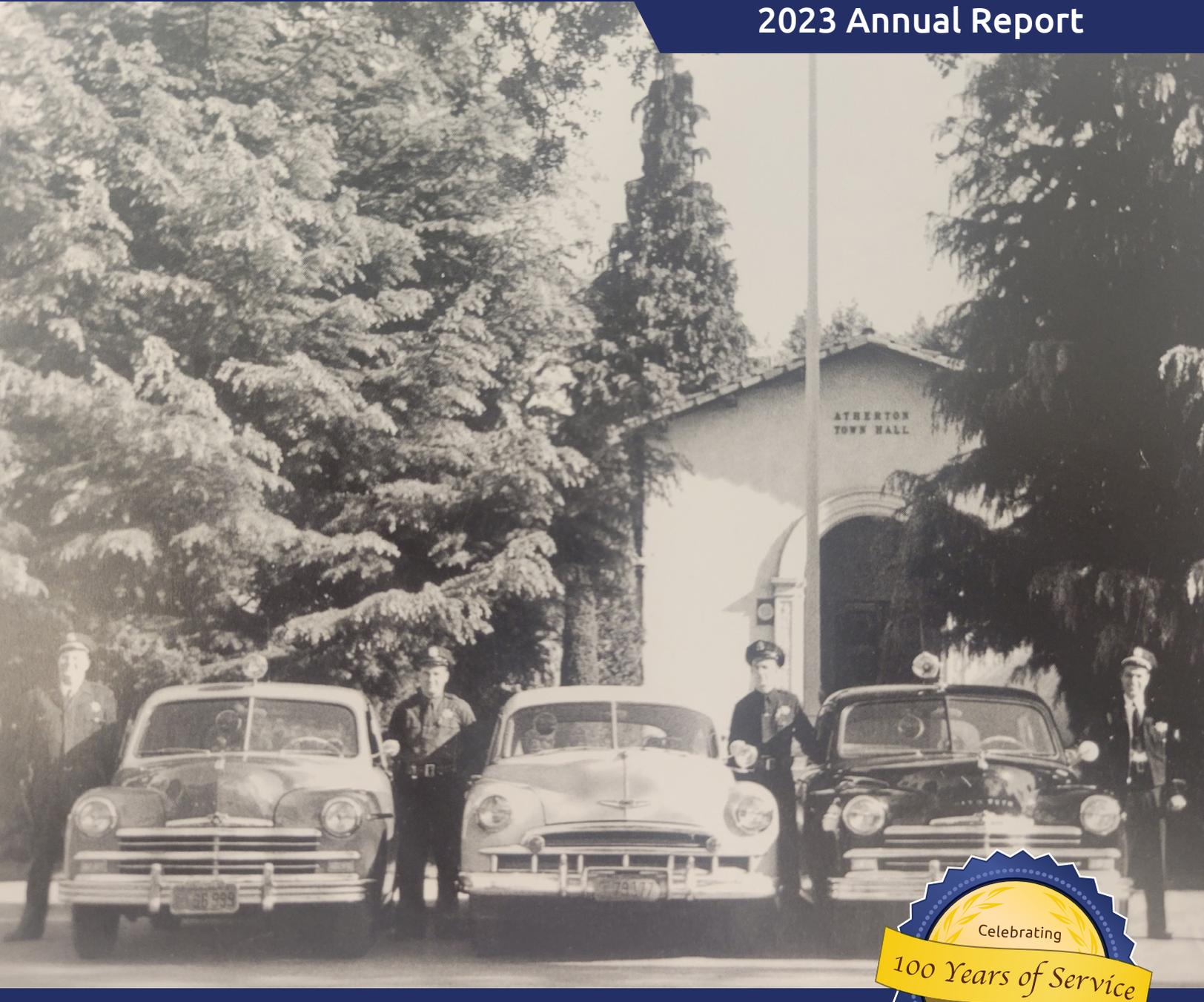




ATHERTON DEPARTMENT OF

# POLICE

2023 Annual Report



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# 2023 ANNUAL REPORT



## ATHERTON BY THE NUMBERS



Incorporated  
**1923**



2020 Population  
**7,188**



Land Area  
**5.0 SQ MILES**



2023 Full-Time  
Police Employees  
**29**

# A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

It is with great pride and gratitude that I present the annual report of the Atherton Department of Police for the past year. Throughout 2023, our dedicated officers and staff have worked tirelessly to uphold our commitment to community safety, foster trust, and address the evolving needs of our residents.

## Community Engagement

One of our primary goals this year was to strengthen the bond between law enforcement and the community we serve. We organized various community events, town halls, and outreach programs to engage in open dialogue with residents. Through these efforts, we have gained valuable insights, built trust, and developed collaborative strategies to address shared concerns.

## Crime Prevention

Our proactive approach to crime prevention yielded positive results, with the number of residential burglaries maintained at a level of 20 for 2023. Through targeted initiatives, community patrols, resident volunteer patrols, and partnerships with local organizations, we have successfully mitigated risks and enhanced public safety. We remain committed to addressing emerging challenges and adapting our strategies to ensure the continued well-being of our community.

## Training and Professional Development

Investing in the continuous training and professional development of our officers and professional staff is a top priority. This year, we implemented new training programs focused on de-escalation techniques, cultural sensitivity, and emerging technologies. Our officers are



equipped with the latest tools and knowledge to handle diverse situations while upholding the highest standards of professionalism.

### **Technology Integration**

We continued to embrace cutting-edge technologies to enhance our operational efficiency and response times. The integration of license plate reading cameras, officer body cameras, and our drone program are all tools that better help us each and every day.

### **Community Safety Initiatives**

Collaborating with local schools, and community organizations like the Atherton Disaster and Preparedness Team (ADAPT), we launched several safety initiatives aimed at creating a secure environment for everyone. Whether through educational programs, neighborhood watch groups, or safety seminars, we are dedicated to empowering residents with the knowledge and resources to contribute to a safer community.

### **Community Partnerships**

Our partnerships with local organizations, government agencies, schools, and non-profits have played a crucial role in our collective efforts to address social issues, promote inclusivity, and foster a sense of unity. Together, we are building a stronger, more resilient community.

As we reflect on the accomplishments and challenges of the past year, I want to express my sincere appreciation to the residents of Atherton for their unwavering support. Our commitment to serving and protecting this community remains steadfast, and we look forward to building upon our successes in the year ahead.

### **Chief of Police**

Steven D. McCulley





# OUR VISION & VALUES

## Organizational Vision:

We will perpetuate a strong work ethic that fosters pride in ourselves, in our careers, and in our Department. We will be a model agency; integrating the most suitable technology and proactively providing services. Our values will be reflected in the decisions we make and the actions we take.

Additionally, we shall consider our responsibilities and obligations as a vital measure for every action within our Department.

We shall be attentive to the needs of the community by interacting, listening and responding to our citizens. We choose to go the extra mile and take the extra time to provide special service with a personal touch for our community. In essence, we will have a readiness to do without being asked and to do more than would be asked.

We will treat one another with respect and dignity, and resolve issues openly in a timely manner.

We will always give each other the benefit of the doubt, creating a working climate of genuine teamwork and conscientious support.

## Core Values:

-  We will constantly strive to attain the highest standards of honesty and integrity.
-  We will share ownership, as a team, for the outstanding service we provide to the community.
-  We will aspire to sustain a trusting work environment built upon dignity, courtesy and mutual respect.
-  We will always remain accountable to one another, our Department and our community for our performance.
-  We will appreciate that the origin and responsibility for leadership rests within each of us in the organization no matter what our rank or position.
-  We will endeavor to respect and honor those who have come before us and the traditions they have established, and to set an example for those who will follow.
-  We will increase and expand our personal and professional growth through continued education and involvement in our community.

***“To Serve with Honor, Integrity, and Professionalism.”***

# DEPARTMENT DIVISIONS

## ADMINISTRATION

The Atherton Police Department is committed to providing exceptional public safety services and believes in taking a leadership role in fostering community partnerships. By cooperating to identify and solve issues we can make this great town even greater. This unit includes the Chief of Police, Police Commander and the Assistant to the Chief/Training Manager.

## DISPATCH / RECORDS

The Police Communication Center is located at the front of the Town Center and operates 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Citizens who call the Police Department talk to a dispatcher who immediately radios the reported information to officers in the field, thus enabling a very fast response time. The Communications Center is

a modern facility utilizing the latest technology to efficiently and effectively handle complaints and concerns. Residents with alarm systems connected to the Police Department have their alarms monitored in the Center.

## INVESTIGATIONS

The Investigation Division is responsible for investigating cases reported through the Patrol Division. Some of the crimes investigated include thefts, home and auto burglaries, identity theft, crimes against children, and sexual assaults.

## PROPERTY / EVIDENCE

Atherton Police Property section collects and recovers many items of property each week. Once items are submitted as evidence or booked into the Property Room, only the property officer can handle or release items. All property releases are done by appointment only.



Photo Credit:  
Bruce Damonte

## TRAFFIC

The Department has a specialized unit of motorcycle officers who primarily focus on reducing traffic collisions and improving the adherence to traffic laws within the Town of Atherton. The traffic officers investigate traffic collisions, educate the public about traffic safety, and work with the Town staff and Town Engineer to improve the overall safety of motorists, bicyclists, and pedestrians who use our roadways. The traffic officers also attend community events, deliver presentations on traffic safety to students at local schools, and assist the patrol division as needed to reduce and prevent crime.

## CODE ENFORCEMENT

In addition to inspection and investigation of properties and buildings, a code enforcement officer's job description includes determining the nature of environmental or health hazards, nuisance violations and unsafe building conditions.

## PATROL

The backbone of a police organization, patrol officers and supervisors handle day-to-day calls on the radio, attend public meetings, perform inspections of citizen's homes for crime prevention preparedness, handle traffic collision investigations, write citations for moving violations and vehicle equipment violations, and conduct highly visible patrols throughout the Town. Patrol Officers are always uniformed and work 7 days a week and 24 hours a day. This is designed to deter criminal opportunity and leave our residents with the sense of security they have come to know and expect in Atherton.



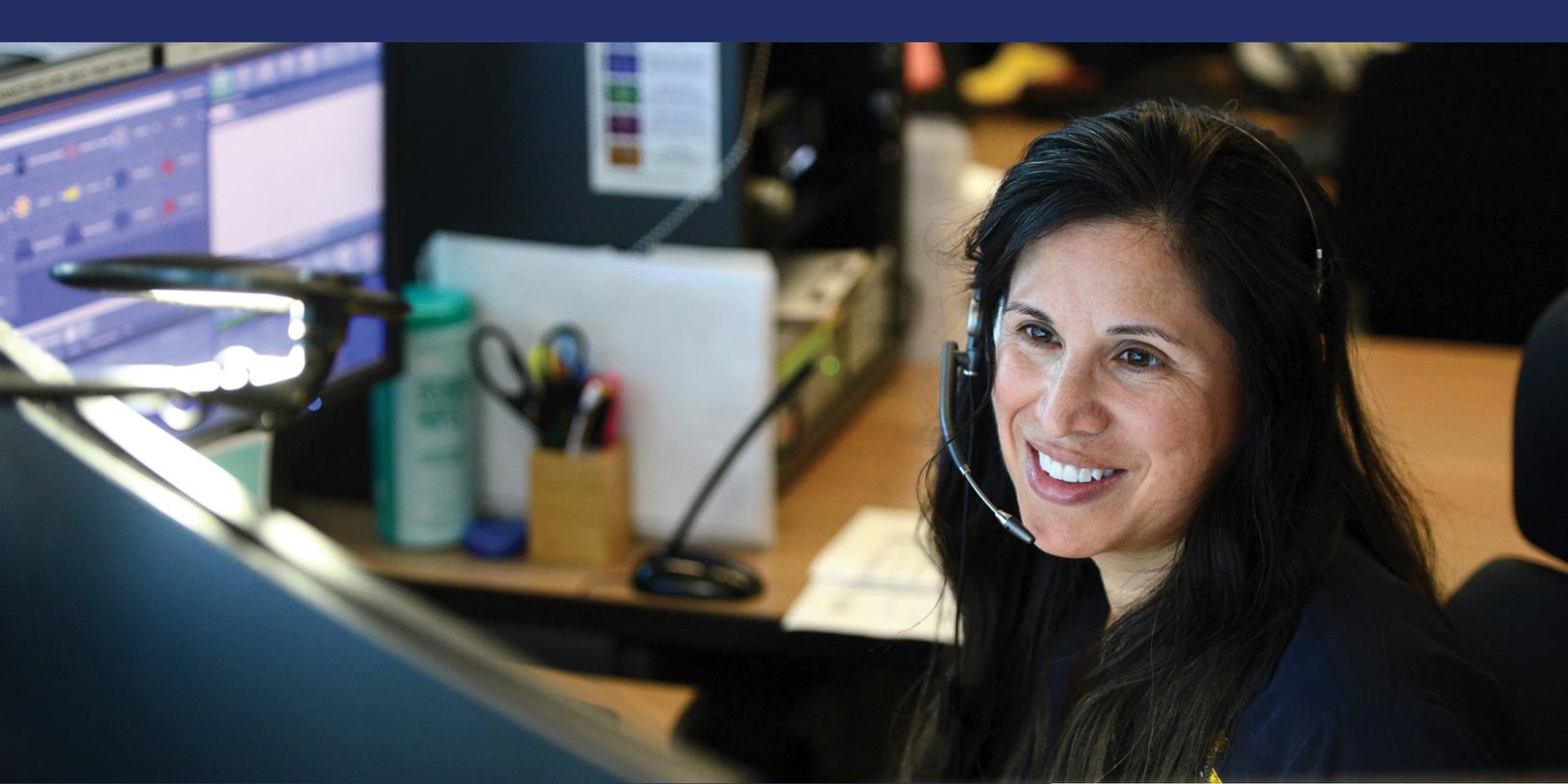
### **In addition to our police personnel, we are fortunate to have a drone program.**

Drones provide a bird's eye view of a situation, allowing law enforcement to gather valuable information during investigations, search and rescue missions, or other emergency situations.

Drones can quickly and efficiently document crime scenes from above, helping investigators to reconstruct events and gather evidence.

Drones can be used to monitor traffic flow and identify potential traffic violations, improving overall road safety.

Drones can be deployed in hazardous situations, such as fires, chemical spills, or other emergencies, to assess the extent of the danger without putting officers at risk.



Dispatcher Gutierrez is handling a call for service. Our dispatchers work 12 hour shifts and are the first voice you will hear when you call us for any emergency or non-emergency call.

# COMMUNICATIONS

Dispatch/Records	2023	2022
Total Calls for Service	9,937	9,931
Total Number of Cases	590	606
Cases Sent to the D.A.	203	232
Misdemeanor Arrests	193	201
Felony Arrests	36	39
Citations Processed	6,776	5,123
Parking Citations Routed	246	142
Records Checks	90	140
Warrants Entered/Updated	141/45	183/58
CAD Entries	27,609	26,051
Phone Calls Handled	25,412	26,778

The Communications Center staff of our unit are the first friendly faces you see when you enter the Atherton Police Department. The staff consists of a Dispatch Supervisor along with 4 full-time Dispatchers/Records Assistants.

The unit is responsible for handling a multitude of tasks and services for the Department, including all 911 and non-emergency calls for service, report processing, telephone calls, citation processing and fulfilling records requests, just to name a few.



Listed are the statistics for what is handled in the division and continues to focus on providing a high level of customer service and professionalism to members of the community.

# RESIDENTIAL ALARMS

CASES  
REPORTED  
IN 2023



2,804 Total Alarms  
Processed

1,474 Total Alarms  
Officers Responded

27 New Alarm Permits

## Compared to 2022

1,388 Total Alarms  
Processed

1,017 Total Alarms  
Officers Responded

12 New Alarm Permits

## OFFICER RESPONSE TIMES

In general, there are three types of Calls for Service from the Police Department. In order of priority: **High, Medium, and Low.**

**High Priority** calls are in-progress events where persons or high-value property are in immediate danger and require a multiple-officer response. This is a lights and siren response to a crime in progress, injury collision, or medical emergency.

**Medium Priority** calls are in-progress events without an immediate danger to persons or property. Multiple officers may be necessary for these calls. These calls take precedence over all other calls for service and require an immediate police response (non-lights and siren), but the incident may not be in progress. The most common medium priority calls are burglary, robbery, sexual assault, and residential burglary alarm activations. The latter is the most frequent call in Atherton.

**Low Priority** calls are other calls for service. This includes events that may no longer be in progress, so immediate response is less urgent. Normally, they require a single officer. Officers may or may not be immediately dispatched to these calls. Low priority calls are dogs off leash at the park, parking violations, construction noise or activity, and follow-up police reports.



Priority Level	Number of calls	Average Response Time	Goal
High	59	1:55	<4 minutes
Medium	2,366	4:52	<6 minutes
Low	4,980	6:20	<8 minutes

Response times are calculated from the time the call is dispatched until the time the officer arrives on the scene.

# TRAFFIC

## TRAFFIC COLLISIONS IN 2023



38 Non-Injury

26 Minor Injury

0 Severe Injury

0 Fatality

64 Total



## TRAFFIC COLLISIONS IN 2022



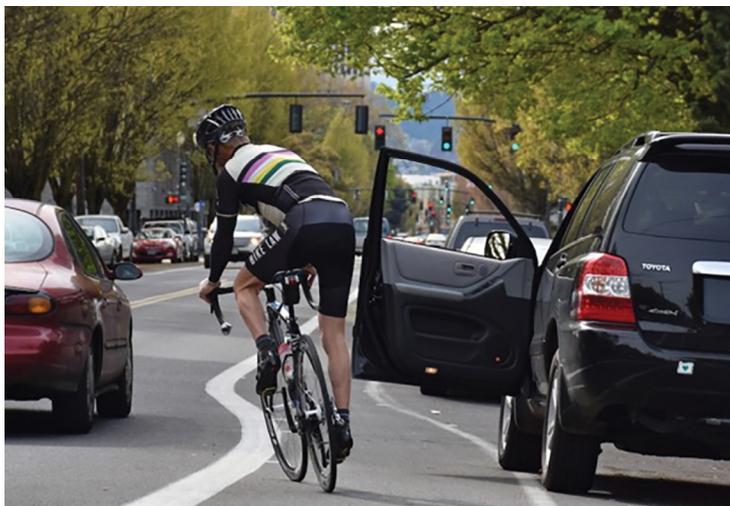
42 Non-Injury

19 Minor Injury

0 Severe Injury

0 Fatality

61 Total



## CAR VS. BIKE COLLISIONS IN 2023



2 Driver at Fault

1 Bicycle at Fault

3 Total

# TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT



0 Car vs. Pedestrian Collisions in 2023



Left to Right — Officer Rojas and Officer MacDonald



Traffic Citations/Warnings	2023	2022
Other Moving	1,488/1,634	725/1,056
Speed	863/1,672	637/1,354
Bicycle	17/90	4/9
Pedestrian	0/1	13/9
Unlicensed Driver	415/49	258/0
Insurance	1/0	12/17
Suspended Driver	96/0	73/0
Drugs	25/0	24/0
DUI	23/0	47/0
Mechanical	920/785	308/281
Parking	214/50	117/0
Truck Route	24/11	4/9



Meet our Traffic Motor Team (Left to right)— Officer MacDonald, Sgt. Metzger, Officer Rojas, Officer Gatto. All assisted San Francisco with the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation— (APEC) event in November 2023.

# 2023 APD CRIME DASHBOARD

Cases Reported	2023	2022	Difference
Homicide	0	0	0
Rape	0	2	-2
Robbery	6	0	+6
Aggravated Assault	5	2	+3
Simple Assault	11	9	+2
Burglary	20	16	+4
Larceny	57	48	+9
Stolen Vehicle	2	1	+1
Arson	0	1	-1
Total Violent Crimes	17	4	+13
<b>Total</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>+22</b>

## 2023 CRIME SUMMARY

**Murder** — There were no murders in 2023.

**Sex Offenses** — This category includes the crime of rape. There were two cases reported in 2022 and 0 in 2023.

**Robbery** — There were zero robberies in 2022 and six in 2023.

**Aggravated Assault** — There were two aggravated assaults last year. Aggravated assault is similar to simple assault. It is an attempt to cause serious injuries to another person without any regard for human life. Elements that raise any simple assault to an aggravated assault typically include the use of a weapon, the intent of the perpetrator, the degree of injury caused, and the status of the five in 2023. Simple assaults are defined as an intentional, unlawful threat by word or act to do violence to another person, coupled with an apparent ability to carry out the threat, and which creates a well-founded fear in such other person that violence is imminent.

**Residential Burglary** — There were 20 residential burglaries reported in 2023.

**Larceny** — Larceny is defined as the wrongful taking of the personal goods of another with the intent to convert them to the taker's own use. In other words – it's theft. We had 48 cases in 2022 and 57 cases in 2023.

**Motor Vehicle Theft** — There was one report of a stolen vehicle in 2022 and two in 2023.

**Arson** — We had one report in 2022 and zero in 2023.

# PROPERTY & EVIDENCE

## Evidence sent to lab analysis

Type of Testing	2023	2022
Toxicology	10	68
Drug Testing	5	11
Firearms	1	8
Fingerprints	6	3
DNA	15	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>37</b>	<b>104</b>



## Items managed within the police department

Type of Property	2023	2022
Firearms	30	26
Currency	15	6
Narcotics	52	58
Other—ID, Credit Cards, Weapons, Clothing	537	378
<b>Total</b>	<b>633</b>	<b>536</b>



## TYPE OF TESTING IN 2023



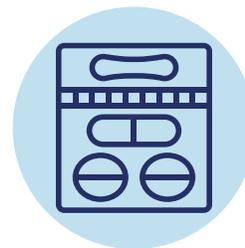
6 Fingerprints



15 DNA



1 Firearms



5 Drug Testing



10 Toxicology

## TYPE OF PROPERTY IN 2023



30 Firearms



15 Currency



52 Narcotics



537 Other

# INVESTIGATIONS

The Investigation Division is responsible for investigating cases reported through the Patrol Division. Some of the crimes investigated include thefts, home and auto burglaries, identity theft, crimes against children, and sexual assaults. The goal is to arrest the person(s) responsible for the alleged crime. In addition, the Investigations Division works closely with the San Mateo County District Attorney's Office to assist in the prosecution of the investigated cases.



The Investigations Division is also responsible for keeping updated on legal issues and disseminating that information to the Patrol Division. Detectives also work closely with the community to ensure they are informed of current crime trends.

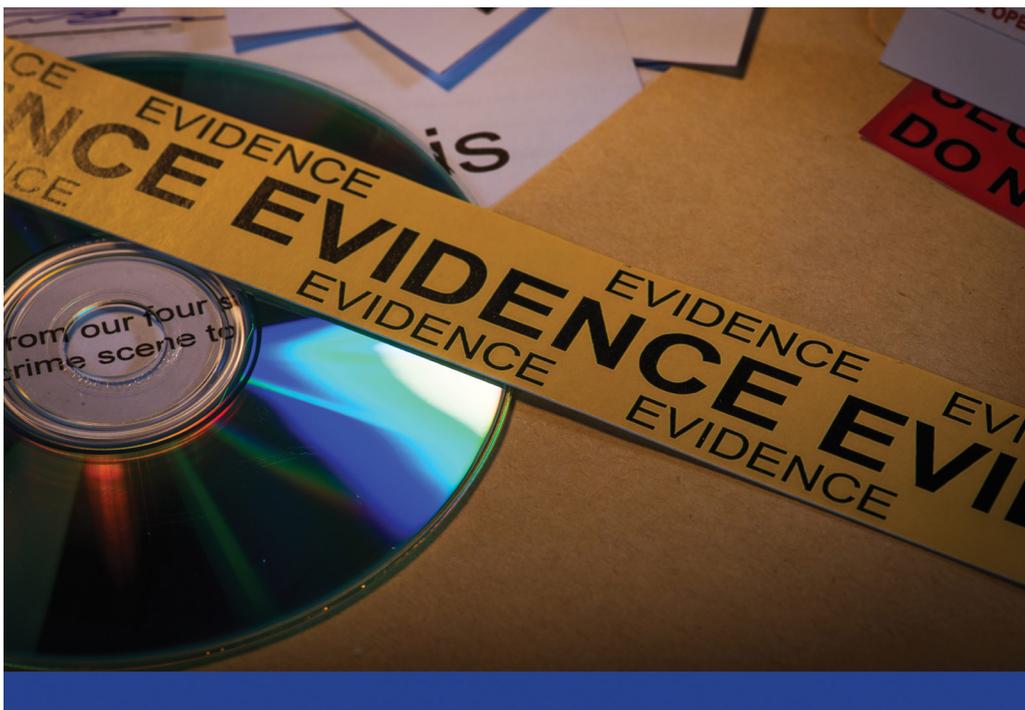


Investigation Type	2023	2022
Information Only	0	0
Suspended Cases	29	29
Referred—Hillcrest Juvenile DA	2	3
Referred—Outside Agency	5	4
Adult Arrest	4	3
Referred—Adult DA	5	7
Located—Returned	5	1
Cited—Juvenile	0	6
Juvenile Arrest	3	6
Active Cases	9	11
<b>Total Cases to Investigations</b>	<b>62</b>	<b>40</b>

# INVESTIGATIVE TEAM



Our Investigations Division is made up of Det. Sgt. Jeff Taylor along with Detective Gina Dutta. In 2023, 62 cases were sent up for follow-up.



# SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER (SRO)

A School Resource Officer (SRO) is a sworn law enforcement officer responsible for providing security and various services within a school environment.

The presence of an SRO can be important for several reasons:

## Safety and Security

One of the primary roles of an SRO is to ensure the safety and security of students, staff, and visitors within the school premises. They are trained to respond quickly and effectively to any potential threats, helping to create a secure learning environment.

## Crime Prevention

SROs play a crucial role in preventing and addressing criminal activities on school grounds. Their presence can deter potential offenders and contribute to maintaining a safe atmosphere conducive to learning.

## Building Positive Relationships

SROs have the opportunity to build positive relationships with students. By interacting with them in non-confrontational situations, they can become trusted figures, making students more likely to approach them with concerns or information.

## Mentoring and Counseling

SROs often serve as mentors and counselors, providing guidance and support to students facing personal or behavioral challenges. They can help address issues such as bullying, substance abuse, or other social problems.

## Emergency Response

In the unfortunate event of a crisis, such as a school shooting or other emergencies, an SRO is trained to respond quickly and effectively, potentially minimizing harm and ensuring a coordinated response with other emergency services.

## Community Policing

SROs often engage in community policing efforts, fostering a sense of community and collaboration between the police department and the school. This approach can enhance communication and trust between law enforcement and the community they serve.

School	Security Checks (2023)	Community Outreach (2023)	Traffic Enforcement (2023)	Cases (2023)
Adelante	300	8	12	3
Encinal	454	35	23	4
Las Lomas	309	19	11	1
Laurel	138	16	0	2
M-A HS	713	217	2	43
Menlo College	494	8	0	11
Menlo School	139	12	1	2
Sacred Heart	123	13	1	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,670</b>	<b>328</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>69</b>



SRO D. Andruha works closely with all 9 schools in Atherton to include school events, activities, and student interactions.



SRO Andruha attends functions at Sacred Heart Prep to stay connected to students and families.

# CODE ENFORCEMENT



	2023	2022
Cases Opened	491	242
Cases Closed/Compliant	384	161
Cases Pending/Active	107	81
Written/Formal Notices Issued	108	58
Total Citations Issued	100	145
Total Amount in Citations Issued	\$103,600	\$171,800
Total Amount in Citations Paid	\$87,900	\$130,400
Citations Rescinded	\$13,600	\$11,100
Heritage Tree Penalties Paid**	\$28,600	\$95,000
Compliance Rate	78.2%	66.5%
Citation Collection Rate	97.6%++	75.9%

\*\* Amount is included in the total amount of citations issued

++ Total amount of citations paid divided by total citations issued minus citations rescinded

Code Enforcement is one of the many functions that local governments perform, and which citizens consider important for accomplishing community goals. The Municipal Code's purpose is to protect property values and the environment by providing requirements for all property owners to follow, thereby creating a standard of living that everyone in the community can enjoy.

Our Code Enforcement Officer Lisa-Marie Daley strives to achieve voluntary compliance by educating the public on the codes. Although most issues are resolved through this method, Code Enforcement also employs a variety of enforcement tools to facilitate compliance. Commonly requested compliance services are as follows:

- Animal Issues (dogs off leash, nuisance barking, unsanitary conditions, etc.)
- Zoning and Land Use Issues (home occupations, set-backs, fences, etc.)
- Health and Safety (trash accumulations, debris, pest and vector issues, etc.)
- Construction Regulations (building permits, start times, parking, noise, etc.)
- Encroachments (permits, items in right-of-way, etc.)
- Landscape Issues (heritage tree trimming and damage, maintenance, permits, etc.)

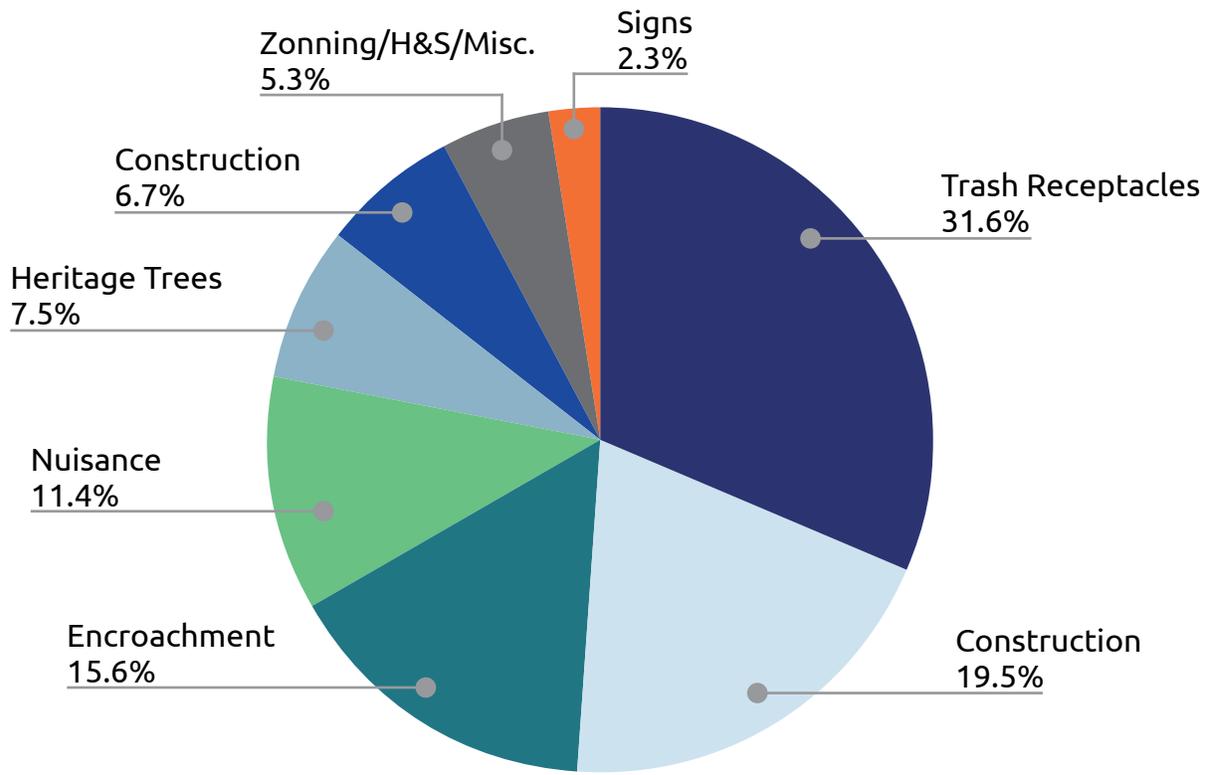


Code Enforcement Officer Lisa-Marie Daley.

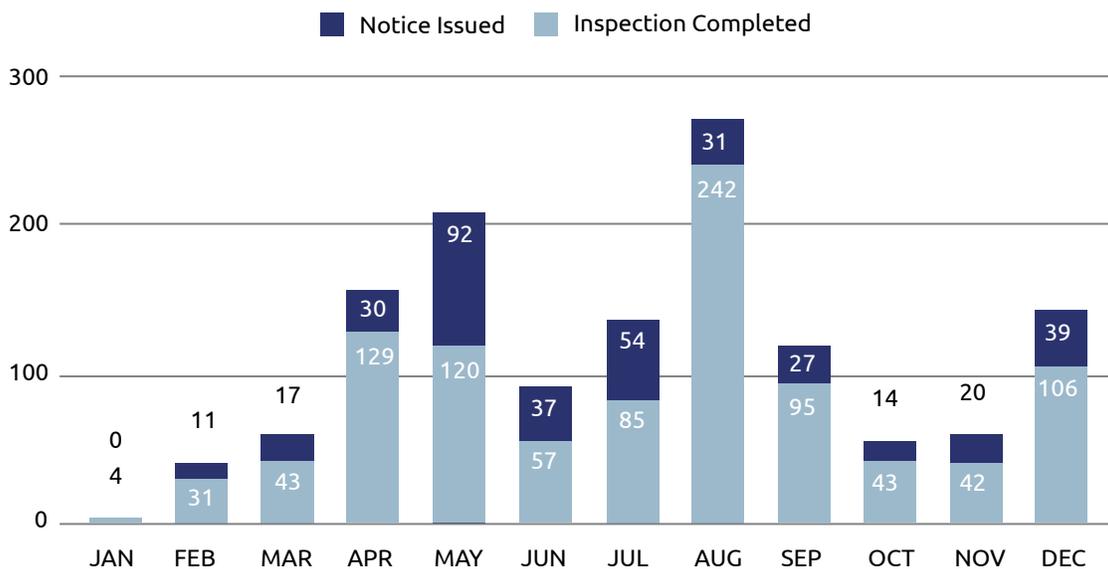
# 2023 CODE VIOLATIONS

Atherton Municipal Code Violation (AMC)	# of Violations
Trash Receptacles	202
Heritage Trees	47
Encroachment: Existing Landscaping creating a Hazard	41
Nuisance: Weeds/Vegetation	40
Construction: Vehicle Parking	39
Encroachment	36
Building: Permit Required	35
Construction: Hours	25
Nuisance: Public right-of-way	19
Construction: Weekends/Holidays	18
Signs	15
Construction: Operation and Parking Plan (COP)	15
Exemption Permit Request	14
Nuisance: Private Property	11
Alternate Parking Request	9
Fencing & Walls: Permits Required	8
Accessory Structures	7
Encroachment: Permit Required	7
Animals	6
Construction: Pick-ups & Deliveries	5
Business License Required	4
Zoning	4
AMC Question	3
Encroachment: Landscaping	3
Encroachment: Physical Obstruction	3
Maintenance: Fences & Walls	3
Nuisance: Construction Equipment/Building Supplies	3
Noise Exception: Power Garden Equipment	2
Swimming Pool Fences	2
Arborist Report (Overdue)	1
Home Occupation Permit	1
Noise Exemption: Social Gatherings	1

# CODE VIOLATIONS BY CATEGORY



# ACTIVITIES PERFORMED IN 2023



# CANINE TEAM

Police canines, also known as K9s, are specially trained dogs used by law enforcement agencies for various tasks. These highly skilled animals play a crucial role in supporting police officers in their duties. Here are some key aspects of police canines:

**Tracking:** Police dogs are trained to follow the scent of a person, which is especially useful in locating missing individuals or suspects.

**Narcotics Detection:** Some police dogs are trained to detect the presence of illegal drugs by sniffing vehicles, luggage, or other areas.

**Explosives Detection:** Specialized K9 units are trained to identify explosives or explosive materials in public spaces, airports, and other critical locations.

**Patrol and Protection:** Dogs are used to assist officers in apprehending suspects, providing a physical presence, and deterring criminal activity.

**Breeds:** German Shepherds, Belgian Malinois, and Dutch Shepherds are commonly chosen for police work due to their intelligence, agility, and strong work ethic.

**Training:** Police canines undergo rigorous training to develop specific skills based on their intended roles. Training includes obedience, agility, tracking, and scent detection. Handlers (police officers) work closely with their K9 partners, forming a strong bond that enhances communication and teamwork.

**Officer Romero with K9 Jessie completed 156 hours of training, completed 39 training events, performed 79 patrol exercises and was deployed 8 times.**

**Equipment:** Police dogs are equipped with specialized gear, such as harnesses and vests, to aid in their work and protect them in dangerous situations. Vehicles used by K9 units are often equipped with specialized compartments for transporting the dogs safely.

**Health and Care:** Regular veterinary care is essential for police canines to ensure they remain in good health. Proper nutrition, exercise, and mental stimulation are crucial for their well-being.

**Legal Considerations:** The use of police canines is subject to strict guidelines and regulations to ensure the ethical and humane treatment of the animals and to protect the rights of individuals.



Officer D. Romero with K9 Jessie.

Meet our newest K9 Handler Officer Davidovich with canine Maverick, who is new to police work. Both are attending the Basic K9 Handler course which is over 300 hours before both can be certified to work together in a patrol capacity. The cost of a K9 is over \$15,000 which includes the initial training and cost of the dog. We are grateful to the generous donor who has funded many of our dogs, training and ongoing maintenance skills.



Officer Davidovich and K9 Maverick.



Officer Romero with K9 Jessie.

Police canines are valuable assets to law enforcement, providing unique abilities that complement human officers and enhance the overall effectiveness of police operations.

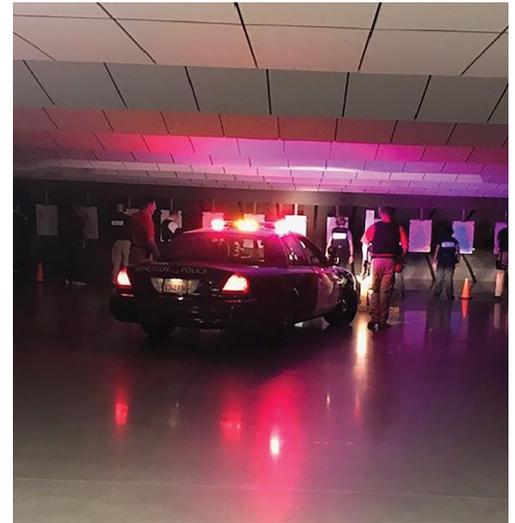


K9 Maverick.

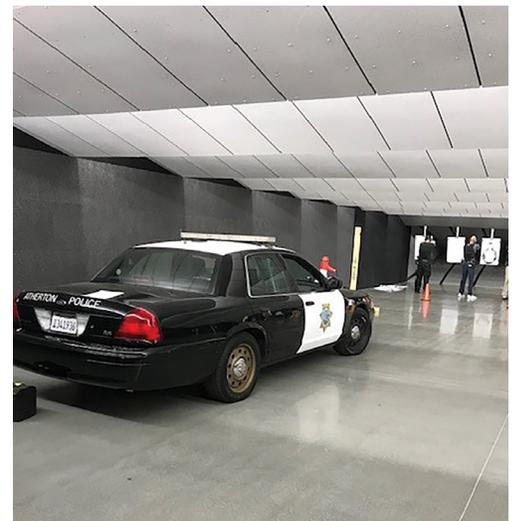
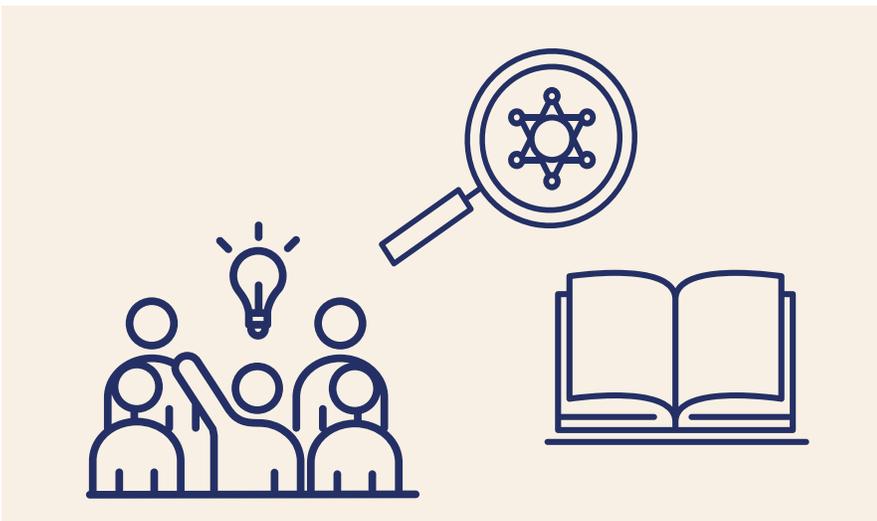


Officer Romero and K9 Jessie heading for a call.

# TRAINING UNIT



Firearms training at Coyote Pt. Range in San Mateo.



The Police Budget is robust for training and in FY 22-23 we invested over \$70,000 to send our personnel to training sessions for a total of 3,010 hours of training. We also received \$23,154 in reimbursement from POST.

The Atherton Police Department prides itself in recruiting and hiring the highest caliber of individuals. Providing initial and ongoing training to allow officers and civilian staff to excel is a top priority of our agency allowing the Department to better serve and protect our community.

Police training is crucial for several reasons, as it plays a significant role in ensuring law enforcement agencies operate effectively, ethically, and responsibly. Here are some key reasons why police training is important:

### **Public Safety**

Well-trained police officers are better equipped to protect the public. They learn how to respond to various situations, assess threats, and make split-second decisions to maintain order and safety.

### **Legal and Ethical Standards**

Police training emphasizes the understanding of legal principles and ethical standards. This helps officers navigate complex legal situations, respect individuals' rights, and maintain the public's trust in law enforcement.

### **Use of Force**

Training is essential to teach officers appropriate use-of-force techniques and strategies. This includes de-escalation tactics, conflict resolution, and nonlethal methods to minimize the need for force while ensuring officer and public safety.

### **Crisis Management**

Officers are trained to handle various crises, including domestic violence, mental health crises, and terrorism. This training helps them approach these situations with the appropriate skills and sensitivity.

### **Community Relations**

Training programs often include community policing strategies, fostering positive interactions between police officers and the communities they serve. Building trust and understanding helps prevent conflicts and improves overall community safety.

### **Mental Health and Wellness**

Policing can be emotionally and mentally challenging. Training programs often include components focused on mental health and wellness to help officers cope with stress, trauma, and the demands of their profession.

### **Teamwork and Communication**

Effective communication and collaboration among law enforcement officers are vital for successful policing. Training emphasizes teamwork, clear communication, and coordination to enhance the overall effectiveness of the police force.

### **Adaptability**

Societal and legal landscapes change over time. Continuous training helps police officers stay adaptable and responsive to evolving circumstances, ensuring they can effectively address new challenges and maintain public safety.

Overall, comprehensive and ongoing police training is essential for creating a professional, accountable, and community-oriented law enforcement system that upholds the principles of justice and public safety.

# COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

We are fortunate to have highly engaged community members, police employees and philanthropists to partner with on so many exciting activities in our Town.

- Atherton Disaster and Preparedness Team-ADAPT
- Adelante Selby Lane Toy Drive
- Bike Rodeo
- Coffee with a Cop
- Halloween Spooktakular
- Holiday Good Driver Rewards
- National Night Out
- Police Tours
- Resident Volunteer Patrols
- Shop with a Cop



National Night Out is an annual community building campaign that promotes police community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie.



The Tonellis at National Night Out with Red E Fox who teaches 911 to kids.



**A. D. A. P. T.**

**Atherton Disaster and Preparedness Team**



ADAPT runs drills, exercises and monthly meetings for emergency preparedness.





Pictured Above—Chief McCulley with one of our trick or treaters. This year’s Halloween event was a grand time with fun and games at the library along with candy fun at the Police Department



Police Dispatcher Gutierrez helps out the little ones with arts and crafts.

Sgt. Fong with Pack 419 for a police tour.



Menlo Park Cub Scout Pack 565. Visiting a police department can be an educational and engaging experience for a scout troop. It provides an opportunity for scouts to learn about law enforcement, community safety, and the role of police officers in society. We offer scout tours to see our facility, meet our staff and see some of our equipment and vehicles. We love our thank you notes!



2023 Shop with a Cop.

# SHOP WITH A COP 2023



This is our sixth year of this program. Each year, three kids from Encinal, Las Lomas and Laurel School receive \$200 to shop for family and friends.



Officer MacDonald with one of our winners who is interested in riding his police motor.



Sgt. Taylor helping to wrap gifts

Once we have purchased the gifts, the children and Officers head back to the Target Store breakroom to wrap each present to take home to their families. Thank you Target Redwood City!



For over a decade, the Atherton POA and PAL along with Town residents and the Menlo Circus Club generously donates new toys, books and bicycles to the Adelante Selby Lane School.

Families are chosen by the school to pick up toys, meet our police personnel and have some refreshments.

Each year donations for new toys can be dropped off at the Police Department in December.





Left to Right — Officer Gatto, Officer Andruha, Officer MacDonald & Sgt. Metzger all pose with kids who enjoyed the shopping toy drive!



SOOOOO many toys to choose from with smiles ear to ear!

During the holidays, Atherton Officers were pulling over motorists who were driving safely while not only thanking them for their good driving habits, but rewarding them with a gift card to a local toy store as a thank you.



Traffic Officer MacDonald giving out toy store gift cards for good driving habits! Keep up the great work motorists!



# COFFEE WITH A COP



Left to Right — Officer Yamsuan, Sgt. Fong & Commander Larsen with local residents and owner Mademoiselle Colette.



Mademoiselle Colette hosted our 2023 Coffee With A Cop—our new café next to the Atherton Library.



# BIKE SAFETY RODEO



The Atherton Bike Rodeo emphasized the importance of bike safety, featuring a dedicated safety zone where participants learned bicycle safety tips and guidelines.



The Atherton Police Department held its annual Bike Rodeo on September 30, 2023 at Menlo-Atherton High School.

# CONCLUSION

The annual report for the Atherton Police Department serves as a comprehensive overview of the department's activities, achievements, challenges, and initiatives over the past year. As we conclude this report, it is evident that our commitment to ensuring public safety and fostering community trust remains unwavering.

Throughout the year, the police department has demonstrated dedication to proactive crime prevention, effective law enforcement, and community engagement. Our officers have worked tirelessly to address emerging issues, respond to incidents promptly, and collaborate with the community to enhance overall safety.

The police department remains dedicated to transparency and accountability. We value the trust placed in us by the community and recognize the importance of open communication.

In conclusion, this annual report serves as a testament to the hard work, dedication, and resilience of the police department. As we move forward, we remain committed to our mission of protecting and serving the Atherton community, embracing innovation, and fostering partnerships that contribute to a safer and more secure environment for all.





# Atherton Police Department 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

