City of South Lake Tahoe
Police Advisory Commission
Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, May 1, 2024 at 4:00 pm
City Hall - Council Chambers - 1901 Lisa Maloff Way, South Lake Tahoe

Police Advisory Commission
Erika Gonzalez, Chair
Tom Davis
Ayana Morali
Justin Zunino
Keith Roberts

Public Participation
Police Advisory Commission meetings are held in person at the time and location listed on this agenda. Meetings are live-streamed on Channel 21, on the City's website at www.cityofslt.us.
A public agenda packet is available for review at City Hall, 1901 Lisa Maloff Way, on the City's Website at www.cityofslt.us, or by contacting the City Clerk's Office, (530) 542-6005 or sblankenship@cityofslt.us.

Providing Public Comment at the time indicated by the Chair:

In Person: Every agenda for regular meetings provides an opportunity for members of the public to directly address the legislative body (Police Advisory Commission), on any item of public interest which is within the jurisdiction of the Police Advisory Commission during Public Communications. For items on the agenda or in connection with any item which the Police Advisory Commission will consider, the public is given the opportunity to comment before or during the Police Advisory Commission's consideration of the item [Government Code Section 54954.3(a)].

In Writing: Written public comment regarding any item on this agenda may be sent to PublicComment@cityofslt.us. When emailing comments, identify the agenda item number in the subject line to which your comments relate. Any such comment that is a public record and is emailed to PublicComment@cityofslt.us or otherwise provided to a majority of the Police Advisory Commission 72 hours before the meeting will be made available for public inspection during normal business hours at the City Clerk's Office located at City Hall, 1901 Lisa Maloff Way, South Lake Tahoe [Government Code Section 54957.5(b)]. Written comments will not be read out loud during the meeting.

The City Council Chambers meeting facility is accessible to people with disabilities. Every reasonable effort will be made to accommodate any person needing special assistance to attend this meeting. Contact the City Clerk at (530) 542-6005 at least 48 hours in advance of the meeting for assistance [28 CFR 35.102.35.104 ADA Title II and Brown Act Government Code Sections 54953.2, 54954.1, 54954.2, and 54957.5].

Oath of Office

Oath of Office
Requested Action / Suggested Motions: The City Clerk will administer an Oath of Office to newly appointed members.

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Public Communications
This is the public's opportunity to speak on any topic NOT LISTED on this agenda. Comments shall be limited to three (3) minutes. In accordance with the Brown Act, the Police Advisory Commission cannot deliberate or vote on any matter raised under public communications but may briefly respond to statements made or questions posed. (Government Code Sections 54954.2)

Vice Chair Selection

1. Vice Chair Selection for 2024
Requested Action / Suggested Motions: Pass a Motion selecting a Vice-Chair for the remainder of 2024.

Regular New Business

2. Police Advisory Commission Meeting Minutes
Requested Action / Suggested Motions: Pass a Motions approving the November 1, 2023, meeting minutes.
Responsible Staff Member(s): Susan Blankenship, City Clerk
01-11 01 2023 PAC Minutes.pdf

3. AB 481 Annual Report
Requested Action / Suggested Motions: Receive and File.
Responsible Staff Member(s): Police Chief Stevenson
01-STAFF REPORT PAC - 2023 AB 481 Annual Report 050124.docx
02-2023 AB 481 Annual Report.docx

4. Police Department Annual Report 2023
Requested Action / Suggested Motions: Receive and File.
Responsible Staff Member(s): Police Chief Stevenson
01-STAFF REPORT - PD ANNUAL REPORT 2023.docx
02 - 2023 PD Annual Report.pdf

City Staff Reports or Announcements

Commissioner Reports or Announcements
A Commissioner may request that an item be placed on a future agenda. Upon the support of one (1) additional Commissioner, direction shall be given to staff to calendar the item for a convenient future agenda.

Adjournment

I, Susan Blankenship, City Clerk, declare that the forgoing agenda fo the Wednesday, May 1, 2024, meeting of the Police Advisory Commission, was posted and available for review on April 25, 2024, at City Hall, 1901 Lisa Maloff Way, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150. The Agenda was also available on the City's website at https://www.cityofslt.us

City of South Lake Tahoe
Police Advisory Commission
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 1, 2023 at 4:00 pm
City Hall - Council Chambers - 1901 Lisa Maloff Way, South Lake Tahoe

Police Advisory Commission
Erika Gonzalez, Chair
Claudia Andersen, Vice Chair
Tom Davis
Ayana Morali
Justin Zunino

NOTE: The Meeting Minutes represent actions taken during the meeting of the PAC. Complete Commissioner discussions on Regular Session meeting items can be viewed in archived video recordings on the City's website at http://www.cityofslt.us Public submittals on items can be reviewed in the staff reports contained in the agenda packet as permanent public record and can be viewed on the City's website at http://www.cityofslt.us

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance
Chair Gonzalez called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. Gonzalez then led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Roll Call
Present for the record were Chair Gonzalez, Vice Chair Andersen and Commissioners Davis and Morali. Commissioner Zunino was absent.

Also present were Police Chief Stevenson, Assistant City Attorney Bardzell, and City Clerk Blankenship.

Public Communications
None.

Regular New Business

1. Police Advisory Commission Meeting Minutes
   Action: Moved/Seconded: Davis/Morali
   Yes: Andersen, Davis, Gonzalez, Morali
   Absent: Zunino
   Action: Passed a Motion approving the May 10, 2023 meeting minutes.

2. Gun Violence Restraining Order Presentation
   Action: Received and filed.

3. Annual Police Advisory Commission Report
Action: Received and filed.

4. SB2 Peace Officers: Certification: Civil Rights
Action: Received and filed.

Staff Reports and Updates (Chief of Police, Assistant City Attorney, City Clerk)

City Clerk Blankenship noted the upcoming solicitation for application to the Police Advisory Commission. Commissioners Andersen and Zunino terms expire February 2024.

Commissioner Reports and Updates

None.

Adjournment

At 4:35 p.m. Chair Gonzalez adjourned the meeting.

_____ _____
Erika Gonzalez, Chair Date

Attest:

_____
Susan Blankenship, City Clerk

The presence of electronic signature certifies that the foregoing is a true and correct copy as approved by the South Lake Tahoe Police Advisory Commission.

City of South Lake Tahoe
Report to **Police Advisory Commission**

Meeting Date: May 1, 2024

Title: AB 481 Annual Report

Location: Police Department

Responsible Staff Members: David Stevenson, Police Chief (530) 545-2765

Background: The Military Equipment Use Act, AB 481, requires the Police Department produce an annual report to City Council for the previous calendar year.

Issue and Discussion: The attached AB 481 is for calendar year 2023 as required by law. It is being presented to the Police Advisory Commission for information. It was presented to the City Council as required by law on March 12, 2024.

Financial Implications: None

Policy Implications: Annual report required by AB 481 policy.

AB 481 Annual Report 2023
South Lake Tahoe Police Department

This is the South Lake Tahoe Police Department's AB 481 annual report as required by Government Code 7072(a). The report is required to contain specific elements including:

- GC 7072(a)(1): A summary of how the military equipment was used and the purpose of its use.
- GC 7072(a)(2): A summary of any complaints or concerns received concerning the military equipment.
- GC 7072(a)(3): The results of any internal audits, any information about violations of the military equipment use policy, and any actions taken in response.
- GC 7072(a)(4): The total annual cost for each type of military equipment, including acquisition, personnel, training, transportation, maintenance, storage, upgrade, and other ongoing costs, and from what source funds will be provided for the military equipment in the calendar year following submission of the annual military equipment report.
- GC 7072(a)(5): The quantity possessed for each type of military equipment.
- GC 7072(a)(6): If the law enforcement agency intends to acquire additional military equipment in the next year, the quantity sought for each type of military equipment.

The following report is for items listed in the South Lake Tahoe Police Department's AB 481 policy.

Unmanned, remotely piloted, powered aerial vehicles:

A. GC 7072(a)(1)	These items were utilized three times during the past calendar year (once to aid patrol officers searching a wooded area, once for a tactical operation, and once to assist in officers searching for a missing person). The SLTPD may occasionally request UAVs with additional capabilities from allied agencies for use in the South Lake Tahoe city limits.
B. GC 7072(a)(2)	The SLTPD did not receive any complaints or concerns regarding the use of these items.
C. GC 7072(a)(3)	There were no internal audits, policy violations or disciplinary actions taken regarding their use.
D. GC 7072(a)(4)	*Maintenance:* There have been no ongoing maintenance costs with use of UAVs. *Training:* The SLTPD has spent $358 on licensing and testing for two officers to become UAV operators. *Purchase:* The purchase price of the DJI Avata is $589.

E. GC 7072(a)(5) The SLTPD has one UAV (a DJI Avata).

F. GC 7072(a)(6) The SLTPD plans to purchase one DJI Matrice UAV in the next calendar year. The cost to purchase this drone is about $7,100.

Unmanned, remotely piloted, powered ground vehicles:

A. GC 7072(a)(1) The PakBot 510 was used approximately 7 times during trainings. It was used twice during tactical operations (the PakBot was placed in a doorway to obtain a view inside a residence before the SWAT team entered). The PakBot robot was used during two community relations events in 2023.

B. GC 7072(a)(2) The SLTPD did not receive any complaints or concerns regarding the use of these items.

C. GC 7072(a)(3) There were no internal audits, policy violations or disciplinary actions taken regarding their use.

D. GC 7072(a)(4) No maintenance or upgrades were performed. There were no additional robots purchased. No costs were incurred regarding these items.

E. GC 7072(a)(5) The SLTPD possesses 1 unmanned robot, a PakBot 510.

F. GC 7072(a)(6) The SLTPD does not anticipate the purchase of any new robots in the next calendar year.

Armored Vehicles or Mine Resistant, Armor Protected vehicles - NaviStar International MaxxPro:

A. GC 7072(a)(1) The MRAP was utilized three times during tactical operations. Each time, it was used to provide protection while apprehending individuals believed to be armed. It was utilized for two community events.

The SLTPD occasionally may need to request mutual aid assistance from outside agencies utilizing armored vehicles during large or complex crises.

B. GC 7072(a)(2) The Chief of Police received a verbal concern from one PAC member who did not want the MRAP used in the

City's 4th of July Parade. The MRAP was not used in the parade.

C. GC 7072(a)(3) There were no internal audits, policy violations or disciplinary actions taken regarding its use.

D. GC 7072(a)(4) Maintenance Costs: About $500 was used to replace a broken sensor during maintenance.
Fuel Costs: $150

E. GC 7072(a)(5) The SLTPD possesses 1 armored vehicle.

High Mobility, Multi-Wheeled Vehicles (Hummers):

A. GC 7072(a)(1) These items were not utilized during the past calendar year, nor did the SLTPD request the items from allied agencies for use in the South Lake Tahoe city limits.

B. GC 7072(a)(2) The SLTPD did not receive any complaints regarding the use of these items.

C. GC 7072(a)(3) There were no internal audits, policy violations or disciplinary actions taken regarding their use.

D. GC 7072(a)(4) No costs were incurred regarding these items.

E. GC 7072(a)(5) The SLTPD possesses two Hummer vehicles, both of which are scheduled for disposal/transfer.

Command and Control Vehicles – 2006 Ford TC550 Box Truck Mobile Command Vehicle (MCV)

A. GC 7072(a)(1) The Mobile Command Vehicle was used 3 times in 2023, twice for tactical operations and once for training.

B. GC 7072(a)(2) The SLTPD did not receive any complaints regarding the use of this vehicle.

C. GC 7072(a)(3) There were no internal audits, policy violations or disciplinary actions taken regarding its use.

D. GC 7072(a)(4) Maintenance Cost: None
Fuel Cost: $150

E. GC 7072(a)(5) The SLTPD possesses 1 mobile command vehicle.

Battering rams, slugs and breaching apparatuses that are explosive in nature

A. GC 7072(a)(1)	These items were not utilized during the past calendar year, nor did the SLTPD request the items from allied agencies for use in the South Lake Tahoe city limits.
B. GC 7072(a)(2)	The SLTPD did not receive any complaints regarding the use of these items.
C. GC 7072(a)(3)	There were no internal audits, policy violations or disciplinary actions taken regarding their use.
D. GC 7072(a)(4)	No costs were incurred regarding these items.
E. GC 7072(a)(5)	The SLTPD does not possess any of these items.
F. GC 7072(a)(6)	The SLTPD does not intend to purchase any of these items.

Distractionary Devices ("Flashbang" grenades)

A. GC 7072(a)(1)	These items were utilized seven times (three during tactical operations, three times during trainings and once during a community outreach event). No devices were disposed of for malfunctions or failure to pass safety inspections.
B. GC 7072(a)(2)	The SLTPD did not receive any complaints regarding the use of these items.
C. GC 7072(a)(3)	The above use was within policy and examined during a debrief following the incident. There were no policy violations or disciplinary actions taken regarding their use.
D. GC 7072(a)(4)	During 2023, 6 devices were used at a cost of $150.
E. GC 7072(a)(5)	The SLTPD currently possesses 26 distractionary devices. and attempts to maintain a minimum inventory of 25 devices.
F. GC 7072(a)(6)	The SLTPD intends to purchase distractionary devices during 2024 to maintain 25 devices in our inventory.

Chemical Agents and Smoke canisters

A. GC 7072(a)(1)	Chemical agents were used during one tactical operation to resolve a standoff with a barricaded felony suspect. Chemical agents were used twice during trainings. No colored smoke canisters were used.
B. GC 7072(a)(2)	The SLTPD did not receive any complaints regarding the use of these items.
C. GC 7072(a)(3)	There were no policy violations or disciplinary actions taken regarding the use of these items. During this training, use of force and agency policy were reviewed.
D. GC 7072(a)(4)	During 2023, trainings were conducted by SWAT for citizen rescue, chemical agent administration, emergency medical care and barricade operations. These trainings were conducted by Chemical Agent Instructors. During these trainings, 8 canisters of CS were used at a cost of $408.
E. GC 7072(a)(5)	20 DefTec Flameless Tri-Chamber CS 20 DefTec Flameless Expulsion CS 29 DefTec CO_2 CS 11 DefTec Maximum HC Smoke (6 red, 5 yellow)
F. GC 7072(a)(6)	The Police Department intends to purchase these items as needed to maintain inventory of 30 rounds of each type.

