



# 2010 Annual Report

# *Clemson Police Department*



**LARRY W. ABERNATHY**  
Mayor

**JIMMY DIXON**  
Chief of Police

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It is hard to believe another year has come and gone; it seems as though we have just started 2010 and now we are two months in to 2011. I am very pleased to present the Clemson City Police Department's 2010 Annual Report. The men and women of the Department continue to strive for excellence. You will notice as you go through the annual report a significant increase in the total calls for service. Part of the increase is due to the emphasis placed on pro-active activities. Our officers have increased their foot patrol time and the time spent interacting with those individuals residing in and visiting the City. We have implemented new programs requiring officers to enter into dialogue with student led organizations making the officers visible in a pro-active fashion rather than strictly in an enforcement role.

A comprehensive review of the traffic collisions occurring during 2009 led to the implementation of a group of officers making up a Highway Safety Unit. This unit is charged with the strict enforcement of all traffic regulations; however, they are also available for educational endeavors. The goal would be to correct driving behaviors through educational efforts first but also understanding that enforcement must be a part of the educational process. This unit will be responsible for reviewing the vehicle collisions occurring during 2010; comparing the data between the two years and developing a comprehensive traffic enforcement and educational strategy for the Department.

All of the men and women making up the Clemson City Police Department are dedicated to their chosen profession; this dedication is seen in their day to day activities and the continued professionalism with which they carry out their responsibilities.

As you review the 2010 Annual Report please contact me with any questions you may have. I, along with all of the personnel in the Department look forward to serving the citizens and visitors of the City of Clemson during 2011.

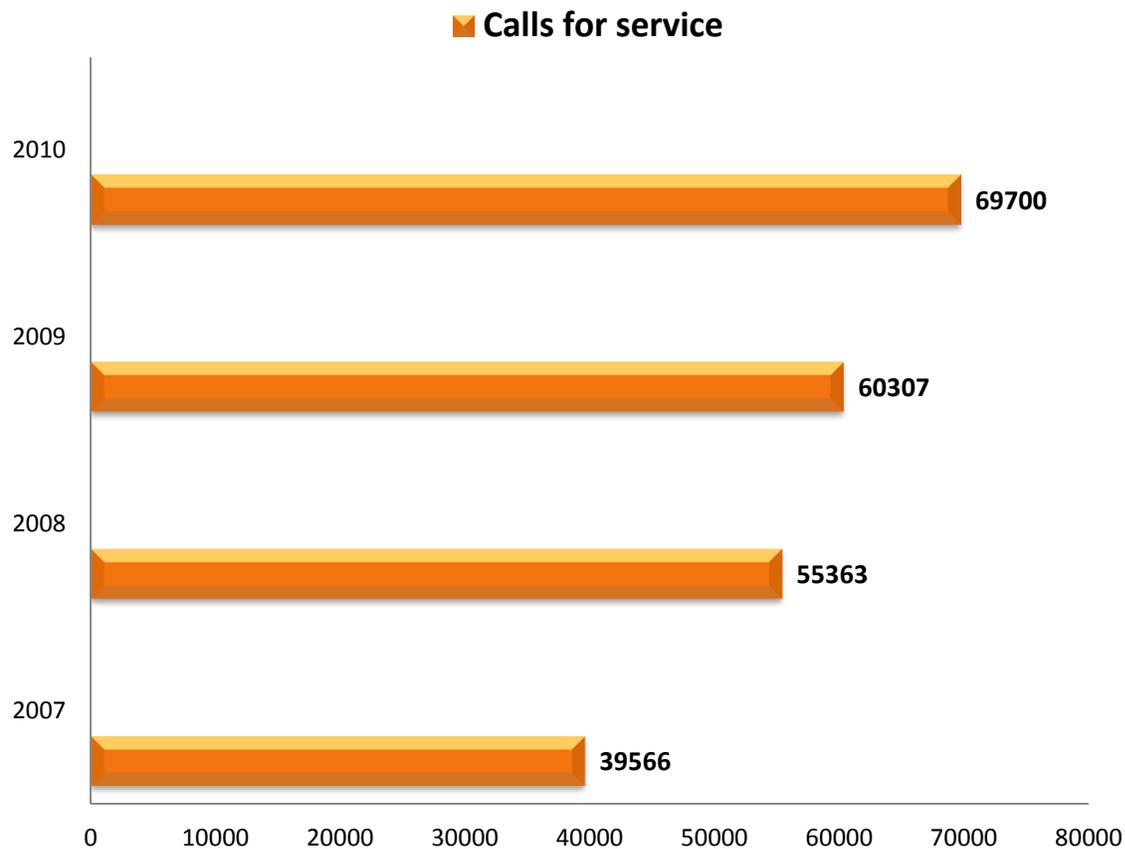
Respectfully Submitted:

*Jimmy Dixon*  
Chief of Police

## Crime in Clemson by Year

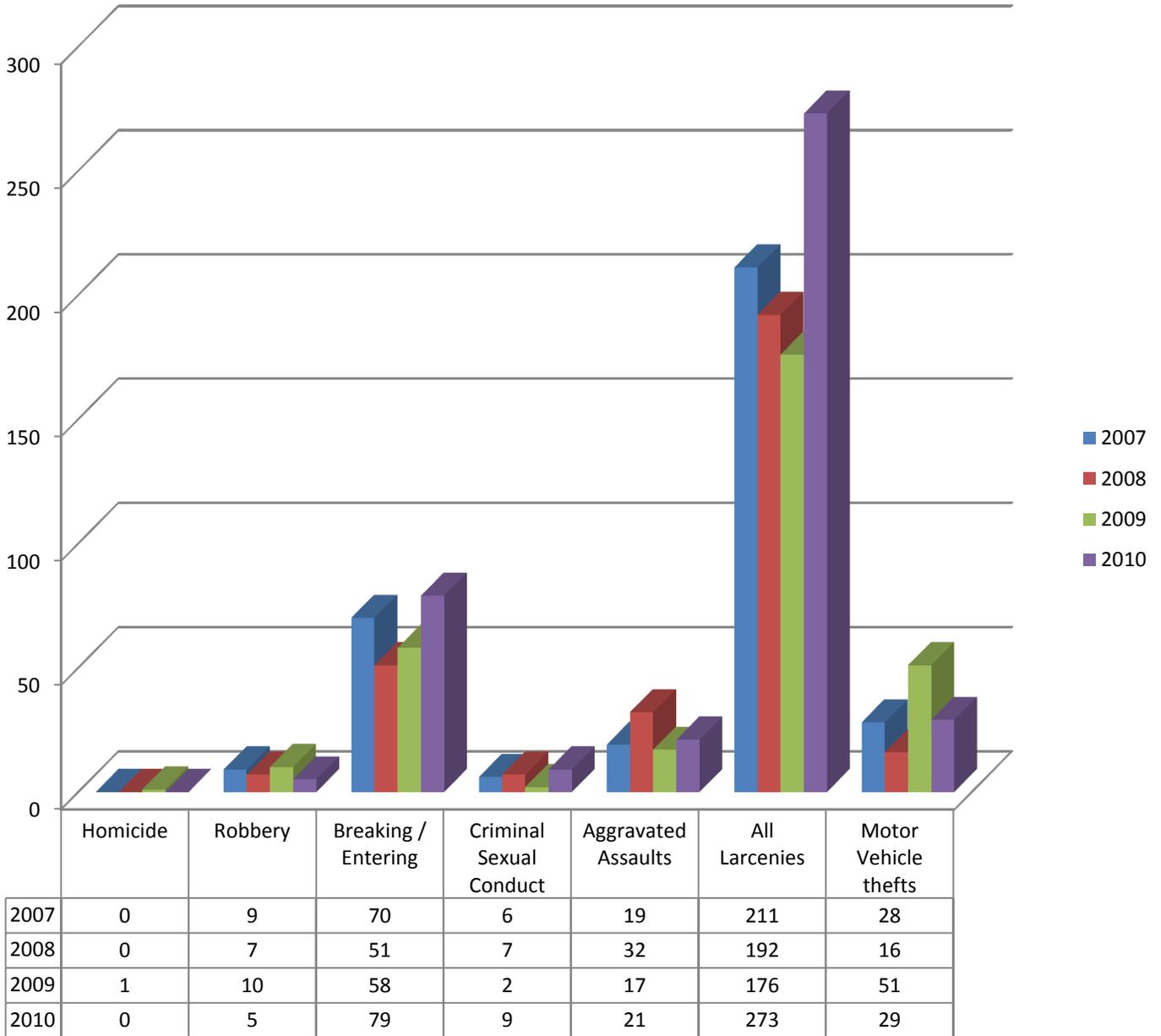
| Type   | 1999   | 2000   | 2001   | 2002   | 2003   | 2004   | 2005   | 2006   | 2007   | 2008   | 2009   |
|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| <b>Murders</b>   | 0      | 1      | 1      | 0      | 0      | 1      | 0      | 0      | 0      | 0      | 1      |
| <b>per 100,000</b>   | 0.0    | 7.7    | 8.3    | 0.0    | 0.0    | 8.3    | 0.0    | 0.0    | 0.0    | 0.0    | 7.6    |
| <b>Rapes</b>   | 3      | 5      | 1      | 1      | 2      | 6      | 3      | 3      | 8      | 4      | 0      |
| <b>per 100,000</b>   | 24.0   | 38.7   | 8.3    | 8.2    | 16.6   | 49.7   | 24.5   | 23.9   | 63.8   | 30.9   | 0.0    |
| <b>Robberies</b>   | 6      | 5      | 8      | 9      | 2      | 5      | 2      | 8      | 5      | 3      | 7      |
| <b>per 100,000</b>   | 48.0   | 38.7   | 66.2   | 73.6   | 16.6   | 41.4   | 16.3   | 63.7   | 39.9   | 23.2   | 53.2   |
| <b>Assaults</b>  | 28     | 31     | 33     | 8      | 18     | 34     | 18     | 14     | 17     | 36     | 25     |
| <b>per 100,000</b>   | 224.1  | 239.6  | 272.9  | 65.5   | 149.0  | 281.4  | 147.1  | 111.5  | 135.7  | 278.2  | 190.2  |
| <b>Burglaries</b>  | 50     | 69     | 67     | 66     | 70     | 60     | 49     | 61     | 91     | 48     | 67     |
| <b>per 100,000</b>   | 400.1  | 533.4  | 554.1  | 540.0  | 579.3  | 496.6  | 400.4  | 485.8  | 726.1  | 370.9  | 509.6  |
| <b>Thefts</b>  | 250    | 345    | 280    | 264    | 268    | 221    | 217    | 192    | 225    | 243    | 221    |
| <b>per 100,000</b>   | 2000.6 | 2667.0 | 2315.8 | 2160.0 | 2218.0 | 1829.0 | 1773.2 | 1529.1 | 1795.4 | 1877.8 | 1681.0 |
| <b>Auto thefts</b>   | 25     | 19     | 28     | 45     | 31     | 29     | 37     | 28     | 18     | 17     | 51     |
| <b>per 100,000</b>   | 200.1  | 146.9  | 231.6  | 368.2  | 256.6  | 240.0  | 302.3  | 223.0  | 143.6  | 131.4  | 387.9  |
| <b>Arson</b>   | 0      | 1      | 1      | 2      | 1      | 1      | 0      | 0      | 0      | 2      | 0      |
| <b>per 100,000</b>   | 0.0    | 7.7    | 8.3    | 16.4   | 8.3    | 8.3    | 0.0    | 0.0    | 0.0    | 15.5   | 0.0    |
| <b>index (higher means more crime, U.S. average = 319.2)</b> | 202.5  | 261.7  | 247.5  | 195.4  | 197.8  | 252.1  | 177.1  | 173.5  | 224.3  | 198.9  | 203.2  |

