

Hillsborough Police Department 2019 Report



**A Report on the
State of the Town's Law
Enforcement Activities**

Published April 2020

Message from the Chief

Thank you for reviewing the HPD's 2019 annual report. This report intends to give community members and visitors details about who makes up the department, how we operate, and what we have accomplished over the past year. While I believe this report provides a great deal of valuable information, I want to acknowledge that these few pages cannot adequately capture all the good work the dedicated men and women of the HPD do every day. I consider myself, and the town, extremely fortunate to have employees of this caliber serving our community.

Both our town and our department saw many changes in 2019. The town is anticipating more growth – some already underway and some just over the horizon. New projects are starting, such as the Collins Ridge development; old familiar places are beginning to transition, such as Daniel Boone Village; and iconic places, like the Colonial Inn, are getting a new life. Through all of this, Hillsborough strives to maintain its small town identity.

The Police Department has seen staff growth and structural changes this year. Lt. Scott Nicolaysen, a long-serving leader in the agency, took a well-deserved retirement. We hired three

IN 2019, HPD

- **Responded to 16,233 calls for service**
- **Recorded 1,542 reports**
- **Made 658 arrests**

OUR EMPLOYEES

- **62% hold associate degrees or higher**
- **59% hold intermediate or advanced Law Enforcement Certification**
- **37% have more than 10 years with HPD**



Duane Hampton
Chief of Police

new officers, made two promotions to sergeant, and promoted one officer to lieutenant. Also, we added a new lieutenant position and a non-sworn management analyst position. This growth in staffing led to a renovation project – converting the former Town Hall Annex into a new space for our department, which began in 2019. We anticipate completion in the fall of 2020. Another primary focus in 2019 was improving our internal operations by updating many of our policies and processes, introducing new systems and tools, auditing our property room, redesigning our community policing efforts, and focusing on staff training and development.

Going forward, the HPD will continue to provide the highest levels of service to our community, fulfilling our mission, “Policing at its best – the most positive and professional law enforcement services possible.” I am so grateful for the opportunity to serve this department and this community.

“Policing at Its Best”

Our Core Values

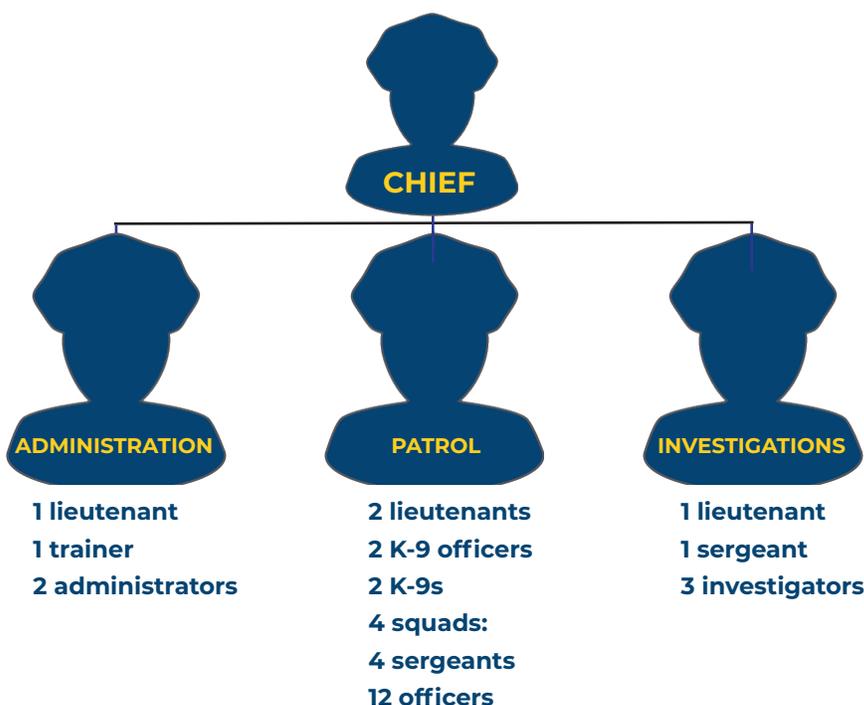
- Integrity
- Community
- Professionalism
- Positivity
- Service

Department Mission

We will help make Hillsborough’s vision a reality by providing exceptional service to protect and enhance our community, helping those in need, and exemplifying policing at its best – the most positive and professional law enforcement services possible.

