



Powder Springs Police Department

2015

Annual Report



**POWDER SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT
2015 ANNUAL REPORT**

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From the Chief



Dear Citizens of Powder Springs,

What a year! 2015 brought several changes to our department. We kicked off the year by becoming a State Certified Police Department, which means we are now recognized as one of Georgia's top professional departments. We took community policing to a new level by implementing programs like C.A.P (Citizens and Police), Bridging the Gap, National Night Out, Chief's Chat, Business Watch and our first annual Run For Food 5K.

We also added two full time positions in 2015. One of those positions was a new K-9 position, and the other position added was a Community Officer position. We also hired seven new officers, and all of them have done a great job in beginning their law enforcement career with PSPD.

Our Part 1 crimes, which include murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, larceny and motor vehicle theft was up 5.83% this year. The double homicide that occurred this year resulted in three related arrests. This was the first homicide in Powder Springs since 2013. One of the challenges we, like many other metro area jurisdictions, face is entering autos. We continue to try to educate our citizens on the importance of locking their vehicles, and removing or hiding anything in their vehicle that is valuable. In 2015, we saw a 15.8% increase in entering autos.

Regarding traffic control, due to an increased emphasis on traffic enforcement, our accident rate dropped 12% in 2015. We believe a great deal of this can be attributed to a 30% increase in speeding citations, and a 26% increase in DUI arrests. As you can imagine, speed and impaired driving are both major contributing factors to accidents.

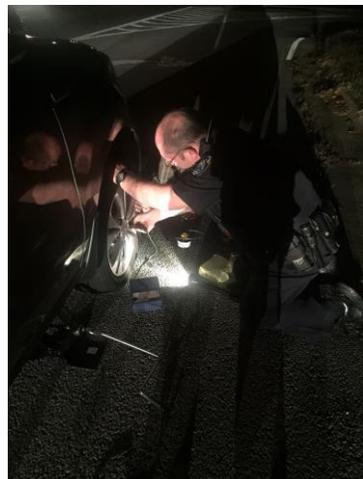
Nationally, it has been a tumultuous year for law enforcement. There has been a major increase in anti-police rhetoric, which has resulted in a number of officers being injured and killed. With this in mind, we understand the importance of continuing to strive to build relationships and trust with the community we serve. Although we are very blessed to work in a very law enforcement supportive area, we will continue to work tirelessly to build and enhance relationships with those that live, work and play in Powder Springs.

Your Chief,
John Robison



Mission Statement

The Powder Springs Police Department exists to enhance the quality of life for the citizen's of Powder Springs by implementing integrity based, progressive policing.





