

GWINNETT COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

2022 FACT SHEET (REVISED 03.20.2023)

MISSION STATEMENT

The Gwinnett County Police Department is committed to serving the community through the delivery of professional law enforcement services in an unbiased and compassionate manner in order to protect the lives and property of the citizens and improve the quality of life in our community.

CORE VALUES

Integrity | Courtesy | Pride | Professional Growth

- With an authorized strength of 939 sworn officers, GCPD is the second largest full-service police department in Georgia; only Atlanta PD is larger.
- Gwinnett County is the second most populated county in Georgia; only Fulton County has a larger population.
- GCPD provides E-911, Emergency Management, SWAT and Hazardous Devices Unit services to all 983,656 residents of Gwinnett County. (Wood & Poole estimate, 2022)
- GCPD has the largest service population of any full-service police department in Georgia. GCPD provides full law enforcement services for nearly 840,849 residents in unincorporated Gwinnett County as well as for residents inside the cities of Berkeley Lake, Buford, Dacula, Grayson, Peachtree Corners, Rest Haven and Sugar Hill.
- The 2022 Budget for GCPD was \$174.0 million. The 2023 Budget for GCPD is \$190.4 million.
- GCPD is organized into the Office of the Chief and two bureaus, each led by a deputy chief. There are five divisions (Criminal Investigations, Support Operations, Training, Communications and Uniform) as well as the Office of Emergency Management.
- Within the Uniform Division, there are six police districts (West, South, North, East, Central, and Bay Creek Precincts), each led by a major. The precinct commanders are responsible for the delivery of police services within their district.
- GCPD has been nationally accredited through the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) since 1993. Accredited agencies adhere to 461 standards, which reflect current nationally accepted best police practices. Agencies are reassessed every 4 years. There are approximately 18,000 law enforcement agencies in the United States, and only 3-4% are nationally accredited. GCPD was last re-accredited in 2020.
- In 2021 GCPD achieved additional CALEA accreditations for our Communications and Training programs, making it the first Tri-Arc accredited agency in the State of Georgia. Of note, there are only 23 Tri-Arc agencies in the nation and only 32 internationally.
- Since 1999, GCPD has been state certified through the Georgia Police Accreditation Coalition. Agencies must meet 141 standards. There are 687 law enforcement agencies in Georgia, and only 137 (19.9%) are state - certified. GCPD was last recertified in 2021.

- GCPD has a demanding recruiting and selection process. The Background Investigations & Recruiting Unit is staffed by 15 trained and dedicated professionals who are responsible for recruiting the most qualified personnel that reflect the demographics of the County and ensuring that these candidates are qualified and meet hiring guidelines established by GCPD, the Gwinnett County Human Resources Department, and the Merit System Rules and Regulations.
- The Background Investigations & Recruiting Unit's efforts resulted in the hiring of 124 sworn officers and 38 E911 communications officers in 2022, compared to 95 and 27 in 2021.
- In 2022 115 officers left the department as follows (2021 numbers in parenthesis):
 - Voluntary Resignation: 95 (154)
 - Retired: 19 (28)
 - Failed Training / Field Training Program: 0 (2)
 - Deceased: 0 (2)
 - Resigned while under investigation: 0 (1)
 - Terminated: 1 (10)
- GCPD's mandate training requirements far surpass that of the State of Georgia. Georgia requires 408 hours of training to become a certified officer. GCPD requires an additional 444 hours of training followed by twelve weeks (504 hours) of observed field training.
- There are 26 approved police academies throughout Georgia, with GCPD operating only one of five academies operated by their own police department (Atlanta, Dekalb, Cobb, Gwinnett & Clayton)
- Our mandate (recruit) training includes:
 - Criminal Law
 - Criminal Procedure
 - Use of Force / De-escalation
 - Basic / Advanced Defensive Tactics
 - Basic / Advanced Firearms
 - Basic / Advanced Officer Survival
 - Active Shooter / Active Threat Response
 - Mental Illness / Crisis Intervention
 - Fair and Impartial Policing
- After weeks of classroom instruction, police recruits are required to apply what they have learned in simulated "real-life" scenarios. They are evaluated and debriefed on scenarios to make sure they are performing to standards and improving throughout the academy training.
- The Police Recruit Scenario Training and De-escalation tactics and techniques include:
 - Domestic Violence
 - Suspicious Person(s)
 - Fights
 - Traffic Stops
 - Burglary / Alarms
 - Officer Requesting Assistance
 - Person(s) Armed and Unarmed
 - Active Shooter(s)
 - Mental Illness
 - Civil Disturbance / Riots
 - FATS (Firearms Training Simulator) / Judgmental Use of Force
- Police recruits are constantly evaluated on their academics and scenario-based training. Instructors stress to the recruits that they must adhere to our core values to accomplish the mission set forth by GCPD.
- The 113th Police Academy started on February 22, 2022, with 27 recruits. 13 graduated on July 28, 2022.
- The 114th Police Academy started on June 27, 2022, with 36 recruits. 20 graduated on December 01, 2022.
- The 115th Police Academy started on October 31, 2022, with 52 recruits; graduation is April 27, 2023.
- The 116th Police Academy started March 13, 2023, with 42 recruits; graduation is August 24, 2023.
- Annually, all GCPD officers receive required training on de-escalation, the use of force, deadly force, bias-free policing, mental illness, "Fair and Impartial Policing", and quarterly firearms training. Training includes scenarios.

