

Fort Bragg Police Department



Biennial Report

2013-2014

Fabian Lizarraga

Chief of Police

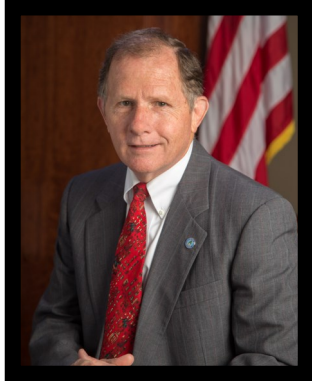


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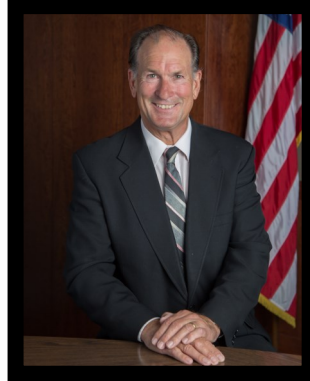


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City Council



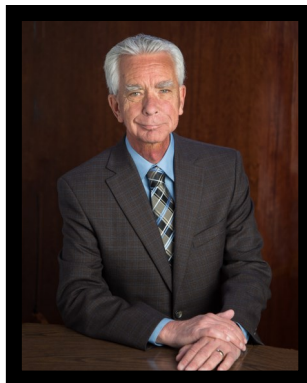
Mayor
Dave Turner



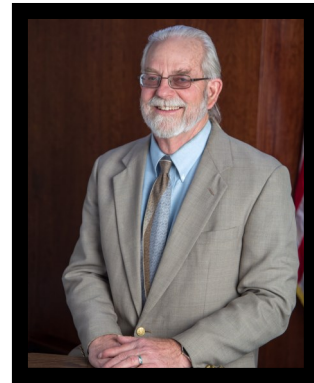
Vice Mayor
Lindy Peters



Councilmember
Michael Cimolino



Councilmember
Scott Deitz



Councilmember
Doug Hammerstrom

Mission Statement

*Fort Bragg is a small town
with a strong sense of community
that seeks to preserve its natural beauty
while providing exceptional public facilities and
infrastructure, safe streets,
and a well-planned framework
for sustainable development and prosperity.*

The Fort Bragg City Council meets on the second and fourth Mondays of every month at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall, 363 N. Main Street, Fort Bragg, California. The public is encouraged to attend and participate in City Council meetings.

Message from the City Manager

The Fort Bragg Police Department plays a central role in protecting and enhancing the quality of life in our community. On a daily basis, our police officers work diligently to ensure that Fort Bragg remains safe. They are responsible for evenhandedly enforcing the laws and promptly dealing with calls for service. Fort Bragg is a small town with a small police force and, consequently, all of our officers are required to perform a complex array of tasks. Our officers respond to accidents and emergencies, investigate crimes, patrol the streets, respond to complaints, work with local youth, and collaborate with the many agencies and institutions that serve our community.

A police officer's work is very challenging. Fort Bragg's police officers contend with difficult and demanding situations every day, whether responding to a traffic accident, intervening in a domestic dispute, or investigating a serious crime. Our police officers are well-trained, hard-working, and dedicated to serving the citizens of Fort Bragg. They have earned the strong support of the Fort Bragg City Council, the City Manager, fellow City employees, and a broad cross-section of our community.

This biennial report summarizes the accomplishments of the Fort Bragg Police Department over the past few years. It serves as a testament to the exceptional work performed by the Fort Bragg Police Department's sworn officers and non-sworn personnel.

Sincerely,

Linda Ruffing

Message from the Chief of Police



Message from the Chief of Police:

In re-issuing this biennial report, I want to take the opportunity to thank the men and women of the Fort Bragg Police Department for the job they've done and the dedication to the community they've shown for the past two years. Operating in a time of turmoil and uncertainty, all of you have performed in an exemplary fashion and have not let internal and external strife get the better of you. You have persevered and continued to deliver outstanding Police Service to the citizens of Fort Bragg. I also want to express my appreciation for your warm welcome and support of me as I enter my first year in this position. I will proudly represent you and together we will attain our goals of delivering quality community oriented police services while treating everyone we encounter with respect and dignity.

I also want to thank the members of the Fort Bragg community for your continuous support and appreciation of all the members of your Police Department. I look forward to establishing and reaffirming partnerships with residents, members of the business community and all segments of our community going forward. We also remain committed to working with our youth in helping them with their goals, assisting where we can, in avoiding the pitfalls of gang and drug involvement and assuring they have every opportunity to a bright and productive future.

From top to bottom, the members of the Fort Bragg Police Department will continue to take on challenges, work hard and establish more partnerships with you, our community, to ensure the best quality of life possible for all of the Fort Bragg Community. I look forward to meeting more of you as we achieve this and work together toward that end.

Sincerely,

Fabian E. Lizarraga

Mission Statement



The Fort Bragg Police Department is committed to provide excellence in police service to all segments of our Community. Acting under the tenet of Respect and Dignity for all, we strive to impact and improve the quality of life for families, the business community and visitors. We work in partnership with all segments of our community so that, together, we achieve a better standard of life by which our residents can live in an environment without the fear of crime.

Department Summary

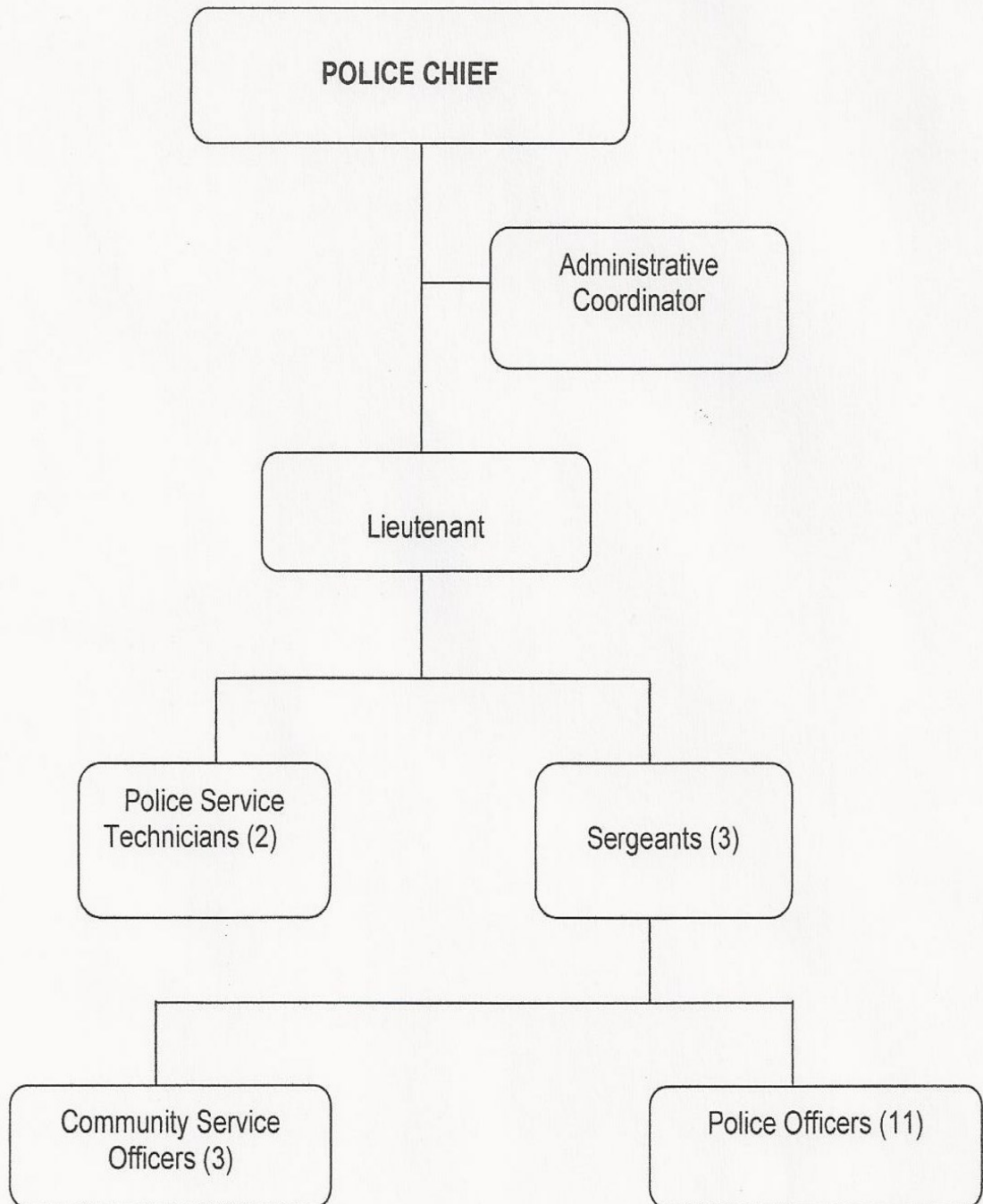
The Fort Bragg Police Department is made of up 21 full-time employees. Chief Fabian Lizarraga, Lieutenant Charles Gilchrist, Administrative Coordinator Debbie Desmond, Police Service Technician/Records Supervisor Sally Provencher and Police Service Technician/Property & Evidence Tech Gretchen Leinen make up the Administrative Division. Along with administrative responsibilities the Administrative Division is responsible for records management, property and evidence management, Live Scan services and other duties. The Operations Division is comprised of 3 Sergeants, 11 full-time sworn Police Officers, and 3 Community Service Officers. The Operations Division is tasked with handling all items related to the enforcement of laws.

The Fort Bragg Police Department is the only law enforcement agency on the California coast between Eureka and the San Francisco Bay Area with sworn law enforcement officers on duty 24 hours per day. The Police Department is divided into 4 teams, each working 12-hour shifts. Police Officers respond to a variety of calls for service, including criminal and non-criminal incidents. Examples of criminal incidents include assault/battery, domestic violence, burglaries and public intoxication. Examples of non-criminal incidents include non-DUI traffic collisions, civil disputes, and landlord-tenant disputes.



Organizational Chart

POLICE



Community Involvement



Police Activities League

Bicycle Rodeo

Officers work with the youth in our community teaching them the rules of the road and safe habits when riding their bicycles on our local streets. One of the goals of the Bicycle Rodeo is to teach children good bicycle safety. Free helmets are given out by the Police Department to any child who needs one.



Coast Police Activities League

Fishing Clinic

Shown here are youth from our community getting an opportunity to fish in a local pond during the annual Police Activities League Fishing Clinic. The Fish and Wildlife Department stocks the pond, then along with other law enforcement members, help the children with their catch!



Coast Police Activities League

Christmas Party

Every year staff from the Fort Bragg Police Department participates in the Coast Police Activities League Christmas Party. The children at this event are presented with a multitude of activities from a variety of games to play to decoration creation and other craft activities.

Community Involvement



Take Back Event

The Police Department participated in the annual Take Back Event in cooperation with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA). This event was successful in removing a great deal of potentially dangerous drugs and substances from our community. The Department has a “Red Box” to collect unused, expired and unwanted drugs throughout the year.



National Night Out

National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie to make our neighborhoods a safer, better place to live. The Police Department had a hot dog BBQ at the Station in 2014 to celebrate the event with the community.



Fire Safety Day

Each year the Police Department joins many other agencies such as the Fire Department, CalFire, Mendocino County Sheriff's Office, Fish and Wildlife, CalStar and PG&E on Fire and Safety Day. This event is usually held at Timberwolf Stadium and is open to all 3rd, 4th and 5th graders at Dana Gray School who are taught various safety tips throughout the day.

Employee Recognition

Officer of the year 2013



Officer of the year 2014



Officer Angelica Wilder was recognized for her service in 2013 and awarded officer of the year by the Elk's Lodge in Ukiah. In 2014 Officer Awad was recognized for his service and awarded the officer of the year.

Promotions



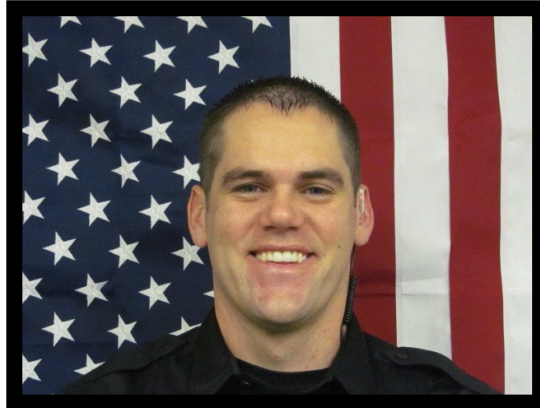
In 2014 Andrew Kendl was promoted to the rank of Sergeant.

