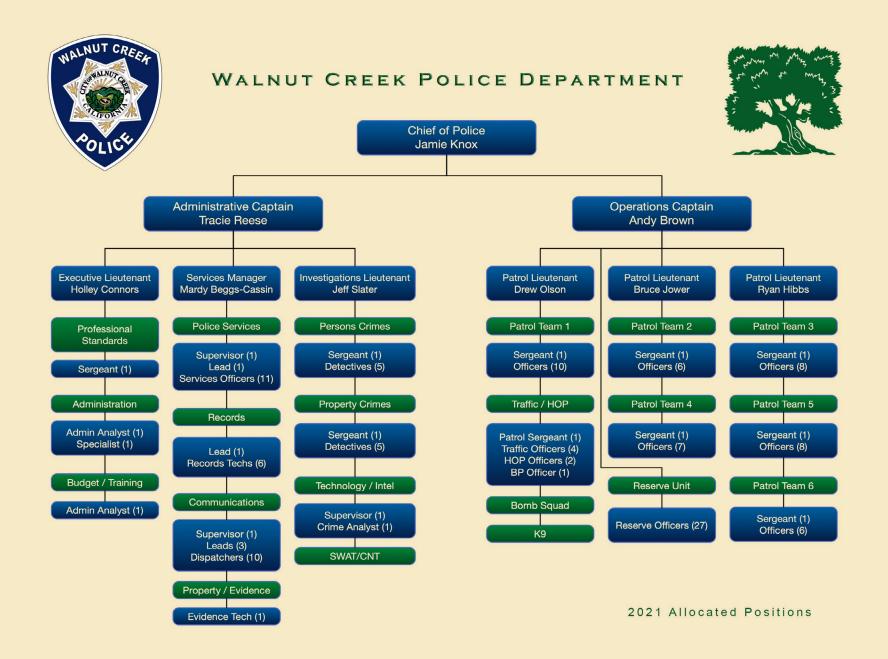






WCPD ORGANIZATION CHART



CHIEF KNOX'S MESSAGE

It is my pleasure to serve as Walnut Creek's Chief of Police. Having arrived in the midst of a pandemic, I was inspired and encouraged to see your Walnut Creek Police Department in action during a time of constant change. Guidance was shifting regularly for all of you, the residents we serve, while at the same time we were facing internal changes as well. In a world where misinformation spreads as quickly as facts, it has been interesting to sift through the actual statistics and view the trends that have impacted public safety since the pandemic began. We are pleased to share with you our Walnut Creek Police Department Annual Report, a look back at a most unusual 2021.

Several high-profile criminal events may have skewed the perception of how safe you and your property are in Walnut Creek, but they were notable nonetheless and we have increased our presence and have been funded for new resources. We have also established a new patrol deployment model that has created some efficiencies in staffing and allowed us to police downtown more effectively.

We continue to provide countywide services with our bomb squad, participate in a regional SWAT team, and partner with central county cities as part of a mental health evaluation team. Over the past year we have greatly expanded our crisis intervention training, de-escalation training, and increased our supply of less-lethal weapons. Our goal is always to de-escalate a situation whenever possible, using force only as a last resort. At Walnut Creek, we let data drive much of what we do, and the analysis of data gathered has helped us solve crimes, as well as prevent others.

During the pandemic, our ability to interact with the community was limited. This put a strain on our staff, our residents, and local businesses. Community policing is a time-honored tradition here, so we adjusted where we could, but stayed intensely focused on providing the best customer service and public safety possible. Despite any challenges we faced as an organization, we've made significant strides to improve our policing model, enhance our training, and reimagine our department for the better. As we exit the COVID era, we look forward to having more community conversations and informal events to strengthen our relationships with all of you.

I'm so proud of the Walnut Creek Police Department team—from officers, dispatchers, records technicians, police services officers, crime analysis experts, technology specialists, property and evidence technicians, reserve officers, and volunteers, each person on our team plays a vital role in ensuring your public safety. I invite you to browse through our report to learn about our department, our service, our accomplishments, and our amazing staff.

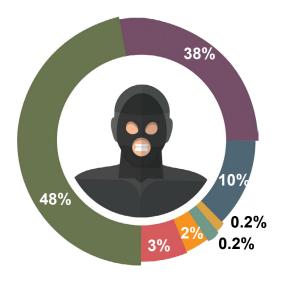


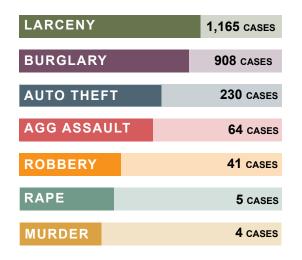
JAMIE KNOX CHIEF OF POLICE

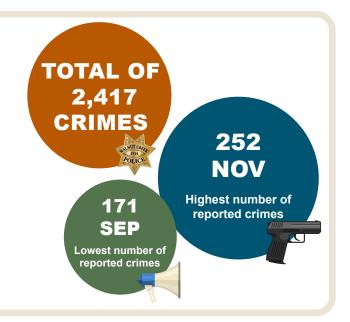


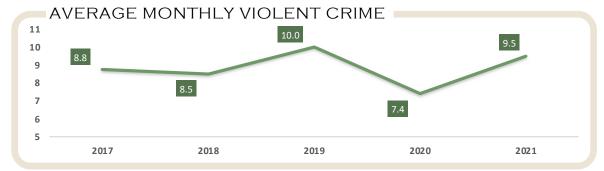
CRIME STATISTICS

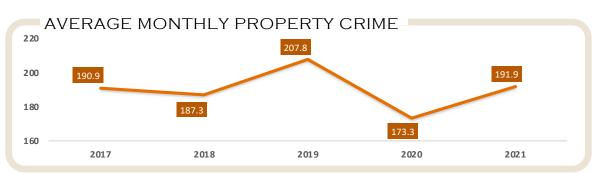
2021 PART 1 CRIME TOTALS

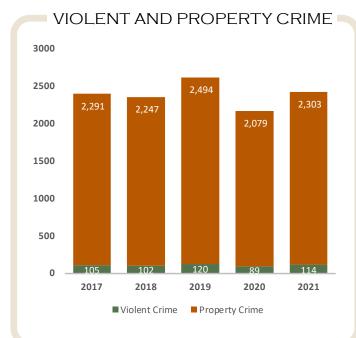












OPERATIONS DIVISION

Captain Andy Brown has been with the Walnut Creek Police Department for over 17 years. Currently, he oversees the Operations Division, which includes the Patrol Division, the Traffic and Outreach Team, and the Reserve Division.

The Patrol Division consists of uniformed police officers responsible for achieving our mission to protect and serve the community through professional conduct and proactive enforcement of the law. The Patrol Division is commanded by Lieutenants Bruce Jower, Ryan Hibbs, and Drew Olson. They have oversight over the following assignments:

- ★ Uniformed Patrol
- ★ The Traffic and Outreach Team (Motor Officers, Homeless Outreach Program Officers, and Broadway Plaza Officer)
- ★ The K-9 Unit
- ★ The Bomb Squad
- ★ The Drone Team
- ★ Patrol Police Services Officers





ANDY BROWN
POLICE CAPTAIN



PATROL







The Patrol Division consists of thirty-six sworn officers who respond to emergency calls at all hours of the day and who regularly interact with the members of the community to deliver an exceptional law enforcement product. There are six patrol teams led by three Lieutenant Watch Commanders and six sergeants. In addition, a seventh sergeant leads the Traffic and Outreach Team, which supplements patrol teams with two motorcycle officers focused on traffic enforcement and two Homeless Outreach Program (HOP) officers.

The HOP team works in conjunction with other government entities and non-profit agencies to address homelessness and quality of life concerns in Walnut Creek. An officer assigned to the Broadway Plaza open-air shopping center enhances the Patrol Division by being a consistent visible presence in the downtown shopping district and by investigating crimes that occur there.

All patrol services are based on geographical areas called sectors, which are further broken down into beats. There are five sectors and nine beats (3 each for sector 1, 2, and 3). Sector 1 covers the south end of the city, sector 2 covers the northwest, sector 3 spans the eastern segment, and sector 4 is the downtown core. Sector 5 is Broadway Plaza and has a specific officer designated to that area.









SECTOR MAP



CITY OF WALNUT CREEK

SECTOR 1

32

33

C STATE OF THE STA

23

22

- Beat 11 Rossmoor and Tice Valley
- Beat 12 Creekside Dr and Parkmead
- Beat 13 Rudgear, Homestead, and Walnut Heights

SECTOR 2

- Beat 21 Almond/Shuey, Parkside, and Oak Rd
- Beat 22 San Luis Rd, The Avenues, and Larkey Park
- Beat 23 Beacon Ridge, Palos Verdes, and Montclair Highlands

SECTOR 3

- Beat 31 Civic Dr, Heather Farm Park, and Countrywood
- Beat 32 Bancroft , The Woodlands, and The Orchards
- Beat 33 Walnut Ave, Northgate, Rancho Paraiso, and Diablo Shadows

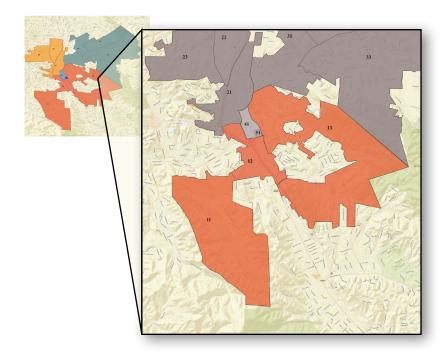
SECTOR 4

Beat 41 - Downtown

SECTOR 5

Beat 51 - Broadway Plaza

SECTOR 1





Sector 1 Commander 925-256-3517 dolson@walnutcreekpd.com

Sector 1 contains a vast portion of the city, bordering much of the lively and energetic downtown area, while encompassing a large portion of residential areas in the southern part of the city south of Ygnacio Valley Rd and west of John Muir Hospital, down to the Alamo border. Sector 1 also includes Las Lomas High School, Kaiser Permanente Hospital, Shell Ridge Open Space, Civic Park, the downtown Library, and Rossmoor—the 1,800 acre, 10,000 resident gated community for residents 55 and older. Given the busy fusion of both businesses and residences, the area stays quite busy with calls for service and quality of life issues.





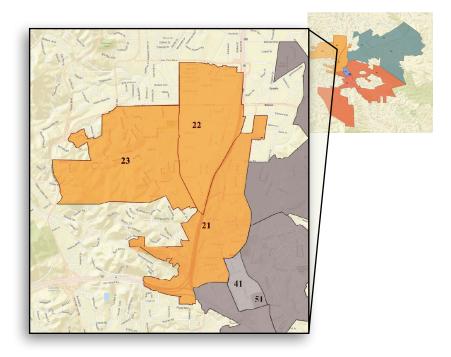
SECTOR 2

Sector 2 is Walnut Creek's busiest sector in terms of activity and calls for service. Sector 2 stretches from Mt. Diablo Blvd. to the south, Civic Dr. /Oak Rd. to the east, Pleasant Hill Rd. to the west and north to the Pleasant Hill border.

Sector 2 includes all of our major hotels, as well as Palos Verdes Mall, Walden Center, Larkey Park, and the Almond/Shuey neighborhood. Sector 2 is diverse in its make-up and includes many restaurants, bars, retail stores and most of the city's commercial high-rise buildings. It is also home to a substantial number of residential neighborhoods.



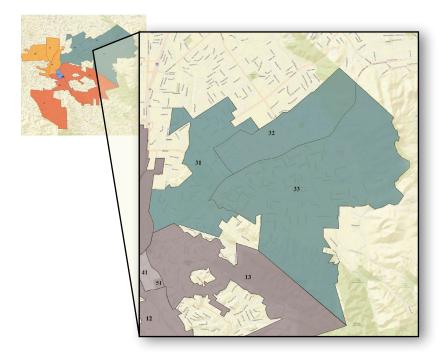






LIEUTENANT BRUCE JOWER Sector 2 Commander (925) 256-3582 jower@walnutcreekpd.com

SECTOR 3





LIEUTENANT RYAN HIBBS
Sector 3 Commander
925-256-3576
rhibbs@walnutcreekpd.com

Sector 3 is Walnut Creek's largest geographic area. The sector boundaries consist of everything east of Oak Rd. to the city limit at the top of Ygnacio Valley Rd., and the city border with Concord to the north. While Sector 3 is mostly comprised of single-family residences, it is also home to:

- ★ Heather Farm, the City's largest park
- ★ Northgate High School
- ★ John Muir Hospital, which serves as the County Trauma Center
- ★ Boundary Oak Golf Course and Taproom, one of the nicest golf courses in Contra Costa County
- ★ Shadelands Business Park
- ★ The Orchards Shopping Center
- ★ Shadelands Sports Mall, including the COPA Training Center, one of the only training facilities of its kind in the United States
- ★ The Ultimate Fieldhouse, a training facility for the Golden State Warriors D League Team.

The Walnut Creek Police Field Office was opened at 2623 Shadelands Drive #3 in 2017. The field office allows our Sector 3 officers to remain in their sector in order to write reports, conduct interviews, and access computers rather than having to drive back to City Hall to complete these tasks.





SECTOR 4 AND 5

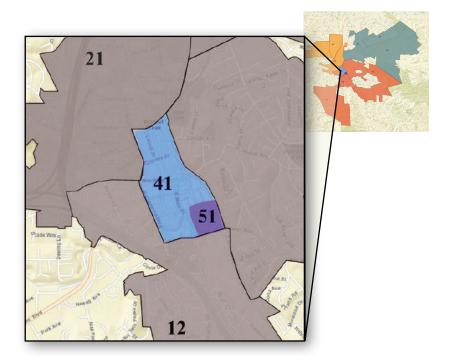
Sector 4 is made up almost exclusively of businesses, restaurants and bars, with high density residential populations mixed in. Officers working Sector 4 can often be seen conducting foot patrols, and they actively work to develop positive working relationships with business owners and citizens in the downtown area. The Sector Commander has developed good working relationships with the Walnut Creek Downtown Business Association and the Walnut Creek Homeless Task Force.

The Walnut Creek Police Department has partnered with Broadway Plaza to have an officer assigned to the Plaza 40 hours per week. This spot is currently being staffed by Sector 5 Officer Bryan Vevera. Officer Vevera has previously worked in many different assignments in the police department to include Detectives and Field Training Officer. He brings a wealth of knowledge and expertise to this very busy position.



BRYAN VEVERA Police Officer







LIEUTENANT BRUCE JOWER Sector 4 and 5 Commander (925) 256-3582 jower@walnutcreekpd.com

TRAFFIC | HOMELESS OUTREACH PROGRAM

The Motor Unit and the Homeless Outreach Program (HOP) has a new Traffic and Outreach Sergeant, Gary Silva. The Motor Team is comprised of Officer Bettger and Officer Brookshire who both bring vast experience to this role. They are recognized throughout the area as experts in investigating major accidents and are often called upon to assist neighboring agencies. Their main priority is to make the streets of Walnut Creek safer, so please slow down and take care of each other.

The HOP Team has two new officers working with city and community organizations to positively impact homelessness in Walnut Creek. Officer Chaney and Officer Adamson work closely with Trinity Center and Coordinated Outreach, Referral, and Engagement (CORE) team to link people to services which allow them to seek housing and other vital resources. Officer Chaney and Officer Adamson have only been working together for a short time but they have already made a positive impact on the community.







K9 UNIT

The Walnut Creek PD K9 Unit has seen a significant amount of change over the last couple of years. We have welcomed Officer Brent Akers and his partner Zeke, as well as Officer Villa and his partner Zeus. These two teams join Officer Chris Solorio and his partner Remus to make up the Walnut Creek PD K9 Unit. These teams of officers put in countless hours of training to be able to provide our department and community with another tool to help safely de-escalate many situations, locate missing people, and help find evidence of crimes. Our K9 teams are also an asset to our neighboring agencies, and they have a presence on the Central County SWAT Team.

These K9 teams have participated in numerous community events to include National Night Out, school events, and boy scout/girl scout tours. The K9s are always a big crowd pleaser, and they go a long way in supporting our officers and making their job a little bit safer.









BOMB SQUAD | DRONE TEAM

BOMB SQUAD

The Walnut Creek PD Bomb Squad continues to serve the more than 1.1 million residents of Contra Costa County as the only Bomb Squad in this region. We responded to approximately 30 calls for service in 2020 and 42 calls for service in 2021. The majority of

these calls were for pipe bombs, homemade explosives, grenades,

and suspicious packages. The Bomb Squad recently moved our headquarters to a City owned facility off of Mitchell Dr. in Walnut Creek.

We would like to thank the Contra Costa County Fire Department for our long time partnership as we inhabited their Engine 4 fire station for the last 5 plus years.







DRONE TEAM

The Walnut Creek PD Drone Team took flight in 2021 and is comprised of eight police employee "Pilots". All Pilots have obtained their Part 107 license from the FAA and maintain their skills by conducting training flights and by responding to a variety of in-progress police calls. There were many team successes this year to include assisting with locating

suspects in crimes, clearing large open areas in search of missing

persons, and working with officers to deescalate dangerous situations. The team is comprised of Officers Hamid, J. Davis, Young, Brookshire, Tricker, N. Smith, Ramaiya, and Police Services Officer Marinelli. The Drone Team has quickly become an invaluable tool that enhances the safety of officers and the community.







SWAT | CRISIS NEGOTIATIONS TEAM

The Walnut Creek Police Department is part of a multi-jurisdictional SWAT Team known as the Central County SWAT Team. The mission of the Central County SWAT Team is to safely resolve critical incidents. The team is composed of the following five law enforcement agencies: BART PD, Martinez PD, Pleasant Hill PD, San Ramon PD, and Walnut Creek PD. The Central County SWAT team is specifically trained and equipped to work as a coordinated team to resolve critical incidents that are hazardous, complex, or unusual. Critical incidents include, but are not limited to, hostage taking, barricaded suspects, snipers, terrorist acts, and high risk warrant service.

The Central County SWAT Team consists of a Tactical Unit, a Crisis Negotiations Team, and Tactical Dispatch. The Tactical Unit consists of an Entry Team and a Sniper Team. The role of the Entry Team includes containment, emergency action, and deliberate action during a critical incident or planned event. The role of the Sniper Team is to provide observation, intelligence, and precision marksmanship in tactical situations. Negotiators assigned to the Crisis Negotiations Team are specifically trained in hostage negotiations, intelligence gathering, and conflict management. Negotiation is a de-escalation tactic that may be used when appropriate to resolve, or assist in resolving, a crisis situation. Tactical Dispatch supports the team through accurate and timely documentation and communication of events during operations.

All Central County SWAT Team members serve on the team as a collateral duty that is performed in addition to their regular assignment. Team members are on call 24 hours a day, seven days per week ready to respond to pre-planned operations and emergency call-outs.









ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION



TRACIE REESE POLICE CAPTAIN

Captain Tracie Reese has been with the Walnut Creek Police Department for over 20 years. Currently, she oversees the Administrative Division, which includes Support Services, Professional Standards Unit, Administrative Unit, and the Investigations Bureau.



LIEUTENANT JEFF SLATER Investigations Bureau Commander

- **Crimes Against Property**
- **Crimes Against Persons**
- Crime Analysis
- Technology
- SWAT/CNT



LIEUTENANT HOLLEY CONNORS Professional Standards Unit Commander

- ★ Personnel and Training
- Policy Management
- **Building Facilities**
- Recruitment and Hiring
- Social Media



POLICE MANAGER MARDY BEGGS-CASSIN

Support Services Manager

- Communications
- Records
- Police Services
- Property and Evidence

INVESTIGATIONS BUREAU



The Walnut Creek Police Investigations Bureau is comprised of one Lieutenant, two Sergeants, one Corporal, nine Detectives and a Crime and Intelligence Analyst. The Bureau is divided into two sections; Crimes against Persons and Property Crimes. Detectives are the investigative link between Walnut Creek PD and the Contra Costa County District Attorney's office. In 2021, The Investigations Bureau authored over 150 warrants for various investigations that led to the seizure of evidence for criminal prosecutions.

One detective is assigned to the FBI East Bay Safe Streets Task Force which pursues violent gangs through sustained proactive cooperation and communication among federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies.

CRIME ANALYSIS



LAUREN GEHRING Crime and Intelligence Analyst

Our Crime and Intelligence Analyst, Lauren Gehring, uses a strategic and methodical approach to understand criminal patterns and then provides those timely results to officers. This allows the department to learn about crime trends quickly, and to deploy necessary resources to various parts of the city. This approach also informs the department as to which technology would best benefit the community. This has led to the purchase of automated license plate reader cameras, and modern evidence keeping and tracking systems.

There are a vast network of analysts in other agencies we can call on for assistance with identifying criminals and crime trends. This is an extremely effective behind-the-scenes information sharing network.



Our Crime and Intelligence Analyst plays a vital role in boosting the possibility of preventing criminal activity, and ultimately increases the chances criminals are deterred from committing crimes in Walnut Creek.

The ultimate benefit is to keep residents and visitors safer while enjoying our beautiful city!

PROPERTY CRIMES ACCOUNTED FOR 95% OF ALL REPORTED CRIMES **IN 2021**

COMMUNICATIONS | RECORDS



COMMUNICATIONS

Our Communications Center is often the first point of contact for those in need of public safety services and our dispatchers are true first responders. Our team of dedicated dispatchers are masters of multitasking and navigating close to 20 software programs, multiple phone lines, emergency radio traffic, while being professional and compassionate in providing assistance to the community.

In 2021, our communications Center processed 100,907 phone calls and 99.5% of 911 calls were answered in less than 15 seconds, exceeding national standards by over 9%.

RECORDS

The Records Division is the home for all documents relating to arrests, reports, warrants, traffic accidents, traffic citations, vehicle tows, and other incidents that involve a police record.



In 2021, the Records Division processed 5,146 written reports in our records management system. The Records Division responds to requests for copies of police reports, prepares criminal complaints for the District Attorney's Office for filing and prosecution, responds to court record sealing requests, subpoenas, Public Records Act requests, background checks, and schedules officers' court appearances.

Additionally, they perform record checks, warrant checks, warrant confirmations, criminal history inquiries, and prepare the Uniform Crime Reporting statistics reports for the Department of Justice.

(Records-related numbers in 2021):

Arrests in 2021: 1002 Citations 2021: 443

Online reports 2021: 973

DUI arrests 2021: 82

Cases assigned to Investigations: 539

PROPERTY & EVIDENCE | POLICE SERVICES OFFICERS



SHAMEKIA RILEY Property & Evidence Technician

PROPERTY & EVIDENCE

The Property & Evidence (P&E) Unit is responsible for maintaining the chain of custody and integrity of every piece of property brought into the Police Department, including what is booked in as evidence, stolen and recovered property, found property, as well as property booked for safekeeping.

The Property & Evidence Unit is managed by one Property & Evidence Technician. The primary duties of the P&E Technician are to receive, catalog, safely store, dispense, destroy and release property/evidence to its rightful owner, for court presentation and/or for destruction or auction.

In 2021 our P&E unit processed a total of 2,686 items that were submitted and purged 3,182 items. Of those items submitted, 123 were firearms. The unit destroyed 209 firearms.

Our Property & Evidence Technician also serves on the State Board for the California Association for Property and Evidence.

POLICE SERVICES OFFICERS

Our Police Services Officers (PSOs) are regularly spotted on our downtown streets and throughout our residential areas addressing parking concerns and other police issues. While parking enforcement is

a huge part of their job, they do countless other Law Enforcement services for the department and our community, including: traffic control, found and lost property reports, deployment of radar trailers and decoy vehicles, towing vehicles, stolen vehicle recovery and reporting, crime scene investigations, abandoned vehicle tracking and removal, vehicle releases, Front Counter reception, and citation signoffs. They are an integral part of our patrol mission!





PEER SUPPORT TEAM | CHAPLAIN

The Walnut Creek Police Department boasts a robust and active Peer Support Team (PST), whose function is to provide a confidential venue for professional and sworn staff to healthily process stress derived on the job or in their personal lives resulting from cumulative issues or traumatic incidents.

The PST receives continual training on current trends that affect the resilience of our employees, and plays a big role in critical incident stress debriefings. WCPD's Peer Support Team partners with the Psychological Services Group, led by Beth Dansie, which provides confidential and privileged clinical services along with training.

The PST is currently comprised of eight full-time sworn officers, two part-time sworn reserve officers, two police services officers, two professional staff members, and one volunteer chaplain.

Chaplain Doug Myers assists the department in dealing with emotionally traumatic incidents such as accidental deaths, murders, suicides and serious accidents. Doug provides counseling, guidance and insight to our department personnel as well as their families, while recognizing each individual's spiritual and emotional needs. Chaplain Myers also responds with officers into the community to comfort families who are faced with circumstances requiring extra support.

The Peer Support Team is led by Sergeant Fred Godinez. The members are:

Shane Blatz Melinda Hall

Jose Hisquierdo **Dusty Brookshire**

Holley Connors Gabi San Luis

Steve Garavaglia Chaplain Doug Myers

Lauren Gehring Tamar Savazian

Jess Gentry Diane Spoto Kim Gerstner **Bruce Woods**



DOUG MYERS Police Chaplain





RESERVES



CHRIS FLATH RESERVE CAPTAIN

The Walnut Creek Police Department Reserve Division is one of the largest and best trained police reserve units in California, with twenty-seven active sworn Reserve Officers. The Reserve Division falls within the Operations Division and is led by Reserve Captain Chris Flath. In past years, the members of the Reserve Division have donated thousands of hours of police services to the department.

This all volunteer unit is comprised of a mix of business professionals, trades workers, scientists, airplane pilots, and even City of Walnut Creek employees. In order to gain the skills necessary to qualify as a Reserve officer, all candidates are required to complete a State Reserve Peace Officer Academy and successfully pass a field training program.

Reserve officers commit to volunteering a minimum of sixteen hours per month to the department. During the past two years, the pandemic dramatically impacted the number of hours the members of the Reserve Division have been able to work. As 2021 comes to an end, we are hopeful 2022 will see an increase in total volunteer hours and an increase in the number of Reserve officers in the unit.









VOLUNTEERS | CHIEF'S ADVISORY BOARD

VOLUNTEERS

The Volunteers in Police Services (VIPS) are one of WCPD's most valued assets. They are members of the community who volunteer their time each week to support all aspects of the police department. VIPS assist our Records Division in processing, scanning, and filing all important case documents for the officers. At our front counter they greet the public daily, giving out information and directions for all City Hall business. Members of VIPS provide registration assistance at training and special events, help out with the massage permitting process, along with many other duties in support of the important work that our professional staff and officers accomplish each day.





JERRY HOLCOMBE



SALLY HOLCOMBE

CHIEF'S ADVISORY BOARD



The Chief's Community Advisory Board (CAB) is established under the direction of the Chief of Police and is comprised of 10-15 stakeholders, featuring a diverse cross-section of active community members throughout the City of Walnut Creek. The Board is created to act as a resource for the Chief in the formation of strategies, development of community policing concepts, increasing public awareness, furthering engagement and transparency efforts and identifying best practices. The Board will focus on contemporary challenges that impact the community and its Police Department. Examples of topics include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Use of Force
- Mental Health Response
- Criminal activity and trends
- Transparency
- Homelessness
- Technology

NEW EMPLOYEES | WELCOME

















RETIREMENTS | THANK YOU



Officer **Melissa Murphy**









ON THE HORIZON

Your Walnut Creek Police Department is a work in progress. We pride ourselves on being a learning organization that can adapt, evolve, and be resilient at the same time. We are committed to values like integrity, professionalism, and respect. Most of all, we are committed to you—the Walnut Creek Community.

Maintaining optimal staffing levels and recruiting new dispatchers and police officers has been challenging this past year for every law enforcement agency. However, we continue to see quality applicants seek us out for career opportunities. They, like many others, want to be a part of what Walnut Creek has to offer. Who we hire and what we do every day in our policing endeavor is a direct reflection of who we are. We set high expectations for ourselves, because we know this community expects us to be the best. We will continue to work hard to not only meet your expectations, but perhaps to even surprise and delight you at times.

As we look to the horizon, and keep the wind at our back, we are charting a new course for our department. We are dedicated to building an inclusive culture that is rich with diversity, experience, wisdom, and positive energy. We are building a new team of professionals who will lead this department into the next decade, and do so with the highest level of integrity. Thank you for reviewing our annual report and we look forward to what next year will bring.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank the following for their support in 2021:

Our Community

Our City Council

Mayor Kevin Wilk

Mayor Pro Tem Matt Francois

Councilmember Cindy Silva

Councilmember Loella Haskew

Councilmember Cindy Darling

Our Executive Team

City Manager Dan Buckshi

Assistant City Manager Teri Killgore

City Attorney Steve Mattas

Director of Public Works Heather Ballenger

Interim Director of Community Development Jeff Schwob

Director of Administrative Services Kirsten LaCasse

Director of Arts and Recreation Kevin Safine

Communications and Community Relations Manager Betsy Burkhart

City Clerk Suzie Martinez





Walnut Creek Police 1666 N. Main St. Walnut Creek, CA 94596 www.walnutcreekpd.com





