

PS COMMITTEE #3  
July 21, 2011

**MEMORANDUM**

July 20, 2011

TO: Public Safety Committee  
FROM: Susan J. Farag, Legislative Analyst   
SUBJECT: Update: Crime Statistics

Today the Committee will receive an update on current crime statistics in the County. Those expected to brief the Committee:

Chief J. Thomas Manger, Montgomery County Police Department  
Acting Asst. Chief Mitch Cunningham, Investigative Services Bureau  
Captain Diane McCarthy, Criminal Investigations Division  
Captain Terrence Pierce, Exec. Officer to the Chief  
Lieutenant Dinesh Patil, Special Investigations Division

Crime data comparing 2010 to 2009 is attached ©1-6. Council staff also asked the Department for specific information regarding auto theft trends, gang activity, and case closure rates. The Department's responses are attached at ©7-17. Recent Departmental press releases about crime trends are attached at ©18-22.

**OVERVIEW OF 2011 (1<sup>ST</sup> QUARTER) CRIME STATISTICS**

Most of the data provided for this update focuses on changes from 2009 to 2010. Data for the first quarter of 2011 is also available, and shows an overall 4.6% reduction in total reported crime in Montgomery County compared to the same reporting period in 2010. Part I crimes decreased 6.6% (from 4,563 to 4,260). Part II crime decreased 3.6% (from 9,055 to 8,727). While Part I crimes decreased overall, the number of incidences of murder, rape, and burglary increased:

- Murder increased by 25% (from 4 to 5)
- Rape increased by 54.2% (from 24 to 37)
- Robbery decreased by 20% (from 210 to 168)
- Aggravated Assault decreased by 21.5% (from 168 to 132)
- Burglary increased by 8.8% (from 657 to 715)

- Larceny decreased by 8.9% (from 3,209 to 2,925)
- Auto Theft decreased by 4.5% (from 291 to 278)

## OVERVIEW OF 2010 CRIME STATISTICS

For all of 2010, total crime decreased by 7.5% from 2009; Part I violent crimes decreased by 13.5% (from 25,131 to 21,739) and Part II crimes decreased by 3.9% (from 42,895 to 41,205). Overall, there has been a 12% reduction in total crime reported in the County over the past four years (71,491 crimes in 2007 compared to 62,944 crimes in 2010). During this same time period, the County's population increased nearly 4%.

## PART I CRIME TRENDS FOR 2010

As noted, overall Part I crimes decreased by 7.5%. *This includes significant reductions in for Aggravated Assault (-27.8%), Larceny (-16.9%), and Vehicle Theft (-16%). Burglaries and Homicide rates, however, have increased.*

**Burglary:** Burglaries show a sharp increase for 2010, from 3,011 in 2009 to 3,323 in 2010 (10.4% increase):

- Increases were noted in both residential and commercial burglaries;
- All districts experienced higher incidents of burglary, except for 5D (Germantown), which showed a slight decline (-23 events or -6.3%);
- Residential burglaries increased by 10.7%. Of these, about 25% were through unsecured doors and windows. 7.9% involved a shed or garage. 4.3% involved a vacant residence;
- Commercial burglaries were seen in all target types, with office buildings and restaurants targeted more in 2010 than in 2009 (39 more events);
- Unlike in prior years, commercial burglaries cannot be attributed to chronic offenders.

**Homicide:** The Homicide rate increased significantly (41.7%), although it still reflects a small number of homicides (12 in 2009 vs. 17 in 2010). Of the 17 murders, 11 victims knew or were related to their killers. Three victims were killed by strangers, and in three cases, the suspect and relationship remains unknown.

**Larceny:** The Larceny rate fell 16.9% in 2010, with 15,261 incidents in 2010 compared to 18,356 in 2009:

- Shoplifting decreased by 6.5%;
- Thefts from buildings decreased by 7.5%; and
- Vehicle-related thefts decreased by 27.3%.

Thefts from vehicles or of vehicle parts decreased from 9,776 in 2009 to 7,110 in 2010. According to the Department, this decline can be attributed to multiple factors:

- Making numerous on-scene arrests in the hi-activity prior years (to include repeat offenders);
- Dedicating resources on case follow-ups that lead to arrest; and
- Increasing public awareness (press releases and the yellow card campaigns).

About 27% of the non-tag thefts from vehicles were known to have been left in unlocked vehicles or vehicles with open windows. The Department advises that the ready availability of personal electronic devices such as cell phones, laptops, iPods, and GPS units make this type of crime a lucrative one. There were almost 1,500 GPS units stolen during 2010. Detectives have had burglars tell them that the burglars were also now stealing from cars because the risks of apprehension and sentencing are not as great (as burglary) and that theft from vehicles can be fairly profitable.

**Aggravated Assault:** Aggravated Assaults have decreased by 27.8% in 2010, with 653 victims in 2010 compared to 904 in 2009. In 2010:

- 32% of the assaults were domestic in nature, including 23.6% of total assaults committed by spouse or partner and 8.4% committed by another family member;
- 4.7% of assault victims were police officers (31 total); and
- 82.7% involved the display or use of a weapon, with a knife being the most prevalent.

**Auto Theft:** Auto theft rates are down both regionally and nationally, but the Department notes that Montgomery County has experienced a larger-than-average reduction. From 2009 to 2010, auto theft was down by 8% statewide, from 19,619 to 18,031. During the same period, auto theft decreased by 16% in the County, from 1,824 to 1,530. This follows two years of double-digit percentage declines in the County. In 2008, there were 2,384 auto thefts and in 2007 there were 2,634. This trend reflects a nearly 42% drop in auto thefts since the beginning of 2008.

Several factors have contributed to this reduction, including the work of the Centralized Auto Theft Section (CATS). The unit includes a Sergeant and seven detectives who are assigned geographical investigative responsibility. They also have several specialty areas of investigation, including dealership thefts, motorcycle thefts, street racer/chop shop investigations, and the Bait Car Program. In addition, certain thieves are responsible for large numbers of car thefts. The CATS unit has been successful in targeting and arresting repeat offenders. For example, one person may be arrested, but charged in 10 cases.

The Department's collaborative relationship with the State's Attorney's Office (SAO) has also aided in reducing the number of auto theft cases. For the past three years, the OSA has dedicated a District Court ASA to handle auto theft cases. This ASA reviews the more complex cases and often prosecutes them in Circuit Court, resulting in more convictions. CATS has also

provided more training to patrol officers and the SAO. This enables patrol officers in particular to relay more information to detectives.

