

# Bel Air Police Department

## 2016 Annual Report



Chief of Police

Charles A. Moore



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The mission of the Bel Air Police Department:

1. Prevent crime, disorder, and enhance safety on our highways and pathways (for motorists and pedestrians).
2. Promote trust among citizens and approval of our mission by being transparent and maintaining accountability throughout our police department;
3. Garner respect by ensuring that we exercise absolutely impartial service for citizens

Jurisdiction	Population	Land Area (sq miles)
Harford County	*210 K	527
Bel Air	10,500 +/-	3
Aberdeen	15,500	7+/-
Havre de Grace	13,500	6.5

\* Populations from municipalities subtracted

Bel Air remains favorably unique among other municipalities in Harford County. Our resident population is lower, as a result of our relatively small land size. The Town of Bel Air is the county seat for Harford County; the largest retail community continues to evolve and grow within the Town; Bel Air hosts a thriving nightlife; the Town is the center of State and local government (judiciary, education, social service organizations); and the largest medical provider is located within the Town of Bel Air. As a result, our population soars during normal work days and during off-hours.

The popularity of the Town (safe environment and inviting atmosphere) is widely recognized by citizens throughout the State of Maryland as a great place to live and visit.

### **PART I CRIMES**

The following is the state of the Town of Bel Air. Most of the statistical analysis is based on year to year comparisons of the quality of life matters for which the police department can have an impact.

The Bel Air Police Department also participates in the FBI **Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR)** program. This program collects information on crime that the FBI selected as an index to represent crime in the United States. The index crimes (also known as Part I crimes) are:

Murder	Larceny-Theft and
Rape	Motor Vehicle Theft
Robbery	Breaking and Entering
Aggravated Assault	



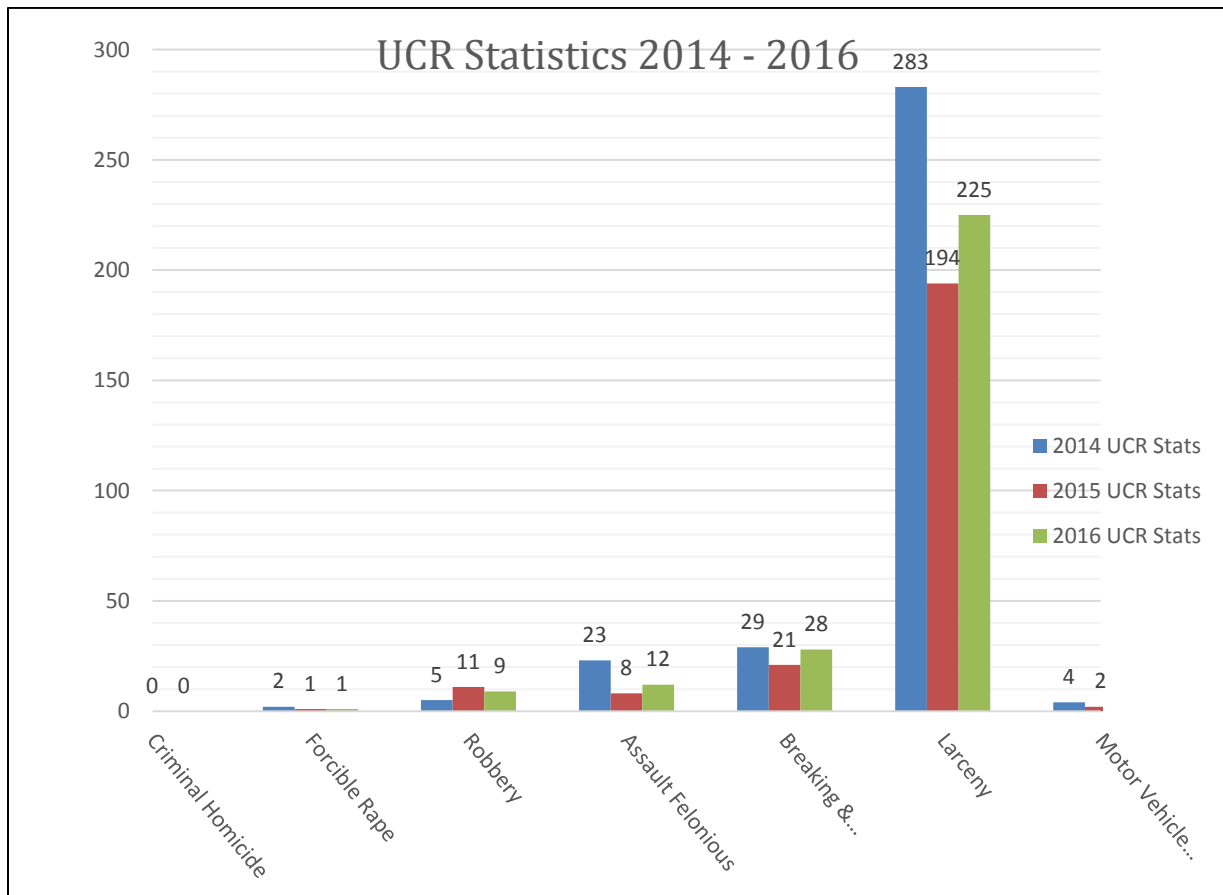
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The main concern of the UCR program is integrity, accuracy and uniformity of information reported. Since the definition of the Part I crimes vary from state to state, the information collected for UCR reporting is based on the FBI's definition of crimes and rules of reporting. It is imperative that the representatives reporting for each contributing agency be highly trained in order to ensure that data is accurate and uniform throughout the country.

Although there was a slight rise in crime reported to the UCR program in 2016 over 2015, the number of Part I crimes reported is still significantly less than previous years.

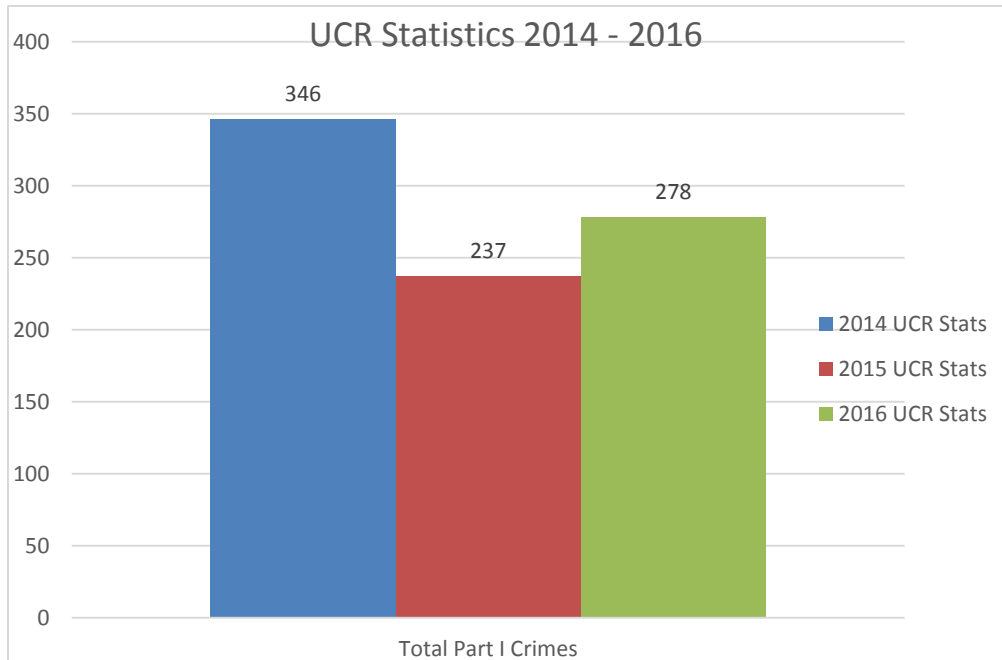




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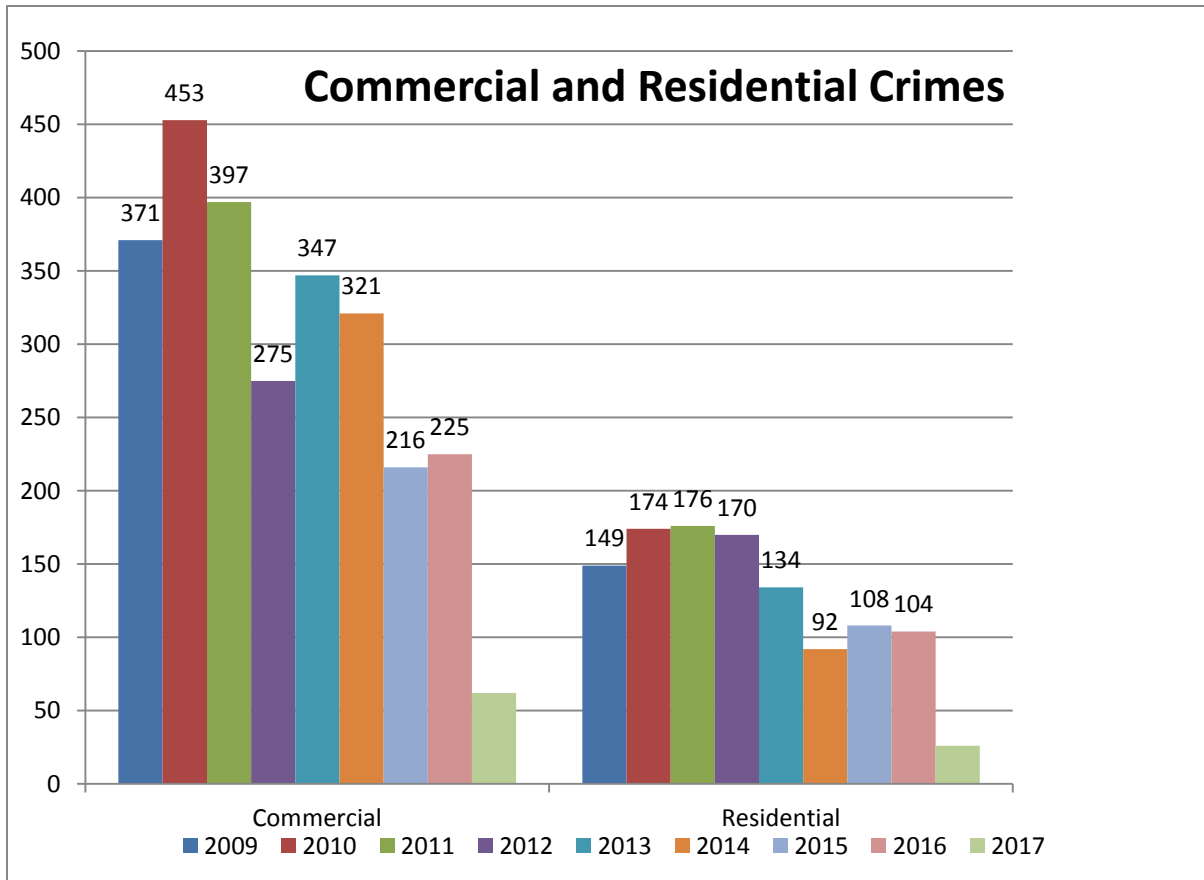
### **COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL CRIME**

Our perspective is to objectively analyze the data so that the statistics are true and accurate. We also closely analyze less serious criminal activity that are not included in Part I stats.

2015 and 2016 show a dramatic decrease in criminal activity within the Town of Bel Air when compared to past years. 2016 did show a slight increase in commercial crimes over 2015. This was due to several crime waves, to include burglaries (20) that occurred between May and December of 2016 and a spike in retail thefts (shopliftings). Many burglaries similar in nature were investigated throughout the county by the Harford County Sheriff's Office and Maryland State Police. Two suspects were arrested for several of the burglaries.



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**CRASHES**

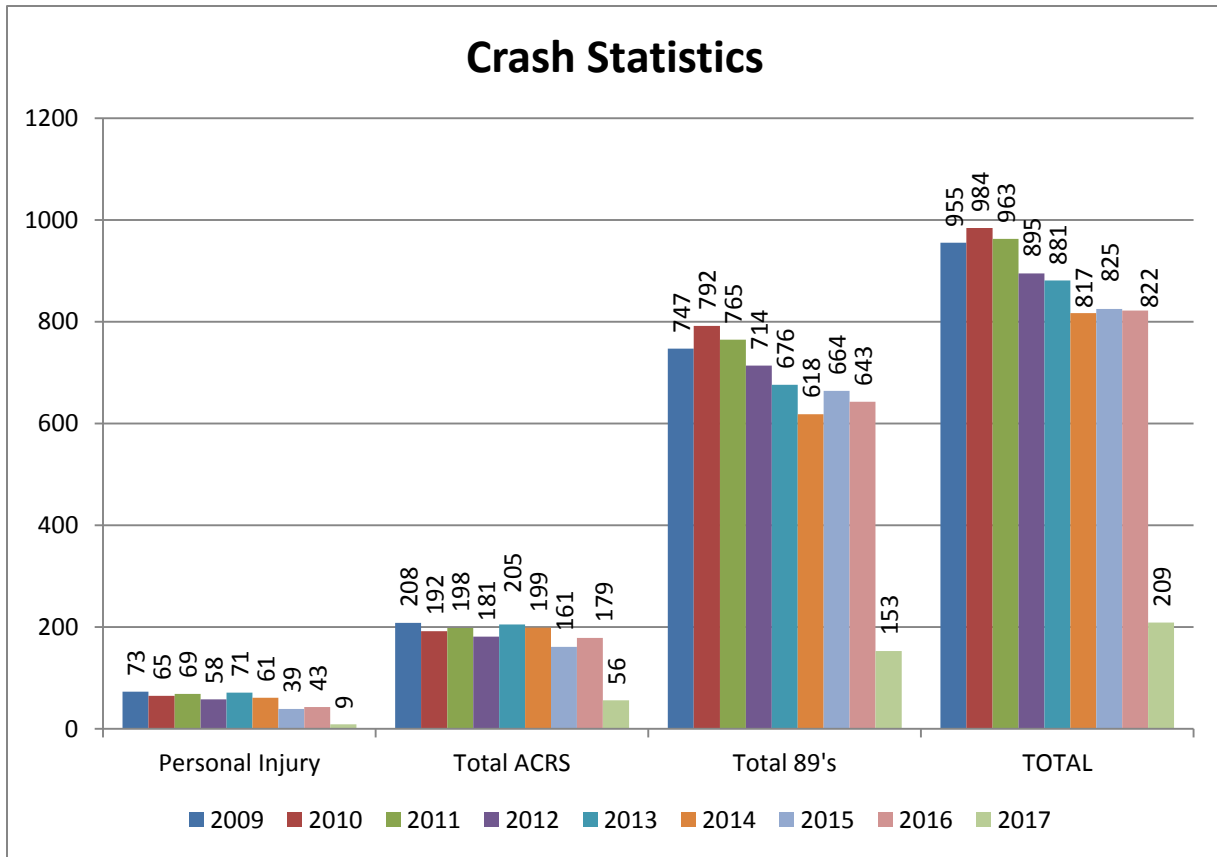
The Bel Air Police Department closely tracks crashes that occur within the Town of Bel Air. Our strategy for reducing crashes is to identify where the majority of crashes are happening, then direct highly visible enforcement to those locations. Every reportable crash in the Town of Bel Air is entered into a complex spreadsheet that provides data on high crash areas (where/when/age of operators, etc). This provides a more efficient method of selecting locations for personnel to conduct high visibility enforcement which in turn, alters driving behaviors within those locations. Our goal is to reduce total crashes and, in turn, reduce the chance of injury producing crashes. You may have seen the Harford County Traffic Task force concentrated in these areas (primarily along Business Route 1 and Route 24). Overall, crashes within the Town of Bel Air were reduced between 2015 and 2016.