Proclamations



In 2014 Chief Scott Mayberry, Lieutenant John Naulty, and Lieutenant Greg Stefani were recognized by the City of Fort Bragg for their bravery and leadership during the officer involved shooting which occurred in March and resulted in the death of Deputy Ricky Delfiorentino.

Employee Recognition: Police Recruit



Officer Brandon McGregor

In 2014, the Fort Bragg Police Department conducted a recruitment for Police Officer Cadet, for which the successful candidate would be afforded the opportunity to attend the six month long Santa Rosa Junior College Basic Police Academy, fully sponsored by the City of Fort Bragg. This recruitment process was implemented several years ago in order for the City of Fort Bragg to recruit local talent to staff its police department and maintain some much needed staffing retention and stability among the ranks.

Fort Bragg High School graduate and multi-generational Fort Bragg resident, Brandon McGregor, was found to have an interest in law enforcement, and participated in the rigorous testing and screening for the cadet recruitment. Brandon was successfully chosen during the final selection process, and began the intensive and demanding training at the Santa Rosa Academy in July of 2014. Six months later, Brandon emerged successful, and returned back to Fort Bragg in December of 2014 to begin the challenge of proving his newly acquired knowledge and skills in the Fort Bragg Police Department Field Training Program.

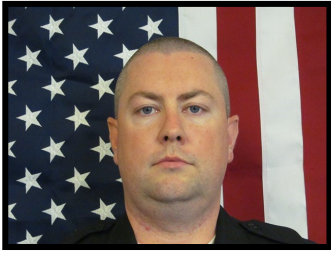
Brandon began the Field Training Program with the Fort Bragg Police Department in January of 2015, and successfully completed the challenging 18 week training and assessment in late April 2015. Brandon has been serving the City of Fort Bragg as a Solo Police Officer since May 2015, and has grown to be a diligent, respectful, and well liked officer within the department and throughout the community.

Brandon is the second member of his family to serve the City of Fort Bragg's Police Department. Brandon's mother, Peggy Mello, served the Fort Bragg Police Department in the earlier 2000's as Fort Bragg Police Department's first Community Service Officer. Peggy later moved on to serve in the Mendocino County Court System, where she still serves today in the Ukiah Superior Court.

The Fort Bragg Police Department is honored and grateful to find talented locals such as Brandon McGregor who are willing to serve and protect the community they were raised in, and that helped raise them into respectful, law abiding citizens.

The Fort Bragg Police Dept. currently maintains 6 Fort Bragg High School graduates on its staff.

Employee Recognition: New



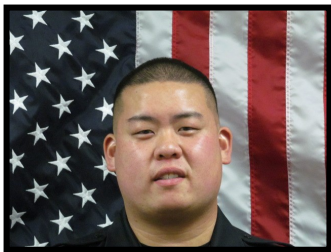
Officer Joseph Shaw

Officer Shaw began his career with the Fort Bragg Police Department on 5/6/13. Prior to coming to the Department he served four years as a Sonora County Dispatcher, two years as a Dispatcher for Redding Police and Fire, one year as a Dispatcher for Calaveras County Sheriff's Office, and four years as a Calaveras County Deputy.



Officer Thomas O'Neal

Officer O'Neal began his career with the Fort Bragg Police Department on 7/15/13. Prior to his law enforcement career, he served from 2002—2013 in the United States Army as an Air Defense Operator and a Supply Logistics Officer.



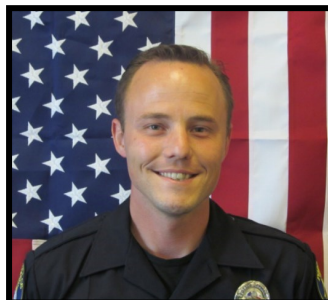
Officer Tae Song

Officer Song began his career with the Fort Bragg Police Department on 11/4/13. He graduated from the College of the Redwoods Public Safety Academy in 2008. He also served as a security officer for Shasta College for two and a half years.



Officer Anthony Melendez

Officer Melendez began his career with the Fort Bragg Police Department on 5/5/14. He graduated from the Santa Rosa Junior College Public Safety Academy in 2012. Prior to attending the academy, Officer Melendez was a martial arts instructor.



Officer Joseph Breyer

Officer Breyer began his career with the Fort Bragg Police Department on 6/2/14. Prior to that Officer Breyer was an Officer with the Los Angeles Police Department for approximately eleven years, where he was involved in everything from patrol and special operations, to administrative duties.

