



2024

ANNUAL REPORT



PREPARED BY SERENA SPATES-REDDING, SENIOR MULTI-MEDIA COMMUNICATIONS SPECIALIST
APPROVED BY: CHIEF MICHAEL COLEMAN



CHIEF OF POLICE

Michael Coleman

Looking back on 2024, I want to take a moment to reflect on the progress we've made as an agency and our unwavering commitment to serving the residents of Riviera Beach. This past year, we prioritized community policing, working hand in hand with our residents, businesses, and local organizations to build stronger relationships, address concerns, and create safer neighborhoods. Through proactive engagement, problem-solving initiatives, and strategic enforcement, we have strengthened trust and enhanced public safety across our city.

This year, our focus remains on collaborative problem-solving and crime prevention. We will continue to expand our community outreach efforts, implement innovative policing strategies, and work alongside our partners to address the root causes of crime. By leveraging technology, data-driven approaches, and community input, we aim to make an even greater impact in reducing crime and improving the quality of life for all who live and work in Riviera Beach.

Public safety is a shared responsibility, and together, we can build a safer, stronger, and more connected community. I look forward to another year of progress, partnership, and service.

Stay safe, stay engaged, and let's make this year our best year yet.

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ABOUT US

The Riviera Beach Police Department (RBPd) is a full-service law enforcement agency dedicated to serving a population of over 35,000 residents. With 116 sworn officers and 70 non-sworn employees, RBPd responds to approximately 80,000 calls for service annually. The department is committed to professionalism, integrity, and accountability, ensuring all individuals are treated with fairness and respect.

RBPd embraces modern policing strategies, including Intelligence-Led and Predictive Policing, to proactively address crime. By leveraging data, technology, and collaboration with local, state, and federal partners, the department focuses on crime prevention, identifying high-frequency offenders, and enhancing public safety.

Community engagement is at the core of RBPd's mission. The department fosters relationships through initiatives such as district-based problem-solving policing, youth mentorship programs like the Police Athletic League, and violence prevention efforts, including "Stop the Violence" events.

Additionally, RBPd's Real-Time Crime Center integrates cutting-edge technology with traditional policing to enhance transparency and efficiency. As the city's first accredited department, RBPd continuously strives for excellence in law enforcement, ensuring a safe and thriving community for all who live, work, and visit Riviera Beach.

ACCREDITATION

The Riviera Beach Police Department is proud to be fully accredited by the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation, a prestigious designation that reflects our commitment to excellence in policing. On December 7, 2022, the Commission for Florida Law Enforcement Accreditation (CFA) voted unanimously to award the Riviera Beach Police Department with its initial accreditation, making the Police Department the City's first accredited department.

This accreditation is a testament to our unwavering dedication to maintaining the highest standards of professionalism, integrity, and accountability in serving and protecting our community. Achieving this recognition requires a rigorous evaluation process, ensuring that our policies, procedures, and training programs meet or exceed industry best practices. It demonstrates our proactive approach to law enforcement, emphasizing transparency, continuous improvement, and a commitment to upholding the public's trust.

For the residents and stakeholders of Riviera Beach, accreditation serves as a promise that our department remains steadfast in delivering exceptional service, fostering community partnerships, and enhancing public safety. As we continue to evolve and grow, we remain dedicated to implementing the most effective and progressive policing strategies to create a safer, stronger, and more united community.



MISSION

The Mission Statement of RBPd is to safeguard the lives and property of the people we serve and protect, to reduce the incidence of crime, and to enhance public safety while working with diverse communities to improve their quality of life.

VISION

All members of the Riviera Beach Police Department are committed to maintaining the highest standards of professional ethics and integrity. We shall embrace the philosophy of police and community collaboration, while ensuring equal justice for all. We will work together to reduce crime and improve the quality of life for all citizens. We will provide a highly trained workforce and provide fair and professional police service while striving for excellence in everything we do.

CORE VALUES

DIVERSITY: Our police department shall relate to all societies with dignity, sensitivity and respect.

TRUST: We are mindful of our community interactions and the preservation of public trust in everything we do to legitimize our profession.

ACCOUNTABILITY: We value the need for effective use of our resources and open lines of communications with our citizens. Everyone shall be responsible for their own actions.

INTEGRITY: We are committed to the highest standards of honesty and ethical conduct.

PROFESSIONALISM: We value technology, innovation and community policing strategies to perform our jobs in an efficient manner.

COMMUNITY FOCUSED: We share our values of community centered policing with openness and respect for all citizens.

COMMAND STAFF



DEPUTY CHIEF
Kevin Coppin



ASSISTANT CHIEF
Michael Madden



MAJOR
Joshua Lewis



MAJOR
Steven Thomas



MAJOR
Travis Walker



MAJOR
Nathan Gordon



MAJOR
Scott Privitera



AGENCY DIVISIONS

At the Riviera Beach Police Department, we operate through several specialized divisions that work collaboratively to ensure public safety, effective crime prevention, and strong community partnerships. Our key divisions include: Support Services, Patrol, Criminal Investigations, Community Services and Professional Standards.

SUPPORT SERVICES



The Riviera Beach Police Department's Support Services Division is essential to the daily success and functionality of the Police Department. Committed to delivering professional and reliable service, the Support Services Division strengthens operations within the department while fostering positive relationships with the community we serve.

Our mission is to provide unwavering support and assistance to all members of the department, ensuring they have the resources and tools necessary to deliver exceptional service to the residents, visitors, and businesses of Riviera Beach.

The Support Services Division comprises the Records Section, Property and Evidence Section, and Communications Section and is responsible for managing the department's fleet, technology systems, and field training programs.

Embracing new technologies, the Support Services Division has implemented several initiatives to enhance operational efficiency, improve public safety, and streamline digital record-keeping processes, ensuring that the Riviera Beach Police Department continues to operate at the highest standards of service and professionalism.

RECORDS & EVIDENCE

The Records and Evidence Management Unit is a key part of the Support Services Division, ensuring the integrity, security, and accessibility of police records and evidence in line with legal requirements.

Records Management is responsible for:

- Incident & Crime Reports: Processing and archiving reports like case files, traffic citations, and arrests.
- Public Records Requests: Fulfilling public, legal, and agency requests per Florida law.
- Background Checks & Legal Requests: Providing checks for authorized entities and responding to subpoenas and court orders.
- Data Integrity & Security: Storing records securely to prevent unauthorized access or loss.
- Evidence Collection & Chain of Custody: Proper logging and tracking of all physical and digital evidence.
- Secure Storage & Preservation: Maintaining climate-controlled facilities for evidence integrity.
- Property & Evidence Releases: Managing lawful releases or disposal of evidence after investigations.
- Forensic Evidence Coordination: Working with specialists to ensure evidence is processed for legal use.
- Lost & Found Property Management: Cataloging and returning recovered property.

These units play a crucial role in ensuring accuracy, security, and compliance, supporting investigations, prosecutions, and public safety.





COMMUNICATIONS

The 911 Communications Operators of the Riviera Beach Police Department play a vital role in ensuring the safety and well-being of our community. Serving as the critical link between the public and emergency services, these dedicated professionals expertly manage police, fire, and medical communications. As the first point of contact for those in need, they handle both emergency and non-emergency calls with efficiency and professionalism, ensuring rapid response and dispatch of appropriate resources to protect and serve the public.

The mission of the 911 Communications Operators is to deliver timely, exceptional service to the public while providing field personnel with vital coordination and accurate information. Highly skilled and specially trained, these professionals excel under pressure and take immense pride in their ability to serve the community with efficiency, integrity, and care. Their dedication reflects the Riviera Beach Police Department's ongoing commitment to public safety and community well-being.



COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

Donna Wilson

In 2024, the Communications Division achieved significant milestones, including:

- Answering **92,699 emergency and non-emergency calls**, demonstrating their unwavering commitment to meeting the community's needs promptly and efficiently.
- Processing **2,038 public records requests** for the public and the State Attorney's Office, ensuring transparency and accessibility.
- Handling **76,734 calls for service** through the advanced Computer-Aided Dispatch (CAD) system, facilitating seamless communication and resource deployment.
- Completing **109 FCIC/NCIC certifications and re-certifications** through Nex-Test, maintaining compliance and proficiency with critical state and national law enforcement systems.
- **Validating 504 Florida Department of Law Enforcement (FDLE) hot files**, ensuring the accuracy and reliability of essential law enforcement records.
- Receiving nearly **400 hours of specialized training**, underscoring their commitment to professional development and operational excellence.

TECHNOLOGY



Mobile Command Center (MCC)

The Mobile Command Center (MCC) is a specialized vehicle designed to serve as a centralized hub for coordinating law enforcement operations during emergencies, large-scale events, and critical incidents. Equipped with advanced communication, surveillance, and operational tools, the MCC enhances situational awareness and supports real-time decision-making in the field.

