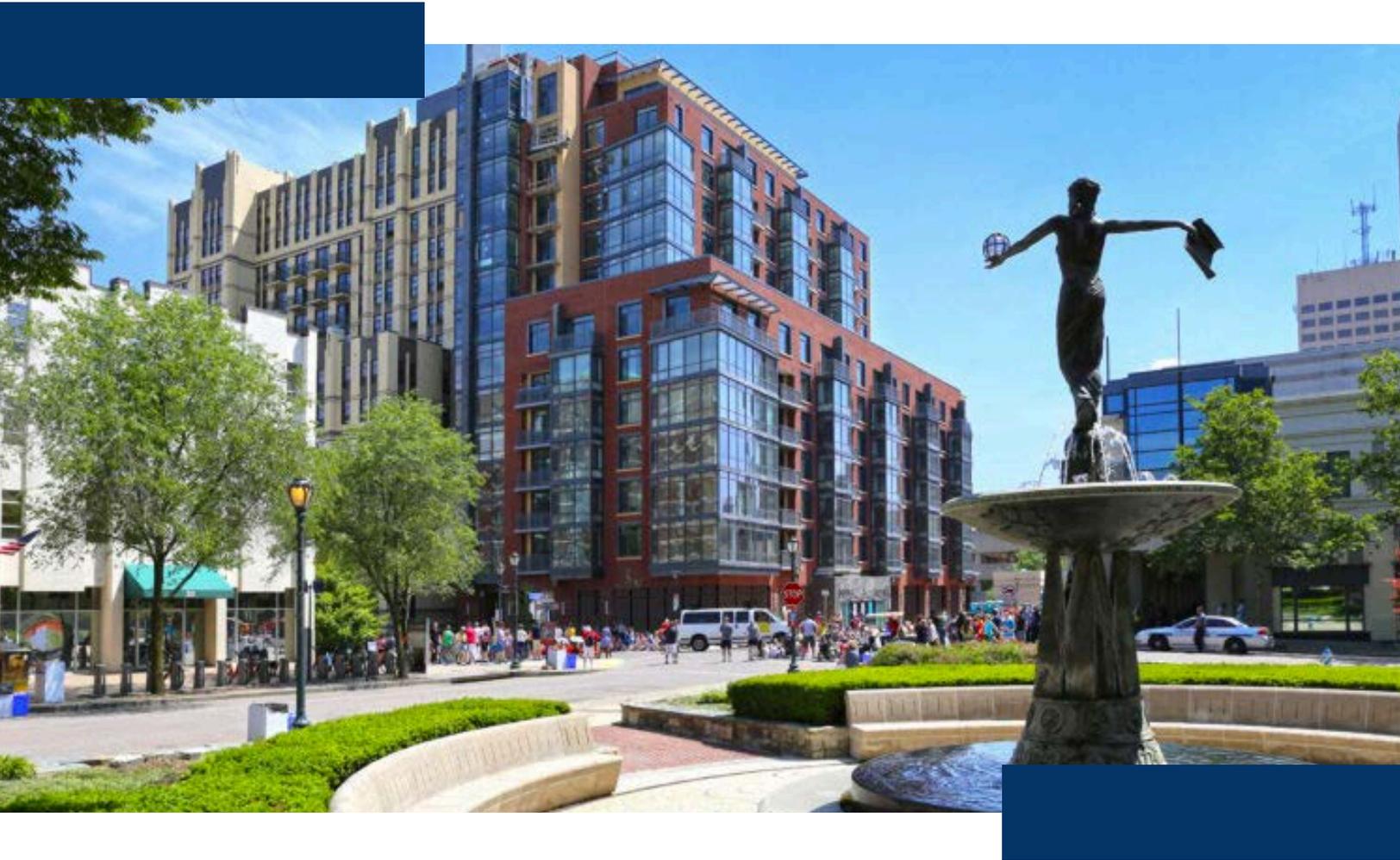


ANNUAL REPORT



Prepared by
Renée K. Smith, MBA,
Crime Analyst





Rockville City
Police Department

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Fountain on cover: Davidson, Dan, *Spirit of Rockville*, 1996, Bronze sculpture, Courthouse Square Park, Rockville Town Center. Image courtesy of City of Rockville.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF OF POLICE

The Rockville City Police Department experienced a remarkable year in 2025, marked by growth, progress, and opportunity. I am proud to report an overall 4.3% reduction in crime across the city, a testament to the dedication of our officers and the significant efforts to fill critical vacancies. This achievement reflects our transformation from a reactive law enforcement agency to one that proactively reduces crime and enhances public safety.

Last year, we embraced change and innovation. For the first time in more than 50 years, we redesigned our badge, a symbol of progress that honors our tradition. We also introduced new graphics on our marked cruisers, giving our fleet a modern, professional look that reflects the values of our department. Growth was the defining theme of 2025. We welcomed 13 new officers to strengthen our ability to serve and protect. In addition, we hired a new Deputy Chief of Police and celebrated internal promotions, including one Major, three Lieutenants, and four Sergeants. These leadership changes ensure continued excellence and a strong foundation for the future.

We expanded specialized units and capabilities, including the addition of Dare — the first bloodhound to serve in Rockville. Dare plays a vital role in tracking lost children and vulnerable adults, reinforcing our commitment to safeguarding every member of our community.

Community engagement remained a top priority. We enhanced our Community Engagement Unit by assigning an officer exclusively to Wootton High School, because building trust begins with our youth. In partnership with Main Street, we hosted our first-ever Neighborhood Safety Day, creating meaningful connections between residents, law enforcement, and fire rescue personnel.

Our longstanding community engagement programs continued to thrive, including the annual Open House, National Night Out, and Gun Buyback, cornerstones of transparency and trust within our community.

As we look ahead, 2025 laid the groundwork for new initiatives in 2026. We remain committed to innovation and strengthening our partnership with the community. I am deeply grateful for the dedication of our officers and the unwavering support of our residents. Together, we will continue to build a safer, stronger Rockville.

Respectfully,

Jason L. West
Chief of Police

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Rockville City Police Department is to serve the public in partnership with our community, to protect life and property, prevent crime, resolve problems and protect the rights of all people.

VALUES

Service Orientation

Each employee enhances the quality of life within our community and our department through dedicated service. Our commitment to the community is to treat people with dignity, empathetically and compassionately while delivering high quality service.

Integrity

Our value as police employees depends upon the respect and confidence we earn from the community and each other. The integrity of each individual, as well as the organization, is necessary for the community to give us their trust. Without this trust, we cannot expect to form a partnership with the community.

Excellence

We meet challenges and adversity with perseverance to attain individual and organizational goals. Our commitment to excellence includes being accountable individually and as an organization to do the right thing and take responsibility for our actions.

Respect

Fundamental to delivery of professional police service is the fair and equitable treatment of all individuals. We value all community members, each other and different points of view, regardless of race, gender, appearance, economic status, individual beliefs or lifestyles.

Teamwork

Teamwork is essential to the successful operation of the Department. The team must include all employees working in partnership with each other and the community to attain our goals. We support an environment that recognizes mutual cooperation and group accomplishments while encouraging individual contributions.

About Our Community



The City of Rockville is known for its rich history, diverse community, and strategic location just 15 miles north of Washington, D.C. Named as one of the best places to live several times by Money magazine, Rockville offers a blend of urban amenities and suburban charm. Our city boasts an array of parks, cultural institutions, and a lively downtown area that offers residents and visitors a range of recreational and entertainment options. Our highly educated workforce and learning institutions contribute to the city's intellectual vibrancy.

Given our proximity to the NIH and FDA, Rockville is home to many biomedical and technology companies. Rockville has become a hub for expanding healthcare, life science, and professional service industries supported by collaborative efforts between local government, educational institutions, and private enterprises. Recently, our city received a perfect score on the Human Rights Campaign's Municipal Equality Index scorecard, recognizing its commitment to the health, welfare, safety, and equality of our LGBTQ community.

Our population is growing and currently estimated to be approx. 70,000 people, making Rockville the fourth largest incorporated city in Maryland that is a unique and extraordinary place to live and work.



