

CAMBRIDGE POLICE DEPT.
Crime Analysis
498-9300

Serious crime continued on a downward spiral in Cambridge for the third consecutive year in 1984. A twelve percent decrease in Part One Crime was recorded when comparing the 1984 total with that of 1983. This decrease represents the largest yearly drop in crime in our city since 1977.

The 1984 Part One Crime Index of 6220 serious crimes was the lowest total reported in the city of Cambridge since we became a participant in the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting Program in 1970.

All serious crime declined in Cambridge during 1984. Auto Theft (-18%) and Burglary (-13%) recorded their lowest yearly totals in the past 15 years. Murder (-13%), Rape (-16%), