



February 2021

### MESSAGE FROM THE ACTING CHIEF OF POLICE

Crime prevention and control is a key initiative of the Arlington County Police Department. Officers are committed to maintaining community safety by implementing strategies that protect life, property and preserve order by responding to emergencies, conducting thorough investigations, sharing educational information, establishing key partnerships, and deploying prevention resources.

As part of these efforts, the agency launched a criminal patrol detail in February to address recent [violent crime trends](#) in Crystal City and the surrounding neighborhoods. The detail takes a two-pronged approach to reducing criminal activity in the area: education and enforcement. Officers conducted high-visibility enforcement patrols while engaging community members and business stakeholders about the dangers of leaving their vehicles unattended and running. Electronic signboards were also deployed in the area with important crime and safety information.

As a result of the proactive investigative efforts of the officers working the detail, 6 weapons have been recovered including 5 firearms and 1 pair of brass knuckles. Additionally, there have been zero carjackings or thefts of idling vehicles in the area since the detail began. While these are positive results, we recognized that there is still more work to do. Our efforts to prevent and reduce crime are enhanced by the active involvement of the community. We will continue to work collaboratively with the community on crime prevention strategies to maintain Arlington as a safe place to live, work and visit.

Sincerely,  
**Andy Penn**  
Acting Chief of Police



### ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

- The Office of Professional Responsibility investigated 7 personnel complaints in the month of February.
- The Department received 6 personnel commendations from the community and 5 from other government agencies.
- Personnel attended 1368.5 hours of training for the month of February. Highlights of training topics include, but are not limited to, Changing Perceptions: A Fair and Impartial Policing Approach, General Instructor Development, Police One: Generational Differences, Problem Oriented Policing, and Reality Based Training.
- There was one application of Narcan by officers for an obvious narcotics overdose prior to the arrival of medics on scene.

### INTERNAL AGENCY UPDATES

- The Human Resources Management Section (HRMS) processed three officers who tested positive for COVID-19 for the month of February. A total of seven officers and civilian staff were determined to have been exposed and quarantined for a total of 122 days.
- On February 11, the Human Resources Unit (HRU) completed the Corporals Promotional Process. 23 candidates were certified as eligible for promotion to the rank of Corporal, effective March 14, 2021.
- Effective February 14, the following promotions became effective: S. Troyano was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant, S. King was promoted to the rank of Sergeant, and G. Sirinek was promoted to the rank of Sergeant.
- Recruit Officer Thiel in Session 144 at the Northern Virginia Criminal Justice Training Academy (NVCJA) was selected to serve as Vice President of B Section.
- Sgt. Bercovicz coordinated legislative updates training for all sworn personnel following the 2020 Special Session in partnership with Ms. Lindsay Brooker (Commonwealth's Attorney's Office) and MinhChau Corr (County Attorney's Office).
- Sgt. Bercovicz continues to coordinate and manage the Department's yoga program with instructor Claudia Cavazza.

## CRIME PREVENTION AND CONTROL – CRIME DATA

### ARREST DATA <sup>1</sup>

Month	2020			2021		
	Adult	Juvenile	Total	Adult	Juvenile	Total
February	292	36	328	163	11	174
Total (Year to Date)	571	69	640	365	13	378

### OFFENSE DATA <sup>2</sup>

February	2020	2021
All Cases	1,081	929
Homicide	0	0
Robbery	18	7
Aggravated Assault	16	13
Simple Assault	79	49
Motor Vehicle Theft	28	26
Burglary	10	22
Trespass	43	45
Larceny from Auto	65	95
Other Larceny	169	133
Vandalism	89	57
Sexual Assault	13	7
Weapons Offenses	10	13
Substance-Related Offense	222	112

<sup>1</sup> 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.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

## CRIME PREVENTION AND CONTROL – HIGHLIGHT ON FRAUD

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 February in support of the Department's key initiative of Crime Prevention and Control. Additional investigative information can be found in the [Police Newsroom](#), [Daily Crime Report](#), [Online Crime Map](#) and [Open Data Portal](#).

Scammers are constantly reinventing ways to perpetrate schemes designed to steal money from unsuspecting victims. The Arlington County Police Department is [sharing information on common scams](#) circulating in Arlington County and ways you can spot, avoid, and report them.

**OUTSTANDING WARRANT SCAMS** - Scammers use the threat of arrest or legal action to extort money from potential victims during unsolicited phone calls where they claim the victim has an outstanding warrant. Through threats and intimidation, the caller attempts to convince the victim to wire transfer payment or purchase prepaid debit or gift cards.

**BUSINESS EMAIL SCAMS** - Scammers attempt to trick employees into transferring large sums of money to them by impersonating their boss or other company leadership in spoofed emails. When contacting the victim, they often reference other employees' names, job titles, email addresses, and telephone numbers to appear legitimate. They then request the victim to send them money, usually through the form of prepaid gift cards, for certain work-related things, such as surprising a coworker.

## CRIME PREVENTION AND CONTROL – INVESTIGATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

**BURGLARY**, 2021-01190015, 2800 block of Washington Boulevard. On January 19, police were dispatched to the report of a burglary alarm at a commercial business. Upon arrival, it was determined that the suspect forced entry into the business, obtained keys and stole a vehicle. During the course of the investigation, crime scene evidence was collected and matched to a known suspect. On February 23, warrants for Burglary and Grand Larceny Auto were obtained.

**ROBBERY**, 2021-02020037, 3000 block of Columbia Pike. On February 6, an officer on patrol located a vehicle associated with a [robbery, which occurred on February 2](#), in a garage in the 1100 block of S. Hayes Street. Upon making contact with the occupant, he was determined to have been involved in the incident on February 2. Follow-up investigation led to the identification of the female suspect. Both suspects were charged with Robbery.

**RECOVERED STOLEN AUTO**, 2021-02180077, 3300 block of Lee Highway. On February 18, an officer located a vehicle displaying a license plate previously reported stolen. A suspect was observed entering the vehicle and was taken into custody without incident. The subsequent investigation determined the vehicle was also stolen. During a search incident to arrest, officers located a controlled substance on his person and recovered additional narcotics during the execution of a search warrant. The suspect was arrested and charged with Receiving Stolen Goods, Possession with Intent to Distribute a Schedule I Controlled Substance, Possession of a Vehicle with Altered VIN and Possession of Marijuana.

**NARCOTICS VIOLATION**, 2021-02190070, 1100 block of S. Joyce Street. During the course of a traffic stop on February 19, officers located suspected Schedule II Controlled Substance and a large sum of cash. The subsequent execution of a search warrant of a hotel room located additional suspected narcotics and cash.

**NARCOTICS VIOLATION**, 2021-02210123, 12<sup>th</sup> Street S. near S. Hayes Street. On February 21, a patrol officer observed a suspicious vehicle and made contact with the occupants. During the course of the investigation, a controlled substance was located inside the vehicle. The suspect was arrested and charged with Possession of Schedule I/II Controlled Substance, No Operator's License, and Improper Registration.

**WARRANT SERVICE**, 2021-02200067, 300 block of Army Navy Drive. On February 20, a patrol officer observed a suspicious vehicle. Upon running the license plate, it was determined that the registered owner was listed as a wanted person. The owner was taken into custody without incident. Warrants for Eluding, Driving without a License, Stopping on the Highway and Failure to Stop at a Traffic Light were executed.

**CONSPIRACY TO COMMIT MALICIOUS WOUNDING**, 2018-01220218, 3400 block of S. Glebe Road. Following an investigation into a gang-related (MS-13) stabbing which occurred on January 22, 2018, Arlington detectives previously obtained warrants for gang participation, conspiracy to commit malicious wounding and conspiracy to commit wounding during the commission of a felony. The arrestee was recently taken into custody in Yonkers, NY on the outstanding Arlington warrants and waived extradition to Virginia. Members of the Organized Crime Section responded to the police station to interview the arrestee who was then transported to booking and held on no bond.

**POSSESSION WITH INTENT TO DISTRIBUTE COCAINE**, 2021-02100144, 2700 block of S. Arlington Mill Drive. During the course of an investigation into suspected narcotics distribution, detectives from Arlington County and Fairfax County executed multiple search warrants leading to the recovery of quantities of cocaine, materials related to distribution and a firearm at the arrestee's residence. The suspect was arrested and charged.

**REGIONAL ASSISTANCE – CONSPIRACY TO DISTRIBUTE FENTANYL**, As part of an ongoing Federal fentanyl trafficking investigation, search warrants were obtained and executed for an Arlington address and two Maryland addresses. During the execution of the search warrant, officers seized several hundred fentanyl pills, two money counters, documents, a large sum of cash, and jewelry. As a result, two suspects were arrested on federal charges. Additional search warrants are pending.

**REGIONAL ASSISTANCE – FBI HUMAN TRAFFICKING TASK FORCE**, On February 10, Arlington detectives assisted with locating a critically endangered missing juvenile believed to be the victim of sex trafficking. The juvenile was safely recovered. The investigation by the Task Force is ongoing.

# 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 February in support of the Department's key initiative of Transportation Safety.

- The Special Operations Section (SOS) supported (5) significant escorts during the month of February.
  - On February 9, 2021, SOS assisted the United States Secret Service in escorting President Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris from the White House to the Pentagon for their first official visit.
- On February 25, 2021, SOS assisted the Department of Environmental Services with a major sewage leak on S. Glebe Road and S. Eads Street. Crews were able to stop the leak and reopen the road later that day.
- The Alcohol Saturation 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 2 DUI arrests, issued 57 traffic summonses, 11 reckless driving summonses and seized 2 weapons.
- ACPD partnered with the U.S. Department of Transportation's National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) on the [Fans Don't Let Fans Drive Drunk campaign](#). The campaign combines education and enforcement while encouraging Superbowl fans to make plans ahead of game time that will prevent them from getting behind the wheel of a vehicle after drinking.
- Officers continued enforcement of the hands-free law and allocated a total of 88 hours towards these efforts.

## FEBRUARY DEDICATED TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

Program	Hours in February
Radar Speed Enforcement	247
Red Light	130
DMV Grant Funded Enforcement	38
Crash Reduction Program	158



## CRASHES

Crash Type	Crashes in February
Total Crashes	80
Fatal Crashes	0
Serious Injury Crashes	4
Pedestrian-Involved Crashes	8



## CITATIONS/WRITTEN WARNINGS

Month	Citations/Written Warnings Issued in February
February	2,003

### SIGNIFICANT TRAFFIC EVENT

Funeral Escort for Fallen Capitol Police Officer Brian Sicknick

## 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 February in support of the department's key initiative of Community Engagement.

### COMMUNITY EVENTS

- The Community Outreach Unit organized/participated in seven civic association meetings and addressed 14 community-related concerns from residents.
- The Unit hosted a contactless, drive-thru [Fill the Cruiser](#) event benefiting the Animal Welfare League of Arlington (AWLA). Approximately 130 community members provided donations of much needed food and supplies for the AWLA.
- The Unit hosted "Paws with a Purpose," an internal event that benefitted ACPD staff. Three emotional support K9's from outside organizations, alongside FRK9 Brooks, visited staff members to provide support and welcome stress relief that are often an inherent part of policing.
- Members of the Unit continued the [permanent prescription drug take back program](#) and safely disposed of 118.8 lbs. of unused, unwanted or expired prescription medications turned into the four secure locations.
- Members of the Unit continued to assist the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC) with their weekly food distribution in the Woodbury Park neighborhood.
- Members of the Unit attended the first regional community outreach meeting comprised of law enforcement agencies around the Northern Virginia area.
- On February 24<sup>th</sup>, members of the Operational Support Section assisted with site preparation and on-site supervision of a free COVID-19 testing event that was held on S. Carlin Springs Road. This "pop-up" testing site offered free COVID-19 testing to over 250 community members.

### ENGAGEMENT

- Patrol officers from several squads met with businesses throughout the County and provided them with flyers containing crime prevention tips and information on how to safeguard their establishments from theft.
- Officer Johnson of Echo squad was approached by a family with young children at the Fairlington Community Center. The children were excited to see a police officer and his cruiser up close. Officer Johnson shared information about his job as a police officer and let the children and their family explore the cruiser.
- Officer Roussin of Echo squad spoke with community members and handed out dog treats to their K9 companions while conducting extra checks along the Four Mile Run Trail.
- Members of the Community Outreach Unit met with and gave a presentation to a local Girl Scout Daisy Troop.
- Members of the Community Outreach Unit created and provided a presentation to community members on some of the different types of fraud and scams that are circulating around Arlington County. Members provided tips on how to reduce the risk of becoming the victim of one of these scams.

### ARLINGTON RESTAURANT INITIATIVE (ARI) AND THE NIGHTLIFE DETAIL

- The Nightlife Detail during the month of February saw steady patron counts in Clarendon and Crystal City, which can be attributed to the Governor's Amended Executive Orders (EO) 63 and 67 that went into effect on November 16<sup>th</sup>, 2020. The amended EO's 63 and 67 prohibit the selling, possession, and consumption of alcohol both on and off the premises of establishments after 10 p.m. Mixed alcohol cocktails can be sold via delivery or take-out until 11 p.m. and beer and wine until 12 a.m. Since amended EO's 63 and 67 have been in effect, many establishments have closed at 10 p.m. On December 10, 2020, Governor Northam issued Executive Order 72. This EO did not change the provisions of Amended EO's 63 and 67, except that it prohibits restaurants from seating groups of ten or more individuals at one table. The provisions of EO 72 were extended through February 28<sup>th</sup> before being amended [effective March 1, 2021](#).
- Members of the ARI organized/participated in ten meetings with restaurant owners in Clarendon and Crystal City regarding EO 72 to ensure understanding and compliance.
- The ARI, along with the Washington Regional Alcohol Program (WRAP) and Responsibility.org, recognized staff from Don Tito and Whitlow's on Wilson for their excellence in detecting false identifications and preventing underage drinking.

## COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT (continued)

### CRISIS INTERVENTION TEAM (CIT)

- The Operational Support Section continues to liaison with the Department of Humans Services (DHS) and attend monthly meetings held by different departments within the County, including Mental Health Criminal Justice Review Committee, Arlington Addiction Recovery Initiative and other diversionary programs.
- The Alternative Transportation detail continued through February. Alternative Transportation is a state-funded initiative to provide safe and secure transportation for those under a temporary detention order (TDO) to treatment facilities throughout the Commonwealth. The transportation is trauma-informed and focused on the individuals' recovery and engagement in treatment.

### AUXILIARY UNIT

- Auxiliary officers provided a total of 159 hours of service for the month of February (421.5 for the calendar year 2021). This service includes 41 safety seat inspections, 50 bicycle registrations, and 26 hours of road patrol.

### RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION

- The Recruitment and Retention Unit (R&RU) hosted 5 testing dates for police officer applicants. In total, 40 applicants completed the Police Entrance Exam and the Physical Ability Test (PAT), with 33 of those applicants advancing to the next stage of the hiring process.
- The Unit continues to utilize Handshake to conduct outreach to potential applicants and share information about careers at the Department.
  - During the month of February, the R&RU hosted several virtual Handshake information sessions highlighting the different units and sections of the department. These information sessions focus on students looking to relocate to the National Capitol Region, women interested in pursuing careers in law enforcement, and students attending Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU's).
  - In total, 311 students registered to attend the department's virtual events. Additionally, recruiters messaged over 11,000 students and engaged directly with over a thousand of them.
- The R&RU participated in virtual career fairs hosted by Grambling State University, Radford University and Appalachian State.

### HOMELESS OUTREACH PROGRAM (HOP)

- The Homeless Outreach Program received nine referrals for service and had 24 contacts with individuals in need of services.
- Members of the program continue to perform joint homeless outreach with the DHS at various locations throughout the County, distributing food, clothing and personal protective equipment (PPE), and discussing compliance with upcoming appointments and DHS.
- Officer Keen, the Homeless Outreach Program Coordinator, provided information related to the program to Metro Transit Police and Fairfax County Police and discussed the potential of implementing a similar program within their agencies.

### SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

- Members of the School Resource Officer (SRO) Unit continued participating in the retail theft program. While participating at County malls and shopping areas, they handled 34 incidents, resulting in four misdemeanor arrests and one felony arrest, four banning notices and over \$6,500 in merchandise was recovered.

### COMMUNITY TRAINING SPOTLIGHT: ACTIVE SHOOTER RESPONSE



ACPD's Community Outreach Unit hosts numerous [crime prevention and safety training presentations](#) to community groups throughout the County with the Active Shooter Response training being one of the most requested. To ensure this important information reaches as many community members as possible, this training is now available virtually via a [video-based training](#).

In this training, officers provide the history of active shooter cases in the United States and how they have shaped the way that public safety trains and prepares to respond in Arlington County. The run, hide, fight response is reviewed with participants – with the goal of empowering the public to help themselves first in an actual active shooter situation.

# PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



The Community Outreach Teams hosted "Paws with a Purpose." Three emotional support K9's from outside organizations, along with FRK9 Brooks, visited ACPD staff to provide support and stress relief.



Under those facial coverings, you'll find service with a smile from the staff at the Arlington Free Clinic COVID-19 Walk-Up Collection Site at Arlington Mill.



ACPD, along with Responsibility.org and the Washington Regional Alcohol Program, recognized staff from Don Tito and Whitlows for their excellence in detecting fake ID's and preventing underage drinking.



During Crisis Intervention Training (CIT), officers perform tasks while wearing headphones simulating loud auditory hallucinations. This training provides officers with skills to interact safely with individuals in crisis.



Officer Keen, ACPD's Homeless Outreach Coordinator, distributes personal hygiene, food, and other supplies to an unsheltered individual through the Homeless Outreach Program.



ACPD collected donations benefiting the Animal Welfare League of Arlington. FRK9 Brooks asked for the community's help ensuring his furry valentines had the supplies they need.



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