



# KINSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

# ANNUAL REPORT 2024

## Mission Statement

The Kinston Police Department pledges to serve our community, to safeguard lives and property, and to preserve order all while respecting the constitutional rights of everyone to liberty, equality and justice.

# About Kinston, North Carolina



The Kinston Police Department has the primary responsibility of protecting the life and property of our citizens as well as addressing the fear and perception of crime. As an agency that practices community policing, we also work with our community partners known as “stakeholders” to address quality of life issues. A universal approach to creating a safe, lively community is the desired goal.

Kinston is the county seat of Lenoir County, North Carolina with a population of 19,888 as of the 2022 Census. It has been the county seat of Lenoir County since its formation in 1791. Kinston is located in the coastal plain’s region of Eastern North Carolina. In 2009, Kinston won the All-America City Award. This marks the second time in twenty-one years the city has won the title, the last time being in 1988.

Kinston was created by an act of the North Carolina General Assembly in December 1762 as Kingston, in honor of King George III. After achieving victory in the American Revolution, the citizens renamed the city Kinston in 1784 to show the population's disavowal of royalty. Kinston has grown abundantly since its inception and is home to numerous businesses, a revamped downtown district, UNC Lenoir Hospital and the North Carolina Global Transpark. In 2024, Professional Baseball’s Frontier League, announced the Down East Bird Dawgs will call Kinston home in 2025.





# Our Vision

Our vision is to be the premiere municipal law enforcement agency in the East!



# Our Mission

The Kinston Police Department pledges to serve our community, to safeguard lives and property, and to preserve order all while respecting the constitutional rights of everyone to liberty, equality and justice.

## Our Values

- Compassion • Professionalism • Fairness • Respect
- Honesty • Trust • Integrity • Loyalty

## Responsibilities

We are proud providers of professional police services to the citizens of the City of Kinston. Our Police Department provides:

- Proactive Uniformed Patrol • Operation Safe & Sound
  - Traffic Enforcement • Support Services
- Criminal Investigations • School Resource Officers
- Crime Laboratory • SWAT Capabilities

## Programs We Provide

- Community Partnership Programs
  - Victims Services Coordination
- Community Watch Program Assistance • Sentinel Program
  - Home Safety Inspections
- Residential, Commercial and Houses of Worship Safety Workshops
  - Blessing Box
- Informational Channel "2" Community Access Channel

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# Message from the Chief

Dear Citizens of Kinston,

As your Police Chief, it is my honor to present the Kinston Police Department's Annual Report for this year. This report is a comprehensive overview of our activities, achievements, and the progress we've made towards our mission of ensuring safety and justice for all members of our community.

This year, we have achieved significant milestones in our pursuit of excellence in public safety. Our team has been relentless in their efforts to reduce crime, build stronger community relations, and enhance our response capabilities. The dedication and professionalism of our officers have resulted in a notable decrease in crime rates and an increase in community engagement.

Key highlights from this year's report include:

- **Crime Reduction:** Through strategic initiatives and partnerships, we have seen a reduction in overall crime rates, particularly in violent crimes and property crimes.
- **Community Outreach:** Our community outreach programs have expanded, allowing us to foster stronger relationships and trust with the residents of Kinston. We have hosted numerous events, forums, and workshops to engage with the community and address their concerns.
- **Training and Development:** Continuous training and professional development have been a priority for our department. We have implemented advanced training programs to ensure our officers are well-equipped to handle various challenges and provide the highest level of service.
- **Technological Advancements:** Embracing technology has been a key focus this year. We have upgraded our systems and implemented new tools to enhance our efficiency and effectiveness in crime prevention and response.

This year's achievements would not have been possible without the unwavering support and cooperation of our community. Your trust and collaboration have been instrumental in our success, and we are committed to building on this foundation as we move forward. I extend my deepest gratitude to the officers and staff of the Kinston Police Department for their dedication and hard work. Their commitment to serving and protecting our community is truly commendable.

As we reflect on this year and look ahead to the future, we remain dedicated to our mission of ensuring a safe and thriving Kinston for all. Thank you for your continued support, and we look forward to another year of progress and partnership.

Sincerely,

Chief of Police,  
Kinston Police Department

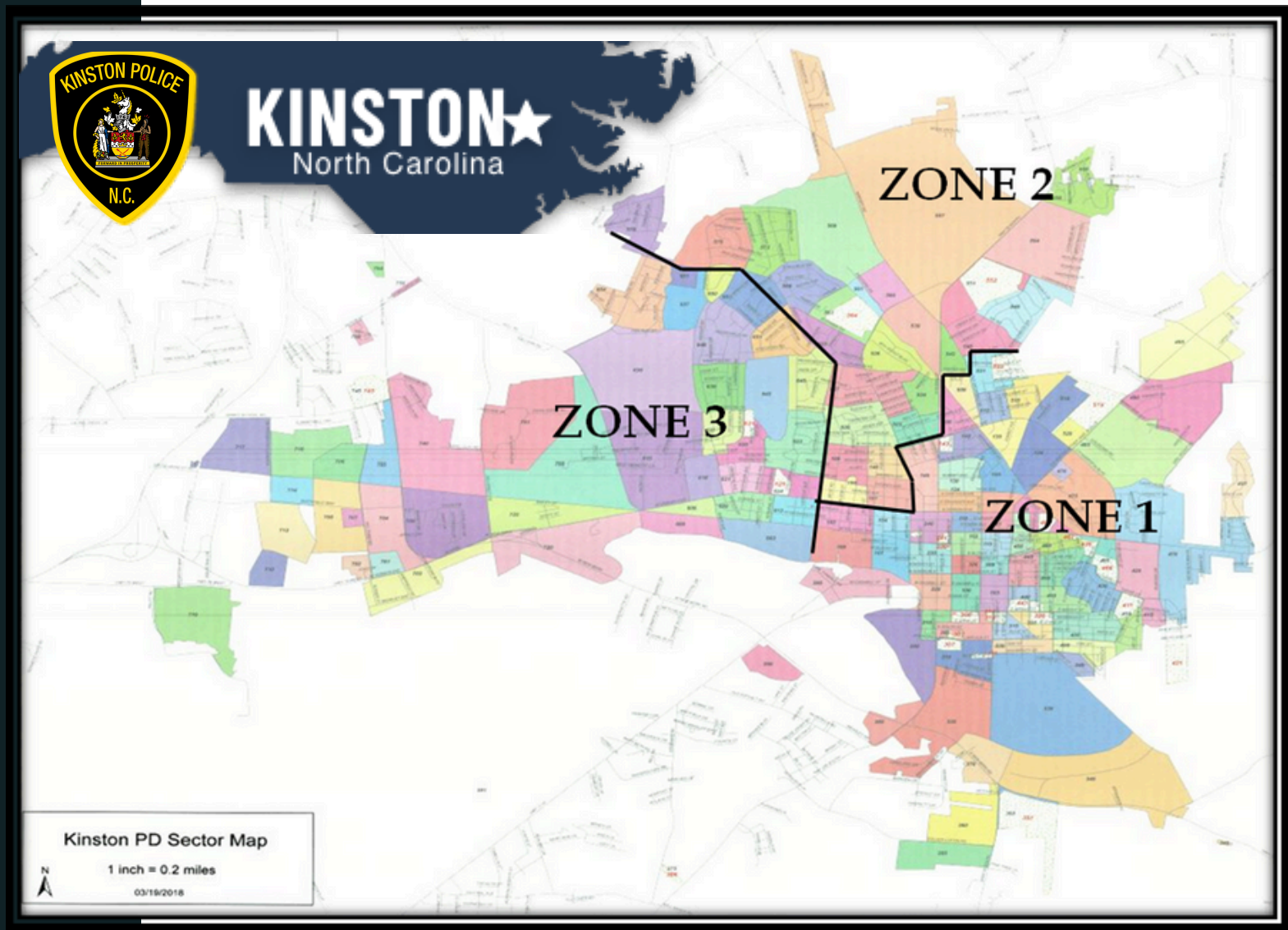
# Organization Chart





# KPD Zone Assignments

The Kinston Police Department has three separate zones located throughout the city. Each zone serves a specific geographic area: North, East and West. Patrol supervisors are tasked with placing officers in specific zones based on previous as well as up-to-date call-volume.



# KPD Agency Summary

The Kinston Police Department is structured into four divisions: Patrol Division, Investigation Division, Support Services Division and the Administration Division. The Patrol Division contains four Patrol Squads while the Investigations Division contains General Investigations, the Violent Crime Action Team and the Crime Lab (CSI). The Support Services Division, led by Major Jenkins, contains the remaining department staff members, to include: Records Division, School Resource Officers, Training and additional support staff members. The Administration Division is made up of the Chief, Administrative Manager, Majors (Deputy Chiefs) and the Internal Investigations supervisor. In 2024, an Accreditation Manager will be added to the Administrative Division.

