



KENSINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

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DATE: February 1st, 2026
TO: David Aranda: General Manager
FROM: M. Gancasz, Chief of Police
RE: Police Chief's Monthly Report for January 2026

Patrol Operations

In January, the Kensington Police Department handled **1,691 incidents**, a notable **increase** from 1,567 in December. Our officers **initiated 1,385 incidents**, including 131 traffic stops, a decrease from the 149 conducted the previous month. These stops, along with other enforcement efforts, resulted in **96 citations issued** (down from 111 in December).

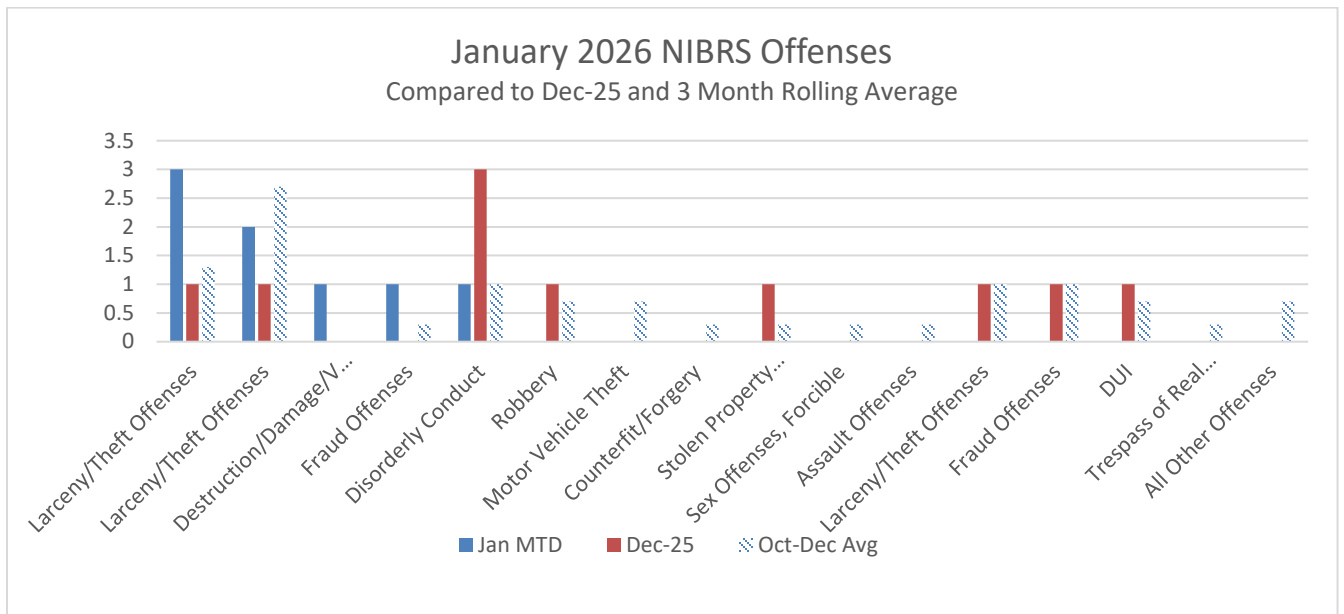
Officers responded to **306 dispatched calls for service**, representing a significant **increase** from the 213 calls handled in December. Additionally, the department authored **22 investigative reports (18 of which reported crimes in January 2026 and four at prior dates)**, remaining relatively consistent with the 23 reports filed the month prior.

Table 1. Patrol Data Comparison by Month

Metric	December 2025	January 2026	Change
Total Incidents	1,567	1,691	+7.91%
Dispatched Calls for Service	213	306	+43.66%
Traffic Stops	149	131	-12.08%
Citations Issued	111	96	-13.51%
Investigative Reports	23	22	-4.35%
Misdemeanor Arrests	4	2	-50.00%
Felony Arrests	0	0	N/A
Avg. Response Time	5.7 min	5.3 min	-0.4 min (-7.02%)

Table 2. January 2026 NIBRS Offense Data

NIBRS Code	Category	Jan MTD	Dec-25	Oct-Dec Avg	% Change	Z-Score
NR	Not Reportable	10	13	15.7	-23.10%	-1.43
23F	Larceny/Theft Offenses	3	1	1.3	200%	1.44
23H	Larceny/Theft Offenses	2	1	2.7	100%	-0.41
290	Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property	1	0	0	100%	0
26F	Fraud Offenses	1	0	0.3	100%	1.15
90C	Disorderly Conduct	1	3	1	-66.70%	0
120	Robbery	0	1	0.7	-100%	-0.82
240	Motor Vehicle Theft	0	0	0.7	0%	-0.82
250	Counterfit/Forgery	0	0	0.3	0%	-0.58
280	Stolen Property Offenses	0	1	0.3	-100%	-0.58
11A	Sex Offenses, Forcible	0	0	0.3	0%	-0.58
13B	Assault Offenses	0	0	0.3	0%	-0.58
23D	Larceny/Theft Offenses	0	1	1	-100%	-1
26A	Fraud Offenses	0	1	1	-100%	-1
90D	DUI	0	1	0.7	-100%	-0.82
90J	Trespass of Real Property	0	0	0.3	0%	-0.58
90Z	All Other Offenses	0	0	0.7	0%	-0.82



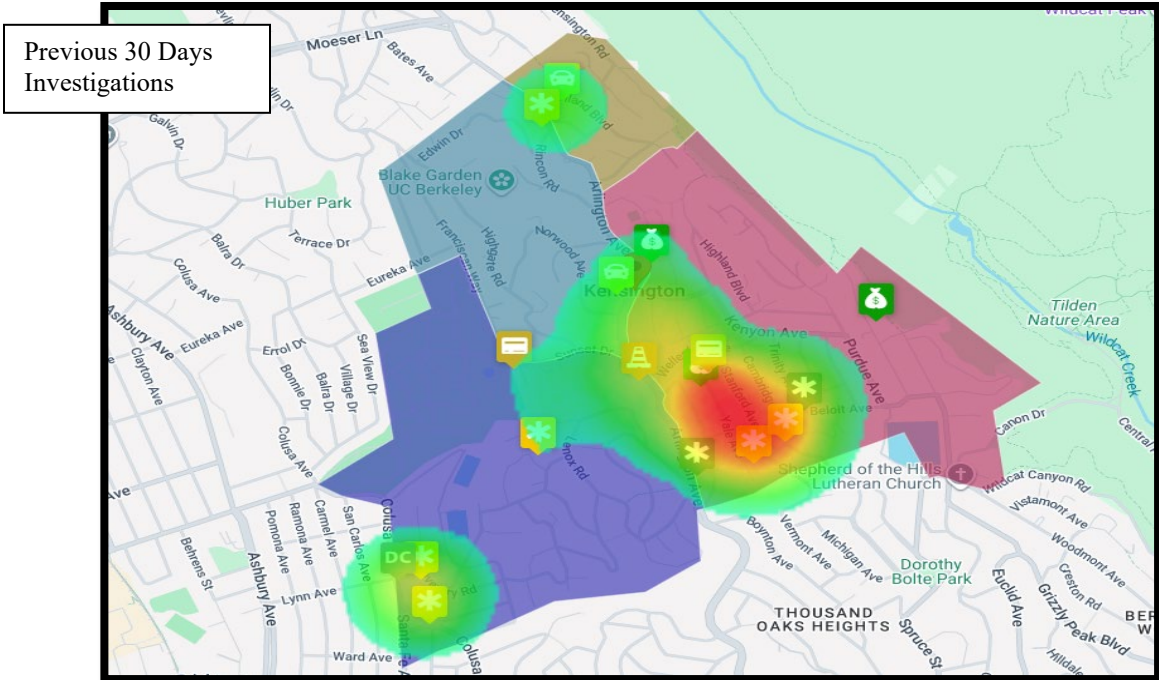
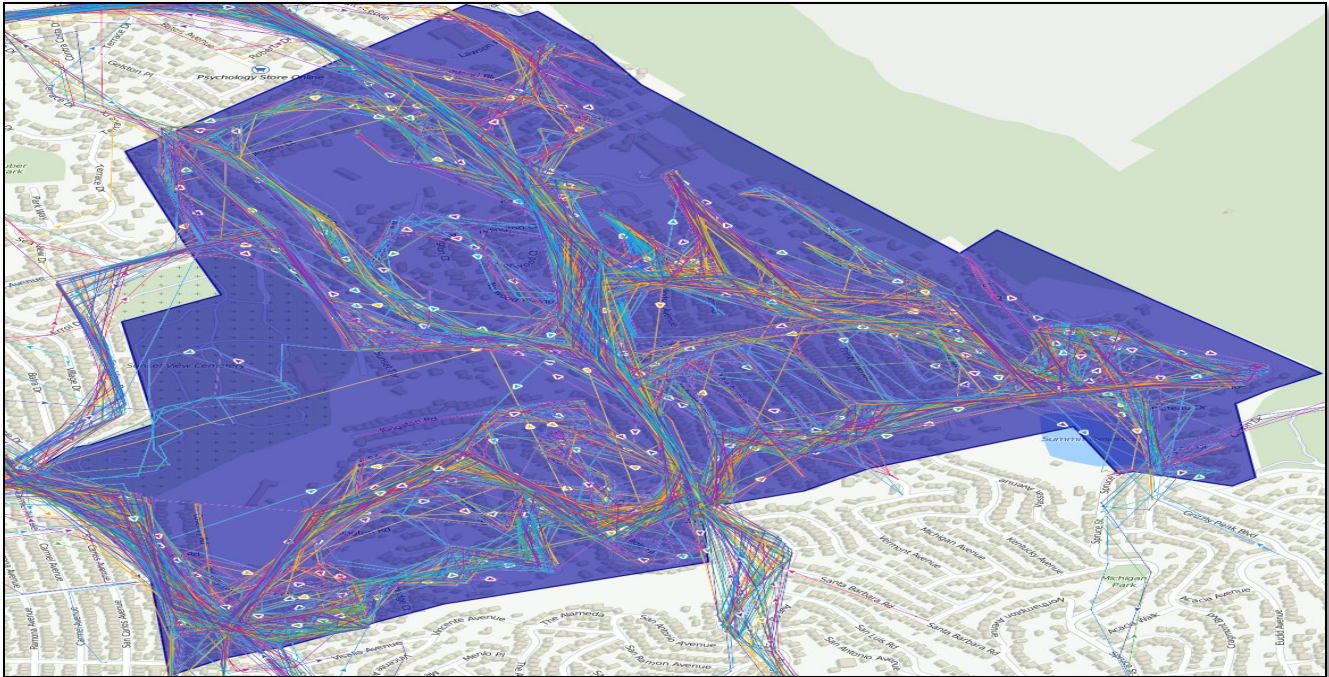


Figure 1. This map utilizes Kernel Density Estimation in Accurint Virtual Crime Center to transform individual incident locations into a continuous surface that highlights geographic clusters and patterns of activity

Table 3. Patrol Fleet Mapping

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



Patrol Activity Log:

Jan 2: Vehicle burglary reported on Arlington Avenue; report filed.

Jan 2: A Flock Safety alert for a stolen vehicle led to the stop of a vehicle on Vassar Avenue. Subsequent investigation revealed that only the license plate had been switched by an unknown suspect; report filed.

Jan 5: Non-injury Hit & Run collision on Beloit Ave & Trinity Avenue; report filed.

Jan 8: Identity Theft reported on Lennox Road; report filed.

Jan 9: An intoxicated individual was contacted on Colusa Avenue. The subject was arrested and transported to the county jail; a report was filed.

Jan 9: Officers responded to Avon Road for a suspicious circumstance report; report filed.

Jan 11: Theft reported on Lake Drive; report filed.

Jan 12: Identity theft reported on Yale Avenue; report filed.

Jan 15: Identity theft reported on Sunset Avenue; report filed.

Jan 16: Lost property reported at the police station; report filed.

Jan 19: Vandalism reported on Yale Avenue; report filed.

Jan 19: Vehicle burglary reported on Arlington Avenue; report filed.

Jan 22: Non-Injury traffic accident reported on Arlington Avenue; report filed.

Jan 22: Found property reported on Arlington Avenue; report filed.

Jan 23: Traffic stop on Arlington Avenue & Lam Court; Driver arrested for driving with a suspended license and cite released; report filed.

Jan 24: Found property reported on Coventry Road; report filed.

Jan 25: Casualty report taken at Oakview Avenue & Colusa Avenue; report filed.

Jan 25: Vehicle burglary reported on Highland Avenue; report filed.

Jan 26: Found property reported at the police station; report filed.

Jan 27: Grand theft from a vehicle reported on Arlington Lane; report filed. **Officers used the Flock community safety camera database to identify leads, including direction of travel, date and time, and vehicle location in real time.**

Jan 28: Lost property reported on Coventry Road; report filed.

Community Safety Cameras – ALPR (automatic license plate reader)

In January, the District's CSCs were utilized to investigate a robbery and a felony theft of solar equipment from a residence.



ALPR DATA				
Type	Stolen Plates Captured	Stolen Vehicles Captured	KPD Investigative Plates Researched	Allied Agency Investigative Support
Count	165	2	1	15

Blue Envelope Program

The Blue Envelope Program is a voluntary, community-oriented public safety initiative designed to improve interactions between law enforcement and drivers who have autism spectrum disorder or other communication, cognitive, or sensory-processing challenges. Participants are issued a distinctive blue envelope to store their driver's license, registration, and insurance, which discreetly signals to officers that the driver may need additional time, simplified communication, and a calm, low-stress approach during a traffic stop or other enforcement contact. The program enhances officer awareness, promotes safer, more effective communication, reduces anxiety among drivers and families, and supports equitable, professional policing through proactive accommodation and mutual understanding.

During this reporting period, the following activity was recorded:

- 0 individuals requested information about the Blue Envelope Program or inquired about receiving an envelope.
- 2 individuals were provided program information and issued a Blue Envelope when officers determined it would be beneficial and appropriate.
- 0 police contacts involved the active use of the Blue Envelope Program, supporting improved communication, safety, and overall interaction outcomes.

Good Sam Program

The GoodSAM Video Enhanced Video Response (EVR) program is a secure, real-time communication platform that enables law enforcement agencies to conduct live video interactions with community members for non-emergency calls, phone reports, and general information exchanges, providing an effective alternative to in-person responses when physical deployment is unnecessary or undesired. By allowing officers and dispatchers to visually

assess situations, clarify details, review evidence, and provide guidance in real time, GoodSAM enhances communication accuracy, efficiency, and service quality while maintaining a secure, professional, and documented engagement channel. The program supports modern, community-oriented policing by improving accessibility, reducing response times and workload, preserving patrol resources, and strengthening trust through convenient, responsive, and transparent public services.

Training: Professional Standards, Development & Readiness Policing the Teenage Brain

Officers Gill and Gallo attended *Policing the Teen Brain*, developed by Strategies for Youth, a nationally certified training program that translates cutting-edge psychiatric, neurological, and adolescent-development research into practical skills for law enforcement officers. The curriculum provides patrol officers and school resource officers with a deeper understanding of how adolescent brains develop and why teens think and behave differently from adults, emphasizing how trauma, mental health, and developmental factors influence youth responses to authority. The training focuses on improving communication, reducing conflict, and using developmentally appropriate, trauma-informed strategies to de-escalate encounters with young people. Instruction includes lectures, case studies, small-group exercises, and role-playing with trained youth participants, enabling officers to practice approaches that prevent escalation and strengthen trust during police-youth interactions.

Case Law Update: Courts Invalidate 148.6PC, False Complaints

KPD officers were trained on changes to 148.6PC, a statute prohibiting false complaints against officers. The law was invalidated and is no longer law.

4th Amendment Training: Refusal to Provide Identification During Detentions

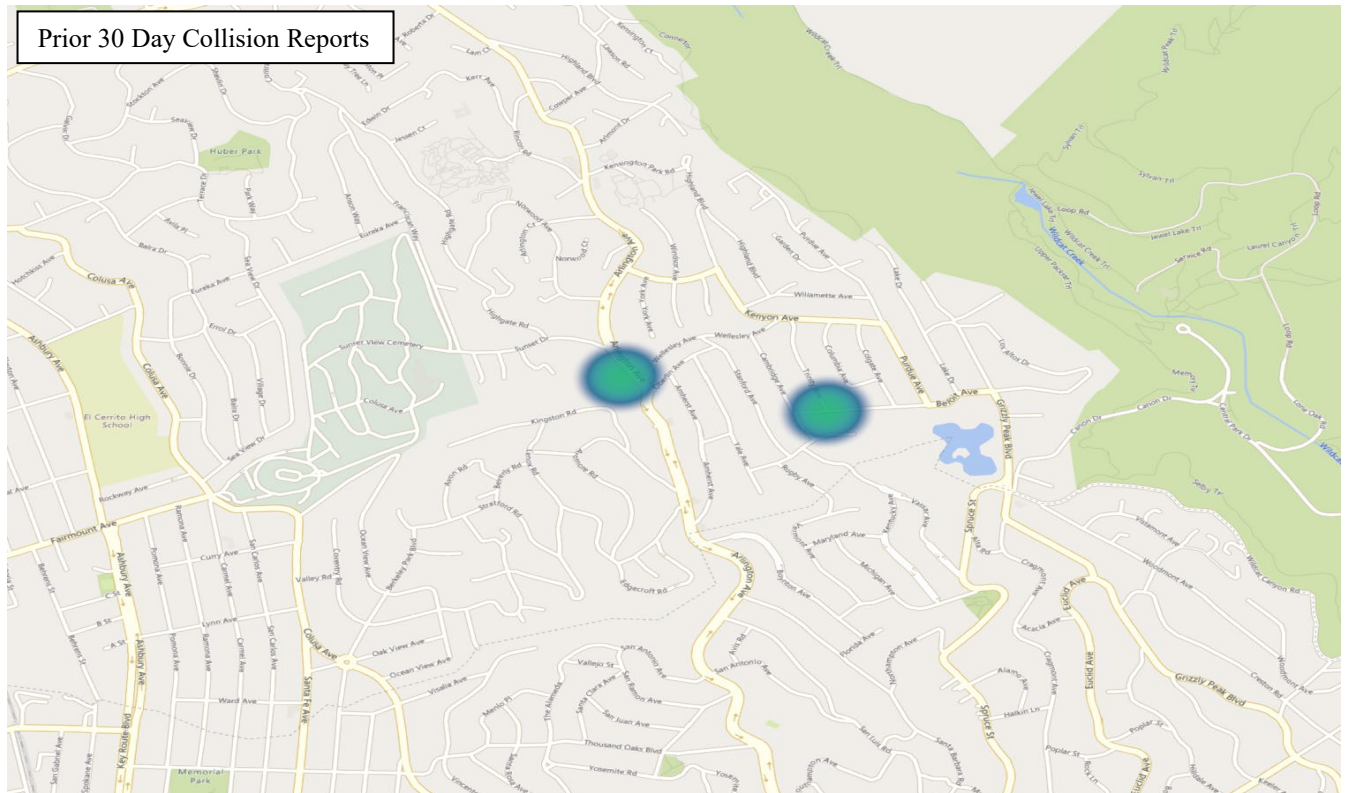
This training focused on the legal considerations and officer procedures when a lawfully detained individual refuses to provide identification.

Investigations: Showing Witnesses surveillance images pre-photo lineup

This training explains that investigators may lawfully show a witness surveillance images of the suspect taken during the actual commission of the crime before administering a photo array, because these images refresh the witness's memory by depicting the real perpetrator rather than curated police photos. The Ninth Circuit has repeatedly upheld this practice, emphasizing in *United States v. Stubblefield* that showing witnesses surveillance photographs of the actual offenders does not create an impermissibly suggestive identification procedure and carries "little possibility of misidentification" since the images show the true perpetrators rather than possible suspects.

Traffic Safety

Two non-injury collisions were reported. One of the collisions was a misdemeanor hit-and-run. The investigation is ongoing.



Map of January 2026 Collisions

Chief of Police

Trailer Surplus and Donation Summary

With Board approval, a trailer owned by the District was declared surplus and removed from service to be donated. Staff coordinated with Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) of Contra Costa County, which facilitated the donation through its authorized vehicle donation vendor. The trailer was picked up on Tuesday, January 27, and is pending sale, with 100% of net proceeds benefiting CASA's child advocacy programs.

Disposition of Live Scan Equipment

Following a comprehensive administrative, operational, and compliance review, the Kensington Police Department determined that continued in-house operation of its Live Scan system was no longer sustainable or compliant. In coordination with the Sheriff's Office, the Live Scan unit was returned on January 15. The department is exploring a solution to restore fingerprinting services for the District

CHP DUI/DUID Grant Activity

During the reporting month, officers conducted the 9th of 15 DUI saturation patrols, resulting in 16 traffic stops, 4 warnings, and 10 citations for various vehicle code violations. This activity concludes Quarter 2 of the grant. KPD's new grant-funded patrol cars returned from the outfitter and were prepped to be service-ready on February 1, 2026.

Volunteers in Police Services VIPS

Our Volunteers Logan, Gill, and Haynes, contributed over 80 hours of service to the Police Department and the community. Their contributions included administrative support, fleet management, inspection of patrol fleet vehicles, and several special projects as assigned.

Trailer Donation



New Patro Fleet Vehicles 2601 & 2602



