

2024 Report on Policing



SMU[®]

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.

Who We Are

- The Police Department is comprised of:
- 30 commissioned police officers
- 7 part-time police officers
- 8 licensed communications officers
- 3 civilian employees
- 4 contract Safety Escort Officers
- 1 student intern

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

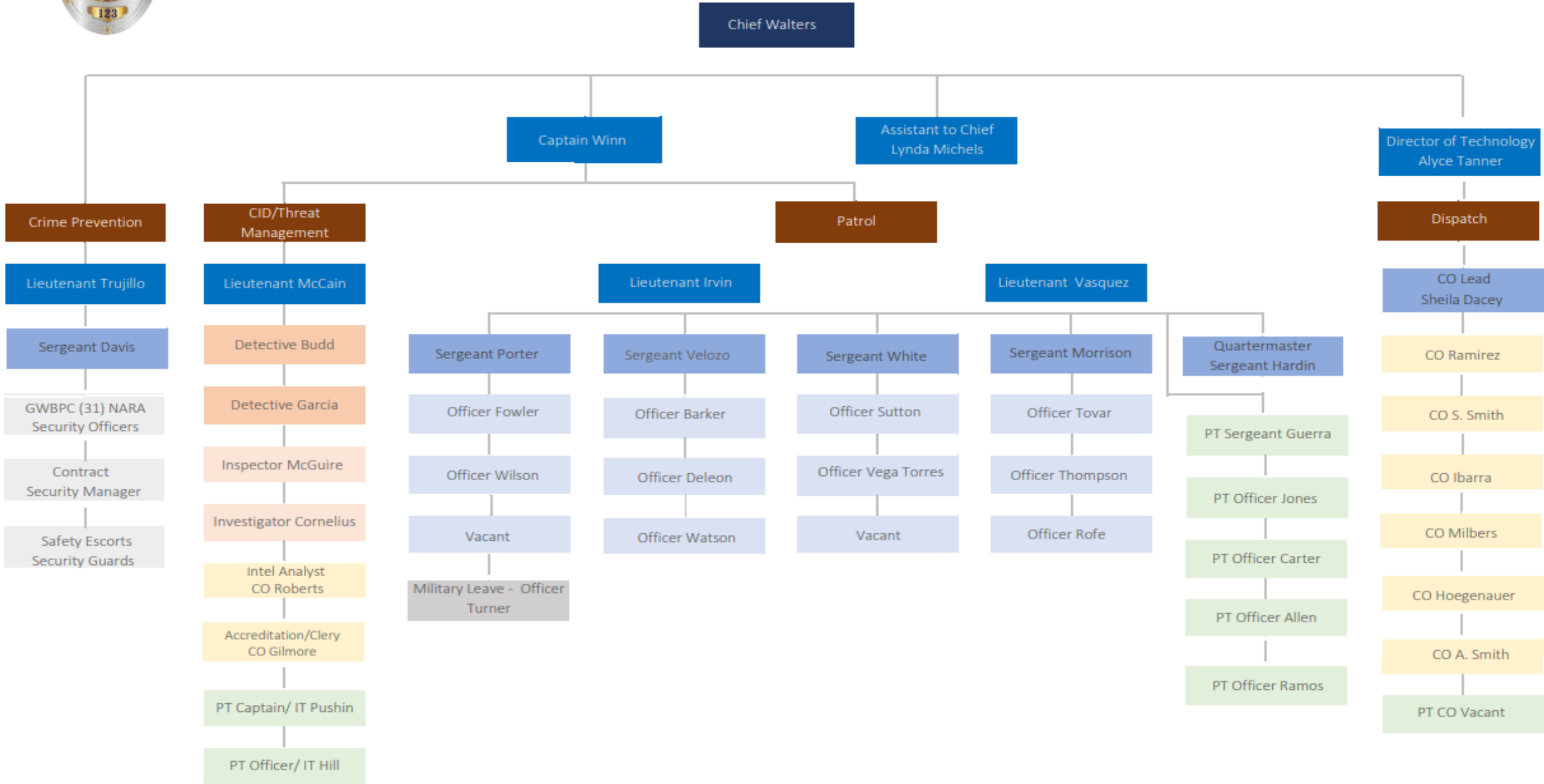
- The SMU PD is a fully certified, nationally accredited police department that provides law enforcement services to the campus community 24/7, 365 days a year.





SMUPoliceDepartmentOrganizationalChart

February 2025



What This Report Contains

- 2024
 - Service Data
 - Racial Profiling Report
 - Complaints Against Police Personnel
 - Use of Force Review
 - Police Community Engagement Activities
 - Training, Policy and Procedures Update

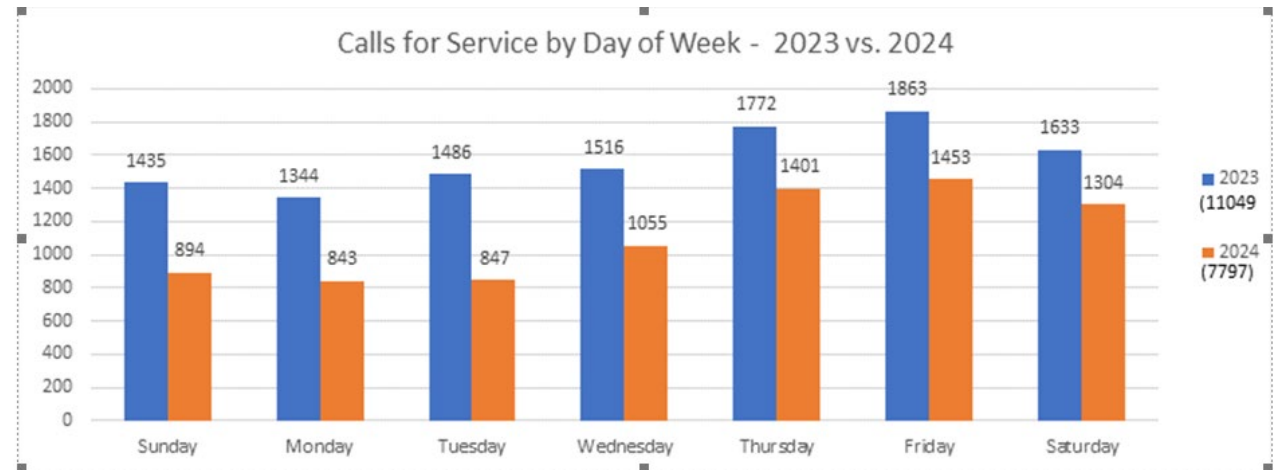


Service Data

- 2024 Police Activity

2024 At a Glance

- Total Number of Calls for Service – 7797
- Number of Safety Escorts: 729
- Number of Medical calls – 187
- Number of Welfare Checks - 242
- Number of Community Engagement Programs - 41





