

# WEST CHESTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT  
2019



James Morehead  
Acting Chief of Police



# West Chester Police Department

## MEMORANDUM

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TO: Dianne Herrin, Mayor

FROM: James Morehead, Acting Chief of Police

DATE: February 29, 2020

SUBJECT: Police Department Annual Report

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On behalf of the West Chester Police Department, it is my privilege to present our Department's 2019 Annual Report. The following pages will reflect the activity and services the Police Department has rendered to the citizens of our community(s) during the 2019 calendar year.

This document consists of two distinct parts this year:

- **SYNOPSIS** of the Police Department's annual report.
- **STATISTICAL SUMMARY** of the Police Department's annual report.

Each individual document is intended to be increasingly more detailed, providing as much specificity regarding the activities of the West Chester Police Department during the calendar year 2019 as is appropriate for the respective document. Complete copies of this document have been distributed to the Mayor, as well as the East Bradford Township Manager and may be viewed by citizens of West Chester Borough and East Bradford Township at the following locations:

### West Chester Police Department 2019 Annual Report

- **Police Department**—Copies of the complete document are available for public inspection and review at the Administrative Office(s) of the West Chester Police Department during regular business hours.
- **Internet**—This document will be available on the Borough's web site at <http://www.west-chester.com>.

I truly hope you find this information in a format that is both useful to you and informative to the citizens of West Chester Borough.

I am confident and pleased with the professionalism, dedication and accomplishments of our personnel. I believe they realize the work they do can at times be difficult, yet they remain constantly vigilant in their duties and responsibilities to serve this community. We are pleased with the accomplishments of our Department over the past year and we look forward to another productive year in 2020.

It is my pleasure to serve as the Chief of Police of the West Chester Police Department during calendar year 2020. On behalf of the men and women of the West Chester Police Department, I would like to extend our most sincere thanks for your collective and individual confidence in our ability to serve our community(s). With your continued support and assistance, we look forward to continuing to improve the quality of life for all our citizens.

