### KANSAS CITY, KANSAS POLICE DEPARTMENT

# ANNUAL REPORT 2020





# **A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF**

As a 29-year veteran of the Kansas City, Kansas Police Department and Interim Chief, I am proud to represent the dedicated men and women who serve our community. Whether patrolling neighborhoods, checking on the welfare of residents, responding to emergencies or volunteering with youth, our officers are committed to safety, honor, integrity and professionalism.

The year 2020 was challenging for our entire nation. From COVID-19 to protests and civil unrest, it was a year like no other for those in law enforcement.

Thanks to support from the Unified Government, officers received vital personal protective equipment and other resources that allowed us to remain on the front line of pandemic response. Members of the community who chose to stand up and speak up did so peacefully, allowing us to clearly hear their message and engage them in thoughtful discussion.

As a department we endeavored to also make this a year of growth by moving forward with new initiatives such as the implementation of body worn cameras and increased transparency.

We hope that you find this report thoughtful and informative. As we review the year that was, we thank the Kansas City, Kans. community for its support as we continue to protect, partner and innovate for 2021 and beyond.

### **MICHAEL YORK**

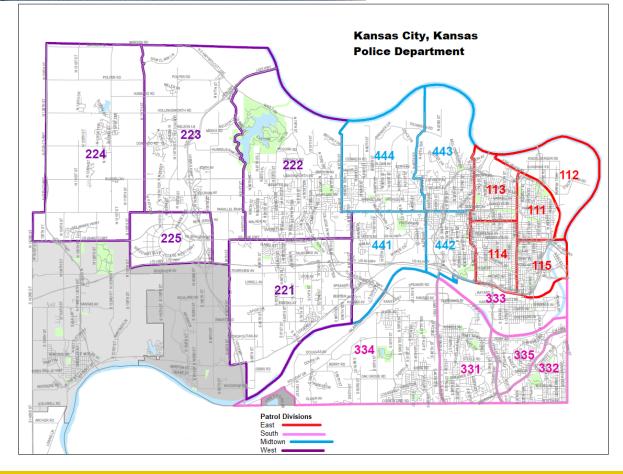
Interim Chief of Police Kansas City Kansas Police Department

### **Department Overview**

The Kansas City, Kansas Police Department strives to ensure the safety of the 153,000 residents of a community which spans approximately 125 square miles. The men and women of the KCKPD continually strive to distinguish the department as a model law enforcement agency through service, honor, integrity and professionalism.



Total Staff: 412 Sworn Officers: 339 Dispatchers: 34 (13 new in 2020) Patrol Divisions: 4



**F** "Today was a pretty bad day, especially when my car broke down this afternoon. An officer stopped to make sure I was okay. I realize he was only doing his job, but he was super nice and stayed with me the whole time, until a tow truck came. He made an embarrassing situation 1000X better. I just wanted to pass my appreciation along."

### **Department Overview**

Calls for Service: 352,467 Emergency: 145,532 Non-Emergency: 206,935

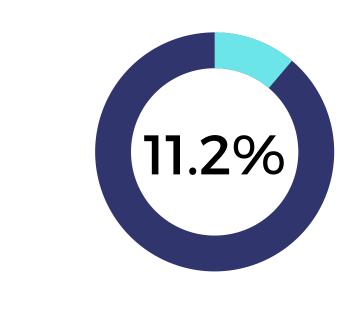
92.23% answered within 15 seconds 95.36% answered within 20 seconds 99.81% answered within 60 seconds