73

Sworn officers



26

Civilian Staff

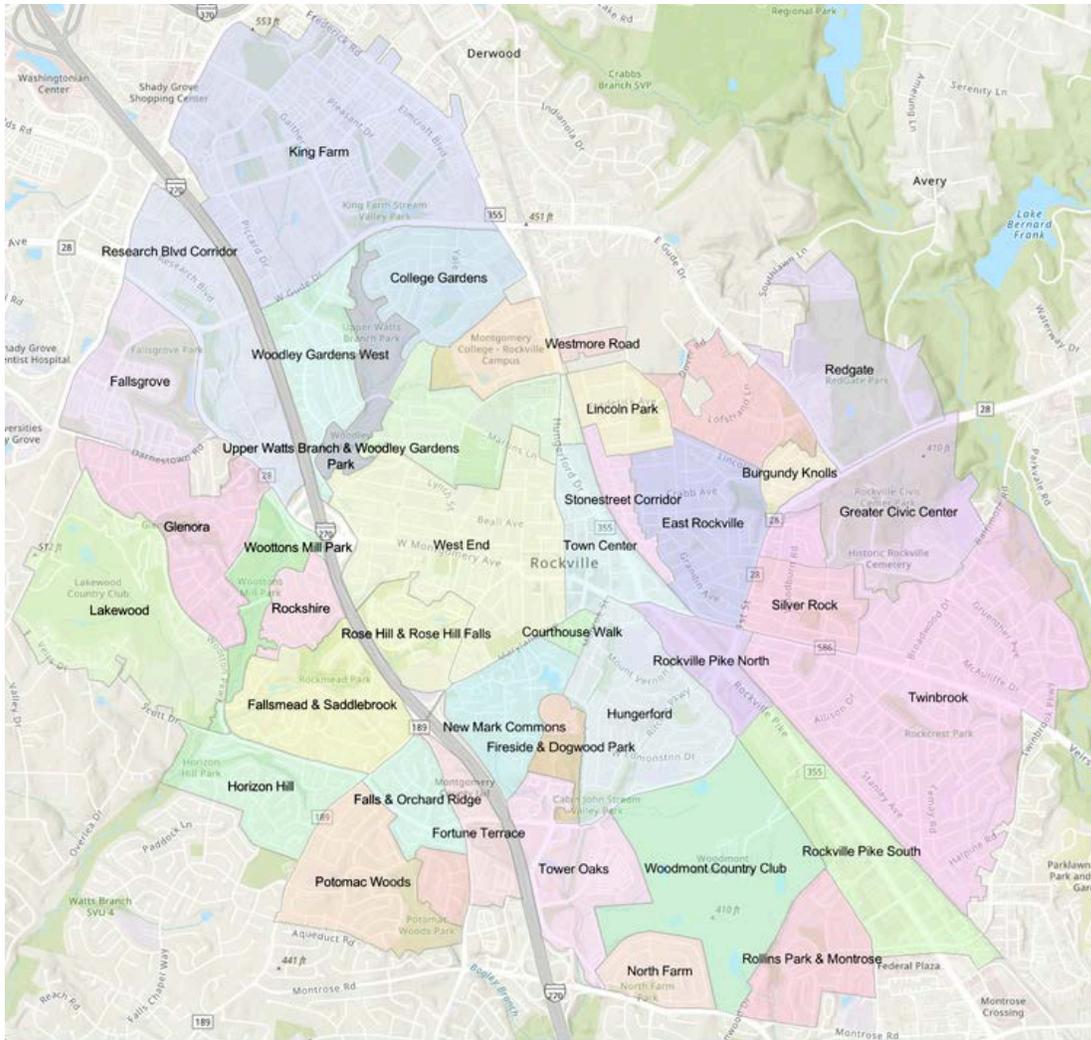


\$16,755,860

FY26 Adopted
Annual Budget

NEIGHBORHOOD & COMMUNITY ASSOCIATIONS

2025



ID	Association Name	ID	Association Name	ID	Association Name	ID	Association Name	ID	Association Name		
1	Ashleigh Woods	20	Rockcrest Courts	39	Wootton Oaks	58	Plymouth Woods	77	Scarborough Square	96	Rockshire HOA
2	Woods Edge	21	Victoria Condos	40	Rose Hills	59	Potomac Woods	78	The Fitz	97	Residences at King Farm
3	The Forest	22	Villages at Tower Oaks	41	Fenestra Apartments	60	Saddlebrook	79	Jefferson at Congressional	98	Village at King Farm
4	Americana Centre	23	Village Green	42	Chestnut Lodge	61	Woodley Gardens - West End CA	80	Rollins Ridge	99	King Farm II Condos
5	Burgundy Estates	24	Woodmont Park	43	Thirty Oaks	62	Regents Square	81	Twinbrook	100	King Farm III Condos
6	Silver Rock	25	Woodmont Overlook	44	Cambridge Heights	63	Woodley Gardens Co-op	82	King Farm CA	101	King Farm IV Condos
7	Burgundy Knolls	26	Congressional Towers	45	Carter Hill	64	Woodley Gardens CA	83	East Rockville	102	King Farm V Condos
8	David Scull Courts	27	Rose Hill Falls	46	College Square Condos	65	Potomac Springs	84	Glen Hills Club	103	King Farm Two Condos, Phase II
9	Cambridge Cluster	28	Twinbrook Forest Condos	47	College Gardens	66	Falls Ridge	85	Rockshire CA	104	King Farm Two Condos, Phase I
10	Chadsberry	29	Lincoln Park	48	Fallsbend	67	Griffith Oaks	86	West End	105	King Farm Two Condos, Phase III
11	Charles Walk	30	Legacy at Lincoln Park	49	Fallsmead	68	Rock Falls	87	Bailey's Commons Condos, Phase III	106	King Farm Four Condo Building I
12	Heritage Park	31	Hungerford	50	Fallswood	69	Argyle Apts	88	Fallsgrove Condos I	107	King Farm Four Condo Building II
13	Lynfield	32	Jefferson Square	51	Flint Ledge Estates	70	Beall's Grant	89	Fallsgrove Condos II	108	King Farm Village Center Condos I
14	Markwood	33	Cambridge Walk I	52	Glenora Hills CA	71	Bethany House	90	Fallsgrove Condos III & IV	109	King Farm Village Center Condos II
15	Montrose	34	Cambridge Walk II	53	Great Pines	72	Heritage House	91	Palladian Condos	110	King Farm Village Center Condos III
16	Rollins Park	35	Woodmont Spring	54	Watts Branch Meadows	73	Yale Village	92	Glenora Hills HOA	111	Bailey's Commons Condos, Phase I
17	New Mark Commons	36	Fireside	55	Horizon Hill	74	Ring House	93	Homes at Fallsgrove	112	Bailey's Commons Condos, Phase II
18	North Farm	37	Waddington Park	56	Jefferson Place	75	Town Center Apartments	94	Fallsgrove POA	113	Irvington Centre Condos
19	Redgate Farms	38	Courthouse Walk	57	Orchard Ridge	76	Park Terrace	95	King Farm Condo, Inc.		



Barry Dufek
Deputy Chief of Police

Office of the Chief of Police

- Field Services Bureau
- Administrative Services Bureau
- Public & Media Relations
- Planning & Research



Troy Plummer
Commander

Field Services Bureau

- Four Patrol Teams
- K-9 Program
- Special Operations Division: Criminal Investigations Unit, Traffic Enforcement Unit, Community Engagement Unit, Community Services
- Crime Analyst
- Special Events



