



2025

Annual
REPORT

**ATLANTIC CITY
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

ANNUAL REPORT

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MESSAGE FROM CHIEF JAMES SARKOS

As Chief of the Atlantic City Police Department, I am proud to present our 2025 Annual Report and to reflect on a year defined by progress, accountability, and measurable results in public safety.

In 2025, the men and women of the Atlantic City Police Department delivered exceptional outcomes for our community. Through focused enforcement, strong investigative work, and meaningful partnerships, ACPD achieved a **100% clearance rate for all homicides and all non-fatal shootings** that occurred in Atlantic City during the year. Every victim mattered, and every case was pursued to resolution.

Violent crime trends showed meaningful improvement. Atlantic City recorded **six homicides in 2025**, down from eight in 2024, representing **a 25% reduction** year over year. Non-fatal shootings declined significantly, dropping from 21 incidents involving 23 victims in 2024 to **eight incidents involving 10 victims in 2025**, a **61.9% reduction in shooting incidents** and a **56.5% reduction in victims shot**. Overall arrests increased by 8.29%, reflecting proactive policing strategies and a strong commitment to accountability and public safety.

As we enter 2026, the Atlantic City Police Department is stepping into a new era of public safety technology powered by artificial intelligence. As highlighted in Mayor Marty Small's 2026 State of the City address, ACPD is partnering with **AXON** on a major initiative that will modernize how we respond, investigate, and protect our community.

A key component of this effort is the introduction of an **Autonomous Drone as First Responder (DFR) program**, allowing drones to be deployed immediately to priority calls and provide real-time aerial awareness before officers arrive, enhancing safety and situational awareness. ACPD will also implement advanced technologies, including the **Axon AI ERA Bundle, Fusus, and Prepared**, which will streamline report writing, evidence management, training, and real-time crime center operations. These advancements will reduce administrative workload and allow officers to focus more on policing and community engagement.

MESSAGE FROM CHIEF JAMES SARKOS

Additionally, ACPD will begin deploying the **TASER 10**, AXON's latest less-lethal device, offering increased range and improved accuracy to further support officer and public safety.

This partnership represents a significant investment in our officers, our technology, and the future of policing in Atlantic City. The results achieved in 2025, combined with the innovations ahead, reinforce our commitment to data-driven policing, transparency, and continuous improvement. This report will provide greater detail on the statistics, initiatives, and strategies that shaped the year.

None of these accomplishments would be possible without the dedication and professionalism of the sworn officers and civilian staff who serve this city every day. Their commitment to excellence, accountability, and service is the foundation of our success. As we build on the progress made in 2025 and embrace the innovations ahead, the Atlantic City Police Department remains steadfast in its mission to protect life, reduce crime, and strengthen trust with the community we serve. Together, we will continue moving Atlantic City forward, **safer, stronger, and prepared for the future.**

Chief James A. Sarkos #707, CPM



Mission Statement

To promote public safety; to prevent, suppress, and investigate crimes; to provide emergency and non-emergency services; to create and maintain strong community partnerships; to adopt a multi-disciplinary approach to solving community problems; and to develop and promote a diverse, professional workforce.



Value Statement

The Atlantic City Police Department will commit its resources in partnership with the community to promote a safe and secure environment, free from crime and the fear of crime, to maintain order and provide for the safe and expeditious flow of traffic while practicing our core values of integrity, respect, and service.

Integrity - Integrity is the hallmark of the Atlantic City Police Department. We are committed to the highest performance standards, ethical conduct, and truthfulness in all relationships. We hold ourselves accountable for our actions and take pride in a professional level of service to all.

Service - We believe that every member of our team has valuable skills that will contribute to our combined success. By utilizing these skills, we will enhance the quality of life for our citizenry through a concerted effort, adopting a proactive approach to policing throughout the Twenty-First Century.

Respect - We treat all persons in a dignified and courteous manner and exhibit understanding of ethic and cultural diversity both in our professional and personal endeavors. We guarantee to uphold the principles and values embodied in the Constitution of the United States and the State of New Jersey.

Fairness - We will treat all people impartially with consideration and compassion. We are equally responsive to our employees and the community we serve.



A.C.H.I.L.E.S.

Atlantic City Headquarters for Intelligence, Logistics, and Electronic Surveillance

In 2017, A.C.H.I.L.E.S. Center began its operations in the Public Safety Building. Staff maintain continuous, 24-hour monitoring of citywide cameras and conduct virtual patrols to deter and address criminal activity. Beyond surveillance, the facility serves as a multipurpose space, functioning as a conference room, a hub for training and professional development, and as the City of Atlantic City Emergency Operations Center (EOC) during major citywide incidents and significant events.

Its technological infrastructure enables seamless connection with the medical center, school district, casinos, and other partner agencies. Through mutual link, these organizations can communicate directly and share camera access.

The Project P.A.C.T. (Protecting Atlantic City Together) initiative invites residents and business owners to grant access to their private surveillance camera feeds, creating an added layer of security and expanding capacity for live incident response and monitoring.

When activated, the EOC transforms into a fully equipped command post, supporting the management of both planned events and unforeseen emergencies.

The A.C.H.I.L.E.S. Center enhances situational awareness and provides a centralized space for federal, state, and local personnel to coordinate efforts.

Since 2017, the A.C.H.I.L.E.S. staff have been instrumental in public safety across Atlantic City's streets, boardwalk, and beaches, supporting thousands of investigations and calls for service through their virtual patrols.

Staff have been directly involved in thousands of arrests and assisted countless investigations in the recovery of evidence and identification of suspects. They have also assisted in the reunification of families who have lost a child or loved one along the beach or boardwalk.

Additionally, the Center serves as a training venue, hosting sessions for agencies statewide and supporting the growth and preparedness of partners across New Jersey.

RISK TERRAIN MODELING

LOCATION BASED RISK ASSESSMENT

The Atlantic City Police Department partnered with criminologists from Rutgers University to implement a new policing technique known as Risk Terrain Modeling (RTM).

RTM identifies risky locations for crime, enhancing the situational awareness of law enforcement. It provides real-time risk assessments about the context of crime incidents, offering strategies to prevent similar outcomes from future escalation.

It diagnoses the environmental attractors of crime that enable hotspots to emerge or persist, and is used by police to solve crime problems with a focus on places, not people.

The idea of risk-based policing is to assess risk, deploy resources, and check for success. With RTM, police focus on places, not people, to prevent crime and solve problems. The deploying of resources results in improved community relations, and hopefully, a reduction in crime.

The second main phase of this plan is the deployment of resources, fell on the ACPD. We saturated the at-risk areas that were identified through statistical analysis not to make arrests, but to make the area less desirable to criminals. This resulted in sign-in sheets being placed in select stores throughout the City. It became a part of our officers daily

routine to stop into these stores and engage in conversation with store merchants, owners, and customers. The officers log their interaction at a specific hotspot and at the end of each month, an analysis would check for success. We have seen the successes of RTM, and we continue this practice today.