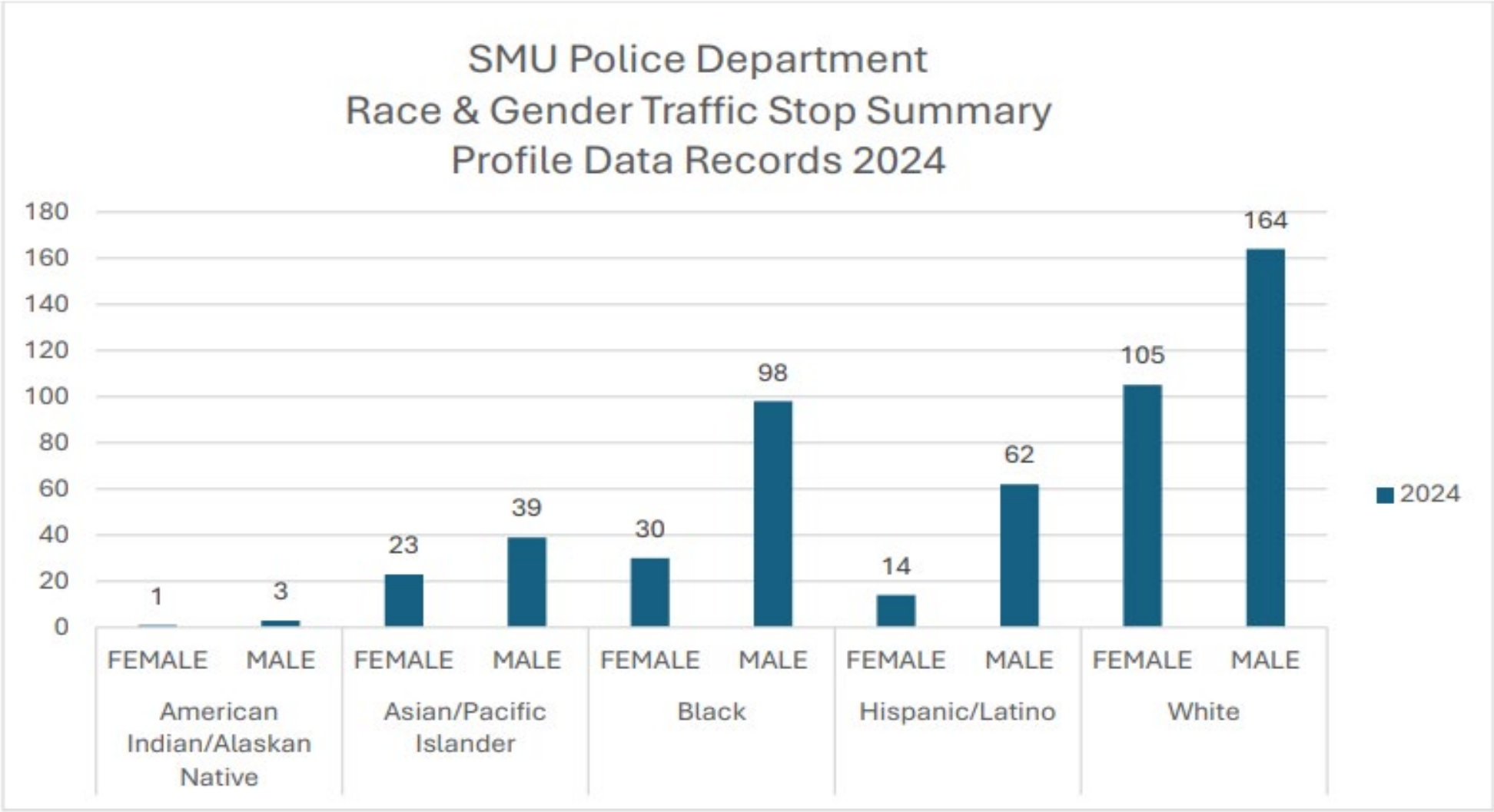
2024 Racial Profiling Report

- Reported to the State of Texas

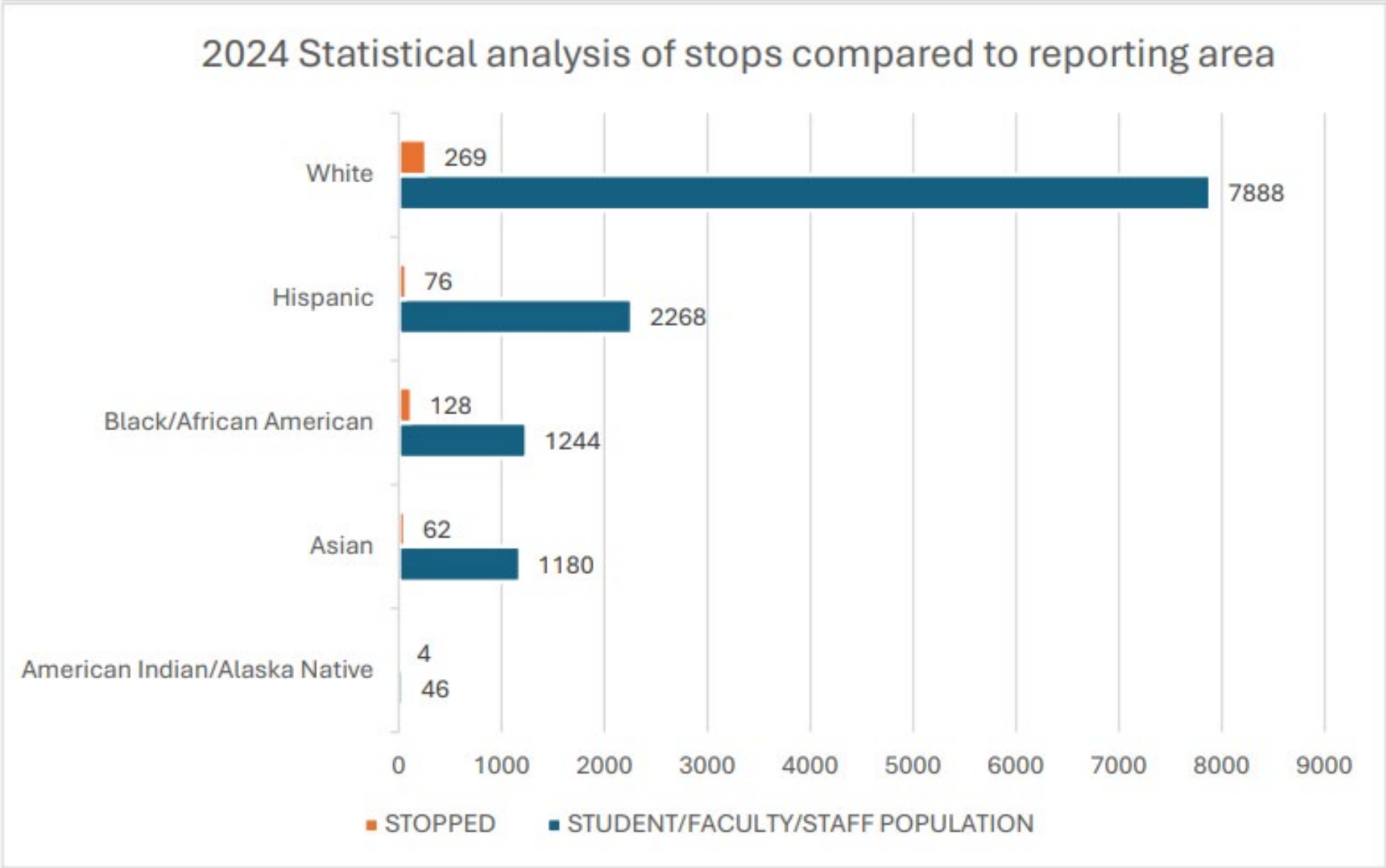
Policy Statement

- It is the policy of this department to police in a proactive manner and to investigate and actively enforce state and federal laws in a responsible and professional manner without regard to race, ethnicity, national origin or any other bias.
- Officers shall conduct themselves in a dignified and respectful manner at all times when dealing with the public.
- Two of the fundamental rights guaranteed by both the United States and Texas constitutions are equal protection under the law and freedom from unreasonable searches and seizures by government agents.
- The right of all persons to be treated equally and to be free from unreasonable searches and seizures must be respected. Bias-based profiling is an unacceptable tactic and will not be condoned.
- This policy shall not preclude officers from offering assistance to persons, nor does this policy prohibit stopping someone suspected of a crime based upon observed actions and/or information received about the person.