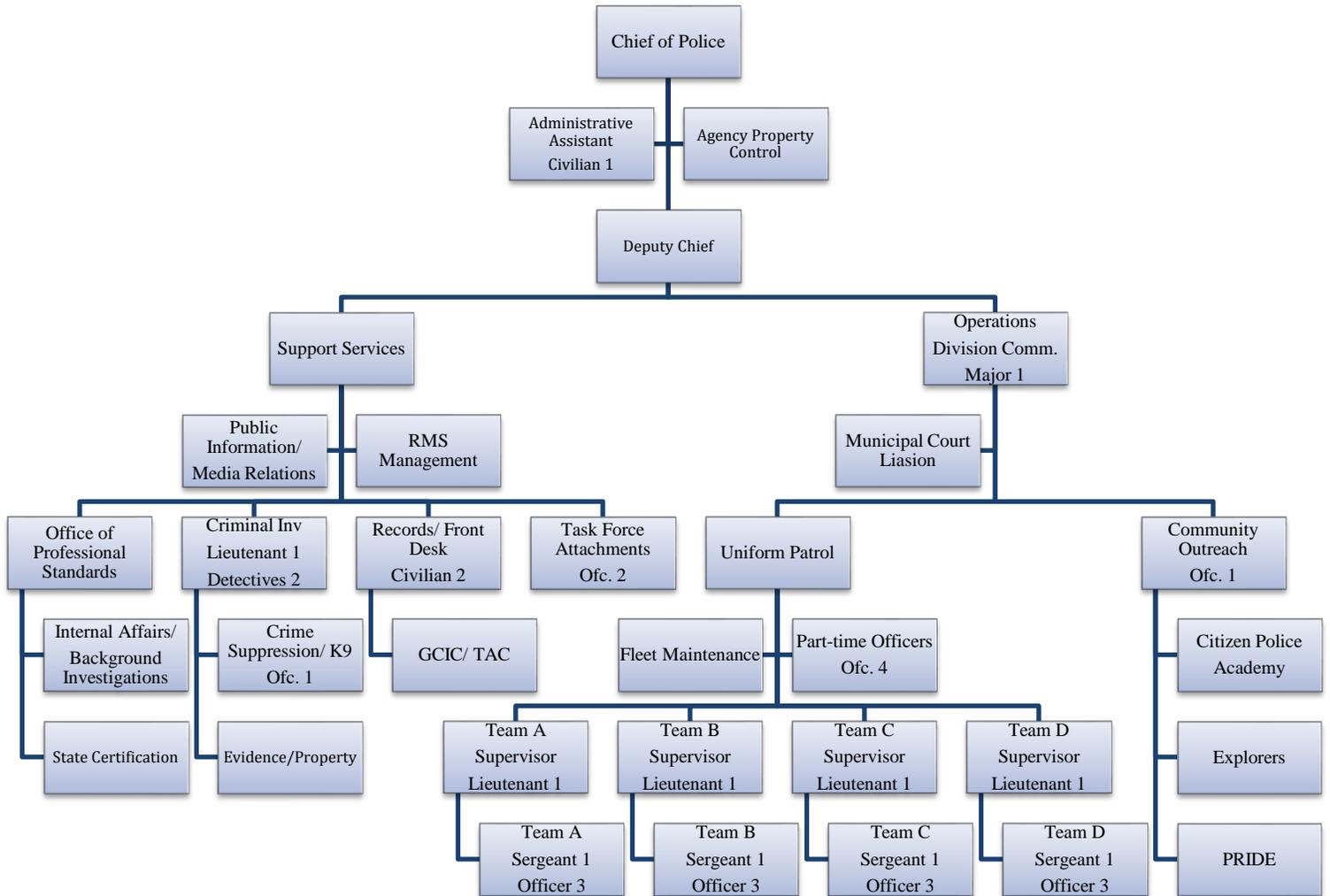
Department Goals



- Protection of life and property
- Prevention, Detection and investigation of criminal activity
- Apprehension of offenders
- Maintaining Public Order
- Recovery of property
- Training of officers
- Compliance with ethical standards
- Traffic control
- Community service
- Agency administration



Organizational Chart





Crime Statistics

The Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Reporting Program collects data on serious crimes (Part 1 offenses) investigated by local departments across the country. These crimes include: Aggravated Assault, Rape, Murder, Robbery, Arson, Burglary, Larceny-Theft, and Motor Vehicle Theft.