Department Overview

- **Sworn:** 27 full-time officers, 1 part-time training officer
- **Non-sworn:** 2 full-time administrators



ADMINISTRATION is responsible for the department’s overall operation, records management, and customer service.

PATROL provides primary 9-1-1 response and front-line protection to the community. Four squads (one sergeant, three officers each) rotate 12-hour shifts, handling 16,233 calls for service in 2019.

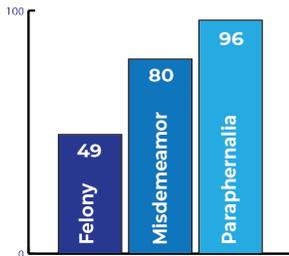
INVESTIGATIONS (one sergeant, three investigators) conducts follow-up investigations on crime reports.

COMMUNITY POLICING activities are led by all officers, with coordination from administration.

Patrol Division

Drug & Gun Enforcement

Drug Charges



The HPD enforces general statutes relating to the possession of narcotics and firearms. In 2019, the department processed 49 felony drug, 80 misdemeanor drug, and 96 drug paraphernalia charges. In addition, the department seized \$1,224 in currency related to narcotics and 13 firearms.

The drug charges stemmed from traffic stops and calls for service involving suspicious persons, larceny, and assault. Most paraphernalia charges were in conjunction with felony and misdemeanor drug charges.

The 13 seized or recovered firearms were found on traffic stops and calls for service, and some firearms were found to be stolen or in the possession of a convicted felon.

Currency Seized



Guns Seized

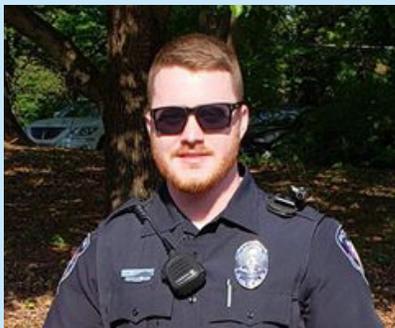


2019 Statistics

FREQUENT CALLS FOR SERVICE

ALARMS	932
SUSPICIOUS OR WANTED PERSONS	771
THEFT OR LARCENY	463
DISTURBANCE OR NUISANCE	437
SCHOOL PATROL	434
DOMESTIC DISTURBANCE/ VIOLENCE	227
9-1-1 HANGUP	150
ANIMAL RELATED	121
TRESPASSING	119
FRAUD OR DECEPTION	106

Employee Profile



Alex Gregory

Officer Alex Gregory was sworn in January 30, 2018, after becoming a recruit and attending Basic Law Enforcement Training in Orange County. In 2019, Gregory was selected as the Officer of the Year in recognition for his consistent, high-quality work and leadership to his peers. He has also received fitness recognition.

Promotions & Advancements

- ▶ Heather Blackwell advanced to police officer 1st class
- ▶ Lesly Guerrero advanced to police officer 1st class
- ▶ Tereasa Matthews promoted to sergeant
- ▶ William Felts promoted to sergeant
- ▶ Jason Winn promoted to lieutenant
- ▶ Chip White promoted to lieutenant

Traffic Enforcement

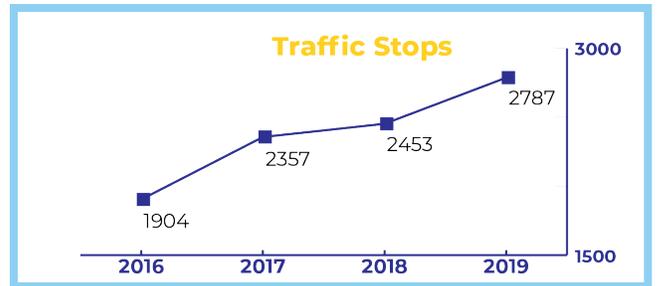
The Patrol Division dedicated more than 118 hours on traffic directive projects in response to citizen concerns about traffic violations in their neighborhoods. These projects included traffic congestion concerns and stop sign, speeding, and school zone violations. They resulted in



152 stops and 128 warnings. Traffic directive projects support the HPD's focus on educating the motoring public. Speeding complaints are addressed by deploying our

2019
Traffic Stops
2,787
Accident Investigations
347
License Checks
17
DWI Arrests
35

radar speed signs that display the speed of motorist as they approach the sign. These signs also capture traffic volume and vehicle speed data, which is studied to determine if more focus on neighborhood speed violations is needed and where it is needed most.