40mm Launchers and Rounds

A. GC 7072(a)(1)	These items were brought to crisis scenes three times during the last calendar year. However, the items were not used at crisis scenes. The launchers were used three times during trainings and certifications.
B. GC 7072(a)(2)	The SLTPD did not receive any complaints regarding the use of these items.
C. GC 7072(a)(3)	There were no policy violations or disciplinary actions taken regarding the use of these items.
D. GC 7072(a)(4)	During these trainings, use of force and agency policy were reviewed and 7 impact rounds were used ($140).

E.	GC 7072(a)(5)	2 DefTec LMT single-shot launchers 1 Milkor Less-lethal Multilauncher 27 Exact Impact rounds 32 Liquid Barricade rounds 28 40mm CS rounds
F.	GC 7072(a)(6)	The Police Department intends to purchase rounds listed above as needed to maintain an inventory of 30 rounds of each type. The purchase of one Milkor less-lethal Multilauncher is planned for 2024 to equip patrol officers with additional less-lethal force options. The cost of the new launcher is $5,160.

City of South Lake Tahoe
Report to **Police Advisory Commission**

Meeting Date: May 1, 2024

Title: Police Department 2023 Annual Report

Location: Police Department

Responsible Staff Members: David Stevenson, Police Chief (530) 545-2765

Background: The Police Department began producing an annual report in 2020, this is the fourth annual report, and is for calendar year 2023.

Issue and Discussion: The 2023 report highlights accomplishments, police response statistics, joint dispatch center statistics, and other Police Department events for the year. This report was presented to City Council on March 12, 2024. It is being presented today to the commission for review.

Financial Implications: None.

Policy Implications: None.

South Lake Tahoe Police Department

Annual Report 2023

Mission Statement:

Working in partnership with the community, to protect life and property, providing leadership in solving neighborhood problems, and enhance the quality of life in our city.

South Lake Tahoe Police Department

Message from Chief Stevenson

Snow was the big event for the first 4 months of 2023. Thanks again to our Public Works crews for their non-stop efforts to keep our City streets clear for emergency responses.

The Police Department started an electric bicycle patrol program in the spring. We purchased 4 E-bikes and training 8 officers. The bike program began patrolling the "Live at Lakeview" concert series and other events throughout the summer.

Our new public safety radio system has been delayed but is expected to finally be operational in February of 2024.

Thanks to City Council for approving one more full time Police Officer position in the '23/'24 budget to replace a full time grant position that ended in 2023.

Our Public Safety Dispatchers received the City Manager's 2023 "Aspen" award for excellence and team work. It was well deserved, congratulations!

With the help of members from all divisions of the Department we created our peer support team to assist our people in their work and personal lives. This is a priority for me, and I appreciate the Peer Support Team's help and look forward to improvements to the program in 2024.

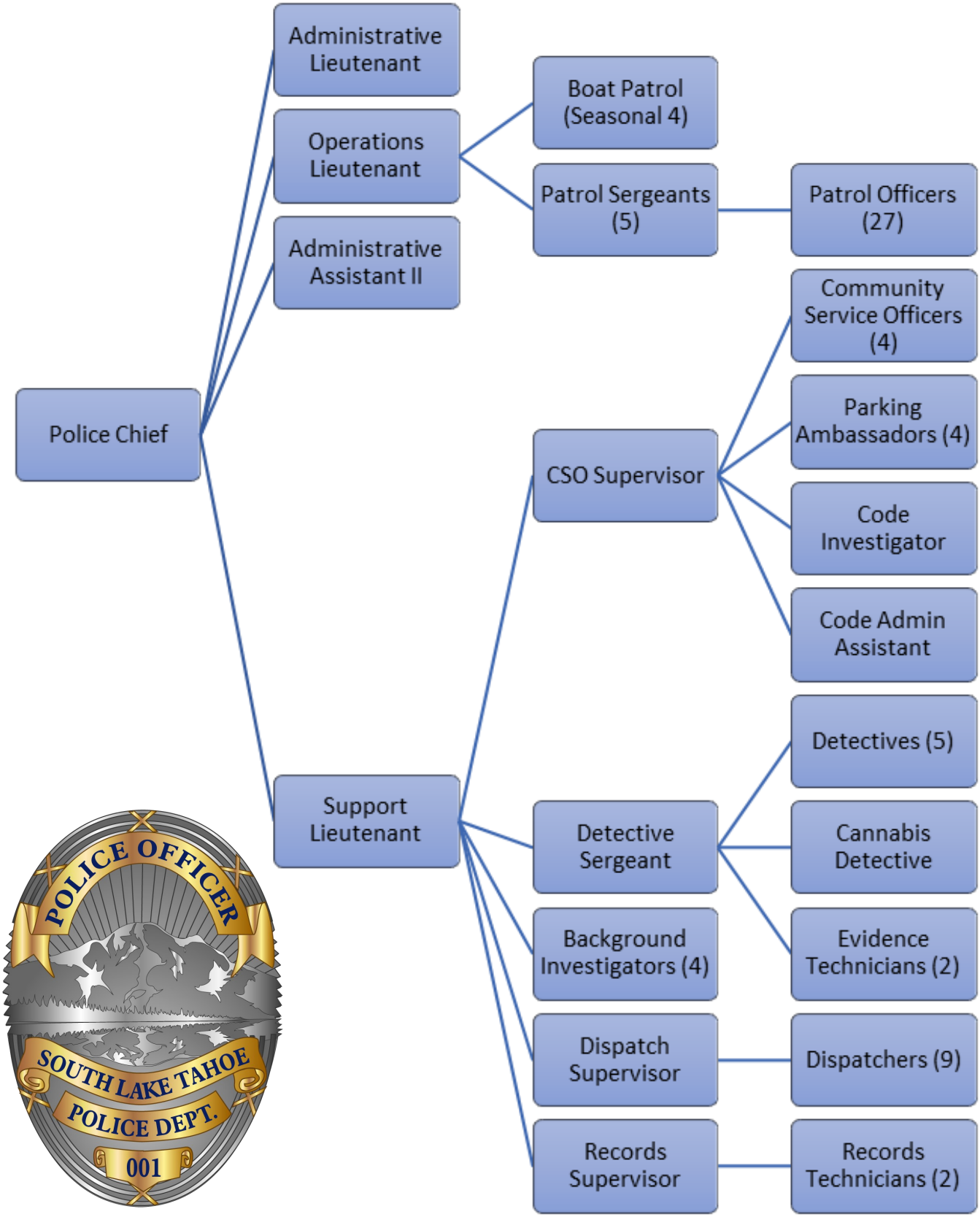
Our wellness efforts were supported by City Council in January of 2023 by their award of a three year contract up to $100,000.00 per year for the Fire/Police wellness services at PT revolution. I am very grateful to the City Council for their support.

As always, to the Police Department team, thank you. I'm looking forward to 2024 and so humbled and proud to be your Chief. Always remember every contact counts. Be professional and do your jobs with honor, empathy, and compassion. And, most importantly, be safe.

David Stevenson, Chief of Police
South Lake Tahoe Police Department

South Lake Tahoe Police Department

Organizational Chart

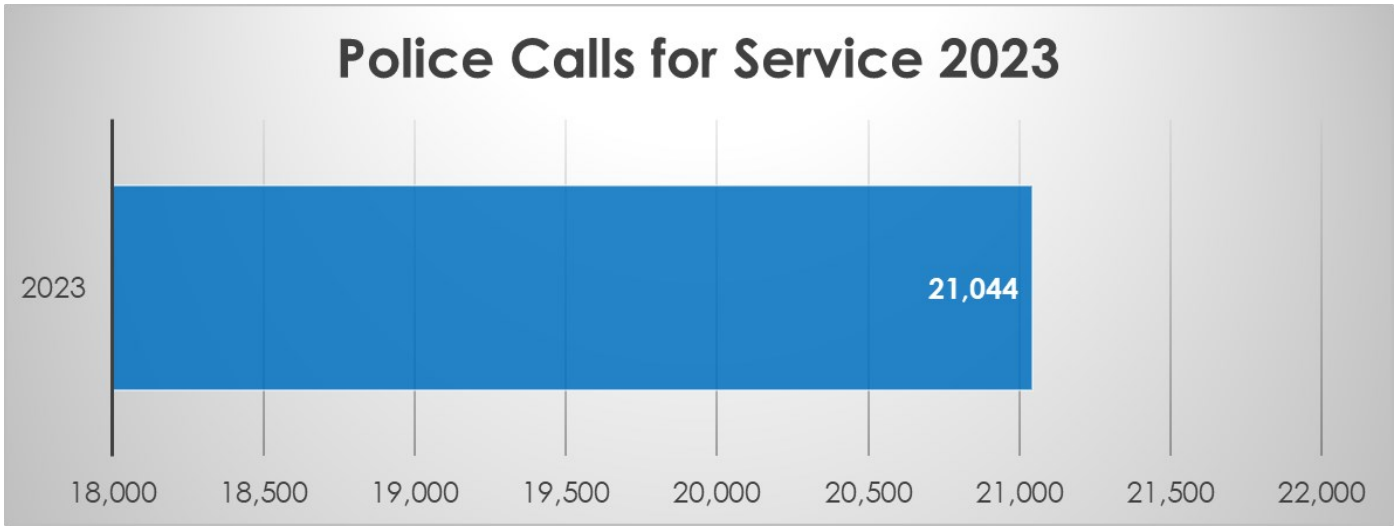


Patrol Division

Operations

The Patrol Division is the workhorse of the SLTPD. Typically the largest division in a law enforcement agency, patrol officers respond to incredibly diverse calls for service. It is not uncommon for a patrol officer to respond to fights, traffic issues, medical aids, domestic violence calls, alcohol and drug issues, homeless calls, burglary/robbery alarms and car crashes in a single shift. Patrol officers never know what calls they may be sent to when they show up for work, and might also handle neighbor disputes, code violations, mutual aid requests, fraud/identity theft, child/elder abuse and many other unpredictable calls. The patrol division has the bulk of community contacts, and various specialties exist within the division (School Resource Officer, Traffic/Motor Officer, STACS Officer, K9). 911 calls and public safety are the priority of the South Lake Tahoe Police Department, and the Patrol Division strives to make this their specialty through training, community contacts, 911 response, and teamwork. 2023 included the record winter for South Lake Tahoe.

One of our biggest challenges of 2023 was keeping up with record snow fall we had in South Lake Tahoe. We couldn't have made it through the winter without the constant teamwork with our City partners helping us stay on the roads and our building's roof from collapsing. Thank you Public Works, South Lake Tahoe Fire Rescue, Parks & Rec and our Building Maintenance crew! Also, thank you to Chief Stevenson who was often times manning a snowblower making sure our vehicles were accessible and our roof was cleared!



Patrol Division

Operations

2021 - 2023 Incidents by Type

OFFENSE	2021	2022	2023
Homicide	2	0	0
Assault (Simple & Aggravated)	335	211	385
Rape	11	19	13
Robbery	12	18	10
Residential Burglary	74	55	58
Vehicle Burglary	18	23	16
Motor Vehicle Theft	61	75	68
Grand Theft (over $950 value)	37	44	48
Grand Theft from a Vehicle	6	4	2
Petty Theft (Under $950 value)	191	203	181
Petty Theft from a Vehicle	30	23	12
Arson	10	3	5
Domestic Violence	199	100	136
Hate Crimes	4	6	2
Mental Health / 5150 Calls	321	331	408
Homeless Calls	796	515	726
DUI	130	161	141
Public Intoxication	202	151	167

Patrol Division

Operations

Uniform Crime Report

As reported to the Department of Justice

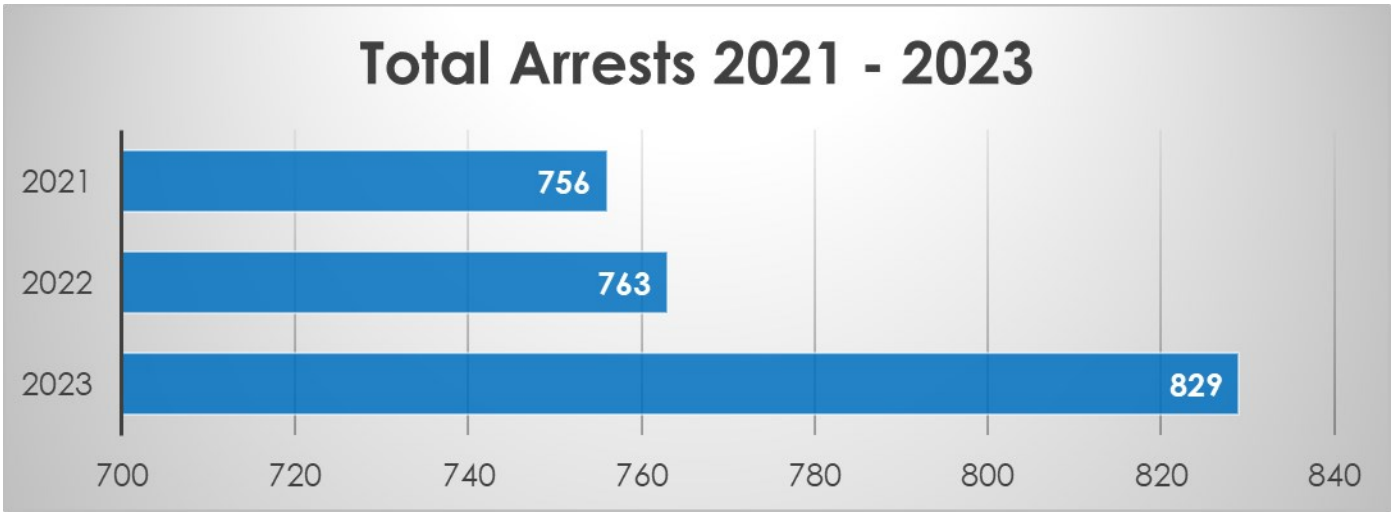
2023

OFFENSE	2023
Homicide	0
Forcible and Attempted Forcible Rape	13
Robbery	10
All Assaults	385
Burglary (Breaking and Entering)	45
Larceny / Theft	186
Motor Vehicle Theft	30

Total Adult Arrests 2023: 806

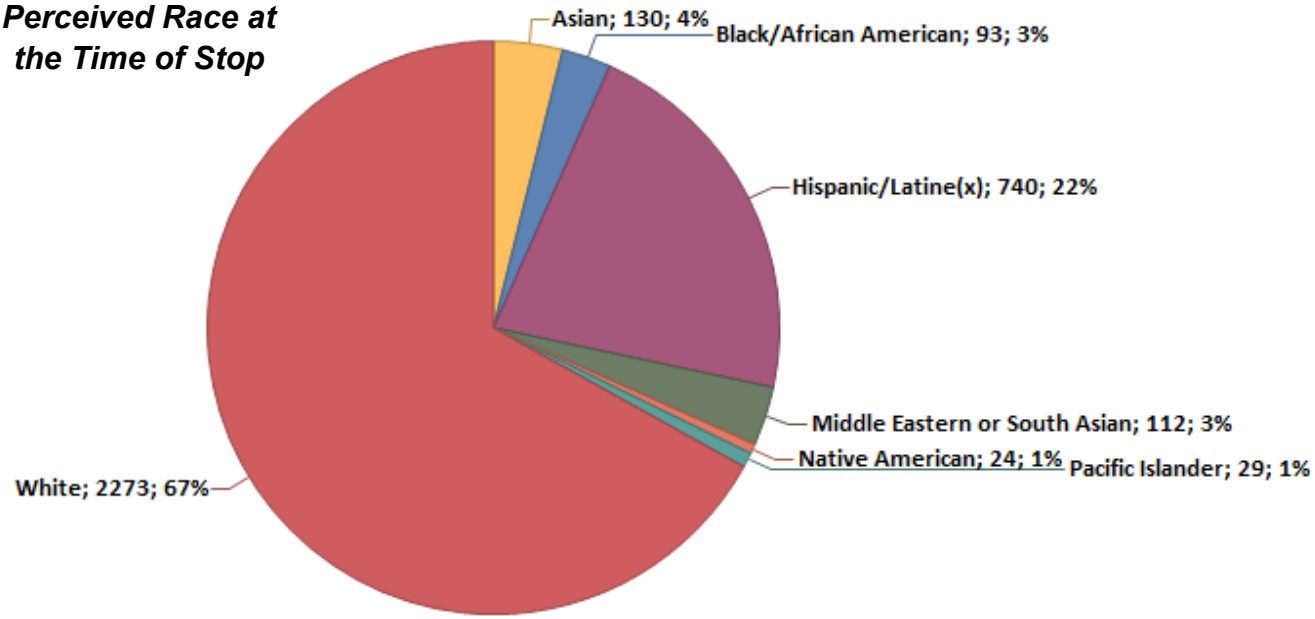
Total Juvenile Arrests: 23

Total Arrests: 829

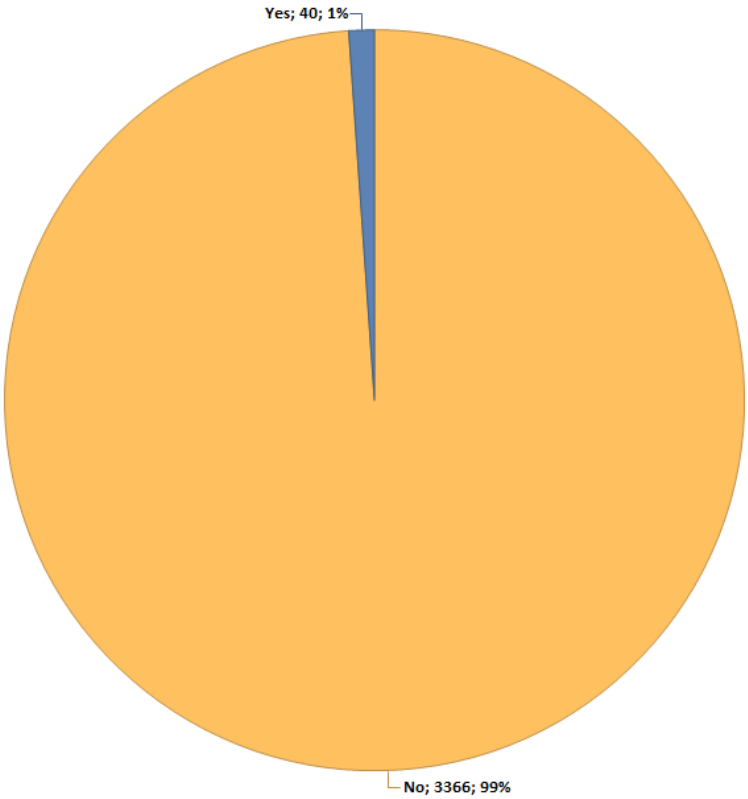


2023
STOP DATA

Perceived Race at the Time of Stop



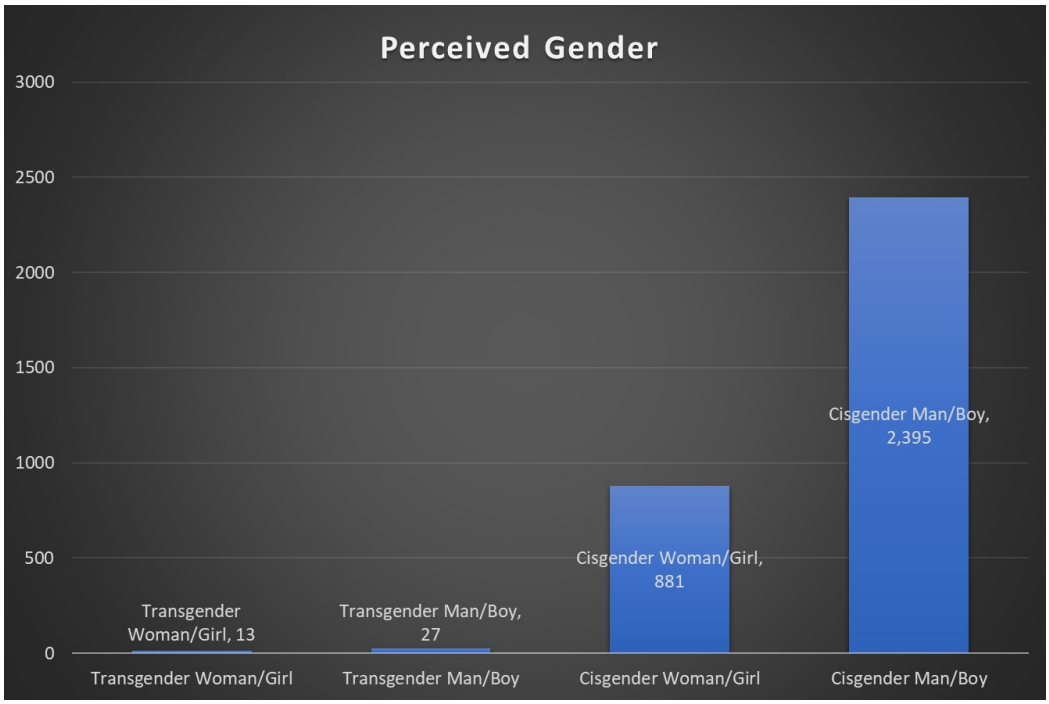
Race Known to Officer Prior To Stop

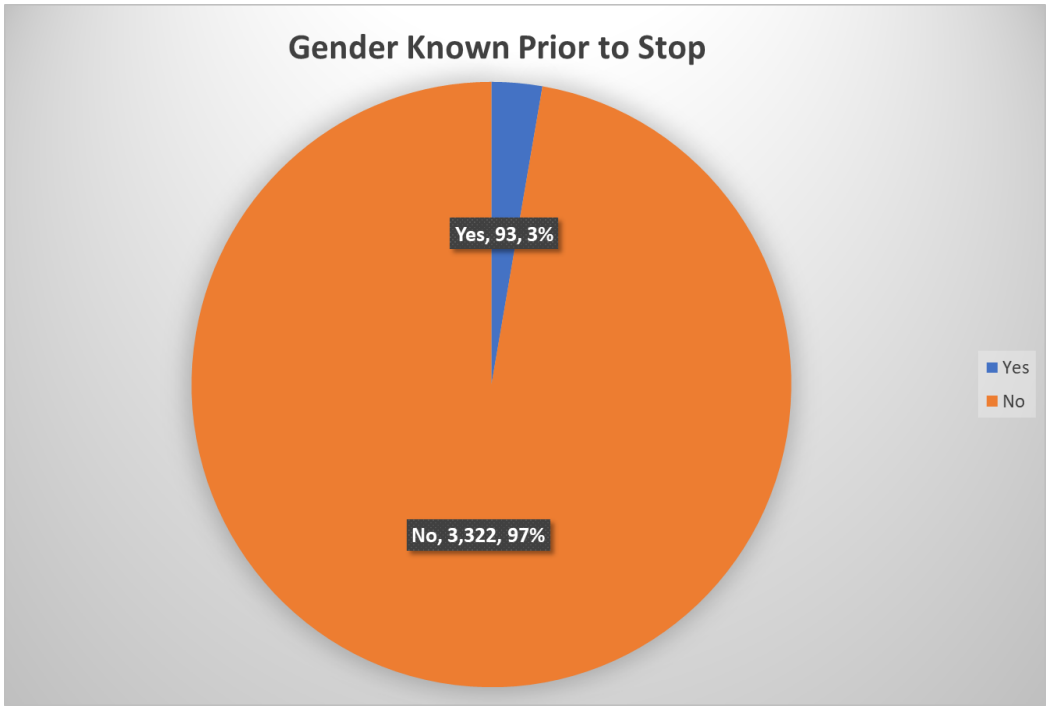


Patrol Division

Operations

2023
STOP DATA

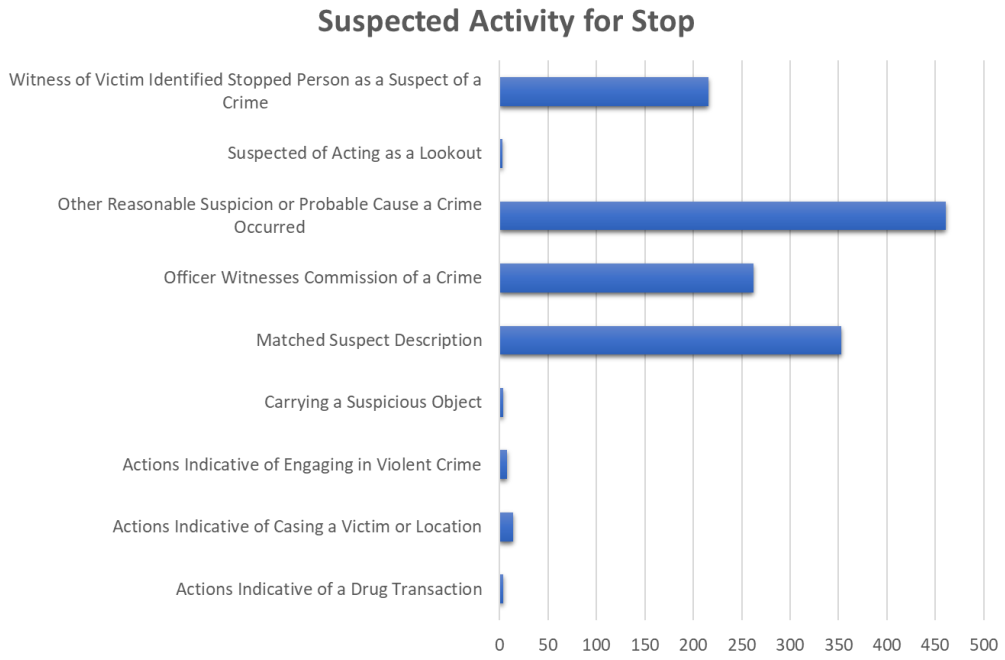


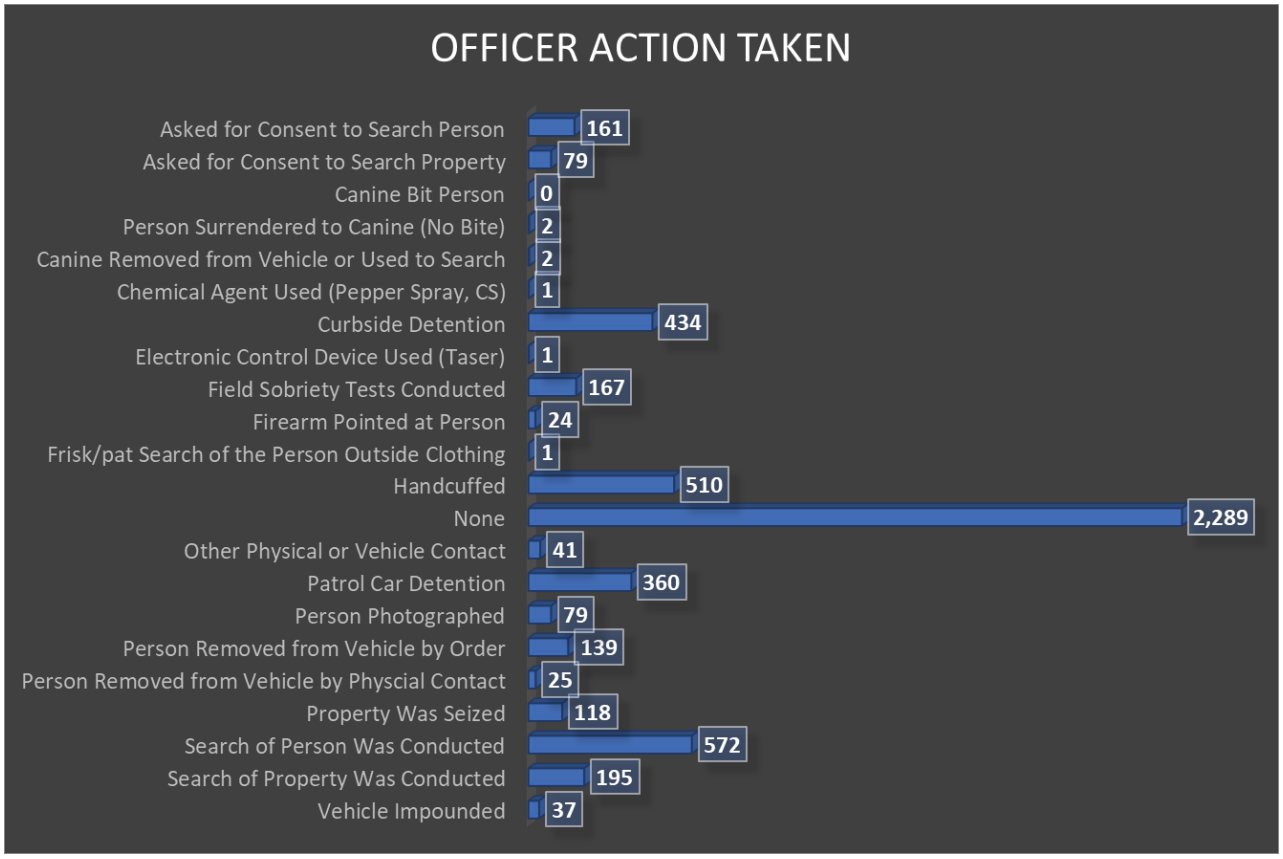


Patrol Division

Operations

2023
STOP DATA

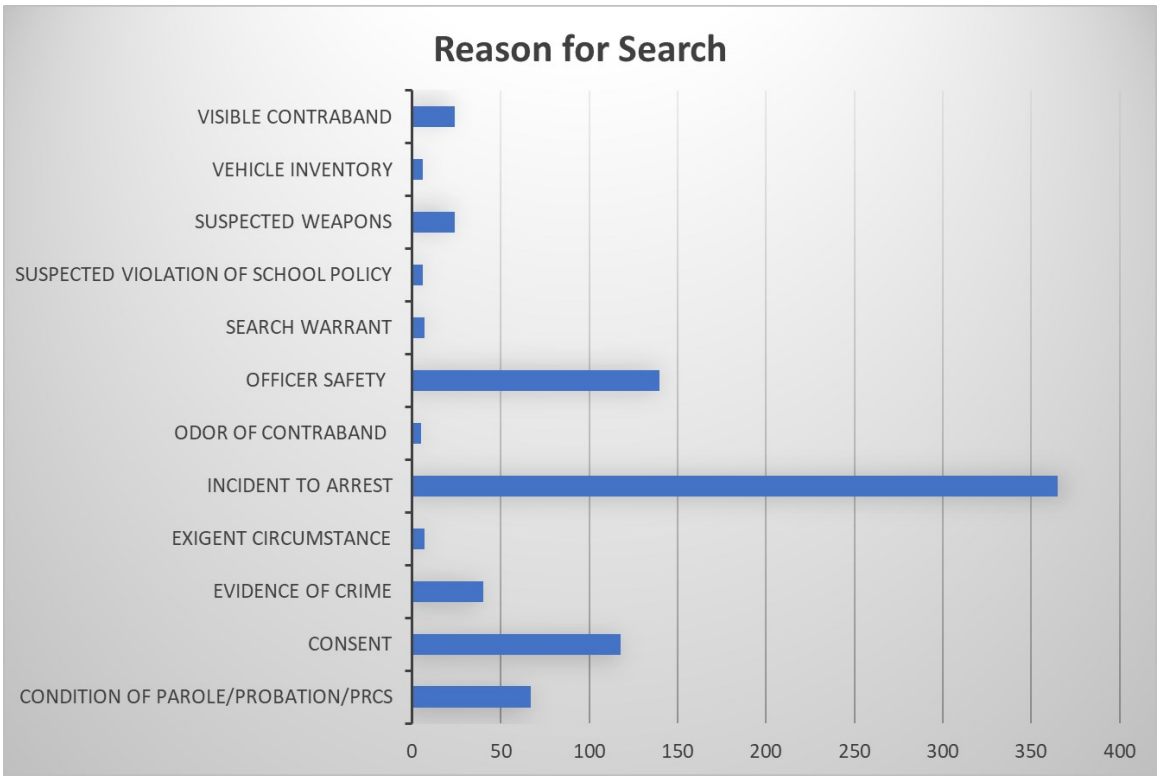


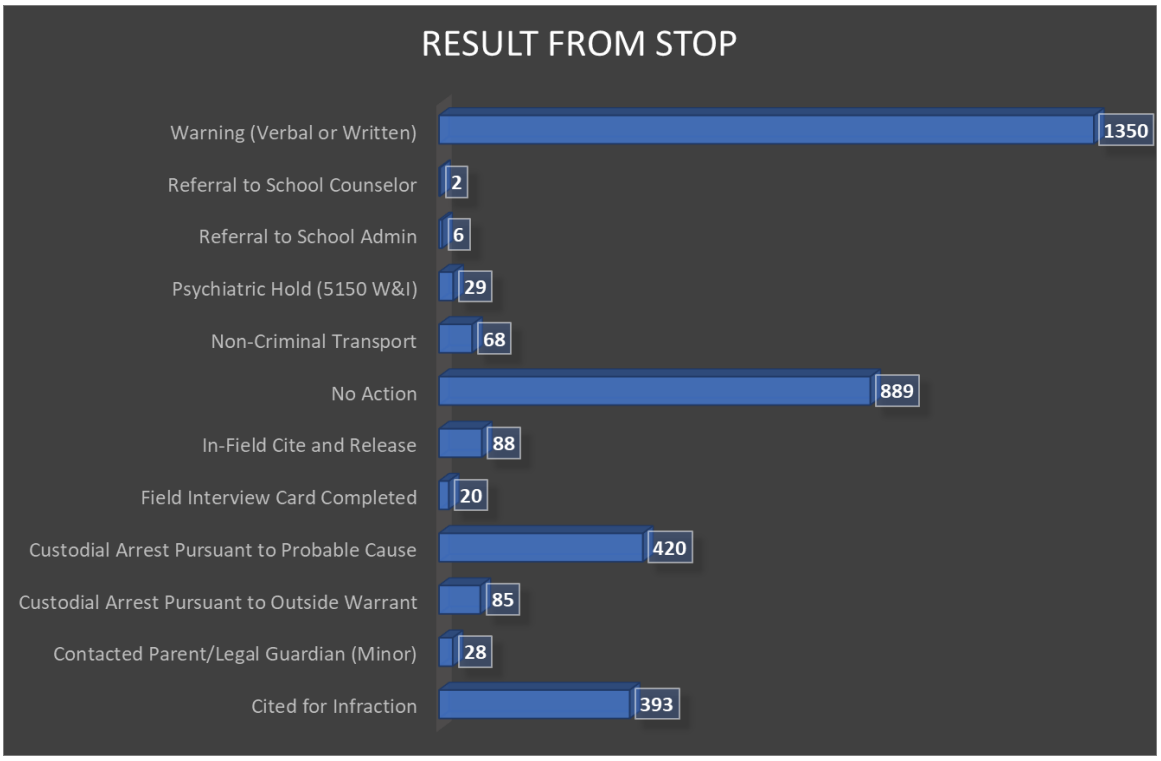


Patrol Division

Operations

2023
STOP DATA





School Resource Officer (SRO)

Operations

The South Lake Tahoe Police Department School Resource Officer (SRO) works in collaboration with the Lake Tahoe Unified School District (LTUSD) to create a safe learning environment for the students and staff of South Tahoe High School, South Tahoe Middle School, Bijou Elementary and Tahoe Valley Elementary. The role of the SRO is rooted in the three key principles: safety, education, and mentorship.

In 2023, after 3 years of working as the SRO, Officer Nixon transitioned into the SLTPD Detectives Division. Officer Peterson was assigned to the SRO position and began his new assignment at the start of the new school year. Officer Peterson has 8 years of experience as a peace officer, and has worked for the South Lake Tahoe Police Department for 6 years.

The SRO is a visible law enforcement presence on campus to deter, prevent, and respond to criminal activity. The SRO investigates criminal offenses on and around the school campus. The SRO is a resource with respect to delinquency prevention. The SRO advises school officials on law-related matters, helps assess school safety needs, and serves as a vital link to other emergency personnel. SRO duties include but are not limited to the following:

-Provides safety and protection of students and staff when necessary. Assist school administration in developing and implementing campus safety plans

-Acts as an advisor and conflict mediator to faculty and students. Faculty and students are encouraged to seek advice from the SRO so that issues can be addressed in a positive, trusting atmosphere before it develops into more serious.

-Collaborates with teachers, school administrators, and parents to increase student awareness about personal safety, crime prevention, drug/alcohol prevention, internet safety, conflict resolution, violence prevention, peer mediation, and other related topics through formal and informal instructional strategies.

-Creates a safe learning environment and deter misconduct by remaining highly visible on the school campus.

-Being a mentor and resource for students for various reasons which go beyond the scope of law enforcement.

Field Training Program

Operations

The purpose of the Field Training Program is to prepare new officers with the training necessary to function as a solo beat officer. The training cycle consists of seventeen weeks (680 hours) of intensive on-the-job training and daily performance evaluations. Our training is conducted and staffed by four field training officers (FTOs) and one FTO Sergeant.

Field training officers have the dual responsibility of providing police service in their assigned beats, as well as conducting training and evaluations for new officers. Field training sergeants are responsible for the supervision of all personnel assigned to their teams and for coordinating and supervising the on-the-job training of recruit officers.

Officers are required to meet specific performance standards in thirty-one performance categories before being certified for solo patrol duty. After completion of the FTO program, each officer is assigned to a patrol team. Officers who have performed at an acceptable level and pass their eighteen-month probationary period are recommended for retention as permanent employees.

