# Durham Police Department 2020 First Quarter Report June 4, 2020 Police Chief Cerelyn "C.J." Davis

The Durham Police Department has five performance measures – Part 1 violent crime, Part 1 property crime, clearance rates, response times to Priority 1 calls and staffing levels – and they are reported to the public on a quarterly basis. This report contains information about the performance measures as well as highlights from the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2020.

Violent crime (homicide, rape, robbery and aggravated assault) increased by 24 percent and property crime (burglary, larceny and motor vehicle theft) went up by 24 percent during the first quarter of 2020 compared to the same period in 2019.

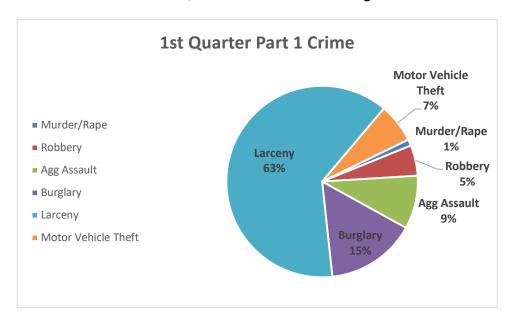
Part 1 Violent Crime – 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter (January through March)

| Part 1 Violent Crime | 3-Year Avg | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2019-20<br>% Change |
|----------------------|------------|------|------|------|---------------------|
| Homicide             | 8          | 6    | 12   | 7    | -42%                |
| Rape                 | 28         | 24   | 33   | 28   | -15%                |
| Robbery              | 148        | 123  | 153  | 167  | 9%                  |
| Aggravated Assault   | 229        | 197  | 199  | 292  | 47%                 |
| Violent Crime        | 414        | 350  | 397  | 494  | 24%                 |

Part 1 Property Crime – 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter (January through March)

| Part 1 Property Crime | 3-Year Avg | 2018  | 2019  | 2020  | 2019-20<br>% Change |
|-----------------------|------------|-------|-------|-------|---------------------|
| Burglary              | 485        | 506   | 454   | 494   | 9%                  |
| Larceny               | 1,625      | 1,241 | 1,599 | 2,036 | 27%                 |
| Motor Vehicle Theft   | 170        | 140   | 155   | 214   | 38%                 |
| Property Crime        | 2,280      | 1,877 | 2,208 | 2,744 | 24%                 |

2020 1st Quarter Part 1 Crime Percentages



**Part 1 Crime Clearance Rates** 

| Crime Category      | DPD 2020 1Q | DPD 2019 Total | FBI 2018* |
|---------------------|-------------|----------------|-----------|
| Homicide            | 57.1%       | 68.4%          | 55.5%     |
| Rape                | 21.4%       | 33.7%          | 29.2%     |
| Robbery             | 29.3%       | 25.9%          | 26.2%     |
| Aggravated Assault  | 34.9%       | 32.1%          | 41.5%     |
| Violent Crime       | 32.6%       | 31%            | 36.4%     |
| Burglary            | 13.2%       | 12.6%          | 11%       |
| Larceny             | 15%         | 18.2%          | 14.5%     |
| Motor Vehicle Theft | 7.9%        | 13%            | 10.4%     |
| Property Crime      | 14.1%       | 16.9%          | 13.4%     |

<sup>\*</sup>The FBI clearance numbers are for cities with populations of 250,000 to 499,999

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Domestic Violence Part 1 Violent Crimes

|                         | 2018 1Q | 2019 1Q | 2020 1Q |
|-------------------------|---------|---------|---------|
| Murder                  | 2       | 2       | 1       |
| Rape                    | 2       | 2       | 6       |
| Robbery                 | 4       | 3       | 6       |
| Aggravated Assault      | 51      | 52      | 62      |
| Violent Crime           | 59      | 59      | 75      |
| Burglary                | 29      | 24      | 10      |
| Larceny                 | 37      | 19      | 15      |
| Motor Vehicle<br>Thefts | 3       | 1       | 1       |
| Property Crime          | 69      | 44      | 26      |
| Totals                  | 128     | 103     | 101     |

Statistics provided by the Police Department's Crime Analysis Unit

# 1st Quarter Part 2 Crime Offenses

Due to changes that occurred on October 1, 2018 in the state/local agency's reporting practices, 2019 Q1 figures are not comparable to previous years' data.

| Offense                      | 2018 1Q Total | 2019 1Q Total | 2020 1Q Total |
|------------------------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Arson                        | 9             | 7             | 8             |
| Disorderly Conduct           | 3             | 2             | 7             |
| Driving While Impaired       | 79            | 71            | 67            |
| Drug Violations              | 150           | 295           | 217           |
| Embezzlement                 | 24            | 27            | 42            |
| Extortion/Blackmail          | N/A           | N/A           | 3             |
| Forgery/Counterfeiting       | 34            | 45            | 26            |
| Fraud                        | 386           | 397           | 372           |
| Liquor Law Violations        | 3             | 2             | 4             |
| Obscene Material/Pornography | 5             | 6             | 6             |
| Offenses Against Family      | 16            | 18            | 13            |
| Prostitution                 | 9             | 0             | 1             |
| Sex Offense                  | 31            | 21            | 18            |
| Simple Assault/Intimidation  | 404           | 832           | 716           |
| Stolen Property              | 17            | 14            | 23            |
| Vandalism                    | 306           | 424           | 405           |
| Weapon Violations            | 44            | 36            | 35            |
| Totals                       | 1,520         | 2,157         | 1,963         |