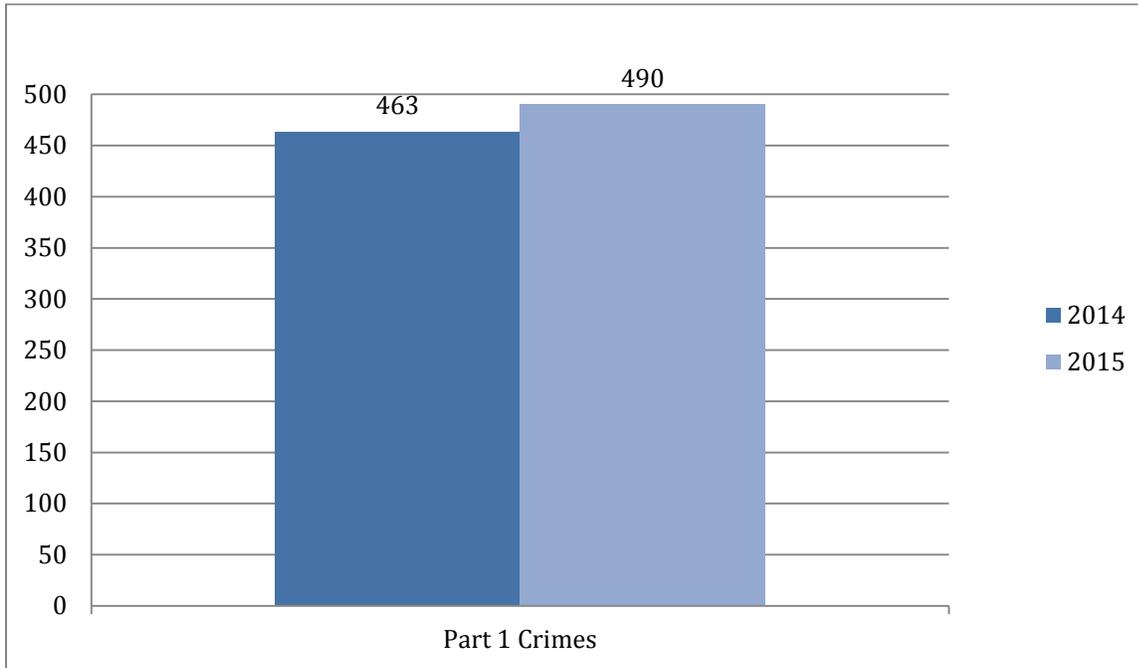
Within Cobb County, Arson is usually investigated by the Cobb County Fire Department. All other crimes are considered Part 2 offenses, or traffic related, and are not reported to the Federal Bureau of Investigation.





Part 1 Crime Stats

+5.83% from 2014



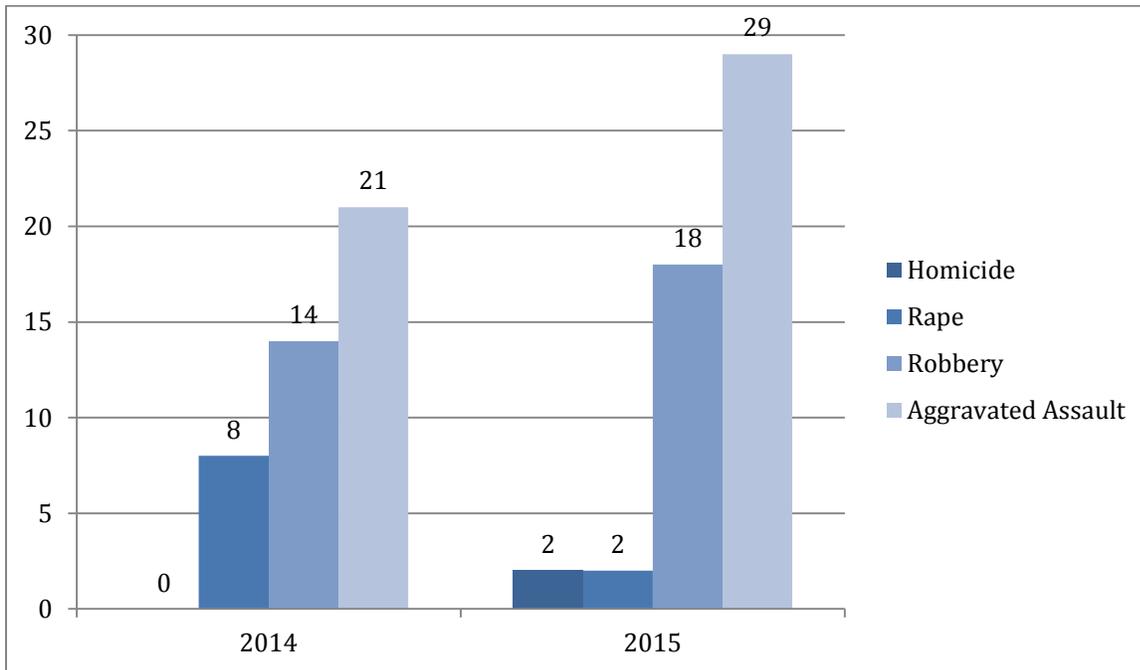
UCR PART I REPORTED CRIMES

The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program was established in 1930 and is used by over 17,000 law enforcement agencies nationwide. Uniform Crime Reporting is a collective effort on the part of city, county, state, tribal, and federal law enforcement agencies to present a nationwide view of crime. For practical purposes, the reporting of offenses known is limited to specific crime classifications that are the most serious and most commonly reported crimes occurring in all areas of the United States. Together they serve as a gauge of the level and scope of crimes occurring across the country. UCR statistics are not a complete tally of crime. UCR supplies a 150-page manual of guidelines and rules for classifying and scoring crime activity. Crimes committed with other crimes in the same incident create a multiple offense situation. When this occurs, the Hierarchy Rule requires that only the crime highest on the UCR Hierarchy list be counted and not the other offense(s). The Hierarchy Rule applies only to UCR crime reporting and does not affect the number of charges for which the defendant may be prosecuted in the courts. The FBI's UCR publication, Crime in the United States, is publicly accessible at <http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/ucr.htm>.



Crimes Against Persons

Crimes Against Persons are crimes that are physical, violent, and often high profile. Murder, Rape, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault are crimes contained within this category.



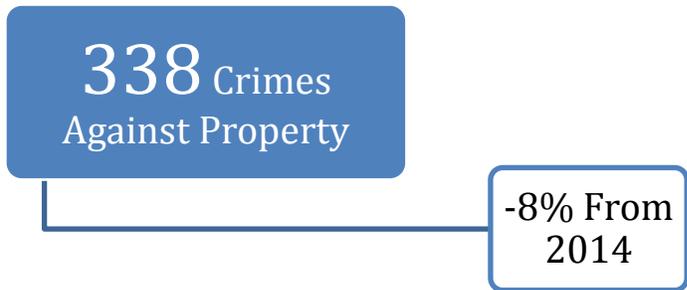
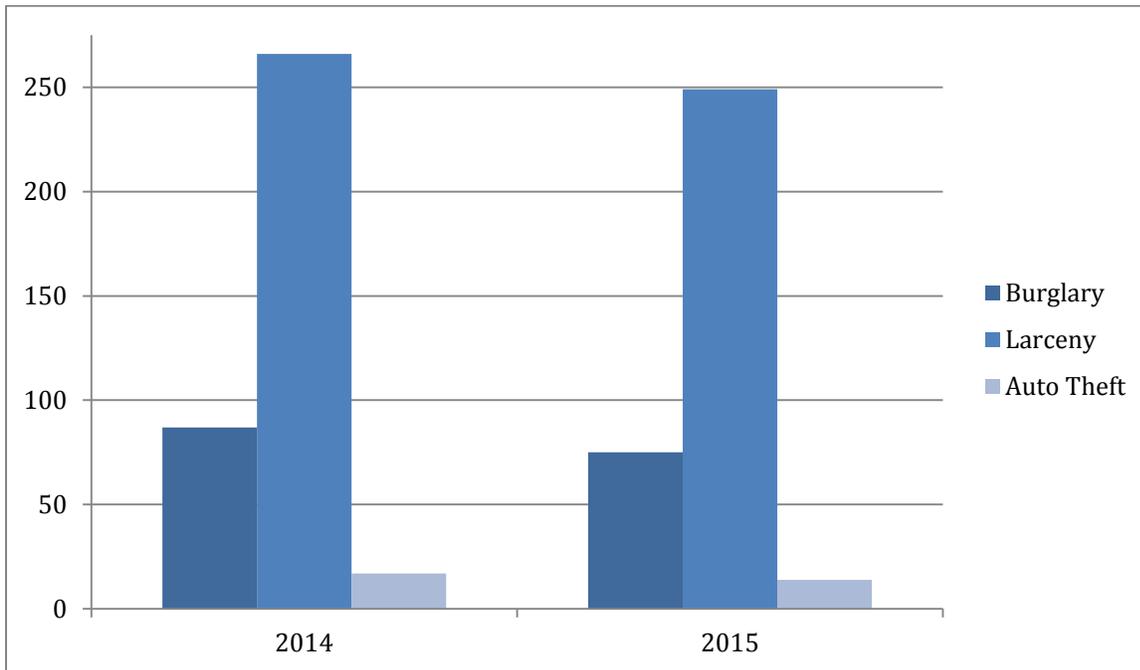
51 Crimes
Against Persons

