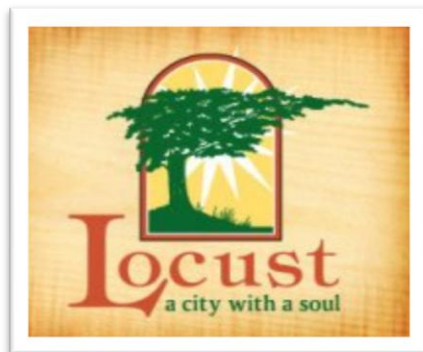




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COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER
January 2015
Volume 4 Edition 1
2014 YEAR IN REVIEW



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Welcome to all of our readers both loyal and new to the January 2015 edition, and another year of the Locust Police Department Community Newsletter. This is my fourth year producing the monthly Police newsletter for the entire city and incredibly, the fifth year overall. It truly amazes me how fast it seems time flies as it seems like I was just 30 years old and looking to get into the field of law enforcement, then I blinked and it's now 7 years later. I have thoroughly enjoyed doing this newsletter monthly, mainly because if you ask anyone that's known me during my life they'll tell you that I've always been a stat "junkie". I have always loved compiling stats, analyzing and comparing them. It certainly helps however when those stats point to solid work put in by our department and a low crime rate in a wonderful city for our residents.

Admittedly as my responsibilities within the department and in life in general increase, it has become increasingly hard to get these newsletters together as well as keep them informative and worthwhile. I remain committed to putting them out every month however, and if nothing else you will always get the previous month's stats with some brief analysis. I always encourage our readers to contact me if there's something in particular you would like to see covered. New this year but likely starting next newsletter will be a question and answer/did you know section. I will use this section to answer any questions I receive or to answer questions I have received in the past regarding law, procedure, etc. or will include points of interest related to the law that you may not be aware of.

This January 2015 edition will be the third annual "year in review" edition covering the highlights and major events of 2014 for the department. It will also include the cumulative statistics from last year to give you an idea of where we're heading as a city from a law enforcement perspective and how activity the past year compared to 2013. Following the annual statistics and year in review, the monthly statistics from December are listed. The stats convey an encouraging story that I'm excited to tell so let's get started with your January 2015 edition of the newsletter....



LOCUST POLICE DEPARTMENT

2014 ANNUAL STATISTICS

By: Officer Jeff B. Shew, Locust Police Department

SUMMARY OF 2014 STATISTICS

OFFENSE TYPES/INCIDENT REPORTS

Law enforcement activities in Locust for 2014 proved to be another banner year for the city in terms of low criminal activity, and continued to show that city residents and visitors enjoy a safe environment, peaceful atmosphere, and “a wonderful place to live, work, and play!” Statistics documented by the Locust Police Department for the 2014 calendar year, although showing a slight increase in overall offense types and documented incident reports, showed another decrease in property crime related calls as well as essentially a non-existent rate of violent crime.

For the year, the Locust Police Department continued with its policies of reports being documented for dispatched calls where interaction with the public occurred. With that policy, the department showed just a slight 2.4% increase in incident reports documented compared to 2013, and offense types contained in these reports also increased by just 3.95%.

General service call types were down 3.6% from the previous year, and these non-criminal call types continue to represent the largest percentage of dispatched calls we receive. General investigation call types were up 15.6% however these types of calls also are usually non-criminal in nature. In general investigations, reports involving missing persons were at nine for the year. It should be noted that no missing person reports involved foul play or legitimate run-away activity, and all reported missing were located.

Most positively for the criminal activity we deal with most often in Locust, call types related to property crime and fraud were down again in 2014. Overall, property and financial crime call

types were down 3.5% from last year. Within this category, reports related to larcenies from businesses went up by just three reports from a year ago, larcenies from residences were down three reports, and activity related to larcenies from vehicles also dropped by six. Reports related to fraud activity also dropped by two compared to 2013. Overall larceny activity for the year showed another decrease from last year with an average daily occurrence in the city of 0.46, a decrease of 3.4% from 2013. Personal larceny activity reports related to persons, vehicles or residences, and not including businesses showed another sizeable decrease and was down 15.8% from 2013. This represents an average daily occurrence of just 0.13 in Locust.

General law enforcement/criminal activity call types were even from last year as 212 total offenses in this category were reported for the second straight year. Within this category, traffic offense related reports increased 9% and property damage offense reports were up 7.8%.

The largest increase for 2014 in offense types occurred in the category related to alcohol and drug offense types. These offense types can mostly be attributed to traffic enforcement and is partially reflected in the increase in citation charges for the year. Offense types related to alcohol and drugs increased from 46 to 87 for the year and points to an increase in DWI and drug enforcement by the department.

In the category related to assault offense types, an increase of nine was recorded compared to a year ago, from 17 to 26. Although this represented a 52.9% increase from 2013, the daily average occurrence remained very low with an average of just 0.07.

Serious crime reports were down to numbers near zero again in 2014. For the year, there were no offenses related to robbery or violent theft activity, and only two offense types related to sexual offenses.

BUSINESS/NEIGHBORHOOD PATROLS

For the majority of the 2014 calendar year, fuel prices continued to stay elevated enough for the department to continue its philosophy of efficient patrol of Locust neighborhoods and businesses. This philosophy results in adequate presence being shown in the city but with efforts being made to limit fuel expenditures and excessive mileage with patrol vehicles. This continued strategy again resulted in a decrease of documented patrols of Locust neighborhoods and businesses compared to 2013 however, 20,216 neighborhood and business patrols were still completed for the 2014 calendar year. Within the perspective of daily patrols; this represented just a decrease of 1.8 patrols conducted on average daily by the department this year as opposed to last. The result of the continued efficient patrol strategy resulted in another small decrease in daily patrols, yet contributed greatly to the department's fuel cost average DECREASE of 12.1% for full-time department patrol vehicles (Based on 2013/2014 budget year vehicle expenditure report).

ARREST CHARGES

Arrest charges in 2014 were 162, up from 128 in 2013. This 26.6% increase can also be attributed heavily to increased traffic enforcement by the department related to alcohol and drug activity. Although some charges may have been the result of outstanding arrest warrants, the

department made 35 arrest charges related to driving while impaired offenses and 23 arrest charges related to different types of drug activity.

CITATION CHARGES

Traffic safety and enforcement remained a priority for the Locust Police Department in 2014, with the primary goal of keeping Locust residents and all motorists safe, as well as an increase in DWI and drug enforcement. Citation charges were up 17.4% for the year; from 1203 in 2013 to 1412 in 2014.

For detractors that hold a perception of excessive traffic enforcement in Locust, despite the 17.4% increase for the year, the 1412 total citation charges represented a daily charge issuance average of just 3.9. In addition, traffic stops recorded by Stanly Communications mobile software showed that 1449 traffic stops conducted in Locust resulted in verbal or written warnings issued, 37 more than the total number of citation charges issued for 2014.

TRAFFIC CRASHES

A new statistic tracked for 2014 was traffic crashes recorded through Stanly Communications mobile software. Total recorded/reported crashes for the year (street/highway and pva/parking lots) in Locust was 134 for a monthly average of 11.2, and a daily average occurrence of just 0.37. No deaths in 2014 occurred as a result of a traffic crash in Locust.

(Continue For 2014 Annual Statistics Break-Down)

Offenses/Incident Reports Statistics Key

Call/Offense Types

Escorts Provided – General, Business Closing, Child Custody Exchange, Funeral, Etc.
Assist EMS/Fire – Medical Or Fire Calls With Law Enforcement Involvement
Calls For Service – Various Community Service Or Non-Criminal Dispatches, Animal Complaints, Etc.
Mutual Aid – Help Requested And Given To Other Agencies
Assist Motorist – Stranded Motorists, Keys Locked In Vehicle, Flat Tires, Etc.

Alarm Calls – Business, Residential Alarm Activation Responses
Disturbances – General, Various, Or Domestic Disturbance Responses
Suspicious Act. – Dispatched Reports Of Suspicious Activities, Vehicles, Or Persons
Investigations – General, 911 Hang-Ups, Suicide Threats, Open Doors, Etc.
Property Calls – Reports Of Lost Or Found Property
Missing Persons – Reports Of Missing Or Found Individuals

Bus. Larceny – Larcenies Reported From Locust Businesses
Fraud – Counterfeiting, Forgery, Obtaining Property By False Pretense, Identity Theft, Etc.
Resi. Larceny/Minor Larceny From Person – Breaking & Entering, Larcenies From Residences
Vehicle Larceny – Breaking & Entering, Larceny From/Of Vehicles

Traffic Offenses – Traffic Offenses That Result In Other Charges, Arrests, Vehicle Towed, Etc.
Property Damage – Malicious Damage To Businesses, Residences, Vehicles, Or Minor Vehicle Crashes
Warrants – Arrest Warrants, Court Processes Served
Harassment – Harassing Phone Calls, Communicating Threats, Etc.
Trespassing – Unlawful Entry, 1st Or 2nd Degree, Etc.
Other Illegal Act. – Resist, Obstruct, Or Delay, Vehicle Pursuits, Lesser Charges, Etc.
Ordinance Viol. – Violations Of City Ordinances Investigated Or Committed
Vandalism – Defacement Of Property, Minor Arson, Etc.
Juvenile Violations – Illegal Activity Committed By Juveniles
Weapons Violations – Unlawfully Carrying Concealed Weapon, Possession By Felon, Etc.

Drug Offenses – Possession, Distribution, Intent To Sell, Etc. Involving Illegal Drugs
Alcohol Charges – Charges Involving Alcohol Other Than DWI
DWI – Driving While Impaired Reports

Assaults – Minor Or Simple Assaults, Affray, Etc.

Sex Offense – Reports Of Or Offenses Involving Unlawful Sexual Activity
Personal Larceny – Serious Larceny Or Robbery Including Strong Arm, With Dangerous Weapon, Etc.

Death Inv. – Non-Criminal Investigations Of Unattended Deaths, Suicide, Etc.

(REPORTS BEGIN NEXT PAGE)

Offenses/Incident Reports

CATEGORY: GENERAL SERVICE

Call Type	2014 Total #	Monthly Avg.	2013 Total #	% Change
Escorts Provided	417	34.8	506	-17.6%
Assist EMS/Fire	203	16.9	156	+30.1%
Mutual Aid	69	5.8	69	----
Calls For Service	65	5.4	70	-7.1%
Assist Motorist	52	4.3	35	+48.6%
2014 TOTAL/ MONTHLY AVERAGE/ 2013 TOTAL/ % CHANGE	806	67.2	836	-3.6%

CATEGORY: GENERAL INVESTIGATION

Call Type	2014 Total #	Monthly Avg.	2013 Total #	% Change
Alarm Calls	162	13.5	127	+27.6%
Disturbances	115	9.6	110	+4.6%
Investigations	98	8.2	59	+66.1%
Suspicious Act.	63	5.3	67	-6.0%
Property Calls	13	1.1	23	-43.5%
Missing Persons	9	0.8	12	-25%
2014 TOTAL/ MONTHLY AVERAGE/ 2013 TOTAL/ % CHANGE	460	38.3	398	+15.6%

*Missing Person's # includes REPORTS OF missing persons such as. NO missing person's reports for 2014 included suspected foul play or went unsolved.

CATEGORY: PROPERTY/FINANCIAL CRIME

Call Type	2014 Total #	Monthly Avg.	2013 Total #	% Change
Bus. Larceny	120	10	117	+2.6%
Fraud	51	4.3	53	-3.8%
Resi. Larceny	36	3	39	-7.7%
Vehicle Larceny	12	1	18	-33.3%
2014 TOTAL/ MONTHLY AVERAGE/ 2013 TOTAL/ % CHANGE	219	18.3	227	-3.5%

TOTAL LARCENY OCCURRENCE (BUSINESS, VEHICLE, RESIDENTIAL, PERSONAL)	168	0.46 Avg. Daily Occurrence	174	-3.4%
PERSONAL LARCENY OCCURRENCE (VEHICLE, RESIDENTIAL, PERSONAL)	48	0.13 Avg. Daily Occurrence	57	-15.8%

CATEGORY: GENERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT/CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

Call Type	2014 Total #	Monthly Avg.	2013 Total #	% Change
Traffic Offenses	73	6.1	67	+9.0%
Property Damage	55	4.6	51	+7.8%
Warrants	30	2.5	38	-21.1%
Harassment	19	1.6	25	-24%
Other Illegal Act.	16	1.3	6	+166.7%
Trespassing	9	0.8	17	-47.1%
Ordinance Viol.	5	0.4	4	+25%
Weapons Viol.	3	0.3	1	+200%
Vandalism	2	0.2	2	----
Juvenile Viol.	0	----	1	-100%
2014 TOTAL/ MONTHLY AVERAGE/ 2013 TOTAL/ % CHANGE	212	17.7	212	----

CATEGORY: ALCOHOL/DRUGS

Call Type	2014 Total #	Monthly Avg.	2013 Total #	% Change
Drug Offenses	49	4.1	20	+145%
DWI	24	2	12	+100%
Alcohol Charges	14	1.2	14	----
2014 TOTAL/ MONTHLY AVERAGE/ 2013 TOTAL/ % CHANGE	87	7.3	46	+89.1%

CATEGORY: PHYSICAL CRIME

Call Type	2014 Total #	Monthly Avg.	2013 Total #	% Change
Assaults	26	2.2	17	+52.9%
2014 DAILY AVERAGE	.07	----	----	----

CATEGORY: SERIOUS/VIOLENT CRIME

Call Type	2014 Total #	Monthly Avg.	2013 Total #
Sex Offense	2*	--	6*
Personal Larceny	0	--	3

*Sex Offense # includes REPORTS OF sex offenses committed even if investigation revealed no misconduct OR offense occurred in a different jurisdiction.

CATEGORY: OTHER INVESTIGATION

Call Type	2014 Total #	2013 Total #
Death Investigation	2	3

2014 TOTAL OFFENSE TYPES AND INCIDENT REPORTS

2014 TOTAL OFFENSE TYPES/ MONTHLY/ DAILY AVG.	1814	151.2	5.0	<u>2013 #</u> 1745	<u>% Change</u> +3.95%
2014 TOTAL INCIDENT REPORTS COMPLETED/ MONTHLY/ DAILY AVG.	1652	137.7	4.5	<u>2013 #</u> 1614	<u>% Change</u> +2.4%

Area Patrols/Checks

Patrol Type	Total #	Monthly Avg.	Daily Avg.
Businesses	10,919	909.9	29.9
Neighborhoods	9,161	763.4	25.1
Requested House	91	7.6	--
Susp. Vehicles	30	2.5	--
Susp. Persons	9	--	--
Special Inv.	6	--	--

2014 TOTAL PATROLS/ DAILY PATROL AVG.	20,216	<u>2014 DAILY AVG.</u> 55.4	<u>2013 DAILY AVG.</u> 57.2
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Arrests/Offense Charges/Counts

Charge	2014 Total #	2013 Total #
Driving While Impaired	35	17
Assault On A Female	17	2
Failure To Appear	14	16
Misdemeanor Larceny	11	18
Obtain Property By False Pretense	9	5
Communicating Threats	6	3
Possession Schedule II	6	1
Carrying Concealed Weapon	5	7
Domestic Violence Violation	5	2
Assault & Battery	4	0
Driving While License Revoked	4	5
Felony Conversion	4	0
Probation Violation	4	0
Possess With Intent To Sell Sch. VI	3	0
Simple Assault	3	5
Disorderly Conduct	2	3
Felony Larceny	2	2
Minor Charges	2	3
Obtain Controlled Sub. By Fraud	2	0
Possession Drug Paraphernalia	2	1
Possession Schedule III	2	0
Possession Schedule VI	2	1
Possess With Intent To Sell Cocaine	2	0
Possess With Intent To Sell Sch. I	2	0
Unauthorized Use Of Motor Vehicle	2	0
Assault By Pointing A Gun	1	0
Assault With A Deadly Weapon	1	2
Court Order Violation	1	0
Damage To Property	1	2
Financial Card Fraud	1	0
Fugitive From Justice	1	0
Give Alcohol To Underage	1	0
Misdemeanor Flee To Elude	1	0
Possess With Intent To Sell Sch. II	1	0
Resist, Delay, Or Obstruct	1	1
Trafficking Opium/Heroin	1	0

Worthless Check	1	1
2014/2013 TOTAL ARREST CHARGES/ MONTHLY/DAILY AVG.	162 13.5/0.44	128 10.7/0.4
% CHANGE	+26.6%	---

Citation Charges

CATEGORY: SPEEDING

Citation Charge	Total #
Speeding	793
Speeding In School Zone	37
2014 TOTAL CATEGORY CHARGES	830
MONTHLY/DAILY AVERAGE	69.2/2.3
2013 TOTAL/% CHANGE	679/+22.2%

CATEGORY: VEHICLE VIOLATIONS

Citation Charge	Total #
Expired Registration	152
Operate/Allow Vehicle With No Insurance	34
Cancelled/Revoked Registration	12
Fictitious/Altered Registration	12
Expired/No Inspection	11
Drive Motor Vehicle/Not Properly Registered	7
2014 TOTAL CATEGORY CHARGES	228
MONTHLY/DAILY AVERAGE	19/0.6
2013 TOTAL/% CHANGE	222/+2.7%

CATEGORY: LICENSE VIOLATIONS

Citation Charge	Total #
Driving While License Revoked	68
No Operator's License	54
Other License Violations	9
2014 TOTAL CATEGORY CHARGES	131
MONTHLY/DAILY AVERAGE	10.9/0.4
2013 TOTAL/% CHANGE	112/+17.0%

CATEGORY: SAFETY/UNSAFE VIOLATIONS

Citation Charge	Total #
Fail To Stop/Stop Sign Or Red Light	23
Careless Reckless Driving/Unsafe Movement	17
Child Restraint Violation	12
Fail To Wear Seat Belt Passenger	9
Lane Violations	9
Fail To Reduce Speed	8
Fail To Move Over For Emergency Vehicle	7
Window Tint Violation	7
Fail To Wear Seat Belt Driver	6
Following Too Close	6
Vehicle Lights Violations	6
Unsafe Passing	5
Fail To Yield Right Of Way	3
Improper Equipment	2
Fail To Stop For Stopped School Bus	1
2014 TOTAL CATEGORY CHARGES	121
MONTHLY/DAILY AVERAGE	10.1/0.3
2013 TOTAL/% CHANGE	116/+4.3%

CATEGORY: ALCOHOL/DRUG OFFENSES

Citation Charge	Total #
Driving While Impaired	23
Possess Open Container Alcohol In Vehicle	16
Simple Possession Schedule VI	10
Possession Drug Paraphernalia	5
Possess/Consume Alcohol Under 21	3
Aid & Abet DWI	1
Possession Schedule II	1
2014 TOTAL CATEGORY CHARGES	59
MONTHLY/DAILY AVERAGE	4.9/0.2
2013 TOTAL/% CHANGE	37/+59.5%

CATEGORY: CRIMINAL/OTHER OFFENSES

Citation Charge	Total #
Misdemeanor Larceny	28
Hit And Run/Fail To Stop For Accident	4
Shoplifting	3
Carrying Concealed Weapon	2
Parking Violations	2
Fail To Heed Blue Light	1

