



Public Safety & Quality of Life Committee Meeting
August 13, 2025 @ 6:00 PM
This meeting is recorded for public record.

Committee Members:

Lisa Dorsey, Chair
Nicole Scimone
Brian McGinnis

Chief of Police West Chester Police Department: Joshua Lee

Director of Parks & Recreation: Keith Kurowski

Borough Manager: Sean Metrick

Fire Chief West Chester Fire Department: Mark Scanlon

Director of Operations Good Fellowship Ambulance Club: Justin Robbins

Public Safety & Quality of Life Committee Meeting:

I. Call to Order

II. Announcements

III. Comments

Comments, suggestions, petitions by residents in attendance regarding items that are not on the agenda. Please be advised that all public comment has a 5-minute time limit.

IV. Reports

A. Monthly WCFD Report (attachment)

B. Monthly WCPD Report (attachment)

1. WCPD Staffing & Hiring Plan 2025
2. Introduction of WCPD Police Social Worker

C. Monthly GFAC Report (attachment)

V. Old Business

A. Approve July 2025 meeting minutes (attachment)

VI. New Business

A. Motion to approve Domestic Violence Center of Chester County Purple Ribbon Campaign (attachment)

Issue: Seeking permission to hang purple ribbons along Gay and Market Streets for Domestic Violence Awareness Month in October 2025

B. Motion to approve special events application (attachment)

1. West Chester Library Book Sale - October 4, 2025

Issue: Review and approve special events applications

VII. Other Business

VIII. Adjournment

Visit www.west-chester.com for access to all attachments.

Agendas are posted to www.west-chester.com by noon 3 business days prior to the meeting.



West Chester Fire Department

401 E GAY STREET

WEST CHESTER, PENNSYLVANIA 19380

TELEPHONE: 484-887-2817

Monthly Report July 2025

Incident Summary

Total Incidents for July:		133
West Chester Borough:		57
East Bradford Township:		13
West Goshen Township:		26
Birmingham Township:		3
Thornbury Township:		8
Westtown Township:		8
Mutual Aid Responses:		18
Total Time in Service:		71:22:15
Average Manpower:		8.1

Total Incidents for 2025:		980
West Chester Borough:		426
East Bradford Township:		92
West Goshen Township:		187
Birmingham Township:		19
Thornbury Township:		48
Westtown Township:		92
Mutual Aid Responses:		116
Total Time in Service:		453:59:56
Average Manpower:		8.0

Training/Activity Summary

July	
Total Training Hours:	832:30
Total Activity Hours:	779:45

2025	
Total Training Hours:	6812:45
Total Activity Hours:	5248:30

Property Loss

July		
	Property	Contents
Pre Incident Value:	\$8,232,264.00	\$12,000,000.00
Estimated Loss:	\$1,132,264.00	\$560,000.00

2025		
	Property	Contents
Pre Incident Value:	\$30,372,737.00	\$18,665,250.00
Estimated Loss:	\$1,719,987.00	\$667,150.00

Significant Incidents

July 2 - Vehicle Fire / E Street Road, Thornbury Township

July 8 - Apartment Fire / S Matlack Street, West Chester Borough

July 11 - House Fire / Centennial Drive, East Bradford Township

July 12 - Vehicle in Building / E Market Street, West Chester Borough

July 19 - Building Fire / Burke Road, West Goshen Township



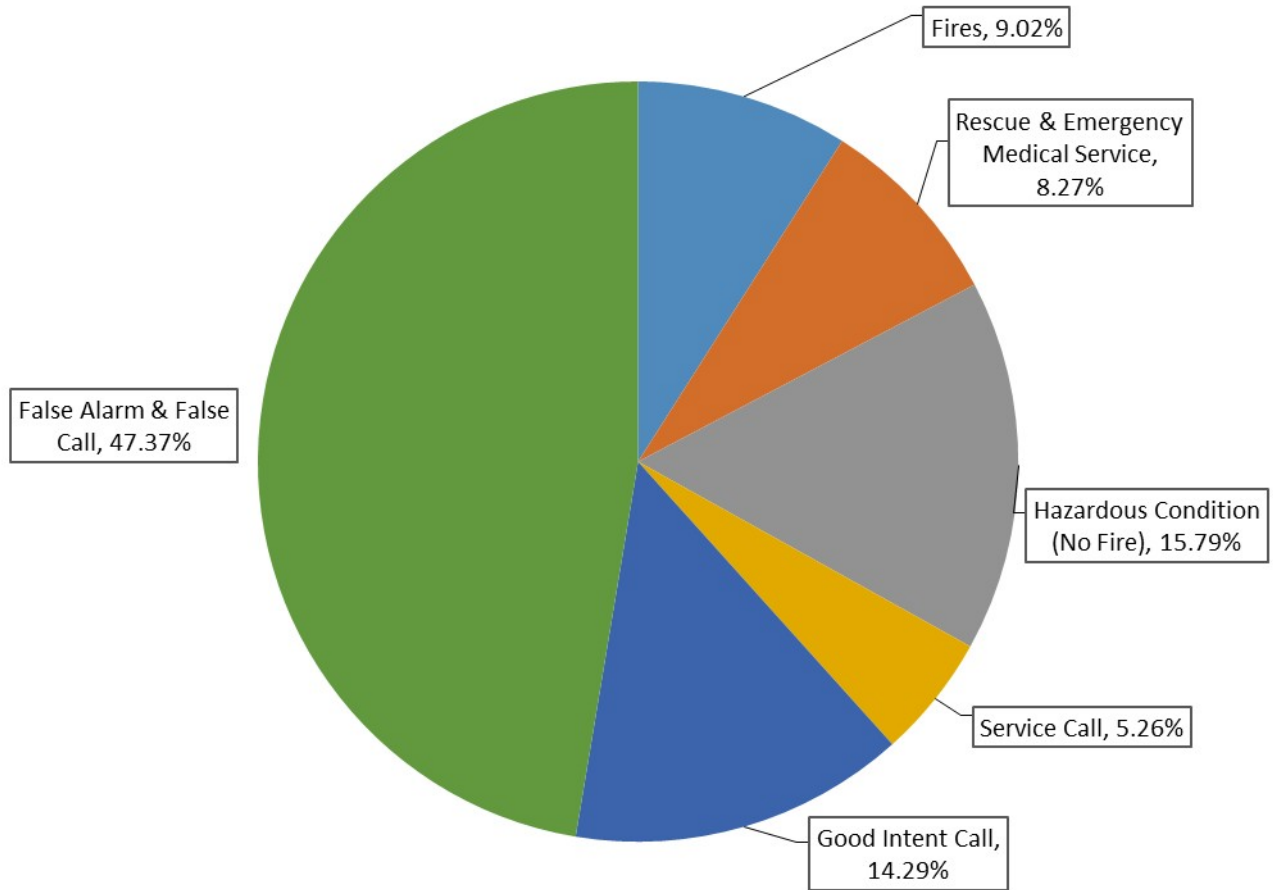
West Chester Fire Department

401 E GAY STREET

WEST CHESTER, PENNSYLVANIA 19380

TELEPHONE: 484-887-2817

Major Incident Types July 2025



Major Incident Type	# Incidents	% of Total
Fires	12	9.02%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	11	8.27%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	21	15.79%
Service Call	7	5.26%
Good Intent Call	19	14.29%
False Alarm & False Call	63	47.37%
Total	133	100.00%



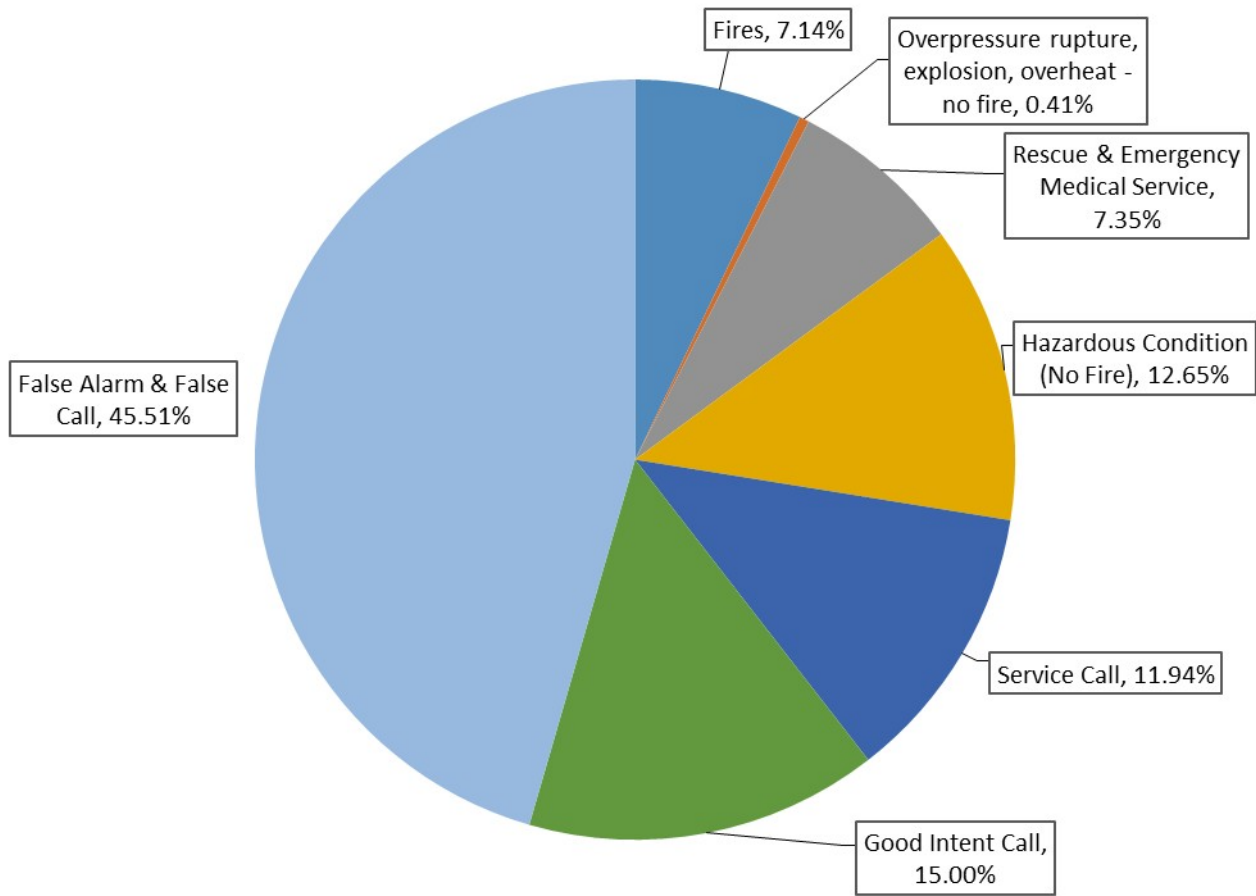
West Chester Fire Department

401 E GAY STREET

WEST CHESTER, PENNSYLVANIA 19380

TELEPHONE: 484-887-2817

Major Incident Types 2025



Major Incident Type	# Incidents	% of Total
Fires	70	7.14%
Overpressure rupture, explosion, overheating - no fire	4	0.41%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	72	7.35%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	124	12.65%
Service Call	117	11.94%
Good Intent Call	147	15.00%
False Alarm & False Call	446	45.51%
Total	980	100.00%



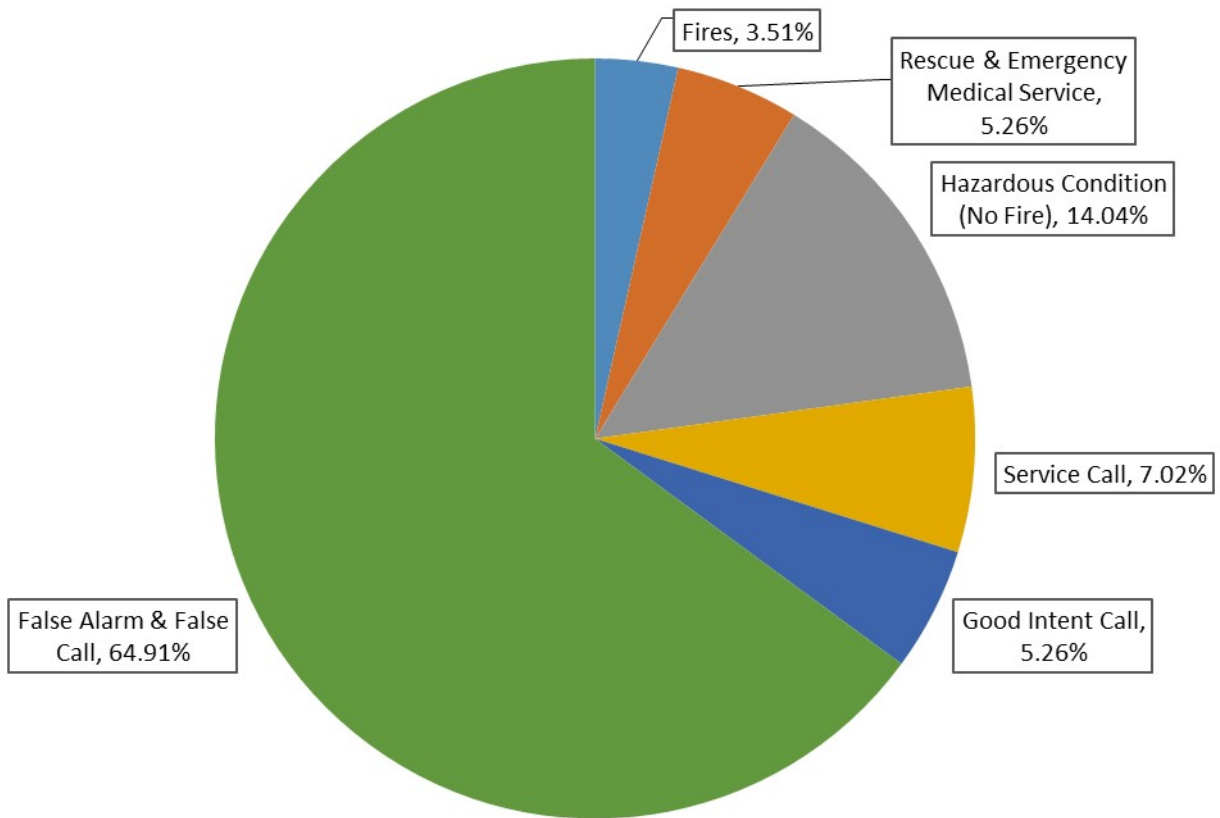
West Chester Fire Department

401 E GAY STREET

WEST CHESTER, PENNSYLVANIA 19380

TELEPHONE: 484-887-2817

Major Incident Types July - West Chester Borough



Major Incident Type	# Incidents	% of Total
Fires	2	3.51%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	3	5.23%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	8	14.04%
Service Call	4	7.02%
Good Intent Call	3	5.26%
False Alarm & False Call	37	64.91%
Total	57	100.00%



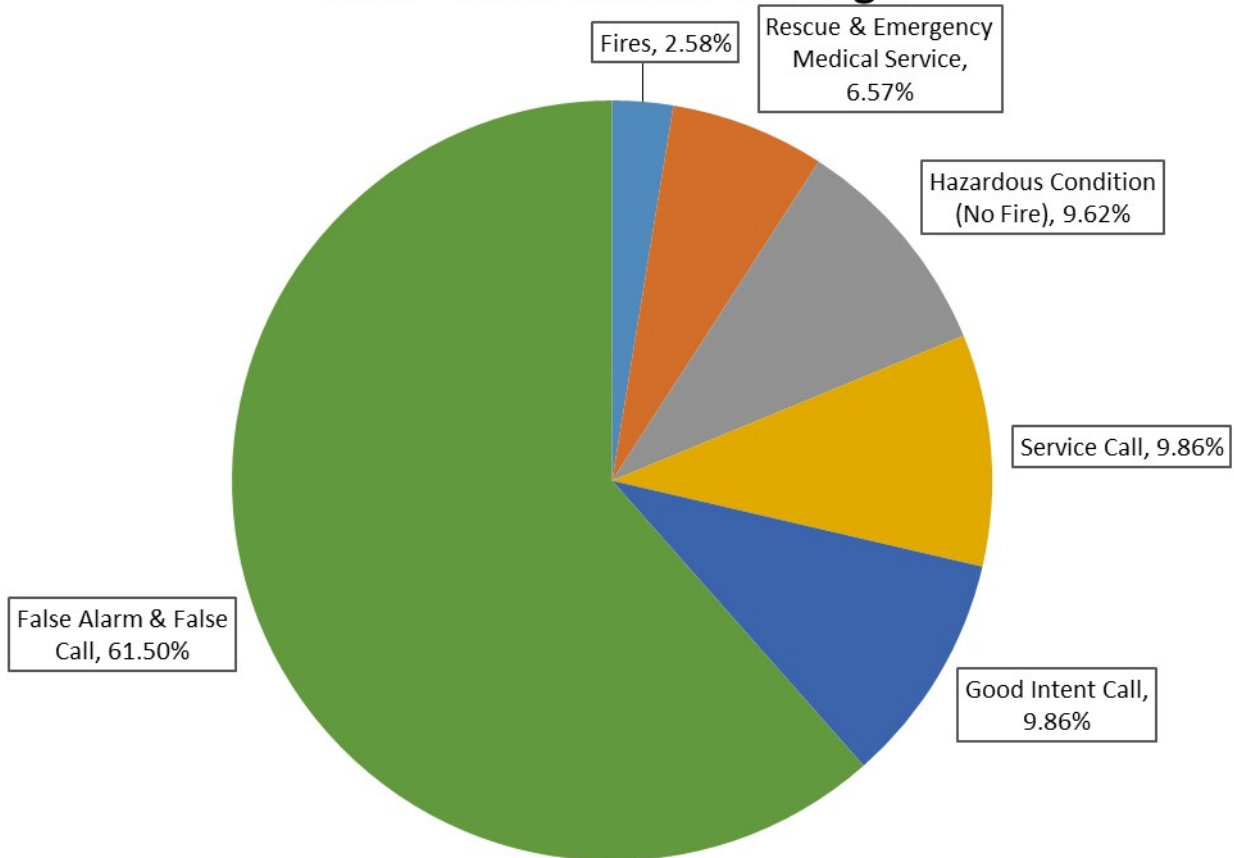
West Chester Fire Department

401 E GAY STREET

WEST CHESTER, PENNSYLVANIA 19380

TELEPHONE: 484-887-2817

Major Incident Types 2025 - West Chester Borough



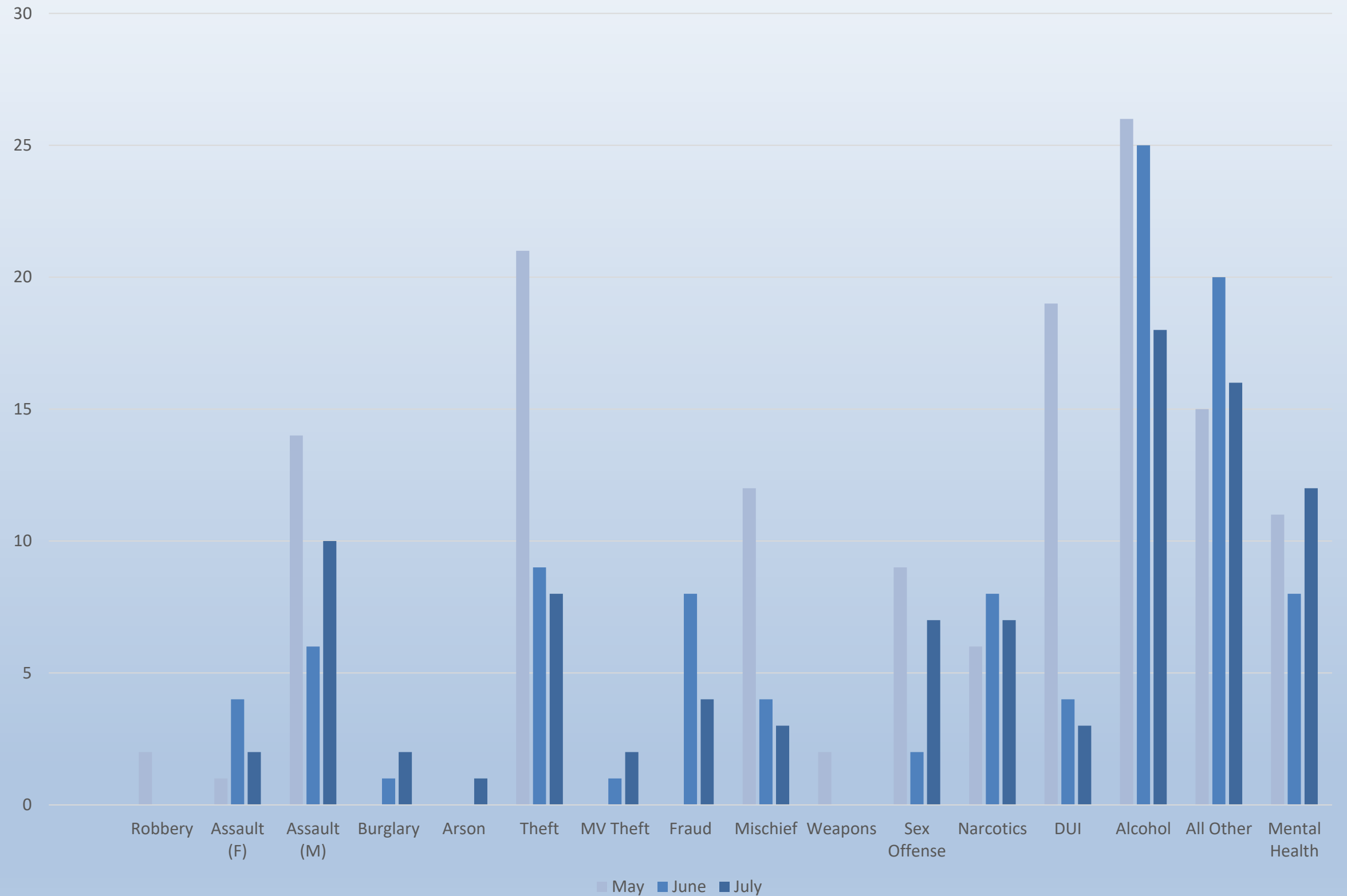
Major Incident Type	# Incidents	% of Total
Fires	11	2.58%
Rescue & Emergency Medical Service	28	6.57%
Hazardous Condition (No Fire)	41	9.62%
Service Call	42	9.86%
Good Intent Call	42	9.86%
False Alarm & False Call	262	61.50%
Total	426	100.00%

WCPD Monthly Report

July 2025



Calls for Service Reported: July 2025





WCU Fall Semester 2025

With the return of WCU students, WCPD expects:

- Increased volume of foot traffic, particularly in CBD and Southeast
- Increased noise associated with foot traffic and residences in the southeast
- Increased incidences of drunkenness, disorderly behavior



WCU Fall Semester 2025

WCPD monitors data and stats weekly, monthly, and year to year. We know that usually:

- The weekend before the start of classes and the weekend following the start of classes is the busiest period of the fall semester
- Complaints from residents peak on the weekend before the start of the semester



WCU Fall Semester 2025

With the return of WCU students, you can expect to see:

- Increased police patrols in the evening and overnight hours
- Focused patrols in highly trafficked areas – residential and business district
- Focused enforcement – Public Drunkenness, Open Container, Disturbing the Peace

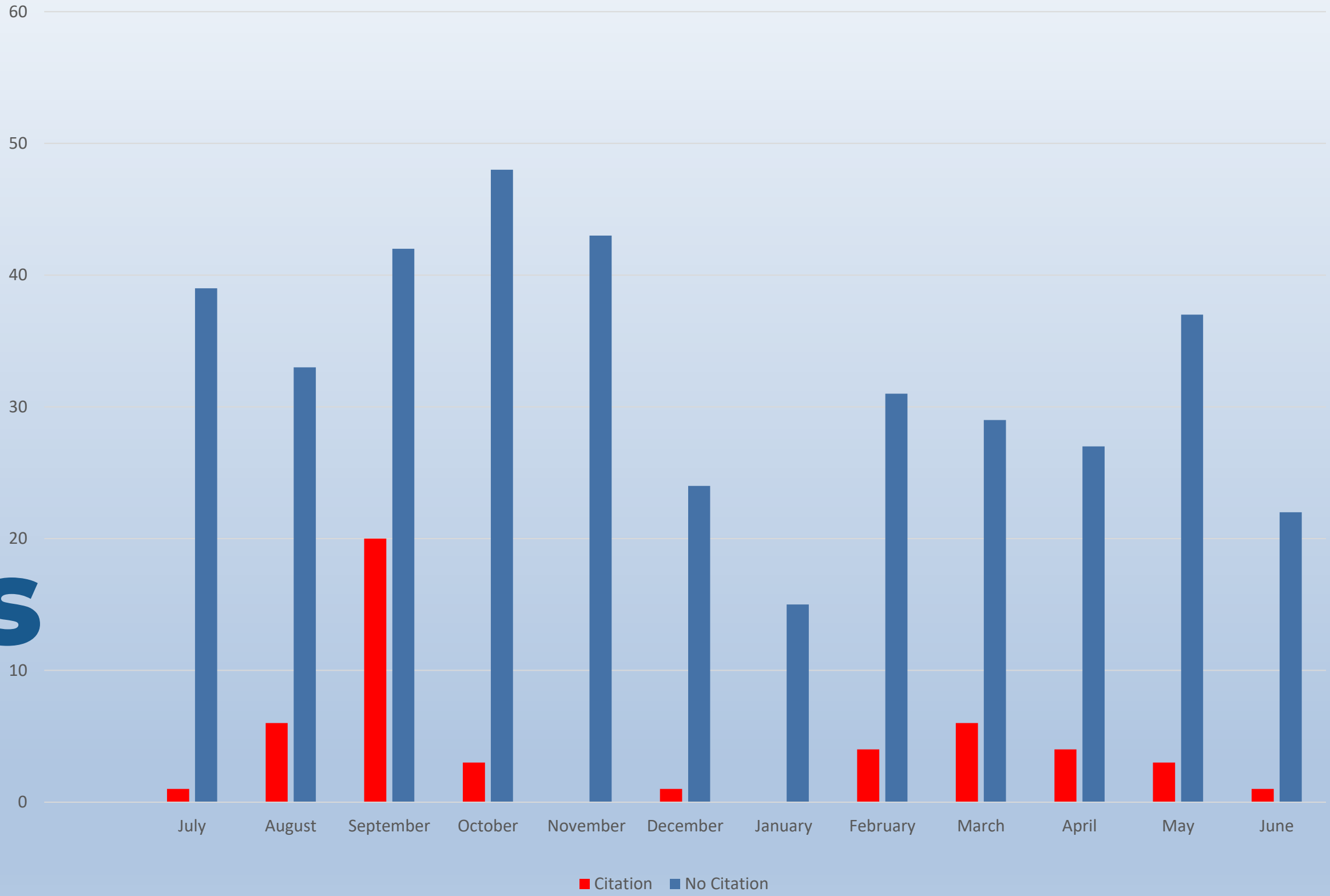
WCPD

Calls for Noise 12 Month Review

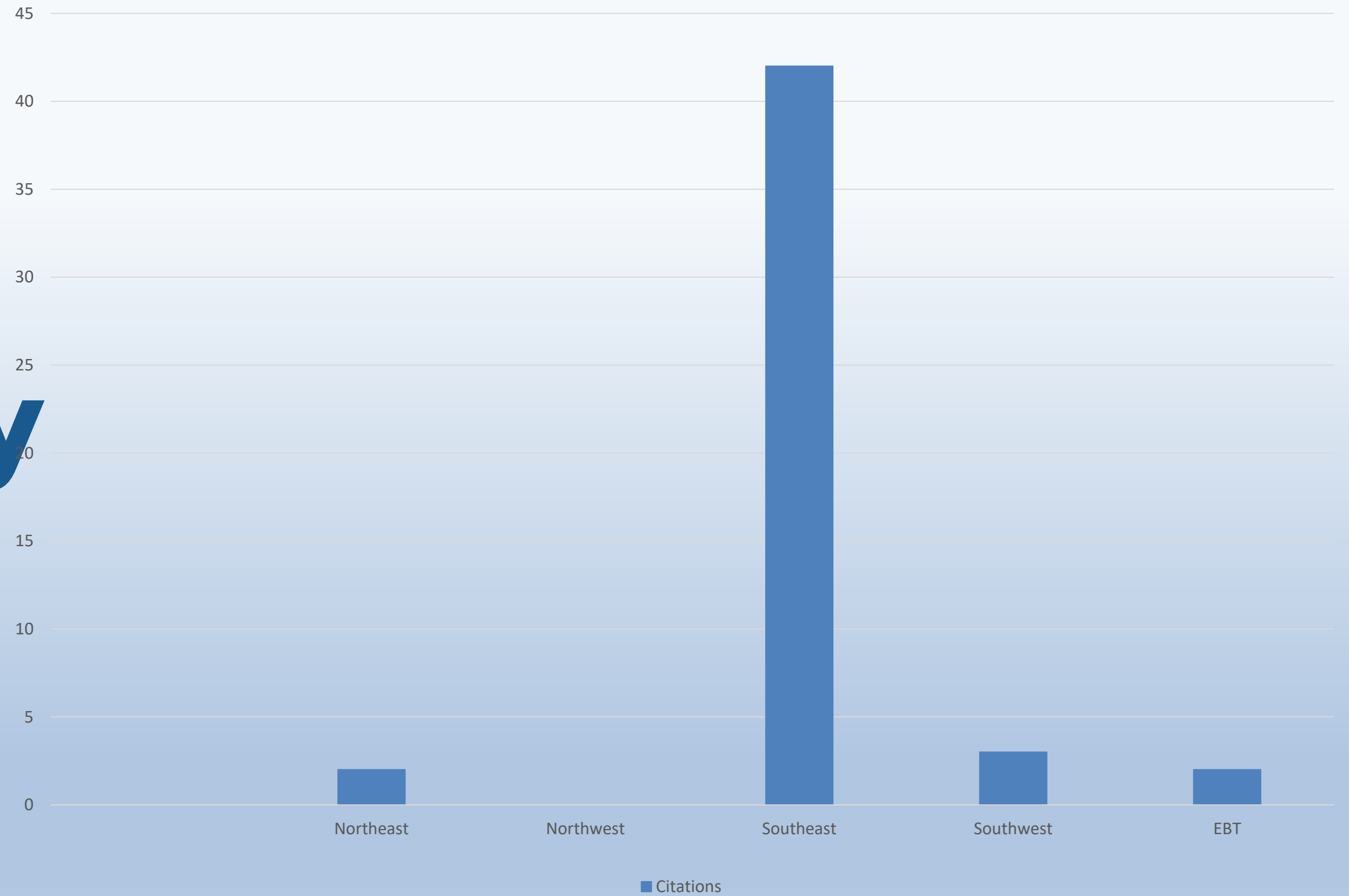


Calls for Service:

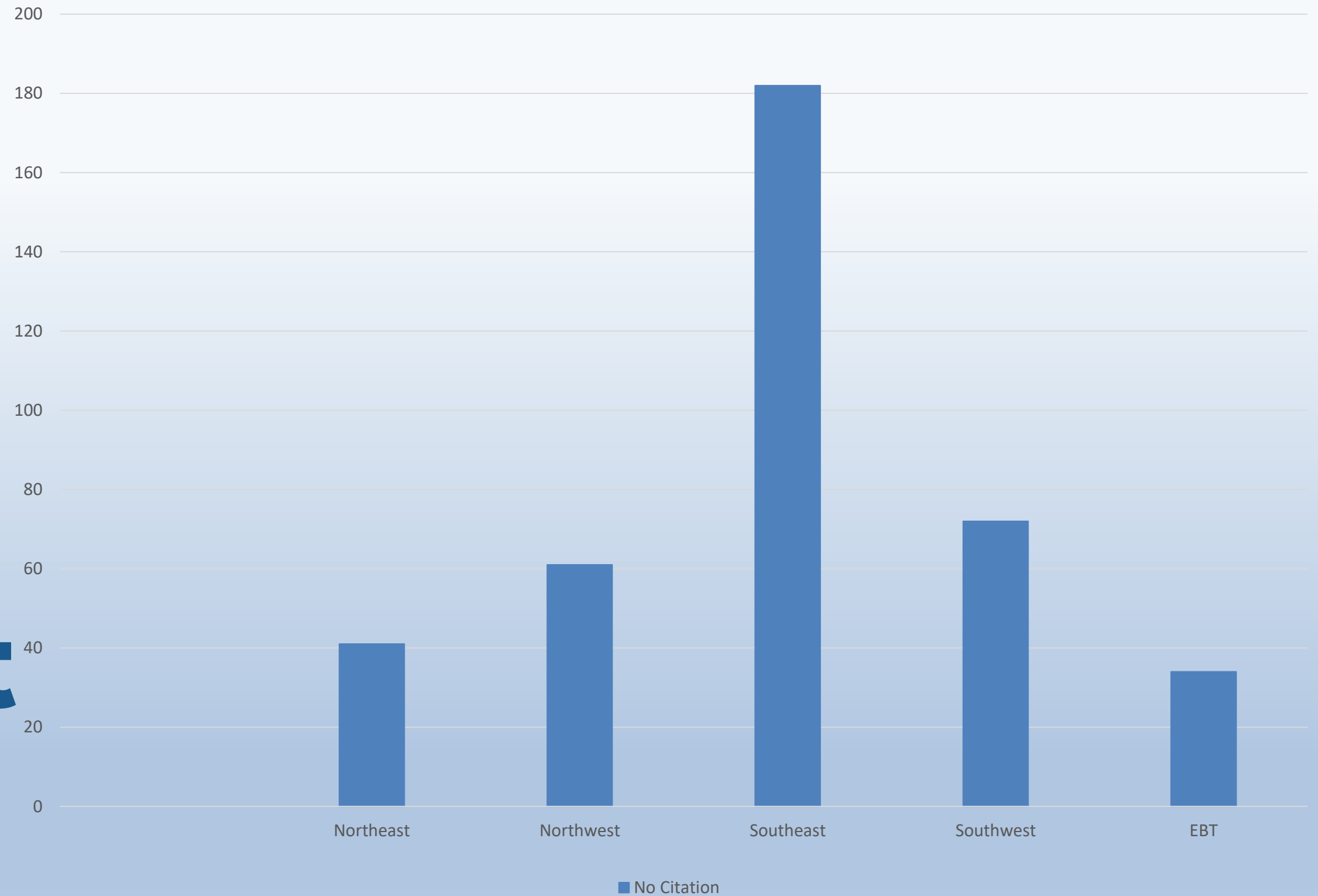
Noise Complaints



Noise Citations by Quadrant



Call For Noise, No Citation - by Quadrant



Update:



Police Department Staffing:

- **1 Officer Resignation July 31**
- **2 Officers unavailable - serious duty related injuries**
- **1 Officer unavailable - in police academy until January**

Update:



Police Department Hiring:

- **Ability to immediately fill vacancy**
- **Re-Hire former Officer**
- **Provide immediate relief to understaffed department**



Update:

Police Social Worker

- **Jamie Weiss**
- **MSW, LCSW**
- **Started w/ WCPD in June**

Get in Touch:

For more information



PoliceChief@west-chester.com



401 East Gay Street, West Chester,
PA 19380



+610.436.1323



www.west-chester.com



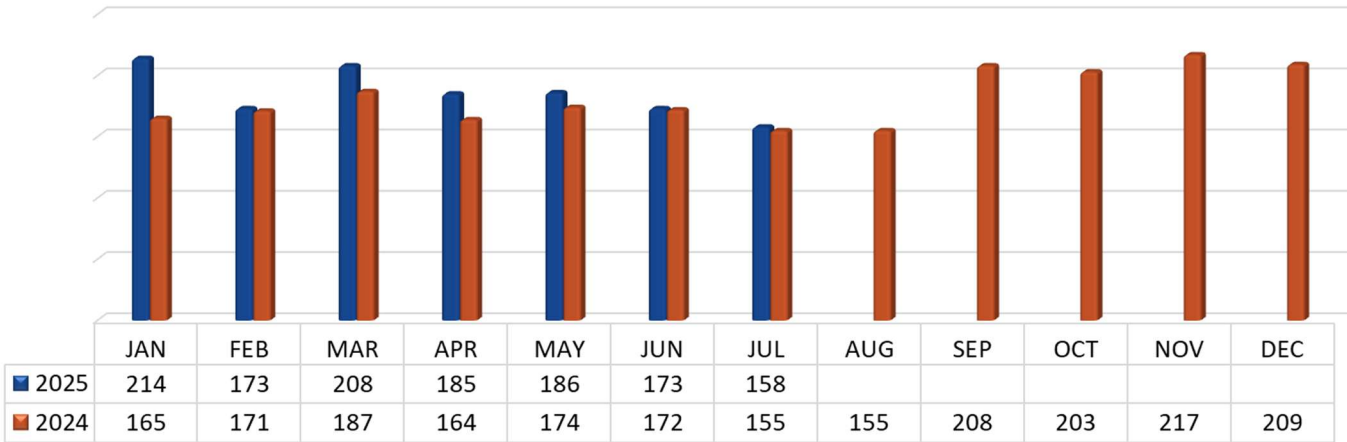
July 2025

OPERATIONS REPORT

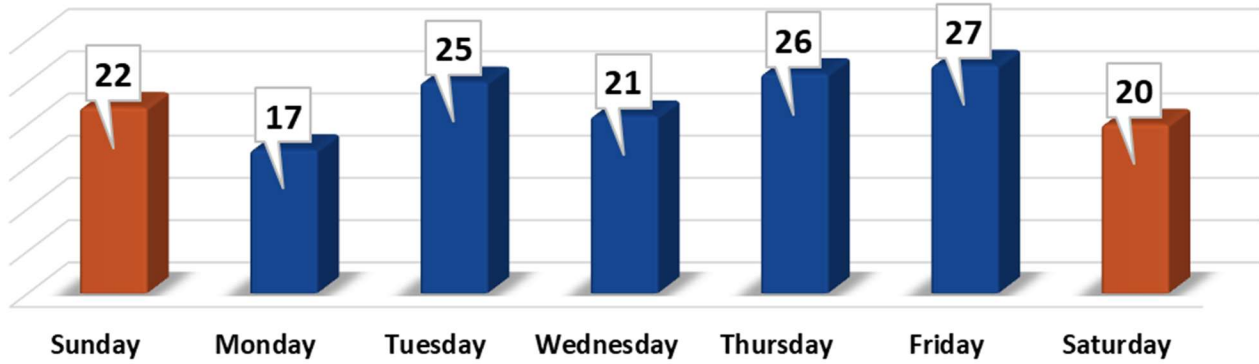
WEST CHESTER BOROUGH REPORT

CALL VOLUME

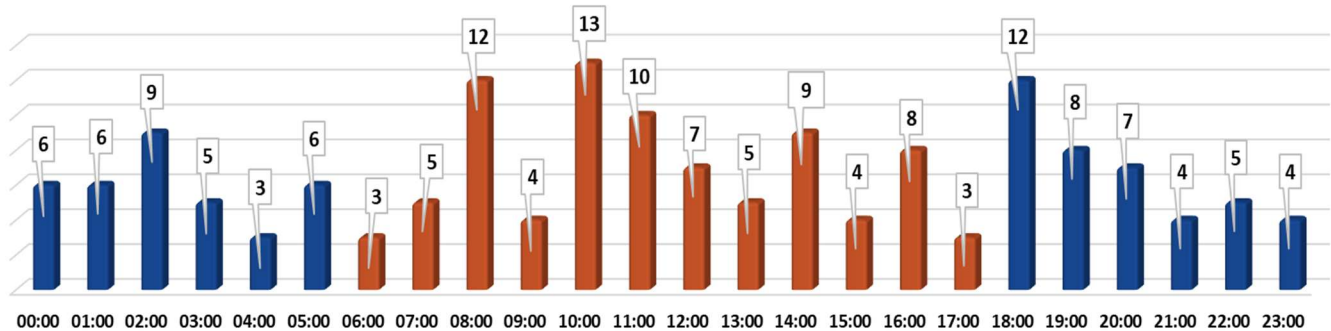
Call Volume By Month



Call Volume By Day of Week

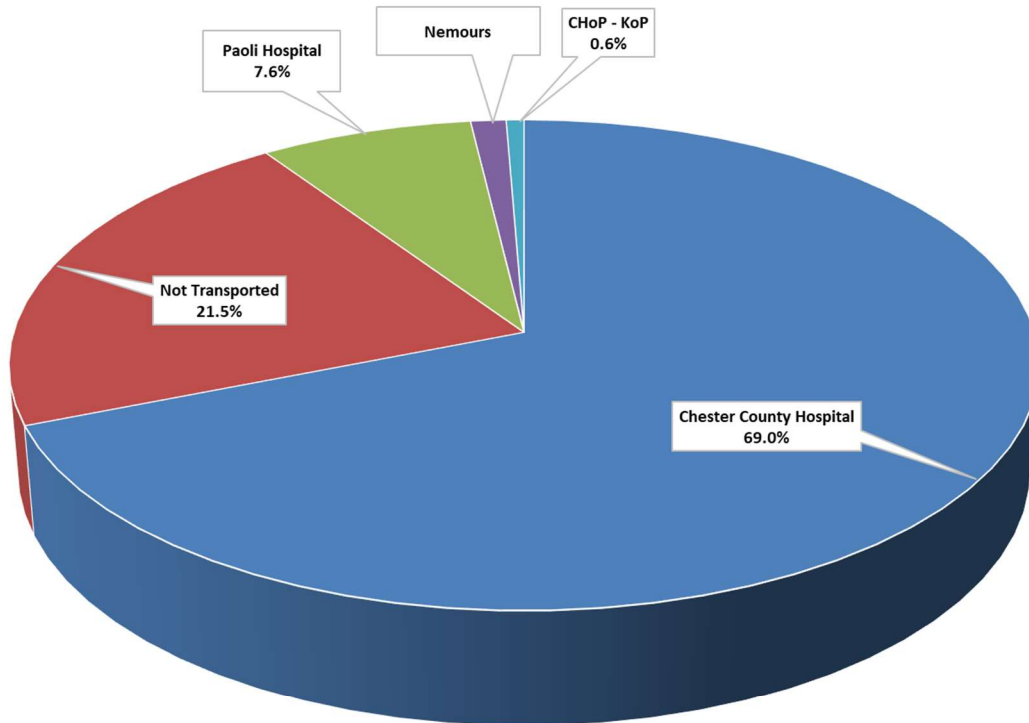


Call Volume By Hour



HOSPITAL DESTINATION INFORMATION

Receiving Hospital	Total	%	Call Outcomes	
Chester County Hospital	109	69.0%	Transported BLS	93
Not Transported	34	21.5%	Transported ALS	28
Paoli Hospital	12	7.6%	Refusal	15
Nemours	2	1.3%	No Services	7
CHoP - KoP	1	0.6%	Lift Assist	6
	158		Transported IALS	3
			Recalled On Scene	3
			Recalled Enroute	2
			Fire Standby	1
				158
Transported:	124	78.5%		
Not Transported:	34	21.5%		
	158			



MISCELLANEOUS CALL INFORMATION

Call Types

BLS - Sick Person	38	24.1%
BLS - Fall / Lift Assist	24	15.2%
BLS - Injured Person	13	8.2%
BLS - Overdose	12	7.6%
BLS - Emotional Disorder	11	7.0%
ALS - Heart Problems	10	6.3%
ALS - Respiratory Difficulty	7	4.4%
BLS - Seizures	4	2.5%
BLS - Abdominal Pain	4	2.5%
Accident - BLS	4	2.5%
Fire-CO Incident	3	1.9%
ALS - Abdominal Pain	3	1.9%
BLS - Hemorrhaging	2	1.3%
BLS - Assault w/Injury	2	1.3%
Alarm - BLS Medical	2	1.3%
ALS - Unconscious Person	2	1.3%
ALS - Syncope	2	1.3%
ALS - Injured Person	2	1.3%
EMS - Standby - Fire	1	0.6%
BLS - Unknown Nature	1	0.6%
BLS - Back Pain	1	0.6%
Accident - Pedestrian	1	0.6%
Accident - Involving Fire	1	0.6%
ALS - Seizures	1	0.6%
ALS - Hypotension	1	0.6%
ALS - Fall	1	0.6%
ALS - Emotional Disorder	1	0.6%
ALS - Diabetic Emergency	1	0.6%
ALS - Cardiac/Resp Arrest	1	0.6%
ALS - CVA/Stroke	1	0.6%
ALS - Assault w/Injury	1	0.6%

158

Alcohol / Drug Suspicion

	Total	%
Alcohol	17	10.8%
Alcohol and Drugs	2	1.3%
Drugs	1	0.6%
Total:	20	12.7%
Unknown / Unable to Determine	1	0.6%

West Chester University Calls

Total WCU Calls	3
% Of Calls in West Chester	1.9%

Average Times

Dispatch To Enroute	01:13
Enroute To On Scene	04:45
On Scene Time	14:30
Transport Time	06:09
Dispatch To Available	45:26

MINUTES

Public Safety & Quality of Life Committee of Borough Council

Date: Wednesday, July 9, 2025 @ 6:00 PM

Committee Members: Lisa Dorsey, Chair
Nicole Scimone
Brian McGinnis

Staff & Representatives: Joshua Lee, Chief - West Chester Police Department
Keith Kurowski, Director of Parks & Recreation
Sean Metrick, Borough Manager
Mark Scanlon, Fire Chief West Chester Fire Department
Justin Robbins, Director of Operations Good Fellowship Ambulance Club

- I. Call to order at 6:03pm by Chair Lisa Dorsey
- II. Announcements NONE
- III. Comments, suggestions, petitions by residents in attendance regarding items not on the agenda. *(Please be advised that all public comments have a 5-minute time limit.)* NONE
- IV. Reports - (Attachments)

A. Monthly WCFD Report

