

ANNUAL REPORT

2014

Granite Falls Police Department is striving to improve the quality of life by providing a safe and secure environment.

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The mission of the Granite Falls Police Department is to improve the quality of life of all citizens by providing a safe and secure environment. To enforce the laws of the United States, state and local government and preserve the peace, while protecting the rights of all and applying the highest standard of professionalism, integrity and accountability in partnership with the entire community.

Core Values

Integrity: We value ethical conduct, public trust, and commit ourselves to personal and professional excellence. We are uncompromising in our commitment to truth, honesty, and respect in all relationships. We hold ourselves accountable for our actions and inactions, and are open and honest in our dealings with each other. We have the courage to do what is right and to stand against what is wrong.

Respect: We accept diversity with tolerance & understanding. Listen with patience, value opinions and provide feedback. We value life and safety. We are committed to serve and treat all human beings with the utmost sensitivity, compassion, and concern.

Dedication: We are dedicated to the organization, each other, our families, and the citizens we serve. We are dedicated to working in partnerships with the community and each other to reduce crime, enhance customer service, and improve quality of life. We are dedicated to our core values and to upholding our oath of office.

On behalf of the men and women of the Granite Falls Police Department, it is my pleasure to present our 2014 Annual Report. This report illustrates our continued desire to provide quality service to the citizens and guests of the Town of Granite Falls.

I would like to thank the men and women of this department for helping to make Granite Falls a safer and more secure environment. Their dedication and perseverance help make this town a wonderful place to call home. I would also like to thank the Mayor, the Town Council, and the Town Manager for the work they do in making sound decisions for the greater good of our community. As always, I would like to thank each department head and employees of their respective departments for the cooperation and willingness to help each other and to help those in need. This combined effort often allows us to provide an even better service to the citizens and those passing through our town.

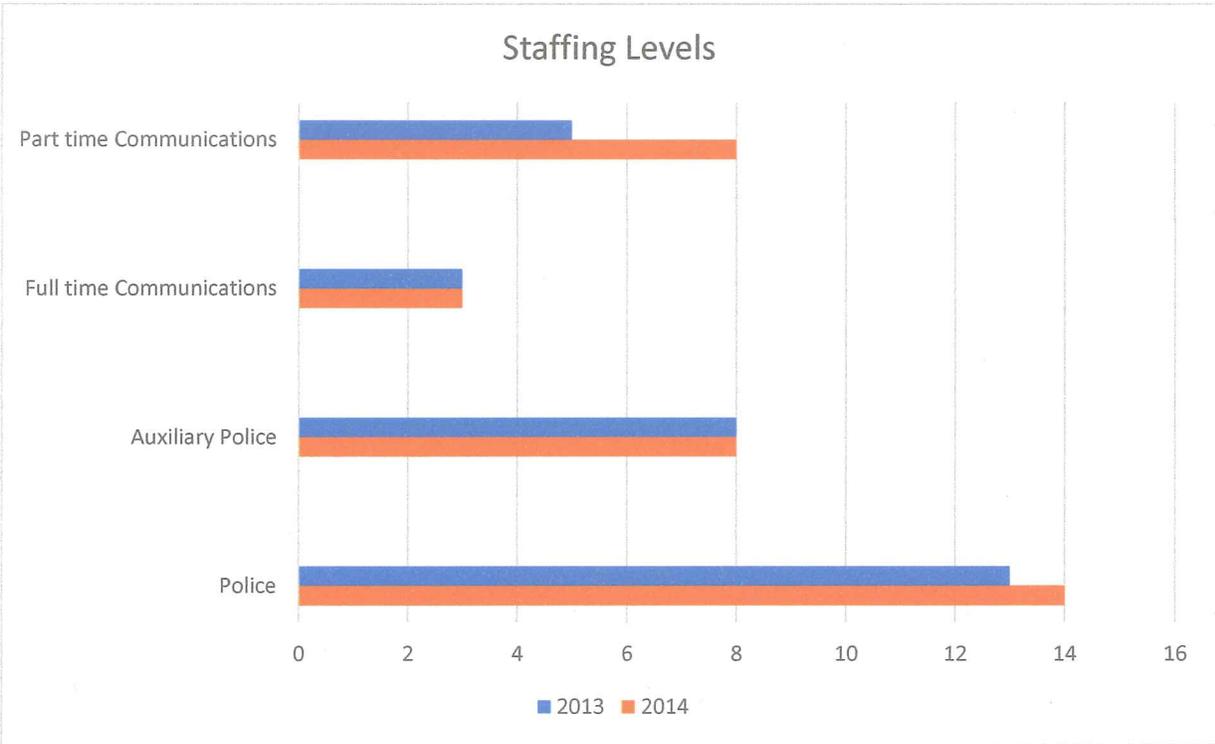
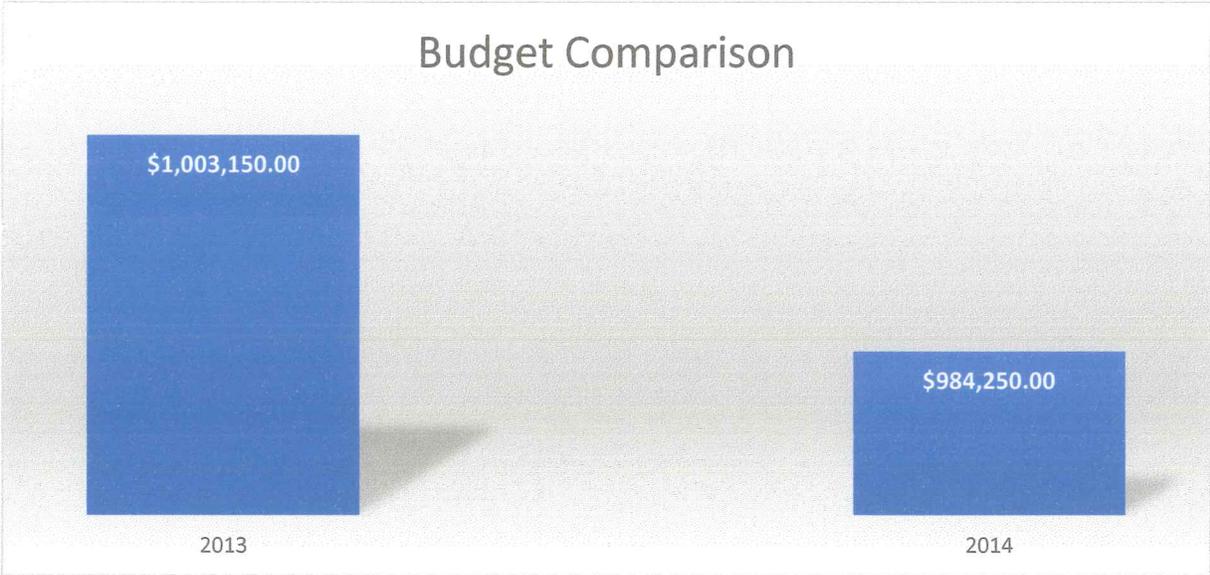
Thank you for taking the time to review our 2014 Annual Report.

Respectfully,

Ritch Bolick

Ritch Bolick

Chief of Police





New Personnel Additions

Alexander Gaillard	Police Officer
Amber Grout	Police Officer
Chris Presnell	Auxiliary Police Officer
Shane Woodward	Police Officer
BJ Teague	Police Officer
Chad Biddix	Police Officer
Arturo Mandujano	Auxiliary Police Officer
Robert Todd	Auxiliary Police Officer
Mariah Campbell	Records Clerk