In Remembrance



The Fort Bragg Police Department would like to recognize and remember a wonderful man and a dedicated Police Officer, Ricky Delfiorentino. Ricky was ambushed and killed while performing his duties as a Deputy for the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office on March 19, 2014.

Ricky was born in Napa, CA on May 28, 1965 where he attended school and received a wrestling scholarship to Oklahoma University. After returning to California he attended Napa Valley College Police Academy, launching his career into police work.

He began his law enforcement career with the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office in 1988 as a Deputy Sheriff. During the Mendocino County budget crisis in 1990 Ricky went to work for the Fort Bragg Police Department where he served for the next 10 years as a Police Officer and a Detective. He returned to the Mendocino County Sheriff's Office in May of 2000.

Ricky was inducted into the Napa High School Athletic Hall of Fame in 1998 and was a Police Olympics Gold Medal winner in 2003 in both Greco Roman and Freestyle wrestling.

Ricky loved the outdoors and spent most vacations in Oregon hunting and fishing with his family. He loved the Oregon area where he had planned to retire.

Ricky also coached middle school and high school wrestling and was the President of the Coast Police Activities League.

He loved to cook as well as eat. Ricky had the ability to fashion a meal out of just about any ingredients he had lying around. Sometimes you weren't sure if you wanted to eat it, but in most instances it was quite tasty.

Ricky loved spending time with his family and was extremely proud of his children, Mika, Hailey, Tim, Dahl and Lexie. His wife Beth was the love of his life and his best friend. Ricky considered his friends part of his family and loved every one of them.

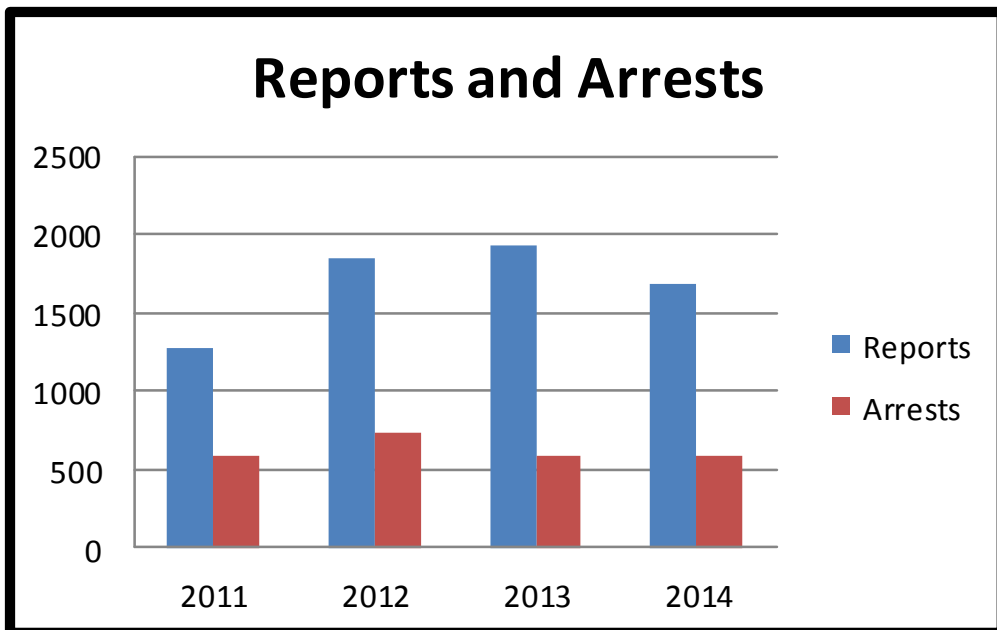
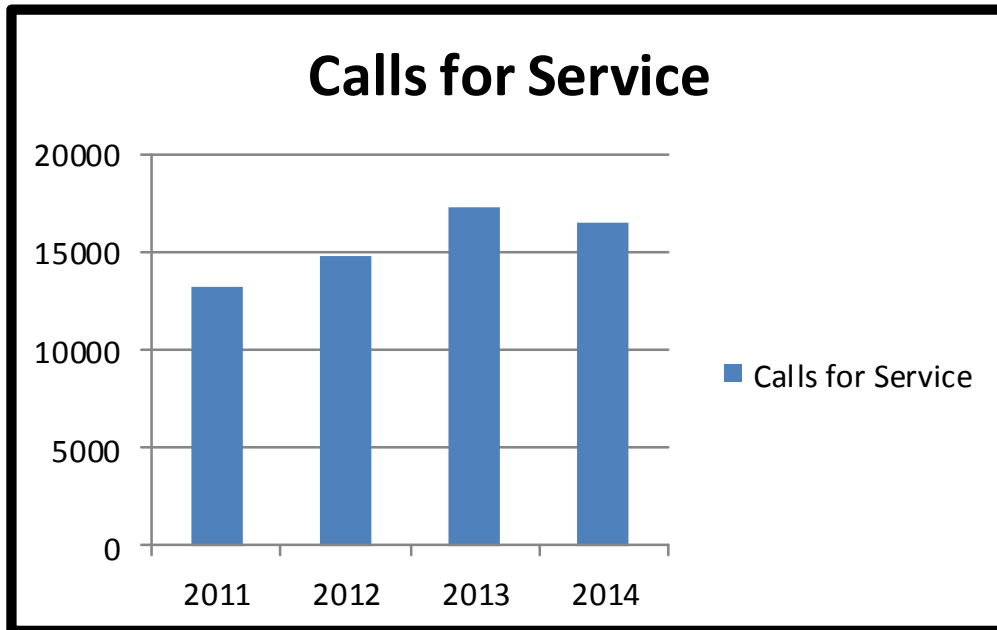
Ricky was loved by everybody and judged no one. He often put others' needs before his own and would reach out to people in need that he didn't even know.