+18 %
from 2014



Crimes Against Property

Crimes Against Property are crimes that involve the intruding, taking, or destroying of another person's property. Property crimes do not involve force or threats toward the owner. These crimes include burglary, larceny-theft and motor vehicle theft.



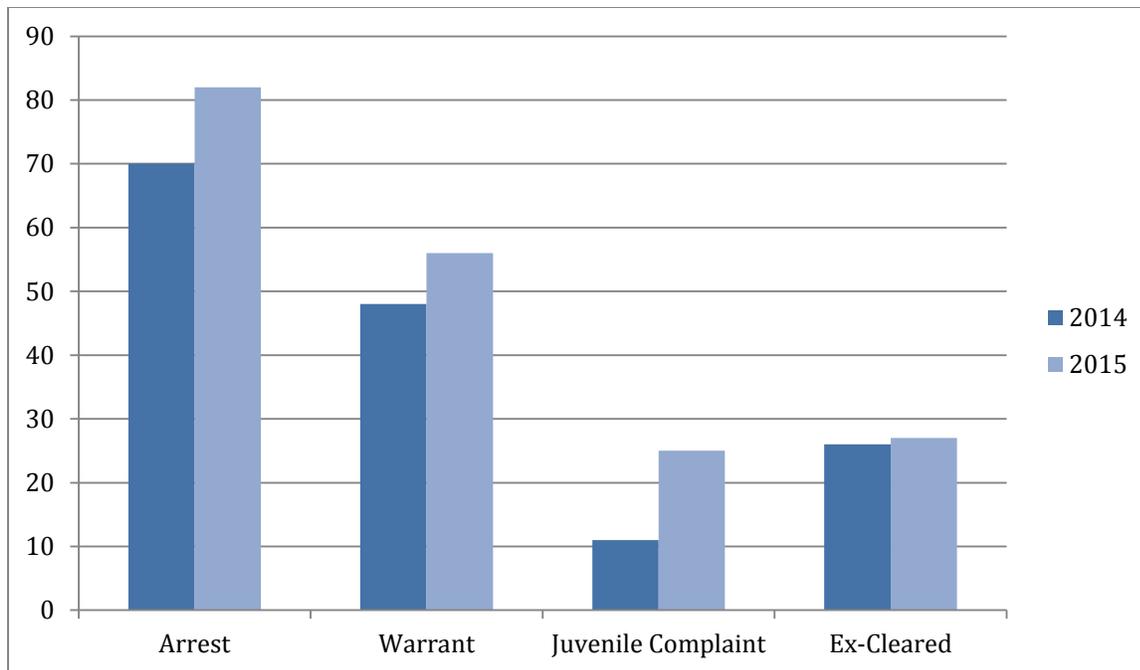


Criminal Investigations

The Powder Springs Police Department Criminal Investigations Unit is comprised of one Lieutenant, three detectives, one Crime Suppression Officer, one Federal Task Force agent and one agent assigned to the Marietta Cobb Smyrna Drug Task Force.

The detectives are responsible for investigating serious crimes against persons as well as property crimes – normally referred to as Part 1 Crimes. In addition, detectives are responsible for the investigation of other crimes including credit card fraud, “Peeping Tom”, simple battery, fraudulent checks, and various other crimes. The department also provides on-call detective services around the clock to assist the Uniform Division when requested.

In 2015, our detectives were assigned 445 cases. They secured 56 warrants, submitted 25 juvenile complaint forms for juvenile offenders, and cleared 82 cases by arrest.





Uniform Patrol



TECHNOLOGY

Advancements in technology have provided the Powder Springs Police Department with leading-edge tools to provide enhanced services to the community. Our Rapid ID Mobile Fingerprint Scanner device provides officers with a tool to assist in identifying suspects who are subject to arrest for criminal behaviors.

Automatic License Plate Readers (ALPR) were deployed to assist our officers in identifying persons or vehicles whose license plates are connected to a crime or infraction. A series of specialized cameras are placed on the outside of police vehicles. These cameras are able to detect stolen vehicles, stolen tags and other information by scanning the tags of vehicles on the roadways or in parking lots.



In collaboration with the City, surveillance cameras were deployed in various locations off of the Silver Comet Trail to include the new Linear Park.

Powder Springs Police was the first agency in Georgia to equip every patrol officer with a body camera. Citizen complaints dropped 60% in the first year. The body camera gives the officer's point of view during an incident.



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The department deployed a program to assist with the growing number of opioid overdoses. Each officer received training and was issued Narcan for immediate administration as emergency treatment of known or suspected opioid overdose.



All patrol officers of the Powder Springs Police Department are trained in CPR and Automatic Defibrulators (AED). Each patrol vehicle as well as any equipment on the Silver Comet Trail patrol vehicles, are equipped not only with an advanced first aid kit, but an AED as well. At the Powder Springs Police Department we feel in medical emergencies, seconds count and we want to be prepared. Our officers attend annual first aid and CPR training as well as we have on staff numerous Georgia Certified Paramedics.



Accountability

The Powder Springs Police Department is committed to providing fair and impartial law enforcement services to the citizens of Powder Springs as we serve our community. We demonstrate this commitment by having an internal process to review all Use of Force incidents by a police officer as well as an open process for citizens to file a complaint if needed.

Citizen Complaints

The department received and investigated six citizen complaints in 2015. Citizen complaints dropped 60% from 2014. This decrease followed the Agency's deployment of body worn cameras.

Use of Force

In 2015, there were a total of 28 cases where force was used.

Within the 28 cases requiring force, two occasions resulted in the suspect receiving minor injuries (i.e. leg scratches and minor abrasions). Three occasions resulted in an officer receiving minor injuries (i.e. hand, finger and shoulder injuries).



Personnel



In 2015, the City Council approved the addition of two new police officer positions. One position is a dedicated K-9 Officer and the other is a Community Outreach Officer.

The department is comprised of 34 sworn police officers, three of which are part-time. There are three civilian employees assigned to the administrative and evidence sections of the department.

In 2015, seven police officers were hired. Six officers left the agency, to include the retirement of Chief Charlie Sewell. One of the six officers was part-time.





Staff Recognition

The Powder Springs Police Department places a high value on recognizing the outstanding achievements and good work of its officers and employees.

Staff Promotions

In 2015, Deputy Chief John Robison was appointed the new Chief of Police. Major Matt Boyd was appointed the Deputy Chief of Police. Lieutenant Michael Cochran was promoted to the rank of Major. Sgt. Lewis Wilkie was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. Officer James Wright was promoted to the rank of Sergeant.

				
Chief J. Robison	Deputy Chief M. Boyd	Maj. M. Cochran	Lt. L. Wilkie	Sgt. J. Wright

Staff Awards

Officer of the Quarter	Officer of the Quarter	Unit of the Quarter		
				
Ofc. G. Norton	Lt. N. Hardy	Det. K. Hackett	Det. Lt. L. Cadwell	Sgt. J. Matthews





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Officer Boatwright and Officer Norton both received awards at the Cobb County Law Enforcement Association luncheon. Both officers responded to a house fire call and were able to awaken and help remove a sleeping resident who was unaware his house was on fire. Great job!