Awards and Associations

2014 Officer of the Year

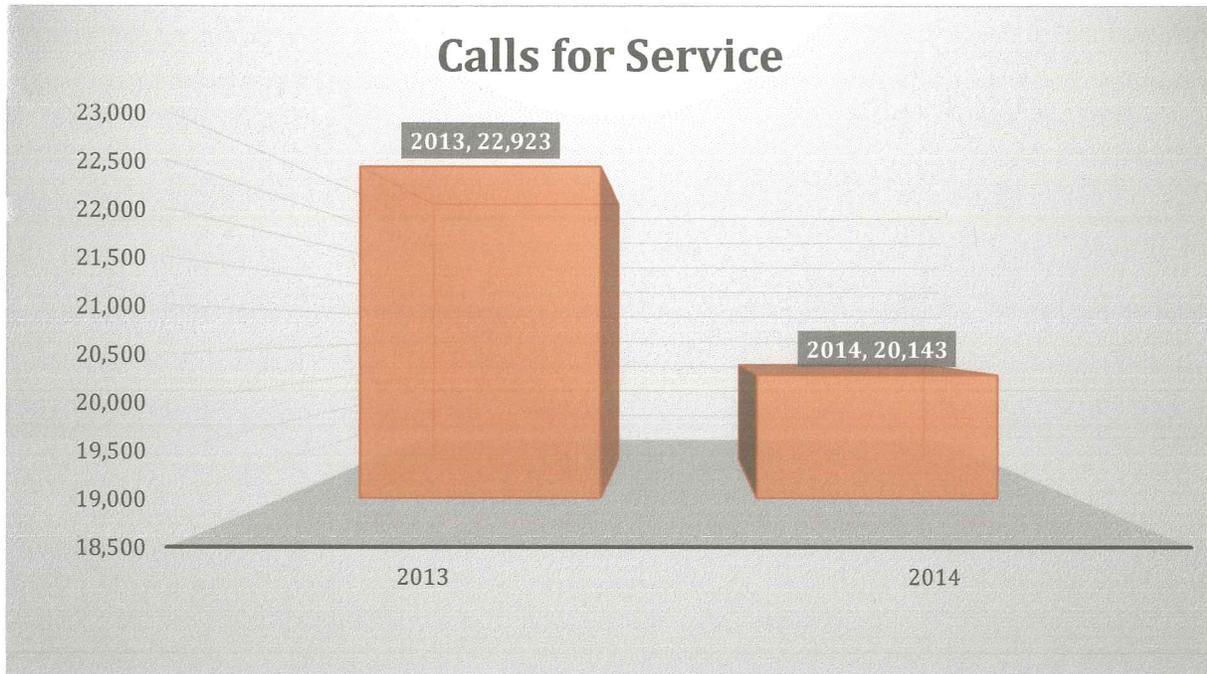
Clint Ferguson

2014 Communications Officer of the Year

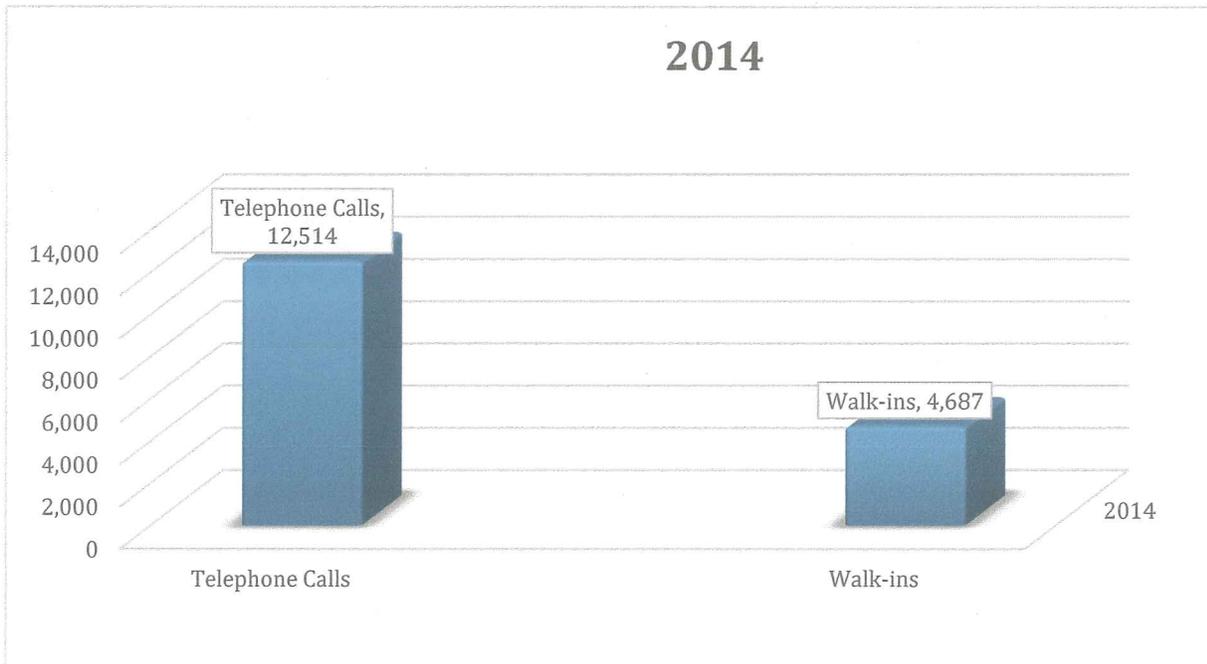
Paulette Lingerfelt

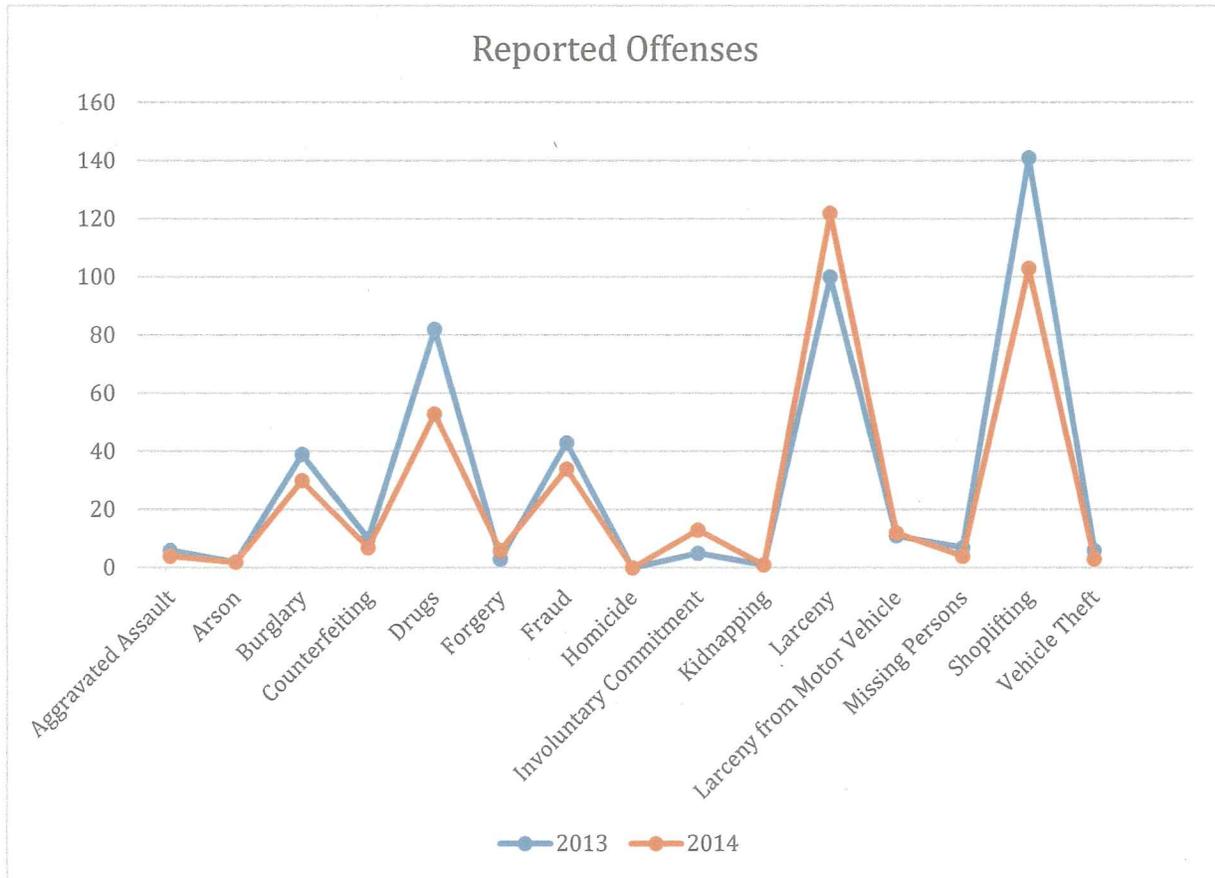
North Carolina Association of Chiefs of Police
North Carolina Police Executives Association
North Carolina Homicide Investigators Association
North Carolina DARE Officers Association
North Carolina Tactical Officers Association
North Carolina Criminal Information Exchange
Robin's Nest Child Advocacy Center Partner

Calls for Service



2014





PATROL DIVISION

The Patrol Division is divided into two 12 hour shifts each day, led by a Patrol Sergeant who is responsible for the supervision, evaluation, and discipline of the patrol personnel. The Patrol Sergeants report to the Patrol Commander. The Sergeants are the first line supervisors of the patrol officers on their respective shifts. In addition to supervising and instructing the patrol officers, the Patrol Sergeants also respond to the same calls for service as the patrol officers.

The uniformed Patrol Officers are the backbone of the entire department. It is their job to provide all aspects of police services to the community including taking calls for service and complaints, conducting criminal investigations, providing traffic enforcement and accident investigations, as well as patrolling the community to protect life and property and preserving peace and order.