Respectfully Submitted,

*Jim Morehead*

# WEST CHESTER POLICE DEPARTMENT



## 2019 ANNUAL REPORT SYNOPSIS

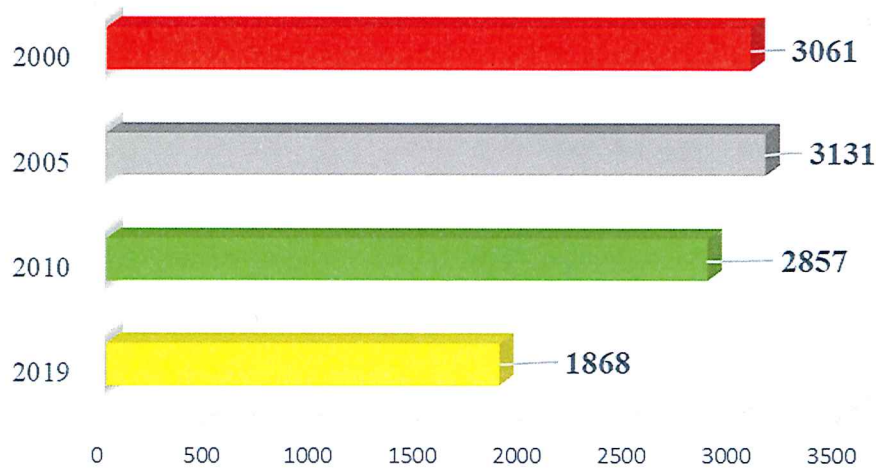
James Morehead  
Acting Chief of Police

# WEST CHESTER POLICE DEPARTMENT

## 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

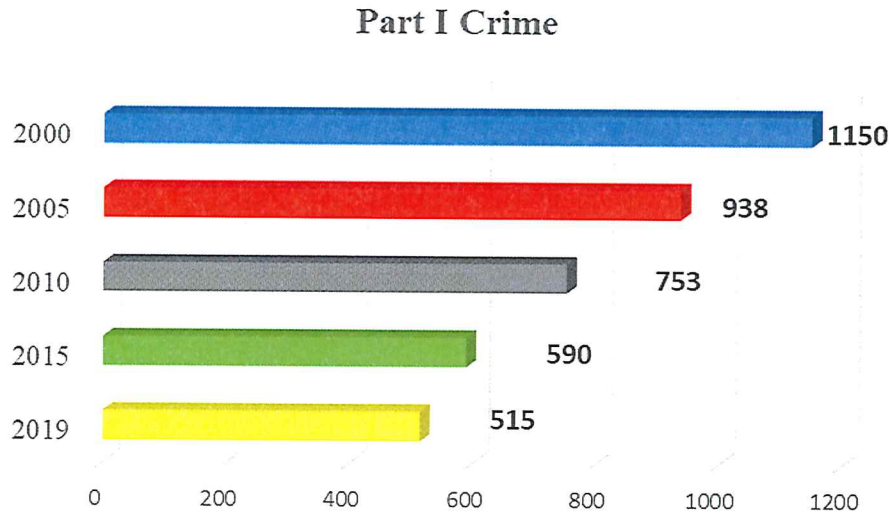
### SYNOPSIS

The total amount of crime **increased** approximately 23% overall during calendar year 2019 from 1,520 such crimes reported in 2018 to 1,868 such crimes reported during 2019. This is still one of the lowest totals of reported crime in twenty (20) years, (4<sup>th</sup>).



Crime is classified, counted, and reported in two distinctly different categories. Statisticians and researchers know these categories as Part I crime and Part II crime. Part I crimes consist of those crimes that one may consider to be the most serious crimes affecting society and are comprised of a very specific subset of crimes that are routinely reported to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and forwarded to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for comparison with other municipalities of similar size and demographics. Part II crimes, on the other hand, are defined as any crime other than Part I crimes and are generally considered being less serious crimes (a secondary level of crime). These "nuisance crimes" impact our quality of life.

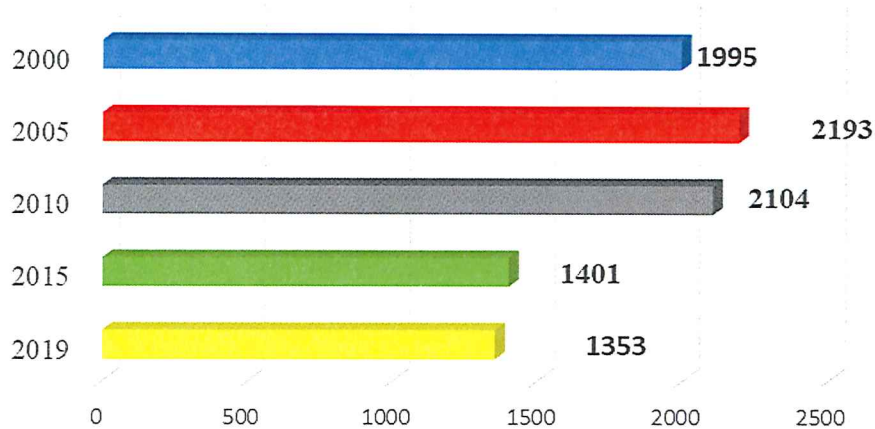
Part I (serious) crimes **increased** approximately 11% overall during calendar year 2019 from 465 such crimes reported in 2018 to 515 such crimes reported during 2019. **Serious crime has been effectively reduced 55% since the year 2000.** This crime reduction should be significant to our varied citizenry. This is an important statistic for individuals considering moving their families and/or businesses into our community(s) as it is a statistic that can be compared nationwide against other municipalities of comparable size and demographics.



There were decreases in the each of the reported Part 1 crimes of Homicide (-100%), Burglary (-37%), Motor Vehicle Theft (-15%). There were no reported Arsons. There were, however, increases in the reported Part 1 crimes of Rape (20%), Robbery (17%), Assault (42%), and Theft (4%).

In 2019, the West Chester Police Department documented a 28% increase in Part II crimes. During the calendar year 2019, the Department reported 1,353 Part II crimes in comparison to the 1,056 reported in 2018. The 2019 documentation of Part II crimes is the 4<sup>th</sup> lowest documented total in the last twenty-one (21) years. Although this figure is not reported to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for comparison purposes, it is a statistic that affects the overall quality of life for those of us living and/or working in West Chester. This increase is attributed to uniform staffing complements, aggressive enforcement of nuisance crimes coupled with proactive patrol allocations, education and continued community sensitivity(s) resulted in an increase in effective enforcement of Liquor Law Violations, Public Drunkenness, Open Bottle Ordinance and Disorderly Conduct and Noise Ordinance violations.

## Part II Crime



With the continuing success and popularity of our Business District, there continues to be a significant demand for police services. Overall, the Police Department documented an increase in calls for service of approximately 11% in 2019 compared to 2018, (excluding vehicle stops). As we have reported in the past, while there is a minimal amount of Part I crime in our Business District, there is an identifiable and significant demand for police services. There are reports of assaults and/or combative behavior in the early morning hours in the Central Business District. These behaviors and the associated crimes are directly attributed to alcohol consumption and the number of assaults reported to the Department in 2019. With the popularity of our business establishments and the influx of patrons from throughout the tri-state area as well as West Chester University, the demands continue to increase. These issues, coupled with varying and often related neighborhood issues, presented the largest challenge to our Department and community over this period. As in prior years, alcohol consumption, pedestrian traffic and corridors, the density of residential properties as well as the current environmental conditions, community and neighborhood demographics and the institutional capacity of the Police Department to meet the increased demands of its citizenry will represent our continued challenge(s) as we move into 2020. The community should be as pleased as I am with the enforcement efforts and activity of its Police Department in meeting this complex challenge in 2020.

Traffic accidents reported to and investigated by the West Chester Police Department (with the subcategories of reportable accidents and non-reportable accidents) increased by approximately 6% in 2019. There were no motor vehicle fatalities in 2019.

Lastly, I would like to acknowledge Mayor Dianne Herrin of West Chester, the members of the West Chester Borough Council, and the Board of Supervisors and the Staff in East Bradford Township for their support of the Police Department. It is my privilege to present this synopsis of the West Chester Police Department's Annual Report for the calendar year 2019. It is my sincere hope that this synopsis is both informative to you and useful to the various constituencies and individuals we are sworn and privileged to serve.



# West Chester Police Department

## 2018 Personnel Assignments



| TITLE                     | PERSONNEL |
|---------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Administration</b>     | <b>4</b>  |
| Chief of Police           | 1 (1)     |
| Lieutenants               | 3 (2)     |
| <b>Patrol Division</b>    | <b>34</b> |
| Sergeants                 | 5 (5)     |
| Corporals                 | 5 (5)     |
| Patrolman                 | 24 (24)   |
| <b>Detective Division</b> | <b>6</b>  |
| Sergeant                  | 1 (1)     |
| Corporal                  | 1 (1)     |
| Detectives                | 2 (2)     |
| Narcotics Investigators   | 1 (1)     |
| Juvenile Officer          | 1 (1)     |
| <b>Support Staff</b>      | <b>11</b> |
| Civilian Dispatchers      | 7 (7)     |
| Civilian Records Clerks   | 2 (2)     |
| Civilian Secretaries      | 2 (2)     |

**Key:** # = Positions budgeted  
 (#) = Positions filled



## PERSONNEL ASSIGNMENTS

The 2019 personnel allotment for the West Chester Police Department was fifty-five (55) individuals. Of those, forty-four (44) are sworn personnel (Police Officers) and eleven (11) are support staff (non-sworn personnel). With respect to the sworn personnel, seventy-seven percent (77%) are assigned to the patrol function to respond to calls-for-service. Of the remaining twenty-three percent (23%), sixteen percent (16%) are assigned to the criminal investigative function and conduct follow-up investigations for those assigned to the patrol function to allow additional time to perform proactive patrols. Seven (7%) are the administrative staff of the Police Department, including the Chief of Police and three (3) Lieutenants, all of whom will, from time to time, respond to calls-for-service and/or provide assistance to those assigned to the criminal and patrol functions. The following is a statistical analysis of personnel assignments in the Police Department:

| <u>Function</u>        | <u>% of Sworn Staff</u> | <u>% of All Staff</u> |
|------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Patrol                 | 77%                     | 61%                   |
| Criminal Investigation | 16%                     | 13%                   |
| Administration         | 7%                      | 6%                    |
| Support Staff          | N/A                     | 20%                   |

When reviewing personnel assignments and distribution within the West Chester Police Department, it is important to consider the information in context. Several officers missed a major and/or significant amount of duty-time due to injury, leave, training or retirement. In 2019 The West Chester Police Department operated with as many as seven (7) officers absent from duty. In 2019 the Department was short the equivalent of approximately three (3) officers (manhours). The Department anticipates that it will be operating with a full complement of personnel by mid-summer 2020.

# WEST CHESTER POLICE DEPARTMENT



## 2019 ANNUAL REPORT STATISTICAL SUMMARY

James Morehead  
Acting Chief of Police

## 2019 ANNUAL REPORT

### Executive Summary

#### General Statistics:

|                    | % Change from 2018 | Total - 2019 |
|--------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Calls for Service  | +11%               | 31,049       |
| Reported Crime     | +23%               | 1,868        |
| Criminal Arrests   | +13%               | 267          |
| Criminal Summonses | +49%               | 1,352        |
| Traffic Arrests    | +29%               | 2,228        |
| Traffic Warnings   | -22%               | 1,016        |

#### Crime Statistics:

|                        |      |   |
|------------------------|------|---|
| Overall Reported Crime | +23% | Up 347 crimes from 1,521 reported in 2018 to 1,868 in 2019. |
|------------------------|------|---|

|                               |             |   |
|-------------------------------|-------------|---|
| <b>Part I Crimes - Total:</b> | <b>+11%</b> | Up 50 crimes from 465 reported in 2018. |
|-------------------------------|-------------|---|

#### Part I Crimes Defined as:

|         |       |                                |
|---------|-------|--------------------------------|
| Murder  | -100% | 0 homicides in 2019.           |
| Rape    | +20%  | Up 1 from 5 reported in 2018.  |
| Robbery | +17%  | Up 2 from 12 reported in 2018. |
| Assault | +42%  | Up 51 from 123 in 2018.        |

|  | <b>% Change from 2018</b> | <b>Total - 2019</b>                         |
|--|---------------------------|---|
| Burglary                                       | -37%                      | Down 18 from 47 to 29 in 2019.              |
| Theft  | +4%                       | Up 9 from 252 to 261 in 2019.               |
| MV Theft                                       | -15%                      | Down 3 from 20 to 17 in 2019.               |
| Arson  | -                         | 0 Arsons in 2019.                           |
| <b>Part II Crimes - Total:</b>                 | <b>+28%</b>               | Up 297 crimes in 2019. From 1,056 to 1,353. |
| Part II Crimes Defined as:<br>All other crimes |                           |   |
| <b>Criminal Summonses</b>                      | <b>+49%</b>               | Up 447 from 905 to 1,352                    |
| Liquor Law                                     | *+92%                     | Up 84 from 91 to 175.                       |
| Public Drunkenness                             | *+70%                     | Up 130 from 185 to 315.                     |
| Disorderly Conduct                             | *+3%                      | Up 4 from 118 to 122.                       |
| Noise Ordinance                                | +36%                      | Up 49 from 137 to 186.                      |
| Open Bottle                                    | +34%                      | Up 45 from 134 to 179.                      |
| Public Indecency                               | +54%                      | Up 55 from 102 to 157.                      |
| All Other                                      | +58%                      | Up 80 from 138 to 218.                      |

\*See combined West Chester Police - West Chester University Public Safety chart for additional Borough enforcement figures.