Key Features and Capabilities:

- **Communication Hub** – Integrates multiple communication systems, including radio, satellite, cellular, and broadband networks, ensuring seamless connectivity between officers, partner agencies, and emergency services.
- **Incident Command & Control** – Functions as a field-based headquarters, enabling effective management of crises, tactical responses, and disaster relief efforts.
- **Surveillance & Intelligence Gathering** – Outfitted with cameras, drones, and data analysis tools to support real-time monitoring and investigative operations.
- **Workstations & Meeting Areas** – Offers multiple workstations, video conferencing equipment, and designated briefing spaces to facilitate on-site coordination among law enforcement personnel.
- **Self-Sufficiency** – Equipped with backup power generators, climate control systems, and necessary provisions for extended deployment in remote or disaster-affected areas.

TECHNOLOGY



Circumstances of Usage:

- Disaster response and recovery operations
- SWAT and tactical deployments
- Crowd management at large public events
- Crime scene investigation support
- Coordination during hostage or barricade situations

The Mobile Command Center significantly enhances the Riviera Beach Police Department's ability to maintain law and order, ensure officer safety, and deliver effective responses to complex and dynamic situations.



K9

The Riviera Beach Police Department K9 Unit is a vital asset to the department, consisting of two highly trained German Shepherds and one Bloodhound, each playing a crucial role in maintaining public safety. The German Shepherds are trained in drug detection, bomb detection, and assisting officers during various law enforcement operations, ensuring both the safety of officers and the community. They are deployed to assist in high-stakes situations, such as searches for narcotics, explosives, and supporting traffic and criminal investigations.



Chloe, the Bloodhound, brings her unique skills to the team, specializing in tracking and locating missing persons. Bloodhounds are renowned for their exceptional sense of smell, and Chloe uses her abilities to assist in search and rescue operations, often helping to find individuals in distress or those lost in the community. Together, this K9 team provides invaluable support, enhancing the department's capacity to respond to a range of public safety needs while strengthening community engagement through their critical roles in law enforcement.



AWARDS AND RECOGNITION



In 2024, the Riviera Beach Police Department's Support Services Division achieved several noteworthy awards and recognitions, reflecting the dedication, professionalism, and excellence of its team members. Acting Manager Donna Wilson was honored with the prestigious City of Riviera Beach Employee of the Year Award for her outstanding leadership and commitment to enhancing departmental operations. Supervisor Earl Worthy, of the Property and Evidence Section, attained the distinguished certification as an Evidence Technician, demonstrating his expertise and commitment to maintaining the highest standards in evidence management.

Major Travis Walker marked a significant milestone by graduating from the Federal Bureau of Investigation's National Academy, Session 291, in Quantico, Virginia—an elite program recognized for developing law enforcement leadership worldwide. Additionally, Supervisor Lydia Seifert, of the Records Section, was awarded Civilian of the 3rd Quarter for her exceptional service, meticulous records management, and invaluable contributions to the department's success. These accomplishments highlight the Support Services Division's vital role in the Riviera Beach Police Department's mission to serve and protect the community with professionalism and integrity.

NEW POLICE DEPARTMENT

The city is making significant progress toward establishing a permanent home for its Police Department staff. Operations have been temporarily relocated from 600 West Blue Heron Boulevard to a facility at 2051 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard.

In March 2024, the residents of Riviera Beach approved a \$35 million bond to fund the construction of the new police facility. As the first step toward building the new station, the old police department building was demolished, and a farewell ceremony was held to commemorate the occasion.

The Riviera Beach Capital Project Manager, along with the Police Department Design Team, meets weekly with CORE Construction Group. They have recently completed the schematic design phase for the new state-of-the-art police facility, which will be built at 1621 West Blue Heron Boulevard. Conceptual drawings of the facility's layout have been finalized, including the size and arrangement of interior workspaces. Architects have also presented a conceptual design for the building's exterior, which is currently under review and refinement.

Geotechnical testing at the future site is ongoing and is expected to be completed by the end of February 2025. The Design Development phase is underway and is projected to be finished by the Summer of 2025, at which point construction documents will be submitted to the planning and zoning department. Building permits will be requested soon after, and demolition of the current Barracuda Bay building will commence. Construction of the new facility is set to begin immediately after. The facility is expected to be completed and ready for occupancy by November 2027.

PATROL



The Patrol Division in Riviera Beach plays a crucial role in maintaining public safety, made up of key units including Road Patrol, Traffic Enforcement, and Crossing Guards. Road Patrol officers are the frontline responders to emergencies, handling about 75,000 calls each year, from crimes in progress to traffic accidents and community concerns.

The Traffic Enforcement unit ensures compliance with traffic laws, working to reduce accidents and address hazardous driving behaviors. Crossing Guards ensure the safety of children traveling to and from school, managing pedestrian traffic to create a secure environment for students and families.

These units work together to provide comprehensive coverage, responding to emergencies, enforcing traffic laws, and promoting community safety.



ROAD PATROL

The Road Patrol Division is the backbone of law enforcement in Riviera Beach, operating 24/7 across three geographical districts to ensure rapid response and comprehensive coverage. Responding to approximately 75,000 calls annually, uniformed patrol officers handle emergencies, traffic enforcement, and community concerns. Committed to public safety, they also engage in community policing, building trust and addressing local issues to foster a safer, more connected community. Officers proactively deter crime through high-visibility patrols and strategic enforcement efforts. Their dedication ensures not only immediate response to incidents but also long-term problem-solving to enhance the overall quality of life for residents.



CROSSING GUARDS

In addition to the dedicated efforts of our traffic enforcement officers, the Traffic Enforcement Unit relies on the invaluable support of civilian Community Service Aides (CSAs), who play a crucial role in managing traffic incidents, particularly vehicle crashes.

Equally essential to our commitment to public safety is our team of crossing guards. These vigilant individuals are stationed at key intersections along school routes, ensuring the safe passage of our community's youngest members as they travel to and from school each day.



TRAFFIC



The Riviera Beach Police Department Traffic Enforcement Unit is dedicated to enforcing Florida traffic laws and city ordinances to ensure the safety of individuals traveling within the city. This specialized unit supports the Patrol Division by handling traffic-related incidents, such as accident response and investigation, allowing road patrol officers to focus on their primary duties.

Beyond enforcement, the unit promotes traffic and pedestrian safety through campaigns, educational initiatives, and collaborations with local schools and community organizations. It also creates public service announcements to raise awareness about safe driving, impaired and distracted driving, and pedestrian safety. By analyzing traffic patterns and accident data, the unit recommends traffic calming measures and improvements to local infrastructure, playing a key role in reducing accidents and improving road safety in Riviera Beach.



STRATEGIC INVESTIGATIONS

The Strategic Investigations Unit is dedicated to safeguarding lives and property by collecting, analyzing, and disseminating critical information to prevent and solve crime. The CIU plays a vital role in supporting law enforcement operations by providing actionable intelligence on criminal activities, including organized crime, drug trafficking, violent offenses, and financial crimes.

This specialized unit works closely with various divisions and external agencies, utilizing advanced analytical tools and surveillance techniques to identify suspects, uncover criminal networks, and mitigate potential threats. The CIU also monitors emerging crime trends, assists in complex investigations, and ensures that law enforcement personnel have the necessary intelligence to enhance public safety and reduce crime within the community. Through strategic information sharing and proactive measures, the Criminal Intelligence Unit contributes significantly to the overall mission of the Riviera Beach Police Department.



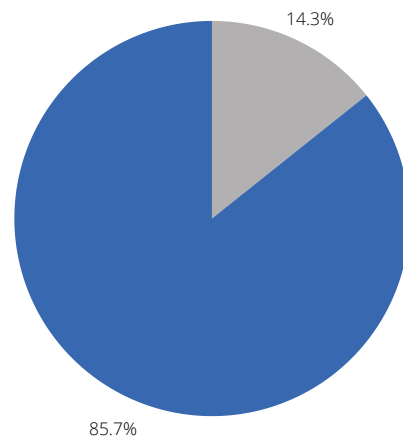
GENERAL ASSIGNMENT

The General Assignment of the Strategic Investigations Division (SID) is responsible for overseeing various aspects of case investigations and resolution within the Riviera Beach Police Department. In 2024, the SID was assigned 649 cases, achieving a clearance rate of 54.44%, which exceeds the average clearance rate of most agencies in Florida. This rate also marks a 5% improvement over the department's 2023 clearance rate.

The division handled 7 homicide investigations this year, solving 6 of the cases with suspects awaiting trial. The remaining case is under investigation, pending DNA test results, resulting in an 85.7% homicide clearance rate.



85.7% Homicide Clearance rate



Additionally, the White-Collar Crime Unit within SID focuses on long-term, complex investigations, particularly in the areas of Cyber Crimes and Financial Fraud. In 2024, the unit successfully prosecuted 3 suspects involved in fraud cases, recovering thousands of dollars in the process.



COLD CASE UNIT

The Cold Case Unit, established to re-examine unsolved homicides dating back to the 1980s, made significant strides in 2024. Leveraging advancements in DNA analysis and modern investigative techniques, the unit successfully solved one homicide case and identified a suspect in another. The most notable highlight of 2024 was solving a 2014 double homicide, leading to the arrest of two individuals responsible for the shooting deaths of two men a decade ago. This unit has proven instrumental in bringing violent offenders to justice, ensuring that even years after a crime is committed, those responsible are held accountable.



CSI

In 2024, the Riviera Beach Crime Scene Unit responded to more than 350 calls for service, handling a wide range of incidents including fatal traffic crashes, burglaries, and homicides. In addition to these responses, the unit processed 169 firearms and made over 419 entries into BrassTrax, a database used to track shell casings collected at crime scenes. BrassTrax allows investigators to compare these casings to firearms and link weapons used in crimes both locally and across the county.

TASK FORCE

As identified through statistical analysis, the Police Department periodically formed Task Forces to provide additional manpower during holidays and special events. These Task Forces played a key role in preventing criminal activity during these times. In addition to their event-specific duties, the unit also responded to critical incidents alongside patrol officers and assisted investigative units with their cases.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

In 2024, the divisions launched a series of Public Service Announcements via the police department's social media platforms to educate residents on securing their vehicles and preventing theft. Additionally, the division provided anti-theft steering wheel locks to residents who had previously been targeted by auto theft attempts.

HIGHLIGHTS



In 2024, several members of the Strategic Investigations Division (SID) were recognized for their exceptional work and dedication to their assignments. Sergeant Brian Jackson, Sergeant Eugene, Sergeant Headings, Detective Aguirre, Detective Poteat, and Officer Serika Thomas received the August 2024 CompStat Award for their outstanding efforts. Captain Commond and Detective Poteat were honored with the November CompStat Award, along with John VanderLaan. Sergeant Headings, Detective Poteat, and Detective Ivory received the December CompStat Award. Additional awards recognizing the outstanding achievements of SID personnel in 2024 will be presented in the coming months to highlight the continued commitment of these dedicated men and women.

Key Statistics and Achievements:

Case Clearance Rate: In 2024, the SID was assigned 649 cases for investigation, achieving a clearance rate of 54.44%, which is higher than the average clearance rate for most law enforcement agencies in Florida. This represents a 5% increase from the Riviera Beach Police Department's clearance rate in 2023.

Major Cases Solved: The SID investigated 7 homicide cases in 2024, solving 6 of them, with suspects currently awaiting trial and prosecution. The remaining case is still under investigation, pending DNA testing results, resulting in an impressive homicide clearance rate of 85.7%.

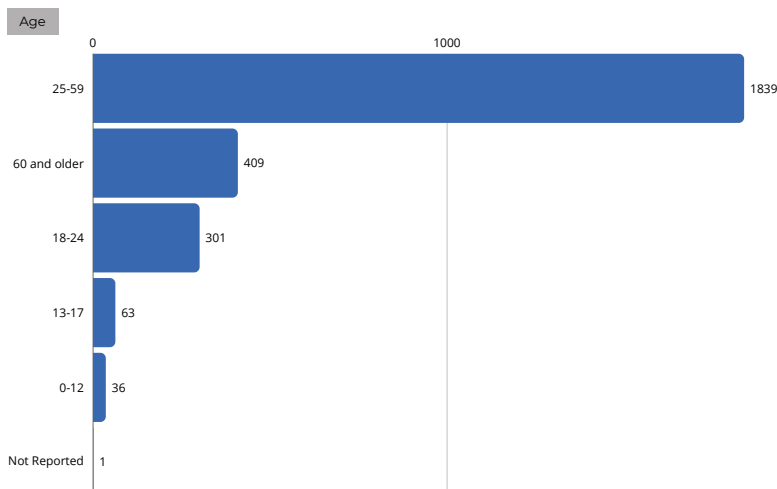
VICTIM SERVICES



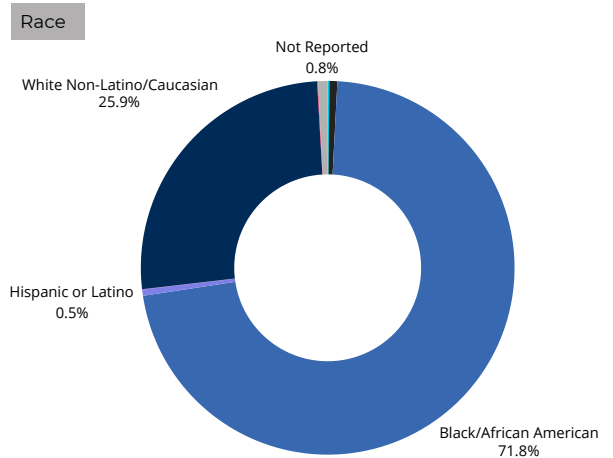
The Victim Services Unit is a dedicated team committed to supporting and advocating for victims of crime. They provide a comprehensive range of resources and assistance during challenging and traumatic times. From emotional support and counseling to guidance through the criminal justice system, the unit ensures that victims receive the care and help they need.

Their advocacy includes providing information about available resources, connecting victims with community services, and safeguarding their rights throughout the process. With their unwavering support, victims are empowered and guided on their path to healing and justice.

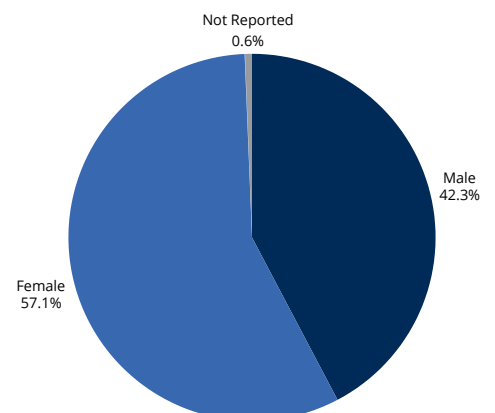
Demographics of Clients Served



Demographics of Clients Served



Gender



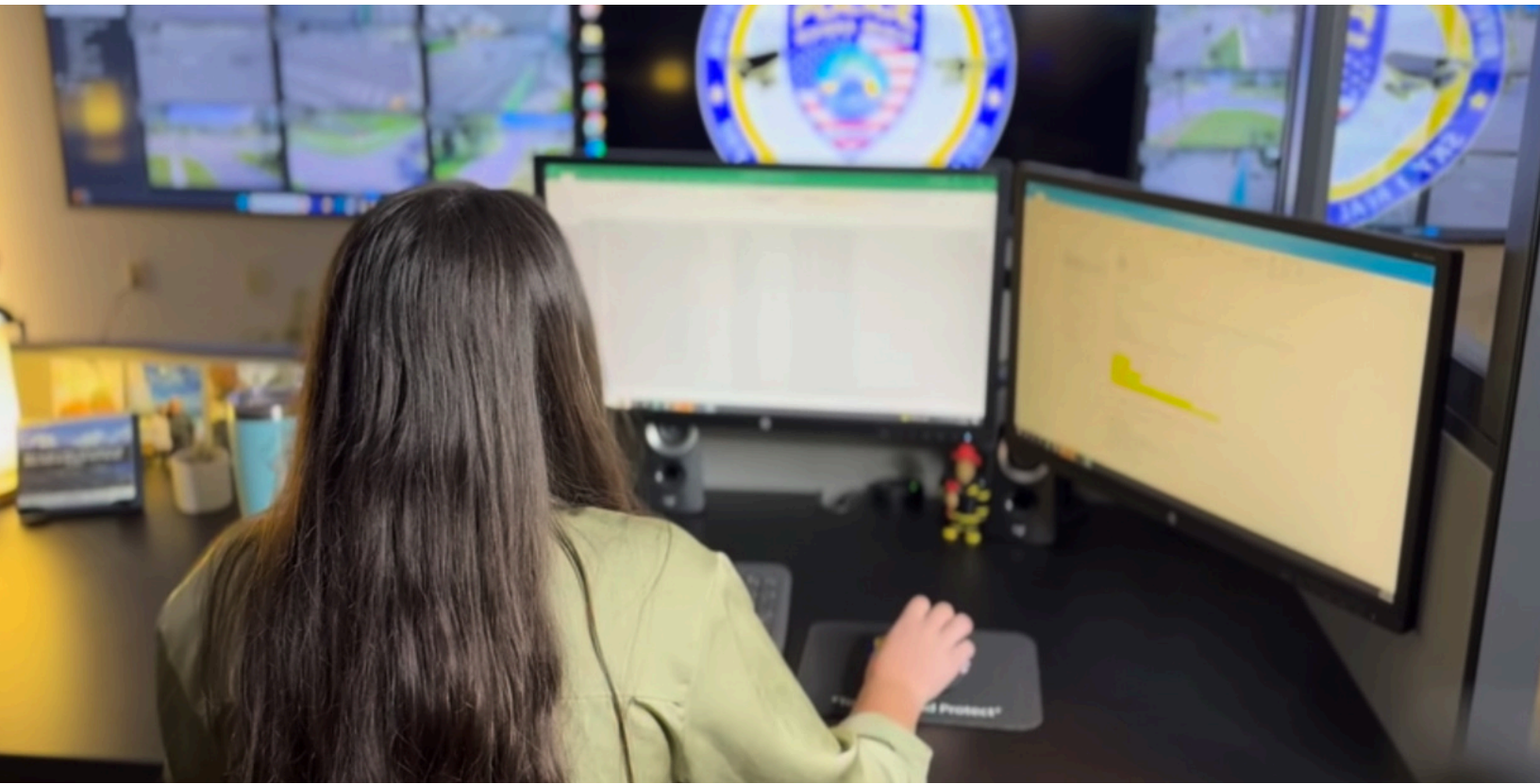
CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE UNIT



