Board of Supervisors
Safety and Security Committee

March 10, 2026, 1:30 p.m.
Government Center Conference Room 11

***Board of Supervisors (Board) Members present:***
**Rodney Lusk, Franconia District (Committee Chair)** – In Person
**Jeff McKay, Fairfax County Board Chairman (Vice Chair)** – In Person
James Bierman, Dranesville District – In Person
Walter Alcorn, Hunter Mill District – In Person
Andres Jimenez, Mason District – In Person
Dan Storck, Mount Vernon District – In Person
Dalia Palchik, Providence District – In Person
Pat Herrity, Springfield District – In Person
Kathy Smith, Sully District – In Person
Rachna Sizemore Heizer, Braddock District – In Person

The Safety and Security Committee (Committee) meeting was called to order at **1:30 p.m.**

**Fairfax County Police Department (FCPD) 2025 Crime & Recruiting Data: 1:31 p.m.**

Chief Kevin Davis presented the Police Department's 2025 Crime Data Report, highlighting reductions in several major crime categories. The FCPD recorded 13 homicides in 2025, a 7% decrease from the previous year, while maintaining a 100% case closure rate**.** Fatal opioid deaths were reduced by 27%. Additional decreases included non-fatal shootings (37%), carjackings (48%), robberies (19%), burglaries (27%), shoplifting (11%), and stolen vehicles (10%)**.** Traffic safety outcomes also improved with motor vehicle fatalities decreasing by 53% and pedestrian fatalities decreasing by 20%, attributed in part to targeted enforcement efforts such as the Road Shark traffic safety initiative.

The Real Time Crime Center is instrumental in case closure. Tips received have increased by 114%. The Police Department strives to increase the number of registrants to the Connect Fairfax County program this year.

Chief Davis noted that aggravated assaults increased in 2025, largely due to the implementation of Virginia legislation classifying strangulation as a felony offense, resulting in more incidents being reported within that category. Assistant Chief Brooke Wright emphasized the seriousness of strangulation in domestic violence cases, noting research indicating it significantly increases the likelihood of future lethal violence by 700%.

Overall, domestic violence trends remained relatively stable. In 2025, the Police Department responded to approximately 8,100 domestic disturbance calls for service and 3,700 domestic violence calls, representing an 8% decrease from the previous year.

The lack of notable changes in domestic violence statistics, along with the increase in aggravated assaults, implies there are no issues with the under-reporting of crime. This indicates strong community trust in Fairfax County.

The Police Department's sworn vacancy rate is down to 3% and police officer applications have increased by 22%. Women have comprised 25% of the last three Police Academy sessions. This

furthers the 30x30 Initiative- to increase the representation of women in law enforcement to 30% by the year 2030.

Committee members discussed the importance of continued prevention efforts, victim services support, and collaboration with community partners to address domestic violence and maintain public safety.

**Fairfax County Police Department Radio Encryption: 2:37 p.m.**

Major Brendan Hooke and Major Dana Ferreira presented a proposal to implement full radio encryption across the Police Department's primary dispatch channels**.** The change is being considered to protect personally identifiable information (PII) routinely transmitted over police radio communications, including names, home addresses, dates of birth, phone numbers, and, occasionally, Social Security numbers. Technological changes have made it significantly easier for the public to access police radio traffic through mobile applications and online streaming services, allowing broadcasts to be monitored globally, recorded, and shared on social media without oversight. Major Ferreira cited documented cases in which individuals involved in criminal activity accessed scanner applications to monitor police responses in real time.

The FCPD will help protect victims, witnesses, and suspects from potential privacy violations, identity theft, harassment, or revictimization, particularly in sensitive incidents such as domestic violence, mental health crises, and juvenile cases. Many regional law enforcement partners, including the Virginia State Police, Prince William County Police Department, and the Metropolitan Police Department, have already implemented similar encryption measures. The proposed transition would occur through a phased implementation over several months to ensure proper radio programming and continued interoperability with regional law enforcement agencies and county partners.

Radio encryption will not affect the Police Department's commitment to transparency. The FCPD will continue to provide information through the Public Affairs Bureau, press briefings, body-worn camera release policies, and the Open Data Portal. The public will still be able to request radio communications through Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests.

Committee members expressed support for protecting personal information while encouraging the continued use of tools that provide accurate and timely information to the public.

**Additional Information: N/A**

The Committee meeting adjourned at **2:58 p.m.**

The next Committee meeting is April 7, 2026, at **1:30 p.m.**