

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE

The Arlington County Police Department (ACPD) is committed to ensuring the safety of all travelers on our roadways and wants everyone to arrive safely at their destinations. With the end of Daylight Savings Time on November 7th, more evening travelers commute in the dark. According to [information](#) from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), approximately 75% of pedestrians who die in traffic crashes in the United States are killed when it's dark outside. As it continues to get darker earlier, we're reminding everyone to slow down and make the safety of themselves and others a top priority. As part of these efforts, ACPD and law enforcement agencies throughout the region are participating in the Metropolitan Washington Council of Government's Fall [Street Smart campaign](#), which aims to reduce the number of traffic-related collisions and injuries on our roadways through a combination of education and enforcement.



The Street Smart campaign's key safety tips include reminders for drivers to obey the speed limit, be on the lookout for people walking and biking, stop for people crossing the street, and yield to pedestrians and bicyclists when turning. Pedestrians are urged to cross with caution, use crosswalks where available, wait for the walk signal and remain visible after dark with light or reflective clothing. Cyclists are reminded to follow the rules of the road and always use lights at night. Whether you travel by foot, two wheels or four wheels, make our roadways safer by [being a PAL](#) – predictable, alert and lawful.

Sincerely,

Andy Penn

Chief of Police

ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

- The Office of Professional Responsibility investigated three personnel complaints for the month of October.
- The Department received a total of six personnel commendations for the month of October, including four from community members, one from a County government agency and one from a law enforcement agency.
- Personnel attended 2,108 hours of training in October. Highlights of training topics include, but are not limited to, Emergency Vehicle Operation, Pursuit Policy, Critical Thinking, [Project Lifesaver](#), and Constitutional and Community Policing.
- There was one application of Narcan by officers for an obvious narcotics overdose prior to the arrival of medics on scene.
- There was one application of Tactical Emergency Casualty Care (TECC) by officers prior to the arrival of medics on scene.

INTERNAL AGENCY UPDATES

- Arlington County Government launched a [new website](#) on October 18, bringing needed improvements and enhancements.
- During National Police Week, which was recognized as October 11 – 16 due to the ongoing impacts of the pandemic, members of ACPD participated in various events to honor and celebrate the memory of police officers who died in the line of duty and provide support to their families. Read about ACPD's heroic officers lost in the line of duty in our [Hall of Honor](#).
- On October 20, Chief Penn presented members of our School Crossing Guard Unit with challenge coins in recognition of their invaluable service. No matter the weather, School Crossing Guards are in the community ensuring the trip to and from school is as safe as possible. We appreciate all they do to keep our students safe!
- During the annual Arlington County Crime Solvers luncheon, Chief Penn accepted the Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award on behalf of the dedicated men and women of ACPD. The award was presented in recognition of their invaluable service to the community during the pandemic.
- The Department celebrated the retirements of Sergeant Chris Murphy and Detective Greg "Woody" Sloan. We appreciate their years of distinguished service and wish them the very best in retirement.
- With great sadness, ACPD announced the passing of retired K9 Drago, a 14-year-old German Shepherd, Belgian Malinois mix. He loyally served Arlington from 2008 to 2019 as a patrol and narcotics detection K9.

CRIME PREVENTION AND CONTROL – CRIME DATA

ARREST DATA ¹

Month	2019			2020 ³			2021		
	Adult	Juvenile	Total	Adult	Juvenile	Total	Adult	Juvenile	Total
October	274	27	301	225	8	233	236	5	241
Total (YTD)	2,747	254	3,001	2,231	145	2,376	2,143	45	2,188

OFFENSE DATA ²

October	2019	2020 ³	2021
All Cases	1,100	1,102	1,297
Homicide	0	0	0
Robbery	5	12	15
Aggravated Assault	15	15	28
Simple Assault	87	82	120
Motor Vehicle Theft	18	28	26
Burglary	22	13	11
Trespass	40	74	32
Larceny from Auto	53	68	92
Other Larceny	189	163	223
Vandalism	97	68	102
Sexual Assault	17	13	20
Weapons Offenses	21	23	3
Substance-Related Offense	197	171	91

¹ Arrest month refers to the arrest date, not the date of the offense leading to the arrest. All counts refer to the number of individuals arrested, not the number of charges levied. This is a highlight of common offenses and is not inclusive of every criminal incident investigated by the Department.