Other Non-Specified Charges	1
Possession Of Stolen Goods	1
Simple Affray	1
2014 TOTAL CATEGORY CHARGES	43
MONTHLY/DAILY AVERAGE	3.6/0.1
2013 TOTAL/% CHANGE	34/+26.5%

2014	
TOTAL CITATION CHARGES	1412
MONTHLY/DAILY AVERAGE	117.7/3.9
2013 TOTAL #/% CHANGE	1203/+17.4%

2014 REPORTED TRAFFIC STOPS WITH WARNINGS ISSUED	1449
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Traffic Crashes

2014 TOTAL REPORTED TRAFFIC CRASHES (STREET/HIGHWAY, PVA) / MONTHLY AVG./DAILY AVG.	134/11.2/0.37
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TRAFFIC CRASH "HOT SPOTS" STREET/HIGHWAY - # REPORTED

- West Main Street/Wal-Mart Intersection Area – 9
- Main Street/Central Avenue Intersection – 7
- West Main/Red Bridge Blvd. Intersection Area – 5
- West Main/Renee Ford Road Intersection Area – 4
- East Main Street/Pond Road Area – 4 (1 Reported With Deer)
- East Main/School Road Area – 3 (1 Deer)
- North Central Ave./Bethel Ch. Rd. Intersection Area – 3 (1 Deer)
- North Central Ave./Mission Church Road Intersection Area – 3 (1 Deer, 1 Debris)

PARKING LOT/PVA "HOT SPOTS" - # REPORTED

- 1876 West Main Street (Wal-Mart) – 12
- 1004 West Main Street (Food Lion) – 8
- 1718 West Main Street (Bojangles) – 4
- 1878 West Main Street (McDonalds) – 4

LOCUST POLICE DEPARTMENT 2014 YEAR IN REVIEW

JANUARY

The January 2014 edition was issued simultaneously with the 2013 Year In Review edition of the newsletter.

A crime brief from December reported that Locust officers were able to locate and stop suspects involved in an early morning home invasion occurring in the county section of Coley Store Road.

We also reported the departure of Officer Ernie Wimbish, but only as a full-time officer. Ernie moved to reserve officer status so he could focus more on his gym, Pro-Fit. Officer Trent Middlebrooks had been hired as full-time patrol officer.

Update - Ernie's gym Pro-Fit continues to thrive offering numerous classes for all ages and fitness levels as well as sports specific training, cross-fit, and power lifting. Check out Pro-Fit's Facebook page if you are interested in a gym membership or visit the gym and talk to Ernie. Officer Middlebrooks continues to thrive and has rapidly become one of our department's finest patrol officers.

<https://www.facebook.com/pro.fit.75?fref=ts>

FEBRUARY

The February edition of the newsletter reported on a pursuit of a stolen vehicle started by the Cabarrus County Sheriff's Office in Concord and ended with the driver running from the vehicle into a wooded area near the Locust city limits on Highway 200. Locust officers responded to assist with the search along with the Stanfield Police Department and Stanly County Sheriff's Office. After more than an hour of searching for the suspect, Locust officers located the man inside an abandoned trailer in the area. He was arrested without incident and custody transferred to Cabarrus deputies.

Also the newsletter reported another example of why neighborhood watch programs and the department's e-mail advisory list can be so beneficial and effective. A neighborhood watch and e-mail advisory list member in Meadowcreek Village made several reports of a suspicious vehicle in the area, reporting that the vehicle had arrived at around the same time frame on multiple occasions. This tip provided a time period for Locust officers to patrol the area and the suspect vehicle

was located. The driver, a Concord man was found to be in possession of drugs and drug paraphernalia. He was cited for the offenses and told not to return to the sub-division.

Update - The suspect apprehended by Locust officers in the Cabarrus vehicle pursuit was given over a year in the North Carolina Department of Corrections. The suspect caught thanks to tips on our e-mail advisory list received a probation type agreement for first time offenders.

MARCH

The March newsletter reported a recent Weekly Post article covering the recent winter storm and how the department's e-mail list kept members advised on weather and road conditions in Locust. I was privileged to participate and point out the positives of being an advisory list member. I also reported that I had been allowed to begin contributing articles to the Post to keep area citizens apprised of department activities and other crime prevention tips.

The newsletter also reported several scam and scam attempts in the Locust area as well as occurring nationwide.

<http://www.weeklypostnc.com/2014/02/2794/>

Update - The advisory list still continues to add members albeit not at the pace I would prefer. Of course our ultimate goal is to have the majority of the city's residents as members so it will be that much easier to keep the city informed. If you would like to become an e-mail advisory list member, please send a request e-mail to me at jbslpd@gmail.com . No spam type e-mails will be sent to you if you are a member.

Scam activity and attempts continue in numerous forms. Check the Better Business Bureau or North Carolina Department of Justice websites for information about scam activities to be aware of.