The West Cobb Business Association recognized West Cobb Public Safety Organizations. Detective Lieutenant Cadwell, Detective Matthews and Detective Hackett were recognized for their outstanding efforts and dedication that led to three arrests in a double homicide investigation.



The Cobb County Chamber of Commerce South Area Council awarded Lt. Bagley with an Award of Outstanding Meritorious Achievement. This is a reflection of Lt. Bagley's dedication and loyal service in public safety for over 30 years.



Sgt. Wright and Ofc. Chastain both received awards at the Cobb County Law Enforcement Association luncheon for their heroic efforts to prevent an individual from jumping off a bridge in an attempt to commit suicide.



Giving Back to the Community

2015 brought the introduction of several new programs offered by the Powder Springs Police Department. The C.A.P. Program (Citizens And Police), Bridging the Gap, National Night Out, Chief's Chat, Business Watch, Church Security Seminar, Mentoring and our first annual Run For Food 5K were introduced.

We have also had continued success with our Citizen Police Academy and Women's Self Defense Class.





C.A.P. (Citizens And Police)

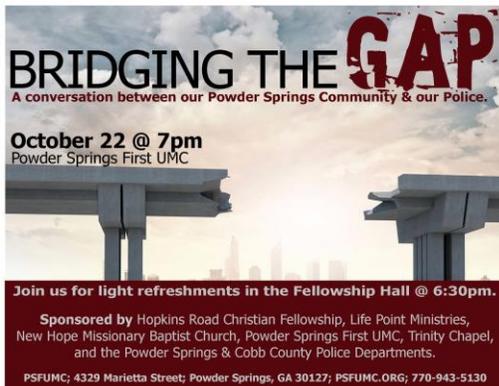


We feel that communication between our department and the citizens we serve is very important. The C.A.P. (Citizens And Police) neighborhood program enables Powder Springs Police to engage in meaningful relationships with residents and have a widespread impact on the local quality of life. This approach to community policing allows the PSPD to remain proactive and connected to its community. Each participating

neighborhood would have one officer assigned as the liaison between the department and that neighborhood.

The officer would be that neighborhood's point of contact. As quality of life issues arise, neighborhood residents could contact their assigned officer for guidance, advice or response. Officers would also keep their neighborhood informed on important information like crime trends, safety tips and community related information. Assigned officers would also be available to conduct C.A.P. meetings in their assigned neighborhoods.

Bridging the Gap



This event is an opportunity for PSPD/Cobb County Police to interact with our community in an effort to continue to build strong relationships with the citizens we serve. We will take the time to share what our departments are doing in the community, as well as address concerns that our citizens may have when it comes to citizen interaction with Police. Citizens will also be able to ask questions

or express concerns they may have about policing in our community. This town hall meeting type atmosphere is geared towards meeting our goal to continue to be as transparent as possible with citizens we serve every day.





Run For Food 5K

1 Run For Food 5k
to stomp out hunger in Powder Springs

Sponsored by:



Proceeds will go to **MUST Ministries Summer Lunch Program**

National Running Day
June 3, 2015
Town Square
6-8pm

For more information visit www.cityofpowdersprings.org
Registration available at www.eventbrite.com



The Powder Springs Police Department sponsors a 5K Race to help raise money through M.U.S.T Ministries to provide meals for underprivileged children in the Powder Springs/West Cobb area.



Contributions for the "Run for Food 5K" totaled \$1330.00 in 2015. Members of the police department, city staff and Mayor Vaughn met to prepare lunches that will be provided.



Code RED



CodeRED is a high-speed emergency and community notification system now being used by the Powder Springs Police Department. This free tool effectively alerts our residents about local emergencies, road closures and other events that could directly affect citizens of Powder Springs and the West Cobb area. You can go

to <https://public.coderedweb.com/CNE/BF04B256A819> to sign up for alerts.