² Offense data includes both primary and additional offenses associated with a single case number. All data is preliminary and subject to change based upon follow-up investigations. Offenses determined to be unfounded through investigation are not included. The 13 listed case types do not reflect all incidents reported and/or the total number of cases in the month.

³ Monthly data for CY 2020 is reflective of impacts during COVID-19 closures. As a result, three years worth of data has been added to this report to allow for a multi-year comparison.

CRIME PREVENTION AND CONTROL

The Police Department works diligently to provide high quality service to the community through the successful investigation of criminal offenses occurring in Arlington County. Below are some of the notable investigations undertaken during the month of October in support of the Department's key initiative of Crime Prevention and Control. Additional investigative information can be found in the [Police News & Crime Reports](#), [Online Crime Map](#) and [Open Data Portal](#).

FAMILY REWARD FUND INCREASED IN BALLSTON HOMICIDE

On October 27, the Ratigan family [announced an increase](#) in their reward fund from \$25,000 to \$50,000 for information leading to an arrest and conviction of the suspect(s) responsible for Scott Ratigan's homicide on January 17, 2020. Detectives continue to follow up on any and all investigative leads in this case and remind the public that any information, regardless of how small it may seem, could be the tip that leads to justice on behalf of Scott and the Ratigan family. Anyone with information is asked to contact 703-228-4180 or ACPDTipline@arlingtonva.us.



PHOTOS: Person of interest captured on [surveillance video](#).

CRIME PREVENTION AND CONTROL – INVESTIGATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

SEX OFFENSE, 2021-10130045, Douglas Park Neighborhood. On October 13th, police responded to the late report of a sexual assault. The investigation determined that at approximately 3:30 a.m., the known suspect entered the victim's residence, attempted to sexually assault her, and took her cell phone away. After the suspect fell asleep, the victim was able to exit the residence and request police assistance. Responding officers established a perimeter and took the suspect into custody without incident. He was arrested, charged, and held without bond.

WARRANT SERVICE, 2021-10130255, 3300 block of Lee Highway. On October 13th, ACPD was notified by Prince George's County, MD Fugitive Unit of a [wanted homicide suspect](#) from their jurisdiction currently located at a hotel in Arlington. Arlington officers established a perimeter, began surveillance and obtained and executed a search warrant at the hotel. The suspect was then safely taken into custody and held pending extradition to Maryland.

WARRANT SERVICE, 2021-10180072, 500 block of N. Quincy Street. On October 18th, ACPD received a request from the Alexandria City Police Department to assist with locating a suspect wanted for domestic-related offenses in their jurisdiction. The suspect was apprehended without incident and transferred to the custody of Alexandria officers.

WARRANT SERVICE, 2021-10210170, 3400 block of 25th Street S. On October 21st, police responded to the report of a wanted subject. Upon arrival, officers observed the suspect on the street, however, he fled into the loading dock of a residential building. A perimeter was established, and the suspect was taken into custody when he emerged from a rear door of the building. During a search incident to arrest, it was determined that the suspect was in possession of narcotics and evidence related to a larceny from auto. He was arrested and charged with theft and narcotics offenses.

NARCOTICS OFFENSE, 2021-10230118, 400 block of Long Bridge Drive. On October 23rd, officers observed an improperly registered vehicle displaying a fictitious license plate and initiated a traffic stop. The tag was seized as evidence and the driver was released on a summons. A short time later, officers observed the same vehicle displaying a hand-drawn cardboard tag and initiated a traffic stop. During an inventory of the vehicle prior to towing, narcotics and drug paraphernalia were recovered. The driver was arrested and charged with various narcotics offenses.

NARCOTICS OFFENSE, 2021-10010216, 800 block of Army Navy Drive. On October 1st, officers located an unoccupied parked vehicle and determined that the license plates and vehicle were both stolen. Five subjects were detained when they returned to the vehicle. A search of the vehicle recovered distribution and possession amounts of narcotics. As a result of the investigation, the driver of the vehicle was charged with the stolen vehicle and various narcotics offenses. Evidence of additional criminal activity was located, and the investigation is ongoing.

BRANDISHING, 2021-10190191, 3200 block 24th Street S. On October 19th, patrol officers were flagged down for the report of a possible assault. Witnesses advised that a female suspect had brandished a firearm at the male victim during a dispute, and the male had disarmed her of the firearm. The firearm was recovered by the officers. The female suspect was located on scene and taken into custody without incident. She was charged with a weapons offense and held on no bond.

MISSING ADULT, 2021-10080120, S. Walter Reed Drive at S. Randolph Street. On October 8th, a patrol officer was flagged down by the reporting party who advised their 82-year-old mother was missing. She had last been seen three hours prior and was reportedly suffering from cognitive decline. The reporting party also advised that there was a "Tile" device on the missing person, but as it was a passive reporting system, it did not provide live updates unless another individual with the "Tile" application open on their phone passed her location. Multiple officers responded to the area and downloaded the application. The missing person was safely located.

OVERDOSE, 2021-10020161, 1500 block of Key Boulevard. On October 2nd, police responded to the report of a CPR in progress. Upon arrival, the responding officer assumed CPR and medics administered Narcan resulting in a positive revival. The subject was transported to an area hospital for additional medical treatment.

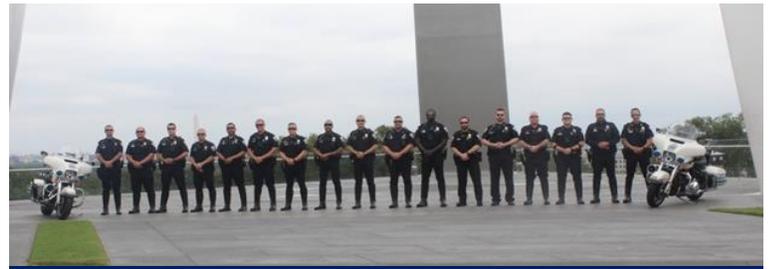
TRANSPORTATION SAFETY

The Police Department is committed to ensuring the safety of all travelers - including bicyclists, pedestrians, and motorists - on our roadways. The Department uses a two-pronged approach to improving transportation safety: education and enforcement. Below are some of the notable actions undertaken in the month of October in support of the Department's key initiative of Transportation Safety.

- The Special Operations Section (SOS) assisted with eight escorts and four special events during the month of October.
- The SOS assisted with National Police Week activities from October 11 –16. This year's event commemorated the 191 Law Enforcement Officers who died in the line of duty in the United States in 2019, and the 351 Law Enforcement Officers who died in the line of duty in 2020.
- On October 26, SOS assisted the United States Secret Service with a visit by President Biden to Virginia Highlands Park.
- Officers continued enforcement of the hands-free law and allocated a total of 51 hours towards these efforts.
- The Alcohol Safety Action Program (ASAP) is an enforcement campaign designed to make our roadways safer by identifying, stopping, and apprehending drivers who are under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Officers working ASAP made six DUI arrests, issued 70 traffic summonses and 13 reckless driving summonses.
- ACPD partnered with the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) and the Virginia Department of Motor Vehicles during Operation Crash Reduction to remind drivers about the importance of seatbelt use.
- According to NHTSA, between 2015 and 2019, there were 126 drunk-driving fatalities on Halloween night nationwide (6 p.m. October 31 – 5:59 a.m. November 1). To help spread the message that *Buzzed Driving Is Drunk Driving*, the Arlington County Police Department shared educational messaging in a [press release](#) and on social media channels ahead of the holiday festivities.

DEDICATED TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

Program	Hours in October
Radar Speed Enforcement	241
Red Light	127.5
DMV Grant Funded Enforcement	29
Crash Reduction Program	85



AIR FORCE MEMORIAL – OCTOBER 13th, 2021



CRASHES

Crash Type	Crashes in October
Total Crashes	175
Fatal Crashes	0
Serious Injury Crashes	9
Pedestrian-Involved Crashes	10

CITATIONS/WRITTEN WARNINGS

Month	Citations/Written Warnings Issued in October
October	1,436



2021 POLICE WEEK – OCTOBER 11th – 16th

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Since the 1990's, the Police Department has embraced community policing, a philosophy and practice that seeks to involve everyone in the safety and welfare of their community. The Agency is committed to actively engaging with the public to build strong community-based partnerships and foster police interaction and cooperation with those we serve. Below are some of the notable highlights from the month of October in support of the department's key initiative of Community Engagement.

COMMUNITY AND YOUTH OUTREACH UNITS

The Community Outreach Unit attended numerous community events and meetings throughout the month of October and addressed three community complaints. Highlights of the month included DEA National Drug Take Back Day, the announcement of the Latino Liaison Officer, Police Week events, the 15th Annual Gang Prevention Soccer Tournament, and Domestic Violence Awareness Month Pop-Up Engagement Events.

- **Halloween Celebrations:** The Community Engagement Division (CED) attended numerous Halloween celebrations, parades and trunk or treat events, including the Rosslyn BID Howl-o-ween Party, DPR's Trunk or Treat event, Bridges to Independence Trunk or Treat event, the Aurora Hills Halloween Parade, the Green Valley Dance Exhibition, and Discovery Elementary School's Bike and Boo event. In addition to event attendance, CED team members and patrol officers distributed candy and shared Halloween safety tips.
- **Drug Take Back:** Members of the Community Outreach Unit continued the [permanent prescription drug take back program](#) and safely disposed of 336.2 pounds of unused, unwanted, or expired prescription medications turned into the four secure locations. The team also collected 63 lbs. at two National Drug Take Back Day events, sponsored by the DEA.
- **Community Police Academy:** In collaboration with the Training and Career Development Unit, CED team members continued to assist with the Community Police Academy. Highlights of this month's sessions included a visit to the Emergency Vehicle Operations Center and presentations on Homeless Outreach, Crisis Intervention Training, Business Outreach, Youth Outreach and Community Outreach.
- **Alcohol and Drug Prevention Education:** The Youth Outreach Unit (YOU) participated in Red Ribbon Week at Williamsburg Middle School, attended Second Chance Meetings, and gave multiple presentations to school students about the dangers of substance and alcohol abuse.
- **Lunch Bunch:** The Youth Outreach Unit regularly hosts lunch bunch pop-up events with school students throughout the County to discuss their role in the community and build lasting relationships with youth.
- **Community Safety Concerns:** The Community and Youth Outreach Teams assisted with addressing safety and traffic concerns and providing an additional presence in response to incidents at multiple schools and addressed crime concerns throughout the County to assist the Criminal Investigations Division during October. Notably, the team continues to work with community leaders in Green Valley to proactively address concerns in the area. Youth and Community Outreach Officers spent approximately 30 hours in the Green Valley area conducting informal, proactive engagement, walking through the community, playing basketball at the park with residents, and visiting multi-family residential buildings in the area.

ENGAGEMENT

- **Reaching New Heights:** The Department recently resumed its collaboration with Reaching New Heights, a program that promotes positive interactions between law enforcement and at-risk youth through rock climbing. Members of Adam Squad and the Community Engagement Division (Youth, Business and Community Outreach officers) served as belayers during multiple climbing events at Earth Treks gym this month.
- **ACPD Announces Appointment of Latino Liaison Officer:** The Department formally appointed Corporal J.P. Montoya as its first Latino Liaison Officer this month. Corporal Montoya will liaison with the Spanish-speaking community to build police-community partnerships, serve as a resource, and lead educational and crime prevention programming. This month, Corporal Montoya and Lieutenant Pilco participated in conversation sessions with Latino students at the Arlington Career Center and Wakefield High School.
- **Homeless Outreach:** Corporal Ryan and Officer Hirschman met with multiple known homeless individuals both proactively and in response to community concerns. A primary focus of outreach this month was ensuring that individuals have access to winter jackets and boots, and ensuring they are aware of services and resources available to ensure their safety and warmth during the winter months.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (continued)

- **Parks and Recreation Partnership:** Youth and Community Outreach Unit officers continue to regularly meet with the Department of Parks and Recreation to expand the foundation of our partnership with them. Through this partnership, officers now regularly attend youth programs hosted by Parks and Recreation, including skate nights, dance, open gym, and sporting events. Notably, members of the Youth Outreach Unit began coaching youth basketball teams during the winter season. Informally, Youth and Community Outreach officers regularly visit parks throughout the County to engage in informal recreation with youth in the community, hand out stickers and other giveaways, conduct extra checks, and promote the safe use of Arlington's parks.

ARLINGTON RESTAURANT INITIATIVE (ARI) AND THE NIGHTLIFE DETAIL

- The Nightlife Detail saw increased patron counts during the month of October in both Clarendon and Crystal City.
- Members of ARI organized and participated in 10 meetings with restaurant and business owners, other County agencies, and community stakeholder groups to further its relations with the community, resolve concerns, and promote its programs.
- A total of 62 fake identifications were collected by the Nightlife Detail during the month of October.
- The ARI team worked collaboratively with the Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP) to promote their SoberRide program and Halloween alcohol safety. In October, officers attended numerous community events with the SoberRide vehicle, which serves as a high-visibility reminder to discourage drunk driving, as part of their alcohol safety outreach efforts.

CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM (CIT)

- On October 29th, members of the Crisis Intervention Team attended the first Marcus Alert Technical Group, which aims to provide a behavioral response to behavioral health emergencies. [Learn more about the Marcus-David Peters Act.](#)
- Weekly meetings were held with the Department of Human Services and Police Department executive staff members to facilitate improved wait times for Temporary Detention Order (TDO) service for those experiencing mental health emergencies in our community.

RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

- The Recruitment & Retention Unit (R&RU) hosted five testing dates for patrol officer applicants. In total, 29 applicants completed the Entrance Exam and the Physical Agility Test (PAT), with 14 of those applicants advancing to the next stage of the hiring process.
- The R&RU continues to utilize the Handshake platform to conduct outreach to potential applicants and share information about careers within the Department and reached more than 43,000 potential candidates using the platform.
- The R&RU attended 15 career fairs and hosted several testing dates, to include Virginia Commonwealth University, James Madison University, West Virginia University and two hosted by Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU).

AUXILIARY UNIT

- Auxiliary Officers provided a total of 143.5 hours of service for the month of October (2,686 hours total for the 2021 calendar year), which includes 50 safety seat inspections, 79 bicycle registrations, and two special events.

ENGAGEMENT SPOTLIGHT: OFFICERS IN THE COMMUNITY ON HALLOWEEN



Starting off strong! Patrol officers helped kids get ready for Halloween festivities during the day by passing out bags of candy and goodies.



Squad Ghouls! We had a blast attending events and engaging with community members on Halloween, like the Bike & Boo event hosted by Discovery Elementary School!



Officer Phan gets some backup from Deadpool! Officers enjoyed seeing all the frightening and fun costumes while patrolling the community on Halloween.

PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



October is recognized as Domestic Violence Awareness Month and ACPD participated in a series of pop-up engagement events throughout Arlington to share resources, support, and hold important conversations.



During this year's Police Week, team members from the Virginia Hospital Center (VHC) delivered snacks for our officers in appreciation of their on-going support, partnership and service to the community.



Chief Penn presented members of our School Crossing Guard Unit with challenge coins in recognition of their invaluable service and dedication to ensuring the trip to & from school for students is as safe as possible.



Members of the Youth Outreach Unit attended the 15th Annual Gang Prevention Soccer Tournament at Virginia Highlands Park, where they spent time engaging with the attendees and cheering on the players.



During the annual Arlington County Crime Solvers luncheon, Chief Penn accepted the Law Enforcement Officer of the Year Award on behalf of the ACPD staff, for their service to the community during the pandemic.



Thank you to everyone who participated in National Drug Take Back Day, a potentially lifesaving program! On October 23rd, you safely disposed of 63lbs of unwanted, expired or unused medications.



The Arlington County
Police Department



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