



The Oak Island Police Department



Presented by Chief Van Eddinger and Major Greg Jordan





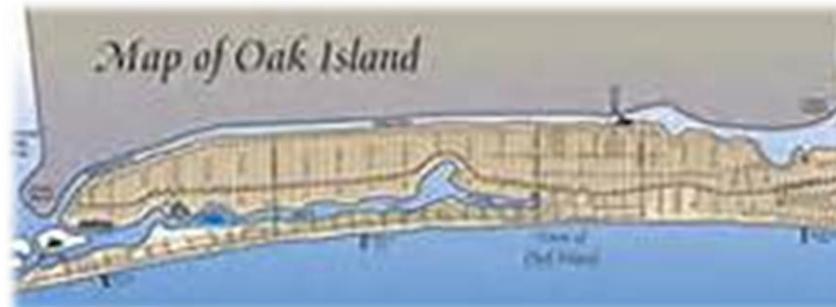
Town of Oak Island

Population: 7003 Permanent - up to 30,000+ Seasonal
(Average Population – 12,958)

8000+ Residences > 267 Commercial Establishments
6 Churches, 1 School, 1 Airport

Population: Oak Island is the Largest Coastal Town in NC (followed by Kill Devil Hills)

Land: Oak Island is the Largest Coastal Town in NC





Police Employees



22 Full Time Sworn Officers
1 Civilian Employee
14 Volunteers



Officer Ratio:

22 Officers per 7003 permanent Residents or
1 officer per 318 Residents

Seasonally: 22 Officers per 30000 Residents or
1 Officer per 1364 Residents





Officer Skill Level and Prior Experience:

As of August 01, 2013

Certificate Levels:



- 11 Officers have Advanced Certifications
- 6 Officers have Intermediate Certifications
- 1 Officer has the General Certification
- 4 Officers have Probationary Certifications



Other Experience:



- 8 Officers have been Honorably Discharged from the various branches of the Military (2 Army, 2 Navy, 1 Air Force, 3 Marines)
- 2 Officers have College Degrees
- 9 Officers have prior experience from other departments (1 Officer retired from the NC SHP)



As of August 01, 2013

4 Officers are State Certified Instructors



Training

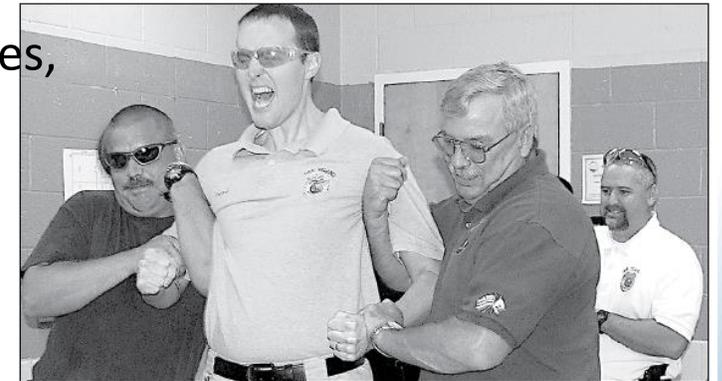


Each Officer must receive 24 hours of State Mandated In-Service Training and 4+ hours of Federally Mandated Training each year

Officers attend extra training in various areas such as: Intoximeter, RADAR, Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs, Hate Groups, Robbery Response, Financial Crimes, Traffic Crash Reconstruction etc.

Supervisors attend extra training in various Supervisory, Management and Leadership classes

*****5 Supervisors are Graduates of the North Carolina Justice Academy Management Development Program*****



Photos by Lisa P. Stites
Detective Mike Oxford felt the effects of the Taser shock immediately when he was "shot" during training Thursday. Spotters Reese Simmons, town council member, and firefighter Courtney Risser laid Oxford down so he wouldn't be hurt by falling.

**OAK ISLAND
Police add tasers to tool belt**



Frequently Asked Questions

Do officers get training in communications and public relations?

