

2025 Report on Policing

SMU Police Department

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Purpose of this Report

- The purpose of this annual Report on Policing is to provide the SMU campus community with transparency and insight into the activities of the SMU Police Department and the men and women who serve within it.
- This report outlines our enforcement actions, including arrests, citations, and conduct referrals, as well as our annual racial profiling report submitted to the State of Texas.
- In addition, this report details complaints against police personnel, a comprehensive review of use-of-force incidents, training initiatives, and community engagement efforts.
- Our goal is to provide information about your police department and meaningful insight into how we serve, protect, and support the SMU community.
- Transparency, accountability, and partnership remain central to our mission.
- We are proud of the work accomplished in 2025 and remain committed to continuous improvement and the highest standards of professional campus policing.

Mission Statement

The mission of the SMU Police Department is to maintain a working partnership with all members of the Campus Community to preserve life, maintain human rights, protect property, and promote the educational objectives of Southern Methodist University.

We are dedicated to reducing crime and providing a secure environment by targeting quality of life issues in our community through enforcement of the law, respect for human rights and protection of the SMU community.

We will carry out this mission with professionalism, fairness and absolute integrity.

Our Commitment to You

The SMU Police Department is committed to proactive, professional, and lawful policing that safeguards the constitutional rights of all individuals.

We actively enforce state and federal laws in a responsible manner, without regard to race, ethnicity, national origin, or any other bias.

Our officers conduct themselves with dignity and respect in every interaction, honoring the fundamental guarantees of equal protection under the law and freedom from unreasonable searches and seizures as provided by the United States and Texas Constitutions.

Bias-based profiling is inconsistent with our values and will not be tolerated.

At the same time, we remain committed to assisting those in need and taking appropriate enforcement action when supported by observed behavior, credible information, and lawful authority.

Who We Are

- The Police Department is comprised of:
- 30 commissioned Police Officers
- 7 part-time Police Officers
- 7 licensed Communications Officers
- 1 Part time Communications Officer
- 4 civilian employees
- 4 Safety Escort Officers
- 2 Uniformed Security Officers on Patrol
- 1 student worker

The SMU PD provides oversight of security and criminal investigations for the George W. Bush Presidential Center, which is protected by a contract guard force of 31 uniformed Security Officers

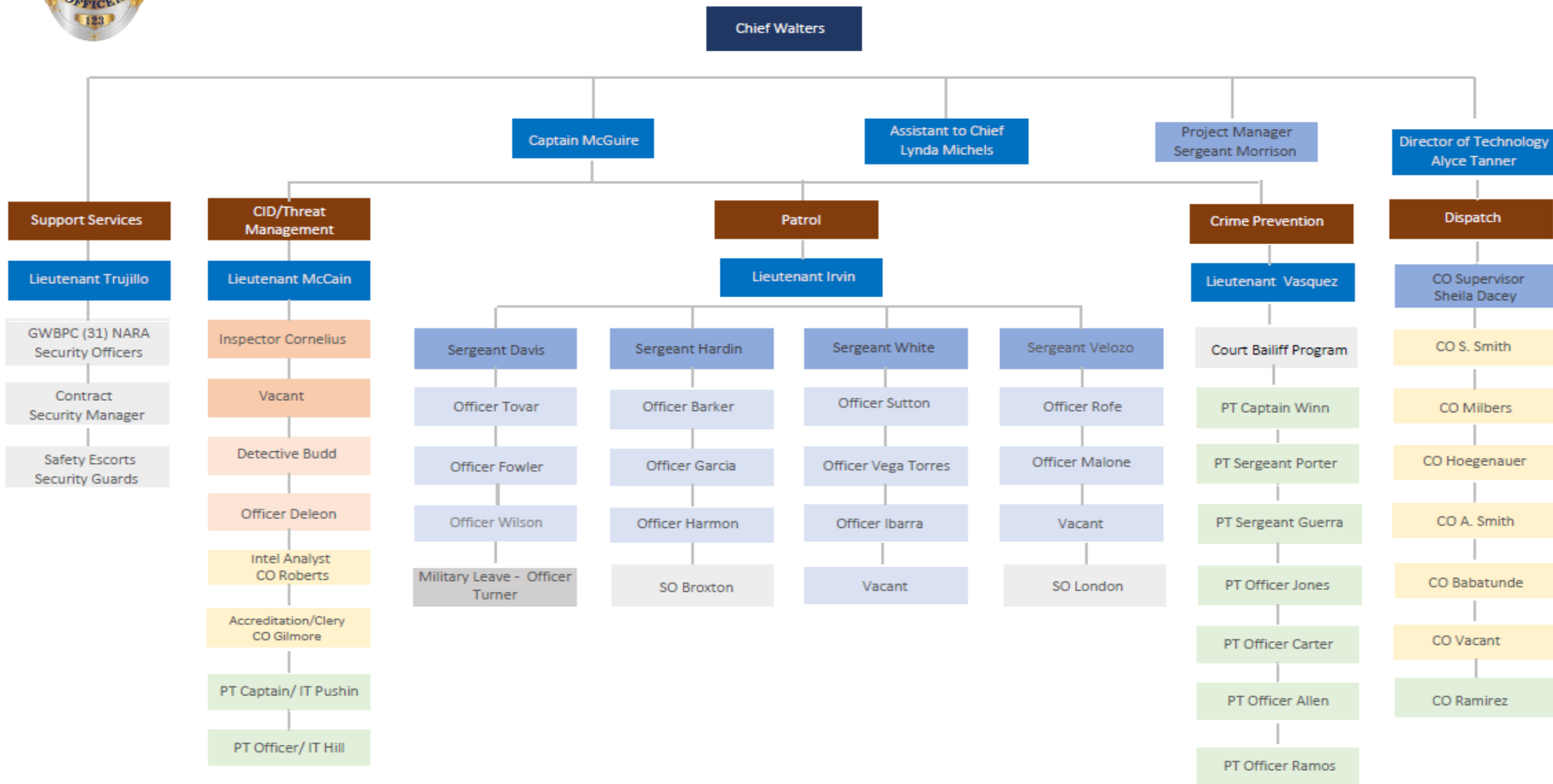
- The SMU PD is a fully certified, nationally accredited police department that provides law enforcement services to the campus community 24/7, 365 days a year.





