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

REPORT TO VILLAGE COUNCIL

October 16, 2026

The Police Department continues to operate efficiently. Traffic volume has remained consistent for this time of year, with increased traffic during the recent Oktoberfest weekend. We also anticipate some traffic congestion on NC 184 during the upcoming Woolly Worm Festival in Banner Elk. The Village has welcomed many guests and visitors attending these events.

Officers on duty have maintained a highly visible presence to help ensure a safe environment for residents, guests, and visitors. During the recent period of heavy rain and high winds associated with Hurricane Isaias, officers maintained increased patrols throughout the Village. Other than several downed trees, no major incidents were reported. I would like to thank Bill Daniels and the Public Works crews for remaining available when needed and working to keep roadways passable.

On October 27 and 28, Officer Sanchez will attend active shooter training at Mayland in Newland. During the first week of November, Officer Kiefer will complete the final class of the instructor certification course at the NC Justice Academy. Officer Sanchez is also scheduled to attend RADAR certification training during the third week of November. These training opportunities will provide valuable skills and knowledge that will benefit the Department and enhance our ability to serve the community.

The Dodge Durango patrol vehicle that was damaged several months ago when a gate closed on it has been repaired and is scheduled to be picked up on Monday, October 19. The Village previously received a check that will cover the cost of the repairs.

The new 2027 Dodge Durango patrol vehicle has arrived, and I have begun ordering the necessary equipment for installation. I hope to have the vehicle fully equipped and in service for patrol duty before the first of the year. The 2018 Ford F-150 will be taken out of service following ski season. It is the oldest vehicle in our fleet and is approaching 75,000 miles.

I would like to remind everyone to remain mindful of posted speed limits throughout the Village. In addition to increased pedestrian activity, a significant amount of road repair work is taking place throughout the Village. While these projects may cause occasional inconvenience, maintaining safety in construction zones remains a priority. Please plan ahead and allow extra travel time when traveling through these areas.

Speed limits are clearly posted throughout the Village. Side streets have a speed limit of 15 MPH, while Grouse Moor Drive and Sugar Mountain Drive have a speed limit of 25 MPH. Speeding remains a significant contributing factor in motor vehicle crashes involving injuries and property damage. Officers will continue conducting RADAR enforcement to help maintain safe traffic speeds throughout the Village. Officers will also monitor construction zones to promote the safety of motorists and road crews.

Incident Summaries

09/25/2026 – Missing Person

Officer Sanchez responded to the area of Grouse Moor Drive regarding a report of a missing 20-year-old male from a residence. After searching the surrounding area without locating the individual, Officer Sanchez contacted Chief Turbyfill. Due to the terrain, Chief Turbyfill requested drone assistance from the Avery County Sheriff's Office. The male was located safe a short time later and was transported to the hospital by his parents.

09/30/2026 – Fraud

Officer Kiefer spoke with a resident who reported paying an individual posing as a general contractor to remodel the interior of a home. The work had not been completed. An investigation revealed that the male subject had allegedly used several different names and had been charged in other counties for similar incidents. The subject is currently serving a prison sentence for similar crimes. The investigation remains ongoing, and felony charges are anticipated.

09/10/2026 – Recording

A male subject reported that a store employee had recorded video of his wife being injured in a fall. The video had not been shared on social media. The reporting party requested an investigation, citing NCGS 15A-287, which addresses the unlawful interception and disclosure of certain communications. After consultation with the Assistant District Attorney, it was determined that no charges should be pursued by the Sugar Mountain Police Department in this investigation.

09/10/2026 – Domestic Disturbance

Officer Kiefer and Officer Moore responded to a residence on Grouse Moor Drive regarding a domestic disturbance. Upon arrival, the parties were separated, and an investigation was conducted. It was determined that the incident involved a verbal argument only. One party left the residence to stay at another location for the night.

10/03/2026 – Domestic Disturbance

Officer Moore responded to the Courtyard Marriott regarding a domestic disturbance. After conducting an investigation, it was determined that the incident involved a verbal argument only.

10/15/2026 – Trespassing

Officer Brown responded to Lowe's Foods regarding an unruly customer who was attempting to return items that had not been purchased at that location. At the request of Lowe's Foods management, the individual was issued a trespass notice.

As always, I would like 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 residents, guests, and visitors. We appreciate the continued support of the Village and the opportunity to serve the Sugar Mountain community.

Activity Summary

- **Residence Checks:** 412
- **Business Checks:** 424
- **Patrol Miles:** 4,374
- **Citations Issued:** 8
- **Arrests:** 0
- **Vehicle Crash Investigations:** 2

Respectfully submitted,



Casey Turbyfill, Chief
Sugar Mountain Police Department

Activity Log Event Summary (Totals)

Sugar Mountain Police Department

(09/12/2026 - 10/16/2026)

<No Event Type Specified>	1	911 Hangup	6
ABC Closing	26	Accident	2
Administrative Duty	37	Alarm Activation	16
Animal Complaint	2	Assist County Officer	4
Assist Fire Dept.	2	Assist Highway Patrol	1
Assist Home Owner	7	Assist Motorist	12
Assist Other Department	15	Assist Other Officer	2
Assist Public Works	2	Business Check	424
Calibrate Alco- Sensor	3	Check Patrol Vehicle	5
Citation	8	Civil Dispute	1
Community Police Contact	19	Continue Investigation	5
Court	1	Damage to Property	1
Deliver Message	1	Direct Traffic	2
Domestic	3	Drug Related Call	1
Drunk & Disruptive	1	Escort	12
Fight	1	Foot Patrol	194
Found Property	2	Fraud	1
Mental Subject	1	Misdemeanor Arrest	1
Missing Person	1	Object in Road	7
Open Door	2	Other	10
Parking Citation	1	Residence Check	412
See Officer	3	Stationary Patrol	34
Stationary Radar	20	Suspicious Activity	5
Suspicious Person	2	Suspicious Vehicle	1
Training	17	Trash	2
Trespassing	6	Unwanted Person	1
Vehicle Maintenance	1	Vehicle Search	6
Vehicle Stop	38	Verbal Warning	9
Warning Citation	13	Wash/Clean Patrol Vehicle	5

Total Number Of Events: 1,418