The Kinston Police Department has 67 full-time sworn police officers, five part-time sworn police officers and is aided by seven nonsworn staff members. In our 2023 Annual Report, we provided a list of goals for 2024 that we wanted to either improve on or complete. The goals included:

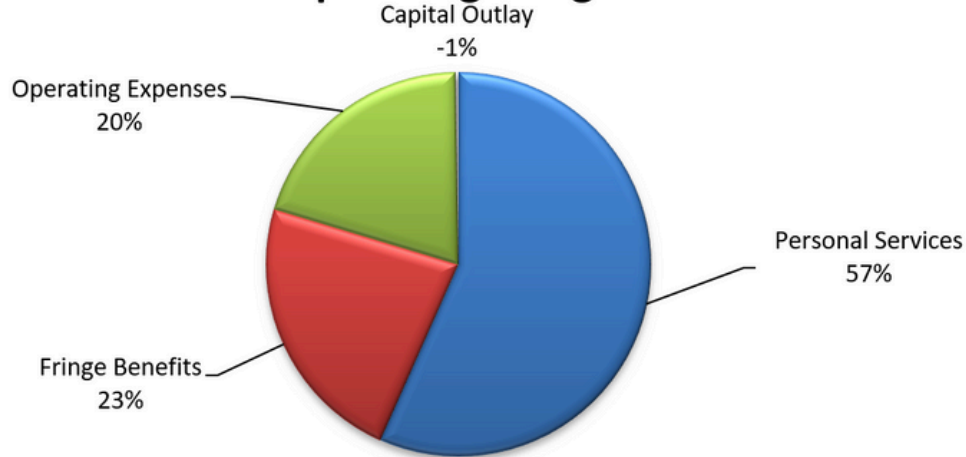
- 1.Continue our recruitment efforts with the target to fill vacant police officer positions within the organization. We strive to be at full capacity by midyear.
- 2.Become competitive in salary with surrounding municipal law enforcement agencies.
- 3.Increase officer presence within our community and utilize resources to serve our citizens.
- 4.Establish a marketing/public relations position within the agency to assist with increasing our social media presence, as well as positive appearance in our community.
- 5.Offer enhanced training for our officers and staff members as well as build a leadership culture within our organization.
- 6.Build a new metal structure on our property that will house all KPD equipment and specialized vehicles.
- 7.Continue to utilize the Kinston Police Department 5-Year Strategic Plan.
- 8.Establish an Accreditation Manager with the agency to begin the accreditation process with CALEA and NCLEA.
- 9.Enhance agency equipment, such as continue to upgrade vehicles, body worn cameras, patrol rifles, officer safety equipment and utilize innovative software to provide information for our citizens in real-time format.
10. Bring world-class training to the agency to assist with leadership challenges in the 21st Century.

Some of these goals are on-going activities, such as enhancing equipment, continuing to utilize the Kinston Police Department 5-Year Strategic Plan as well as increasing officer presence within our community. In 2024, we made drastic improvements in all of these goals, to include building a new, state of the art building on our campus to assist with storage. We're very pleased with the improvements we made in 2024 and we are excited about the momentum we have going into 2025.



## Kinston Police Department Fiscal Year 2023-2024

### Operating Budget



### Operations Categories Funding

Personal Services	\$4,668,819
Fringe Benefits	\$1,894,232
Operating Expenses	\$1,657,121
Capital Outlay	\$20,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$8,240,172</b>

### Sworn Staff Rank Structure

Chief of Police
Major
Captain
Sergeant
Corporal ( formerly MPO)
Senior Police Officer
Police Officer II
Police Officer I
Police Officer
Police Trainee
Police BLET Student



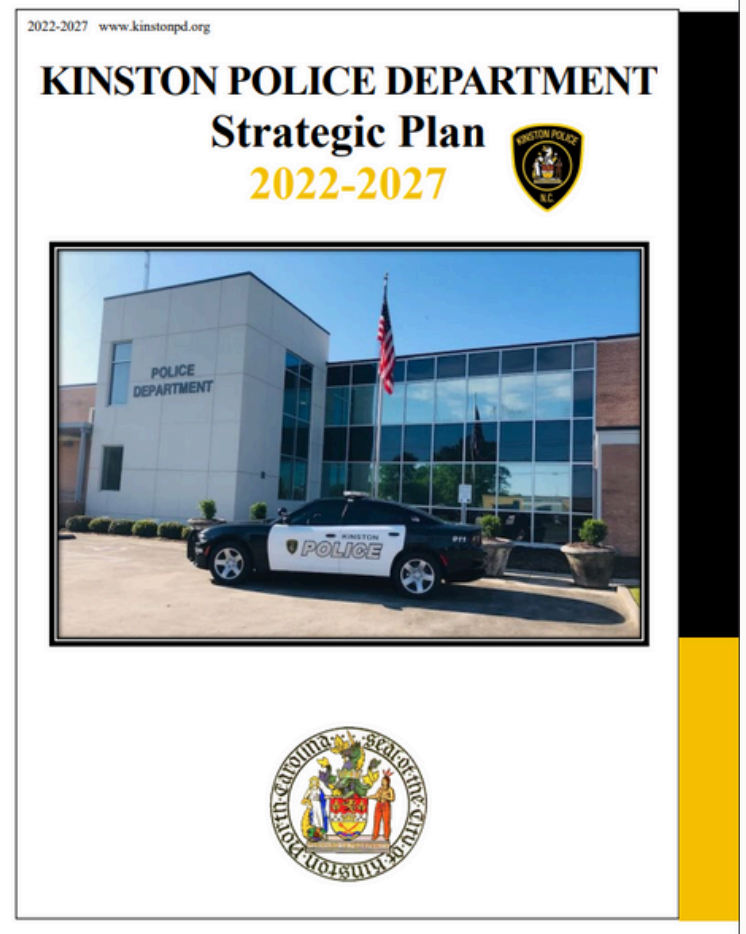
# Strategic Plan

In April of 2020, the agency developed a Strategic Planning Committee that was comprised of command, supervisory, sworn and nonsworn personnel from throughout the department. This plan reflects the Agency's efforts to formulate a strategic direction for our future. This evaluation was completed while considering the needs of the Kinston community, with special consideration given to the Department's Mission.

From our internal assessment, we set initiatives (goals) and short-term actions (objectives) to guide our direction and decision making for our Agency's future. The Kinston Police Department Strategic Plan for 2022-2027 represents the Agency's ongoing commitment to improve the manner in which we serve. The Kinston Police Department is a professional law enforcement agency that continually seeks to meet the challenges of serving and protecting the residence, guests and businesses of our community.

To assist with Agency accountability, the Kinston Police Department will review and evaluate this plan on an annual basis. The members of the Kinston Police Department are committed to improving the quality of life for everyone in our community. Our strategic plan serves as the road map to guide the Department forward. In the summer of 2022, the Strategic Plan was before the City of Kinston Council and ever since then, the KPD Strategic Plan has been in place. The Strategic Plan is located on our website. The ten goals the KPD Strategic Plan identifies are:

1. Maintain a safe & secure community
2. Develop a comprehensive traffic safety plan
3. Develop an enhanced recruiting & retention plan
4. Upgrade facilities, technology & equipment
5. Upgrade vehicles
6. Enhance community partnerships & Engagement
7. Develop employee skills & enhance organizational leadership
8. Expand and improve the SWAT Team for future development
9. Revamp the K9 Unit
10. Agency Enhancement