SMUPolice Department Organizational Chart

February 2026

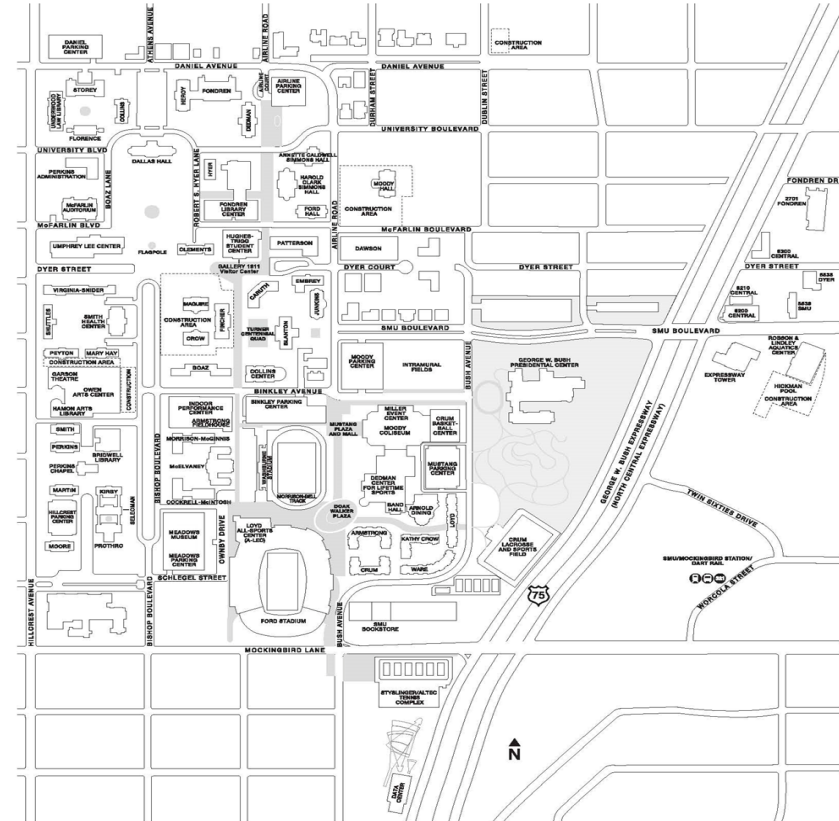


Authority

- The Texas Education Code, subchapter E. Section 51.212, defines Campus Peace Officers at Private Institutions:
 1. The governing boards of private institutions of higher education, including private junior colleges, are authorized to employ and commission peace officers for the purpose of enforcing:
 - a. State law on the campuses of private institutions of higher education, and;
 - b. State and local law, including applicable municipal ordinances, at other locations, as permitted by Section 51.2125 of the Education Code.
 2. Any officer commissioned under the provisions of this section is vested with all the powers, privileges and immunities of peace officers if the peace officer:
 - a. Is on the property under the control and jurisdiction of the respective private institution of higher education or is otherwise performing duties assigned to the officer by the institution, regardless of whether the officer is on property under the control and jurisdiction of the institution, but provided these duties are consistent with the educational mission of the institution and are being performed within a county in which the institution has land; or
 - b. To the extent authorized by Section 51.2125 (Education Code) is:
 - 1) Requested by another law enforcement agency to provide assistance in enforcing state or local law, including a municipal ordinance, and is acting in response to that request; or
 - 2) Otherwise assisting another law enforcement agency in enforcing a law.
 3. Any person commissioned under this act must be a certified police officer under the requirements of The Texas Commission on Law Enforcement.

