



KENSINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

10940 San Pablo Avenue • El Cerrito • CA • 94530

(510) 526-4141

www.kppcsd.org

DATE: October 1st, 2025
TO: David Aranda: General Manager
FROM: M. Gancasz, Chief of Police
RE: Police Chief's Monthly Report, October 2025

Patrol Operations

In October, the Kensington Police Department handled 1366 incidents, a decrease from the 1748 incidents reported in September. Our officers initiated 1107 incidents, including 136 traffic stops, resulting in 129 citations. Officers responded to 259 dispatched calls for service, a decrease from the 316 calls in September.

The department wrote 34 investigative reports, a significant increase from 17 in the previous month. Key investigations included a grand theft auto on Berkley Park Boulevard, an embezzlement on Columbia Avenue, a grand theft from a vehicle on Coventry Road, and a battery reported on Purdue Avenue. Officers also investigated multiple fraud reports, several hit-and-run collisions, and an identity theft case.

The department made 3 misdemeanor arrests and filed 21 felony charges against four identified suspects in a felony crime series in the District involving theft of Halloween decorations by UC Berkeley students.. Notable arrests included a driver with misdemeanor warrants contacted during a CHP-funded DUI operation and an individual arrested for DUI on a bicycle and misdemeanor hit-and-run after colliding with a vehicle.

Metric	September 2025	October 2025	% Change
Total Incidents	1748	1366	-21.85%
Dispatched Calls for Service	316	259	-18.04%
Traffic Stops	190	136	-28.42%
Citations Issued	176	129	-26.70%
Investigative Reports	17	34	100.00%
Misdemeanor Arrests	0	3	N/A
Felony Arrests	0	0	N/A
DA Filings	0	5	N/A
Avg. Response Time	4.5 min	5.4 min	+0.9 min

An analysis of crime data for October revealed a shift in temporal patterns from the previous month. Reported incidents were most frequent on Tuesdays, accounting for 26.47% of the month's total activity, followed closely by Thursdays at 23.53%. This represents a change from September, which had a single, more concentrated peak day on Thursdays (30%).

Peak activity also shifted significantly earlier in the day. While September's peak was concentrated in the evening (1600-1959), October's peak activity occurred in the afternoon, with the 1200-1559 time block alone accounting for 41.18% of all incidents.

Similar to last month, activity was concentrated from the morning through the evening. The hours between 0800 and 1959 collectively accounted for 85.3% of all reported incidents.