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### PATROL SUMMARY

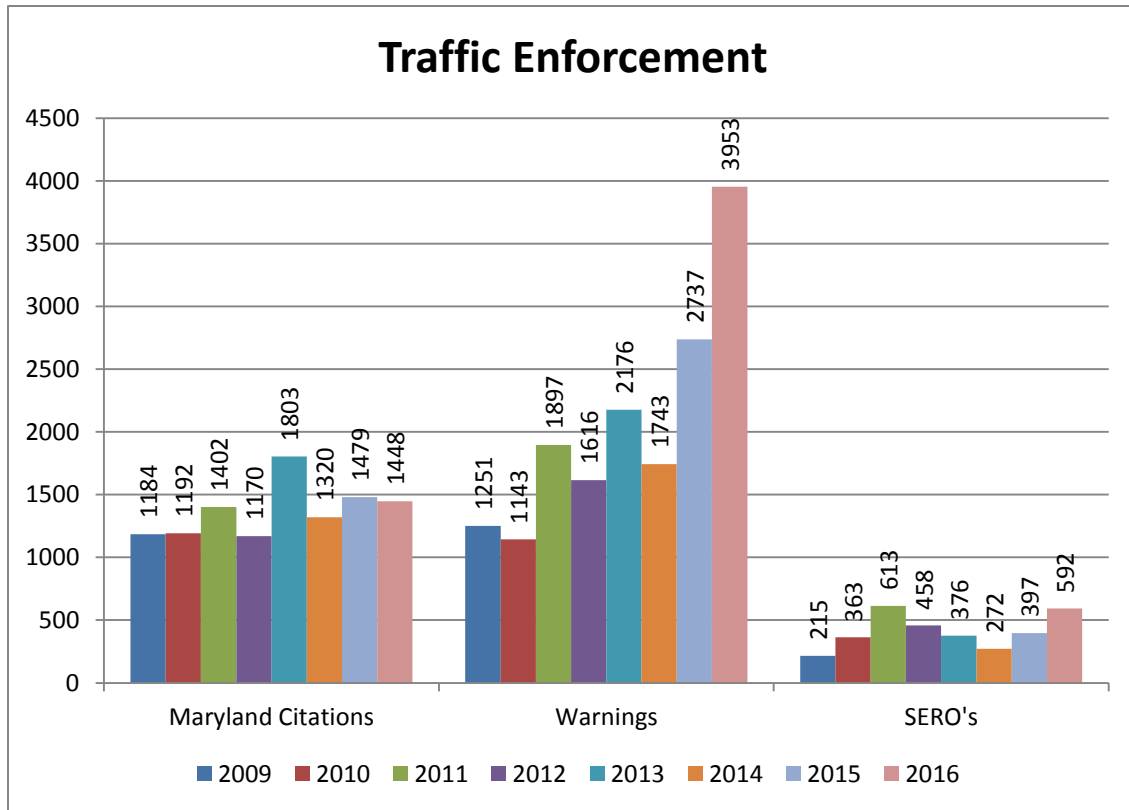
The patrol force of the BAPD consists of three work groups (6 to 7 officers) and is responsible for handling all routine calls for service within the Town of Bel Air, order maintenance, and interactions with the community (community policing). The below statistical summary provides a snapshot of the enforcement efforts within the Town of Bel Air. Enforcement efforts include calls for services handled by the Bel Air Police Department which have increased from **13,664 calls in 2015** to **21,165 calls for service recorded in 2016** (35% increase). Part of this rise can be attributed to more foot patrols and patrol checks conducted throughout 2016. In addition, another huge responsibility for patrol is ensuring that dozens of Town events that occur throughout the year are properly and safely carried out. Patrol groups work cohesively to ensure that action items for events that need accomplishing between shifts are carried out seamlessly. Cohesion and teamwork between workgroups has clearly been fostered and maintained.



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### TRAFFIC DATA COLLECTION

At the beginning of April last year the Police Department initiated a policy of required data collection of daily performance from all officers. Below are the categories of data that are required to be entered by each officer at the end of their patrol shifts.

ARS	Charged	Code 89	Fatals	Citations	Warnings	SERO's	DUI's	Parking Enforcement	Patrol Checks	Foot Patrols	Foot Patrol Hours	Community Meetings	Adult	Juvenile	CDS Adult	CDS Juvenile	Warrant	Charges Preferred	Investigation Reports	Civil Cites	Incidents Handled
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Daily Performance Monitoring was instituted to encourage/promote individual officer performance through transparent reporting and to assist supervisory personnel in assessing



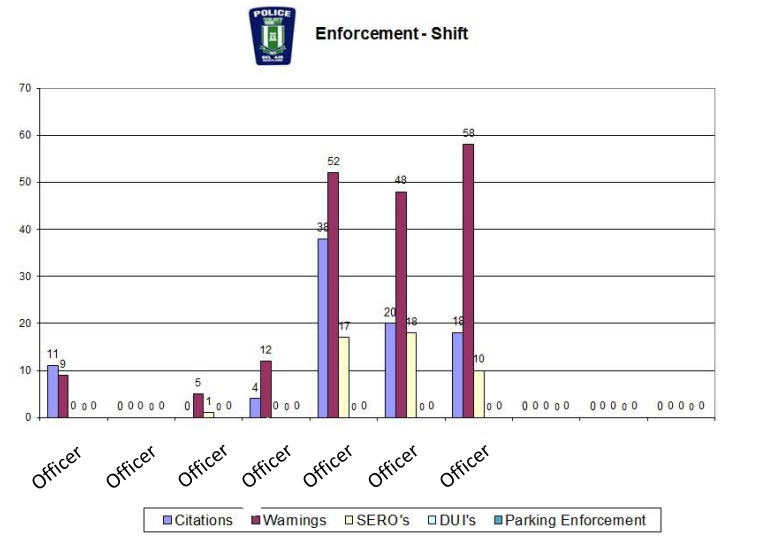
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officer/personnel performance. This program eliminated the need for completion of the cumbersome and inefficient “Departmental Goals and Objectives” sheets.

The statistics are exported to a larger worksheet that totals officer/group performance for the month and year.



