



2021 ANNUAL
Richwood Police Department
"Policing done right!"



Welcome

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

On behalf of Chief Stephen Scot Mayer, welcome to the Richwood Police Department's 2021 Annual Report. Contained within are the City of Richwood social harm statistics as well as police officer self-initiated activity numbers.

The Department faced many challenges in 2021, primarily at the hands of the Covid-19 Pandemic. Nevertheless, despite the repeated and long-lasting absence of several members of staff; to include the Chief of Police, the organization held firm and continued to do what it does best; ensuring, to the greatest degree possible, the safety and security of the citizens and visitors of Richwood, Texas.



The Richwood Police Department is a full service 24/7/365 public safety organization. We are composed of six (6) uniform patrol officers, two (2) police sergeants, one (1) criminal investigator, four (4) reserve police officers, and the chief of police.

Under the leadership of Chief Stephen Scot Mayer, the organization embraces a policing philosophy he has dubbed **Compliance B4 Accountability**. The philosophy stems from a Peelian principle which reads, *"Police must secure the willing cooperation of the public in voluntary observance of the law to be able to secure and maintain the respect of the public."* This translates into the Police Department prioritizing and encouraging community awareness and conformity to the law. Chief Mayer believes aggressive enforcement of the law, through accountability measures, are to be utilized (with few exceptions) primarily when initial efforts to gain compliance of the law have proven unsuccessful. Although, law enforcement fell away from the practice of Peelian principles there is a new modern push to reembrace the philosophy. Chief Mayer takes great pride in the fact he has never strayed from pushing Peelian principles in any of the police departments he has acted as an administrator. But what does **Compliance B4 Accountability** look like in practice?

Richwood police officers are encouraged to focus on ways to assist the public in not breaking the law versus merely focusing on the handing out of accountability measures. Likewise, we believe in focusing on the ultimate goal of a project and using that as a guide in directing our compliance and enforcement efforts. For instance, we realize the traditional method of addressing speeding vehicles in a school zone is by means of a police officer, in an out-of-sight police cruiser, running radar, clocking violators, making traffic stops, and then issuing citations. Although this is a tried-and-true method, certainly a method of benefit, we go further and ask ourselves, "Is it the only method", "Is this the best method?", "Is there a more effective way?" If so, "What is it?"

Obviously, the ultimate goal of any police department, working traffic enforcement in a school zone, is to ensure the safety of the children. What could be more important than that? So, we asked ourselves, "What's better? An officer watching a motorist speed through a school zone, then chasing after the violator and issuing a citation, or an officer being so visible that motorists decide for themselves not to speed in the school zone. We believe the latter is the correct choice. We found, positioning a police cruiser, in a school zone, with an officer inside, running radar, while having the red and blue lights flashing, results, more times than not, in no speeding violations. That's right, no speeding motorists, and no speeding motorists means much safer children.

That is but one example, but that is what **Compliance B4 Accountability** is all about. It revolves around finding creative ways to encourage the public to not break the law. Chief Mayer has said many times over the years, *"I believe if we were to ask any reasonable person what they would prefer, being a victim of a social harm and the police holding the violator accountable, or never being a victim at all, nearly all would say, "Never be a victim at all."* That's our goal, to do what we can to encourage observance of the law. In doing so, we prevent victimization, we do not have to employ an accountability measure (which we're thrilled about), we get to provide the greatest level of safety we can, and we can live up to our motto of, "Policing done right!"

As an organization which embraces the Peelian Principles, we hold to a belief that police officers must do all that is possible to prevent crime and disorder. Two such Peelian principles state, *"To recognize always that the test of police efficiency is the absence of crime and disorder, and not the visible evidence of police action in dealing with them."* and *"The basic mission for which the police exist is to prevent crime and disorder"* We take this to mean if the organization is to be truly effective it must use all methods, within the law, to prevent social harms from occurring in Richwood. The organization accomplishes this effort primarily through tactical and strategic data analysis. Through strategic data analysis, the organization realizes long-term statistical trends, hot spots, and problems within the community. Through tactical data analysis, the department understands short-term series or patterns of social harms within the community. Both strategic and tactical data analysis provide an excellent foundation for effective preventative patrol tactics. It allows police officers to identify and address problems through focused patrol patterns within areas of town where social harms are most prevalent. Obviously, crime occurrence has a variety of socioeconomic causation factors, not all of which can be prevented by the police. Nevertheless, when possible, the organization makes a concerted effort toward social harm prevention.

ICON CLASSIFICATIONS



Violent Crime

Violent crimes are defined as those offenses which involve force or threat of force.



Property Crime

Property crimes are defined as the taking of money or property, but there is no force or threat of force against the victims.



Social Disorder

Social disorder is the occurrence of immoral and disorderly conduct in society.



Murder

The unlawful premeditated killing of one human being by another.



Burglary

Entry into a building, habitation, or coin-operated machine illegally with intent to commit a crime, especially theft.



Loud Music

Music that is played at a high volume, often to the point where it disturbs others.



Sexual Assault

Any nonconsensual sexual act proscribed by Federal, Tribal, or State law, including when the victim lacks capacity to consent.



Larceny / Theft

The unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another.



Fireworks

Fireworks used against City ordinance and to the point of causing a disturbance.



Robbery

The action of taking property unlawfully from a person or place by force or threat of force.



Vehicle Burglary

The entering into or a vehicle or any part of a vehicle with intent to commit any felony or theft. Vehicle burglary is considered a larceny/theft.



Field Activity

Events which a police officer is involved either by means of a call for service or a self-initiated activity.



Aggravated Assault

The unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury.



Motor Vehicle Theft

The same classification as larceny/theft with the addition element of the property being a motorized vehicle.



Calls for Service

Routine requests for law enforcement services including responding to citizen calls



Close Patrol

An inspection of a geographical area by law enforcement to ensure the security of the area.



Residence Checks

Inspections for law enforcement purposes to ascertain the condition of a residence.



Building Checks

Inspections for law enforcement purposes to ascertain the condition of a business or building.



Traffic Stops

A motor vehicle stop by law enforcement to further investigate the commission of a crime.



Arrests

The deprivation of freedom of an individual following probable cause being established by law enforcement.



2020 vs. 2021 VIOLENT & PROPERTY CRIMES

Let's look at reported crime in 2020 and compare that to what reported crime looked like in the year 2021.



REDUCING CRIME



OVERALL CRIME DOWN

36%

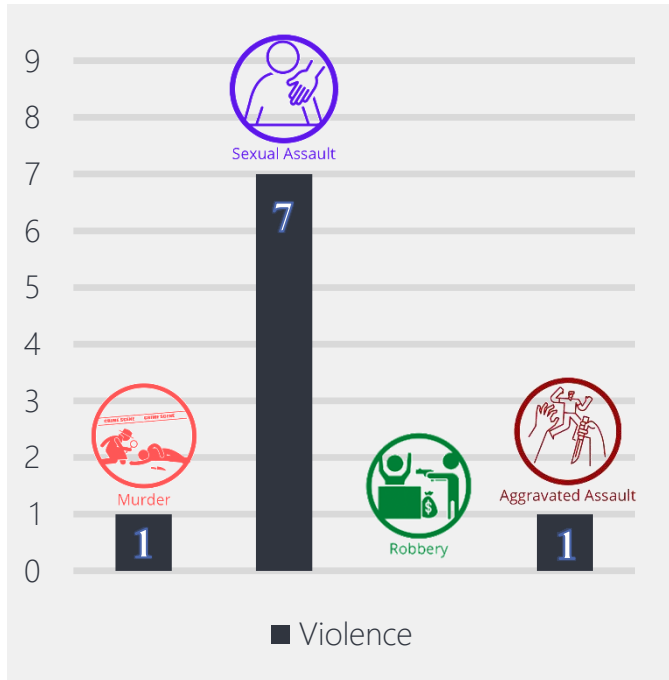
In 2021 as compared to 2020



CRIME PREVENTION



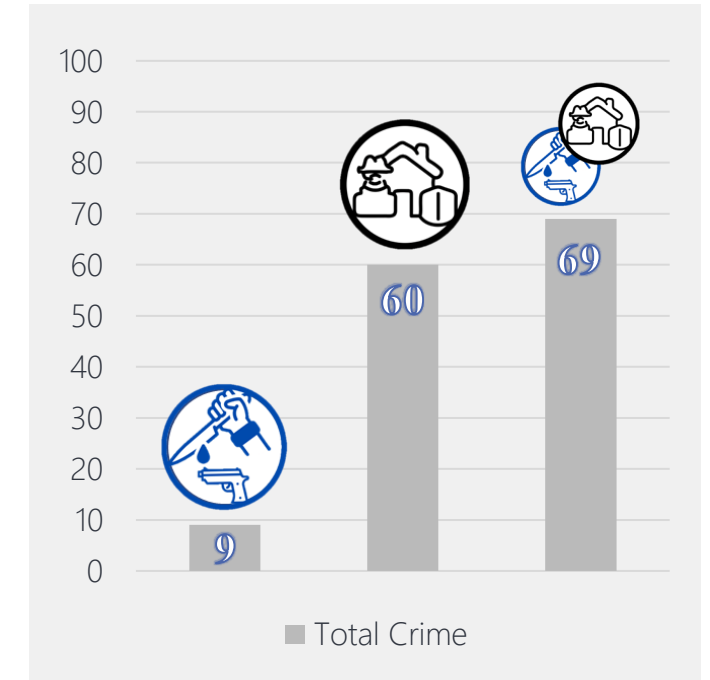
2020 VIOLENT AND PROPERTY CRIME COMBINED



Violent crime is classified as Homicide, Sexual Assault, Robbery, and Aggravated Assault.



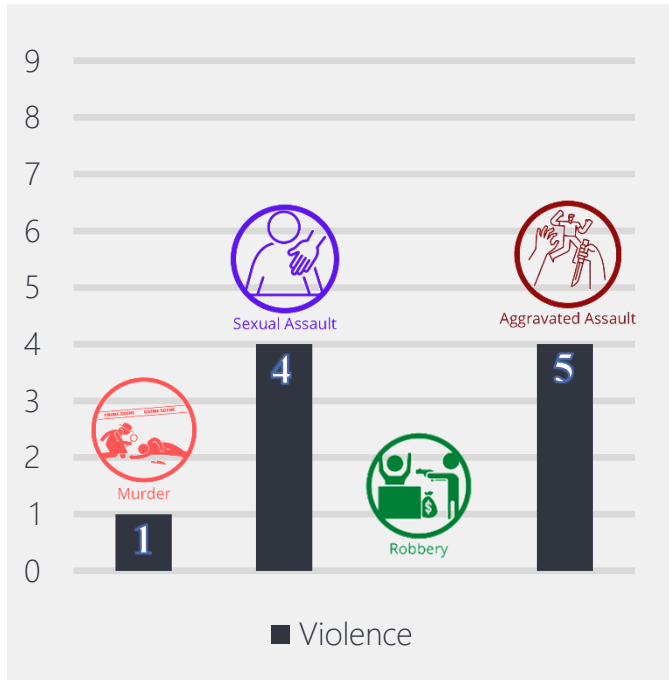
Property crime is classified as Burglary, Larceny/Theft, and Motor Vehicle theft. Although vehicle burglary is classified as a larceny/theft it is listed due to relevance in Richwood.



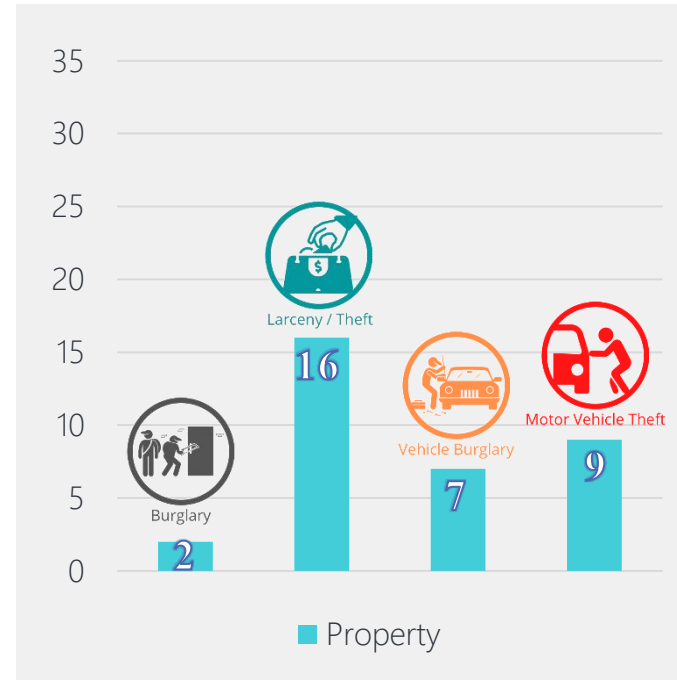
Combining violent and property crime provides a wholistic view of criminality in Richwood, Texas.



