



LOCUST POLICE DEPARTMENT

2018 ANNUAL STATISTICS

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SUMMARY OF 2018 STATISTICS

OFFENSE TYPES/INCIDENT REPORTS

Law enforcement activities and statistics for the City of Locust in 2018 represented another tremendous year of low criminal activity making for a very safe city. 2018 statistics also showed that it does appear that the tremendous growth that has occurred and is ongoing in Locust is beginning to be seen in our law enforcement activities as well. Statistics documented by the Locust Police Department for the 2018 calendar year showed nearly a 9.5% increase in documented offense types and more than a 9% increase in recorded incident reports. Increases were seen in nearly every statistical category which included incidents where any type of investigation was required, larcenies and fraud, and assaults. Despite the statistical increase, numbers continued to show an overall low daily incidence of larceny, fraud, and assault activity which indicated that in 2018 Locust remained a very safe city with an overall low volume of crime and criminal activity.

For 2018, the Locust Police Department continued with its policy of reports being documented for dispatched calls where interaction with the public occurred. There was a 9.02% increase in documented incident reports compared to 2017, and reported offenses documented within those reports increased by 9.4% from the previous year. Reported offenses would be the alleged criminal activity or other circumstances involved in each recorded incident report and can contain up to three per report. Generally speaking, non-criminal reports seldom have more than one reported "offense type" whereas criminal reports often contain more than one "offense type" involved in the incident (Example – An escort request is typically a stand-alone request ("offense type") however a breaking and entering offense also usually includes a larceny offense as well).

General service call types were up 6.3% from the previous year, and these non-criminal call types continue to represent the largest percentage of dispatched calls received. General service includes escort requests, medical and fire calls, and general calls for service.

General investigation call types were up 14.1% from the previous year. Calls considered as general investigation are at times non-criminal in nature but do require investigation by the department to determine the

actual circumstances. Of note in this category, general investigations or incidents that required investigation were up a sizeable 43.2%. Disturbance call types were up 12.2% which follows a 15% increase in 2017. A continued noticeable increase in reported disturbances are very possible to be attributed to a growing population in Locust. Seven missing person reports for the year were not determined to involve foul play and those “missing” were located or determined to not actually be missing.

General law enforcement/criminal activity offense types showed the only category decrease in 2018 and were down 6.5% from 2017. Decreases were seen in traffic offenses that required an incident report and warrant service reports, with these two offense types contributing the most to the overall category decrease. Increases were seen in damage to property offenses, harassment and threats, and trespassing offenses.

Again in 2018, if you account for the overall rate of incidence, statistics were positive in the category involving call types related to property and financial crime. There was however an overall increase in property crime offenses for the year with 48 additional property and financial crime offenses reported from the number the previous year. Overall, this represented a 22.6% increase in call types related to theft or fraud. Breaking this down further, there was a 29.5% increase in business related larcenies, a 13.7% increase in fraud type reports, and larcenies related to vehicles increased by 69.2%. To detail the 69.2% jump in vehicle related larcenies, the number of these offense types increased to 22 from 9 in 2017. Most positively, larcenies related to residences showed a statistical drop for the year with a 15.4% decrease from the previous year (Residential larcenies include one alleged burglary listed in the serious crime category). Overall, personal larceny affecting persons, vehicles, or residences continued to be extremely low showing a daily average occurrence of just 0.12, up from 0.11 in 2017.

Alcohol and drug related offense types increased by a scant 0.9% for the year from 108 in 2017 to 109 in 2018. Within this category drug offenses did increase 31.3% however DWI’s and alcohol charges decreased 21.2% and 37.5% respectively. Reported drug related offenses are any incidents where charges related to drugs result. Reported DWI offense types would represent incidents where arrests were made for driving while impaired or DWI related offenses.

In the physical crime category, assault type offenses increased 61.1% for the year from 18 in 2017 to 29 in 2018. Reported assaults are another offense type where it can be realistically argued that an increase in population could result in more incidents of assault occurring. This statistic however still represents a daily average reported occurrence of assaults in Locust of just .08 which still makes for an extremely low frequency of occurrence.

Other offense types reported for 2018 were 2 sex offenses and 5 death investigations. The sex offenses reported were either confirmed to be unfounded or an arrest was made. The death investigations did not involve foul play with three appearing to clearly be a result of health issues/natural causes, while the other two were believed to be drug overdoses pending confirmation from toxicology reports. In specific regard to opioid related overdoses, 2018 showed that the city of Locust is also not immune to this issue. The Locust Police Department responded to at least six and likely more opioid related overdoses during the calendar year (three reports were labeled as overdoses, one involved an individual who on a later date overdosed and was found deceased, another was labeled as an unattended death that was a result of an overdose, and one overdosed while driving resulting in significant damage to property in Locust and a DWI arrest). It is listed that there were “likely more” opioid related overdoses due to Locust officers labeling some of these responses as “medical calls” or “assist EMS” which would require a review of 212 medical calls in 2018 to determine how many were overdose related.

BUSINESS/NEIGHBORHOOD PATROLS

For 2018, there was an increase in completed patrols from 15,594 in 2017 to 16,793 this year. This represented a daily average of completed patrols of 46.01 in 2018. Regular patrols of businesses and neighborhoods in Locust remain a heavily emphasized policy for all Locust patrol officers.

ARREST CHARGES

Arrest charges made by the Locust Police Department in 2018 became a difficult number to accurately document due to a previously unknown duplication that was occurring in the reporting database in years prior. Without providing extensive detail, due to reporting requirements for Locust officers as well as staff at the Stanly County Jail, it appears in the reporting system that in previous years arrest charges in Locust would be reported at approximately twice the number that actually occurred. As a result, no arrest charge comparison between 2017 and 2018 would be accurate. For 2018, the Locust Police Department reported 199 arrest charges for the year. Of those charges, DWI again topped the list with 40, followed by failure to appear and misdemeanor larceny charges at 23 each. It should be noted that the Locust Police Department obtained many more charges for violations of criminal activity than the 199 reported. When arrest warrants were obtained after criminal investigations and another agency made the arrest on the active Locust warrant, it would not be reflected in Locust's arrest charge number.

CITATION CHARGES

Citation charges for 2018 saw a decrease in issued citation charges by 21.5% from the previous year. 997 citation charges were issued by Locust officers in 2018. Some factors for this decrease are explained by the increase in call volume resulting in officers responding to calls for service making them unavailable for traffic enforcement. Officer turnover and replacement was also a factor as new officers require training with veteran officers for several months before they can perform patrol duties including traffic enforcement on their own. Breakdown of the citation charge number reveals that the department averaged 83.1 citation charges monthly and 2.7 daily. Another possible factor could be discretionary warnings by Locust officers issued at a higher rate. 1,008 warnings were issued by Locust officers on traffic stops in 2018 which would exceed the number of citation charges issued.

TRAFFIC CRASHES

Traffic crashes reported in the city for 2018 were 214, up just 2 crashes from the previous year for a difference of .9%. This total number would include all reported crashes which would also represent parking lot fender benders. Breakdown of total crashes were 137 reported crashes on Locust streets and highways and 77 that occurred in business or residential parking lots. The average monthly approximated property damage number reported for Locust crashes was just above \$55,798.00. Intersections at West Main Street and Meadowcreek Church Road, North Central Avenue at Meadowcreek Church Road/Bethel Church Road, Main Street and Central Avenue, West Main Street and Renee Ford Road, and West Main Street and Red Bridge Boulevard continue to be locations where annually more crashes occur. At year's end it was inconclusive if a stop light installed during 2018 at West Main Street and Brown's Hill Road had made a considerable difference in crash activity.