Trunk or Treat

The third annual Halloween Trunk or Treat brought out more than 200 children and families to Fairview Community Park. Officers decorated their cars, set up games, and gave



4 Cops: This photo is one of 12 selected in the US Department of Justice annual community policing photo contest.

out candy to the kids. This event provides an opportunity for the officers and community to have fun together!

Employee Profile



Lesly Guerrero

Officer Lesly Guerrero joined HPD as a recruit attending Orange County Basic Law Enforcement Training as part of the department's diversity recruiting opportunity. She was sworn in May 3, 2018. Officer Guerrero is HPD's first Spanish-speaking officer. Her community work is an asset. She advanced to officer 1st class in November of 2019.

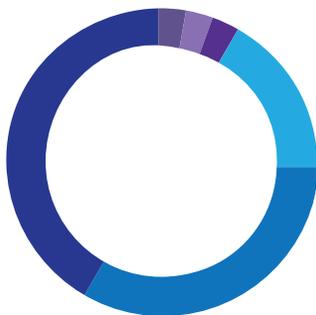
Internal Accountability

A robust internal review system ensures the HPD operates in compliance with our policies, prevailing laws, and best practices. With constant attention to potential hazards, we are always looking for how to improve our service. This vigilance led to a review of 72 incidents in 2019. In addition, employee

drivers' licenses, traffic stop statistics, and body worn camera footage were audited to ensure policy compliance.

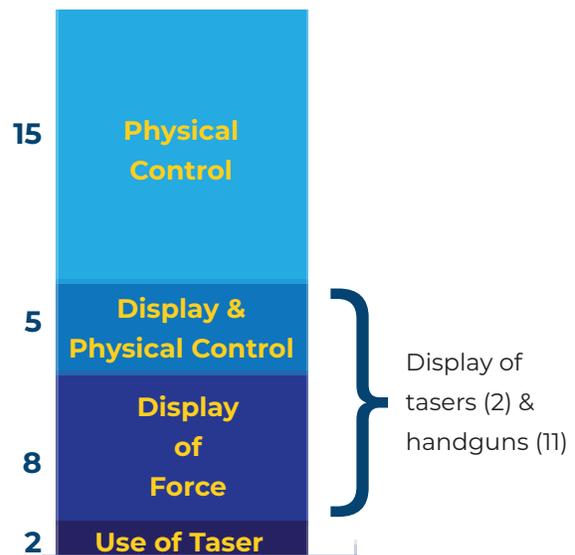
Thirty use of force reviews were conducted in 2019. These reviews found 22 incidents of force and 8 incidents of display of force. All the use of force incidents were found to be reasonable and within the policy and expectations of the agency.

Incident Reviews (72)



- Vehicle accidents (2)
- Employee injuries (2)
- Town property damage (2)
- Internal reviews (12)
- Complaints (24)
- Use of force reviews (30)

Use of Force (30)



K-9 Program

The K-9 Unit is instrumental in removing narcotics from our streets. In 2019, Senior Cpl. Scott Foster and Vader and Officer 1st Class Michael Toellen and Jet located and seized marijuana, heroin, powder and crack cocaine, and methamphetamine. Jet located a stolen firearm and narcotics from a hidden compartment in a vehicle, and Vader



Vader

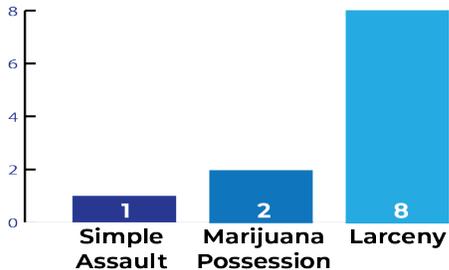
located 3 kilograms of cocaine while assisting another agency. Additionally, Vader and Jet tracked and located four felony suspects who fled a crime scene.

The dogs have a softer side. In 2019, they made many visits to schools, senior centers, and other venues and demonstrated locating narcotics and people.