<http://www.bbb.org/charlotte/>

<http://ncdoj.gov/Consumer.aspx>

APRIL

The April newsletter reported that the Locust Police Department had assisted the Lincolnton Police Department in the arrest of an individual who had sucked on a woman's toes at a Wal-Mart in Lincolnton. The offense transpired after he had convinced the woman he was a podiatry student and told her he could assist her with finding comfortable shoes. The offender, Michael Anthony Brown was identified by Locust officers due to him being arrested at the Locust Wal-Mart in 2012 for a similar offense. In the Locust incident Mr. Brown had used a similar ploy on a female customer before grabbing her foot and taking a photograph of it. Mr. Brown was arrested and later convicted of assault on a female.

Locust officers contacted Lincolnton and Mr. Brown was arrested for the Lincolnton offense. Brown was previously a registered sex offender for a similar offense that was more extreme in nature. This bizarre and troubling story made news across the country.

<http://www.nydailynews.com/news/national/victim-walmart-toe-sucker-recalls-encounter-article-1.1729186>

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/nation/2014/03/21/toe-sucking-walmart/6699147/>

The April edition also reported that yours truly had received my intermediate law enforcement certification.



Update - Mr. Brown pleaded guilty and received a 60 day jail sentence for what would also be considered assault on a female. No update was available as of press time about Brown's current status.

MAY

The May newsletter contained numerous crime briefs from the previous month that included multiple DWI and drug arrests. These examples were reflected in the 18 arrest and 191 citation charges reported from the previous month. Eight of the arrest charges alone were for driving while impaired offenses.

JUNE

The June newsletter re-capped a huge previous month of May for the department in both extra-curricular and departmental activities.

A vehicle pursuit that started in the Midland area with the Cabarrus County Sheriff's Office pursuing a vehicle that had committed a minor traffic infraction ended up involving the Locust Police Department in a big way. The pursuit traveled through secondary roads throughout parts of Cabarrus, Stanly, and Union counties before heading toward Locust on Highway 200 South. At the intersection of Big Lick Road and Highway 200 South, Locust officer Dwayne Dietz deployed a "Stop Sticks" device when the vehicle approached; flattening both of the vehicles left tires. The vehicle came to a stop just outside of the Locust city limits and the driver was arrested after a very brief foot pursuit. Investigation after arrest revealed the driver to be impaired, the vehicle stolen, and also revealed that the driver had set fire to his own residence in the Charlotte area.

A second vehicle pursuit less than a week later occurred when Locust officers identified a stolen vehicle at the Locust Wal-Mart. When an attempt was made to stop the vehicle, the driver of the stolen vehicle led Locust officers and Cabarrus County deputies on a high speed pursuit on Highway 24-27 into Charlotte reaching speeds as high as 110 mph. The driver of the stolen vehicle lost control of the vehicle when he attempted to make a right turn on Harrisburg Road in Charlotte at an excessive speed. After crashing the stolen vehicle into a curb, the driver fled on foot but was captured by Locust officers and Cabarrus deputies a few hundred yards away.

The previous month was also a special month away from work activities for Locust officers T.J. Smith and Jeff Shew. Both Smith and Shew had finished their associate degrees in Criminal Justice at Stanly Community College. At the commencement ceremony, Smith also received the Annie Ruth Kelly Leadership Award for his role in creating an annual charity softball tournament and Shew

received the Edwin J. Snyder Jr. Exceptional Scholar Award. Shew gave the graduating class commencement address at the college's 6 pm ceremony.

Also, later in the month at the annual Thin Blue Line Awards dinner hosted by the Officer Jeff Shelton Foundation, Smith received one award and Shew received two. Both Smith and Shew received the Community Service award for their creation of the annual public safety softball tournament for area charities, and Shew also received the "Got Your Six" award for assisting his partner Smith in apprehending a combative suspect.



Update - The suspect in the pursuit that began in Midland was convicted on multiple charges and received more than five years in the NC Department of Corrections (DOC). Officer Dietz was also honored by the makers of the "Stop Sticks" device when he was nominated for the "Stop Sticks" Stick of the Month for May.

The suspect in the pursuit that began at Wal-Mart was also convicted of multiple charges including habitual felon. He received more than seven years in the DOC system and is still incarcerated in Mecklenburg County awaiting trial on numerous other charges.

JULY

The July newsletter re-capped a busy month of June for the department in traffic enforcement that resulted in drug arrests. A vehicle stopped for running a red light resulted in the arrest of a 16 year old for the possession with intent to sell and deliver marijuana as well as multiple weapons charges. Another vehicle stopped for speeding resulted in the arrest of two men for similar charges. Overall, the

previous month's statistics showed 17 arrest charges with 9 being drug or weapons related and 143 citation charges had been issued.

