

**UPPER MERION TOWNSHIP  
POLICE DEPARTMENT**



**2019 ANNUAL REPORT**

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## **MISSION STATEMENT**

The Upper Merion Township Police Department is pledged to engage in a cooperative effort with our citizens to achieve and maintain a superior quality of life within our community. To the greatest extent possible, our actions will reflect the priorities of our citizens. Remaining committed to the principles of honesty, integrity, and professional ethics, we will work diligently to reduce the incidence and fear of crime and promote an atmosphere of well being. Our efforts are aimed at helping Upper Merion Township continue to be a good place to live, visit, work and worship.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

The Upper Merion Township Police Department provides a full range of police services on a 24-hour-a-day basis. The Department services a geographical area of 16.7 square miles and is located in Montgomery County which is approximately 20 miles northwest of Philadelphia.

The Township is bordered by a 4.4 mile section of Route 76 (Schuylkill Expressway); a 5.2 mile section of the Pennsylvania Turnpike; and a 2.2 mile section of the County Line Expressway (Route 422), which are all patrolled by the Pennsylvania State Police.

Historic Valley Forge National Park, being mainly in Upper Merion Township, brings prestige and national recognition to the area. Also located in the Township is a large industrial area, the King of Prussia Town Center, and the expanded King of Prussia Mall, which is one of the largest shopping complexes in the country. In addition to the industrial and business aspect of our community, we also host four elementary schools, one middle school and one high school. Although the resident population is 28,395 (2010 census), the commercial/transit/industrial composition invites an estimated daytime population of over 200,000 people.

The Upper Merion Police Department continually seeks to partner with our culturally diverse community to maintain a safe environment for our residents and the Township's many visitors.

On the Township's web-site ([www.umtownship.org](http://www.umtownship.org)) various types of information can be accessed concerning the department's activities; including Crime Alerts, Weekly Crime Bulletins, Safety Tips, Community Response Unit, the Lock for Life Program and a Special Needs Registry. Like us on Facebook or follow us on Twitter @UMerionPD.

