



**CHARLOTTE**<sup>SM</sup>

**City Council  
Follow-Up Report**

**July 9, 2014**

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**June 23, 2014 – Council Business Meeting**

**CMPD Video Retention Policy**

*Staff Resource: Mark Newbold, Police, 704-336-4977, [mnewbold@charlottenc.gov](mailto:mnewbold@charlottenc.gov)*

During the meeting, Mayor Pro Tem Barnes asked about the cost and operational impacts of keeping police records for 60 days. The question was in reference to Consent Item #50: Municipal Records Retention and Disposition Schedule Amendment, which was deferred to the July 28 Council Business Meeting.

There are several issues involved in the storage of CMPD's video records. Most important, all video is recorded and stored to assist in the investigation of crimes and gathering of criminal intelligence related to crime. All recorded video is stored for 10 days with the exception of the footage from cameras in CMPD buildings and interview rooms. During the 10 day retention period, officers and detectives are able to review the recordings to establish any relationship to specific criminal investigations and criminal intelligence gathering. CMPD is confident that the ten day retention policy provides an appropriate time frame to review the video. Any video that contains evidence related to a criminal investigation or criminal intelligence material is saved for longer periods of time. The additional storage time is directly related to North Carolina's record retention laws as well as federal law related to gathering of criminal intelligence.

CMPD's current video storage system is designed for 10 days of initial storage. Expanding the initial video retention period to 20 days could cost as much as \$500,000 to add additional space. The additional 10 days of storage would be of no real benefit to CMPD.

The public perception of privacy is another factor in the ten day retention period. Some citizens are concerned that stored video will be used to track the movements of individuals who are not involved in criminal activity. CMPD is sensitive to this perception and only retains video for ten days if it has no criminal evidentiary or intelligence value. CMPD believes that the short retention period helps to ensure public confidence that the video system is being used within the law and CMPD's policies and procedures.

CMPD welcomes interested Councilmembers to visit the department's Real Time Crime Center to see how video is monitored and used.

## **Homicide Update**

*Staff Resource: Chief Rodney Monroe, Police, 704-336-2337, [rmonroe@cmpd.org](mailto:rmonroe@cmpd.org)*

During the Mayor and Council Topics, Mayor Pro Tem Barnes requested a status report on the homicide rate in Charlotte.

As of June 24, 2014, there have been 17 homicides in Charlotte as compared to 21 in the same time period in 2013. In 14 of those homicides, the victim and perpetrator were known to one another.

In order to fully understand the homicide rate, it is important to take a long term view as opposed to looking at one year in isolation. To that end, the first attached chart below shows the number of homicides in the last 10 years as well as year to date in 2014. It also shows the number of homicides that had occurred as of June 24 in each of those years in order to demonstrate how the 2014 rate compares with that in previous years. The chart shows that the 17 homicides in 2014 are the lowest number in eleven years and match the previous lowest number in 2011.



Ten Year Homicide  
Totals.pdf

The second attached chart below shows the homicides for the last six years by patrol divisions.



Division  
Breakdown-Homicide:

CMPD is taking a number of initiatives to reduce the homicide rate. One of the newest initiatives is the formation of a task force in each of the four patrol service areas to target those corridors and neighborhoods that have higher violent crime rates. The department targets violent offenders for arrest and prosecution. There is a continued emphasis on drug and gang activity and the seizure of firearms, especially those in the hands of convicted felons. CMPD also continues to focus on its youth programs, including juvenile diversion, in an attempt to intervene with young people at their earliest involvement in the criminal justice system. The youth programs are a long term investment in violent crime reduction in our community.

## 10 Year Homicide Breakdown

Year	Homicide Totals	Clearance Rate	YTD (6/24/14)
2004	60	75%	27
2005	85	74%	34
2006	83	72%	32
2007	74	69%	36
2008	83	68%	38
2009	55	91%	24
2010	59	92%	33
2011	55	85%	17
2012	52	83%	25
2013	58	81%	21
2014	17	71%	17

## 6 Year Division Homicide Breakdown

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014 (YTD)
Central	4	0	1	3	1	1	0
Metro	7	6	18	10	10	12	4
Eastway	9	10	5	4	2	3	0
North Tryon	10	8	8	8	8	9	2
North	10	4	3	3	5	3	1
Hickory Grove	6	2	4	3	7	9	1
Providence	2	0	1	3	5	0	1
Independence	4	5	5	4	2	2	0
Steele Creek	10	1	3	6	2	7	4
South	2	0	2	2	2	1	2
Westover	13	6	3	3	3	6	1
Freedom	3	9	4	6	2	4	0
University	3	4	2	0	3	1	1
Total	83	55	59	55	52	58	17