Ricky was a gentle giant with a heart of gold and a smile that would light up any room. His distinguished laugh will continue to echo through our minds for many years to come.



Call for Service

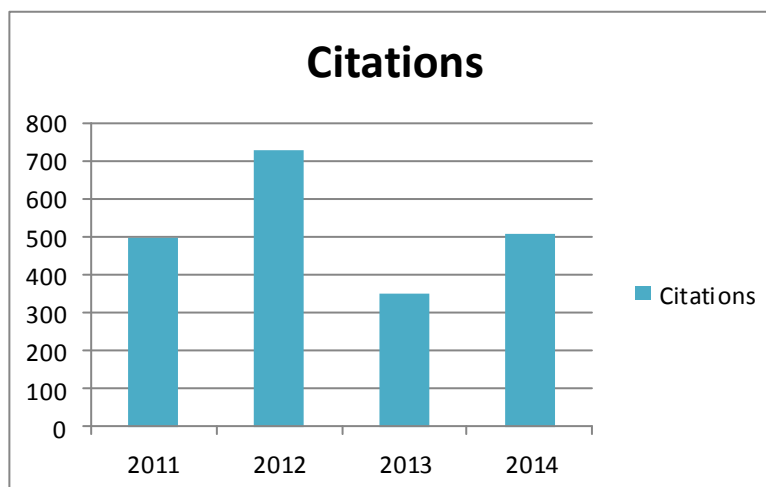
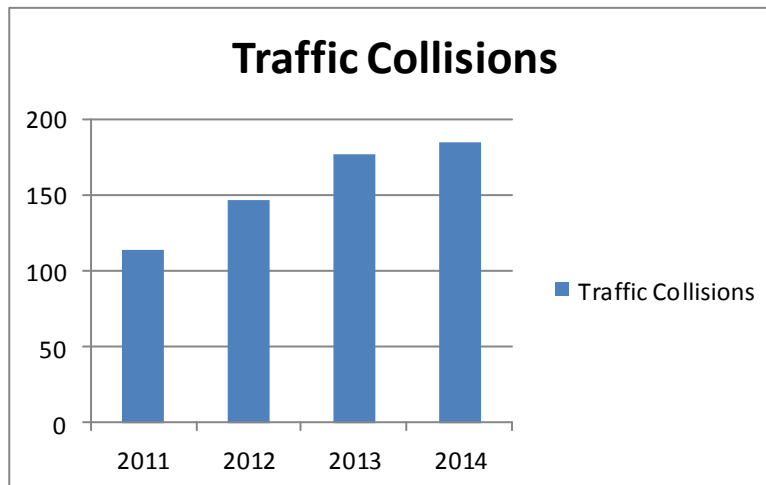
In 2013, Fort Bragg Police Officers responded to a total of 17,255 calls for service and wrote 1,925 Crime Reports associated with those calls for service, which resulted in 588 arrests. In 2014, Fort Bragg Police Officers responded to a total of 16,446 calls for service and wrote 1,680 Crime Reports associated with those calls for service, which resulted in 579 arrests.



Traffic Safety

A major concern for the Fort Bragg Police Department and community alike is traffic safety. There have been many street improvements in recent years, increasing the safety of motorists traveling within Fort Bragg city limits.

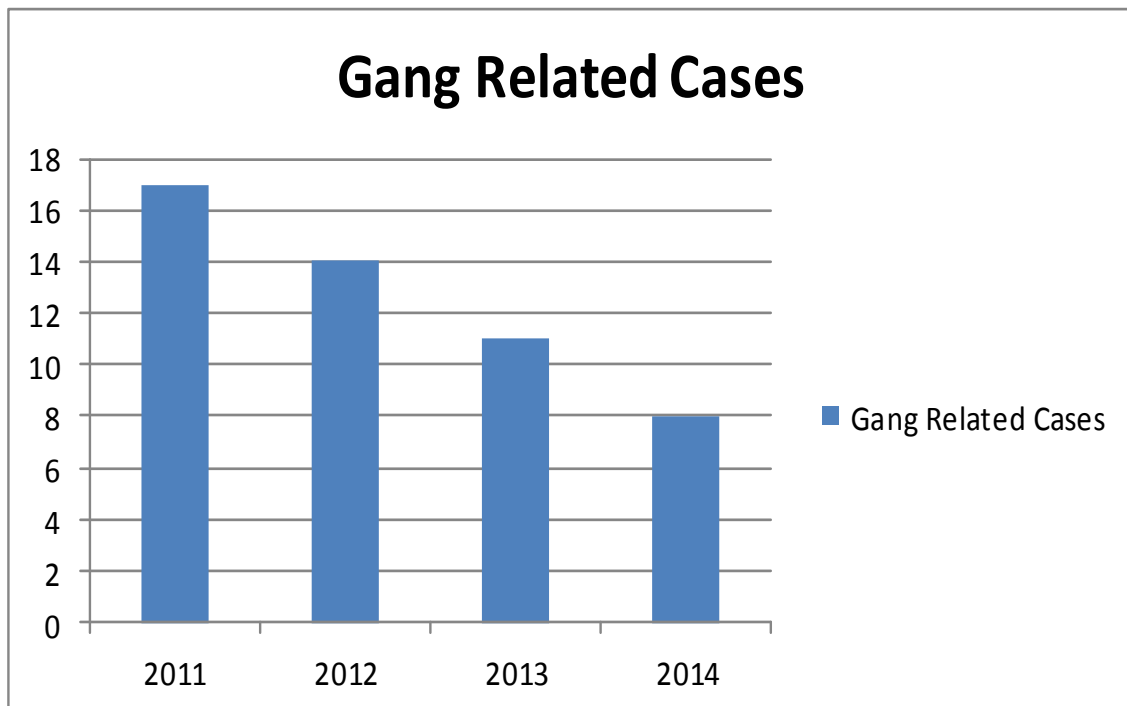
The Fort Bragg Police Department initiates traffic stops on traffic safety violators with the purpose of education and enforcement. These two aspects combined lead to greater driver awareness and an ultimate goal of decreasing traffic collisions, thus increasing traffic safety in our community. Below are statistics for the number of traffic collision reports taken and traffic violation citations issued by Fort Bragg Police Officers from years 2011 through 2014 :



