

2022 Year in Review

Statement of Intent

We, the South Charleston Police Department, serve an ever expanding, continuously changing community. Our community is culturally diversified as to race, education, religion, and social economic background, requiring a variety of departmental approaches to community problems. Our police department is deeply concerned for its citizens both collectively and individually. We realize that alternatives to arrest, depending on individual circumstances, are often beneficial.

Our department will maintain an atmosphere of professionalism through extensive officer training, updated operational policy, and open communication with its citizenry.

We strive to maintain an environment in which officers may perform their duties with acceptance, understanding, and approval of the public. The willing participation of all people is desired and encouraged, as well as essential to departmental operations and communications.

The department will avoid secrecy in its operations, always maintaining openness in matters of public interest, preserving the rights of people while realizing certain situations necessitate confidentiality. It is our mission to serve people in a manner befitting human dignity, ever mindful of our legal and moral responsibilities. We assume a leadership role by offering direction in community affairs, by advocating a high degree of personal security, and by unbiased enforcement of the law.

We strive to handle each encounter based on its own merits, thus minimizing the risk of misunderstanding and restriction of individual freedoms.

2022

With the ever-changing challenges of Clark County and the Village. The police department is working hard to keep up with the needs of the citizens and the community. Traffic Stops have more than doubled this past year and we had an increase in some areas of crime. We are still operating on 24/7 coverage to handle the needs of Village. It is difficult at times, but we are making it happen. The spot light on policing as taken a toll on many agencies including ours, but I want the citizens to know

someone is available if needed. I want to thank the residents for their support. It means a lot to me and the officers on staff.

Personnel

In 2022 The department had 3 full-time officers and 10 part-time employees. The full time employees consisted of Sgt Pugh, School Resource Officer Dunsmore and myself. The part-time employees are Lt Repik, Ofc Rosales, Ofc Roberts, Ofc Hudson, Ofc Stark, Ofc Hull, Ofc Diviak, Ofc Edgar, Ofc Marlett, Ofc Myers. Lt Repik retired at the end of 2021 and stayed on to assist with training and filling in for me when I am out of the office. Sgt Stratton left the department early in the year, so SRO Dunsmore was promoted to Sergeant. I decided in 2021 that I wanted 2 Sergeants on staff, that way I have help with supervisory issues and I am able to delegate my duties a little more. Ofc Marlett was brought on staff early in the year and he came over from Premier Health. Ofc Myers left Russell Point and started early in the year. Ofc Myers is a Northeastern graduate and he wanted a job closer to home. Ofc Edgar graduated from an Academy in Delaware County. He is from Madison County and came to the department in the Summer. The department has a lot of versatile experience and that is a positive for the Village. Ofc Marlett is being moved to an SRO position in January, so the school has two on staff.

Vehicles

The vehicles for the year had normal maintenance. Normal maintenance consists of oil changes, tire replacement, tire rotation and brake work. We currently have 6 vehicles in house, but that will be going to 5 in 2023. The 2014 Chevy Tahoe will be taken out of service once we have some equipment installed on one of the cruisers. We purchased 2 used cruisers in October 2022 from Chicago Motors. One cruiser was 100% outfitted where as the other needed some minor police equipment installed. One of the used cruisers will be assigned at the school and Southeastern help split the cost of that vehicle for the new SRO vehicle. We appreciate the working relationship we have with the school to make these types of transitions go smooth. The 2021 Ford was driven about 11,586 miles over the course of the year. The 2018 was driven about 13,800 miles and the 2016 was driven about 10,000 miles. Once the Tahoe is taken out of service the 2016 will assigned to the schools. I have been trying to manage the miles and maintenance on the cruisers, so they can be in service as long as possible before they are replaced. Once the Tahoe is taken out of service all the cruisers in the Village will be marked. Having an unmarked vehicle was beneficial over the last several years, but our needs are changing, so I decide to go back with all marked cars. The Village still has the golf cart and Humvee and are used as needed.