Officers get a variety of training in many different subjects:

In the past few years, the state has mandated training in the following subjects:

Awareness of Issues of Returning Veterans

Dealing with Medical Issues

Dealing with Mental Health Issues

Public Image

Mentoring

Dealing with Older Drivers etc.



Regardless of training, Officers, like all people, are different in their abilities. Some officers have the gift to talk with people while others do not. For those that have more difficulty, it is a continuous work in progress.



Events and Programs

In addition to Training, Officers attend various events and present many programs during the typical year (we work closely with Oak Island Community Watch for many of these):

Events: USCG Safety Day, Various Arts and Crafts Festivals, Big Toy Day, Military Appreciation Day, National Day of Prayer Events, Veterans Day Events, Wal-Mart Safety Day, SBHS Black History Month Celebrations, Booze it and Lose it Campaigns, Click It or Ticket Campaigns etc.

Programs Presented: For Adults > Scams, Safety for Senior Citizens, Golf Carts, Etc.

For Children > Stranger Danger, Self Esteem for Girls, Dating Safety, Bicycle Safety, Etc.

For Special Populations: Driving Safety for Fire/Rescue, First Aid for Pets etc.

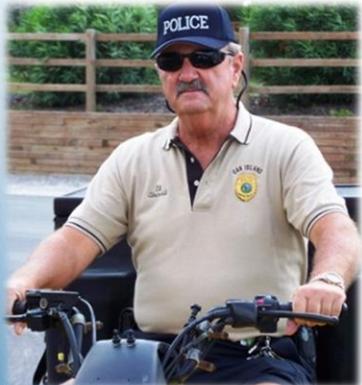
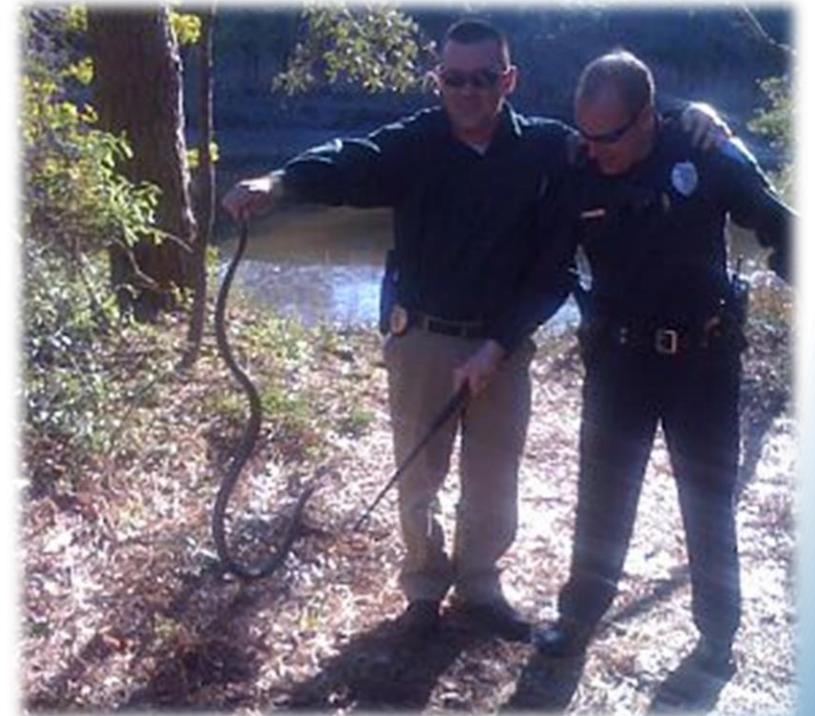




Calls and Services

Fiscal Year 2012 - 2013

10029 Total Calls (Average 27.5 calls per day)
869 Incident Reports with 1014 total Offenses
322 arrests with 600 Total Charges
921 State Citations with 1198 Total Charges
429 Ordinance Citations
1030 Warning Citation Charges
168 Traffic Accidents
(53 had injuries – 1 Fatality)





Frequently Asked Questions

Why do we write so many Speeding Tickets? ... or ...
I've heard that police officers in Oak Island will give you a ticket for doing 5 miles over the limit... is that true?