Asian

Hispanic 1.2%

12.7%

Black 12.1%



**Ethnicity of Sworn Officers** 

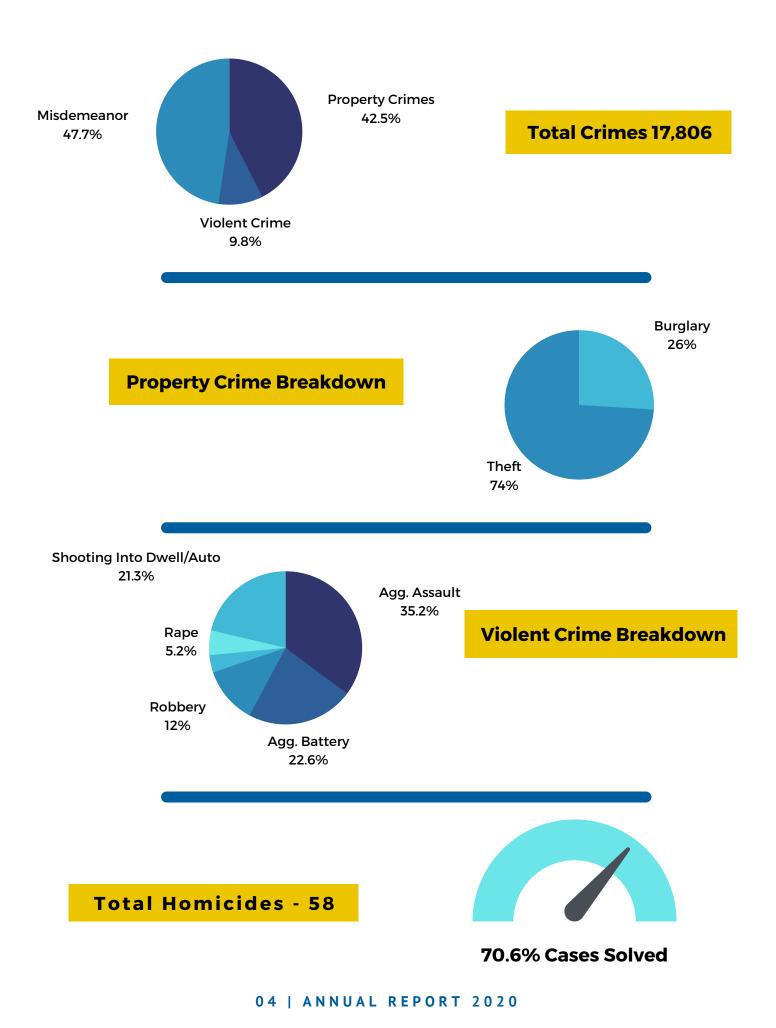
**Percent of Female Sworn** 

Welcom

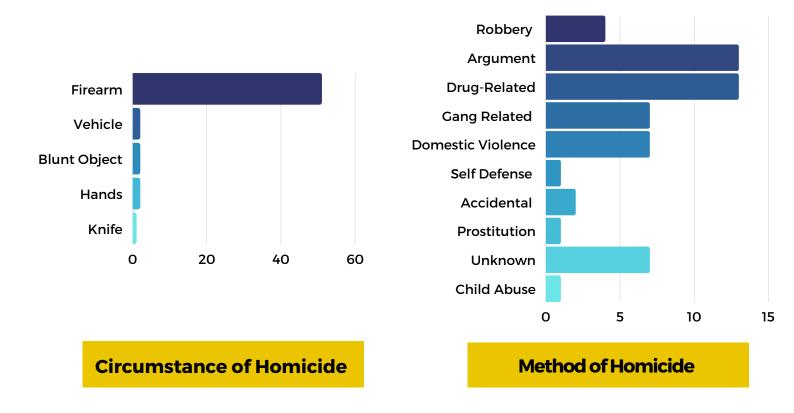
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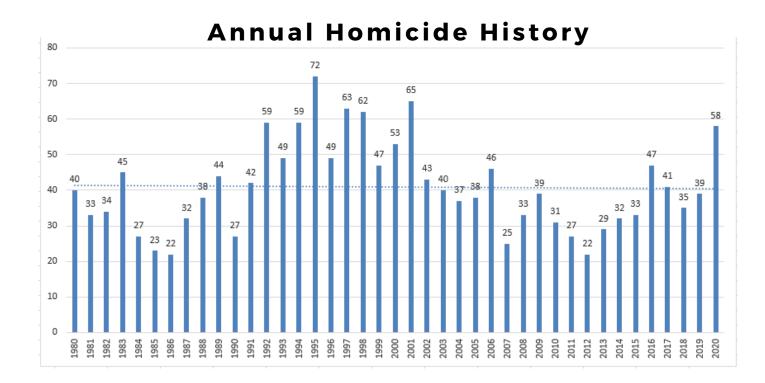
White 73.5%

### **Crime Statistics**



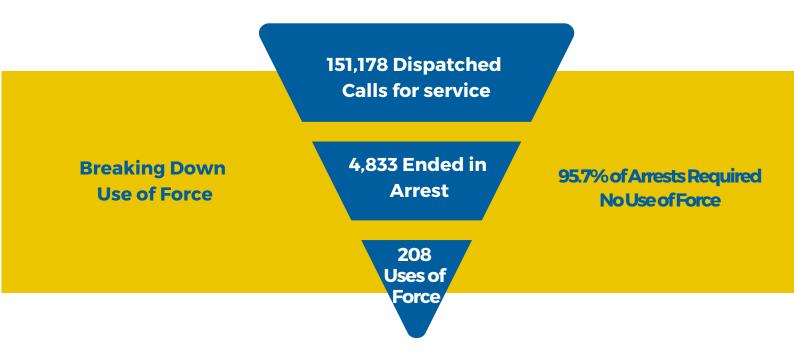
### **Crime Statistics - Cont.**



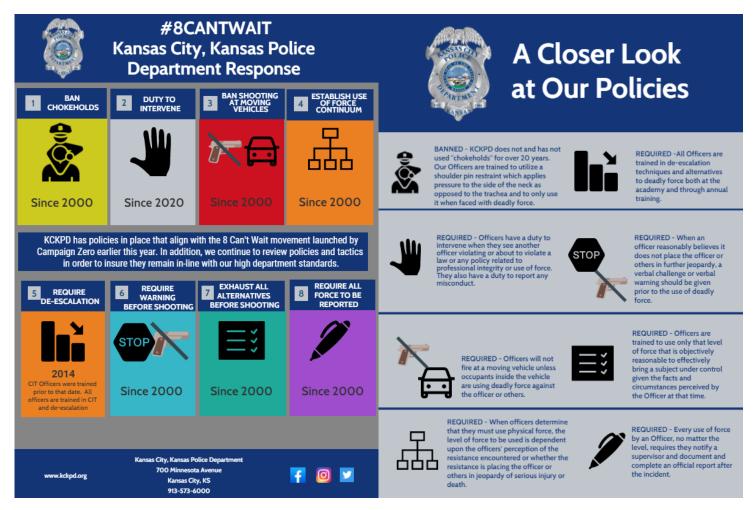


"Your kindness and compassion were much appreciated during this sad time for our family. If your demeanor and expertise is representative of the Kansas City, Kansas Police Department, the department is truly blessed you and your partner as part of it. Thank you for your service to the community."

### **Use of Force**



The year 2020 has been a challenging one for our entire nation – from COVID-19 to protests and civil unrest. In response, the training, policies, practices, and overall culture of police departments nationwide have been called into question. Some of the most pressing issues regarding police practices have focused on use of force. Due to policies, highlighted below in our response to #8CANTWAIT, and training, use of force incidents are a rare occurrence within the Kansas City, Kansas Police Department.



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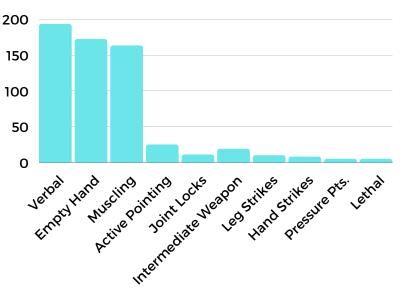
### Use of Force - Cont.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS**

Active Pointing - 25 Discharged Firearm - 5

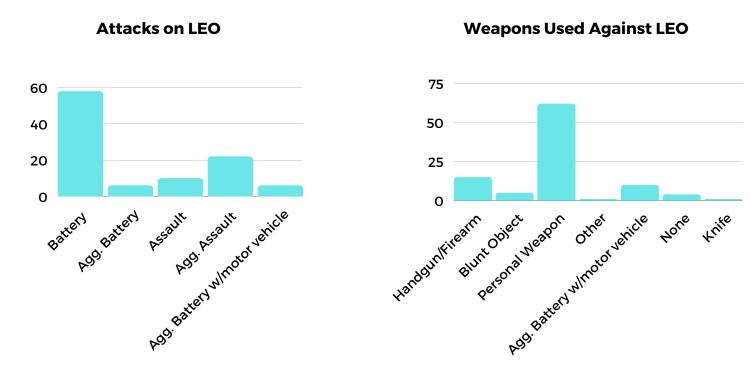
Verbal commands, empty hand control and muscling used vast majority of time.





