



# **LOCUST POLICE DEPARTMENT**

## **2019 ANNUAL STATISTICS**

By: Assistant Chief Jeff B. Shew, Locust Police Department

### **SUMMARY OF 2019 STATISTICS**

#### **OFFENSE TYPES/INCIDENT REPORTS**

Law enforcement activities and statistics for the City of Locust in 2019 again showed a tremendous year of low criminal activity which continues to show Locust to be a very safe city to visit and live. 2019 statistics continued to also show that the tremendous growth that has occurred and is ongoing in Locust has resulted in an elevated call volume for our agency. Statistics documented by the Locust Police Department for the 2019 calendar year showed a 2.9% increase in documented offense types and a 5.5% increase in recorded incident reports. At least some increase was seen in the majority of statistical categories with significant increases in calls including incidents involving calls for service, suspicious activity, and larcenies from or involving vehicles. Despite any statistical increases involving calls that were potentially criminal in nature, numbers continued to show an overall low daily incidence of larceny, fraud, and assault activity and virtually zero incidents of violent crime. This indicates that in 2019 Locust remained and still remains a very safe city with an overall low volume of crime and criminal activity.

For 2019, the Locust Police Department continued with its policy of reports being documented for dispatched calls where interaction with the public occurred. There was a 5.5% increase in documented incident reports compared to 2018, and reported offenses documented within those reports increased by 2.9% 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 6.8% from the previous year, which followed a 6.3% jump in 2018. 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. A 79% increase seen in

calls for service shows a more regular request for law enforcement response which could be indicative of an increased population.

General investigation call types were up 2.9% from 2018 which followed a 14.1% increase from 2017 to 2018. 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, suspicious activity calls increased by nearly 55%, and is another call type that could be indicative of population growth. Disturbance call types, another potentially growth-based call type were up 2.9% which followed a 12.2% increase in 2018 and a 15% increase in 2017. Nine 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.

Again in 2019, if accounted for the overall rate of incidence, statistics were positive in the category involving call types related to property and financial crime. There was again however an overall increase in property crime offenses for the year with 23 additional property and financial crime offenses reported from the number in 2018. Overall, this represented an 8.9% increase in call types related to theft or fraud. Breaking this down further, there was a 2.5% increase in business related larcenies, residential related larcenies increased by 19.1%, and larcenies related to vehicles increased by 29 for a sizeable 131.8% jump. To detail the 131.8% jump in vehicle related larcenies to show a positive with that number, 12 of those offenses occurred in the overnight hours of one day in June, and arrests were made in all of those incidents. Positively, fraud related offenses showed a statistical drop for the year with a 24.1% decrease from the previous year. Overall, personal larceny affecting persons, vehicles, or residences continued to be extremely low showing a daily average occurrence of just 0.21, less than one incidence every four days. It should also be noted in 2019, that the Locust Police Department showed a 68.7% clearance rate in property crime/fraud related reports meaning that nearly 69% of the time for the year, the Locust Police Department made an arrest or achieved another satisfactory disposition in property crime and fraud related incidents (See 2019 Annual Clearance Statistics Report).

General law enforcement/criminal activity offense types showed a category decrease in 2019 and were down 7% from 2018. Decreases were seen in every type of offense in this category with increases seen in traffic offenses that required an incident report and trespassing reports.

Alcohol and drug related offense types decreased by 6.4% for the year from 109 in 2018 to 102 in 2019. DWI offense types decreased considerably, but other alcohol charges and drug related offenses increased for the year. Reported drug related offenses are any incidents where charges related to drugs result, and alcohol charges are related to alcohol offenses that may or may not be related to DWIs. 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 decreased 27.6% for the year from 29 in 2018 to 21 in 2019. 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 however the city did not experience that association in 2019. This statistic for the year represents a daily average reported occurrence of assaults in Locust of just .06 which makes for an extremely low frequency of occurrence.

Other offense types reported for 2019 were 2 sex offenses, 1 robbery offense, and 3 designated death investigations. The two sex offenses reported were either confirmed to be unfounded or an arrest was made. The robbery offense occurred when Woodforest Bank was robbed in May 2019 by a male suspect who stated they had a gun. The suspect was later arrested after being linked to multiple bank robberies in the region. The death investigations did not involve foul play with all three confirmed to be a result of health issues/natural causes.

#### BUSINESS/NEIGHBORHOOD PATROLS

For 2019, there was an increase in completed patrols from 16,793 in 2018 to 20,490 this year. This represented a daily average of completed patrols of 56.1 in 2019. Regular and frequent 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 2019 continued to be 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, a Locust arrest charge would appear as being duplicated when statistical reports were printed making for an inaccurate charge number in years past. In 2019, we began manually tracking arrest charges so the reported number should be accurate. For 2019, the Locust Police Department reported 200 arrest charges which would be an increase of one from the previous year. Of those charges, warrant services and DWIs topped the list with 27 and 20 respectively. It should be noted that the Locust Police Department obtained many more charges for violations of criminal activity than the 200 reported. When arrest warrants were obtained after criminal investigations and another agency made the arrest on an active Locust warrant, it would not be reflected in Locust's arrest charge number based on how those statistical reports are produced. Per our 2019 clearance statistic report, the Locust Police Department showed a 75.4% clearance rate in criminal incidents which would be all incidents deemed criminal in nature that resulted in either an arrest or had to be closed due to exhausted leads. That statistic also showed that 269 Locust incidents were closed by arrest which would include warrants obtained by Locust officers following investigations (See 2019 Annual Clearance Statistics Report).

### CITATION CHARGES

Citation charges for 2019 saw an increase of one citation charge from the previous year. 998 citation charges were issued by Locust officers in 2019. Some factors for this number that continues to be down from prior years 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 83.2 citation charges monthly and 2.7 daily. Another possible factor could be discretionary warnings by Locust officers issued at a higher rate. An approximate monthly average of 114 warnings were issued by Locust officers on traffic stops in 2019 which would exceed the number of average monthly citation charges issued.

### TRAFFIC CRASHES

Traffic crashes reported in the city for 2019 were 197, down from 214 crashes in the previous year for a difference of 7.9%. This number represented a monthly average occurrence of just over 16 crashes a month, but that included both crashes occurring on Locust streets and highways as well as minor parking lot "fender benders". 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.

### OVERALL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACTIVITY

**Overall, numbers related to dispatched calls generated and/or attended by Locust officers in 2019 compared to 2018 is where the growth of the city and area continues to be 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. Total calls also include events occurring in other jurisdictions close-by that included or required Locust Police Department presence.**

**In total, 5,834 calls were either dispatched to, initiated by, or attended by the Locust Police Department in 2019, 106 more than in 2018. There was also an increase in overall report numbers generated by the department with a 6.2% increase documented compared to the prior year.**

**\*\*\*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, 1<sup>st</sup> Or 2<sup>nd</sup> 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	2019 Total #	Monthly Avg.	2018 Total #	% Change
Escorts Provided	304	25.3	309	-1.6%
Assist EMS/Fire	212	17.7	212	----
Calls For Service	77	6.4	43	+79.1%
Mutual Aid	72	6.0	56	+28.6%
Assist Motorist	23	1.9	24	-4.2%
<b>2019 TOTAL/ MONTHLY AVERAGE/ 2018 TOTAL/ % CHANGE</b>	<b>688</b>	<b>57.3</b>	<b>644</b>	<b>+6.8%</b>

## CATEGORY: GENERAL INVESTIGATION

Call Type	2019 Total #	Monthly Avg.	2018 Total #	% Change
Alarm Calls	167	13.9	164	+1.8%
Disturbances	142	11.8	138	+2.9%
Suspicious Act.	130	10.8	84	+54.8%
Investigations	104	8.7	136	-23.5%
Property Calls	13	1.1	20	-35.0%
Missing Persons*	9	0.8	7	+28.6%
<b>2019 TOTAL/ MONTHLY AVERAGE/ 2018 TOTAL/ % CHANGE</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>47.1</b>	<b>549</b>	<b>+2.9%</b>

\*NO missing person's reports for 2019 included suspected foul play or went unsolved.

## CATEGORY: PROPERTY/FINANCIAL CRIME

Call Type	2019 Total #	Monthly Avg.	2018 Total #	% Change
Bus. Larceny	162	13.5	158	+2.5%
Vehicle Larceny	51	4.3	22	+131.8%
Fraud	44	3.7	58	-24.1%
Resd. Larceny	25	2.1	21	+19.1%
<b>2019 TOTAL/ MONTHLY AVERAGE/ 2018 TOTAL/ % CHANGE</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>23.5</b>	<b>259</b>	<b>+8.9%</b>
<b>TOTAL LARCENY OCCURRENCE (BUS., VEH., RES., PER.)</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>0.66 Avg. Daily Occurrence</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>+18.3%</b>

<b>PERSONAL LARCENY OCCURRENCE (VEH., RES., PER.)</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>0.21 Avg. Daily Occurrence</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>+72.7%</b>
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CATEGORY: GENERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT/CRIMINAL ACTIVITY

