

Durham Police Department
2014 First Quarter Report
May 5, 2014
Police Chief Jose L. Lopez Sr.

Part 1 index crime (violent and property crime) was up by 13 percent during the first quarter of 2014 compared to the first quarter in 2013, which was a 14-year low for Part 1 index crime. Violent crime increased by 36 percent during the first quarter and property crime rose by 10 percent. There were decreases in two out of seven Part 1 crime categories – reported rapes and motor vehicle thefts.

The increase in violent crime was driven primarily by a 70 percent increase in aggravated assaults. We quickly recognized early in the first quarter that multi victim incidents such as shootings into crowds or occupied residences were pushing up the numbers.

We organized a multi-agency Violent Incident Response to target locations where these incidents were occurring and the people believed to be involved. We gathered intelligence information to determine why these incidents were occurring. We have plans to use all the necessary resources to focus on this issue.

During one month of the most recent Violent Incident Response, officers accomplished the following:

- 60 knock and talks
- 16 arrests (Jermaine Gibbs, who was wanted for murder, was one of those arrests)
- 3 firearms seized
- 1 ballistic vest seized
- 2 search warrants
- 37 field contacts
- 3 license checkpoints

The property crime rise was due to increases in burglaries and larcenies. We continue to implement our Residential Awareness Program (RAP) which focuses on awareness and prevention strategies in areas where there have been increases in burglaries. Community resource officers go door to door in the target areas, pass out burglary crime prevention information and encourage residents to report suspicious activity. Officers also conduct high-visibility patrols in the targeted areas.

During the first quarter, officers made several arrests that cleared multiple burglaries and larcenies. In one case, investigators charged three men with committing dozens of thefts of catalytic converters.

There were several highlights during the first quarter. Investigators with the Police Department’s Special Victims Unit created a more comfortable and relaxed “soft” interview room for child victims and victims of sexual assault crimes. They used an existing office space and used funds from the Fox Family Foundation to purchase child-sized furniture, a toy box and toys, a flat screen television and books to furnish the room.

In February officers also made the largest synthetic marijuana bust in the department’s history when they seized more than 33 pounds of synthetic marijuana during a traffic stop on Interstate 85. An Alabama man was arrested on drug trafficking charges. Synthetic marijuana is also known as Spice and K2.

During the first quarter the Police Department started training to participate in the new Durham County Misdemeanor Diversion Program focusing on 16 and 17-year-olds. This program allows officers to refer first time misdemeanor offenders to a diversion program instead of filing criminal charges which could have a lifelong negative impact. (This program does not include sexual offense charges, firearms charges or traffic offenses). The first time offenders are referred to specific diversion programs and attend a session in Diversion Court. If they do not complete their program within 90 days, they can be charged with the original criminal offense. We are encouraging our officers to be engaged in this program.

Domestic Violence Part 1 Crimes

	<i>2012</i>	<i>2013</i>	<i>2014</i>
<i>Murder</i>	1	0	0
<i>Rape</i>	2	8	3
<i>Robbery</i>	2	2	2
<i>Aggravated Assault</i>	65	49	55
<i>Violent Crime</i>	70	59	60
<i>Burglary</i>	16	11	10
<i>Larceny</i>	32	39	22
<i>Motor Vehicle Theft</i>	5	4	1
<i>Property Crime</i>	53	54	33
<i>Part 1 Index Crime</i>	123	113	93

Statistics provided by the Police Department’s Domestic Violence Unit

Youth Arrests (16-17) and Juvenile Petitions (<16) for Jan-March 2014

Offense/Age	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	Grand Total
Aggravated Assault			1	1	1	2	6	11
All Other Offenses	1		5	13	8	15	15	57
Burglary			2	12	9	10	4	37
Disorderly Conduct				1		2		3
Drug Violations				1		12	12	25
Embezzlement							1	1
Forgery/Counterfeiting							2	2
Fraud				2	1			3
Homicide							1	1
Larceny	6		13	17	14	19	11	80
Liquor Law Violations			1					1
Robbery				2		2	3	7
Sex Offenses					1			1
Simple Assault				2	3	4	3	12
Stolen Property	3		7	13	6	6	6	41
Vandalism			1	2	1	6	4	14
Weapon Violations						2	6	8
Grand Total	10		30	66	44	80	74	304

Information provided by the Police Department's Crime Analysis Unit

1st Quarter Part 2 Crime Offenses

Offense	Total
All Other Offenses	138
Arson	2
Disorderly Conduct	9
Driving While Impaired	130
Drug Violations	391
Embezzlement	34
Forgery/Counterfeiting	14
Fraud	345
Liquor Law Violations	4
Obscene Material/Pornography	10
Offenses Against Family	29
Prostitution	1
Simple Assault	341
Sex Offense	40
Stolen Property	16
Vandalism	369
Weapon Violations	68

Information provided by the Police Department's Crime Analysis Unit

Violent Crime Arrests

Homicide Arrest - Investigators arrested Everett Lamont Graves, 23, of Elmira Avenue on a murder charge in the shooting death of 9-year-old Jaeden Sharpe in January. Sharpe and his mother, 31-year-old Lakeisha Holloway, were in a vehicle on Lucas Drive on January 4 when shots were fired into the vehicle. The incident does not appear to have been random, according to investigators. Sharpe died several days later and his mother is recovering from her injuries. Graves is also charged with assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill inflicting serious injury.

Homicide Arrest – Durham police investigators arrested Richard Lee Johnson, 36, of Durham and charged him with murder in the January 14 death of Antonio M. Dixon, 33, of Durham. Officers responded to a disturbance with a weapon call in the 600 block of Linwood Avenue and found Dixon, who was transported to the hospital where he died a short time later. Dixon and Johnson knew each other and the incident did not appear to be random, according to investigators.

Homicide Arrest - Durham police responded to a shooting call in the 500 block of Liberty Street on March 23. The victim - Jeffery Lamar Dawes, 21, of Durham – was taken to the hospital, where he was pronounced dead a short time later. Jermaine Alexander Gibbs, 18, of Eva Street was arrested on April 3 and charged with murder. Investigators determined that Gibbs and Dawes knew each other and the incident did not appear to be random.

Homicide Arrest - A Creedmoor man was arrested and charged with murder and several other felony offenses in connection with the February 26 murder of Kourtney Krista Dawson on Holloway Street near North Guthrie Avenue. Officers responded to a “shots fired” call at 9:17 p.m. on February 26. When they arrived, they found Dawson lying on the sidewalk near the intersection. Dawson had been shot and was pronounced dead at the scene. Dominique Xazier Lamberth, 23, of Creedmoor is charged with robbing a male of \$20 at gunpoint and then firing shots at his vehicle as he drove away. One of the shots apparently struck Dawson as she was walking on Holloway Street. She was not the intended victim, according to investigators. Lamberth was arrested in Louisburg, N.C. He is charged with murder, robbery with a dangerous weapon, two counts of discharging a firearm into an occupied vehicle, possession of a firearm by a convicted felon and assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill. Lamberth was also wanted as a probation absconder by the State of North Carolina.

Homicide Arrest - Durham police responded to a homicide shortly before 5 a.m. on February 26 in the 3400 block of Glasson Street. When they arrived, they found Carolyn Hemingway, 62, of 3421 Glasson Street, Apartment C, who had been stabbed to death. She was pronounced dead at the scene. A 4-year-old boy was transported to the hospital for treatment of serious injuries. Treyvon Evans, 17, of the same address, has been arrested and charged with murder and attempted murder. Evans is the grandson of Carolyn Hemingway and the brother of the injured 4-year-old juvenile. The stabbings occurred during an argument.

Cold Case Homicide Arrest - Kenneth Tyvon Jones Jr., 23, of Durham was arrested on January 31 on charges of murder and assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill inflicting serious injury in connection with a November homicide. Officers were dispatched to a shooting in a parking lot at Lyon Park on Lakewood Avenue shortly after 3 p.m. on November 23. When they arrived, they found two males who had been shot. One male - Quaysean Tymeek Malachi, 20, of High Point - was transported to the hospital, where he was pronounced dead a short time later. A second male was taken to the hospital for treatment of a non-life-threatening injury. The suspect and victims knew each other, according to investigators, and the incident does not appear to have been random.

