

Annual Report

2017



BELLE MEADE POLICE DEPARTMENT

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In order to save on printing costs, this report is provided in electronic format rather than the traditional printed format. Copies are available for download on the Belle Meade Police Department website at <http://www.citybellemeade.org/police-department>. Hard copies are available upon request

Mission Statement

The City of Belle Meade Police Department strives to provide community-oriented law enforcement that contributes to the quality of life expected by City residents through professional, visible, and respectful efforts of well-trained Police Department employees who are dedicated to public service. In carrying out its mission, the Police Department is especially mindful of and guided by the following values:

Fairness – Consistent and equitable enforcement of the law.

Integrity – Adherence to the highest moral and ethical standards.

Respect – Respect for the views, rights, and dignity of others.

Teamwork – Working together to accomplish our mission with efficiency and safety.

Message from the Chief

To the Mayor, Commissioners, City Manager, and Citizens of Belle Meade and the Employees of the Belle Meade Police Department:

This report highlights the many activities of the Belle Meade Police Department during 2017, as well as crime and traffic statistics. Hopefully it will provide a clear understanding of our department and the challenges we face.

2017 was a steady year for the Belle Meade Police Department as we answered 28,584 calls for service, up 2.43% from 2016. This includes various other duties and assignments such as House Check Services, car seat installations and traffic calming assignments.

Overall crime in Belle Meade remains very low. There were no violent crimes committed in the City during the 2017 year. The most reported crimes were Theft From Motor Vehicle with 15, which is up two from 2016, and Vandalism, with 11, down one from 2016. DUI was up slightly with 32 offenses, compared to 27 in 2016.

Traffic crashes remain a concern for the police department. While there were no fatalities we did see an increase of 12.08% in property damage crashes and a 14.63% increase of injury crashes, mainly on Harding Road.

The Tennessee Highway Safety Office grant, managed by Sergeant Chuck Williams, continues to provide funding for traffic enforcement and awareness programs. Officer Dee Howell manages our department's Driver Improvement School and the Neighborhood Watch Program. Our Accreditation Program is managed by Sergeant Jon Carter. We are enrolled in the Tennessee Law Enforcement Accreditation Program and are on target to become an Accredited Agency by the end of 2019. Officers are also involved in other community outreach programs such as the Child Passenger Safety Program and the Drug Take Back Box Program.

The Department maintains a close working relationship with the Metro Nashville Police Department, The District Attorney's Office, Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, The Tennessee Highway Safety Office and a multitude of other Federal, State and surrounding law enforcement agencies. We also work closely with the Metro Park Police and have memorandums of understanding to patrol Percy Warner and Parmer Parks.

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve with this group of dedicated professional individuals and look forward to a prosperous and safe 2018. I hope this information is helpful.

Sincerely:

A handwritten signature in dark blue ink, appearing to read "Tim Eads", enclosed within a thin, light gray rectangular border.

Tim Eads, Chief of Police

Department Administration

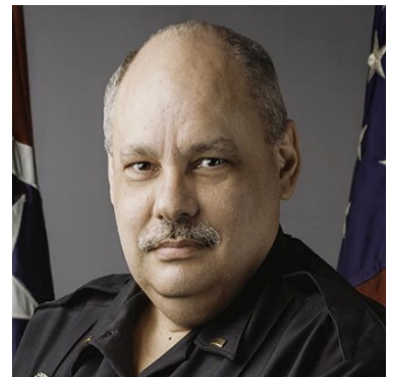
Chief of Police Timothy Eads



Chief Timothy Eads was appointed to the office of Chief of Police in September of 2006. Prior to his service with Belle Meade, he was employed by the Dickson County Sheriff's Office for 18 years. Chief Eads is a member of the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police, where he serves on the Professional Standards Committee. He is also a graduate of the FBI National Academy.

Lieutenant Vince Higgins

Lt. Vince Higgins has served with the Belle Meade Police Department for 26 years. He has worked his way up from a patrol officer to his current position as second in command of the department. He has also served with the Nashville International Airport Public Safety Department and the Metro Nashville Park Police as a police officer. Lt. Higgins is a graduate of the Tennessee Law Enforcement Executive Development Seminar.



Police Operations Section

The Police Operations Section is the largest component of the Police Department. It is comprised of the Patrol Division and the Criminal Investigation Division. The Police Operations Section is under the direct supervision of Lieutenant Higgins.

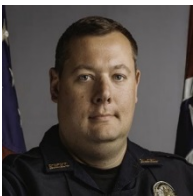
Patrol Division

The uniformed officers of the Patrol Division are the most visible members of the department. Officers are assigned marked patrol cars which are all equipped with radar, as well as in-car video cameras.

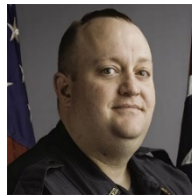


The Patrol Division consists of 12 sworn officers, who are assigned to four separate shifts. Each shift is made up of a Sergeant and 2 officers.

Patrol Supervisors



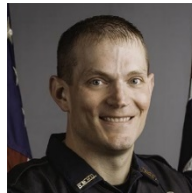
Sergeant Jon Carter
A-Shift (6 am to 6 pm)



Sergeant Chuck Williams
C-Shift (6 am to 6 pm)



Sergeant Chris Roark
B-Shift (6 pm to 6 am)



Sergeant Mack Mangrum
D-Shift (6 pm to 6 am)

All members of the Patrol Division bring years of experience to the department. In addition to their patrol duties, many of the officers have other duties, such as serving as Field Training Officers, instructors in various disciplines, and members of the bike patrol.

Retirements

Officer Dennis Goins

The City staff and Commissioners honored Officer Dennis Goins at a luncheon on January 31st for his retirement from the police department after more than 29 years of



service. In addition to his long tenure at Belle Meade, Dennis has been a police officer and Deputy Sheriff in Tennessee since 1976. He has been on three different Tactical/SWAT teams as a counter-sniper and hostage negotiator. In addition, he's been a K9 handler with two phenomenal dogs, Lucan and Narc, and has accumulated thousands of hours of police training over the years.

Dennis states "The time I spent here as a Belle Meade Police Officer has been the very best. I have met children of children I knew 25 years ago in Belle Meade. I loved my job. I actually love the City of Belle Meade." And to his fellow officers: "Continue to do her proud."

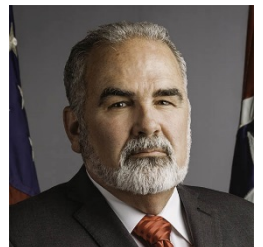
Officer Norm Shelton



The City staff and Commissioners honored Officer Norm Shelton at a luncheon on January 12th for his retirement from the police department after 20 years of service with Belle Meade. In addition to Norm's long tenure here, he worked for the City of White House in the Fire Department and as a police officer for ten years. Norm plans on spending time fishing, tinkering in his woodworking shop and relaxing with family. We wish him a long and healthy retirement!

Criminal Investigation Division

The Criminal Investigation Division is staffed by Detective Tom Sexton. He is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to assist officers or citizens as needed. Detective Sexton also provides crime prevention services to the residents of Belle Meade. In addition, the department is able to call on the resources of the Metro Nashville Police Department as needed to assist in any investigation.



Support Services Section

The Support Services Section is made up of the Communications Division and the Administrative Division. The Support Services Section is under the direct supervision of Lieutenant Higgins.

Communications Division

The Communications Division is staffed by 4 full time and 2 part time Communications Officers. Each Communications Officer is certified by the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and has access to both the Tennessee Criminal Portal and the NCIC system. Communications Officers provide a link between callers and officers in the field. One Communications Officer is assigned to each of the four patrol shifts. This division is supervised by Communications Sergeant Toni Tomlin.



Calls for Service

Belle Meade officers responded to calls for service in 2017. This was a 2.43% increase over calls received in 2016.



Administrative Division

The Administrative Division consists of the Training Unit, the Accreditation Unit, the Records Unit and the Firearms Training Unit. With the exception of the Records Unit, all other units are staffed by patrol officers as an additional duty.

Training Unit - The Training Unit is staffed by the General Departmental Instructor (GDI), is responsible for insuring all sworn personnel completed the annual training requirements as set by the Tennessee POST Commission. Sergeant Chuck Williams currently serves as the GDI.

Accreditation Unit – The Accreditation Unit is staffed by the Accreditation Manager, is responsible for the Accreditation process. The department is currently going through the Tennessee Law Enforcement Accreditation program, which is administered by the Tennessee Association of Chiefs of Police. Sergeant Jon Carter currently serves as the Accreditation Manager.

Records Unit – The Records Unit function is covered by the Court Clerk as part of her duties. In this function, the Court Clerk is responsible for insuring all records, reports, etc. are maintained in accordance with departmental policy and Tennessee state law. Keshia Lee serves as the Court Clerk.

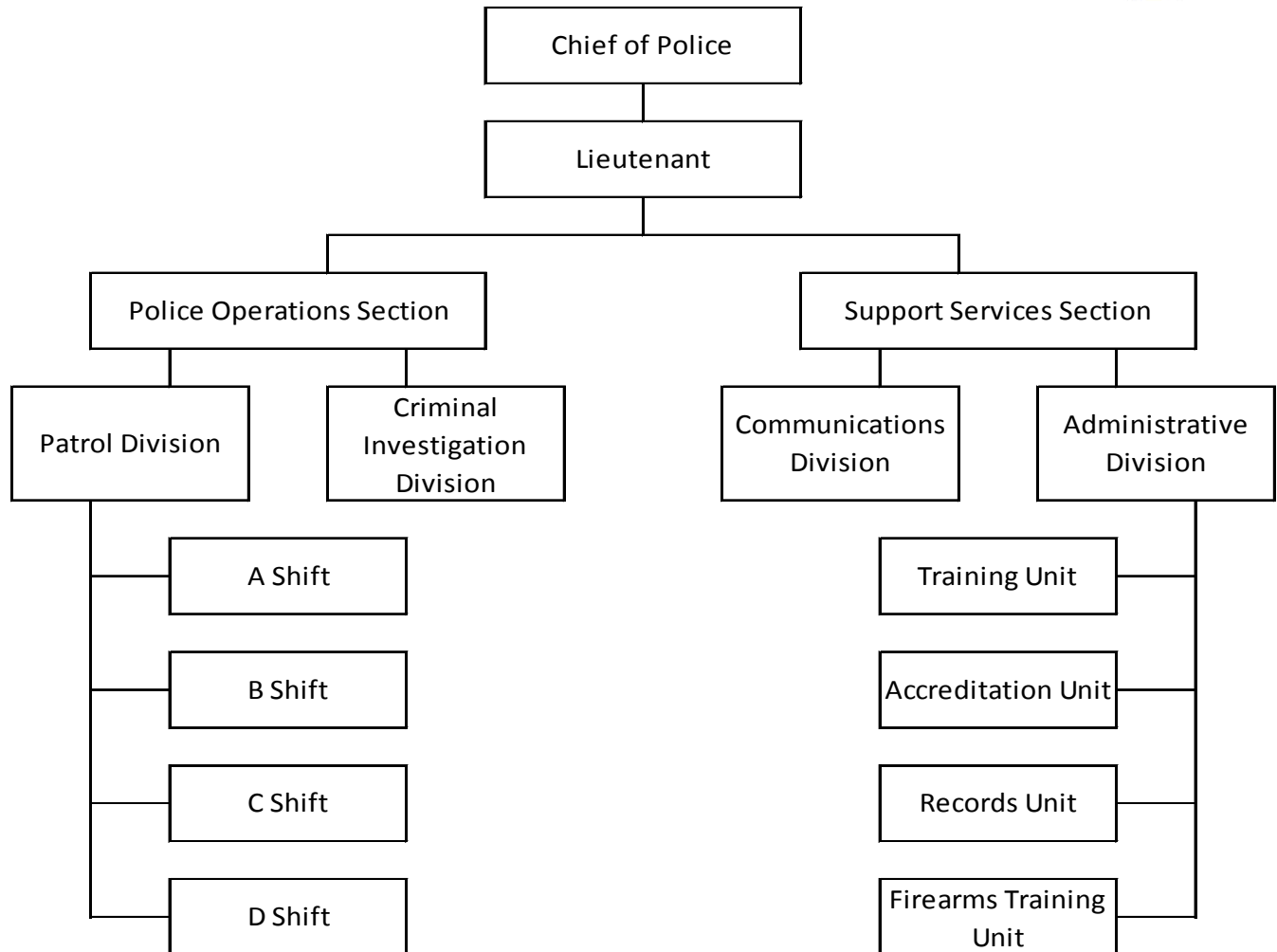
Firearms Training Unit – The Firearms Training Unit is responsible for all firearms training and maintenance of all firearms issued by the department. This unit is under the supervision of Sergeant Williams.

Organizational Chart



Belle Meade Police Department

Organizational Chart



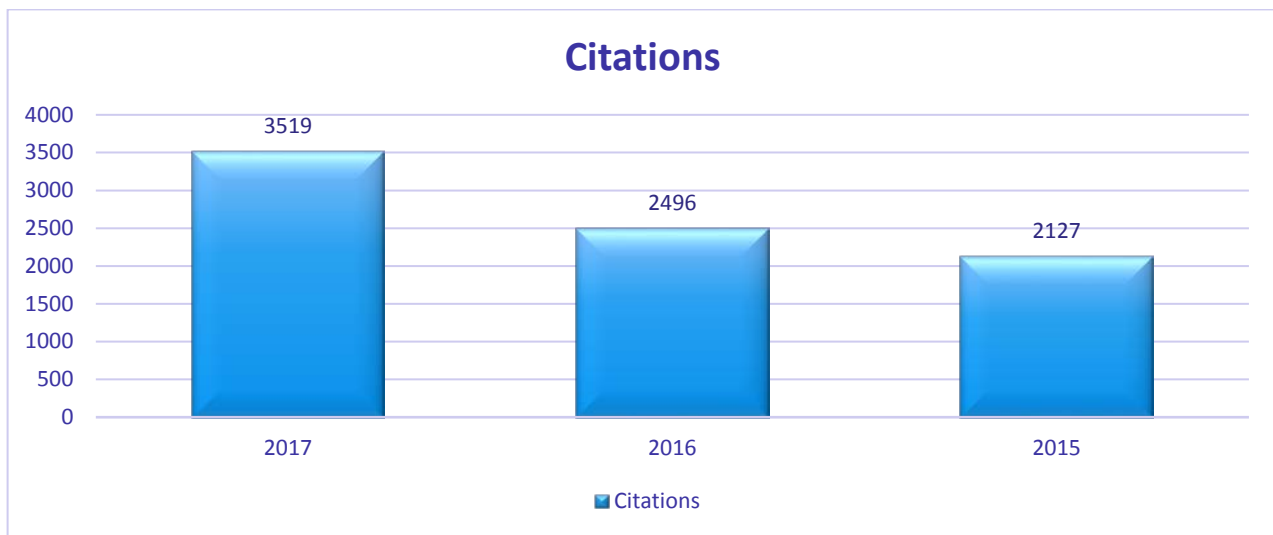
Municipal Court

The City Court of Belle Meade is presided over by Judge Mark Beveridge. The City Court hears cases concerning traffic violations and violations of other Belle Meade ordinances committed within the City of Belle Meade. Court is held on Wednesday and Thursday once a month at 8:30 AM. The City Court Clerk is responsible for administrative duties concerning the operation of the Belle Meade City Court. Judge Beveridge can be contacted through her office. Keshia Lee serves as the Court Clerk.