Fiscal Year 2012 – 2013 Statistics for Speeding Citations

190 Speeding Citations (20.6 % of all citations)

Lowest Speeding Citations – 3 Citations for 11 mph over > 7 Citations for 12 mph over

Highest Speeding Citation - 1 Citation for 86 in 45 mph Zone (41 miles over)
1 Citation for 95 in 55 mph Zone (40 miles over)
1 Citation for 90 in 55 mph Zone (35 miles over)



Most citations were written for 15 mph over but there were 49 (1/4th of all speeding citations) for 20+ mph over the posted speed.



Other Points

Other Points to note about Speeding Citations:

Traffic Fatality – Estimated speed of the vehicle before the crash (based on evidence): 90 mph in a 55 mph zone

Warnings – 1030 Charges – 230 Speeding – 22.3% of all warnings were for speeding

(There were more warnings given than citations issued)



Other General Points to note:

Ordinance Citations: 429 Citations Written (most for Speeding or Parking),
359 paid - 67 Unpaid - 3 Voided > \$17,005.00 in Fines Collected.

Mutual Aid Calls – 81 Calls for assistance by BCSD, NC-SHP and other adjacent agencies



Frequently Asked Questions



“Why do we have so many officers?” OR

“Why do we need/have 50+ officers?” OR

“I see officers everywhere... you must have too many officers”

Answer: We have 22 Full Time Sworn Officers

We normally have between 3 and 4 officers on the road for patrol at any given time. We want them to be seen so if people "see officers everywhere," our officers are doing what we ask by being seen. This is a great crime deterrent.



Frequently Asked Questions



“How many more officers do we hire for the summer?” OR...
“Can we do with less officers in the winter when we are not as busy”

Answer: We have the same number of officers in January as we do in July

(The number of officers needed for the town is based on the winter population not the summer population).



Officer Ratio: 22 Officers per 7003 permanent Residents or 1 officer per 318 Residents

Seasonally: 22 Officers per 30000 Residents or 1 Officer per 1364 Residents



How do we compare with other beach towns in NC?

Officer to Permanent Resident Ratio

<u>Town</u>	<u>Permanent Population</u>	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Ratio</u>
Ocean Isle Beach (BC)	564	13	1:43
Atlantic Beach	1506	16	1:94
Surf City	1899	15	1:124
Wrightsville Beach	2494	23	1:108
Nags Head	2773	22	1:126
Kitty Hawk	3296	16	1:206
Sunset Beach (BC)	3661	14	1:255
Carolina Beach	5883	27	1:214
Kill Devil Hills	6827	29	1:233
Oak Island	7003	22	1:318



We are the largest beach town in North Carolina in terms of population and land...**but...** we have the least number of officers per permanent resident



How do we compare to other towns in NC?

Officer to Permanent Resident Ratio

<u>Town</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Officers</u>	<u>Ratio</u>
Southport (BC)	2914	11	1:258
Wilkesboro	3428	20	1:157
Shallotte (BC)	3785	13	1:147
North Wilkesboro	4272	25	1:166
Zebulon	4493	22	1:210
Whiteville	5444	25	1:218
Selma	6185	23	1:216
King	6871	23	1:302
Oak Island	7003	22	1:318
Forest City	7413	32	1:234
Brevard	7553	22	1:348
Marion	7964	25	1:326



Note that with the exception of Southport and Shallotte, most these towns do not have extreme population increases during the summer months. Brevard, Marion and other mountain communities do have population increases but not to the extent of Oak Island.



Resources



All Population Data was acquired from US Census Bureau Quick Facts Estimates for December 31, 2012.

<http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/37/3735760.html>

As some cities/towns were not listed on the Census Bureau site (i.e. Shallotte, Wilkesboro, Zebulon etc.) the population estimates for those towns were obtained from the North Carolina Office of Budget and State Management July 2011 Estimates.

http://www.osbm.state.nc.us/ncosbm/facts_and_figures/socioeconomic_data/population_estimates/demog/municipalities/2011.html

All Police Department data originated from Individual Town or Police Department Websites



Frequently Asked Questions



The department is too top heavy...

Why do we have a Chief, an Assistant Chief and Two Lieutenants over 4 patrol squads?

... OR ...

Why does a town this small need 4 positions at top?

... Along with this ...

Why do we have an Assistant Chief and a Major?

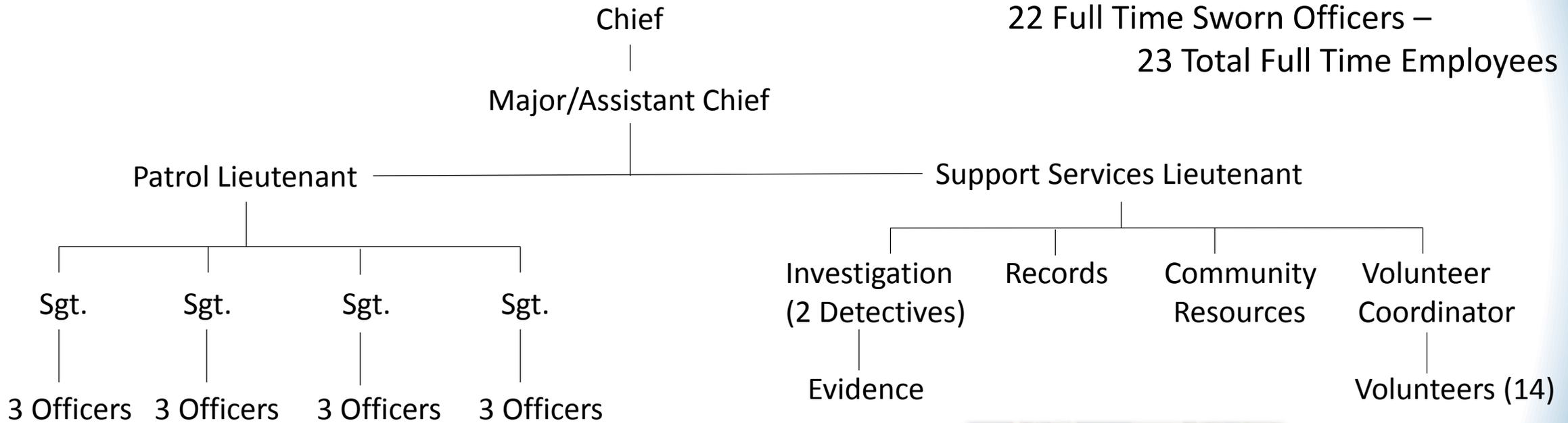




Organization Chart



22 Full Time Sworn Officers –
23 Total Full Time Employees



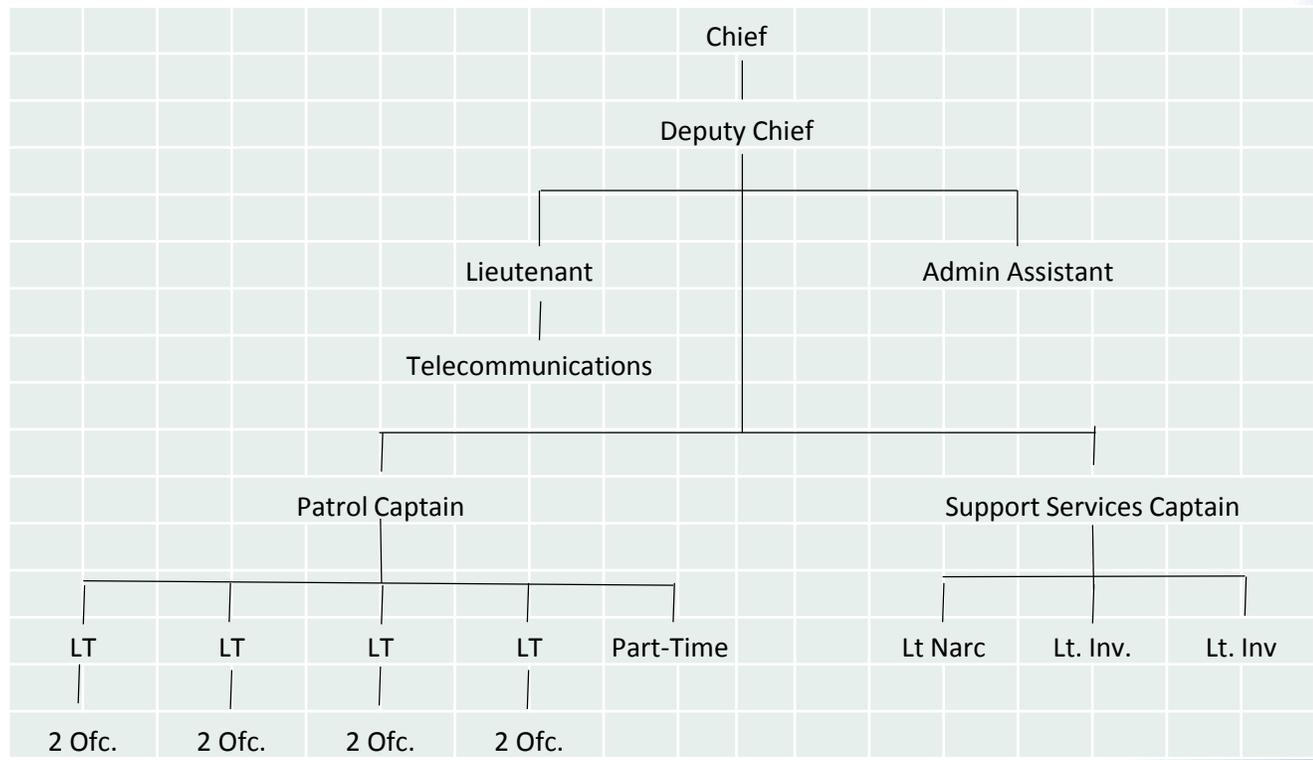
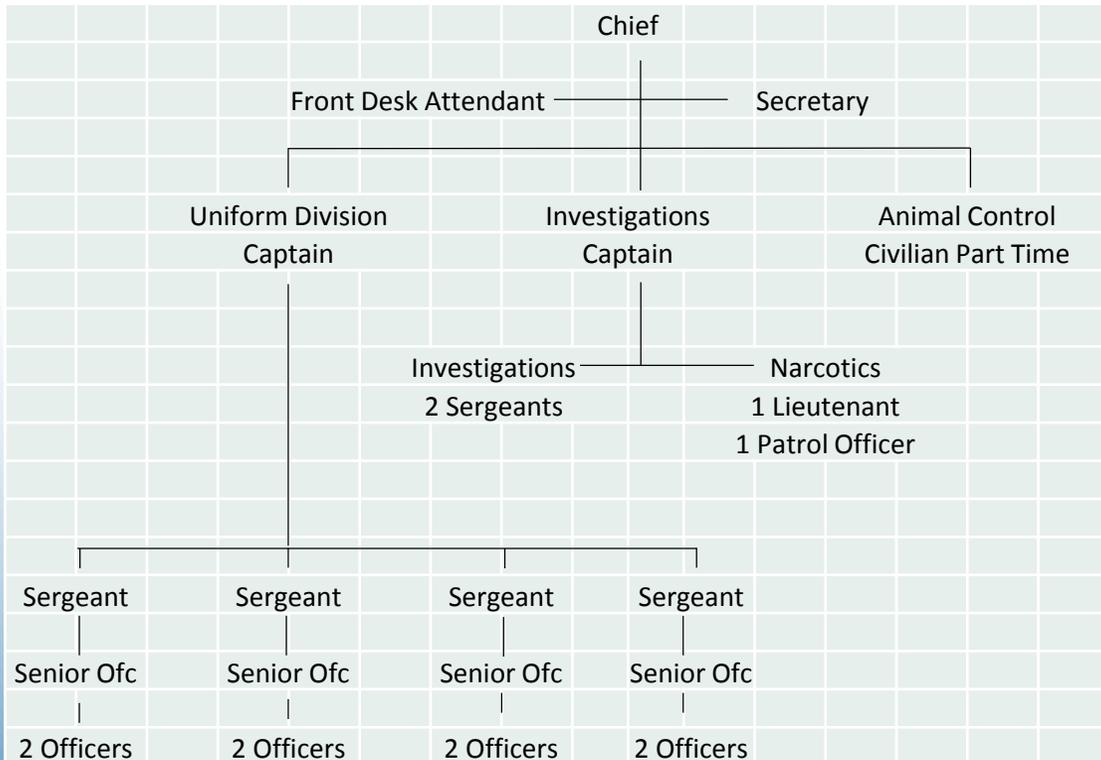