# PATROL DIVISION

## A-SQUAD



CAPTAIN A WILLIS

## C-SQUAD



CAPTAIN N METTS

## B & D SQUAD



CAPTAIN C ARD



SGT. O STEWART



SGT. J BEST



SGT. C COULOMBE



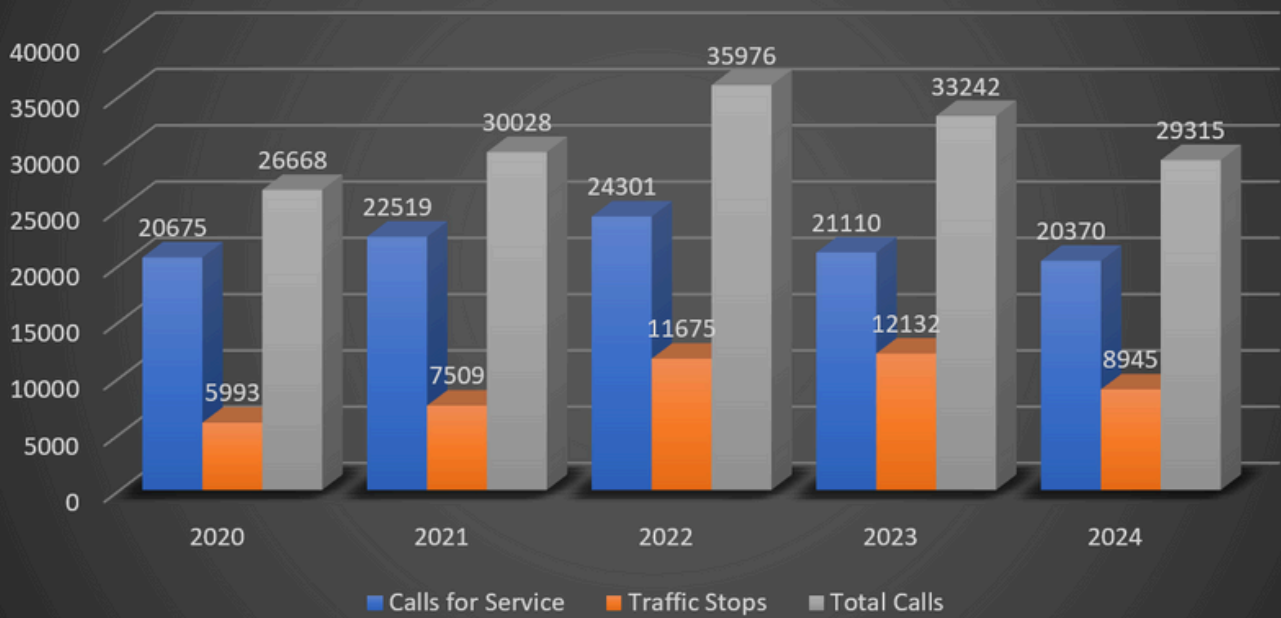
SGT. S GREEN

The Patrol Division is the backbone of the Kinston Police Department and is the largest Division within our Agency. The Patrol Division is under the command of Major Turner and is comprised of the majority of our uniformed officers working in the City of Kinston.

The Patrol Division consists of four patrol squads, each commanded by the Squad Captain and Sergeant. Each squad is designed to have eight nonsupervisory officers for a total of ten sworn police officers per squad. Like most agencies, our Patrol Division currently has vacancies, and each squad is currently operating at about seventy percent staffing levels.

The Patrol Division currently has three full-service K-9s assigned, with a fourth K-9 being added in 2025, to it, and our officers patrol the City of Kinston in 12-hour shifts, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Officers are assigned to specific zones to maintain high visibility, answer calls for service and traffic enforcement, and act as community liaisons between the community and the City of Kinston to reduce crime in our city. Throughout 2024, patrol personnel worked extra shifts to make sure the citizens of Kinston had adequate coverage to cover calls in the city.

## KPD 2020-2024



# INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION



SERGEANT D CONNOR  
GENERAL INVESTIGATIONS



SERGEANT J BURKETT  
CRIME LAB

The General Investigations Unit consists of four Investigators who tackle felony investigations for the agency. The Crime Lab Unit is made up of three Investigators and 1 nonsworn employee tasked with the processing all of the department's evidence and conducts crime scene investigations.



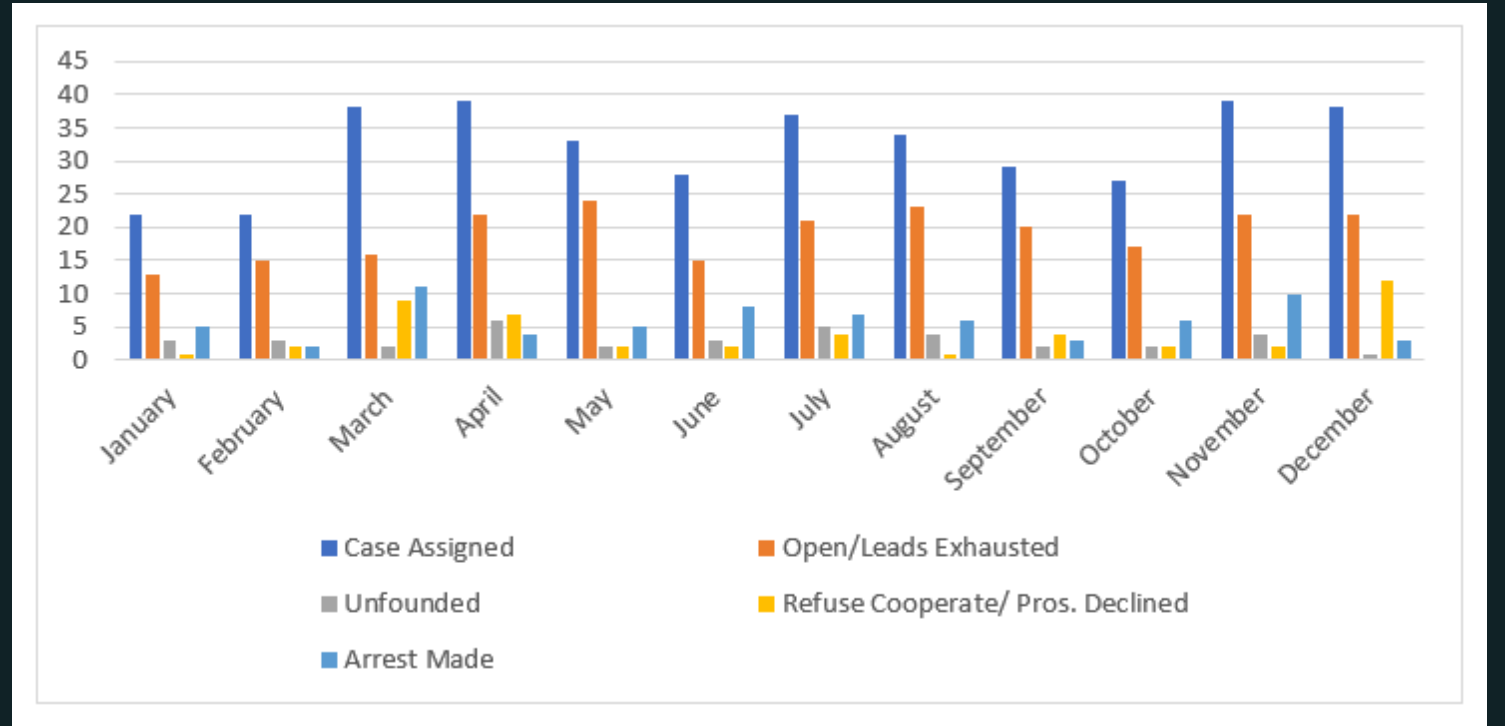
# Criminal Investigations Unit

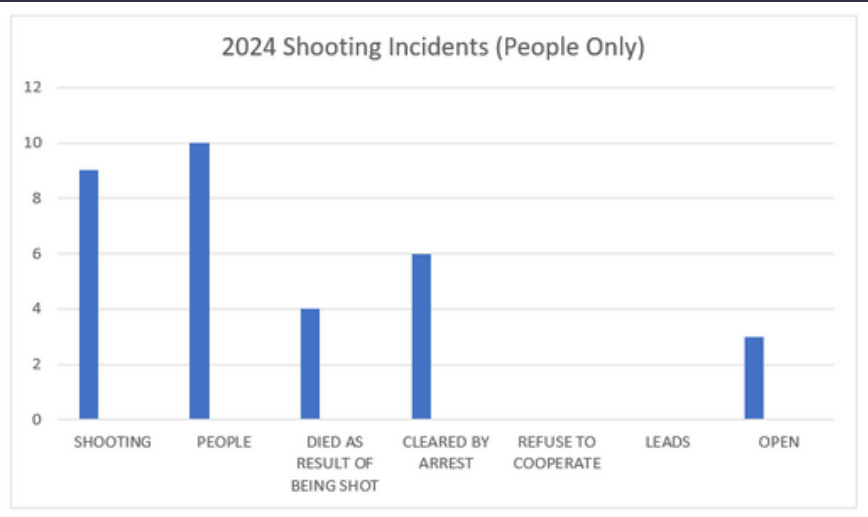
The Criminal Investigations Division is steadfast in solving crime committed within our city. The divisions efforts reflect a deep-seated belief for the pursuit of justice along with dedication to the community we serve. By leveraging innovative investigative methods, and collaborating with State and Federal Partners, the Criminal Investigations Division was also able to bring closure to a Cold case that was nearly four-decades old. The division looks forward to fostering a new program to further investigate Cold cases a while actively seeking justice for the families of these victim(s).

2024 Year Review: The Criminal Investigations Unit investigated four homicides in 2024. Three of these homicides were solved, and the suspect(s) were arrested. The Criminal Investigations Unit had an overall murder solvability rate of 75% in 2024. The National Average for these types of crimes being cleared by arrest or exceptional means were 57.8% in 2023. In 2024, shooting victims were down from (15) in 2023 to (9) in 2024.

