

## Patrol Committee Report June 2026

I've been looking at the statistics for the past couple of years and running them through some AI tools for analysis. In general, the feedback from the AI analysis is:

- **“Our data does not show a clear increase in crime during the months we had only four deputies—but it also does not prove that four deputies provide the same level of safety and deterrence as five.”**
- **“The reduced-staffing period coincided with naturally lower-crime months, so we cannot separate seasonal effects from staffing effects.”**
- **“The fifth deputy adds deterrence, coverage, and flexibility that the numbers don’t fully capture—but residents feel it, and criminals can sense it over time. During the period of four deputies, the criminals were unlikely to be aware of less patrols, and unlikely to immediately target the area during patrol gaps.”**
- **“If reduced staffing became permanent or widely known, we risk creating predictable gaps in patrol visibility that could be exploited in the future.**
- **“With 4 deputies, you’re closer to the edge. You can still *function*, but:**
  - **Gaps in patrol coverage are more likely.**
  - **Response times can stretch when multiple calls hit at once.**
  - **Directed patrols and proactive visibility are the first things to get squeezed.”**

We also need to remember that residents are aware of the cost of patrols, that one deputy is \$3-\$4 per month per home. Most residents responding to a previous social media post made it clear that they would pay to increase patrols and were not in favor of reducing patrols.