

City of Anderson Police Department
 Proposal to the South Carolina Department of Public Safety for Body Armor for Fiscal Year 2010

Every contact that a police officer has with a suspect or perpetrator in the course of investigating a crime or suspicious behavior has the potential to develop into a violent confrontation.

According to the City of Anderson Police Department Fiscal Year 2008 Annual Report, during FY08, City of Anderson Police Officers addressed 70,215 calls-for service (CFS). Those 70,215 calls-for-service were broken down into 44,927 officer-generated & 25,288 citizen-generated calls. Citizen-generated calls-for-service occur disproportionately between the hours of 08:00 and 23:59 while officer-generated calls-for-service occur extremely disproportionately between the hours of 00:00 and 06:59 when it is dark.

Though all police calls pose potential danger to an officer, of the total number of CFS in FY08 (and FY07), the following table¹ depicts those calls that pose a higher than average potential for violence to be directed toward an officer of the City of Anderson Police Department:

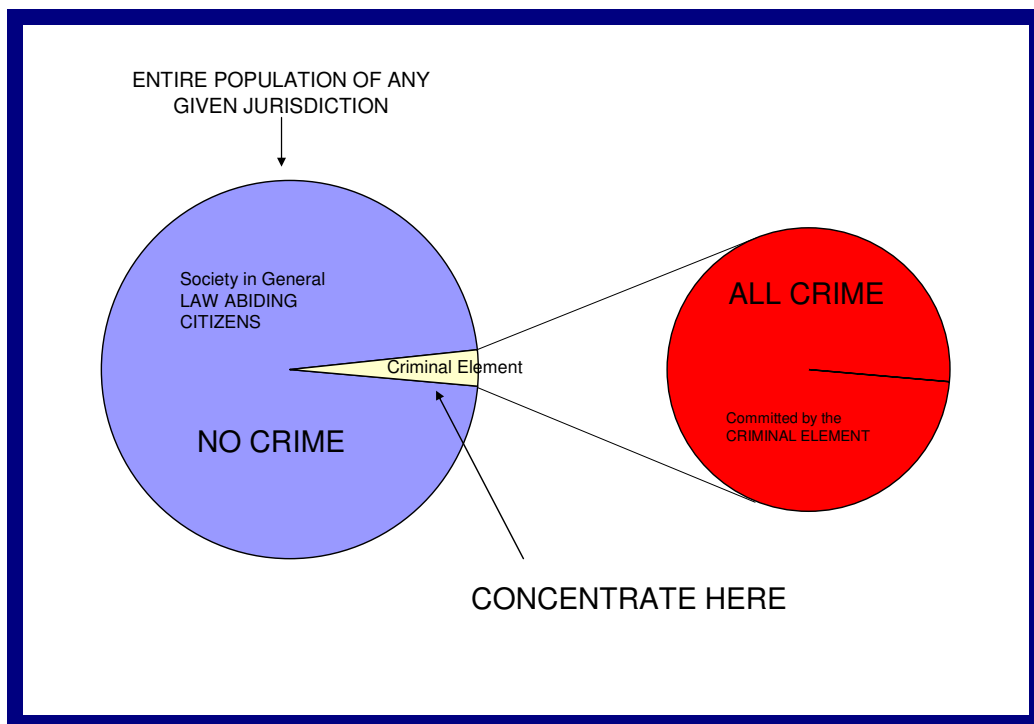
Call Type	2007	2008	Grand Total	Call Type	2007	2008	Grand Total
Active Warrant	147	20	167	Larceny In Prog.	21	27	48
Armed Robbery Delay	4	11	15	Larceny Just Occured	106	141	247
Armed Robbery In Prog.		6	6	Man With Gun	104	94	198
Armed Robbery Occured	22	42	64	Man With Knife Or Sharp Obj		12	12
Aslt/Rape-A/B Ls Pri2	5	2	7	Panic Alarm	151	166	317
Aslt/Rape-Als Pri1-Fr	4	8	12	Police Check Point	6	27	33
Assault In Prog.	22	24	46	Poss Terrorist Act		1	1
Assault Just Occured	118	147	265	Poss. Mental Subj	14	11	25
Assault Report	301	322	623	Possible Terrorist Act (Mail)		1	1
Assault/Rape	7	9	16	Prowler	279	357	636
Assault/Rape-Als Pri1	10	4	14	Psyc/Suicide -Als Pri2	29	20	49
Auto Break-In In Progress	8	7	15	Psyc/Suicide-Als Pri1	92	80	172
Auto Break-In Just Occured	6	11	17	Purse Snatching Just Occ	6	3	9
Auto Break-In Report	97	147	244	Purse Snatching Report	2	5	7
Bomb Threat	13	37	50	Pursuit	31	7	38
Break In - In Prog.	161	135	296	Serving Warrant	191	274	465
Break-In Just Occured	46	58	104	Sexual Assault/Rape	20	23	43
Break-In Report	472	467	939	Shooting	13	25	38
Burglar Alarm	2,718	2,934	5,652	Shooting In Area	220	234	454
Check Warrants	25	66	91	Shooting With Inj.		1	1
Child Abuse	10	8	18	Shoplifter In Custody	117	206	323
Civil Dispute		136	136	Shoplifter In Store	43	76	119
Civil Dispute In Prog	45	52	97	Shoplifter Outside	111	144	255
Civil Disturbance	888	1,020	1,908	Stab/Gsw-Als P1-Fr		1	1
Detention Order		1	1	Stab/Gsw-Als Pri1-Fr	4	3	7
Domestic Both Parties	1,393	1,111	2,504	Stab/Gunshot Wound	4	8	12
Domestic Unknown	120	202	322	Stab/Gunshot-Als Pri1	2	4	6
Domestic Verbal	22	50	72	Stabbing Just Occured	1	1	2
Domestic Weapons	37	38	75	Stabbing Report	1	3	4
Drug Activity	288	274	562	Stalking In Progress	5	2	7
Fight In Progress	268	278	546	Stalking Report	10	13	23
Fight Report	41	42	83	Stolen Vehicle In Progress	9	14	23
Holdup Alarm	116	94	210	Suicide		14	14
Hostage Situation	2		2	Suspicious Person	4,041	4,223	8,264
Indecent Exp In Prog	10	7	17	Suspicious Vehicle	1,790	2,007	3,797
Indecent Exp Just Occ	5	5	10	Threats	348	371	719
Indecent Exposure Rpt	5	6	11	Traffic Stop	8,173	11,406	19,579
Intoxicated Driver	258	445	703	Trespassing	59	94	153
Intoxicated Subject	99	127	226	Vandalism In Prog.	27	23	50
Juvenile Complaint	270	258	528	Vandalism Just Occ	58	63	121
Juvenile Problems	39		39	Vehicle Pursuit		55	55
Kidnapping Just Occurred	2	2	4	Warrant Served For Other Ager	4		4
Kidnapping Report	1	3	4	Grand Total	24,197	28,856	53,053

