



## **News Release**

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**Contact:**

**Laura Maher, Strategic Communications Manager**

**Phone: 779-348-7331**

**E-mail: [Laura.Maher@rockfordil.gov](mailto:Laura.Maher@rockfordil.gov)**

### **Continued Progress in Making Rockford Safer: Violent Crime Down 17 Percent in 2019**

**ROCKFORD, III.** – Violent crime in Rockford continued to decrease in 2019, as the city recorded decreases in all major crime metrics last year.

Mayor Tom McNamara and Police Chief Dan O’Shea highlighted key police department metrics from 2019 at a Town Hall on Public Safety at Burpee Museum this evening. Fire Chief Derek Bergsten and Manager Jennifer Cacciapaglia, of the Mayor’s Office on Domestic Violence & Human Trafficking Prevention also shared key statistics.

#### **Crime Figures—2018 to 2019 Comparison:**

Comparing crime figures from 2019 to 2018 show a drop in every category:

|                    |                 |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| Violent Crime      | Down 17 percent |
| Aggravated Assault | Down 16 percent |
| Property Crime     | Down 12 percent |
| Robberies          | Down 18 percent |
| Auto Thefts        | Down 12 percent |
| Shots Fired        | Down 11 percent |

While violent crime has decreased, the amount of violent crime attributed to domestic violence was up 2.6 percent in 2019 over 2018. About 37.7 percent of the city’s violent crime incidents were domestic-related.

Fire calls in 2019 dropped 5 percent to 681, while EMS and Search & Rescue calls stayed flat, with 22,855 calls in 2019, compared to 22,885 in 2018.

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