#### Attacks on Law Enforcement Officers (LEO)

In 2020 there were 69 incidents in which an assault or battery of a law enforcement officer took place. A total of 98 officers were subjects of these attacks. The majority were categorized as misdemeanor battery followed by felony assault. The weapon (anything used to cause harm to another) most often used in these incidents by the suspect was a personal weapon such as hands, arms, feet, etc.



### Traffic

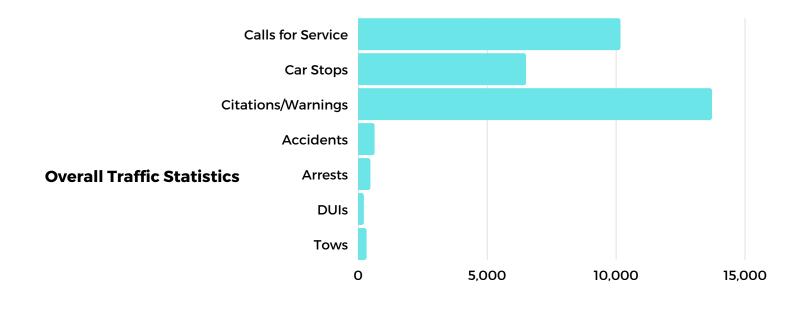


KCKPD's Traffic Division provides support for calls for service and community events; manages crash scenes; enforces seat belt compliance; speeding; towing of vehicles; DUI compliance; and participates in selective enforcement campaigns.

Speeding by motorists remains an area of great concern by the KCKPD and the community as a whole. To address that concern, the Traffic Division targets between 15-20 "hot-spots" monthly for speed limit enforcement while participating in public education efforts on the dangers of speeding.

### **STEP (Selective Traffic Enforcement Program) Grant Arrests**

- Click It or Ticket 38
- Operation Impact Enforcement 9
- You Drink. You Drive. You Lose. 31
- Thanksgiving Safe Arrival 26
- Taking Down DUI 3
- Agressive/Inattentive Driving Campaign - 10



A big thank you to Officer Bussel for helping my husband this morning with a car accident ♡ I didn't catch the other officers name, but they were both very helpful and kind."

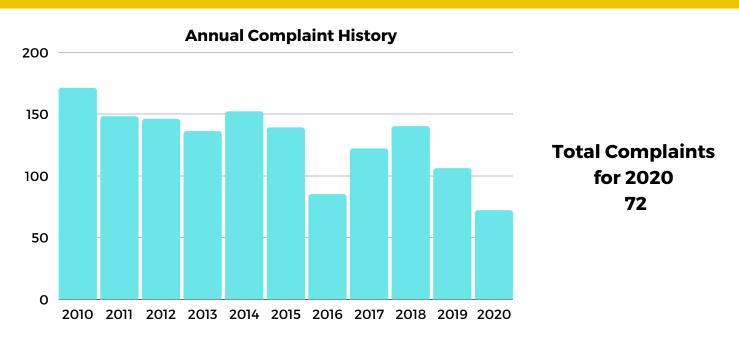
### **Internal Affairs**

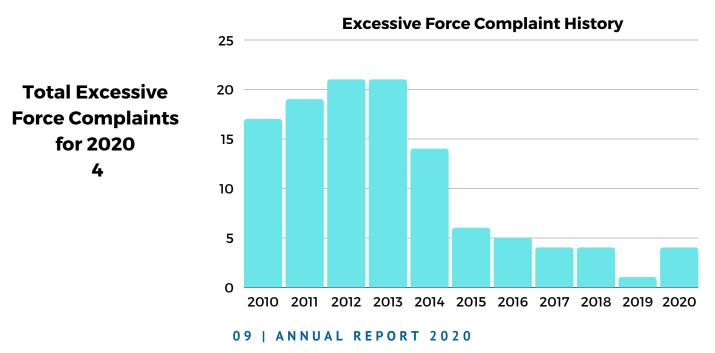
The mission of the Internal Affairs Unit is to protect the public, the employee, and the Department through fair, thorough, and impartial investigations of alleged misconduct. The KCKPD Internal Affairs Unit reviews and investigates complaints regarding its employees as well as employees of the Unified Government. The statistics shared in this report relate only to the Kansas City, Kansas Police Department.

