The City of San Diego

Staff Report

DATE ISSUED: January 23, 2018

TO: City Council

FROM: Police Department

SUBJECT: City of San Diego Crime Briefing
                   January – December 2017 Index Crimes

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Council District(s): All

OVERVIEW:

This report summarizes the January through December 2017 index crimes, as well as domestic violence cases, gang statistics, hate crimes, juvenile crimes and response times. Index crimes include murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny and motor vehicle theft. The Department of Justice Uniform Crime Reporting program collects information on these crime types from law enforcement agencies throughout the United States and uses the data to measure crime nationwide.

In addition to the statistics covered in this report, it is important to highlight the outstanding partnerships between our police officers, professional civilian staff, volunteers and the community we so proudly serve. These partnerships, as outlined in the Department's Quarterly Community Policing Reports, are essential to address crime, quality of life and traffic issues critical to San Diego maintaining its reputation as one of the safest big cities in the United States.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: This item is for information only.

DISCUSSION OF ITEM:

The table below shows a decrease of 7.3% for overall crime in 2017 compared to 2016. With the exception of rape, the number of crimes in each of the categories in 2016 continues to be similar to the number of reported crimes from decades ago. Rape figures after 2015 are not comparable with previous years due to changes that expanded the types of sex crimes included in the UCR rape category.

|	Jan - Dec 2016	Jan - Dec 2017	% Change	(Rates per 1,000) 2016	2017	% Clearances 2016	2017
Murder	50	34	-32.0%	0.04	0.02	72.0%	105.9%
Rape	572	559	-2.3%	0.41	0.40	24.3%	21.8%
Robbery	1,387	1,410	1.7%	1.00	1.00	36.2%	33.3%
Aggravated Assault	3,323	3,218	-3.2%	2.39	2.29	52.8%	54.3%
Violent Crimes	**5,332**	**5,221**	**-2.1%**	**3.83**	**3.71**	**45.6%**	**45.5%**
Burglary	4,743	3,817	-19.5%	3.41	2.71	11.2%	13.5%
Theft	18,042	17,294	-4.1%	12.96	12.30	12.4%	10.3%
Vehicle Theft	5,839	5,135	-12.1%	4.20	3.65	2.4%	1.0%
Property Crimes	**28,624**	**26,246**	**-8.3%**	**20.57**	**18.66**	**10.1%**	**9.0%**
TOTAL INDEX	**33,956**	**31,467**	**-7.3%**	**24.40**	**22.38**	**15.8%**	**15.1%**

Crime Rates

The violent crime rate of 3.7 per thousand residents in 2017 is comparable to rates in the early 1970s. The crime rate per thousand residents of 18.7 for property crime and 22.4 for overall crime are comparable to rates in the late 1950s.

| San Diego Crime Rates per 1,000 Population 2007 to 2017			
Year	Violent Crime Rate	Property Crime Rate	Total Index Crime Rate
2017	3.7	18.7	22.4
2016	3.8	20.6	24.4
2015	4.1	21.3	25.4
2014	3.9	19.9	23.8
2013	4.0	23.9	27.9
2012	4.2	24.0	28.2
2011	3.9	22.7	26.5
2010	4.1	22.4	26.4
2009	4.4	23.8	28.2
2008	4.5	30.1	34.6
2007	4.7	33.0	37.8

Violent Crimes

Violent crimes decreased 2.1% in 2017, when compared to 2016. Murders decreased from 50 cases in 2016 to 34 cases in 2017. Rape decreased slightly, from 572 cases in 2016 to 559 cases in 2017. Robberies increased by 23 cases. More than two-thirds of robberies were street robberies, which increased 4.7%. Commercial and residential robberies decreased, by 4.1% and 8.6%, respectively. Total aggravated assaults decreased 3.2% overall. Assaults involving guns decreased 21.0%, assaults involving other weapons increased by 4.3%, and aggravated assaults without a weapon decreased 14.7%. More than one in five aggravated assaults were related to domestic violence.

Violent Crime
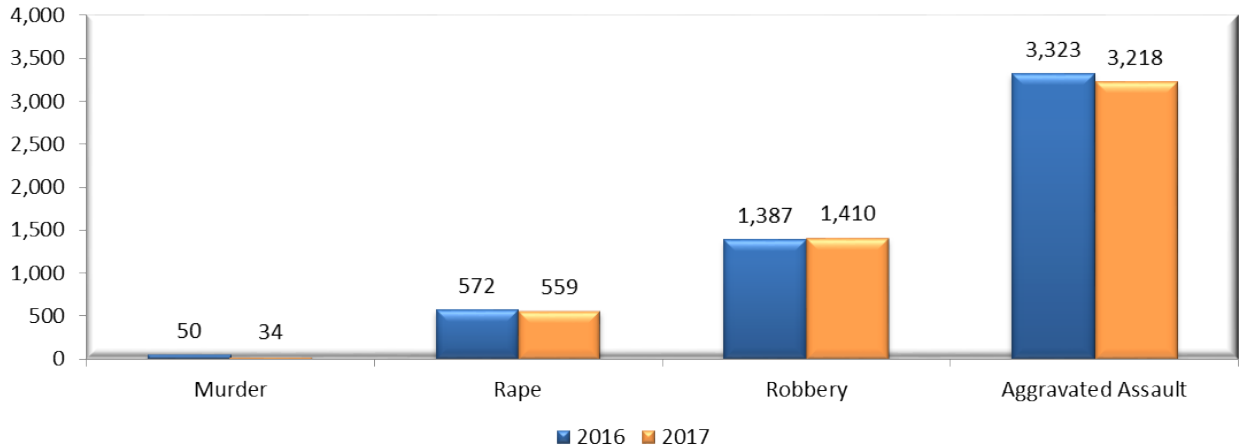
The violent crime rate per 1,000 residents in 2017 is the lowest since 1973.
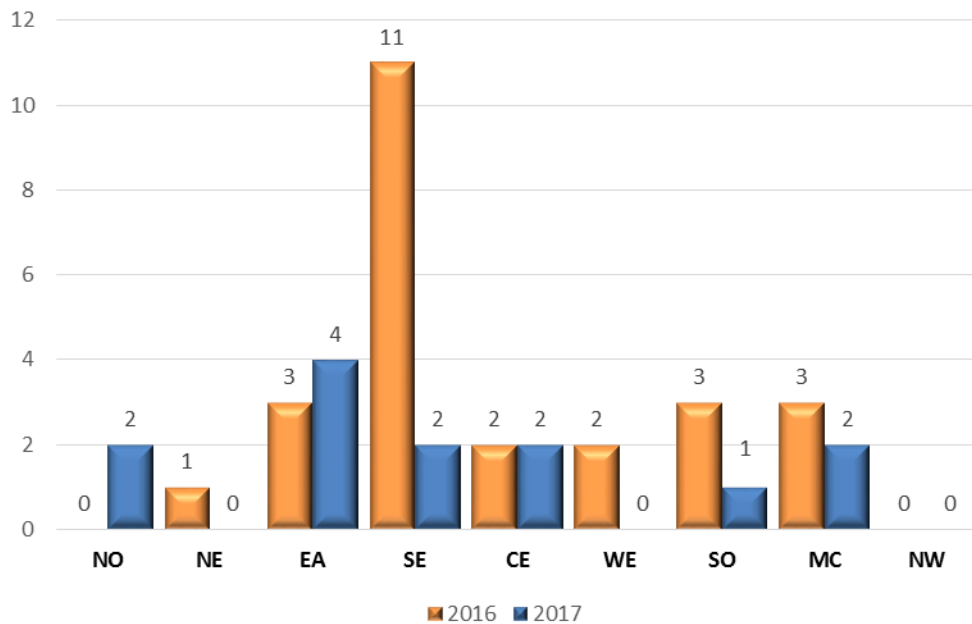
Violent Crime Rates
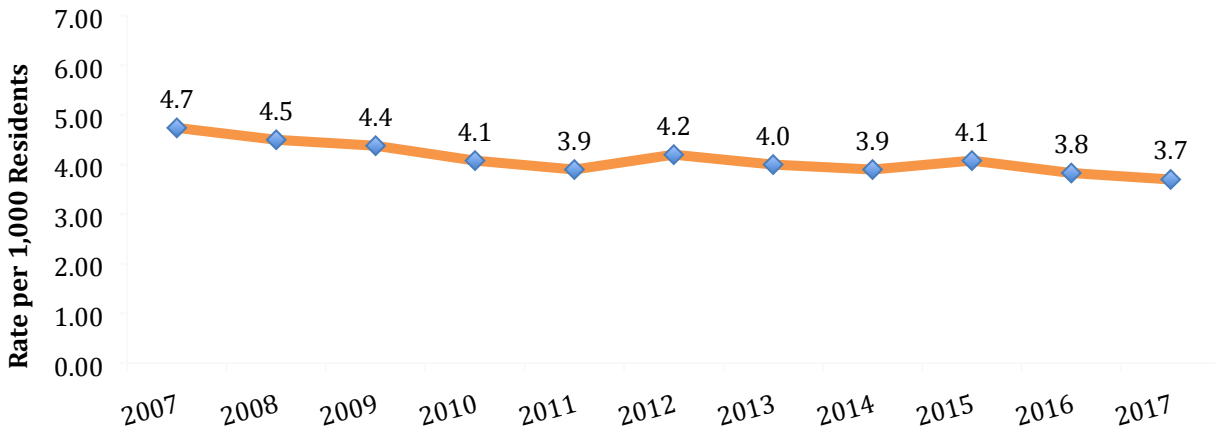
Homicides in 2017 decreased from 50 cases to 34 cases. A closer review reveals decreases in four of nine divisions, including Southeastern, Central, Western and Southern Divisions. Homicides in Southeastern Division dropped from 14 cases to 4 cases.

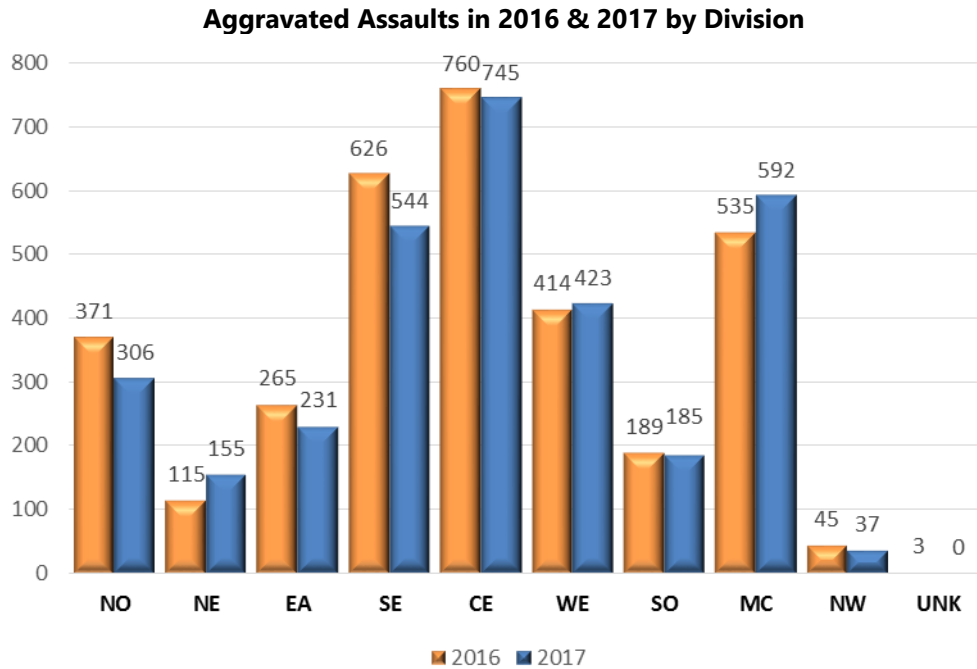**Homicides in 2016 & 2017 by Division**
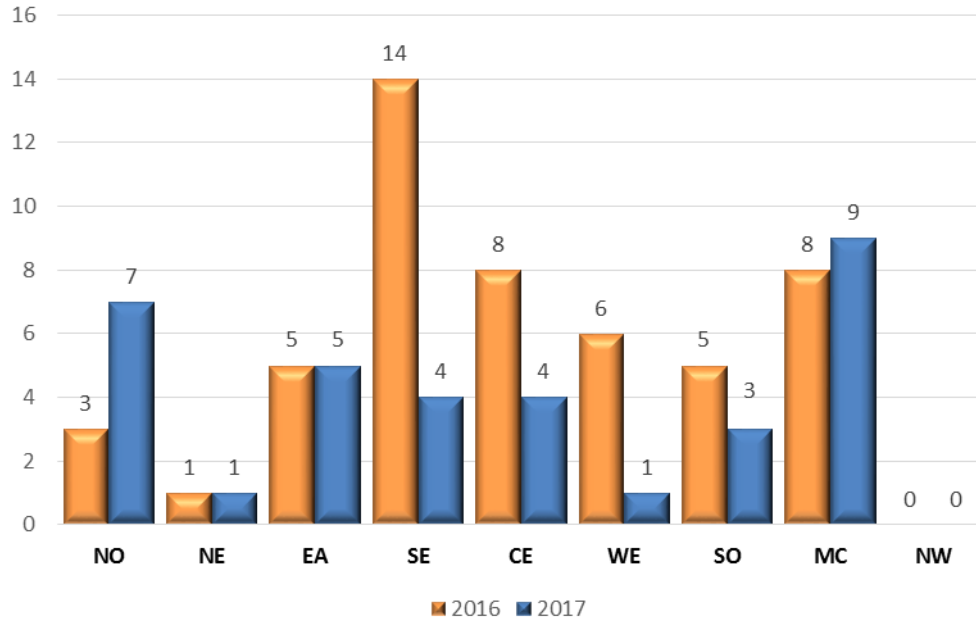
In 2016 more than half (25 of 50) of homicides involved a firearm. In 2017, approximately 38% (13 of 34) of homicides involved a firearm.
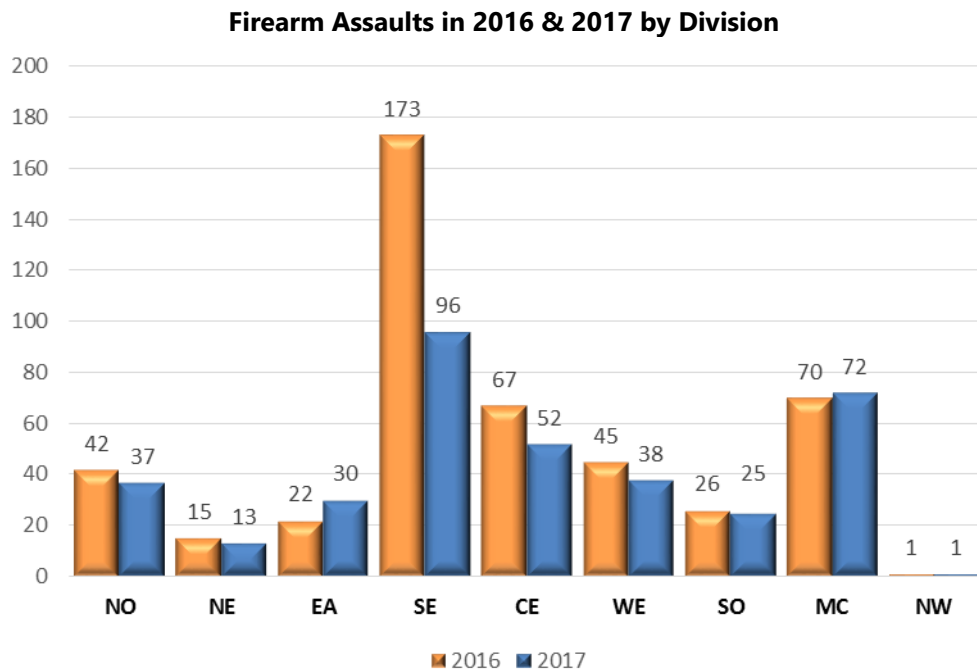
Firearm Homicides in 2016 & 2017 by Division

