

The Matthews Police Department is releasing its annual Crime Report which contains statistics from its Uniformed Crime Report (UCR) for all reported part 1 offenses during 2017. Part 1 offenses are those reported to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) as part of the Uniform Crime Reporting System.

There was an overall 4% decrease in reported Part 1 offenses within the Town of Matthews for 2017 as compared to 2016. The 4% reduction accounted for almost 50 less crimes this year than last year.

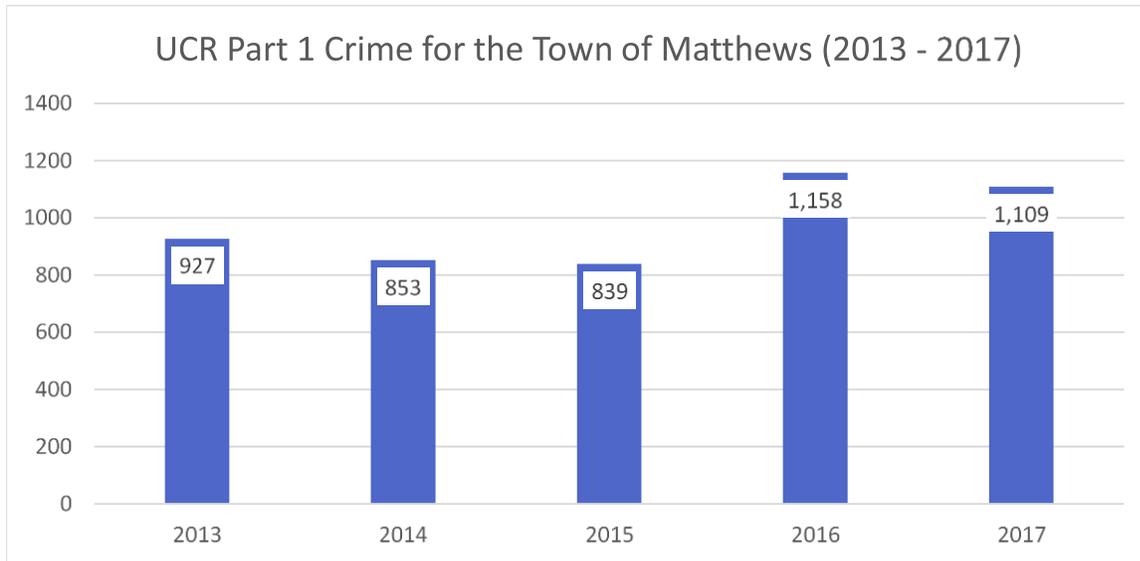
Part 1 Comparison

Part 1 Crime	2016	2017	% of Change
Homicide	0	0	0%
Rape	4	3	-25%
Robbery	22	14	-36%
Aggravated Assault	22	36	64%
Burglary	114	127	11%
Larceny	937	866	-7%
Stolen Auto	55	56	1%
Arson	4	7	75%
Total	1,158	1,109	-4%

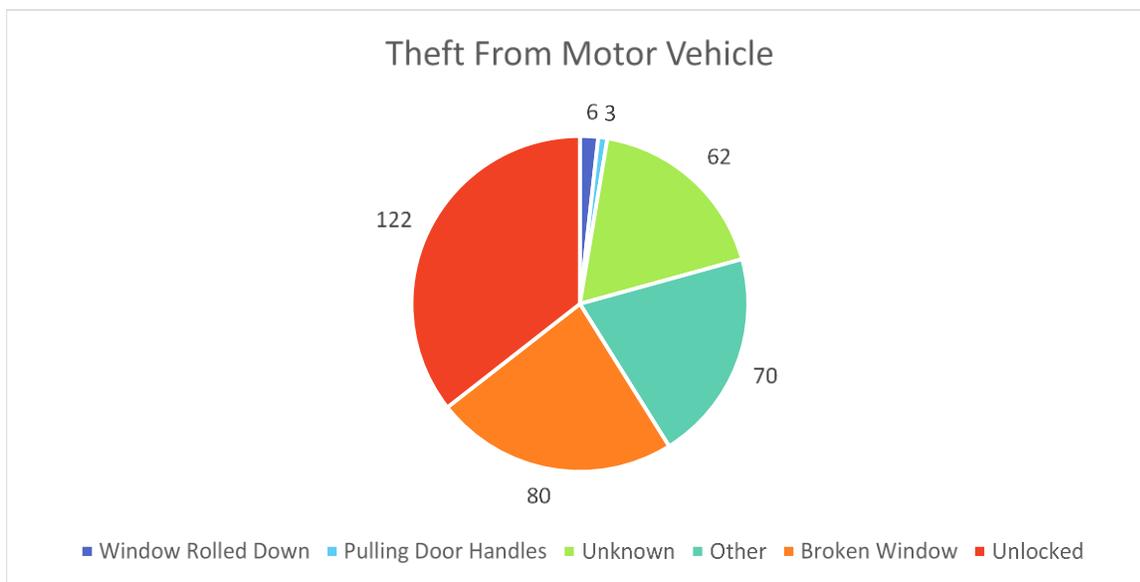
Part 1 Comparison

Part 1 Crime	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Homicide	1	0	1	0	0
Rape	3	1	2	4	3
Robbery	21	21	18	22	14
Aggravated Assault	31	31	35	22	36
Burglary	100	109	94	114	127
Larceny	731	657	659	937	866
Stolen Auto	35	32	28	55	56
Arson	5	2	2	4	7
Total	927	853	839	1,158	1,109

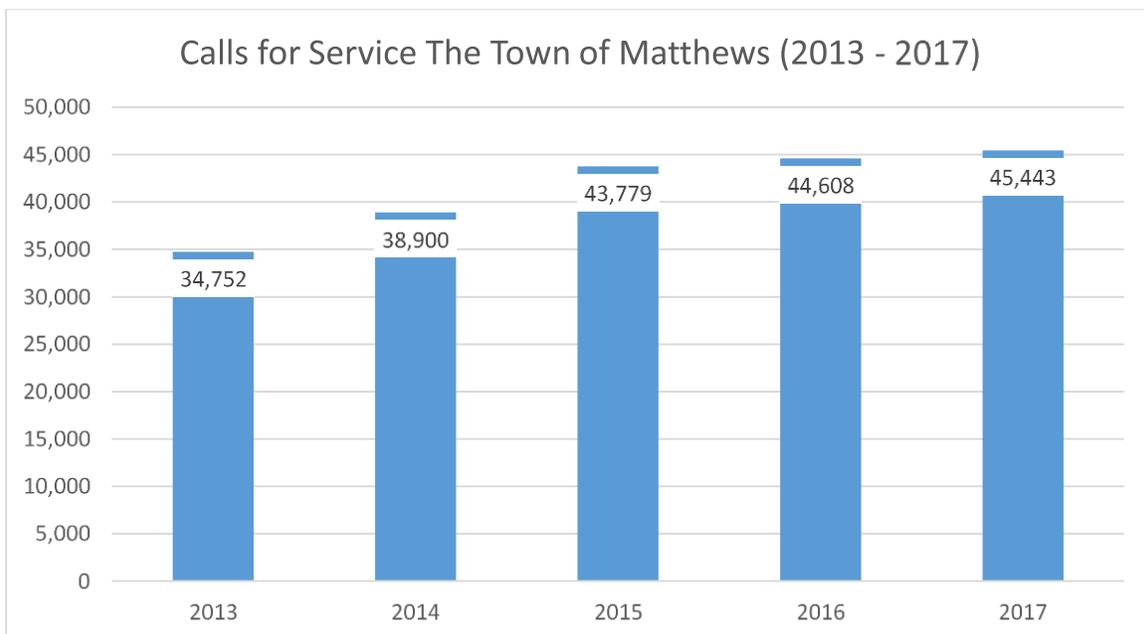
In looking at Part 1 offenses over a five year trend, there was a significant rise between 2015 and 2016, we have seen a reduction from 2016 to 2017. With this reduction, the total number of reported Part 1 offenses in 2017 are still higher than the five year average of 977.



There were 343 vehicles reported burglarized in 2017. Out of this total, over one third of these vehicles were left unlocked or unsecured.



The Matthews Police Department initiated or responded to 45,443 calls for service during 2017. This was an increase of 835 (2%) calls over 2016. These totals not only cover calls for service requested by the public, it is also inclusive of what we describe as “Self-Initiated” activities, this demonstrates the proactive and community based approach to policing that our Officers practice. There was a total of 2,403 traffic crashes in 2017 which was an increase of 80 (3%) from 2,323 in 2016. Patrol Division Officers have increased their traffic enforcement in targeted areas in an attempt to help decrease these numbers. During 2017 Matthews Police Department arrested 1,006 offenders.



Chief Clark Pennington commends the outstanding men and women of the Matthews Police Department, both civilian and sworn, for their continued hard work. He would also like to recognize the continuous support from our residents, which assists the Matthews Police Department in effectively combatting crime. Chief Pennington stated, “The reduction of Part I offenses is an outstanding accomplishment for not only the Department but all citizens of Matthews.

The Matthews Police Department is committed to ensuring we are using a comprehensive approach to crime reduction and citizen engagement. Our approach of Education, Crime Prevention, and Enforcement will be the prime focus for our officers, detectives, and civilian staff in the coming year. We strive to ensure our community remains a safe place to live, work, and visit. We will continue to pursue deployment and problem solving strategies to not only combat crime but the fear of crime, while improving the quality of life for the citizens of Matthews.”