### Community Policing

The Bel Air Police Department (BAPD) understands that improved quality of life in communities is achieved through collaboration between law enforcement, community leaders, citizens, civic groups, legislative leaders and other governmental entities. The BAPD also recognizes that one of the most important ingredients in promoting a healthy community is the welfare and safety of our children. A means for BAPD to foster and nurture this most important element of community wellbeing is through our School Resource Officer (SRO) program. Throughout the years, a proactive foundation of collaborative partnerships has evolved between the BAPD, school system, students and parents to actively promote safe and healthy school and after school environments. The BAPD provides an officer for crime prevention and SRO duties for the public and private schools within the Town of Bel Air.

The SRO also serves as the program director of the Town of Bel Air Police Department Explorer Program. The Explorer Program is a semi-volunteer organization through which teens are trained in many aspects of law enforcement. The Explorer program promotes discipline, responsibility, high moral standards, good grades, and active community involvement. There are over 30 active members which is one of the highest participation levels of similar programs in Harford County. Also, every two years the SRO organizes the Bel Air Explorer Youth Convention trip. This involves competition on a National level with other Explorer organizations on drilling and scenario completion.



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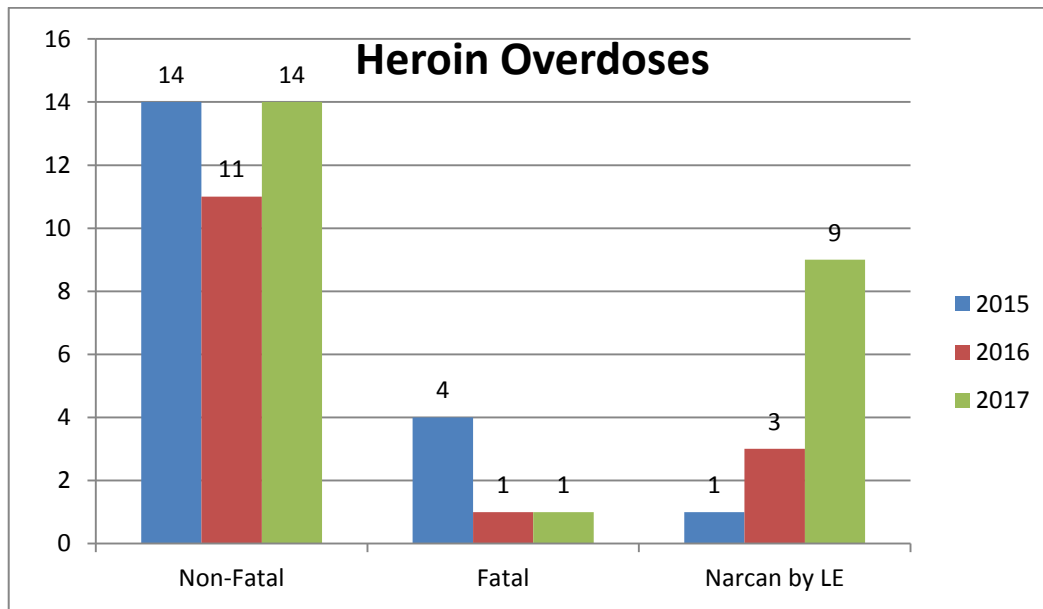
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The SRO also organizes and leads the annual summer Youth Camp. The camp has three separate sessions and requires assistance from active Explorers to accomplish its character building goals. The camps are very affordable for Harford County residents and offer character building lessons and physical and intellectual development instructional techniques for children. The program is a highly regarded community asset that limits delinquency and victimization opportunities for children of working families. All sessions of the camp quickly fill year after year.

### OPIOD OVERDOSES

Unfortunately there has been an increase in heroin overdoses in Bel Air as well as in Harford County over the last few years.

Given that Police officers are usually the first to arrive on the scene of an overdose, Bel Air Police Officers have been trained in the use of Narcan.



### CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DIVISION SUMMARY

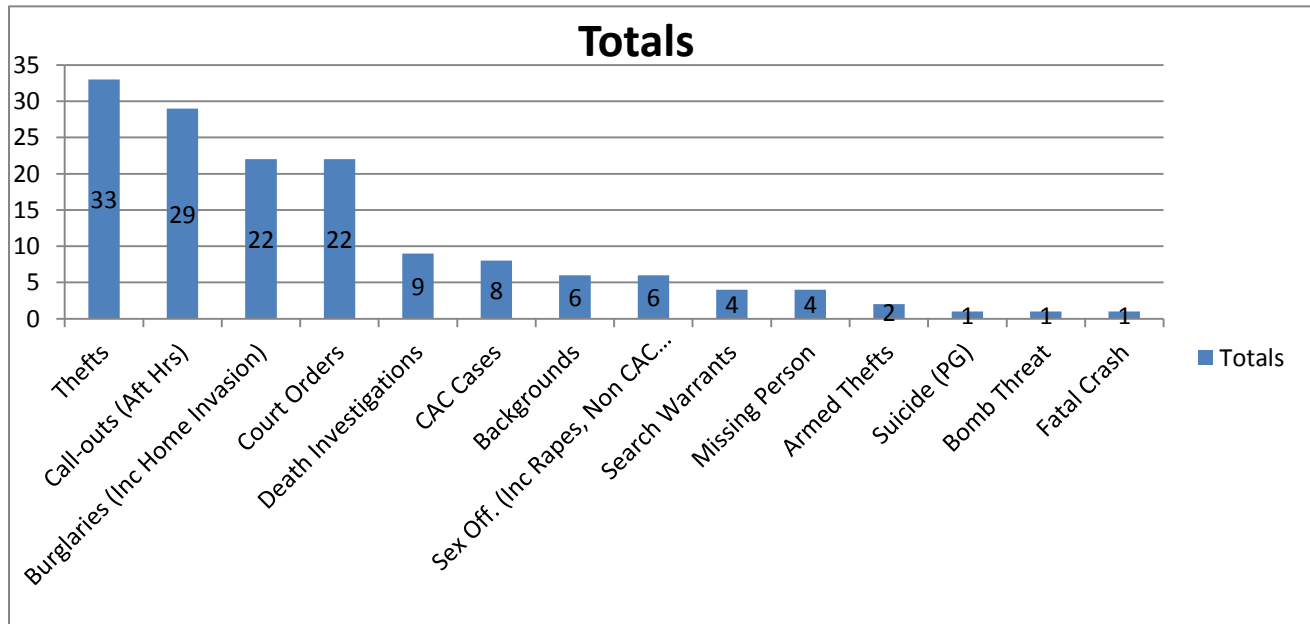
During calendar year 2016 the Criminal Investigations Division was directly involved in 116 investigations. Below is a breakdown and highlights of some of those 116 investigations:



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### Case Highlights:

Counterfeit Currency, June 2016: Known suspect purchased an item from Best Buy, Bel Air, MD. Suspect on surveillance system matched suspect from a HCSO case. HCSO served search warrants on the suspect's home and recovered incriminating evidence.

Weapons Offense / Assault, June 2016: Caller from a condo on Moore's Mill Rd called to report an assault. Police arrived and discovered the victim with a large bruise on his leg from being struck with a metal pipe. Victim had been disabled for unknown medical reasons. Upon arrival the suspect fled into the condo where he removed a shotgun from under a bed spread. Police wrestled the shotgun from the suspect and placed him into handcuffs. Sentence: 4 years, Police seized the shotgun.

Home Invasion/Burglary, June 2016: Caller reported a suspect forced his way into their home and kicked in a bedroom door, who then stole items. A suspect was quickly identified and located at work. He was arrested on the night of the incident, processed, and transported to the detention center.

Burglary (recovered stolen items), August 2016: Caller reported unknown person broke into his home on George St and stole a PlayStation game station. Patrol discovered a PlayStation had been pawned at the Game Stop at Harford Mall on the day of the burglary. The console matched our



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victim's and was recovered. A suspect was identified by the store and victim. A warrant was issued and served on the suspect who was located at his home in Edgewood the next day.

Armed Carjacking August 2016: BAPD's Patrol Division was dispatched to the Bel Air Plaza Shopping Center where they located an elderly male who reported he was robbed by two armed black males of his vehicle. It was soon discovered the suspects drove a stolen car to this parking lot, exited the car, and approached our victim. The victim's car was located unoccupied in Baltimore City, processed for fingerprints, and DNA evidence.

Fatal Car Crash, August 2016: The Criminal Investigations Division assisted the Patrol Division with a fatal car crash on Route 24 that involved the death of a mother and her infant child. The investigation spanned several law enforcement agencies to include Maryland State Police, MD-Fire Marshalls Office, Maryland State Police Automotive Safety Enforcement Division, Maryland State Police Crime Lab and Harford County Sheriff's Office.

Family Justice Center (FJC), Child Sex Offense Cases: Involve many man hours to investigate. These cases are very time sensitive and require notification of the Family Justice Center. FJC investigators are specifically trained to interview victims in these types of cases. The FJC houses Child Protective Services, Social Workers, Prosecutors, Sheriff Deputies, and other support staff.