Aside from their daily activities the officers of the Granite Falls Police Department participated in a number of special events that occur throughout the year in the Town of Granite Falls. Some of those events were:

Art in the Park

Merchant's Festival

Light up Granite Falls

Tree Lighting Ceremony

Christmas Parade

ASU Football Game Security

Types of Calls for Service

Call Type	2013	2014
Accidents Reported	304	291
Animal Complaints	120	117
Assist Stranded Motorists	237	229
Check the Welfare	95	106
Business Checks	3,387	3,095
Special Checks	2,906	1,377
Residence Checks	120	221
Misdemeanor Arrests	327	194
Misdemeanor Offenses Charged	514	296
Felony Arrests	56	49
Felony Offenses Charged	95	81
Criminal Papers Served	350	158
Civil Papers Served	128	133
Reports Taken	708	579
Citations Issued	797	496
Citation Charges	1,105	674
Warning Citations	699	404
Verbal Warnings	189	218
Alarms Answered	401	412
Prowler	32	19
Suspicious Person / Vehicle	947	850

Types of Calls for Service

Call Type	2013	2014
Open door / window	26	21
Breaking and Entering	64	58
Domestic Disputes	155	142
Civil Disturbance	154	145
Fight in Progress	37	26
School Crossings	506	729
Fingerprinting	40	21
Juvenile Problem	61	162
Keys in Vehicle	208	240
Funeral Escorts	35	43
Mutual Aid - Caldwell County Sheriff's Office	68	51
Hudson Police	0	6
Lenoir Police	1	2
Rhodhiss Police	0	1
Other Agency	17	5
Ordinance Violation - Loud Music	37	49
Alcohol Violation	4	1
Discharge Firearm	25	21
Skateboarding	3	2
All Other	26	26
Electric Department After Hours Call Out	36	32
Water Department After Hours Call Out	50	60



Investigative Division

The Criminal Investigative Division (CID) consists of two (2) investigators and a School Resource Officer. CID is responsible for all investigations conducted by the Granite Falls Police Department. The investigations range from the typical criminal investigation, serious and fatal traffic investigations, death investigations, arson investigations, child abuse investigations, employee background investigations, professional standards investigations, and all other investigations ordered by the chief of police. The two investigators work closely with the patrol officers of the department to ensure that every incident reported is followed up with after the initial reporting process. CID is also responsible for evidence integrity.

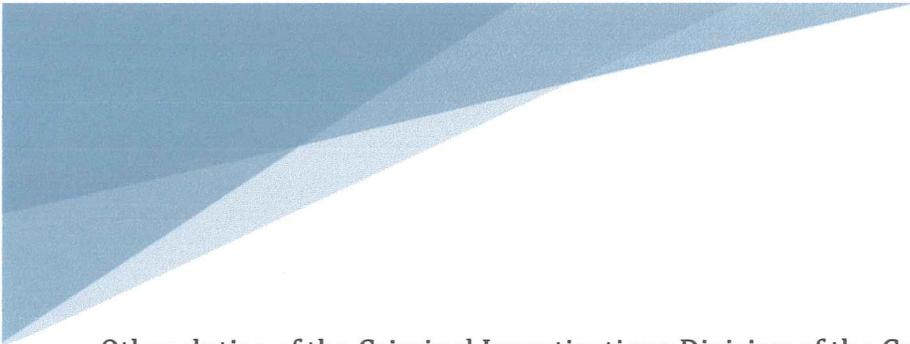
From January 1st, 2014 to December 31st, 2014 the Criminal Investigations Division investigated 148 of the most serious incidents from the 579 reported to the Granite Falls Police Department. There are 12 active cases that will carry over from 2014. There are 44 cases that are pending prosecution by the District Attorney's Office, giving the department a positive clearance rate of 56% for 2014. As we passed the fifth anniversary of the Tony Myers murder, the investigation is active and ongoing. The NCSBI has continued to assist in the investigations as well as the ATF and FBI.

Investigative Trends

Below is a listing of Index Crimes reported to the Uniform Crime Report. Since 1930, the FBI has gathered crime statistics from law enforcement agencies across the nations that voluntarily participate in the program.

Murder - 0
Rape - 2
Robbery - 2
Aggravated Assault - 2
Burglary - Forcible - 15
Burglary - Non-forcible - 13
Larceny - Purse snatching - 5
Larceny - Shoplifting - 103
Larceny - all other - 94
Motor Vehicle Theft - 3
Arson - 3
Fraud - theft - 45

The Criminal Investigative Division has also successfully followed through with the District Attorney's Office for the prosecution 12 defendants in the state court system for the 2014 year. A total of 32.5 years sentence in the North Carolina Department of Corrections have been handed down from cases generated and or investigated by this division.