OVERALL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

Overall, numbers related to dispatched calls generated in 2018 compared to 2017 is where the growth of the city is most evident. Overall law enforcement activity are statistics compiled by Stanly Communications and represent all calls for the year as well as case numbers generated by the Locust Police Department. These numbers would also include all self-initiated activities by Locust officers such as traffic stops or other observations made by officers on patrol that results in a self-initiation.

In total, 5,728 calls were either dispatched to or initiated by the Locust Police Department in 2018, 607 more than the 5,121 in 2017. There was a decrease in overall report numbers generated by the department however the decrease in citation charges issued where a report number would be generated with those traffic stops is the most plausible explanation for that decrease. With tremendous city-wide growth in both business and residences projected to continue, regular consideration will have to be given to additional staffing for the Locust Police Department.

*****AN IMPORTANT NOTE ABOUT STATISTICAL BREAKDOWN – DUE TO HOW REPORTING SOFTWARE RECORDS OFFENSE TYPES/INCIDENTS, OFFENSE TYPES LISTED INCLUDE BOTH ATTEMPTS AND COMPLETED OFFENSES AS WELL AS ALLEGED OFFENSES THAT WERE PROVEN TO BE UNFOUNDED. OFFENSE TYPES ARE COUNTED TOGETHER REGARDLESS OF THESE DISTINCTIONS*****

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 Assistance/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 Activity – 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

Business Larceny – Larcenies Reported From Locust Businesses
Fraud – Counterfeiting, Forgery, Obtaining Property By False Pretense, Identity Theft, Etc.
Residential 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, 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 Activity – Resist, Obstruct, Or Delay, Vehicle Pursuits, Lesser Charges, Etc.
Ordinance Violations – Violations Of City Ordinances Investigated Or Committed
Vandalism – Defacement Of Property, Minor Arson, Etc.
Juvenile Violations – Illegal Activity Committed By Or Against 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 – Calls Related To 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.
Murder – Homicide

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

Offenses/Incident Reports

CATEGORY: GENERAL SERVICE

Call Type	2018 Total #	Monthly Avg.	2017 Total #	% Change
Escorts Provided	309	25.8	316	-2.2%
Assist EMS/Fire	212	17.7	188	+12.8%
Mutual Aid	56	4.7	40	+40.0%
Calls For Service	43	3.6	37	+16.2%
Assist Motorist	24	2.0	25	-4.0%
2018 TOTAL/ MONTHLY AVERAGE/ 2017 TOTAL/ % CHANGE	644	53.7	606	+6.3%

CATEGORY: GENERAL INVESTIGATION

Call Type	2018 Total #	Monthly Avg.	2017 Total #	% Change
Alarm Calls	164	13.7	159	+3.1%
Disturbances	138	11.5	123	+12.2%
Investigations	136	11.3	95	+43.2%
Suspicious Act.	84	7.0	83	+1.2%
Property Calls	20	1.7	15	+33.3%
Missing Persons*	7	0.6	6	+16.7%
2018 TOTAL/ MONTHLY AVERAGE/ 2017 TOTAL/ % CHANGE	549	45.8	481	+14.1%

*NO missing person's reports for 2018 included suspected foul play or went unsolved.

CATEGORY: PROPERTY/FINANCIAL CRIME

Call Type	2018 Total #	Monthly Avg.	2017 Total #	% Change
Bus. Larceny	158	13.2	122	+29.5%
Fraud	58	4.8	51	+13.7%
Vehicle Larceny	22	1.8	13	+69.2%
Resd. Larceny	21	1.8	26	-19.2%
2018 TOTAL/ MONTHLY AVERAGE/ 2017 TOTAL/ % CHANGE	259	21.6	212	+22.2%
TOTAL LARCENY OCCURRENCE (BUS., VEH., RES., PER.)	202	0.55 Avg. Daily Occurrence	161	+25.5%

PERSONAL LARCENY OCCURRENCE (VEH., RES., PER.)	44	0.12 Avg. Daily Occurrence	39	+12.8%
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CATEGORY: GENERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT/CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

Call Type	2018 Total #	Monthly Avg.	2017 Total #	% Change
Warrants	52	4.3	64	-18.8%
Traffic Offenses	45	3.8	52	-13.5%
Property Damage	39	3.3	34	+14.7%
Other Illegal Act.	20	1.7	21	-4.8%
Trespassing	16	1.3	14	+14.3%
Harassment	14	1.2	10	+40.0%
Weapons Viol.	8	0.7	10	-20.0%
Ordinance Viol.	4	0.3	5	-20.0%
Juvenile Viol.	2	0.2	2	----
Vandalism	0	----	2	-100.0%
2018 TOTAL/ MONTHLY AVERAGE/ 2017 TOTAL/ % CHANGE	200	16.7	214	-6.5%

CATEGORY: ALCOHOL/DRUGS

Call Type	2018 Total #	Monthly Avg.	2017 Total #	% Change
Drug Offenses	63	5.3	48	+31.3%
DWI	41	3.4	52	-21.2%
Alcohol Charges	5	0.4	8	-37.5
2018 TOTAL/ MONTHLY AVERAGE/ 2017 TOTAL/ % CHANGE	109	9.1	108	+0.9%

CATEGORY: PHYSICAL CRIME

Call Type	2018 Total #	Monthly Avg.	2017 Total #	% Change
Assaults	29	2.4	18	+61.1%
2018 DAILY AVERAGE	.08	----	.05	----

CATEGORY: SERIOUS/VIOLENT CRIME

Call Type	2018 Total #	Monthly Avg.	2017 Total #
Sex Offense	2*	--	2*
Personal Larceny/Robbery	1	--	0
Murder	0	--	0

*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	2018 Total #	2017 Total #
Death Investigation	5	2

2018 TOTAL OFFENSE TYPES AND INCIDENT REPORTS

2018 TOTAL OFFENSE TYPES/ MONTHLY/ DAILY AVG.	1798	149.8	4.9	<u>2017 #</u> 1643	<u>% Change</u> +9.4%
2018 TOTAL INCIDENT REPORTS COMPLETED/ MONTHLY/ DAILY AVG.	1631	135.9	4.5	<u>2017 #</u> 1496	<u>% Change</u> +9.0%

Area Patrols/Checks

Patrol Type	Total #	Monthly Avg.	Daily Avg.
Neighborhoods	9,046	753.8	24.8
Businesses	7,672	639.3	21.0
Requested House	42	3.5	---
Suspicious Vehicles	22	1.8	---
Special Investigation	10	0.8	---
Suspicious Persons	1	0.1	---
2018 TOTAL PATROLS/ DAILY PATROL AVG.	16,793	<u>2018 DAILY AVG.</u> 46.0	<u>2017 DAILY AVG.</u> 42.7

Arrests/Offense Charges/Counts

Charge	2018 Total #
Driving While Impaired	40
Failure To Appear	23
Misdemeanor Larceny	23
Assault On A Female	17
Obtaining Property By False Pretense	11
Larceny By Anti-Theft Device	9
Court Order/Probation Violation	7
Assault & Battery	5

Simple Assault	5
Concealed Weapon Violation	4
Felony Larceny	4
Minor Charges	4
Possession Heroin	4
Possession Stolen Goods	4
Embezzlement	3
Flee To Elude	3
Possession Methamphetamine	3
Possession Schedule I	3
Possession Schedule II	3
Possession Schedule VI	3
Common Law Robbery	2
DWI Under 21	2
Firearm By Felon	2
Possession Intent To Sell & Deliver Schedule III	2
Possession Intent To Sell & Deliver Schedule VI	2
Resist, Obstruct, Delay	2
Trespassing	2
Assault By Pointing A Gun	1
Breaking & Entering	1
Communicating Threats	1
Driving While License Revoked	1
Obtain Controlled Substance By Fraud	1
Shoplifting	1
Unauthorized Use Of Motor Vehicle	1
2018 TOTAL ARREST CHARGES/ MONTHLY/DAILY AVG.	199 16.6/0.55