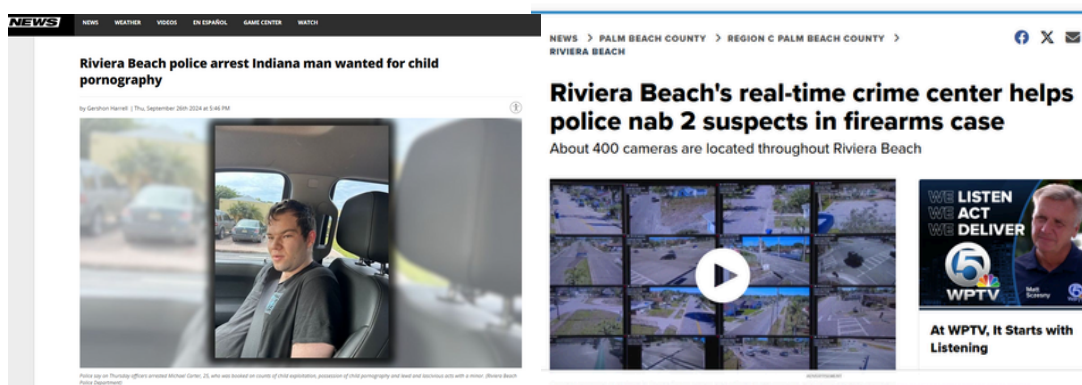
The newly established Criminal Intelligence Unit combines the Crime Analysis Unit and the Real-Time Crime Center to deliver critical intelligence in real time for investigations. This integration allows the unit to have a significant impact on cases such as homicides, the filming of rap videos, and assisting law enforcement agencies both locally and out of state. As the unit continues to grow in personnel and technology, its goal is to support more cases and provide valuable intelligence for ongoing investigations.

Certifications and Awards:

- November 2024 CompStat Award: John VanderLaan
- May 2024 – Cellebrite Certified Operator: John VanderLaan
- May 2024 – Cellebrite Certified Physical Analyst: John VanderLaan
- October 2024 – FCIAA Crime Pattern Analysis Fundamentalists: Brittany DuBois
- October 2024 – FCIAA Crime Pattern Analysis Fundamentalists: Morgan Campen
- April 2024 – Florida Law Enforcement Analyst Training: Brittany DuBois



CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE HIGHLIGHTS



- Assisted in the apprehension of suspects and the recovery of 8 firearms during the filming of a rap video, utilizing real-time crime center technology.
- Supported the arrest of an Indiana man wanted for child pornography in collaboration with the Clark County Sheriff's Office.
- Celebrated National Crime and Intelligence Analyst Appreciation Day, recognizing the invaluable contributions of our analysts.
- Played a significant role in the investigation of the June 2024 homicide at Wawa, demonstrating our continued commitment to public safety.

A photograph of four Riviera Beach Police officers in their patrol vehicle. The officers are wearing dark blue uniforms with 'RIVIERA BEACH POLICE' patches. They are smiling and making hand gestures, appearing to be engaged in a community outreach activity. The vehicle is a black patrol car with a mesh barrier in the front. The background shows a sunny outdoor setting with trees and other people.

COMMUNITY SERVICES

The Riviera Beach Police Department's Community Services Division takes a holistic approach to public safety by addressing quality-of-life issues through proactive community outreach and engagement. This division works closely with residents to build trust and strengthen relationships, ensuring that law enforcement remains a positive presence in the community.

Through initiatives such as neighborhood cleanups, community meetings, weekend events, and other outreach efforts, the division fosters collaboration and provides resources to improve the well-being of residents. By prioritizing engagement and problem-solving, the Community Services Division is dedicated to creating a safer, more vibrant Riviera Beach for all.



BEACH PATROL

The Riviera Beach Patrol is dedicated to ensuring the safety and well-being of residents and visitors along the city's coastline. Tasked with monitoring the beaches, the patrol provides lifesaving services, enforces local ordinances, and assists in emergency situations.

Their presence helps to prevent accidents, promote water safety, and maintain a secure and enjoyable environment for all beachgoers. In addition to their enforcement duties, the Beach Patrol engages in public education initiatives, offering guidance on rip currents, marine life awareness, and general beach safety.



MARINE

In 2024, the Marine Patrol Division made significant strides in safeguarding the waterways and ensuring environmental protection. Ten officers were trained as Marine Patrol Crew Members by Customs and Border Patrol, expanding the division's capabilities. The team identified and removed five derelict vessels from the waterways, with additional vessels currently under investigation.

Several floating structures were tagged and are awaiting approval for removal. Patrols and enforcement in Manatee zones were enhanced, ensuring their protection. Additionally, the division played a crucial role in protecting nesting turtles, contributing to the preservation of local wildlife. These initiatives demonstrate the division's dedication to preserving the safety and integrity of the waterways in the region.



CRA CLEAN & SAFE

The Clean and Safe Initiative, now in its second year, is a collaborative effort between the Riviera Beach Police Department and the Riviera Beach Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) aimed at enhancing the quality of life within the CRA District. Under the leadership of Sgt. Roosevelt Lee, this initiative brings together law enforcement officers and a dedicated team of "Clean and Safe

Ambassadors" who work tirelessly, seven days a week, to address community concerns and promote safety. Through their combined efforts, the program continues to make a lasting impact by fostering a cleaner, safer, and more vibrant environment for Riviera Beach residents.





COMMUNITY SERVICES

In 2024, the Community Oriented Policing (C.O.P.) unit was designated to serve the Riviera Beach Heights community with a mission to foster strong partnerships between law enforcement and residents. The unit's efforts focused on enhancing the neighborhood's aesthetic appeal through street sign replacements and sod restorations, while also addressing key concerns such as illegal dumping, loitering, trespassing, homelessness, and other nuisances that impact residents' quality of life.

To improve safety, surveillance cameras were installed to deter illegal dumping and provide crucial evidence for arrests and citations. Security measures, including distributing steering wheel locks, were implemented to prevent vehicle theft. The C.O.P. unit also facilitated monthly community meetings to discuss neighborhood concerns, organized two job fairs at the Brooks Center to assist residents in finding employment, and collaborated with Home Depot and SWA to paint over 50 homes through the "Paint Your Heart Out" initiative.

Community engagement was a priority, with regular events held every other Friday to strengthen relationships between officers and residents. Patrol efforts were enhanced with the use of bicycles and ATVs, increasing visibility and accessibility throughout the community. The unit coordinated multiple operations, such as "Operation Get Right" and "Operation Fixer Up," to tackle recurring criminal activity and remove derelict vehicles.

RIVIERA BEACH HEIGHTS INITIATIVE



In 2024, the Community Oriented Policing (C.O.P.) unit was assigned to serve the Riviera Beach Heights area, focusing on strengthening partnerships between law enforcement and the community. The unit's key objectives include enhancing neighborhood beautification, promoting regulatory compliance, and fostering a sense of pride and responsibility among residents.

To improve the community's appearance, efforts were made to replace and install street signs and restore sod in various locations. Additionally, initiatives were launched to enhance residents' quality of life, such as installing surveillance cameras to prevent illegal dumping and addressing issues related to loitering, trespassing, homelessness, and other public nuisances. A core priority of the unit has been to reduce fears surrounding crime and harassment, creating a safer and more welcoming environment for all.

RIVIERA BEACH HEIGHTS INITIATIVE



Below are several accomplishments that were achieved during our time in the area:

- **Camera Installation**

A surveillance camera was installed to monitor illegal dumping activities, leading to the identification of suspects and providing evidence for arrests and citations.

- **Monthly Meetings**

A recurring meeting was established on the second Wednesday of each month to address community concerns and neighborhood issues.

- **Job Fairs**

Two job fairs were organized at the Brooks Center to assist local residents in securing employment opportunities.

- **Business Engagement**

Meetings were held with local business owners to address code violations and enhance the overall quality of life within their establishments.

- **Paint Your Heart Out Initiative**

In collaboration with Home Depot and SWA, over 50 homes in the area were painted, with paint and supplies provided to homeowners.

- **P.A.L.**

Youth involved with the Police Athletic League (P.A.L.) participated in activities and friendly competitions to encourage positive engagement.

RIVIERA BEACH HEIGHTS INITIATIVE

- **Security Measures**

Steering wheel locks were distributed to help prevent the theft of specific vehicles in the community.

- **Community Engagement Events**

Biweekly community engagement events were held to strengthen relationships between law enforcement and residents.

- **Operations Coordination**

Operations such as "Operation Get Right" and "Operation Fixer Up" were implemented to address recurring criminal activity and facilitate the removal of derelict vehicles.

- **ATV and Bike Patrol**

Patrol units utilized bicycles and ATVs to increase visibility and engagement, ensuring an active presence throughout the community.

- **Co-Response Initiatives**

Assistance was provided to individuals facing homelessness, mental health challenges, and substance abuse issues, helping connect them with housing, shelters, and treatment resources.

- **Crime Analysis/Sky 1**

Collaboration with the Crime Analysis Unit and the use of Sky 1 allowed for the identification of crime trends, and facial recognition technology was deployed to track illegal dumpers and criminal activity.

- **Strategic Investigation Unit**

Efforts were focused on identifying violent criminals, homes involved in illegal activities, and sexual offenders within the area.

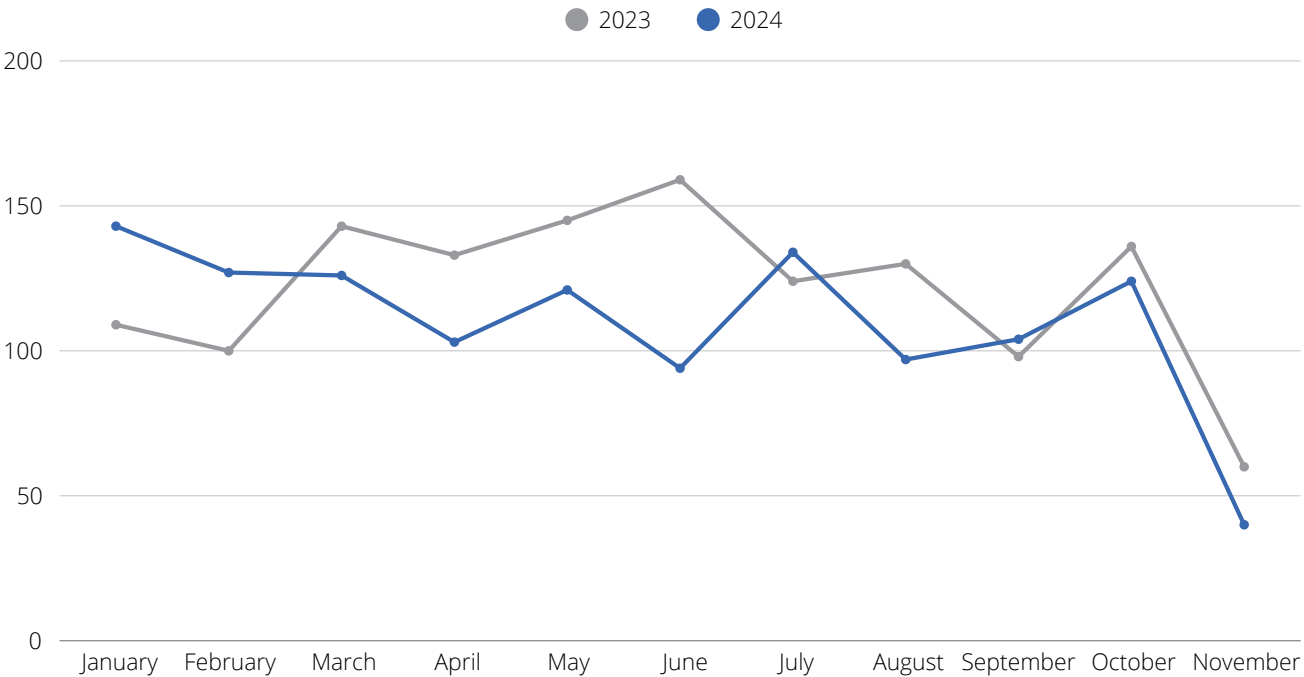
- **Collaborative Efforts**

Close collaboration was established with various agencies, including the Traffic Unit, Public Works, Sky 1, Criminal Analysis Unit, P.A.L, Code Enforcement, CRA Ambassadors, Parks and Recreation, as well as local businesses and organizations like 104.7 the Flames, Bimbo, St. Mary's, Veterans Hospital, Unique Men of Riviera Beach, Christ Fellowship, FPL, Home Depot, Marco's Pizza, Lockheed Martin, and Chick-fil-A.

These initiatives demonstrate a strong commitment to improving community engagement, safety, and overall quality of life in the area.

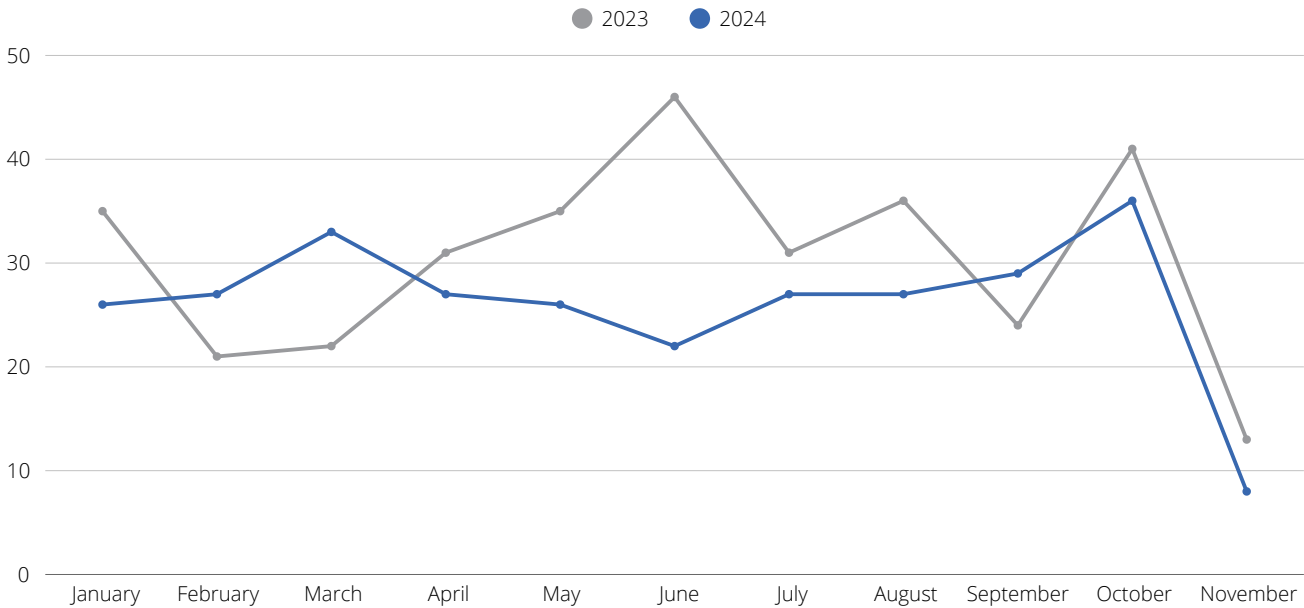
RIVIERA BEACH HEIGHTS STATS

Calls for service



Incident Reports

***Criminal Mischief incident reports decreased by 54% from 2023 - 2024**





The Riviera Beach Police Department's SWAT (Special Weapons and Tactics) unit is an elite, highly specialized team dedicated to managing the most high-risk and dangerous situations with exceptional skill and precision. The unit consists of officers who undergo intensive training in a variety of tactical disciplines, including firearms, negotiation, explosives, and search and rescue operations.

SWAT responds to critical incidents such as hostage rescues, armed standoffs, high-risk warrants, and active shooter situations, where quick and effective action is required to protect lives and resolve dangerous situations. Their operations often involve strategic planning, advanced technology, and specialized equipment, allowing them to operate in environments that require the utmost level of safety and expertise. In addition to tactical operations, SWAT also plays a vital role in crisis negotiations, helping to peacefully resolve situations involving individuals in distress or with violent intentions. The unit works closely with local, state, and federal agencies to coordinate responses to large-scale emergencies and complex criminal situations.

By providing swift, professional intervention in high-pressure scenarios, the SWAT unit ensures the safety of civilians, minimizes potential harm to law enforcement officers, and upholds the law in the community. Their work is integral to maintaining public safety, both within Riviera Beach and in surrounding areas, offering a specialized response to the most extreme and hazardous situations.



PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

The objective of the Professional Standards Division is to build public trust in the police department by ensuring exemplary training and oversight in the creation and implementation of policies. This division is also responsible for conducting administrative investigations through Internal Affairs and reporting the findings directly to the Police Chief. It supports the professionalism and educational growth of department personnel by providing comprehensive training programs, managing recruitment and background checks for qualified candidates, and overseeing the department's national and state accreditation processes.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS

The Office of Internal Affairs is tasked with investigating complaints concerning employees of the Riviera Beach Police Department. Individuals wishing to file a complaint can contact the department via phone, mail, or email. The Riviera Beach Police Department is steadfast in its commitment to maintaining the integrity of its officers and preserving the trust of the community. To uphold these standards, the department conducts thorough investigations into both formal and anonymous complaints from the public and internal sources.

TRAINING UNIT

Officer Prieto serves as the agency's training coordinator, ensuring that every sworn employee maintains their certification by completing FDLE-mandated courses. These include training in areas such as Discriminatory Profiling & Professional Traffic Stops, Domestic Violence, Juvenile Sex Offenders, Mental Health and Wellness, Physiological Response Dynamics, Human Trafficking, Victims of Sexual Offenses, Head Injuries in Children and Infants, First Aid, Autism Awareness, Use of Force, Firearms, and Vehicle Operations. Employee training records are kept internally and submitted to FDLE to verify certification and compliance.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

RECRUITMENT, HIRING, AND BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS

Detective Toombs oversees the processing of all applicants once the recruiting phase is complete. Selected candidates will take a civil service exam and proceed through a series of steps, including interviews, voice stress testing, background investigations, and medical fitness assessments before being hired. Detective Toombs collaborates closely with Human Resources to ensure that only the most qualified candidates are chosen to represent the Riviera Beach Police Department in uniform and badge.

ACCREDITATION

The Accreditation Team, which includes Kathy Ribeiro and Officer Brionca Hunter, is responsible for ensuring the agency's compliance with state regulations and standards through the development and maintenance of policies and procedures. Every three years, the agency undergoes an accreditation review to confirm that its training, policies, and programs are well-documented and meet state quality standards.

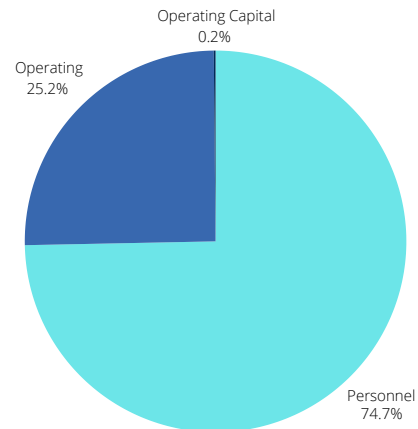


Accreditation

Kathy Ribeiro

BUDGET

Personnel	\$20,084,924
Operating	\$6,768,993
Operating Capital	\$40,625
Total	\$26,894,542



The following are the grants and programs for FY 2025:

Public Safety Bureau of Justice Assistance Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant - Grant provides funding to purchase bulletproof vests for police officers. (\$10,876)

Palm Beach County 911 Public Safety Answering Points (PSAPs) Grant - Grant supports certain communications dispatch personnel costs, overtime, operating supplies, training, and equipment. (\$31,111)

Palm Beach County Manatee Protection Plan - Grant provides funding for police officers to provide additional marine law enforcement services within estuarine waters during manatee season from November 15th to the following March 31st. (\$16,600)

Victims Advocate Program - Grant provides funding for crisis response services, crisis intervention, and assisting investigators that focus on areas of homicide, domestic violence, child deaths, and elderly victimization. (\$205,948)

U.S. Department of Justice Asset Forfeiture Program - This program encompasses the seizure and forfeiture of assets that represent the proceeds of, or were used to facilitate federal crimes. The primary mission of the program is to employ asset forfeiture powers in a manner that enhances public safety and security. Agencies are allowed to seize and forfeit contraband that have been used in the commission of felonies. The cash or proceeds from the sale of seized items are deposited to a trust fund for use by law enforcement agencies. (\$41,750)

Advanced Police Training Program - Pursuant to Florida Statutes, Sections 318.18 (11d) and 938.15, Palm Beach County Clerk and Comptroller collects \$2.00 court costs for certain Florida Uniform Traffic citations issued within the city limits of Riviera Beach and remits the funds collected to the City. Funds are only for use of criminal justice training. (\$8,500)

U.S. Department of Justice Community Oriented Policing Services, Technology and Equipment Program (TEP) - Grant provides funding for the Riviera Beach Police Department to develop and acquire effective equipment, technologies, and interoperable communications that assist in responding to and preventing crime. The grant will be used to purchase a tactical mobile command vehicle for the Police Department. (\$725,000)

U.S. Department of Justice Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program - Grant provides funding for the Riviera Beach Police Department to engage the community through various events, such as workshops, seminars, and community forums. These events will seek to educate the youth, parents, teachers, and police officers to proactively create mutual respect, shared responsibility, and accountability in an effort to improve police and community relations. (\$36,529)



10 YEAR CRIME COMPARISON

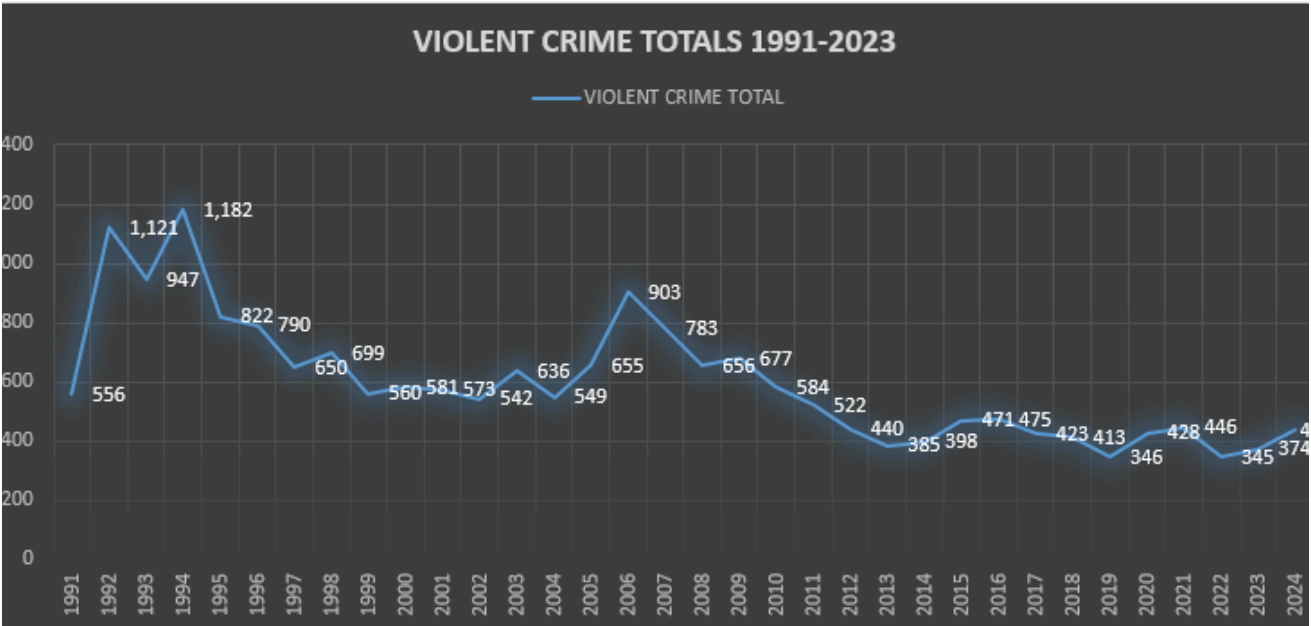
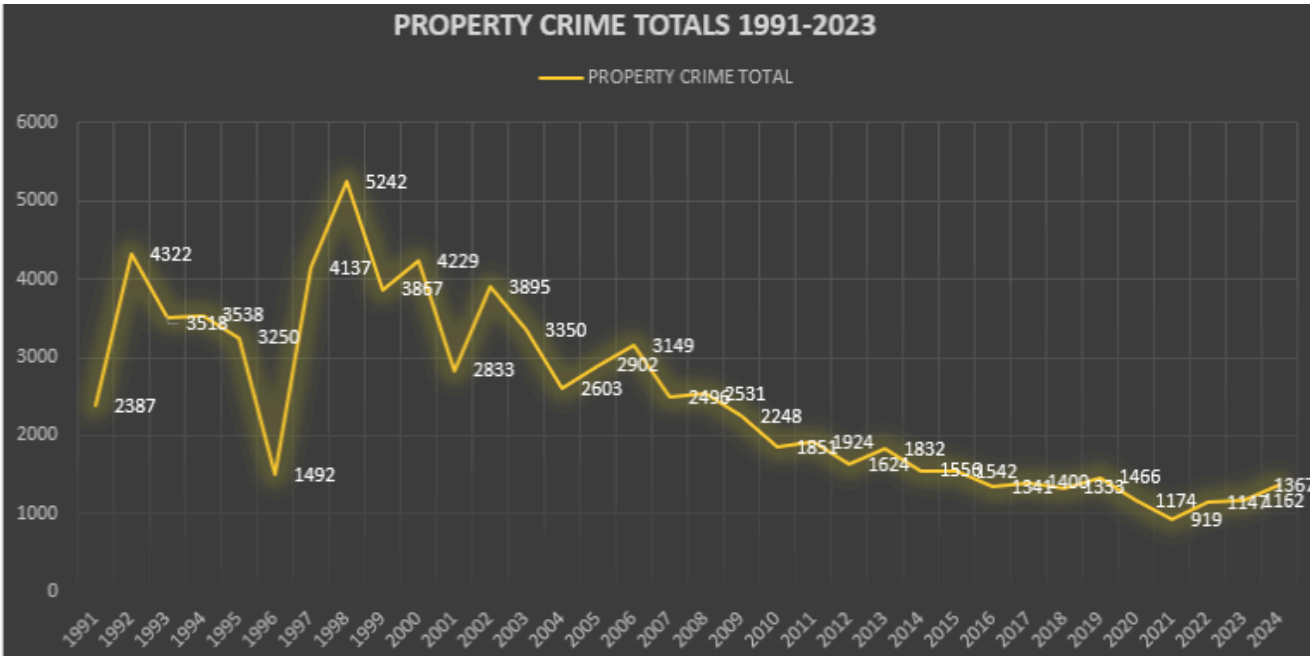
	Homicide	Sexual Assault	Robbery	Aggravated Assault	Violent Crime Total	Burglary	Larceny	Motor Veh. Theft	Arson	Property Crime Total	Total
2015	10	20	79	362	488	296	1053	193	1	1542	2030
2016	9	23	56	387	485	309	902	130	3	1341	1826
2017	11	19	72	371	488	236	995	169	7	1400	1888
2018	9	18	65	321	420	212	970	151	1	1333	1753
2019	7	20	71	248	349	186	1141	139	7	1466	1815
2020	16	23	63	326	431	151	909	114	9	1174	1605
2021	12	26	54	354	447	90	747	82	4	919	1366
2022	11	23	47	264	352	165	872	110	2	1147	1499
2023	8	27	51	288	374	169	850	143	2	1162	1536
2024	7	33	62	334	436	262	949	156	9	1376	1812

Disclaimers:

- Crimes against persons are totaled based on the number of victims, not offenses
- Crimes against property, crimes against society and Group B offenses are totaled based on the number of offenses, not victims.
- Offenses that were unfounded or referred to another jurisdiction were excluded.

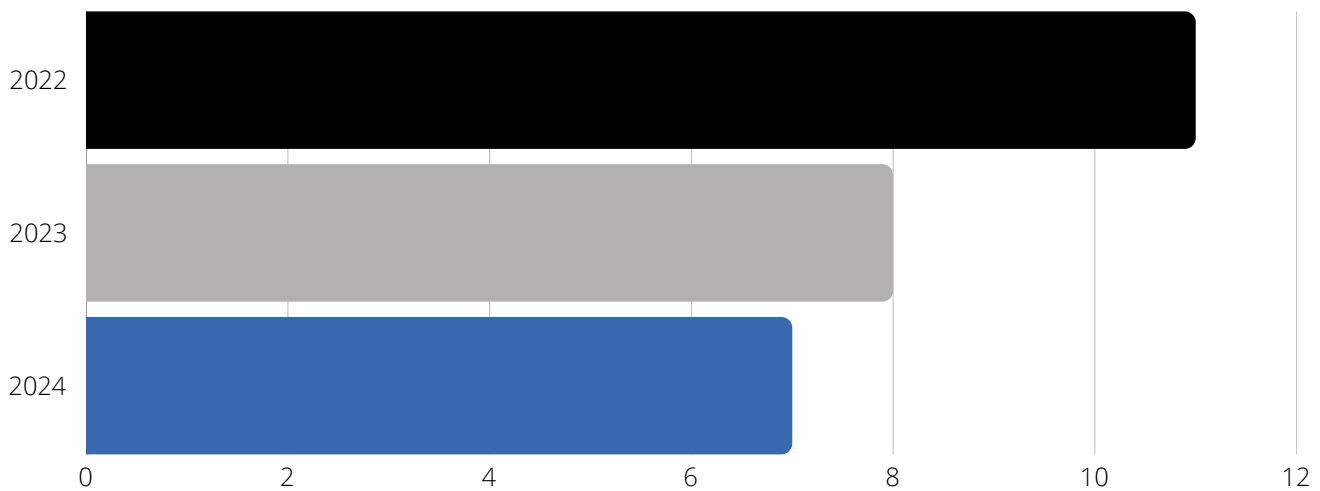


CRIME STATS





Homicides



In 2024, there were seven homicides, reflecting a **13% decrease** from the eight recorded in 2023 and a **36% decrease from the 11 homicides reported in 2022**. It is anticipated that one of the 2024 cases will be ruled a justified homicide, while another will be classified as an accidental shooting.

Of the seven homicides in 2024, four arrests have been made, resulting in a **clearance rate of 57.1%** so far, with investigations still ongoing. This clearance rate **exceeds the national average**, demonstrating the Riviera Beach Police Department's commitment to solving violent crimes and bringing justice to victims and their families.

The majority of these homicides were attributed to gun violence, while one resulted from a stabbing. In response, the department continues to dedicate resources to these investigations, working diligently to ensure accountability and enhance public safety within the community. Additionally, **185 firearms were recovered throughout the year**, further demonstrating the department's commitment to reducing gun violence and keeping the community safe.



NEW BRANDING



In 2024, the Riviera Beach Police Department rebranded its patch to align with the City of Riviera Beach's new branding and logo, reflecting a modernized vision while preserving the department's deep-rooted values. This redesign symbolizes our ongoing commitment to progress, professionalism, and a unified identity within the community we proudly serve.

The updated patch is a powerful representation of law enforcement pride, duty, and service. It prominently features elements that honor the American flag and the Thin Blue Line, reinforcing the principles of courage, sacrifice, and the unwavering protection of our community. At the heart of the design is the Sergeant Major fish, an important symbol not only of Riviera Beach's coastal heritage but also a geographical marker that signifies our city's distinct presence within Florida.

The word "POLICE" is strategically placed at the top of the patch, reaffirming the department's core mission to serve and protect. Behind the Florida state outline, ten stars serve as a symbolic reminder of the fundamental principles that guide our officers in their daily duties—integrity, accountability, respect, and dedication to public safety.

Additionally, the department ensures that all personnel, both sworn and non-sworn, proudly wear a version of the patch that represents their role within the organization. Non-sworn members wear a round adaptation of the patch, emphasizing their integral contribution to the department's mission.

This rebranded patch serves as more than just an emblem—it is a visual statement of our dedication to upholding the highest standards of law enforcement while embracing the identity and future of Riviera Beach.

TRAILBLAZERS PBC



In 2024, Trailblazers PBC launched a dynamic live interview series designed to spotlight individuals within the community who are making a meaningful, positive impact. The series aims to amplify the voices of local leaders, activists, and changemakers who are driving progress in various sectors, from public service to education, business, and beyond.

The series kicked off with an engaging interview with former Palm Beach County State Attorney Dave Aronberg, where he shared his insights on public safety, criminal justice reform, and his career in law. Following that, the series continued with an enlightening conversation with Palm Beach County Administrator Verdenia Baker, where she discussed her role in county leadership and her dedication to improving the lives of residents across Palm Beach County.

Hosted by Public Information Officer Serena Spates-Redding, the Trailblazers PBC series aims to inspire viewers by highlighting the accomplishments and contributions of these community trailblazers. The series is a celebration of those who work tirelessly to make a positive difference, fostering a sense of pride and unity within the Palm Beach County community.





2014 COLD
CASE SOLVED

A decade after two individuals were murdered outside a Riviera Beach tire shop, the case has been solved, thanks to the efforts of the newly formed cold case unit. On March 26, 2024, Lavon Heath, 33, and Jeffrey Brown, 34, were indicted for their involvement in the March 4, 2014, killings of Murat Oziros and Deondre McCoy. The victims, the owner and an employee of Florida Sunshine Tire Shop, were shot and killed by Heath and Brown after the suspects confronted them while driving a stolen vehicle. Following the murders, the suspects stole personal belongings from the victims before fleeing the scene.

The cold case unit, established in recent years with three former federal agents, reopened the investigation in November 2022. Through evidence review, new interviews, and DNA testing, the detectives were able to link Heath and Brown to the crime. This case highlights the significant impact of the cold case unit, demonstrating its effectiveness in solving long-unsolved cases. Both suspects now face charges of first-degree murder with a firearm, robbery with a firearm, and possession of a firearm by a felon. The department remains dedicated to pursuing justice, no matter how much time has passed.



PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PORT OF PALM BEACH



In April of 2024, the Riviera Beach Police Department and the Port of Palm Beach formed a new partnership to enhance security and improve communication. As part of this collaboration, I was assigned as the Liaison Officer/Marine Patrol Supervisor, strengthening the relationship between the police department and the port. This role has fostered better communication and cooperation between all parties involved. Several key initiatives were implemented as a result:

- **Significant increase in port waterways patrols to ensure safety.**
- **Heightened internal patrols of port facilities to improve security.**
- **Enhanced patrols of surrounding properties, with support from the CRA Units, to further safeguard the area.**

These efforts reflect the growing commitment to securing the Port of Palm Beach and the surrounding community.

DEMO OF THE OLD PD



On May 7, 2024, past and present Riviera Beach Police Department members, along with city officials, gathered to say goodbye to the longtime police station at 600 W. Blue Heron Blvd. The event celebrated the station's decades of service and its role in protecting the community.

With demolition underway, anticipation grows for the new, state-of-the-art headquarters. Designed to enhance resources, technology, and working conditions, the facility will support the department's continued commitment to public safety and community engagement. This transition marks a significant step forward in the city's dedication to progress and innovation.



AOC/FBI GRADS

In the past year, significant milestones were reached by members of our department, reflecting their dedication to professional growth and leadership within the law enforcement community.

Captain Rochelet Commond successfully completed the University of Louisville's Department of Criminal Justice's 480-hour Administrative Officers Course. This challenging program, which is designed to equip law enforcement leaders with advanced skills in management and administration, culminated in an impressive 97% GPA. The comprehensive curriculum has provided Captain Commond with a strong foundation to further excel as an executive leader within our department. His success in this program underscores the department's commitment to developing top-tier leadership.

Additionally, **Major Travis Walker graduated from the prestigious FBI National Academy**, a 10-week program recognized for its rigorous academic and physical requirements. The program covers critical topics, including intelligence theory, terrorism, forensic science, and management science. Graduates of the Academy gain advanced skills in leadership, law enforcement practices, and global cooperation. Major Walker's completion of this program reflects his unwavering commitment to enhancing his expertise and his ongoing efforts to elevate the standards of our department.

Both Captain Commond and Major Walker's achievements highlight the department's focus on fostering excellence in leadership and enhancing the skills of our officers to better serve and protect our community. These accomplishments are part of our continuous investment in the professional development of our team, ensuring that our department remains at the forefront of law enforcement leadership.

AWARDS BANQUET



In 2024, we proudly hosted our first annual Police Awards Banquet to honor and recognize the outstanding dedication and service of our staff. This event celebrated the individuals who go above and beyond in their commitment to protecting and serving our community. Their sacrifices and unwavering dedication do not go unnoticed, and it is important to us to acknowledge their exceptional contributions. The banquet served as a meaningful opportunity to express gratitude, boost morale, and reinforce the values of excellence and service within the department.

\$725K FROM CHERFILUS MCCORMICK



The Riviera Beach Police Department has secured \$725,000 in federal funding for a state-of-the-art Mobile Command Center, awarded by U.S. Congresswoman Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick. This critical investment will significantly enhance the department's emergency response capabilities by providing a centralized hub for operations during crises, large-scale events, and tactical incidents.

Equipped with cutting-edge technology, the Mobile Command Center will feature advanced communication systems, real-time surveillance tools, and collaborative workspaces to support officers and emergency personnel in the field. This resource will play a vital role in disaster response, public safety operations, and coordination with local, state, and federal agencies.

The acquisition of this Mobile Command Center underscores the department's commitment to leveraging modern resources to improve efficiency, officer safety, and community protection. This funding marks a major milestone in ensuring that the Riviera Beach Police Department is fully equipped to meet the evolving needs of the city and its residents.

CORESPONSE INITIATIVE



The Community Services Division launched an innovative Co-Response Model, a collaborative effort between the Riviera Beach Police Department, St. Mary's Medical Center, the Healthcare District, and the VA West Palm Beach Healthcare System. This groundbreaking initiative brought law enforcement officers and medical professionals together in the field biweekly to engage with the homeless population, offering not only outreach but also direct access to essential services.

Through this program, individuals in need received on-the-spot medical care, referrals to vital resources, job assistance, and other support aimed at improving their quality of life. By combining public safety with healthcare and social services, the Co-Response Model represents a proactive and compassionate approach to addressing homelessness and connecting individuals with long-term solutions. This initiative highlights the department's commitment to holistic, community-driven policing and fostering positive change within Riviera Beach.





CRA AWARD

In 2024, the Riviera Beach Police Department, in partnership with the Riviera Beach CRA, was honored with the prestigious Roy F. Kenzie Award for Innovative Blight Management Program at the annual Florida Redevelopment Association Awards. This recognition highlights the success of our Clean and Safe initiative, a collaborative effort to enhance public safety, reduce blight, and improve the overall quality of life in our community.

Through strategic partnerships and community engagement, this program has made a measurable impact by addressing public safety concerns, fostering neighborhood revitalization, and ensuring a cleaner, safer environment for residents and businesses. This award is a testament to the dedication of our officers, city officials, and community stakeholders who have worked tirelessly to bring positive change to Riviera Beach.

We remain committed to strengthening this initiative and continuing our mission to create a thriving and secure community for all.



MOVIES MAKING A DIFFERENCE

We had the privilege of partnering with Movies Making A Difference (MMAD) on their latest film, Carmelita. MMAD is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, founded in 2014, dedicated to combating human trafficking in the U.S. Through producing feature films based on real events, MMAD raises awareness about this urgent issue affecting our communities.

HOMELESS BBQ



A BBQ event was organized for the homeless population through a collaborative effort with community partners, offering a welcoming environment to provide essential resources and support. The event aimed to educate attendees about new state laws that would directly impact their lives, ensuring they were informed and empowered to navigate upcoming changes.

By partnering with local organizations, the event also fostered a sense of community, helping to address immediate needs while building lasting connections. It was an opportunity to not only offer support but also to raise awareness about available resources and individuals' rights.

TRUNK OR TREAT



Our biggest event of the year, Trunk or Treat, is one of the largest community gatherings in the city! We join forces with all city departments to create a fun and festive experience for kids and the young at heart. With music, entertainment, candy, and more, it's a night filled with excitement, laughter, and community spirit!

CHRISTMAS WITH RPBD



The holiday season is a special time for giving back, and this year, we had the privilege of hosting our annual Shop with a Cop event, benefiting XX children from Mary McLeod Bethune Elementary. Our officers spent a memorable day with the children, beginning with a heartwarming breakfast followed by a shopping spree at Walmart, where the kids were able to pick out gifts and essentials. This event would not have been possible without the support of our generous partners, and we are deeply grateful for their contributions.

In addition, we launched our very first Santa in Blue, in partnership with the fire department. Together, we hosted a mini parade, visiting parks across the city to spread holiday cheer. Children were thrilled to receive toys and enjoy the festive atmosphere, making this event a highlight of the season.

Furthermore, our CSD division joined forces with the CRA to provide gifts to four local families, ensuring they had a joyous and memorable holiday. These initiatives reflect our ongoing commitment to supporting the community, bringing happiness and hope to those who need it most during the holiday season.

THE NEW CONVO



Bestselling author and speaker Dwayne Bryant led a powerful and transformative workshop, The New Conversation, focused on strengthening relationships between law enforcement and the community. The event brought together key stakeholders, including pastors, principals, and community leaders, who engaged in insightful dialogue with our department.

Through open discussion and collaboration, we explored solutions to address community concerns and build a foundation for trust and unity. The workshop emphasized the importance of transparency, active listening, and mutual respect in fostering positive interactions. Attendees left with a renewed commitment to working together to create a safer, more connected community.

CONTACT US



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