Aggravated assaults decreased by 3.2% and accounted for more than 60% of the violent crimes in 2017, resulting in a decrease in overall violent crime of 2.1% in 2017. Decreases in Northern, Eastern and Southeastern Divisions accounted for much of the Citywide decrease in aggravated assaults.

Aggravated Assaults in 2016 & 2017 by Division

Division	2016	2017
NO	371	306
NE	115	155
EA	265	231
SE	626	544
CE	760	745
WE	414	423
SO	189	185
MC	535	592
NW	45	37
UNK	3	0

Aggravated assaults involving a firearm decreased 21.0% in 2017, while aggravated assaults involving all other weapon types increased. A 44.5% decrease in firearm assaults in Southeastern Division accounted for most of the Citywide decrease.

Firearm Assaults in 2016 & 2017 by Division

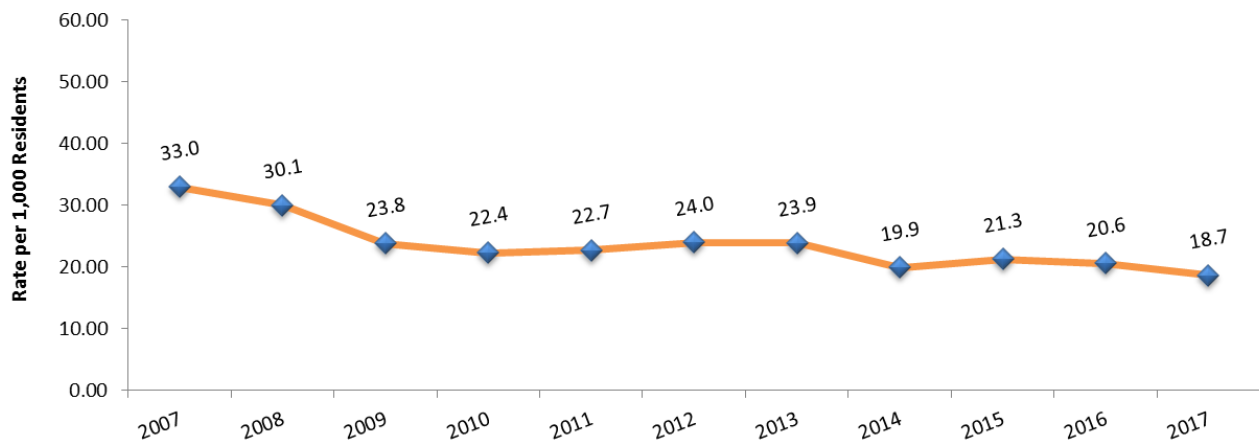| Division	2016	2017
NO	42	37
NE	15	13
EA	22	30
SE	173	96
CE	67	52
WE	45	38
SO	26	25
MC	70	72
NW	1	1

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Property Crimes

Overall property crime decreased 8.3% in 2017, when compared to 2016. Burglary decreased 19.5% primarily due to decreases in residential burglary. Theft decreased 4.1%, as a result of drops in shoplifting and bicycle thefts. Vehicle theft decreased 12.1%.

Property Crime

Category	2016	2017
Burglary	4,743	3,817
Theft	18,042	17,294
Vehicle Theft	5,839	5,135
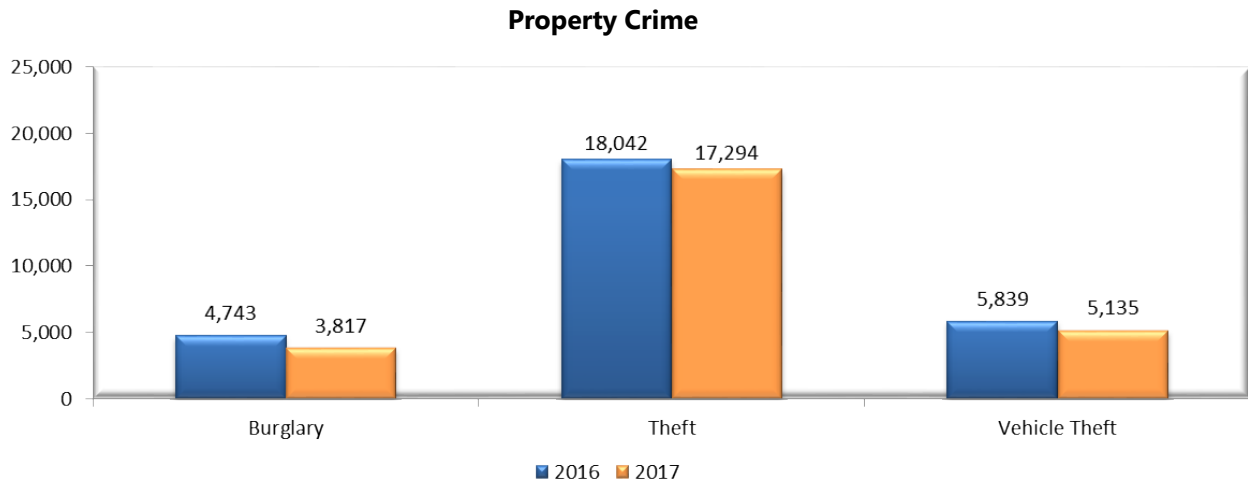
The property property crime rate per 1,000 residents in 2017 is the lowest since 1955.

Year	Rate per 1,000 Residents
2007	33.0
2008	30.1
2009	23.8
2010	22.4
2011	22.7
2012	24.0
2013	23.9
2014	19.9
2015	21.3
2016	20.6
2017	18.7

Burglary decreased 19.5% in 2017 compared to 2016. Residential burglary accounted for nearly two-thirds of burglary cases and decreased 26.8%. In 2017 there were fewer cases in seven of nine divisions.