In 2023, one newly hired officer successfully completed the South Lake Tahoe Police Department field training program and is currently assigned to the patrol division. In 2024, the FTO program will train 5 new officers who join the SLTPD after the completion of the basic academy.

From Left to Right: FTO Nava, FTO Sgt Liles, FTO Trapani, FTO Fritz, FTO Simpson, not pictured: FTO Rider

California POST-Certified Field Training Program

South Tahoe Alternative Collaborative Services (STACS)

Operations

In 2023, Officer Hazelet was assigned as the new STACS Officer. Officer Hazelet is assigned to STACS full time. STACS Officer Hazelet works with community partners to provide a safe gateway for those experiencing homelessness and mental health crisis to resources. STACS collaborates with Tahoe Coalition for the Homeless, El Dorado County Mental Health, Barton Hospital, South Lake Tahoe Fire Rescue, El Dorado County Sheriff's Office, El Dorado County District Attorney's Office and many others. The goal of STACS is to find long term solutions for those experiencing homelessness and/or mental health issues in South Lake Tahoe. An example of resources include, the El Dorado County Navigation Shelter, Drug/alcohol rehabilitation, family reunification and the Tahoe Coalition for the Homeless.

STACS Officer Hazelet has also created a joint response, and follow up check ins for people experiencing mental health crisis in conjunction with El Dorado County Behavioral Health.

Environmental considerations are a large part of STACS in regards to illegal camping. In order to protect the natural beauty of Tahoe, and it's ecosystems, those who camp in non-permitted or in illegal camps, are offered resources through STACS. STACS aims to protect our community, environment and create a safe resource for those experiencing homelessness or mental health crisis. Most significantly in 2023, the STACS program, along with our community and public safety partners conducted a massive clean up in the meadow behind Motel 6. Over 200 cubic yards of trash and 101 propane tanks were removed from the area.

In 2023, STACS contacted and worked with 41 people experiencing homelessness, 15 of which were housed by the end of the year. 34 of those contacted refused all services offered by STACS and community partners. In 2023, STACS investigated 548 incidents involving homelessness or mental health. 171 of those incidents met the threshold for a police report, including 69 arrests and 15 citations. Overall, SLT PD patrol handled 726 incidents regarding homelessness and 408 regarding mental health in 2023.

E-Bikes

Operations

In 2023, the Police Department was able to purchase 4 E-Bikes. Multiple SLT PD Officers underwent an E-Bike Patrol training which was facilitated by the Police E-Bike manufacturer. The use of the E-Bikes have already proven extremely useful.

Officers deployed on E-Bikes during every Live at Lakeview event we had in 2023. Our STACS Officer frequently utilizes the E-Bikes to more efficiently patrol our meadows and make contact with those who are unhoused in our community. Officers have ridden the E-Bikes during multiple parades and at other public events. Ultimately, the E-Bikes are a great tool for officers to have a better presence in our communities trails and parks. Some of our E-Bike officers even rode our E-Bikes to work from Gardnerville, up Kingsbury, on the City's "Bike to Work Day."

Active Shooter Readiness

Operations

Active shooter response is unarguably a major responsibility of any law enforcement organization. The SLTPD's Active Shooter (AS) program is staffed and supervised by tactical (SWAT) personnel. Currently, the program is staffed by one SWAT Sergeant and one SWAT Senior Team Member.

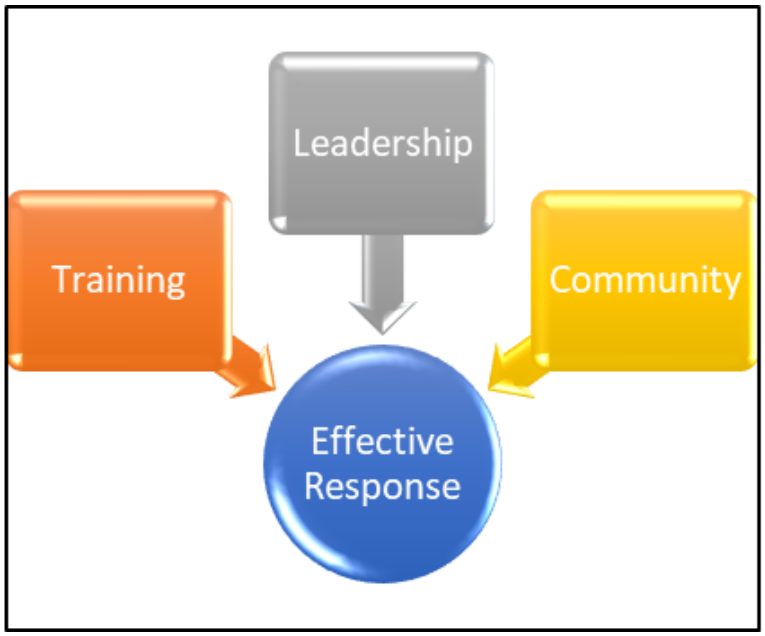
The programs focus is threefold. It is believed that an effective response will be based upon training, leadership and community partnerships.

It should be noted the term "effective response" was deliberately chosen by tactical staff. The consensus between industry experts, and endorsed by SLTPD, is that an effective response is rooted in speed, capability and preparedness.

In 2023 the department purchased breaching kits for each patrol vehicle, and ballistic helmets and new gas masks for each Officer, Sergeant, and Detective. The goal is to have each officer adopt a mindset which enables them to recognize the priorities of life and promote action. This equipment allows officers to interface with an extended tactical response. Officers don't have to leave the scene during introduction of chemical agents or fire set offensively by suspects and are empowered through tools and training to take decisive action when faced with an active shooter event.

Of note, the SLTPD School Resource Officer was equipped with additional gear. Specialized equipment is distributed between schools to maximize the effectiveness of the SRO not only during an active shooter incident, but also in the event of a natural disaster or other non-criminal crisis.

Building on an executive-level tabletop exercise conducted in 2022, the training focused on line-level leadership in 2023. This proved to be essential following the Uvalde incident, during which time SLTPD staff answered questions from local City and Community leaders about local preparedness. Using debriefs and leadership discussions, officers participated in decision making exercises (DMEs) to identify components of crisis and tactical leadership.



Active Shooter Readiness

Operations

When presenting trainings to the public, SLTPD emphasizes the *RUN-HIDE-FIGHT* response model. In addition, we believe that basic medical skills and unique case studies are important educational tools. By combining these three topics a training model has been developed. Each training is followed by a conversation with the business or school to see how we can improve our presentations.

The Police Department's most active community partnership is the School Threat Assessment Team. This team, provides a comprehensive model to assess possible threats of school shootings (among other threats). The groups, each have designated roles and focus on finding collaborative solutions to threatening behavior while simultaneously conducting investigations.

The teams are comprised of school district representatives, Placerville PD, EDSO and SLTPD leadership, detectives, local school district leaders, El Dorado County DA's Office and SROs. In addition to evaluating threats and conducting investigations, the groups also discuss training and act as consultants for other jurisdictions which do not have formalized threat assessment groups.

An active shooter crisis is the epitome of a "low frequency, high risk" event. SLTPD recognizes that no matter the outcome, any crisis of this nature carries with it significant mental and physical health concerns for victims, bystanders and officers. Through a constantly evolving training program, SLTPD believes it holds great responsibility in preparing officers and the community for this type of event.

Ammunition and magazines seized during an active shooter threat investigation

Traffic Unit

Operations

The SLTPD Traffic Division currently is staffed by one patrol officer (Officer Neumann) with ancillary duties of traffic enforcement, overseen by one patrol sergeant. The traffic unit fields various traffic and parking complaints and assists regular patrol in addressing these concerns. Officer Neumann is assigned to a traffic motorcycle during months of good weather, allowing her to better traverse the roads to find and address traffic concerns.

The unit has the responsibility to respond to and investigate major/fatal injury collisions. Members of the unit are trained in traffic collision investigation and the use of total station diagramming.

During 2023 Officer Neumann compiled the following statistics:

Traffic Stops - 215
DUI Arrests - 45
Citations - 92
Traffic Collision Investigations - 25

Officer Neumann is also relied upon for special events like National Night Out and the 4th of July Parade. In 2023 the United States Secret Service requested assistance from SLTPD with escorting President Biden through the City over the course of multiple days. Officer Neumann led the Presidential motorcade on her motorcycle.

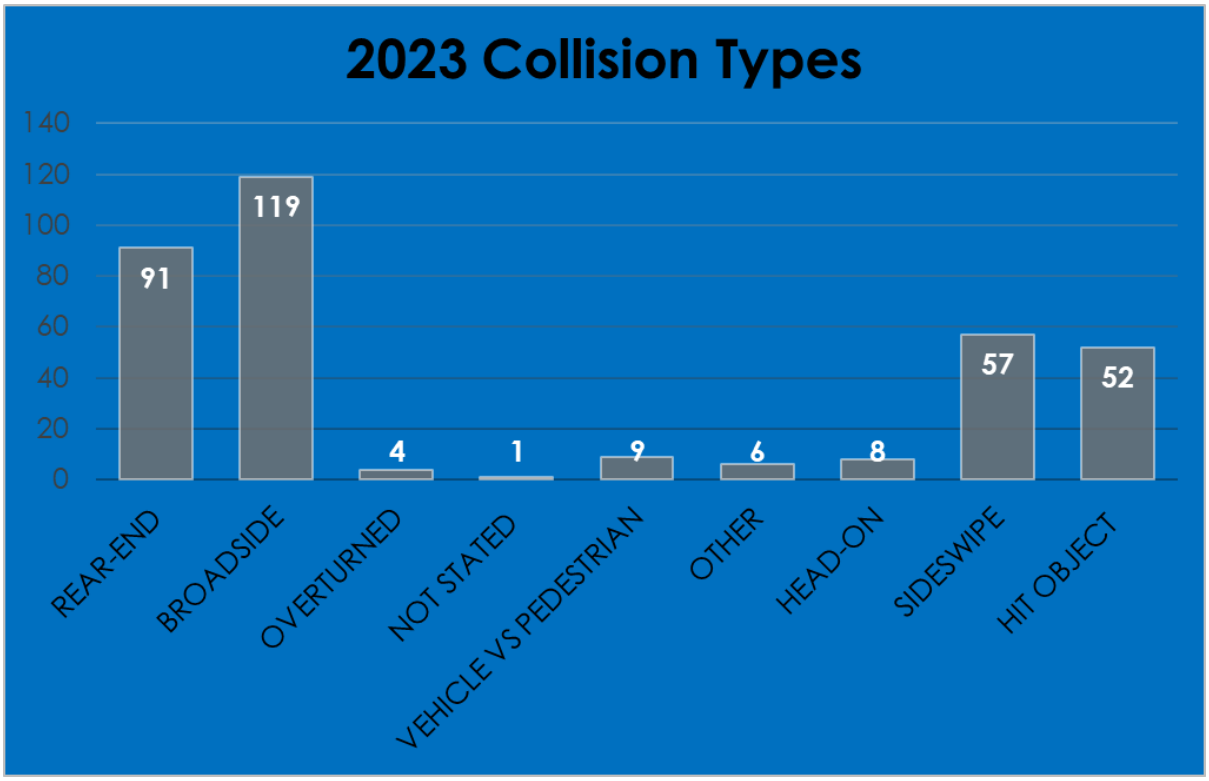
The Traffic Unit wrote and was awarded an additional CA OTS grant for $41,000 to continue targeted traffic enforcement to address traffic issues involving pedestrians, bicycles, motorcycles, and DUI drivers.

On July 18, 2023 Officer Neumann and Officer Terrini were recognized by MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) for their contributions to getting impaired drivers off the street.

Traffic Unit

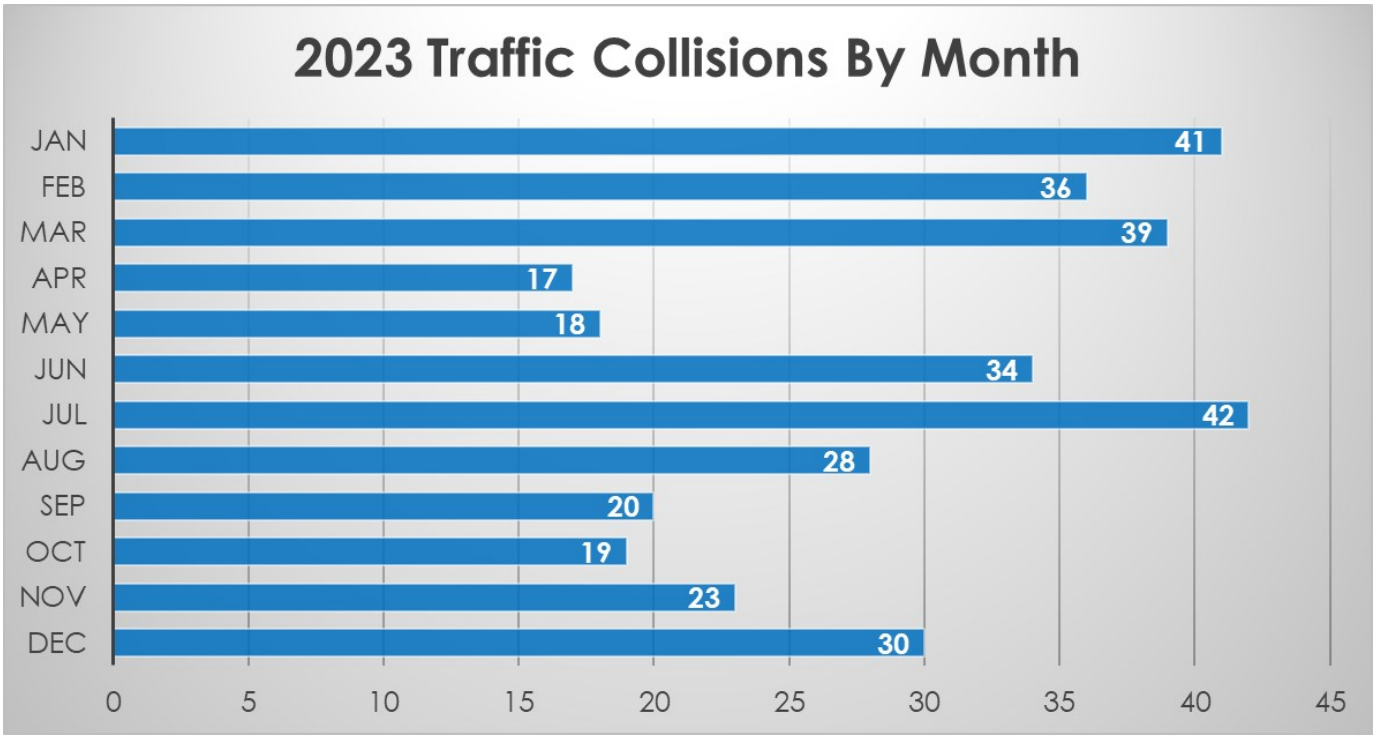
Operations

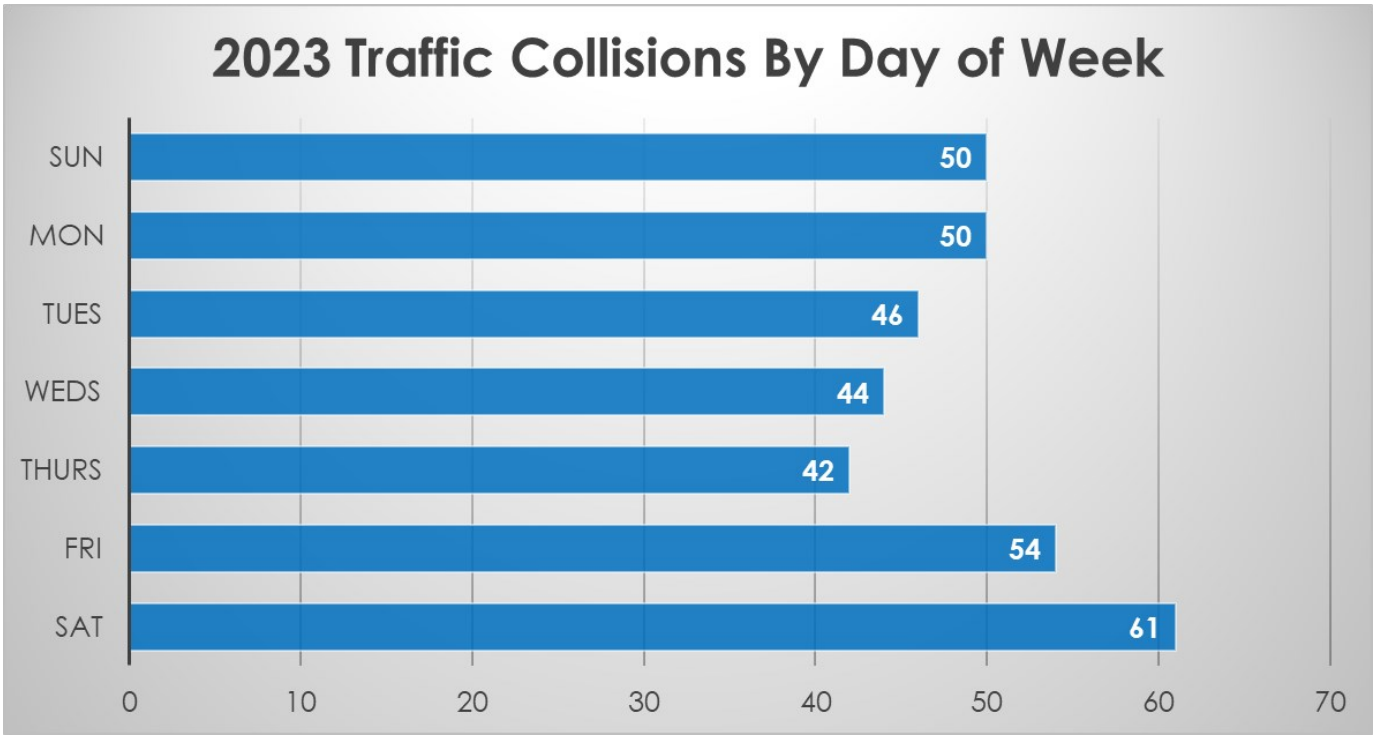
In 2023, there were 347 reported traffic collisions. 261 had property damaged only. 109 people were injured and there was 1 fatality.



Traffic Unit

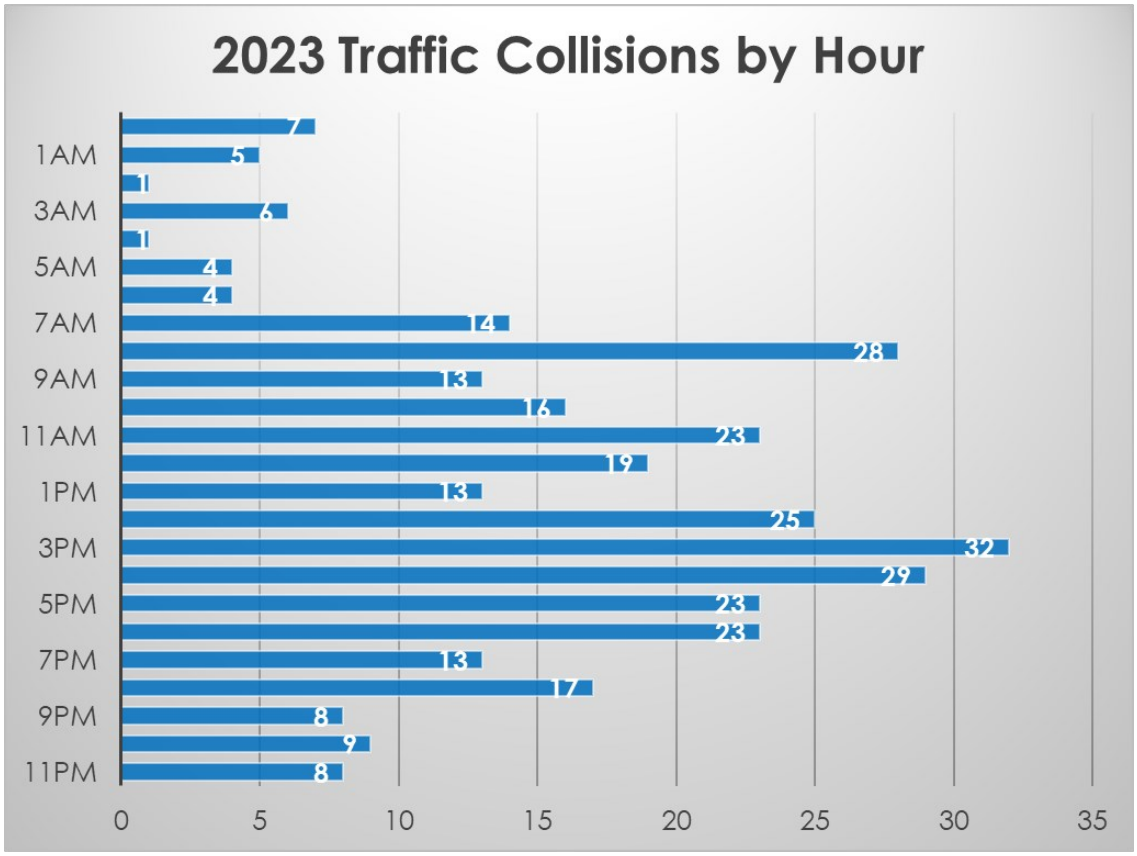
Operations

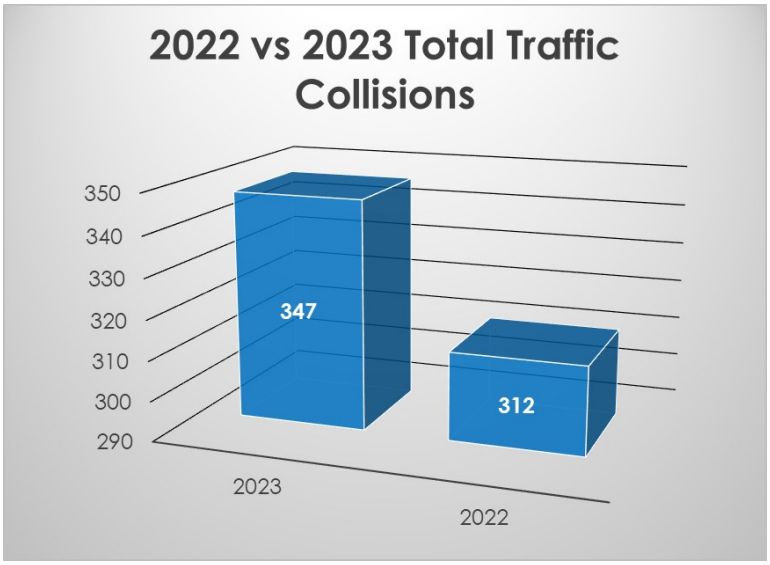




Traffic Unit

Operations





K9 Unit

Operations

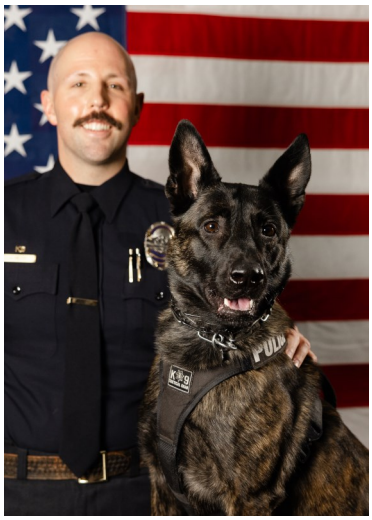
Officer Wilson and Officer Miller and their K-9 partners, Rocky and Cayden, serve our community of South Lake Tahoe and the surrounding region with Honor, Integrity, and Courage. Our K-9 team trains twice a month with other law enforcement agencies with a trainer with over 20 years of police K-9 experience. The training consists of obedience, building searches, narcotic searches, open field searches, apprehension, call off scenarios, agility, and tracking.

In 2023 the South Lake Tahoe Police Department's K-9 Team had 28 deployments, numerous building searches, open area searches, narcotic searches, tracks and conducted several demonstrations at schools, businesses, and public functions throughout the area.

The police K-9 program has a unique impact on the community. These animals assist the police department with drug enforcement, search and rescue and locating fleeing subjects. They are ambassadors of the department, and appear at numerous special events for protective and public relations purposes. Police K9s are always a favorite amongst the police department, everybody loves dogs, especially in South Lake Tahoe. .

Sometimes K-9s serve the purpose of providing security at large-scale events such as festivals, parades, and other gatherings, however, the K-9 program is a magnet for kids and all dog lovers alike.

Maintaining a K-9 program is a heavy burden, many agencies do not have one. We are grateful for the ongoing support for our program, both from City Council and our community philanthropists. The areas where a marked K-9 vehicle is on patrol, crimes such as home invasions, burglaries, and car break-ins frequently drop.



Crisis Response Unit (SWAT/CNT)

Operations

Along with many emergency crises, the SLTPD's Crisis Response Unit is tasked with handling events which exceed the ability of normal patrol officers. These can include a variety of high-risk events, and public safety is the unwavering priority of the CRU. The Crisis Response Unit is divided into two synergistic branches: The Special Weapons & Tactics Team (SWAT) and the Crisis Negotiations Team (CNT). The CNT focuses on communication with the subject(s) while the SWAT team handles tactics and strategy. The two branches focus simultaneously on nonviolent surrender but must be prepared for criminals who decide not to give up and are willing to endanger hostages, bystanders, officers, or the public.

SWAT and CNT work together in conjunction with the Patrol Division, the Detective Division and other allied agencies. The capability of the CRU to apply negotiations-based approaches with tactical resolutions is time-tested. SWAT is a hard-earned specialty within any law enforcement agency, and the SLTPD is no exception.

Admission to SWAT is purely on a volunteer basis with no pay incentive. The testing process is rigorous, combining endurance and strength PT testing with handgun and rifle qualification courses. An in-depth oral panel covers a variety of questions. The candidates each undergo a review process as the final step before being selected onto the team.

The CRU trains for a variety of missions.

High-Risk Arrest Warrants	*Hostage Rescue*
Urban & Rural Drug Interdiction	*High Risk Search Warrant service*
Active Shooter Response	*Mutual Aid requests*
Dignitary Protection	*Natural Disaster Response*
Civil Unrest Mitigation	*Tactical Medical Operations*
Armed Barricaded subjects	*Injured Citizen & Officer Rescue*
Dangerous Felon Apprehension	*High-Risk Surveillance/Plainclothes Operations*
Countersniper Operations	

Meeting these expectations takes time, coordination, and training. The team has various specialties, each of which takes time and experience to master:

Team Commander	*SWAT K-9*
Team Leader	*Armored Vehicle Specialist*
Assistant Team Leader	*Rangemaster*
Crisis Negotiator	*Ballistic Shield Operator*
Munitions Expert	*Tactical Paramedic*
Breacher	*Technology Expert (drones, robots, etc)*
Sniper/Observer	*Tactical Dispatcher*
Entry Operator	

Crisis Response Unit (SWAT/CNT)

Operations

The Crisis Response Unit is utilized for many high-risk situations. Historically, the most common types of callouts have been for dangerous subjects refusing to surrender, warrants to apprehend violent individuals, or situations in which armed encounters are likely. This year was no different. Almost half of the missions tasked to SWAT were barricaded subjects. This is an interesting statistic; our team has always been uniquely utilized for barricades more than warrants (the opposite is true for most tactical teams).

The CRU handled 22 missions in its busiest year and 1 mission in its slowest. This year the CRU was asked to handle 13 missions. Three were refused due to a lack of criteria. Not all requests for the CRU are granted; there is an evaluation process which ensures the team is being utilized only for high-risk situations.

Below are images from trainings during 2023. Training days are spent sharing tactics and perfecting capabilities and methods employed by tactical operators. This supports the CRU's belief that its specialized capabilities support the team's mission philosophy: *non-violent resolution through suspect surrender*.

Firearms training

Maritime training with DCSO & EDSO SWAT

Crisis Response Unit (SWAT/CNT)

Operations

Using technological tools to communicate with a hostage taker

Training with EDSO SWAT's armored Rook

Rendering aid to a civilian during a rescue exercise

Discussing leadership and decision-making

Using map and compass during rural navigation exercises

Training for urban environments using positional shooting drills

In 172 recorded high-risk missions, SWAT operations have resulted in no deaths of the suspect, officers, or bystanders. Deadly force has been used zero times. Less-lethal force options have been used five times since 2014. This means force is used less than 3% of the time by the CRU.

As predicted by SLTPD SWAT leadership, and reinforced by current national events, the future of tactical readiness will center around rapid response. As high-profile events such as those in Uvalde, Las Vegas, Nashville and other cities nationwide have demonstrated, the nation has high expectations that tactical teams will be ready to handle any type of crisis imaginable. Every year, the SLTPD SWAT Team conducts an in-depth assessment of our capabilities and limitations. The team will continue its focus on integrating technology into operational planning. The use of devices such as robots, FLIR, drones and thermal imagers helps to keep officers and victims safe.

SWAT completed 7 public outreach events in 2023. Our team has met with schools to prepare for active shooter responses, has done community fundraisers and awareness presentations, threat assessments for local businesses and critical infrastructure, and advanced trainings on combat medicine.

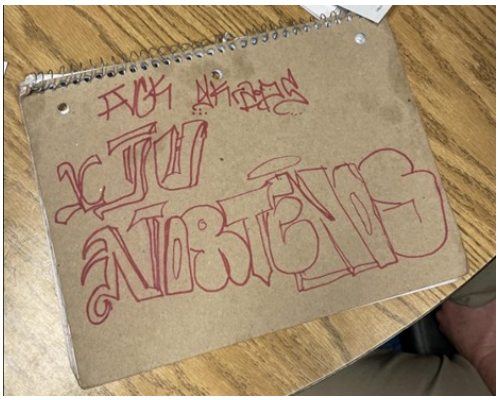
Gang Unit

Operations

The SLTPD's Gang Unit is tasked with monitoring, investigating and enforcing laws pertaining to organized criminal groups. The Gang Unit focuses its efforts in three areas: intelligence gathering/dissemination, crime prevention and enforcement. This mirrors the California Street Terrorism Enforcement & Prevention statutes (STEP) outlined in Penal Code 186.22. To encourage information sharing, the Gang Unit routinely makes contacts with community groups and leaders. To prevent criminal activity, the Gang Unit identifies gang members and emerging criminal organizations, focusing on in-person contacts with offenders whenever possible. To enforce the STEP laws, Gang Unit investigators are trained to be expert witnesses and provide special testimony in gang-related cases.

The SLTPD Gang Unit has developed a strategy to address this rise through education of patrol officers, directed enforcement, close relationships with school officials and incorporating the SRO in a proactive approach to gang activity. Finally, utilization of local media has been used to spread the word about gang activity and improve reporting.

Community members with gang-related information are encouraged to reach out to the SLTPD, as our mission simply cannot be completed without the help of the community. Both the Gang Unit and the community share the same safety-oriented vision.



Gang Indicia Reported by School Officials

Gang graffiti located in the midtown beat

Joint Dispatch Center

Support

South Lake Tahoe Dispatch continues to be the heart of public safety throughout the City of South Lake Tahoe as well as the Lake Valley area in the County. Throughout our summer months we also dispatch for Fallen Leaf Fire and provide automatic aid to the areas near Emerald Bay. Our Joint Dispatch Center routes all calls for Police, Fire and EMS in these areas.

Dispatch was faced with historically low staffing during 2023. Our dispatchers worked many extra days and overtime hours to ensure someone is always there to answer the public's emergencies. Without our dispatchers, public safety service in South Lake Tahoe would drastically diminish. Some patrol officers, detectives, and even the Chief have volunteered to be trained and have worked in dispatch to at least help answer phones so we don't leave a dispatcher by themselves for too long. Dispatchers are responsible for answering the phone, answering 911, answering the police radio, answering the fire radio, answering the JPA EMS radio, and dispatching all appropriate units to sometimes multiple scenes at once. It is the epitome of multi-tasking and their skills to manage all this by themselves is truly impressive.

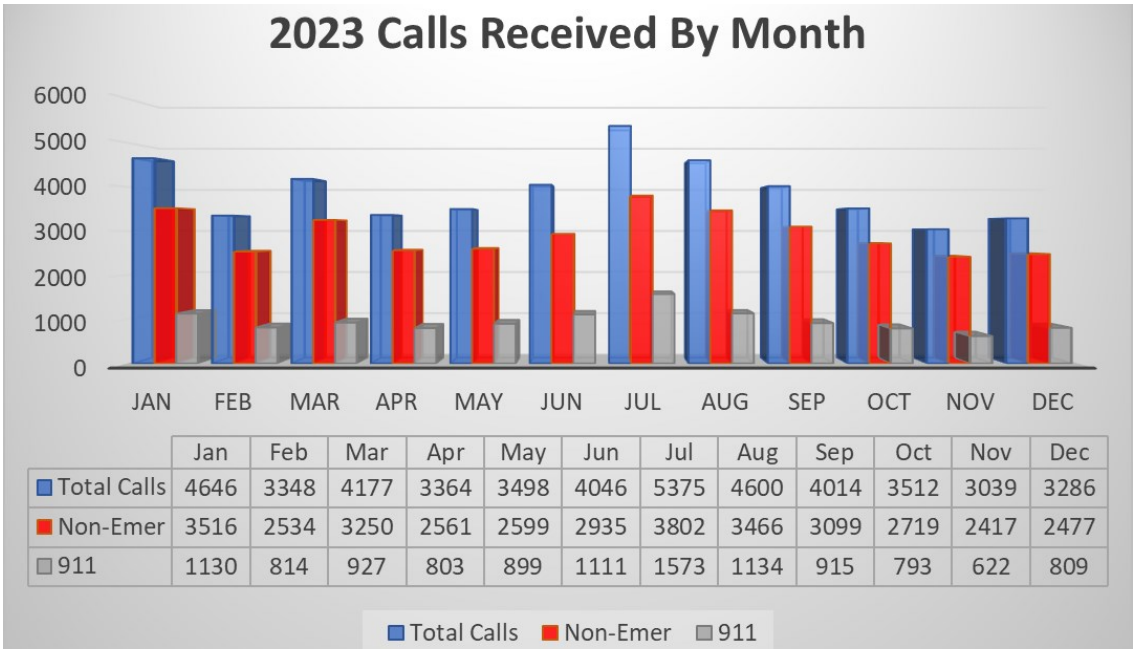
We are on a mission to have dispatch fully staffed in 2024. Thank You South Lake Tahoe Public Safety Dispatchers!

Joint Dispatch Center

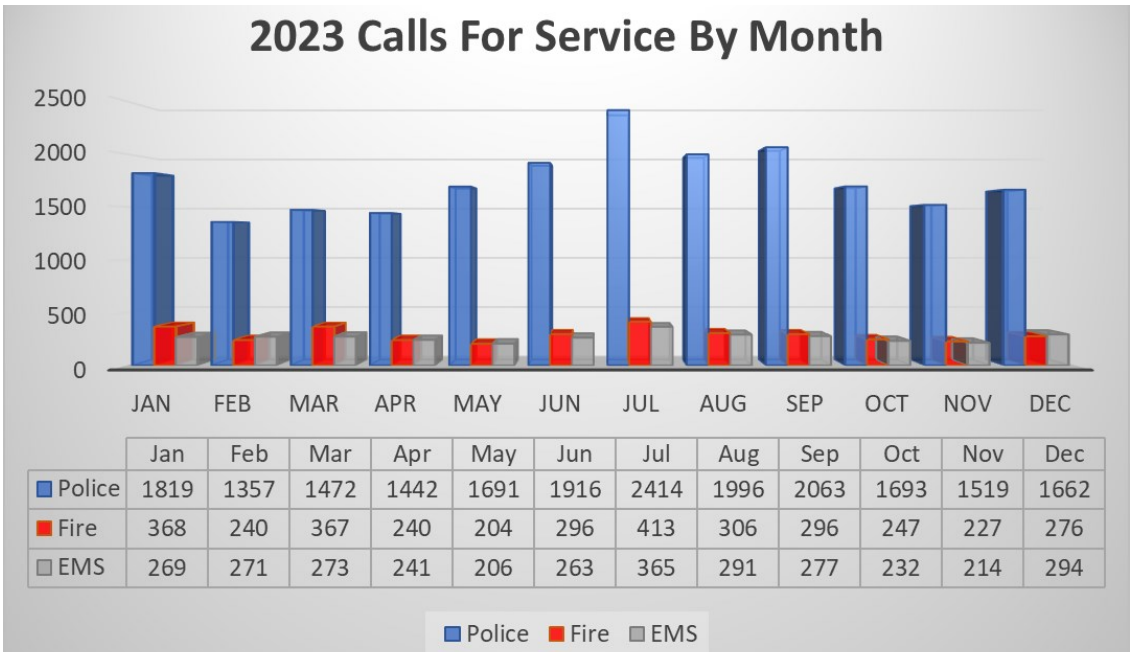
Support

STATISTICS:

In 2023, Dispatchers received a total of 46,905 calls from the public (Compared to 45,012 in 2022). Of that total, 11,530 (25%) were 911 emergency calls and 35,375 (75%) were classified as non-emergency calls. Our new CAD system also is capable of receiving "911 Texts" Dispatchers are also to respond via text to people communicating with 911 over text message. In 2023, dispatch received 195 emergency requests via text message.



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Total Calls	4646	3348	4177	3364	3498	4046	5375	4600	4014	3512	3039	3286
Non-Emer	3516	2534	3250	2561	2599	2935	3802	3466	3099	2719	2417	2477
911	1130	814	927	803	899	1111	1573	1134	915	793	622	809



	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Police	1819	1357	1472	1442	1691	1916	2414	1996	2063	1693	1519	1662
Fire	368	240	367	240	204	296	413	306	296	247	227	276
EMS	269	271	273	241	206	263	365	291	277	232	214	294

Detective Unit

Support

The SLTPD's Detective Division is tasked with the investigation of a wide array of criminal offenses. The Division has six detectives, each with a specific set of crimes to investigate.

There are no detectives who handle a single type of crime; each detective participates in a list of tasks specific to that detective's assigned desk. Each detective receives training relevant to his/her desk. For example, the Property Crimes detective investigates burglaries, theft, shoplifting, identity theft, fraud, online scams, Vacation Home fraud, marijuana crimes, graffiti, arson to property, vandalism, auto theft, and other related crimes. He also participates in a number of community boards and serves as a resource for training and licensing of marijuana collectives.

This workload is typical of each detective.

Significant crimes (such as officer-involved shootings, homicides, etc) require the work of the entire Detective Division; therefore, every detective receives specialized training in handling those types of events.

Major Crimes	•1 Detective
Domestic Violence	•1 Detective (grant funded)
Cannabis/Property Crimes	•1 Detective
Child Crimes	•2 Detectives
FBI Task Force Officer	•1 Detective
CSI Team	•2 Senior Evidence Technicians
Detective Supervisor	•1 Sergeant
Division Leadership	•1 Lieutenant

Aside from investigating cases, detectives also serve as subject matter experts and mentors for patrol officers. It is a daily occurrence for patrol officers to come into the Detective Division for advice on an investigation. Currently, the Detective Division's staff also hold collateral duties on SWAT, Crisis Negotiations Team, radio team, Sniper Unit, and many other part-time assignments.

The Detective Division's mission statement is to provide a "victim centric approach to the pursuit of truth for restorative justice while respecting the rights of the accused." This mission can be seen as a process of milestones in each case. The detectives apply this process to each case, and the detective supervisor examines each case to ensure the goals of the Detective Division are applied appropriately.

On average, 67 cases are accepted by the Detective Division each month. Not all cases referred to the Detective Division are assigned to a detective; a supervisor screens and triages every report to determine the most efficient and appropriate investigative steps while still maintaining the Division's mission.

It is important to recognize that cases do not arrive in the Detective Division solely from patrol officers. The Task Force Officer has federal cases assigned by the FBI, the Child Crimes detectives have cases referred by CPS or the school district staff, ICAC sends reports of child pornography/exploitation, and the Domestic Violence detective receives cases from local partnerships (such as Live Violence Free).

Each month detectives handle an average of 7 scene responses during business hours and average 1.3 after-hours scene responses.

Detective Unit

Support

The SLTPD employs one detective assigned to an FBI task force. This detective is duly sworn to facilitate his involvement in multi-jurisdictional cases. This Task Force Officer (TFO) detective receives specialized training in investigating federal crimes and works primarily with the South Lake Tahoe Resident Agency of the FBI.

As an example of the way in which the Detective Division staff work together, below are a very small sampling of notable cases from 2023. These cases represent the variation in skill sets each detective possesses, as well as the partnership and teamwork between the detectives and Evidence Technicians who work in partnership to assemble prosecutable cases and provide closure for victims.

A sexual assualt case uncovered a human trafficking connection. The victim was relocated and provided services for her mental and physical recovery.

An armed robbery led to a SWAT deployment at a local residence. Numerous guns and drugs were seized and the suspect was arrested.

Simultaneous with the robbery mentioned above, a school shooting threat was discovered. Detectives worked throughout the night to arrest the suspect, who had armed himself and prepared detailed plans to carry out the shooting the following day.

Detectives were assigned to asisst the Traffic Unit for a fatal hit-and-run case. The suspect was identified and arrested. Detectives assisted with scene reconstruction.

Evidence Technicians assisted patrol officers with the forensic analysis of a scene in which a male was found deceased and hanging from a tree.

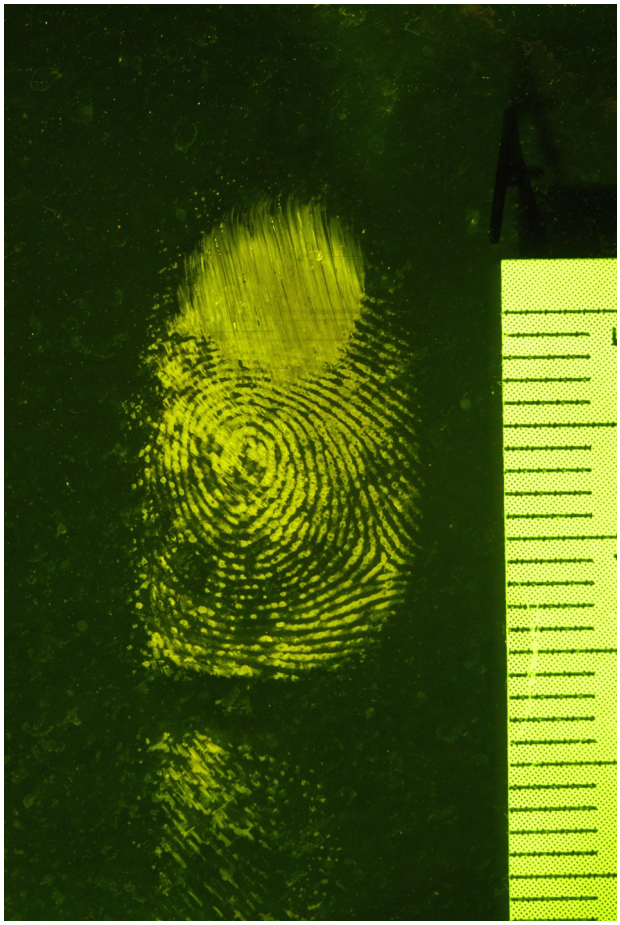
Detectives responded during nighttime hours to a report of a child abuse case. A 1 year-old baby had suffered 3rd degree burns to over a fifth of her body. Numerous people were arrested and Evidence Technicians assisted with service of a search warrant and processing of a residential crime scene.

Detectives and Evidence Technicians worked alongside coroner personnel to investigate a possible homicide after a female was found dead due to blunt trauma in the common area of a local condo complex.

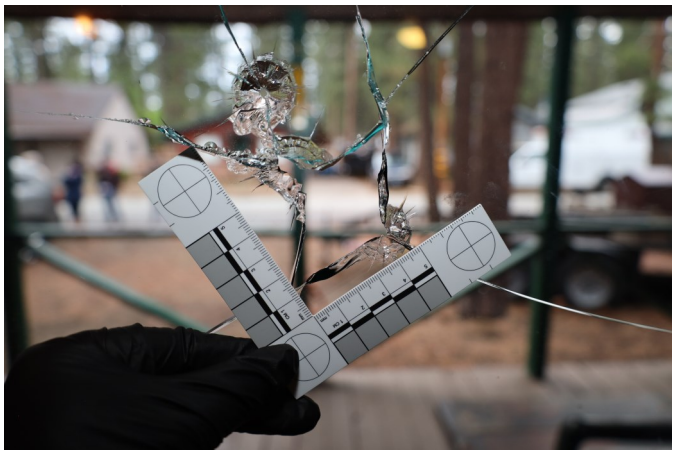
SLTPD has developed a new email-based way for the community to report crime information. The email address *crimetips@cityofslt.us* was developed in partnership with Northern Nevada Secret Witness. It has been publicized in local media and is in use for receiving information from the public on a variety of investigations.

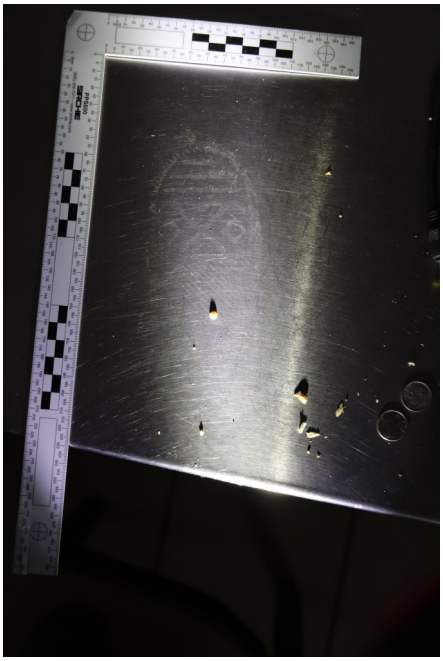
Evidence / CSI

Support



The Detective Division also employs two Senior Evidence Technicians. Unlike many agencies, the SLTPD Evidence Technicians deploy into the field to handle crime scene processing, evidence collection, forensic photography and other duties. When in the office, the Evidence Technicians perform analysis and advanced testing on a wide variety of evidence items. Some of these advanced capabilities include a variety of fingerprint processing techniques, digital photo enhancement, detailed photography, human and animal remains collection, alternate light source (ALS) imaging, gunshot reside testing, wound photography, arson evidence processing, DNA collection, and more. Both Evidence Technicians receive ongoing training (both POST and non-POST certified) to hone their skills. They respond around the clock to work alongside the Case Agent and other detectives.





Community Services

Support

The Community Service Officers act as a support division to the South Lake Tahoe Police Department and other Departments throughout the City. Their duties include managing the scene of both traffic collisions and any other road or lane closures, parking enforcement, graffiti, nuisance, and vehicle abatement. Our Community Service Officers respond to all public nuisance and Short-Term Rental complaints (permitted or unpermitted); the CSO's have the authority to enforce and issue Administrative Citations for anything in violation of the South Lake Tahoe City Code.

The CSO Division assists in coordinating external resources to help abate nuisances throughout the city and in 2023, they took the lead on helping to abate a residence that was creating a public health hazard to citizens and nearby properties. The CSO's performance had a significant impact on this Department's ability to provide a service to the South Lake Tahoe Community.