- All GCPD officers at the rank of lieutenant and below are issued combat application tourniquets, chest seals, and NARCAN (opioid overdose medication). Additionally, many officers carry AED's (Automated External Defibrillators) while on patrol.
- In 2022 the department conducted 789 crime prevention, safety & community relations programs attended by 53,440 participants.
- In 2022, officers investigated 24,389 traffic collisions (2021 - 28,230 traffic collisions), which is 13.6% less than in 2021. There were 53 traffic fatalities (68 in 2021), which represents a 22.1% decrease compared to 2021.
- 2022 Crime Rates
 - Violent Crime – 1434 (1742 in 2021), a 17.7% decrease (169 incidents per 100,000 citizens).
 - Property Crime – 4883 (4941 in 2021), a 1.2% decrease (574 incidents per 100,000 citizens)
 - Overall Crime – 6317 in 2022 (6683 in 2021), a 5.5% decrease.
- 2022 Crime Statistics (per incident type compared to 2021)
 - Murder – 46 (down 2.1%)
 - Robbery – 379 (down 11.2%)
 - Aggravated Assault- 819 (down 19%)
 - Aggravated Battery – 64 (down 4.5%)
 - Rape - 127 incidents (down 33.2%)
 - Commercial Burglary - 523 (increase 13.5%)
 - Residential Burglary – 673 (down 19.0%)
 - Entering Motor Vehicle – 2,444 (down 0.04%)
 - Vehicle Theft – 1,207 (up 3.3%)
- In 2022, GCPD officers were dispatched to / handled *706,676 calls for service. (684,339 in 2021). Calls dispatched include officer-initiated activity. *December 2022 Chief's Departmental Monthly Report.
- 59 complaints were filed against employees in 2022, compared to 85 in 2021. 0.01% of all calls resulted in a complaint.
- 262 Use of Force incidents in 2022 (4.9% increase from 2021). 0.04% of all calls resulted in the use of force.
 - 85 incidents of 'soft' physical compulsion
 - 5 incidents of 'hard' empty hands/kicks
 - 132 incidents of Taser
 - 3 incidents of 40mm chemical munitions (OC / CS gas)
 - 17 incidents of police K-9
 - 2 incidents of expandable baton
 - 9 incidents involved use of firearms
 - 2 less lethal
 - 7 incidents of other/unknown
- Other 2022 Display of Force/Use of Force statistics
 - 457 incidents of display of firearm (not considered use of force)
 - 5 incidents of vehicle PIT maneuver
 - 3.4% of all use of force incidents involved use of deadly force. (9 officer involved shootings)
 - 4 incidents resulting in suspect fatality
- 85 GCPD officers were assaulted in 2022 (48 in 2021 and 52 in 2020).
 - 48.2% of assaults involved use of hands, fist, feet, or head
 - 9 officers (10.6%) were assaulted with a firearm
 - 57% of assaults occurred on night shift
 - 32% of assaults occurred during domestic / family violence calls
 - 73.4% of assailants were male
- 56 SWAT Activations in 2022 (6 callouts, 50 pre-planned warrant services), which equates to a 9.8% increase from 2021 (51 activations in 2021). SWAT handles all tactical responses for both incorporated and unincorporated Gwinnett.
 - 0.009% of all calls involved a SWAT response (including planned warrant service).
- GCPD initiated its body worn camera (BWC) program in 2017. As of 2020 all sworn officers at the rank of lieutenant and below are issued BWCs.