The Department employs 26 full time Law enforcement officers. The national average for law enforcement officers is 2.3 officers per 1000 residents. In South Carolina, the average is 2.53 officers per 1000 residents. The average for the city of Clemson is 1.9 officers per 1000 residents. To meet or exceed the national average the department would need 29.9 officers and to meet or exceed the state average the department would need 32.89 officers.

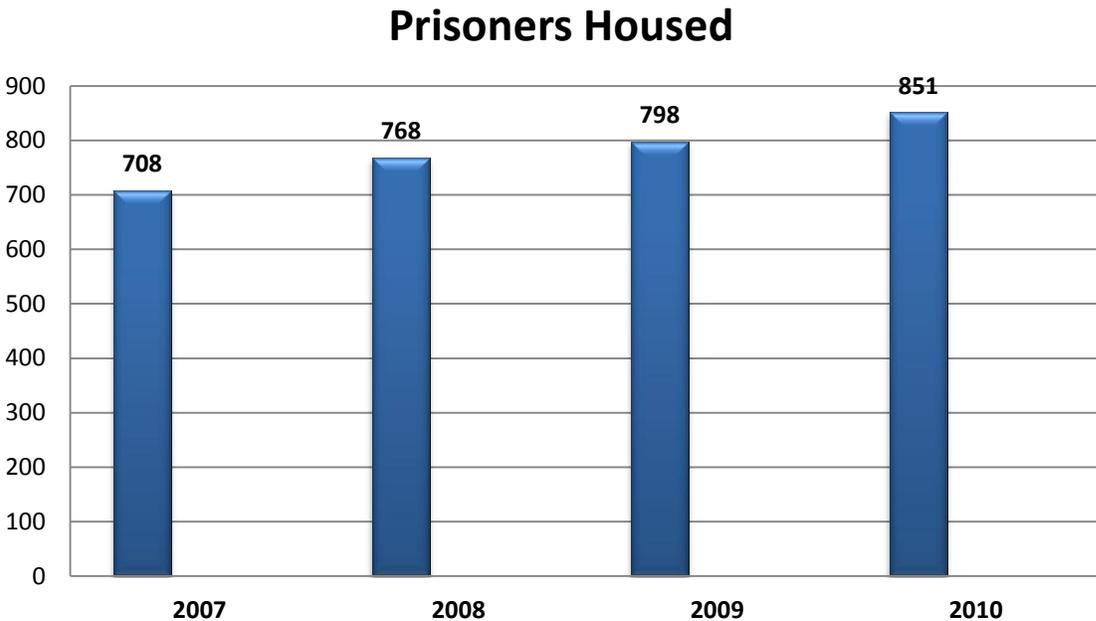


In 2010 there was a 15.57% increase in calls handled by the Clemson Police Department. In the past 3 years, the calls for service have increased 43%. This number includes all calls for service to the Department; citizen complaints, officer generated and pro-active activities.

# Part 1 Crimes

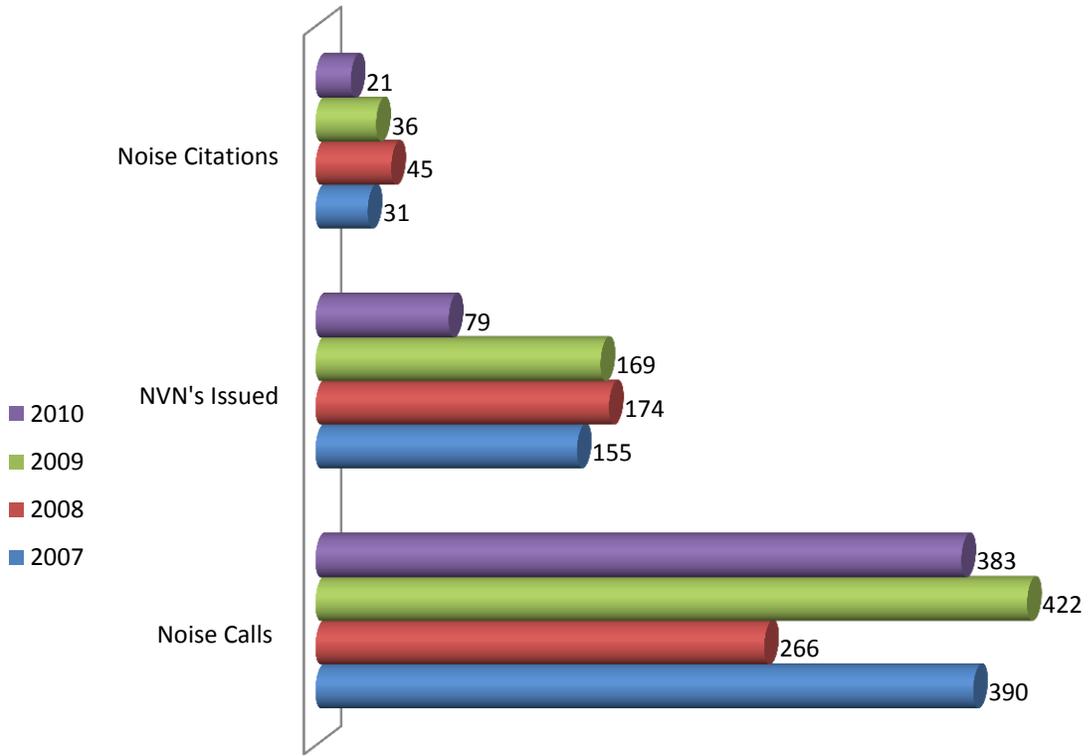


## Clemson Detention Facility



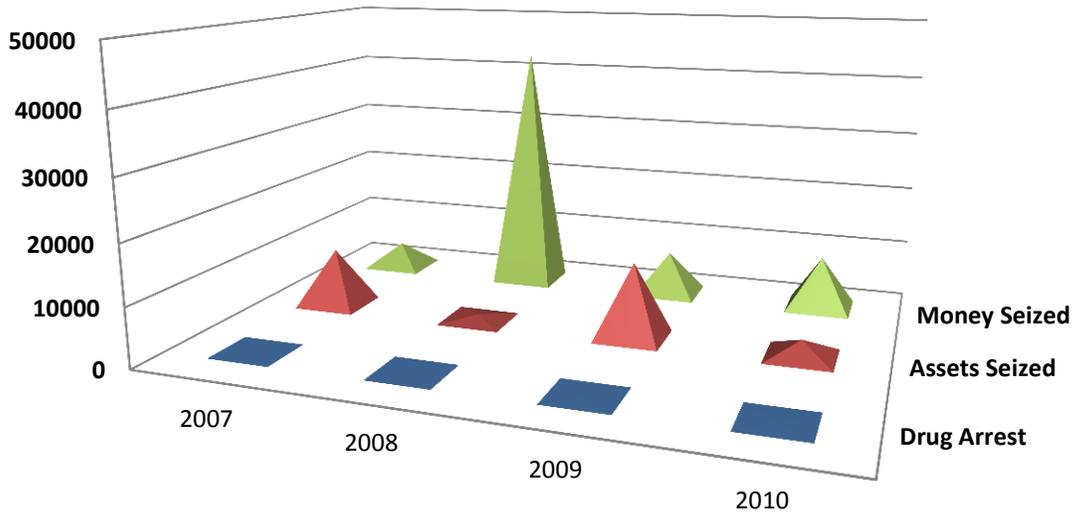
In 2010, the Clemson Police Department Detention Facility housed 851 persons from several different agencies. The detention facility houses prisoners for Clemson University Police, Central Police and several state agencies. The Detention Facility has seen a steady increase each year; we saw a 7% increase last year and a 20% increase from 2007. The Detention Facility's daily average head count in 2010 was 2.33. The facility is staffed by 6 jailers who also double as dispatchers. The facility is licensed through the SCDC and is inspected annually by SCDC and the State Fire Marshal's Office.

# Noise Violations



|      | Noise Calls | NVN's Issued | Noise Citations |
|------|-------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 2010 | 383         | 79           | 21              |
| 2009 | 422         | 169          | 36              |
| 2008 | 266         | 174          | 45              |
| 2007 | 390         | 155          | 31              |

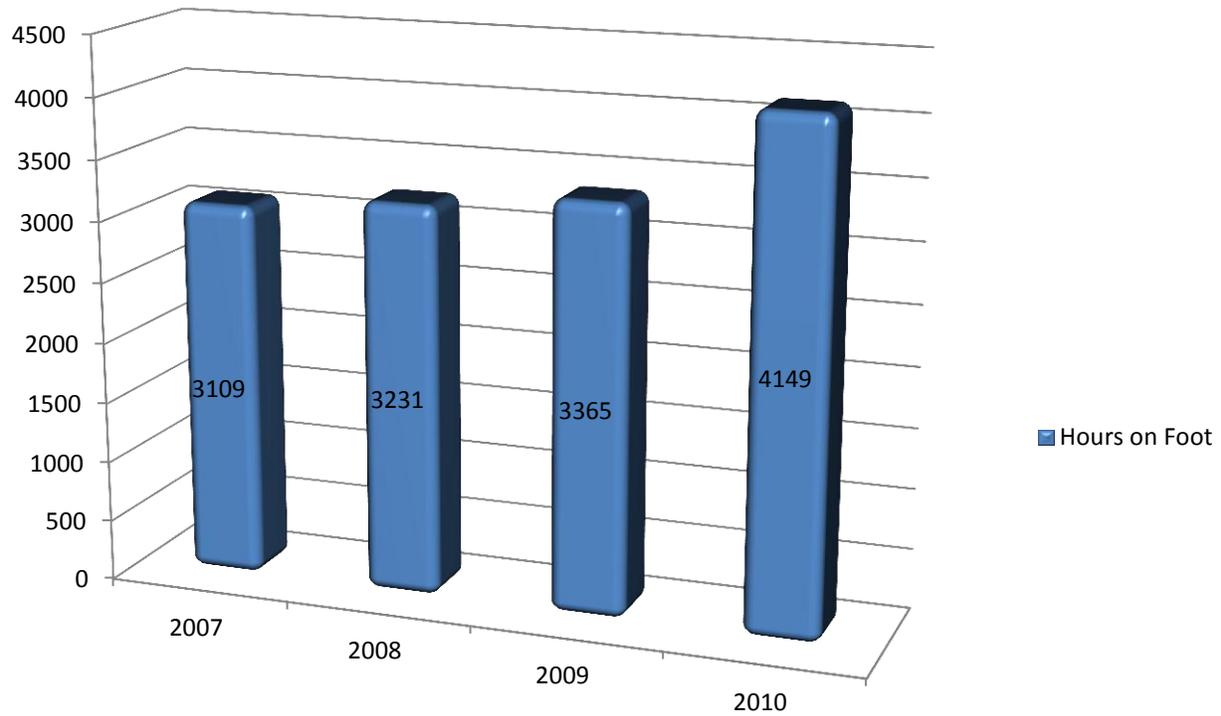
# Drug Enforcement



|                 | 2007 | 2008  | 2009  | 2010 |
|-----------------|------|-------|-------|------|
| ■ Drug Arrest   | 30   | 32    | 68    | 87   |
| ■ Assets Seized | 9950 | 953   | 12800 | 2850 |
| ■ Money Seized  | 4437 | 42985 | 7420  | 9096 |

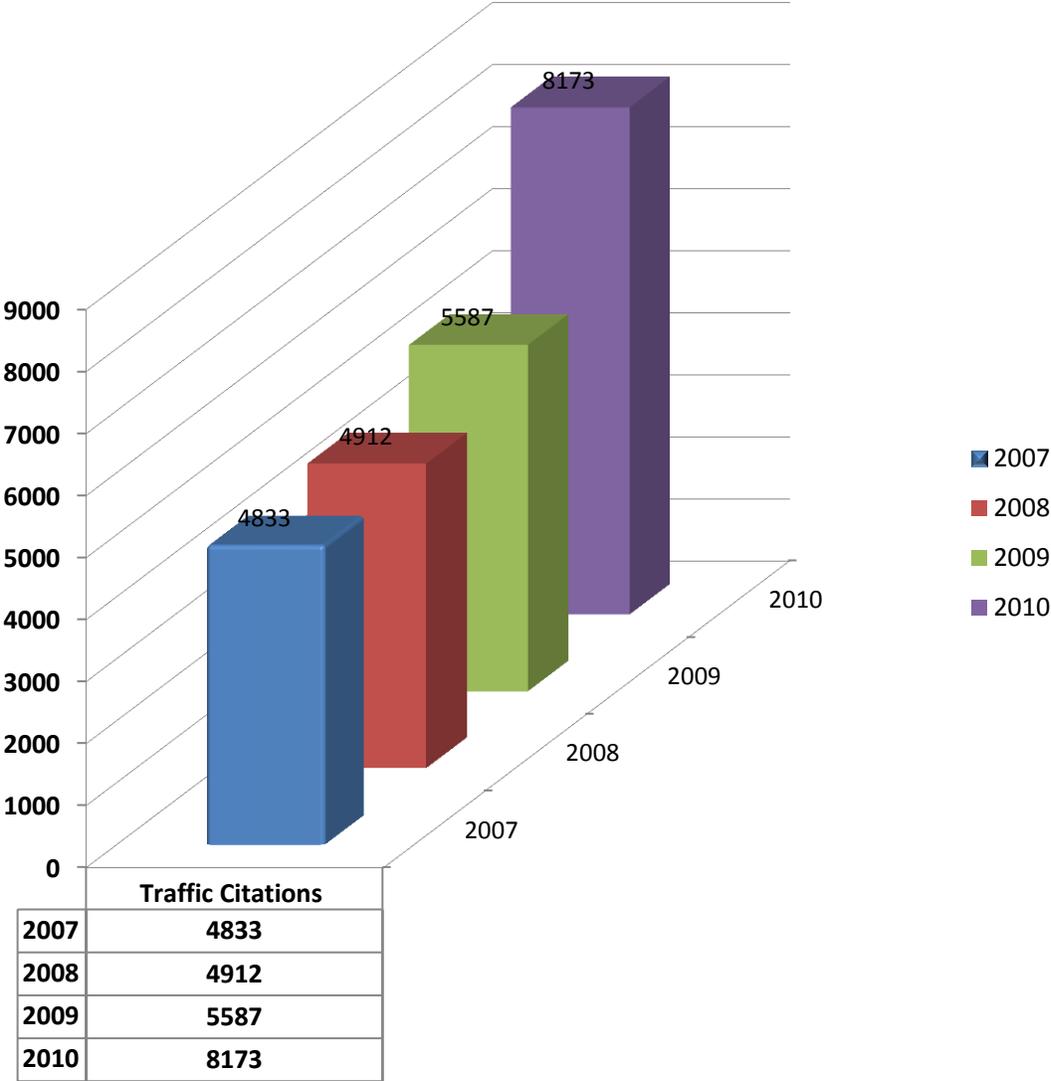
Money and assets that are seized during drug arrests or investigations must be used for the drug enforcement activities or for drug or other law enforcement training and/or education

## Foot Patrol Hours



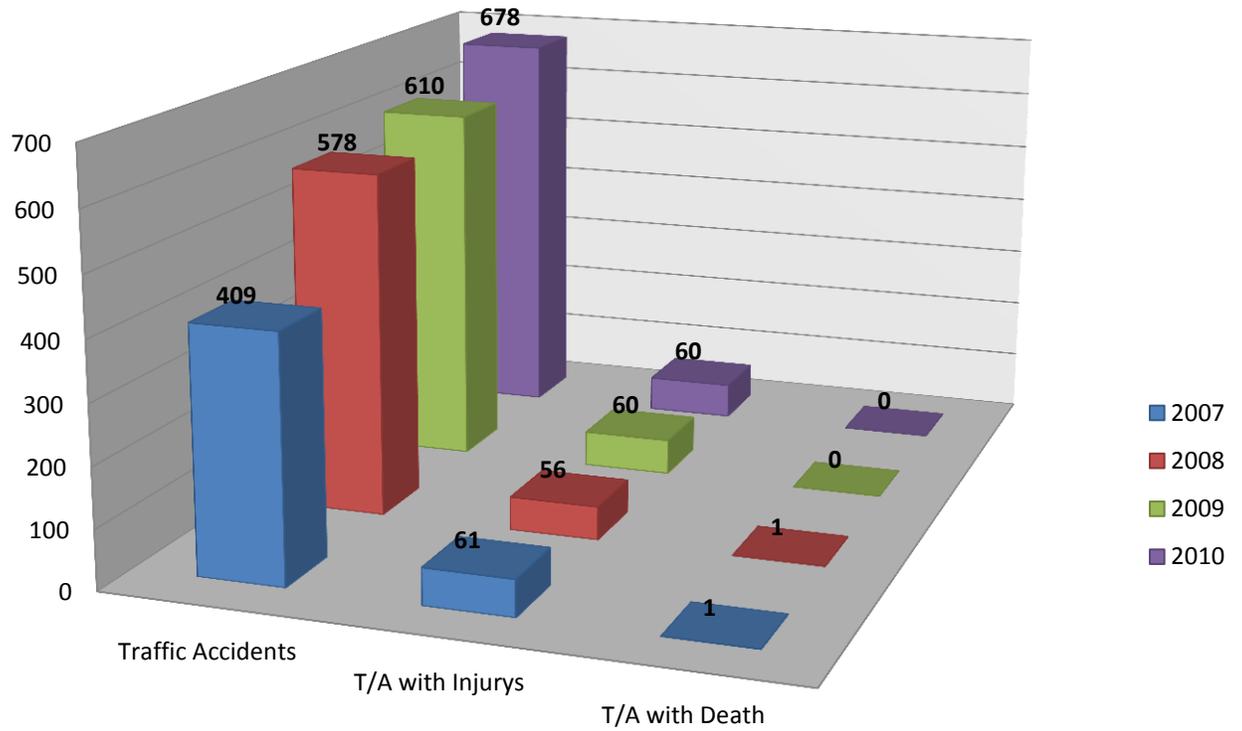
This is the amount of time in hours the officers spent out of the cars in the community to increase public relations.

# Traffic Citations Issued



A traffic collision review was conducted using data from 2009 calendar year. This led to the implementation of a Highway safety unit. High collision areas were targeted during the 2010 year, and a study is ongoing o compare and review the data from 2010 to formulate upcoming enforcement strategies and education programs.

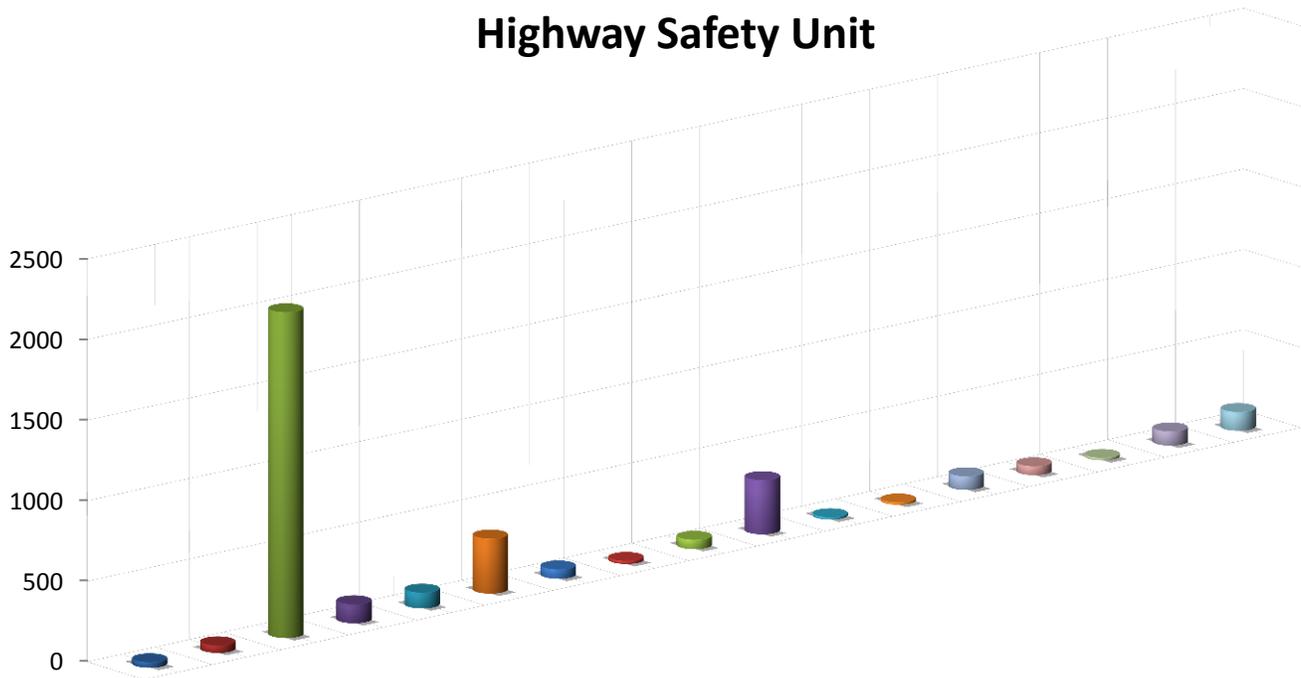
## Traffic Accidents



|      | Traffic Accidents | T/A with Injuries | T/A with Death |
|------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 2007 | 409               | 61                | 1              |
| 2008 | 578               | 56                | 1              |
| 2009 | 610               | 60                | 0              |
| 2010 | 678               | 60                | 0              |

Average daily traffic count of 99600. A reportable accident is one that has any injuries or causes more than \$1000.00 in damages.

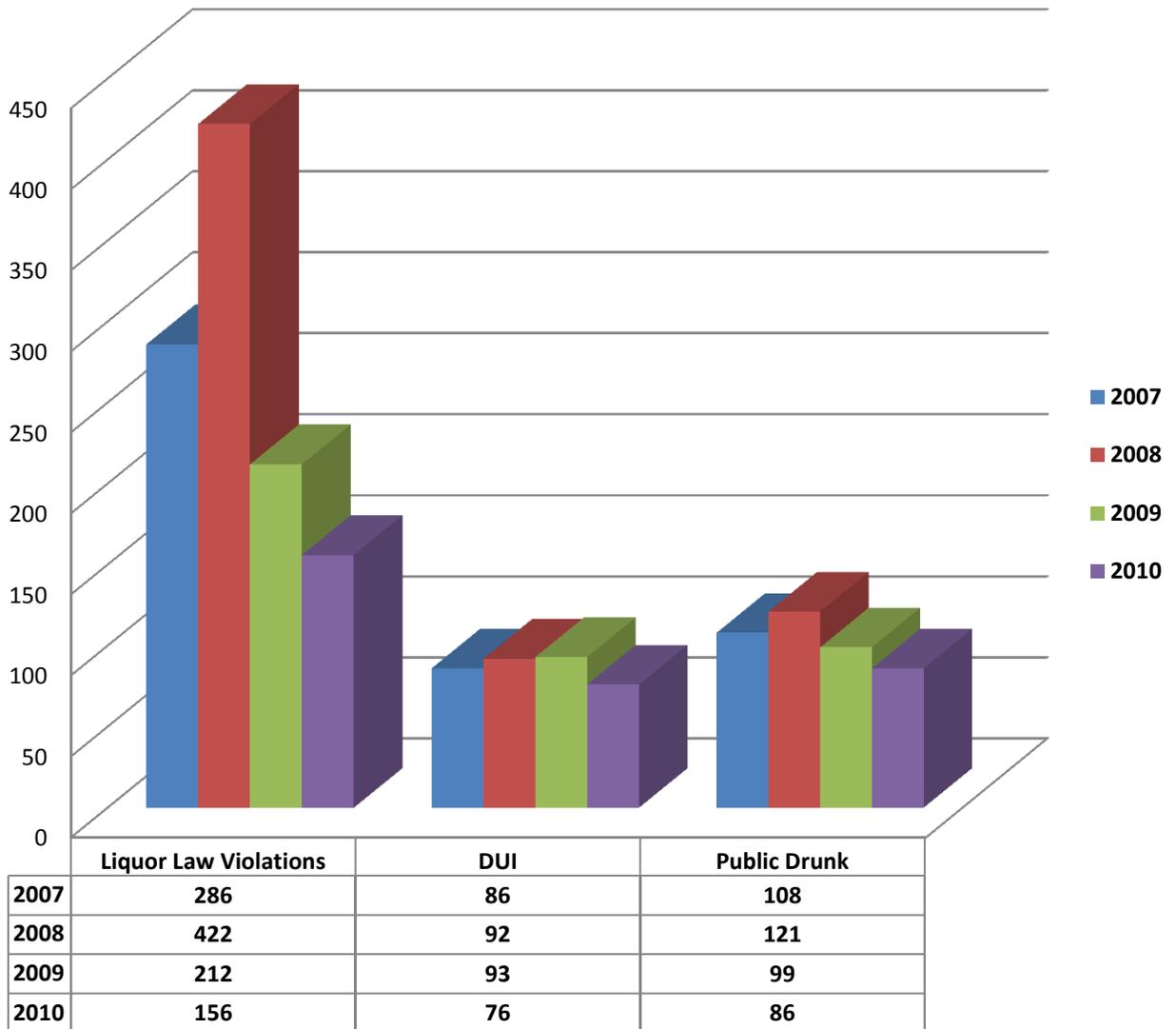
# Highway Safety Unit



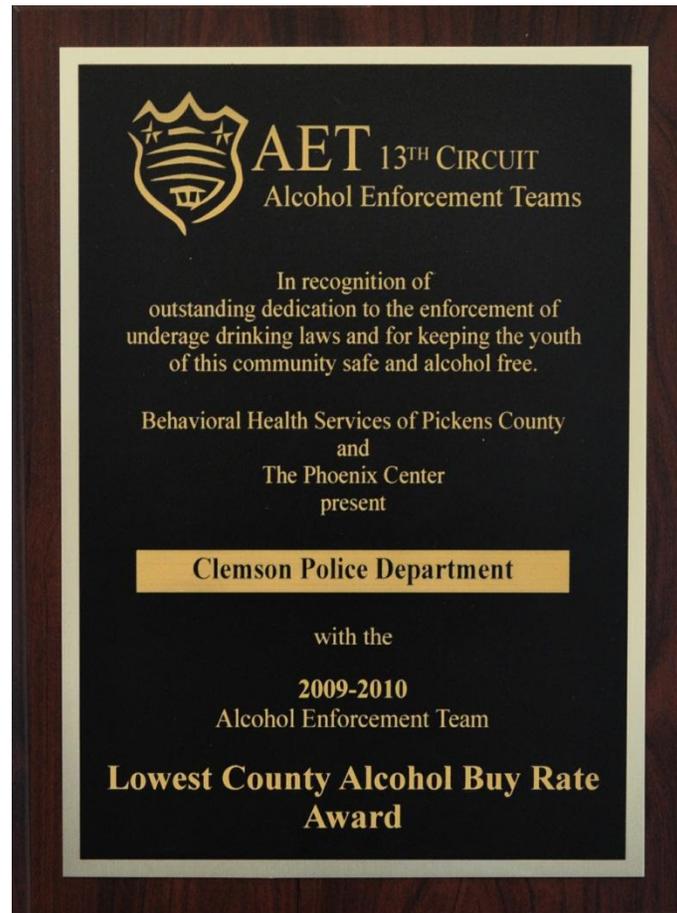
| Violation Category                 | Series 1 |
|------------------------------------|----------|
| DUS                                | 34       |
| Speeding/Too Fast for Conditions   | 47       |
| DL Violations                      | 2023     |
| Registration/Tag Violations        | 118      |
| Insurance Violations               | 98       |
| Seat Belt Violations               | 342      |
| Equipment Violations               | 58       |
| Traffic Signal Violations          | 19       |
| Stop Sign Violations               | 58       |
| Open Container in Vehicle          | 337      |
| Simple Possession Marijuana        | 14       |
| Other Drug Violations              | 14       |
| Other Traffic Violations           | 85       |
| Incarcrations from Traffic Stops   | 55       |
| Warrants Served from Traffic Stops | 15       |
| Alcohol Violations                 | 88       |
| Accidents Worked                   | 117      |

The Highway Safety Unit was formed in 2010. This unit conducts traffic enforcement activities throughout the year, Officers assigned to the unit have had specialized training in traffic enforcement. The officers currently assigned to the unit are; Sgt. Brenda Link, Sgt. Tim Bridgeman, Sgt. Josh Caldwell, Officer Jay Hogue, Officer Mike Arflin, Officer Blake Arflin, Officer Roy Bell, Officer Greg Taylor, and Officer Brian Byers.

## Alcohol-disorderly conduct violations



## Clemson Police receive Alcohol Enforcement Team award



The Clemson City Police Department continues to be a leader in the area of alcoholic beverage enforcement and education. Each year the Department hosts an annual Business Alcohol Seminar. The seminar is routinely held during the first of August; each business within the City receives a personal letter inviting their owners and employees to the seminar. The seminar covers any alcoholic beverage law changes, the use of fake identifications with samples of the fake identifications on hand for review, and how the police department will conduct enforcement and education throughout the year.

The Department participates in the Alcohol Coalition through Clemson University and Empower Clemson; along with Pickens County Behavioral Health Services and their educational and enforcement efforts. Throughout the year, we conduct compliance checks, alcohol enforcement saturations, and many more speaking engagements with businesses and student led organizations.

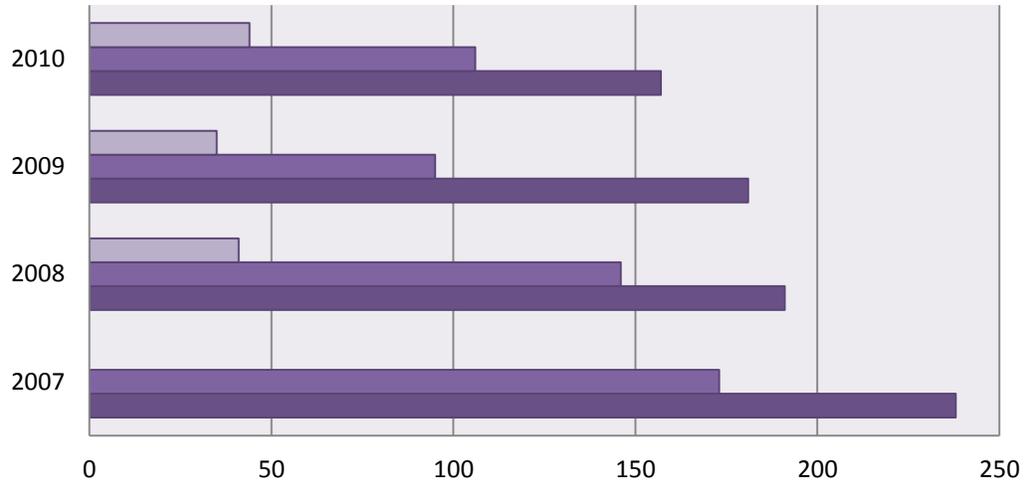
During 2010, the Clemson City Police Department received an award from Pickens County Behavioral Health Services for having the lowest number of alcohol sales to a minor per licensed establishment.

