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THE VILLAGE OF SUGAR MOUNTAIN POLICE DEPARTMENT
251 Dick Trundy Lane
Sugar Mountain, NC 28604

REPORT TO VILLAGE COUNCIL

March 12, 2026

The Police Department continues to operate effectively. I am pleased to report that we have filled our vacant officer position. Although maintaining full staffing has been challenging, our officers have consistently stepped up by working additional hours and extra shifts to ensure proper police coverage throughout the Village.

Our newest Officer, Kurt Moore, previously served with the Caldwell County Sheriff's Office, McDowell County Sheriff's Office, and the Department of Adult Corrections. Officer Moore was officially sworn in as a Sugar Mountain Police Officer on March 4th, following the arrival of his certification from NC Training and Standards. He is currently assigned to the Field Training Program, where he will complete three phases of training specific to our department's operations. Once Officer Moore successfully completes field training, he will be assigned to the night shift, allowing me to return to my regular schedule. In April, I will be working some different shift rotations to cover for vacations and training.

At this time, I have no issues to report. Our call volume remains high, though we expect it to decrease over the next couple of months as we move out of the winter season and into spring and summer. I look forward to seeing our summer residence when they arrive.

I want to extend my appreciation to Sugar Mountain Resort and its staff for their assistance during the busy ski weekends and holidays. Their collaboration greatly enhances our ability to manage traffic and maintain safety during the busiest periods.

Officer Brown and I will attend RADAR re-certification at the end of the month, renewing our certifications. Officer Kiefer is scheduled to attend RADAR General Operator Training in April. This will bring our department to three certified RADAR operators, an improvement from the two we have had in recent years. I will also attend an NC Training and Standards workshop in April to stay current on rule changes and certification requirements, of the NC Training and Standards Division.

One of the Dodge Durango Patrol Vehicles experienced a mechanical failure that resulted in oil contaminating components of the cooling system. The required repairs exceeded

\$10,000: the majority of the costs were covered under the manufacturer's warranty. The mechanical repairs were completed promptly, the vehicle was returned with body damage. The servicing department acknowledged full responsibility for the damage, the damage has been repaired and the vehicle is back in service.

Incident Summaries

- **02/17/2026 – Natural Death Investigation:** Officer Kiefer responded to assist Avery County Medics at a residence on Sugar Mountain. Upon arrival, Officer Kiefer spoke with the hospice nurse and medical responders and confirmed that a male subject was deceased. Officer Kiefer contacted the Medical Examiner and relayed all necessary information.
- **02/15/2026 – 911 Hang-Up / Child in Danger:** Officer Brown and Chief Turbyfill responded to a 911 hang-up at Food Lion. After an investigation, officers determined that a child had placed the 911 call. The child was transported to the Sugar Mountain Police Department, and Avery County Child Protective Services responded and completed an investigation into the reason the call was made.
- **02/23/2026 – Assist Banner Elk Police with Assault in Progress:** Officer Linkous responded to assist the Banner Elk Police Department at a residence where an active assault was taking place. Upon arrival, officers attempted to de-escalate the situation. Officers observed a male subject striking a female with a metal pipe. A Taser Conductive Energy Device was deployed, and the subject was taken into custody. The subject continued to resist officers but was eventually restrained and transported to the Avery County Detention Center. Officer Linkous charged the suspect with three (3) counts of Resisting a Public Officer. Additional charges, including Assault on a Female, were taken by Banner Elk Police.
- **03/05/2026 – Assist with Assault on Police Officer:** Officer Brown assisted Banner Elk Police after an officer was assaulted and struck in the face. The female subject was transported to the hospital and later charged with Assault on a Government Official.
- **03/06/2026 – DWI Arrest:** Officer Kiefer observed a subject pull into the Scotchman Store. After an investigation, the subject was found to be impaired. The subject was charged with DWI and Open Container of Alcohol in the Passenger Area.

I have attached our activity event summary for the past month.

- Residence Checks: 237
- Business Checks: 318
- Patrol Miles: 3,643
- Citations: 9
- Arrests: 1
- Parking Citations: 6

As always, I want to thank every member of our department for their dedication and hard work. We continue to improve our operations and remain committed to providing the highest level of public safety service to our community, guests, and visitors. We appreciate everyone's support and the opportunity to serve the Village of Sugar Mountain.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Casey Turbyfill". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and a long, sweeping underline.

Casey Turbyfill, Chief

Activity Log Event Summary (Totals)

Sugar Mountain Police Department

(02/14/2026 - 03/12/2026)

<No Event Type Specified>	1	911 Hangup	2
ABC Closing	12	Accident	4
Administrative Duty	33	Alarm Activation	6
Animal Complaint	2	Assist County Officer	2
Assist Fire Dept.	2	Assist Highway Patrol	1
Assist Home Owner	2	Assist Medical	8
Assist Motorist	21	Assist Other Department	7
Assist Other Officer	2	Assist Security	8
Business Check	318	Calibrate Alco- Sensor	1
Call in Public Works	2	Citation	9
Community Police Contact	3	Continue Investigation	7
Damage to Property	1	Direct Traffic	9
DWI Arrest	1	Escort	4
Foot Patrol	79	Found Property	3
Hit & Run	3	Interview	1
Intoxicated Person	1	Investigation	6
Larceny	4	Lost Property	1
Medical Call	1	Object in Road	6
Other	5	Parking Citation	8
Remove Unwanted Person	1	Residence Check	237
See Officer	5	Stationary Patrol	27
Stationary Radar	12	Suspicious Activity	4
Suspicious Vehicle	4	Training	20
Trespassing	1	Unlock car	1
Use Of Force	1	Vandalism	1
Vehicle Stop	30	Verbal Warning	16
Warning Citation	7	Warrant	1
Wash/Clean Patrol Vehicle	1		

Total Number Of Events: 955