



KENSINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

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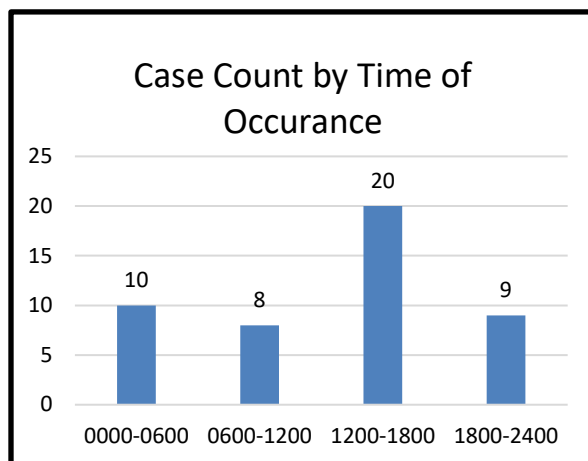
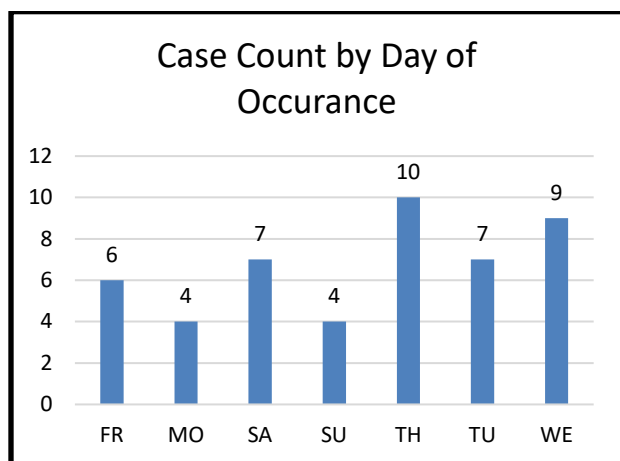
www.kppcsd.org

DATE: February 29, 2024
TO: David Aranda: General Manager
FROM: M. Gancasz, Chief of Police
RE: Police Chief’s Monthly Report, February 2024

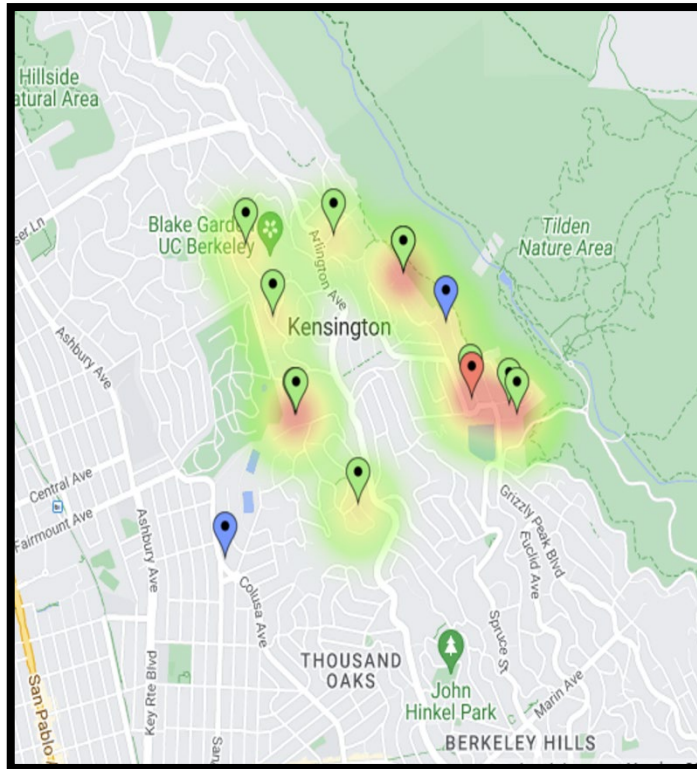
Patrol Operations

The Kensington Police Department handled 826 incidents during January (up from 811 the prior month). 639 were officer-initiated events, including 49 traffic enforcement stops resulting in 21 citations (down from 25 in the prior month). Officers responded to 187 dispatched calls for service (down from 261) and took 20 reports (down from 31 in January). One felony and one misdemeanor arrest were made. Officers investigated one vehicle theft, one hit-and-run collision, one brandishing of a firearm, four residential burglaries, and one theft of property from a motor vehicle.

Nineteen percent of this month's investigations were felony crimes. Average response times for officers decreased from 5.4 to 4.5 minutes. The improved 17% faster response time compared to last month may be attributed to increased staffing. Our newest officer, V. Thota, was deployed to solo patrol duties this month.



Crime Trend Mapping



The 365-day map to the left show's crimes by type for the past twelve months. Most of the crimes are in the Grizzley Peak/Lake/Purdue area and just east of Arlington Ave.

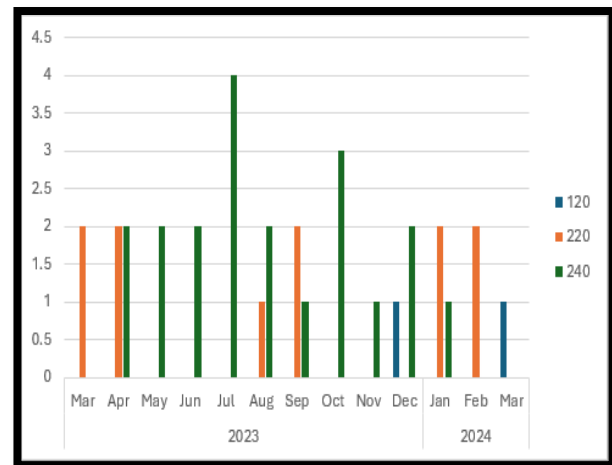
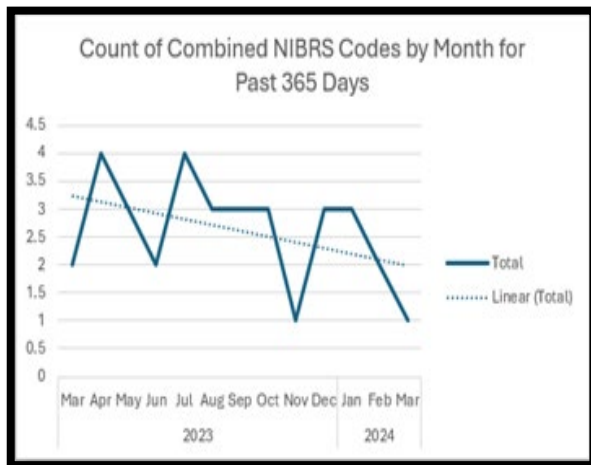
A more detailed image interactive image can be accessed here:

<https://www.easymapmaker.com/map/a6d9334fb58054b0957365bd21771d61>

Below are two charts showing more crime trends and usable data from the past year:

120 = Robbery
220 = Burglary
240 = Stolen Vehicle

(120, 220, and 240 do not denote the number of crimes but are mapping categories)



Administration

On February 1, Command Staff attended our KPD monthly meeting. Attendees included Chief Gancasz, Sgt. Nath, & Jason Haynes. Sergeant Lande was away from the office and unable to attend. Our Newest Officer, Harjot Gill received his conditional offer of employment on February 20, and we are happy to report he is now on patrol in our Field Training Program. More to come on his progress next month! Officer Vijayram Thota is also making progress in his 6th month of employment as a Kensington Police Officer. Our Flock Safety “kick-off” meeting took place on February 22. Discussion topics included obtaining permits from the County and the process of

installing the cameras themselves. It will take approximately three months to get the cameras up and running. Volunteer Mike Logan has dedicated more than 40 hours of his time to a variety of volunteer duties, and we appreciate everything he is doing to help us make ends meet.

Training

Sgt. Lande completed the California Highway Patrol's Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement (ARIDE) hosted by California Highway Patrol at the Golden Gate Division Office in Vallejo.

February Patrol Log

- On Thursday, February 1, at 0940 hours, officers took a report of a petty theft that occurred on Edwin Drive. The investigation is ongoing.
- On Saturday, February 3, at 0804 hours, officers were conducting extra patrol on Colusa Circle when they contacted a transient and determined he was a fugitive with outstanding warrants for narcotics crimes in San Mateo county. The suspect was arrested, provided a notice to appear in court, and released from the scene.
- On Saturday, February 3, at 1549 hours, officers were dispatched to a phone report of a petty theft on Arlington Avenue. The investigation is ongoing.
- On Sunday, February 4, at 0945 hours, officers responded to a residential burglary on Kingston Road. El Cerrito Officers assisted Kensington Officers by surrounding the home and calling the suspect out. Unfortunately, he refused to exit the home peacefully. The on scene El Cerrito police canine was deployed into the home and the suspect was quickly and safely apprehended. The suspect was booked into the Martinez Detention Facility and charged with multiple felony and misdemeanor charges.
- On Sunday, February 4, at 1127 hours, officers were dispatched to Stratford Road for a Coroner's case. This case is closed.
- On Tuesday, February 5, at 0858 hours, officers were dispatched to the lobby of the Police Department for a grand theft and brandishing of a firearm report that occurred on Cowper Avenue. The investigation is ongoing.
- On Friday, February 9, at 1944 hours, officers were dispatched to the Albany Police Department for a report of violation of restraining order that occurred in Kensington. The investigation is ongoing.
- On Friday, February 9, at 2247 hours, officers were dispatched to Suset Drive for a report of a domestic dispute.
- On Sunday, February 11, at 1224 hours, officers took a report of a vehicle tampering on Lenox Road.
- On Monday, February 19, at 1844 hours, officers took a report of a vehicle burglary in the on Kingston Road.
- On Wednesday, February 21, at 1018 hours, officers responded to a report of a residential burglary on Beloit Avenue.
- On Wednesday, February 21, at 1917 hours, officers were dispatched to a phone report of a petty theft with no suspect leads.
- On Thursday, February 22, at 1415 hours, officers responded to Marguerita Road for a report of identity theft.

- On Friday, February 23, at 1415 hours, officers were dispatched to the one hundred block of Colusa Avenue for a Welfare Check of an individual in the area. The subject was contacted and arrested for public intoxication. The subject was provided a citation and released to the care of a family member. The case has been transferred to the Contra Costa County District Attorney Office for review and filing of charges.
- On Friday, February 23, at 1548 hours, officers conducted a traffic enforcement stop on a vehicle with a delinquent registration of more than twelve months, expired December of 2016. The vehicle was impounded, and the driver released from the scene.
- On Friday, February 23, at 1837 hours, officers conducted a traffic enforcement stop on a vehicle with a delinquent registration of more than twelve months, expired July of 2023. The vehicle was impounded, and the driver released from the scene.
- On Saturday, February 24, at 0744 hours, officers took a report of a vehicle burglary in the three hundred block of Rugby Avenue. The investigation is ongoing.

Traffic Safety

One traffic collision was reported, and it was investigated as a hit-and-run with no injuries. There was one online supplemental traffic report submitted by a citizen highlighting vehicles parked on the sidewalk at Purdue Ave and Kenyon Ave. On Friday, February 23rd, Kensington Officers were on patrol for impaired drivers as they took part in another grant-funded saturation patrol. Sixteen traffic enforcement stops were completed, nine citations were issued, seven warnings were given, and two vehicles were impounded. These operations are fully funded by the Office of Traffic Safety (OTS).

Traffic Records Improvement Plan (TRIP)

In October 2023, Kensington Police were awarded another Office of Traffic Safety Traffic (OTS) Records Improvement Grant of \$41,000.00. The entire Kensington patrol fleet has now been upgraded and outfitted with the equipment and software necessary to make the transition from handwritten citations to computer generated citations. Volunteer Mike Logan and Sergeant A. Nath were instrumental in getting each car to the outfitter in Pittsburg to make this possible in such a short amount of time. Kensington Officers will go live with the new citation system in March or April 2024.

Community

There were no community events this month.