

Delaware Department of Safety and Homeland Security

# Delaware Capitol Police



**Annual Report  
2021**

**Chief Michael Hertzfeld**



## Overview

### *The History of the Delaware Capitol Police*

In 1965, Delaware Capitol Police (DCP) began as a three-man unit to watch over Legislative Hall to deter vandalism of the property. The role of the unit known as Capitol Security was later expanded to include the surveillance of several other state properties. The unit was not funded and relied on donations and transfers of equipment from other agencies. The unit had a used state vehicle with no markings, no emergency lights, or police radio. The security officers were unarmed and carried only nightsticks, handcuffs, and a canister of tear gas. The officers received no formal training!

By 1980 all the officers who were qualified to attend the Delaware State Police (DSP) Academy had completed their training. In Wilmington, the Carvel Building was completed in 1977 and there was a request to increase the number of Capitol Security Police officers assigned. This request was granted and the staffing in Wilmington was increased to four police officers. During this same period, the Capitol Security Police was renamed the Delaware Capitol Police (DCP).

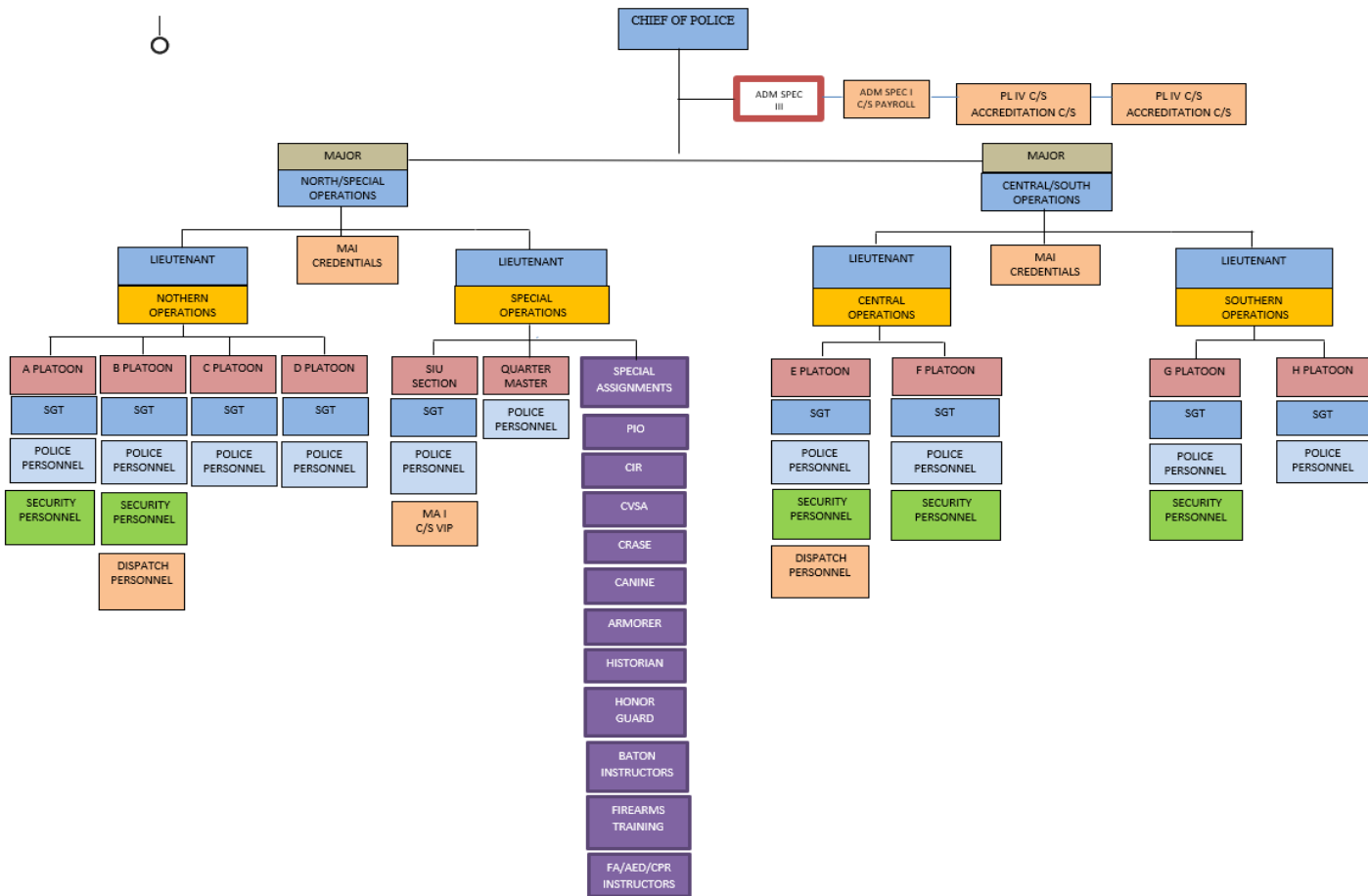
Fifty-six years later, the Delaware Capitol Police is a Division that has 92 full-time employees; 73 of which are sworn police officers with statewide jurisdiction, providing police and security services for the employees, residents, and visitors to various locations throughout all three counties of the First State.



***“It is the mission of Delaware Capitol Police to protect the people and strategic properties within State Government. “***

The officers of the Delaware Capitol Police strive to complete this mission by embracing the core values of Service, Integrity, Courage and Professionalism.

# DELAWARE CAPITOL POLICE



## Delaware Capitol Police Maintains Three Explosive Detection Canine Teams (1 in each county)

### Northern Operation Services:

- 900 King Street Building
- Carvel State Building
- Leonard L. Williams Justice Center
- Medical Examiner's Office
- Renaissance Building

### Central Operation Services:

- Dover Patrol Section (servicing over 80 separate state facilities)
- Kent County Courthouse
- Kent County Family Court
- Legislative Hall
- Supreme Court
- Tatnall Building
- Woodburn (Governor's Mansion)

### Southern Operation Services:

- Sussex County Court of Chancery
- Sussex County Courthouse
- Sussex County Family Court

### Special Operation Services:

- Canine Unit
- CRASE Unit
- CVSA Unit
- Firearms Unit
- Honor Guard Unit
- Quartermaster
- Recruitment Unit
- Special Investigations Unit

## 2021 In Review

In many ways, 2021 replicated 2020, by in large due to the COVID virus, because of this world pandemic, life as we knew it previously has been changed forever. Even though the pandemic has lessened by some accounts, the mission of the Delaware Capitol Police Department remained constant in protecting the public and all properties served.

### Policing the courts during a Pandemic

In 2021, although many of the buildings operated by Delaware Capitol Police (DCP) reopened they did with some restrictions. The Division effectively operated throughout the State with the goal of understanding that the pandemic impacted many who entered the properties; however, it was paramount that officers continued to accentuate the core values of the department by providing the public with high-quality service, integrity, courage, and professionalism.



## Screened Entrants

Over the course of 2021, there was a slight downward trend in entrants at the Northern Operations due to a longer closure at this operation in comparison to the Central and Southern Operations where the entrants were more noticeable:

➤ **.09% decrease** in entrants at the *Northern Operations*

- 2020 - 443,337
- 2021 - 439,241

*\*There were more entrants in 2020 due to the voting season\**

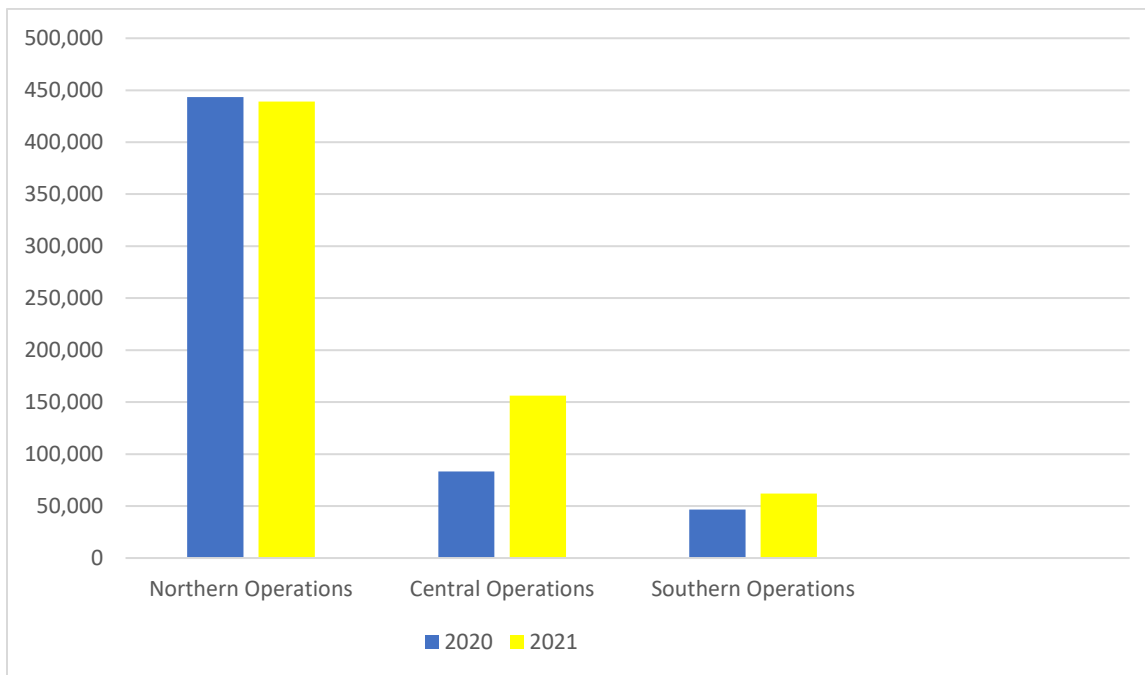
➤ **.87% increase** in entrants at the *Central Operations*

- 2020 - 83,308
- 2021 - 156,078

➤ **.32% increase** in entrants at the *Southern Operations*

- 2020 - 46,732
- 2021 - 61,877

## Screened Entrants



## Capitol Police 2021 Highlights

Delaware Capitol Police during its normal course of business stays vigilant in the daily operations throughout the state's courthouses and administrative buildings. Below are some snapshots highlighting officers' performance in going beyond the call to duty.

- ❖ DCP has taken the monumental leap in obtaining National Accreditation! The process of Division policy review and practical application by each member of the department both sworn and non-sworn is an enormous undertaking; in 2022 the Division will go through a vigorous evaluation in achieving this tremendous goal.
- ❖ When there are opportunities to collaborate with other agencies DCP is more than willing to assist; over the course of the year, Central Operations officers collaborated with local authorities to address a homeless issue between the jurisdictions. In this instance, officers did an exceptional job to address the issues and assist with coming to an amenable resolution.
- ❖ A lifesaving event occurred during the period in the Northern Operation where an officer assisted with "rescue breathing" that clearly was instrumental in saving the life of a pedestrian near state property.
- ❖ During the Presidential Inauguration, units in the Northern Operation were tasked with providing escort services in select state buildings. This assignment was handled professionally and seamlessly even while normal operations were underway.



## **A Dedication to Public Service**

In addition to providing traditional police and security services, the Delaware Capitol Police provides an array of unique services to both the community and employees of the State of Delaware.

### **Violence Intervention Program (VIP)**

The Violence Intervention Program (VIP) provides a protective service for Domestic Violence Victims attending judicial hearings in the Delaware Courts. The program involves a coordinated effort between the Special Investigations Unit and the other three Operations. This effort combines investigative tactics and security tactics to provide Domestic Violence Victims a safe and secure environment while in the Court System.

#### **During the calendar year 2021:**

**24 New Cases in which citizens were protected under the VIP**

**24 Individuals were escorted to the Courts**

**3 Individuals were protected via the BOLO provision**

**24 VIP Follow up inquiries**

### **CRASE Unit**

The Division has a three police officer team that is assigned to the *Civilian Response to Active Shooter Event (CRASE)*. This program is instructed in person and free of charge to state employees from all three branches of state government (Legislative, Executive, and Judicial). The program assists in giving state employees the tools, knowledge, and skills needed, should they face an active shooter event within their workplace. The COVID pandemic has impacted participation in this particular program for 2020 as well as in 2021 where there were no in-person training sessions, all sessions were conducted virtually.

**For statistical comparison, the total number of trained employees for 2020 and 2021 are listed below (\* all training for 2021 was completed virtually\*):**

**Total number of employees trained in 2020: 263**

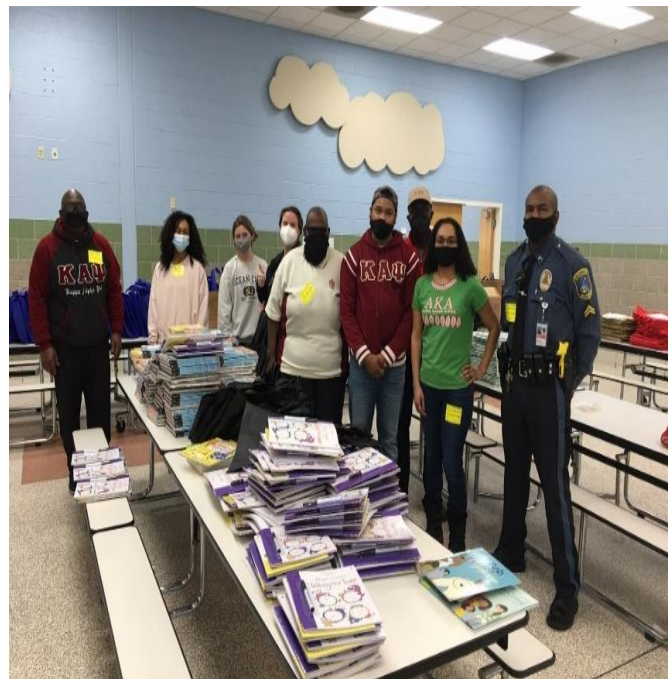
**Total number of employees trained in 2021: 161**

## CISM

The Division has a five police officer team that is assigned to the ***Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) team***. The team assists and supports EMS, Fire, Law Enforcement, and other first responders in mitigating and responding to the normal emotional and psychological effects experienced following stressful responses and critical incidents.

## Community Outreach

Each year Delaware Capitol Police officers do their part in giving back to the community. This is accomplished in a variety of ways; officers participate in “turkey drives” during the holiday season to support families in need, as well as, annually, partaking in “National Police Week”, with some objectives being to display resources, skills and congeniality of the officers working for the department. Although these events are worked by officers in uniform, the opportunity for personnel to engage the public in a relaxed, non-confrontational environment is immeasurable in building solid relationships with the community





## Operational Statistics

### Calls for Service (CFS): Northern, Central, Southern and Special Investigation Unit Operations

Calls for Service for the three Uniformed Operations all had a slight increase over 2021, Special Operations had a slight decrease in comparison to 2020.

- Northern Operation fielded 6,677 Calls for Service, a *15% increase*
- Central Operation fielded 2,083 Calls for Service, an *14% increase*
- Southern Operation fielded 1,656 Calls for Service, a *4% increase*
- Special Investigation Unit Operation fielded 719 Calls for Service, a *17% decrease*



### Types of Calls

Delaware Capitol Police “Calls for Service” (CFS) are broken down into three categories, Law Enforcement Tasks, Security Tasks and Custodial Tasks.

**Law Enforcement Tasks** are those tasks associated with traditional policing, such as investigations of possible criminal activity, first response to injury or illness, dealing with disorderly subjects, preventing a breach of release or peace, public service tasks and traffic related activities.

<b>Law Enforcement Tasks</b>	<b>Southern</b>	<b>Central</b>	<b>Northern</b>
Investigative Actions	55	106	44
Disorderly /Breach of Release /Peace	4	13	27
Injury/Medical	5	4	5
Public Relations/Public Service	5	41	235
Traffic Related	26	62	27

**Security Tasks** are those tasks related to providing safe and secure facilities. Such tasks include response to panic /fire alarms, protective escorts of various parties entering and exiting state facilities. Conducting both property and building checks, as well as providing a police presence during contentious or high-profile court cases and events in state facilities.

<b>Security Tasks</b>	<b>Southern</b>	<b>Central</b>	<b>Northern</b>
Alarm Response	1	59	77
Escort Protective	30	20	62
Building Sweep/Property Check	1143	1177	3491
Court Security/On Site Security	12	16	60
Secure Relays	168	8	190
Scanned Parcels/Packages	52,322	64,394	313,317

**Custodial Tasks** are all tasks associated with the handling of persons wanted on court capiases and law enforcement warrants. This category also includes handling of persons committed by the courts and any transports of prisoners to detention facilities.

Custodial Tasks	Southern	Central	Northern
Arrestees Processed	308	576	1182
Prisoner Transport	32	1	77
Capiases Processed	87	850	1640
Warrants Processed	235	68	48
Commitals	19	76	34

**Special Investigations Unit (SIU) Calls for Service**

The Special Investigations Unit (SIU) is separate from the three geographical operations in both location and scope of tasks. The Operation functions throughout the State and conducts both criminal and administrative/security investigations. For 2021, Special Operations handled 719 total Calls for Service.

**Administrative/Security Calls for Service 439**

This category includes the following:

- Threat/Site Assessments
- VIP (Violence Intervention Program) activity
- Protective Details
- Background Investigations
- Professional Standards Investigations
- Any unit responses not affiliated with a criminal complaint
- Contractor Screening

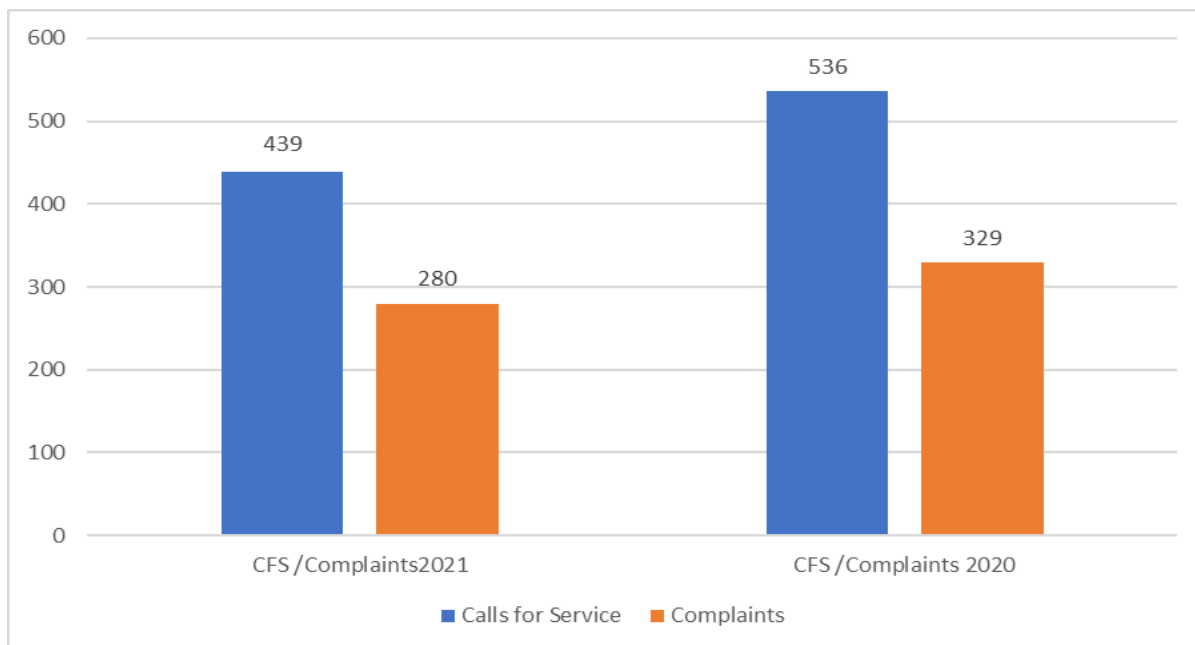
**Criminal Calls for Service 280**

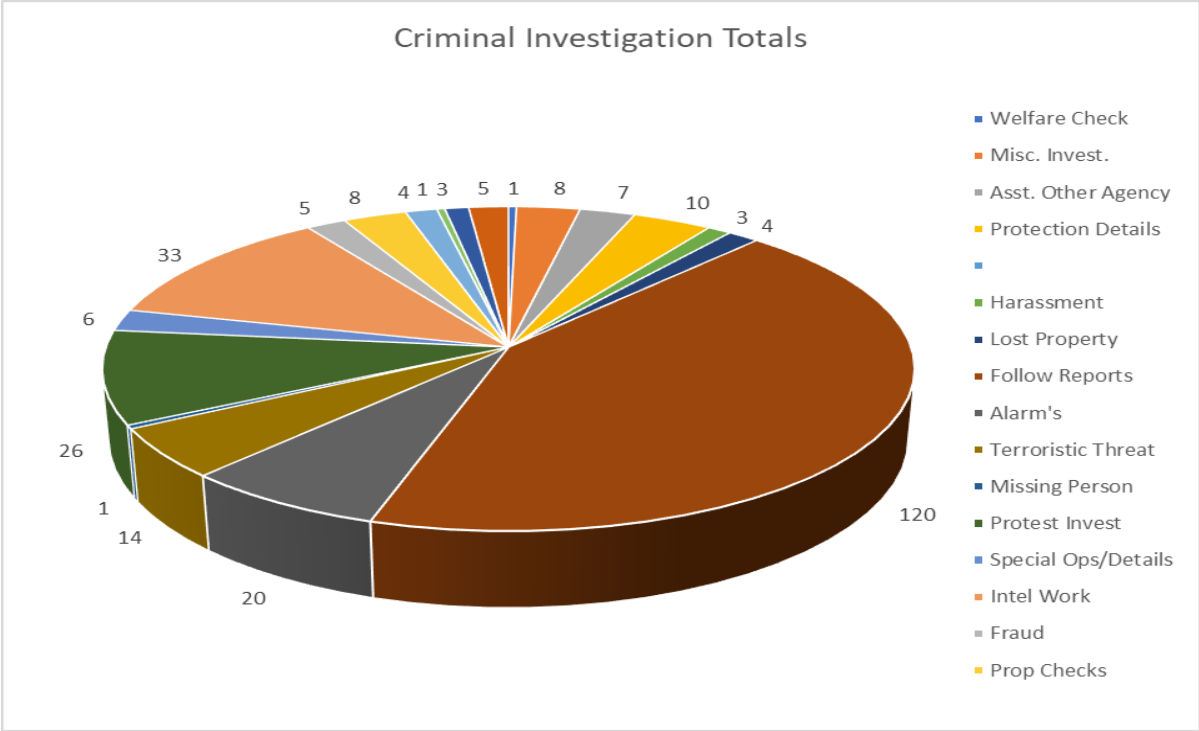
This category includes the following:

- Reports of Criminal Activity
- Criminal Arrests
- Criminal Investigations
- Miscellaneous Investigations
- Intelligence reports and dissemination of Intelligence information

Types of Criminal Complaints:

Escape 0	Resisting Arrest 0	Check Welfare 1
Police Presence/EPU 10	Trespassing 0	Assist Other Agency 7
Medical Assist. 0	Violation of Privacy 0	Harassment 3
Follow Up Investigations 120	Serve PFA 0	Confident Investigations 0
Sus. Phone Harass. 0	Traffic Violations 0	Rape 0
Terrorist Threat 14	Property Checks 9	Lost property 4
Miscellaneous 8	Missing Person 1	Suspicious Package 0
Suspicious Letter 5	Protest Invest. 26	MV Accident 0
Thefts 4	Bomb Threat 1	Public Rel. 3
Evidence 0	Alarms 20	Intel Invest. 33
Fraud 5	Special Ops. Recruit/ Honor 6	

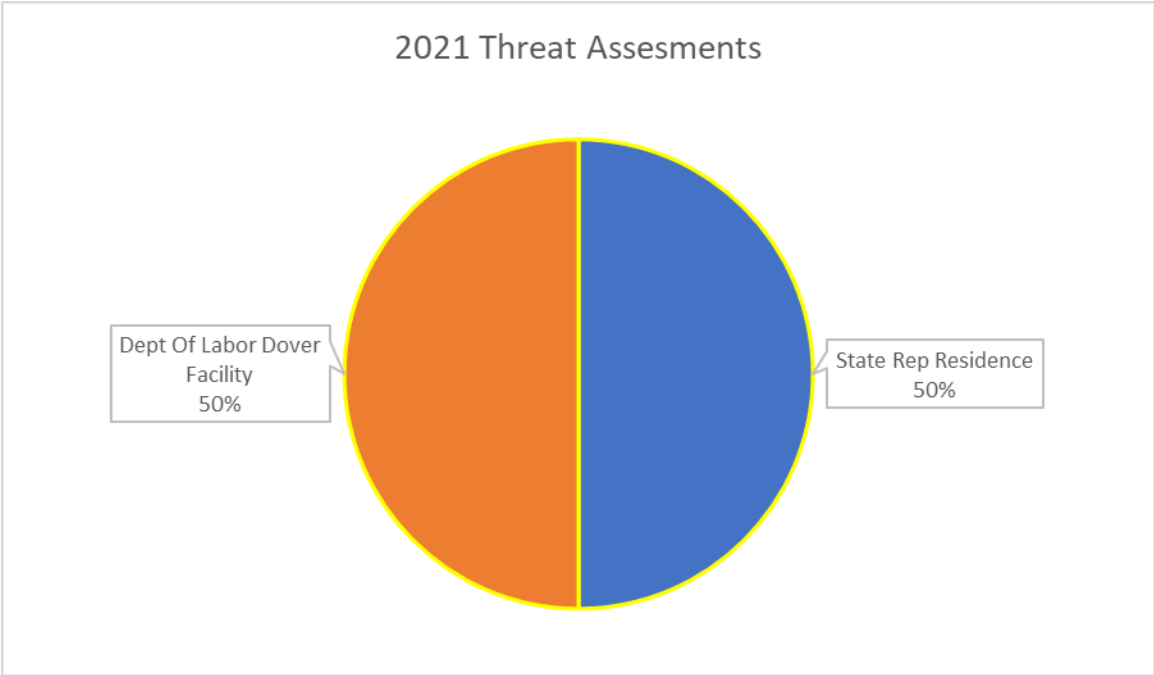




**Threat Assessments**

The DCP provides the service of inspecting and evaluating State facilities for potential threats. These assessments are done at the formal request of any State Agency.