Training

In 2022 The state required 24 hours of continuing education along with our required training. The training requested by the state is usually categorized in different topics. Those topics are chosen by a committee at the state level. In 2022 some of those categories consisted of Mental Health, Legal, and Domestic violence. Our insurance company requires that we do Use of Force training yearly, so that is usually done in the fall. We conduct Active Shooter training on a regular basis, which last year we held the training at Choctaw Lake. Their department has been training with us at times over the past couple of years. Active shooter Training deals with more than just school threats. That has been a misconception over the years. An Active Shooter can be anywhere and we need to train for the different scenarios. We go to the range twice a year to stay proficient in firearms and Taser training is usually done in the Spring. We also had training in report writing, training from the Clark Co Department of Disabilities, and subject control during Traffic Stops. There were some other minor trainings through out the year dealing with say to day operations of the department. I Chief Redish have been continuing with management and command classes. Sgt Pugh was sent to FTO (Field Training) and Supervisor class.

Equipment

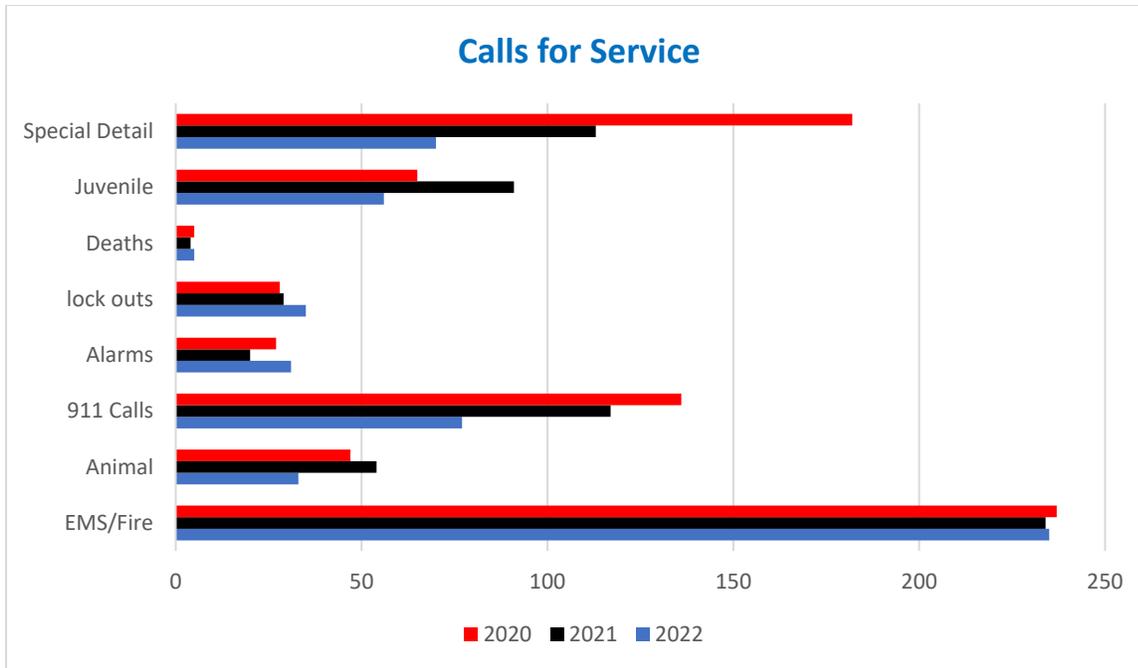
The County is in the process of opening a new dispatch center to help with response times and safety of our communities and then there are some new communication regulations coming. With that being said we are preparing for the change. In 2022 we purchased 7 new Kenwood Radios. Five of those are portable for the officers and 2 are mobile. We have been upgrading radios over the past couple of years for several reason. The County switched to the Marcs radio system in 2012 and over the years the state continues to upgrade that system. In 2025 some regulations are in place that would take 10 of our radios out of service. So, over the last couple of years we have been slowly purchasing new. We will be selling some of our old ones to recover some cost. Kenwood Radios are half the price of a Motorola Radio and are just as effective. We also had to replace two computers for the cruiser. These are replacing two refurbished computers that were donated to the department in 2016. We traded some old non department weapons for some ammo through Vance's Law enforcement. There were two new Taser purchased. Then we also contracted with Lexipol to upgrade our policy and procedures. This was a must with the changes in time and the path law enforcement is traveling. Some of our policies haven't been updated since their implementation in the 80's. Also, with the new demographics of policing there were policies that we never thought of. Lexipol also makes sure the polices are pushed out to the employes through written and training directives. Over the past 10 years of being Chief I have tried to strive and make sure the department is staying up with the changes in law enforcement, so we can keep up with the needs of village and society.

Participation

2022 was no different than past years we teamed up with SCYA for the Easter Egg Hunt. We participated with the Village Cup for the Passport portion of Christmas in the Village. We went to Choctaw Lake for National Night out and this past year we donated a gift basket for the passing of our former Officer Matt Mitchell. There were quarterly coffee and conversation gathering established at Charleston Court Apt, so we can keep in touch with some of the elderly needs. Even though Covid has slowed down we continue to assist with groceries in town.

Enforcement

There were 2,245 calls for service in 2022 with 612 reports taken with 103 of them being criminal. We arrested 11 people on warrants, which is much higher than the previous couple of years. We issued 334 citations off of 666 Traffic stops. There was a significant increase in speed and driving under suspension citation. I believe traffic violation are trending due to society and absurd laws coming out in certain states. There were stops in the Village where the driver are on their 5th speed citation in a year, Semi backing up in intersections, because they complete miss their turns due to GPS issues and the drivers not caring about the safety, and numerous individuals driving under suspension numerous times and being caught, then becoming disorderly with the officer for being stopped. Those are just some of the issues we have been facing in the Village this year. Again, Thank You for your support.



In 2022 we had 2,245 calls for service. There were 612 reports generated from those calls of service. Listed below are some of our larger categories pertaining to our run volume.

Suspicious activity 89 CFS

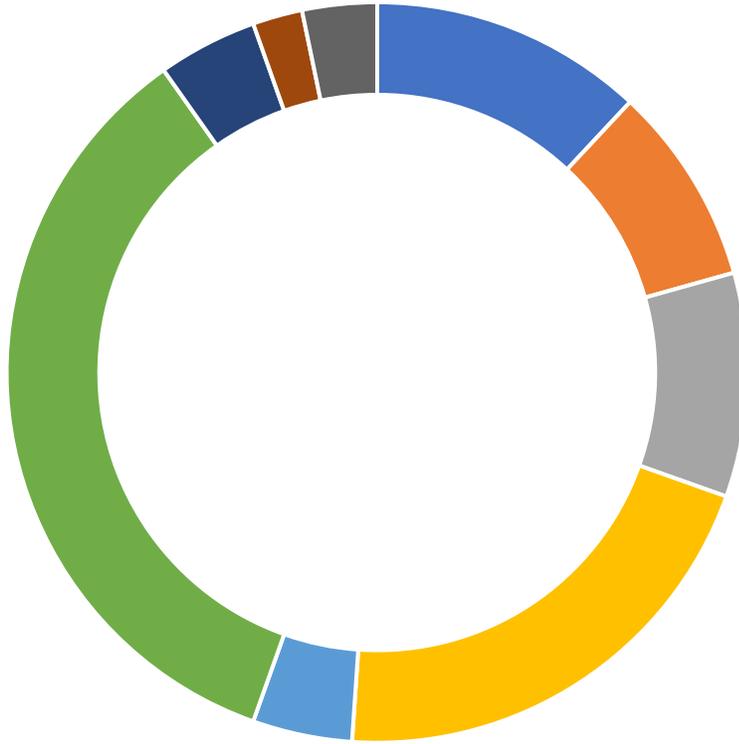
Traffic Stops 666 CFS

Ems/Fire 235 CFS

Animal complaints 33CFS

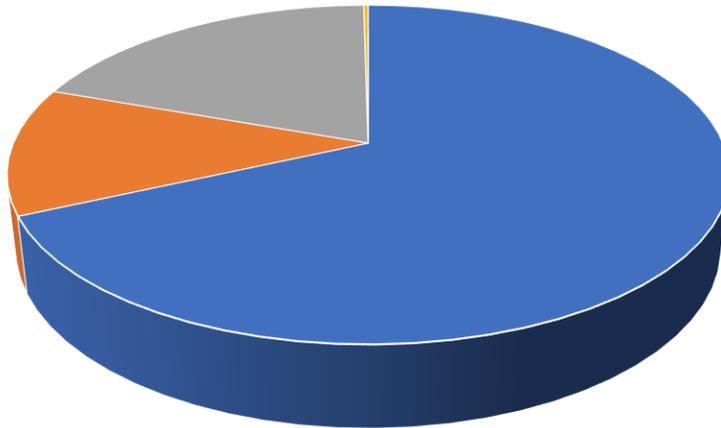
911 Calls 77

Criminal



■ Assault ■ Burglary ■ Drugs ■ Domestic ■ Fraud ■ Theft ■ Vandalism ■ Weapons ■ Sex Offense

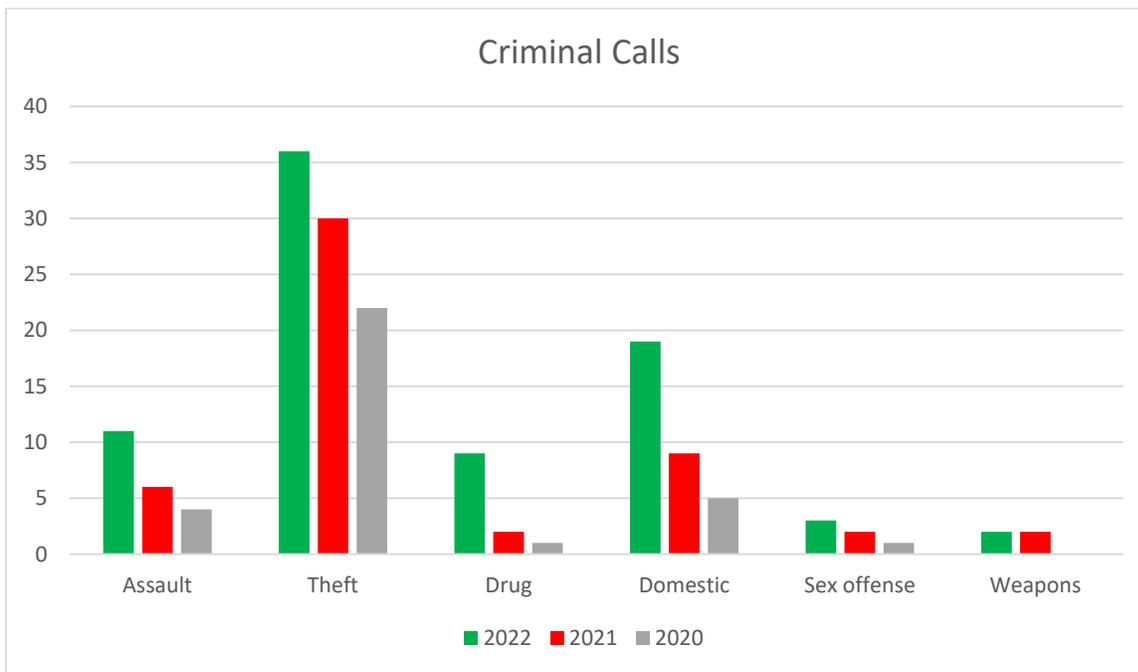
Reports



■ Traffic Stops ■ informational ■ Reports ■ Criminal

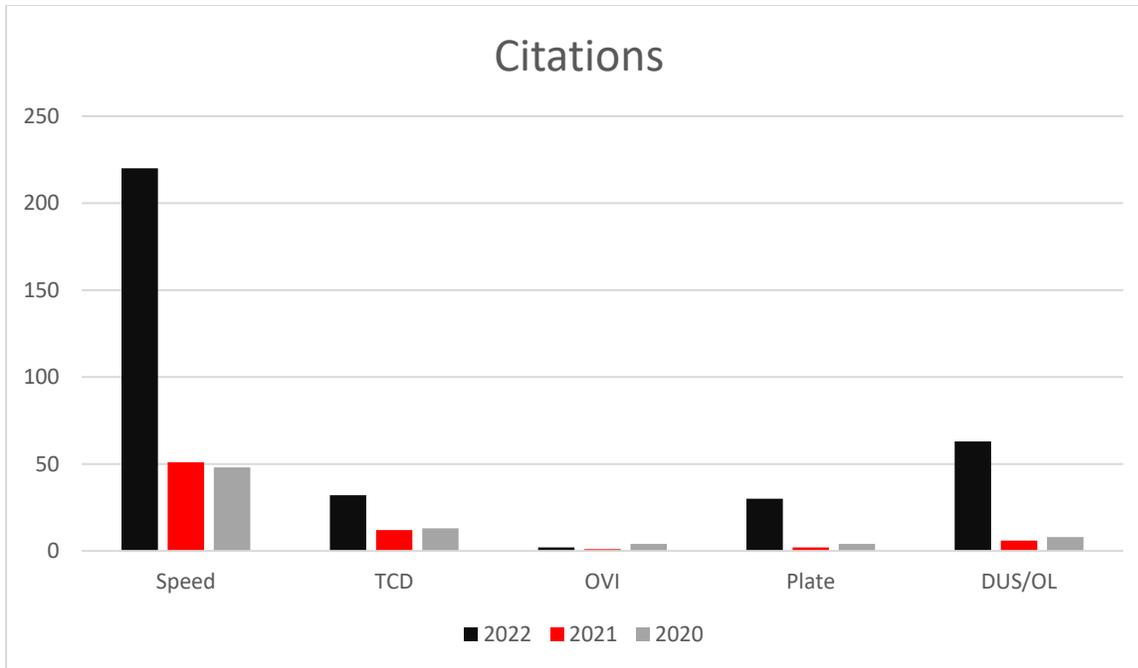
In 2022 we handled 612 reports of those reports 346 were traffic, 62 informational, 103 criminal and the remaining were miscellaneous. In the upper graph you see the break down in the criminal issues that were handled. When it comes to miscellaneous reports, those consisted of suspicious activity, EMS issues, alarms and anything that needed documented for citizens or the officer fills that needs recorded.

Theft led the way in criminal reports with domestic in second and assaults in third. We had 11 arrests from warrants in 2022. Below is a graph that compares this year's crime to the previous couple of years.



As you see by the graph, crime had increased a little in 2022, but you need to take into consideration that the previous two years were lock down / Covid era.

We have seen an increase in weapon charges the past couple of years. Some of that is due to society and some is due to certain individuals being ignorant to the law. All sex offenses in the county are handled by the Sheriff's Department per the Prosecutor we just take the initial report. Assaults and Domestic were up from previous year. These could be trending upward due to society, so that will have to be monitored the next couple of years. Drugs were up, because traffic stops are up. We are at the crossroads between I70 and I71, so a lot of traffic is using alternate routes to stay out of the police eyes.

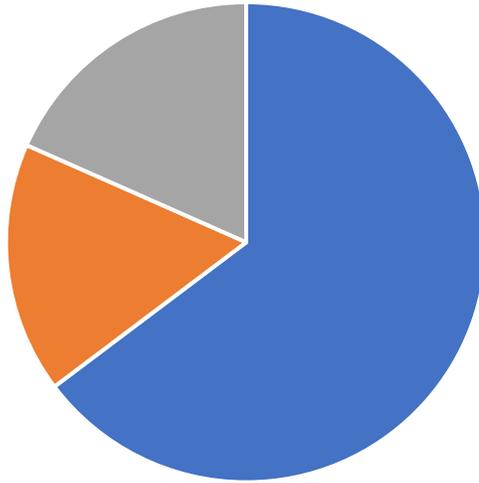


Citations were up across the board this past year with speed having the biggest impact. Second was license restrictions (DUS) followed by traffic control device and plate violations.

We issued 220 speeding citations in 2022. We had a lot of issues on N Chillicothe and E Columbus on our major roadways. In the plates we had issues on Clifton Rd, Jamestown Rd and Church St. On Chillicothe St we had a Semi as high as 72 MPH in a 35. The main issues for the increases in speed were distractive driving, people running late and miss use of GPS.

