



Sugar Mountain Police Department

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Chief Casey Turbyfill

REPORT TO VILLAGE COUNCIL

10/14/2025

The Police Department is operating well. Officer Clark resigned her position as a full-time police officer; her last shift was on September 30th. Officer Clark will continue to assist the police department as needed as a reserve officer. We are advertising the police officer opening. As of the time of this report, I have not received any applications for the position. As we have seen in the past, the openings tend to take several months to fill, with well qualified candidates. I will be covering the night shift for the remainder of the month, and Officer Brown will transition to the night shift for the month of November. Sugar Mountain Police Department will continue to provide 24/7 police services, with no disruptions. As I have mentioned in the past, Police Officer shortages are a nationwide issue. We are blessed to have some of the best officers who continue to serve the community.

Oktoberfest this year was the largest I can recall in my time at the Police Department. SMPD had three (3) officers on duty during the busiest times. Officers conducted high-visibility patrols and foot patrols around the Village. SMPD is thankful that no incidents were reported during this time. The safety of our residents, guests, and visitors is our number one priority. One takeaway from this year's event was the effectiveness of our high-visibility patrols in maintaining a safe environment; this practice will continue to be prioritized in future events to ensure public safety. Additionally, we observed that communication between officers and Sugar Mountain Resort Staff was crucial in managing crowds of this size effectively. This coming weekend will be busy with congested traffic and guests in the Village with the Woolly Worm Festival in Banner Elk.

Officer Linkous and Officer Kiefer successfully completed Intox EC/IR II training, and all full-time SMPD Officers are now Intox EC/IR II certified, enabling them to administer breath alcohol tests in Driving While Impaired Investigations. This not only enhances our department's capabilities but also strengthens our commitment to keeping the roads safe for our community. Officer Brown and

Officer Linkous are completing Court Room Preparation and Testimony Training through Robeson County Community College this month. This training, which is provided at no cost and is conducted online, equips our officers with valuable skills to present evidence effectively in court, ensuring thorough legal processing of cases.

On 10/05, Chief Turbyfill responded to a vehicle fire at 2862 Tynecastle Highway. Chief Turbyfill found that a Ford F350 pulling a trailer had caught fire and pulled into a local business. Thankfully, Banner Elk and Linville Fire Department's quick response ensured the fire was extinguished, with no damage to the business structure. The Avery County Fire Marshal's Office conducted an investigation into the cause of the vehicle fire, which was determined to be a mechanical failure in the engine compartment. No injuries were reported as a result of the incident.

On 10/11, Officer Brown observed a Juvenile painting graffiti on a dumpster near Lowe's Foods. The parents of the Juvenile were contacted, and the graffiti was cleaned from the dumpster. SMPD has noticed graffiti in the business areas along NC105, we are hopeful this has been remedied. Officers will continue to monitor this and conduct stationary patrols in the area to prevent future issues.

Citations issued: 6, Warning Citations: 18

Patrol Miles: 4,574

Foot Patrols: 156

Business Checks: 577

Residence Checks: 420

Included with this report, are our monthly calls for service for your review, and data from the speed sign.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Casey Turbyfill', written in a cursive style.

Casey Turbyfill, Chief