- All officers at the rank of lieutenant and below, while in uniform, are equipped with Tasers.
- On April 1, 2017, the Animal Welfare & Enforcement Section was transferred from the Gwinnett County Police Department to the Gwinnett County Department of Community Services.
- On August 1, 2017, the Board of Commissioners approved an agreement to allow for the filming of the television series "The First 48." The series follows the GCPD Homicide Unit as they investigate crimes. GCPD's homicide clearance rate for 2022 was 91%, which far exceeds the national average of 61.6%.
- On September 1, 2017, a GCPD helicopter was destroyed in a landing accident at Briscoe Field, critically injuring both pilots. Pilot Allen McLain returned to duty in early 2018 although Pilot Mike Duncan was paralyzed and separated from the department in 2020. On August 19, 2019, the department took delivery of a new MD530F aircraft that was \$3.2 million with an additional \$1 million in law enforcement equipment.
- On October 20, 2018, Officer Antwan D. Toney, Badge #1808, was shot and killed while responding to a suspicious person / vehicle call in District 2. One suspect was apprehended that night and Officer Toney's killer was apprehended by GCPD approximately 36 hours later.

Officer Toney was the fifth officer killed in the history of GCPD.
- On March 23, 2019, the Quality of Life Unit (Code Enforcement) transferred from the Gwinnett County Police Department to the Gwinnett County Department of Planning & Development.
- On December 17, 2019, the Department opened the \$7.0 million sixth patrol precinct (Bay Creek), which also houses the Alternate 911 Center.
- The Community Affairs Section was created on October 3, 2020. The unit is commanded by a major and is currently staffed with a community affairs manager, one lieutenant, two sergeants, three corporals and three officers.
- On January 19, 2021, the Board of Commissioners passed a resolution to establish the Gwinnett County Police Citizens Advisory Board, whose mission is to develop and maintain a partnership with the Police Department for the purpose of engaging in a collaborative problem-solving process that supports both the community and the Police Department's mission for public safety.
- In 2021, GCPD established the Behavioral Health Unit, a Police-Mental Health Collaboration (PMHC) partnership between the Police Department and View Point Health. By the end of 2022, the unit was staffed with six co-responder teams, allowing for seven day per week coverage. In 2022, the unit handled 915 'In-Crisis' calls, in addition to 1,117 follow up contacts.
- In 2021, J. D. McClure was appointed as the new police chief of the Gwinnett County Police Department.
- The \$7.3 million Situation Awareness and Crime Response Center (SACRC), which is partially operational and expected to be completed in April 2023, is a technology hub that will utilize cutting-edge technology such as cameras, automatic license plate readers, and sensors in the community and intelligence analysis tools to provide first responders with near real-time information of emergency incidents. The Center will aid officers during their initial response and the on-scene investigation, with the purpose of apprehending criminals immediately while increasing officer safety. The SACRC is currently staffed with six fully trained analysts and two sergeants.
- The \$7.8 million expansion of the GCPD Training Facility will be completed in April 2023.
- Plans have been completed for a new SWAT – HDU building (including K-9) on property adjacent to the Training Academy. Construction will begin in 2023.

*Figures from the 2023 State of the County, 2023 February Department Monthly, 2022 OPS Recruitment Plan Analysis, 2021 Department Annual Report, 2022 Department Goals and Objectives Evaluation, 2022 CALEA Compliance Review Report, Woods & Poole population estimate, 2022.