How do we compare to other Departments?

Organization Charts Other Agencies

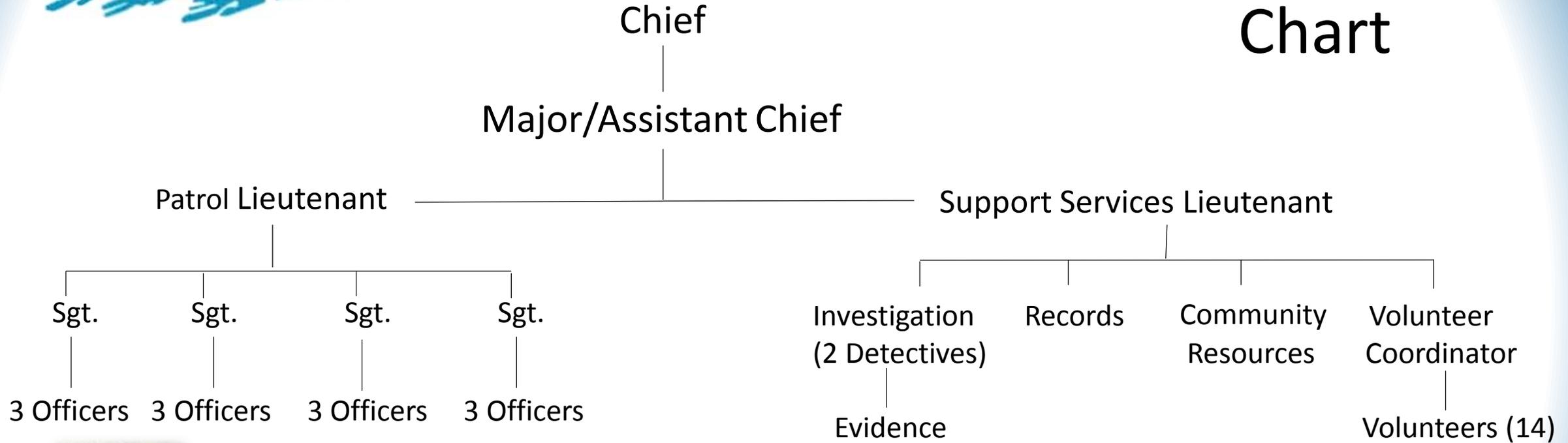
Selma Police Department (23 Officers – 26 Total Employees)

Wilkesboro Police Department (20+ Sworn Officers)





Organization Chart



Position Descriptions





Frequently Asked Questions



Since Oak Island does mostly traffic, why can't we let the county handle our detective duties?

During the fiscal year 2012 – 2013, The breakdown of calls were as follows:

Non Emergency Calls – 32.46% (Alarms, Animal Control, Suspicious persons, Warrant Service etc.)

Traffic Related Calls – 29.18% (Citations, Wrecks, Direct Traffic, Disabled Motorists etc.)

