



NEWS RELEASE

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE OFFICE OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS

For Release: Aug. 30, 2004

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Crime Statistics Reflect Fluctuations in First Half of Year

A new crime report released today by the Howard County Police Department reflects increases in some areas and decreases in others in the first half of the year, January through June. The report compares 2004 data to the same time period last year and reflects small fluctuations in numbers.

When compared to last year, the first half of 2004 saw a small increase in violent crime, led by 22 additional aggravated assaults. The department investigated one homicide in the first six months of this year, down from three in the same time period last year. Property crimes decreased by 37 in the first half of the year, including drops in theft and auto theft.

The number of adult arrests increased by 10.75 percent for the most serious crimes, known as Part I offenses. Juvenile violent crime arrests went from 23 to 42, an 82 percent increase.

Assaults against officers were down in the first half of the year, with 17 fewer cases reported in 2004 than in the first six months of last year.

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Editor's Note: For a complete copy of the Howard County Police Department's Semi-Annual Crime Report, please contact the Office of Public Affairs at (410) 313-2236.