53%
OF ROBBERIES
IN 2016

occurred in

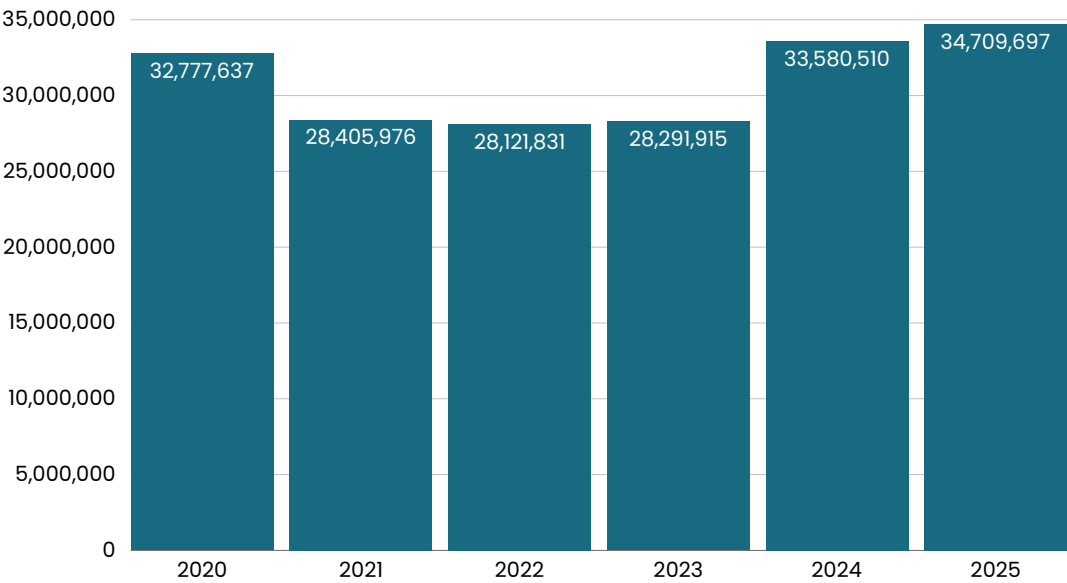
0.2%
OF ATLANTIC CITY,
IDENTIFIED AS
CRIME-PRONE AREAS

Using his risk terrain modeling method, Dr. Joel Caplan discovered the bulk of crime in Atlantic City is concentrated in 10 small areas, helping police use resources more efficiently.

POLICE BUDGET

REVENUE	
Special Employment	\$2,308,504.10
Tow Lot	\$476,609.00
Municipal Court	\$1,462,997.19
Total:	\$4,248,110.29

YEAR	ACTUAL BUDGET	% CHANGE
2020	\$29,172,094	
2021	\$28,405,976	-2.60%
2022	\$28,121,831	-1.00%
2023	\$28,291,915	0.60%
2024	\$33,580,510	18.70%
2025	\$34,709,697	3.40%



N.I.B.R.S. 2025 STATISTICS

The National Incident-Based Reporting System is the national standard for law enforcement crime data reporting in the United States. Agencies report offenses in the following categories: Crimes Against Persons, Crimes Against Property, and Crimes Against Society.

In 2025, we continued to reduce crime in several areas, particularly: Homicide (29%), Rape (8%), Robbery (28%), Aggravated Assault (9%), Motor Vehicle Theft (41%), and Vandalism (5%).

Overall, Crimes Against Persons were reduced 6.15%, Crimes Against Property were reduced 2.28%, and Crimes Against Society were reduced 0.21%.

The department credits the hard work of its men and women for their ongoing efforts to make the city's streets safer each year.

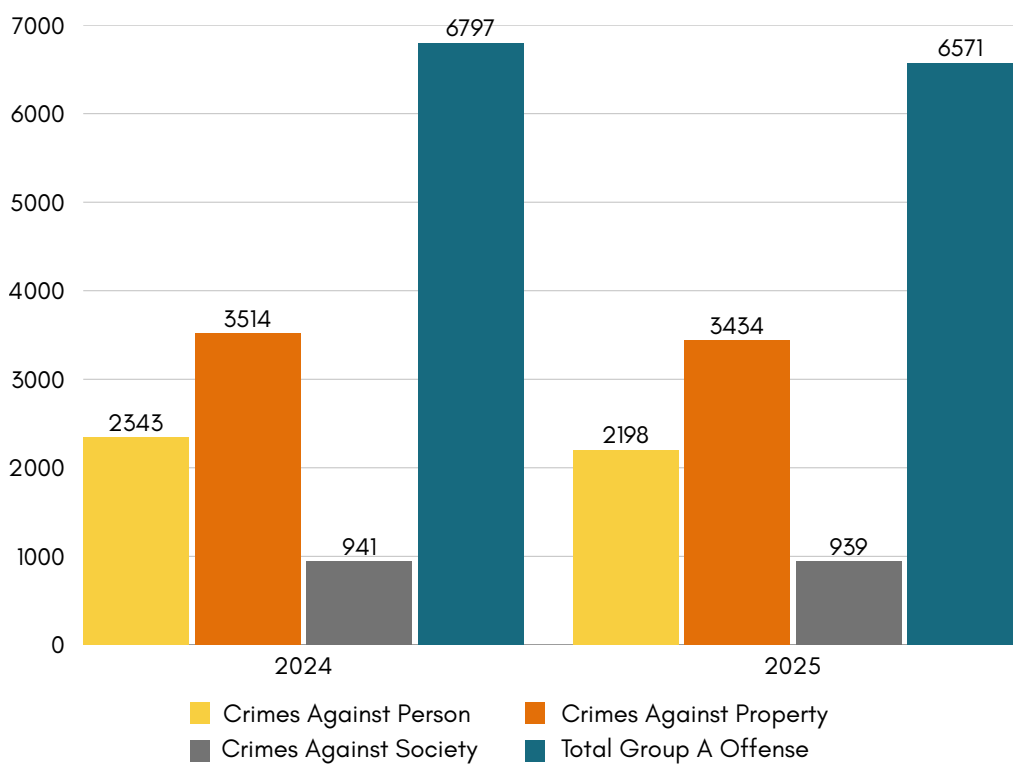
While calls for service were down 9.5% year-over-year, arrest numbers have increased 8.3%. The department maintains proactive patrols to deter crime, build community trust, and address issues before they escalate, thereby preventing the need for reactive responses.

With a clearance rate increasing to 49.79%, the department shows measurable progress in resolving cases and supporting public safety.

The department continues to embrace Risk Terrain Modeling as a patrol strategy. The model continues to identify risky locations throughout the city.

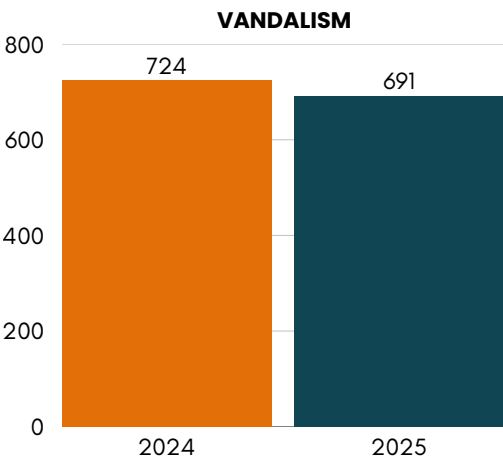
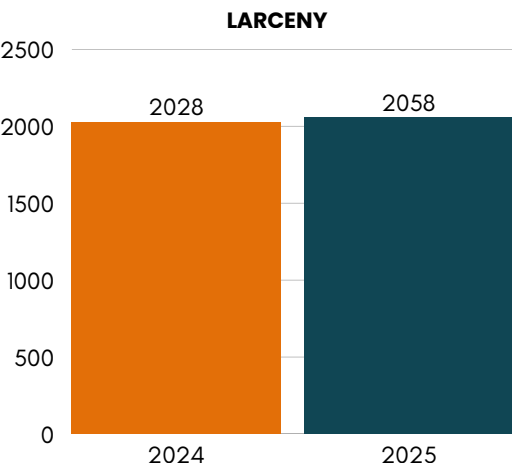
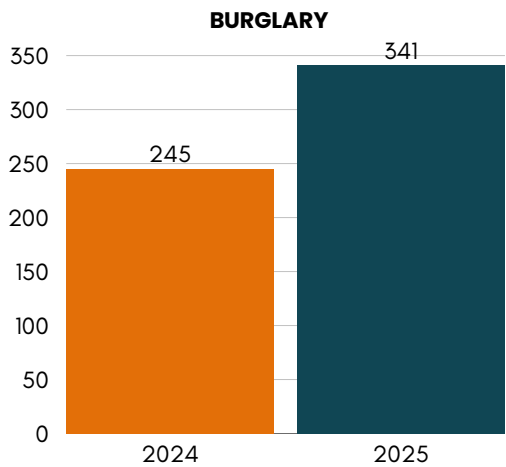
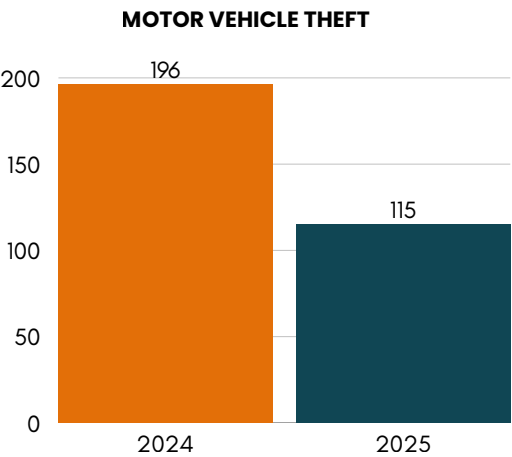
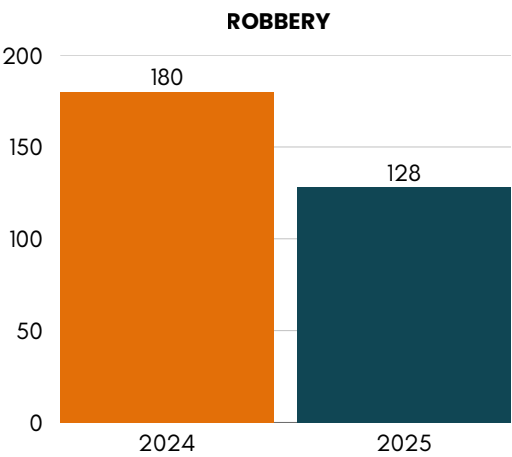
Through a coordinated, department-wide effort, the Atlantic City Police Department continues its mission to reduce crime throughout Atlantic City.

TOTAL N.I.B.R.S. GROUP A OFFENSES



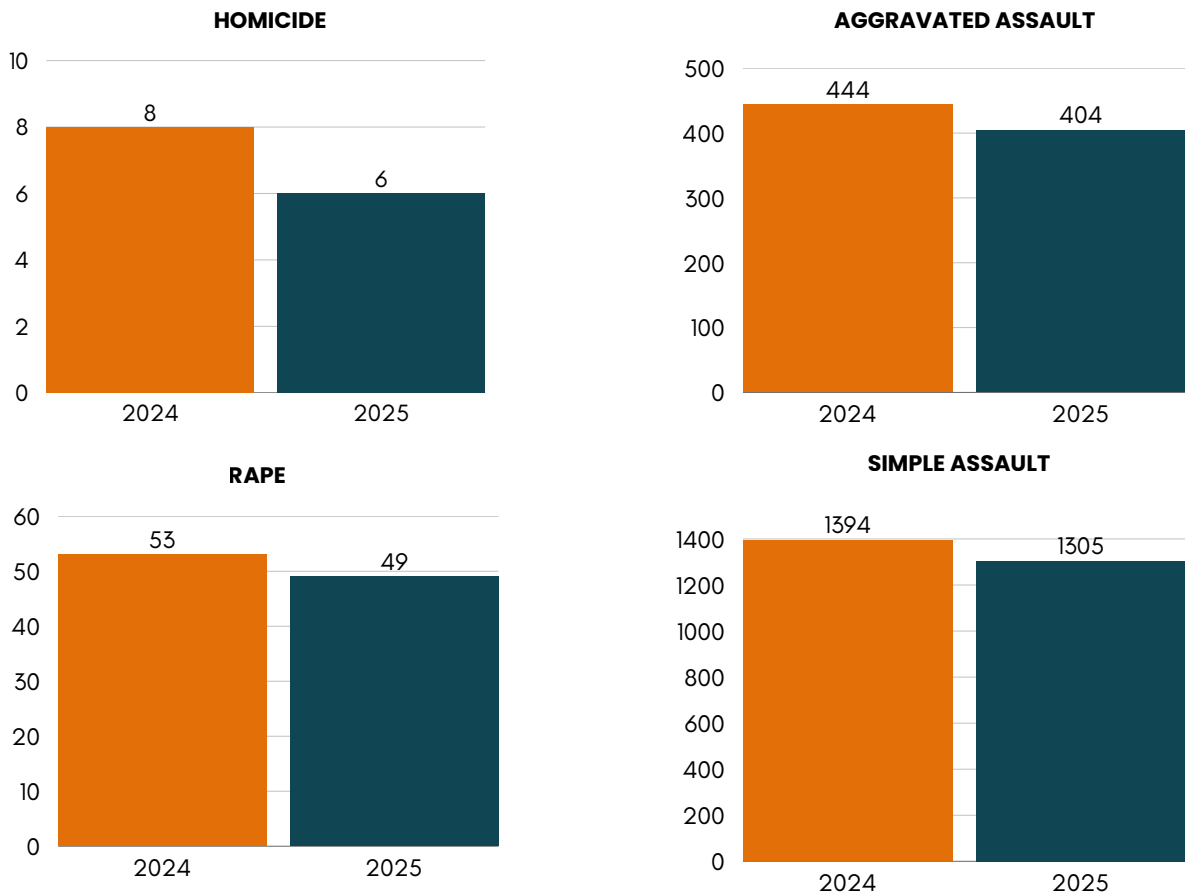
N.I.B.R.S. 2025 STATISTICS

GROUP A OFFENSE | CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY

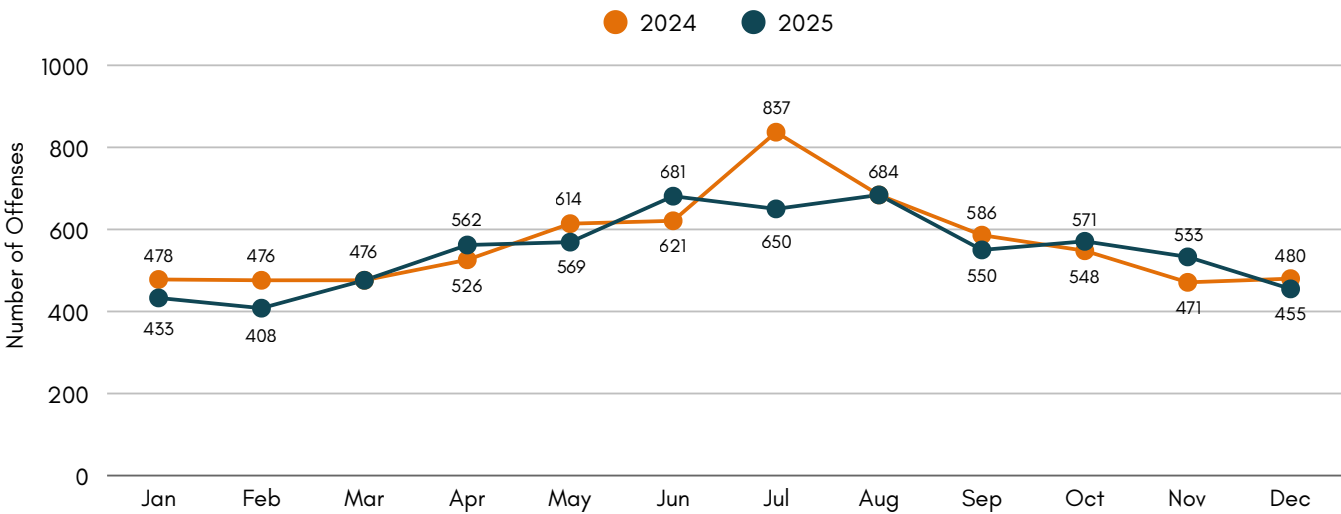


N.I.B.R.S. 2025 STATISTICS

GROUP A OFFENSE | CRIMES AGAINST PERSON



GROUP A OFFENSE | OFFENSE TRENDS COMPARSON REPORT



INTERNAL AFFAIRS SECTION

Investigation of Officer’s Actions and Behavior

The Internal Affairs Section is a division of the Professional Standards Unit comprised of a Deputy Chief, one Captain, one Lieutenant, three Sergeants, and two Detectives. The Internal Affairs Section of the Atlantic City Police Department is responsible for the receipt, investigation, and resolution of complaints involving alleged misconduct or wrongdoing by members of the department.

Our goal is to ensure the integrity of the police department is maintained by using a fair, objective, and impartial system that examines the factual information of every complaint.

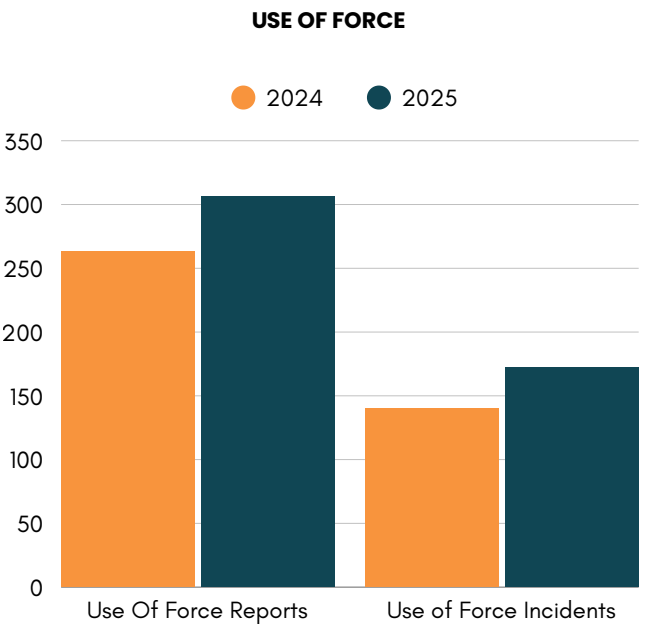
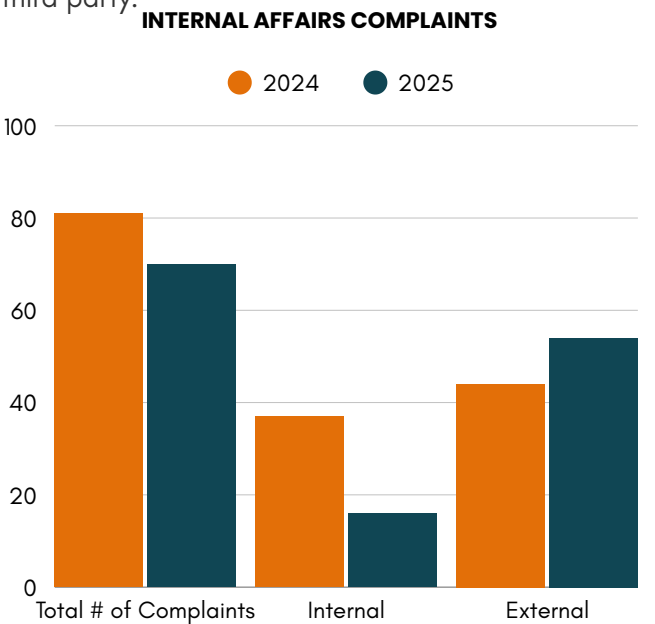
The Internal Affairs Section is obligated to investigate any allegation of misconduct that may be in violation of the Atlantic City Police Department’s rules, regulations, policies, and procedures.

Complaints are accepted at any time and can be made in person, over the telephone, or in writing. Complaints can also be made anonymously or by a third party.

The Internal Affairs Section works closely with the city solicitor’s office in disciplinary matters and acts as a liaison for scheduling witnesses in civil matters and serving subpoenas to members of the department.

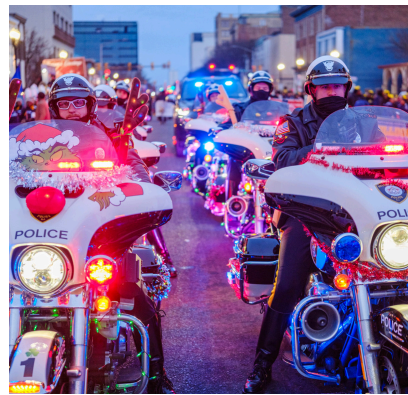
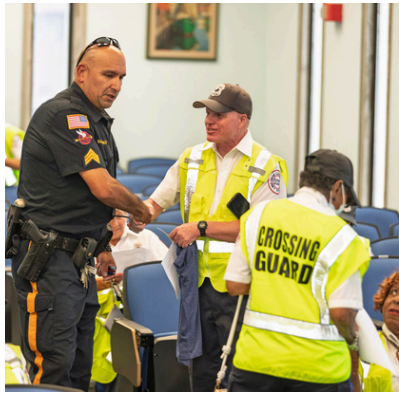
The Internal Affairs Section is also responsible for the selection, notification, collection, and monitoring of the department’s random drug testing. The Internal Affairs Section manages the early warning system and addresses any potential patterns, practices, or significant changes in an employee’s performance before developing into problems or deficiencies.

In 2025, Internal Affairs received a total of 70 complaints.



PATROL DIVISION

20
25



PATROL DIVISION

The Backbone of the Police Department

The Patrol Division is the backbone of the department, providing comprehensive, around-the-clock protection for the city. As the largest and most visible division, its six squads work eleven-hour shifts to guarantee 24-hour coverage every day of the year.

Supervision and organization are key. Each shift is led by Sergeants and commanded by a Lieutenant, with two Captains overseeing the division's daily operations under the direction of Deputy Chief Christian Garofalo. Specialized K9 units are also assigned to every shift, supporting search-and-rescue efforts and explosive detection.

Every shift begins with a detailed roll call, ensuring officers are briefed and prepared for their duties. From there, uniformed officers are assigned to one of the city's six patrol districts, where they respond to a broad spectrum of calls from medical emergencies to violent crimes.

Officers conduct highly visible patrols, focusing on high-crime areas and community quality-of-life concerns. Patrols are conducted on foot, by bicycle, on all-terrain vehicles, and in marked police vehicles, ensuring officers are accessible and responsive throughout the city.

Throughout the year, the Patrol Division remains at the forefront of emergency response and public safety, demonstrating dedication and adaptability in protecting and serving the community.

2025 Highlights

In 2025, there were 111,956 calls for service. Officers continued to respond to a high volume of community needs, even as overall call demand declined by 9.5% compared to 2024.

Throughout the year, officers focused on proactive policing strategies, strategic deployment of resources, and strengthening community partnerships.



TRAFFIC SECTION

Roadway Safety and Public Service

The Atlantic City Police Department Traffic Section serves two primary missions: investigating motor vehicle accidents and enforcing motor vehicle laws in the state.

There are several units within the Traffic Section:

- The Tow Truck Unit is responsible for towing vehicles involved in crashes, crimes, and other violations.
- The School Crossing Guards are responsible for assisting children in walking to and from school.
- The Motorcycle Unit focuses on enforcement and assisting in escorts throughout the county.

2025 Highlights

In 2025, the Traffic Section continued its commitment to roadway safety and efficient traffic management across the city.

The section played a key role in supporting major community events, including the Atlantic City Holiday Parade. Personnel from each unit worked collaboratively to ensure the parade ran smoothly. The Motorcycle Unit assisted with traffic control and parade escort operations, while the Tow Truck Unit helped remove vehicles and quickly address roadway obstructions, maintaining safe and efficient traffic flow throughout the event.

K-9 Unit

Training, Trust, and Tactical Excellence

The Atlantic City Police Department's K9 Unit is a specialized team that enhances the department's capabilities and serves the community in various ways. K9 Teams are expertly trained in disciplines such as narcotics detection, tracking, searching, and explosives detection. The unit is structured into Patrol Teams, Explosive Detection Teams, and Narcotics Detection Teams, each with distinct responsibilities.

In addition to their operational roles, K9 Teams frequently participate in community outreach by providing demonstrations at schools and public events, fostering positive relationships and building trust with the public.

2025 Highlights

2025 was a notable year for the Atlantic City Police Department K9 Unit, marked by both operational success and community engagement.

Officer Robert Reynolds and K-9 Carlo were recognized for their outstanding service, with Officer Reynolds receiving the Operations 803 Award for exceptional performance in April 2025. Since graduating from the Atlantic County K-9 Academy in 2024, the team has contributed to public safety, through the recovery of illegal firearms, seizure of narcotics, and confiscation of currency connected to criminal activity.

The K9 Unit also strengthened community ties through school visits, public demonstrations, and educational programs that promote safety, law enforcement awareness, and responsible interactions with police K-9s. These efforts highlight the unit's versatility, professionalism, and ongoing commitment to both public safety and community trust.

TOURISM DISTRICT UNIT

Enhancing Public Safety Through Engagement

Atlantic City's Tourism District includes some of the city's most active public spaces, such as the Boardwalk, beach, surrounding streets, Tanger Outlets, key roadways, and inlet neighborhoods. Dedicated police resources are assigned to this district to maintain public safety and provide consistent law enforcement coverage in areas of high visitor and community activity.

The Tourism District Unit (TDU) was established through a partnership between the Casino Reinvestment Development Authority (CRDA) and the Atlantic City Police Department, formalized through an intergovernmental agreement to support public safety and policing within Atlantic City's Tourism District.

These operations are conducted under the supervision of a Captain, Lieutenants, and Sergeants, ensuring coordinated deployment, effective service delivery, and consistent coverage throughout the district.

Core Functions of the Tourism District Unit

- Enhancing Community Relations
- Reducing Crime Rates
- Promoting a Positive Image of Law Enforcement
- Maintaining a Visible Public Safety Presence
- Connecting Individuals in Need to Social Services

The mission of the Tourism District Unit is to enhance public safety, support community engagement, and address quality-of-life concerns within Atlantic City's most heavily trafficked areas, while maintaining a visible and responsive presence for residents, businesses, and visitors.

Officers assigned to the Tourism District are readily identifiable as uniformed police officers and operate throughout the district using marked patrol vehicles and foot patrols, with additional deployment methods used as needed to ensure flexible and consistent coverage.

Community engagement remains central to the unit's operations. Officers maintain regular contact with local businesses and residents to proactively address concerns, identify emerging issues, and respond to public safety needs in real time, including coordination with other city services when appropriate.

2025 Highlights

The unit has been highly effective in maintaining public safety, resulting in numerous arrests, the recovery of weapons and controlled dangerous substances (CDS), currency seizures, and the issuance of Drug Offender Restraining Orders (DORO). It has also been instrumental in disrupting ongoing narcotics activity, removing repeat offenders, and significantly improving safety along Atlantic and Pacific Avenues.

2025 TDU STATISTICS

678

Arrests

1,106

Traffic Summons

82,600

Property Checks

94,780

Community Contacts

4,423

Complaints & Citations Issued

9,021

Dispatched Calls

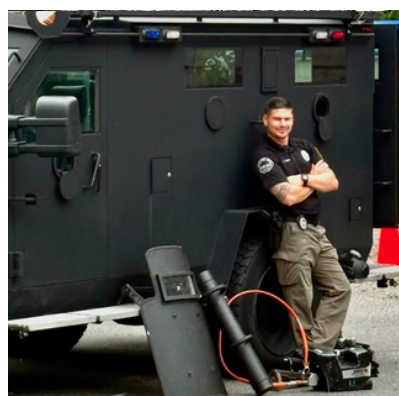
69,301

On View Response

EMREGENCY RESPONSE TEAM



20
25



EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

Specialized Response for Emergency Situations

The Department's **Emergency Response Team** consists of four units that are called upon to respond to especially dangerous emergency situations: the Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT), the Bomb Squad, the Mobile Command Post, and the Crisis Negotiation Team.

The Emergency Response Team not only responds to critical incidents, but our Bomb Squad and SWAT Team are routinely called upon by schools, organizations, and community programs to provide demonstrations of their services.

BOMB SQUAD

The Bomb Squad is a highly specialized team composed of certified bomb technicians and explosive detection canines, responsible for investigating and safely handling potential explosive threats. Equipped with advanced tools—including specialized response vehicles, robots, and portable X-ray devices—the unit is prepared for a wide range of hazardous situations. As a member of the New Jersey Render Safe Task Force, the Bomb Squad has access to a network of 52 certified hazardous device technicians, further enhancing their capabilities.

In 2025, the Bomb Squad conducted 35 investigations and supported 12 special events and security sweeps. The team also prioritized community engagement, through demonstrations, public interaction, and hands-on experiences such as trying on gear and touring the response truck.

SWAT TEAM

The SWAT Team is made up of highly trained officers prepared to handle the most dangerous and complex situations.

They are equipped to respond to incidents such as hostage situations, barricaded individuals, active shooters, or terrorism threats, large-scale disturbances, and high-risk warrant service for investigative units.

In 2025, the SWAT team was activated 69 times for a wide variety of operations, including executing search warrants and apprehending high-risk suspects. SWAT members are also deeply engaged in community outreach, frequently participating in public events where they interact with residents, provide equipment demonstrations, and invite children to try on tactical gear or tour the Bearcat armored vehicle. This combination of operational readiness and public engagement underscores the team's commitment to both safety and community connection.

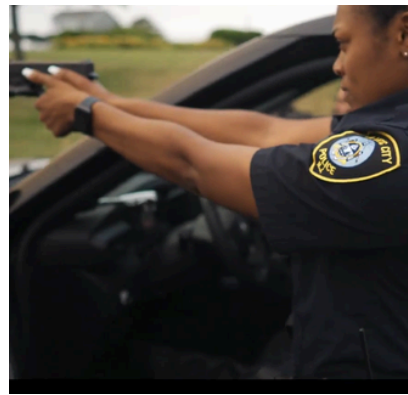
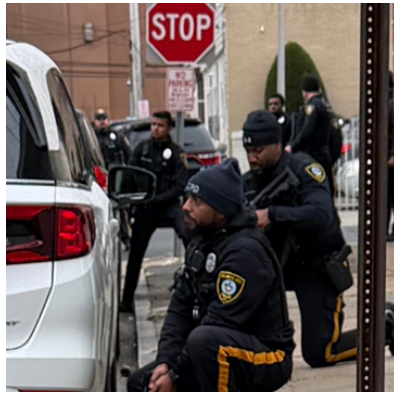
CRISIS NEGOTIATION TEAM

The Crisis Negotiation Unit plays a crucial role in safely resolving potentially life-threatening situations such as barricaded subjects, hostage incidents, and individuals experiencing emotional or mental health crises. Team members are required to complete the FBI's Crisis Negotiation Course, ensuring they possess the specialized training and communication skills necessary to defuse volatile encounters and work toward peaceful resolutions.

In 2025, the unit was activated 33 times, providing vital support during standoffs, suicide attempts, and arrests involving people in crisis. The dedication and expertise of the Crisis Negotiation Unit continue to be instrumental in protecting lives and maintaining public safety during the department's most challenging responses.

INVESTIGATIONS

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25



VIOLENT CRIMES UNIT

Violent Crime Investigations and Enforcement

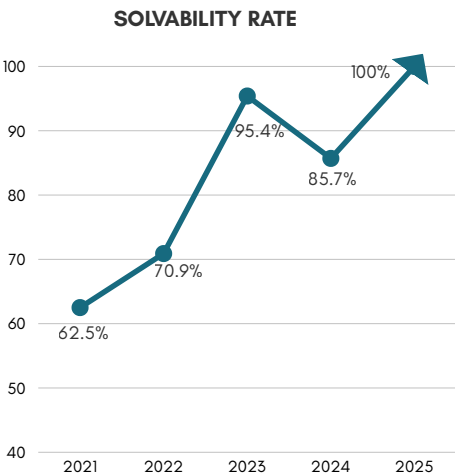
The **Violent Crimes Unit (VCU)** is a specialized team within the Criminal Investigations Section dedicated to investigating non-fatal shootings throughout Atlantic City. Available 24/7, VCU detectives respond swiftly to incidents involving gun violence, working diligently to identify those responsible, gather evidence, and build strong cases for prosecution. The unit also assists the Atlantic County Prosecutor’s Office Major Crimes Unit in all homicide investigations, contributing their expertise and local insight to support these complex cases.