Jet

Orange County Pre-arrest Diversion (OC-PAD)



OC-PAD allows officers the discretion to divert from the criminal justice system eligible individuals who commit low-level, misdemeanor offenses. It provides these individuals with accountability, appropriate programming for any therapeutic needs, and information about the collateral consequences of criminal justice involvement to help reduce chances for ongoing criminal activity.

Recently Retired



Scott Nicolaysen

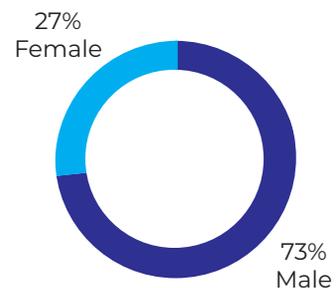
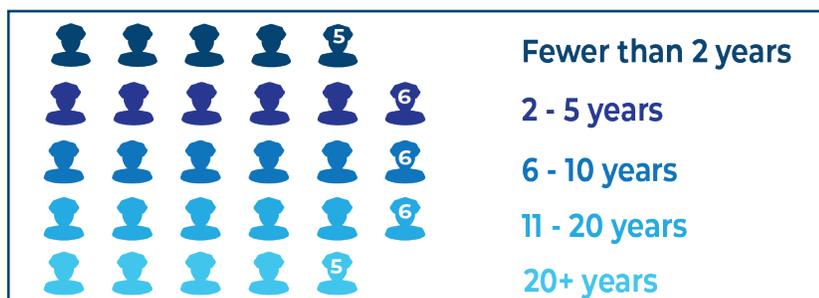
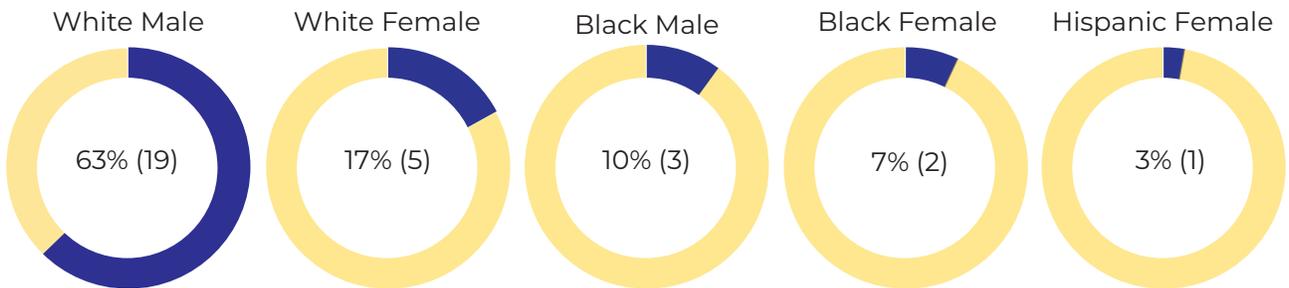
Lt. Scott Nicolaysen retired in November after 20 years of service. Prior to joining the HPD, Nicolaysen served for 20 years as a firefighter and fire chief in Chappaqua, New York. He was supervising the Investigations Division at the time of his retirement.

New Hires in 2019

- ▶ Tremell Brown, police officer
- ▶ Andrew Jones, police officer
- ▶ Jurmarr Tolber, police officer
- ▶ Eli Valsing, management analyst

Department Demographics

30 employees



Community Oriented Policing



Girl Scout Cookie Rally

Sgt. Tereasa Matthews and Officer 1st Class Alex Gregory attended the Girl Scouts of Orange County's annual cookie rally to help them get ready for a safe cookie season.



Straw for Dogs

Led by Senior Cpl. Scott Foster, the third annual Straw for Dogs helped dogs living outside in cold weather. The Home Depot donated the straw to the community.



Spring Fling

Officers Clarissa Baker and Curry Hall gave Hillsborough Elementary School students a chance to learn about police work and to have fun with the squad car at this event.



Walk Like MADD

Led by Officer Chad Wilson, the department joined the Walk Like MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) event in Raleigh, taking 1st place in the Battle of the Badges for fundraising.



Home Depot Family Day

Officers Lesly Guerrero, Sgt. Tereasa Matthews, Officer 1st Class Michael Toellen, and Senior Cpl. Keith Bradshaw built toys at this hands-on workshop for children, helping them learn safe practices in a creative setting.



OCIM Food Drive

Officers Alex Gregory, Jason Dimitri, and Jurmarr Tolber delivered food to Orange Congregations in Mission. The department made drop-offs weekly in August to support families during the summer break.