Total Stops: 539



Analysis



Results of the Stop

Result of the stop

Arrest:

Total	3		
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0	Asian/Pacific Islander	0
Black	1	Hispanic/Latino	1
Unknown	0	White	1

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	49		
American Indian/Alaskan Native	0	Asian/Pacific Islander	2
Black	8	Hispanic/Latino	11
Unknown	0	White	28

Verbal Warning:

Total	487		
American Indian/Alaskan Native	4	Asian/Pacific Islander	60
Black	119	Hispanic/Latino	64
Unknown	0	White	240

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

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 2024



2024 Arrest – Citations – Conduct Referrals

- By Race and Affiliation

2024 Arrest – Citations – Conduct Referrals

Race/Affiliation	Arrest	At Large Filing	Citation Issued	Conduct Referral	Grand Total
American Indian/Alaskan Native	1	1		1	3
Non-affiliated Person	1	1			2
Student				1	1
Asian/Pacific Islander	2		2	13	17
Non-affiliated Person	1		1		2
Student	1		1	13	15
Black	14	4	3	13	34
Non-affiliated Person	11	3	3		17
Staff	2				2
Student	1	1		13	15
Hispanic/Latino	8		7	4	19
Non-affiliated Person	7		7		14
Student	1			4	5
White	17	8	21	221	267
Faculty	1				1
Non-affiliated Person	5	4	10		19
Staff	1				1
Student	10	4	11	221	246
Grand Total	42	13	33	252	340

Filing At Large: Person not arrested, but a case was filed with the District At **SMU**



Complaints Against Police Personnel

- Calendar Year 2024

Annual Review of Complaints Against Police Personnel

- Intended to identify:
 - Number of complaints
 - If appropriate methods for reporting complaints are available to the public
 - If complaints are followed up on in timely manner
 - Outcomes/Findings of Complaints (Sustained, Not Sustained, Unfounded)
 - Patterns of complaints by individual officers
 - Patterns of complaints related to race, gender or other individual characteristics

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.

Definitions of 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 2024

- Number of Complaints Received: 1
- Number of Sustained Complaints: 1
- Number of Not Sustained Complaints: 0
- Number of Unfounded Complaints: 0

Breakdown By Race and Affiliation

• Complaints by Race:

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

Complaints by Affiliation

Affiliated:

Nonaffiliated: 1

Alleged Violation

- Date: 09-11-2024
- Complaint: Report of employee posting unauthorized information on social media.
- Follow Up: Investigation proved allegation. Personnel action taken.
- Finding: **SUSTAINED.**

Summary

- In 2024 one complaint was filed against SMU PD personnel.
- Investigations into the incident showed that the staff member had violated policy.
- All complaints were investigated promptly and the complainants were provided notice of the investigation as required.



2024 Review of the Use of Force

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 2024

- 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
 - Black: 1
 - Hispanic: 1
 - Asian: 0
 - White: 2
- Affiliated: 1
Nonaffiliated: 3

Synopsis of Force Used

- Case #1

- Officers involved: 3
- Traffic stop for suspected DWI.
- Subject would not comply with officers commands to exit the vehicle.
- Type of Force Used: Physical apprehension techniques. Handcuffs.

Case #2

- Officers Involved: 3
- Vehicle Disturbance/Road Rage.
- Report of a road rage incident involving a subject displaying a hand gun.
- Type of Force Used: Soft hand control to the ground. Pointed duty weapon at suspect.

Synopsis of Force Used

- Case #3

- Officers involved: 1 SMUPD, 3 HPPD Officers
- Off Campus.
- Public intoxication subject attempted to flee officers.
- Type of Force Used: Physical apprehension, Handcuffing, subject taken to the ground.

- Case #4

- Officers Involved: 1
- Theft in progress, stolen bait bike.
- Officer pointed duty weapon after suspect reached toward a backpack on their person.
- Type of Force Used: Pointed duty weapon at suspect.

Summary

- Four Use of Force Reports were completed in 2024, all involving crimes in progress that resulted in arrest
- Three cases involved non-affiliated persons and one involved affiliated.
- One case involved a subject with a gun who attempted to fight the officers to prevent detention.
- One case involved a person fleeing officers after a theft and resisting arrest.
- Two cases involved intoxicated persons resisting arrest.
- ***There were no complaints of excessive use of force in 2024***



Community Engagement

- Calendar Year 2024

SMU

Community Engagement

- In 2024 the SMU Police Department's Community Engagement team, lead by Sgt. Courtney Morrison, supported student events, conducted personal safety classes, briefings and events such as Blue Goes Pink, National Night Out, Take Back the Night and the MLK Parade.



