

RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS RAISED BY COUNCIL MEMBERS AT THE SEPTEMBER 26 CITY COUNCIL LEGISLATIVE MEETING.

Q: How many arrests by CAST team are gun related?

The Community Assistance Safety Team has made 9 gun-related arrests and seized 3 firearms.

Q: Can APD provide any background on the presence or state of organized crime in Alexandria.

When criminal investigations detectives are assigned cases they are always looking to see if the crime is part of a regional trend or spree. Detectives and Crime Analysts work to identify other jurisdictions that may be impacted and detectives work with detectives in those agencies and federal partners to solve those cases.

Q: What is the current ratio of officers to general population in Alexandria? Is there an accepted best practice and/or what per capita number can we expect in the upcoming staffing study?

According to the 2020 US Census, Alexandria's total population stands at 158,309 residents. It is important to note that this figure does not encompass the transient population comprising visitors, employees, and commuters passing through the city.

As a police department, we are allocated 322 sworn Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) positions. However, this number may not accurately represent our operational workforce, as approximately 15-20 percent of these positions are occupied by officers who are either in training to become full-fledged officers or are on restricted duty due to the inherent demands of our profession.

Best practices for evaluating law enforcement agency staffing, as outlined in the forthcoming staffing study, emphasize the importance of data-driven analysis and discourage relying solely on the community-to-police force ratio as a measure of effectiveness. These practices encompass factors like benchmarking, community input, workload assessment, technology integration, officer wellness, performance metrics, flexibility, collaboration, transparency, continuous review, training, and long-term planning.

Q: What are the current/year-to-date statistics available from the Vice & Narcotics Section?

Narcotics Seized

- Fentanyl Pills: 10,389 Pills
- Fentanyl Powder: 155 grams
- Cocaine: 1,079 grams
- Marijuana: Approximately 15lbs
- MDMA 13.6 grams (this is new drug of choice now) Users are calling it "Boot". It is often cut with fentanyl.
- Psilocybin Mushrooms: 1.13lbs
- Xanax pills: 443 pills
- THC Vape Cartridges: 280 units.
- THC Wax: 2lbs

We seized four firearms thus far this year.

Detectives have responded to six overdoses – four of which were OD deaths.

Q: How many Alexandria warrants are pending right now in the City? How has that changed over time (can we show a year-to-year analysis for the last three years)?

As of today, there are 1,277 active warrants (including civil violations) on file through our department. Unfortunately, we do not have the ability to provide information for a historical account of warrants. Once a warrant is executed and removed from the system there is no existing data collection mechanism to capture the historical information.

Q: What can the City/APD do using one-time funding or contingent reserves to invest in cameras?

APD is in the final stages of developing a strategic plan that explores options for the city's investment in smart cameras, license plate reader cameras, mobile crime deterrence cameras, and the establishment of an Alexandria Real-Time Information Center (ARTIC). ARTIC is designed to centralize the ingestion of data from these cameras into a dedicated operational hub for real-time monitoring and analysis.

Q: Is it possible to see a time breakdown for SROs?

SRO's work at minimum an 8-hour day. Those not assigned, a take home vehicle start their day responding to Police Headquarters to obtain their police cruisers, long gun, and BWC. They respond to their respective school and start their day assisting with bus arrival and directing traffic. They assist at the entrance while students come through the weapon abatement locations. They assist school staff with student issues, monitor each of the lunches and attend student safety plans. They interact with students during class changes. Take reports if needed and respond to any disorderly incidents or at the request by school administration. Each SRO works closely with the principals and staff, attending staff meetings, involved in after school sport programs, ie: soccer, basketball. Attending after school sporting events (Football), assisting other SRO's at their schools when needed. The day ends with their presence at the end of the day release, bus loading, exiting and traffic control. Those without take home vehicles return to headquarters, turn in their vehicle, weapon and BWC.

Both ACHS and Minnie Howard Campus SRO's respond to Bradlee and the end of the school day. SRO's attend sporting events, most recently football games and attended the Homecoming dance.