



KENSINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

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

Patrol Operations

In September, the Kensington Police Department handled 1748 incidents, an increase from the 1566 incidents reported in August. Our officers initiated 1432 incidents, including 190 traffic stops, resulting in 176 citations. Officers responded to 316 dispatched calls for service, an increase from the 154 calls in August. The department wrote 17 investigative reports, a decrease from 20 in the previous month. Key investigations included a felony motor vehicle theft, domestic battery, and an Adult Protective Services report. There were no misdemeanor or felony arrests made during the month.

Metric	August 2025	September 2025	% Change
Total Incidents	1566	1748	11.62%
Dispatched Calls for Service	154	316	105.19%
Traffic Stops	133	190	42.86%
Citations Issued	119	176	47.90%
Investigative Reports	20	17	-15.00%
Misdemeanor Arrests	0	0	0.00%
Felony Arrests	0	0	0.00%
Avg. Response Time	5.04 min	4.5 min	-0.54 min

An analysis of crime data for September revealed that reported incidents were most frequent on Thursdays, accounting for 30% of the month's total activity. Peak activity was concentrated in the evening, with the 1600-1959 time block alone accounting for 50% of all incidents. Crime was concentrated from the morning through the evening, with the hours between 0800 and 1959 collectively accounting for 95% of all reported incidents.