General Investigations													
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Running Total
Cases Assigned	25	18	15	31	17	22	30	27	23	24	18	21	271
Open/Leads Exhausted	10	9	8	11	8	11	16	18	17	18	13	16	155
Unfounded	2		2	4	1	1	2	2	2	2	1		19
Refuse Cooperate/Pros. Declined	5	4	3	5	1	5	2	3	2		1	1	32
Arrest Made	8	5	2	11	7	5	10	4	2	4	3	4	65
Solvability Percentage Rate	60%	50%	47%	65%	53%	50%	47%	33%	26%	25%	28%	24%	43%

General Investigations Updated 01/03/2025



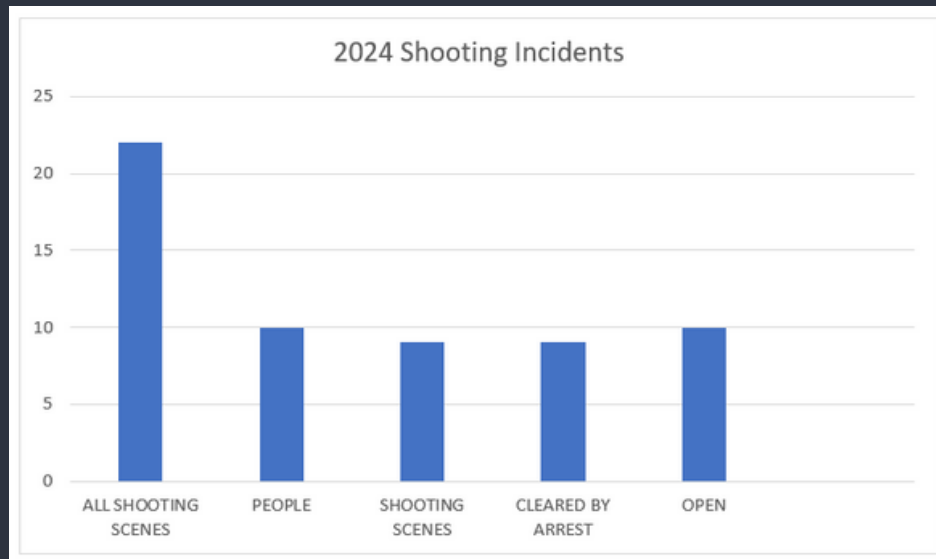


2024 Shooting Incidents (People Only)		
Shooting Scenes	People Shot	Died as a result of being shot
9	10	4

2023 Shooting Incidents (People Only)		
Shooting Scenes	People Shot	Died as a result of being shot
11	15	4

2024 Shooting Incidents (People Only)			
67% Solvability Rate			
Cleared by Arrest	Refuse to Cooperate	Leads Exhausted	Open
6	0	0	3

## 2024 Shooting Incidents / Case Status



## Crime Lab / CSI Unit

The Crime Lab, serves as the crime scene investigation (CSI) unit for the agency. The Crime Lab Unit is made up of three Investigators and 1 nonsworn employee tasked with the processing all of the department's evidence and conducts crime scene investigations. Every CSI investigator is trained in the documentation, collection and preservation of all manner of physical evidence. This can be (but is not limited to) a fingerprint, footprints, tool impressions, blood or semen, trace evidence (hair or fiber), or even tire impressions. These small, seemingly insignificant, pieces of evidence can be paramount to identifying a suspect and bringing them to justice.

Many of the CSI investigators have attended specialized training schools from the FBI, TBI, ATF, DEA, and many universities throughout the southeastern United States. Additional specialized training has been studied in the disciplines of: chemically enhanced latent prints, specialized photography, blood stain pattern analysis, fingerprint comparison, digital photography, tire and foot print evidence, flight path analysis, practical homicide and death investigation, modern fingerprint development techniques and many more.

Crime Lab													
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Running Total
Crime Scenes Worked	10	6	3	8	16	1	13	11	9	9	12	6	104
Evidence Stored	164	122	219	229	85	97	239	48	178	144	60	133	1,718
Interviews/Video Copied	10	4	5	8	5	3	15	12	14	8	12	15	111
Handguns Recovered	21	15	23	11	17	15	14	12	14	17	5	8	172
Long Guns Recovered	3	1	0	1	2	2	3	0	3	0	1	1	17
Total Guns	24	16	23	12	19	17	17	12	17	17	6	9	189



# Office of Professional Standards

The Office of Professional Standards conducts administrative, citizen complaints and use of force investigations within the department. The goal is to aid the department in establishing and maintaining community trust with all visitors and residents. Division personnel ensure resident’s complaints are thoroughly investigated while treating department personnel consistently and fairly. Information obtained from these investigations is disseminated to an accused employee’s chain of command for adjudication and the final results are reported to the Chief of Police. Upon the completion of a citizen or employee complaint investigation, the disposition is classified into one the following five categories:

- Not Involved - Employee was not present at the time the alleged misconduct occurred or had no involvement.
- Unfounded - Allegation was false or not factual.
- Not Sustained - Insufficient evidence either to prove or disprove the allegation.
- Exonerated - The incident occurred, but was lawful and proper.
- Sustained - The allegation was supported by sufficient evidence to justify a reasonable conclusion that the allegation is factual.

Citizen and Internal Complaints		
Category	2023	2024
Calls for Service	33,085	29,184
Citizen Complaints	23	11
Sustained Citizen Complaint Allegations	3	--
Internal Employee Complaints	3	5
Sustained Internal Complaint Allegations	3	1

Most Common Allegations							
Type of Allegation	2023			2024			% Percent Change
	Citizen	Internal	Total	Citizen	Internal	Total	
Excessive Force	5	--	5	5	1	6	20%
Racial Profiling	3	--	3	1	--	1	- 67%
Performance/Duty Responsibility	2	3	5	4	3	7	250%
Laws and Regulations	4	1	5	1	1	2	0%
Search and Seizure	6	--	6	2	--	2	83%
Courtesy/Conduct	6	1	7	3	3	6	0%



Sergeant J Walker  
Internal Affairs

Officer Involved Shooting	--	--	--	--	1	1	100%
Harassment	3		3	2	--	2	- 33%

### Use of Force per calls for service

A comparison of the department's use of force as it relates to calls for service was conducted to gain perspective on the prevalence of uses of force to determine whether or not they were applied appropriately

#### Uses of Force in General

	2023	2024
Calls for Service	33,085	29,184
Arrests	2,379	1,368
Use of Force	66	66
Use of Force events per Calls for Service	0.20%	0.23%
Use of Force events per Arrests	2.8%	4.8%

#### Force used by Officers

Force applied	2023	2024	% Percent Change
Physical Control	32	43	34%
Oleoresin Capsicum (OC Spray)	5	7	40%
Taser	5	12	140%
OC Spray & Taser	1	1	0%
Weapon Point	11	16	45%
Weapons Use / Discharges (Firearm/Shotgun)	11	3	- 73%
Officer Involved Shooting (OIS)	--	1	100%
Canine Deployments	--	1	100%

#### Resistance by Suspect(s)

Type of Resistance	2023	2024	% Percent Change
Active Resistance	31	44	42%
Passive Resistance	35	15	- 57%

# Definitions

**Active Resistance** is defined as: a subject who is uncooperative and takes some level of physical action to resist and prevent an officer from placing the subject in custody is actively resisting. Active resistance poses a threat of harm to the officer or others.

**Passive Resistance** is defined as: a method of resistance by nonviolence. It is the refusal to obey a law on the ground that the law is morally reprehensible. It is a method of nonviolent protest against laws or policies in order to force a change or secure concessions. It is also known as nonviolent resistance and is the main tactic of civil disobedience.

## Officer Involved Vehicle Accidents

Officer Involved Vehicle Accidents	2023	2024	% Percent Change
On-duty Collisions	23	23	0%

The number of on-duty vehicle collisions involving employees of the Kinston Police Department was comparable to 2023.

## Local ABC Permit Applications

The following table represents the percentage change in the number ABC permit applications received by the Kinston Police Department for 2024.

Total Number of ABC Permits Applied				
	Applications	Approved	Not Approved	% Change (Yrs.)
ABC Permit Applications 2023	20	19	1	
ABC Permit Applications 2024	21	20	1	5%

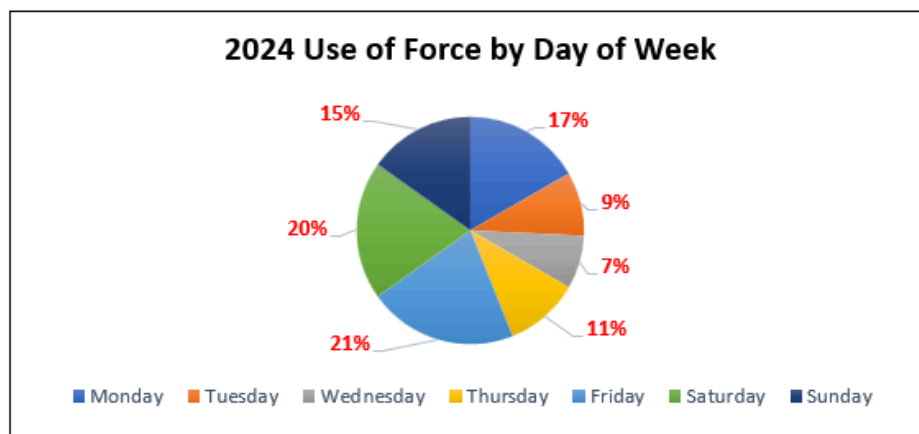
The number of ABC applications for ABC permits completed by the Kinston Police Department remained at five percent for 2023-2024.