The types of thieves who steal cars are generally broken down into their intended use of the car:

- **Exporters:** These groups steal vehicles for the specific purpose of shipping them overseas. The thefts are generally committed by low-level street thieves who steal high-end cars with a key. They obtain the key by various methods, steal the vehicle, then sell it to others for export;
- **Street Racers:** These groups steal vehicles for their aftermarket performance parts, or to sell parts to pay for their street racing habit. The car is stolen and then stripped of its components, including the engine, body panels, seats, airbags, etc.;
- **Joyriders:** These individuals steal cars by various means – keys, punched ignition, etc. They sometimes steal the car during another crime, or they immediately use the car to commit another crime;
- **Juveniles:** Young adults and juveniles are frequently responsible for trend thefts related to specific makes and models. They learn to steal a specific type of vehicle and continue stealing them until they are caught. It is these types of thieves that the bait cars are effective at targeting.
- **Scrap Metal Thieves:** These types of thefts appear to be on the decline, but there are still a significant number of cars stolen for their weight in metal.

**Bait Car Program:** The Department has recently renewed its effort to make the bait car program successful. The cars have been stolen or entered approximately 10-12 times in the past six months, and approximately 20 times over the last two years, resulting in numerous arrests and even more case closures. CATS has begun working with District Station officers to identify and apprehend those committing multiple thefts from autos. The bait cars are most effective when quickly deployed in areas experiencing a recent, high volume of thefts or car break-ins.

**Grant Funding for Auto Theft Prevention and Investigation:** Currently, the largest grant the Department receives for auto theft prevention and investigation is the Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council (VTPC) grant. In FY2008, the grant totaled \$225,000. This amount was used to pay salaries for the Crime Analyst and Evidence Technician, along with overtime for prevention activities. Funds were also used for equipment like Tag Readers, Bait Car maintenance, citizen tip lines, and training. In FY2012, funding is \$160,000, and covers only the two salaries.

CATS has applied for and received several other grants from the Maryland/District of Columbia Anti-Car Theft Committee (MD/DC ACT) and the National Insurance Crime Bureau. These funds were used to establish and maintain a fleet of bait motorcycles (the largest and perhaps only bait motorcycles in the region), cell phones for detectives assigned to CATS on a temporary basis, to update and maintain bait cars, and to purchase License Plate Recognition system and GPS tracking devices.

**Gang Activity Update:** According to the Department, there are two general types of gangs that are active in Montgomery County, including neighborhood gangs and transnational gangs. Neighborhood gangs are not well-organized, but they do use social networking, and are most prevalent in terms of activity – *but not criminal activity*. They are comprised of young males between the ages of 14 and 22 years old. They are territorial based on neighborhoods and have distinct rivals. These gangs are not recognized by colors. The crimes they commit are most often robberies, assaults, and CDS and weapons possessions. *Although these gangs are the most visible in the hotspot areas of the County and account for most gang members in the County, they do not account for the majority of gang crime.*

Transnational gangs, on the other hand, such as MS-13 and 18<sup>th</sup> Street are much more organized and tend to be more clandestine. The gangs are more violent and account for the majority of documented gang crime due to members having clear membership to the gang.

## **CLOSURE RATES**

Over the past four calendar years, case closure rates have been trending down for almost all Part I crimes. The Department has provided detailed data for years 2006 through 2010. While closure rates have been falling in the County, they continue to exceed the national average. For 2010, closure rates for six of the seven Part I Offenses are lower than the rates for 2009. The Committee may wish to ask the Department why closure rates are declining and what the Department is doing to address that.

## **DISCUSSION ISSUES**

- 1) How is the Department responding to the sharp increase in burglaries in the County?**
- 2) Pack robberies have decreased by 8.5% in 2010. Are most pack robberies gang-related? What can the decrease be attributed to?**
- 3) How significant is the use of social networking (i.e., Facebook and Twitter) in the planning and commission of crime in the County? What steps are the Department taking to address this?**

## Montgomery County Maryland Department of Police Monthly Report

### Comparison Study of Offenses January 1 - December 31, 2010 - 2009

	2010	2009		2010	2009	
	Monthly	Monthly	% Change	Year To Date	Year To Date	% Change
Murder	1	1	0.0%	17	*12	41.7%
Forcible Rape	8	17	-52.9%	119	124	-4.0%
Stranger	(3)	(3)		(37)	(34)	
Known	(5)	(14)		(82)	(90)	
Robbery	79	87	-9.2%	911	992	-8.2%
Commercial	(10)	(13)		(146)	(141)	
Non - Commercial	(69)	(74)		(765)	(851)	
Aggravated Assault	44	59	-25.4%	653	904	-27.8%
Burglary	317	217	46.1%	3,323	3,011	10.4%
Residence	(269)	(167)		(2,619)	(2,365)	
Commercial	(44)	(49)		(670)	(582)	
School	(4)	(1)		(34)	(64)	
Larceny	1,250	1,461	-14.4%	15,261	18,356	-16.9%
Shoplifting	(371)	(281)		(2,970)	(3,177)	
Veh Related Theft	(474)	(718)		(7,110)	(9,776)	
From Buildings	(247)	(321)		(3,001)	(3,247)	
All Other Larcenies	(158)	(141)		(2,180)	(2,156)	
Auto Theft	112	141	-20.6%	1,455	1,732	-16.0%
<b>Part I Total</b>	<b>1,811</b>	<b>1,983</b>	<b>-8.7%</b>	<b>21,739</b>	<b>25,131</b>	<b>-13.5%</b>
*Crime Against Persons	53	77	-31.2%	789	1,040	-24.1%
*Crime Against Property	1,758	1,906	-7.8%	20,950	24,091	-13.0%
Minor Assaults	322	306	5.2%	4,229	4,023	5.1%
Arson	6	8	-25.0%	89	168	-47.0%
Vandalism	254	240	5.8%	3,936	4,506	-12.6%
Weapons	38	30	26.7%	370	399	-7.3%
Narcotic Drug Laws	257	240	7.1%	3,919	3,620	8.3%
Sale/Manufacture	(18)	(38)		(585)	(647)	
Possession/Use	(239)	(202)		(3,334)	(2,973)	
Family Offense	36	25	44.0%	286	318	-10.1%
Juvenile Offense	116	71	63.4%	1,187	1,217	-2.5%
Disorderly Conduct	1,007	946	6.4%	15,377	15,548	-1.1%
All Other Part II Offenses	1,042	845	23.3%	11,812	13,096	-9.8%
<b>Part II Total</b>	<b>3,078</b>	<b>2,711</b>	<b>13.5%</b>	<b>41,205</b>	<b>42,895</b>	<b>-3.9%</b>
<b>TOTAL CRIME</b>	<b>4,889</b>	<b>4,694</b>	<b>4.2%</b>	<b>62,944</b>	<b>68,026</b>	<b>-7.5%</b>

Assaults on Police Officer	45	31	45.2%	337	310	8.7%
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\*A murder case that occurred in February 2009 was closed by Unfounded in 2010, the 2009 total adjusted from 13 to 12

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**Montgomery County Maryland  
Department of Police Monthly Report**