Citations

Belle Meade officers issue citations into City Court for violations of Belle Meade ordinances. These citations are primarily for traffic violations, but other violations, such as curfew, may be included in these numbers.



In 2017, there was a 34.02% increase in the number of citations written over 2016.

Community Outreach

The Belle Meade Police Department provides more than just law enforcement services. The department also offers several Community Outreach programs to better serve our community.

Child Passenger Safety Program (CPSP) - Certified child passenger safety technicians are available to give personal instruction on how to correctly install child restraint equipment in vehicles. They can also answer questions concerning the safety of your child while riding in a vehicle. Officer Keith Samol serves as the CPSP Coordinator.



Neighborhood Watch - The city offers an on-site coordinator and liaison for neighborhood watch groups in Belle Meade. The coordinator communicates with Block Captains who send information to residents in their group regarding BOLOs (Be On the Look Out) and about recent crimes in the City, as well as surrounding areas. The department is grateful for the extremely high participation rate in this program. Officer Dee Howell serves as the Neighborhood Watch Coordinator.

Prescription Drug Collection Program - The prescription drug collection program offers the public a means to anonymously and safely dispose of their expired, unused or unwanted prescription drugs. The collection box is located in the lobby of the Belle Meade Police Department at 4705 Harding Pike. (Entrance is located to the right of city hall main entrance). It is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Citizens may dispose of medication in its original container. Loose pills should be disposed of using a clear plastic bag (provided). All of the medications collected from this program are destroyed by incineration. Sergeant Jon Carter supervises this program.



City Administration

The City of Belle Meade is located in western Davidson County, and is considered a “satellite city” of the Metropolitan Government of Nashville and Davidson County. The population of Belle Meade is 2,704 according to the 2016 U.S. Census estimate. The City was chartered in 1938 as a City Manager-Commissioner form of government. The Board of Commissioners is the policy making body, while the City Manager is the Chief Administrative Officer. Beth Reardon serves as the City Manager. The citizens elect five Commissioners for staggered four-year terms. The Commissioners then elect two of their members to serve as Mayor and Vice-Mayor for two-year terms.

2017 Board of Commissioners:

Mayor: James V. Hunt

Vice-Mayor: Bob Weigel

Commissioner: Cathy Altenbern

Commissioner: Boyd Bogle

Commissioner: Gray O. Thornburg



In Memoriam

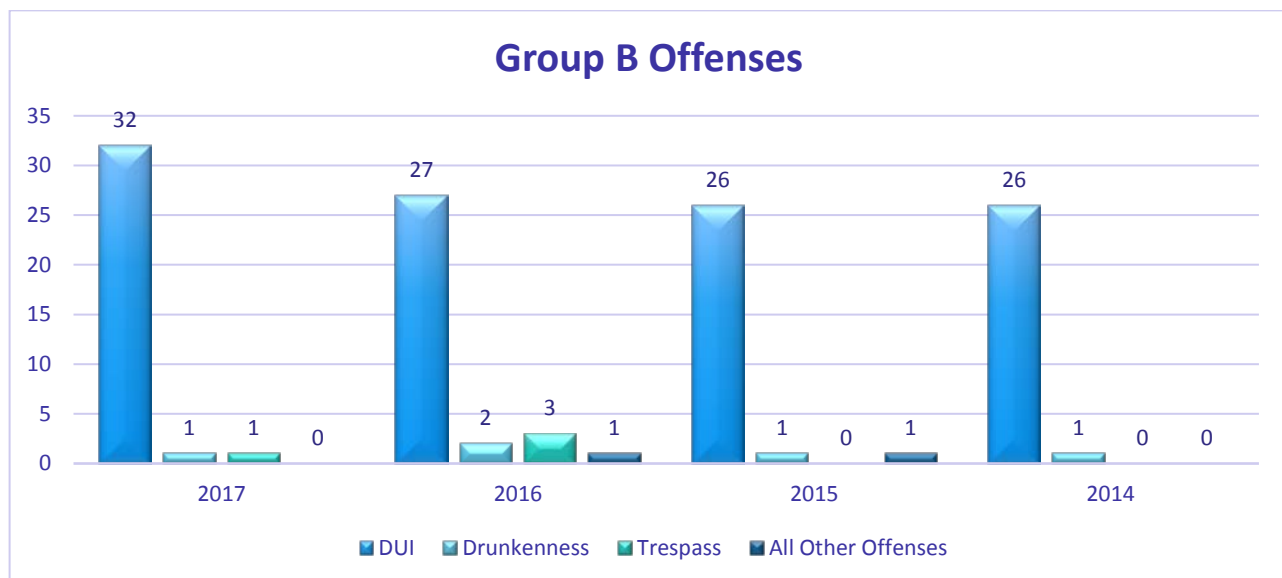
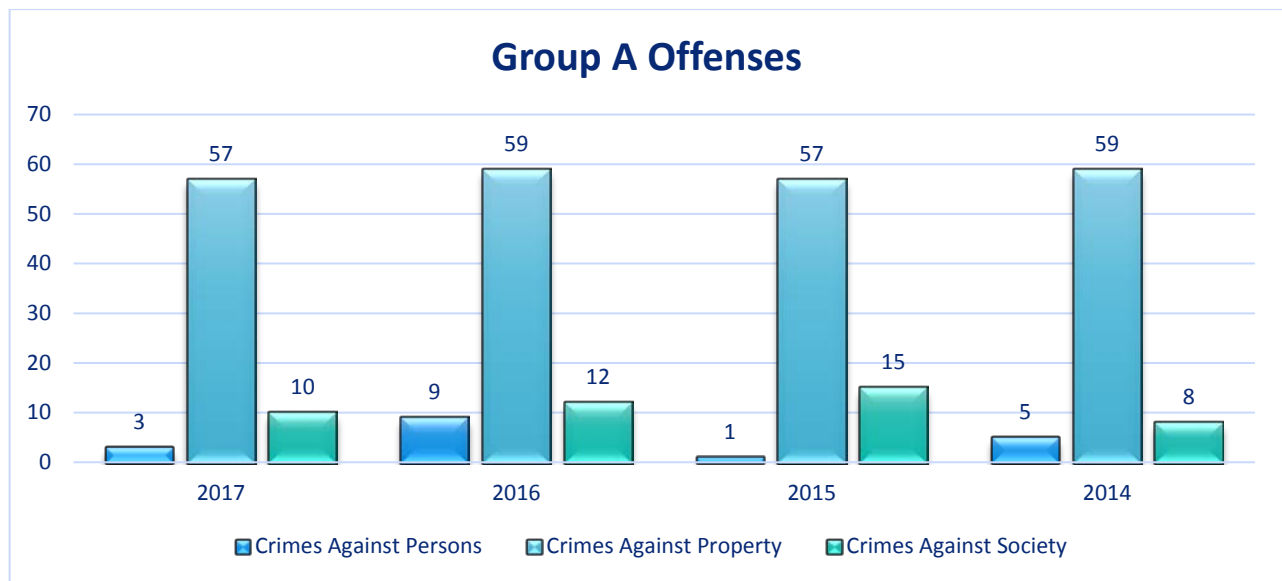


Commissioner Boyd Bogle (1934 – 2018) passed away in January of 2018 after a short and hard fought battle with cancer. Commissioner Bogle had served for 3 ½ years and was a strong supporter of the Police Department. In the words of Mayor Hunt, “...he served with honor, distinction, experience, humor and fortitude. I will miss him greatly!”

Crime Statistics

The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) is responsible for compiling crime statistics for the State. Crimes are placed into one of two groups. Group A includes crimes such as murder, rape, and theft. Group B includes DUI, drunkenness and trespass.

The majority of crimes in Belle Meade are property crimes, which fall in Group A.