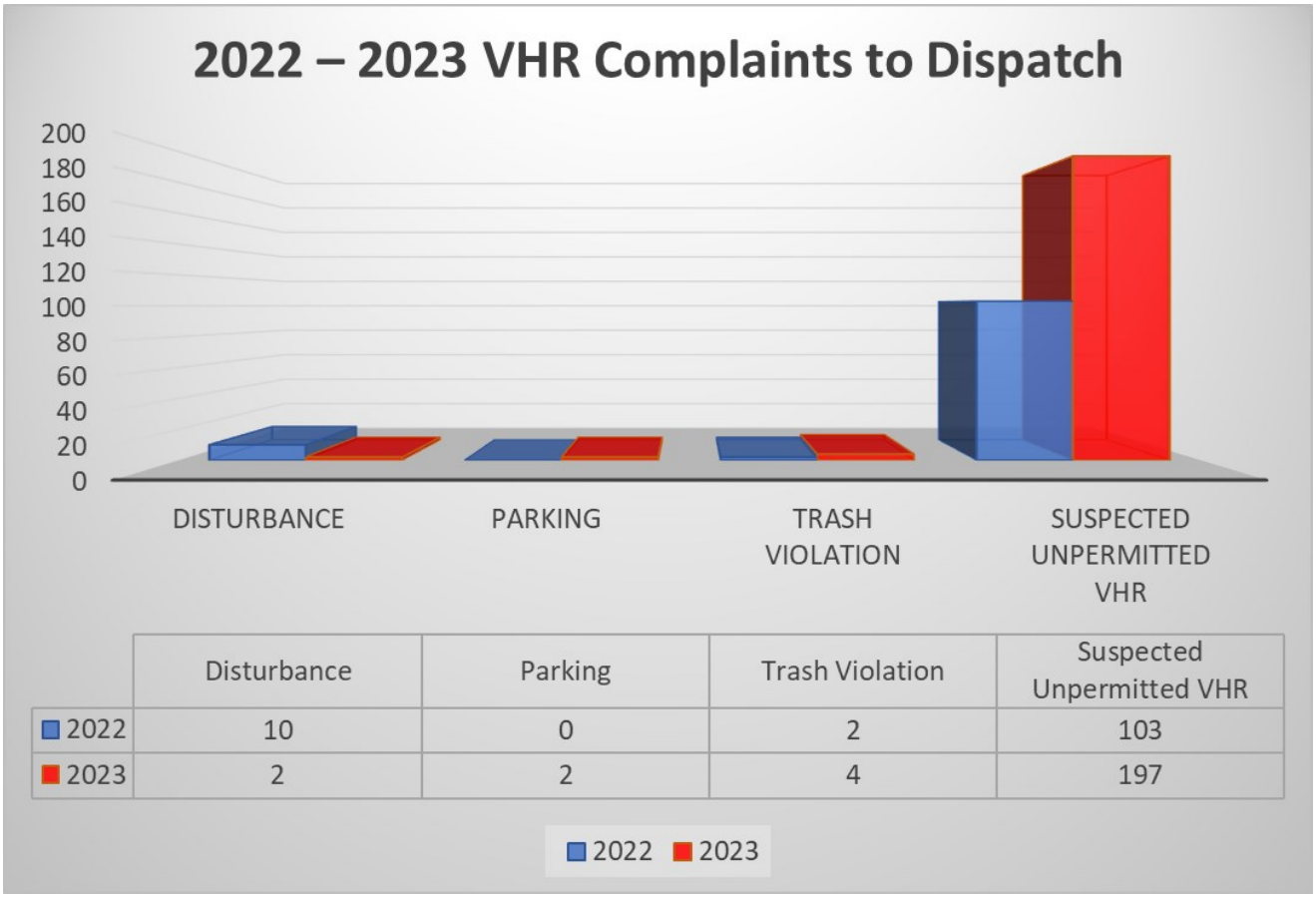
South Lake Tahoe has experienced many challenging winter seasons with the roads to Heavenly Ski Resort being within the city limits which includes vehicle collisions and parking violations that create a traffic concern. In 2023, the Police Department, along with the CSO division and other Departments throughout the City, assisted in creating a new parking plan for the Heavenly area and its neighboring properties. The parking plan went into effect in November of 2023 and has implemented chain control and eliminated overflow parking for Heavenly patrons on certain streets that were once allowed. Additionally, many streets now only allow residential street parking between the months of November through May, which eliminates vehicles not fit for the winter weather to park in certain areas.

Our Community Service Administrative Assistants provide fingerprint services, manage the City's Parking Garage, offer alarm, business, mobile vending, massage, taxi, and short-term rental permits. The administrative team researches unpermitted short-term rentals and by the end of 2023, worked with the City's legal team to implement a city ordinance to go after platforms such as AIRBNB, VRBO, Booking.com, etc. that were allowing those without valid permits to advertise for short term rentals.

In 2023, the CSO division added Parking Ambassadors to assist with educational parking enforcement throughout the city. The Parking Ambassadors have allowed for the rest of the Community Service Division to focus on Police assistance and City Code violations.

Community Services

Support



	Disturbance	Parking	Trash Violation	Suspected Unpermitted VHR
2022	10	0	2	103
2023	2	2	4	197

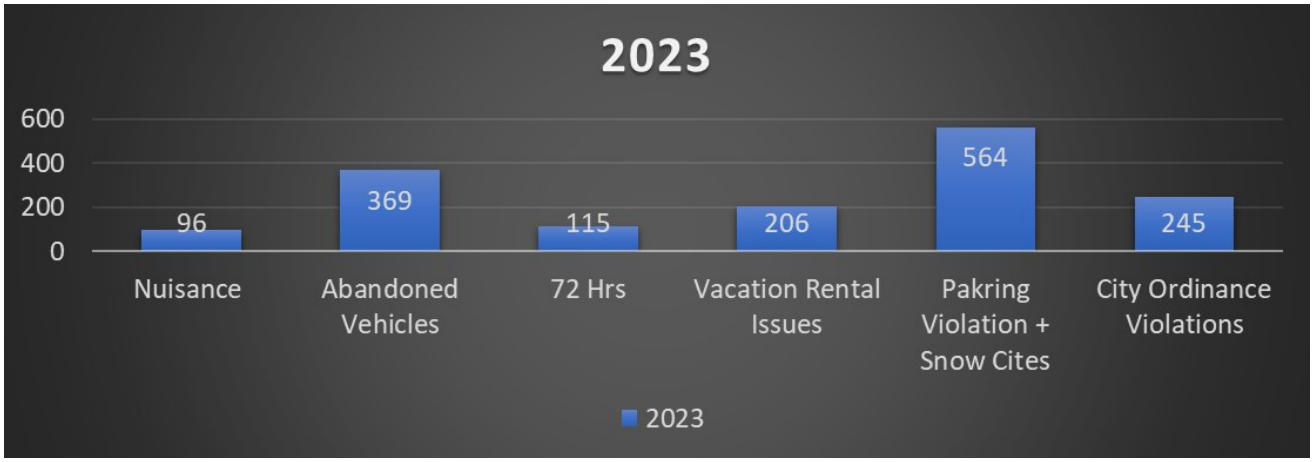
Community Services

Support

CITATIONS

	Parking	Code Enforce-ment	VHR	Totals
2022	3657	66	91	3814
Warning	137	0	0	137
Appeals	831	1	18	850
Upheld	618	1	14	633
Collected	$419,471	$5,990	$70,439	$495,900
2023	8952	44	92	9088
Warnings	135	0	0	135
Appeals	1821	7	22	1850
Upheld	1260	4	53	1317
Collected	$943,299	$13,460	$93,800	$1,050,599

VEHICLE ENFORCEMENT



ADDITIONAL COMMUNITY SERVICE OFFICER ACTIONS:

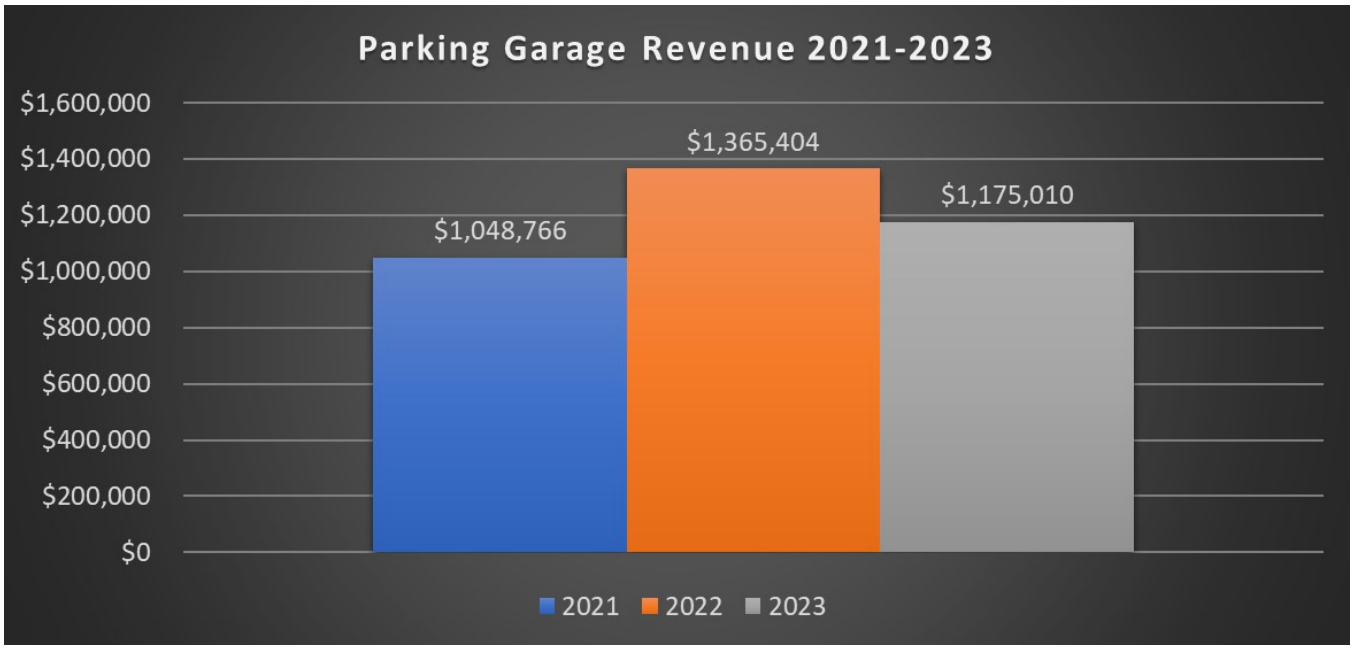
LIVESCAN / Fingerprinting	503
Mobile Vending Permits	0
Taxi Permits	35
VHR Permits	206
Alarm permits handled	370
False Alarm Dispatches Recorded	852
Parking Garage Permits:	363
Parking Garage Notices	2610
Graffiti / sticker eradication	654

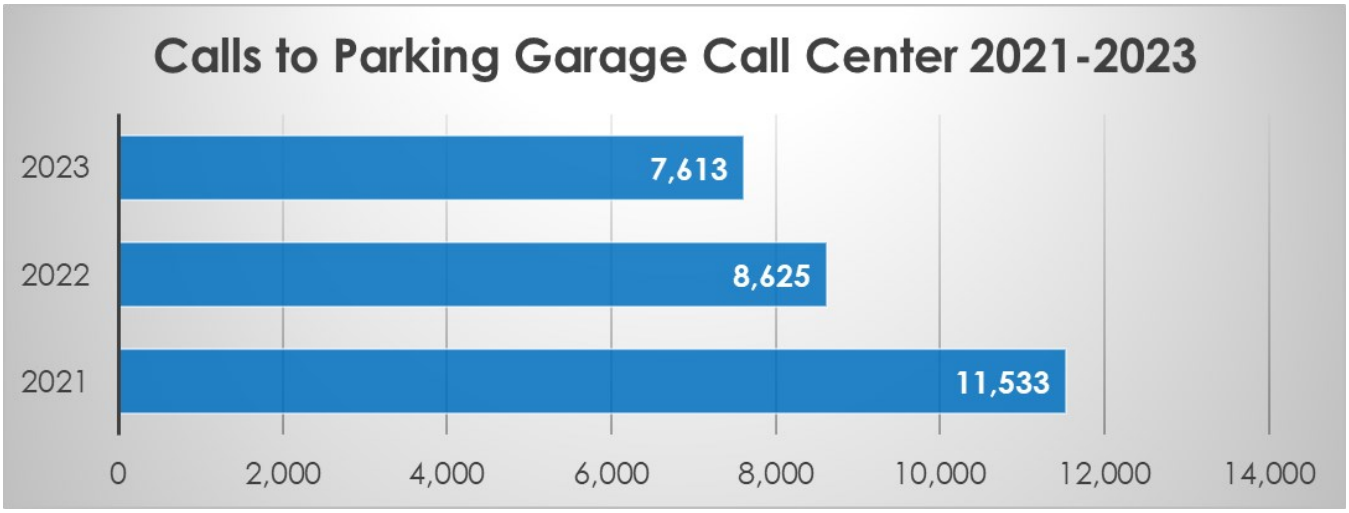
Community Services

Support

PARKING GARAGE:

The City parking garage renovation project began in 2023. Upgrades to its structural integrity have been completed. PD staff continues to work with Public Works, alongside Walker Consultants to continue the much needed parking garage renovation. Once completed, the parking garage will present a much more user friendly, and safe environment for those locals and visitors who utilize our parking garage.





Records

Support

The Records Division is an integral part of the South Lake Tahoe Police Department. The goal of the records division is to consistently provide effective, courteous, and professional support services to the public as well as to the Police Department. Most often, when a member of the public comes into the Police Department lobby, they are met by a member of the Records staff.

2023 brought with it many changes to the Records Department. In March of 2023, Chief Stevenson promoted one of the Records Technicians to the position of Records Supervisor. Also, in October of 2023, the vacant Records Technician position was filled, thus the department became fully staffed. 2023 was the department's first full year using our new Records Management System and within that new system, we have successfully submitted highly accurate reports to various agencies including California DOJ and the FBI. These agencies receive data including, but not limited to CIBRS (California Incident Based Reporting System) and RIPA (Racial and Identity Profiling Act), as well as tracking Use of Force and Hate Crimes for the FBI.

Records often works as the liaison between agencies. Some of the agencies the Records Department works closely with are: El Dorado County Superior Court, El Dorado County District Attorney, El Dorado County Probation, El Dorado County Sheriff, California Highway Patrol, Douglas County Sheriff and many more.

A few of the services the Records staff provides the public are: report requests, Public Records Act (PRA) requests, towed vehicle releases, non-emergency calls for service, U-Visa's, clearance letters for immigration and many more.

Thank you for supporting us!