**PART I OFFENSES CLOSURE RATES COMPARISON STUDY  
January 1 - December 31, 2010 - 2009**

PART I CLASSES		Monthly	Monthly	Clearance Rate	Year To Date	Year To Date	Clearance Rate
		Offenses	Cases Cleared	%	Offenses	Cases Cleared	%
Murder	2010	1	0	(0.0%)	17	7	(41.2%)
	2009	1	1	(100.0%)	12	13*	(108.3%)
Rape	2010	8	5	(62.5%)	119	60	(50.4%)
	2009	17	2	(11.8%)	124	78	(62.9%)
Robbery	2010	79	15	(19.0%)	911	220	(24.1%)
	2009	87	39	(44.8%)	992	334	(33.7%)
Aggravated Assault	2010	44	18	(40.9%)	653	322	(49.3%)
	2009	59	28	(47.5%)	904	465	(51.4%)
Burglary	2010	317	34	(10.7%)	3,323	495	(14.9%)
	2009	217	73	(33.6%)	3,011	759	(25.2%)
Larceny	2010	1,250	220	(17.6%)	15,261	2,811	(18.4%)
	2009	1,461	299	(20.5%)	18,356	3,354	(18.3%)
Auto Theft	2010	112	4	(3.6%)	1,455	187	(12.9%)
	2009	141	8	(5.7%)	1,732	278	(16.1%)
Total Part I	2010	1,811	296	(16.3%)	21,739	4,102	(18.9%)
	2009	1,983	453	(22.8%)	25,131	5,281	(21.0%)

\*Closure from previous years

## Montgomery County Maryland Department of Police Monthly Report

### Comparison Study of Arrests January 1 - December 31, 2010 - 2009

Year To Date Criminal Arrests	2010	2009	% + -
Murder	15	37	-59.5%
Rape	67	52	28.8%
Robbery	432	518	-16.6%
Aggravated Assault	390	490	-20.4%
Burglary	595	621	-4.2%
Larceny	1,939	2,005	-3.3%
Auto Theft	159	231	-31.2%
Part I Total	3,597	3,954	-9.0%
Minor Assaults	1,227	1,213	1.2%
Arson	20	22	-9.1%
Vandalism	178	171	4.1%
Weapons	287	293	-2.0%
Narcotic Drug Laws	2,680	2,679	0.0%
Family Offense	61	61	0.0%
Juvenile Offense	955	1,026	-6.9%
Disorderly Conduct	400	381	5.0%
All Other Part II Offenses	4,572	4,220	8.3%
Part II Total	10,380	10,066	3.1%
<b>TOTAL CRIME</b>	<b>13,977</b>	<b>14,020</b>	<b>-0.3%</b>
*C/A/Persons	472	579	-18.5%
*C/A/Property	3,125	3,375	-7.4%

Criminal Arrests	2010	2009
Total Current Month	1,084	1,007
Total Year to Date	13,977	14,020
Male Current Month	816	780
Total Year to Date	10,935	11,006
Female Current Month	298	227
Total Year to Date	3,042	3,014
Under 18 Current Month	358	264
Total Under 18 YTD	4,178	3,064

Criminal Citations Issued	2010	2009
Total Current Month	453	423
Total Year to Date	6,457	6,633

Residents Arrests	2010	2009
Part I Classes	58.6%	63.1%
Robbery	64.1%	71.4%
Burglary	56.5%	65.5%
Auto Theft	66.7%	60.6%
Narcotics	70.9%	76.6%
Non-residents Arrests	2010	2009
Part I Classes	41.4%	36.9%
Robbery	35.9%	28.6%
Burglary	43.5%	34.5%
Auto Theft	33.3%	39.4%
Narcotics	29.1%	23.4%

DEPARTMENT OF POLICE  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

CRIME  
BY DISTRICT

Monthly December 1 - December 31, 2010 - 2009

	1st District: Rockville			2nd District: Bethesda			3rd District: Silver Spring			4th District: Wheaton			5th District: Germantown			6th District: Mont Village		
	2010	2009	%	2010	2009	%	2010	2009	%	2010	2009	%	2010	2009	%	2010	2009	%
Murder	0	1	-100.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	1	0	N/C	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%
Rape	2	3	-33.3%	1	1	0.0%	3	2	50.0%	0	2	-100.0%	0	2	-100.0%	2	7	-71.4%
Robbery	7	9	-22.2%	6	7	-14.3%	29	20	45.0%	15	20	-25.0%	12	11	9.1%	10	20	-50.0%
Agg. Assault	3	5	-40.0%	7	3	133.3%	13	17	-23.5%	3	10	-70.0%	8	10	-20.0%	10	14	-28.6%
Burglary	54	33	63.6%	38	26	46.2%	79	49	61.2%	84	47	78.7%	22	27	-18.5%	40	35	14.3%
Larceny	185	188	-1.6%	228	259	-12.0%	230	287	-19.9%	223	274	-18.6%	127	160	-20.6%	257	293	-12.3%
Auto Theft	18	4	350.0%	9	12	-25.0%	36	76	-52.6%	24	21	14.3%	10	11	-9.1%	15	17	-11.8%
Part I	269	243	10.7%	289	308	-6.2%	390	451	-13.5%	350	374	-6.4%	179	221	-19.0%	334	386	-13.5%
Part II	482	403	19.6%	328	291	12.7%	685	598	14.5%	608	491	23.8%	408	403	1.2%	567	525	8.0%
Total Crime	751	646	16.3%	617	599	3.0%	1,075	1,049	2.5%	958	865	10.8%	587	624	-5.9%	901	911	-1.1%

Cumulative January 1 - December 31, 2010 - 2009

	1st District: Rockville			2nd District: Bethesda			3rd District: Silver Spring			4th District: Wheaton			5th District: Germantown			6th District: Mont Village		
	2010	2009	%	2010	2009	%	2010	2009	%	2010	2009	%	2010	2009	%	2010	2009	%
Murder	0	2	-100.0%	2	0	N/C	8	3	166.7%	5	5	0.0%	1	0	N/C	1	2	-50.0%
Rape	17	19	-10.5%	7	9	-22.2%	29	31	-6.5%	24	15	60.0%	14	16	-12.5%	28	34	-17.6%
Robbery	108	99	9.1%	68	65	4.6%	322	302	6.6%	161	232	-30.6%	110	124	-11.3%	142	170	-16.5%
Agg. Assault	88	116	-24.1%	48	68	-29.4%	180	244	-26.2%	127	185	-31.4%	74	113	-34.5%	136	178	-23.6%
Burglary	520	432	20.4%	487	397	22.7%	787	722	9.0%	696	629	10.7%	344	367	-6.3%	489	464	5.4%
Larceny	2,161	2,488	-13.1%	2,746	3,577	-23.2%	3,379	3,790	-10.8%	2,752	3,308	-16.8%	1,623	2,004	-19.0%	2,600	3,189	-18.5%
Auto Theft	135	160	-15.6%	185	212	-12.7%	485	618	-21.5%	300	341	-12.0%	131	168	-22.0%	219	233	-6.0%
Part I	3,029	3,316	-8.7%	3,543	4,328	-18.1%	5,190	5,710	-9.1%	4,065	4,715	-13.8%	2,297	2,792	-17.7%	3,615	4,270	-15.3%
Part II	6,244	6,643	-6.0%	4,560	4,430	2.9%	8,557	8,957	-4.5%	8,188	8,640	-5.2%	6,014	6,263	-4.0%	7,642	7,962	-4.0%
Total Crime	9,273	9,959	-6.9%	8,103	8,758	-7.5%	13,747	14,667	-6.3%	12,253	13,355	-8.3%	8,311	9,055	-8.2%	11,257	12,232	-8.0%

(1)

DEPARTMENT OF POLICE  
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND

ARRESTS  
BY DISTRICT

December 1 - December 31, 2010- 2009

	*1st District: Rockville			2nd District: Bethesda			3rd District: Silver Spring			4th District: Wheaton			5th District: Germantown			6th District: Mont	
	2010	2009	%	2010	2009	%	2010	2009	%	2010	2009	%	2010	2009	%	2010	2009
Murder	0	1	-100.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	0
Rape	0	2	-100.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	1	-100.0%	0	1	-100.0%	0	0	0.0%	0	0
Robbery	11	4	175.0%	3	2	50.0%	6	8	-25.0%	2	18	-88.9%	6	2	200.0%	0	5
Agg. Assault	9	9	0.0%	1	0	N/C	1	8	-87.5%	3	4	-25.0%	3	3	0.0%	6	2
Burglary	25	16	56.3%	6	3	100.0%	4	9	-55.6%	6	5	20.0%	4	7	-42.9%	6	5
Larceny	52	38	36.8%	67	50	34.0%	23	21	9.5%	23	35	-34.3%	11	9	22.2%	27	29
Auto Theft	4	3	33.3%	1	1	0.0%	0	0	0.0%	3	1	200.0%	2	0	N/C	0	0
Part I	101	73	38.4%	78	56	39.3%	34	47	-27.7%	37	64	-42.2%	26	21	23.8%	39	41
Part II	313	264	18.6%	44	47	-6.4%	121	91	33.0%	142	113	25.7%	70	82	-14.6%	79	108
Total Crime	414	337	22.8%	122	103	18.4%	155	138	12.3%	179	177	1.1%	96	103	-6.8%	118	149

Cumulative

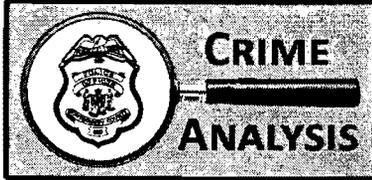
January 1 - December 31, 2010 -201

	*1st District: Rockville			2nd District: Bethesda			3rd District: Silver Spring			4th District: Wheaton			5th District: Germantown			6th District: Mont	
	2010	2009	%	2010	2009	%	2010	2009	%	2010	2009	%	2010	2009	%	2010	2009
Murder	10	18	-44.4%	0	0	0.0%	3	3	0.0%	1	8	-87.5%	0	3	-100.0%	1	5
Rape	36	28	28.6%	5	3	66.7%	12	6	100.0%	7	9	-22.2%	3	3	0.0%	4	3
Robbery	147	120	22.5%	34	25	36.0%	99	105	-5.7%	81	175	-53.7%	39	44	-11.4%	32	49
Agg. Assault	141	165	-14.5%	19	28	-32.1%	75	103	-27.2%	69	102	-32.4%	43	40	7.5%	43	52
Burglary	207	226	-8.4%	45	45	0.0%	84	84	0.0%	118	121	-2.5%	54	77	-29.9%	87	68
Larceny	571	543	5.2%	259	308	-15.9%	297	304	-2.3%	314	379	-17.2%	195	167	16.8%	303	304
Auto Theft	45	68	-33.8%	8	19	-57.9%	47	56	-16.1%	25	46	-45.7%	19	16	18.8%	15	26
Part I	1,157	1,168	-0.9%	370	428	-13.6%	617	661	-6.7%	615	840	-26.8%	353	350	0.9%	485	507
Part II	4,214	3,948	6.7%	720	626	15.0%	1,584	1,659	-4.5%	1,638	1,588	3.1%	1,089	1,001	8.8%	1,135	1,244
Total Crime	5,371	5,116	5.0%	1,090	1,054	3.4%	2,201	2,320	-5.1%	2,253	2,428	-7.2%	1,442	1,351	6.7%	1,620	1,751

\* Please note the elevated numbers are a result of Warrant /Fugitive sections arrest by appointment at Rockville Station.

(17)





# OVERVIEW

CAS # 11-348, 7/14/2011

Prepared by: Angie Lindsay

Prepared for: Chief Manger; Assistant Chief's Jerman, Davis &amp; Cunningham (acting)

1. **Please provide some trend data on closure rates over the past 3 or 4 years. If the closure rates are decreasing, can this be attributed to anything in particular (complexity of crime, staff reductions, etc.).** Closures are declining in most Part 1 categories over the past 5 years. See the "Closure Rate" section (page 2) that follows with MCPD data obtained for UCR from CJIS; The "Crime Statistics" (page 5) section has commentary on changes in incidents by offense type from 2009 to 2010.
2. **Please provide an update on gang statistics. What are the trends in this area? What are the particular hot spots, and have they changed? What accounts for any noted trends?** See the "Gang Summary" (page 14).
3. **It was noted on the press release that pack robberies have decreased by about 8.5% in 2010. What can this be attributed to?** Good response by patrol with quick arrests over the years and aggressive follow-up by investigators. The pack robbers are often repeat offenders, so arresting one group typically results in multiple closures and additional charges for prosecution.
4. **Are there any other significant crime statistic trends that the Department would like to highlight for the Committee?**
  - Burglaries are increasing, both residential and commercial. Strategies are being developed to address this.
  - The rise in precious metals pricing makes the theft of copper, brass, catalytic converters (for platinum), etc., increase. This is a regional problem.
  - Vehicle-related thefts have declined significantly since peaking in 2008. This can be attributed to proactive patrol resulting in arrests, dedication of resources to follow-up investigations, and crime prevention efforts to increase public awareness.

Unless otherwise cited herein, this document contains data obtained from CJIS records.

## CASE CLOSURES

The Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) is managed by the FBI. Crime data from participating law enforcement agencies is collected in accordance with established program accounting methods by the FBI, analyzed and later published. Based on the average national UCR closure rates for Part 1 Offenses, Montgomery County PD roughly meets or exceeds the national averages for 2006 through 2009. The closure rates for 2010 are not yet available.

Figures in **blue** are where MCPD's closure rate exceeded the national average; figures in **red** are below the national average.

Crime	2006		2007		2008		2009		2010	
	MCPD	Natl.	MCPD	Natl.	MCPD	Natl.	MCPD	Natl.	MCPD	Natl.
Homicide	81.3%	60.7%	84.2%	61.2%	71.4%	63.6%	100.0%	66.6%	41.2%	not avail.
Rape	58.2%	40.9%	55.0%	40.0%	48.9%	40.9%	62.9%	41.2%	50.4%	
Robbery	34.2%	25.2%	33.0%	25.9%	30.3%	26.8%	33.7%	28.2%	24.1%	
Agg. Assault	60.9%	54.0%	56.9%	54.1%	52.0%	54.9%	51.4%	56.8%	49.3%	
Burglary	21.6%	12.6%	23.8%	12.4%	20.1%	12.5%	25.2%	12.5%	14.9%	
Larceny	16.7%	17.4%	16.6%	18.6%	15.7%	19.9%	18.3%	21.5%	18.4%	
Auto Theft	15.2%	12.6%	11.2%	12.6%	15.4%	12.0%	16.1%	12.4%	12.9%	

National averages obtained from [www2.fbi.gov/ucr](http://www2.fbi.gov/ucr)

For 2010, closure rates for six of the seven Part 1 Offenses are less than the rates for 2009.

- Internally, some (unknown to what extent) of this can be attributed to both a lack of timely (any?) supplement submissions and to a process issue in Records whereby all supplements have not yet been added to CJIS - this problem is being aggressively addressed by Records.
- Externally, closure rates have been affected somewhat by reluctant or uncooperative victims and witnesses – especially in the categories of robbery and aggravated assault. Undocumented immigrants are reluctant to participate and will often give false contact information that inhibits follow-up investigations. Also, when suspects are known to the victims, some refuse to cooperate with detectives for various reasons (fear of reprisal, desire to “handle it” themselves), also denying investigators information needed to reach a closure.

Five-year closure rate trends are declining for Homicide, Rape, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, and burglary; increasing in Larceny and holding steady for Auto Theft. Note that all figures presented here were extracted from CJIS per UCR guidelines and may differ with internal unit records.

## CRIME STATISTICS

Unless cited as being from the Crime Analysis tactical databases, the statistics in this document were compiled in accordance with UCR-guidelines as the result of reports received/processed by Records in the CJIS system.

From 2009 to 2010, Total Crime went down by 7.5%. Part 1 Crime (murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny and vehicle theft) decreased by 13.5%, with significant

decreases noted for Aggravated Assault, Larceny and Vehicle Theft. Burglaries, however, increased 10.4% from 2009 to 2010.

Five-year trend charts and commentary follow for each Part 1 crime category.

From 2009 to 2010, arrests declined in each Part 1 category, except rape – which showed an increase of 14 arrests in 2010 (+28.8%).

<b>Criminal Arrests</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>% + -</b>
<b>Murder</b>	15	37	-59.5%
<b>Rape</b>	67	52	28.8%
<b>Robbery</b>	432	518	-16.6%
<b>Aggravated Ass:</b>	390	490	-20.4%
<b>Burglary</b>	595	621	-4.2%
<b>Larceny</b>	1,939	2,005	-3.3%
<b>Auto Theft</b>	159	231	-31.2%
<b>Part I Total</b>	<b>3,597</b>	<b>3,954</b>	<b>-9.0%</b>

**Homicide: 12\* in 2009 vs. 17 in 2010, +41.7%**

\*Note: Previously, 13 homicides were recorded/published for 2009. The Botero homicide (body dump in 5D) was later determined to have occurred in Baltimore County, so it was removed from our tally and will be “counted” by that jurisdiction.

- There were 17 victims, each at a separate scenes
- Causative factors:
  - 4 – robbery
  - 3 – dispute (not domestic)
  - 2 – gang motivated
  - 1 – domestic
  - 1 – accidental discharge
  - 6 – unknown (includes 2 open cases)
- Relationship of killers to victims:
  - 11 victims knew or were related to their killers (64.7%)
    - 10 by acquaintances** (includes the Betts homicide, stranger suspect was invited by victim)
    - 1 by a stepdaughter**
  - 3 victims were killed by strangers (includes one open case)
  - 3 unknown (in two open cases the suspect remains unknown, in one open case any prior relationship has yet to be determined)
- Cause of death:
  - 10 by firearm
  - 4 by cutting/stabbing
  - 2 by blunt force (one in conjunction with cut/stab)
  - 1 unknown means (Taylor)

**Rape: 124 in 2009 vs. 119 in 2010, -4.0%**

Note: during 2010, four reports from previous years were ruled as “unfounded” and these cases were subtracted from our running count for the year. *Since it is not possible to arbitrarily exclude four actual cases from this analysis, the below information reflects a total of 123 cases still open or closed by arrest or exception at year’s end, and not the 119 published per UCR recording guidelines. Therefore, percentages only are used.*

- 83.7% were completed rapes, 16.3% were attempts
- 15.4% of recorded cases actually occurred prior to 2010 (reported after the fact or the report was submitted late)
- 35.0% of incidents were known to have involved drug and/or alcohol use beforehand
- 69.9% of victims previously knew or were related to the offender; 29.3% report a stranger as offender (to include 9.8% of the overall total where victims had just met the suspect and willingly accompanied him elsewhere, such as accepted a ride from or went home with).

Suspect relationship table:	Acquaintance/otherwise known	45.5%
	Stranger	29.3%
	Ex-Boyfriend	7.3%
	Boyfriend	5.7%
	Husband	4.9%
	Other Relative	4.9%
	Father	0.8%
	Mother's Boyfriend	0.8%
	Unknown (uncooperative victim)	0.8%
	Total ::	100%

- Rape arrests were up +28.8% from 53 in 2009, to 67 in 2010

**Robbery: 992 in 2009 vs. 911 in 2010, -8.2%**

- Over the past five years, robberies have decreased 21.9% (from 1,166 in 2006 to 911 in 2010)
- Significant 2010 decreases were noted in 4D, 5D & 6D.
- Non-commercial robberies showed a decrease from 851 in 2009, to 765 in 2010 (-10.1%)
  - "Pack" street robberies with three or more suspects, were down approximately 8.5% in 2010 when compared to 2009 (preliminary, non-UCR-compliant data from the tactical database used – 248 in 2010 and 271 in 2009).
  - Multiple arrests by patrol officers immediately after some robberies and aggressive follow-up by investigators have had a positive impact on reducing non-commercial robbery numbers, especially for the repeat offenders/groups responsible for multiple robberies.

**Aggravated Assault: 904 in 2009 vs. 653 in 2010, -27.8%**

Note: assault *victims* are counted, not incidents; so any aggravated assault with a cross-complaint made is counted more than once, in that each victim's assault is viewed as a separate event.

Victims:

- 32.0% of these assaults were domestic in nature:
  - spouse/partner as victim = 154 / 23.6% of total
  - other family as victim = 55 / 8.4% of total

- 4.7% of these assaults had police officers as victims (31)

Means:

- 82.7% involved the display or use of a weapon (540 total)
  - gun – 15.0% (98)
  - knife – 42.6% (278)
  - other weapon – 25.1% (164)
  - strong-arm – 17.3% (113)

**Burglary: 3,011 in 2009 vs. 3,323 in 2010, +10.4%**

- Increases were noted in both residential and commercial burglaries.
- Increases were noted in all districts, except 5D, which showed a slight decline (-23 events, -6.3%).

Residential: 2,365 in 2009 vs. 2,619 in 2010, +10.7%

- 25.1% were unsecured (unlocked or open window/door)
- 7.9% were to a shed or garage
- 4.3% were to a vacant residence

*These percentages are based on data in the tactical database, which is not UCR-compliant and totals will differ*

Commercial: 582 in 2009 vs. 670 in 2010, +15.1%

- Increases were noted in target types across the board, with office buildings and restaurants hit more in 2010 than in 2009 (39 more events, or almost half the increase).
- Unlike prior years, the increase can not be largely attributed to chronic offenders; many burglars were determined to be responsible for small numbers of events.

**Larceny: 18,356 in 2009 vs. 15,261 in 2010, -16.9%**

- Decreases were noted in shoplifting (-6.5%), thefts from buildings (-7.6%), and most notably for vehicle-related thefts (-27.3) ↓
- Thefts from vehicle or of vehicle parts showed a decrease, from 9,776 in 2009 to 7,110 in 2010 (down 2,666, or -27.3%). While still the largest sub-category of thefts, the decline can be attributed in part to:
  - making numerous on-scene arrests in the high-activity prior years (to include repeat offenders),
  - dedicating resources on case follow-ups that lead to arrest, and
  - increasing public awareness (press releases and the yellow card campaigns).
- In our tactical database we do not capture tag thefts and the data source is usually cited as "preliminary info". For 2010 we entered 5,774 non-tag thefts from vehicles/of parts, of which 1,555 were known to have been left unlocked or with an open window; this equates to 26.9% of the non-tag thefts captured in this non-UCR-compliant database.

- The ready availability of personal electronics such as cell phones, laptops, iPods, etc., makes this type of crime a lucrative one. For example, there were almost 1,500 GPS units stolen during 2010 (total from the tactical database).
- There are many ways now to convert stolen items to cash other than typical, regulated pawn shops, such as Craig's list, E-bay, etc.
- Detectives have had burglars tell them that they were also now stealing from cars as the risk is not as great for apprehension or for sentencing if caught, and the haul can still be pretty profitable.

**Auto Theft: 1,732 in 2009 vs. 1,455, -16.0%**

- Auto theft is less than half of the total from 10 years ago; in 2001 there were 3,150 vehicles targeted for theft (includes attempted thefts).
- Efforts by CATT to target recidivists have aided in this reduction.

## **GANG SUMMARY**

### **What are the trends in this area?**

**Response:** Neighborhood gangs, which are very unorganized and utilize social networking, are the most prevalent in terms of activity - but not criminal activity. These gangs are primarily African American males, between the ages of 14 to 22 years. The gangs are somewhat territorial based on their neighborhoods and have distinct rivals. These groups are not recognized by colors. Enforcement of these gangs require constant street operations for identification and disruption of their activities which lead to crime. The crimes they commit are most often robberies, assaults and CDS possession and weapons possession. Although these gangs are the most visible in the hotspot areas, and account for most gang members in the County, they do not account for the majority of gang crime. Part of this phenomenon is identifying crimes committed by these loosely organized groups in association with a gang.

Transnational gangs such as MS-13 and 18<sup>th</sup> Street are much more organized and tend to be more clandestine. These gangs are more violent and account for the majority of documented gang crime due to members having a clear membership to the gang. The more serious the incident, the more thorough the investigation and victims are easily identified due to the nature of the injuries.

The above trends are being experienced in all Baltimore/Washington Metropolitan jurisdictions. Montgomery County is also experiencing younger gang members, more violent gang crimes and multiple suspects involved during incidents.

### **What are the particular hot spots, and have they changed?**

**Response:** The hotspots for the County have not changed in the past 15 years. At-risk neighborhoods based on census information tend to be the most active for gang activity. In addition, cultural centers such as City Place, Silver Spring and Wheaton Central Business Districts, and large shopping venues are also experiencing gang activity. A common denominator of hotspots tend to be the availability of mass transit. The Montgomery Village area has seen an increase in gang-related activity including robberies, assaults and drug related offenses.

### **What accounts for any noted trends?**

**Response:** The trend of younger gang members is related to the attraction of the local neighborhood groups. Recruitment becomes much easier when membership criteria are limited to living in the neighborhood. The more violent crime trend is attributed to the activities of the larger transnational gangs. As the gang become more organized and transitions toward monetary profit, the gang's activities become more aligned with organized crime and therefore more violent. The trend of multiple suspects is not clearly attributed to a specific cause. The term "pack robberies" is also associated with this trend and may be linked to the increase of neighborhood gangs and with the increased organization of transnational gangs. (A "pack robbery" is a non-commercial robbery involving three or more suspects.)

**1) Auto theft rates have been decreasing over the past several years. To what does the Department attribute this trend? What types of initiatives have you used to help deter auto theft? Mr. Andrews mentioned that there was a grant several years ago that helped fund certain initiatives. Is the Department still receiving grant funding related to auto theft prevention? Are there any grant applications in the works?**

Auto theft rates are down regionally and nationally, however Montgomery County has experienced a larger than average reduction. From 2009 to 2010, statewide auto theft was down 8% from 19,619 to 18,031. Montgomery County saw a decrease of 16% from 1,824 to 1,530. This is following two years of double digit percentage declines in the county. In 2008 there were 2,384 and in 2007 there were 2,634. This represents a nearly 42% drop since the beginning of 2008.

This can be attributed to several factors, the most significant being the work of the Centralized Auto Theft Section (CATS). The unit consists of a Sergeant and seven detectives who are assigned geographic investigative responsibility. In addition, many have specialty areas that they investigate countywide. These areas are dealership thefts, motorcycle thefts, street racer/ chop shop investigations, and the bait car program.

Focus has been directed on major offenders responsible for numerous thefts. Frequently, one person or small group of persons, are responsible for dozens of thefts. With focused efforts on arresting those individuals, it significantly reduces the number of victims of auto theft in the county.

Our relationship with the State's Attorney's Office (SAO) was reestablished. For three years, a District Court Assistant State's Attorney has been assigned to handle auto theft cases in addition to their regular duties; They review our more complex cases and either prosecute themselves in District Court or move up to Circuit Court. This results in more convictions.

CATS has provided more training to patrol officers and the SAO. This results in more information being relayed to detectives which may not have raised suspicion to officers prior to the class.

It is a fact that vehicle manufacturers have begun to produce vehicles that cannot be stolen via traditional means (punching the ignition.) But thieves have adapted and use different methods to steal cars. Most of the population has not replaced their vehicles in the last three years, meaning there are still plenty of older cars on the streets. The majority of the 1530 vehicles stolen in the county last year were stolen by other means. New vehicle anti-theft technology has actually made our job more difficult because fewer and fewer cars are stolen by punching the ignition. Auto thieves are becoming more creative, are primarily adults, much more street smart and harder to catch.

The unit still receives grants from several sources. The largest of which is from the Maryland Vehicle Theft Prevention Council (VTPC). The VTPC falls under the management of the Maryland State Police and gives grants to police departments with auto theft units and to some non-profit organizations that provide support and guidance for those who have either been involved in auto theft or are at risk of becoming involved. In FY 2008, the unit received ~\$225,000. That has since been reduced to \$160,000 for FY2012. Montgomery County's grant has been reduced proportionately to the VTPC's budget being cut. In the past, funds from the VPTC were utilized to pay salaries and fringe of the unit Crime Analyst and Evidence Technician along with overtime for prevention activities. Funds were also used for equipment such as Tag Readers, Bait Car maintenance, citizen tip lines, and training. In FY 2012, the grant only has funds to pay for most of the two salaries and fringe.

CATS has applied for and received several grants from the Maryland/District of Columbia Anti-Car Theft Committee (MD/DC ACT) and the National Insurance Crime Bureau. Funds were utilized to establish and maintain a fleet of bait motorcycles (the largest and perhaps only bait motorcycles in the region), cell phones for detectives assigned to CATS temporarily, to update and maintain bait cars, purchase License Plate Recognition systems, and GPS tracking devices.

**2) Are most auto thefts done by professionals or amateurs? What happens to the vehicles when they are stolen? (i.e., sold for parts, joyriding/later abandoned, something else?)**

Auto thieves can be generally broken down into primary groups defined by their intended use of the car, outlined below:

- Exporters- These groups steal vehicle for the specific purpose of shipping the car overseas. Usually these thefts are done by low level street thieves who steal high end cars with a key. They obtain the key by various methods, steal the vehicle, then sell it to others for export.
- Street Racers- These groups steal vehicles for their aftermarket performance parts or to sell parts to pay for their street racing habit. The car is stolen then stripped of its components, to include the engine, body panels, seats, airbags, etc.
- "Joyriders"- These individuals steal cars by various means, keys, punched ignition, etc. They sometimes steal the vehicle during or in conjunction with another crime or they immediately use the car to commit another crime. These include gym thefts, scrap metal thefts, armed robberies, theft from auto groups, burglars, etc

- Juveniles- Juveniles/young adults are frequently responsible for trend thefts related to specific makes and models. Once a juvenile/young adult learns how to steal a specific make or model of vehicle, they are likely to keep stealing them at a record setting pace, until they are caught. It is these types of thieves that the bait cars are effective at targeting.
- Scrap metal thieves- Although it appears to be on the decline, there are still a significant number of cars stolen for their weight in metal. The VPTC has successfully lobbied for legislation to address the loopholes and weaknesses in the laws regarding scrap metal but the problem still exists as the fixes are put in place.

Obviously, people steal vehicles for a variety of reasons, but the vast majority of thefts can be attributed to a thief in one of the above categories. Also, the vast majority of thefts can be attributed to a relatively small number of offenders, similar to the adage, 95% of the problems are created by 5% of the population.

**3) Is the Department still using the Bait Car program? If so, what has its effectiveness been like?**

The bait cars are still in use and have been effective. Once on the brink of discontinuing the program, a renewed effort to make the cars successful has paid off. The cars have been stolen or entered approximately 10-12 times in the last six months and approximately 20 times in the last two years resulting in numerous arrests and even more case closures. CATS has begun working with District Station officers assigned to handle thefts from autos (dependent on the need to use the cars to address theft trends) to identify and apprehend those committing multiple thefts from autos. As mentioned above, the bait cars are most effective when quickly deployed in areas experiencing a recent, high volume of thefts or car break ins. When an arrest is made, it usually identifies the subject that was responsible for the trend, resulting in multiple charges being placed and case closures. Just as importantly, the thefts almost always immediately stop.

**4) Arrests for auto theft have declined as well. What is this attributed to? Is it more difficult to apprehend the perpetrators, or does it correlate with the reduced number of auto thefts in general?**

In 2010, case closures and arrests were down from 2009, but CATS is ahead of the 2010 pace YTD in 2011. More relevant than arrest figures is the number of cases closed by arrest and the number of charges placed. For example, one person may be arrested but charged in 10 cases, with a resulting stat line of 1 arrest, 10 case closures by arrest, and 40 charges placed. The number of cases closed by arrest in 2011 is on pace to increase to 2009 levels.

The unit has been successful in reducing the number of victims in the county by arresting repeat offenders. Due to the nature of the unit's focus which is to target

repeat offenders it is better to look at case closures and vehicles recovered than arrest numbers.

**5) Another trend seemed to be theft from autos, like GPS, iphones, blackberries, laptops, etc. These types of crimes are declining as well. To what does the Department attribute this trend? What types of initiatives have you used to help deter theft from vehicles?**

CATS does not have the investigative responsibility for thefts from autos but the unit works with the designated theft from auto investigators in several of the district stations. CATS has deployed the bait cars to target thefts from autos in the 5<sup>th</sup> District when no defined "bait car appropriate" trend exists. This has resulted in 4 arrests which closed multiple cases and, more importantly, stopped the thefts from autos in those areas which had been a frequent occurrence in the targeted neighborhoods.

**6) How do we compare to surrounding jurisdictions? DC, P.G. County, Fairfax?**

The available number of auto thefts in the neighboring jurisdictions is:

Location	2008	2009	2010
Montgomery County	2384	1824	1530
Prince George's	9743	7266	6698
Washington, DC	6191	5299	
Fairfax County, Va	1288		963

**7) Is there anything else significant you would like to note about auto theft trends in the County?**

The Centralized Auto Theft Section has utilized a wide variety of approaches to reduce the number of auto thefts in the county and in the region. CATS works closely with neighboring jurisdictions to enhance investigations, target regional offenders, train their new investigators, and utilize bait cars/motorcycles.

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6/10/2011

## Year-End 2010 Total Crime Decrease Contributes to Four-Year Reduction in Crime

Today, Montgomery County Police Chief J. Thomas Manger announced that total crime for 2010 decreased 7.5% from 2009 and Part I violent crimes decreased by 13.5%.

These new figures contribute to a 12% decrease in total crime reported in the County in the past four years (71,491 crimes in 2007 to 62,944 crimes in 2010). The data also shows a 15% decrease (25,629 to 21,739) in the Part I violent crimes recorded during this same period. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, the population in Montgomery County increased from 941,491 people in 2007 to 971,777 in 2010, nearly 4%.