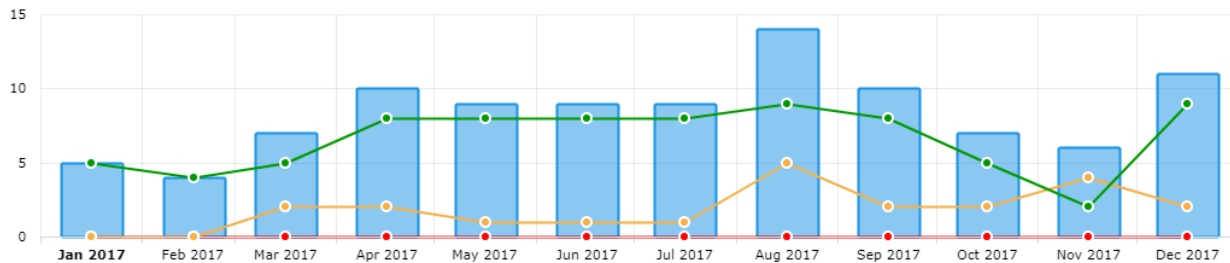
TBI Crime Overview

GROUP A OFFENSES				
Crimes Against Persons	2017	2016	2015	2014
Murder	0	0	0	0
Kidnapping	0	0	0	0
Forcible Rape	0	0	0	0
Aggravated Assault	0	0	0	0
Simple Assault	1	8	0	3
Intimidation	2	1	1	1
Stalking	0	0	0	1
Crimes Against Property	2017	2016	2015	2014
Arson	0	0	0	0
Burglary	4	6	15	10
Counterfeiting/Forgery	1	0	1	0
Destruction/Damage/Vandalism	11	12	11	13
Extortion/Blackmail	1	0	0	0
Fraud-False Pretenses	2	3	3	5
Fraud- Credit Card/ATM	7	2	5	2
Fraud-Impersonation	1	5	11	7
Fraud-Identity Theft	2	4	0	0
Robbery	0	0	0	0
Theft From Building	6	1	5	3
Theft From Motor Vehicle	15	13	10	13
Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts	3	1	0	0
Theft-All Other Larceny	0	9	8	5
Motor Vehicle Theft	2	0	1	1
Crimes Against Society	2017	2016	2015	2014
Drug/Narcotic Violations	5	7	10	4
Drug/Narcotic Equipment Violations	4	4	4	4
Weapons Law Violation	1	0	0	0
GROUP B OFFENSES				
Offense	2017	2016	2015	2014
DUI	32	27	26	26
Drunkenness	1	2	1	1
Trespass	1	3	0	0
All Other Offenses	3	1	1	0

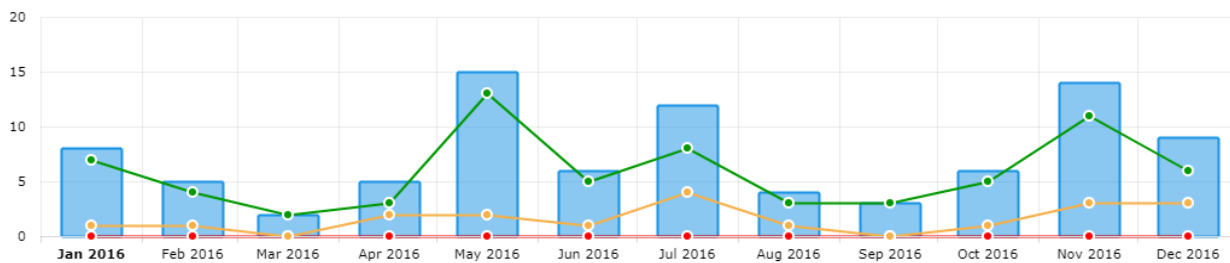
Traffic Crashes

In 2017, the Belle Meade Police Department investigated 101 total crashes. There were no fatality crashes, 22 crashes with injuries, and 79 property damage crashes.

2017 crashes



2016 crashes



In 2017, there was a 12.08% increase in the number of property damage crashes compared to 2016. Injury crashes increased by 14.63%. The total number of crashes increased by 12.63%. (Crash data is from the Tennessee Department of Safety.)

Traffic Crashes 2014 to 2017

