



REPORT TO CALGARY POLICE COMMISSION



CPS Monthly Chief's Reports: Bureau of Investigative Support

Date | May 9, 2024

Commission Role

Information only Approval

Type of Meeting

- Full Commission meeting
- Governance and Personnel (G&P) Sub-Committee
- Finance and Audit (F&A) Sub-Committee
- Complaint Oversight (COC) Sub-Committee
- Anti-Racism Committee

Purpose

The following report provides an overview of timely crime trends, crime statistics and updates from the Bureau of Investigative Support.

Highlights

- The number of shootings in Calgary remains lower than during the same period last year. Despite this, we remain concerned about incidents of gun violence in our city.
- In April, our Drug Undercover Street Team worked with patrol officers in District 2 to conduct a successful drug trafficking investigation that targeted the northwest CTrain line.
- Our Homicide Unit concluded several investigations during the month of April. Each one of these were complex and required the co-ordination of resources from across the entire Service to successfully resolve.
- We are recognizing May as Sexual Violence Awareness Month by sharing information on social media to reduce victimization, offer supports to victims and encourage reporting.
- Our domestic violence reports for the month of April remain slightly lower than the five-year average, however domestic conflict information reporting remains slightly above the five-year average.

Summary of Issues, Trends and Examples

Gun Violence

- As of May 9, 2024, there were 27 shootings in Calgary, compared to 38 during the same period in 2023 (29% decrease).
 - 19 of these shootings have been determined to have been targeted.
 - So far, six have been confirmed to be the result of organized crime conflict in Calgary.
- Firearm tracing has been completed for all crime guns seized in 2023. In 2023, 1,938 firearms were seized, recovered or turned into police. Of these, 428 met the definition of a crime gun. Crime guns are firearms that are unlawfully possessed, stored, or used.
 - Of the crimes guns seized in 2023,
 - 37% were rifles, 36% were handguns, 24% were shotguns, 2% were privately-manufactured firearms (PMFs) and 1% were sub-machine guns.
 - The origin of the firearm couldn't be determined in 38% of cases. This is often the result of firearms that were never given serial numbers or businesses not retaining purchaser information in relation to non-restricted firearms (many shotguns and rifles).
 - 45% had altered barrel lengths.
 - 17% had prohibited items attached to them, such as auto-sears, extended magazines and/or silencers.
 - 15% were smuggled.

Drugs

- In January of 2024, officers noticed a localized increase in overdoses, behaviour consistent with drug-trafficking and an increase in calls for service due to open drug use and violence at CTrain stations located in the city's northwest. District officers partnered with investigators from our Drug Undercover Street Team to launch an operation.
 - Between Tuesday, April 16 and Saturday April 25, 2024, [eight people were charged](#) with 64 criminal offences in relation to drug trafficking, possession of weapons and possession of the proceeds of crime.

Homicides

- As of April 30, 2024, there were seven homicides in Calgary. During the same period in 2023, six homicides had occurred.
 - To date, five of the 2024 homicides have been cleared (71%).
 - Two of the 2024 homicides were domestic-related. The five-year average for domestic-related homicides is five per year, which puts us approximately at average rates for the year so far.
- In April 2024, our Homicide Unit has laid charges in four cases, including:
 - The [death of a woman](#) who was reported missing to police in February 2024. As a result of a resource-intensive missing persons and homicide investigation, two men were charged with first-degree murder and the victim's remains were recovered.
 - The [death of a man](#) that occurred in the southeast community of Prestwick on April 8, 2024. This incident was the result of a dispute between a landlord and tenant. One man was charged with second-degree murder.
 - The [death of a toddler](#) that occurred on September 29, 2022, in the southeast community of Midnapore. Following an exhaustive and lengthy investigation, one man was charged with manslaughter.
 - The [death of a woman](#) that occurred on April 21, 2024 in the northeast community of Redstone. This was believed to have been a fatal domestic assault and one man has been charged with second-degree murder.

Sexual Assault

- May is Sexual Violence Awareness Month in Alberta. To spread awareness, encourage reporting and reduce stigma associated with sexual assault victimization, the Service has created a social media awareness campaign. Throughout the month of May, posts were shared on CPS-branded social media channels focussing on reporting sexual assaults, consent and youth victims being targeted online.



- In April 2024, 32 sexual assault investigations were assigned to the Sexual Assault Investigative Unit. An analysis of 28 of these (cases where data was reported to police) cases determined that:
 - Victims met the suspect online in 7% of cases.
 - Alcohol and/or drugs were a factor in 36% of cases.
 - 15% of the cases involve historical allegations of sexual assault (the alleged offence occurred more than one year prior).
 - 50% were domestic-related. All but two of these domestic-related cases involved ex- or current intimate partners.
- At the beginning of May 2024, investigators charged a teacher who is believed to have been responsible for the sexual assault of a student more than 20 years ago. In 2023, the victim, who is now an adult, came forward to report multiple instances of sexual assault that occurred between 2000 and 2003, when her teacher at the time began an inappropriate relationship with her. The assaults are believed to have begun when the victim was 14. Following an extensive investigation, one man has now been charged with sexual exploitation and sexual assault.

Child Abuse

- In April 2024, 1,128 incidents were flagged as having children involved.
 - A review of these incidents resulted in 153 files being reviewed by the Child Abuse Unit (CAU) risk assessors. Of those, 63 files were assigned for investigation to CAU detectives.
- The number of investigations assigned to CAU in the first four months of 2024 (193) is on par to the investigations assigned to CAU in 2023 (186).

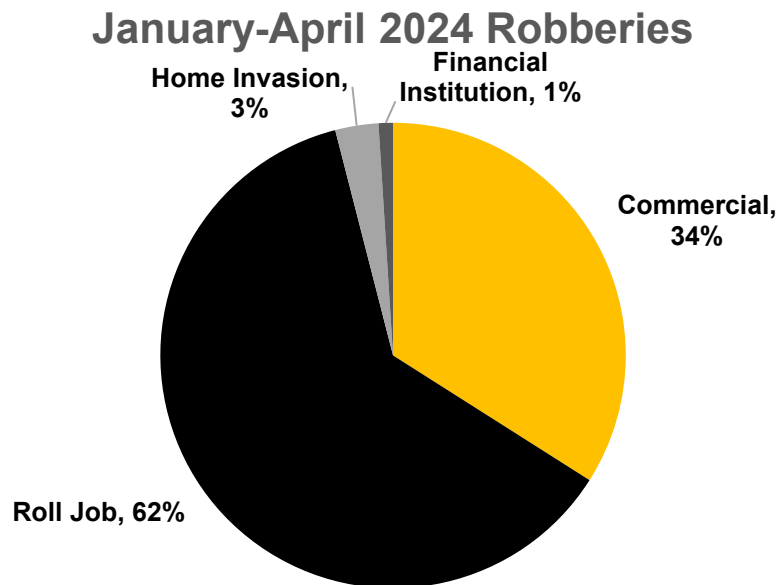
Domestic Conflict

- In April 2024, we responded to 313 incidents of domestic violence, compared to 337 incidents during the same period last year (-7%).
 - In the first four months of 2024, we responded to 1,240 incidents of domestic violence, which was 4% less than the same period in 2023 and 6% less than the five-year average.
- In April 2024, we responded to 1,488 domestic conflict reporting calls, which slightly decreased from 1,538 in April 2023 (-3%).
 - In the first four months of 2024, we responded to 5,954 domestic conflict reporting calls, which was approximately the same as 2023 and 12% higher than the five-year average.
 - Domestic conflict reporting refers to people recognizing a potentially dangerous domestic situation and placing a call for help. These non-criminal calls can include verbal altercations that escalated to the point

that police were called or situations where one party asked police to be present during an interaction with an intimate partner or family member.

Robbery

- In April 2024, there were 74 robberies, which was a slight decrease from April 2023 (77) and a slight increase from the five-year average (70).
- In the first four months of 2024, there were 305 robberies.



Cybercrime/Blockchain Investigations

- We noted significant improvements to the operational efficiency of our Blockchain Investigations Team (BIT) in April.
 - A key initiative was the comprehensive overhaul of BIT's case intake process, which now requires more precise and succinct information at the onset.
 - This refinement streamlined operations and also enhanced BIT's capability to analyze blockchain activities effectively and rapidly.
- By the end of April 2024, victims have recorded a total loss of more than \$13.8 million in relation to cryptocurrency-related files.

Attachments (if any)

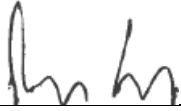
Approval signatures

AUTHOR signature:

Amy Castonguay (2024 05 09)
(Amy Castonguay, Communications Strategist) Date

*Public Affairs/Media Relations
Unit*

EXECUTIVE SPONSOR signature:

 (2024 05 21)
Paul Cook, Deputy Chief Date

Bureau of Investigative Support

CHIEF OF POLICE signature:

Mark Neufeld, Chief of Police Date

Office of the Chief
