Date: October 8, 2019

To: Mayor and Members of Council

From: Colonel Vincent L. Demasi, Police Chief

Subject: Mt. Healthy Police Department Report to Council for September 2019

**Crime Trends**

***Uniform Crime Reporting - Part One Crimes***

**Month to Month Sept: 2014** **2015 2016 2017 2018 2019**

Homicide 0 0 0 0 0 0

Forcible Rape 0 1 2 0 0 0

Robbery 1 1 0 2 0 1

Aggravated Assault 7 9 9 9 15 9

Burglary 8 7 5 4 4 10

Larceny-Theft 22 18 22 18 15 17

Motor Vehicle Theft 0 1 4 0 0 2

Arson 0 0 0 0 0 0

Total for Month 38 37 42 33 34 39

M**onth to Month Sept: 2014**   **2015 2016** **2017 2018** **2019**

**Incidents/CFS 693 871 953 1279 898 819**

**Auto Accidents 34 42 30 35 28 28**

**Traffic Enforcement 99 97 110 146 98**

**Drug Offenses 16 12 10 13 12 2**

**Domestic Disputes 33 29 19 16 26 24**

**Report of Shots Fired 1 4 3** 0 0 4

**Crime Trends:**

As many of you know we have had a rash of car thefts from the United Dairy Farmers (UDF) Lot at Hamilton Avenue and Adams Road. Detective Jones and Police Officer Fath took the initiative to coordinate a joint investigation with Springfield Township Police, and Ohio State Highway Patrol. On Friday, September 6, 2019 a decoy or bait car was placed on the UDF lot. During the investigation, two separate thefts of the decoy vehicle occurred. Three individuals were involved, all three are local individuals, two are age 15, and one is age 18. All were arrested and charged. The decoy vehicle was damaged during a brief vehicle pursuit which followed one of the thefts. No injuries were reported.

I would like to extend my thanks to Detective Jones and Police Officer Fath for their dedication to duty and their continued display of professionalism in coordinating and directing this operation. I would also like to extend my thanks to the Springfield Township Police Department, and the Ohio State Highway Patrol for allowing us to use the bait car equipment and their personnel in this investigation.

On September 10, 2019, at 2:27 pm, Mount Healthy Police, with assistance from Springfield Township Police and North College Hill Police responded to Mount Healthy High School, located at 8101 Hamilton Avenue, for a report of a student threatening to shoot-up the school at dismissal.

As per Department policy, several schools in the area were immediately notified, and as a precaution, they were asked to be placed on lock-down until an assessment of the report could be investigated by police. During our investigation, it was determined a 16 year old male student was overheard making the threat to shoot-up the school. The incident was reported to a school administrator at approximately 1:30 pm. The school then began an investigation without immediately notifying police. Attempts to locate the involved student at school were unsuccessful.

Shortly before dismissal, police were notified and responded. Subsequently, police located the involved student at his home, where he was arrested and charged with Aggravated Menacing. The arrested was transported to the Hamilton County Juvenile Center for processing. Our investigation indicates the situation started as a verbal dispute between the arrested, and another student.

The investigation into the delay of reporting the incident to police is on-going. At this time, we have no evidence or reason to believe students would be endangered by attending school. The actions of officers responding were rooted in a precautionary tactic to ensure the safety of students, staff, and officers conducting the investigation.

My hope is that parents will use this occasion to speak with their children, reinforcing the message to never make threats of this nature during school hours. These types of incidents will be investigated fully, and criminal charges will be brought against those responsible regardless of age. I would also like to extend my thanks to those police agencies who responded to assist.

Mr. Kocher and I met with Doctor Cosby and we have addressed several issues but especially the need to contact the police whenever there is a threat of serious physical harm involving firearms.

We have also been in contact with the school administrators regarding after school fights. On several occasions during September, our officers have responded to several large fights at the United Dairy Farmers lot located at Hamilton and Adams. There have been several arrests of students after school. One situation involving parents.

On September 19, 2019, police responded to 7901 Clovernook for a report of an Aggravated Robbery. The victim reported originally meeting an individual on social media who offered a cell phone for sale for $400. The transaction was schedule to occur at 7901 Clovernook. After meeting the suspect at the above location, the exchanged occurred however the phone was in a paper bag. Upon inspection, the victim found the phone to not be the one promised and protested. The suspect immediately brandished a firearm taking the money and phone and fled on foot. The suspect was described as a black male about 20 years of age wearing a black hooded sweatshirt, and black sweatpants. Colerain Township canine responded for a track, but it was lost. Just a reminder, we have a location in front of City Hall, 7700 Perry, that is recorded 24 hours a day 7 days a week by our city video system. A sign is in place designating the area for exchanges of this sort.

On September 22, 2019, at 5:10 pm, Mt. Healthy Police were dispatched to Take A Shot Bar located at 1357 Compton Road for a shooting incident. Upon arrival Officers located one victim suffering from a gunshot wound. The victim was taken to University of Cincinnati Medical Center for treatment and his injuries are not thought to be life threatening.

During the investigation it was learned that a Sport Utility Vehicle, dark in color, occupied by four males and one female was involved. It is believed this was a targeted act and the suspects were looking for one individual. We are very concerned about this location. At our request, the Ohio Department of Liquor Control has issued two liquor violation citations to date to the bar ownership. This location attracts large crowds especially during the early morning hours. We have notified the Fire Department regarding possible overcrowding issues in the bar and outside in the parking lot. We have asked Mr. Knight to address the litter and parking overcrowding which occurs nightly. We have witnessed scantily clad dancers in the bar, and we have also made drug arrests in the parking lot.

Our staffing continues to present challenges to us in meeting our service demand. We are working to recruit officers but find it difficult to find individuals willing to work in a part-time capacity.