National Night Out

TUESDAY AUGUST 4, 2015



POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Neighbors ★ Food ★ Music ★ Fun

The Powder Springs Police Department
Invites the Community out to enjoy:

- Police & Fire Vehicles
- Georgia State Patrol Helicopter
- Games, Prizes, & Giveaways
- Live K-9 Demonstration
- Free Cookout
- Vendors

The fun begins at 6:00 p.m. on the Lawn
in Powder Springs Town Square

Sponsored by your local:

For more information visit
www.cityofpowdersprings.org





Chief's Chat

Chief's Chat was introduced in 2015.

Chief Robison meets with 20 students every Month at McEachern High School to help develop a stronger relationship with the students of McEachern, as well as have open dialogue about concerns and trust issues students may have about law enforcement in general.



Church Security Seminar



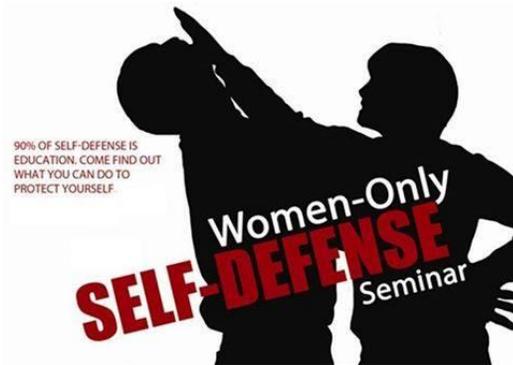
The Church Security Seminar is geared to pastors and church leadership.

Topics included properly protecting your church when dealing with high liability areas, dealing with concerns of violence in churches, and dealing with other potential crimes in churches (theft, child abuse, etc.)



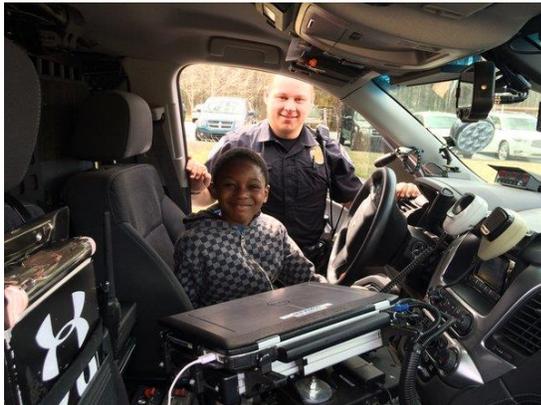


Women's Self Defense Class



This informative and interactive class provides several tools that can help equip teenage girls and women to stay safe in a variety of environments and situations.

Mentoring



Several members of the police department are involved with the Cobb County School Mentoring Program. Each officer that is affiliated with the program is paired with a student for the school year.

Police Explorers

Powder Springs Police Explorers is a program affiliated through the Boy Scouts of America. In 2015, our Explorer Post consisted of 12 members. Explorers must be 14 to 20 years of age. The Post participated in the 2015 MACE challenge where they received numerous awards.





CPA (Citizen Police Academy)



The Powder Springs Police Department periodically hosts a 10-week Citizen Police Academy. The academy runs for 10 weeks with most classes held between 6 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday nights.

The Citizen Police Academy provides an opportunity for citizens to learn firsthand about police operations. Through a series of lectures, field trips, and simulated activities, citizens are provided training similar to that of an actual police officer. The Academy is of benefit to the community and the

department because it builds relationships and creates a cadre of citizens that are better informed about the reality of police work.

Course Curriculum includes: criminal law, patrol procedures, mock trial, accident reconstruction, criminal investigations, crime scene processing, defensive tactics and much more. Citizens will also have an opportunity to attend firearms training at Glock, Inc. and a chance to ride along with an officer on patrol.

Applicants must be a minimum of 18 years of age. Applicant must pass a criminal history background check.