Total number of Threat/Site Assessments: **2**





## Professional Standards Investigations (PSI)

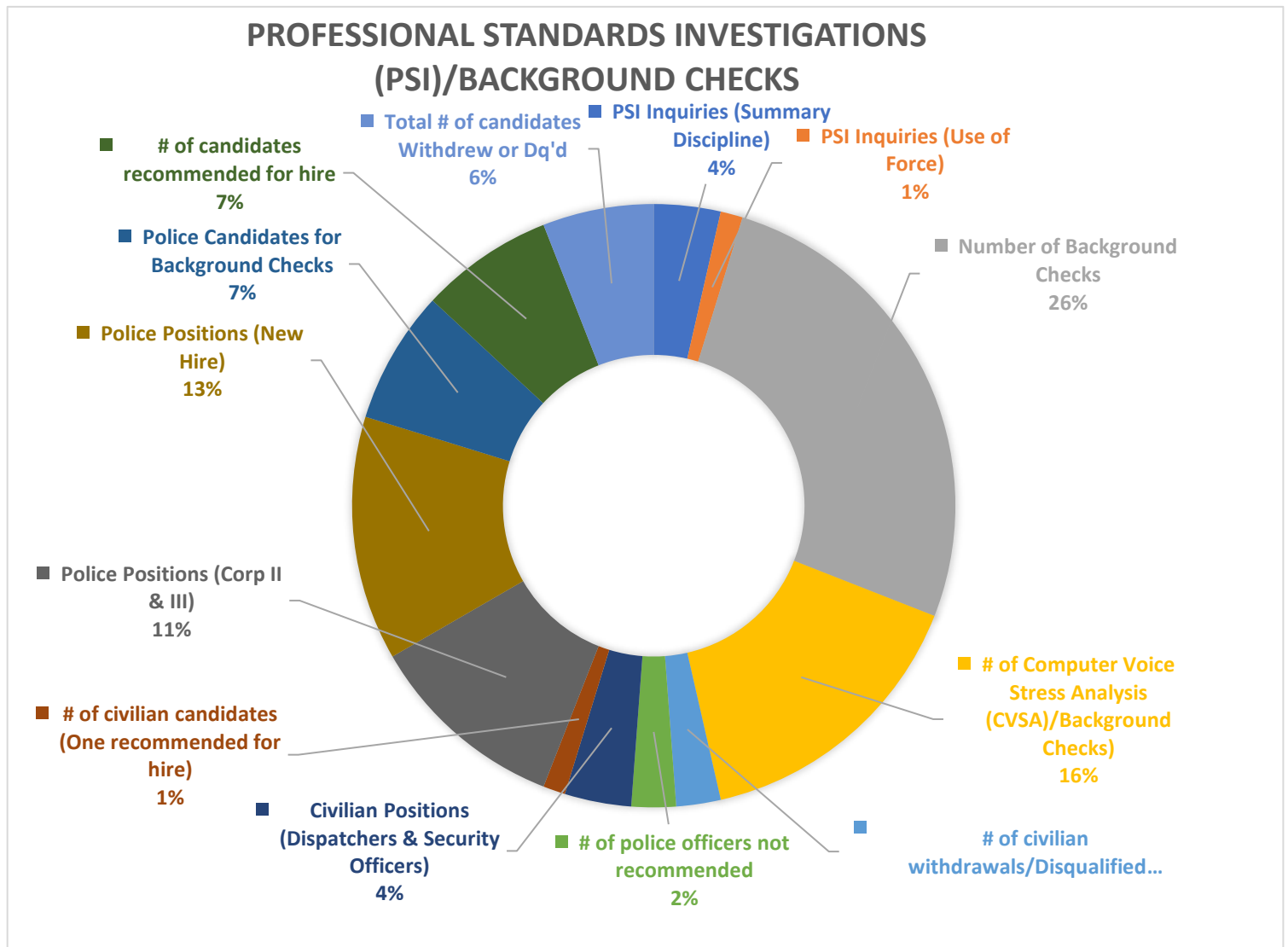
The Special Investigations Unit's supervisor is the primary investigator for conducting Professional Standards Investigations and inquiries at the direction of the Chief of Police. An inquiry is an informal procedure to review a complaint or determine a set of facts to establish if grounds exist to proceed with a formal investigation into whether the rules and regulations of the Division have been violated, or if a law(s) have been broken by Divisional personnel. PSI investigations are formal and conducted whenever there are grounds to believe that a member(s) of the Division has violated the law or the rules and regulations governing the conduct of personnel.

**During the 2021 calendar year: 8**

*Inquiries conducted that did not result in a PSI: 7*

*PSI Investigations completed: 1*

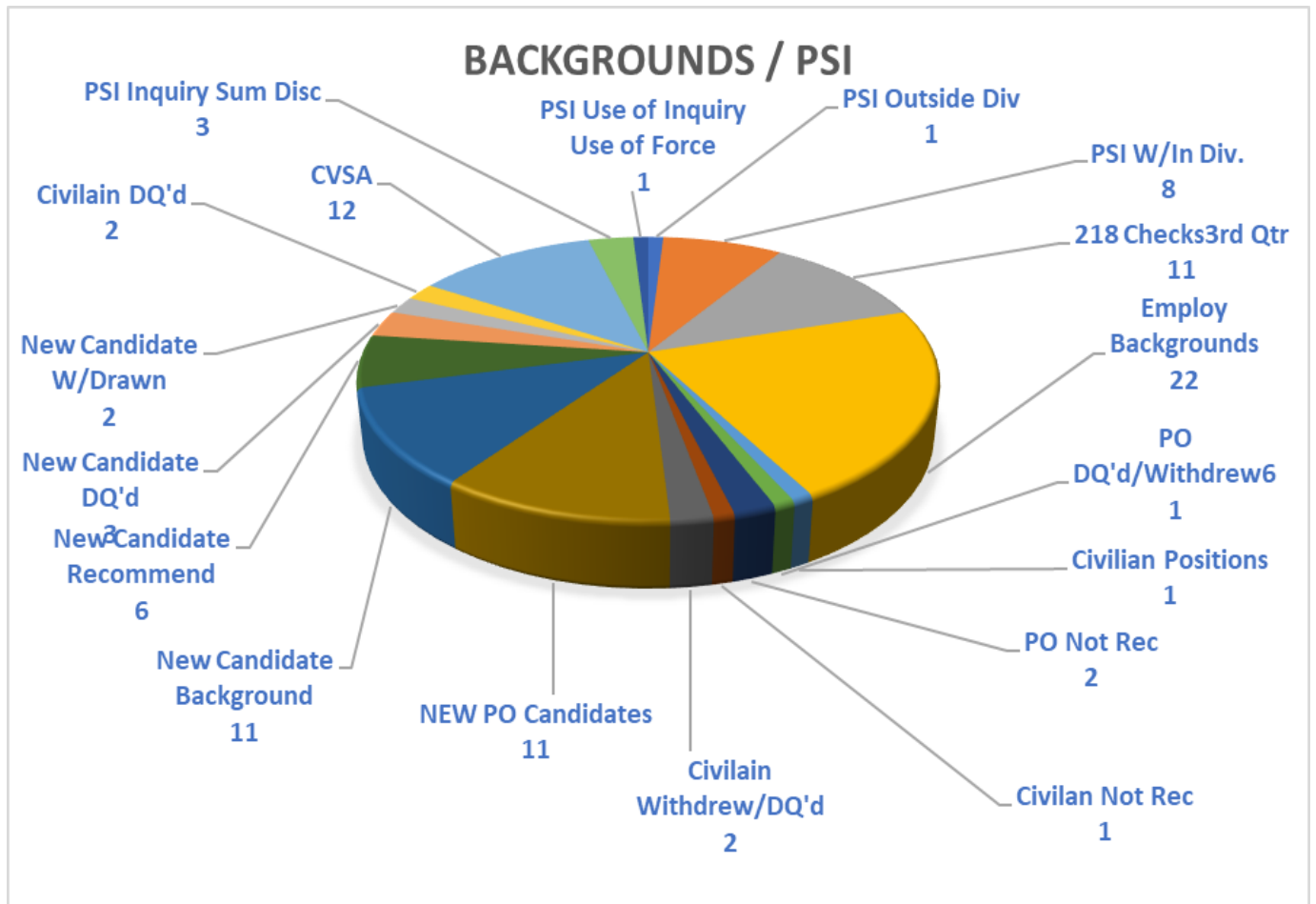
- **PSI Investigation completed at request of outside agency: 1**
- **PSI Inquires resulting in Summary Discipline: 3**
- **PSI Inquiry resulting in Use of Force: 1**



## Background Investigations

SIU is responsible for conducting background investigations on any prospective employee of the Division whether they are civilian (Dispatchers, Security Officers or Administrative) or sworn officers.

<b>Number of Backgrounds completed in 2021:</b>	22
Total CVSAs administered during 2021 backgrounds:	13
Total number of civilian withdrawals or disqualified:	2
Total number of police officers not recommended:	2
Civilian Positions (Dispatcher and Security Officer):	3
Total number of civilian candidates:	3
Number of civilian candidates recommended for hire:	1
Police Positions (CPO II & III):	9
Police Positions (CPO Recruit):	11
Number of police candidates for background:	6
Total number of candidates recommended for hire:	6
Total number of candidates disqualified or withdrew	5



## **Officer Demographics**

### **Sworn:**

#### Executive

- *2 Males*
  - *1 Black/1 White (non- Hispanic)*

#### Command

- *4 Males*
  - *3 White (non – Hispanic)*
  - *1 Hispanic/Latino*

#### Supervisory

- *7 Males/ 2 Females*
  - *5 Males, White (non – Hispanic)*
  - *1 Female White (non – Hispanic)*
  - *1 Black Male*
  - *1 Female (Hispanic)*
  - *1 Male (Other)*

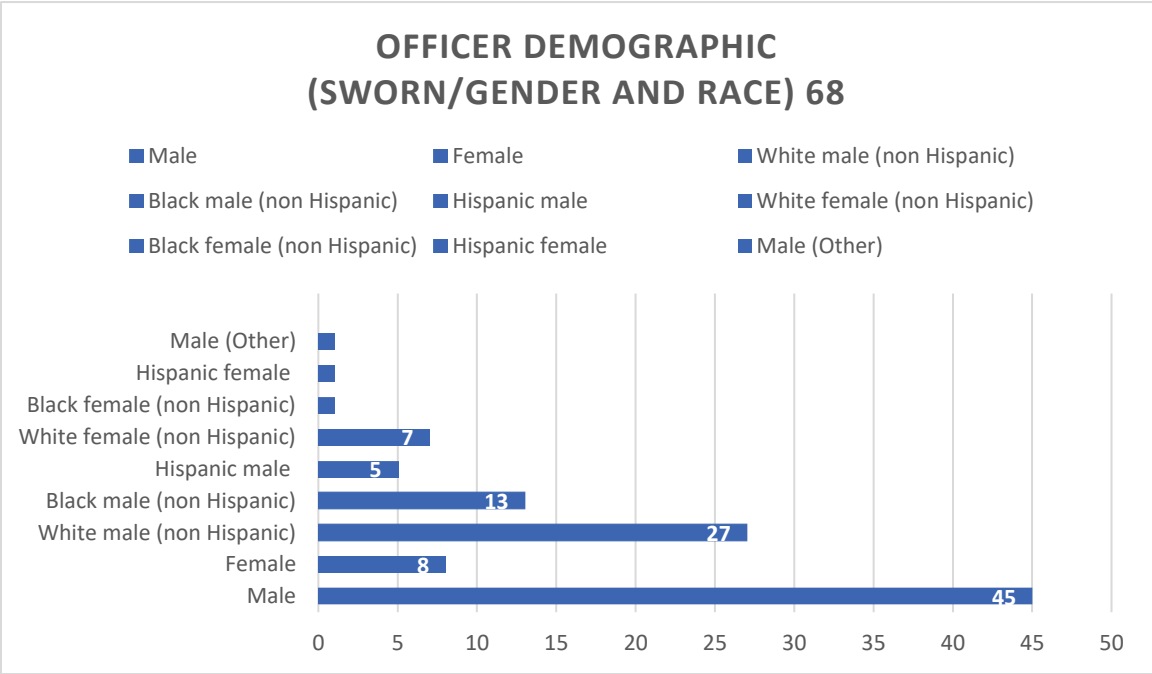
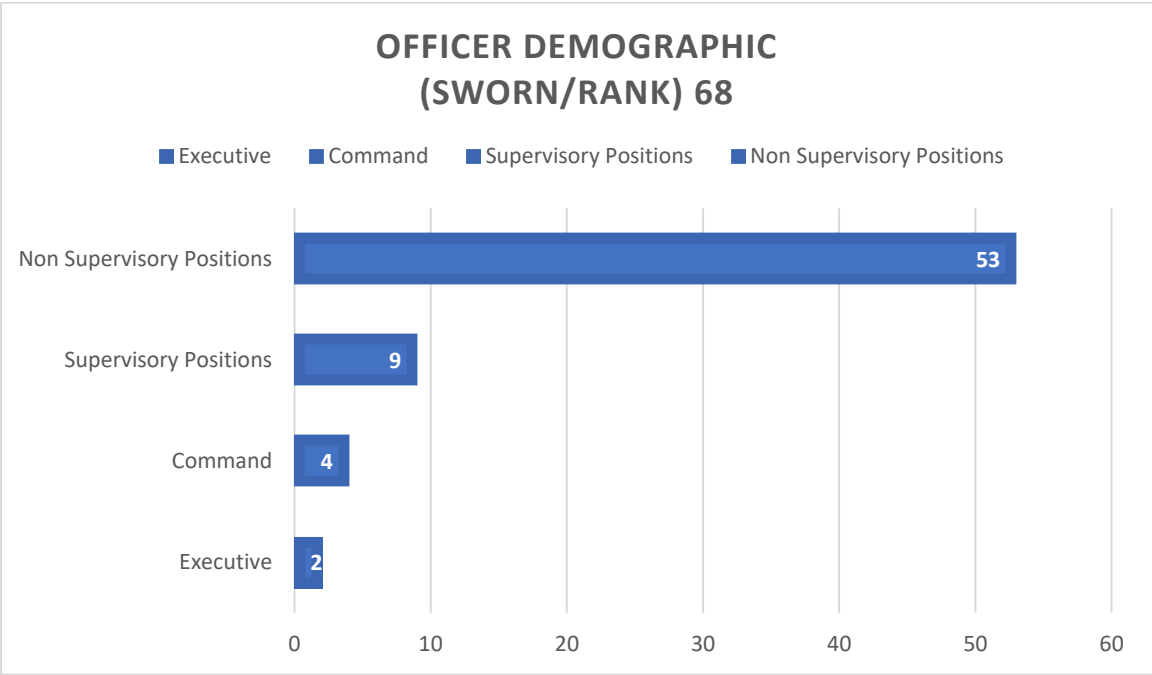
#### Non – Supervisory *45 Males/8 Females*