Robbery Arrests - A Domino’s pizza delivery man was robbed at gunpoint on January 13 when he made a delivery to a house on Drew Street. The suspects took a small amount of cash, a phone, two pizzas and two boxes of CinnaStix. A short time later, officers located several suspects as well as a Domino’s pizza bag. Quadarius Lydell Evans, 19, of Drew Street, Kevin

Marquez Morgan, 23, of Dunstan Avenue, Brian Carrington, 17, of Hearthside Street and Matthew Wayne Starks, 22, of Drew Street were arrested in connection with this case.

Robbery/Burglary Arrests – In March District 3 investigators filed charges against Brandon Rich, 18, Kevin Morgan, 23, Quadarius Evans, 24, and a 15-year-old juvenile in connection with several cases in the Morreene Road/Glasson Street/South LaSalle Street area. They were charged with the following cases:

- Attempted robbery on December 14 – A male was walking in the 1300 block of Morreene Road when he was pepper sprayed, knocked to the ground and hit on the head several times. The suspects tried to take his backpack but fled without taking anything. Rich, Evans and the juvenile were charged in connection with this case
- Burglary on November 4 – Officers were dispatched to a burglary on Glasson Street and found the victim’s door kicked in. A Play Station was taken. Rich was charged in this case.
- Attempted burglary on December 14 – The resident was inside an apartment on Morreene Road when several people attempted to kick in the door. Morgan, Rich and Evans were charged in this case.
- Robbery on November 14 – A male was in the laundry room at an apartment complex on Morreene Road when he was hit from behind and knocked to the floor. The suspects took his wallet, keys and phone. Rich, Morgan, Evans and the juvenile were charged in this case.
- Burglary on December 16 – Suspects broke into a vacant apartment on Morreene Road. Evans and Rich were charged in this case.
- Attempted burglary on December 15 – Suspects attempted to kick in the door of an occupied apartment on Morreene Road. Morgan and Evans were charged with this.
- Robbery on January 8 - Evans and Morgan were arrested in January in connection with a January 8, 2014 robbery at 311 South LaSalle Street. The victim was taking out the trash when suspects approached him, held a gun to his head and kicked in the stomach. They took cash and fled.

Robbery Arrests - Paul Faison, 19, and Michael Alexander Overby, 21, both of Durham were arrested on January 2 and charged with committing two robberies. Officers were dispatched at 9:36 p.m. on January 2 to an armed robbery at Church’s Chicken, 3400 North Roxboro Street. Two males wearing hoodies pointed a gun at an employee and robbed the business. A short time

later, HEAT 2 Officer B.E. Chambers spotted two males matching the descriptions of the suspects walking on Banner Street.

The two males – Faison and Overby – were placed under arrest and charged with robbing Church’s Chicken. The two were also charged with robbing La Magdalena Bakery at 1839 Liberty Street around 7:30 p.m. on January 2. Two males entered the business and robbed it at gunpoint. Officers recovered a stolen handgun and cash. Faison and Overby were both charged with two counts of robbery with a dangerous weapon and two counts of second-degree kidnapping. In addition, they were both charged with conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon. Overby was also charged with possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

Robbery Arrests – Durham police investigators arrested two men on January 24 and charged them with numerous felony offenses in connection with a January 20 armed home invasion on Cole Mill Road. Brandon Jayne, 35, and Joey Fabela, 35, both of Snowcrest Trail were both charged with robbery with a dangerous weapon, first-degree burglary, two counts of second-degree kidnapping, conspiracy to commit robbery with a dangerous weapon, larceny of motor vehicle and possession of stolen property. Jayne was also charged with two counts of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, one count of possession of a weapon of mass destruction (a sawed-off shotgun) and one count of possession of a stolen firearm.

Jayne was placed in Durham County Jail under a \$1.5 million bond and Fabela was placed in Durham County Jail under a \$500,000 bond.

The home invasion was reported at 8:55 p.m. on January 20 in the 1800 block of Cole Mill Road. One of the residents was taking out the trash when two males wearing masks and armed with guns forced her back into the house. The suspects tied up the two residents and took several items including jewelry, a cell phone and a white 2003 GMC Envoy. The GMC Envoy was later recovered on Sparger Road.

Investigators served search warrants on the suspects’ home and two vehicles and recovered jewelry and other items belonging to the victims. They also recovered a sawed-off shotgun that had been reported stolen during a January 8 burglary in Wake County and an AK-47 rifle. Investigators also confiscated \$400 in cash, marijuana, and a small amount of cocaine. The incident did not appear to be a random, according to investigators.