Through their persistent efforts, the VCU consistently achieves a case-solving rate for non-fatal shootings that exceeds national averages. Their commitment has played a critical role in removing some of the city’s most violent offenders from the streets and making Atlantic City safer for everyone.

In 2025, the VCU responded to and investigated 8 non-fatal shootings. All of these cases have been closed, with a **100% solvability rate**. Of the 8 total investigations, there were 2 self-inflicted shootings.

The notable reduction in violent crime this year is the result of several key factors. Foremost is the dedication and tireless work of the Violent Crimes Unit, whose detectives pursue justice for victims through thorough investigations.

Technology has also significantly enhanced investigative capabilities. An expanded network of surveillance cameras, ShotSpotter gunshot detection, and automated license plate readers provides critical evidence and real-time intelligence. From detecting gunfire in real time to identifying suspect vehicles and movements, these tools have directly supported arrests and case closures.



VIOLENT CRIME UNIT STATISTICS

	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Non-Fatal Shootings	44	39	27	23	10
Charged	22	19	20	18	9
Firearms Recovered	8	19	11	13	20
Search Warrants	55	53	137	118	167
Closed %	62.5%	70.9%	95.4%	85.7%	100%

SPECIAL INVESTIGATIONS

Investigating Narcotics, Trafficking, and Drug Related Crimes

The **Special Investigations Section** is comprised of two closely coordinated units: the Vice Unit and the Intelligence Unit. The Vice Unit focuses on investigating narcotics offenses, prostitution, Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) violations, and human trafficking. The Intelligence Unit is tasked with collecting, analyzing, and sharing critical information both within the department and with external law enforcement partners.

Both units depend heavily on collaborative relationships with the community. Most investigations originate from community complaints, reports from local businesses, and anonymous tips, reflecting the vital role that public involvement plays in the success of their efforts.

Opioid Epidemic

The opioid crisis continues to impact families across the country, including here in Atlantic City, affecting individuals of all backgrounds and ages. To combat fatal overdoses, every officer in the department is trained in the administration of Naloxone (Narcan), enabling immediate intervention that has saved hundreds of lives locally.

The Special Investigations Section remains vigilant and adaptable, constantly shifting its focus in response to evolving patterns of narcotics trafficking and distribution. Recognizing the strong connection between drug activity and violent crime—particularly disputes over territory that can lead to shootings—detectives pursue proactive investigations, targeted enforcement, and ongoing training to address this complex challenge.

In 2025, Detective Moustafa Maarouf was recognized as ACPD Officer of the Quarter for his exceptional work in the Special Investigations Section. In just over one month, he led multiple high-profile investigations that disrupted dangerous narcotics activity and removed firearms from the community.

Human Trafficking

Human trafficking remains a significant priority for the Special Investigations Section. All detectives have received specialized training in the detection, investigation, and prosecution of these cases.

The unit also conducts undercover operations to identify and apprehend traffickers, as well as individuals involved in prostitution. Detectives are specially trained to interview those arrested or suspected of being victims, with the dual goals of dismantling trafficking networks and ensuring appropriate support and resources for victims.

Project Medicine Drop

The Vice Unit continued to manage Project Medicine Drop, giving residents a safe option to dispose of unused or expired prescription medications. This effort plays a vital role in preventing prescription drug abuse in our community. In 2025, the program collected and destroyed 204 pounds of medications, directly contributing to a safer Atlantic City.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

20
25



COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Building Trust Through Community Partnerships

The Atlantic City Police Department places a strong emphasis on maintaining positive relationships between law enforcement and the community. The Department responds to complaints and concerns received through anonymous Tip411 submissions, community partners, and direct communication with residents.

In addition to responding to community concerns, the Department works to support vulnerable populations throughout the city. Each year, officers participate in programs designed to clothe and feed individuals experiencing homelessness, educate children and adults, and mentor youth.

The Department also brings residents together through community events designed for all ages. These efforts promote communication, trust, and collaboration, reinforcing the shared responsibility of public safety in Atlantic City.

NEIGHBORHOOD COORDINATION UNIT

The Neighborhood Coordination Unit consists of officers assigned to each of Atlantic City's six wards and officers assigned to the Homeless Outreach Program. NCO officers focus their shifts on community engagement, addressing quality-of-life concerns, and working directly with residents and local businesses.

Officers assigned to the NCO Unit spend time in their assigned neighborhoods, attend business association meetings, and respond to ongoing issues affecting quality of life. Officers are also available by cellular phone to address concerns when off duty, allowing for continuity in problem-solving and communication.

The Unit regularly participates in community activities, including summer BBQs, Shop with a Cop, and neighborhood cleanups, maintaining consistent visibility and accessibility throughout the city.



COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Building Community Connections

Community Events & Engagement

The NCO Unit organizes and supports a wide range of community events designed to bring residents and officers together and encourage open communication. These events provide opportunities for residents to meet officers in a relaxed environment, discuss neighborhood concerns, and build trust and cooperation between the Department and the community.

The NCO Unit also organizes and supports major events including:

- Community Summer BBQs
- National Night Out 2025
- Shop with a Cop 2025
- Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway
- Holiday Toy Drives, Toy Run, and Christmas Party

Community Summer BBQs

The NCO Unit hosts seven Community BBQ events across Atlantic City each summer. These events include distributing toys to children and serving halal food options alongside traditional foods such as hot dogs and hamburgers. Residents are invited to engage directly with officers, share concerns, and discuss neighborhood issues in a welcoming environment, helping strengthen bonds between officers and community members.

National Night Out 2025

The NCO Unit organized and ran this city-wide event designed to bring residents, officers, and community partners together for an evening of engagement and conversation. The event promotes crime prevention, public safety awareness, and community trust while giving residents a chance to interact with officers in a positive, informal setting.

Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway

The NCO Unit organized the 2025 Thanksgiving Turkey Giveaway at the ACPAL Building, distributing 250 turkeys to families in need. The event provides direct support to vulnerable residents while promoting goodwill and community connection.

Shop with a Cop 2025

The annual program served 150 children and included transportation in three vans driven by NCO officers. Each child was paired with an officer to shop for holiday gifts, creating a safe, positive, and memorable experience that strengthens relationships between law enforcement and youth in the community.

In addition to these major events, the NCO Unit participates in 90-100 additional community engagement activities annually, including Coffee with a Cop, Three Kings Festival, Halloween Trunk-or-Treat, Harvest Fest, Torch Run, community walks, street dedications, city-sponsored events, school career days, sporting events, Stockton University graduations, Megan's Law notifications, protests, and targeted neighborhood outreach. Many of these events would otherwise go unsupported due to patrol resource limitations, highlighting the critical role of NCO officers in connecting with and serving the community.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Building Community Connections

Public Safety & Support

The NCO Unit provides essential public safety and operational support to ensure the safety, order, and well-being of residents and participants at city events. Officers play a critical role in both planned events and day-to-day community operations, helping maintain safety while fostering positive relationships with the public.

The NCO Unit is responsible for key operations including:

- Traffic Control and Event Safety
- Funeral and Student Escorts
- Police Athletic League (PAL) Supervision
- Weekly Food Distribution and Deliveries
- Neighborhood Quality-of-Life Initiatives

Traffic Control and Event Safety

The NCO Unit provides traffic control and safety support for approximately 37 events annually requiring road closures. Officers coordinate traffic flow, secure perimeters, and ensure events are conducted in a safe, organized manner for residents, visitors, and participants.

Police Athletic League (PAL) Supervision

NCO officers accompany all PAL basketball games and PAL trips, providing supervision, safety, and positive engagement with youth participants. These efforts promote mentorship, trust, and safe participation in recreational programs.

Quality-of-Life Operations

Funeral and Student Escorts

NCO officers conduct approximately 25 funeral escort operations each year, providing dignified and respectful processions for families during difficult times. In addition, they support 10-15 student escort operations annually, safely transporting students to schools, community events, and educational programs.

Weekly Food Distribution and Deliveries:

Officers assist with weekly food distributions every Thursday, providing traffic control, crowd management, and ensuring a calm and welcoming environment. NCO officers also conduct food drop-offs to families in need, helping to support vulnerable residents directly while building relationships and community trust.

Neighborhood Quality-of-Life Initiatives:

On a daily basis, the NCO Unit addresses community concerns by mediating neighborhood disputes, addressing ordinance violations, engaging business owners through “park and walk” visits, assisting residents experiencing mental health or substance abuse challenges, and developing proactive neighborhood improvement plans. These activities strengthen trust, improve safety, and enhance overall neighborhood well-being.

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Building Community Connections

Community Trust, Inclusion, and Faith-Based Outreach

The NCO Unit plays a key role in fostering trust, inclusivity, and safety across Atlantic City's diverse communities. Officers actively work to ensure that all residents, regardless of faith, background, or identity, feel secure and supported in their neighborhoods.

The NCO Unit is responsible for key activities, including:

- Religious Event and Service Security
- Faith-Based Safety Checks
- Pride Events and Parades

Religious Event and Service Security:

The NCO Unit coordinates and provides security for all religious events and services throughout the city, including two annual prayer events that draw approximately 500-1,000 participants. Officers ensure these gatherings are conducted safely and provide visible reassurance to faith communities.

Faith-Based Safety Checks:

NCO officers regularly conduct safety checks at mosques, churches, and synagogues, particularly following national incidents or threats. These proactive measures help maintain a secure environment for congregants and strengthen the relationship between law enforcement and faith leaders.

Pride Events and Parades:

The NCO Unit staffs and supports all Pride events and parades in Atlantic City. Officers work to ensure that these events are safe, inclusive, and welcoming for participants, demonstrating the Department's commitment to diversity and community engagement.

Through consistent support of faith-based and inclusive events, the NCO Unit builds trust, ensures safety, and fosters a sense of belonging for all residents. Their efforts help bridge the gap between law enforcement and the community, promoting mutual respect, understanding, and cooperation across Atlantic City.



COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Building Community Connections

2025 NCO Events and Programs

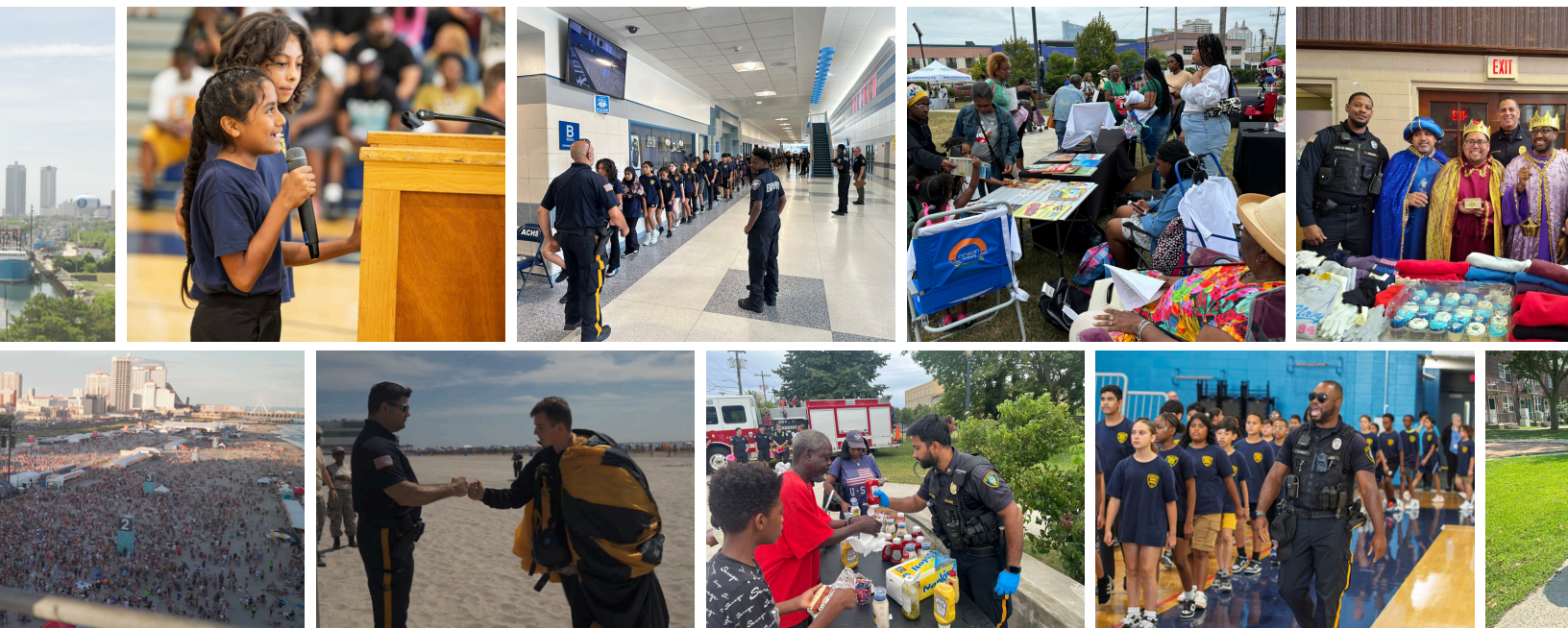
- 1st Ward Civic Association Meeting (Uptown Complex School)
- 1st Ward Civic Meeting
- 1st Ward Meeting
- 3 Kings" Christmas Celebration
- 3rd Ward Clean-Up Program
- 3rd Ward Meeting
- 9/11 Memorial & Public Safety BBQ - Public Safety Building
- AC PAL Boxing Show
- Atlantic Cape Community College National Gun Violence Event
- Atlantic County Toy Drive
- AtlantiCare Homeless Event & Community Clean-Up
- Bangladesh Festival
- Bird Cage Event
- Black History Month Trip Explorer/ Pal Kids
- Brighton Avenue School CyberBullying Presentation
- Boys & Girls Club Community Garden Event
- Bungalow Park Meeting
- Bungalow Park Meeting
- Career Day - Brighton Avenue School
- Career Day - Chelsea Heights School/ Fun Day
- Career Day - MLK & Texas Avenue Schools/ Funday
- Career Day - Pennsylvania Avenue School
- Chaplain Conference
- Chai the Cop - NJSP/NCO
- Chelsea Neighborhood Association Meeting (Stockton University)
- Chelsea Neighborhood Meeting
- Chelsea Neighborhood Meeting (Hybrid)
- City Harvest Halloween Event - NCO/CRU Table Setup
- City of Atlantic City Drive-In Movie - Surf Stadium
- City Recruitment Program - Soldiers' Home
- Coffee With a Cop - Family Dollar
- Coffee With a Cop-Ocean Club Condominiums
- Coffee With a Cop- Dunkin Doughnut
- Community BBQs & Community Walks -City Hall
- Community Garden Block Party - Dover & Ventnor Ave
- Community Walk
- Community Walk - All Wars Memorial
- Coats for the Homeless
- Council Steel Pier Days
- Daycare Escort- Flag Day
- Easter Egg Hunt
- Father's Day BBQ - McClinton Park
- Fun Day - Uptown School
- Funeral Escorts (27)
- Hard Rock Community Engagement Event
- Harris Case Law Training
- Hooked on Fishing Event
- Homework Completion Program
- Islamic Summit/ Eid Prayer(900 Attendees)
- Junior Police Academy - Session One
- Junior Police Academy - Session Two
- Junior Police Academy Graduation - ACHS
- Junior Police Academy Recruitment Presentation
- Kennedy Plaza Concert
- Latino Festival
- Memorial Day Ceremony
- MLK March
- National Gun Violence Awareness Community Walk - Brown's Park
- National Night Out - Sovereign Avenue Ball Park
- New Name Party (Vietnamese Group)
- New York Avenue School Graduation/ Fun Day
- PAL Fun Day - Pop Lloyd Stadium
- PAL Thanksgiving Dinner
- Pal Youth Basketball Games (8 games)
- Pennsylvania Avenue School - Talk to Kids/ JPA
- Police Explorers (Saturdays - AC PAL)

COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Building Community Connections

2025 NCO Events and Programs, cont.

- Police Explorers Promotion Ceremony (AC PAL)
- Pride Flag Raising Ceremony
- Pride Parade/ event
- Protest Crowd Control- No Kings
- Puerto Rican Flag Independence Day - Flag Raising
- Public Safety Civilian Academy (AC PAL)
- Public Safety Civilian Academy Graduation
- Read Across America
- Read Across America at New York Avenue School
- Read Across America at Sovereign Avenue & Chelsea Heights Schools
- Rent-A-Center - Talk to the Homeless Outreach
- Safe Street Fishing Program
- Santa Event - Bass Pro Shops
- Shop With a Cop - EHT Walmart
- South Jersey Cultural Alliance Cyber-Bullying Presentation (ACCC - Brown's Park)
- Speeding Awareness Video
- Stand Down Planning Meeting
- Stand Down Veterans Event - All Wars Memorial
- Stockton University Graduation - Crowd Control
- Surf Camp - Jackson Avenue
- Thanksgiving Football Game
- Thanksgiving Food Drive - Atlantic Cape Community College
- Venice Park Civic Association Meeting
- Venice Park Meeting
- Venice Park Meeting
- Ward 1 Summer BBQ - Fisherman's Park
- Ward 2 Summer BBQ - Marina District Playground
- Ward 3 Summer BBQ - Brown's Park
- Ward 4 Summer BBQ - Texas Avenue Playground
- Ward 5 Summer BBQ - Sovereign Avenue
- Ward 6 Summer BBQ - Lower Chelsea
- Ward 6 Summer Community BBQ - Chelsea Heights Ball Field
- Vigil at City Hall



STAY CONNECTED

Follow Us for News, Updates & Community Events

Follow Us

Stay up-to-date on community events, programs, public safety updates, and opportunities to engage with the ACPD.



@AtlanticCityPolice



@atlanticcitypd



@AtlanticCityPD



Get Involved & Community Engagement

Volunteer & Learn

- Join programs like the Citizens Police Academy, Junior Police Academy, Police Explorers, and community clean-ups
- Build relationships, gain leadership experience, and make a difference

Attend Community Events

- From National Night Out to holiday giveaways, meet officers and strengthen your neighborhood connections

Stay Educated

- Follow ACPD to access crime prevention tips, safety resources, and public updates
- Keep your community safe while staying informed

Anonymous Tips - Tips411

You can now submit anonymous tips to the Atlantic City Police Department.

- If you see something suspicious or have information about a crime, submit tips, photos, or videos using the instructions below.
- Tips are reviewed by ACPD personnel who may follow up to ask for more details while keeping your identity anonymous.
- Your contact information is never transmitted to the agency.
- Do not use Tip411 for emergencies. Always call 911 for immediate law enforcement needs. For non-emergencies, call (609) 347-5780.

Submit a Tip

- **Option 1:**
 - Text the keyword ACPD + your tip to 847411
- **Option 2:**
 - Submit a tip online at:
<https://www.acnj.gov/pages/tip411-anonymous-tips>
- **Option 3:**
 - Download the ACPD Mobile App and submit a tip

Sign Up for ACAAlerts

Atlantic City's official emergency notification system delivers real-time updates on emergencies, road closures, and public safety incidents directly to your phone, email, or landline.

Stay informed, prepared, and connected with your community.

Sign up at www.acnj.gov/pages/acalerts





The **Atlantic City Police Foundation** is a nonprofit organization charged with raising funds to support the Atlantic City Police Department and community-based policing activities throughout Atlantic City. Founded in 2014, the Foundation works to strengthen public safety and enhance the relationship between law enforcement and the community by supporting programs that address evolving public safety needs.

The role of the Foundation is not to displace city or state funding for basic law enforcement operations, but to financially support programs designed to allow the Atlantic City Police Department to excel in the rapidly evolving areas of technology, policing strategies, training, and community engagement. These efforts help ensure the Department remains responsive, innovative, and effective in serving residents and visitors.

The Foundation serves as a long-term mechanism to ensure positive, sustainable contributions to public safety in Atlantic City by supporting safety programs, youth initiatives, and community outreach efforts that foster trust and cooperation between police officers and the community. Since its founding, the Atlantic City Police Foundation has raised more than \$500,000 in support of public safety initiatives.

In recent years, the Foundation has focused on youth engagement and police-community interaction. In 2025, it received a \$30,000 grant from the Families Behind the Badge Children's Foundation to support mentoring, leadership, recreational programs, and outreach that promote trust and positive opportunities for young people.

The Police Foundation continues to support community programs like the Police Athletic League, including a \$15,000 contribution for the city's youth wrestling team, as well as other activities connecting officers with local families. Its signature Atlantic City Hero Luncheon honors police and civilians for outstanding service; in 2025, honorees included law enforcement and community leaders, with support from partners such as Hard Rock Hotel & Casino. Funded by grants, donations, and community support, the Foundation plays a vital role in enhancing public safety and strengthening police-community relationships.

Board of Directors

Chairman:

- Dep. Chief Joseph Nolan (Ret.)

Vice Chairman:

- Chief James Sarkos
- Chief Henry White (Ret.)

Secretary:

- Chief Ernest Jubilee (Ret.)

Treasurer:

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- James W. McGowan
- Sgt. Monica McMenamin (Ret.)
- Dep. Chief Bridget Pierce (Ret.)
- Officer Matt Rogers
- Michael Sampson
- Sgt. Jules Schwenger

Legal Counsel:

- Jill Ojserkis, Esq.



Police FOUNDATION

Investing in a *Safe Atlantic City*



Foundation Donations for Equipment & Resources

- **Medical & Safety Supplies:** 100 Self-Aid Medical Kits, vest-mounted tourniquets for SWAT and RAD vests, EpiPen kits for firing range
- **Protective Gear:** 57 Rapid Armor Deployment Rifle-Resistant Vests
- **K-9 Support:** 2 ACPD K-9 dogs, orthopedic beds for current and retired K-9s
- **Technology & Facilities:** Police Surveillance Center monitors, equipment, and furnishings; PAL building surveillance system; Amplified speaker system for community relations; Police Press Room improvements; ACPD Substation supplies

Foundation Donations for Equipment & Resources

- **Training & Professional Development:** "Emotional Survival for Law Enforcement" books for sergeants and above; Junior Police Academy; Gym equipment for officers
- **Community & Youth Initiatives (Foundation-Funded):** Bicycles, racks, equipment, and uniforms for Park & Ride Program; Warm Coats Initiative - 170 coats for children; Printing of Atlantic City Merchants Guide and Annual ACPD Report; Meals for officers during holidays/special events; Support for families of sick/deceased officers
- **Recognition & Ceremonies:** Awards for retiring officers; Funded officer retirement events



Community Donations & Program Support

- **Youth & Mentorship Programs:** Police Athletic League (various events), Police Explorers (various events), Atlantic City High School Junior ROTC, PAL youth trips (e.g., African American Museum/National Constitution Center; 2025 National Police Explorer Competition), Coalition for a Safe Community youth wrestling mats
- **Community Engagement & Events:** National Night Out, Halloween Trunk or Treat, Unity Festival, Summer Concert Series, Hooked on Fishing, Not on Drugs initiative
- **Performing Arts & Teams:** Atlantic City Xclusive Drill Team
- **Partnerships & Support:** Atlantic City Covenant House (bus rental for youth trip with officers), 200 Club of Atlantic & Cape May Counties, McMeekin/Seedorf events