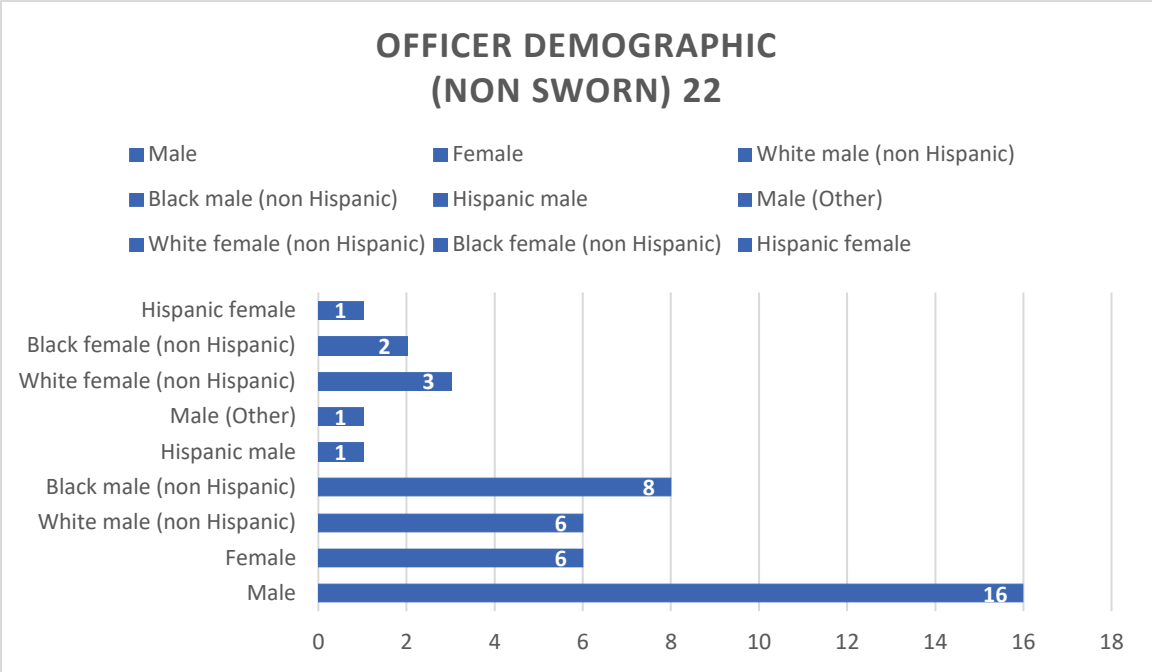
- *27 Males, White (non – Hispanic)*
- *13 Black Males*
- *5 Males, Hispanic/Latino*
- *7 Females, White (non – Hispanic)*
- *1 Black Female*

### **Non – Sworn:**

#### Non – Supervisory *16 Males/6 Females*

- *6 Males, White (non – Hispanic)*
- *3 Females (non – Hispanic)*
- *8 Black Males*
- *2 Black Females*
- *1 Male (Hispanic/Latino)*
- *1 Female (Hispanic/Latina)*
- *1 Male (Other)*





*DCP is “connected”!*

Delaware Capitol Police connects with its’ community through a *social media* outlet. The Division has an active *Facebook* page to receive and disseminate relevant information. Whether an incident is occurring in DCP’s jurisdiction or surrounding areas the Division can effectively advise its’ community via social media if the need arises. Social media is a wonderful conduit for community events the DCP participates in and advertise for positive outreach.

<https://www.facebook.com/DECapitolPolice>