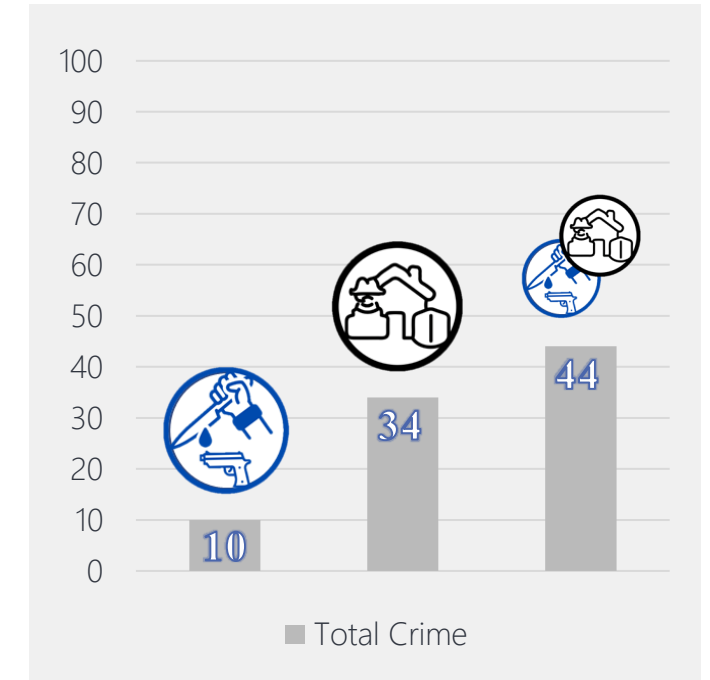
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Combining violent and property crime provides a wholistic view of criminality in Richwood, Texas.



Looking at the categories of violent crime and property crime separately, we see the following trends emerge:

Violent crime increased by 11% in 2021 as compared to 2020.

So, what happened? The homicide rate remained unchanged. Sexual Assaults dropped by three (3) cases, but Aggravated Assaults climbed by four (4) cases. The increase was the results of a single event; a verbal disturbance, involving alcohol, at a residence, that turned violent, and involved weapons.



Violent Crime



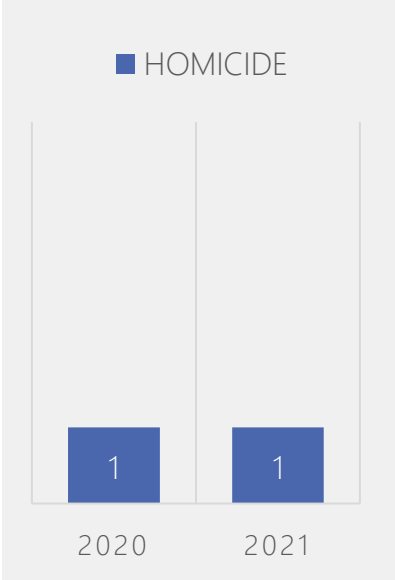
Property Crime

Property crime decreased by 43% in 2021 as compared to 2020.

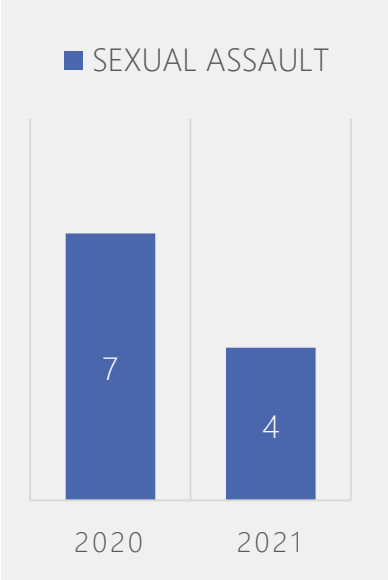
Now that is good news by anyone's standards. Burglaries dropped by two (2) cases, Larceny/Theft cases dropped by twenty-nine (29), but Motor Vehicle Thefts increased by five (5) cases. So, this impressive reduction is mostly linked to a considerable reduction in larceny/theft cases.

VIOLENT CRIME YEAR TO YEAR COMPARISON

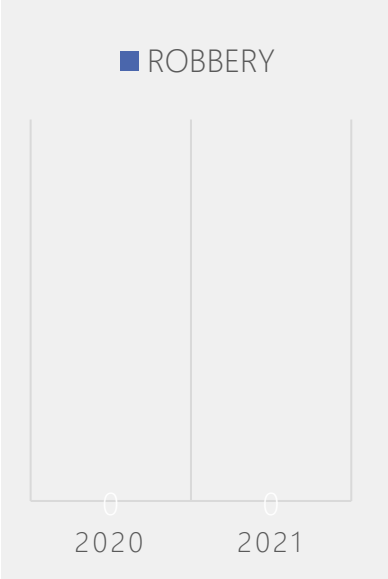
2020 - 2021



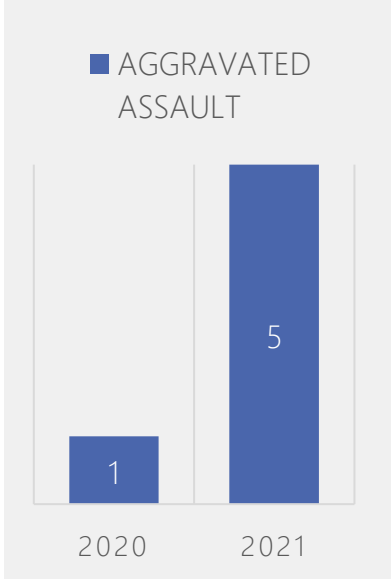
Unchanged



Down 42.8%
as compared to 2020



Unchanged

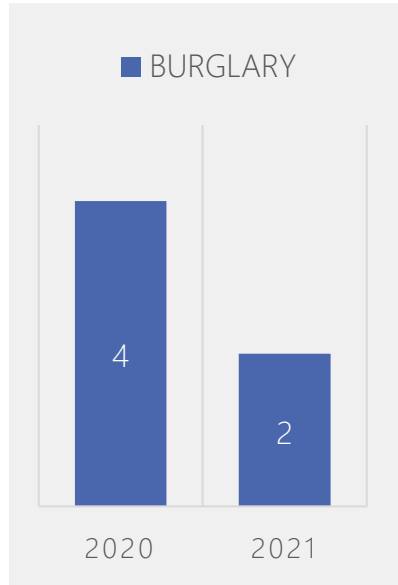


Up 400%
as compared to 2020



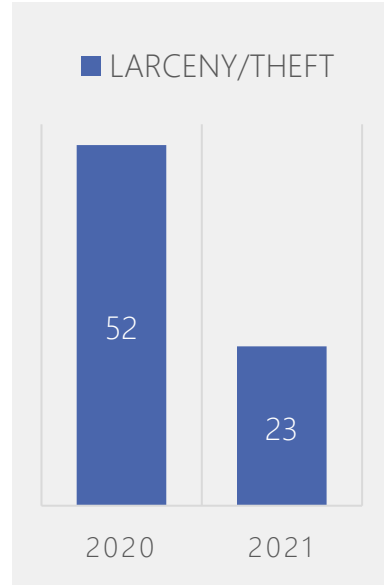
PROPERTY CRIME YEAR TO YEAR COMPARISON

2020 - 2021



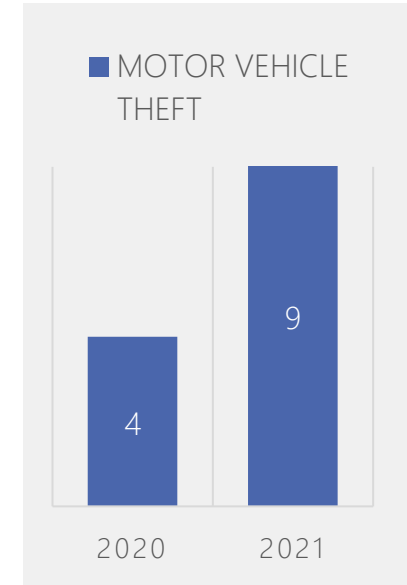
Down 50%

as compared to 2020



Down 55.7%

as compared to 2020

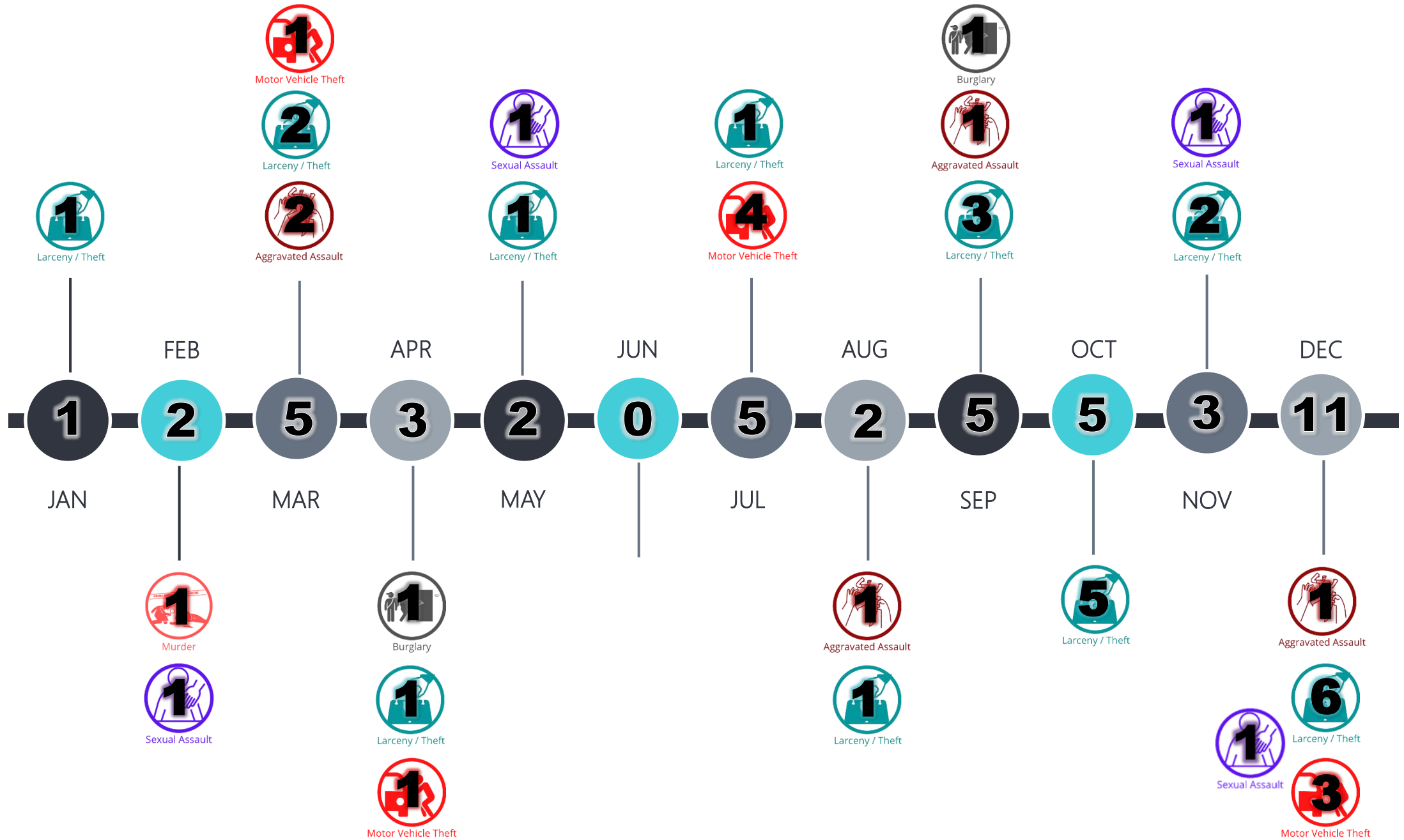


Up 125%

as compared to 2020



2021 CRIME TIMELINE



CRASH STATISTICS





2019

• 59
Crashes

2020

• 57
Crashes

2021

• 56
Crashes

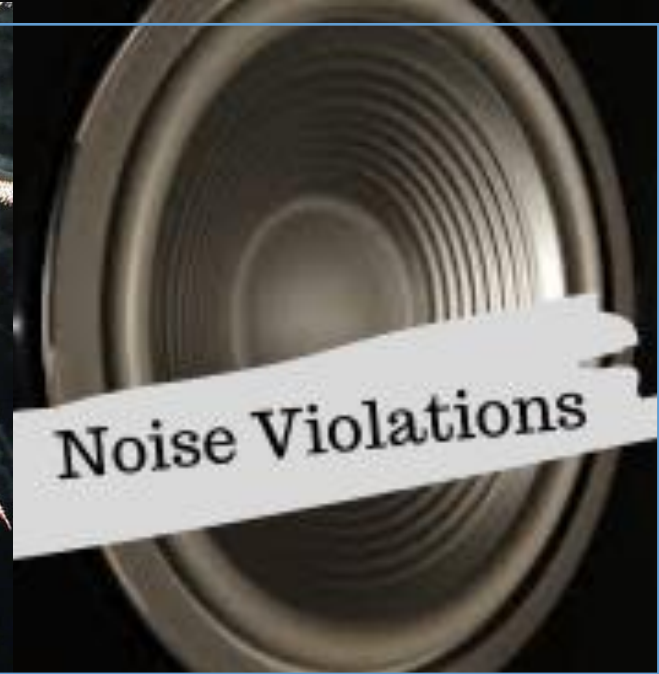
Those practitioners of social harm prevention tactics will relay, automobile crashes are the most difficult of all the social harms to prevent and reduce.