Robbery/Aggravated Assault Arrests – Three men were arrested in connection with a series of robberies and aggravated assaults committed during January.

The three men – Samuel Rivera, 18, of Firth Road Christian Colato, 19, of Liberty Street and Jose Luis Perez-Alejandre, of East Markham Avenue – were arrested on charges of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill in connection with a January 6 aggravated assault in the 400 block of Green Street. A male told officers he was standing on a porch shortly before 6 p.m. on

January 6 when several males parked a vehicle in front of the house and fired several shots. No one was injured but five shots struck a house.

Perez-Alejandre is also charged with four counts of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill and one count of assault with a deadly weapon with intent to kill inflicting serious injury in connection with a January 9 shooting in the 400 block of Green Street. Several people were standing around a vehicle in the 400 block of Green Street when shots were fired from a vehicle going down the street with its lights off. A 19-year-old female was shot in the hip and hand. She was taken to the hospital for treatment of injuries that did not appear to be life-threatening. A vehicle was also damaged by gunfire.

Colato and Perez-Alejandre were also charged by Durham police investigators in connection with a January 15 carjacking in the 1800 block of Chapel Hill Road. The victim was parking his car when two males armed with guns approached him and demanded his car. The males fled in the victim's white Toyota. They were both charged with robbery with a dangerous weapon, larceny of a motor vehicle, felony conspiracy, assault by pointing a gun and possession of a motor vehicle in connection with that case. The car was used later that night in connection with an armed robbery in Durham County.

Rivera was not charged in connection with the carjacking or the second shooting on Green Street.

Robbery Arrests - Derrick Lamont Shuler, 35, of Mebane was arrested and charged with committing several robberies within a two-day period. Shuler was charged in connection with the following cases:

- **March 4 – Parking lot of 5386 New Hope Commons Drive.** A female was sitting in her car around 6:30 p.m. when a male approached her and asked for \$3. The male then pulled a gun and demanded more money. He took the victim's purse but dropped the purse after a witness came to help the victim. The male then grabbed a purse from another female in the parking lot but he dropped the purse when a witness started to chase him. Shuler was charged with attempted robbery with a dangerous weapon, possession of stolen goods, assault by pointing a gun and misdemeanor larceny.
- **March 4 – ATM at PNC Bank, 3412 Westgate Drive.** A female was using the ATM when a male with a gun in his jacket approached her around 7:40 p.m. and demanded money and the keys to her vehicle. He took cash from the victim and fled in her Dodge Avenger. The car was found wrecked a short time later on Buchanan Boulevard near Maxwell Avenue. Shuler was charged with robbery with a dangerous weapon, communicating threats, possession of a stolen vehicle and possession of stolen property.
- **March 5 – BP convenience store, 1002 North Alston Avenue.** A female got out of her car to purchase some items in the store. A male with a gun entered the store, grabbed a purse from a 9-year-old girl and demanded the keys to the female's car. He then pointed

the gun at two juveniles in the car and demanded that they get out of the vehicle. He took the vehicle, which was allegedly used in a robbery an hour later on West Main Street. Shuler was charged with robbery with a dangerous weapon, larceny of a motor vehicle and assault by pointing a gun.

- **March 5 – BP convenience store, 1922 West Main Street.** A male entered the business around 1:40 a.m., pointed a gun at the clerk and grabbed cash from the register. The male fled in a stolen Dodge SUV that was later found abandoned on Anderson Street near Duke Gardens. Shuler was charged with robbery with a dangerous weapon and assault by pointing a gun.
- **March 5 – Dollar General, 2000 Chapel Hill Road.** A male took a cab to the Dollar General, where he robbed an employee at gunpoint shortly before 8:30 a.m. The male was dropped off in the West End neighborhood, where he got in a second cab and went to the 1300 block of North Alston Avenue. The male, identified later as Shuler, was arrested after a brief foot chase on the railroad tracks near Alston Avenue. Shuler was charged with robbery with a dangerous weapon, assault by pointing a gun, possession of stolen property and communicating threats.

Robbery Arrests – Investigators charged Anthony Tyrone Brown, 32, of Durham with robbing two dollar stores in January. Brown was charged with robbing Family Dollar at 5120 North Roxboro Street on January 18. A male entered the store shortly before 6 p.m. and took a can of motor oil to the cashier. He demanded money and told the cashier he had a gun. Brown is also charged with robbing Dollar Tree at 3823 Guess Road shortly before 7 p.m. on January 28. A male brought a pack of gum to the cashier. He then demanded money and threatened to shoot the cashier if she did not comply.

Robbery Arrests - A Durham man already wanted on several robbery charges was arrested on January 2 after he allegedly robbed a woman in downtown Durham.

Officers were dispatched to a robbery call in the 300 block of Foster Street. A female was getting in her car when a male got in the passenger side of the car. The male grabbed the victim's purse, punched her twice in the face and then ran. The victim screamed and beeped her horn several times. The suspect dropped the victim's purse and continued to run. Several people called 911 and tried to chase the suspect before losing sight of him. Police K-9 officers and their dogs tracked the suspect to the area of Fernway Avenue and Liggett Street. Officers arrested Brandon Russell, 41, of no known address, and charged him with common-law robbery and possession of drug paraphernalia.

Russell was also served with warrants in connection with the following cases:

- December 14 – Dollar General, 2000 Chapel Hill Road.
- December 16 – Dollar General, 2000 Chapel Hill Road.

- December 22, 2013 – Cruizers, 3446 Hillsborough Road
- December 23, 2013 – Kroger, 1802 North Pointe Drive
- December 23, 2013 – Rite Aid, 1505 Broad Street
- December 28 – BP convenience store, 2685 Durham-Chapel Hill Boulevard.
- December 28 – Kangaroo Express, 3223 NC 55 Highway.
- December 29 – BP convenience store, 2685 Durham-Chapel Hill Boulevard.
- December 31 – Cruizers, 3446 Hillsborough Road.
- January 1, 2014 – Sears, 1058 West Club Boulevard (Northgate Mall)

Robbery Arrests - Angela Jean Christie, 21, and David Lewis Taborn Jr., 23, both of Durham, were arrested by HEAT 3 officers on January 15 and charged in connection with the December 30 armed robbery of an employee of Denny's on N.C. 751. An employee was walking to his vehicle with a bank bag around 9 a.m. when a male wearing a hoodie and dark bandana over the lower part of his face approached him, pointed a gun at him and demanded the bag. The employee threw the deposit bag down and fled. Christie and Taborn were charged with robbery with a dangerous weapon and felony conspiracy. Taborn was also charged with possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

Shooting Arrest - Durham police investigators have charged a man in connection with the shooting of a 5-month-old child February 19 in the 400 block of Macon Street. The child suffered a gunshot wound to her hand and leg. Investigators charged Arin Tavon Futrell, 21, of Durham with felony negligent child abuse resulting in bodily injury and assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury. He was also arrested on outstanding warrants charging him with attempted breaking and entering and conspiracy to commit breaking and entering. Investigators said the shooting appeared to have been an accident. The incident happened on a porch outside a house. Investigators did recover a firearm.

Property Crime Arrests

Burglary Arrests - Christopher Majette and a 15-year-old juvenile male were arrested when officers responded to a burglary in progress on Chalmers Street on February 19. When officers arrived, they heard someone in the house. Majette ran out of the house and was caught after a foot chase by a K-9 officer and his dog and officers from Squad 4A. Investigators later charged Majette and the juvenile with breaking into three houses on Corona Street on February 18. Majette was also charged with stealing a vehicle from Corona Street on February 18 – the car was found damaged later that day. Majette was also charged with contributing to the delinquency of a juvenile.

Burglary Arrests - Officers responded to a burglary on February 11 on Shoreham Street. A safe containing several guns was taken during the burglary. Officers were given a description of a minivan believed to have been used in the burglary. Cpl. D.A. Ferrell spotted the minivan in a

parking lot near Blackwell Street and Lakewood Avenue and followed it. Officers attempted to stop the vehicle on Hillandale Road but the driver refused to stop. Officers chased the vehicle north on Hillandale Road and then on to Horton Road. The driver of the vehicle ran a red light at Horton Road and Guess Road and collided with a truck. No one was injured.

The three occupants of the vehicle jumped out after the collision. Officer J.D. Haynes was able to catch one occupant as he was jumping out of the vehicle. Ferrell and several officers chased a second occupant and caught him in the woods behind Cross Creek Shopping Center. The third suspect got away. D'Marcus Steele, 19, of Durham was charged with breaking and entering, larceny after breaking and entering, injury to real property, possession of a stolen vehicle and resisting a public officer. The second person was Adrian Tucker, 22, of Durham. He was charged with possession of a stolen vehicle.