**2019  
POLICE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATION**

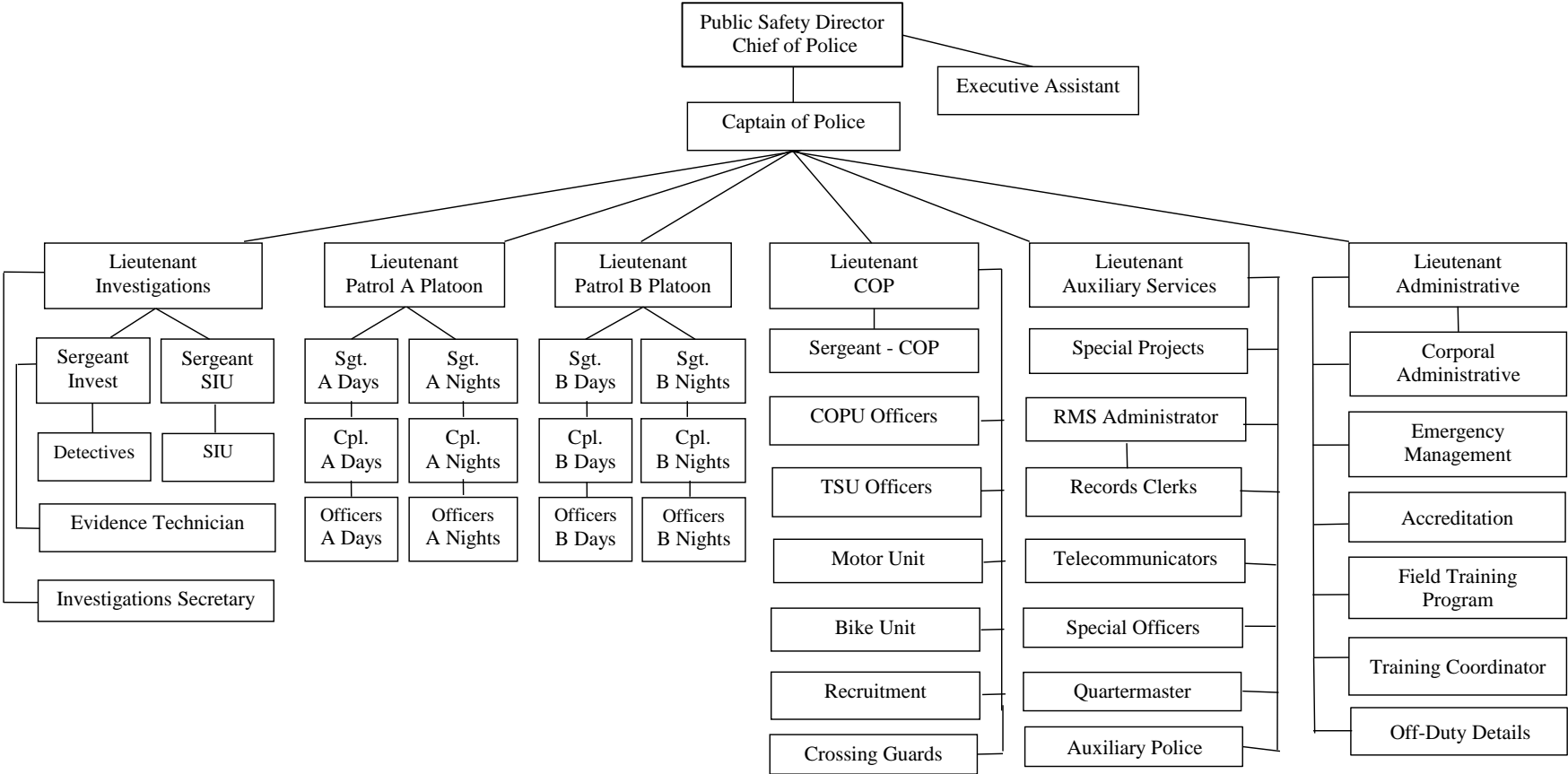
**SWORN OFFICERS:**

CHIEF OF POLICE	1
CAPTAIN OF POLICE	1
LIEUTENANTS	6
SERGEANTS	7
CORPORALS	5
PATROL OFFICERS	36
DETECTIVES	13
JUVENILE DETECTIVES	2
TOTAL:	<u>71</u>

**CIVILIAN EMPLOYEES:**

RMS ADMINISTRATOR	1
RECORDS DIVISION PERSONNEL	3
SECRETARIES	2
QUARTERMASTER	1
SPECIAL OFFICERS	2
EVIDENCE TECHNICIAN	1
TELECOMMUNICATORS: FULL-TIME	7
TELECOMMUNICATORS: PART-TIME	2
CROSSING GUARDS	7
CROSSING GUARDS: SUBSTITUTE	2
TOTAL:	<u>28</u>

**Upper Merion Township Police Department  
Organizational Chart  
2019**



## **2019 COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING**

In March of 1997 the Upper Merion Police Department established a full-time Community Relations Unit which has established a variety of programs to educate our residents and business community. In January of 2013 the Police Department changed the name to the Community Response Unit, along with the structure, to better respond to the needs of the Community, while keeping the integrity of the programs that were started and to add new programs with the intent of expanding services to the community. The change was also intended to highlight the fact that the entire department is community relations oriented and that community policing will remain very active throughout the Township. In 2018, the Police Department's Community Response Unit and Traffic Safety Unit combined resources to better serve our residents. This new unit is now a part of the recently created Community Oriented Policing Division in the Police Department.

## **POLICE CHAPLAIN PROGRAM**

The Police Department established a Police Chaplain Program in an effort to aid the Department in its efforts to advance the Community Policing Concept. The program is a voluntary partnership between the Clergy and the Police Department to help improve the quality of life for residents and the Police Department. The partnership will endeavor to help maintain strong community relations through the exchange of vital information that will help residents better understand police activity and procedures. The Chaplain Program will make counseling and pastoral services available to our Community, and the members and families of the Police Department, whenever such services are requested. The Police Chaplain, who has training in pastoral care in the world of law enforcement, will offer counseling and spiritual care during emergencies and times of crisis and turmoil, and the aftermath. There are currently five clergy from different denominations who volunteered for this program, and are "on call" whenever their services are requested.