<b>Call Type</b>	<b>2019 Total #</b>	<b>Monthly Avg.</b>	<b>2018 Total #</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Warrants	50	4.2	52	-3.9%
Traffic Offenses	48	4.0	45	+6.7%
Property Damage	31	2.6	39	-20.5%
Other Illegal Act.	19	1.6	20	-5.0%
Trespassing	18	1.5	16	+12.5%
Harassment	9	0.8	14	-35.7%
Weapons Viol.	7	0.6	8	-12.5%
Juvenile Viol.	2	0.2	2	----
Ordinance Viol.	2	0.2	4	-50.0%
Vandalism	0	----	0	----
<b>2019 TOTAL/ MONTHLY AVERAGE/ 2018 TOTAL/ % CHANGE</b>	<b>186</b>	<b>15.5</b>	<b>200</b>	<b>-7.0%</b>

CATEGORY: ALCOHOL/DRUGS

<b>Call Type</b>	<b>2019 Total #</b>	<b>Monthly Avg.</b>	<b>2018 Total #</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Drug Offenses	75	6.3	63	+19.1%
DWI	21	1.8	41	-48.8%
Alcohol Charges	6	0.5	5	+20.0%
<b>2019 TOTAL/ MONTHLY AVERAGE/ 2018 TOTAL/ % CHANGE</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>8.5</b>	<b>109</b>	<b>-6.4%</b>

CATEGORY: PHYSICAL CRIME

<b>Call Type</b>	<b>2019 Total #</b>	<b>Monthly Avg.</b>	<b>2018 Total #</b>	<b>% Change</b>
Assaults	<b>21</b>	1.8	29	<b>-27.6%</b>
<b>2019 DAILY AVERAGE</b>	<b>.06</b>	----	.08	----

CATEGORY: SERIOUS/VIOLENT CRIME

<b>Call Type</b>	<b>2019 Total #</b>	<b>Monthly Avg.</b>	<b>2018 Total #</b>
Sex Offense	2*	--	2*
Personal Larceny/Robbery	1	--	1
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	2019 Total #	2018 Total #
Death Investigation	3	5

**2019 TOTAL OFFENSE TYPES AND INCIDENT REPORTS**

<b>2019 TOTAL OFFENSE TYPES/ MONTHLY/ DAILY AVG.</b>	<b>1850</b>	154.2	5.1	<b>2018 #</b> 1798	<b>% Change</b> <b>+2.9%</b>
<b>2019 TOTAL INCIDENT REPORTS COMPLETED/ MONTHLY/ DAILY AVG.</b>	<b>1720</b>	143.3	4.7	<b>2018 #</b> 1631	<b>% Change</b> <b>+5.5%</b>

Area Patrols/Checks

Patrol Type	Total #	Monthly Avg.	Daily Avg.
Neighborhoods	10,452	871	28.6
Businesses	9,951	829.3	27.3
Requested House	49	4.1	---
Suspicious Vehicles	31	2.6	---
Suspicious Persons	5	0.4	---
Special Investigation	2	0.2	---
<b>2019 TOTAL PATROLS/ DAILY PATROL AVG.</b>	<b>20,490</b>	<b><u>2019 DAILY AVG.</u></b> <b>56.1</b>	<b><u>2018 DAILY AVG.</u></b> 46.0

Arrests/Offense Charges/Counts

Charge	2019 Total #
Warrant Service	27
Driving While Impaired	20
Failure To Appear	16
Misdemeanor Larceny	16
Possess Drug Paraphernalia	12
Resist, Obstruct, Delay	12
Assault On A Female	10
Obtaining Property By False Pretense	9

Possession Methamphetamine	9
Minor Charges	7
Possession Schedule VI	6
Trespassing	6
Felony Larceny	5
Larceny By Anti-Theft Device	5
Court Order/Probation Violation	4
Identity Theft	4
Possession Heroin	4
Possession Intent To Sell & Deliver Schedule VI	3
Simple Assault	3
Concealed Weapon Violation	2
Drug Trafficking	2
Embezzlement	2
Possession Schedule II	2
Assault On A Child	1
Breaking & Entering	1
Communicating Threats	1
Damage To Property	1
Driving While License Revoked	1
Firearm By Felon	1
Flee To Elude	1
Forgery	1
Indecent Liberties With Child	1
Possession Schedule I	1
Possession Schedule III	1
Possession Schedule IV	1
Possession Stolen Goods	1
Solicit Child With Electronic Device	1
<b>2019</b>	
<b>TOTAL ARREST CHARGES/</b>	<b>200</b>
<b>MONTHLY/DAILY AVG.</b>	<b>16.7/0.55</b>

### Citation Charges

#### CATEGORY: SPEEDING

Citation Charge	Total #
Speeding	295
Speeding In School Zone	10
<b>2019 TOTAL CATEGORY CHARGES</b>	<b>305</b>
<b>MONTHLY / DAILY AVERAGE</b>	25.4 / 0.84
<b>2018 TOTAL / % CHANGE</b>	356 / -14.3%

#### CATEGORY: LICENSE VIOLATIONS

Citation Charge	Total #
Driving While License Revoked	170



No Operator's License	73
Other License Violations	5
<b>2019 TOTAL CATEGORY CHARGES</b>	<b>248</b>
<b>MONTHLY / DAILY AVERAGE</b>	20.7 / 0.7
<b>2018 TOTAL / % CHANGE</b>	172 / +44.2%

CATEGORY: VEHICLE VIOLATIONS

<b>Citation Charge</b>	<b>Total #</b>
Expired Registration	124
Fictitious/Altered Registration	29
Operate/Allow Vehicle With No Insurance	26
Expired/No Inspection	25
Drive Motor Vehicle/Not Properly Registered	23
Vehicle Equipment Violations	14
Cancelled/Revoked Registration	4
<b>2019 TOTAL CATEGORY CHARGES</b>	<b>245</b>
<b>MONTHLY / DAILY AVERAGE</b>	20.4 / 0.7
<b>2018 TOTAL / % CHANGE</b>	208 / +17.8%

CATEGORY: SAFETY/UNSAFE VIOLATIONS

<b>Citation Charge</b>	<b>Total #</b>
Fail to Stop/Stop Sign Or Red Light	24
Lane Violations	15
Unsafe Movement/Passing	15
Fail To Reduce Speed	11
Seatbelt Violations	7
Fail To Yield	5
Careless & Reckless Driving	4
Following Too Close	3
Texting Violations	2
Child Restraint Violations	1
<b>2019 TOTAL CATEGORY CHARGES</b>	<b>87</b>
<b>MONTHLY / DAILY AVERAGE</b>	7.3 / 0.2
<b>2018 TOTAL / % CHANGE</b>	110 / -20.9%

CATEGORY: CRIMINAL/OTHER OFFENSES

<b>Citation Charge</b>	<b>Total #</b>
Misdemeanor Larceny	36
Parking Violations	9
Concealed Weapon Charge	6
Hit & Run/Fail To Stop For Accident	6
Resist, Delay, Obstruct	3
Second Degree Trespass	2
Shoplifting	2
Child Abuse	1
Fail To Heed Blue Light	1
Flee To Elude	1

Other Charges	1
<b>2019 TOTAL CATEGORY CHARGES</b>	<b>68</b>
<b>MONTHLY / DAILY AVERAGE</b>	5.7 / 0.2
<b>2018 TOTAL / % CHANGE</b>	79 / -13.9%

CATEGORY: ALCOHOL/DRUG OFFENSES

<b>Citation Charge</b>	<b>Total #</b>
Possession Schedule VI	17
Driving While Impaired	10
Possess Open Container Of Alcohol In Vehicle	9
Possession Drug Paraphernalia	7
Possess Alcohol Under 21	1
Possession Schedule II	1
<b>2019 TOTAL CATEGORY CHARGES</b>	<b>45</b>
<b>MONTHLY / DAILY AVERAGE</b>	3.8 / 0.1
<b>2018 TOTAL / % CHANGE</b>	72 / -37.5%

<b>2019</b>	
<b>TOTAL CITATION CHARGES</b>	<b>998</b>
<b>MONTHLY / DAILY AVERAGE</b>	<b>83.2 / 2.7</b>
<b>2018 TOTAL # / % CHANGE</b>	997 / +0.1%

Traffic Crashes

<b>2019 TOTAL REPORTED TRAFFIC CRASHES (STREET/HIGHWAY, PVA) / MONTHLY AVG. / DAILY AVG.</b>	197 / 16.4 / 0.5
<b>2018 TOTAL REPORTED TRAFFIC CRASHES / % CHANGE</b>	214 / -7.9%

**TOTAL DISPATCHED-ATTENDED CALLS / GENERATED CASE NUMBERS, TWO YEAR COMPARISON**

<b>2019 TOTAL CALLS / 2018 # / % CHANGE</b>	<b>5,834</b>	5,728 / +1.9%
<b>2019 TOTAL REPORT #S / 2018 # / % CHANGE</b>	<b>2,575</b>	2,424 / +6.2%