Calls requiring Investigation - 22.07%

(Of these 287 needed extensive investigation and another 399 needed assistance from Detectives (to include evidence handling and processing)

Emergency Calls – 10.06% (Fire, Medical, Water Rescue, Lost Children, Assaults, Armed Subjects, etc.)

Disturbance Calls – 5.43% (Domestic Violence, Unknown Disturbances, Noise Violations, Fireworks, etc.)

Administrative Calls - .7% (Deliver message, Information, Service Vehicle etc.)



Frequently Asked Questions



Why do we have 2 detectives? What do Detectives Do? How many cases do they have?

In general, Detectives are responsible for investigating serious crimes which require an extended number of hours to complete. This includes deaths, burglaries, larcenies, fraud/financial crimes, serious assaults, sex crimes, crimes against children, and all other felonies. With investigating a case, Detectives are responsible for:

- > Locating and interviewing victims, suspects and witnesses
- > Crime Scene investigation
- > Locating, collecting and preserving evidence
- > Recovering Property
- > Presenting the case to the DA for prosecution

Along with this, Detectives:

- > Assist/support patrol functions
- > Responsible for Crime Prevention
- > Maintain all evidence
- > Assist with Domestic Violence Prosecutions

The two detectives are on call 24/7/365 – Each detective is on call every other week
They average about 25 open cases at any given time.



What are the procedures involved in an arrest and how much time does it take?



Frequently Asked Questions

Answer: For a simple arrest such as a warrant service or violation in front of Officer:

1. Make contact, arrest, handcuff and search individual
2. Transport to Police Department for processing (Photographs, Arrest Report)
3. Transport to County Complex
4. County Jail Processing (to include re-searching, fingerprinting and other jail procedures)
5. Presentation to Magistrate for Bond

The minimal time for a “simple” arrest is one hour... **However...**



... Most arrests are not simple.

For Example: In a DWI arrest, the contact and evidence collection phase can take at least 15 to 30 minutes. Then, the processing/intoximeter phase can take another 30 minutes. A “simple” DWI Arrest can take up to three hours.



Arrests for Domestic Violence, Assaults, Fighting/Affray, multiple offenders etc. will utilize more officers because we can only transport two people at one time and, since we must guarantee the safety of the offender, we cannot transport two opposing offenders in the same vehicle.

Lastly, the Brunswick County Jail can refuse to accept a prisoner if they believe there may be a medical issue. If injuries are noted, we must take the prisoner to the hospital before taking them to have bond set.

Therefore, an arrest can take several hours



Frequently Asked Questions

How long does a Citation, Incident Report, Wreck Report etc. take?

Citations: Average Time 20 Minutes

Wreck Reports: Approximately 1 hour per vehicle involved if no injuries

Add one to two hours if there are injuries (non life threatening)

If there is a fatality or serious injury, add 5 to 6 hours
plus one extra officer for 2 – 3 hours

Incident Reports: To write: approximately 1 hour.

To investigate: from several hours to months (depending on the type of case)

Involuntary commitments: 4 to 12 hours





Frequently Asked Questions

What is the average amount of time an officer is in court?
What is an officers schedule when they are in court?

Officers are assigned a court date for district court one day per month. This is assigned during their dayshift rotation. They can be in court from 2 – 10 hours.

Officers can be subpoenaed for other courts at any time. Those include: Grand Jury, Superior Court, Domestic Violence Court, Juvenile Court and other District Court Days for which they are not assigned.

For these unplanned dates, we try to adjust schedules to reduce overtime, but many times, we pay overtime.





Frequently Asked Questions

What are the evidence procedures?

1. Evidence is seized by the officer
2. Evidence is packaged and processed by the officer in accordance to OIPD Policy 400-16 and NC General Statute
3. Evidence is logged in by the evidence technician
4. Evidence is analyzed in house or stored pending trial or sent to a crime lab for analysis. "In House" analysis can take place in a matter of hours up to weeks depending on the case.



Crime Labs – Wilmington PD (Alcohol blood evidence only) > 14 – 21 days

NC SBI Lab – Blood Analysis > 8 - 14 months / Digital Evidence > 1 – 3 Years /

All other Evidence > up to four years.