**% Change from 2018****Total - 2019****Accident Statistics:**

|                   |       |  |
|-------------------|-------|--|
| Overall Accidents | +6%   | Up 48 from 743 to 791.                     |
| Non-Reportable    | +18%  | Up 66 from 373 to 439.                     |
| Reportable        | -     | Down 1 from 172 to 171.                    |
| Hit and Run       | +3%   | Up 5 from 176 to 181.                      |
| Fatal             | -100% | 0 fatalities in 2019 - 2 fatality in 2018. |

**Traffic Statistics:**

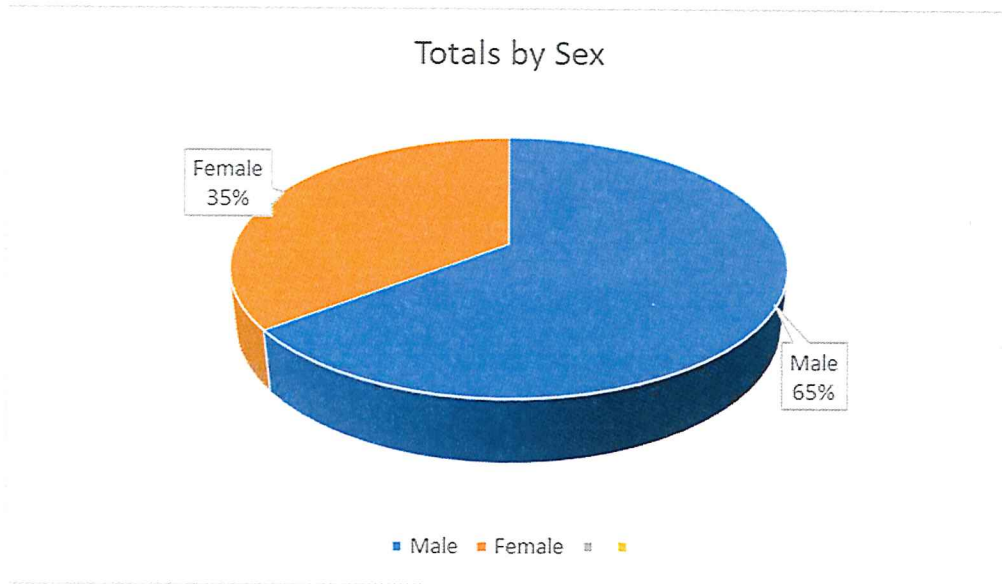
|                  |      |                              |
|------------------|------|------------------------------|
| Traffic Arrests  | +29% | Up 507 from 1,721 to 2,228   |
| Traffic Warnings | -22% | Down 279 from 1,295 to 1,016 |
| Traffic Details  | -    | Down 2 from 863 to 861.      |
| DUI              | +21% | Up 8 from 39 to 47.          |

**Personnel Assignments**

|                        | % of sworn staff | % of all staff |
|------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Patrol                 | 77%              | 62%            |
| Administration         | 9%               | 7%             |
| Criminal Investigation | 14%              | 11%            |
| Support Staff          | —                | 20%            |

