



**2023**

# **Clayton Police Department**

## **Annual Report**



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## Introduction

Each year, the Clayton Police Department gathers information from each division to generate our annual report. The annual report provides transparency to the public about the Department's performance, accomplishments, organizational changes, and crime trends. The Clayton Police Department is a nationally accredited agency that has a strong partnership with the community. The Clayton Police Department currently maintains 62 sworn law enforcement officers and 5 non-sworn employees.

The Clayton Police Department is organized into three divisions: Administrative Services, Special Operations, and Patrol Services. The Administrative Services Division consists of the Office of the Chief of Police, Professional Standards, CALEA, Records, and Recruitment. The Special Operations Division includes the Criminal Investigative Unit, Traffic Enforcement Unit, Parks Unit, Community Policing, Training, School Resource Officers, and Animal Control. The Patrol Division consists of four patrol squads, which includes K-9 officers. Each patrol squad is overseen by a Watch Commander, Sergeant, and Master Patrol Officer.

The Clayton Police Department provides services over 15.1 square miles with an estimated population of 32,000 people. Our 2023-24 fiscal year operating budget was \$6,420,723.93.



**Message from the Chief**

It is again my honor and privilege to present to you our yearly review and analysis of the activities and services provided by the Clayton Police Department in 2023. I continue to be proud of our men and women and the dedication and commitment they provide to our department and community every day. We continue to receive large amounts of support from our community, and I remain grateful and honored. We have an outstanding organization made up of professional law enforcement officers and support staff dedicated to serving the citizens of our Town.

Crime prevention and community engagement continue to remain priorities for our Police Department. The safety of our children remains a top priority. We've expanded our School Resource Unit to eight (8) officers to now include all public schools within the Town in addition to Johnston Charter Academy. In 2023, we continued to host and participate in community events such as our inaugural Community Engagement Day in May 2023 with a basketball tournament, Pack-A-Police Car for school supplies, Special Olympics, and our annual Christmas with a Cop for underprivileged children and families. We participated in numerous special events throughout the year.

In July of 2023, we participated in a weeklong on-site inspection and evaluation from the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). Our practices and our policies and procedures were evaluated to determine if we were following set CALEA standards. Numerous staff members along with Town leadership were interviewed by CALEA assessors. I am proud to say that in November 2023, our department received its' fifth consecutive CALEA award and certification.

As your Chief of Police, I will continue to ensure that our agency is well positioned to serve and protect our community as it continues to grow at a rapid pace. In 2023, we responded to 41,386 calls for service. This was a 30% increase from the previous year. With the support of our Town Manager, Mayor and Town Council, along with community engagement, we remain committed to adding more staffing and funding to our Police Department. Continuous training of our staff remains a priority for our department. We provide continuous leadership training for all our supervisors. We conduct live scale training exercises such as active shooter response, crisis intervention and de-escalation, and high-risk apprehensions. The safety of our officers and staff will always remain a top priority.

In increasing uncertain times and ever-changing demands, we must remain prepared to keep pace with the increase in law enforcement and public safety services. Part of my responsibilities include planning and preparing our department for the future so that we remain ready for the next challenge. While rapid growth continues to produce challenges, the men and women of our agency are dedicated professionals who further our mission to ensure that our agency provides the highest level of response to our residents. We will always strive to deliver outstanding police services to everyone, every time.

Sincerely,

Gregory W. Tart  
Chief of Police



## Mission, Vision & Values

### Mission

To deliver outstanding police services to everyone, every time.

### Vision

To be a model of law enforcement excellence by exceeding the highest standards of quality in our profession.

### Values

#### *Commitment:*

We are committed to serving others before ourselves by being alert and vigilant, never influenced by bias or prejudice, and unwavering in the performance of our duties. We are respectful, fair, and ethical in every instance. We do more, endure more, and are more.

#### *Professionalism:*

We are responsive and adaptive to our community because we endeavor to be skilled, efficient, and effective in our actions and behavior. We model integrity, honesty, and bravery no matter the cost. Perfection is not our goal; excellence is.

#### *Distinction:*

We are distinct because we welcome challenges and demand teamwork. We promote creativity and innovation to achieve our maximum potential.





CALEA is the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. As an organization, it establishes high standards and assesses volunteer agencies for compliance. International accreditation promotes community policing through advocacy, procedural justice, employee accountability, transparency, and integrity. Accreditation improves an agency's strong leadership foundation and connections with the local, county, or state governments. It also holds agencies at a higher accountability internally through strong standards.

The Clayton Police Department has been CALEA certified since 2009. In July of 2023, the Clayton Police Department underwent an on-site review conducted by CALEA staff members. During this review, over 100 of our policies and procedures were examined to determine compliance with CALEA standards. On November 9th, 2023, our Accreditation Manager, Christina McLamb, and Executive Assistant to the Chief, Meredith Mumford, appeared before the board of Commissioners at the CALEA conference in Seattle, Washington, and were awarded our fifth consecutive Law Enforcement Accreditation Certification.



## New Hires

During 2023, the Clayton Police Department received funding from the Clayton Town Council to add one additional School Resource Officer and one additional Administrative Assistant position. Due to ongoing recruitment efforts, 12 new police officers were hired in 2023. The Clayton Police Department also hired a new Animal Control Officer.



**Officer Spinner Hicks** joined the Clayton Police Department in January of 2023. Officer Hicks completed Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET) at Johnston Community College in December of 2022. Officer Hicks is assigned to the Patrol Services Division.

**Officer Zachary Lassiter** joined the Clayton Police Department in January of 2023. Officer Lassiter completed Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET) at Johnston Community College in December 2022. Officer Lassiter is assigned to the Patrol Services Division.



**Officer Jason Tedder** joined the Clayton Police Department in January of 2023. Officer Tedder previously worked with the Kenly Police Department. Officer Tedder is assigned as a School Resource Officer in the Special Operations Division.

**Officer Andrew Taylor** joined the Clayton Police Department in January of 2023. Officer Taylor previously worked with the Leland Police Department. Officer Taylor is assigned to the Patrol Services Division.





**Officer October Harris** joined the Clayton Police Department in January of 2023 from the Wake Medical Center Police Department. Officer Harris is assigned as a School Resource Officer in the Special Operations Division.

**Officer Brett Shakofsky** joined the Clayton Police Department in January of 2023. Officer Shakofsky previously was with the United States Marine Corps. Officer Shakofsky completed his Basic Law Enforcement Training at Johnston Community College in December of 2022. Officer Shakofsky is assigned to the Patrol Services Division.



**Officer Brandon Pope** joined the Clayton Police Department in March of 2023. Officer Pope previously worked with the Creedmoor Police Department. Officer Pope is assigned to the Patrol Services Division.

**Officer Brian Buttner** joined the Clayton Police Department in May of 2023. Officer Buttner previously worked with the Fayetteville Police Department. Officer Buttner is assigned to the Patrol Services Division.



**Officer Jalise Farris** joined the Clayton Police Department in May of 2023. Officer Farris previously worked with the Wake Medical Center Police Department. Officer Farris is assigned as a School Resource Officer in the Special Operations Division.

**Officer Trevor Miller** joined the Clayton Police Department in June of 2023. Officer Miller previously was with the United States Army. Officer Miller completed Basic Law Enforcement Training at Johnston Community College in December of 2023. Officer Miller is assigned to the Patrol Services Division.



**Officer Jonathan Boyce** joined the Clayton Police Department in August of 2023. Officer Boyce previously worked with the Smithfield Police Department. Officer Boyce is assigned to the Patrol Services Division.

**Officer Tara Stewart** joined the Clayton Police Department in November of 2023. Officer Stewart previously worked with the Harnett County Sheriff's Department. Officer Stewart is assigned as a School Resource Officer in the Special Operations Division.



**K-9 Ravka** joined the Clayton Police Department in March of 2023. K-9 Ravka and her handler, Officer Jeffrey Demarest went through a intensive four month training and began working patrol together in July of 2023.

**Animal Control Officer Patrick Kostka** joined the Clayton Police Department in May of 2023. Officer Kostka previously worked with the Raleigh Police Department as an animal control officer. Officer Kostka is assigned to the Special Operations Division.





**Administrative Assistant Sarah Harris** joined the Clayton Police Department in October of 2023. She is assigned as the receptionist at the front desk of the Police Department where she greets and answers inquiries from the public and routes telephone calls to appropriate personnel.

## Retirement

**Officer Neal Johnson** retired after 30 years as a law enforcement officer on February 1, 2023. Officer Johnson began serving with the Clayton Police Department in August 2010, where he served as a Patrol Officer, Community Officer, Parks Officer, School Resource Officer, Firearms Instructor, and Armorer.



Promotion

**Detective Chad Mallet** was promoted in December 2023. Prior to being promoted, he previously served as a patrol officer in the Patrol Services Division. Detective Mallet has been employed at the Clayton Police Department since June of 2019 and is assigned to the Criminal Investigations Unit.



**Professional Development****Intermediate Law Enforcement Certification**

The North Carolina Criminal Justice Education and Training Standards Commission offers the Professional Certificate Program to recognize the level of competency of officers serving governmental agencies within the State, to foster increased interest in college education and professional training programs, and to attract highly qualified people into law enforcement and criminal justice careers. Eligibility for professional certificates is determined by a formula that combines formal education, professional training, and work experience as a law enforcement or criminal justice officer.

In 2023, the Clayton Police Department recognized three officers for obtaining the Intermediate Law Enforcement Certificate.

**Sergeant Timothy Marquis****Detective Erick Martinez****Officer Carlos Lerma**



### Life Saving Award

**Officer Ashton Anderson and Officer Edward Pistola** were presented with the lifesaving award for their actions during an October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2023, incident where they extracted an unconscious driver from a burning vehicle involved in a motor vehicle crash. Officer Anderson's and Officer Pistola's quick actions averted a potentially life-threatening situation for the driver.



**Ofc. Anderson**



**Ofc. Pistola**





## CIT Champion of the Year

**Master Police Officer Jonathan Guider** was awarded the Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) Champion of the Year in 2023 for his work with the Johnston County Crisis Intervention Team. The award was presented to Master Officer Guider by Charlene Meyers, CIT Training Coordinator. In over 2,700 communities nationwide, CIT programs create connections between law enforcement, mental health providers, hospital emergency services and individuals with mental illness and their families.





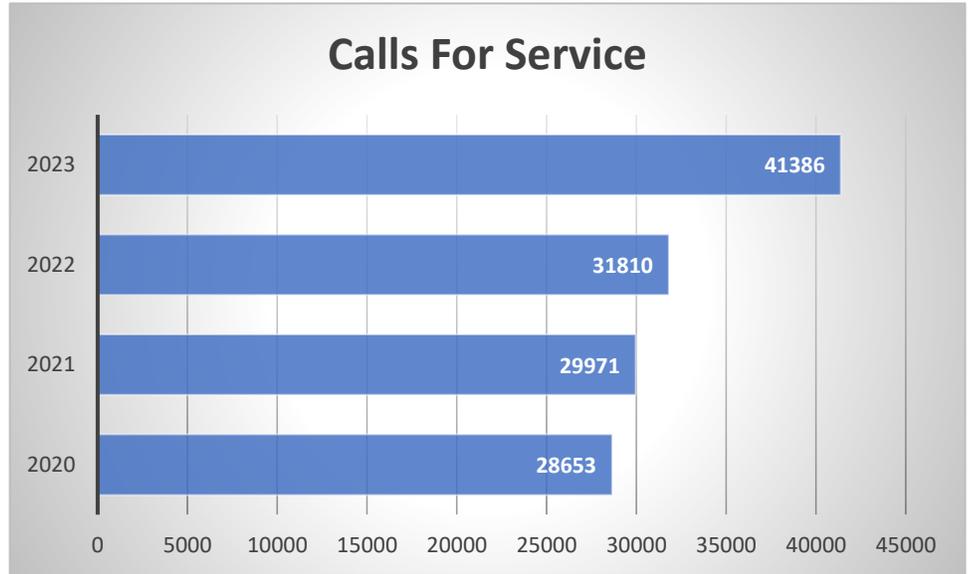
## Officer of the Year



**Sergeant Timothy Marquis** joined the Clayton Police Department in January 2019 as a patrol officer and was promoted to the rank of sergeant in March of 2021. Sergeant Marquis has been an exemplary leader for the Patrol Services Division (PSD); displaying the characteristics, abilities, and moral aptitude necessary to effectively promote the values of the Clayton Police Department. Sergeant Marquis was recognized by the American Legion and presented with their Annual Public Service Award for 2023.

**Calls for Service**

A call for service can be initiated by an officer or advised to an officer by a variety of means to include, but not limited to, being dispatched by Johnston Central 911 communications, approached in person, email correspondence, and/or a growing number of social media notifications. Calls for service can vary in nature, severity, and level of resources needed to address the issue. These calls encompass a wide variety of police functions to include, but not limited to, responses to crimes in progress, traffic accident investigations, domestic disturbances, security checks, escorts, and other officer-initiated activities.



In 2023, Clayton Police Officers responded to 41,386 calls for service which is a 30% increase from 31,810 in 2022.

**Crime in Clayton**

## National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS)

The Clayton Police Department submits crime statistics to the National Incident-Based Reporting System (NIBRS). NIBRS was developed by the Federal Bureau of Investigation to improve the overall quality of crime data collected by law enforcement.

NIBRS captures details on each single crime incident as well as on separate offenses within the same incident. Unlike data previously reported through the Uniform Crime Report (UCR) Program, NIBRS goes much deeper because of its ability to provide circumstances and context for crimes like location, time of day, and whether the incident was cleared. It can provide more useful statistics to promote constructive discussion, measured planning, and informed policing.

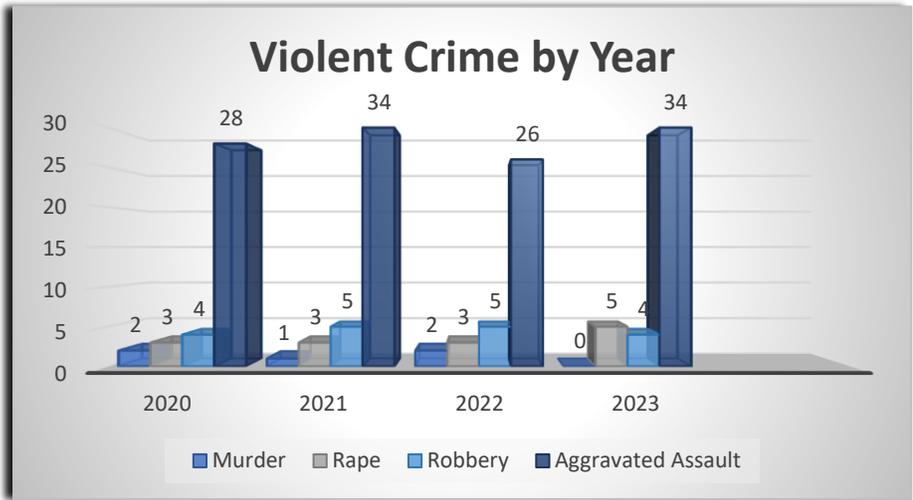
When used to its full potential, NIBRS provides greater specificity in reporting offenses, collects more detailed information, provides greater analytic flexibility, and helps give context to specific crime problems such as drug/narcotics and sex offenses, as well as modern crime issues like animal cruelty, identity theft, and computer hacking.

### Part I Offenses

In 2023, the Town of Clayton experienced a 21% slight increase in the total number of Part I crimes reported. Part I crimes encompass violent crimes (murder, rape, and robbery) and property crimes (larceny, burglary, and motor vehicle theft).

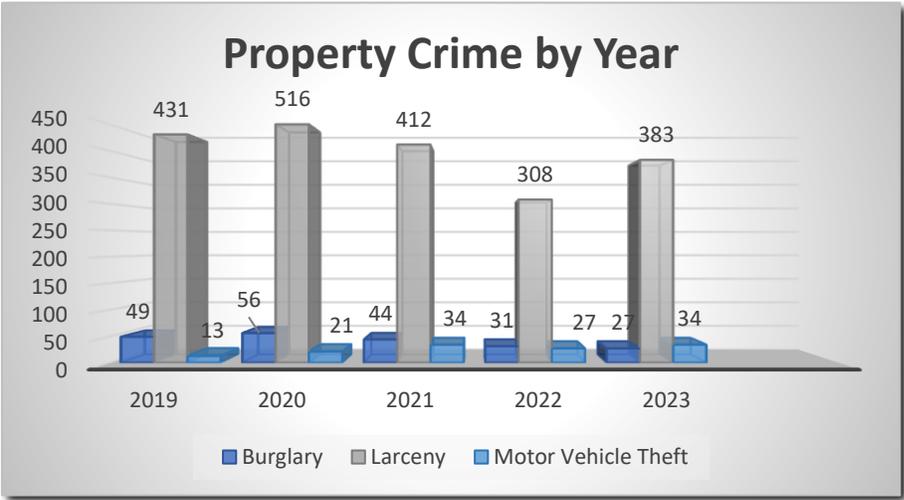
The Town did not have a reported homicide in 2023 and experienced a decrease in robbery and burglary.

Crime Types	2020	2021	2022	2023	22-23 Change	Percentage
Murder	2	2	2	0	-2	-100%
Rape	3	3	3	5	2	67%
Robbery	4	5	5	4	-1	-20%
Aggravated Assault	28	34	26	34	9	31%
<b>Violent Crime Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>19%</b>
Burglary	56	44	31	27	-4	-13%
Larceny	516	412	308	383	75	24%
Motor Vehicle Theft	21	34	27	34	7	26%
<b>Property Crime Total</b>	<b>593</b>	<b>490</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>444</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>21%</b>
<b>Total Part I Offense</b>	<b>630</b>	<b>534</b>	<b>402</b>	<b>487</b>	<b>85</b>	<b>21%</b>



The total number of violent crimes reported in 2023 was 43, a 19% increase from the 36 reported in 2022. There were no reported homicides in 2023 and robberies decreased from those reported in 2022.

The total number of property crimes reported in 2023 was 444, a 21% increase from the 366 reported in 2022. Burglary decreased from 31 in 2022 to 27 in 2023.



Even though we experienced a slight increase in Part I offenses, our crime rate remains well below State and National levels. This fact is of little consolation to those who have been victimized. The Clayton Police Department continues the commitment of improving our department while creating a better place to live, work and visit. Proactivity and visibility are areas of improvement that we remain committed to.

**Biased-Based Policing**

The Clayton Police Department is committed to treating all persons with respect and dignity. Thorough annual review of traffic stop data, use of force data, and complaint investigation practices helps the department ensure that officers are policing without bias. The 2023 analysis of the data did not indicate bias in CPD interactions with the public. Additionally, there were no complaints of racially based enforcement by the CPD in 2023.

The following is a report indicating Enforcement Action Taken by Driver’s Sex, Race, and Ethnicity. This report displays statistics based on Enforcement Action Taken (Verbal Warning, Written Warning, Citation Issued, On-View Arrest, or No Action Taken), by Driver’s Sex, Race and Ethnicity.

Similar reports can be found at: <https://trafficstops.ncsbi.gov/>

**Clayton Police Department**

**Enforcement Action Taken by Driver's Sex, Race, and Ethnicity**

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

**Report From 1/1/2023 through 11/30/2023**

Action	Gender	White	Black	Native American	Asian	Other	Total By Race	Hispanic	Non Hispanic	Total By Ethnicity
Citation Issued	Female	417	276	0	9	5	707	119	588	707
No Action Taken	Female	15	6	0	0	0	21	2	19	21
On-View Arrest	Female	26	25	0	0	0	51	2	49	51
Verbal Warning	Female	701	543	0	6	10	1260	186	1074	1260
Written Warning	Female	10	9	0	1	0	20	1	19	20
Citation Issued	Male	589	345	2	5	6	947	226	721	947
No Action Taken	Male	27	12	0	0	0	39	7	32	39
On-View Arrest	Male	76	62	0	0	0	138	21	117	138
Verbal Warning	Male	918	703	6	11	15	1653	293	1360	1653
Written Warning	Male	27	14	0	0	0	41	7	34	41
Female Total	Female	1169	859	0	16	15	2059	310	1749	2059
Male Total	Male	1637	1136	8	16	21	2818	554	2264	2818
<b>Total</b>		<b>2806</b>	<b>1995</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>4877</b>	<b>864</b>	<b>4013</b>	<b>4877</b>

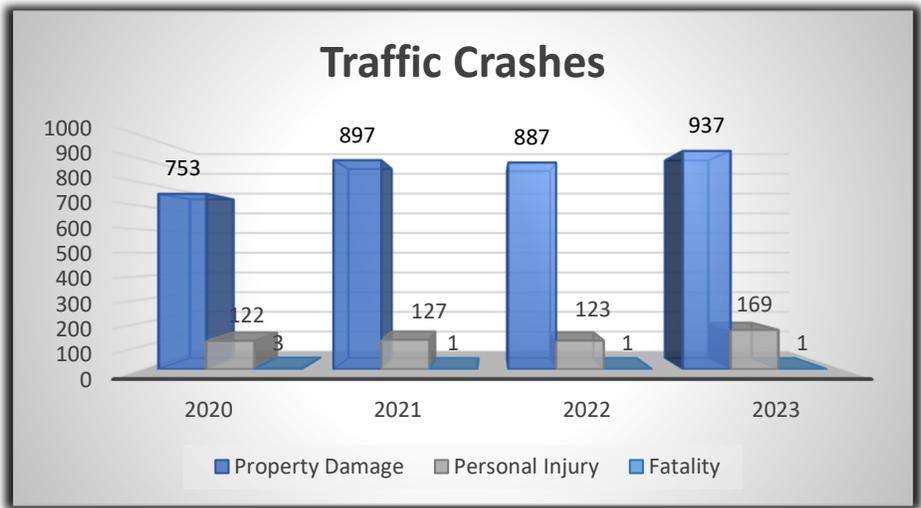
**Traffic Analysis**

**Traffic Safety**

The Clayton Police Department is dedicated to traffic safety and educating the public on safe driving practices. Through education, the department desires to gain compliance with motor vehicle laws; however, the department understands the importance of proactive enforcement of the laws. In 2023, our department participated in all North Carolina Governor’s Highway Safety Initiatives and conducted several traffic safety checkpoints to ensure motorists are abiding by the laws.

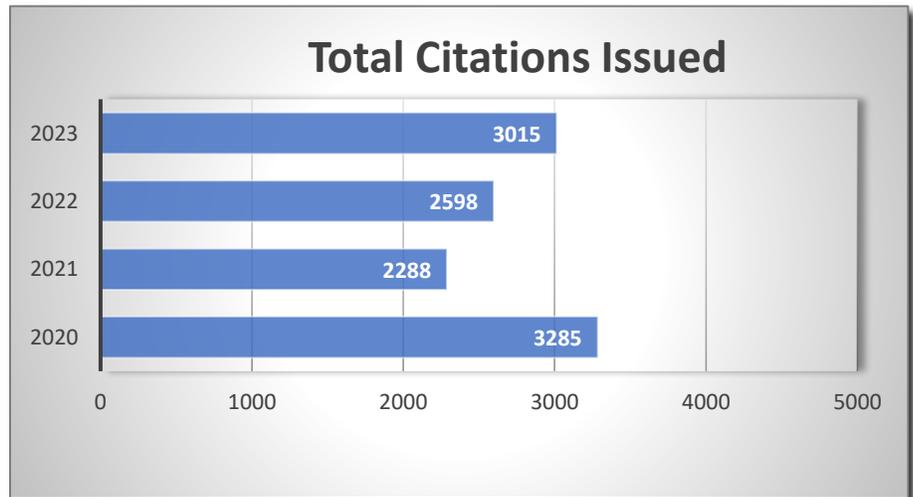
**Traffic Crash Data**

The Clayton Police Department investigated 1,106 traffic crashes in 2023, up 9% from 1,010 in 2022. Of those crashes, 169 reported were personal injury, a 37% increase from the 123 in 2022. There was one traffic fatality in 2023 which remained consistent with 2022.



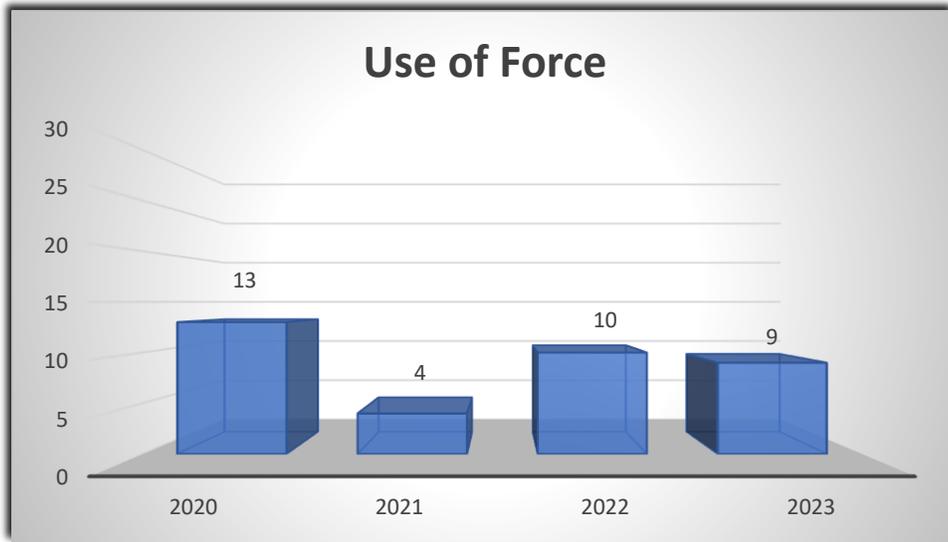
**Traffic Citation Data**

In 2023, the Clayton Police Department issued a total of 3,015 traffic citations, a 16% increase from the 2,598 issued in 2022.

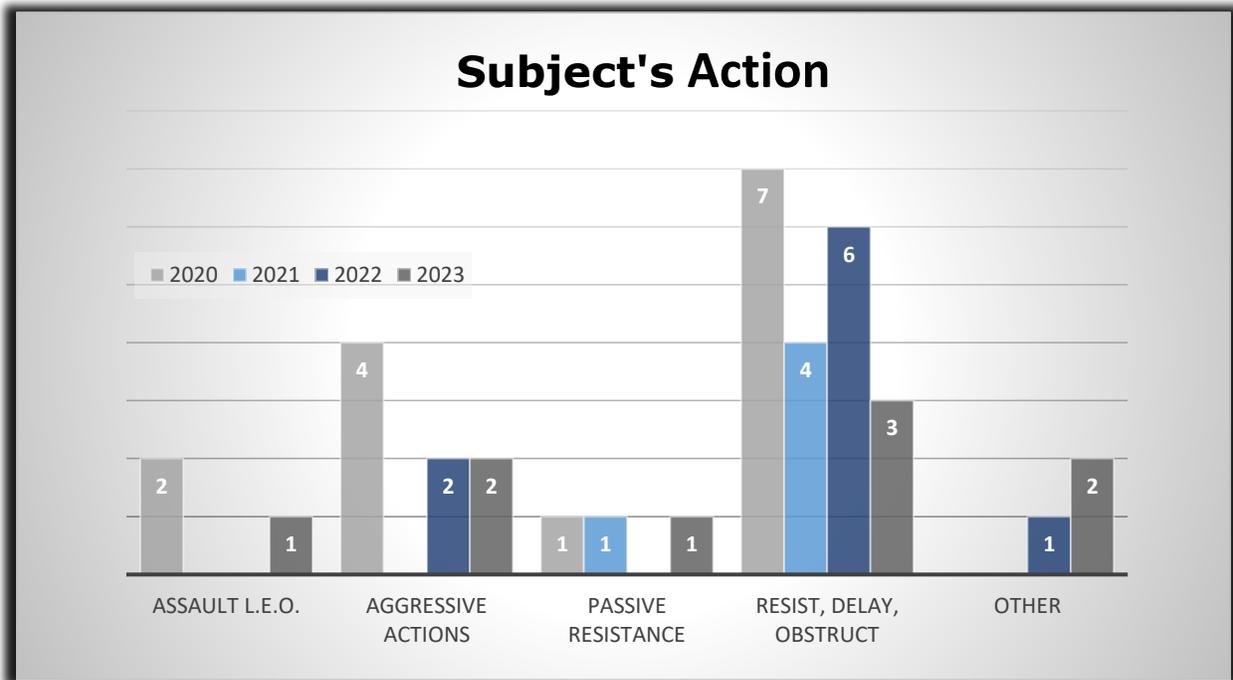


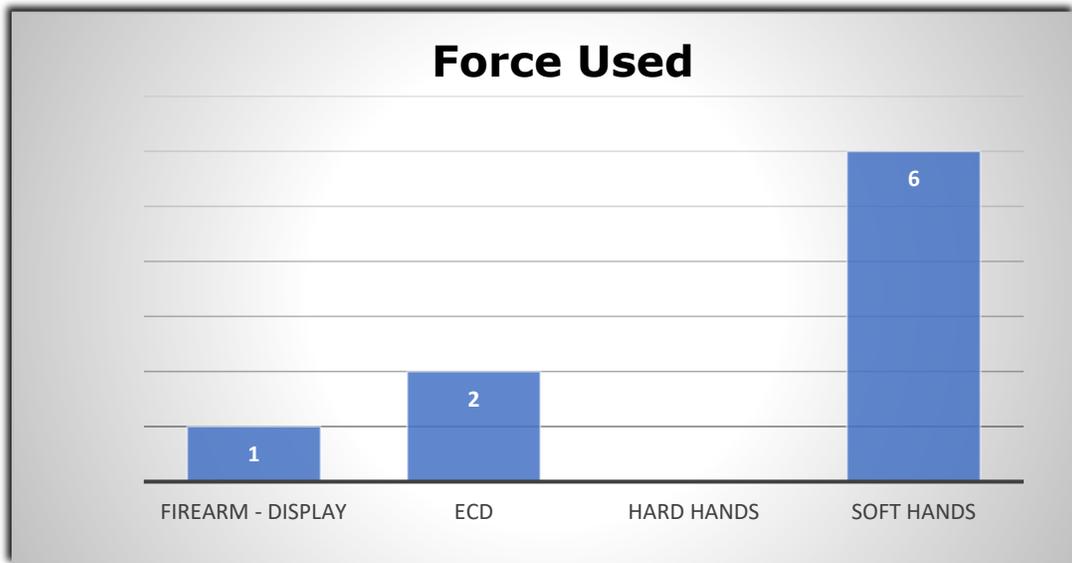
**Use of Force**

Clayton Police Department policy requires officers to document the use of force (UOF) on every occasion when physical force is used on another person. Each UOF is reviewed by supervisory staff to ensure the appropriate amount of force was delivered to safely control the behavior of the respective person. In 2023, the Clayton Police Department reported nine encounters requiring the use of reasonable force, a decrease from the ten reported in 2022.



Subject’s action that necessitated the use of reasonable force and the type of force used:





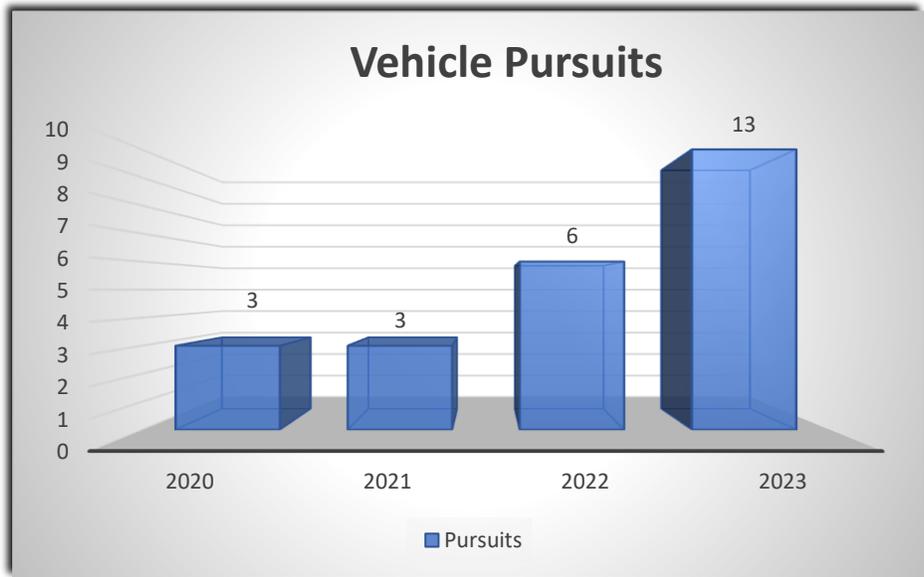
The analysis shows that the most used type of force during the 2023 calendar year was soft hand techniques, with six incidents. These techniques include holding and restraining but not striking. Of the other three, there were two uses of an Electrical Conduction Device (Taser) and one display of a firearm.