Table 1. Date and Time Heatmap

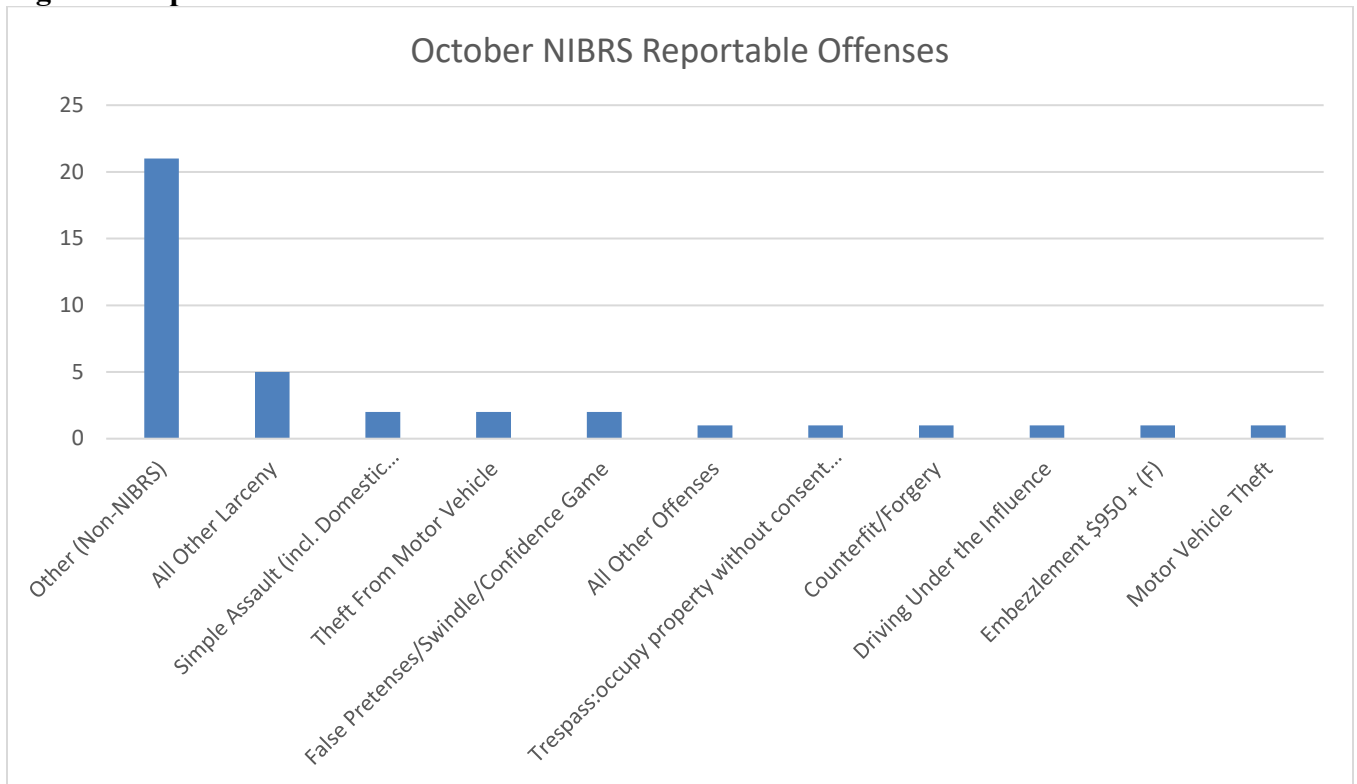
Day/Hours	0000-0259	0300-0559	0600-0859	0900-1159	1200-1459	1500-1759	1800-2059	2100-2359	Grand Total
Sunday	3.03%	0.00%	0.00%	6.06%	3.03%	0.00%	0.00%	3.03%	15.15%
Monday	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	3.03%	3.03%	0.00%	6.06%
Tuesday	3.03%	0.00%	3.03%	6.06%	9.09%	6.06%	3.03%	3.03%	33.33%
Wednesday	0.00%	3.03%	3.03%	9.09%	0.00%	3.03%	3.03%	0.00%	21.21%
Thursday	0.00%	0.00%	3.03%	0.00%	0.00%	3.03%	0.00%	0.00%	6.06%
Friday	0.00%	0.00%	3.03%	6.06%	0.00%	0.00%	3.03%	0.00%	12.12%
Saturday	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	6.06%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	6.06%
Grand Total	6.06%	3.03%	12.12%	27.27%	18.18%	15.15%	12.12%	6.06%	100.00%

Figure 1. NIBRS Offense Data

NIBRS Code	Description	Sep-25	Oct-25	Percent Change	Poisson Z-Score
100	False Imprisonment	0	0	N/A	-0.67
220	Burglary/Breaking and Entering	0	0	N/A	-1.15
240	Motor Vehicle Theft	0	1	N/A	0.24
250	Counterfeit/Forgery	1	1	0.00%	1.33
270	Embezzlement \$950 + (F)	0	1	N/A	2.00
280	Stolen Property Offenses	0	0	N/A	-0.67
290	Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property	0	0	N/A	-1.63
11D	Sexual Battery	0	0	N/A	-0.67
13A	Aggravated Assault	1	0	-100.00%	-1.15
13B	Simple Assault (incl. Domestic Violence/Child Abuse)	0	2	N/A	1.20
13C	Intimidation	0	0	N/A	-1.33
23D	Theft From Building	0	0	N/A	-1.49
23F	Theft From Motor Vehicle	0	2	N/A	0.42
23G	Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts/Accessories	1	0	-100.00%	-1.89

23H	All Other Larceny	0	5	N/A	2.47
26A	False Pretenses/Swindle/Confidence Game	0	2	N/A	0.94
26C	Personsate to get money	1	0	-100.00%	-0.94
26F	Obtain credit/etc:use others id - Identity theft (M)	0	0	N/A	-1.15
35A	Drug/Narcotic Violations	0	0	N/A	-0.67
90B	Disorderly Conduct (Loitering)	0	0	N/A	-0.67
90C	Disorderly Conduct	0	0	N/A	-1.63
90J	Trespass:occupy property without consent (M)	0	1	N/A	2.00
90D	Driving Under the Influence	0	1	N/A	1.06
90Z	All Other Offenses	0	1	N/A	0.37
NR	Other (Non-NIBRS)	13	21	61.54%	1.39
TOTAL	Total Offenses	17	38	0.185185185	-1.79

Figure 1. September 2025 NIBRS Total Offense Count



A Poisson Z-score greater than +/- 3.00 indicates significant trend.

Poisson Z-Score vs. Description

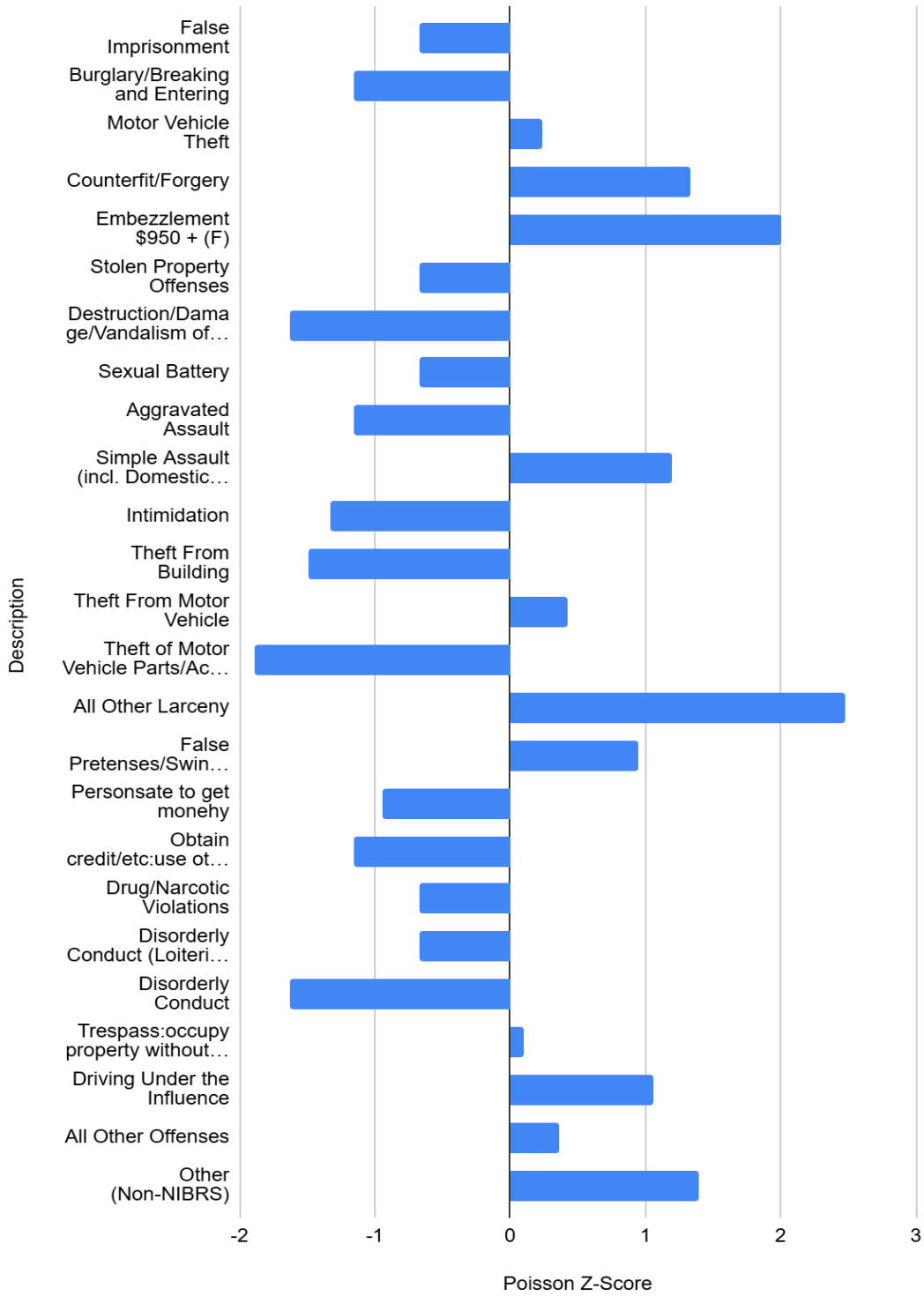


Figure 2. Crime Trend Mapping

KPD is implementing Accurint Virtual Crime Center to support GIS analytics.

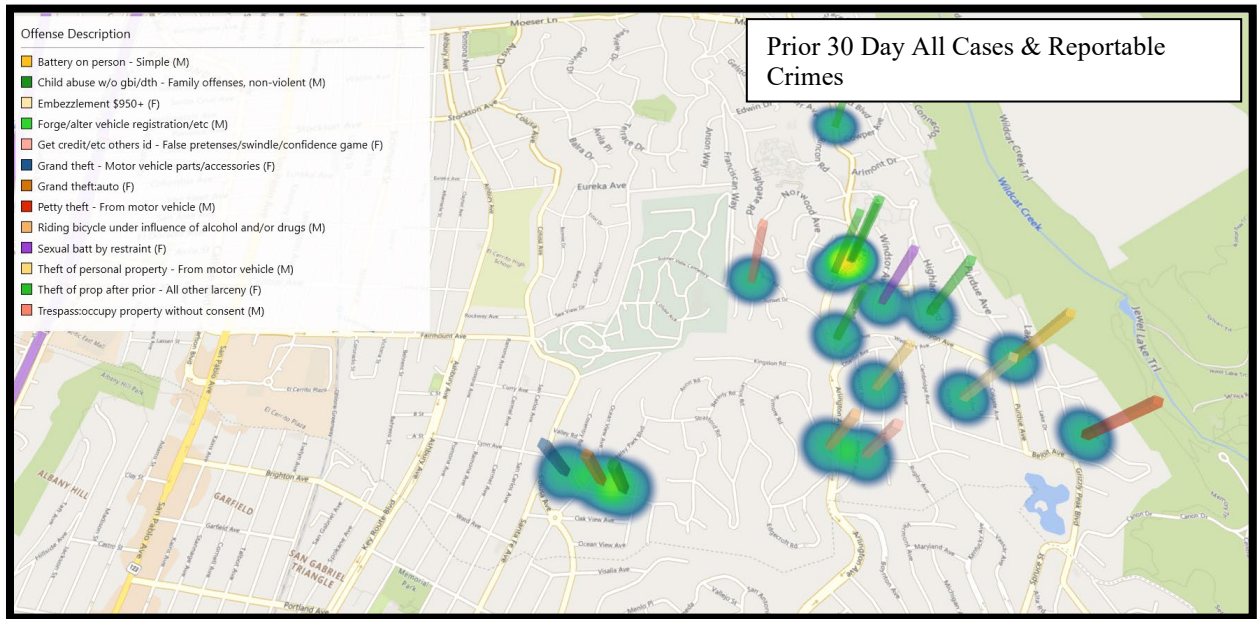
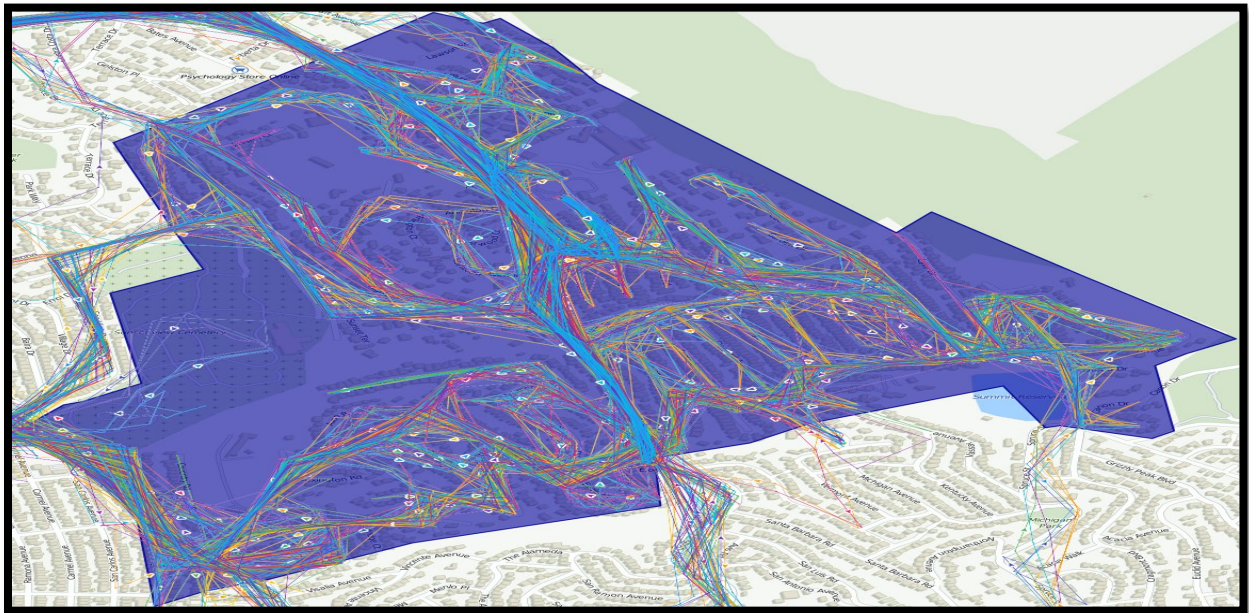


Figure 4. Patrol Fleet Mapping

Kensington's patrol fleet is tracked with GPS technology, allowing real-time mapping. The map depicts the Special District of Kensington boundary (dark blue), and the six colored lines represent black-and-white patrol car locations inside the district throughout the month.



Patrol Activity Log

Oct 4: Suspicious circumstance detail on Coventry Road, report filed.

Oct 5: Outside Assist detail for El Cerrito PD; report filed.

Oct 7: Vehicle impounded on Beloit Avenue; report filed.

Oct 8: Outside Assist for EBMUD on Colusa Circle; report filed.

Oct 10: Suspicious circumstance reported at the police station; report filed.

Oct 11: Battery reported on Purdue Avenue; report filed.

Oct 14: Attempted fraud reported at Wells Fargo Bank; report filed.

Oct 14: Stolen vehicle plate reported at Yale Avenue; report filed.

Oct 16: Trespassing detail on Highgate Road; report filed.

Oct 16: Informational report taken on Colusa Avenue; report filed.

Oct 16: Outside assist for an out-of-state agency; report filed.

Oct 17: Traffic collision hit-and-run on Arlington Avenue; report filed.

Oct 17: Grand theft from a vehicle reported on Coventry Road; report filed.

Oct 19: Casualty reported on Arlington Avenue; report filed.

Oct 20: Suspicious circumstance reported on Kingston Road; report filed.

Oct 21: Welfare check detail on Richardson Road; report filed.

Oct 22: Stolen property reported on Arlington Avenue; report filed.

Oct 22: Embezzlement detail reported on Columbia Avenue; report filed.

Oct 22: Attempted check fraud reported on Highland Avenue; report filed.

Oct 22: Stolen property reported on Arlington Avenue; report filed.

Oct 22: Stolen property reported on Arlington Avenue; report filed.

Oct 22: Suspicious circumstance reported on Arlington Avenue; report filed.

Oct 22: Grand theft auto reported on Berkley Park Boulevard; report filed. Officers leveraged the Flock community safety camera database to identify leads.

Oct 22: Stolen property reported on Arlington Avenue; report filed.

Oct 23: Stolen property reported on Highland Boulevard; report filed.

Oct 24: Traffic stop on Arlington Avenue & Kensington Park Road; driver cited for driving without a license and vehicle impounded; report filed.

Oct 24: Traffic collision hit-and-run on Highland Boulevard; report filed.

Oct 26: Casualty reported on Colusa Avenue & Berkeley Park Road; report filed.

Oct 26: Deceased person in residence; no foul play suspected, report filed.

Oct 26: Officers contacted and arrested a driver with misdemeanor warrants during a CHP funded DUI Operation.

October 28: Officers responded to a report of a bicycle colliding with a vehicle on Arlington Ave. The cyclist had ridden their bike into the back of a vehicle, causing the rear window to break. Upon arrival, officers determined the rider of the bike, who was injured, was under the influence of alcohol. Officers also determined the bike rider had been involved in a hit and run as he had fled the scene. The suspect was arrested for DUI on a bicycle and misdemeanor hit and run.

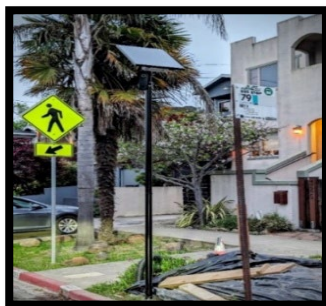
October 30: Officers investigated a identity theft. The investigation is ongoing.

October 30: Officers investigated a theft of property from a motor vehicle.

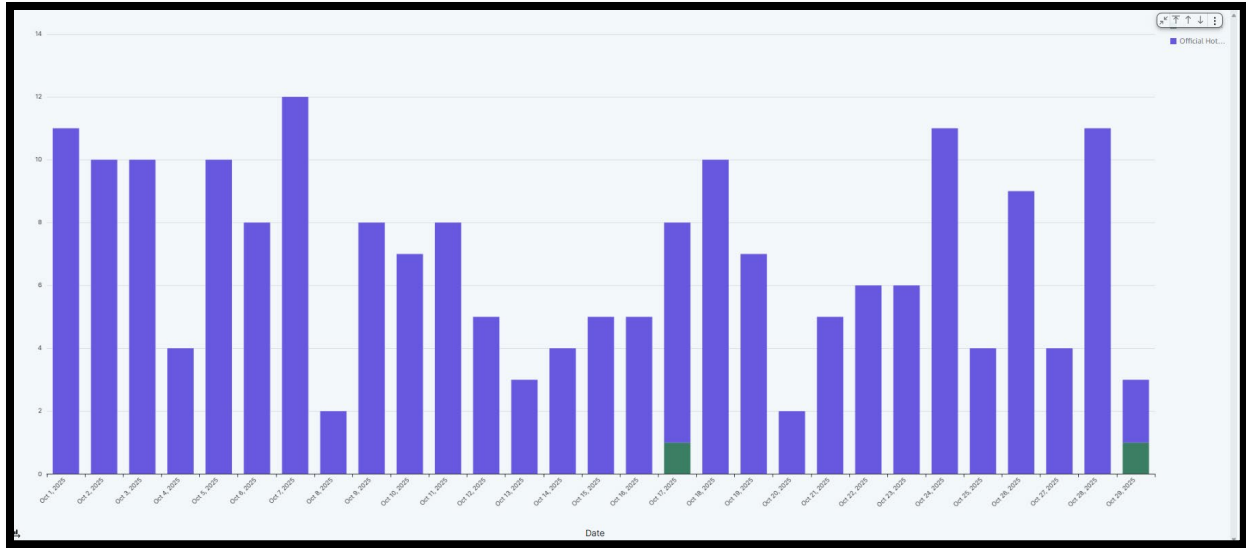
Community Safety Cameras – ALPR (automatic license plate reader)

The continued integration of advanced technology into public safety efforts allows us to respond to incidents more efficiently and accurately while reducing the staff time traditionally required in investigations. By lessening the reliance on extensive manual efforts, we are improving response times and saving valuable resources, time, money, and personnel that can be reallocated to other essential services.

Kensington's investment in public safety cameras is proving impactful for the safety and well-being of our community. This technology has quickly become vital in our ongoing efforts to protect residents, support law enforcement, and ensure a safer environment for everyone.



ALPR DATA				
Type	Stolen Plates Captured	Stolen Vehicles Captured	KPD Investigative Plates Researched	Allied Agency Investigative Support
Count	194	2	2	2



Training

Officers participated in a range of essential training sessions designed to enhance both mandatory skills and professional development:

Taser Operator Recertification and De-Escalation Training: The Taser 10 Operator Course is designed to certify law enforcement officers in the safe, effective, and legally compliant use of the Axon Taser 10 energy weapon. The training combines classroom instruction, hands-on exercises, and scenario-based drills to ensure officers are proficient in device operation, deployment tactics, and post-incident procedures. The training includes legal and policy review (including use-of-force laws and policies), practical deployment exercises, and critically, De-Escalation and Decision Making in high risk scenarios, emphasizing proportionality and accountability.

High-Technology Crimes: This POST-certified course provides law enforcement personnel with foundational skills for investigating computer-related crimes. Officers learn to identify, seize, and analyze digital evidence, understand how computers are used in criminal activity, and navigate specialized legal issues involving electronic data. The curriculum covers writing search warrants for high-tech crimes, working with forensic specialists, and using technology in investigations—including wireless devices, internet resources, social networking, and electronic surveillance. The course is designed for investigators assigned to high technology, fraud, identity theft, or computer crime units.

Basic Traffic Collision Investigations: This POST-certified course prepares officers to effectively manage and investigate traffic collision scenes. The training covers scene safety, evidence collection, diagramming, measurements, and report writing. Officers learn to identify primary collision factors, document physical evidence, and apply basic mathematics in collision investigation. The course fulfills the requirements of California Vehicle Code 40600(a) and is a prerequisite for intermediate collision investigation courses. Practical exercises include scene management, skid mark analysis, and use of collision investigation manuals.

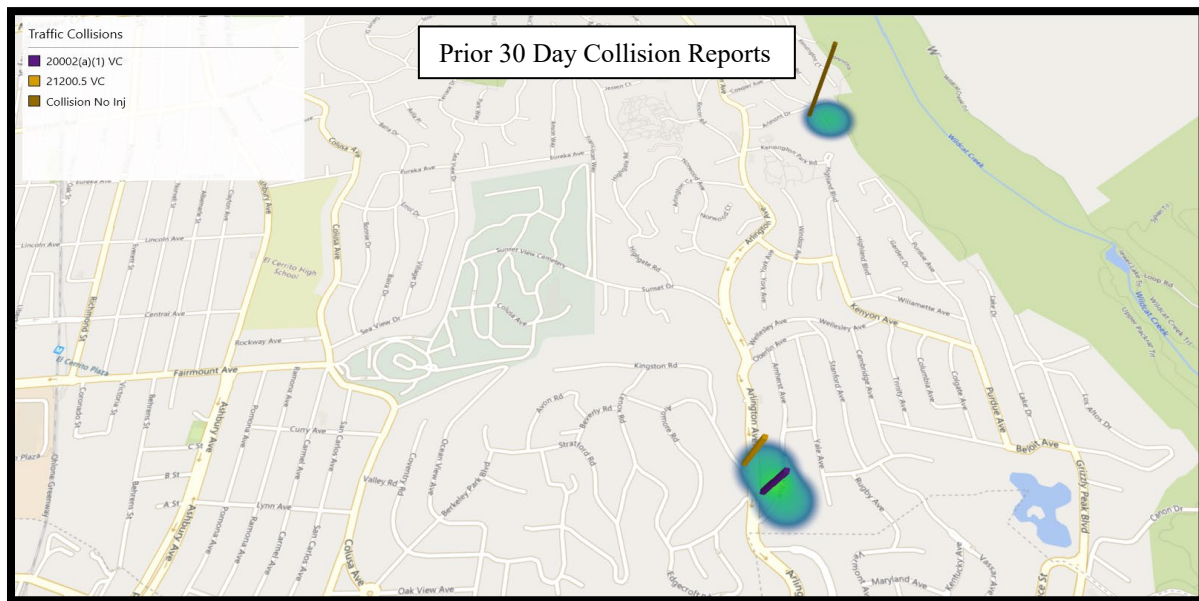
Standardized Field Sobriety Test (SFST) course: The SFST course, developed by NHTSA and POST, trains officers in DUI detection and roadside sobriety testing. The curriculum focuses on the three phases of DUI/DWI detection: vehicle in motion, personal contact, and pre-arrest screening. Officers learn to administer and interpret the three validated SFSTs—Horizontal Gaze Nystagmus (HGN), Walk and Turn (WAT), and One Leg Stand (OLS)—to assess impairment. The course emphasizes proper documentation, courtroom testimony, and deterrence of impaired driving. Completion of the SFST course enhances officers’ ability to detect, arrest, and remove impaired drivers from the road.

Federal Civil Detainer vs Federal Criminal Arrest Warrant – Guidelines: This training clarifies the distinction between federal civil detainers and federal criminal arrest warrants. Officers learn the legal requirements, procedures, and limitations associated with each. The course emphasizes proper documentation, compliance with federal and state laws, and the importance of verifying the nature of warrants before taking enforcement action. The guidelines help ensure that officers act lawfully and protect the rights of individuals during encounters involving federal detainers or warrants.

Response to Receipt of a Suspected Child Abuse Report (SCAR): This training covers the protocols for handling Suspected Child Abuse Reports (SCAR). Officers are instructed on immediate response procedures, mandatory reporting requirements, and coordination with child protective services. The course highlights the importance of thorough documentation, timely investigation, and interagency collaboration to ensure the safety and well-being of children. Officers are trained to follow legal mandates and departmental policies when responding to SCARs.

Traffic Safety

Three traffic collisions were reported in September, two non-injury collisions and one hit and run injury collision involving a DUI rider on a bike. This is up from two collisions reported in September.



Map of October 2025 Collisions

Chief of Police

CHP DUI/DUID Grant Activity

Officers conducted scheduled mandatory grant-funded saturation patrols focused on identifying impaired drivers. Officers conducted 48 traffic stops, resulting in 33 citations for various violations. Additional patrols are scheduled monthly for the remainder of the grant cycle. Beyond enforcement, our officers engaged residents in positive community contacts, providing education on traffic safety and DUI prevention. We've also expanded educational outreach on our social media platforms, reinforcing that impaired driving will not be tolerated in Kensington. These efforts highlight our balanced approach of enforcement and education, which helps keep our community safe.

Volunteers in Police Services VIPS

The Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) program represents a vital partnership between the Kensington Police Department and the community, enhancing public safety through active citizen involvement. Volunteers provide valuable support by assisting with non-enforcement duties such as administrative tasks and community outreach, enabling officers to focus on core law enforcement responsibilities. Their service strengthens efficiency, builds community trust, and advances the principles of community policing cost-effectively.

During this reporting period, Volunteers Logan, Gill, and Haynes collectively contributed over **116 hours of service** to the community. Their contributions included administrative support, fleet management, and event coordination. They played an important role at several community events including the Kensington Community Parade, National DEA Drug Take Back, and the Halloween Harvest Festival. These efforts continue to strengthen the bond between the Department and the residents we serve.

Kensington Community Parade

The Kensington Police Department was proud to assist in the revival of the Kensington Community Council's Community Parade, held for the first time since 2020 in conjunction with the annual KCC picnic. With the return of this long-standing community tradition, KPD personnel, including officers, supervisors, and police volunteers, were on site to support traffic safety, event coordination, and community engagement. The parade was well attended, ran smoothly, and concluded without any reported issues. KPD looks forward to continuing its partnership with the Kensington Community Council and supporting future community-centered events.



2025 DEA National Drug Take-Back

KPD participated in the 2025 National Drug Take-Back initiative this month. The event, held in the lower lot of the Arlington Community Center, was well-received by the residents. Numerous community members safely disposed of expired, unused, or unwanted medications, helping prevent prescription drugs from entering household trash, being misused, or contaminating local waterways.

KPD officers and police volunteers staffed the event, which concluded with no reported issues. A total of 25 pounds of prescription narcotics were collected locally and transferred to the Drug Enforcement Administration for proper disposal.

Nationwide, the Drug Take-Back program continues to make a significant impact. This year, agencies across the country collected 571,754 pounds (over 286 tons) of unwanted medications at 4,317 collection sites, with 4,263 participating agencies. Kensington Police Department is proud to support this initiative and will continue working to keep our community safe by promoting responsible medication disposal.



Halloween Harvest Festival

KPD also successfully supported the annual Halloween Harvest Festival this month. Officers and volunteers were on hand to provide traffic control and community engagement, ensuring a safe environment for families and pedestrians. The event was well attended, with children in costumes enjoying games, treats, and festivities throughout the afternoon. Operations ran smoothly, no issues were reported, and the Police Department was proud to once again contribute to a safe and enjoyable community celebration.



Halloween Night

Halloween night was a great success; our personnel were out in the community ensuring roadways stayed safe for our littlest citizens as they trick-or-treated throughout the neighborhoods. Costumes were out in full force, candy flowed generously, and there were no reported incidents, other than a ton of excited kids. Most importantly, no ghouls or goblins were injured, and the evening concluded safely for all.