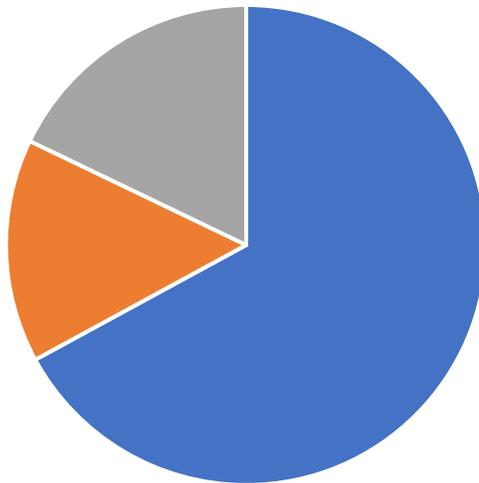
We are a throughfare for a lot of people traveling through the area and this was part of the increase in speed citations. There were citations written to numerous visitors from surrounding states as far away as Florida and instate all the way to Cleveland. With SR41 being a connector from I 71 to I 70 at times these are challenges that we face.

Stops

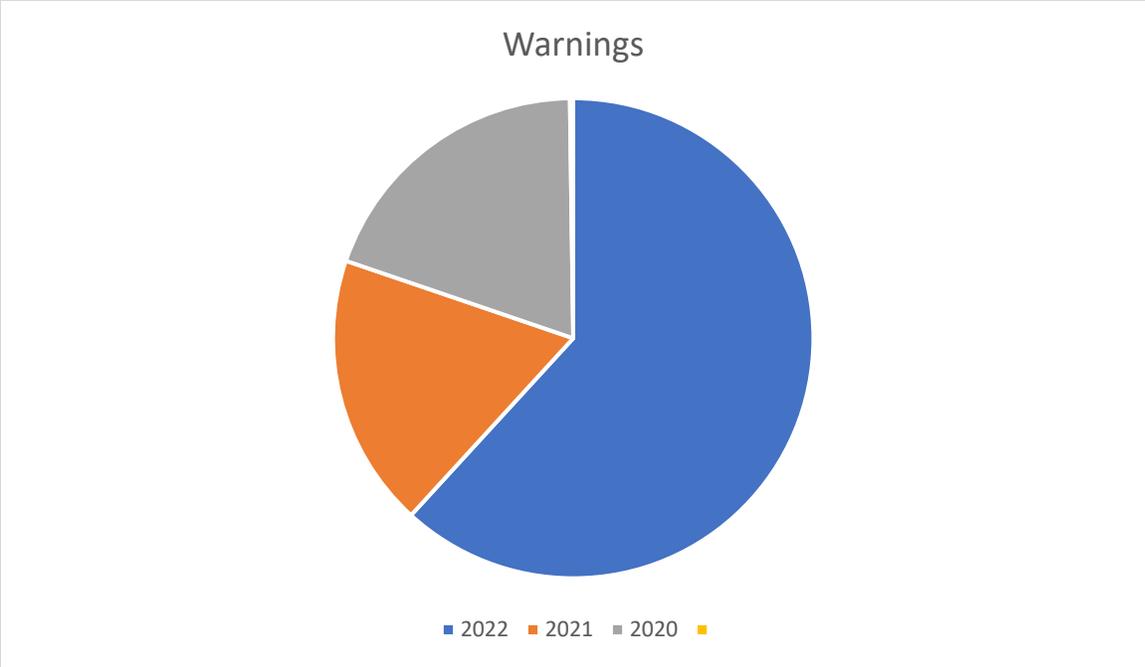


■ 2022 ■ 2021 ■ 2020 ■

Citations



■ 2022 ■ 2021 ■ 2020 ■



Now that Covid and lock downs are done in the majority of the populations eye traffic is up. Also, all restrictions were lifted by the state, which caused issues in a lot of ways. We seen a significant jump in traffic stops. There were 666 traffic stops conducted in 2022. Of those stops we wrote 334 citations with 374 charges.

There were 1.8 traffic stops a day, with .91 citations a day. We issued 6.3 citations a week. The majority of the citations were speed and we had just as many issues in the plats as our major throughfares.