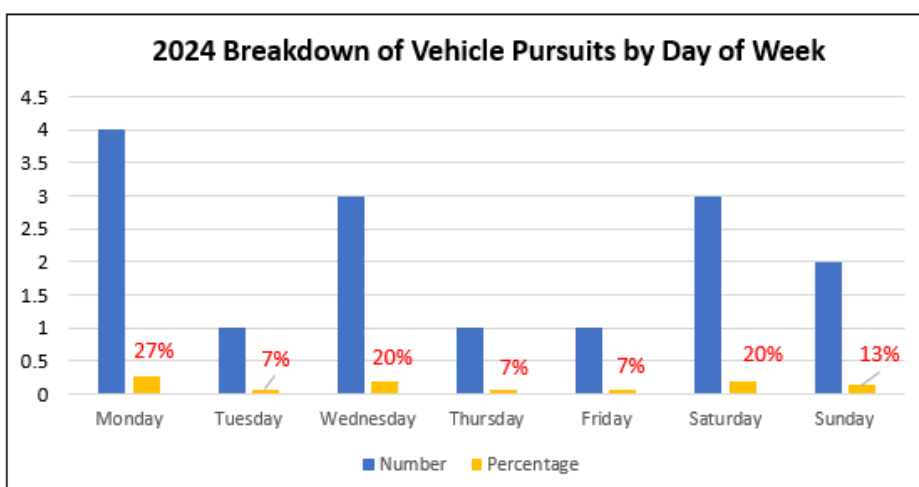
## Breakdown of Use of Force and Vehicle Pursuit Incidents per Day of Week

The following information is a breakdown of the statistics regarding uses of force and vehicle pursuits by officers of the Kinston Police Department for data documenting purposes.

2024 Breakdown of Use of Force by Day of Week		Percentage %
Monday	11	17%
Tuesday	6	9%
Wednesday	5	8%
Thursday	7	11%
Friday	14	21%
Saturday	13	20%
Sunday	10	15%
<b>Total</b>	<b>66</b>	



2024 Breakdown of Vehicle Pursuits by Day of Week		Percentage %
Monday	4	27%
Tuesday	1	7%
Wednesday	3	20%
Thursday	1	7%
Friday	1	7%
Saturday	3	20%
Sunday	2	13%
<b>Total</b>	<b>15</b>	



## Records Division

The Kinston Police Department records division is responsible for maintaining incident reports, DCI validations, and ensuring our department is compliant with the rules and regulations set by the NC SBI. The Records Technicians maintain police records and record logs, ensure paperwork is completed, and validated by NIBRS standards.

National Incident-Based Reporting System or, NIBRS is an incident-based reporting system for crimes known to the police. For each crime incident coming to the attention of law enforcement, a variety of data are collected about the incident. NIBRS standards are set by the FBI and the NC SBI. Our Records Tech's go above and beyond these responsibilities. They answer hundreds of phone calls a day, assist citizens with obtaining reports, mailing and emailing reports, and in many ways, they are the face of the Kinston Police Department.

### **How to file a report with the Kinston Police Department:**

1. Emergency Reporting: Dial 911
2. Non-emergency reporting: 252-559-6118, 252-939- 3160
3. File a self-generated report using the Kinston Police Departments website:  
[www.kinstonpd.org/FormCenter/Police-Forms-5/Incident-Report-113](http://www.kinstonpd.org/FormCenter/Police-Forms-5/Incident-Report-113)

Note: Individuals may also request incident reports and crash reports via the website:  
[www.kinstonpd.org/FormCenter/Police-Forms-5/Request-a-Report-111](http://www.kinstonpd.org/FormCenter/Police-Forms-5/Request-a-Report-111)

## Kinston Police Department Records Staff Members



Sgt. Biggins  
Records Supervisor



Andrea Sutton  
Records Technician



Genesis Juckett  
Records Technician

# Recruitment Division

Recruitment, hiring and retention of the best law enforcement officers is critical for a safe, thriving community. A diverse and inclusive agency workforce that reflects the community residents leads to increased trust, collaboration, and transparency. The Kinston Police Department is working with the City of Kinston Human Resources Department as well as other hiring avenues to improve our recruitment and hiring process through new initiatives, policy changes and best practices implemented through innovative strategies



Recruitment Sgt. Jay Moody

Recruitment & Retention						
Hiring Processes						
	2022	2023	% Change	2023	2024	% Change
Police Officer Applications	35	19	-54%	19	20	5%
Police Trainee Application	79	86	9%	86	105	22%
Total Applications	114	102	-11%	102	125	23%
Cognitive/Physical Testing	16	22	38%	22	34	54%
Background Investigations	11	12	9%	12	18	50%
Oral Review Boards	11	12	9%	12	18	50%
Hired (Certified)	1	4	300%	4	4	0%
Hired (Trainee)	4	9	125%	9	15	66%
Hired while in BLET	2	3	50%	3	2	-33%
Total Hired	7	16	129%	16	21	31%
Lost in BLET	1	7	600%	7	11	57%
BLET Sponsorships	0	0		0	0	0
	2022	2023	% of Change	2023	2024	% Change
Staff Turnover	12	14	17%	14	25	78%
Other Agency	7	3	-57%	3	9	200%
Retired	3	2	-33%	2	2	0
Out of Law Enforcement	2	8	300%	8	9	12%
Duress	0	1	100%	1	5	400%



2024's New Hires



Corporal Beck



Corporal Thompson



Corporal Taylor



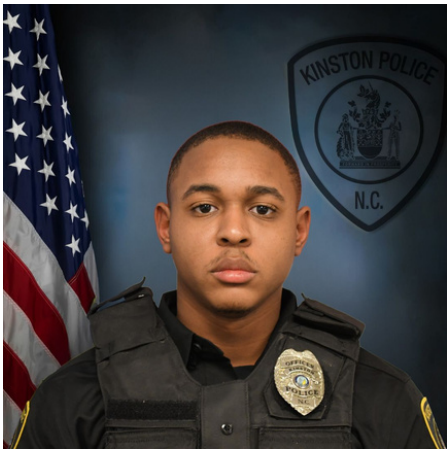
Corporal Gomez



Officer Anthony



Officer Wilkins



Officer Mumford



Officer Allen



D Hill  
Crime Scene Tech

# ACCREDITATION

In 2025, the agency will continue working toward simultaneous accreditation with the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) and the North Carolina Law Enforcement Accreditation (NCLEA). This dual accreditation process is a significant milestone for our agency, demonstrating our commitment to upholding the highest standards in law enforcement practices. Our new Accreditation Manager, who started in May, has already begun collaborating closely with CALEA and the NCLEA to streamline and enhance the accreditation process.

Law enforcement accreditation is essential for our organization as it ensures that we adhere to the most current and effective professional practices. It provides a comprehensive framework for assessing and improving agency performance, enhances transparency, and establishes standards that help mitigate legal risks and reduce liability for both the agency and its members. Accreditation also fosters public confidence in our agency's operations and promotes accountability at every level.

In 2025, the Accreditation Manager's primary focus will be on updating and refining the department's policies and procedures to meet the compliance standards set forth by CALEA and NCLEA. One of the key priorities will be to gather and document the necessary proofs of compliance with each commission's standards. Additionally, ensuring that all department personnel are trained and informed about the accreditation process will be vital to success.

As we move into the latter part of the year, the department will begin conducting mock assessments to prepare for the formal evaluation process. These assessments will simulate the conditions of the actual accreditation review, helping us identify any areas needing improvement before undergoing the official evaluation. Full accreditation with both CALEA and NCLEA is our goal for 2026, and we are confident that this process will strengthen our agency and further enhance the level of service we provide to our community.