Recent studies, conducted in Texas, have revealed effective crash reduction is all about location, location, location. It is about the police being in the right area at the right time. In fact, a 10 percent decrease in police presence, at a particular location, results in a 2.1 to 3.5 percent increase in car accidents.

Some would say, "That's an easy fix. Just have police officers stay where the crashes are happening." But, what about the vehicle burglary issue going on in one neighborhood, or the larceny/theft issue going on at a particular convenience store, or the residential neighborhood plagued with vehicles speeding or running stop signs?

At the Richwood Police Department, we are doing our level best to use data to help us determine where to spend most of our preventative patrol time. Although, crashes have decreased since 2019, we would like to see more impactful reductions. As such, we continue to challenge staff to balance their patrol time; continuously aware of where they can be of the most usefulness.

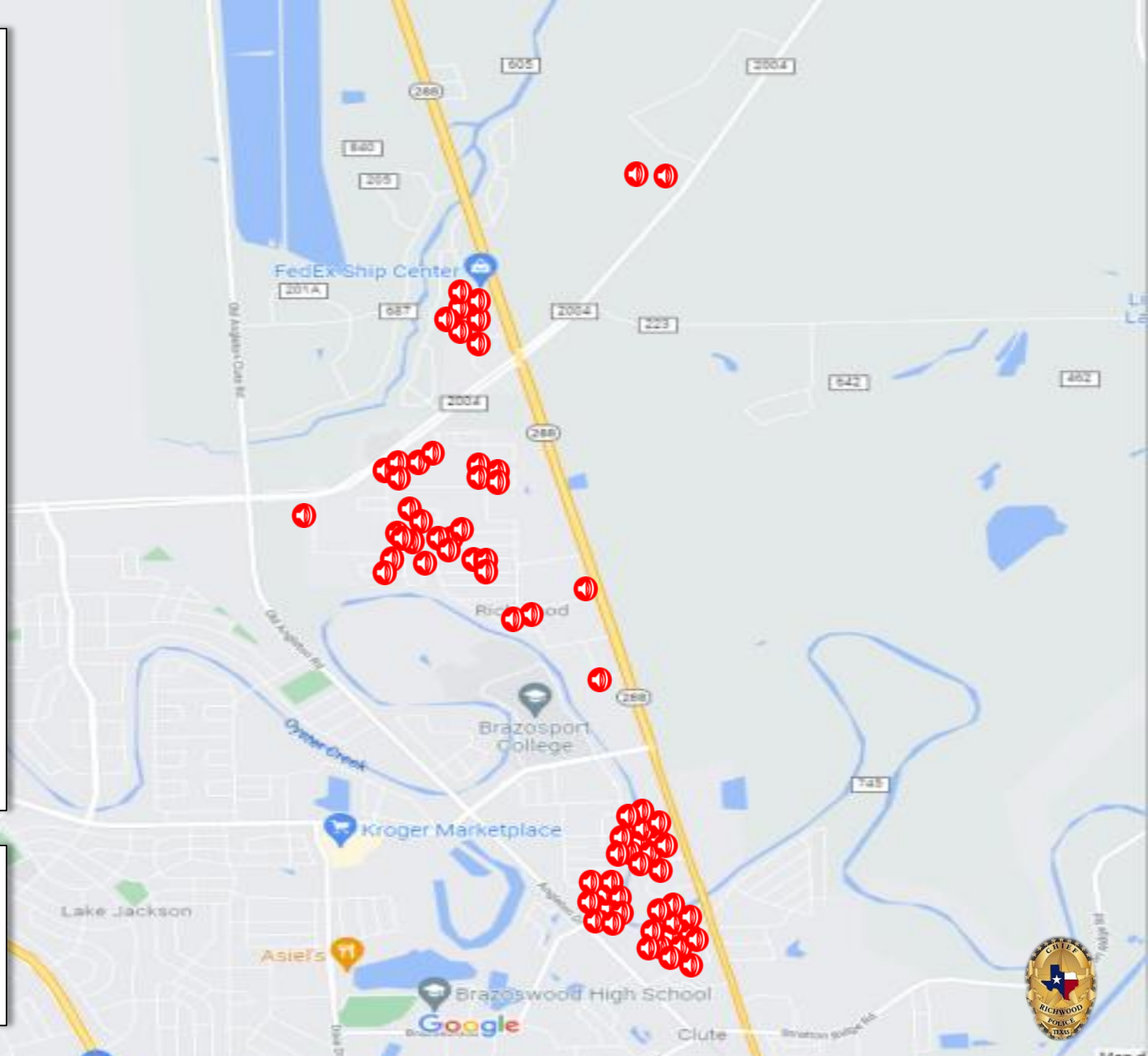
SOCIAL DISORDER



NOISE COMPLAINTS

- 13 @ 100 Creekwood Landing Drive (Eastbank Apartments)
- 13 @ 200 Timbercreek Drive (The Landing Apartments)
- 9 @ 400 Timbercreek Drive (The Lodge Apartments)
- 7 @ 4501 N. Brazosport Blvd. (The Brazos Crossing Apartments)
- 3 @ 1400 FM 2004 (Grace Community Fellowship Church)
- 3 @ 100 Gold Finch Court
- 2 @ 100 Cedar Drive
- 2 @ 100 Dove Trail
- 2 @ 100 Eagle nest Court
- 2 @ 100 Robin Trail
- 2 @ 200 Stuart Street
- 2 @ 200 Briar Creek
- 2 @ 200 Moore Street
- 1 @ 1000 Cardinal Court
- 1 @ 100 Meadowlark Court
- 1 @ 100 Hickory Drive
- 1 @ 1800 Brazosport Blvd. (Richwood City Hall)
- 1 @ 200 Success Street
- 1 @ 33000 Blue Marlin Drive
- 1 @ 33000 Blue Crab Court
- 1 @ 500 N. Yaupon
- 1 @ 600 Jasmine Street
- 1 @ 700 Burr Oak
- 1 @ 700 Shadow Bend

Noise complaints primarily come from the apartment complexes in Richwood. Knowing this officers are instructed to be mindful, while patrolling the apartments, of noise issues and to take a pro-active approach to dealing with them.



HEY FOUGHT SO YOU MIGHT LIVE IN PEACE
GIVE THEM SOME PEACE IN RETURN



The Richwood Police Department, over the New Year's Holiday, conducted a social media campaign against fireworks in town and coupled that with directed patrols. The results were beneficial to the citizens of Richwood.

On New Year's Eve, the RWPD answered only four (4) firework related calls for service. Police officers and citizens alike reported a notable decrease in the use of fireworks.



...se don't
...scares me

...a break on...
...average of 18,500 fires each year, including...
...es, 300 vehicle fires and nearly 17,000 other fires.



Ordinance Sec. 10-6 FIREWORKS
...fire, shoot or discharge in the City limits.

Richwood Ordinance Sec. 10-6 FIREWORKS

It's unlawful to fire, shoot or discharge in the City limits.