# Training Hours

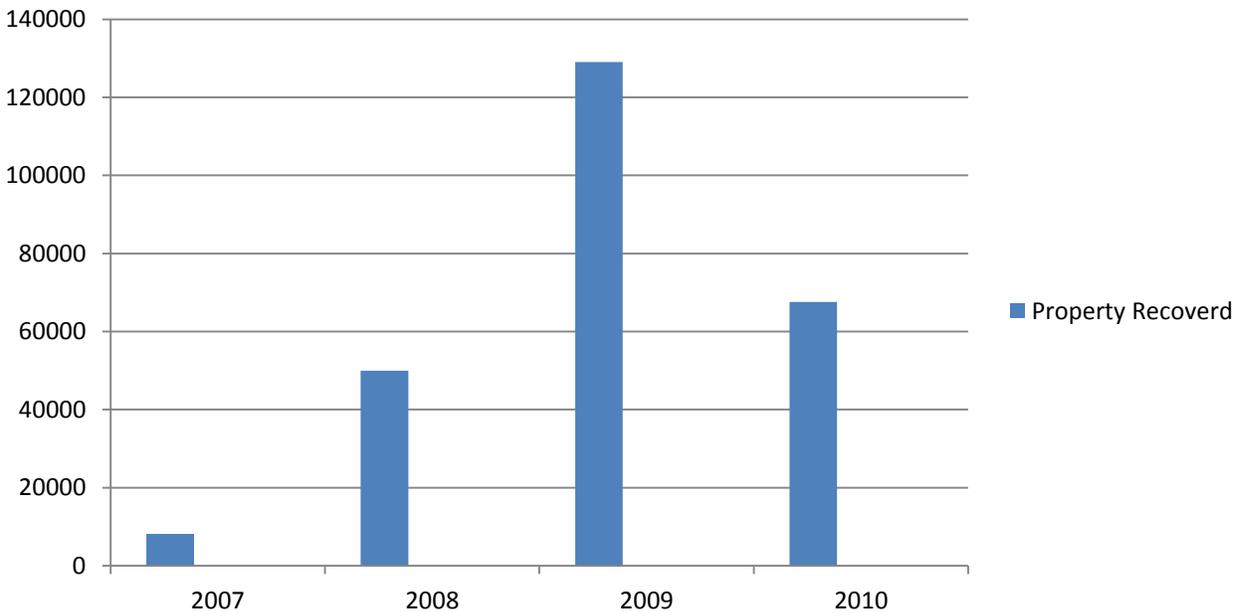


Training is the most important and highest liability area of law enforcement. The training hours consist of mandated legal, domestic violence, emergency vehicle operations, defensive tactics and firearms; to include other advanced and specialized training.

# Criminal Investigations

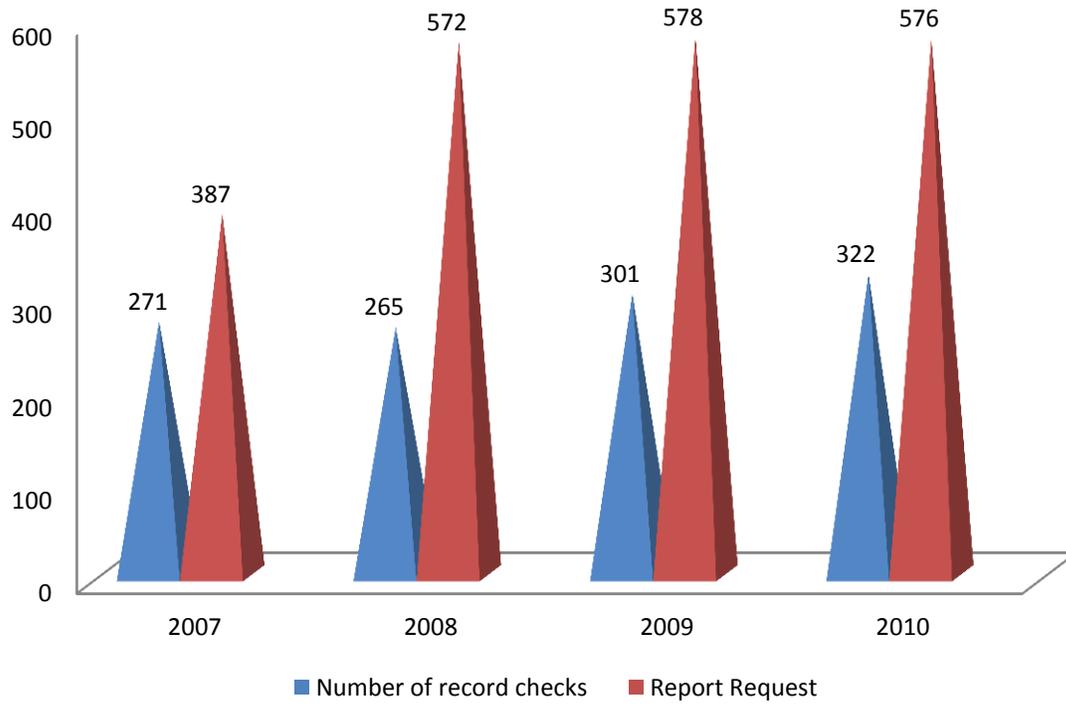


|                         | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 |
|-------------------------|------|------|------|------|
| Cases Cleared by Arrest | 238  | 41   | 35   | 44   |
| Cases cleared           | 173  | 146  | 95   | 106  |
| Cases Assigned          | 238  | 191  | 181  | 157  |

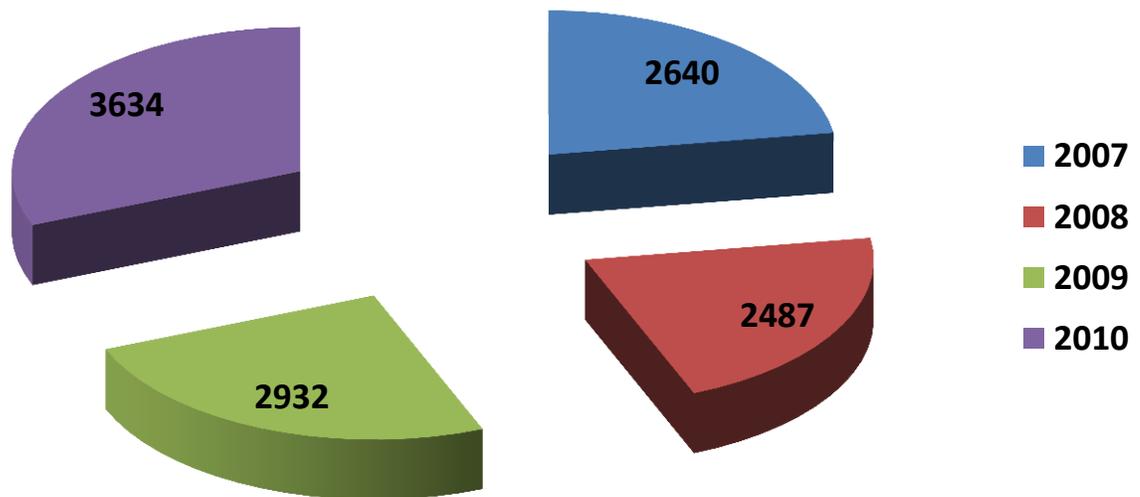


The Criminal Investigations Unit consists of three detectives; in 2010, the unit had a total clearance rate of 67.5 %. The National average is, 47.1 percent of violent crimes and 18.6 percent of property crimes were cleared by arrest or exceptional means. (2009 FBI)