Montgomery County Police Chief J. Thomas Manger said, "I am very pleased to see a continuing downward trend in crime, and such a dramatic decrease in our crime numbers for 2010. Double-digit reductions in Part I crime are the result of many factors: a great school system, good services for those in need, healthy influences in the lives of young people, and our community partnerships. In addition, the Police Department's ability to react quickly and effectively to crime trends as well as our ability to identify and arrest those who are responsible for crime played a key role in making our neighborhoods safer.

As is always the case, there is still work to do. Over 3,300 homes and businesses were broken into last year. Burglaries—both prevention and investigation—are receiving much more attention. Montgomery County remains a very safe community. I'm proud of my Cops."

Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) statistics for year-end 2009 compared to year-end 2010 show:

- Part I Crime decreased by 13.5% (from 25,131 to 21,739)
- Part II Crime decreased by 3.9% (from 42,895 to 41,205)
- Overall, Total Crime (Part I & Part II) decreased by 7.5% (from 68,026 to 62,944)

Part I crimes are defined as: murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, and auto theft.

Part II crimes are defined as: minor assaults, arson, forgery-counterfeiting, bad checks, embezzlement, stolen property, vandalism, weapons offenses, prostitution, sex offenses, controlled dangerous substance (CDS) violations, gambling, family offenses, juvenile offenses, liquor law violations, disorderly conduct, suicide, and non-traffic offenses.

A breakdown of Part I Crime statistics reveals that from 2009 to 2010:

- Murder: increased by 41.7% (from 12 to 17)
- Rape: decreased by 4% (124 to 119)

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Robbery: decreased by 8.2% (from 992 to 911)  
Aggravated Assault: decreased 27.8% (from 904 to 653)  
Burglary: increased 10.4% (from 3,011 to 3,323)  
Larceny: decreased 16.9% (from 18,356 to 15,261)  
Auto Theft: decreased 16.0% (from 1,732 to 1,455)

An analysis of the 2010 crime statistics for Part I offenses includes the following points:

Homicide

There were 17 homicides recorded in 2010; each victim located at separate scenes. Eleven of those cases have been closed. 64.7% of the victims knew or were related to their killers. Four victims died as a result of a robbery. Ten victims were killed by a firearm and four victims were killed by cutting/stabbing.

Rape

There were 119 rapes recorded in 2010. Of those rapes, 83.7% were completed rapes and 16.3% were attempted rapes. 69.9% of victims previously knew or were related to the offender and 29.3% of the assaults were committed by a stranger. (.8% of cases the suspect relationship is unknown). Evidence indicates that 35.0% of the incidents involved drug and/or alcohol use prior to the assault.

Robbery

Commercial robberies increased 3.5% in 2010 (from 141 to 146), while non-commercial robberies decreased 10.1% (from 851 to 765). "Pack" street robberies (three or more suspects) decreased approximately 8.5% in 2010. Multiple arrests by patrol officers immediately following robberies and aggressive follow-up work by investigators have had a positive impact on reducing non-commercial robberies, especially for the repeat offenders and groups responsible for multiple robberies.

Aggravated Assault

653 aggravated assaults were reported in 2010. 32.0% of assault victims were a spouse/partner or other family member. Police officers were victims in 31 of these reported assaults. The display or use of a weapon occurred in 82.7% of these incidents.

Burglary

Increases in residential burglaries (10.7%) and commercial burglaries (15.1%) were noted in 2010. In 25.1% of residential burglaries, entry was gained through an unsecured (either unlocked or open) window or door.

Larceny

Overall, larceny decreased for the second year in a row. Decreases were noted in shoplifting thefts (6.5%), thefts from buildings (7.6%), and most notably in vehicle-related thefts (27.3%). The decline in vehicle-related thefts (theft from vehicle or of theft of vehicle parts) can be attributed in part to dedicating resources to these crimes, making numerous on-scene arrests in high activity areas in prior years, and increasing public awareness of the crime.

Auto Theft

Auto Theft decreased 16.0% in 2010.

Note: A copy of these crimes statistics, as well as previous statistics, is available on the Montgomery County Police website at [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/police](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/police). Once at the main police website, go to the Media Services webpage and the Crime Stats link. A written copy of these statistics may also be obtained at the Montgomery County Police Headquarters Media Services Division located at 2350 Research Boulevard, Rockville, MD 20850.

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Contact: Media Services Division Phone: 240.773.5030

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7/13/2011

## MCP 1st Quarter 2011 Crime Statistics Show Decrease in Overall Crime

Montgomery County Police Chief J. Thomas Manger announced today that the crime statistics for the first quarter of 2011 showed a 4.6% decrease in total reported crime within Montgomery County. Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) statistics for the first quarter of 2011 as compared to the same period of 2010 indicate:

- Part I Crime decreased 6.6% (from 4,563 to 4,260).
- Part II Crime decreased 3.6% (from 9,055 to 8,727).
- Overall total crime (Part I and Part II totals) decreased 4.6% (from 13,618 to 12,987).

Part I Crimes decreased by 6.6%:

- Murder: increased by 25.0% (from 4 to 5)
- Rape: increased by 54.2% (from 24 to 37)
- Robbery: decreased by 20.0% (from 210 to 168)
- Aggravated Assault: decreased by 21.4% (from 168 to 132)
- Burglary: increased by 8.8% (from 657 to 715)
- Larceny: decreased by 8.9% (from 3,209 to 2,925)
- Auto Theft: decreased by 4.5% (from 291 to 278)

Part II crime decreased by 3.6%:

Part II crimes are defined as minor assaults, arson, forgery-counterfeiting, bad checks, embezzlement, stolen property, vandalism, weapons offenses, prostitution, sex offenses, controlled dangerous substance (CDS) violations, gambling, family offenses, juvenile offenses, liquor law violations, disorderly conduct, suicide, and non-traffic offenses.

The significant increases in Part I crimes were in the categories of Murder and Rape. Murder increased by one from four reports to five reports. In three of the five Murders, there was a known victim-suspect relationship; all five Murder reports have been closed by detectives. Rape increased by 13 from 24 reports to 37 reports. Of the 37 Rape reports, 28 reports involved a known victim-suspect relationship. There was a significant decrease in Aggravated Assault (21.4%) and Robbery (20.0%). Though a decrease in both Part I and Part II crimes was seen in January (6.7%) and March (15.7), an increase was seen in February (16.1%).

Montgomery County Police Chief J. Thomas Manger said, "Montgomery County continues to enjoy a decrease in crime. We are fortunate to live in a community where the residents trust the police department and communicate effectively with department members. This helps us to do our job."

Note: A copy of these crimes statistics, as well as those from previous years, are available on

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the Montgomery County Police website at [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/police](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/police). Once at the main police website, go to the Media Services webpage and then to the Crime Stats link. A written copy of these statistics may also be obtained at the Montgomery County Police Headquarters Media Services Division located at 2350 Research Boulevard, Rockville, MD 20850.

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