

# TOWN OF MARION POLICE DEPARTMENT

JOHN PATRICK CLAIR,  
CHIEF OF POLICE





# OUR MISSION



"THE MISSION OF THE TOWN OF MARION POLICE DEPARTMENT IS TO ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF OUR RESIDENTS, BY PROVIDING POLICE SERVICES IN A SPIRIT OF SHARED RESPONSIBILITY."



# VALUES

THE TOWN OF MARION POLICE DEPARTMENT IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PROTECTING CONSTITUTIONAL GUARANTEES AND IMPARTIALLY ENFORCING THE LAW. WE BELIEVE THAT INTEGRITY IS THE BASIS OF PUBLIC TRUST AND THAT HONESTY AND EQUALITY IN THE DELIVERY OF POLICE SERVICES IS ESSENTIAL. WE COMMIT OURSELVES TO UPHOLDING THESE VALUES AND TO FOSTERING COOPERATION AND RESPECT WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY, AND THE DEPARTMENT ITSELF.



# OUR VISION

THE MARION POLICE DEPARTMENT DELIVERS CORE LAW ENFORCEMENT SERVICES, IN A RELATIONAL TONE, AND WITH A PROFESSIONAL CHARACTER CONSISTENT WITH THE EXPECTATIONS OF OUR COMMUNITY. WE ARE A GENUINE AND LEGITIMATE CONTRIBUTOR TO THE SAFETY AND SECURITY OF OUR CITIZENS, AND THEREBY A VITAL PART OF OUR SHARED AND FLOURISHING SOCIETY



# PRINCIPLES

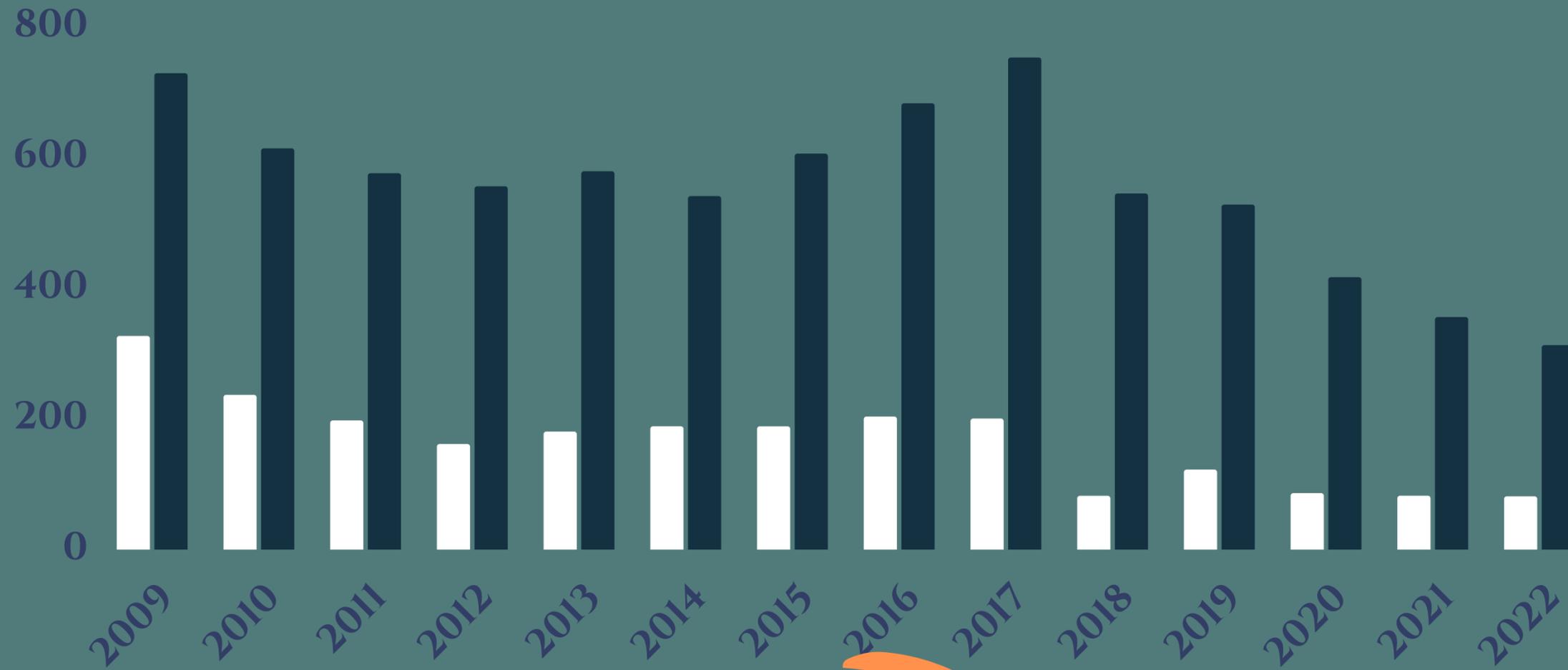
- The essence of policing should remain an analog endeavor
- Wisdom makes for better policing than worldview
- Irenic policing genuinely contributes to a flourishing society.
- Core competency is vital.
- Legitimate policing is community shaped.



# CRIME TRENDS

80% OF MARION'S CRIME IS AGAINST PROPERTY OR SOCIETY. 20% OF CRIMES ARE AGAINST PERSONS. IN 2021, WE HAD ONLY 11 INCIDENTS WHICH COULD TRULY BE CONSIDERED VIOLENT, MOST OF WHICH (7) ARE AGGRAVATED ASSAULT.

# SERIOUS CRIME



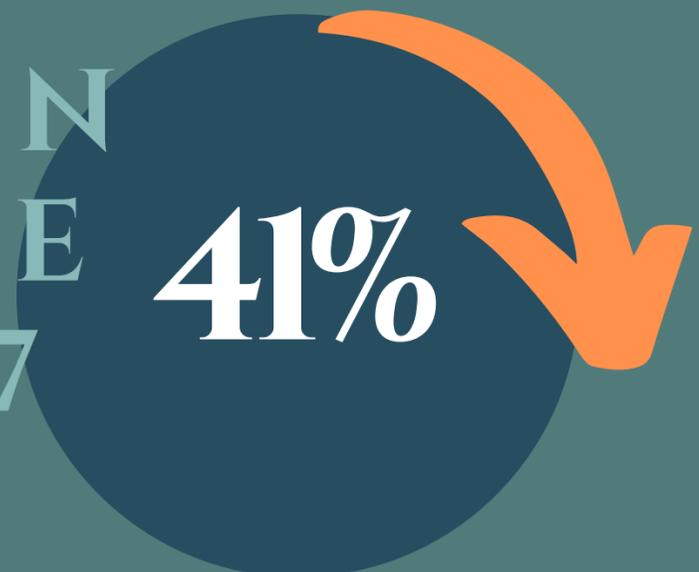
DOWN  
SINCE  
2017

59%

# CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS



DOWN  
SINCE  
2017





# COMPLAINT PROCESS

A COMPLAINT PROCESS WAS ESTABLISHED 2019 TO ENSURE THAT THE INTEGRITY OF THE MARION POLICE DEPARTMENT IS MAINTAINED THROUGH AN INTERNAL SYSTEM WHERE OBJECTIVITY, FAIRNESS, AND JUSTICE ARE ASSURED BY IMPARTIAL INVESTIGATIONS. THESE INVESTIGATIONS ARE TO CLEAR THE INNOCENT, CONFIRM GUILT, AND FACILITATE FAIR, SUITABLE, AND CONSISTENT DISCIPLINARY ACTION.

# COMPLAINT PROCESS



## COMPLAINT RECEIVED

ALL FORMAL AND INFORMAL COMPLAINTS ARE TAKEN SERIOUSLY BY THE MARION POLICE DEPARTMENT. WE HANDLE COMPLAINTS IMPARTIALLY THROUGH OUR INVESTIGATIVE PROCESSES. COMPLAINTS CAN BE WRITTEN, VERBAL OR ANONYMOUS; HOWEVER, WRITTEN COMPLAINTS OFFER THE BEST TRACKING OPTIONS. ALL WRITTEN COMPLAINTS GO IMMEDIATELY TO THE CHIEF OF POLICE.

## ENTERED INTO SYSTEM

UPON REVIEW, IT IS LOGGED INTO OUR SYSTEM FOR TRACKING. OUR SYSTEM CAPTURES DATE, TIME, COMPLAINANT, OFFICER (IF KNOWN), AND THE NATURE OF THE COMPLAINT. THE NATURE OF THE ALLEGATION WILL DICTATE THE TYPE OF INVESTIGATIVE PROCESS (ADMINISTRATIVE OR CRIMINAL IN NATURE). SUPERVISORS ARE ENCOURAGED TO HANDLE MINOR COMPLAINTS AT THE SUPERVISORY LEVEL, WHEN APPROPRIATE.

## STAFF ASSIGNMENT

BASED ON THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE ALLEGATION, THE CHIEF OF POLICE WILL ASSIGN THE INVESTIGATING AUTHORITY. MINOR OR LESS SERIOUS OFFENSES WILL BE HANDLED BY THE OFFICER'S SUPERVISORY STAFF. ALLEGATIONS OF MORE SERIOUS OR EGREGIOUS OFFENSES WILL BE HANDLED BY A COMMAND STAFF MEMBER.

## INVESTIGATIVE PROCESS

DURING THE INVESTIGATIVE PROCESS, THE INVESTIGATING OFFICER WILL INTERVIEW ALL PARTIES TO INCLUDE WITNESSES, CONDUCT A SCENE ASSESSMENT, IF NECESSARY, REVIEW DOCUMENTS, AND VIEW VIDEO OR LISTEN TO AUDIO RECORDINGS, IF APPLICABLE. DEPENDING ON THE TYPE OF COMPLAINT, ADDITIONAL STEPS MAY BE REQUIRED.



## ADMINISTRATIVE PROCESS

THE INVESTIGATING AUTHORITY WILL COMPILE A COMPREHENSIVE WRITTEN REPORT WITH THEIR FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING THE INVESTIGATION. THE FINDINGS WILL BE FORWARDED TO THE CHIEF OF POLICE FOR REVIEW AND CONCURRENCE. GENERAL COMPLAINTS ARE HANDLED USUALLY WITHIN 30 DAYS, BUT MORE COMPLEX INVESTIGATIONS MAY TAKE UP TO 90 DAYS.

## FINAL STEPS

ONCE THE REPORT IS COMPLETE, THE INVESTIGATING AUTHORITY WILL CONTACT THE COMPLAINANT WITH THEIR FINDINGS, AS WELL AS NOTIFY THE INVOLVED EMPLOYEE(S). IN CASES OF ALL WRITTEN COMPLAINTS, A FINAL DISPOSITION LETTER WILL ALSO BE MAILED TO THE COMPLAINANT. THE INVESTIGATIVE REPORT IS FILED IN ACCORDANCE WITH OUR RECORDS MANAGEMENT FILING SYSTEM.

# HOW DO I FILE A COMPLAINT?

**YOU CAN NOW FILE A COMPLAINT WITH THE MARION POLICE  
DEPARTMENT**

**[WWW.MARIONVA.ORG/POLICEDEPARTMENT/WEBFORMS/CITIZEN-COMPLAINT-FORM](http://WWW.MARIONVA.ORG/POLICEDEPARTMENT/WEBFORMS/CITIZEN-COMPLAINT-FORM)**

**OR**

**YOU CAN PICK UP A BLANK FORM FROM ANY OFFICER OR AT THE  
MARION POLICE DEPARTMENT LOBBY.**



# QUESTIONS?

**"WE ARE ONLY AS GOOD AS  
OUR COMMUNITY ALLOWS US  
TO BE...  
THANK YOU, TO ALL OUR  
COMMUNITY PARTNERS!"**

JOHN PATRICK CLAIR,  
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EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBER, VIRGINIA ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE

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