# Records Department

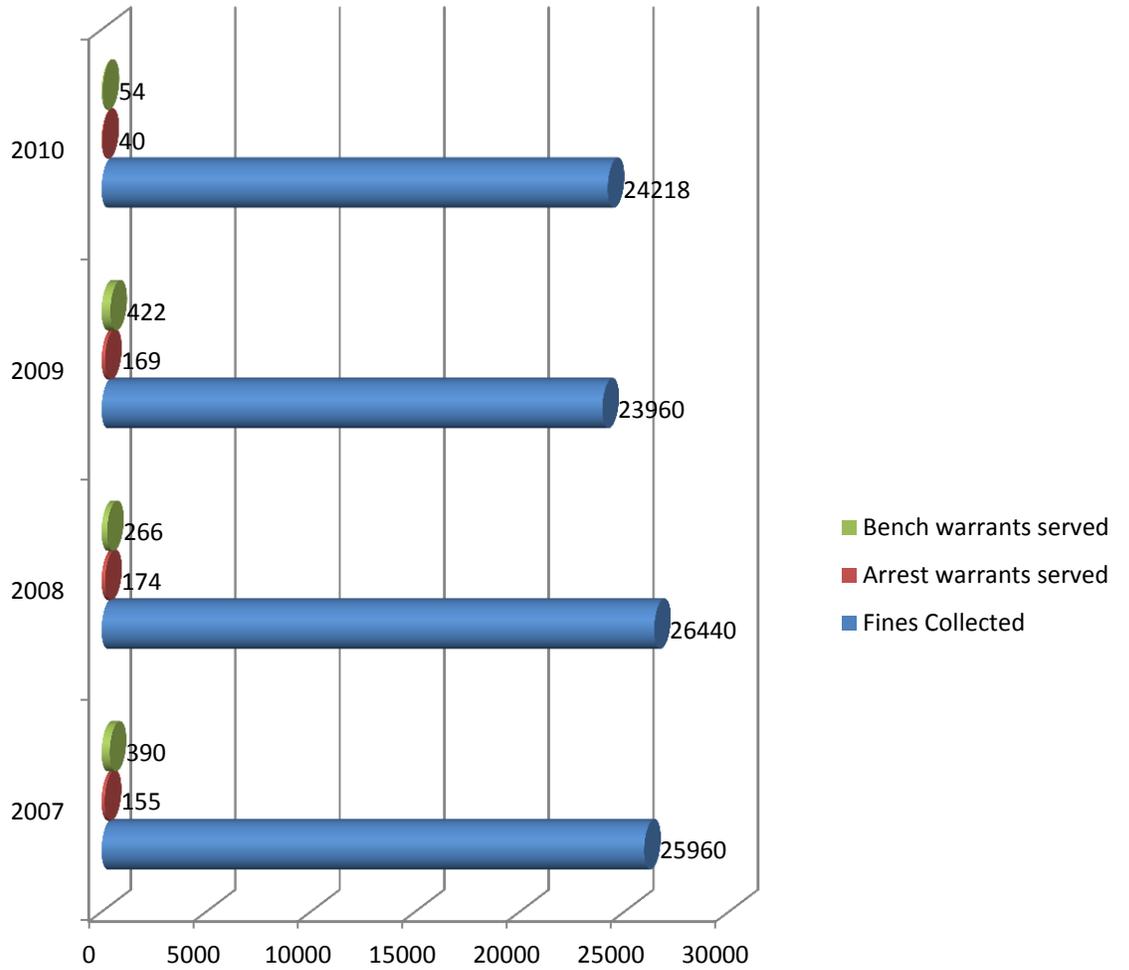


## Reserve Hours



Reserve Officers have the same powers of arrest as full time officers; they are required to work at least 60 hours per quarter. Reserve officers are a huge asset to the city and the department. By using the six reserve officers that the department has for special events and patrol staffing, the reserve unit provided almost \$66,328.00 worth of police service to the city for little to no cost. The department supplies uniforms, weapons, and training to reserve officers.

# Warrant Unit



|                          | 2007  | 2008  | 2009  | 2010  |
|--------------------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| ■ Bench warrants served  | 390   | 266   | 422   | 54    |
| ■ Arrest warrants served | 155   | 174   | 169   | 40    |
| ■ Fines Collected        | 25960 | 26440 | 23960 | 24218 |

## New Stripe design



In 2010 the Police department took delivery of six new 2010 marked Ford police interceptor patrol cars, as in the past years the department stayed with the traditional dark blue color. What was new this year was the striping. This is the first stripe change since the early 1990s. The new striping package brings an updated look to the cars as well increased visibility; also with the new striping the emergency equipment was also updated to LED (Light emitting diode) light bars. These light bars have a longer service life than standard light bars, and the LED lights are less of a strain on the electrical system.

## New K-9



In December 2010, the Greenville County Sheriff office donated Hunter, a six-year-old Bloodhound-Redbone. Hunter came to us already trained for tracking. Hunter will be used for tracking of armed /unarmed suspects, lost/ endangered persons and for search and rescue. Average cost of trained Police Bloodhound is \$5,000-8,000.



## New service weapons



In August of 2010, the Clemson police Department received new duty weapons; the Glock model 21 short frame 45 ACP (Automatic Colt pistol) and Model 30 short frame 45 ACP caliber. These weapons replaced our previous Glock model 22 40 caliber pistols that had been in service with the department since the early 90s. Clemson Police were the first at the time in the upstate to have Glock pistols, and now the Glock pistol is considered a standard issue police side arm. The Department chose the 45 cartridge because of its higher mass and slower velocity; these two items result in an easier to fire and control pistol, as well as, a very effective sidearm.

# Movie night 2010

12 Locations- More than 700 in attendances







### **ATM stolen from bank**



CLEMSON — SunTrust Bank is minus one ATM after an early Sunday morning theft at its 1051 Tiger Blvd. location on U.S. Highway 123.

According to Clemson Police, officers received an alarm call from ADT Security at 4:41 a.m. An investigation revealed that a construction forklift was used to steal the ATM, which was attached to the drive-through section of the bank.

The theft occurred sometime after 4:31 a.m., according to police.

Clemson Police urge anyone with information regarding this incident to call Lt. Robert Crooks at (864) 624-2010.

## Blue Ridge sponsors police, fire awards



Darrell Hudson

CENTRAL — Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative recently sponsored the annual Pickens Municipal Awards dinner to honor the police officer and firefighter of the year for each town in Pickens County.

Also lauded were the officer of the year for the Pickens County Sheriff's Department and the South Carolina Highway Patrol, and an award was presented for the Pickens County EMS employee of the year.

Among those honored were police officers of the year: Khristy Justice of Central; Darrell Hudson of Clemson; Jason Cassell of Clemson University; Anthony Raines of Norris and Timothy Lee Clark of the Pickens County Sheriff's Department

Named firefighters of the year were: Jimmy Wilson of Central; Stephen Lightsey of Clemson; Patti Burlison of Norris and Edwin Tibbs of Six Mile.

Mayor Mac Martin of Central, Pickens County Municipal Association president-elect, also congratulated Brad Hughes who was named Pickens County EMS Employee of the Year.

The event was held at Southern Wesleyan University. Charles Dalton, president and CEO of Blue Ridge Electric Cooperative, and Mayor Brian Deese of Liberty were on hand for the event.

## Clemson girl safe at home



CLEMSON — A missing 12-year-old South Carolina girl was found safe in Atlanta early Friday and has been returned to her family in Clemson.

Meanwhile, a 26-year-old friend of the family has been arrested and charged with kidnapping. Agents from the Atlanta office of the FBI were able to locate and secure the safety of Julieta Yoselin at a home in suburban Atlanta about 12:30 a.m. Friday. At the same time, they took into custody suspect Jesus Lozada Aldana, 26, of Seneca.

Aldana was being held in the Fulton County jail awaiting an extradition hearing. Police in Clemson on Thursday obtained a warrant accusing Aldana of kidnapping.

Clemson police went to Atlanta to pick up the girl and reunited her with her father.

“Julieta was found in good condition. Aldana will be held in the Fulton County Detention Center until such time as arrangements can be made for his return to Clemson where he will officially be charged with kidnapping and face arraignment proceedings,” said Clemson Police Chief Jimmy Dixon.

Dixon said no one had reported seeing Yoselin since she and a friend, sensing they were being followed, ran to the CVS Pharmacy on US Highway 76 in Clemson about 10:30 p.m., Monday. The two became separated and the friend called police.

Dixon says an Amber Alert was issued late Wednesday night when investigators determined that Aldana had gathered his belongings while the girl had taken nothing from her home. The investigation further revealed the two were traveling in a tan, 1996 Honda Accord and were possibly headed to the Atlanta or suburban Atlanta area.

Dixon indicated the Amber Alert was helpful in the location of Yoselin and the suspect.

## Clemson man turns himself in



Jason Andrew Jenkins

CLEMSON — A Clemson man sought by police for the assault and shooting of another man earlier this month has turned himself in.

Jason Andrew Jenkins, 22, of Helton Street, is charged with assault and battery of a high and aggravated nature and attempted murder. He is currently being held in the Pickens County Detention Center on \$40,000 bond.

According to the arrest warrant, Jenkins struck the victim about the head and shoulders with a chair, knocking him unconscious for several minutes just after midnight, June 12.

The warrant for attempted murder states that Jenkins fired several gunshots from a handgun into the victim's vehicle, striking him three times in the hip.

Police said the victim was in a vehicle at the intersection of U.S. 123 and U.S. 76, inside the Clemson city limits, when shots were fired into the driver's door.

The driver was eventually forced to stop his vehicle after the rear tire went flat near ACE Hardware on U.S. 123. When police arrived on the scene, the victim said he had been shot in the leg and hip area.

Clemson Police Chief Jimmy Dixon said the victim in both incidents was the same individual and that he was taken to Anderson Area Medical Center, treated for non life-threatening injuries and released.

## Clemson narcotics raid nets arrest



William Henry Hobbs III

CLEMSON — A 21-year-old Clemson resident faces multiple felony charges after he was arrested last week during a narcotics raid by Clemson police.

William Henry Hobbs III, who lives at Foy Creek Condos, was charged with two counts of the sale of MDMA (Ecstasy) powder; two counts of the sale of MDMA powder within proximity of a school; one count of possession with intent to distribute MDMA powder; one count of possession with intent to distribute MDMA powder within proximity of a school; one count of possession with intent to distribute MDMA pills; one count of possession with intent to distribute MDMA pills within proximity of a school; one count of possession with intent to distribute marijuana; one count of possession with intent to distribute marijuana within the proximity of a school; and one count of possession of LSD.

Police Chief Jimmy Dixon said Wednesday that the raid was conducted early last Friday, when police executed a search warrant on Foy Creek Drive. The drug raid stemmed from an undercover operation conducted by the Clemson Police Department Vice and Narcotics Unit, and drug sales had been completed at the condo prior to the raid.

“The powder form of the drug is just now being seen in the Upstate region, and this is the first ever seen in Clemson,” Dixon said, adding that the total street value of the drugs seized is approximately \$4,000.

## Clemson police arrest two for attempted fraud



Nikkole Mae Dierling



CLEMSON — Clemson police arrested two Georgia residents Thursday afternoon in connection with an attempted fraudulent transaction at Wachovia Bank on U.S. Highway 123.