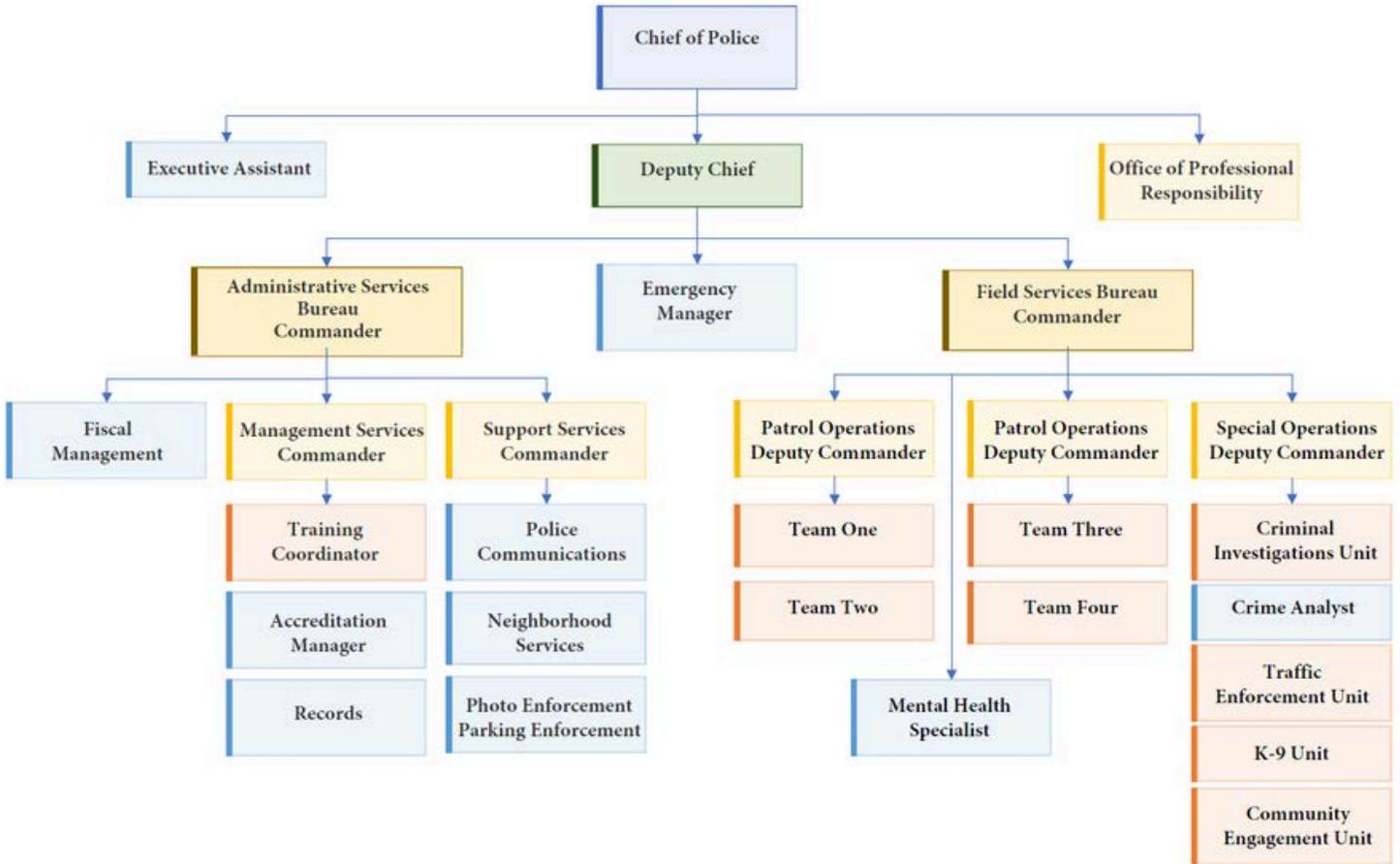
Bill Nieberding
Commander

Administrative Services Bureau

- Support Services
- Public Safety Communications Center
- Fiscal Management
- Training & Development
- Field Training
- Neighborhood Services
- Parking & Photo Enforcement Unit
- Citywide Security System
- Accreditation

ORGANIZATIONAL CHART

2025



Rise Together



2025 BY THE NUMBERS

JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2025



2025

Arrests Made by RCPD

	M	F	Total
Asian	12	11	23
12 to 17	1	1	2
18 to 23	1		1
24 to 29	2	1	3
30 to 35	1	4	5
36 to 41	1	3	4
42 to 47	2		2
54 to 59		1	1
60 and above	4	1	5
Black/African American	245	56	301
12 to 17	26	5	31
18 to 23	29	8	37
24 to 29	43	8	51
30 to 35	67	11	78
36 to 41	34	4	38
42 to 47	18	14	32
48 to 53	13	2	15
54 to 59	10	0	10
60 and above	5	4	9
White	189	36	225
12 to 17	16	1	17
18 to 23	24	6	30
24 to 29	29	9	38
30 to 35	23	5	28
36 to 41	42	4	46
42 to 47	22	4	26
48 to 53	15	3	18
54 to 59	12	2	14
60 and above	6	2	8
Unknown	3	0	3
18 to 23	1	0	1
24 to 29	1	0	1
30 to 35	1	0	1
Total	449	103	552

552

Arrests

12,600
Parking Tickets
Issued

25
Criminal and Civil
Citations Issued

1,790
Traffic Citations
Issued

4,992
Traffic Warnings
Issued

222
Vehicle Equipment
Repair Orders

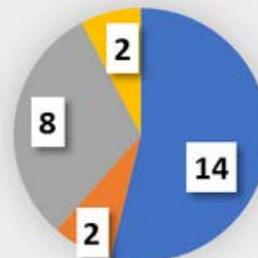
371
Warrants Served

8.65 min.
Average Response
Time for All Calls
for Service

15,393 hrs.
Annual Training
of Sworn &
Civilian Staff

26 Firearms Seized

(Excluding those from the
2025 Gun Buy Back Event)



- Handguns
- Revolvers
- Rifles
- Shotguns

2025 BY THE NUMBERS

JANUARY 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2025

2025

As the primary law enforcement agency that responds to calls for service (CFS) in the city of Rockville, 81.5% of the 26,829 total calls within the city were handled by the Rockville City Police Department in 2025. The average response time of the RCPD was 6.04 minutes for priority calls and 8.65 minutes for all calls.

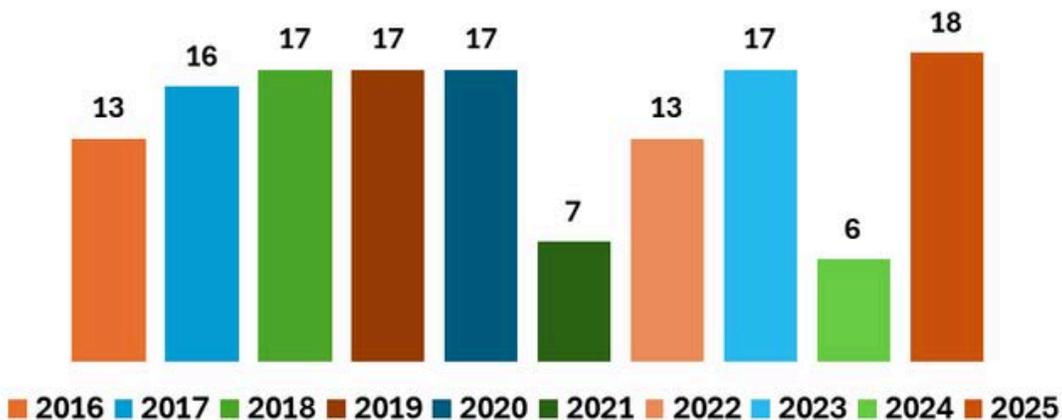
Located within the 1st Police District of Montgomery County, the Montgomery County Police Department and Sheriff's Office handled 11.8% of the calls within the city limits of Rockville. Additionally, Rockville residents used Montgomery County's Telephone Reporting Unit (TRU) for some delineated non-emergency incidents.

The RCPD had 18 officers assaulted in 10 incidents during 2025, the highest number since 2015, which also had 18 officers assaulted.

TOTAL CALLS FOR SERVICE FOR THE CITY OF ROCKVILLE 2025

Rockville City Police Dept.	21,874
Montgomery County Police Dept.	3,158
Montgomery County Sheriff's Office	993
MCPD TRU Telephone Reporting Unit	804

Officers Assaulted



CRIME COMPARISON FOR THE CITY OF ROCKVILLE

2025

In 2025, crime within the City of Rockville decreased by 4.3%.

(A reporting procedure change by the RCPD in April 2025 (Special Order 03-25) for Trespass violations impacted the 2025 overall crime rate. If Trespassing were excluded, the overall crime within Rockville for 2025 would be a 9.6% decrease from the prior year.)

For NIBRS Group A Offenses, crime within the City of Rockville decreased by 14.9%.**



Billig, Marcia, *Taking Flight*, 1999, Bronze sculpture, Twinbrook Community Recreation Center. Image courtesy of City of Rockville.

****The RCPD follows the FBI's NIBRS reporting procedures, which categorize the NIBRS Group A offenses to include all of the Crimes Against Persons and Crimes Against Property that are listed in the adjacent chart, in addition to five Crimes Against Society that include: Animal Cruelty, Drug/Narcotic Offenses, Pornography/Obscene Material, Prostitution Offenses, and Weapon Law Violations.****

	# Offenses
Crimes Against Persons	441
Assault Offenses	402
Assault - 2nd Degree	267
Aggravated Assault	48
Intimidation	3
Simple Assault	82
Weapon - Threat to Bomb	2
Homicide Offenses	3
Human Trafficking Offenses	1
Sex Offenses	35
Crimes Against Property	1735
Arson	3
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	118
Counterfeiting/Forgery	34
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism	361
Embezzlement	7
Extortion/Blackmail	2
Fraud Offenses	208
Credit Card/ATM Fraud	65
False Pretenses/Confidence Game/Swindle	37
Identity Theft	67
Impersonation	10
Wire Fraud	3
Fraud - All Other	26
Larceny/Theft Offenses	941
Larceny - Auto Parts	86
Larceny - from Auto	194
Larceny - from Building	142
Larceny - Pocket Picking	3
Larceny - Postal	15
Larceny - Purse Snatching - No Force	6
Larceny - Shoplifting	326
Larceny - All Other	169
Motor Vehicle Theft	130
Robbery	20
Crimes Against Society	1907
Disorderly Conduct	63
Driving Under the Influence	70
Drug/Narcotic Offenses	67
Pornography/Obscene Material	2
Prostitution Offenses	6
Trespass of Real Property	198
Weapon Law Violations	20
Society - All Other Offenses	1481
Total	4083

CRIME COMPARISON FOR THE CITY OF ROCKVILLE

2025

2025

441 1,735 1,907

Crimes Against Persons Crimes Against Property Crimes Against Society

2024

487 2,146 1,741

Crimes Against Persons Crimes Against Property Crimes Against Society

29

Victims of Hate/Bias Incidents in 2025



Theberge, Valerie, *Untitled*, 2011, Ceramic tile, Beall Ave. and Maryland Ave. Image courtesy of City of Rockville.