Burglaries in 2016 & 2017 by Division
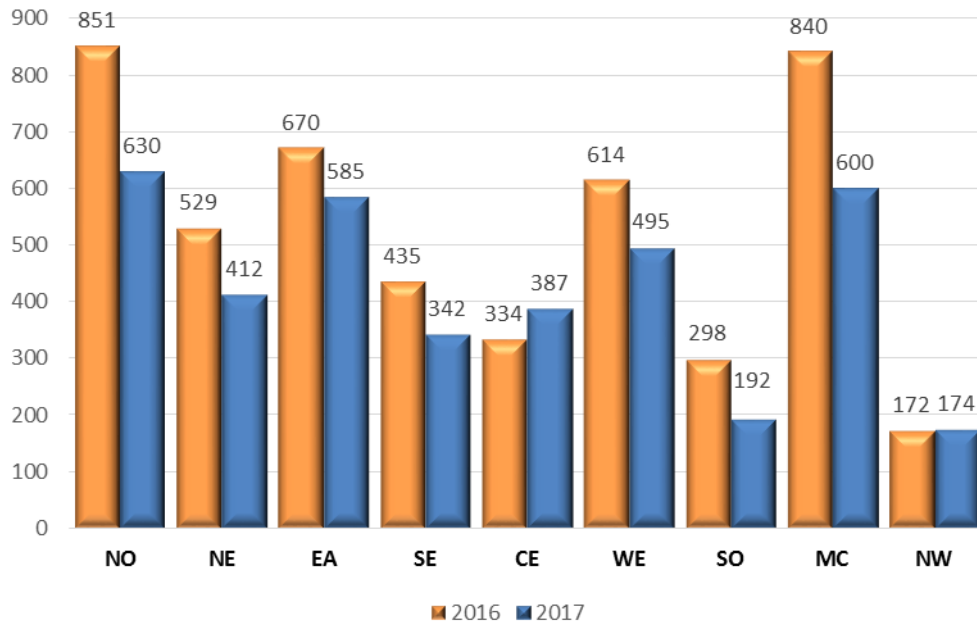
There were significant decreases in auto theft in six of nine commands, resulting in a 12.1% decrease in auto theft Citywide. The remaining two commands remained relatively constant.

Auto Thefts in 2016 & 2017 by Division
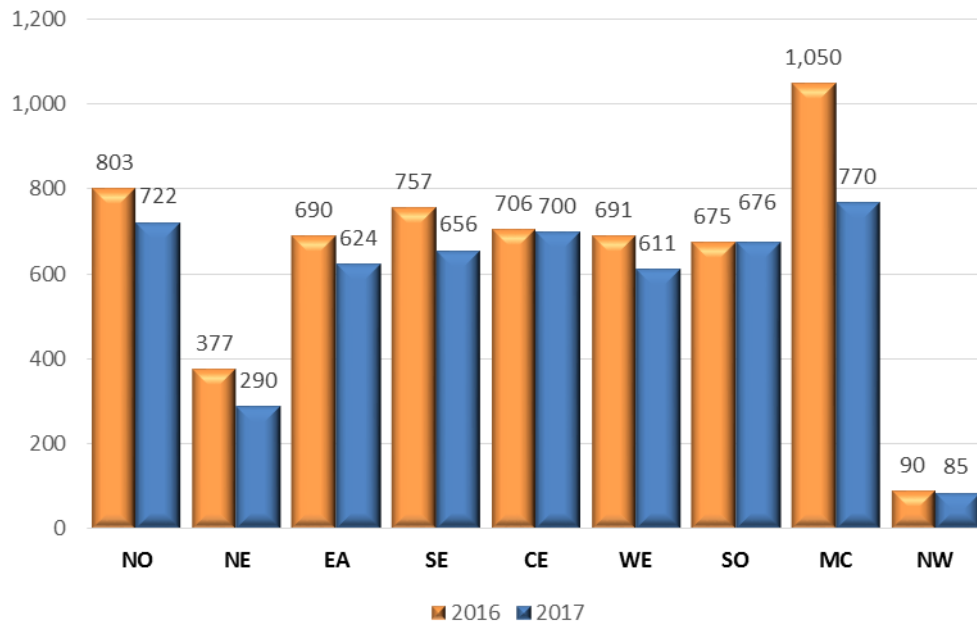
Crime Clearances

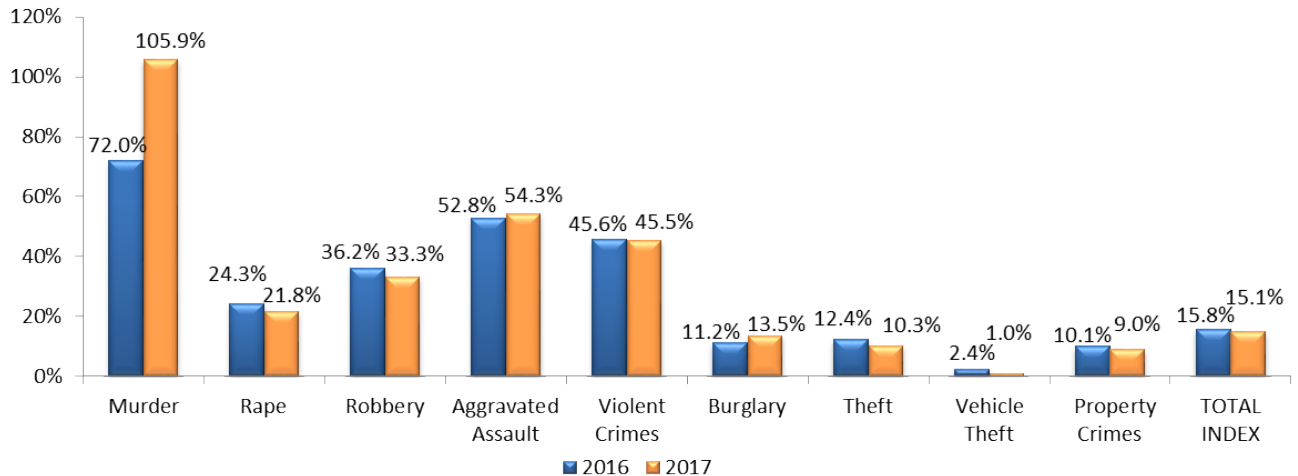Clearance rates for homicide, aggravated assault and burglary were higher in 2017 than clearance rates in 2016. Rape, robbery, theft and vehicle theft each had lower clearance rates in 2017.

Domestic Violence

The total number of domestic violence cases decreased slightly, by 1.7% in 2017 when compared to 2016. Incidents involving firearms, knife/cutting instruments and no weapon decreased, while incidents involving other weapons increased. The majority of domestic violence cases do not involve any type of weapon.

San Diego Domestic Violence January to December			
	2016	**2017**	**% Change**
Criminal Cases:			
Firearms	50	34	-32.0%
Knife/Cutting Instrument	148	144	-2.7%
Other Dangerous Weapon	642	683	6.4%
Personal Weapon (hands, etc.)	4,781	4,704	-1.6%
Total Criminal Cases	5,621	5,565	-1.0%
Non-Criminal Calls:	1,645	1,574	-4.3%
Total Cases	**7,266**	**7,139**	**-1.7%**

Gang Crimes

Overall, the number of crimes committed by gang members decreased 15.0% in 2017. Assaults and attempted homicides decreased 23.3%. The number of drive-by shootings decreased from 6 cases in 2016 to 4 cases in 2017. Arrests of gang members decreased, 3.6% in 2017.

San Diego Crimes Committed by Gang Members January to December			
Crime Type	**2016**	**2017**	**% Change**
All Crimes:			
Homicide	5	1	-80.0%
Attempt Homicide	3	3	0.0%
Assault	173	132	-23.7%
Robbery	83	65	-21.7%
Auto Theft	74	66	-10.8%
Other	596	527	-11.6%
Total	**934**	**794**	**-15.0%**
Assaults & Attempt Homicides:			
Shooting	43	22	-48.8%
Stabbing	21	23	9.5%
Other	112	90	-19.6%
Total	**176**	**135**	**-23.3%**
Drive-By Shootings	6	4	-33.3%
Arrests of Gang Members	2,763	2,664	-3.6%

Data supplied by Gang Unit 1/16/2018

Hate Crimes

There were 41 hate crimes in 2017, seven fewer cases than in 2016. Hate crimes based on ethnicity decreased by four cases and accounted for the highest percentage of overall cases in 2017, with 44%. Hate crimes motivated by sexual orientation and religion each accounted for 27% of total cases.

San Diego Reported Hate Crimes January to December				
Hate Crimes	**2016**	**% of Total**	**2017**	**% of Total**
Ethnicity	22	46%	18	44%
Sexual Orientation	14	29%	11	27%
Religion	10	21%	11	27%
Gender	2	4%	1	2%
Disability	0	0%	0	0%
				16 to 17 % Change
Total Hate Crimes	**48**		**41**	**-14.6%**

Juvenile Crimes

The number of juvenile victims of violent crime increased slightly, by 1.7% from 2016 to 2017. There were fewer juvenile victims during daytime and after school hours, and an increase during curfew hours.

Juvenile Statistics January to December			
Juvenile Victims of Violent Crimes:	**2016**	**2017**	**16 to 17 % Change**
Daytime Hours (0830 to 1329)			
Murder	0	0	N/A
Rape	23	17	-26.1%
Robbery	12	14	16.7%
Aggravated Assault	45	45	0.0%
Daytime Total	**80**	**76**	**-5.0%**
After School Hours (1330 to 2159)			
Murder	1	1	0.0%
Rape	31	31	0.0%
Robbery	81	75	-7.4%
Aggravated Assault	115	103	-10.4%
After School Total	**228**	**210**	**-7.9%**
Curfew Hours (2200 to 0829)			
Murder	0	0	N/A
Rape	41	41	0.0%
Robbery	15	31	106.7%
Aggravated Assault	47	60	27.7%
Curfew Total	**103**	**132**	**28.2%**
ALL HOURS TOTAL	**411**	**418**	**1.7%**

The enhanced curfew enforcement began on June 3, 1994.

Daytime Loitering enforcement began in June 1996.
Effective January 1, 2015, reported rapes are compiled using the FBI's updated definition.

Juvenile Arrests

All time categories showed a decrease in the number of juvenile arrests, resulting in a total decrease of 11.1% for all hours. Much of the decrease is due to fewer arrests for curfew and daytime loitering violations.

Juvenile Statistics January to December			
Juvenile Arrests:	**2016**	**2017**	**16 to 17 % Change**
Daytime Hours (0830 to 1329)			
Felony	187	184	-1.6%
Misdemeanor	722	627	-13.2%
Other	5	4	-20.0%
Daytime Total	**914**	**815**	**-10.8%**
After School Hours (1330 to 2159)			
Felony	220	199	-9.5%
Misdemeanor	527	494	-6.3%
Other	3	0	-100.0%
After School Total	**750**	**693**	**-7.6%**
Curfew Hours (2200 to 0829)			
Felony	93	103	10.8%
Misdemeanor	257	230	-10.5%
Other	418	321	-23.2%
Curfew Total	**768**	**654**	**-14.8%**
ALL HOURS TOTAL	**2,432**	**2,162**	**-11.1%**

The enhanced curfew enforcement began on June 3, 1994.

Daytime Loitering enforcement began in June 1996.

Response Times

On October 17, 2017, the Department successfully implemented a new Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) system to replace its 26 year old CAD system. Due to operational changes related to the new system, response time and dispatched calls statistics are reported for January through October 16, 2017 with comparisons to the same period in 2016.

Using the previous CAD system, the San Diego Police Department dispatched incoming calls according to the hierarchy defined below.

Priority E: Imminent threat to life, dispatch immediately.
Priority 1:   Threat to life, serious crime in progress, dispatch immediately.
Priority 2:   Threat to life has passed or does not exist, minor crime in progress/serious   crime where suspect has left scene, dispatch as quickly as possible.
Priority 3:   Non-urgent requests for service such as noise only loud parties, report only calls, and crime scene follow-up, dispatch as soon as possible after higher priority calls.
Priority 4:   Minor requests for service such as found property, most parking violations, etc., dispatch when there are no higher priority calls awaiting assignment in the beat.

Response times to Priority E, Priority 3 and Priority 4 calls decreased in 2017 when compared to 2016. Response times to Priority 1 and Priority 2 calls increased.

Average Response Times in Minutes by Priority January 1 to October 16			
Priority	**2016**	**2017**	**% Change**
E	7.1	6.6	-7.0%
1	16.1	16.3	1.2%
2	43.0	45.2	5.1%
3	102.3	98.5	-3.7%
4	155.1	121.5	-21.7%

The total number of dispatched calls decreased 2.1% when compared to the same period in 2016. The overall decrease was due to fewer Priority E, 2 and 3 calls.

Dispatched Calls by Priority January 1 to October 16			
Priority	**2016**	**2017**	**% Change**
E	28,879	22,832	-20.9%
1	146,334	147,176	0.6%
2	166,878	164,590	-1.4%
3	56,167	52,482	-6.6%
4	19,106	21,442	12.2%
Total	**417,364**	**408,522**	**-2.1%**

Conclusion

The statistics in this report reflect crime in the City of San Diego. The attached Quarterly Community Policing Reports detail many essential partnerships with our community, as well as outreach and other types of community involvement that are vital to San Diego maintaining its distinction as one of the safest large cities in the United States.

City Strategic Plan Goal(s)/Objective(s):
Goal # 2: Work in partnership with all of our communities to achieve safe and livable neighborhoods
Objective # 1: Protect lives, property, and the environment through timely and effective response in communities
Objective # 2: Reduce and prevent crime
Objective # 4: Foster services that improve quality of life

Fiscal Considerations: None

Environmental Impact: N/A

Equal Opportunity Contracting Information (if applicable): N/A

Previous Council and/or Committee Actions: N/A

Key Stakeholders and Community Outreach Efforts: N/A

Shelley Zimmerman   Scott Chadwick

Chief of Police   Chief Operating Officer