AUGUST

The August newsletter reported a traffic stop from the previous month that resulted in the discovery of a mobile "meth lab" by Locust officers. The stop, made for an expired registration plate revealed a system used to produce the highly dangerous and volatile drug crystal methamphetamine. The mobile meth lab is very popular with makers of the drug as it allows the maker to constantly move the apparatus to avoid detection. The volatility of the chemicals used to make the drug however, make this method incredibly dangerous. The driver was arrested and given a \$100,000 secured bond. He later received prison time for the offenses involved.

Also, Officer Kevin O'Connor achieved the highest regular honor a North Carolina law enforcement officer can complete when he received his Advanced Law Enforcement Certification from Chief Frank Hartsell at the July City Council meeting. O'Connor received the honor after six years in service, the minimum amount of time possible to serve and earn the certification. His achievement was aided by his previous completion of a Bachelor's degree in Criminal Justice. O'Connor became the fourth current Locust officer to earn their Advanced Certification.



SEPTEMBER

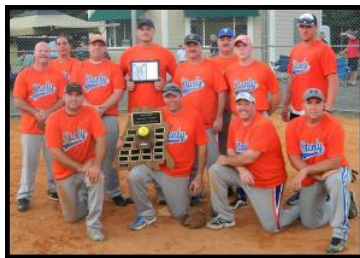
A very brief September edition of the newsletter detailed something I've already included in this year in review; Officer Dwayne Dietz's heroic and timely actions during a May vehicle pursuit that not only brought the pursuit to a peaceful and satisfying end, but also potentially prevented extensive property damage and/or injuries. Officer Dietz's use of a "Stop Sticks" device deflated the tires of a stolen vehicle that was being driven by a convicted felon who was impaired at the time.

That driver was traveling north on Highway 200 South at a high rate of speed toward the busy Main Street/Central Avenue intersection when Dwayne sprang into action. His nomination by the makers of “Stop Sticks” for their monthly award was very well-deserved. Dwayne’s actions were indicative of a lot of things that happen in our field that ultimately prevent things from potentially happening. Very often these actions occur with the general public never even being aware of what risks could have presented themselves had an officer not taken a certain action. Dwayne’s coolness under pressure was also remarkable in the situation considering at the time he had not been in law enforcement for even two years yet. Again, awesome work Officer Dwayne Dietz!



OCTOBER

The October newsletter reported about the Second Annual Stanly County Public Safety/Teacher’s Charity Softball Tournament that had taken place in September. The annual event, created by Locust Officer T.J. Smith and assisted by Officer Jeff Shew was once again a tremendous success. Defending champions “Stanly County Public Safety” successfully repeated as champions going undefeated in the event and compiling 75 runs scored in just four games. More importantly, over \$2300 was raised for West Stanly Christian Ministries’ “Day of Giving” event and a truck bed full of food and supplies for the Stanly County area’s needy. Pre-planning has already begun for the third annual classic in 2015.



NOVEMBER

The November newsletter reported a crime brief re-cap from October where a Matthews man who had removed his ankle monitoring device was hiding in the Western Hills sub-division. After an extensive search by Locust officers, the suspect was found and apprehended without incident.

The newsletter also reported statistics that included 18 arrest charges and 92 citation charges from the previous month.

DECEMBER

The final newsletter of 2014 covered two community service activities Locust officers were involved in during the month. Locust officers Kevin O'Connor, Brittany Tucker, Chad Whitley, and Sergeant Rick Crayton participated in the "Shop With A Cop" program in Albemarle and Officer TJ Smith contributed to West Stanly Christian Ministries' "Day of Giving". Smith is already planning for more activities to aid the Christian Ministries' annual event. Also, O'Connor and Tucker intend to initiate a "Shop With A Cop" event in Western Stanly County in the coming year.



The Locust Police Department wants to thank all of our readers and all Locust residents for a wonderful 2014 in the "city with a soul". It is our honor to serve you.

All of us at the Locust Police Department wish you continued success and safety.
God bless all of you; take care of yourselves and each other.
(December 2013 Stats Follow Next Page)

LOCUST POLICE DEPARTMENT CRIME STATISTICS

DECEMBER 2014

INCIDENTS/OFFENSES

Note – Total incident reports generated number will be lower than number of offenses/incidents listed. This is due to there being multiple offenses within one report on some occasions. Incident reports are generally documented when any interaction with the public or an enforcement action is made on a dispatched call.