Information provided by the Police Department's Crime Analysis Unit

Youth Arrests (16-17) and Juvenile Petitions (<16) for Jan-March 2020

| Offense/Age        | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | Grand Total |
|--------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|-------------|
| Aggravated Assault |    |    |    |    | 1  | 1  | 2           |
| All Other Offenses |    | 2  | 4  | 5  | 2  | 5  | 18          |
| Burglary           | 2  |    | 1  | 1  | 2  | 2  | 8           |
| Drug Violations    |    |    | 1  | 7  | 1  |    | 9           |
| Embezzlement       |    |    |    |    |    | 2  | 2           |
| Fraud              |    |    |    |    | 1  |    | 1           |
| Larceny            | 1  |    | 2  | 14 | 4  | 7  | 28          |
| Robbery            |    |    |    | 3  | 1  |    | 4           |
| Simple Assault     |    |    |    |    | 1  | 4  | 5           |
| Stolen Property    |    |    | 5  | 5  | 4  | 4  | 18          |
| Vandalism          |    |    | 1  | 3  | 1  | 2  | 7           |
| Weapon Violations  |    |    | 1  | 4  | 3  | 7  | 15          |
| Grand Total        | 3  | 2  | 15 | 42 | 21 | 34 | 117         |

Information provided by the Police Department's Crime Analysis Unit

### **1st Quarter 2020 Training Division Activities**

# Police Recruit Applicants Tested During the 1st Quarter 2020

|                            | Number of Applicants | Failed<br>Written<br>Test | Failed<br>Physical<br>Test | Durham<br>Residents<br>Total | Durham<br>Residents Failed<br>Written Test | Durham<br>Residents Failed<br>Physical Test |
|----------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------------|--|---|
| White Male                 | 17                   | 2                         | 2                          | 2                            | 0  | 0   |
| White Female               | 4                    | 0                         | 0                          | 0                            | 0  | 0   |
| African American<br>Male   | 10                   | 1                         | 0                          | 4                            | 1  | 0   |
| African American<br>Female | 4                    | 1                         | 2                          | 4                            | 1  | 2   |
| Latino Male                | 6                    | 3                         | 0                          | 1                            | 0  | 0   |
| Latino Female              | 1                    | 0                         | 1                          | 0                            | 0  | 0   |
| Asian Male/Female          | 0                    | 0                         | 0                          | 0                            | 0  | 0   |
| Other Male/Female          | 0                    | 0                         | 0                          | 0                            | 0  | 0   |
| Totals                     | 42                   | 7                         | 5                          | 11                           | 2  | 2   |

Statistics provided by the Durham Police Department's Training Division

1st Quarter Recruiting Events/Job Fairs - Officers from the Recruiting Unit attended recruiting events and job fairs at the following locations during the first quarter of 2020: Camp Lejeune, Durham School of the Arts Career Fair, Durham MLK Parade, University of Tennessee, Clark Atlanta University (HBCU), N.C. State Career Fair, Recruit Military in Norfolk, Va., University of North Carolina Wilmington, Eastern North Carolina Community College Association in Raleigh, Appalachian State University, CIAA Career Fair, Recruit Military at Fort Bragg and East Carolina University Criminal Justice Fair.

The Recruiting Unit held seven open houses during the first quarter of 2020. Two more open houses were cancelled due to COVID-19.

#### **Above and Beyond**

(These are just a few of the many "above and beyond" actions by DPD employees during the 1st quarter of 2020)

Lifesaving Efforts - DPD Corporal B.T. Francis and Officer D.D. Colquitt from Squad 5D were dispatched to a cardiac arrest call in a parking lot on Hillsborough Road shortly after 2:30 a.m. on February 26. Corporal Francis was the first person to arrive on the scene. He saw that the man sitting in a vehicle was not showing any signs of life. The man's friend was trying to do CPR while the man was still in a seated position, but Corporal Francis realized the man needed to be repositioned in order to effectively perform CPR. Corporal Francis placed the patient flat on his back, discovered he had no pulse and immediately started doing chest compressions.





Officer D.D. Colquitt

Cpl. B.T. Francis

Officer Colquitt arrived on the scene while Corporal Francis was doing chest compressions and located an AED in Corporal Francis's patrol car. Officer Colquitt attached the AED pads to the patient's body and followed all the prompts. The AED was able to detect that the man now had a pulse. EMTs arrived on scene and confirmed that the patient had a pulse. EMTs and firefighters continued to treat the patient and transported him to the hospital.