Burglary Arrests - On January 16, investigators arrested Toney Lee Wilson Jr., 20, of Durham and charged him with committing six burglaries in the Plum Street area in January. Wilson was charged with six counts of breaking and entering, six counts of larceny after breaking and entering, two counts of conspiracy, one count of larceny of a firearm and one count of injury to personal property.

Burglary Arrests – District 2 investigators charged Brandon Rich, 18, Kevin Morgan, 23, and two 15-year-old juveniles in connection with a series of burglaries in the Duke Park neighborhood during January and February. They were charged with committing burglaries to homes on Knox Circle, East Seeman Street, Greenleaf Street, Hargrove Street, Clark Street, Northwood Circle and Glendale Avenue. The burglaries were all committed during the day on weekdays and the residences were entered through a back door or window. The items stolen included electronics and jewelry.

Catalytic Converter/Metal Thefts - Investigators charged Kenneth Levon Davis, 45, Gary Lorenzo Lennon, 35, and Perry Royster, 53, all of Durham, with stealing dozens of catalytic converters by cutting them from underneath vehicles during December 2013 and January 2014. The catalytic converters were taken from vehicles at used car lots, a church van and from a vehicle abandoned beside the highway due to an ice storm.

Burglary Arrests - A man wanted in connection with several burglaries was arrested March 6 on Dallas Street by members of the U.S. Marshals Service Joint Fugitive Task Force. Quadele McCoy, 22, of Durham was charged with committing burglaries on Nation Avenue, Providence Court, Pin Oak Drive and Chapel Hill in January and February. He was also charged with possession of a firearm by convicted felon and several counts of larceny. In addition, McCoy is wanted on a first-degree burglary charge from Wake County. McCoy was placed in Durham County Jail under a \$331,000 bond.

McCoy was one of two people identified as a suspect in the burglary on Pin Oak Drive after investigators released a video of the burglary. The second man, De'rese Anderson, 23, of Durham, was arrested in January.

Drug Arrests/Operation Medicine Drop

Methamphetamine Trafficking Arrest - Officers from the Durham Police Department's HEAT 2 team recovered more than six pounds of crystal methamphetamine, worth over \$350,000, during a traffic stop February 15 on Hillandale Road near Interstate 85. Benjamin Julio-Ayuso Calderon, 38, of Grove Side Lane in Charlotte was arrested and charged with trafficking in methamphetamine, possession of methamphetamine with the intent to manufacture, sell or deliver and possession of drug paraphernalia. He was placed in Durham County Jail under a \$5 million bond. He is also being held on an ICE detainer.

Heroin Operation - Durham police investigators arrested 11 people on numerous drug charges as a result of a two-month undercover operation during the first quarter targeting heroin sales. Investigators confiscated 70 grams of heroin, 24.7 grams of cocaine, 10.2 grams of marijuana and 20 grams of Molly (similar to Ecstasy).

Largest Synthetic Marijuana Seizure - Durham police seized more than 33 pounds of synthetic marijuana February 25 during a traffic stop. It was the largest synthetic marijuana seizure ever by the Durham Police Department. An officer from the Special Operations Division's Highway Interdiction Team stopped a vehicle on Interstate 85 South near Hillandale Road. Officers confiscated 15,117 grams (more than 33 pounds) of synthetic marijuana from the vehicle. Officers charged the driver – Joe K. Hardy, 36, of Montgomery Alabama – with two counts of Level 4 trafficking in synthetic cannabinoids (the highest level) and one count of maintaining a vehicle for the sale or delivery of controlled substances. Hardy was placed in the Durham County Jail under a \$1 million bond. He was also being held on a federal probation violation. Synthetic marijuana is also known as Spice and K2. It is described as a psychoactive designer drug created by spraying natural herbs with synthetic chemicals that, when consumed, produce psychoactive effects similar to cannabis. It has become more popular in recent years.