¹ City of Anderson Police Department Fiscal Year 2008 Annual Report. Condensed from tables on pages 41 – 42.

Most of the above-referenced calls were handled by the Patrol Unit. During FY08, there were approximately 50 Patrol personnel spread across four 12-hour shifts. They were scheduled to work, on average, 3 ½ days per week at 12.5 hours per day or roughly 183 days per year, excluding overtime and extra duty assignments. After assessing for vacation, holidays and average sick time, Patrol personnel seem to average about 165 12-hour workdays per year at work.² Based upon approximately 50 Patrol personnel working approximately 165 days in FY08 and addressing the 28,856 potentially violent situations listed in the previous table, it appears that each Patrol person would have an average of 577.12 calls of the above-referenced potentially violent nature per year or an average of 3.50 per average workday, based upon FY08 data.

Unlike the typical working-professional, police do not deal exclusively with the “average person” during the normal course of their workday. Many people that police deal with on a daily basis result in emotionally charged close encounters – such as arrest situations – which produce an increased likelihood of violence. Indeed, the department’s crime-suppression model is a pie chart that depicts the small amount of the population that police personnel disproportionately deal with. Those people seem to have personality types that are substantially different from the rest of the population of hard-working, tax-paying, law-abiding citizens. We infer that these people are more likely than the average citizen to attack police officers.

The premises behind the City of Anderson Police Department’s programs to control violent crime are (1) violent crime is controllable and (2) decreasing violent crime in a particular environment can be achieved through (a) modifying the environment by limiting the opportunities for people to commit crime, and/or (b) pro-actively arresting, convicting, and incarcerating offenders, thereby removing the perpetrators of crime from the environment. The following illustration depicts the City of Anderson Police Department’s model for its crime-control programs:



² Calculation based upon: Ten 8-hour holidays per year, ½ of the 96 sick hours per year and twelve 8-hour vacation days for new hires @ 8 hours per month, all total and divided by 12. The 183 scheduled days – 18 = 165 work days.

The 70,215 calls for police service in FY08 resulted in arrests of 3,276 suspects, produced 2,993 criminal charges and 10,392 traffic citations. The criminal charges - which resulted from actual custodial arrests - included both violent and nonviolent encounters. Subsequent to the above calls-for-service, officers investigated 2 murders, 19 forcible sex-related events (fondling, rape and sodomy), 10 arsons, 142 aggravated assaults, 58 robberies, 138 motor vehicle thefts, 662 larcenies, 260 thefts, and 358 burglaries.³ These crimes are the federal classifications of the Uniform Crime Reports crime-type and are exclusive of each other. In other words they are counted only once and the “thefts” that are listed are not also counted as larcenies nor are the “Motor Vehicle Thefts” counted as larcenies or “Thefts”, etc. A substantial number of these crimes resulted in physical arrests. Apprehension(s) of individuals who commit these types of crimes have a high probability of quickly becoming violent.

Of the 2,993 criminal charges in FY08, 663 were made by the narcotics Unit. The 663 consisted of 149 General Sessions cases & 514 City Court cases. Many of these cases were against known or suspected (potential) narcotics traffickers. Officers seized powdered cocaine worth \$12,100, Methamphetamines worth \$3,800, Assorted Pills worth \$210, Marijuana worth \$19,140, and \$20,500 worth of Crack-Cocaine. (All figures are “street value”)⁴ It seems logical to infer that many persons in Anderson City are “Drugged UP” and may pose a danger to police.

Finally, a quick review of the FY08 CFS demonstrates the severity of the daily threat posed to officers. In FY08 department officers addressed calls for service involving:⁵

- 260 shooting events
- 55 chases
- 94 “men with gun(s)”
- 12 “men with knives” or similar objects
- 278 fights in progress
- 516 assaults
- 1,208 civil disputes or disturbances
- 4,223 calls investigating suspicious person(s)
- 2,007 suspicious vehicle stops
- 11,406 traffic stops.

The City of Anderson Police Department has a policy in place mandating that all officers wear body armor while on duty. However, much of the current inventory of body armor is outdated and either about to expire or is of an incorrect size. Due to current economic conditions, the city’s budgetary constraints prevent the purchase of body armor in an amount sufficient to safely equip all officers in a timely manner.

³ City of Anderson Police Department Fiscal Year 2008 Annual Report. Page 43

⁴ Narcotics data from the City of Anderson Police Department FY08 Annual Report. Page 50.

⁵ City of Anderson Police Department Fiscal Year 2008 Annual Report. Pages 41 – 42.