Wheelchair Assistance - In January, Officer D.T. Bartlett responded to a call about a stranded disabled elderly female operating a motorized wheelchair in a shopping center parking lot. The elderly female utilizes the motorized wheelchair as her primary means of transportation. Officer Bartlett assisted her by pushing the 300-pound wheelchair into a grocery store and provided her transportation back to her residence. The next day, Corporal S.A. Gursslin and Officer A. Cisternas were dispatched to the same location to assist the woman once again with her wheelchair. The woman advised the officers that the issue was not the wheelchair's battery, but something was not working with the mechanics or gears. Corporal Gursslin asked Officer Cisternas to go to Durham Police Headquarters to retrieve the department's pickup truck. Officer Cisternas, Corporal Gursslin and Corporal W.M. Fleeman proceeded to pick up the 300-pound motorized wheelchair and load it onto the back of the truck. They then transported the wheelchair and the elderly women back to her apartment, where they unloaded and pushed the 300-pound wheelchair into her apartment. The woman was very appreciative and stated that she would contact the wheelchair company for further assistance. Their supervisor wrote, "Corporal Fleeman, Corporal Gursslin, Officer Bartlett and Officer Cisternas are officers that faithfully and relentlessly demonstrate their dedication and commitment to the community and its residents. These officers not only assisted a stranded disabled elderly resident but provided exceptional professionalism to think "outside the box" to not only identify a problem but provide a solution."

Mental Health Crisis Assistance - In February, Officer J.H. Wagstaff Jr. responded to a call about a suicidal woman. She told him she suffered from painful health conditions and was also having financial difficulties. She also told Officer Wagstaff she was lonely and did not know how to access services for assistance. "In my 4 years on the street as a CIT officer, I found (the woman's) situation particularly concerning but one where

we can certainly have an impact," Wagstaff said. Officers Wagstaff and D.M. Cox worked together to connect the woman with Meals on Wheels and worked with her pastor to find other resources for assistance. Officer Wagstaff donated a television set to her to help her pass the time while she is at home and referred her to the DPD's Crisis Intervention Team (CIT).

## 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter DPD Employees of the Month

**District 1 – Officer M.J. Adams, Squad 1A** - Officer Adams was commended for his overall work as a patrol officer as well as his handling of a case involving kidnapping and attempted human trafficking of a minor. Officer Adams was sent to the original call in 2018 near the end of his shift and in another district. "Yet, he stayed for hours and was placed in charge of standing by with the suspect. I have watched hours of body cam footage of Officer Adams with this suspect and am amazed at how well Officer Adams responded when the suspect began spontaneously making statements. Officer Adams never once interrogated the suspect, but always used body language and neutral talk to keep the suspect engaged and the situation calm. He built rapport with the suspect that aided our investigation significantly," said an assistant district attorney handling the case.

She added, "I spent hours working with Officer Adams in preparation for our trial. Our entire team was impressed with his dedication. I hope that Officer Adams will eventually move into investigations. He has the natural talent and drive for that type of work." The jury found the suspect guilty. Officer Adams' supervisors also praised his attention to detail, work ethic and "day to day exceptional work."

**District 1 – Officer C.A. Garcia, Squad 1C** – Officer Garcia was selected as District 1's Employee of the Month for his work on a shooting investigation, his skills as a patrol training officer with a new recruit and his overall work as a patrol officer. Officer Garcia responded to a shooting call in January and provided timely assistance and information critical to the arrests of several people. Officers recovered four firearms at the scene. He also coordinated a thorough investigation of a drug complaint during January, which led to the seizure of crack cocaine. According to his supervisors, Officer Garcia's "enthusiasm and leadership" motivated his fellow officers to assist with the investigation and even come in on their days off to help.

"Lastly, a periodic review of body-worn camera footage by his supervisor showed Officer Garcia providing excellent instructions to his officer in training, especially in the midst of critical situations. Officer Garcia has demonstrated the ability to multi-task at a very high level in a variety of situations. He is an integral part of District 1C squad's overall success," his supervisors said. Shortly before the award was announced at a meeting, Officer Garcia was assisting at a shooting call where he "very calmly and capably provided lifesaving actions."

**District 2 – Officer J.H. Wagstaff, Squad 2D** - Officer Wagstaff was recognized for coming up with a solution to the issue of loud parties in neighborhoods near the Duke University campus. Officer Wagstaff attended a neighborhood meeting near the Duke University campus in July 2019 where residents complained about frequent parties, noise and other issues. His district commander challenged him to find a solution to the problem of the disruptive parties. Officer Wagstaff came up with a plan to use a misdemeanor diversion plan

which helped officers keep track of the parties and allows students to go through a process without ending up with a criminal charge. Under the proposal, students will be given a warning for a first offense. A second offense would result in a referral to Durham's misdemeanor diversion program, which gives them 90 days to complete the program, which usually includes community service as well as workshops, in lieu of criminal charges. The students would be cited or arrested for a third offense or if they fail complete the diversion program. The plan was accepted by Duke, residents in the neighborhood and the Durham County District Attorney's Office.

A neighborhood president wrote this to Officer Wagstaff, "I did not get a chance to thank you at the end of the fall semester for all that you have done for us, and I should have. The work that you have done has changed the dynamic around the party house issue and given us all hope. For the first time since our group began, we have heard people talking about solving this problem, which would have been unthinkable a few years ago. We are very, very grateful for the DPD's response to the situation—you have literally changed our lives. Thank you. I am delighted to report that I haven't received any information about any loud parties in any of our neighborhoods."

**District 3 – Officer A.A. Roberts, Squad 3A** - Officer Roberts is a relatively new officer who was commended for her hard work and reliability as an officer. She has been particularly interested in traffic safety. She conducted a traffic operation in the West End and recovered a stolen Lexus. She has also responded to complaints about speeding from residents and conducted speed enforcement operations in various neighborhoods. Her commander said Officer Roberts has a professional and respectful demeanor to everyone she encounters. Her supervisor said, "Her diligent dedication to make the district a safer place is noticed and appreciated by her supervisors as well as her command staff."

District 3 – Investigator B.L. Crabtree, District 3 Criminal Investigations Division (CID) - Investigator Crabtree was recognized for solving more than two cases of breaking into vehicles that happened in December in the outer zones of District 3. In addition to the District 3 incidents, Districts 2 and 4 and the Chapel Hill Police Department also had vehicle break-ins involving the same suspects. During the following weeks, Investigator Crabtree was able to develop several suspects with the assistance of District 1 investigators, DPD's Intel Unit and Forensic Services. While Investigator Crabtree was developing the identities of the involved suspects, the vehicle that was used in the commission of the vehicle break-ins was recovered by District 3 patrol officers. This vehicle contained several items that were stolen during the motor vehicle break-ins. The recovery of the vehicle and the stolen items connected approximately 29 incidents to two suspects. Investigator Crabtree looked back over other vehicle break-in incidents to see if there are additional incidents involving these suspects. During the month of January 2020, Investigator Crabtree was able to charge two individuals with committing numerous vehicle break-ins.

District 4 – Sergeant S.L. Perkins and Officer W.S. Banton III, Squad 4D - Sergeant Perkins and Officer Banton were commended for their actions in apprehending two armed robbery suspects on January 8. During early January, District 4 officers had responded to three violent armed robbery calls involving a vehicle with a similar description. On January 8, an armed robbery call was dispatched at the Subway at 2121 T.W. Alexander Drive. An employee had been pistol-whipped and told officers the suspect vehicle was

a white VW Jetta, which matched the description of the vehicle in the previous three robberies. Officer Banton spotted a white Jetta and pulled behind what turned out to be the suspect vehicle. Officer Banton attempted to stop the Jetta, but the driver did not stop. Officer Banton provided information about the vehicle and remained calm and spoke clearly while calling out a vehicle chase. The chase ended when the Jetta crashed into a wooded area off East Cornwallis Road near South Tricenter Boulevard.

The Jetta ran off the road about 50 feet down a slight embankment. "The airbags deployed, which prevented Officer Banton and Sergeant Perkins from seeing inside the vehicle. Upon initial approach of the vehicle, Officer Banton remained composed as he commanded the suspects inside the vehicle not to move. Due to the officers not being able to see the suspects inside and knowing the suspects were armed and extremely violent, the decision was made to wait for additional units before approaching the vehicle. Sergeant Perkins and Officer Banton showed textbook officer safety tactics and had great communication between themselves and the other responding units," another supervisor at the scene reported.

"Sergeant Perkins began providing strong verbal commands to the suspects while officers moved into position. Once everyone was on scene, Sergeant Perkins coordinated the effort to get the suspects removed from the vehicle safely. Both suspects were taken into custody without further incident. The Jetta was also determined to be stolen. Thanks to Sergeant Perkins' and Officer Banton's vigilance, good instincts, officer safety tactics and excellent communication skills, two armed robbery suspects were apprehended. The arrest of these two suspects led to many cases being cleared," the supervisor added.

Criminal Investigations Division (CID) - Investigator K.M. Foley, Financial Crimes Unit - Investigator Foley was commended for her work on fraud cases as well as her community outreach, particularly to senior citizens. "I wish I had a couple more of her. She understands the bigger picture – to address the needs of the community as well as solve crimes," her commander said.

In the late summer of 2019, the Financial Crimes Unit began receiving a number of cases involving identity theft victims reporting fraudulent hotel charges in Durham. Investigator Foley took the lead on the investigation and identified several suspects who were using stolen identities to book local hotel rooms, which they would register under names of other victims. The hotel rooms would then be advertised on social media and sold during cash transactions. The same pattern had been used for providing food, gas, and other services in exchange for cash in Durham and in other jurisdictions. The same suspects are also suspected of being involved in various other crimes. Investigator Foley has been working with other units within DPD and other law enforcement agencies on these investigations. Investigator Foley has consolidated these cases and continues to develop more cases involving the same type of crimes with the same suspects. This information is being shared with stakeholders in the related cases. Several felony warrants have been obtained on this group with several cases pending while victims confirm losses.

In addition, Investigator Foley utilized relationships she has developed with local community groups like AARP and The Durham Center for Senior Living to assist at the Deck the Halls Holiday Feast at the Durham Center for Senior Living on December 16. At this event, which served as the Financial Crimes Unit's holiday

event, the Financial Crimes Unit was present to interact with the local senior community about fraudulent crimes which often target senior citizens. Investigator Foley also worked with some of the same groups, plus the U.S. Postal Service and the N.C. Secretary of State, to set up the first Annual Scam Jam at the Durham Center for Senior Living on January 22. "The Financial Crimes Unit sees financial elder abuse and other cases where elders fall victim to frauds on a regular basis, often with terrible consequences. This type of proactive interaction will hopefully help to keep our elderly and aging communities safer from those who target them. Investigator Foley's dedicated efforts into ongoing criminal activity and working with community groups to help some of the most helpless members of our community are exemplary," her supervisor said.

Community Services Division – Officer R.A. Grillasca III, Community Engagement Unit - In January, Officers R.A. Grillasca III and L.E. Thomas were checking in at the office in the housing community at 1126 Hoover Road when they heard a frantic banging on the door. A woman, who was holding a 1-year-old boy in her arms, ran in and told the officers her son was choking on a piece of candy and was struggling to breathe. Officer Grillasca calmly took the boy, sat down with him and delivered a few blows to his back. The candy was dislodged and fell out of his mouth and the little boy started breathing. Officer Grillasca had EMS respond to assess to boy just in case and they cleared the child to go home. Obviously, Officer Grillasca was in the right place at the right time. He believes his law enforcement training and his years of previously working in a hospital aided in providing the needed assistance to the boy. Officer Grillasca's quick actions helped save the child's life.

Administrative Services – Ms. Jean Thibodeaux-Miller, Training Division - Ms. Miller's supervisors wrote the following nomination for Employee of the Month, "Ms. Miller is one of those employees who we could honestly nominate for this award every month. Throughout her years of service in the Recruiting Unit, she has proven herself as a dedicated, knowledgeable, hard-working employee, who goes above and beyond on almost a daily basis. Ms. Miller keeps our ship afloat, by staying on task, always knowing what needs to be done, and showing strong leadership, and administrative skills every time she has the opportunity.

"Ms. Miller has been nominated this month in particular due to her outstanding efforts in getting Academy 51 in place, by taking on an unbelievable workload and showing unmatched dedication to our unit, and to the department as a whole. During this hiring cycle, the Recruiting Unit was against the clock, since most of our hires occurred around the holiday season. Using foresight guided by her vast experience, Ms. Miller attempted to work around scheduling conflicts by setting up conditional offer appointments with our vendors, even before we had an exact number of recruits to schedule. As chance would have it, we experienced an unforeseen delay in processing our applicants, which put us in a seemingly unworkable situation. Instead of panicking or throwing her hands up, Ms. Miller made up in her mind that we were going to get the job done. Over the last month, Ms. Miller came in early, stayed late, worked weekends, cut vacations short, and even came into work when she was under the weather to ensure that the job was done!

"Without Ms. Miller's dedication, expertise, diligence, and sacrifice, there is no way the Recruiting Unit would have been able to get our current group of recruits in place. This example is just a small sample of what Ms. Miller does on a daily basis. She is a consummate professional, who never leaves a job undone. We would say that we need two "Ms. Millers" around the office, but there isn't anyone else out there who works as hard as our Jean."

# **Initiatives and Community Outreach Events**

(This is a sample of initiatives and outreach events from the 1st quarter. Several planned events scheduled in March were cancelled due to COVID 19)

DPAL Soccer Tournament - Eight youth members of the Durham Police Athletic League (DPAL) Club Boulevard Elementary Soccer Club competed in a North Carolina Football Club (NCFC) 4v4 tournament on January 11 at WRAL Soccer Park. Participants competed in a friendly environment to strengthen skills such as communication, leadership, sportsmanship and teamwork. DPAL soccer players (ages seven to 11) were able to experience soccer at a higher level. The youth were not deterred by new rules nor the different style of play (4v4). The police department salutes their



willingness to try new things and commends their demonstration of confidence and overall spirit of camaraderie.

School Zone Speed Enforcement Operation - On January 16, the Durham Police Department's Traffic Accident and Crash Team (TACT) and Motor Unit, with assistance from the Durham County Sheriff's Office, conducted a LIDAR speed enforcement operation which targeted speeding issues in the school zones of Mt. Zion Christian Academy, W.G. Pearson Elementary School and Hillside High School. All three of these schools are located within the 3500 to 3700 blocks of Fayetteville Street and have a joint school zone speed limit of 25 mph between the hours of 7:15 am and 9:30 am. During that time officers made 60 traffic stops of vehicles exceeding 15 mph above the posted 25 mph limit. The highest speed clocked was 60 mph, along with several others exceeding 50 mph. In addition to the speeding violations, officers issued 18 other traffic citations.

**Speed Enforcement Operation** - On February 5, the Durham Police Department's Traffic and Crash Team (TACT) and Motor Unit conducted a LIDAR speed enforcement operation which targeted speeding issues on Interstate 85 North near Cole Mill Road. The highest speed clocked was 91 mph, along with several others exceeding 80 mph. Officers issued 32 speeding tickets.

**Citywide Buy/Bust Operation** - During the week of March 3, the Selective Enforcement Team conducted a two-day citywide buy/bust drug operation, based on complaints from residents. The operation resulted in 22 arrests on 29 felony charges and five misdemeanor charges. Officers confiscated cocaine, heroin, marijuana and Suboxone. In addition to SET, officers from the Vice-Narcotics Unit, Gang Unit and Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) participated in this operation.

**CALEA Accreditation Assessment** - The Durham Police Department hosted an assessment team from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) March 9-12, 2020. This site-based assessment was part of the department's re-accreditation process as we seek our ninth CALEA accreditation award. The accreditation program requires agencies to comply with standards in four basic areas: policy and procedures, administration, operations, and support services.

Scam Jam - On January 22, the Durham Police Department held its first-ever Scam Jam in partnership with the Durham Center for Senior Life. Participants learned the right moves and best practices to avoid getting conned. Coordinated by DPD's Financial Crimes Unit, the fraud-fighting forum featured crime prevention tips, giveaways and food. Subject matter professionals from the United States Postal Service; the NC Department of the Secretary of State; the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP); the NC Department of Justice;



and the NC Department of Insurance facilitated engaging sessions. Harris Teeter, Krispy Creme and Bruegger's Bagels sponsored portions of the continental breakfast and lunch meals.

FBI-LEEDA Training - The Durham Police Department hosted the FBI's Executive Leadership Institute (ELI) training class February 24-28 at Durham Police Headquarters. ELI is part three of the threestep leadership series that makes up the FBI-LEEDA Trilogy. ELI training classes include the following topics: Trends in law enforcement, implications of the President's Task Force on 21st Century Policing; public trust and legitimacy, bias and diversity; employee wellness; and power, transformational leadership, social and emotional intelligence.





**BLET #50 Graduation** - Eleven recruits graduated from the Durham Police Department's Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET) Academy #50 in March. The keynote speaker was retired DPD Deputy Chief Larry Smith.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Homicide Arrests

Commerce Street Homicide Arrest - Officers responded to an apartment at 143 Commerce Street around 9 p.m. on March 16. They found a female, identified as Rebecca Baldwin, 46, of Durham, dead inside the apartment. Investigators arrested Travis Morrell Poe, 38, of Durham and charged him with murder. Investigators said the case appears to be a domestic incident.

Industry Lane Homicide Arrest - Investigators arrested 20-year-old Denzel James Fitzgerald on April 22 and charged him with murdering 20-year-old Trevor Malik VanDyke on March 2 on Industry Lane. Officers found VanDyke, a student at North Carolina Central University, shot to death in the 4600 block of Industry Lane around 9:30 p.m. According to investigators, VanDyke was apparently shot in the 1400 block of East

Cornwallis Road and drove to Industry Lane following the shooting. The incident did not appear to be random.

Holloway Street Homicide Arrest - Taki D. Farley, 22, of Durham was arrested and charged with fatally shooting 51-year-old Brian Keith Smith on February 20 on Holloway Street near Raynor Street. Officers were flagged down on Holloway Street and told that a man had been shot. Witnesses told police that the victim and suspect were seen in an argument in the 1700 block of Holloway Street before one shot was fired. Officers found Smith in a nearby parking lot. He was taken to the hospital, where he later died.

Responding officers were able to locate and apprehend the suspect, identified as Farley, after a brief chase. Farley, who is a convicted felon, was found in possession of a handgun. He was charged with murder and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon for this incident, and larceny of motor vehicle and possession of a stolen motor vehicle in reference to an unrelated car theft that happened on Chautauqua Street earlier in the morning.

Commerce Street Homicide Arrests - Three men were indicted in connection with a fatal shooting on Commerce Street in March. The victim — Kordell Tashaun Young, 23, of Durham — died in April as a result of his injuries. Officers responded to a shooting call at 5:40 p.m. on March 20 in the 100 block of Commerce Street near Elizabeth Street. When they arrived, they found Young lying on the ground in front of an apartment. He was taken to the hospital, where he died on April 19.

Investigators charged Terrance Tyrone Hart, 20, and Khalil Daye, 19, with first-degree murder, assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill inflicting serious injury and assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill. Hart was also charged with possession of a firearm by a convicted felon. Jaquomie Malike Samuel, 19, was charged with felony conspiracy.

# 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Significant Robbery Arrests

Bank Robbery Arrest - Durham police arrested 41-year-old Shannon McCormick and charged him with robbing Truist Bank at 200 North Mangum Street on February 28. Officers responded to an alarm at the bank at 4:20 p.m. When they arrived, they were told that a man entered the bank and handed a teller a note demanding money. The man said he had a gun, but no weapon was seen. McCormick was charged with one count of robbery with a dangerous weapon. He was placed in Durham County Jail under a \$25,000 bond.

Gazelle Convenience Store Robbery Arrest - Officers were dispatched to a robbery at the Gazelle convenience store at 1108 West Chapel Hill Street around 11:30 p.m. on Friday, February 7. A male wearing a mask and with a hoodie pulled down over his face entered the store, handed a bag to the clerk and demanded money. A Durham police sergeant was working off-duty at the store and immediately placed the man – Michael Conway, 51, of Durham – under arrest. Officers confiscated a hammer and a box cutter from Conway. Conway was charged with attempted robbery with a dangerous weapon and placed in Durham County Jail under a \$100,000 bond.

**Family Fare Convenience Store Robbery Arrest -** On February 9, officers responded to an armed robbery call at the Family Fare at 1815 Hillandale Road. A man entered the business around 11:15 p.m. and approached

the counter. The man, who was holding a knife in his right hand, pushed an employee and took the cash drawer from the register. He was last seen on foot heading toward Croasdaile Drive. A description of the suspect was broadcast to all officers. A short time later, a Durham Police K9 officer and his K9 located a man matching the description in the 3000 block of Croasdaile Drive. Officers also located the cash drawer and a knife. Officers arrested Bryant Lamont Boyd, 48, of Chapel Hill and charged him with robbery with a dangerous weapon, carrying a concealed weapon and possession of a counterfeit controlled substance with the intent to sell or deliver. Boyd was placed in Durham County Jail under a \$150,000 bond.

January 18 Business Robbery Charges - Durham police investigators have charged a man with committing two armed robberies and an attempted armed robbery within 1½ hours on January 18. The man - Kevin Blanding, 48, of Durham – was arrested on Friday, January 24 after he allegedly robbed a Food Lion in Morrisville and led police on a chase into Durham.

Durham police investigators charged Blanding in connection with the following incidents on January 18:

- An attempted armed robbery was reported at Prestige Green Dry Cleaners at 1821 Hillandale Road at 12:11 p.m.
- An armed robbery was reported at the BP convenience store at 4148 Chapel Hill Road at 12:28 p.m.
- An armed robbery was reported at Family Dollar at 401 East Lakewood Avenue at 1:29 p.m.

The suspect threatened the use of a weapon in all three cases. No one was injured in the robberies. Blanding was placed in the Wake County Jail under an \$815,000 bond.

**Kohl's Robbery Arrest** - Investigators arrested 37-year-old Charles Halsey IV and charged him with threatening to stab a loss prevention officer at Kohl's on McFarland Drive with a needle on February 6. The loss prevention officer was trying to stop three men who were leaving the business with approximately \$1,000 worth of stolen clothing. When the loss prevention officer confronted the men, one took the cap off a needle and said he was going to stab the loss prevention officer. Halsey was arrested on charges of robbery with a dangerous weapon and conspiracy.

Chase and Robbery Arrests - Two men were arrested on armed robbery charges following a commercial armed robbery and chase on January 8. Officers responded to a robbery call at the Subway at 2121 T.W. Alexander Drive. The victims told officers that two masked men armed with pistols entered the business and demanded money. The suspects pistol-whipped an employee and fled with an undisclosed amount of cash. A description of the suspects' vehicle – a white Volkswagen Jetta – was broadcast to officers. A short time later, an officer with Squad 4D spotted a vehicle matching that description on T.W. Alexander Drive near Cornwallis Road and tried to stop it, but the driver refused to stop. Officers briefly chased the vehicle until the driver of the Volkswagen lost control of the vehicle on Cornwallis Road at Tricenter Boulevard and crashed. The two males in the Volkswagen were treated at the scene by EMS.

The Volkswagen had been reported stolen from Courtney Creek Drive on January 4, 2020. Officers recovered two stolen firearms, U.S. currency and masks from the stolen vehicle. Investigators charged Clarence Hargett, 28, and Robert Emerson Smith, 25, in connection with the robbery at the Subway. Hargett

was also charged with committing an armed robbery at the Subway at 401 East Lakewood Avenue on January 6, 2020.

Durham police investigators charged Hargett with two counts of robbery with a dangerous weapon, two counts of conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon and one count of possession of a stolen firearm. Smith was charged with one count of robbery with a dangerous weapon, one count of conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon, one count of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and one count of simple assault.

Armed Robbery Arrest - On February 4, investigators from the DPD's Gang Unit responded to assist on an armed robbery call in the 700 block of Eva Street. Gang Unit investigators located a possible suspect – Michael Demond Daniels, 32, of Durham - near Holloway Street and Railroad Street. The victim told officers he was working at a job site on Eva Street when a man carrying a rifle approached and demanded money and a ride. When the victim refused, the man grabbed a Sawzall and fled. Officer recovered the weapon which turned out to be a BB gun. Daniels was charged with robbery with a dangerous weapon and misdemeanor aggressive begging (another incident on the same day).

Armed Robbery/Drug Arrest - On February 5, investigators from the DPD's Gang Unit conducted a traffic stop near the intersection of Pettigrew and Dillard streets. Two men ran from the vehicle and were captured after a brief foot chase. One man, Fernando Dean Jr., 23, of Durham was arrested on a warrant for robbery with a dangerous weapon. The robbery was reported at 1:22 a.m. on January 15 in the parking lot of Wendy's at 1808 South Miami Boulevard. Three men armed with guns approached an employee in the parking lot, put a gun to his head and forced him back into the business. The suspects took cash from the business and fled in the victim's car. Dean was charged with robbery with a dangerous weapon, conspiracy to commit a felony and felony larceny. He was also charged with two counts of resisting, delaying and obstructing officers.

The second man who fled during the traffic stop – 19-year-old Donavyn Mayfield – was charged with two counts of possession of a stolen firearm, three counts of carrying a concealed gun and resisting, delaying and obstructing an officer. Officers recovered two stolen handguns during the traffic stop.

**Carjacking Arrests** - Durham police investigators arrested two Durham teens – ages 16 and 17 – and charged them with committing several armed carjackings within one week in March. The two teens were served with juvenile petitions and have been placed in secure custody.

The teens were charged with committing the following robberies:

- March 22 in the 1300 block of South Roxboro Street The victim was getting in his car around 7:45 p.m. when two men, one armed with a rifle, approached him and told him to get out of the vehicle. The suspects took the victim's phone and fled in the victim's vehicle.
- March 27 in the 4000 block of Fayetteville Street The victim was getting in her vehicle around 12:30 a.m. when two men pointed guns at her and told her to get out of the vehicle. The suspects fled in the victim's car.

- March 27 in 3100 block of Hillandale Road Two men approached the victim in a parking lot around 6 a.m., pointed guns at him and demanded the keys to the victim's vehicle. The victim told them he did not have the keys. The suspects took the victim's phone and fled.
- March 27 in the 1400 block of Wyldewood Road The victim was sitting in his car around 6:15 a.m. when two men held the victim at gunpoint and took his vehicle. The suspects also took the victim's wallet and phone.
- March 29 in the 2000 block of Chapel Hill Road The victim was getting into his car in the parking lot of a business around 1:30 a.m. when two males dressed all in black approached him. One man pulled a knife and the men tried to get in the victim's car. The victim was able to push them away and fled.
- March 29 in the 1200 block of University Drive The victim was getting into his vehicle after pumping gas when a man got in the vehicle and punched the victim in the face. A second man put a knife to the victim's throat and the two men fled in the victim's vehicle.

The 16-year-old male was also charged in connection with the following case:

March 26 in the 2000 block of Chapel Hill Road – The victim walked out of a business around 11 p.m. and was confronted by a man with a gun. The man pointed the gun at the victim and fled in the victim's vehicle.

The stolen vehicles have all been recovered.

#### 2015 Sexual Assault Arrest

2015 Sexual Assault Arrest - Durham police investigators arrested Emanuel Dwayne Burch and charged him in connection with a November 2015 sexual assault on the Ellerbe Creek Trail. Burch, 32, was charged with first-degree sexual assault and attempted first-degree murder in connection with this case. A woman told officers she was walking home from work and entered the Ellerbe Creek Trail near West Trinity Avenue around 6 p.m. on November 11, 2015. She was walking on the trail near Dacian Avenue when a man approached her from behind, choked her into unconsciousness and pulled her into the woods, where he sexually assaulted her. The victim was taken to the hospital for treatment.

Investigators worked on the case for several years but did not have any strong leads until the fall of 2019. Investigators sent the DNA profile obtained from the sexual assault evidence collection kit from this case in for testing. On September 9, 2019, investigators learned that the DNA profile matched a DNA profile in the national Combined DNA Index System (CODIS) database, which was linked to Burch. In October, investigators obtained a search warrant and collected a DNA sample from Burch. This DNA sample was sent to the North Carolina State Crime Laboratory for comparison to the DNA profile obtained from the evidence collection kit from the Ellerbe Creek case.

On January 16, 2020, DPD investigators were told that the known DNA sample from Burch was a confirmed match to the DNA profile from the Ellerbe Creek case. True bills of indictment for Burch were issued on January 17 and he was arrested on January 22 in Chapel Hill. Burch has been placed in the Durham County Jail under a \$500,000 bond.

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter Drug Trafficking Arrests

Cocaine/Heroin Trafficking Arrest - Investigators from the Vice-Narcotics Unit completed a five-month undercover drug investigation in February by arresting 39-year-old Bryan Montreez Upchurch during a traffic stop. Investigators charged Upchurch with five counts of trafficking in cocaine, three indictments for trafficking in heroin, one count of possession of a stolen vehicle, 45 additional drug charges and a probation violation.

**Cocaine/Heroin Trafficking Arrest** - Officers responded to a disturbance with a weapon call on East Main Street in February and located Demetrice Moore, 50, who was found to be in possession of crack cocaine, powder cocaine and heroin. Moore was charged with trafficking in cocaine, trafficking in heroin, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and two other drug charges.

**Heroin Trafficking Arrest** - On March 17, investigators from the DPD's Gang Unit located a wanted person, 50-year-old Jason Green, on Palmer Street. Green had several outstanding warrants for drug charges. Green was taken into custody and found to be in possession of 11.2 grams of heroin. He was then charged with trafficking in heroin and placed in Durham County Jail under a \$500,000 bond.