



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **VALLEJO POLICE DEPARTMENT RESPONDS TO UPWARD TREND OF LOCAL CRIME**

*Thirteen Murders Reported in First Half of 2020*

**VALLEJO** - The Vallejo Police Department (VPD) has published crime rate data for the first half of 2020, showing that VPD personnel are responding to an upward trend of local crime in numerous categories including murder, rape and stolen vehicles.

"Our department remains committed to making Vallejo a safer place and turning around these 2020 crime rate trends," said Chief of Police Shawny Williams. "These crimes are not just statistics; they represent real members of our community, including several recent female murder victims. As a community, we cannot accept this type of violence. We can and must do better."

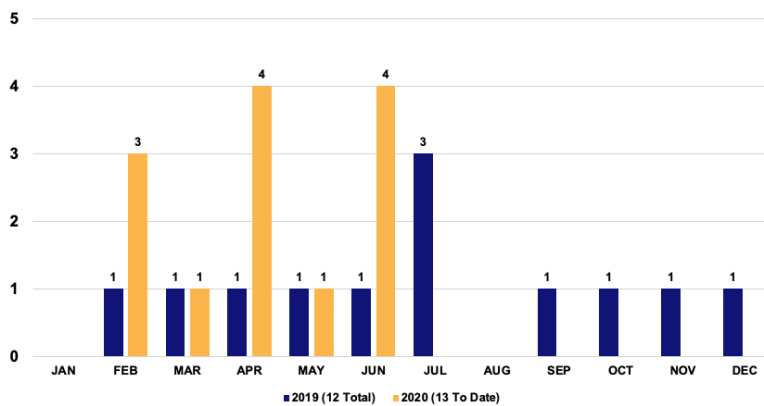
**2019 / 2020 Year-To-Date Crime Statistics (Ending May 31)**

	2019	2020	Change
Aggravated Assault	255	268	↑
Arson	24	20	↓
Burglary - Auto	611	653	↑
Burglary - Commercial	209	262	↑
Burglary - Residential	189	160	↓
Larceny	478	593	↑
Murder	4	9	↑
Rape	34	69	↑
Robbery	138	157	↑
Shootings	81	94	↑
Simple Assault	284	358	↑
Stolen Vehicles	309	485	↑

*The graph above shows how the crime numbers as of the end of May 2020 compare to the crime numbers from the end of May 2019. Red indicates a negative trend, with crime in those categories going up, and green indicates a favorable trend, with crime in those categories going down.*

As of the end of June 2020, there have been 13 murders in Vallejo, compared to 12 total murders in the year 2019. When comparing crime data from the end of May 2020 (the most recent data reported out from the VPD Operations Bureau) to data from the end of May 2019, VPD is also seeing an increase in rape, stolen vehicles, assaults, commercial burglaries, larceny, shootings, robberies and auto burglaries.

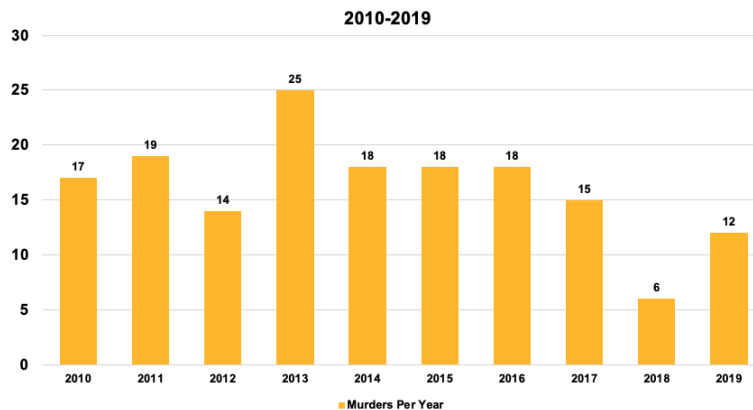
#### Murders 2019 / 2020



*The graph above shows the murder numbers from each month of 2019 compared to numbers for each month to date in 2020.*

The VPD is seeing this upward trend in crime rates during a time of assessment and reform for the department. On June 16, 2020, the City and VPD released an evaluation of the department by the expert consultant OIR Group and outlined a proposed implementation plan for addressing each of the OIR Group's recommendations.

#### Ten-Year Statistics: Murders Per Year



*The graph above shows the number of murders in Vallejo each year for the past 10 years. As of the end of June -- halfway through 2020 -- there have been 13 murders in Vallejo.*

"There is a lot asked of the men and women of the Vallejo Police Department, and we are doing everything we can to meet the current needs of our community while working toward our vision of exceptional service," Chief Williams said. "We can't meet the service demand, provide services to our victims or develop key community-based partnerships without resources. I believe it's important we rally the collective support of our Council and community to ensure we have the resources necessary to meet that goal."

The department is currently seeking community feedback on the proposed improvement plan and implementation steps. Members of the public are invited to visit the [Open City Hall](#) platform, between now and July 31, 2020, to see the proposed improvement plan and submit their feedback.

For additional information, please contact Vallejo Police Department's Public Information Officer, Brittany K. Jackson by phone at (707) 651-7147 or by email at [VallejoPolicePIO@cityofvallejo.net](mailto:VallejoPolicePIO@cityofvallejo.net).

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