Operation Medicine Drop - The Durham Police Department, in conjunction with Safe Kids Durham County, sponsored Operation Medicine Drop on Saturday, March 22 at four locations. Operation Medicine Drop allows people to safely and anonymously dispose of unused or expired over-the-counter and prescription medications. The program's purpose is to help prevent accidental poisonings and drug abuse. Investigators collected approximately 298 pounds of expired and unused medications during the operation.

Above and Beyond

Shooting Victim - On March 21, Officer Laurel Nuyen with Squad 2D responded to a gunshot wound call in the 2500 block of Glenbrook Drive. Officer Nuyen was one of the first officers to arrive on the scene and she found a young male victim with multiple gunshot wounds to both of his lower legs. In addition, there was a large crowd of about 30 people gathered in the area. Observing that the victim was bleeding severely from his leg wounds, Officer Nuyen asked if anyone standing nearby had a belt she could use. One of the citizens handed Officer Nuyen a belt and she immediately applied it to the victim's upper leg area in a tourniquet-style fashion to stop the flow of blood. Officer Nuyen continued to apply pressure to the victim's leg until medical personnel arrived and assumed care of the victim, which was approximately five minutes later.

Only a few days prior to this incident, Officer Nuyen attended a state-mandated In-service course on officer survival, in which she learned the nuances of applying a tourniquet and when the application of a tourniquet is necessary. She was able to quickly apply the knowledge that she gained in the class to this real life situation and her actions may well have saved the life of the victim.

Suicide Threats Call - Durham Police Officer Danny Reaves talked an emotionally distraught man off a bridge in February. Several people called 911 around 11:30 p.m. on February 8 to report a man sitting on a bridge ledge over U.S.15-501 near Durham-Chapel Hill Boulevard. When Reaves arrived, he found a male who was sitting and rocking back and forth on a narrow ledge over the northbound lanes of the highway.

While other officers from Squad 3-B stopped traffic in the northbound lanes beneath the bridge, Reaves slowly approached the man. "I got closer and asked him his name. I could see that he had been crying. I introduced myself as Danny because I was trying to make a personal connection with him," Reaves said.

The man didn't respond at first, but he finally started to talk to the officer. "I built a rapport with him," Reaves said. He finally convinced the man to take his hand and then walk back to Reaves' patrol car. "I had his hand in mine and I wasn't going to let go," Reaves said.

He and another officer took the man to the hospital to be checked out. Reaves checked on the man the next night during his patrol shift. "He said he appreciated someone caring. I wanted to make sure he was safe," said Reaves, a 12-year veteran of the Durham Police Department and member of Patrol Squad 3-B.

"It is my belief that because of Officer Reaves' quick thinking in having traffic diverted, coupled with his communication skills and compassion for humanity, that this incident had a positive outcome," said Lt. Jack Cates, who is watch commander for B Squad.

Grants and New Equipment

New Target System – The Fiscal Services Division identified funds and successfully engaged a vendor to install a new target system at the Police Firing Range. This system replaces an antiquated, non-operational system. Installation is to begin in June.

HIDTA Grant – The Police Department was awarded the 2014 High Intensity Drug Trafficking (HIDTA) Grant in the amount of \$256,000. The grant award must be used to support initiatives designed to implement the Strategy proposed by the Executive Board of the Atlanta High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) and approved by the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP). The HIDTA program enhances and helps to coordinate drug trafficking control efforts among federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies. HIDTA works to complement and support federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies collaborating to fight drug traffic. HIDTA funding supports this joint effort between local law enforcement agencies.

Durham Bulls HIDTA Grant Drug Prevention Funds - The City of Durham through the Police Department executed a \$15,000 contract with the Durham Bulls using 2013 HIDTA Grant Drug Prevention funds for the Junior Bulls program. For many parents, drug abuse is a very difficult topic to discuss with their children. We hope that this program will reinforce positive values and provide young people with healthy alternatives. This program will consist of six baseball games and two VIP sessions. Participants will be transported to the games and accompanied by their chaperones. Each game is free to all participants.

Other Activities

BLET #38 Graduation – Nine new Durham police recruits graduated from Basic Law Enforcement Training (BLET) #38 on February 4.

Neighborhood and Community Watch Workshop - On March 29, the Community Resources Unit conducted its annual Community Workshop at Holton Career and Resource Center. Session topics included residential and vehicle breaking and entering; the CHOICE program's unique strategy to educate youth on the consequences of poor decisions; fraud scams and prevention; and fair housing laws and awareness.