Jurisdiction

- Commissioned peace officers employed by Southern Methodist University confine their activities related to the performance of duties of peace officers to property owned, leased, or otherwise under the control of SMU being used in support of the academic mission, with the following exceptions:
 - The Chief of Police may, on a case-by-case basis, authorize commissioned peace officers employed by SMU to function outside the “restricted primary jurisdiction” * established by this policy as peace officers on University business or in conjunction with a University sponsored event so long as the peace officers remain within their area of primary jurisdiction (county) as established by Section 51.212, Texas Education Code.
 - Examples here may include VIP protection assignments, SMU Athletic Forum, or other SMU sponsored events that take place off campus.
 - For the purpose of this policy, the term “restricted primary jurisdiction” is interpreted to mean all land, buildings and facilities or other property owned, leased or otherwise under the control of Southern Methodist University.



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Per Policy SMU PD Officers confine their enforcement duties to the jurisdictional boundaries of the SMU campus

Park Cities Mutual Assistance Agreement

Area agencies work together to address public safety concerns and respond to critical incidents.

- SMU Police
- University Park Police
- Highland Park Department of Public Safety
- Highland Park ISD Police
- University Park Fire Department
- Dallas PD – East Campus and Tactical Response





Service Data

- 2025 Police Activity

2025 At a Glance

Community Welfare Calls

- Number of Safety Escorts: 2057
- Number of Medical calls – 186
- Number of Welfare Checks - 195
- Number of Community Policing Events - 95

