

COMMUNITY



FPD

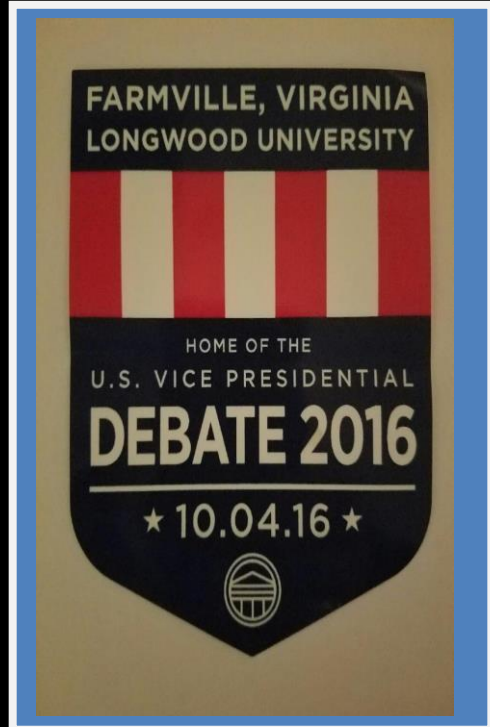
Farmville Police Department

"To provide a safe and secure community through excellence in public service."

HONOR

# The Farmville Police Department

## 2016 State of the Department Annual Report





# ***Farmville Police Department***



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## Message from Chief of Police, A. Q. “Andy” Ellington Sr.

To the Citizens of the Town of Farmville,

I am deeply humbled and honored to have been appointed to serve as your Chief of Police in our community. Having been born and raised in Farmville, I have a deep love and respect for the Town and the citizens I serve. I have had the pleasure to serve under five wonderful men who have also served as your Chief of Police. The skills and knowledge that I have acquired from each of them is exceptional, and will allow me to continue to develop the Farmville Police Department into the premier law enforcement agency in the region.

The mission of the Farmville Police Department is to provide a safe and secure community through excellence in public service. We can best do this by working cooperatively with other local, state, and federal agencies. The Farmville Police Department had the honor of partnering with various agencies in the development of security operations for the very important Vice Presidential Debate that was held on the Longwood University campus on October 4, 2016. The Department worked closely with the Longwood University Police Department, Prince Edward Sheriff’s Office, Secret Service, FBI, Virginia State Police, and many other Emergency Service Agencies, with the mission to ensure the safety of everyone in our community and those participating in the debate. As a result, our mission was accomplished!!!

Post VP Debate, the Farmville Police Department has now set its sights on re-accreditation. The Farmville Police Department received its initial accredited status in March 2013 by the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission. This month we will undergo our four year assessment. We are confident we will maintain our accredited status and continue to administer our Core Values of Integrity, Community Safety, Service, and Quality to the citizens in the Town of Farmville.



# ***Farmville Police Department***



## **Agency Accomplishments**

### Fleet Improvements:

With the support of our town council and town manager, our department continues to make great strides in the improvement and visibility of our patrol fleet. With funds received from a grant and money appropriated for the Vice Presidential Debate we added 6 vehicles to our fleet. This allowed us to again reduce average year and mileage of our fleet at a very low cost to the town.

### Taser Upgrades:

The Farmville Police Department continues to make every effort possible to reduce risk and liability to its officers and to the Town. This year we upgraded the Department- issued tasers from the X26 to the X26P. The new X 26P is an upgraded model and will only deliver a 5 second burst of electricity regardless of how long the trigger is pulled.

### Uniforms:

The image and overall appearance of the Farmville Police Department was changed this past year by acquiring new uniforms. Over the past 10 years the agency has utilized different styles of shirts. This resulted in coloring variations reflecting a nonprofessional appearance of the department. The new "Blue" uniform, with the newly designed color patch, now creates a vibrant, uniform, professional appearance by all officers.

### Outer Vest:

FPD Policy mandates that all officers below the rank of Lieutenant wear a bullet proof vest. During the summer months, these vests become very hot and uncomfortable for the officers, especially on days where the temperature rises above 90 degrees. Statistics have proven that employees that are uncomfortable often become unproductive and sometimes irritated. In an effort to overcome this concern and to make our officers more comfortable, grant funds were acquired that allowed for the purchase of the outer carrier vests. The vest uniform fits over the outside of the officer's shirt, allowing for the officer to slip off the vest when not on the street, or while doing reports.



# ***Farmville Police Department***



## **Agency Accomplishments Continued**



### *Bike Patrol*

Bike patrols continue to serve as a vital part of our community policing and citizen interaction program. Bike patrols are used throughout the downtown area and neighborhoods as a diversified method of patrol operations. They are also utilized in all major events, such as Heart of Virginia, Rock the Block, and Fireworks at the airport.

### *Advanced Citizens Academy*

Dedicated to community policing, the Farmville Police Department graduated its first ever Advanced Citizens Academy. This class was a follow up to our basic police academy. It allowed the students to work a robbery case from beginning to end. Students processed the initial crime scene, interviewed witnesses and a suspect, and finished with a trial in Circuit Court.





# ***Farmville Police Department***



## **Measurable Performance**



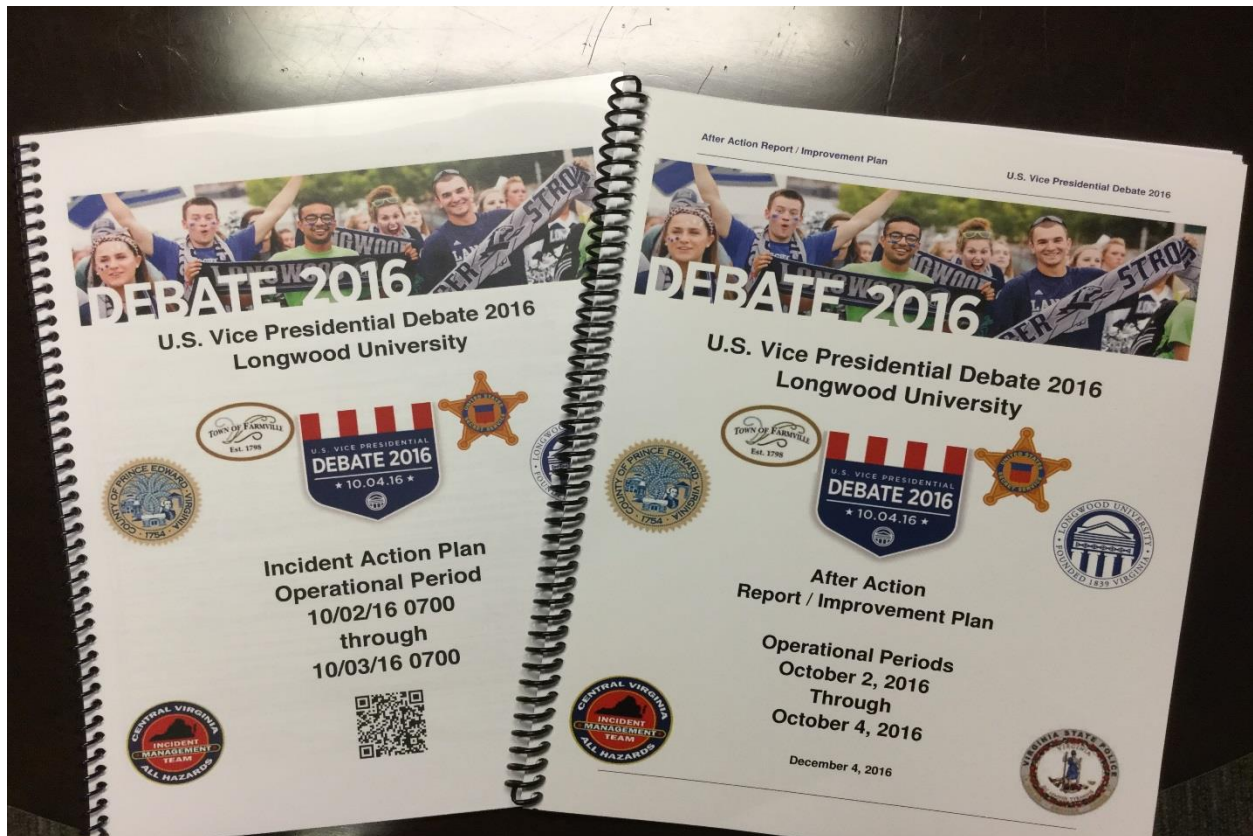
On March 17, 2016, Deputy Chief Andy Ellington of the Farmville Police Department Graduated with the 38<sup>th</sup> session of the Professional Executive Leadership School (PELS). PELS is a highly sought, intensive three week leadership education program for law enforcement conducted in cooperation with the University of Richmond. This program is designed for individuals who currently serve in command/executive level positions within their agency. The objective of this program is to acquaint participants with best practices in leadership while challenging them to reflect upon their own leadership competency and examine ways of achieving both personal and professional growth. Deputy Chief Ellington becomes the second graduate of this program actively serving at the F.P.D. The Department is proud of his success in this program. The department continues to improve training opportunities for officers. Training is a must for all professional organizations. Chief Ellington will continue to acquire advanced training for all officers and supervisors in an effort to mold them into future leaders within the department.



