Fajardo, Payne, and Thota attended the California Highway Patrol's Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) hosted by the Kensington Police Department at the Kensington Community Center. The class was full and attended by a wide range of police departments in the Bay Area, including Albany PD and El Cerrito PD. Sgt. Nath, Ofc. Thota, and Reserve Ofc. Tranate attended the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Offices' Sheriff's Tactical Operations Program (STOP) to complete their state-mandated Perishable Skills Program training. Chief Gancasz attended the Contra Costa County Chiefs of Police Conference in Napa.

Ofc. Thota completed the 16-week Field Training Program successfully and graduated to become a solo officer working his own shift. Congratulations Ofc. Thota!

January Patrol Log

- On Monday, January 1, at 1544 hours, officers took a report of a hit and run collision that occurred on Highland Blvd. The investigation is ongoing.
- On Tuesday, January 2, at 0742 hours, officers responded to the 100 block of Arlington Avenue for a report of a stolen vehicle. The investigation is ongoing.
- On Wednesday, January 3, at 1507 hours, officers responded to the 200 block of Arlington Avenue for a vehicle vs pedestrian collision. Medical assistance was provided to the victim and the investigation was sent to the Contra Costa County District Attorney Office for review.
- On Wednesday, January 3, at 1705 hours, officers responded to a hit and run collision that occurred around Ardmore Road and Kingston Drive. The investigation is ongoing.
- On Thursday, January 4, at 0630 hours, officers located a vehicle on Lenox Road that had been vandalized. The investigation is ongoing.
- On Thursday, January 4, at 0823 hours, officers responded to the 300 block of Colusa Avenue for a report of a stolen vehicle. The investigation is ongoing.
- On Thursday, January 4, at 1956 hours, officers responded to a report of a missing person in the 700 block of Coventry Road. The individual was located unharmed.
- On Tuesday, January 9, at 0815 hours, officers took an informational report of a civil dispute in the 200 block of Arlington Avenue.
- On Wednesday, January 10, at 1709 hours, officers took a report of a non-injury collision at Arlington Avenue and Westminster Avenue.
- On Friday, January 12, at 2116 hours, officers took a report of petty theft in the 100 Block of Purdue Avenue.

- On Saturday, January 13, at 0102 hours, officers responded to a report of domestic violence on Edgcroft Road. One suspect was arrested, and the investigation was delivered to Contra Costa County District Attorney office for review.
- On Saturday, January 13, at 1553 hours, officers responded to a residential burglary on Kingston Rd. Officers arrested one suspect who was transported to County Jail in Martinez.
- On Friday, January 19, at 1147 hours, officers responded to Edgcroft Road for a report of an auto burglary. The investigation is ongoing.
- On Wednesday, January 24, at 1555 hours, officers conducted a traffic enforcement stop on a vehicle with a delinquent registration of more than twelve months. The vehicle was impounded, and the driver released from the scene.

Traffic Safety Grant Patrol Operations

On Friday, January 26th, Kensington Officers were on patrol for impaired drivers as they took part in another grant-funded saturation patrol. Twelve traffic enforcement stops were completed, seven citations were issued, five warnings were given, one DUI investigation was conducted, and two vehicles were impounded. These operations are fully funded by the Office of Traffic Safety (OTS).

Community

There were no community events this month.

KPD to Host California Highway Patrol Training at the Kensington Community Center

Kensington PD hosted a two-day law enforcement training course presented by the California Highway Patrol on identifying impaired drivers. The class, Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE), is part of the education section of the CHP Grant, and was held at the Kensington Community Center on January 20 & 21. 25 law enforcement officers from across the Bay Area, including three Kensington Officers were in attendance.