#### Five Ways to File a Complaint or Commendation

**In person:** Internal Affairs Unit, 701 N. 7th St. Room #505 **Phone:** (913) 573-6370 or 24/7 Police Conduct Hotline (913) 573-6373 (Spanish or English)

Email: InternalAffairs@kckpd.org Online: KCKPD.org Mail: KCKPD Internal Affairs Unit, 701 N. 7th St., #505, Kansas City, KS 66101





## **Community Policing**



Since 1995 the KCKPD has had an officer assigned to every district in the city. They dedicate their time to working with the community to help solve issues facing our residents.

The unit was an integral part of the KCKPD's response to the COVID-19 pandemic throughout 2020. At the onset Community Policing flexed schedules to create a 24-hour reaction team in order to monitor businesses and assist with the report desk. Officers also assisted the Unified Government Public Health Department in distributing educational materials throughout the community and served as a vital resource of information on Covid-19 compliance for businesses.



**Thank you Officer Mitchell! I bumped into him this afternoon as he was posting crime alerts on mailboxes in the Delaware Ridge neighborhood. He was very friendly, approachable, professional and gracious. I was grateful for the opportunity to thank him for his service in person.**"

# **Community Policing**



Community Policing currently coordinates 24 programs (see below) which target four core areas:

- Youth Engagement
- Schools
- Health/Safety
- Environment

While many of these programs were temporarily curtailed due to the pandemic, we hope to have all back up and running in 2021 as health guidelines allow.

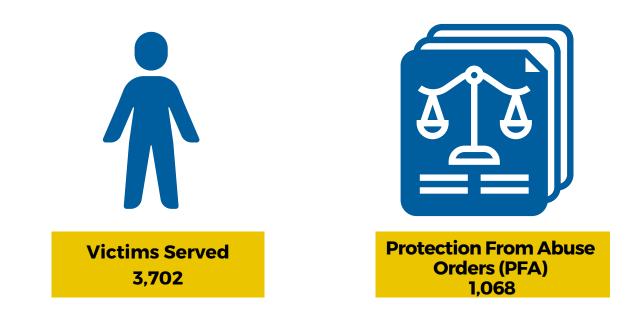
Other key initiatives in which the division participated:

- Homeless outreach
- Illegal dumping
- Support of social justice demonstrations
- DDACT/ICON Initiatives



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### Victim Services



Victim Services assists and empowers crime victims by providing them the support and tools they need to overcome the trauma of victimization. Along with officers, our knowledgeable and compassionate professionals have more contact with crime victims in the immediate aftermath of a crime than any other criminal justice professional. In addition, they provide support to emergency first responders of Wyandotte County in order to enhance service to victims.

Some of the key ways in which Victim Services provides support include:

- Response (24/7) for victims' families in immediate aftermath of homicide
- Assistance in applying for protection from abuse orders (PFA)
- Accompanying victims to court hearings
- Assistance with completing crime victims' compensation applications
- Facilitating shelter placement
- Crisis intervention for victims
- Education and outreach to community

#### **Other Highlights**

- Responded to 47 homicide scenes to provide victim services to 52 survivors
- Accompanied 70 victims to file reports/detective interviews
- Provided crisis intervention to 74 victims
- Assisted 92 immigrant victims with U-Visa certifications
- Advocated on behalf of 14 victims to have cases upgraded from misdemeanors to felonies
- Outreach to 3,009 victims to advise them of their rights and available services

"A man showed up at my house with a gun. Officer Beck and Detective McCurry said that they were going to go look for him. They picked him up at 3 a.m. the same morning and put him in jail on a hold. They both were so kind and got this bad guy off the street for at least 48 hours. Great job KCK Police Officer Beck and Detective McCurry!"

# **Crisis Intervention Team (CIT)**





Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) programs are an innovative, community-based approach to improve the outcome of interactions between law enforcement and those in mental health crisis. CIT officers improve communication, identify mental health resources for those in crisis, and help ensure officer and community safety.