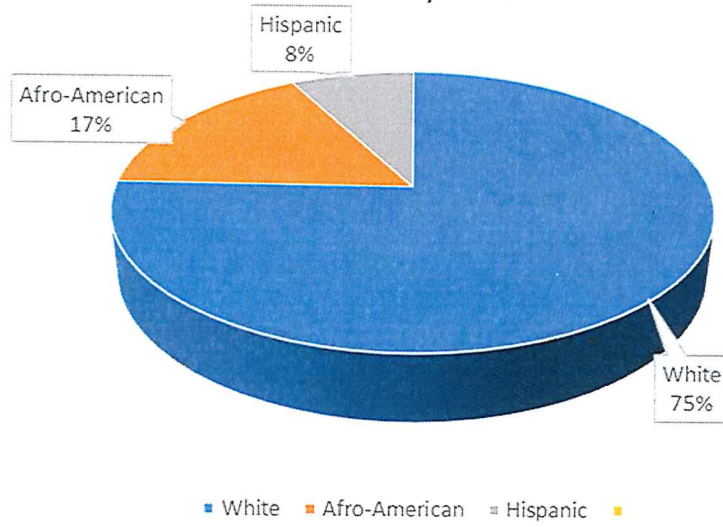
# Traffic Stop Report 2019

## Total Traffic Stops



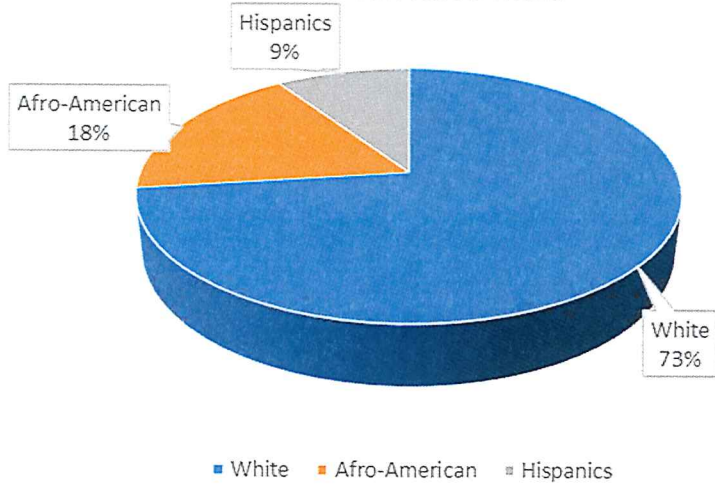
## Traffic Stops by Race

Totals by Race



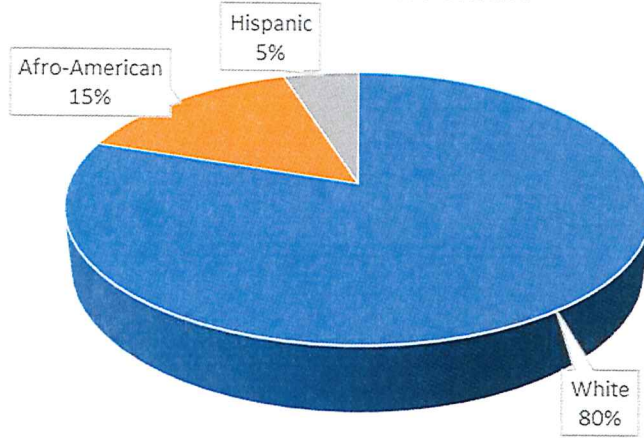
Traffic Stops - Male / Race

Totals Sex Race Male



Traffic Stops - Female / Race

Totals Race Sex Female



■ White ■ Afro-American ■ Hispanic



## Perfect Attendance

### The following Officers are to be congratulated:

Branes, David  
Bergey, Brad  
Billie, Stanley  
Collins, Ryan  
Daly, Christopher  
Deighan, Martin  
Diefenderfer, Aaron  
DiNunzio, Gerald  
Ditz, Jeffrey  
Francart, Jason  
Hill, Andrew  
Malicki, Jason  
Morehead, James  
Stabilo, Anthony  
Winter, Micaela

### The following civilian employees are to be congratulated:

Gordon, Tracie  
Jones, Christopher  
King, Lindsay  
March, David  
Widmayer, Paul



# West Chester Police Department



## RETIREMENTS

The following Officers are to be recognized for their many years of service to the citizens West Chester.

|                        | Years of Service | Years Served |
|------------------------|------------------|--------------|
| Chief Scott L. Bohn    | 34 Years         | 1986-2019    |
| Ptl. Reynaldo Melendez | 28 Years         | 2000-2019    |

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## NEW OFFICERS

The following officers are welcomed as newly hired police officers in our community.

|                    |           |
|--------------------|-----------|
| Anthony Stabilo    | 5/15/2019 |
| Bradley Lord       | 5/15/2019 |
| Samantha Long      | 5/15/2019 |
| Aaron Diefenderfer | 5/15/2019 |

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