Blue Goes Pink 2024

Community Engagement

- Tabling events included Family Fest 2024, the Human Resources Fair and the Women's Center Resource Fair.



Community Engagement

- During the Spring semester, the police department takes an active role in reaching members of our Greek Life organizations.
- This is typically when organizations hold mixers and other off-campus events.
 - It is our goal to equip students with tools to protect themselves when they are on campus as well as off campus.



Personal Safety and Self Defense

- The SMU Police Department conducted personal safety and self-defense classes throughout 2024.
- 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.



National Night Out 2024

- 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 2024!***



Community Outreach

- For the fifth 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

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

Safety and Self Defense Classes

- 5 Basic Self-defense Classes conducted for the public
- Self-defense classes held for Pi Beta Phi, Delta Gamma, Sigma Lambda Gamma, Alpha Chi Omega sororities at their request.
- 7-week in depth self defense class began March 5, 2024, and concluded with a skills test on April 23rd.





Training, Policy and Procedures Update

- Calendar Year 2024

2024 Training

Distance Learning:

Topics Included

Active Shooter Response 18 Hours	Mental Illness Awareness
Ambush Awareness	Arrest Control Tactics/Use of Force 10.25 Hours
Wellbeing For Officers	De-escalation Techniques
Anti-bias/Cultural Diversity	Basic Firearms Safety/Manipulation
State/Federal Law Update	Traffic Stop Safety
Ethics For Law Enforcement	

SMU PD Hosted Courses:

Topics Included

Defensive Tactics Gracie Police Tactics 8 hours	Security Officer Training 4 Hours
Use of Force 8 Hours	Firearms Training/Shooter Development
Incident Command Training 8 Hours	New Officer Field Training
ABLE 2024 Update 4 hours	ALERRT 18 Hours

Individual Training Highlights (courses taken by officers not hosted by SMUPD)

CPR/Adult First Aid	Crisis Negotiations Update
Threat Management	Criminal Investigations
COMET/NOAA Weather Recognition	

Individual Specialized Training Classes Taken by Officers

- Tactical Medical for First Responders
- Anti-Terrorism
- Public Safety UAS/Drone Pilot Training
- Bomb Detection
- Special Weapons and Tactics
- Verbal De-escalation and Active Bystander



Scenario Training:

SMU Officers participated in tri-city training over the 2024 summer to complete the mandated 16 hours of ALERRT Level 1 training. Lt Vasquez and Sgt Davis assisted as instructors to train officers from SMUPD, UPPD, and Highland Park Police Dept.

Total Training hours reported for 2024: 2397Hours

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, participated in a series of trainings and exercises for Active Threat response in 2024.
- The goal of this project was to develop a standard response plan to act as the framework for a multi-agency response to active threats.
- The training culminated in a full scale exercise involving all agencies and activation of the University Emergency Operations Center.



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



New Recruit Training and Selection

- All police applicants are screened for bias both during the screening and interview process as well as during employment background checks
 - Scenarios during the interview process
 - Use of the Guardian Technologies program to query the National Applicant Information Center (NAIC), National De-certification Index (NDI), and social media screening process.
- Applicants are instructed on the SMU PD Guiding Principles on policing and community engagement before an offer of employment
- During initial orientation all trainees receive 8-hour “Guiding Principles” training conducted by a Command Staff member

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 2024
- 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.



***Following a rigorous onsite
assessment,
SMUPD was awarded a Re-
Accreditation in June, 2024***

Summary

- In 2024 the SMU Police Department staff continued to address crime, focus on community engagement, and strive to meet and exceed the expectations of the campus community.
- The Department enjoyed strong support from students, faculty, and staff as well as University leadership.
- The men and women of the SMU PD are proud to Serve, Protect, and Defend our campus community.



Please Contact Us With Any Questions:

214-768-1519

police@smu.edu

SMU®