Assistant Chief McClure reports that call volume increased for the month of June, with a significant portion of the increase attributed to weather-related incidents. Call volume for the first half of 2025 is relatively steady and within 9 calls of 2024. After the large increase from 2023 to 2024, Chief McClure wanted to share this information to the committee. The ladder truck is 90% back together. The biggest concern was the condition of the motor and if it sustained damage in the accident. The motor was checked out and due to dry rot only the belts and hoses needed to be replaced. The front bumper is being replaced with a new design that will take more of the impact if such an incident occurs, it will take the impact. WCFD is hopeful the truck will be returned around Labor Day. The rental ladder truck has been sold and will be picked up once the WCFD is returned. The committee asked about the cause of the fire at a Jake's Bar South Matlack Street in July. This is still under investigation by the Fire Marshall and the WCPD. There were several injuries, and one individual still hospitalized.

B. Monthly WCPD Report

Chief Lee shares that the WCPD hosted and participated in the PA Special Olympic Law Enforcement Torch Run on May 29th. Law enforcement from around Chester County participated in the run. The incident numbers for June show a relatively steady month. In August, there will be a comprehensive report for the 2024-2025 reporting period for the point system. Canine Nitro, a Belgium Malinois, has joined the WCPD. He is trained in patrol and explosives. He joins Canine Odin. Chief Lee reminds everyone of National Night Out along with Touch a Truck on Tuesday, August 5th at Henderson High School from 6-8pm. The Chief then discusses safety in the borough, both day to day and during events. The West Chester Police Department plans, prepares and instructs the officers to support the safety and the well-being of the community. The WCPD works with the local, regional and national groups keep the community safe.

C. Monthly GFAC Report

Deputy Chief Robbins reports that GFAC had a record setting month in June, handling 788 emergencies, 173 of which were in the Borough. The calls for June were within the norm of calls handled by GFAC. There is an uptick for emotional disorders and other behavioral health issues across all municipalities. As of July 1, 2025, GFAC is the first EMS agency in PA approved for a

regional protocol to transfer those patients, after being screened by the GFAC staff, to Haven Behavioral Hospital and not to the Chester County emergency room. This will run as a trial for the first few months with the state, with the possibility of expanding in the county. Ms. Scimone asks what training the staff has to determine if the patient is having a medical or behavioral health issue. Each level of EMS provider, EMT through Paramedic, has a certain amount of behavioral health emergency training. And all GFAC employees go through Crisis Intervention Training and additional behavioral health training sessions.

V. Old Business

- A. Approve June 2025 meeting minutes (attachment) **APPROVED 3-0**
- B. Discuss proposed Humane Pet Retail Shops Ordinance in the Borough of West Chester (attachment)

Issue: Review Draft Ordinance **APPROVED 3-0**

Ordinance prohibiting the sale of dogs, cats and rabbits in retail shops in the Borough of West Chester is discussed with committee members, Ariel Levitz (Public Policy Specialist from Humane World for Animals), Grace Kelly Herbert (Finding Shelter Animal Rescue), and the public. They are looking for clarification from the solicitor of the terms pet store or shop vs retail store. Looking to make sure it is comprehensive and covers all terms. Mr. Cook asks who regulates rescues and Mr. Walsh asks if chicks would be banned too from retail sale. These questions will also be brought to the legal team and answered at the council meeting.