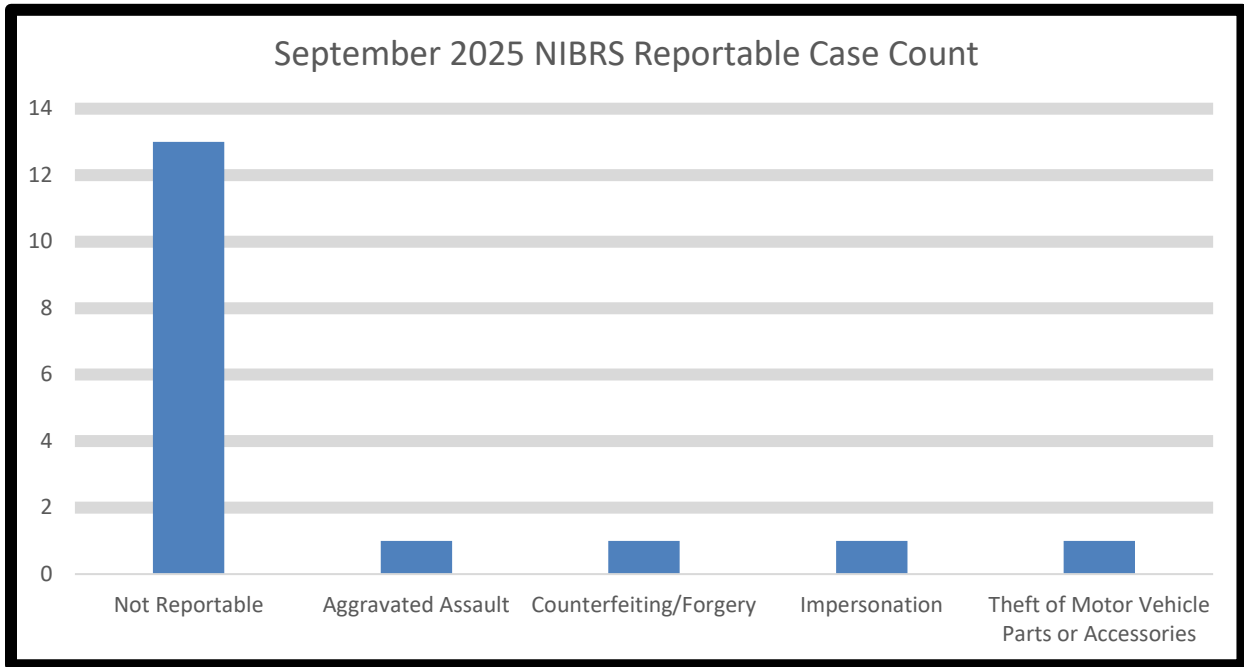
Table 1. Date and Time Heatmap

Day of Week	0000-0359	0400-0759	0800-1159	1200-1559	1600-1959	2000-2359	Grand Total (Day)
Sunday	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	5.00%	0.00%	5.00%
Monday	0.00%	0.00%	5.00%	0.00%	15.00%	0.00%	20.00%
Tuesday	0.00%	0.00%	5.00%	5.00%	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%
Wednesday	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	0.00%	5.00%	15.00%
Thursday	0.00%	0.00%	10.00%	5.00%	15.00%	0.00%	30.00%
Friday	0.00%	0.00%	5.00%	0.00%	10.00%	0.00%	15.00%
Saturday	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	5.00%	0.00%	5.00%
Total	0.00%	0.00%	25.00%	20.00%	50.00%	5.00%	100.00%

Figure 1. NIBRS Offense Data

NIBRS Code	Description	Aug-25	Sep-25	Percent Change	Poisson Z-Score
100	False Imprisonment	0	0	N/A	-0.35
220	Burglary/Breaking and Entering	0	0	N/A	-0.61
250	Counterfit/Forgery	0	1	N/A	#DIV/0!
240	Motor Vehicle Theft	2	0	-100.00%	-0.94
280	Stolen Property Offenses	0	0	N/A	-0.35
290	Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property	1	0	-100.00%	-0.87
11D	Sexual Battery	0	0	N/A	-0.35
13A	Aggravated Assault	0	1	N/A	1.50
13B	Simple Assault (incl. Domestic Violence/Child Abuse)	0	0	N/A	-0.87
13C	Intimidation	0	0	N/A	-0.71
23D	Theft From Building	2	0	-100.00%	-0.79
23F	Theft From Motor Vehicle	4	0	-100.00%	-1.27
23G	Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts/Accessories	0	1	N/A	0.13
23H	All Other Larceny	1	0	-100.00%	-1.06
26A	False Pretenses/Swindle/Confidence Game	0	0	N/A	-1.00
26C	Personsate to get money	0	1	N/A	2.47
26F	Obtain credit/etc:use others id - Identity theft (M)	0	0	N/A	-0.61
35A	Drug/Narcotic Violations	0	0	N/A	-0.35
90B	Disorderly Conduct (Loitering)	0	0	N/A	-0.35
90C	Disorderly Conduct	1	0	-100.00%	-0.87
90D	Driving Under the Influence	0	0	N/A	-0.50
90Z	All Other Offenses	1	0	-100.00%	-0.87
NR	Other (Non-NIBRS)	12	13	8.33%	-0.61
TOTAL	Total Offenses	24	17	0.185185185	-1.79

Figure 1. September 2025 NIBRS Total Offense Count



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

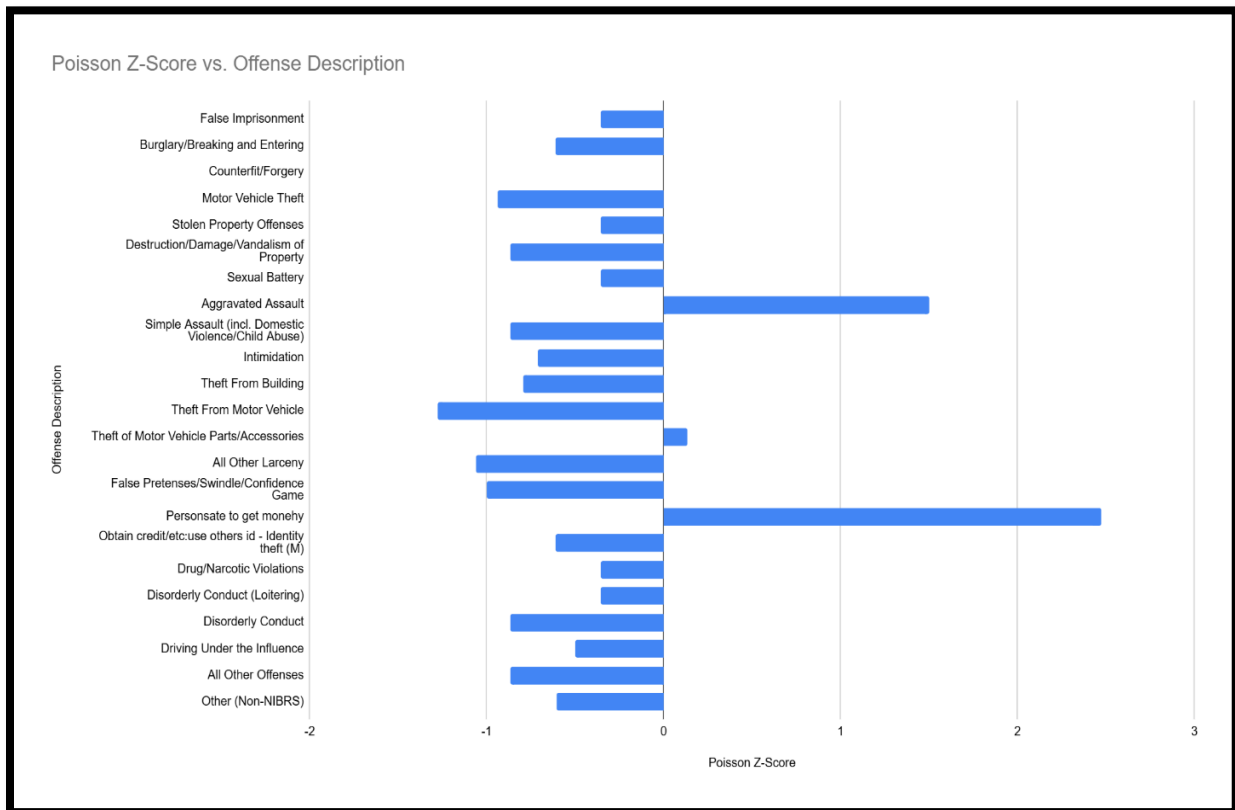


Figure 2. Crime Trend Mapping

KPD is evaluating advanced crime mapping software to improve our crime trend analysis.

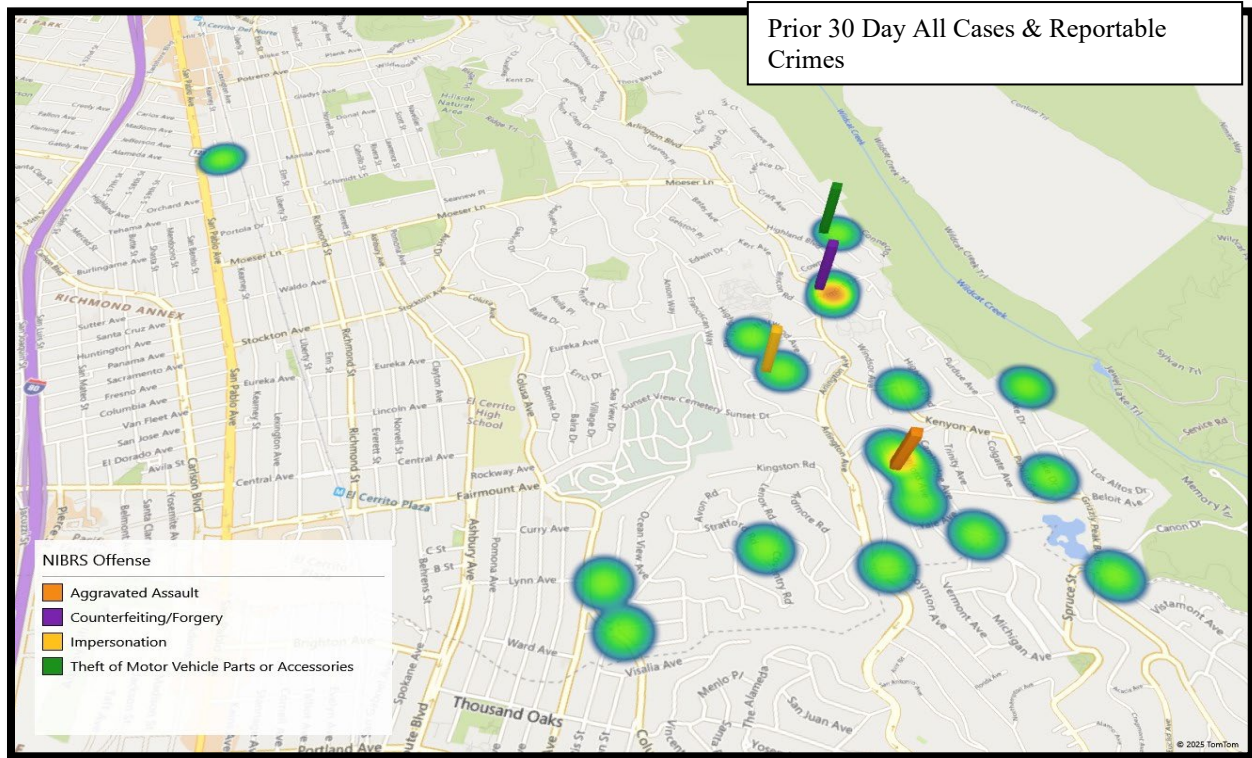
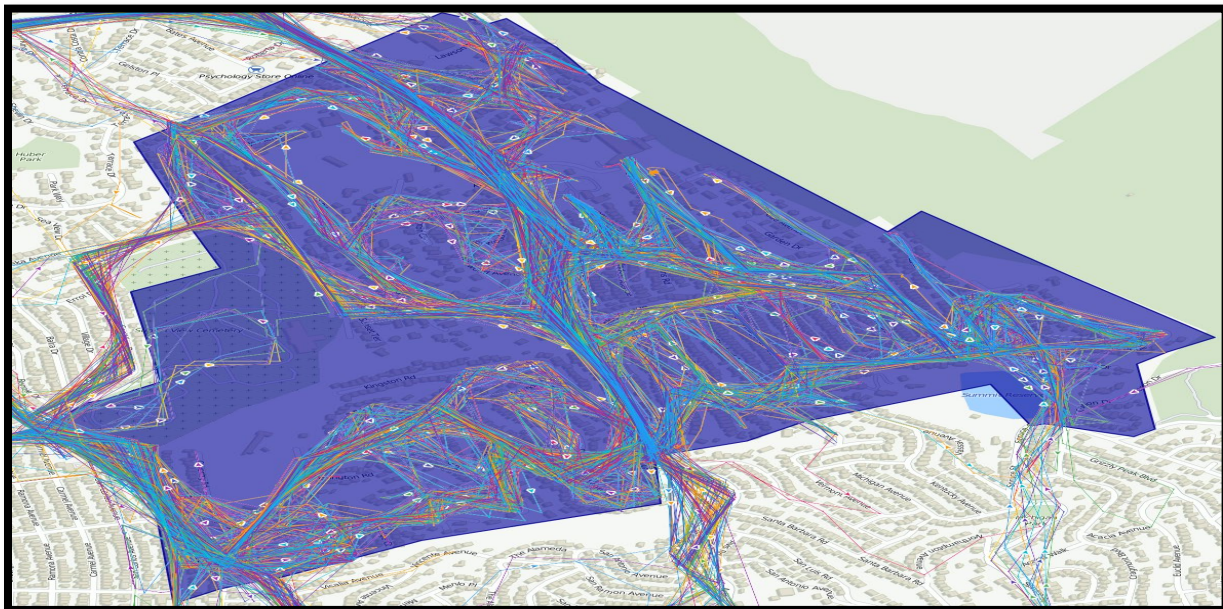


Figure 4. Patrol Fleet Mapping

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

Sept 1: Casualty/injury call, report filed.

Sept 9: Suspicious circumstance detail on Highgate Road; report filed.

Sept 9: Attempted credit card fraud reported on Highgate Court: report filed.

Sept 11: Vehicle impounded on Yale Avenue; report filed.

Sept 12: Non-injury traffic collision on Yale Avenue; report filed.

Sept 12: Stolen vehicle reported on Lawson Road; report filed. **Officers leveraged the Flock community safety camera database to identify leads.**

Sept 13: Deceased person in residence; no foul play suspected, report filed.

Sept 15: Traffic collision hit-and-run on Princeton Avenue; report filed.

Sept 17: Non-injury traffic collision on Grizzly Peak Blvd & Spruce Street; report filed.

Sept 18: Identity theft reported at the Police Department; report filed.

Sept 21: Property damage to vehicle reported on Vassar Avenue; report filed.

Sept 23: Vehicle impounded on Lake Drive; report filed.

Sept 25: Traffic stop on Westminster Avenue & York Avenue; driver cited for driving without a license and vehicle impounded; report filed.

Sept 25: Suspicious circumstance reported on Amherst Avenue: report filed.

Sept 25: Outside Assist report taken at the Police Department.

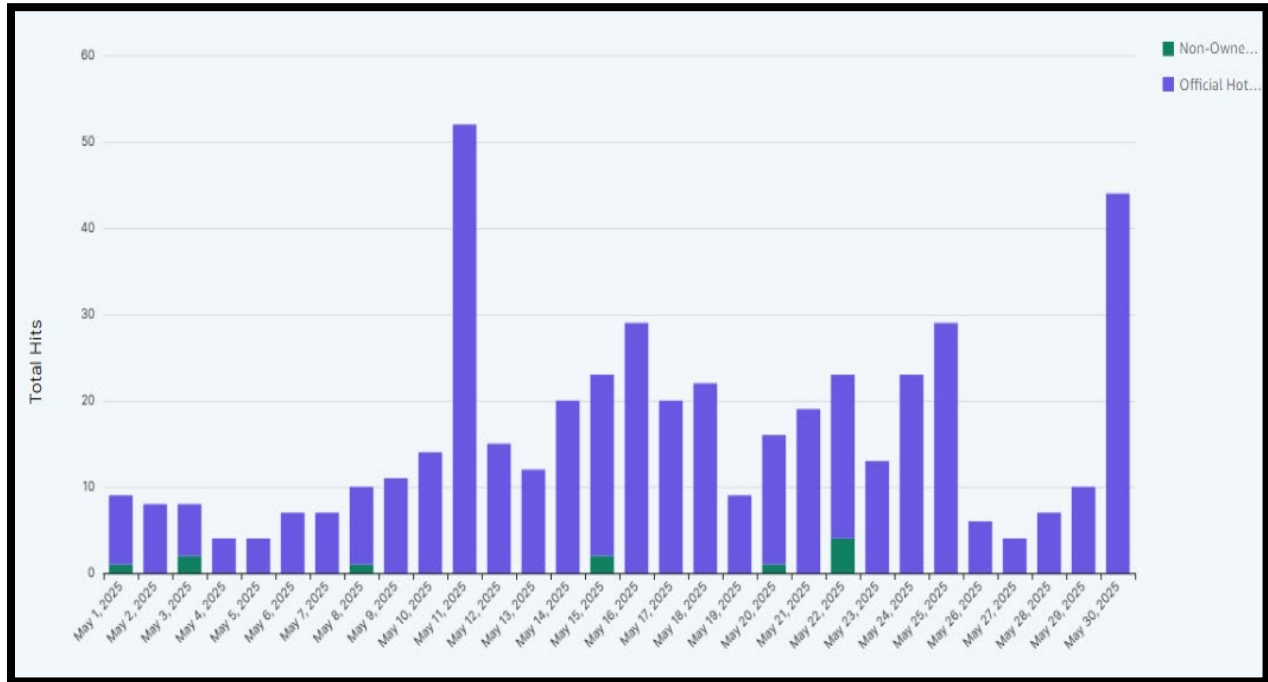
Community Safety Cameras – ALPR (automatic license plate reader)

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	175	1	2	6



Training

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

Collision Investigations – Basic Course: Officer Thota attended a comprehensive 40-hour program focused on the fundamentals of collision investigations. This course marks the first installation of a three-part series aimed at in-service training for advanced collision investigation.

Advanced Officer Training – Reality Based Scenario Training: Ofc. Gallo attended Advanced Officer Training with ECPD, where he participated in reality-based scenario training using role players. The purpose of the training was to hone officers’ decision-making skills in realistic situations. Officers were challenged on their legal decision-making and use-of-force reasoning under time stress from role players. Reality-based training scenarios are one of the most effective trainings available to officers, and we are grateful to our partners at ECPD for continuing to support KPD’s participation in their monthly AOT.

The Emergency Aid Doctrine: Sgt. Lande attended a specialized course on the **Emergency Aid Doctrine**. This doctrine provides an exception to the Fourth Amendment's warrant requirement, permitting officers to make warrantless entries into homes or other private areas when they reasonably believe that an individual inside is seriously injured or facing an imminent threat to life or safety.

The course emphasized that this exception applies only under urgent circumstances—such as medical emergencies, cries for help, or clear signs of violence—where immediate action is necessary to prevent harm. Courts evaluate these situations based on the objective reasonableness of the officer's belief in the existence of an emergency, rather than the officer's subjective intent. Additionally, the scope of any entry is strictly limited to addressing the emergency at hand.

A significant portion of the training focused on clarifying the distinction between the **Community Caretaking** exception and the **Emergency Aid** exception, ensuring officers apply the correct legal framework in the field.

The Wrap Safety Restraint Operators Course: Sgt. Lande and Sgt. Rivera conducted training for all KPD officers, including Reserve Officer Tranate, on the safe and effective application of *The Wrap*. *The Wrap* is a specialized restraint tool designed to secure combative individuals while reducing the risk of injury to both officers and subjects.

The training covered the legal and policy framework governing its use, detailed application procedures, and emphasized de-escalation, peaceful resolution, and the use of alternatives to physical intervention whenever possible. Officers participated in practical exercises involving both cooperative and uncooperative scenarios to ensure competency in deploying *The Wrap* safely during field operations.

Uncooperative Motorist Encounters: Kensington Police Department officers participated in an ongoing **Integrated Training Program** designed to strengthen legal knowledge, tactical proficiency, and decision-making in the field. The curriculum included instruction on relevant case law, departmental policies and procedures, and foundational skills in influence and de-escalation aimed at encouraging voluntary compliance and minimizing confrontation with uncooperative motorists.

Officers engaged in cognitive skills development through tactical decision-making exercises and situational judgment tasks, enhancing their ability to evaluate complex scenarios and apply sound judgment under pressure. The training also incorporated hands-on practice with both cooperative and resistant motorists, providing practical experience in managing passive, resistive, combative, and assaultive subjects.

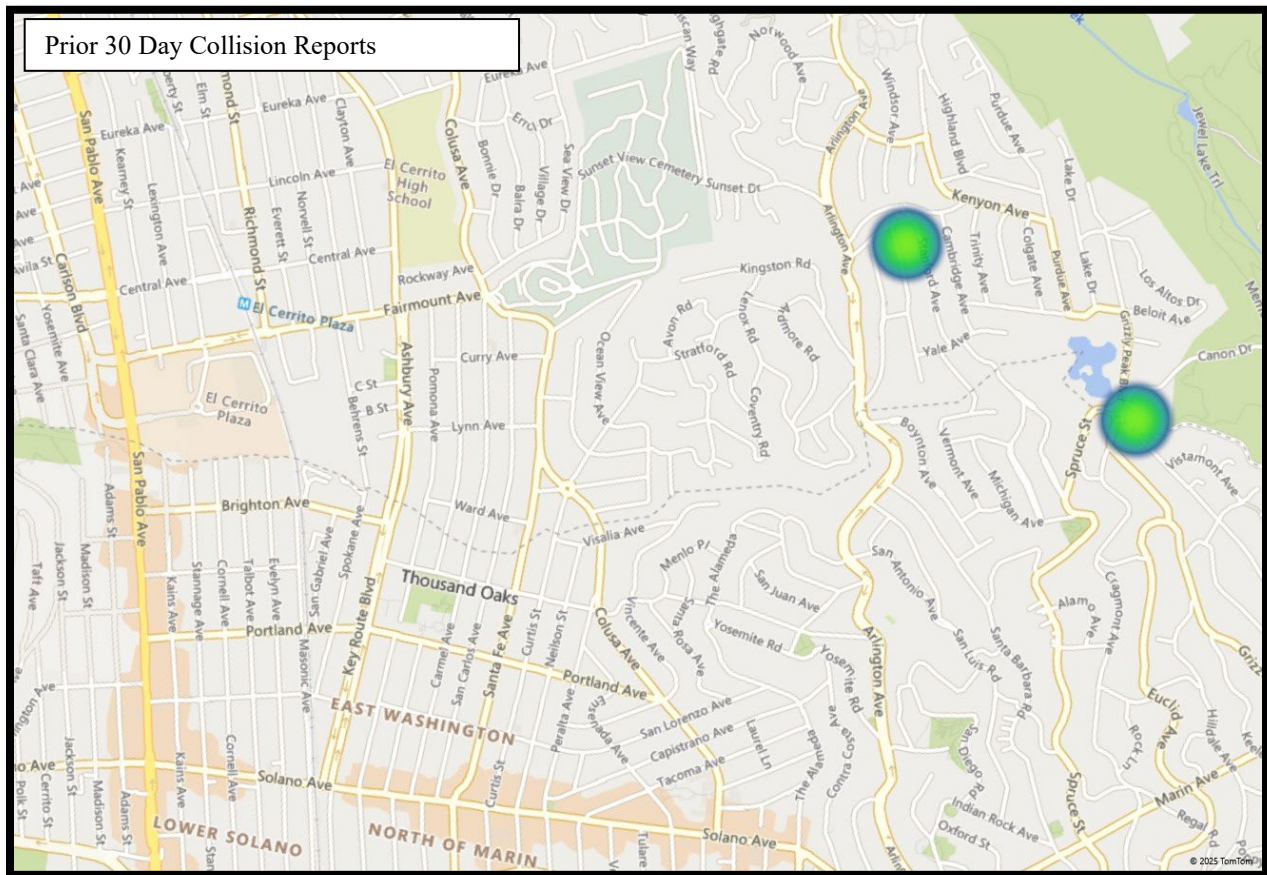
The program emphasized the use of the **least intrusive and safest options**, prioritizing alternatives to physical extraction whenever feasible, reducing the potential for harm to officers and vehicle occupants, and ensuring incidents are resolved as safely and effectively as possible.

Officer Involved Critical Incident Protocol for Patrol Officers: This training was a "What to do and what to expect" guide in the event of an Officer Involved Shooting (OIS). Information provided by the Contra Costa County District Attorney's office outlining their LEFI (Law Enforcement Fatal Incident) response was used along with a bulletin about critical procedures. Wellness resources, ensuring officers are prepared procedurally and psychologically in the event of a critical incident, were also covered.

- **Federal Civil Detainer vs Federal Criminal Arrest Warrant - Guidelines:** Officers received refresher training on identifying federal administrative warrants vs judicial criminal warrants issued by federal courts. This training reinforces KPD's compliance with the California Values Act, w.

Traffic Safety

Two traffic collisions were reported in September, both non-injury collisions. This is down from four collisions reported in August.



Map of September 2025 Collisions

Chief of Police

Improved Property Management Software

We've worked throughout the year with Sunridge Systems, our CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch) provider, on testing an advanced property management software. Sergeant Lande, Sergeant Rivera,

and Police Consultant Haynes worked tirelessly to ensure the program was a success. I'm happy to report our Property management system is better than ever!

California POST Supervisory Leadership Institute (SLI)

Sergeant Jose Rivera was recently approved to attend the California POST Supervisory Leadership Institute (SLI). The eight-month leadership program developed by the California Commission on Peace Officer Standards and Training provides contemporary training in leadership, ethics, communication, and decision-making. This program is considered one of the premier leadership development opportunities in California law enforcement.

CHP DUI/DUID Grant Activity

Officers conducted scheduled mandatory grant-funded saturation patrols focused on identifying impaired drivers. Officers conducted 72 traffic stops, resulting in 60 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 **60 hours of service** to the community. Their contributions included administrative support, fleet management, and event coordination. They played an important role in the development and launch of the Department's **Blue Envelope Program** and represented Kensington with distinction at the **Tri-City Safety Day in El Cerrito**. These efforts continue to strengthen the bond between the Department and the residents we serve.

Contra Costa County Tri-City Safety Day

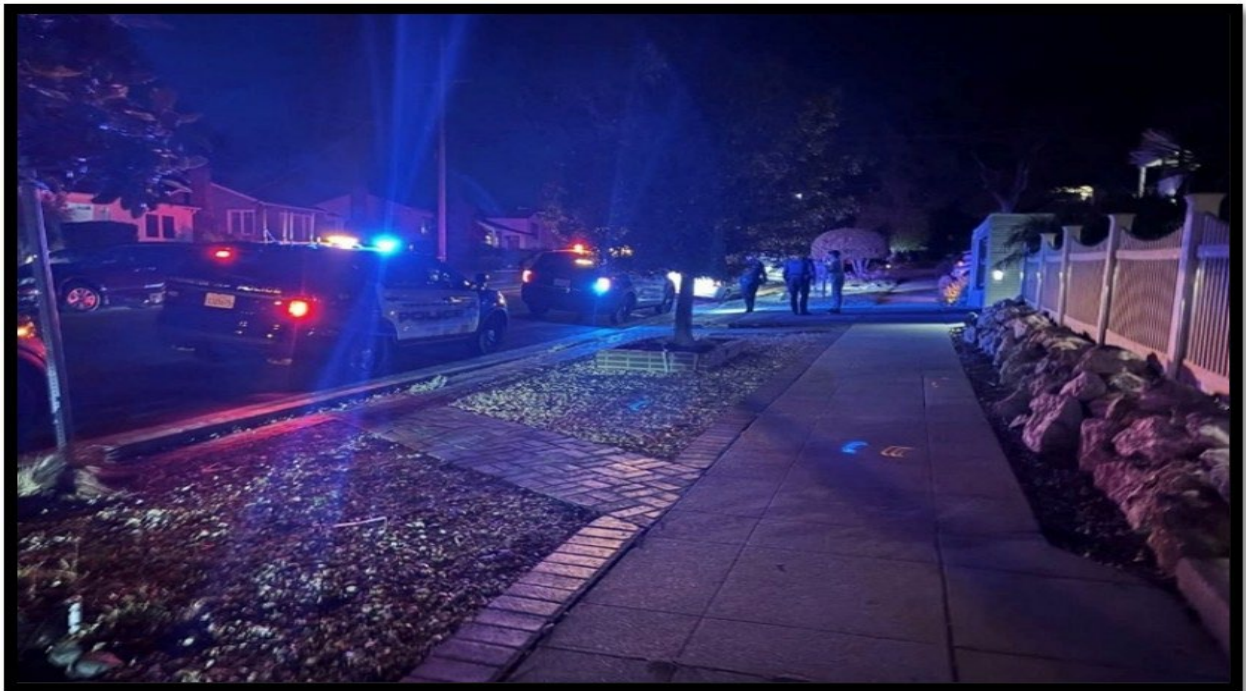
The Kensington Police Department was proud to participate in the Contra Costa County Tri-City Safety Day, joining partner agencies in promoting public safety and awareness. Officers and Volunteers engaged community members and citizens of all ages, answering questions, sharing resources, and building positive relationships.

Tri-City Safety Day





DUI Suppression Operation Funded By The CHP



Advanced Traffic Stop Training



Safe Restraint Device Training