## **COP CAMP**

In 2019, the Police Department again sponsored the Annual Cop Camp in cooperation with the Upper Merion Park and Recreation Department. Since its establishment in 2013, the objective of the camp has been to forge positive relationships between the police and area youth. The Cop Camp "Cadets" are taught teamwork, lessons in personal safety, and respect for themselves and for others as they participate in thought-provoking police-related activities. Cop Camp's regimented police training includes crash investigation and traffic enforcement with the Traffic Safety Unit, hostage rescue with the SWAT Team, K-9, Bicycle Unit and crime scene investigations with UMPD Detectives. Additional teamwork and physical conditioning are accomplished through games like tug-of-war, kickball and daily obstacle courses. During camp, cadets are acquainted with numerous police officers, fire fighters and paramedics and the camp concludes with a graduation ceremony and cookout. Cop Camp is open to well-disciplined boys and girls who reside in the Upper Merion Area School District who provide a good conduct letter from their school.

## **MED Rx RETURN**

The Police Department joined with the Montgomery County District Attorney's Office to provide a method where people can safely dispose of unused prescription and over the counter medications. A Med Rx Return Box was placed in the police lobby where it is accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Prescription medication, patches, pet medication, over the counter medications, and vitamins are just a few examples of the medications that can be collected. No needles, liquids or inhalers can be collected at this site. These returned medications will then be turned over to the District Attorney's Office on the National Drug Take Back Initiative that they sponsor twice a year in October and in April, to be properly disposed of where the effects of these drugs do not end up in the rivers, streams and ground water. In 2019 we collected 605 lbs. of prescription medication.

## **COMMUNITY RESPONSE ACTIVITIES AND PROGRAMS IN 2019**

Internet Safety, DA National Drug Take Back Initiative, Tours of Police Headquarters, Bullying Education, Town: Adventure Day Camp, Child Fingerprinting, Upper Merion Farmers Market, Police Chaplain Program, School W: Through Program, C.A.S.T. (Community Alliance for a Safer Tomorrow), presentations to numerous businesses and houses of worship on Police Response to an Active Shooter, Cop Camp, Senior Scam Programs, Lock for Life Program, Coffee with the Cops, Police Week Demonstration, Career Days, National Night Out, Med Rx Return, Seat Belt Safety Awareness in cooperation with the Montgomery County Health Department and PennD

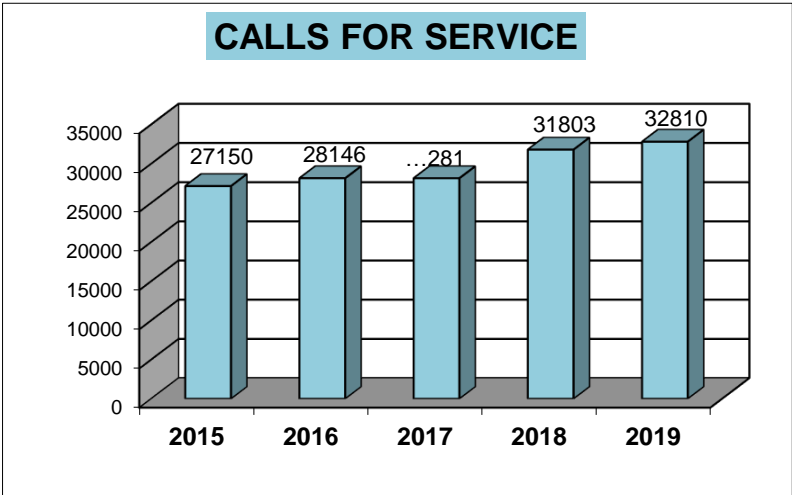
## **NATIONAL NIGHT OUT**

In August, the COP Division planned and hosted their second National Night Out. They teamed up with other local police agencies to bring a night of entertainment, information, and fun to our community. National Night Out enhances the relationship between neighbors and law enforcement while bringing to a true sense of community. Over 3,000 residents of Upper Merion and surrounding communities came to be a part of this community building event. The community had a chance to meet a large number of police officers from numerous surrounding police agencies, enjoy music, eat local food, play games and more. Community members also had the opportunity to learn about local resources and programs made available to them through different organizations such as the Upper Merion Senior Services Center, The Center for Autism, The Upper Merion Area Community Cupboard, Montco Family Services, Women's Center of Montco, and more.

**2019**

**CALLS FOR SERVICE**

2019	32810
2018	31803
2017	28145
2016	28146
2015	27150



In 2019 UMPD had 32,810 Calls for Service which was an increase of 1,007 over 2018.

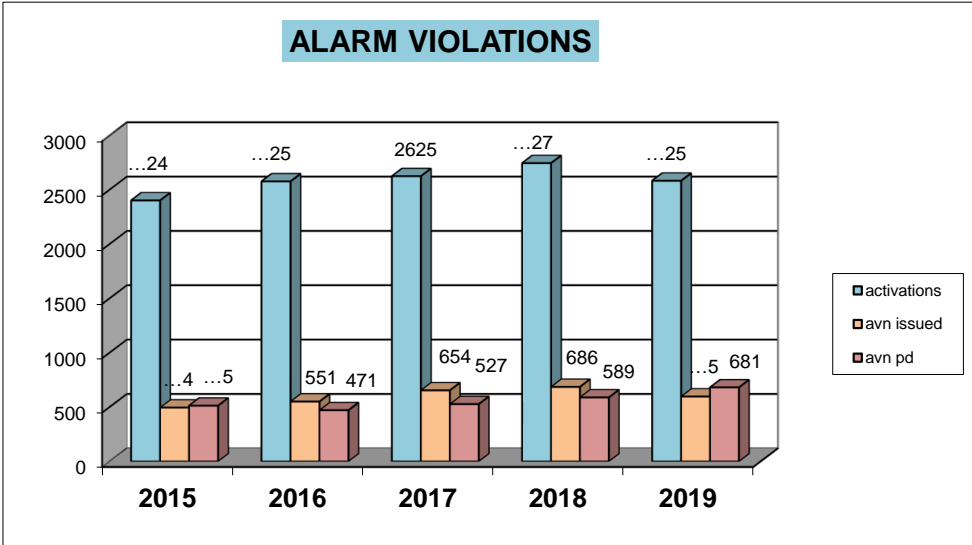


## 2019 ALARMS

In 2019 Patrol Officers responded to 2583 alarms, which was a decrease of 162 from 2018. Alarm Violation notices issued were 597 in 2019, which was a decrease of 89 from 2018.

## ALARM VIOLATION NOTICES

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
ACTIVATIONS	2402	2577	2625	2745	2583
AVN ISSUED	495	551	654	686	597
AVN PAID	513	471	527	589	681

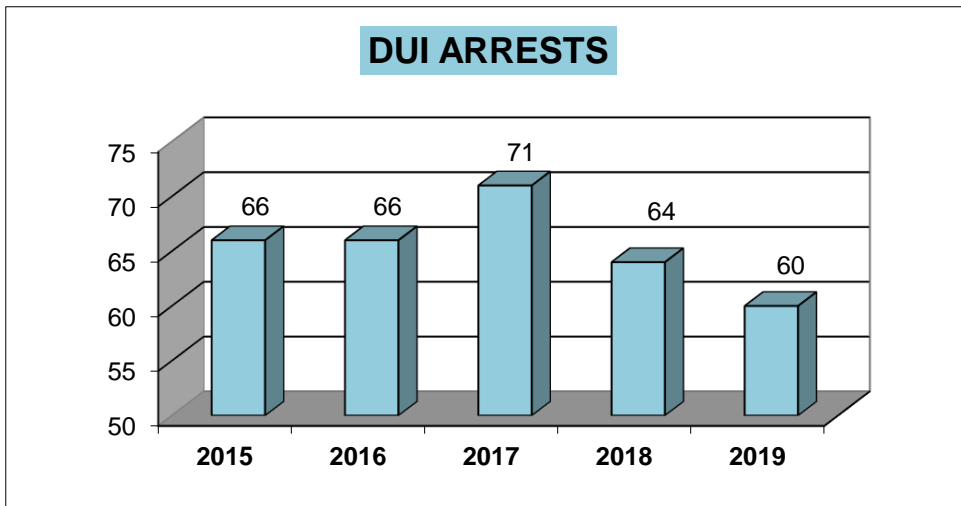


**2019**

**DUI ARRESTS**

(Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol or Drugs)

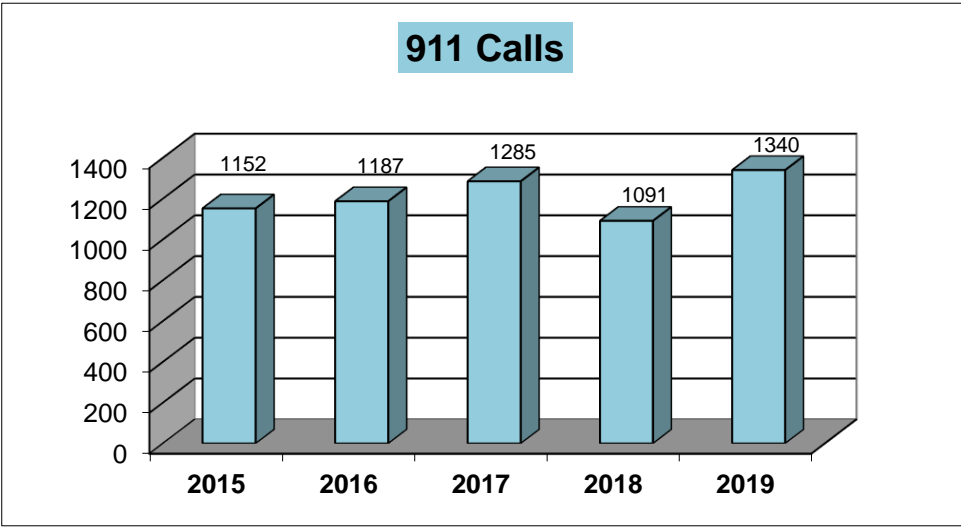
The patrol division arrested 60 drivers for driving under the influence in 2019 which was a decrease of 4 from 2018. Members of the department also participated in DUI Enforcement Patrols along with the Valley Forge Area DUI Enforcement Team during the year.



**2019**

**911 HANG-UP RESPONSES**

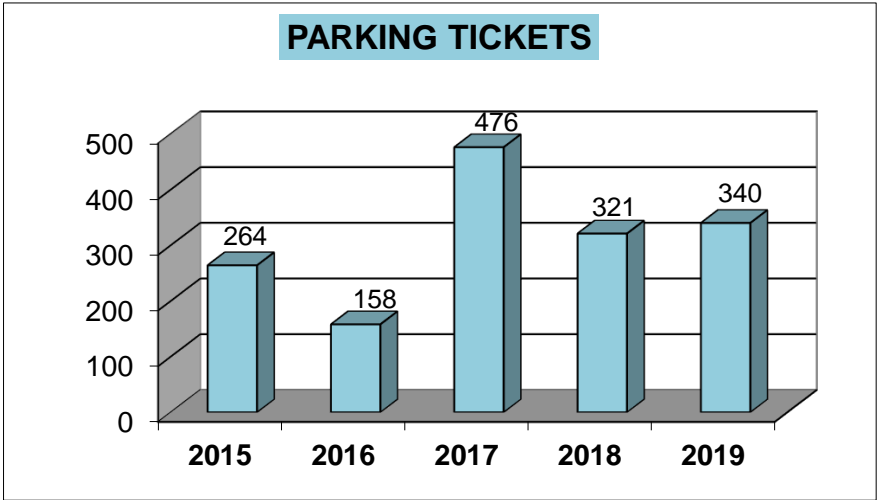
911 hang up responses occur when a caller contacts the Montgomery County 911 Center and hangs up before providing any information. The caller's phone number and address are automatically displayed on the County computer screen. If a County Dispatcher is unable to get an answer on call back, then the location data is transferred to our department. Two officers are dispatched to the location to check on the situation. The vast majority of 911 hang-up calls turn out to be caused by accident, yet each one must be treated as a potential emergency. The Police Department continues their efforts to reduce nuisance locations for 911 hang-up calls.



**2019**

**PARKING TICKETS**

340 parking tickets were issued in 2019 which was an increase of 19 over 2018.



**PARKING TICKETS**

2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
264	158	476	321	340

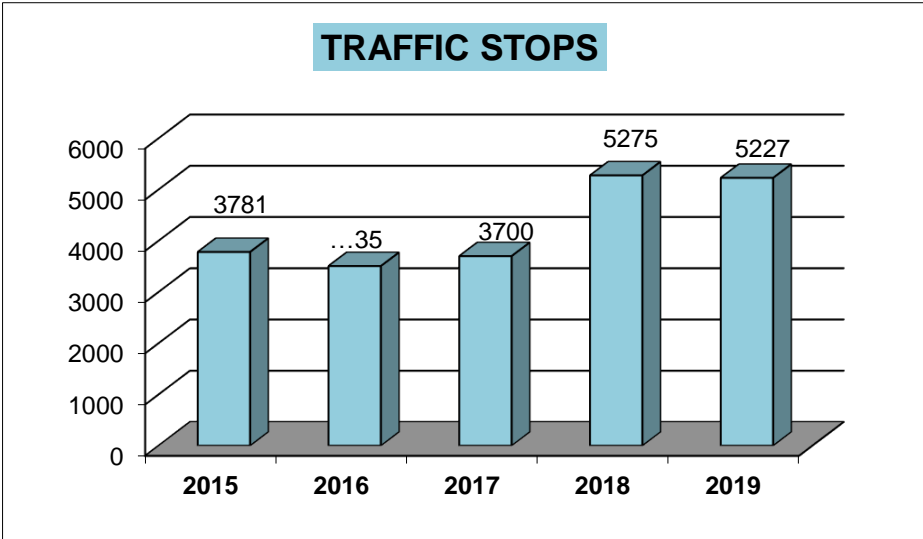
**2019**

**TRAFFIC STOPS**

In 2019 a total of 5227 traffic stops were initiated by the Patrol Division. The 2019 total represents a decrease of 48 traffic stops from the 2018 total.

**TRAFFIC STOPS**

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
TOTAL	3781	3506	3700	5275	5227



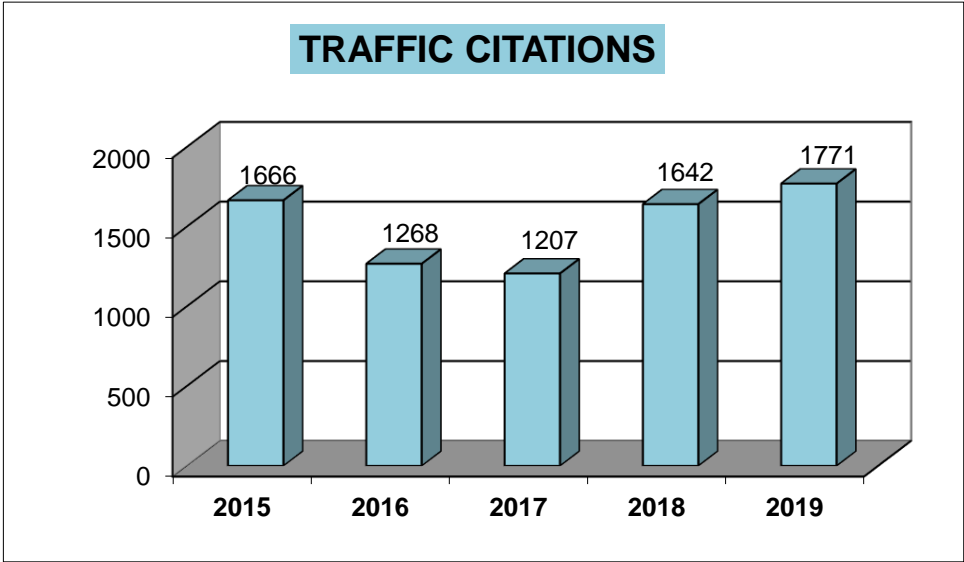
**2019**

**TRAFFIC CITATIONS**

In 2019 a total of 1771 traffic citations were issued by the Patrol Division. The 2019 total represents an increase of 129 citations over the 2018 total.

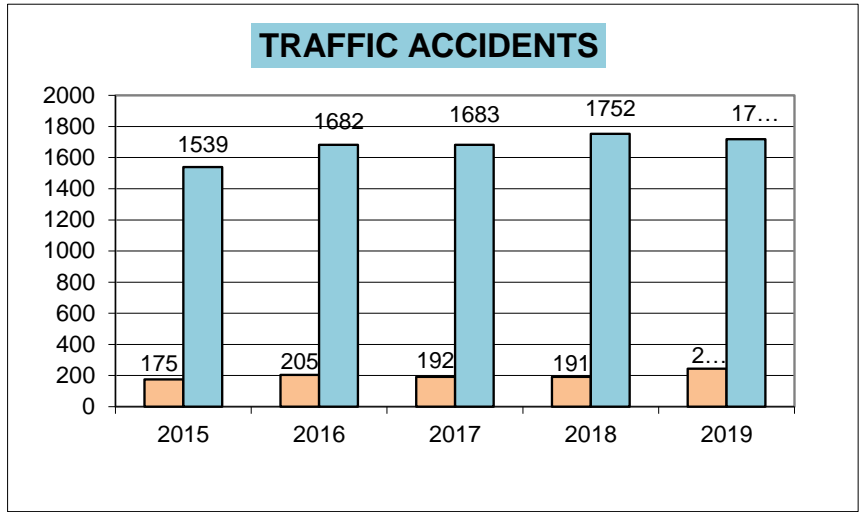
**TRAFFIC CITATIONS**

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
TOTAL	1666	1268	1207	1642	1771



## TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

The police department investigated 1963 auto accidents in 2019. When compared with 2018, there was an increase of 20 accidents in 2019.



## TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
REPORTABLE*	175	205	192	191	244
NON-REPT.	1539	1682	1683	1752	1719
TOTAL	1714	1887	1875	1943	1963

\* A reportable accident requires death, injury or vehicle towing

**2019  
PART 1 CRIMES / CLEARED**

Serious Crime as classified by the FBI

	CRIMES	CLEARED	% CLEARED
HOMICIDE	0	0	0%
RAPE	1	1	100%
ROBBERY	10	8	80%
ASSAULT	8	8	100%
BURGLARY	35	7	20%
THEFT**	1141	482	42%
AUTO THEFT	23	8	35%
ARSON	4	3	75%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1222</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>42%</b>

**2019  
PART 2 CRIMES / CLEARED**

Less Serious Crime as classified by the FBI

	CRIMES	CLEARED	% CLEARED
FORGERY & FRAUD	255	69	27%
OTHER ASSAULTS	44	37	84%
RECEIVING STOLEN PROP.	3	3	100%
DRUGS	64	57	89%
SEX CRIMES	30	19	63%
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	24	24	100%
LIQUOR LAWS	5	5	100%
VANDALISM	67	17	25%
ALL OTHERS *	387	336	87%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>879</b>	<b>567</b>	<b>65%</b>

\*All others includes crimes that are not listed above. (Weapons Offenses, Prostitution, Public Drunkenness, DUI, and all other offenses).

\*Theft includes "retail theft" which is by far the most frequent crime committed in Upper Merion Township due to the large number of retail businesses.



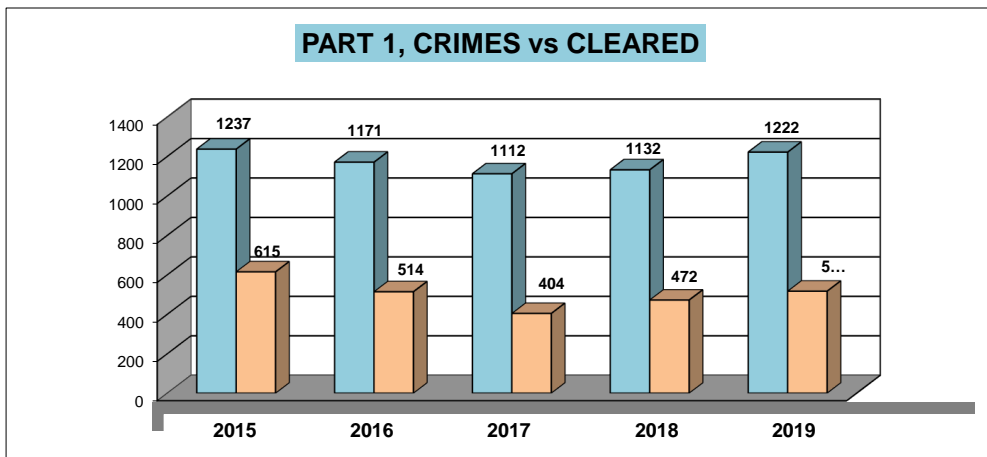
## Uniform Crime Report (UCR)

### PART 1 CRIMES 5 YEARS

YEAR	Criminal Homicide	Forcible Rape	Robbery	Assault	Burglary	Theft	Auto Theft	Arson	Total Part Crimes	% Change
2015	1	1	7	8	61	1137	22	0	1237	0.0%
2016	0	2	10	3	57	1079	20	0	1171	-5.3%
2017	0	3	12	3	30	1042	20	2	1112	-5.0%
2018	0	4	10	9	30	1055	19	5	1132	1.8%
<b>2019</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>1141</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>1222</b>	<b>8.0%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>5454</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>5874</b>	

### PART I CRIMES CLEARED 5 YEARS

YEAR	Criminal Homicide	Forcible Rape	Robbery	Assault	Burglary	Theft	Auto Theft	Arson	Total Part Cleared	% Cleared
2015	0	1	6	8	7	592	1	0	615	50%
2016	1	1	8	2	19	478	5	0	514	44%
2017	0	1	6	3	7	384	3	0	404	36%
2018	0	0	5	8	15	441	3	0	472	42%
<b>2019</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>482</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>42%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>2377</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>2522</b>	<b>43%</b>



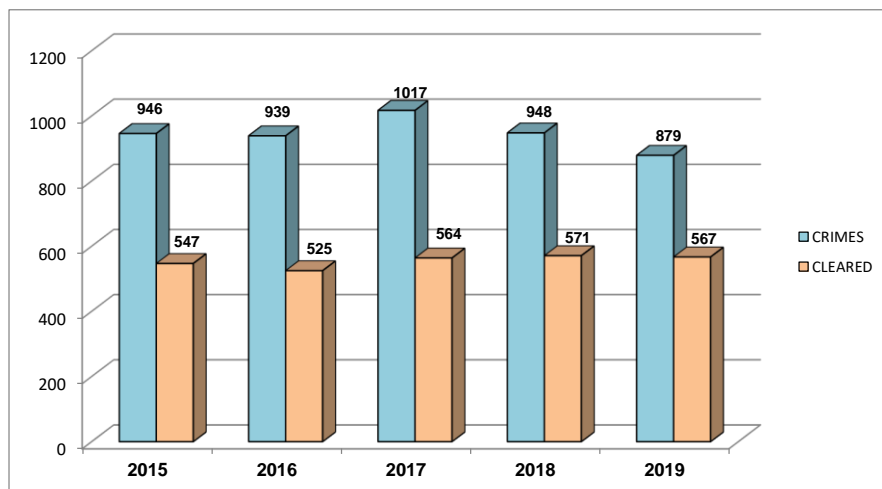
Uniform Crime Report (UCR)

**PART 2 CRIMES - 5 YEARS**

YEAR	FORGERY COUNTERFEIT	OTHER ASSAULTS	RECEIVING STOLEN PROP	DRUGS	SEX CRIMES	DISORDERLY CONDUCT	LIQUOR LAWS	VANDALISM	MOTHERS	ALL TOTAL	% CHANGE
2015	288	51	4	76	16	53	10	107	341	946	0%
2016	278	60	1	71	27	33	4	104	361	939	-1%
2017	316	43	0	103	27	31	5	76	416	1017	8%
2018	279	42	1	79	25	24	2	110	386	948	-7%
<b>2019</b>	<b>255</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>879</b>	<b>-7%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1416</b>	<b>240</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>393</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>1891</b>	<b>4729</b>	

**PART 2 CRIMES CLEARED - 5 YEARS**

YEAR	FORGERY COUNTERFEIT	OTHER ASSAULTS	RECEIVING STOLEN PROP	DRUGS	SEX CRIMES	DISORDERLY CONDUCT	LIQUOR LAWS	VANDALISM	MOTHERS	ALL TOTAL	% CLEARED
2015	88	44	4	71	21	53	9	10	247	547	58%
2016	81	51	1	69	15	32	4	17	255	525	56%
2017	66	34	0	93	24	31	5	8	303	564	55%
2018	76	38	0	75	11	24	2	28	317	571	60%
<b>2019</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>567</b>	<b>65%</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>380</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>164</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>80</b>	<b>1458</b>	<b>2774</b>	<b>59%</b>



2019

**JUVENILE ARRESTS**

**2019 NUMBER OF JUVENILES ARRESTED**

Part I Crimes	Number of Arrests		Part II Crimes	Number of Arrests	
	2018	2019		2018	2019
Homicide	0	0	Forgery / Fraud	1	4
Rape	0	0	Other Assaults	3	2
Robbery	0	0	Embezzlement	0	0
Assault	0	3	RSP	0	0
Burglary	4	0	Vandalism	3	0
Theft	83	89	Weapons	1	0
MV Theft	0	0	Prostitution	0	0
Arson	0	0	Sex Offenses	0	3
			Drugs	6	6
			DUI	1	0
			Liquor Laws	0	0
			Drunkenness	0	0
			Disorderly Conduct	2	2
			All Others except Traffic	4	4
<b>Total</b>	87	92	<b>Total</b>	21	21
			<b>Grand Total</b>	108	113

2019 YOUTH AID PANELS				2019 CURFEW VIOLATIONS		
Referred	Completed	Dropped	Still Active	Citations Issued	Warnings	Total
74	19	17	38	0	0	0

JUVENILE ARRESTS					
	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Total Arrests	152	128	113	108	113

