



ANNUAL REPORT 2023

WELCOME FROM CHIEF BOWERS



Welcome to the Piedmont Police Department's 2023 Annual Report.

The following pages provide a snapshot into our work over the calendar year. You'll find information about crime data and trends, but you'll also gain insight into other core elements of what we do - our community programs, partnerships with our schools, and investments in technology.

I am proud of the efforts of the men and women of the Piedmont Police Department to maintain a high level of public safety for those who live, work, and visit Piedmont.

As an organization, we are also looking forward to how we can improve upon our public safety mission. 2024 promises to be a historic year for PPD as we work to improve our public safety dispatching and look holistically at how our Department is staffed.

I look forward to the continued journey and thank the community for their support and partnership.

Jeremy Bowers, Chief of Police

OUR MISSION

The Piedmont Police Department is dedicated to providing quality service in an honest, ethical and impartial manner. We strive to reduce crime and improve public safety by engaging with our community and utilizing innovative technology.

OUR VISION

The Piedmont Police Department contributes to community safety and equity by continually exemplifying the best of policing.

OUR VALUES

INTEGRITY

Our organizational legitimacy is based on the ethics and honesty of each employee to ensure we earn and maintain trust.

PROFESSIONALISM

As dedicated employees, we are committed to and accountable for providing outstanding service.

RESPECT

With each personal encounter, we treat all with dignity and acknowledge the need for voice and listening in order to build trust and find solution.



RESPONDING TO TRENDS

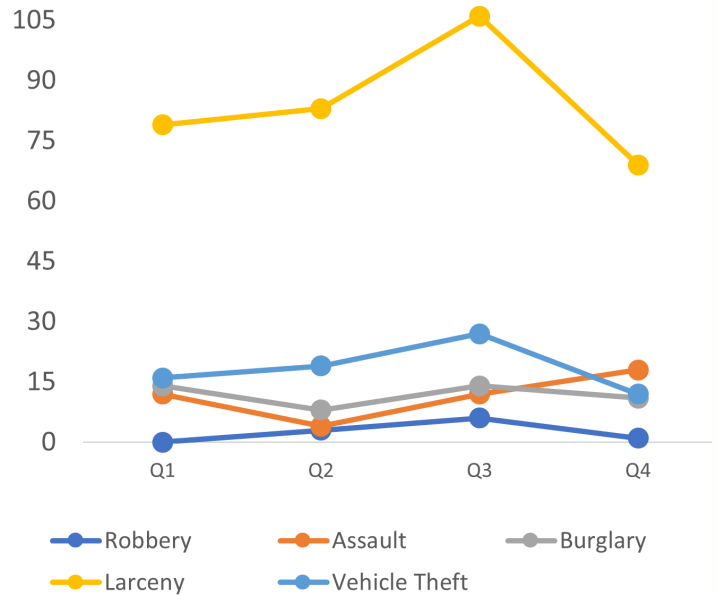
While Piedmont experiences lower crime compared to much of the region, increases in property crime and robberies at the beginning of 2023 required swift action resulting in an 8-point Crime Response Plan.

CRIME TRENDS: 2023 IN REVIEW

Cities throughout the region saw increases in reported crime during 2023, and Piedmont was not immune.

Reported crimes rose sharply through the summer and peaked in early fall. Multiple high-profile incidents, including several robberies, sparked heightened community concerns. In response, the Department developed an 8-point Crime Response Plan, which Chief Bowers shared with community members during multiple public presentations.

Regional collaborative law enforcement efforts and the execution of some elements of the Crime Response Plan contributed to the reduction of reported crime from Q3 to Q4.



8 POINT CRIME RESPONSE PLAN

A plan to address crime and law enforcement services now and into the future.



Full court press to maintain fully staffed, well-trained Department



Enhance critical dispatch function through staffing increase and facility upgrade



Further integrate modern equipment (Safety Cameras)



Restructure non-sworn roles to free up Officers for criminal matters



Deploy crime suppression cars during peak periods



Expand officer training and deploy plain-clothed officers



Identify additional ALPR/camera locations to aid response



Examine and evaluate staffing model



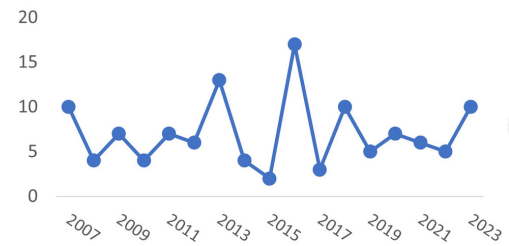
HISTORICAL CONTEXT

Historical data provides important context for the Police Department and the community, allowing us to evaluate current crime levels against past trends.

ROBBERY

The taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody, or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear.

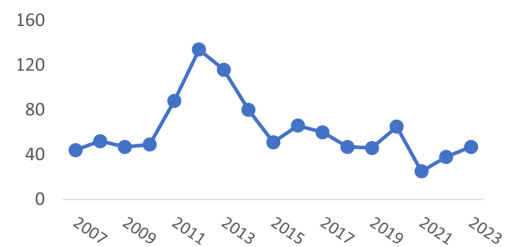
Robbery numbers tend to swing sharply from year to year. Networks of offenders will repeatedly engage in this behavior until disrupted by investigation and arrest. PPD identifies and arrests a high number of robbery offenders due to effective investigations conducted by detectives, supported by tools such as ALPRs and Public Safety Cameras.



BURGLARY

The unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft.

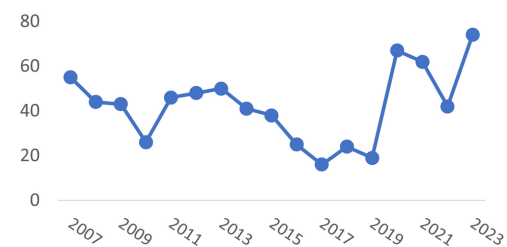
Burglaries have declined steadily in recent years, from a peak of 134 in 2012 to 47 in 2023. This trend is possibly attributable to an increased criminal focus in committing vehicle burglaries and other offenses such as catalytic converter thefts which are found in the Larceny category.



VEHICLE THEFT

The theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle.

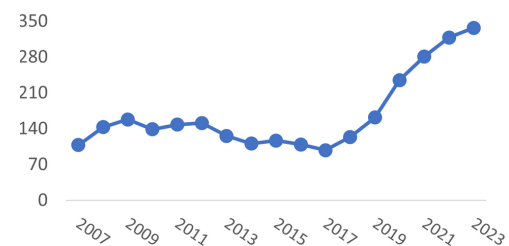
During 2023, vehicle theft rose throughout the region as criminals took advantage of design vulnerabilities in several models of vehicles. PPD assigned officers to the Alameda County Regional Auto Theft Task Force to aid in dismantling criminal auto theft rings.



LARCENY

The unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another.

Larceny numbers remain high compared to historic levels. Auto burglaries and catalytic converter thefts, which fall into this category, have increased sharply regionwide over the last several years. Coordinated investigations and arrests of catalytic converter theft rings and auto burglary offenders may have resulted in recent decreases.



TECHNOLOGY AS FORCE MULTIPLIER

As a small agency, we rely on a fully staffed, highly trained department who are able to effectively use technology to deliver the highest quality services to the public. Here are some examples.

AUTOMATED LICENSE PLATE READERS

Since 2013, Piedmont Police have used Automated License Plate Reader (ALPR) cameras to alert dispatchers in real time when wanted vehicles enter Piedmont. Officers are then deployed immediately to locate and take enforcement action.

The numbers to the right show some of the outcomes of the ALPR program, but don't tell the whole story. Over 300 vehicles fled from officers in 2023. These represent crimes prevented as offenders often use stolen vehicles or stolen plates to commit crime.

Building on the success of this program, we're expanding our ALPR footprint in 2024 by adding cameras in nine new locations.

The Piedmont Police Department has been a leader not only in the use of ALPR technology, but also in our transparency in its use. Visit the Transparency Page of our website to find out more.



**ALPR INCIDENT
RESPONSES**



**ALPRS IN
PIEDMONT**



**RECOVERED
VEHICLES**



**ARRESTS
FROM ALPRS**

An ALPR incident or "hit" is when a wanted vehicle comes into our City, is detected by our ALPR system, and patrol resources are deployed to take enforcement action.