The analysis of the documented use of force does not illustrate any tendency for officers of the department to use force when it is not necessary. In the cases reviewed from 2023, efforts were made in each situation to use only the necessary amount of force to effect the arrest of the suspects.

## Vehicle Pursuits

The Clayton Police Department reported thirteen vehicle pursuits during the 2023 calendar year. Each incident was recorded and forwarded through the chain of command. The actions of the officers involved in each pursuit were reviewed at each level within the command structure to ensure policy and procedures were followed.

After a thorough review of all information pertaining to the thirteen vehicle pursuits, twelve were found to be in accordance with policy and procedure. One was found to be outside of policy and was handled through the disciplinary process.



## Community Outreach

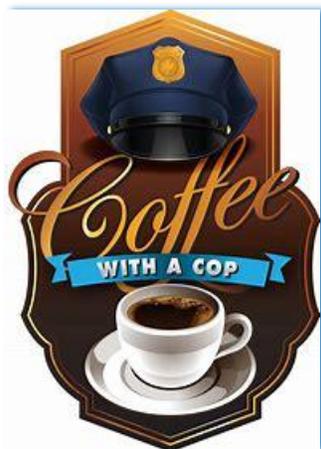
As our Mission Statement Suggests, the Clayton Police Department strives “to deliver outstanding police service to everyone; every time.” One way that we accomplish this mission is through the fundamental principles of Community Policing. Community Policing promotes transparency between the Department and citizens of Clayton, which gives the community an opportunity to provide direct feedback about the police services they receive. Community Policing also allows the development of partnerships that garner trust beyond the badge.

Throughout the course of 2023, Clayton Police have taken a leading role in promoting Community Policing.

**Christmas with a Cop** is an annual event where police officers, civilian staff, and volunteers shop for underprivileged children in the Clayton community. On December 20<sup>th</sup>, the Clayton Police Department delivered more than 200 Christmas gifts, turkeys, and gift cards to nine families and 30 kids throughout the Town of Clayton.



**Coffee with a Cop** is an event where citizens of Clayton and officers have the chance to meet in a casual environment and create contact with one another. This program has been utilized by Clayton Police for several years and has been successful in establishing relationships with our community.



**Read Across America** provides members of the Clayton Police Department the opportunity to interact with elementary school students throughout the Town of Clayton, while reading stories to them in the classroom.



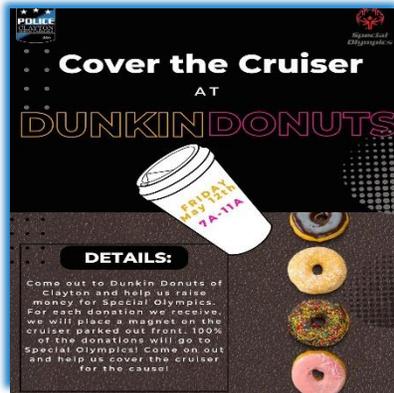
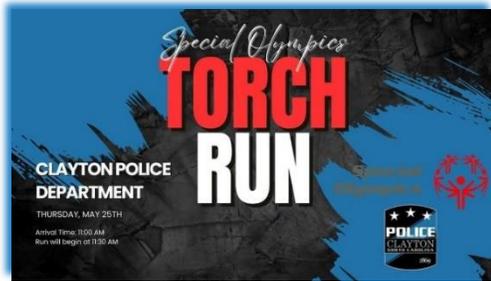
**Pack-A-Police Car** is an event that allows the Police Department to assist local schools in collecting school supplies for the upcoming school year. This year members of the Clayton Police Department partnered with Walmart on this successful event.



**National Walk and Bike to School Day** provides students from Cooper Academy and Riverwood Elementary schools with a Police escort to their schools. This not only promotes health and safety for the students, it also provides officers an opportunity to build relationships with our youth.



**The Special Olympics of North Carolina** The Clayton Police Department participates yearly in the NC Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics, along with several fundraising events leading up to the run.



**The 1st Annual Clyde Sinclair Basketball Tournament** was a collaboration between the Police Department, Fire Department and Mayor Pro Tem Michael Sims. This tournament featured a Police v. Fire basketball game, which the Police Department was victorious, and most importantly an opportunity for relationships to continue to be nurtured between the PD and the community.



**Conclusion**

This report provides the reader with information regarding the various divisions and units within the Clayton Police Department and gives them an overview of our activities and accomplishments during 2023. The Clayton Police Department continues to adapt to the changing demands and trends in law enforcement and works diligently to maintain positive partnerships with stakeholders and citizens of the Town of Clayton.

The report also contains information regarding crime trends in the community. We continue to serve the citizens of Clayton to the best of our ability by sharing data and activities with the community to keep citizens well informed. We have and will continue to remain proactive in addressing crime and safety issues throughout the Town of Clayton. If you should ever need us, we are here to serve you!



**“TO DELIVER OUTSTANDING POLICE SERVICES TO EVERYONE;  
EVERYTIME.”**