Calls for Service in 2025: 6,324

Frequent Crimes

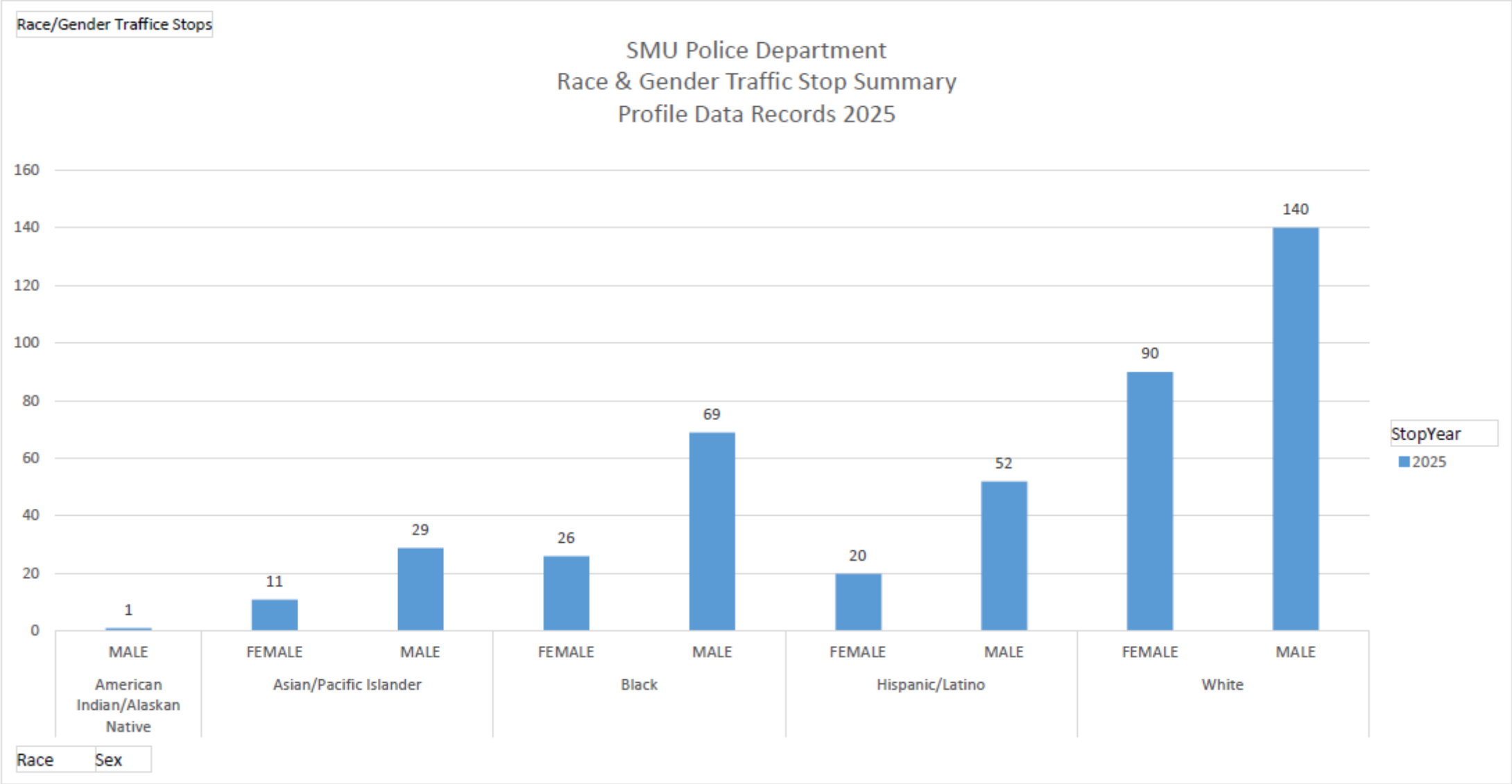
Classification	Crime	Total
ALCOHOL	CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOL BY A MINOR	71
	DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED	2
	MISREPRESENTATION OF AGE BY A MINOR	1
	POSSESSION OF ALCOHOL BY A MINOR	5
	PUBLIC INTOXICATION	15
	PURCHASING/FURNISHING ALCOHOL TO MINOR	1
	Alcohol Total	95
THEFT	THEFT (Enhanced) - SJF	2
	THEFT - F3 (\$30,000 - \$149,999.99)	1
	THEFT - MA (\$750 - \$2499.99)	26
	THEFT - MB (\$100 - \$749.99)	64
	THEFT - MC (Less than \$100.00)	24
	THEFT - SJF (\$2500 - \$29,999.99)	13
	THEFT OF SERVICE - Misd. B (\$100 - \$749.99)	1
	UNAUTHORIZED USE OF A MOTOR VEHICLE	7
	Theft Total	138
VANDALISM	CRIMINAL MISCHIEF - Misd. A (\$750 - \$2499.99)	7
	CRIMINAL MISCHIEF - Misd. B (\$100 - \$749.99)	9
	CRIMINAL MISCHIEF - Misd. C (Less \$100.00)	9
	RECKLESS DAMAGE OR DESTRUCTION	63
	Vandalism Total	88
PUBLIC ORDER	DISORDERLY CONDUCT	42
	FALSE ALARM OR REPORT	4
	HARASSMENT	29
	PUBLIC LEWDNESS	1
	STALKING	1
	Public Order Total	77



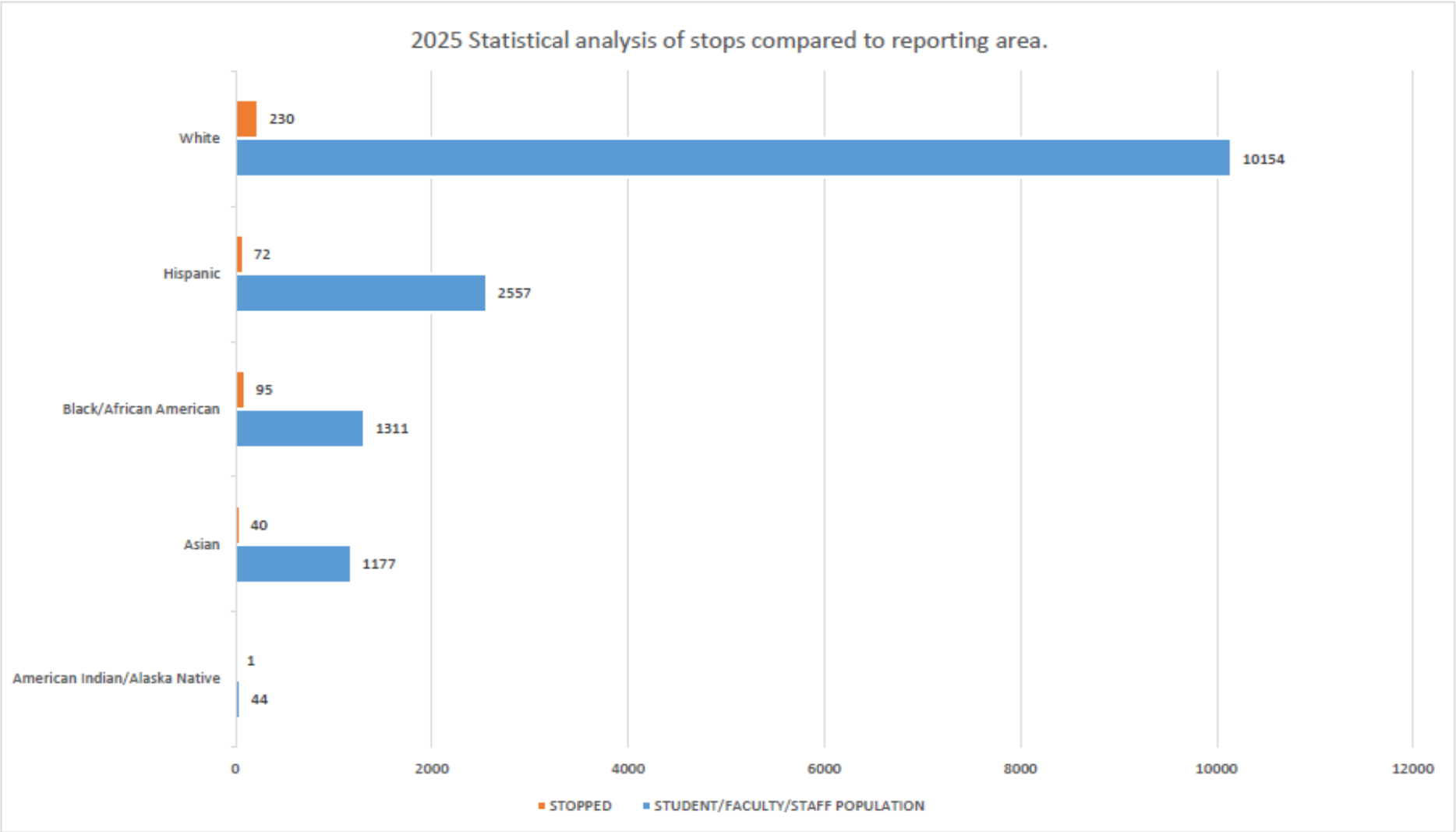
2025 Racial Profiling Report

- Reported to the State of Texas

Total Stops: 443



Analysis



Results of the Stop

Result of the stop

Arrest:

Total	0		
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0	Asian/Pacific Islander	0
Black	0	Hispanic/Latino	0
Unknown	0	White	0

Citation and Arrest:

Total	0		
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0	Asian/Pacific Islander	0
Black	0	Hispanic/Latino	0
Unknown	0	White	0

Citation Issued:

Total	27		
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0	Asian/Pacific Islander	3
Black	5	Hispanic/Latino	9
Unknown	0	White	10

Verbal Warning:

Total	415		
American Indian/Alaskan Native	1	Asian/Pacific Islander	37
Black	90	Hispanic/Latino	65
Unknown	0	White	222

Written Warning and Arrest:

Total	0		
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0	Asian/Pacific Islander	0
Black	0	Hispanic/Latino	0
Unknown	0	White	0

Written Warning Citation Issued:

Total	1		
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0	Asian/Pacific Islander	0
Black	0	Hispanic/Latino	0
Unknown	0	White	1

Complaints

Number of complaints of racial profiling

Total	0
Resulted in disciplinary action	0
Did not result in disciplinary action	0

There Were No Complaints of Racial Profiling in 2025



2025 Arrest Citations Conduct Referrals

- By Race and Affiliation

2025 Arrest – Citations – Conduct Referrals

Race/Affiliation	Arrest	At Large Filing	Citation Issued	Conduct Referral	Grand Total
American Indian/Alaskan Native				2	2
Student				2	2
Asian/Pacific Islander	1	1		13	15
Staff	1				1
Student		1		13	14
Black	14	9	2	18	43
Non-affiliated Person	13	9	1		23
Staff	1				1
Student			1	18	19
Hispanic/Latino	1		5	5	11
Non-affiliated Person	1		5		6
Student				5	5
White	11	17	15	202	245
Non-affiliated Person	7	15	9		31
Staff				1	1
Student	4	2	6	201	213
Grand Total	27	27	22	240	316



Complaints Against Police Personnel

- Calendar Year 2025

How to File a Complaint

- All complaints, regardless of nature, may be made in person, online, by mail, or by phone at any time.
- Please be prepared to provide the date, time, and location of the event; the names of the Southern Methodist University Police employees involved (if known); and the name, address, and telephone number of any possible witnesses.
- Anonymous complaints shall be followed up to the extent possible.

Complaint Findings and Outcomes

- **Sustained**

- Upon investigation, it is determined that there was a violation of Department or University Policy

- **Not Sustained**

- Upon investigation, there is insufficient evidence to show that there was a violation of Department or University Policy

- **Unfounded**

- Upon investigation, it is determined that no violation occurred

Complaints Received in 2025

- Number of Complaints Received: 4
- Number of Sustained Complaints: 0
- Number of Not Sustained Complaints: 4
- Number of Unfounded Complaints: 0

Breakdown By Race and Affiliation

• **Complaints by Race:**

- Asian/Pacific Islander: 0
- Black: 1
- Hispanic: 0
- Asian: 0
- White: 3
- Native American: 0

Complaints by Affiliation

Affiliated: 2

Nonaffiliated: 2

Alleged Violation

- Date: 10-4-2025
- Complaint: Report of a Security Officer intimidating a student while ejecting them from an event.
- Follow-up: Investigation including video review, showed no violation of policy.
- Finding: NOT SUSTAINED.

Alleged Violation

- November 3, 2025
- Complaint: Complainant reported improper use of force by an outside peace officer working at an SMU event.
- Follow-up: Investigation, including video review, showed no violation of policy.
- Finding: NOT SUSTAINED.

Alleged Violation

- Date: 07-16-2025
- Complaint: Report of harassment by officers seeking a subject wanted for Stalking.
- Follow-up: Investigation showed no violation of policy or Texas law. No personnel action taken.
- Finding: UNFOUNDED.

Alleged Violation

- Date: 05-7-2025
- Complaint: Report of unprofessional conduct, rudeness by a Communications Officer.
- Follow-up: Investigation showed no violation of policy. Supervisor followed up with complainant. No personnel action taken.
- Finding: NOT SUSTAINED

Summary

- In 2025 four complaints were filed against SMU PD personnel or personnel performing duties for SMU PD.
- Investigations into the incidents showed that the staff members had not violated policy.
- All complaints were investigated promptly and the complainants were provided notice of the investigation as required.



2025 Review of the Use of Force

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SMU Police Department Policy

- General Order 0011 – Use of Force
 - The SMU Police Department conducts a documented annual review of all Use of Force Reports.
 - Patterns or trends may be revealed that could indicate training needs, equipment upgrades, and/or policy modifications.
 - Key Elements:
 - Adherence to mandated reporting requirements
 - Force used is reasonable and appropriate under the law
 - Identify disproportionate use of force by officer(s)
 - Identify disproportionate use of force against persons based on race, gender or other characteristics

When a Use of Force Report is Required

- When an officer takes an action that results in or is alleged to have resulted in injury or death of another person
- When an officer discharges a firearm, for other than training or recreational purposes
- When an officer points or displays their firearm towards an individual
- When an officer uses force through the use of lethal or less-than-lethal weapons
- When an officer applies physical force including hitting, striking, or grappling
- Any time the subject has a visible injury as a result of the use of force
- Any time the subject complains of pain or injury as a result of the use of force

Examples of Use of Force

- An officer points their firearm at a suspect during an arrest
- An officer uses a pain compliance or joint manipulation technique to overcome resistance during an arrest
- An officer uses a leg sweep to take a combative individual to the ground
- An officer uses their expandable baton to strike an individual attacking them
- An officer uses their OC spray to stop an assault

Quality Control Measures

- In addition to reviewing each use of force event, supervisors conducted monthly reviews of each officer's body camera files to ensure compliance with department policy and to identify areas needing improvement in training, policy, procedure, officer safety, citizen engagement
 - A total of 148 officer–citizen encounters were reviewed by supervisors
- A Command Staff designee conducted an additional random review of 37 officer encounters
- No significant discrepancies were noted
- Findings are recorded and maintained for accreditation

Use of Force Reports 2025

- Number of Use of Force Reports: 4
- Number of Complaints of Excessive Force: 0

Breakdown of Use of Force Against Individuals By Race and Affiliation

- Asian/Pacific Islander: 0 Affiliated: 1
- Black: 0 Nonaffiliated: 2
- Hispanic: 0
- Asian: 0
- White: 3
- N/A (Dogs): 1 Use of Force event involved dangerous dogs

Synopsis of Force Used

- Case #1

- Officers involved: 2
- Nonaffiliated individual arrested for assault of two students.
- Subject would not comply with officers' commands, physically resisted arrest.
- Type of Force Used: Physical apprehension techniques. Handcuffs.

Case #2

- Officers Involved: 1
- Nonaffiliated subject stopped for fake license plate.
- Subject attempted to pull away from arresting officer.
- Type of Force Used: Soft hand control to place in handcuffs.

Synopsis of Force Used

- Case #3

- Officers involved: 2
- Intoxicated affiliated subject assaulted event staff and became aggressive and resisted officers while being escorted out of event.
- Type of Force Used: Physical apprehension, Handcuffing, subject taken to the ground.

- Case #4

- Officers Involved: 1
- Discharge of Firearm
- Off duty officer discharged their firearm when attacked by several loose dogs on their property.
- Type of Force Used: Firearm.

Summary

- Four Use of Force Reports were completed in 2025, all involving crimes in progress that resulted in arrest or defense of life.
- Two cases involved non-affiliated persons resisting lawful arrest and one involved an affiliated individual who assaulted event staff and officers.
- One case involved an officer who was attacked on their own property by loose dogs and was forced to discharge their firearm to prevent great bodily harm.
- ***There were no complaints of excessive use of force in 2025***



Community Engagement

- Calendar Year 2025

Community Engagement

- In 2025 the SMU Police Department's Community Engagement team conducted:
- 9 self defense classes involving a total of 128 attendees
- 6 Crime Prevention and safety training sessions
- 10 Resource and information sharing tabling



Community Engagement

- Tabling events provide an opportunity to support other SMU organizations while providing information and resources to the community.



Members of the police department attend one of the many tabling events we are invited to participate in. This event was held for new students of the Perkins School of Theology.

Community Engagement

- Working with our public safety partners from Dallas PD, University Park, Highland Park and others to connect with the campus community and develop partnerships for campus safety.



“Trunk or Treat” at SMU’s Childcare Center

Personal Safety and Self Defense

- The SMU Police Department conducted personal safety and self-defense classes throughout 2025.
- These classes are a great opportunity to share the safety resources the department provides on campus and provide general safety tips.
- Classes teach personal safety basics as well as simple self-defense tactics and defensive skills to create the opportunity to avoid or escape an assault.



Personal Safety and Self Defense Classes



Self defense class for the women of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority

National Night Out 2025

- National Night Out is an annual community-building campaign that promotes police-community partnerships to make our campus a safer, more caring place to live.
- National Night Out enhances the relationship between the community and law enforcement while bringing our neighbors in University Park to campus.
- ***SMU was again recognized as one of the top National Night Out campus programs in America in 2025!***



POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

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Community Outreach

- For the sixth year in a row, members of the SMU Police Department supported the Veterans Resource Center and Homeless Veterans of Dallas.
- Members donated clothing items, personal hygiene supplies, and other items for veterans in need.
- SMUPD officers also worked with the Dallas Community Impact Team to provide resources and referrals to services throughout the year.



VETERANS
RESOURCE CENTER

Kerrville Texas Response

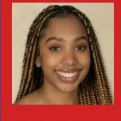
- Following the tragic flooding in Kerrville and other parts of South Texas, the SMU Police Department stepped forward to support affected communities by delivering critical supplies and equipment to first responders in Kerr County.
- Working in partnership with SMU Athletic, Facilities and Campus Services, SMU personnel transported two large truckloads of emergency equipment along with more than 15 pallets of food, hygiene, and childcare supplies, reinforcing the University's commitment to service, collaboration, and standing with our neighbors during times of need.



Police Community Advisory Board (PCAB)

- **Service to the Community:**
Board members provide a connection between police and the community – encouraging community feedback and participation in policing on campus.
 - Chair – Mille Wiita
 - Vice-Chair – Mary Moua
 - Secretary – Liam Schefferstein

Meet Your SMU Police Community Advisory Board
2024-2025
Working Together, Growing Stronger

Mille Wiita President Junior Psychology and Human Rights Major			Mary Moua Vice-President Director of operations and Infrastructure in the Office of Research Innovation
Liam Schefferstein Secretary Senior Sociology major			Jade Weaver Staff Representative Associate Director Hunt Leadership Program
Chanita Carson Staff Representative Assistant Director Student Center and Activities			Patrick Cullen Staff Representative Director of Mailing and Printing Services
Lena Rembert Student Representative Sophomore General Business major			Dr. Melinda Sutton Ex-Officio Member Associate Vice President for Student Affairs and Dean of Students
Susan Howe Ex-Officio Member Associate University Counsel			Courtney Morrison SMU Police Liaison



Training Update

- Calendar Year 2025

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Training

- The Southern Methodist University Police Department conducted a robust training program in 2025, emphasizing compliance with IACLEA and TCOLE standards, skill enhancement for operational effectiveness, and preparation for campus-specific challenges.
- Training encompassed mandatory in-service requirements, field training, and collaborative sessions with outside law enforcement partners.
- SMUPD conducted more than 1514 hours of officer training in 2025, resulting in an average of 32 hours per sworn officer.
- This average reflects participation in mandatory in-service training and additional specialized courses taught within the SMU Police Department.

2025 Training Key Classes



- ALERRT (Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training) Sessions:
 - Level 1 (TCOLE 3311): Hosted a 16-hour class with regional partners, ensuring 100% compliance with TCOLE requirements.
- Texas Association of Hostage Negotiators:
 - Hosted TAHN for their Region 1 Basic Hostage Negotiators certification course.
- Dispatch In-Service (TCOLE 3603)
 - An in-service training session for dispatchers, covering crisis communications and technology updates
- CPR/First Aid (TCOLE 3845)
- Crowd Control Tactics (TCOLE 3340)
 - Addressed strategies for managing large gatherings, protests, and events

Individual Specialized Training Classes Taken by Officers

- Firearms skills building
- Anti-Terrorism and Threat Assessment
- Public Safety UAS/Drone Pilot Training
- Bomb Detection
- Special Weapons and Tactics
- Verbal De-escalation and Active Bystander



• Guiding Principles Training:

- An internal session based on the 56-page "SMU PD Guiding Principles 2025" document, emphasizing de-escalation, mental health response, scenario-based training, and ethical decision-making.
- This is a core agency initiative to ensure alignment with the overall mission of the SMU Police Department and how we serve the community.

Building Trust

- The perception of law enforcement is created by its relationships with community members.
- Trust means keeping promises, acting in a manner that promotes community safety and security, and avoiding actions that can undermine trust.

Park Cities Active Threat Response

- The Cities of University Park, Highland Park, the Highland Park ISD Police Department, and the SMU Police Department have developed an Active Threat Response agreement which automatically triggers a response from all participating agencies in the event of an active threat on the SMU campus and in the Park Cities.



Joint Active Threat Training

- SMU Police Department along with University Park Police and Fire, Highland Park Department of Public Safety, participate in joint training each year.
- The goal of this training is to strengthen our joint response to active threats at SMU and the Park Cities.
- Training includes tabletop exercises, individual skill building and full-scale joint response scenarios.



Officer Certifications

- 4 Mental Health Peace Officers
- 4 Crisis (Hostage) Negotiators
- 7 Special Weapons and Tactics Officers
- 15 State Certified Law Enforcement Instructors
- 4 Defensive Tactics/Use of Force Instructors
- 3 Crime Prevention Specialist
- 2 Criminal Investigators
- 2 Threat Assessment Investigators
- 2 Crime Analyst
- 2 Unmanned Aerial System (Drone) Pilots
- 1 Crime Victim Liaison Officer



Crisis Intervention

- Mental Health officers are identified and trained as an additional resource
- All SMU PD personnel receive training and participate in scenarios on mental health crisis and crisis intervention
- SMU PD policy and training doctrine stresses the use of *deadly force is not authorized on a person who is only a threat to themselves*



ABLE Certification and Duty to Intervene Training

- SMU PD is a certified agency under the Active Bystandership for Law Enforcement (ABLE) program
- ABLE is an officer wellness and peer intervention program designed to improve officer wellness, prevent misconduct, and support the agency's "duty to intervene" policy
- All SMU PD personnel have received this training and are required to undergo updated training annually



Policy and Procedures

- SMU PD General Orders were reviewed and updated in 2025
- Key policies are subjected to review against national best practices annually
 - Use of Force
 - Duty to intervene
 - Early Intervention and Officer Wellness
 - De-Escalation
 - Code of Conduct
 - Bias in Policing and Racial Profiling



Accreditation

- SMU PD adheres to accreditation standards established by the International Association of College Law Enforcement Administrators (IACLEA).
- IACLEA Accreditation signifies our agency's ongoing commitment to excellence and state-of-the-art performance in every aspect of operations.
- Accreditation demonstrates our adherence to policy, procedure, and professional best practices.



Summary

- In 2025, the SMU Police Department remained committed to reducing crime, strengthening community partnerships, and upholding the highest standards of professional policing.
- Our team continued to meet the evolving needs of the campus community through proactive service, accountability, and engagement.
- We are grateful for the strong support and collaboration of our students, faculty, staff, and University leadership.
- Their partnership is essential to maintaining a safe and welcoming campus environment.
- The men and women of the SMU Police Department are proud to serve the SMU community and remain dedicated to protecting its people, property, and mission.



The background of the entire image is a photograph of three bronze statues of horses, likely the 'Three Horses' sculpture by Fritz Koenig. The horses are depicted in dynamic, rearing or galloping poses. They are set against a dramatic sky with soft, golden clouds, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The lighting is warm, highlighting the metallic texture of the statues.

Please Contact Us With Any Questions:

214-768-1519

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