Secret Service / FBI > 6 – 18 months

For various reasons, Labs may not process the evidence (i.e. no comparison sample etc.)

5. Evidence returned, logged in and stored. Evidence audits are completed every 6 months for misdemeanors – 1 year for felonies.



Frequently Asked Questions

How long do we have to keep evidence?



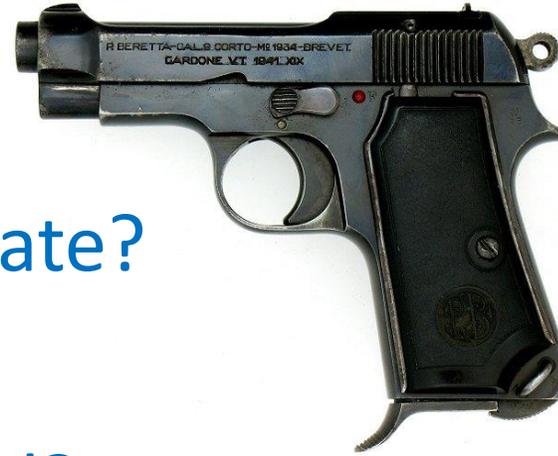
Evidence must be maintained until all legal processes are complete.

This means we must keep and maintain the evidence until the person has completed the “punishment phase” of their sentence.

If an individual gets 2 years probation, we must keep the evidence for two years.

If a 20 year old gets life imprisonment, we must keep the evidence for 50 plus years (for the life of the offender).

If the crime is unsolved, we cannot get rid of the evidence unless we get permission from the courts.



Frequently Asked Questions

Can we sell the guns we confiscate?

Answer: **NO**

How does evidence get returned?

Answer - We must get a disposition from the District Attorney or the courts before we can release or destroy any evidence.



While the Oak Island Police Department is charged with the care, custody and control of the evidence, the evidence itself is property of the state of North Carolina and cannot be disposed of without direction or order from the courts.



Frequently Asked Questions

Why are officers allowed to take their cars home? ...OR...
Could we have fewer cars if officers shared cars while keeping extra cars for mechanical work?

Answer – Yes we could have fewer cars if officers shared

BUT

Allowing officers to have their own car actually saves money



Here's how 



How “Take Home” cars save money over sharing

1. Officers drive around 15 K – 20 K miles per year > Cars last about 6 - 8 years on average
Two officers share – Cars get 30 K – 40 K miles per year and last 3 – 4 years.

There are fewer cars, but cars will need replacement twice as much

2. Officers have sense of ownership for their vehicle / They take better care of their vehicle.
Currently, Officers wash/wax/clean their vehicles at home – vs. spending approximately 26 hours per officer per year on duty to clean vehicles. This equals a savings of 546 Hours or \$10,750.00.



3. Less time to transfer gear and inspect vehicles: Take home cars are inspected once monthly and duty gear is stored in the vehicle.

“Hot Seat” Cars must be inspected every shift – 15 Minutes per officer/1 hour per sergeant - and it takes about 30 minutes each shift to transfer duty gear to/from vehicle. This equates to 1081 hours spent transferring gear and inspecting vehicles at a cost of \$18,425.00.



How "Take Home" cars save money over sharing

The yearly cost to the department for officers to take their vehicle home:

Gas Used for "Take Home" vehicles:	\$ 12,500.00
Extra Tires / Maintenance:	\$ 2,000.00
Vehicle Inspections (1 per month):	<u>\$ 2,300.00</u>
Total:	\$ 16,800.00



The yearly cost to the department to "Hot Seat" or share Vehicles:

Cleaning Vehicles (Wash/Vacuum, etc.):	\$10,750.00
Transferring Gear Daily/ Inspections:	<u>\$18,425.00</u>
Total:	\$ 29,175.00



In terms of time cost, "Take Home" cars save the town **\$12,375.00** per year.

OAK ISLAND POLICE



Questions???