Captain J Poole  
Accreditation Manager





# Training Division

The Kinston Police Department Training Division has been proactively assisting officers in many areas including leadership training and career development. The Training Division is responsible for overseeing the FTO Program, In-service training as well as continuing education courses for all KPD personnel. Our officers attended thousands of hours of training that included:

- Law Enforcement Executive Program
- Basic Interview & Interrogation
- Field Training Officer
- Budgeting for Police Managers
- Intox EC/IR II Certification
- Fundamentals of Law Enforcement Driving
- Drones for First Responders
- Advanced Interview & Interrogation
- Domestic Violence Institute
- Active Assailant Simulation Training
- Tactical Leadership
- ARIDE
- General Instructor
- Leadership For Patrol Officers
- OCDETF Conference
- Cell Phone Analysis
- Radar Operator
- Basic Street Gang Investigations
- SWAT I
- Drug Enforcement for Patrol Officers
- Traffic Crash Reconstruction
- First Line Supervision
- Police Law Institute
- Direct Threat Engagement Trauma Skills
- CALEA Conference
- Cell Site Analysis
- RISE Back to School Safety Summit
- FBI Command College
- Credible Leadership
- Basic Narcotic Investigations
- Gang and Violent Crime Conference
- TacOPS SWAT Training Conference
- Standardized Field Sobriety Testing
- FBI LEEDA
- Advanced Traffic Crash Investigation
- UAS Drone Intro
- Report Writing for Drug Investigations
- NCLEA Conference
- 2024 Reflections Symposium on Child Abuse & Neglect
- Supervising a Critical Incident
- K-9 High Risk Apprehension
- Mid-Level Management



Sergeant S Harrison  
Training Sergeant



Our officers received 40-hours of mandated in-service training from the NCJA in Law Enforcement to include

- Juvenile Justice
- Firearms
- Legal Update
- Legislative Update
- Domestic Violence
- Citizens with Firearms
- Ethics: Increasing Professionalism
- Officer Safety
- Active Assailant: Preparation and Response
- Care Under Gunfire
- HAZMAT
- Bloodborne Pathogens
- TASER Re-Certification



The Kinston Police Department, in partnership with Lenoir Community College also hosted Surviving the First 3 Seconds, Crisis Intervention Training, Leadership Development & The Human Connect, and Human Trafficking Training throughout the year.



# SWAT UPDATE

The Kinston Police Department utilizes a Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT) for higher-than-normal risk operations to include high risk search warrants, barricaded subjects, hostage calls, apprehension of violent offenders, and to assist surrounding jurisdictions. The SWAT Team is comprised of 15 highly trained team members and is utilized at the discretion of the Chief of Police. During the past 12 months the SWAT Team has maintained an average of 10 members and recently welcomed four new members to the team.

## TRAINING

Over the past 12 months, the SWAT Team has continued its training efforts, including 120 hours of in-house training that is hosted monthly. These training topics included building clearing, hostage negotiations, operational planning, and physical fitness. Team members also attended specialized training, which included the NC Tactical Officers Association Conference, Tac Ops East Training Conference, Sniper Training, and Vehicle Close Quarter Combat Training. Training our SWAT Team Members in the best practices of the 21st Century will remain a high priority for the Kinston Police Department as the commitment to our citizens and visitors continues.

## MISSIONS

The Kinston Police Department SWAT Team participated in numerous SWAT Operations throughout the year. Most of these missions included high risk search warrants and violent criminal apprehension. The SWAT Team is also routinely called to assist the Lenoir County Sheriff's Office Special Response Team for service of high-risk warrants.

## UPDATES

The Kinston Police Department SWAT Team's annual review underscores their unwavering dedication to public safety, professionalism, and operational excellence. The team's achievements in executing high-risk search warrants and apprehending fugitives reflect their commitment to upholding the highest law enforcement standards.



# VOLUNTEERS



The Sentinel Program represents a partnership between the community and the police department. These volunteers provide the citizens of Kinston with an enriched program of police services without additional cost to citizens.

## Sentinel Duties

Sentinels provide social interaction with the citizens, keeping a positive perspective on law enforcement. Volunteers patrol areas in the city of Kinston in a marked Sentinel vehicle. Tasks include, but are not limited to:

- Crime prevention lectures
- Neighborhood Watch
- Performing security checks for businesses and residential areas
- Responding to non-threatening calls for service
- Taking incident police reports
- Vacation house checks
- Funeral escorts
- Directing traffic



**G Rybolt**



**R Hooker**



# PROMOTIONS

During 2024, the Kinston Police Department promoted two Sergeants. Those officers promoted were:

- Officer Green was promoted to Sergeant
- Officer Coulombe was promoted to Sergeant





# K9 UPDATE

In 2024, K-9 Teams performed 28 actual tracks, consisting of either fleeing suspects or missing persons which resulted in 14 successful tracks resulting in a success rate of 50%. Our K-9 Teams accumulated 451 total hours of training and were deployed a total of 166 times, 124 times for narcotics searches and 42 times for patrol deployments. Our K-9 Teams seized 5 firearms, recovered approximately \$5,000 in U.S. currency from illicit drug proceeds from drug trafficking and performed 10 K-9 demonstrations at various community events. Fentanyl, Heroin, Methamphetamine, Cocaine, MDMA (ecstasy), and Marijuana were all seized from our K-9 Teams.

**K-9 Nero**  
**Officer L. Miller**



**K-9 Loki**  
**Officer C. Heath**



**K9 Knox**  
**Officer J. Stroud**

**K9 Kilo**  
**Officer W. Thompson**

## Annual City of Kinston Years of Service Awards



Officer Heath  
5 Years



Officer Normile  
5 Years



Officer Rouse  
5 Years



Officer Stroud  
5 Years



A Sutton  
5 Years



A Williams  
5 Years



Sgt. Harrison  
10 Years



Sgt. Conner  
15 Years



Sgt. Burkett  
20 Years



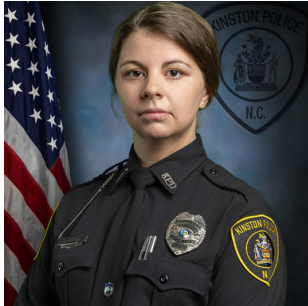
Officer Mewborn  
20 Years



Sgt. Moody  
25 Years



## 2024 KPD OFFICERS OF THE MONTH



January, 2024  
Officer Jones



February, 2024  
Officer Green



March, 2024  
Officer Archino



April, 2024  
Officer Normile



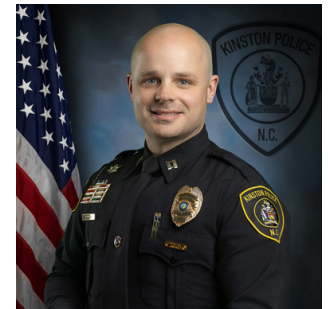
May, 2024  
Officer Craft



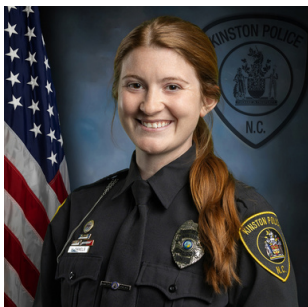
June, 2024  
Officer Mewborn



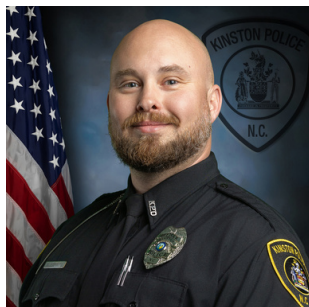
July, 2024  
Officer Beck



August, 2024  
Captain Ard



September, 2024  
Officer Daniels



October, 2024  
Officer Falkowski

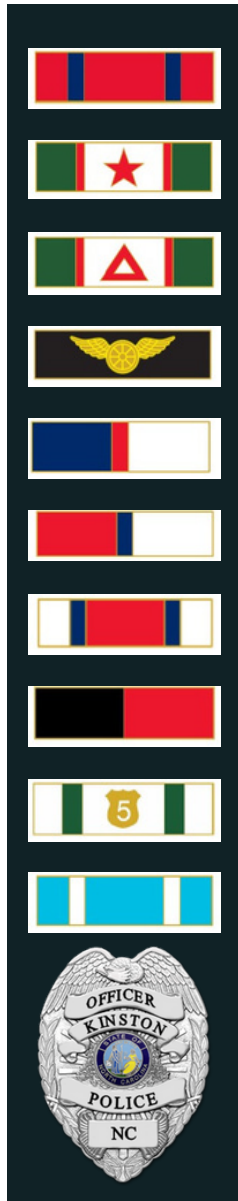


November, 2024  
Officer Taylor



December, 2024  
Officer Brokaw

# AGENCY AWARDS



<u>Award Type</u>	<u>Staff Member</u>
Supervisor of the Year	Captain Willis
Officer of the Year	Officer Davis
Rookie of the Year	Officer Falkowski
Sgt. R.S. Traffic Award	Officer Davis
James T Webb Award	Officer D Jones
DWI Award	Officer Davis
Squad – Top Shot	Officer Beck
Top Shot Award	Major Turner
Distinguished Service	Officer Davis
Distinguished Unit	Captain Hewitt
Distinguished Unit	Officer D Jones
Life Saving Award	Detective Herbert
Conduct Award	Sergeant Moody
Conduct Award	Sergeant Walker
Conduct Award	Sergeant Harrison
Conduct Award	Officer Stroud
Progress Award	Officer Brokaw
Progress Award	Officer Miller
Progress Award	Officer D Jones
Progress Award	Officer Stringfield
Safe Driving Award	Detective Williams
Safe Driving Award	Sergeant Moody
Safe Driving Award	Sergeant Walker
Safe Driving Award	Sergeant Harrison
Safe Driving Award	Officer Brokaw

<u>Award Type</u>	<u>Staff Member</u>
Pistol Expert	Captain Willis
Pistol Expert	Officer Stroud
Pistol Expert	Officer Brokaw
Pistol Expert	Officer Davis
Pistol Expert	Officer Stroud
Pistol Expert	Captain Metts
Pistol Expert	Sergeant Best
Pistol Expert	Sergeant Moody
Pistol Expert	Sergeant Harrison
Pistol Expert	Sergeant Burkett
Pistol Expert	Officer Craft
Pistol Expert	Detective Normile
Pistol Expert	Detective Herbert
Pistol Expert	Detective Delaney
Pistol Expert	Detective M Jones
Pistol Expert	Detective R Williams
Pistol Expert	Detective Delaney
Pistol Expert	Officer Beck
Pistol Expert	Officer Falkowski
Pistol Expert	Captain Ard
Pistol Expert	Major Turner



Rookie of the Year  
Officer Falkowski



Officer of the Year  
Officer Davis



Supervisor of the Year  
Captain Willis



## GRANTS UPDATE

The Kinston Police Department has been proactive in seeking and securing federal and state grants to bolster its capabilities and enhance public safety. Through diligent efforts and strategic planning, the department has been able to obtain funding to support various initiatives, ranging from advanced training programs for officers to the acquisition of cutting-edge technology. These grants have enabled the department to address critical needs, improve response times, and implement innovative crime prevention strategies, ultimately benefiting the entire community.