Dennis Jay Waldrip, 43, of Ponderosa Park Avenue, Morrow, and Nikkole Mae Dierling, 24, of Highway 34 East, Newnan, are being held at the Clemson Police Department while awaiting a bond hearing. Dierling was charged with forgery while Waldrip was charged with failing to possess a driver's license, failure to stop for blue lights, possession of ICE, and possession of a controlled substance, two counts.

Police said they received simultaneous calls at approximately 4:07 p.m. regarding a suspicious person at Tiger Plaza and an attempted fraudulent transaction at Wachovia Bank. Officers responded to the calls and soon realized they were related.

Waldrip, who was driving the vehicle in which Dierling was a passenger, was seen attempting to flee the area. The officers initiated their blue lights and siren in an attempt to get the vehicle to stop. However, the suspects disregarded all attempts as the vehicle continued northbound on 123 before exiting onto S.C. Highway 93.

Police said Waldrip attempted to exit the moving vehicle on Brooks Street, but was apprehended by an officer while another officer nabbed Dierling. Further investigation revealed that Dierling attempted to withdraw \$3,800 from a Wachovia bank account that did not belong to her nor did she have permission from the victim to make the withdrawal.

## Clemson presents National Night Out



Clemson University firefighter Keith Park, shown assisting a young child, said bringing National Night Out to the community allows individuals to see firefighters and other public safety personnel up close in situations that are non-threatening.

CLEMSON — Unlike previous years when the downtown area hosted Clemson's annual observance of National Night Out, officials decided to move this year's event into the community.

The grounds of Abel Baptist Church, behind Littlejohn Community Center, was the site selected and Jimmy Maw, community specialist for the Clemson Police Department, said it was the right decision.

"There's a lot of community response here, and it seems like they're having a good time," Maw said while observing children playing games and hamburgers cooking on the grill. "There seems to be a bigger crowd here than in the past."

Adriaine Jackson-Garner, executive director for Littlejohn Community Center, said she discussed the idea last year with Clemson Police Chief Jimmy Dixon.

"We knew attendance downtown was low," Jackson-Garner said. "Hopefully, we can continue to have it here."

On Tuesday night, children enjoyed stepping aboard a Clemson Area Transit bus and Clemson University Fire and EMS trucks.

University Fireman Keith Parks said he enjoys the opportunity for children to see firefighters in a non-emergency situation.

"Often, the only times when we see children or other individuals is in the worst of times," Park said. "So, this gives us an opportunity to get out and interact with them in a positive manner."

Corey Hammond, an Abel resident, said he liked the visual tools on display.

"Knowing how fire trucks, CAT buses and other vehicles work is a good experience," Hammond said. "An event like this allows the community to ask a lot of questions and to have those questions answered."

While National Night Out is an event designed to heighten crime awareness in communities, the event also allows various agencies to provide brochures to assist individuals. The agencies involved Tuesday included Safe Harbor, an agency that provides safe emergency shelter, counseling, legal advocacy, community outreach and education to victims of domestic violence in Pickens and Oconee counties.

Lyn Norton, a retired Oconee County educator who performs volunteer work for Safe Harbor, was impressed by what she saw Tuesday.

"I think it's a good community event, a good way to get people in the community out," she said.

Tony Kirby, a security expert, said he provided tips on what homeowners could do to protect themselves against burglaries.

"They should make sure their shrubs are trimmed, that more lights are left on inside their home, be aware of their surroundings and inform neighbors when they plan to go on vacation," Kirby said, adding that burglaries increase by about 20 percent during the summer months.

## CU fraternity house destroyed by fire



CLEMSON — A two-story Clemson University fraternity house on Calhoun Street was fully engulfed by fire Thursday morning and officials say the cause won't be known for several days. Clemson University firefighters, with assistance from Central, Pendleton and Corinth-Shiloh firefighters, responded to the scene shortly after receiving the call at 7:15 a.m.

The Alpha Gamma Rho house, where 30-35 CU fraternity members normally reside during the collegiate year, featured only six since the end of school — with three inside at the time of the incident.

However, no one was injured as the three individuals were able to evacuate the house after the smoke alarm went off.

Clemson University Fire Chief Bill Daniel was on the scene but unavailable for comment. However, Clemson Police Chief Jimmy Dixon said it would be at least Friday before officials will be able to enter into the house and begin their investigation into the cause of the blaze.

## Police dispatch agreement renewed



Clemson Police Communications Supervisor Sha Boggs answers a call. A three-year agreement was recently approved in which Clemson will continue providing after-hours police dispatch service to Central while Central, in turn, will fund the cost of one dispatcher.

CLEMSON — Through the years, Clemson and Central have successfully combined resources through recreation programs, the Indoor Rec Center and public library; the police dispatch services are no exception. Since 1977, the municipalities have operated under an agreement in which Clemson police is responsible for answering and forwarding messages to Central police officers during non-business hours and other times when Central Town Hall is not in operation.

Central, in turn, reimburses the city for the cost of dispatching services at a monthly rate equivalent to the pay of a single dispatcher.

“This works well for us because it allows us to have a sixth dispatch person, and it works well for Central because they could not afford to hire that individual,” said Clemson City Administrator Rick Cotton.

Central Police Chief Kerry Avery agrees.

“It saves us half of what we would be spending ourselves,” Avery said.

Avery said calls are forwarded to Clemson dispatch after 5 p.m., which means that calls to the Central Police Department automatically roll over to Clemson.

“We have an excellent working relationship with (Clemson Police) Chief (Jimmy) Dixon and, all in all, none of my guys on the road have had any issues with their dispatchers and vice-versa,” he said. “It helps us out tremendously, and we pay the cost of a dispatcher for the year for Clemson and split the cost of the two radio channels we use.”

The dispatch agreement will continue for at least another three years as Clemson City Council recently gave unanimous approval to the renewal that kicks in July 1. While terms and conditions remain the same as the current agreement, the new agreement will bring a slight increase in costs of service.

As a result, Central will pay Clemson \$3,585 per month, or \$43,000 annually, from July 2010 through June 2011; \$3,675 per month, or \$44,100 annually, from July 2011 through June 2012; and \$3,770 per month, or \$45,240 annually, from July 2012 through June 2013. The costs are reflective of the full employment costs of an entry level telecommunication position in the Clemson Police Department — including base salary and all employer payroll taxes, police retirement contribution, health insurance contribution, worker’s compensation premium and other employee cost benefits.

Clemson Police Chief Jimmy Dixon said that while there is no question both agencies could use additional personnel, the agreement makes it much easier to pool resources when needed.

“Our agencies work extremely well together,” Dixon said. “Chief Avery is a great guy and very easy to work with, which makes it much easier to implement an agreement like this.”

## Police find 117 marijuana plants



CLEMSON — A 46-year-old Clemson resident faces multiple charges following her arrest Wednesday afternoon by Clemson police after 117 marijuana plants were discovered at her residence.

Clemson Police Chief Jimmy Dixon said agents with the department's Vice and Narcotics Unit, with assistance from the Pickens County Sheriff's Office, observed what appeared to be marijuana plants growing at a residence. Dixon said it appeared an attempt had been made to hide the marijuana plants by growing them among other vegetables and plant foliage.

A search of the interior and exterior grounds of the residence resulted in the seizure of the illegal plants and approximately four to five pounds of marijuana product being dried out within the interior of the house.

Dixon estimated the street value of the marijuana seized to be \$125,000. He added that the street value of each plant is approximately \$1,000, and that each pound of marijuana has a street value of approximately \$650.

## Texting in Clemson now brings fine



CLEMSON — Two and one-half weeks into written enforcement of Clemson’s ban on texting while driving, three tickets had been issued.

Clemson’s new ordinance that prohibits texting or e-mailing while driving went into effect June 1. Since that time, police have extended a grace period to educate individuals about the change.

But Police Chief Jimmy Dixon said Wednesday that tickets are now the order of the day.

“As of Aug. 1, there are no more warnings and citations are being issued,” Dixon said. “So far, we have issued three during the first 2 ½ weeks.”

Approved earlier this year, the ordinance makes it unlawful to send or receive text messages, read text messages or printed materials or e-mail from their mobile phone. If an arresting officer has probable cause to believe the driver has violated the ordinance, he is permitted to view the cell phone upon which the text messaging occurred.

By doing so, he can ascertain whether messaging occurred at or about the time of the violation and may subpoena the telephone records.

“We issued warning notifications as well as handed out several thousand brochures informing people that the city has a ‘No Texting’ and ‘No E-mailing’ ordinance in a moving vehicle,” Dixon said. “I have no doubt there is a lot more going on that we haven’t seen but, when we do see it, we’re going to issue more citations going forward.”

City Administrator Rick Cotton told City Council this week that it has been much easier for police to catch violators during the evening hours.

“We thought it would be hard to write tickets for ‘No Texting’ at night, but, when they have their phones on in the cars, you can see it real well,” Cotton said.