The KCKPD has one full-time CIT Officer who is assisted by a full-time co-responder. In 2020 operations responded to 1,904 CIT-related calls for service. Our CIT officer and co-responder made and additional 2,088 contacts, such as self-initiated and repeat contacts, phone calls, e-mails and collaborations.

### Wellness Program



In 2020 KCKPD added a full-time wellness officer in order to support its ongoing efforts to support the physical and mental health of all employees, but sworn officers in particular.

Highlights of the program

- Adoption of Hailey & Charley from Animal Services to serve as comfort canines
- Special programming aimed at engaging and supporting officers' families
- Addition of wellness officer to Officer
  Involved Shooting Response Team
- Development of specialized wellness initiative targeting dispatchers

### **Animal Services**



### Calls for Service: 5,235 Animal Intake: 2,010

While the pandemic caused modifications of some operations, Staff with KCK Animal Services remained dedicated to protecting the health and safety of KCK residents while protecting animals and promoting their humane treatment. Highlights of 2020 included:

- Due to adoption events cancelled in response to the pandemic, rescue partner transfers nearly doubled.
- The Animal Services building received a facelift.
- Volunteers from Emery Sapp & Sons, Inc. constructed a much-needed shed as part of their team-building day.
- Puppies, Hailey and Charley were rescued from 10th & Quindaro and adopted by KCKPD to serve as staff comfort dogs.



450 Ado<u>ptions</u>







# 2020 Highlights

#### Body Worn and In-Car Camera Integrated System

The highly anticipated addition of officer bodyworn cameras, as well as a new integrated in-car video system, became a reality in 2020. With receipt of equipment delayed due to the pandemic, installation of equipment and training began in November. By the end of March 2021 the new system is anticipated to be up and running with every officer who has regular contact with the public, outfitted with a body-worn camera. Members of the community who have questions regarding the use of this technology and its applications or those wishing to schedule a presentation are encourage to email our Public Information Office at PIO@kckpd.org or call 913-573-6168.





#### **Police Athletic League**

Throughout the pandemic the Police Athletic League, located at 800 N. 5th St., continued its mission to connect kids, cops and community; it just looked a little different. Some programs were paused, while others required masks and utilized outdoor space to create social distancing.

The food pantry and community garden took on new importance this year as more families struggled to maintain food security. The PAL helped fill the gap for nearly 200 families with weekly drive-thru food distributions.



Over the summer, officers both current and retired, dedicated hours of sweat equity to help expand the size of the garden, add a water feature and construct a more permanent home for the PAL's resident bee colony.

Staff hopes to be able to open programs to higher capacities as Covid-19 restrictions ease. For information on the PAL visit PALKCK.com or follow them on Facebook @PALKCK.

# 2020 Highlights

#### **Illegal Dumping**

Illegal dumping is not ok in KCK. That is the message that KCKPD wants to get out in our community. Community Policing partnered with the Unified Government's SOAR (Stabilization, Occupation, and Revitalization) Initiative to help combat this major and costly concern for Kansas City, Kans. In 2020 these efforts have led to nine successful convictions, nine more that are awaiting trial and 15 which will likely be solved. Community Policing has also worked with the UG to create an ordinance that provides a \$250 cash reward to individuals whose tips substantially lead to an illegal dumping conviction. The first reward was presented in November with the hopes of many to follow.





#### ICON (Impacting Crime in Our Neighborhoods)

ICON is a violent crime reduction initiative funded by the Department of Justice. ICON Commanders analyze data every 30-60 days to identify "hot spot" zones in each of our precincts so that additional resources may be deployed. The goal is to establish proactive patrol work and increase our presence in these zones as increased visibility of police has been proven to reduce crime.

#### **Tactics Used by ICON**

- Traffic Enforcement
- Pedestrian, Checks Residential & Business Checks
- Positive Community Engagement
  Contacts

"Thank you for having your patrol cars driving in my area, especially my street. I think your presence helps from having things getting out of control. Again much appreciated![] <sup>(2)</sup>"

### For more information **KCKPD.org**

### Questions? Email us at: PIO@KCKPd.org

Please, be sure to follow us on social media:





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