One of the key advantages of these grants is the ability to undertake projects that would otherwise be financially challenging. For example, the department has utilized grant funding to enhance community policing efforts, support youth outreach programs, and invest in state-of-the-art equipment that aids in crime detection and investigation. By leveraging these resources, the Kinston Police Department not only improves its operational effectiveness but also strengthens its commitment to fostering a safer, more connected community. The continued pursuit of federal and state grants remains a priority, ensuring that the department can adapt to evolving challenges and maintain its focus on excellence in public service.

In 2024, the KPD received five grants:

1. 2021 Project Safe Neighborhood Grant from the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina in the amount of \$22,849. The funds were utilized to provide much needed equipment for use of force training, K9 training, surveillance, ballistic protection as well as traffic enforcement.
2. 2022 Project Safe Neighborhood Grant from the United States Attorney for the Eastern District of North Carolina in the amount of \$21,400. The funds were utilized to provide advanced training for supervisors, field training officers as well as officers and staff members within the organization.
3. 2023 Edward-Byrne Memorial JAG Grant from the BJA in the amount of \$22,168. The purpose of this project is to provide equipment to both, the KPD and the LCSO to assist with investigations as well as provide protection of their officers so each agency can better serve the community.
4. 2024 Regional Economic Development Reserve Grant from the NC Office of State Budget and Management in the amount of \$250,000. The funds were utilized to construct a 50 x 60 metal facility to house KPD SWAT vehicles and the mobile command center.
5. 2024 Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) Program from the Bureau of Justice Assistance in the amount of \$7,101. The funds were utilized to purchase body armor vests for law enforcement officers.



## SOCIAL MEDIA

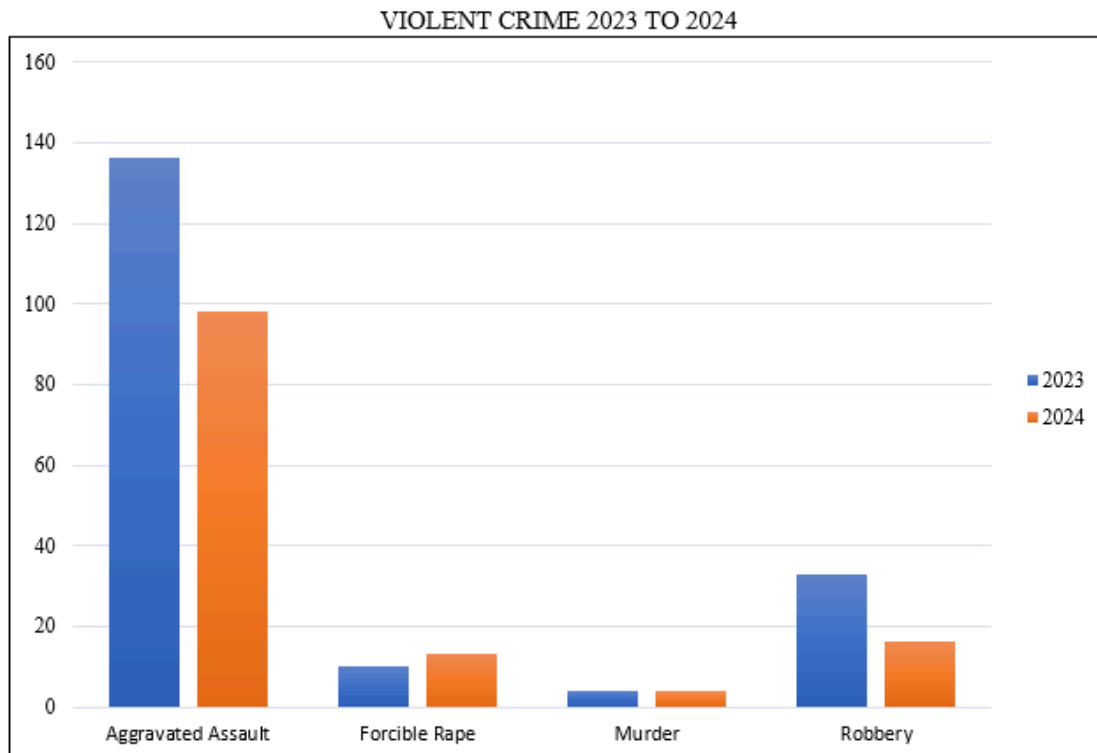
In late 2022, our agency recognized the importance of keeping the community informed about crime trends and the services we provide each week. After researching similar initiatives nationwide, we developed a template that best serves both our department and local residents. The Kinston Police Department actively utilizes social media to share real-time updates, ensuring transparency, accountability, and increased civic engagement within the community.



## AGENCY STATS: YEARLY CRIME STATS



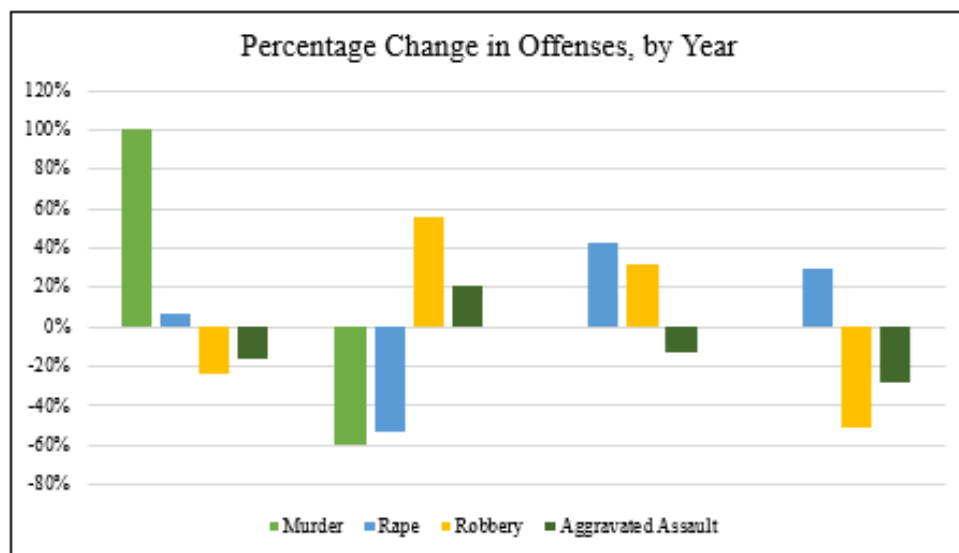
## AGENCY CRIME STATS: PART A VIOLENT CRIME



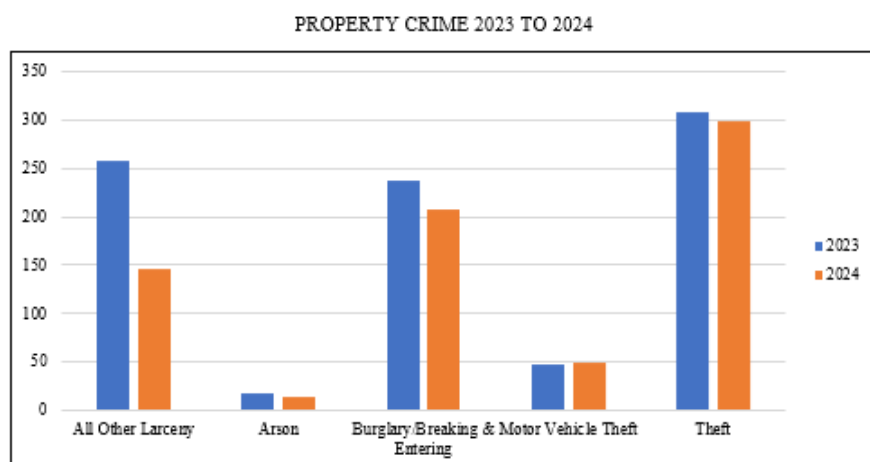
Part A Violent Crime (Crimes against persons)	2023	2024	
Aggravated Assault	136	98	-28%
Forcible Rape	10	13	+30%
Murder	4	4	0%
Robbery	33	16	-51%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>183</b>	<b>131</b>	<b>-28%</b>

Part A Violent Crime 2024 -2021				
	Murder	Rape	Robbery	Aggravated Assault
2021	100%	7%	-24%	-17%
2022	-60%	-53%	56%	21%
2023	0%	43%	32%	-13%
2024	0%	30%	-52%	-28%

#### PERCENTAGE CHANGE IN OFFENSES STARTING 2020-2021 TO 2023-2024

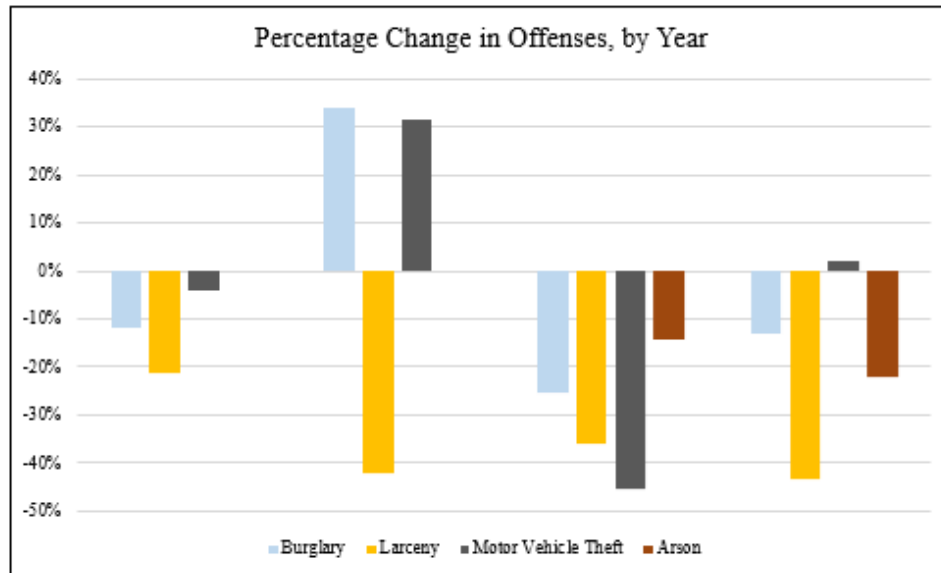


#### AGENCY CRIME STATS: PART A PROPERTY CRIME





Part A Property Crime (Crimes against property)	2023	2024	
All Other Larceny	258	146	-43%
Arson	18	14	-22%
Burglary/Breaking & Entering	238	207	-13%
Motor Vehicle Theft	48	49	+2%
Theft	308	298	-3%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>870</b>	<b>714</b>	<b>-18%</b>

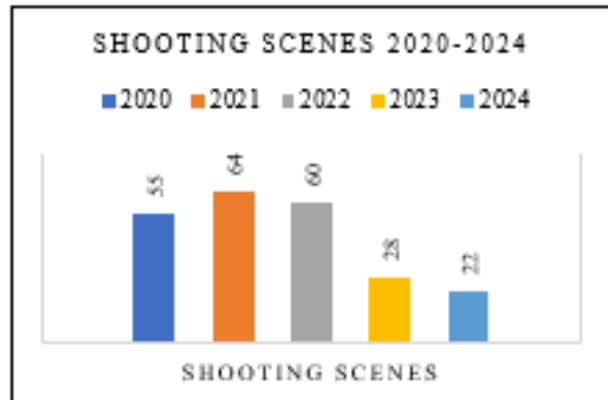
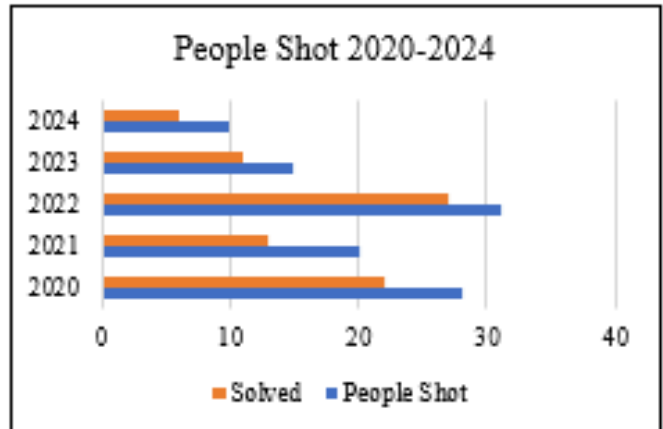
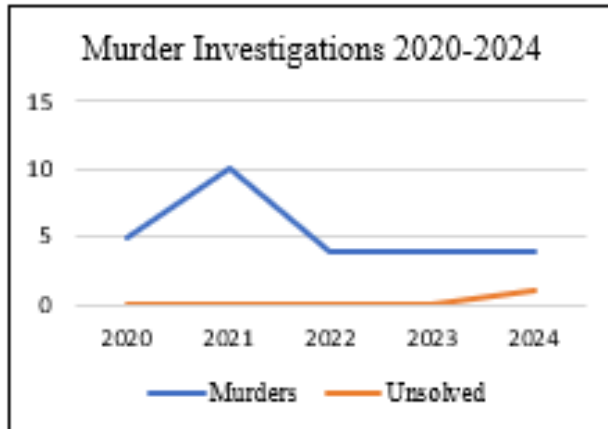


	Burglary	Larceny	Motor Vehicle Theft	Arson
2021	-12%	-21%	-4%	0%
2022	34%	-42%	31%	0%
2023	-25%	-36%	-45%	-14%
2024	-13%	-43%	2%	-22%

Outputted and collated from [flex.co.lenoir.nc.us](https://flex.co.lenoir.nc.us)

Verified using <https://www.ncsbi.gov/Services/SBI-Statistics/Crime-Statistics/NIBRS-Agency-reports/PROD/Agency-Summary-Offenses-By-Year>

## AGENCY CRIME STATS: YEARLY SHOOTING STATS



Shooting DATA from 2023 to 2024		
Murder Investigations	0%	Change
People Shot	33%	Decrease
Shooting Scenes	21%	Decrease

## AGENCY CRIME STATS: YEARLY TRAFFIC STATS

Traffic Stats 2022-2024				
	2022	2023	2024	Percentage Change
Traffic Crash Investigations	1,231	1,105	1,100	- 0.5%
Traffic Stops	11,675	12,132	8,945	- 26%
Dwiving While Impaired	68	78	141	+ 81%
Written Warnings Issued	8,637	8,489	8,156	- 4%
Citations Issued	2,327	2,359	4,153	+ 76%
Arrests	2,127	2,379	1,378	- 42%

# C.L.E.A.R. & P.A.C.E.

In late 2022, Sgt. Moody introduced C.L.E.A.R. (Cops Listening, Engaging, and Responding) to strengthen police-community relationships in Kinston. Over the past year, multiple C.L.E.A.R. events have been held, providing opportunities for officers to connect with residents, understand community concerns, and collaborate on solutions to local issues.

As part of this initiative, the Police and Community Engagement (P.A.C.E.) group was established, meeting monthly to foster open dialogue between KPD and the community. The group, which reflects Kinston-Lenoir's diversity, focuses on:

- ✓ Community Engagement
- ✓ Juvenile Justice Matters
- ✓ Programming & Public Education
- ✓ Improving Community Trust

By prioritizing non-enforcement engagement, KPD continues to build lasting relationships and trust, reinforcing our commitment to serving and supporting the people of Kinston.



# RETIREMENTS



Captain John Hewitt



Captain Sam McLawhorn







**ARE YOU LOOKING TO BE A BIGGER PART OF YOUR COMMUNITY?**

**THE KINSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT IS NOW HIRING INDIVIDUALS THAT WANT TO  
MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN OUR COMMUNITY.**

**COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT & PROGRAMS:**

- Sentinel Program
- Project Safe & Sound
- Citizens Police Academy
- The KPD Podcast
- C.L.E.A.R
- P.A.C.E
- G.R.E.A.T
- KPD Youth Camp
- Lunch With Law
- NCGHSP
- Kinston/Lenoir Softball Tournament
- KPD Patch Project
- Project Safe Neighborhood
- Community Educational Seminars
- Social Media Presence
- Coffee With a Cop
- Stuff a Patrol Car
- Shop With a Cop
- National Night Out
- BBQ Fest on the Neuse



**Salary can vary Qualifications:**

**Police Officer \$49,545.60**

**Police Officer I \$51,563.20**

**Police Officer II \$53,682.72**

**Senior Police Officer \$55,910.40**

**Corporal \$58,240.00**

**JOIN THE KINSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT, JOIN THE KINSTON COMMUNITY**



**Kinston Police Department  
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[www.kinstonpd.org](http://www.kinstonpd.org)**