# Farmville Police Department



## Measurable Performance Continued



The 2016 U. S. Vice Presidential Debate was held October 4, 2016 at Longwood University, located in the Town of Farmville. The incident objectives were:

- Provide for the safety, security, health, and welfare for all responders and guests.
- Maintain civil order and provide event security before, during, and after the event.
- Develop and execute traffic and parking plans.
- Provide emergency medical, fire, and hazmat services and support to those attending the debate and related activities.
- Establish and maintain communications with all stakeholders before and during the event as well as post event activities, including during demobilization.



# Farmville Police Department



## Measurable Performance

Each year, on the first Tuesday night in August, communities across the United States participate in National Night Out. It is a program designed to heighten crime and drug- prevention awareness, develop and strengthen partnerships between police and residents, and generate support for anti-crime programs such as Neighborhood Watch, Crime Solvers and Business Watch. The national awards program honors registered communities for participation in the National Night Out campaign. Each year since 2011, Farmville Virginia has been an award winning community. In 2016, Farmville Virginia was ranked 18th among jurisdictions with a population of 5000 to 15000.





# ***Farmville Police Department***



**Measurable Performance Continued**



Officers from the Farmville Police Department and Longwood University Police Department collected 110 lbs. of unused, expired, or otherwise unwanted prescription medication during the latest Drug Take Back Event held on April 30th. Officers were assisted by members of the Medical Reserve Corps who also handed out flyers on the safe handling of medication and Zika Virus awareness. Pictured here is Officer Gary Williams (2nd from right) along with Longwood Officer G. Hardy (far right) and two members of the Medical Reserve Corps.



# ***Farmville Police Department***



## **Measurable Performance Continued**



March 2nd, Lt. Bill Hogan helped Fuqua School celebrate the birthday of Dr. Seuss by reading Green Eggs and Ham to two classes. Here, Hogan is pictured with students from Ms. Smith's preschool class.

### **Recruitment**

The 88th class of the Central Virginia Criminal Justice Academy (CVCJA) graduated on December 14, 2016. The CVCJA is one of ten regional academies in the state and prepares individuals for careers in local law enforcement, jail, civil process, court security: "Pictured" Farmville PD proudly accepts Peter Carter as its newest member to our Law Enforcement family.





# Farmville Police Department

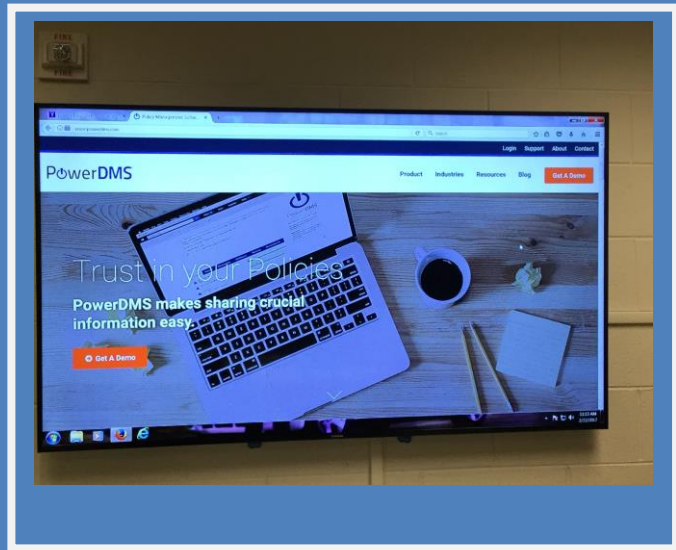


## Upcoming Goals, Objectives, and Strategies to Accomplish

*Our top priority and goal as an agency revolves around our mission statement “To Provide a Safe and Secure Community through Excellence in Public Service.”*

*To achieve this statement we must have clear strategies and target goals in mind. The reduction and prevention of crime is paramount in our approach. The involvement of the community in crime prevention is vital. No police agency can successfully prevent crime alone. This must be a mutual effort that combines communication, trust and cooperation with the public and law enforcement partners. Our actions, objectives and strategies must all work together to help us achieve this mission statement. Excellence in public safety is a lofty goal. It must be sought by measuring training, performance and community input. Today, Law Enforcement is more challenging than ever. Change is a necessity for any agency to experience growth and success.*

PowerDMS: The Department will utilize grant funds for the purchase of PowerDMS software that is a single, secure, online location for the organization, management, and distribution of our most important documents. The software equips employees with essential job knowledge and know-how through electronic policy dissemination, accreditation management, and training capabilities—accessed anytime, from anywhere.





# ***Farmville Police Department***



## **Upcoming Goals, Objectives, and Strategies to Accomplish Continued**

Recruitment: Recruiting officers is the foundation of the future for any agency. The recruitment process for police officers has greatly changed over the years. The most effective method to recruit new professional officers in a small department is to have current officers encourage men and women they know to complete an application. Personal knowledge of the character of an individual is an excellent recruitment strategy, and one that assists us in our efforts of diversifying the agency. Another critical element of recruiting is maintaining attractive and competitive salaries, benefits, and equipment to demonstrate a commitment to professional policing. Continued exposure of our agency throughout the Commonwealth through training and attending recruitment work fairs will greatly improve our ability to recruit quality police officers.

Continue to increase agency's ability to utilize crime analytics and patrol strategies in effort to be proactive in the prevention of crime: We will continue to formulate analytical data in an effort to be proactive in potential crime areas. We will use this information to formulate patrol strategies on a day to day basis.

Education for Students: We will pursue the possibility of introducing the D. A. R. E. Program into Fuqua School. It is important we continue to educate our youth at an early age on the effects of alcohol and drugs. I will do so by meeting with the school administration and encouraging their support and participation.



### Community Policing and Outreach

We must continue to find ways to reach out to the community and to have them involved with factors outside of public safety. Last year, officers organized and promoted our first ever *ADVANCED* Citizens Academy.



# ***Farmville Police Department***



## **Recommendations for Organization Revisions, Improvements, and Change**

The Farmville Police Department received its State Accreditation Status four years ago through the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission. This was a long hard journey and one of the biggest achievements I have ever been a part of in 29 years of service with this agency. We are now preparing for our 4 year reassessment in late February 2017. We have been warned that staying accredited is much harder than receiving your initial accreditation status. We will work diligently to assure that we meet all of the 190 standards as required by the commission for the four year period. It is imperative that we continue to maintain our accredited status, as it coincides with our goal as a department, to be the premier law enforcement agency in the region.

The time has come for a dedicated administrative position. The current patrol Lieutenant is wearing many hats and is simply not able to continue under the case load and responsibilities he assumes. The creation of an Administrative Lieutenant responsible for, that has authority over, all activities of the administrative division of the agency is greatly needed. The Administrative Lieutenant would delegate authority to supervisory staff and coordinate the department's records management, training, quartermaster and property room function, and payroll. The Patrol Lieutenant currently holds these responsibilities in addition to coordinating uniformed law enforcement services, crowd control response, and critical incident response for the agency.

Finally, with the current growth occurring within the Town of Farmville and expansions of current businesses, and the growth of new businesses, we should begin to evaluate the need of additional police officers. We currently have four patrol sergeants, four patrol corporals, and ten patrol officers. Each night shift consist of a sergeant, a corporal and three patrolman. Each day shift consists of a sergeant, a corporal, and two patrolman. With recent laws affecting handling of the mentally ill, we are tasked daily with the issuance of ECO's/TDO'S, and we eventually must transport these subjects to a facility anywhere within the state. Each occurrence takes an average of twelve (12) hours, consuming an officer's entire shift. This reduces the man power available to respond to calls for service. This coupled with officers burning annual leave time, holiday time, or calling in sick, is burdening the shifts and often pulling the shifts below minimum staffing requirements, therefore requiring the call in of officers to help cover shifts, resulting in the increased overtime usage we have experienced over the past year.

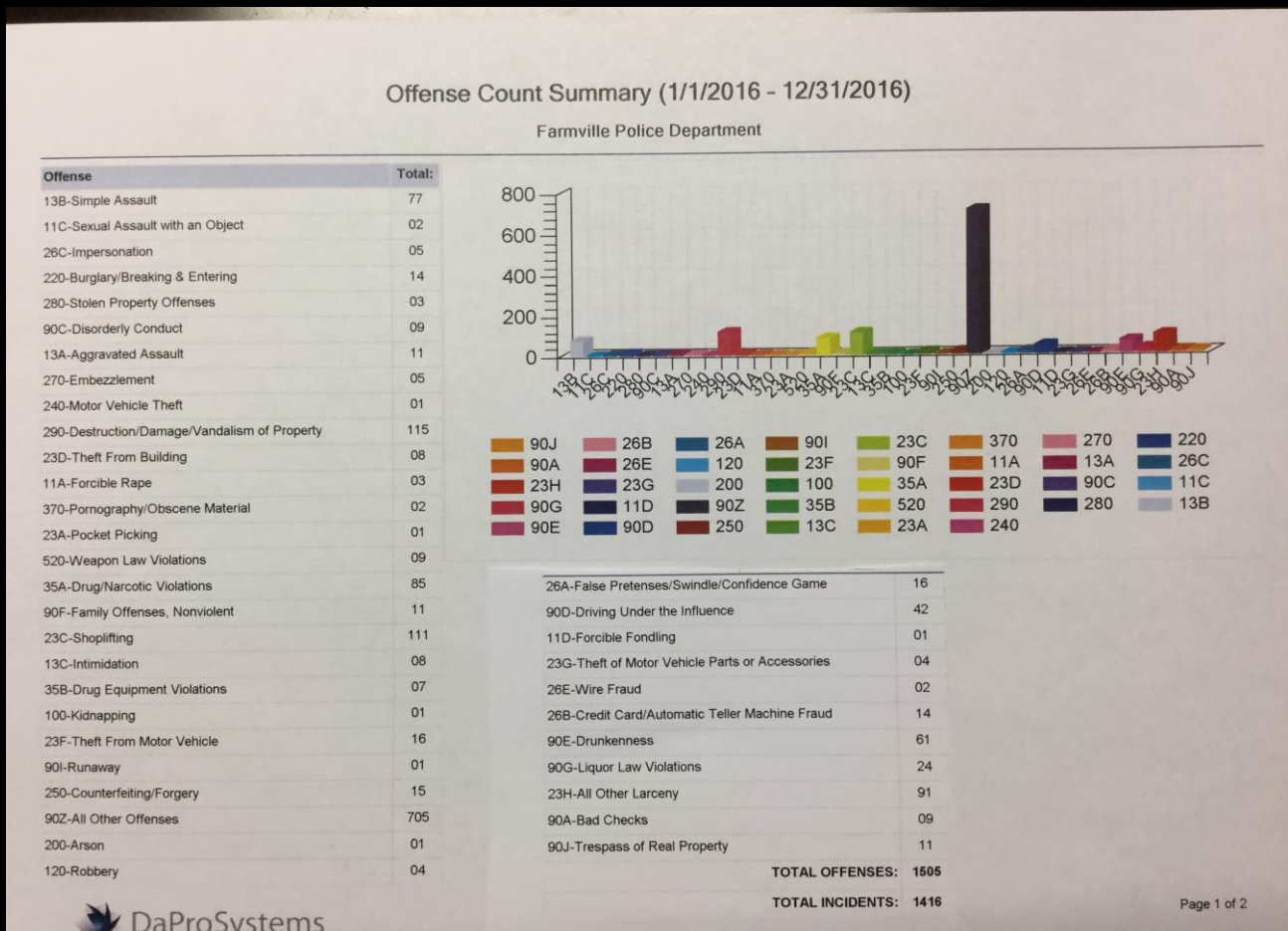


# Farmville Police Department



## Crime Trends

Offense count summary includes all offenses investigated by the agency to include those that do not fall into the category of violent crimes or property crime. These offenses maybe Domestic Disturbance, Loud Noise, Fire Scenes or Cigarette Inspections. These are just some examples. It is important that we look at offense totals each year to determine if these quality of life issues are increasing or decreasing.

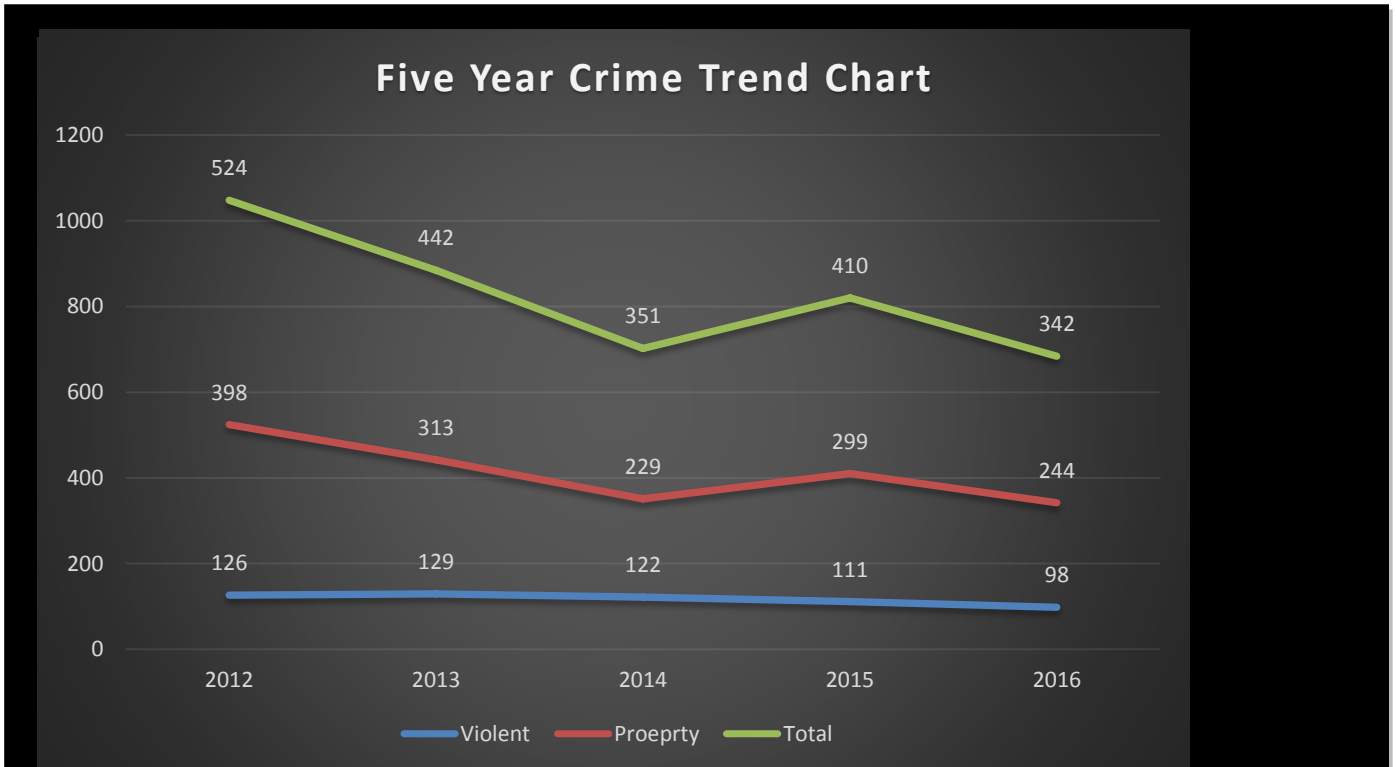




# Farmville Police Department



## Crime Trends Continued



The above chart tracks total crimes classified as Violent or Property Crimes for five years. In 2016 Property crimes and Violent Crimes declined by 68. Shoplifting continues to be a major contributor to our numbers affecting Property Crimes.

NOTE: In our tracking of Violent Crimes we also include simple assaults. Most of these offenses may be minor assaults, but we carry them in our Violent Crime numbers since they normally include a physical act. 77 of the 98 Violent Crimes were simple assaults.



# ***Farmville Police Department***



## **Crime Trends Continued**

Crime Numbers for the past five year period

<u><b>VIOLENT CRIMES</b></u>	<u><b>2016</b></u>	<u><b>2015</b></u>	<u><b>2014</b></u>	<u><b>2013</b></u>	<u><b>2012</b></u>
Simple Assault	77	92	101	110	105
Aggravated Assault	11	8	7	0	0
Homicide	0	0	0	0	0
Rape	5	3	5	4	3
Forcible Fondling/Sodomy	1	5	4	0	8
Robbery	4	3	5	6	2
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>122</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>126</b>
<u><b>PROPERTY CRIMES</b></u>					
Burglary	14	20	22	18	3
Larceny	229	273	204	288	352
Motor Vehicle Theft	0	5	1	6	11
Arson	1	1	2	1	1
<b>SUBTOTAL</b>	<b>244</b>	<b>299</b>	<b>229</b>	<b>313</b>	<b>398</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>342</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>351</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>524</b>

- In a head to head comparison from last year, overall crime numbers were below by 68 offenses.
- Violent crime, which includes simple assault, for comparison was down by 13 offenses
- Using a four year average of crime as a measurement for comparison, we find that the average for total crimes is 431.75. In 2016 we are down 20.7 percent from the four year average.



# Farmville Police Department



## Crime Trends Continued

### Total Police calls for service

January 1 – December 31, 2012	9273
January 1 – December 31, 2013	9786
January 1 – December 31, 2014	9537
January 1 – December 31, 2015	9394
January 1 – December 31, 2016	8653

### Calls for Service Demands

Answering calls for service is a major function of the agency. Call demand is a strong indication of the public need for police. Ultimately a goal of the agency is to show a reduction of calls for service combined with a reduction in overall crime numbers. The four year average call for service demand is 9,497 calls per year. 2016 resulted in a reduction of 741 calls for service as compared to the average.

### Conclusion

Farmville continues to be one of the safest communities in the state. Both property crimes and violent crimes decreased over the past year. We look forward to working with the community as a whole to build and strengthen relationships in an effort to keep our community the safest place to raise our children. We look forward to working with you in 2017. Chief Ellington