HPD uses community policing strategies such as: self-initiated activities, house checks, and school patrols. Officers attended 120 community meetings and events in 2019.



Pollinator Garden Workday

Officers Clarissa Baker, Nicole Brinkley, and Heather Blackwell (the Bee-Squad) weeded and spread mulch at Gold Park. Sgt. Chip White and Officer 1st Class Jason Dimitri assisted.



Coffee (& Games) with a Cop

Passmore Center hosted the department on National Coffee with a Cop day. Cards, pool, and puzzles helped participants build comradery and friendly competition.



Ice Cream Social

Cpl. Tim Corbett and other officers connected with senior residents and staff at Elmcroft of Hillsborough (formerly Carillon Assisted Living). Whit's Frozen Custard was served.



Christmas Door Competition

Creative door decorations abound during the holiday season at Eno Haven Apartments, so the A Squad led a competition. The competition officials pose here with one of the winners!



Santa Visits the HPD Lobby

The annual toy drive and a visit from Santa and Mrs. Claus bring community children and their families to the police station for a picture with Santa and the chance to pick out a toy.

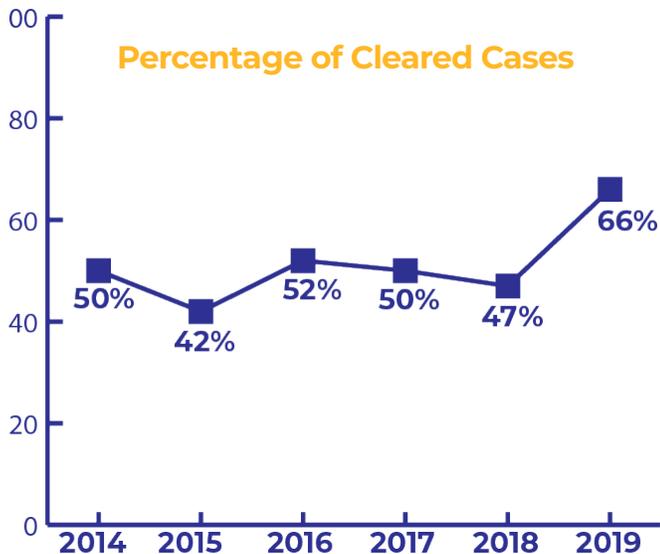


Basketball Delivery

The Orange High School basketball team collected and wrapped more than 50 basketballs, and officers distributed them throughout Hillsborough on Christmas Day.

Criminal Investigations Division

The HPD investigations team cleared 321 of the 486 cases they worked on in 2019. These cases involved Part 1 violent crimes such as, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault, and Part 1 property crimes, such as



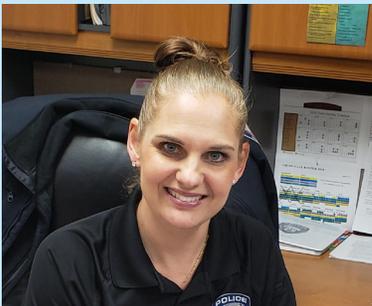
burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft, and arson. Investigations finished the year with clearance rates of 61% for violent crime and 57% for property crime.

In addition to using traditional investigative techniques, investigators frequently use social media. Posting pictures and information regarding perpetrators and crimes online is a valuable investigative tool, helping to identify suspects and develop leads in many cases.



In its 9th year of operation, the HPD's Alcohol Law Enforcement Response Team conducted 11 compliance operations. These operations target sales to underage buyers in our local businesses, including both on-premise (bars and restaurants) and off-premise (stores and shops) locations. During these operations, officers conducted 204 business checks. Nine stores were cited for selling to underage buyers. The team spent 187.5 hours on specific, focused alcohol enforcement.

Employee Profile



Heather Blackwell

Investigator Heather Blackwell joined HPD in October 2017. She previously served four years with Mebane Police and a year with UNC Public Safety. She has a bachelor's degree and an Intermediate Law Enforcement Certificate. In September 2018, Blackwell was selected to be an investigator; and in May 2019 she advanced to officer 1st class.

Prescription Drug Box

The department maintains a drop box for prescription drugs in the main station's lobby, open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday. In 2019, citizens deposited 375.69 pounds of drugs, which were disposed of through the State Bureau of Investigations.



MADD Awards

Two HPD officers were recognized by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) for their excellence in dealing with drunken driving and underage drinking prevention. Lt. Chip White (left) received the Underage Drinking Prevention Hero award and Officer Chad Wilson (right) received the MADD Officer of the Year award.



Crafts with a Cop

Five police officers and ten senior citizens met together at the Passmore Center to make autumn centerpieces out of mason jar lids. Senior Cpl. Scott Foster initiated the program, giving officers and citizens a chance to get to know each other and to bring home a holiday decoration.



Humane Law Enforcement Award

Lt. Andy Simmons received the Humane Law Enforcement Award from the North Carolina director for the Humane Society of the United States at the February 2019 Hillsborough Board of Commissioners meeting. The awarded, one of 11 nationwide, is presented to those who take a stand against animal abuse. Simmons rescued and adopted a kitten from a dog fighting ring, and she became an honorary member of the HPD.



Officer Mercy

HILLSBOROUGH POLICE DEPARTMENT'S

4TH HOLIDAY CHEER RAFFLE ANNUAL

SMOKED RIB DINNER FOR 6

\$30.00 Per Ticket

You Could Win!

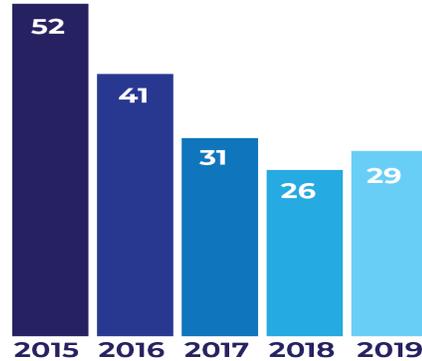
Holiday Cheer Raffle

\$1,500 Raised!

The investigations team held a raffle to support first responder families, raising over \$1,200. Another \$300 was raised through an auction of handmade items, making it possible to donate \$500 gift cards to three families. Cpl. Candace Spragins and Officer Scott Bilsky were the lucky raffle winners and enjoyed smoked rib dinners for six. The investigations division prepared and donated all the food, allowing all raffle proceeds to go to the families in need.

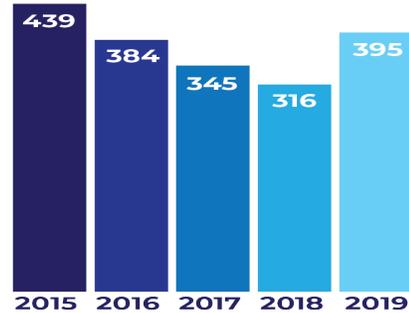
Part 1 Violent Crimes			
	5-year average	2019	% change over avg.
Homicide	0	0	0
Rape	2.2	2	-9.1%
Robbery	7	11	57.1%
Aggravated assault	26.6	16	-39.8%
Violent crime	35.8	29	-19.0%

Violent Crime Totals over Time

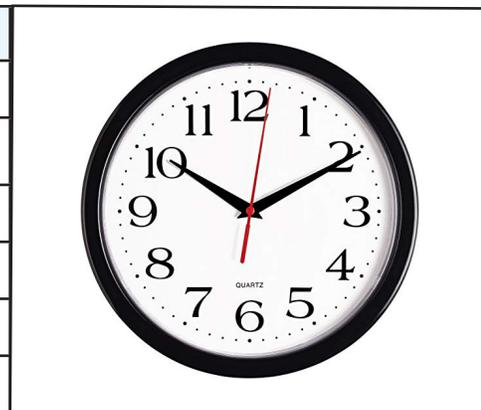


Part 1 Property Crimes			
	5-year average	2019	% change over avg.
Burglary	42.6	30	-29.6%
Larceny	326	353	8.3%
Vehicle theft	9.4	12	27.7%
Property crime	378	395	4.5%

Property Crime Totals over Time



Hillsborough's 2019 Crime Clock	
Part 1 violent crime reported	every 12.6 days
Burglary reported	every 12.2 days
Larceny reported	every 25 hours
Arrests	every 13 hours
Traffic stops	every 3 hours
Response to a call for service	every 30 minutes



Connecting with HPD

Main number (non-emergency):

919-296-9500

Emergencies:

Dial 9-1-1

www.hillsboroughnc.gov



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