### **Burglaries Summary 2016**

**22 Incidents on 11 dates**  
**4 Arrests**  
**\$81,918.00 Losses**

Date	Address	Summary	Loss
05/16 (4)	S. Main St.	4 businesses <b>NO Suspect</b>	\$162.00
07/16	S. Atwood Rd.	Pharmacy – Pharmaceuticals & US currency <b>Suspect ARRESTED</b>	\$11,364.00 Theft \$1,400.00 Damages
07/16	Upper Chesapeake Dr.	UCMC – Attempted Burglary <b>Suspect ARRESTED</b>	\$0 loss
07/16	Idlewild Rd.	Residential <b>NO SUSPECT</b>	\$19,864.00 Jewelry & 2 Pistols
07/16	S. Main St.	Business <b>NO SUSPECT</b>	\$18,000 Damages



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08/16	George St.	Residential Xbox & Accessories Stolen/Recovered <b>Suspect ARRESTED</b>	\$388.00 \$349.00 recovered
08/16	S. Reed St.	Residential <b>Suspect ARRESTED</b>	\$1,700 loss
09/16	Gateway Dr.	Salon <b>NO SUSPECT</b>	\$300 loss
09/17  (5)	N. Tollgate Rd. N. Main St. E. Churchville Rd. E. Ellendale St. N. Main St.	Garage/businesses - \$0 loss \$100 Damage \$1,000 loss - \$650 Damage \$15 loss - \$100 Damage \$250 loss - \$50 Damage <b>NO SUSPECT</b>	\$1,515 loss
10/16	Linwood Ave.	Residential – <b>NO SUSPECT</b>	\$6,300 loss
11/16	Linwood Ave.	Residential – <b>NO SUSPECT</b>	\$20,000 loss
12/16  (4)	N. Main St. N. Bond St. Gateway Dr. Gateway Dr.	Businesses \$100 loss \$525 Damages \$100 damages \$200 Damages <b>NO SUSPECT</b>	\$925 damages/loss

### Retail Thefts Summary

Total 2016 Victoria's Secret Thefts: 15 thefts • 7 arrest/detentions • total theft loss of \$24,890.04 • The BAPD CID Initiative prevented approximately \$8,000 of property loss, plus recovered over \$2,000 of stolen property • CID re-developed strategies with Harford Mall Property Management, Victoria's Secret Loss Prevention, and Bel Air PD patrol has shown a decrease in retail theft at Victoria's Secret in 2017.

These retail theft cases spurred a multi-jurisdictional task force comprised of law enforcement officials from Howard County Police, Anne Arundel County Police, Baltimore County Police, Bel Air Police, and the Baltimore County State's Attorney's Office. Baltimore County Police have estimated one suspect is responsible for close to \$90,000.00 in stolen merchandise from these jurisdictions. Bel Air Police was instrumental in identifying and arresting the female suspect. This occurred during one of many plain clothes details. However, many of these cases remain open pending the identification of others responsible.

### Policy Revisions

It is the goal of the Bel Air Police Department to update manuals, and if necessary create new manual sections to remain consistent with societal and law enforcement demands. To maintain this consistency



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and progressive approach it is necessary to continually monitor law enforcement activities nationwide and effectively liaison with allied agency partners concerning trends effecting their agencies and legislation that effects our profession.

Chapter #	Section	Pages	New	Revision / Addendums
1	Community Policing	10	X	Addendums
2	Authority & Jurisdiction	5	X	Revisions
5	Conduct	15		Revisions
6	Discipline	31	X	Revisions / 4 - Addendums
7	FTEP (FTO Program)	18	X	
9	Exposure Control Guidelines	10		Revisions / Addendums
14	Line of Duty Death	3	X	Addendum
N/A	Line of Duty Death Addendum – Funeral Manual	55	X	
19	Fair & Impartial Policing	5	X	
27	Vehicle Lockouts	2		Revisions
38	Security of Prisoners in Hospital & EMS Settings	8	X	
N/A	Body Armor Special Order	2	X	
N/A	Daily Stats Special Order	3	X	

### **Awards and Recognition:**

1. American Society for Industrial Security International Award (ASIS)
2. Bel Air Moose – Public Safety Award (Officer First Class Krause was nominated by local Moose to compete for national Moose award)
3. Maryland Municipal League recognition.
4. Governor’s Office of Crime Control Prevention (GOCCP) – Level C award for community policing efforts (Officer Krause; Traffic Enforcement Monitor Gerace; Explorer’s Volunteer Tami Leighty; Explorer’s Volunteer Gina Krause).
5. Joppa VFW awarded to Officer First Class Krause.