OFFICER FIELD ACTIVITY

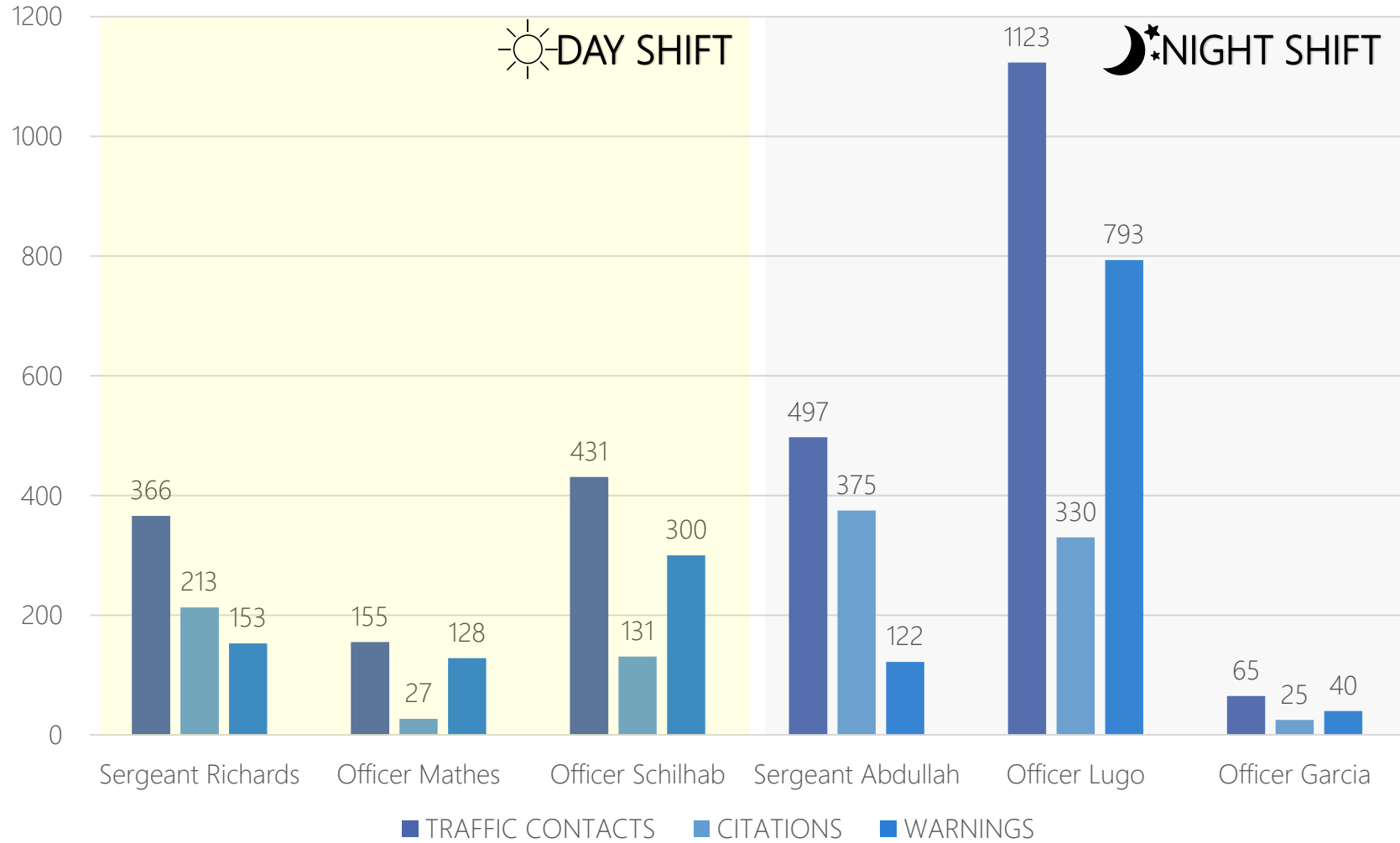


Richwood Police Self-Initiated Traffic Contacts

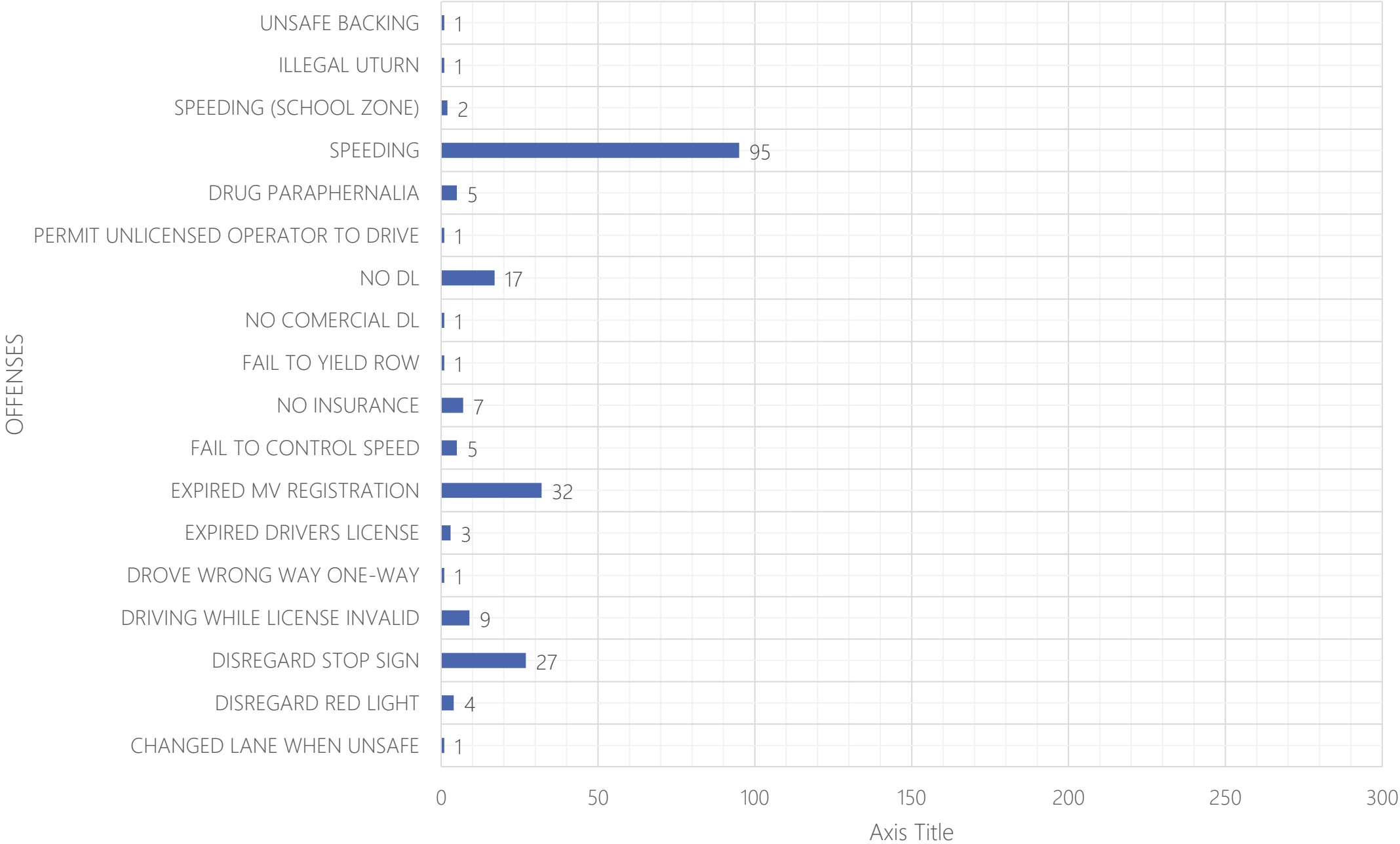
On the next few pages are a breakdown of the total number of traffic stops made by each officer, the offenses cited, and the number of written/verbal warnings issued.



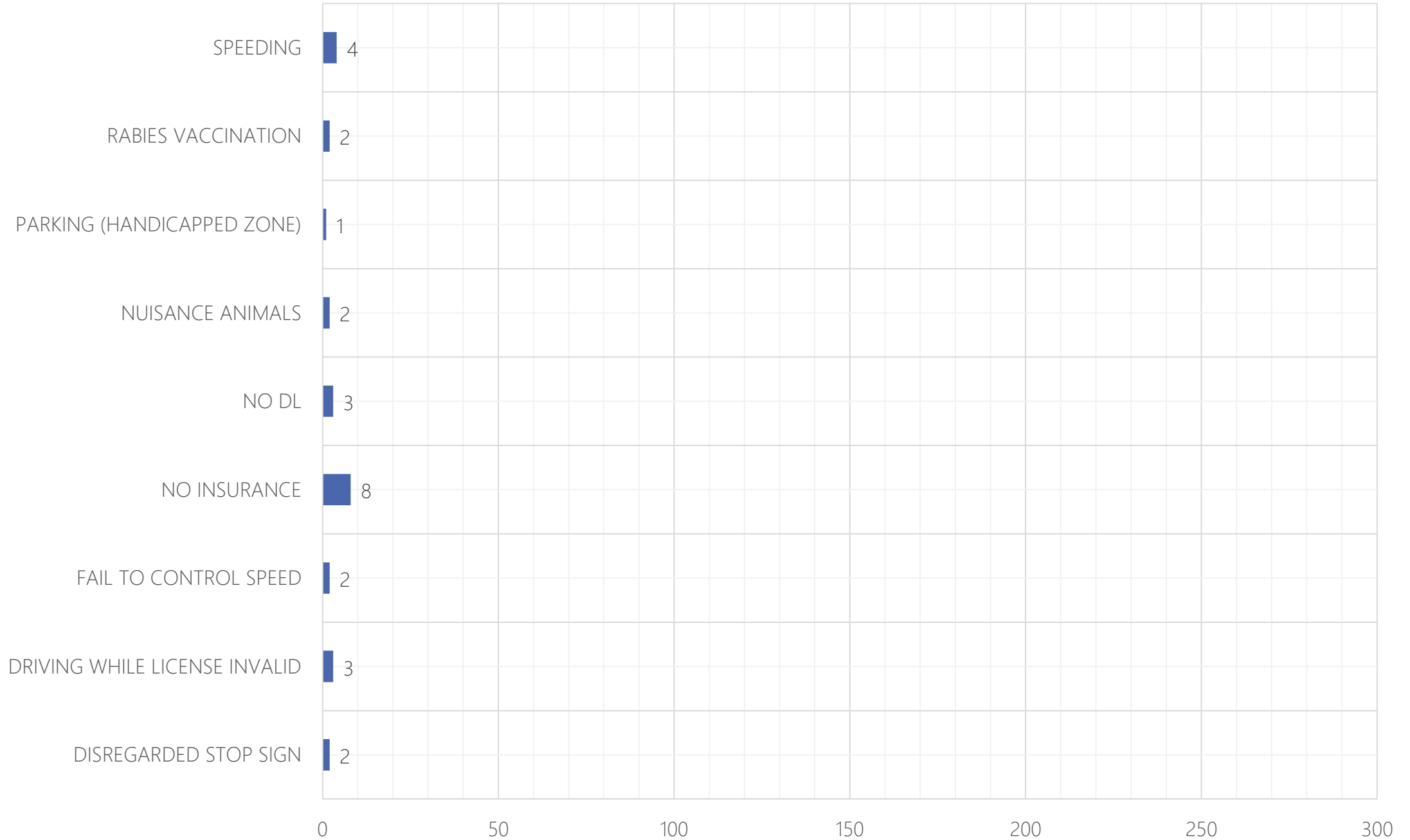
Richwood Police Officer Self-Initiated Traffic Contacts



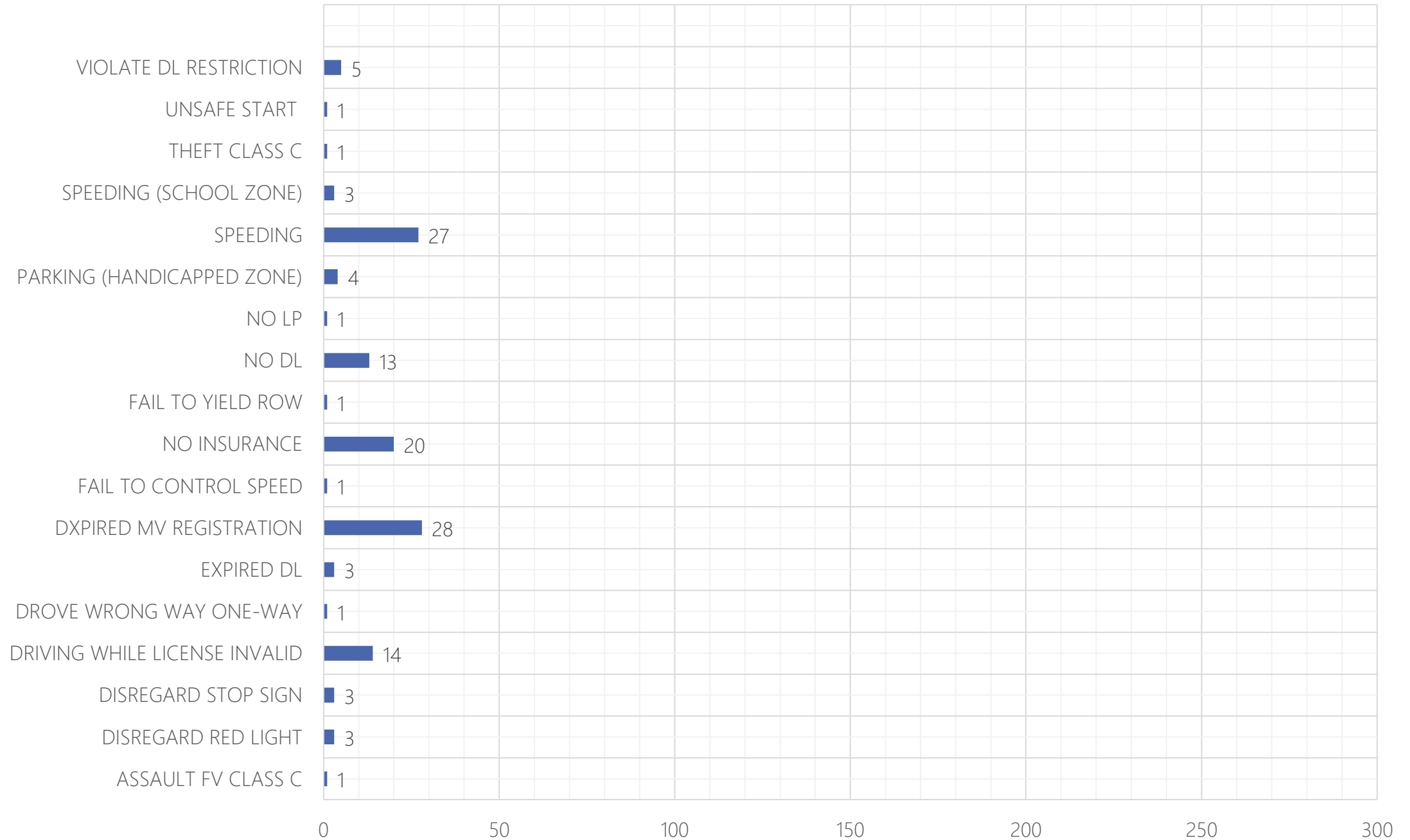
SERGEANT RICHARDS (Citations Issued)



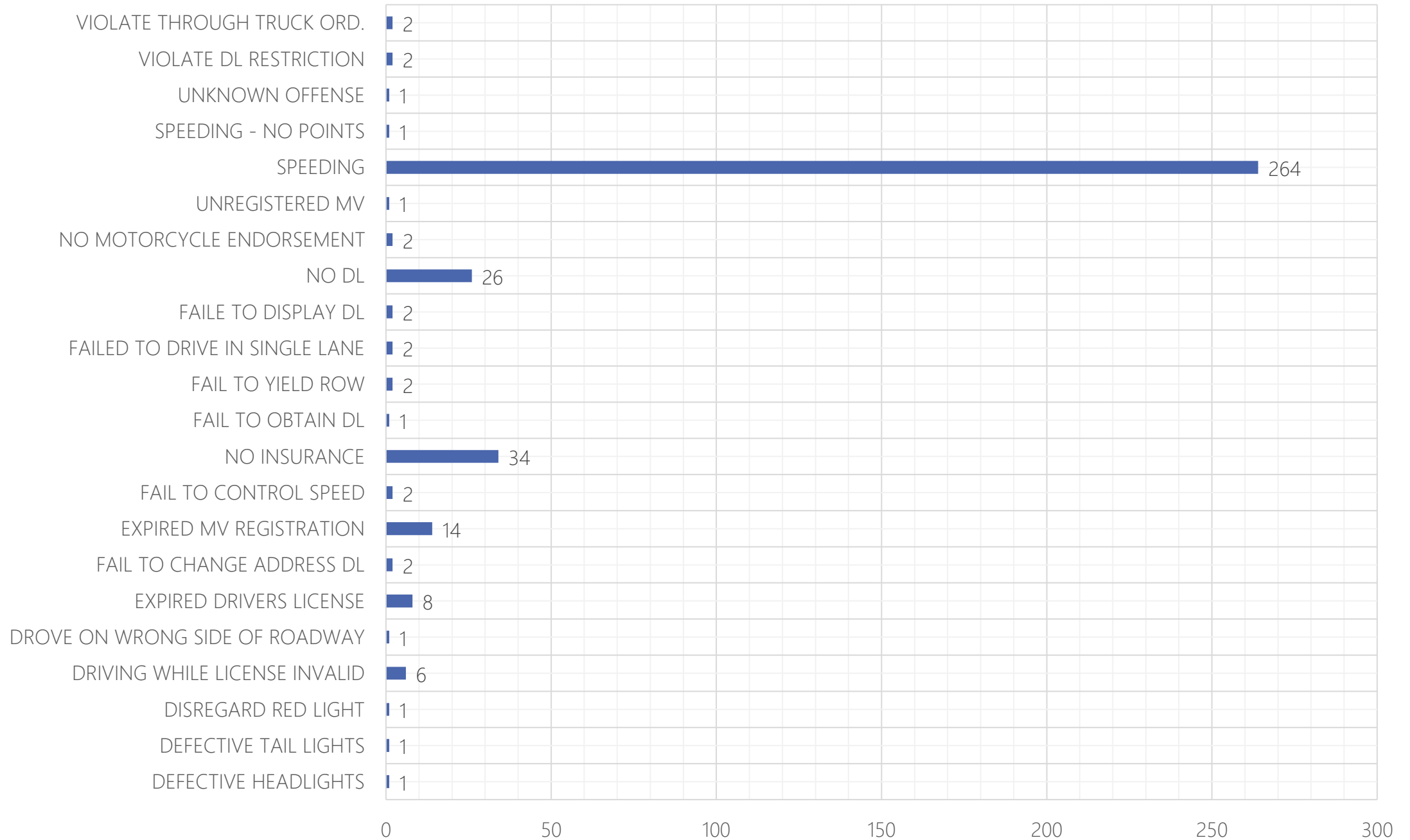
OFFICER MATHES (Citations Issued)



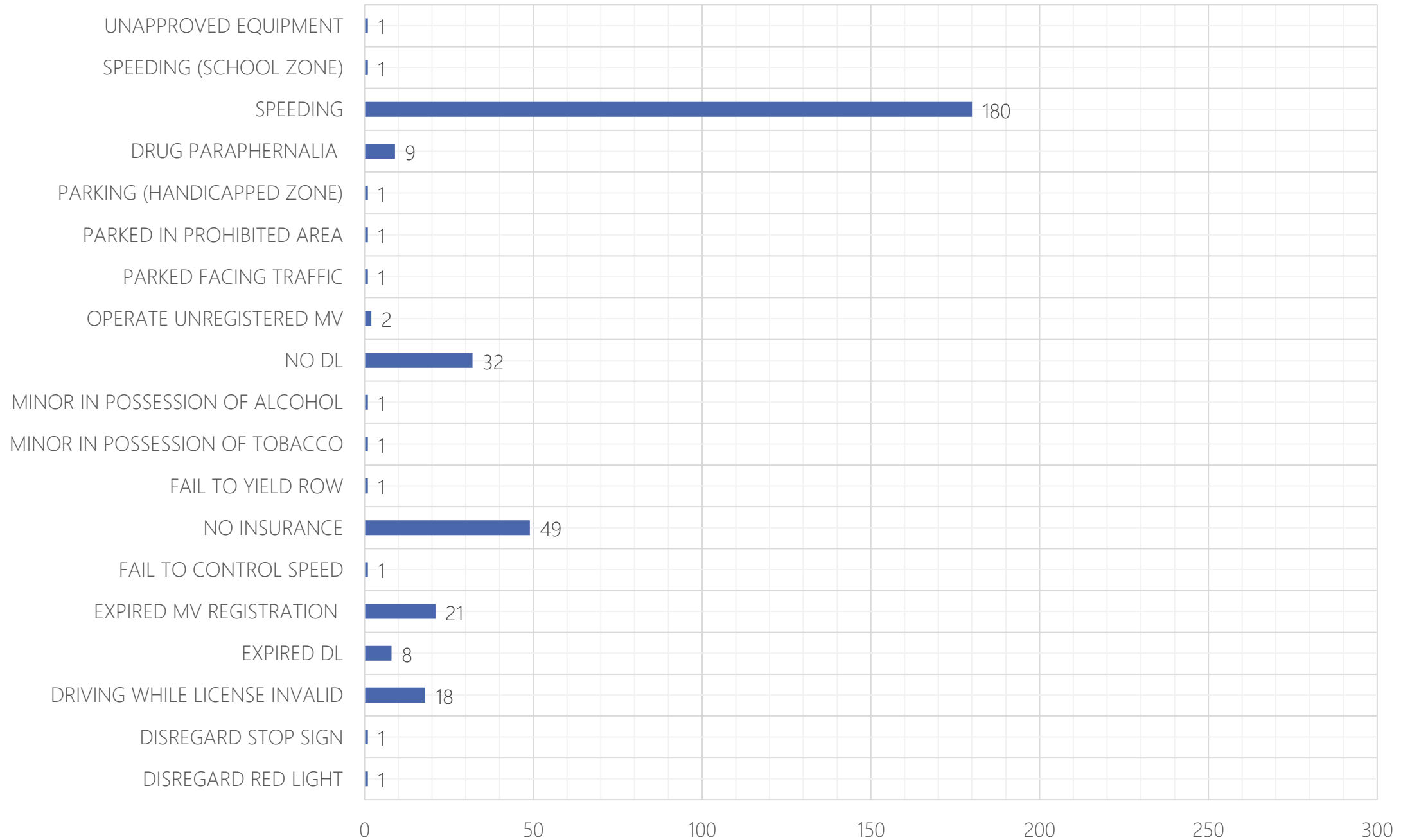
OFFICER SCHILHAB (Citations Issued)



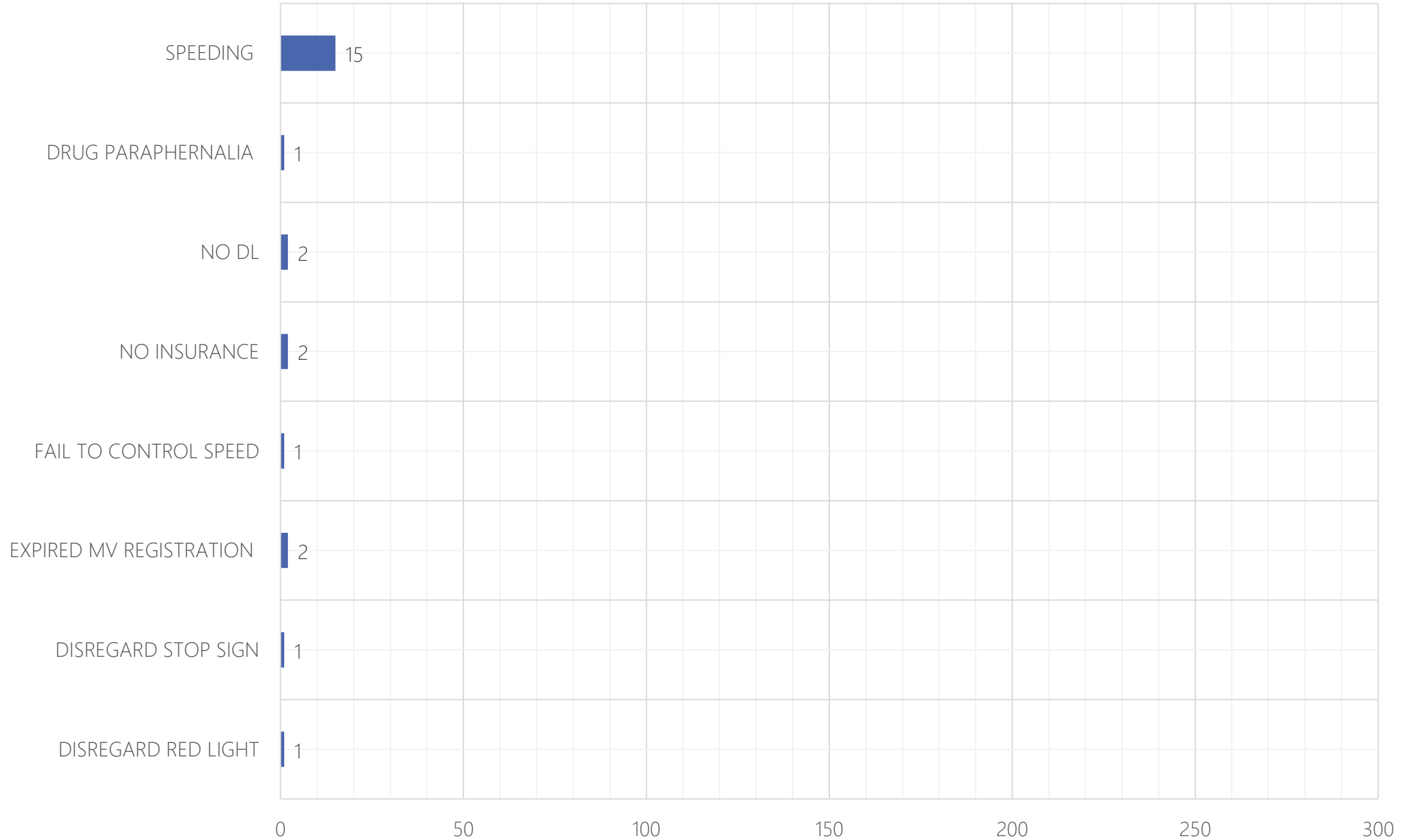
SERGEANT ABDULLAH (Citations Issued)



OFFICER LUGO (Citations Issued)



OFFICER E. GARCIA (Citations Issued)





SELF-INITIATED ACTIVITY

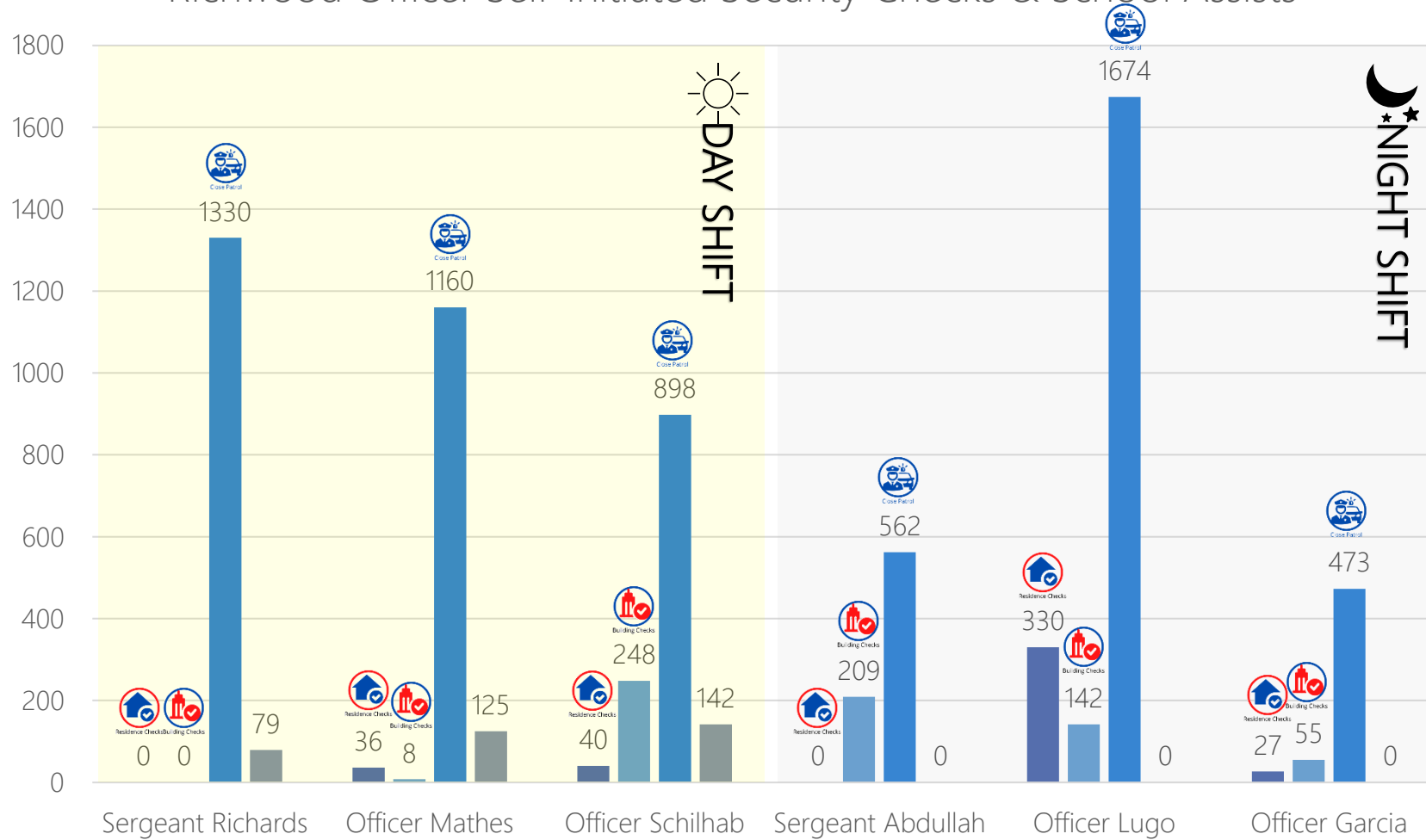
School Zones, Businesses, and Homes

CALLS FOR SERVICE

Citizen and Visitor requests for assistance



Richwood Officer Self-Initiated Security Checks & School Assists



■ Residence Checks ■ Building Checks ■ Close Patrols ■ School Crossings



Residence Checks



Building Checks



Close Patrol



Looking at the total calls for service answered by the Richwood Police Department in 2021 we see the following trends emerge:

Total Calls for Service:

The Richwood Police Department answered a total of 2,377 calls for service in the year 2021.

#1 Call for Service

The number one call for service for Richwood Police Officers in 2021 were Disorderly Conduct complaints. The RWPD answered 270 disturbance calls in 2021.

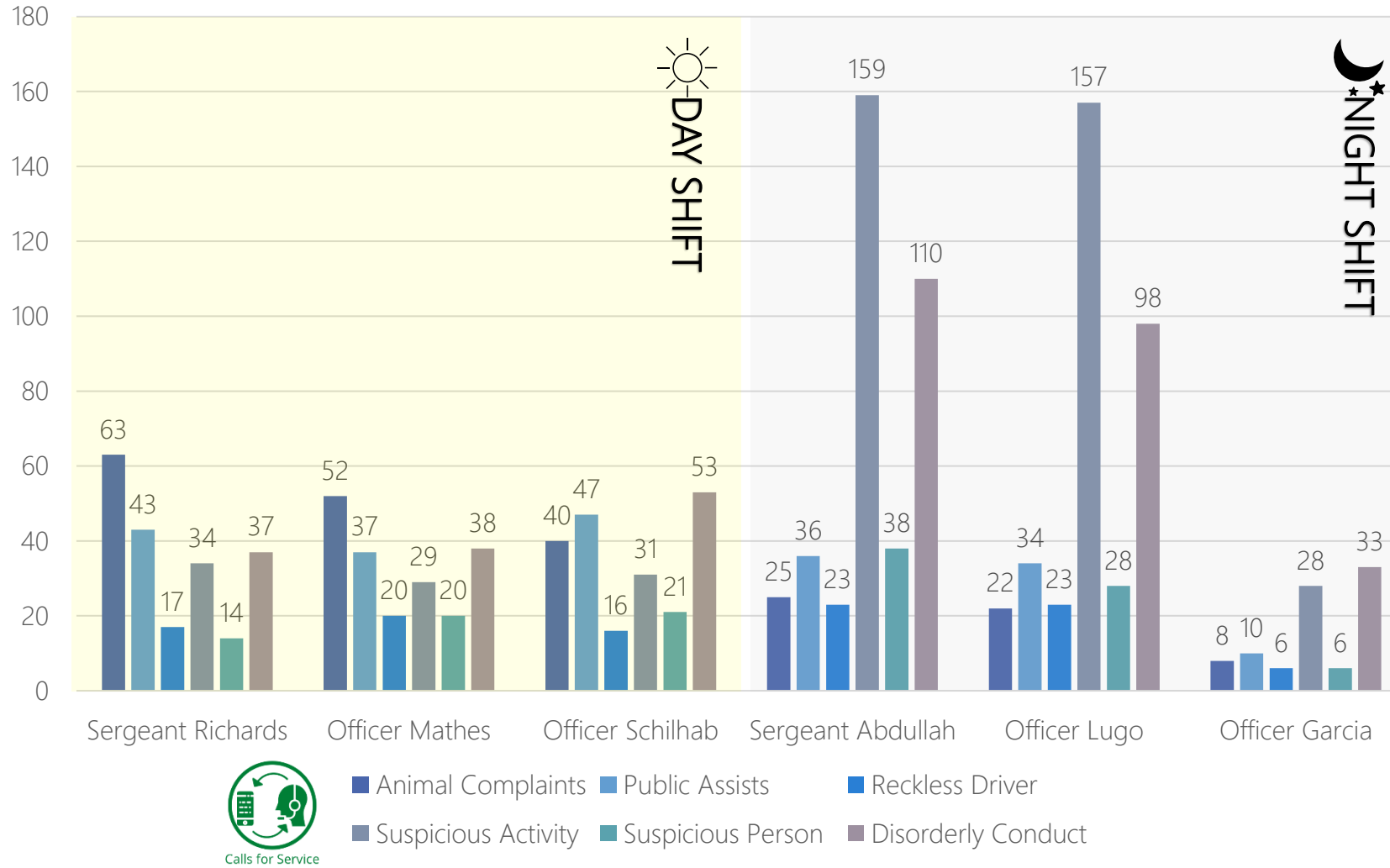
#2 Call for Service

The number two call for service for Richwood Police Officers in 2021 were Animal Complaints. The RWPD answered 225 animal complaint calls in 2021.

Note: As social harms decrease in Richwood so does calls for service. The Richwood Police Department answered sixty-nine (69) fewer calls for service in 2021 as compared to 2020 (2020: 2446, 2021: 2377)



Richwood Citizen/Visitor Calls for Service: Officer Breakdown

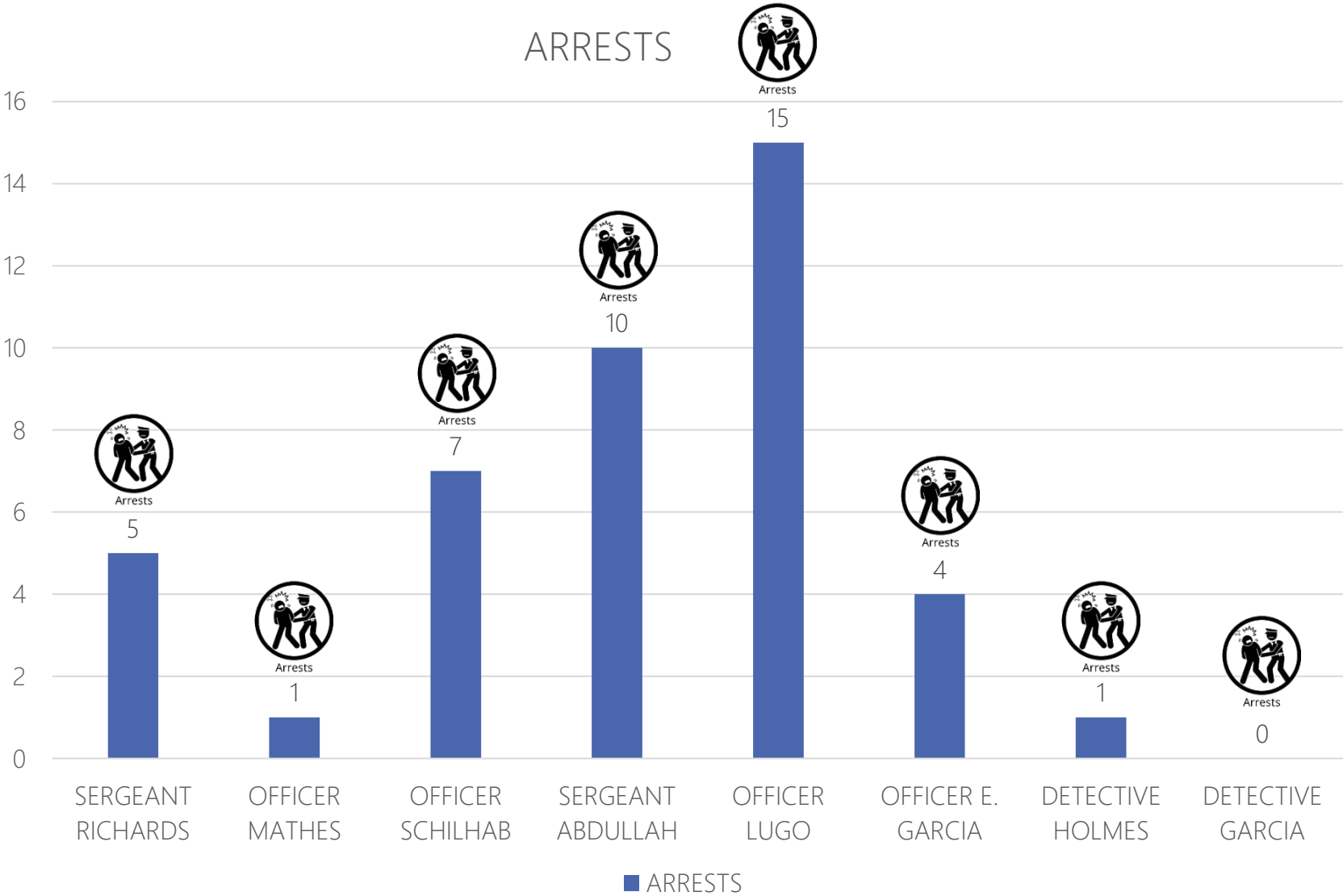


Arrests in Richwood

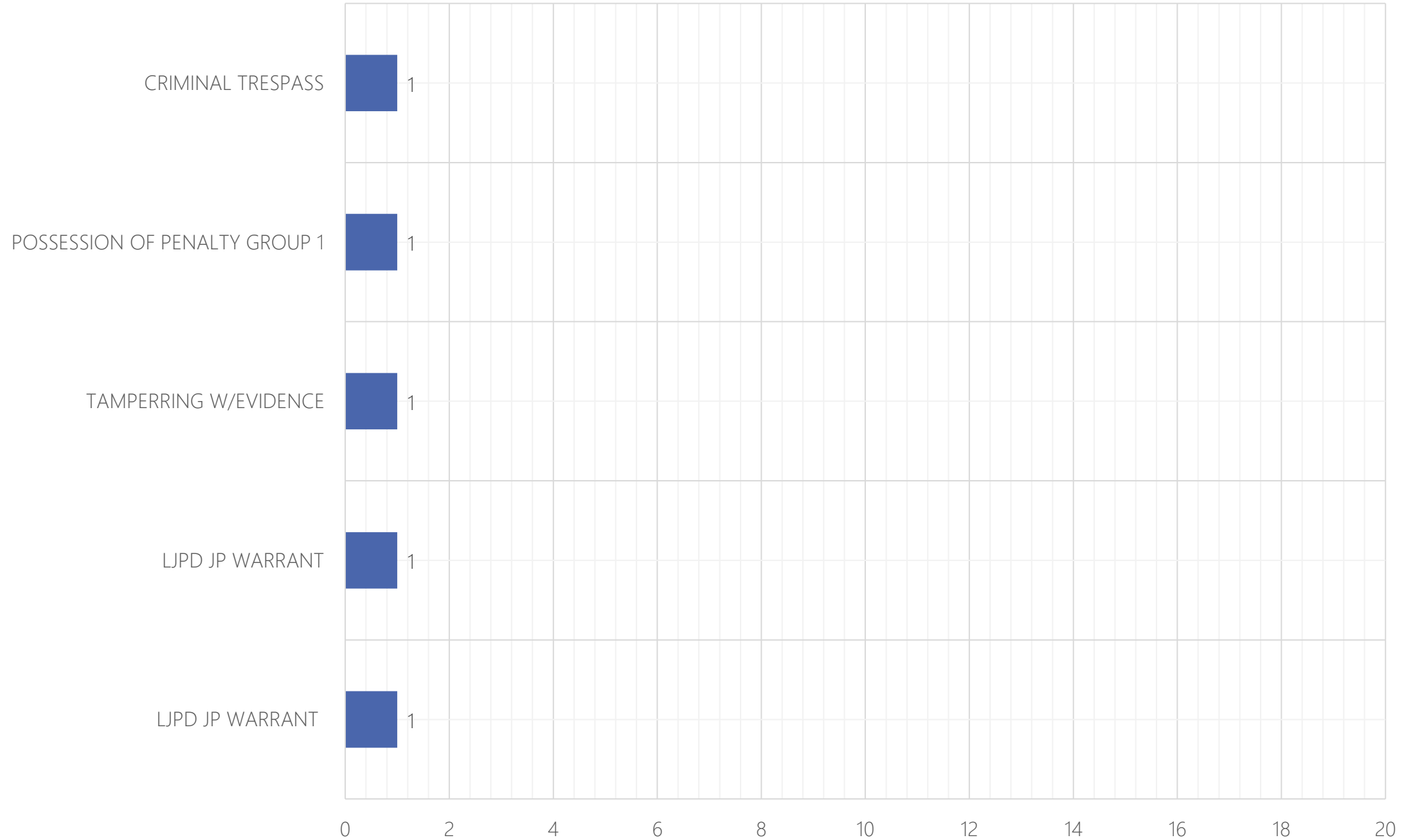
Following are the arrests made in Richwood for the year 2021. The arrests are categorized by officer and type.



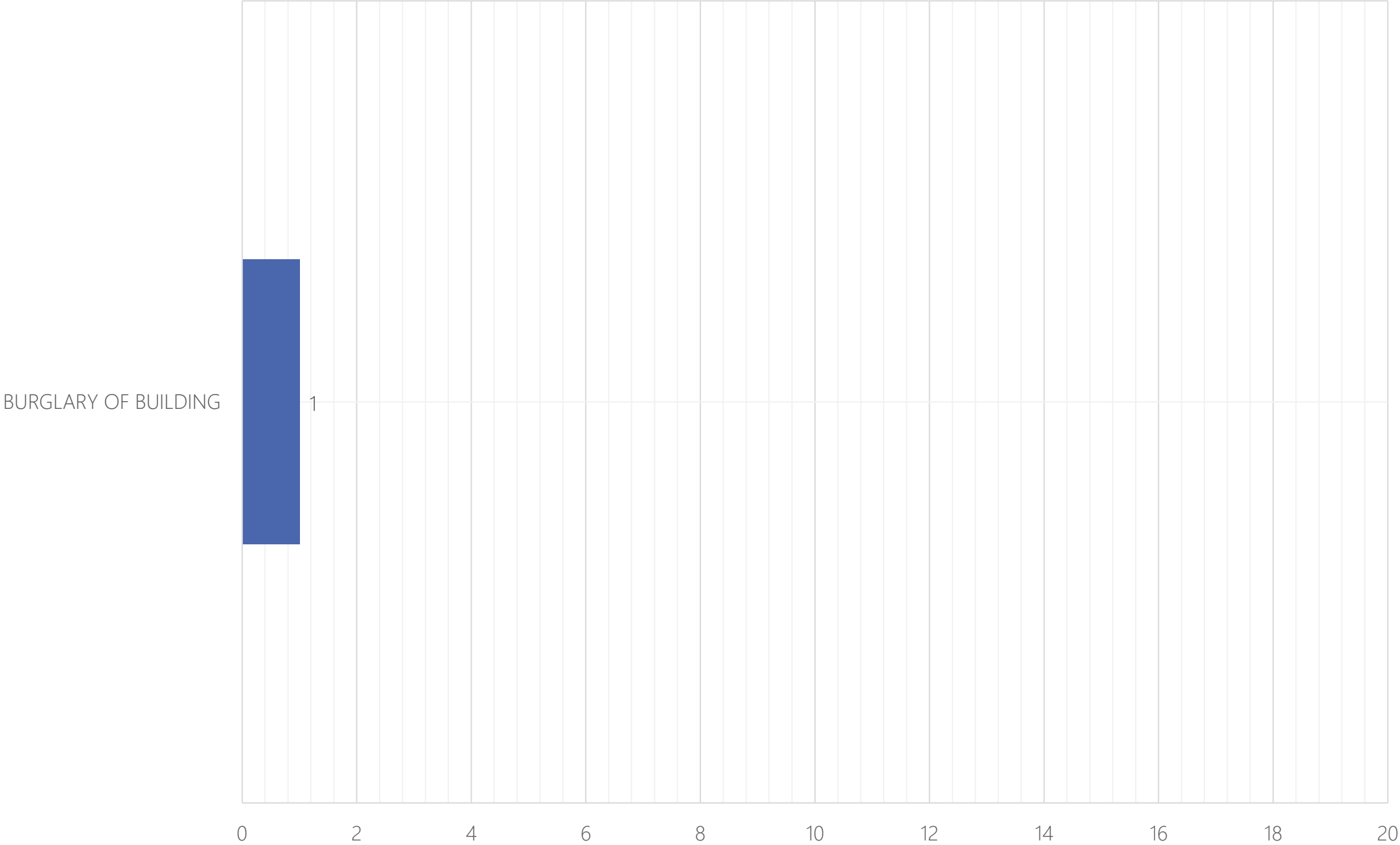
ARRESTS



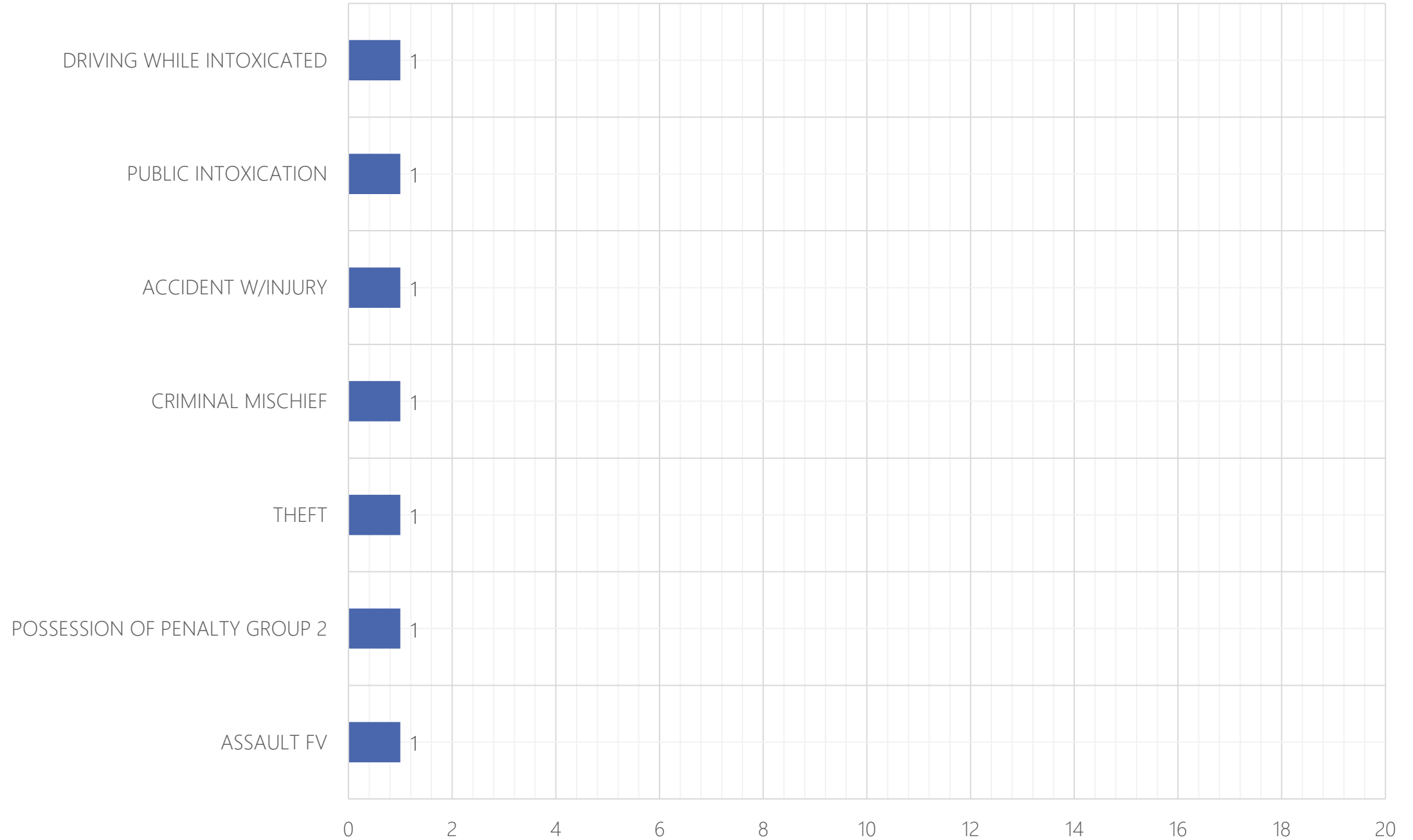
SERGEANT RICHARDS (Arrests)



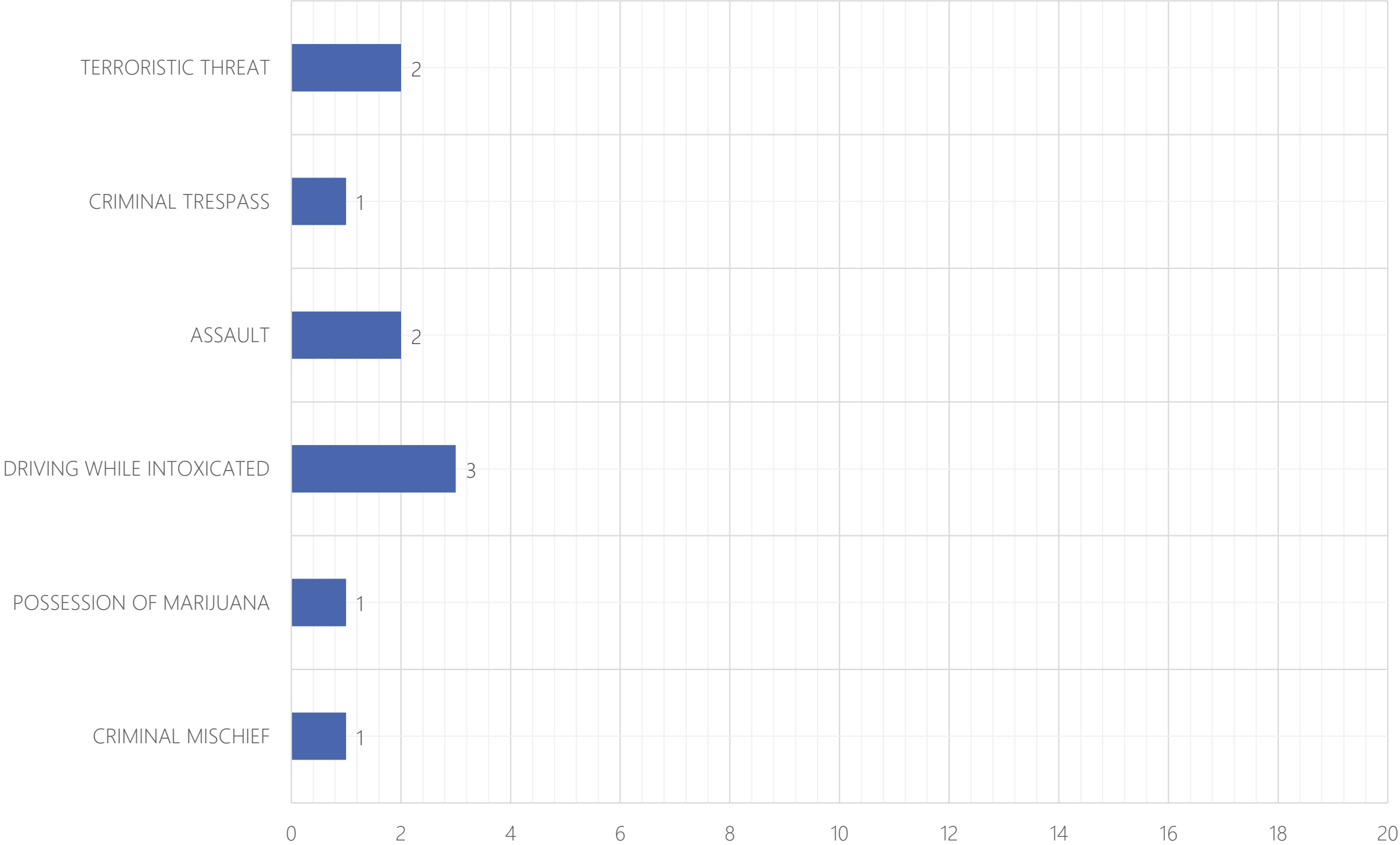
OFFICER MATHES (Arrests)



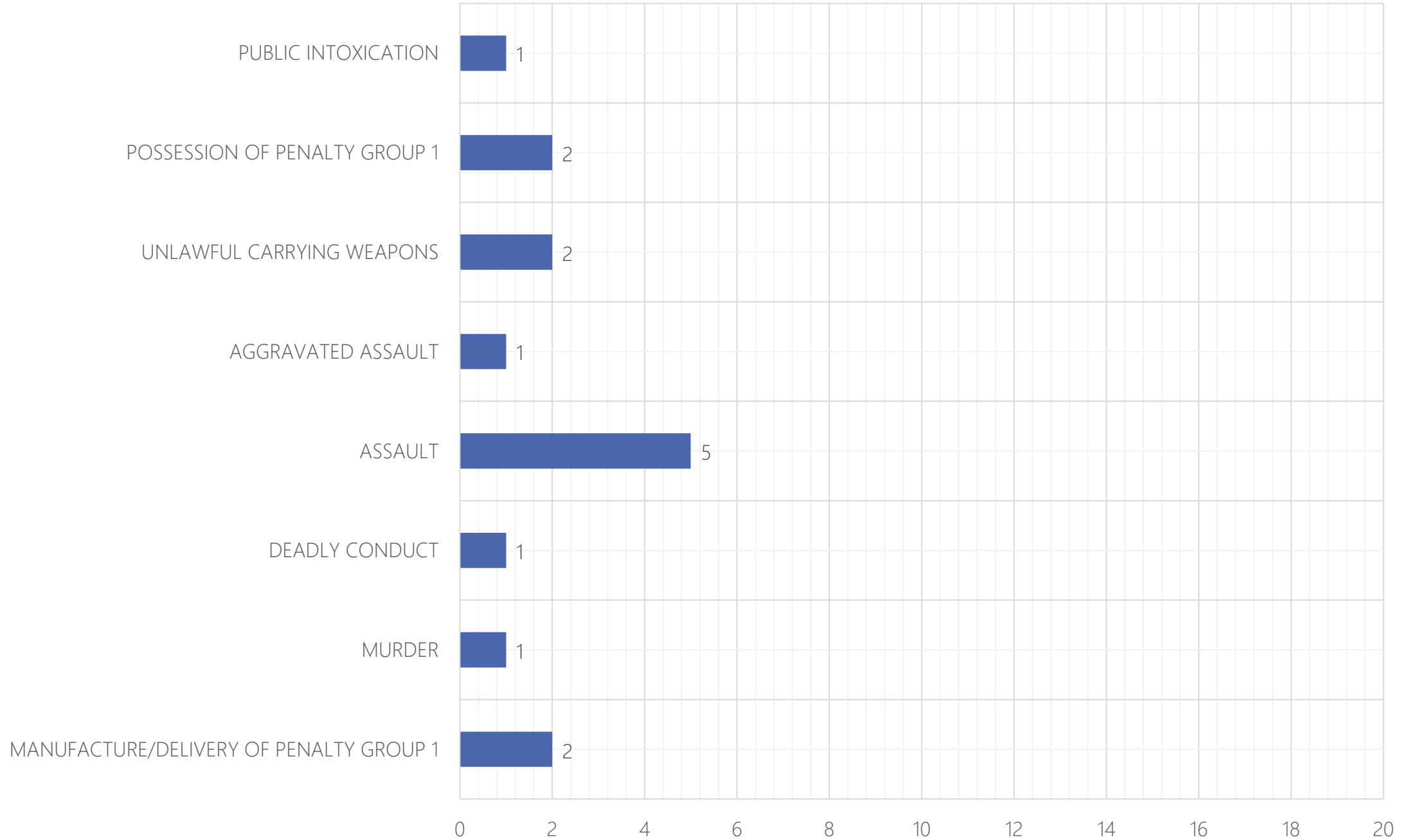
OFFICER SCHILHAB (Arrests)



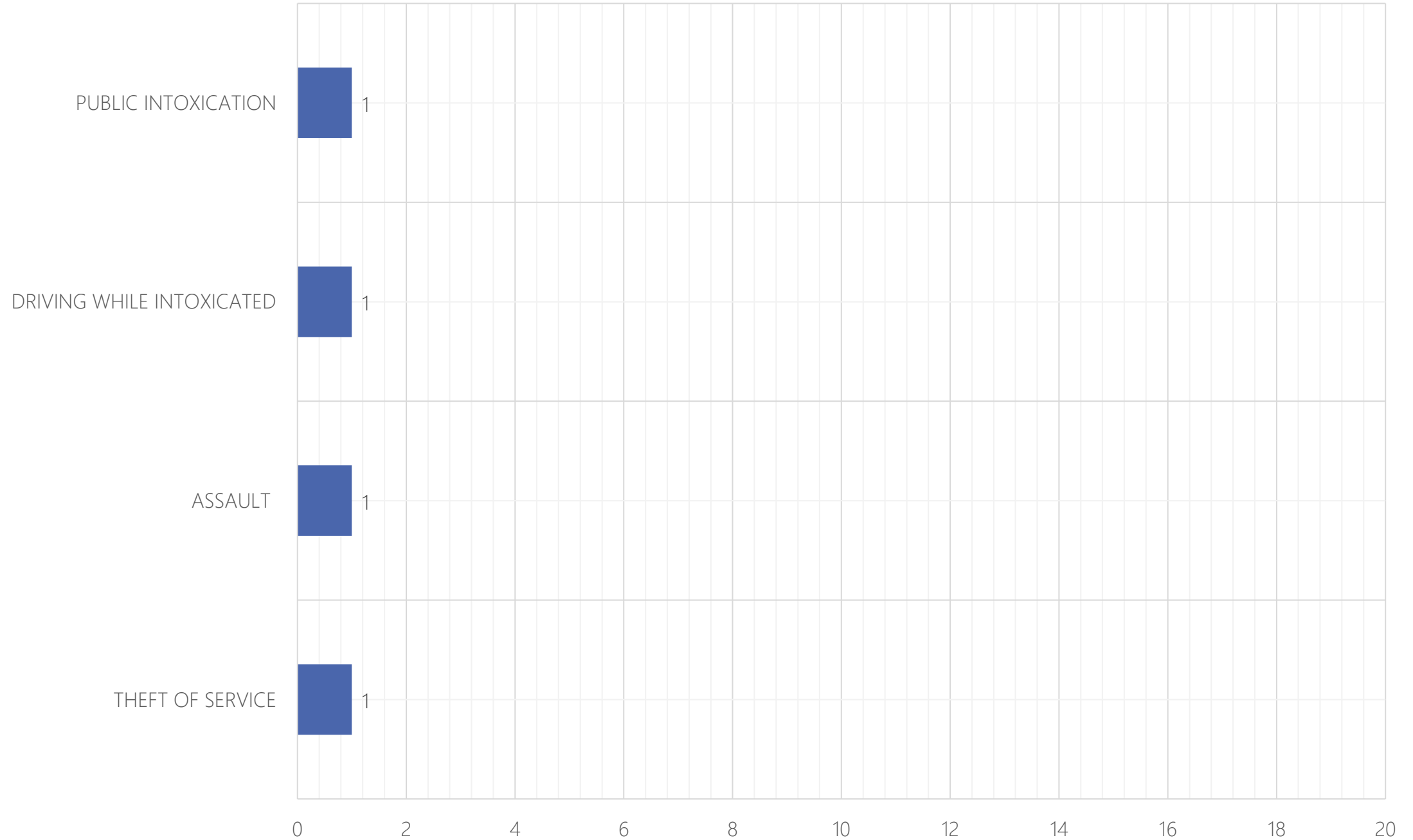
SERGEANT ABDULLAH (Arrests)



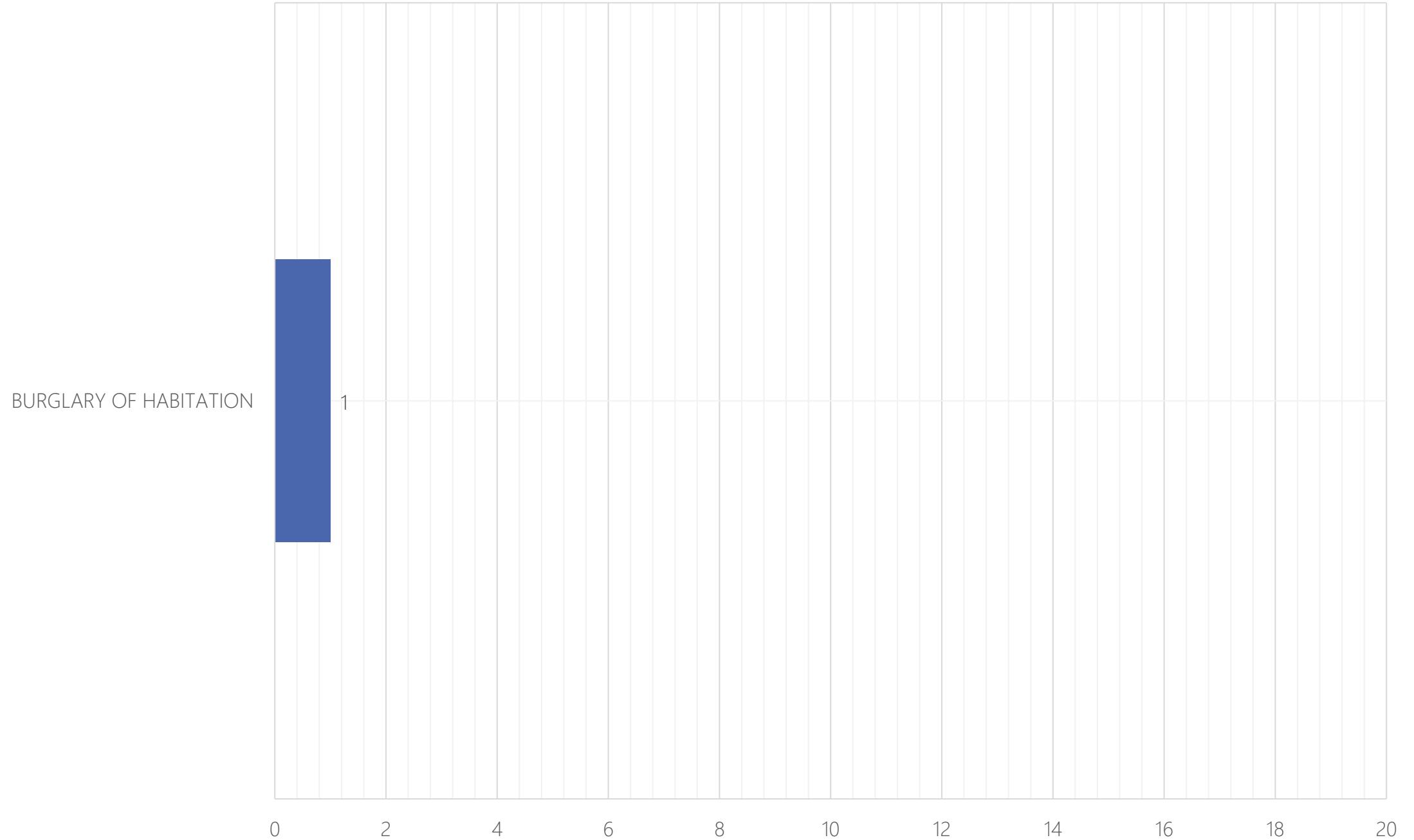
OFFICER LUGO (Arrests)



OFFICER E. GARCIA (Arrests)



DETECTIVE HOLMES (Arrests)



Our Values

We believe it is our mission to enhance the quality of life in the City through a proactive and professional level of police service.

We hold the preservation of life as our sacred duty and our value of human life sets our operational priorities.

We revere the truth. We accept nothing less than truth, honesty and integrity in our profession.

We honor our police powers. We understand our powers are derived from the people we serve. We do not tolerate the abuse of police authority.

We recognize our responsibility to justly enforce the law. We see our role as one to resolve problems through the law, not to abuse or punish.

We conduct ourselves with dignity. Our personal conduct is inseparable from the professional reputation of the officer and the department.

We believe in government transparency. We hold to the philosophy; a people should be aware of the activities of their police department.

We seek community partnership. We view the people of our community as partners who deserve our concern, care and attention, and

We are committed to ensuring the nominal volume of social harms, in the City of Richwood, remain low for years to come.

I would like to take a moment and relay my appreciation to the dedicated officers of the Richwood Police Department.

The selfless sacrifices made by them and their family, during the absenteeism created by the Pandemic, made a considerable and positive difference to the citizens and visitors of Richwood.

To those who took on extra shifts and extra responsibility you have my respect and adoration. You truly are public servants!

Stephen Scot Mayer
Chief of Police



It is the goal of the Richwood Police Department to use the information contained in this report to enhance our efforts as we provide quality police service in the year 2022.

GOALS:

Create a safer motoring environment.

Discourage property crime through directed patrols and enhanced visibility.

Enhance organizational transparency.

OBJECTIVES:

- Reduce motor vehicle crashes by 7%
- Increase residence checks by 15%
- Increase business checks by 15%
- Increase website postings by 60%

We hope that you join us in looking forward to our 2022 Annual Report.

Looking forward to



Richwood Police