Gang Crime

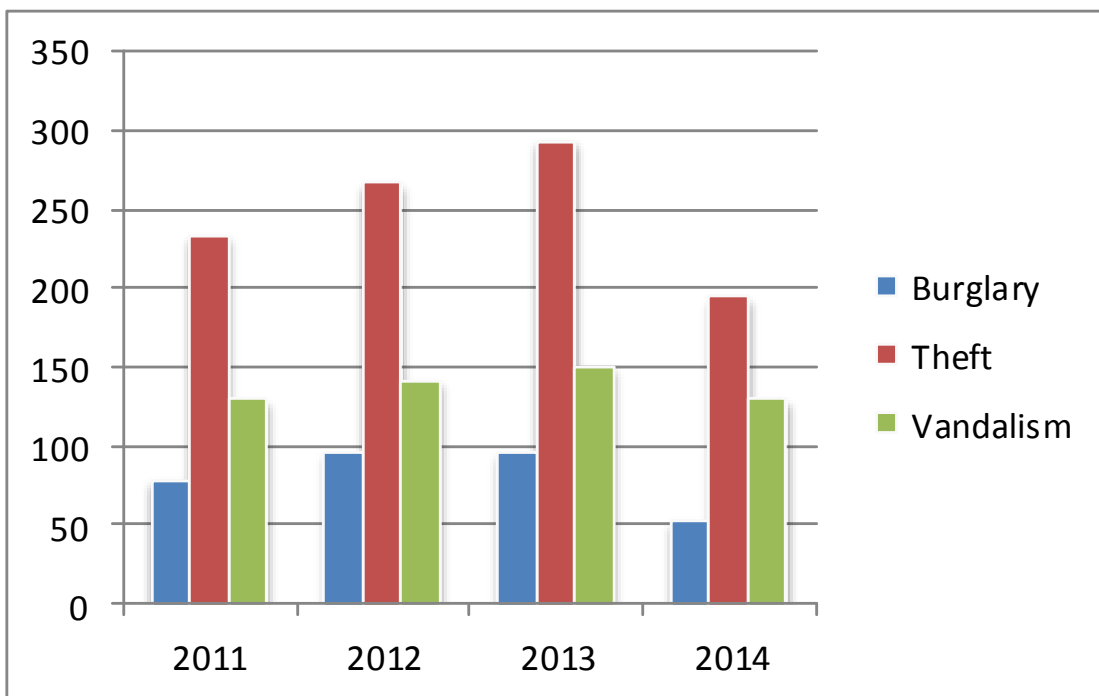
Criminal Street Gangs present a threat to the safety of law enforcement and the community alike. Criminal Street Gangs are responsible for drug sales and trafficking, weapons violations, property crimes for the benefit of the gang, violence against citizenry, law enforcement and rival gang members, rape, and murder.

The Fort Bragg Police Department, in conjunction with local allied agencies participates in the Multi-Agency Gang Suppression Unit (MAGSU). Statistics of reports taken for gang related crimes from years 2011 through 2014 are as follows:



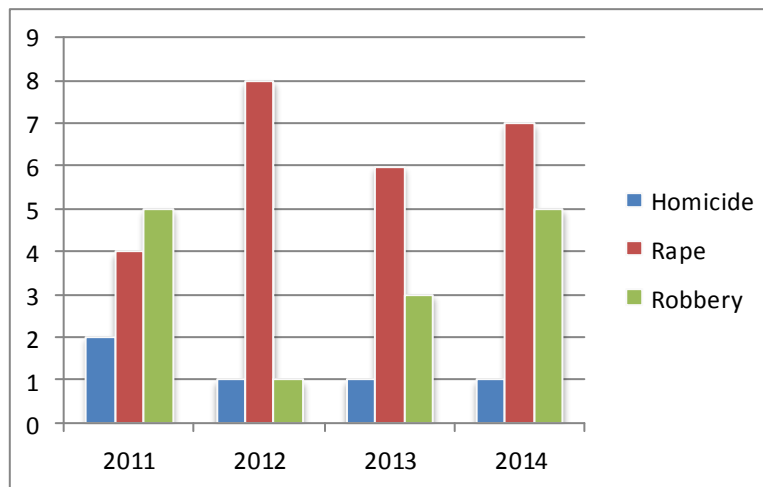
Property Crime

The Fort Bragg Police Department retains a list of problem areas where community members report activities or conditions that could lead to criminal activity. Fort Bragg Police Officers conduct frequent patrols of these areas throughout their shifts and whenever time permits. These “Extra Patrols” serve as a pro-active method for catching in-progress crimes and deterring would-be criminals. Reports taken for Burglaries, Thefts, and Vandalisms from years 2011 through 2014 are



Crimes against Persons

Over the last four years, the City of Fort Bragg remained a safe place to live. The number of homicides remained the same at one while robberies showed a steady increase. Reported rapes fluctuated. Reports taken for Murder, Manslaughter, Rape, and Robbery from the 2011 through 2014 are as follows:



Assaults can refer to many different types of crimes against persons, including but not limited to gang fighting, simple or aggravated battery and domestic violence assaults. The year 2013 showed a slight increase in assaults from the previous two years, but still remained comparatively low. There was a slight decrease in assaults in 2014. Reports taken for assaults from years 2011 through 2014 are as follows:

