The Arlington County Police Department
Service Changes and Reallocation of Resources

OVERVIEW

The Arlington County Police Department (ACPD), like most law enforcement agencies, has experienced a significant reduction in our workforce due to attrition, retirements and officers seeking other opportunities. While our department's commitment to providing professional law enforcement services and to working collaboratively with our community to support public safety remains unwavering, this reduction in officers will change the way we deliver services to the community.

Our goal is to facilitate a sustainable work-life balance for officers while focusing our investigative and response efforts around more serious criminal incidents and concerns across the community. In order to achieve this, we have reallocated some assignments to prioritize response to core services which has included the need to leave some specialty positions unfilled. Some examples include unfilled positions in our Property Crimes Unit, Transportation Safety and Community Engagement units.

STAFFING BY THE NUMBERS

ACPD has an authorized strength of 376 officers. As of March 2022, the agency has approximately 290 functional and certified officers who are able to provide solo law enforcement services. The staffing difference includes 46 unfilled position while the remainder is accounted for by officers who are in a training or light duty status.

KEY INITIATIVES

ACPD prioritizes our workload in alignment with the department's key initiatives:

- Crime Prevention and Control
- Transportation Safety
- Community Engagement
- Employee Wellness and Safety

SERVICE IMPACTS

The top priority of ACPD remains the safety of our community. Officers will continue responding to in-progress crimes and emergency calls for service where there is a threat to life, health or property.

It is anticipated the community will notice impacts in the following areas:

- ACPD will shift late reports of applicable non-emergency criminal activity to the online reporting system or telephone reporting in lieu of an in-person officer response. This is a change first initiated during the pandemic and will continue to ensure the best use of available resources. All submissions to the online reporting system are reviewed by an officer and once approved, an Arlington County Police Department official report number will be issued.

- ACPD will prioritize follow-up investigations on crimes against people and serious property crimes. Examples include, but are not limited to, homicide, robbery, carjacking, sex offenses, assaults, burglary and motor vehicle theft.

- ACPD will reduce investigative follow-up on some property crimes, particularly when the incident lacks solvability factors. Examples of reduced investigative follow-up include:

  - Reports of scams when no identifiable suspect exists. ACPD will continue to conduct educational campaigns around common scams and share financial crime prevention information.
  - Late reports of hit and run crashes with no solvability factors.

For additional information and resources, please visit the police department's website at
arlingtonva.us/police

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Did ACPD previously conduct a strategic restructuring?
Yes, in May 2018, the department completed a strategic restructuring due to decreased staffing.

Will an officer still respond when I call the emergency and non-emergency numbers?
Officers will continue responding to in-progress crimes and emergency calls for service where there is an immediate threat to life, health or property. Late reports of criminal activity can be reported online or by calling the Alternative Reporting Unit at 703-228-4300.

Who do I contact with my public safety concerns?
To report an active crime, an immediate parking/traffic hazard or in-progress criminal activity, contact the Emergency Communication Center at 703-558-2222 or 9-1-1 in an emergency. To address a community policing issue, contact the Community Outreach Unit. To report an ongoing traffic or parking concern, use our online form.

Who do I contact if I have additional questions regarding the service changes and reallocation of resources?
Members of ACPD's Command Staff and Engagement Division are available should you have questions or if you would like us to attend small group meetings to discuss further. Complete the online form to assist us in scheduling and assigning these meetings.

Will there be a reduction in criminal investigative efforts?
The department will prioritize follow-up investigations on crimes against people and serious property crimes. ACPD will reduce investigative follow-up on some property crimes particularly when the incident lacks solvability factors.

Are there crime prevention resources available to the public?
ACPD continues to share crime prevention and safety information.

Will the department still investigate my traffic complaint?
The department remains committed to maintaining the orderly flow of traffic in the County and ensuring the safety of all travelers on our roadways. We will continue to respond to in-progress traffic concerns and will conduct various transportation safety enforcement and education campaigns throughout the year.

What steps has the department taken to increase staffing levels?
The Human Resources Management Section continues to proactively recruit qualified and diverse candidates to provide the best professional law enforcement services to the Arlington community.

How can I stay informed?
Visit our engage page for a variety of resources regarding police activity, engagement events, road closures and safety campaigns.

ENGAGE WITH ACPD
ARLINGTON COUNTY POLICE DEPARTMENT

Scan the QR Code with your smartphone to connect with ACPD and stay informed.

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KEY CONTACTS
- Emergencies: 911
- Non-emergencies: 703-558-2222
- Alternative Reporting Unit: 703-228-4300
- Community Outreach
  - North Arlington: ACPDOutreachNorth@arlingtonva.us
  - South Arlington: ACPDOutreachSouth@arlingtonva.us
- Youth Outreach: YOU@arlingtonva.us
- Business Outreach: arirestaurant@arlingtonva.us