VI. New Business

Discuss traffic issues and pedestrian safety along East Virginia, North Matlack and North Franklin Streets. (attachment)

Issue: Residents seeking traffic study and possible traffic calming solutions for safety of neighbors walking in an area without sidewalks

Borough Manager Sean Metrick discusses this topic. He shares a map showing the area where vehicles are cutting through this residential area to bypass the traffic lights at High and Marshall Streets. The streets in this area are wide and lack sidewalks, leaving pedestrians to walk along the shoulder of the streets. The speed limit is 25mph, yet the roadway is wide, so people are taking advantage of this and traveling at higher speeds. Even if speed limits are lowered, it is believed people will still speed. An option over time could be to add sidewalks in the cartway and add storm water features and treat this area as a traffic-calming area. In the meantime, the borough can look at crosswalks and temporary signs at intersections to help slow down the traffic. Direct Transportation Advisory Committee to start circulating a comprehensive plan update for next year. For now, start with signs, electric speed sign and refreshed crosswalks at the intersections. Lisa Kerns mentions other areas of speed, signage and lack of crosswalks in the borough. (West Washington, Chestnut and High Streets) Expand areas of calming in town. Brian McGinnis asks about truck routes and enforcement of these routes. If we can get a traffic study concerning trucks and truck routes.

- A. Motion to approve special events applications (attachment)
 - 1. Discuss Lafayette Events to be finalized in preparation for July 26 – **No services needed**
 - 2. 10.18.25 Unite 4 HER 5k and fun run – **Returning event**
 - 3. 12.13.25 Christkindl Market – Downtown West Chester – **Returning event**

Issue: Review and approve special events applications **ALL APPROVED 3-0**

VII. Other Business **NONE**

VIII. Adjournment **6:53pm**

Visit www.west-chester.com for access to all attachments.

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DOMESTIC VIOLENCE CENTER OF CHESTER COUNTY

FREEDOM THROUGH EMPOWERMENT

WWW.DVCCCPA.ORG

24 Hour Hotline
610.431.1430
...
Office
610.431.3546
...
Fax
610.431.2462

July 9, 2025
Mayor Lillian DeBaptiste
401 E Gay Street
West Chester, PA 19380

Hello, Mayor DeBaptiste!

We hope this letter finds you well – in good health and high spirits! We wanted to reach out today regarding our upcoming, countywide celebrations for Domestic Violence Awareness Month.

As you may already know, in October we celebrate Domestic Violence Awareness Month, signified each year by a purple ribbon, as purple is the color of Domestic Violence awareness. In this, the Domestic Violence Center of Chester County (DVCCC) has continued our annual vision to “paint the town purple” every October by tying purple ribbons to lamp posts throughout our Chester County communities.

Our ribbons are a colorful and peaceful way to raise awareness in West Chester and across Chester County about domestic violence and the free, lifesaving services that are available through DVCCC. With permission, our agency has decorated downtown West Chester in purple ribbons, and we are requesting permission to do so again for this coming October of 2025.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IMPACTS AN ESTIMATED 1 IN 3 WOMEN, 1 IN 4 MEN, AND 1 IN 3 TEENS.

The mission of the Domestic Violence Center of Chester County (DVCCC) is to reduce domestic violence by supporting survivors and advancing prevention strategies. DVCCC is the only organization in Chester County that has a contract with the United States Department of Human Services and the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence to provide services to victims who present their primary victimization as domestic violence.

Domestic Violence is defined as a pattern of abusive behavior – ranging from physical to emotional and verbal forms of abuse – used to gain and maintain power and control in a relationship. Domestic Violence is specific to forms of abuse that occur within families or intimate relationships.

THIS PAST YEAR DVCCC STAFF SUPPORTED OVER 1,800 SURVIVORS – AND WEST CHESTER WAS OUR SECOND MOST SERVED COMMUNITY.

We know that increasing not only awareness of domestic violence but our free, local services through our purple ribbon campaign can potentially save lives. Please contact arayburn@dvcccpa.org with your response – as well as with any questions or concerns about this outreach effort. We appreciate your time and consideration in once again celebrating Domestic Violence Awareness Month by Painting West Chester Purple! Thank you so much for your continued support of these crucial awareness efforts,

Amelia Rayburn - Pizzica

Amelia Rayburn-Pizzica
Director of Education Programs, Domestic Violence Center of Chester County

P.O. Box 832 | West Chester, PA 19381

UNITED WAY AGENCY





West Chester Police Department

AGREEMENT FOR POLICE SERVICES

401 EAST GAY STREET

WEST CHESTER, PA 19380

TELEPHONE: 610-696-2700

Chris Daly
Lieutenant

Josh Lee
Chief of Police

Jeffrey Ditz
Lieutenant

James Gorman
Lieutenant

In order to process your request for police coverage at your event, please complete the information that is listed below. Once this form is complete, please submit it to:

West Chester Police Department
Attention: Staci King
401 East Gay Street
West Chester, PA 19380

Please note that all fees must be received no later than 5 days prior to the event. All police fees for runs and races must be submitted at the time of application. Should you have questions, please call 610-436-1323.

Event Name: West Chester Public Library Booksale

Event Date: 10/4/2025 Start Time: 10:00 End Time: 4:00pm

Name of Organization Hosting Event: West Chester Public Library

Person Responsible for Payment of Fee: West Chester Public Library

Address of Person Responsible for Fee: 415 N Church St, West Chester PA 19380

Phone Number of Person Responsible: 610-696-1721

Number of Police Officers Requested: 0

I, Maggie Stanton certify that I am requesting police coverage for the event listed above and that I am authorized to do so on behalf of the organization. I am aware that police coverage for this event is invoiced at \$129.00 per officer, per hour, with a 3 hour minimum for all events. Events that take place on holidays are billed at double time rate.

Maggie Stanton
Signature

8/5/2025
Date



OFFICE USE ONLY - NOT TO BE COMPLETED BY THE APPLICANT

Date Application Received: 8/4/2025 Date Payment(s) Received: _____

YES N/A

Completed and Signed Application

Date of event/Event time/Set up/Breakdown
10/4/25 / 10a-5p / 8a-10a / 5-6p

Map of the Event or Location of the Event

List of Streets to be Closed for the Event

List of Borough Services requested - to be reviewed by West Chester Borough
P.W. road closing equipment

Non-refundable application fee - may be cash, check, or money order

Applicant's Certificate of Insurance

West Chester Police Department Fees - required for runs

List of Food Vendors with Chester County Health Department Licenses

List of Sub-Contractors with Certificates of Insurance

Proof of public transportation approval if public streets are to be closed

Proof of notification to Good Fellowship Ambulance - required for runs

Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board Permit if alcohol is to be served

Approved by Pubic Works YES NO Date: _____

Approved by Parking Department YES NO Date: _____

Approved by Parks and Recreation YES NO Date: KAN 8/7/25

Approved by Police Department YES NO Date: _____

Approved by Borough Council YES NO Date: _____

Notes: