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DEPARTMENT OF
POLICE

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CHIEF OF POLICE

CITY OF SACRAMENTO

CALIFORNIA
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Reference: 4-37

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City Council
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session:

SUBJECT SACRAMENTO POLICE DEPARTMENT REPORT ON CRIME
STATISTICS

LOCATION AND COUNCIL DISTRICT Citywide.

RECOMMENDATION

For Council information only.

CONTACT PERSON: Arturo Venegas, Jr., Chief of Police - 264-5121

FOR THE COUNCIL MEETING OF May 3, 2001

SUMMARY

This report provides information on recent crime statistics for the City of Sacramento. This report also provides information on staffing within the Sacramento Police Department.

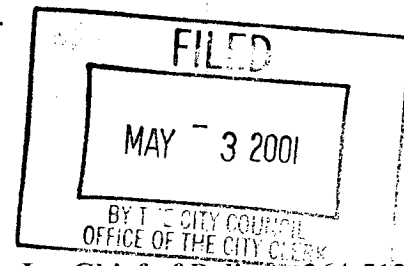
COMMITTEE/COMMISSION ACTION

None.

BACKGROUND

Crime Statistics

The mission of the Sacramento Police Department is to work in partnership with the community to protect life and property, solve neighborhood problems, and enhance the quality of life in our city. The Department promotes pro-active problem solving to address the causes of crime and other community issues. Further, The Department has established a national reputation as a professional



law enforcement agency that is on the cutting edge of Community Oriented Policing and Problem Solving. Tools such as InfoCOM further enhance that philosophy through the analysis of data, geographical mapping, and a strategic personnel deployment to assist us in better decision making about targeting crime problems in our city.

The latest crime statistics reflect the success of the Department's efforts to reduce and prevent crime in Sacramento. Compared to 1999, the crime statistics indicate only a slight increase (0.6%) in total offenses. The following are comparison tables of the reported crime rate for the City of Sacramento. The top number represents the number of offenses. The second number is the percent change from the previous year.

FBI REPORTED CRIME RATE

	National	California	Sacramento Sheriff's Dept.	Sacramento Police Dept.
1996	13,473,614	1,660,131	33,074 (-11.1%)	33,950 (-13.0%)
1997	13,175,070 (-2.2%)	1,569,949 (-5.4%)	34,741 (+5.0%)	34,378 (+1.2%)
1998	12,475,634 (-5.3%)	1,418,674 (-9.6%)	28,779 (-17.2%)	31,881 (-7.2%)
1999	11,635,149 (-6.7%)	1,261,164 (-11.0%)	24,002 (-16.6%)	27,540 (-13.6%)
2000	Data Not Published	Data Not Published	27,175 (+13.2%)	27,703 (+0.6%)

Source: Crime Index Offenses Reported from the Uniform Crime Report - FBI, except for 2000, which has not yet been published. FBI Crime Index offenses are homicide, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, motor vehicle theft, larceny theft, and arson. Year 2000 data comes from a preliminary report from the California Attorney General's Office, and the Census Bureau's reported population for 2000.

CRIMES REPORTED FOR SELECTED CALIFORNIA JURISDICTIONS

Jurisdictions with populations of 100,000 or more

	National	California	Sacramento Sheriff's Dept.	Sacramento Police Dept.
FBI: 1999	11,635,149	1,261,164	24,002	27,540
2000			27,175	27,703
% Change			(+13.2%)	(+0.6%)
CA: 1999	787,657	377,296	9,803	12,349
2000	793,454	390,459	11,446	12,646
% Change	(+0.7%)	(+3.5%)	(+16.8%)	(+2.4%)

Source: Crime 2000 In Selected California Jurisdictions January Through December: Preliminary Report, California Department of Justice, Division of Criminal Justice Information Services. California Crime Index offenses are

homicide, forcible rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, motor vehicle theft, larceny theft, and arson. Population for 2000 is determined by the California Department of Finance.

Although various factors such as the economy, social and demographic shifts, may impact crime, the Department has implemented a number of operational changes that have contributed to reducing crime. Changes in our deployment strategies and the decentralization of resources in our community have been major contributors to our effectiveness in reducing and preventing crime problems. Another factor is the assignment of detectives to our sub-substations which has facilitated a closer working relationship with patrol officers. It should be noted that, while the City's population consistently increased, the City has not experienced a significant increase in crime and where increases have occurred, they have occurred at a lower rate than the region around.

Further, the Police Department continues to develop, maintain and nurture partnerships with other agencies to prevent and reduce crimes. The Department has contracted with school districts within the City limits to deploy school resource officers to various campuses. The Department also contracts with Regional Transit to assign officers to patrol bus and light rail stations. These partnerships have helped to reduce the demand on patrol officers to respond to call for services and to reduce crime overall.

The Communication Center continues to receive a high volume of calls. However, our dispatch staff has reduced the number of dispatched calls through better call triage. We have also increased our directed patrol time thus allowing officers to perform more problem solving. The following table illustrates the officer and citizen initiated calls for service:

COMMUNICATION CENTER CALLS FOR SERVICE

Year	Dispatched Calls for Service	Officer Initiated Activity	Other Calls to Comm Center	Total Calls to Comm Center	City Population
1993	204,391	111,671	525,875	841,937	383,800
1994	205,503	104,115	696,942	1,006,560	386,800
1995	215,360	178,820	605,892	1,000,072	384,300
1996	200,124	194,994	695,762	1,090,880	385,300
1997	202,606	124,142	783,319	1,110,067	388,100
1998	192,858	135,947	724,157	1,052,962	402,900
1999*	184,970	162,096	635,116	982,182	404,000
2000	195,110	139,324	700,389	1,034,823	407,018

* Data for 1999 is incomplete due to recording equipment problems in November and December.

To ensure the expedient assignment of calls to field units, calls for service are prioritized. The following table illustrates Department response times to calls for service. It should be noted that these response times are described in terms of minutes and includes when the call was received, entered into the system, dispatched from the Communication Center, and travel time until an officer marks arrival at the scene.

RESPONSE TIMES

Call Priority	1998	1999	2000
Priority 1	7	7	7
Priority 2	6	6	7
Priority 3	9	9	9
Priority 4	9	9	9
Priority 5	17	16	19
Priority 6	28	22	34

Call Priority Definitions

- Priority 1** An emergency involving a serious situation or crime that requires immediate police response to preserve life or apprehend the responsible.
- Priority 2** Crimes against a person that occurred within 15 minutes or less, and in progress felony property crimes.
- Priority 3** Service calls with the potential to escalate or other situations requiring response of an officer on a timely basis.
- Priority 4** Low priority service calls and time element misdemeanors.
- Priority 5** High priority report calls and low priority service calls.
- Priority 6** Low priority report calls (CSO can respond if available).

Staffing Issues

Current Staffing Levels

For Fiscal Year 2000-2001, the Police Department has 1,076.4 full-time equivalent (FTE) positions. Of these, 684 FTE are sworn positions. As the City continues to grow and our community becomes more diverse, there is an increasing need for new officers. Our ability to recruit and retain employees is impeded by a variety of issues. As a law enforcement agency, our staff must pass a thorough and rigorous examination and background process. This significantly reduces our pool of candidates. Further, natural attrition impacts our staffing levels. Each year, a number of employees leave the Department for a variety of reasons including, but not limited to, service retirement, disability retirement, failure to pass probation, transfers, and terminations. The following illustrates the attrition for sworn staff for the Department and the reasons for leaving the Department:

Department Totals

<u>Year</u>	<u>Sworn Authorized</u>	<u>Sworn Filled</u>	<u>Sworn Losses</u>	<u>Percent Sworn Attrition</u>
1990	615	617	15	2.4%
1991	615	618	24	3.19%
1992	621	597	29	4.9%
1993	622	597	19	3.2%
1994	585	540	24	4.4%
1995	586	598	23	3.8%
1996	612	614	48	7.8%
1997	625	595	29	4.9%
1998	647	636	33	5.2%
1999	651	649	30	4.6%

Department Totals (cont.)

<u>Year</u>	<u>Sworn Authorized</u>	<u>Sworn Filled</u>	<u>Sworn Losses</u>	<u>Percent Sworn Attrition</u>
2000	684	648	37	5.7%
2001 (to date)	684	650	12	1.8%

Department Totals by Reason

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Retire</u>	<u>Resign</u>	<u>Release</u>
1990	15	6 (40.0%)	9 (60.0%)	0 (0.0%)
1991	24	18 (75.0%)	6 (25.0%)	0 (0.0%)
1992	29	23 (79.3%)	5 (17.2%)	1 (3.4%)
1993	19	16 (84.2%)	1 (6.2%)	2 (10.5%)
1994	24	21 (87.5%)	2 (8.3%)	1 (4.2%)
1995	23	14 (60.9%)	6 (26.1%)	3 (13.0%)
1996	48	36 (75.0%)	8 (16.7%)	4 (8.3%)
1997	29	16 (55.2%)	9 (31.0%)	4 (13.8%)
1998	33	17 (51.5%)	12 (36.4%)	4 (12.1%)
1999	30	19 (63.3%)	10 (33.3%)	1 (3.3%)
2000	37	19 (51.4%)	16 (43.2%)	2 (5.4%)
2001 (to date)	12	3 (25%)	8 (66.6%)	1 (8.3%)

It should be noted that the Department has implemented changes to better utilize civilian staff. In 1995, the Department civilianized the Crime Scene Investigation unit. This included replacing eleven sworn officers (1 sergeant and 10 officers) with ten Identification Technicians. The sergeant was deployed to a crime analysis unit. The remaining officers were deployed to assist with addressing neighborhood crime problems. During this time, the Department also added Community Services Officers to our patrol and investigations divisions. Twelve CSOs were hired to augment patrol and perform tasks that require the presence of a sworn office such as routine reports and traffic control. Ten CSOs were assigned to investigations to address workload issues and assume office support duties. Increased use of civilian staff has allowed the Department to more effectively deploy our sworn officers.

Department Efforts to Address Staffing Issues

The Police Department has been working to address the issues which impact staffing throughout the department. Police personnel staff works closely with City personnel to aggressively recruit officers. We continue to participate in a variety of job fairs and other events throughout our community to promote our employment opportunities. We also utilize our staff who are fluent in non-English languages including Spanish, H'mong and Russian to recruit employees that will help us enhance our responsiveness to our culturally diverse communities.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

This report is for Council information. Staff is requesting no additional funding at this time.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS

This report does not constitute a "project" and is therefore exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act according to CEQA Guidelines, Section 15061(b)(1) and 15378(b)(3).

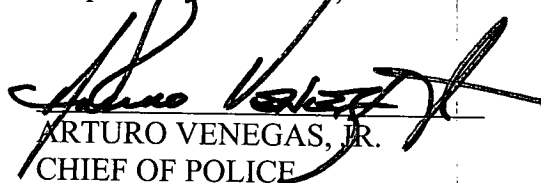
POLICY CONSIDERATIONS

Credit must be given to the men and women in our operational units. They have not only managed the calls for service workload but also, by working pro-actively with the community, employed crime reduction strategies that have improved and enhanced the vitality of our neighborhoods and business corridors. The mission of the Sacramento Police Department is to work in partnership with the community to protect life and property, solve neighborhood problems, and enhance the quality of life in our city. The above crime statistics indicate our positive efforts towards the accomplishment of our mission.

ESBD CONSIDERATIONS

Not applicable.

Respectfully submitted,


ARTURO VENEGAS, JR.
CHIEF OF POLICE

APPROVED BY:


ROBERT P. THOMAS
CITY MANAGER

RPT/AV:tlv

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