Escorts Provided (General, Business Closing, Child Custody Exchange, Funeral) – 30
Assist EMS/Fire Department – 15
Larceny From Business (Misdemeanor, Felony, Concealment) – 14
Investigation Calls (General, 911 Hang-Ups, Suicide Threats, Open Doors, Etc.) – 10
Alarm Calls (Business, Residential) – 9
Disturbances (General, Domestic) – 9
Drug Offenses (Citations, Arrests) – 8
Vehicle Traffic Violations (Resulting In Other Charges, Arrests, Vehicle Towed, Etc.) – 8
Calls For Service (Various Community Service Reasons, Animal Complaints, Etc.) – 7
Mutual Aid Given (Help Given To Other Agencies) – 6
Suspicious Activity (Activities, Vehicles, Persons) – 6
Assist Motorist (Stranded, Keys Locked In Vehicle, Tire, Etc.) – 5
Damage To Property Calls (Residential, Business, Vehicle, Minor Vehicle Crashes) – 4
Illegal Activity (Resist, Delay, Obstruct, Vehicle Pursuits, All Other) – 4
Missing Persons (Reported, Found) – 4
Assaults (Simple, Affray, Domestic, Etc.) – 3
Arrest Warrants/Processes Served (Failure To Appear, Subpoenas Etc.) – 2
Breaking & Entering/Larceny Residence (Attempted, Misdemeanor, Felony, Larceny After B&E) – 2
Counterfeiting/Fraud (Forgery, Obtain By False Pretense, Identity Theft, Etc.) – 2
Driving While Impaired (Alcohol, Illegal Substances, Provisional, Drive After Consuming, Etc.) – 2
Larceny From/Of Vehicle (Misdemeanor, Felony, B&E, Motor Vehicle Theft, Etc.) – 2
Sex Offenses (Attempted Or Completed Rape, Indecent Liberties, Crimes Against Nature, Etc.) – 2
City Ordinance Violation Calls/Investigations – 1
Death Investigation (Non-Criminal, Unattended Death, Suicide, Etc.) – 1
Harassment (Phone Calls, Communicating Threats, Etc.) – 1
Trespassing (1st, 2nd Degree, Domestic Etc.) – 1
Vandalism (Defacement, Arson, Etc.) – 1

Alcohol Charges (All Other) – 0
Juvenile Violations (Juvenile Offenses, Contributing To Delinquency, Etc.) – 0
Larceny From Person (Common Law, Snatching, Armed Robbery, Etc.) – 0
Property Calls (Lost, Found) – 0
Weapons Offenses (Unlawful Carry Concealed, Possession Firearm By Felon, Etc.) – 0

TOTAL OFFENSES – 159

INCIDENT REPORTS GENERATED – 145

AVERAGE DAILY INCIDENT REPORTS DOCUMENTED – 4.7

AREA PATROLS/CHECKS

Business Checks – 1011
Neighborhood Checks – 998
Suspicious Vehicles – 2
Special Investigation – 1

TOTAL AREA/SECURITY CHECKS – 2012

DAILY AREA/SECURITY CHECKS AVERAGE – 64.9

ARRESTS/OFFENSE CHARGES/COUNTS

Assault On A Female – 2
Communicate Threats – 2
Driving While Impaired – 2
Obtain Property By False Pretense – 2
Possession Of Schedule II – 1
Possession Of Schedule VI – 1
Worthless Check – 1

TOTAL ARREST CHARGES – 11

DAILY JAIL COMMIT ARREST CHARGES AVERAGE - 0.4

CITATIONS

Speeding – 38
Expired Registration – 13
Driving While License Revoked – 8
No Operator's License – 8
Misdemeanor Larceny – 5
Speeding In School Zone – 4
Operate/Allow Vehicle With No Insurance – 3
Driving While Impaired – 2
Following Too Close – 2
Child Restraint Violations – 1
Expired/No Inspection – 1
Fail To Heed Light Or Siren – 1
Fail To Reduce Speed – 1
Fictitious/Altered Registration – 1
Hit And Run/Fail To Stop Property Damage – 1
License Violations – 1
Other/Minor Violations – 1
Possess Drug Paraphernalia – 1
Stop Sign/Stop Light Violations – 1

TOTAL – 94

DAILY CITATION CHARGES ISSUED AVERAGE – 3.0

DOCUMENTED TRAFFIC STOPS WITH WARNINGS ISSUED – 163

TRAFFIC CRASHES

Crashes Reported – 12

Street Or Highway - 8

- North Central Avenue At East Main Street (Main St./Central Ave. Intersection) – 3
- East Main Street In Front Of School Road (Deer)
- North Central Avenue In Front Of 212 North Central Avenue (Deer)
- In Front Of 97 Old Hickory Road (Light Pole)
- West Main Street In Front Of 1204 West Main Street (Median)
- West Main Street At Jenkins Street (Deer)

Parking Lot (Public Vehicular Area) - 4

- 101 East Main Street (CVS)
- 1004 West Main Street (Food Lion)
- 1876 West Main Street (Wal-Mart)
- 1878 West Main Street (McDonalds)

TOTALS

TOTAL MONTHLY DEPARTMENT ACTIVITIES
(INCIDENTS/INVESTIGATIONS, CHARGES, CITATIONS, WARNINGS, AREA CHECKS,
TRAFFIC CRASHES)

2451*

EXCLUDED – DISPATCHED CALLS THAT DO NOT RESULT IN A REPORT GENERATED

MONTHLY DAILY ACTIVITIES AVERAGE
EXCLUDING ABOVE

79.1