Other duties of the Criminal Investigations Division of the Granite Falls Police Department are the processing of and storage of all property collected by Granite Falls Police Officers. In 2014 Granite Falls Police Officers submitted 723 pieces of property into evidence. The items submitted included found property, recovered stolen property, firearms, narcotics, evidence in criminal cases, and other items of evidentiary value fruitful to investigations. Twenty-six (26) items were sent to the NC State Bureau of Investigation's Crime Lab for testing and analysis.

A forensic interview of a child is a developmentally sensitive and legally sound method of gathering factual information regarding allegations of abuse and/or exposure to violence. The Granite Falls Police Department agreed to train an investigator in this field of expertise to insure sensitive cases involving abuse and or violence are investigated to the maximum potential. Captain T.J. Bates conducted seventeen (17) forensic interviews of children at the Robin's Nest Children's Advocacy Center of Caldwell County in 2014.

The Granite Falls Police Department has a partnership with the Caldwell County Schools to supply Granite Falls Middle School with a full time SRO. Officer Jon Hicks is assigned to the school. Officer Hicks delivers DARE curriculum to the 7th grade students yearly. Officer Hicks handled one hundred eleven (111) juvenile related incidents at GFMS during 2014. Officer Hicks is responsible for filing juvenile petitions with the Juvenile Court Counselor to aid in stopping delinquent behavior. Officer Hicks also serves on several committees at the school and mentors students daily. During the summer break, Officer Hicks served as an additional patrol officer was assigned to a shift to assist patrol operations.

Additional Duties

This division was also responsible for the investigation and reconstruction of (3) vehicle crashes where injuries occurred. Our investigations assisted road officers to determine speed at impact, contributing factors for the incident, and determining fault in the crash.

This division also approved traffic crash reports to be sent to the Department of Transportation for statistical analysis.

The Investigative Division approved 46 prosecution summaries of Patrol Officers and submitted those summaries to the District Attorney's office for indictment for felony investigations.

This division supervised 1 intern from South Caldwell High School during 2014 for a total of 260 hours of credit. This allowed the intern to gain an overview of experience in patrol, investigation, and administration law enforcement roles.

DARE



The Investigative Division also oversees the delivery of the D.A.R.E. curriculum. During 2014, the D.A.R.E. program was taught to 98 5th grade students at Granite Falls Elementary, and 191 7th grade students at Granite Falls Middle School.





TRAINING

The Granite Falls Police Department continues to strive to obtain the highest degree of professionalism and to meet or exceed all requirements set out by the Town of Granite Falls, the State of North Carolina, and the Federal Government of the United States. The Granite Falls Police Department is determined to improve the service to the people of this community by providing training for our officers in many specialized areas. During 2014, officers attended training in the following areas:

Tactical Combat Casualty Care (T3C) for Law Enforcement, A Stakeholder Symposium on Active Shooter Trends, Taser Certification, Taser Re-Certification, Standardized Field Sobriety Testing, Southern Software Public Safety User's Conference, DARE Instructor, Evidence Management, Law Enforcement Support Services (L.E.S.S.), Active Shooter Seminar, Child Abuse Training Symposium, Child Protective Seat Checking Station Certification.

During 2014 our officers also participated in the mandated training that is required by the North Carolina Criminal Justice Training and Standards Commission. These areas of instruction included:

Legal Update, Juvenile Minority Sensitivity Training, Officer Survival: The First 5 Minutes, Rapid Deployment Refresher and Practical, Responding to Crimes Off-Duty, Law Enforcement Intelligence Update, Use of Force, Firearms, NIMS IS-00100.b, IS-00200.b, IS-00700.a, ICS-300, ICS-400.

CONCLUSION

In closing, I want to thank the men and women of the Granite Falls Police Department for their continued dedication and commitment to the profession and to the community they serve. The hard work of these men and women is often overlooked or soon forgotten until the next tragic event happens. I am proud of the accomplishments of the Granite Falls Police Department and I am proud to work for the Town of Granite Falls. Thank you again for taking the time to read our report but always remember that the writing on this paper, the statistics, and the charts and graphs will never be able to accurately demonstrate the amount of hard work and heart that these men and women put into being a part of the Granite Falls Police Department.



Granite Falls Police Department

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