Citation Charges

CATEGORY: SPEEDING

Citation Charge	Total #
Speeding	343
Speeding In School Zone	13
2018 TOTAL CATEGORY CHARGES	356
MONTHLY / DAILY AVERAGE	29.7 / 0.98
2017 TOTAL / % CHANGE	427 / -16.6%

CATEGORY: VEHICLE VIOLATIONS

Citation Charge	Total #
Expired Registration	111
Expired/No Inspection	25
Operate/Allow Vehicle With No Insurance	25
Fictitious/Altered Registration	23

Drive Motor Vehicle/Not Properly Registered	13
Cancelled/Revoked Registration	7
Vehicle Equipment Violations	4
2018 TOTAL CATEGORY CHARGES	208
MONTHLY / DAILY AVERAGE	17.3 / 0.6
2017 TOTAL / % CHANGE	304 / -31.6%

CATEGORY: LICENSE VIOLATIONS

Citation Charge	Total #
Driving While License Revoked	103
No Operator's License	66
Other License Violations	3
2018 TOTAL CATEGORY CHARGES	172
MONTHLY / DAILY AVERAGE	14.3 / 0.5
2017 TOTAL / % CHANGE	261 / -34.1%

CATEGORY: SAFETY/UNSAFE VIOLATIONS

Citation Charge	Total #
Lane Violations	27
Fail to Stop/Stop Sign Or Red Light	16
Unsafe Movement/Passing	15
Seatbelt Violations	13
Fail To Reduce Speed	11
Fail To Yield	9
Child Restraint Violations	8
Careless & Reckless Driving	7
Following Too Close	4
2018 TOTAL CATEGORY CHARGES	110
MONTHLY / DAILY AVERAGE	9.2 / 0.3
2017 TOTAL / % CHANGE	128 / -14.1%

CATEGORY: CRIMINAL/OTHER OFFENSES

Citation Charge	Total #
Misdemeanor Larceny	40
Other Charges	6
Hit & Run/Fail To Stop For Accident	5
Second Degree Trespass	2
Flee To Elude	2
Parking Violations	8
Resist, Delay, Obstruct	4
Fail To Stop For Stopped School Bus	2
Shoplifting	2
Speed Competition	2
Concealed Weapon Charge	1
Child Abuse	1
Damage To Property	1
Fail To Heed Blue Light	1

Littering	1
Possess Stolen Goods	1
2018 TOTAL CATEGORY CHARGES	79
MONTHLY / DAILY AVERAGE	6.6 / 0.2
2017 TOTAL / % CHANGE	61 / +29.5%

CATEGORY: ALCOHOL/DRUG OFFENSES

Citation Charge	Total #
Driving While Impaired	34
Possess Open Container Of Alcohol In Vehicle	5
Possession Schedule VI	14
Possession Drug Paraphernalia	9
Possess Alcohol Under 21	6
Drive After Consuming Under 21	2
Possession Schedule III	1
Possession Schedule IV	1
2018 TOTAL CATEGORY CHARGES	72
MONTHLY / DAILY AVERAGE	6.0 / 0.2
2017 TOTAL / % CHANGE	89 / -19.1%

2018 TOTAL CITATION CHARGES	997
MONTHLY / DAILY AVERAGE	83.1 / 2.7
2017 TOTAL # / % CHANGE	1,270 / -21.5%

Traffic Crashes

2018 TOTAL REPORTED TRAFFIC CRASHES (STREET/HIGHWAY, PVA) / MONTHLY AVG. / DAILY AVG.	214 / 17.8 / 0.6
2017 TOTAL REPORTED TRAFFIC CRASHES / % CHANGE	212 / +0.9%

TOTAL DISPATCHED CALLS / GENERATED CASE NUMBERS
TWO YEAR COMPARISON

2018 TOTAL CALLS / 2017 # / % CHANGE	5,728	5,121 / +11.9%
2018 TOTAL REPORT #S / 2017 # / % CHANGE	2,424	2,730 / -11.2%