****Data is based on the Start Date of the offense. Reports that were Unfounded or Referred to Another Jurisdiction were excluded. Crimes Against Persons are totaled by the number of victims. Crimes Against Property and Crimes Against Society are totaled by the number of offenses. In a multiple offense incident, a victim is counted for each connected offense type. Homicide data does not include justifiable homicides. Sex Offenses data include rape, sodomy, and sexual assault with an object. The FBI's NIBRS reporting requirements for rape reports changed on 01/01/2025. Any comparisons to incidents before and after this change will be impacted.**

The NIBRS Group B offense category contains seven offenses for non-federal law enforcement agencies, which encompass all the crimes that are not Group A offenses, and represents several of the offense types that were previously reported under the SRS Part II offenses. Under NIBRS reporting procedures, a Group B offense must have an arrest to be reportable to the FBI's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) system. The RCPD and its allied law enforcement agencies such as the Montgomery County Police Department record all incidents of Group B offenses for internal tracking and reporting. The Group B offense categories in the preceding table include all reported Group B offenses regardless of whether the offense resulted in an arrest.

The Crimes Against Society - All Other Offenses category, which has the highest volume of the Group B offenses, includes all crimes that are not Group A offenses nor one of the specifically named Group B offense categories listed under Crimes Against Society in the preceding table to include: Disorderly Conduct, Driving Under the Influence, and Trespass of Real Property.

The All Other Offenses category contains non-criminal offenses, which include: Fire-Not Arson, Lost Property, Mental Illness Transports and EEPS, Overdose, Police Information, Recovered Property, Sudden Death, Suicide, and Traffic Offenses. The RCPD takes numerous reports of these offenses, which are non-criminal offenses and are not factored into any calculations of crime rates nor crime rates per capita.

Trespass of Real Property - In April 2025, by Special Order 03-25, the RCPD changed its notification and arrest procedures regarding complaints for trespass violations. In prior years, subsequent trespassing violations by the same suspect at the same address were reported in supplements to the original incident case report. With the April 2025 change in reporting procedures, each new call for service for trespass complaints would result in a new case report if the authorized property owner/agent wanted the suspect lawfully trespassed. Comparisons to trespassing incidents before and after this change will be impacted. For 2025, this change significantly contributed to the 521.9% increase in Trespass of Real Property offenses from 33 in 2024 to 198 in 2025.**

NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES



2025

The total number of Animal Calls decreased from 1,735 in 2024 by 13.6%. The number of Bite Calls increased by 49.2%.

In the City of Rockville, all dogs, cats, and ferrets four months and older need to be licensed annually and up to date on their rabies vaccinations.

88

Total Number of
Animal Bite Calls in
2025

1,499

Total Number of
Animal Calls in
2025

4,235

Animal Licenses
Issued
2025

31

Animal Review
Official Hearings
2025



PHOTO ENFORCEMENT UNIT



2025

The City of Rockville’s Speed Camera Program supplements patrol officers’ efforts to save lives, prevent collisions, and facilitate the efficient movement of traffic.

With these cameras, the RCPD issued 47.8% more speed citations, but 2.8% less red-light camera citations.



	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Total Number of Speed Camera Citations Issued	28,792	19,475
Total Number of Red-Light Camera Citations Issued	45,852	47,183
Total Number of Portable Speed Cameras Utilized	10	10
Total Number of Fixed Speed Camera Poles Utilized	6	6
Total Number of Red Light Cameras Utilized	10	10
Street with the Highest Number of Speed Citations Recorded	100 Blk. Wooton Pkwy. S/B	
Intersection with the Highest Number of Red-Light Citations Recorded	N/B Gaither Rd. at Redland Blvd.	

OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY REPORT



2025

21,874
Calls for Service

12
Complaints
(0.055%)

7
External
Source

5
Internal/Admin.
Generated

4
Sustained

2
Exonerated

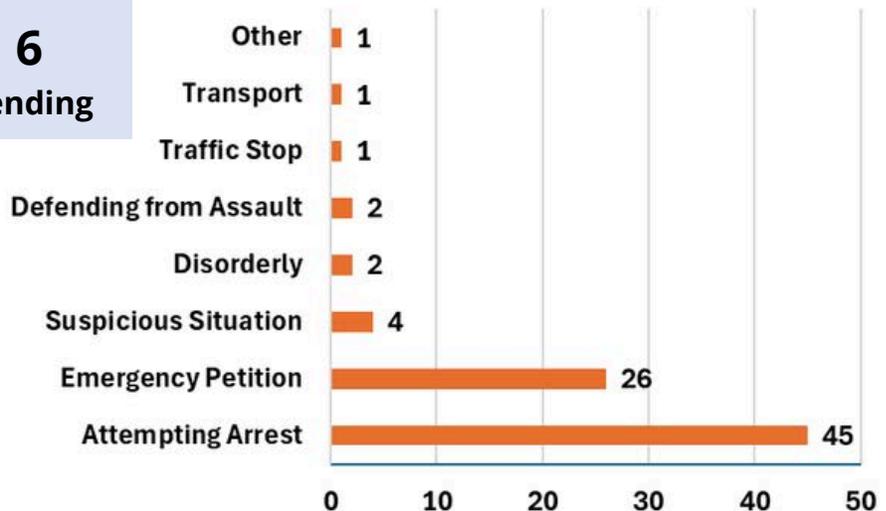
6
Pending

**RCPD has a very broad definition for "use of force", which includes any physical contact between an officer and someone else.

552 Arrests **819** Calls for Mental Crisis

82
Incidents that involved a Use of Force**, represented less than 6% of combined arrests and calls for mental crisis and 0.37% of the total RCPD calls for service.

Circumstances in Use of Force Incidents by Call Type



OFFICER OF THE YEAR

2025



OFC Chance Thrasher

Throughout the past year, Officer Thrasher has exemplified the highest standards of professionalism and dedication to duty. His proactive policing efforts have significantly enhanced the safety and security of the City of Rockville.

Among his many achievements, Officer Thrasher played a pivotal role in the swift apprehension of a suspect involved in a shooting on North Washington Street, restoring community confidence and ensuring justice. His commitment to proactive criminal enforcement resulted in numerous narcotics-related arrests and successful warrant services, directly reducing crime within our city. Officer Thrasher also served as a key member of the joint Crime Suppression Task Force with the Montgomery County Police Department, focusing on reducing criminal activity in Rockville's business districts. His leadership and enforcement efforts earned recognition from both RCPD and MCPD command staff, and he was identified as a leading contributor to the Task Force's success. Notably, his work led to the apprehension of multiple felony and misdemeanor suspects, further underscoring his impact on public safety.

In addition to these accomplishments, Officer Thrasher serves as a Field Training Officer. In this role, he is responsible for preparing the department's newest officers to serve the community with confidence and professionalism. He leads by example, instills the principles of proactive policing, and ensures that trainees have the tools, skills, and mindset necessary to uphold the high standards he consistently demonstrates.

Officer Thrasher's unwavering dedication and exceptional work ethic embody the core values of the Rockville City Police Department. His actions not only protect our community but also strengthen interagency partnerships and foster the development of future officers who will continue his legacy of excellence. In recognition of these outstanding contributions, Officer Chance Thrasher is hereby named the Rockville City Police Department Officer of the Year for 2025.

CIVILIAN OF THE YEAR

2025



NSO Fred
Mowell

The hard work of non-sworn individuals can, oftentimes, be diluted by the fluctuating tempos of the sworn (police) side. Recognizing this, and the community need for well-rounded public service, the honor of 'Civilian of the Year' should be presented to someone, who is deserving of acknowledgement for going above and beyond. This is fitting of the hard work and continued dedication displayed by NSO Mowell.

26 years of service has made NSO Mowell a de facto leader of Rockville City's Neighborhood Services Program. Since this program primarily focuses on the wellbeing of animals within the City, it requires a specialized knowledge to keep it functioning successfully. Throughout his time with RCPD, NSO Mowell has used his knowledge of the program's 'ins and outs' to help maintain its integrity through changes in departmental leadership and civilian staff. The other NSOs have even made it a point to note that he is who they go to for additional guidance as they need it. This past year, NSO Mowell has also used his knowledge and experience to help a new NSO Secretary take on her new role. This included supporting her in coordinating RCPD's Animal Review Official hearings from their necessary paperwork to pre-hearing communications with ARO judges. NSO Mowell's consistency has been admirable.

Throughout this past year, NSO Mowell's work ethic has remained as strong as his reliability. Of the animal related calls for service handled by the Department in 2025, NSO Mowell was responsible for handling over 45% of them. Additionally, he maintains a high volume of animal related enforcement. This enforcement, however, is guided by his desire to care for animals. NSO Mowell never hesitates to speak with community members to provide education and resources. This includes Rockville City's off-leash program, which he also manages.

It's NSO Mowell's day-in and day-out level of participation in RCPD's mission of community service that makes him a standout. He holds himself to a high standard and pushes himself to constantly be productive. His work output is helpful, but so is the example he sets with his work ethic.

36TH ANNUAL ROCKVILLE PUBLIC SAFETY AWARDS

2025



The 2025 Annual Public Safety Award Ceremony honored fourteen Rockville City Police officers for valiant and honorable acts of policework.

The **Distinguished Service Citation** is presented to a member, who rendered a service resulting in the accomplishment of a difficult task, the protection of life or property, the prevention of a major crime, or the apprehension of an armed and dangerous criminal, while also applying diligence, perseverance, or timely judgment in the performance of their duties.

The **Meritorious Service Citation** is presented to a member of a public safety organization or the civilian community, who deserves acknowledgement for a duty or task that rises above the normal scope of his or her job or that could easily have remained undone or unnoticed.

The **Citation for Bravery** is a recognition awarded to an officer, who has demonstrated exceptional courage and valor in the face of danger, and exemplified unwavering commitment to protecting others or upholding the greater good.

The **Unsung Hero Award** is given to a member of a public safety department, who has devoted a significant amount of time to providing a service, a good deed, or sustained activity that has had a positive impact on a segment of the community. It celebrates those whose impactful efforts may go unnoticed, but profoundly influence the lives of others.

UNSUNG HERO AWARD

2025



SGT. Javier
Baquero and
CPL. Ronnie
Crowe

When many law enforcement officers want to be involved in protecting the community from dangerous criminals, Sgt. Javier Baquero and Cpl. Ronnie Crowe have embraced the duties of community policing, knowing that the value of strengthening trust, promoting public safety, and enhancing the lives of those they serve is an integral part of police work.

Sgt. Baquero and Cpl. Crowe exemplify the core values of community policing through their consistent and dedicated efforts to connect with the residents, businesses, and organizations of Rockville. These officers have made it their mission to foster trust, build relationships, and enhance public safety across the city through their proactive and highly visible involvement in numerous initiatives.

Throughout the year, both officers actively participated in foot patrols, engaging directly with residents, business owners, and community members to address concerns, answer questions, and provide a reassuring police presence. Their accessibility and communication have made them familiar, trusted faces throughout the city.

Their outreach includes regular participation in events at the Rockville Senior Center, where they conducted Civilian Response to Active Shooter Events (CRASE) training, a program they have provided to multiple businesses across the city to ensure preparedness and promote public safety.

Sgt. Baquero and Cpl. Crowe have been vital contributors to “Coffee with a Cop” events, enhancing transparency and informal conversation between law enforcement and the public. Their efforts in high-visibility patrols further strengthen their presence and accessibility.

UNSUNG HERO AWARD

2025



SGT. Javier Baquero and CPL. Ronnie Crowe

Their commitment extends to civic engagement and support of charitable efforts. They have participated in and supported Special Olympics Maryland, city-wide events at recreation and community centers, and charity golf tournaments.

Their outreach to the younger generation includes station tours for Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, coordination of a Youth Bike Rodeo, and presentations at schools.

The two have coordinated DEA Drug Take Back events to promote safe medication disposal, and worked closely with local businesses to deliver safety and security presentations. They have been instrumental in organizing multiple National Night Out events across the city, reinforcing community-police partnerships.

Their collaboration with the Chamber of Commerce, Main Street Rockville — a community for people of all abilities — and their delivery of House of Worship Security Surveys all demonstrate a deep commitment to inclusivity, public safety, and collaboration.

Notably, their pedestrian safety initiatives have directly contributed to increased awareness and safety measures across Rockville, further showcasing their ability to identify community needs and implement impactful solutions.

Sgt. Baquero and Cpl. Crowe devote a significant amount of time, both on and off duty, to these outreach efforts. Their unwavering dedication is a model for community policing. For these reasons, Sgt. Javier Baquero and Cpl. Ronnie Crowe are deserving recipients of the Unsung Hero Award.

LIFESAVING AWARD

2025



CPL. Ali
Zeighani

On June 20, 2024, at approximately 8:30 p.m., Rockville City Police officers responded to Blandford Street to investigate the report of a shooting that had just occurred.

Cpl. Ali Zeighani arrived first on the scene and saw a male lying on the sidewalk, bleeding from a gunshot wound to the abdomen. The victim was having trouble breathing and in obvious pain.

The officer observed a rifle nearby and a person standing near the victim. While maintaining a visual on the victim and the rifle, the officer safely determined the person, who was found not to be the assailant.

The officer then assessed the victim's gunshot wound. He placed a chest seal on his abdomen to relieve the victim's difficult breathing, and then rolled the victim over and located an exit wound on his back.

The officer placed another chest seal on that wound. Montgomery County Fire & Rescue transported the victim to the hospital for immediate surgery. The victim is fine, thanks to Cpl. Zeighani's quick response and the medical treatment he provided.

For his outstanding efforts to save a life – in the face of potential danger - Cpl. Ali Zeighani received the Lifesaving Award.

MERITORIOUS CITATION AWARD

2025



CPL. Steven
Pascali

On September 14, 2024, Cpl. Steven Pascali was dispatched to a call for a neighbor dispute regarding barking dogs. He arrived and contacted the owner of the dogs. When he explained the reason for his visit, the owner of the dogs became visibly upset.

The dog owner explained that she and her partner had been the target of ongoing harassment by their neighbors, the complainants in the matter, for months. The dog owner reported that the harassment began when she and her partner placed rainbow and Pride flags in their yard celebrating their sexual orientation.

Cpl. Pascali contacted other neighbors and learned that no others had issues with the dogs barking and provided statements contrary to the original complaints. The Rockville City Police Department had responded to several calls for service for barking dogs; however, those calls were unfounded, and no barking dogs were heard.

Cpl. Pascali took the time to listen to the victim of the harassment and provided much needed support. He took it upon himself to research the appropriate criminal charges in the case and referred the victim to the District Court Commissioner's Office for relief. Criminal charges were issued.

The police chief was contacted by the victim in the case regarding Cpl. Pascali's compassion and service. She said, "Cpl. Pascali embodies the qualities we hope to see in law enforcement — compassion, understanding and dedication to community service."

Cpl. Pascali routinely goes the extra mile to assist everyone he encounters during the performance of his duties. In this case, he demonstrated the compassion and dedication to duty that positively impacted the lives of Rockville residents.

For his professionalism, he earned the Meritorious Service Citation.

MERITORIOUS CITATION AWARD

2025



OFC Yocelin
Bonilla

On January 21, 2025, a mother and her four-year-old child were dropped off at the police station by a concerned city resident. Speaking with the mother was difficult, as there was a language barrier, but it was easy to see the mother was very lethargic. She began vomiting. Montgomery County Fire & Rescue (MCFR) was called to the station for a check of the mother and child.

While en route to work, Officer Yocelin Bonilla heard the radio transmission and quickly got to the station to assist with translation. She engaged with the mother and child to understand what happened and how we could help them.

The mother told Officer Bonilla that they had been out in the cold all day with no food or water. The mother was not dressed for the weather. Although the child had a coat on, she did not have a hat nor gloves, and her fingertips were ice cold.

Officer Bonilla continued to talk to the mother while food and water were obtained for them. Then the officer went to the store and came back with bags of hats, gloves, and sweatshirts. Being a mother herself, she was very empathetic and even got a stuffed animal for the child to help comfort her, as well as a blanket and more food and water.

Officer Bonilla not only provided assistance outside of the normal range of her duties, but she purchased the items for the mother and child with her own money, with no expectation or thought of being reimbursed.

For her unselfish acts of respect and her kindness, Officer Bonilla received the Meritorious Service Citation.

MERITORIOUS CITATION AWARD

2025



CPL Eddie Roman
SGT Anthony Casabona
CPL Nicholas Weiss
CPL Jeff Park
OFC Chance Thrasher
CPL Joseph McCann
OFC Damoni Smith
OFC Omar Guevara

On January 17, 2025, at approximately 7:30 a.m., Rockville City Police officers from Patrol Team 1 - Cpl. Eddie Roman, Cpl. Anthony Casabona, Cpl. Nicholas Weiss, Cpl. Jeff Park, Ofc. Chance Thrasher, Cpl. Joseph McCann, Ofc. Damoni Smith, and Ofc. Omar Guevara - were dispatched to a weapons call at the Sleep Inn at 2 Research Court in Rockville. Montgomery County Police dispatch said that a man dropped a firearm in the lobby area of the hotel and left the scene.

The call-taker added that hotel staff also discovered a deceased female in the rear parking lot.

Officer Chance Thrasher and Cpl. Nicholas Weiss arrived almost immediately, secured the scene, and located potential witnesses. A photograph of the man was obtained by officers and disseminated for officer safety. A multitude of shell casings were discovered around the deceased female, as well as a firearm.

Officers deduced that the scene may be directly involved with the homicide on Shady Grove Road that the county police were handling at the same time. A crime scene log was started and evidence markers were erected to mark the numerous shell casings and other evidentiary items.

MERITORIOUS CITATION AWARD

2025



CPL Eddie Roman
SGT Anthony Casabona
CPL Nicholas Weiss
CPL Jeff Park
OFC Chance Thrasher
CPL Joseph McCann
OFC Damoni Smith
OFC Omar Guevara

Montgomery County Police homicide detectives, as well as the Forensic Field Services section, responded to the scene. The deceased female had no form of identification and Patrol Team 1 attempted to use a Mobile Automated Fingerprint Identification System with negative results.

Attempting to establish a connection between the two incidents, officers began to search for possible related subjects to the victim from the Shady Grove Road incident. A possible match proved fruitful and linked the two incidents.

The family of the victim eventually tracked her phone to the hotel and upon learning of her demise, became distraught with emotions. Officers from Patrol Team 1 attempted to comfort the family and provide counseling services on scene by dispatching Rockville City Police Department's Licensed Clinical Social Worker to the hotel.

As officers maintained a presence inside the hotel, the suspect returned and attempted to make his way back to his hotel room. After seeing officers standing guard, he attempted to leave the hotel. They were able to stop and detain him before he fled the hotel.

The man eventually provided a full confession at Montgomery County Police headquarters and was charged accordingly.

It is without a doubt, that the combined efforts of Patrol Team 1, using their intuition and intellect, demonstrated a high standard of expertise that should not go unnoticed. The team received the Meritorious Service Citation.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CITATION

2025



CPL. Ali
Zeighani

Cpl. Ali Zeighani, a veteran member of the Rockville City Police Department for more than two decades, has proven himself to be a hard-working and dignified member of the police force time after time.

He is currently assigned to the K9 Unit, which specializes in explosive ordinance and firearm detection. He goes above and beyond to maintain his certifications and to maintain his partner, Bolo, 24 hours a day/seven days a week.

Cpl. Zeighani is always looking for ways to ensure the K9 Unit is in a state of constant operational readiness. His commitment to his current assignment is evident through his on- and off-duty work with his partner. He and his partner remain in top physical condition to meet the demands of a K9 team.

During 2024, Cpl. Zeighani was reassigned to a midnight patrol team to meet the needs of the department. He was able to accept that duty and still meet all training mandates required of a K9 team. Additionally, he and his partner are assigned to the Montgomery County Police Department's Special Weapons and Tactics Team. That collateral duty often requires after-hours callouts on very short notice. Cpl. Zeighani has fostered a collaborative working relationship between the Rockville City Police Department and the Montgomery County Police Department.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CITATION

2025



CPL. Ali
Zeighani

Cpl. Zeighani serves as a peer mentor to new employees of the Rockville police department. He provides encouragement and guidance to those new hires to welcome them and set them up to be successful members of the department.

He has served in various capacities during his tenure, including serving as a field training officer. Cpl. Zeighani is dedicated to ensuring the Rockville City Police Department trains and equips police officers to best serve the City of Rockville and is a role model to many.

Cpl. Zeighani treats all employees and the public with dignity and respect. His positive attitude and ability to lead others has made the Rockville City Police Department an environment in which co-workers thrive.

For all that he has done, for carrying out each and every assignment with strength and dignity, he received the Distinguished Service Citation.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CITATION

2025



Keschia Paul

Rockville City Police Department dispatchers are often the first contact a citizen has with the police department. Whether they are calling to report a wire or tree down or an injured animal, are looking for resources, or need assistance with a police matter, Keschia Paul is there to guide them.

In addition to those calls, Ms. Paul fields questions from citizens entering the police station lobby and assists officers with calls for service by running license plates, arranging tows, and checking warrants. She is knowledgeable, efficient, and competent.

Keschia Paul is an exemplary dispatcher who always goes above and beyond when assisting officers. She anticipates their needs and always follows through on requests. Her highest priority is to provide as much information as possible to officers so they can do their jobs as safely and efficiently as possible.

She also consistently demonstrates her dedication to her fellow dispatchers and to the future of the department, committing time to training and mentoring newly hired dispatchers.

Outside of her primary role as dispatcher, Keschia Paul often goes above and beyond for others with the intent to lift spirits and foster a positive work environment. She gives flowers and/or chocolates to others as a way to lift spirits if she knows someone is having a rough day, or simply as a random act of kindness to put a smile on someone's face. She also goes out of her way to ensure the police department celebrates its peers.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CITATION

2025



Keschia Paul

Ms. Paul always makes it a point to decorate, celebrate, and/or acknowledge National Public Safety Communications Week (generally the second week in April) to show the dispatchers they are appreciated.

In 2024, Ms. Paul took considerable time, effort, and some of her own money to plan events celebrating major life events of others. She organized a surprise baby shower to celebrate one of the female officers, coordinating every aspect of the event — a beautiful event that allowed peers to celebrate this officer's new baby.

Realizing there was not a dedicated space for a lactation room at the police department for postpartum female employees, Ms. Paul took it upon herself to identify a space, made sure it had the required comforts, and created guidelines for the space.

Between September and October of 2024, Ms. Paul heard there was a problem with the air conditioning and later a water spill in the sergeant's office. While those issues were not within her primary concern as a dispatcher, she took it upon herself to make the appropriate notifications so that it would be fixed and cleaned up properly.

On top of that, she walked around the station identifying other issues that needed to be addressed. One of the main concerns was the clarity of the surveillance cameras. Ms. Paul requested they be cleaned so the captured video would be clear. There were several other small things that were in disrepair that she ensured were addressed.

DISTINGUISHED SERVICE CITATION

2025



Keschia Paul

When Major Mike England announced he was retiring after 45 years of service, Ms. Paul immediately took charge planning a surprise retirement party to celebrate the major's long and storied career. She spent untold hours planning the event, organizing food and gifts, and transporting decorations and equipment. On Dec. 3, past and present Rockville City Police Department employees, city employees, and friends celebrated and reflected on the many ways Major England contributed throughout his career.

These are just a few examples of the dedication Keschia Paul has shown for the Rockville City Police Department family. She knows the importance of celebrating people and is always looking for ways to improve the department. Keschia never seeks recognition for all that she does and genuinely wants to make the department a better place making people feel valued.

The Rockville City Police Department values Keschia and awarded her the Distinguished Service Award as the Civilian of the Year.



CPL. Ronnie Crowe

On December 3, 2024, Cpl. Ronnie Crowe was heading home after completing a full shift with the Rockville City Police Department. As he left his jurisdiction, he continued to diligently monitor his surroundings. That included changing his police radio to listen to the dispatched calls in his immediate areas as he drove.

At approximately 4:45 p.m., a call for a shooting that had just occurred in the 18000 block of Town Center Drive in Olney — the heart of that community – went out. Cpl. Crowe, recognizing that he was not too far from the call, immediately got on the air to ask the Montgomery County Police Department supervisor if they would need his assistance. They replied that they would.

Cpl. Crowe redirected from his drive home and quickly arrived on scene. As the first unit to arrive, he had no idea what dangers might be nearby. He found the shooting victim in a parked car. The subject had shot himself in the abdomen and had fallen unconscious. Cpl. Crowe used his trauma shears to access the subject's injuries, locate the bullet wound, and begin administering first aid. He updated responding officers and fire-rescue over the air, all the while continuing first aid, including CPR, as other units arrived.

Fire-rescue took over lifesaving efforts and transported the victim to the hospital. Unfortunately, the person succumbed to his injuries.

Cpl. Crowe embodies the values of a brave and dedicated officer. He puts community first and has shown that his commitment to service is not tied to only the hours he is on duty. Where many people would want to return to their families after a full day, Cpl. Crowe willingly stepped up to help someone in a dynamic and stressful situation, not knowing what he might have found at the scene.

Cpl. Crowe has never hesitated to help those in need and was awarded the Citation for Bravery.

A COMMITMENT TO SERVE & PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY

2025



After a rigorous nationwide search, MAJ Jason L. West, who was appointed Interim Chief of Police on November 22, 2024, was selected to lead the Rockville City Police Department and sworn in as the Chief of Police on June 30, 2025.

Bringing a career of exemplary service and leadership in law enforcement, Chief West began a new chapter with the RCPD implementing innovative changes and strengthening the police department's ability to serve and protect the community of Rockville.



A COMMITMENT TO SERVE & PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY

2025



On October 7, 2025, Barry Dufek was sworn in as the Deputy Chief of Police, bringing a distinguished career of leadership, vision, and experience to serve the Rockville City Police Department.



On September 25, 2025, and throughout the year, officers were recognized for their contributions and achievements. After a competitive application and interview process, officers were selected for rank and Command Staff leadership promotions.



A COMMITMENT TO SERVE & PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY

2025



After more than 50 years, in May 2025, the Rockville City Police Department redesigned its badge worn by sworn police officers.

The badge incorporated the flag and seal of the City of Rockville reflecting the police department's renewed commitment to the Rockville community and modern law enforcement principles.



A COMMITMENT TO SERVE & PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY

2025



In May 2025, the Rockville City Police Department also unveiled a new design for its fleet of police cruisers. Including the flag and seal of the City of Rockville symbolizes the RCPD's renewed commitment to serving and protecting the Rockville community with integrity and excellence.



A COMMITMENT TO SERVE & PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY



2025



In October 2025, the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) prominently featured the Rockville City Police Department in its IACP-TV film highlighting the police department's transformation, progress, and community commitment.

This film, *The Rockville Way*, features the police department's advancements in recruitment and training, community engagement initiatives, and building a culture of excellence.



Accessible on YouTube, the film shows how in 2025, the Rockville City Police Department invested in developing strategic public safety and quality of life enhancements for the Rockville community. Examples include changing trespassing violation procedures, numerous safety presentations and demonstrations to community groups, and the establishment of the forthcoming Special Assignment Unit.



PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITY

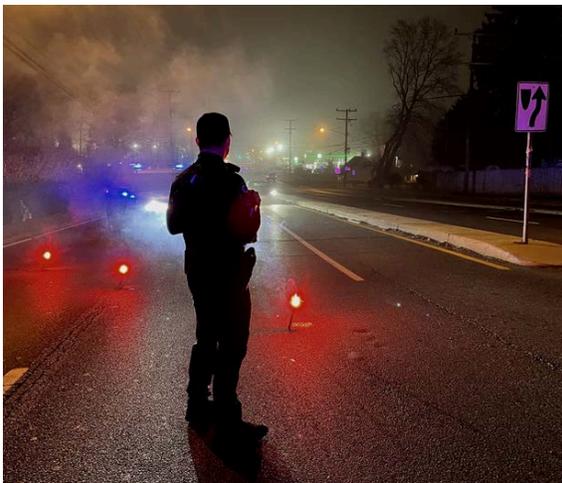
Patrol and Traffic Units

2025



Most of the Rockville City Police Department's 73 sworn police officers are assigned to one of our four Patrol Units. They work to keep the Rockville community safe 24 hours/365 days every year.

Patrol officers work collaboratively with officers and civilian personnel in our Special Operations Division, Dispatch Communications, Photo & Parking Enforcement Unit, and Neighborhood Services Division.



PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITY

Special Operations Division

2025

The Detectives and Crime Analyst in the Special Operations Division utilize their decades of law enforcement experience in the Rockville City community and professional training to investigate and solve crimes such as assault, burglary, theft, fraud, as well as locating missing persons.



The Special Operations Division is comprised of several specialized units including the Criminal Investigations Unit, the Community Engagement Unit, the Traffic Enforcement Unit, and the K-9 Unit.



As part of the City of Rockville's Vision Zero Plan, the Special Operations Division routinely conducts Traffic Safety Initiatives, which educate drivers, enforce traffic and pedestrian safety, and reduce future collisions.

PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITY

Special Operations Division

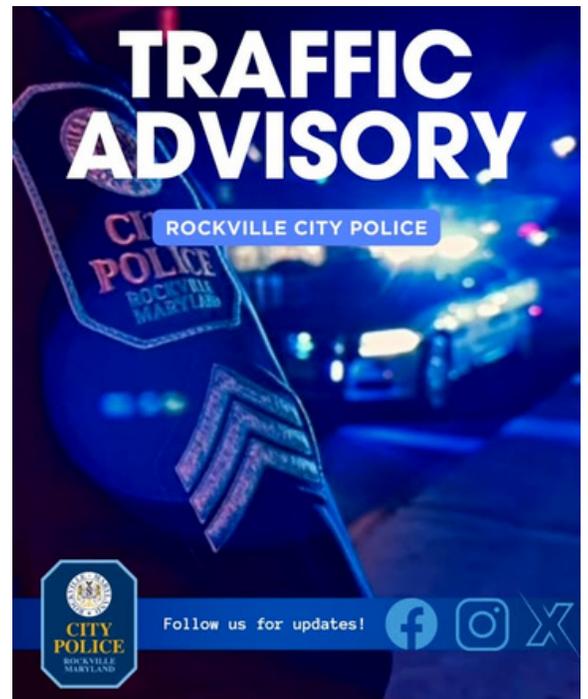
2025

Traffic Safety and Traffic Advisory

The Rockville City Police Department has trained traffic safety specialists that can review residents' concerns and help to enforce safe driving practices.

The RCPD alerts the public of Traffic Safety announcements due to inclement weather or vehicle accidents, alerting the public to alternative routes of travel.

Follow on Facebook for Traffic Advisory updates at: <https://www.facebook.com/RockvilleCityPolice>



PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITY

Special Operations Division - K-9 Unit

2025

Bolo has served as the K-9 for the RCPD since 2019. He is a firearm and explosive detection expert that assists officers of the RCPD and other local law enforcement agencies responding to requests to track suspects and missing persons, search for evidence, and at traffic stops, when requested.

In 2025, Bolo responded to 701 calls for service, 71 deployments, and 14 traffic stops.



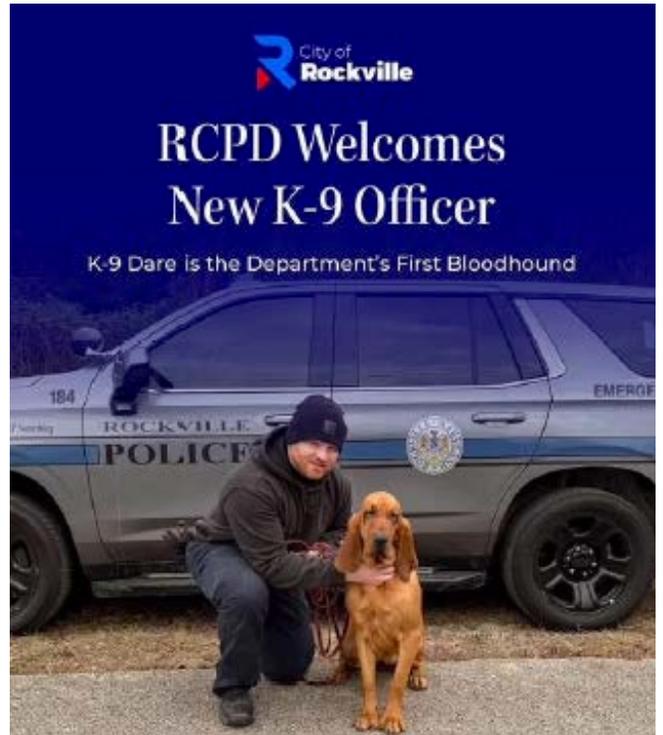
PROTECTING OUR COMMUNITY

Special Operations Division - K-9 Unit

2025

In December 2025, the K-9 Unit added a new handler and K-9 bloodhound, Dare, expanding its capabilities and enhancing the K-9 Unit's ability to support patrol operations and conduct missing person and vulnerable adult searches.

As a bloodhound, Dare is a specialized tracking dog trained to search for and locate missing persons.



SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

Featured Services

2025

Police officers from the Rockville City Police Department hold events throughout the year to meet and engage with members of our community.

We provide information for Montgomery County community and Rockville City municipal resources as part of our community policing mission. These include Community Safety Talks to neighborhood community associations and HOAs, and providing Hazard and Emergency Preparedness tips, and mental health resource information.



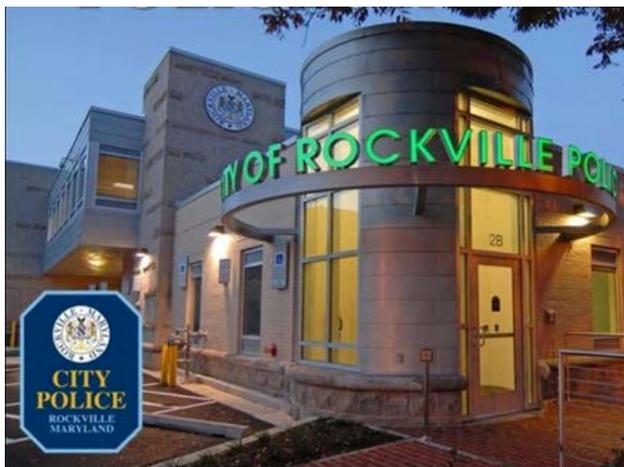
SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

2025

Featured Services

Since 2022, the Rockville City Police Dept. has provided a Prescription Drug Drop Box in the lobby of our police station where community members can safely and anonymously dispose of medications.

Our police department participated in the National Drug Take Back Days and community NARCAN training, which helps educate and improve our community's safety.



The Police Department offers the use of the police station parking lot as a safe space for buyers and sellers to meet when they need to complete on-line transactions.

SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

2025



SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

2025

Community Engagement Unit

Throughout the year, our officers work with community organizations to support their fundraising drives and collect and distribute donated items.



SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

Community Engagement Officer

2025



CPL Derrick Tibbs is the Community Engagement Officer for Richard Montgomery High School and its MCPS feeder schools.



SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

Community Engagement Officer

2025



CPL Steven Pascali is the Community Engagement Officer for Thomas S. Wootton High School and its MCPS feeder schools.



SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

Community Engagement Unit

2025

Coffee with a Cop



The RCPD continually seeks opportunities to foster dialogue with the Rockville Community and identify ways police and citizens can work together to address community challenges.

Throughout the year, our police officers meet members of the Rockville community to have coffee and conversation.



SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

Community Engagement Unit

2025

Maryland State Police Polar Bear Plunge



Each year the RCPD joins our law enforcement community colleagues to raise money for and partner with the Special Olympics Maryland.



SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

Law Enforcement Torch Run



2025

The RCPD joined local law enforcement agencies on September 13, 2025, to support Special Olympics athletes.

Sworn officers, professional staff, and police academy recruits ran the Montgomery County leg of the Torch Run through the City of Rockville and raised money for Special Olympics Maryland.



SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

Neighborhood Safety Day

2025



On June 28, 2025, the RCPD hosted its inaugural Neighborhood Safety Day with partners in the Rockville community such as Main Street, Soufull Cafe, Wegmans, Atlantic Union Bank, and first responders and law enforcement agencies from the City of Rockville and Montgomery County.

The event provided an opportunity for the community to engage in interactive activities with first responders and learn about health and safety resources.



SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

National Night Out

2025

The National Night Out on August 5, 2025, is an annual campaign to strengthen community spirit and develop partnerships between the Rockville City community and police department.



SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

Police Station Open House

2025

Each September, the Rockville City Police Department hosts an Open House for the community to stop by the police station and enjoy food, fun events for kids, and meeting the officers of our department.

This annual event, held on September 6, 2025, is another way the RCPD connects with the citizens we serve.



SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

2025

Gun Buyback Event

The Rockville City Police Department, in partnership with the Montgomery County State's Attorney's Office, hosted the annual Gun Buyback Event on November 15, 2025, and collected 303 firearms.

This event allows members of the Montgomery County community an opportunity to safely and voluntarily turn in firearms that are no longer wanted and receive \$100 or \$200 gift cards for each functioning firearm that is turned in.

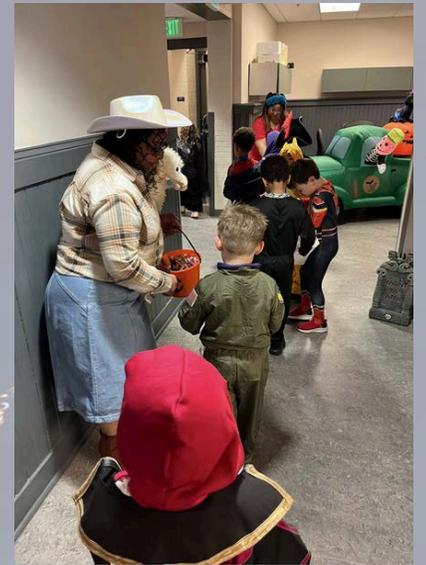


SERVING OUR COMMUNITY

2025

The Rockville City Police Department partners with local law enforcement agencies to keep the Rockville community safe at holiday events such as the 4th of July and Memorial Day celebrations.

Throughout the year, RCPD officers and staff host activities such as BOO VIE Night, Trunk-or-Treat, and a trick-or-treat walk-through of the police station at Halloween.



SERVING OUR COMMUNITY



2025

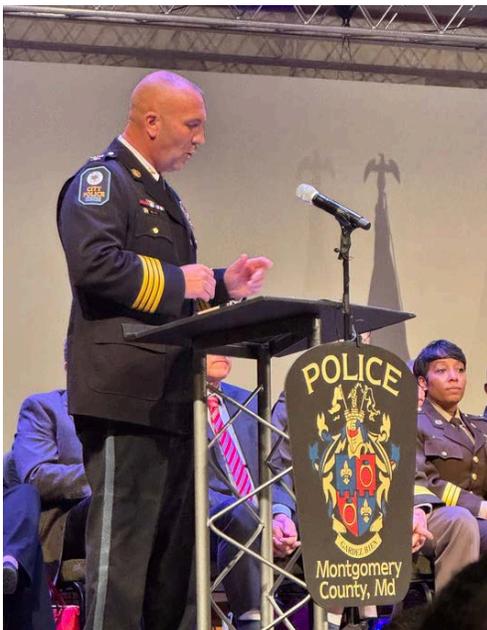


OFFICER RECRUITMENT

2025

Attracting and Training New Officers

The Rockville City Police Department is committed to providing effective, fair, impartial, and unbiased community policing that serves the expectations of the law and everyone in the Rockville Community.



Throughout the year, the Rockville City Police Department holds recruiting events and open testing for Lateral/Certified Officer and Entry Level Applicants. The department offers signing bonuses and many incentives to attract and retain a talented, dedicated sworn police force. In 2025, the RCPD hired 13 new police officers.

Police officers must pass several written, physical, medical, psychological, and background tests to be offered employment. Following the successful completion of 29 weeks of training at an entry-level police academy and a 14-week RCPD Field Training Program, new officers are prepared to be entrusted with keeping our community safe. In addition to entry-level recruit training, all RCPD officers participate in a minimum of 18 hours of MPCTC-approved training annually.

**JOIN A TEAM OF
EXCELLENCE**



**\$20,000
Signing
BONUS**

ROCKVILLE CITY POLICE DEPARTMENT

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR ALL POLICE POSITIONS ON AN ONGOING BASIS

BENEFITS

- Take-Home Car Program
- 15 Paid City Holidays
- Multilingual Pay Stipend - \$3,120
- 8 Weeks of Paid Parental Leave
- 12-Hour Shifts, Every Other Weekend Off

SALARY

- Entry-Level - **\$73,779**
- Certified Lateral Police Officers - **\$73,799 - \$85,384**

See our website
www.rockvillemd.gov/police
for the complete list!

HIRING PROCESS

- Complete online application
- Written Exam for Entry Applicants
- Physical Agility Test
- Interview/Background
- Screenings
- Chief's Interview
- Offer of Employment
- Training/Probation Period

Visit Our
Website to
Apply or Scan
the Code!