PUBLIC SAFETY CAMERAS



Safety camera installation at Highland and Moraga

In 2023, we brought safety cameras online at 5 new locations.

This program began as a pilot in 2017, with a single location at Oakland and Grand Avenues. The decision to expand the program was made after pilot cameras aided in the successful investigation and prosecution of multiple crimes, including a traumatizing home invasion robbery. Public Safety Committee members helped conduct outreach prior to implementation.



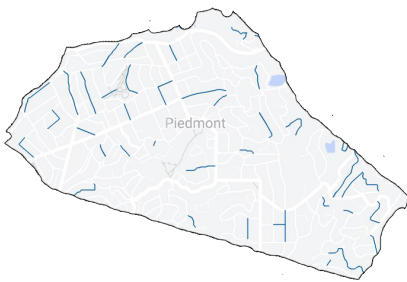
BUILDING COMMUNITY

Trust between the community and our Department is the “secret sauce” in our success. We work to build this partnership and a sense of shared responsibility for public safety through a variety of community programs and events.

COP ON THE BLOCK

Cop on the Block, which we launched in June 2023, brings rank and file officers into neighborhoods so residents can get to know them. Our officers, in turn, have an opportunity to become familiar with the unique character of our different neighborhoods and learn what matters to them.

Find a schedule of upcoming events at piedmont.ca.gov/CopOnTheBlock.



31 EVENTS
28,800 FEET WALKED
35% OF STREETS VISITED

COMMUNITY EVENTS

National Night Out



We joined block parties in 6 neighborhoods at this year’s National Night Out, an annual event intended to build police-community partnerships.

Contact: Sergeant Nicole Casalnuovo at ncasalnuovo@piedmont.ca.gov

Coffee, Cops, and Cars



In 2023, we had another fantastic turnout for our annual car show, which grows in success every year.

Contact: Officer Tyler Petit at tpetit@piedmont.ca.gov.

Harvest Festival



We don’t just host community events, we jump on the band wagon too. We appreciated the invitation of our outstanding Recreation Department to provide a resource table at the Harvest Festival. Thanks Rec!



PARTNERING WITH OUR SCHOOLS

Partnerships with our local schools is a high priority for PPD. From being at school sites every day to collaborating with school leaders on safety plans, we're there.

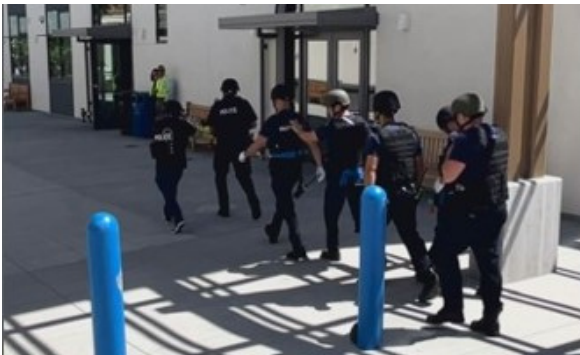
JUVENILE OFFICER

The relationships built with the faculty and staff of our local schools by PPD's Juvenile Officer Hugo Diaz play a pivotal role in our shared responsibility of youth safety.

With extensive training in youth development and appropriate, non-enforcement, methods to support youth in our community, the Juvenile Officer acts as a liaison with local schools and provides education and outreach on a wide variety of issues.



RESCUE TASK FORCE



We must be prepared for the unthinkable. During Summer 2023, we partnered with the Piedmont Fire Department and PUSD to hold Rescue Task Force exercises at the Piedmont High campus. Rescue Task Force response involves the deployment of Fire Department/emergency medical services with a law enforcement security detail to render aid to those who received life-threatening injuries, and if possible, to aid in their extraction.

GUN SAFETY EDUCATION

We're partnering with PUSD and local representatives of Brady United and Everytown for Gun Safety to address firearm safety in Piedmont. The collective's efforts have centered on education about the Asking Saves Kids (ASK) program and raising public awareness about the safe storage of firearms.

Find information and resources about firearm safety, including information on Gun Violence Restraining orders at piedmont.ca.gov/GunSafety.



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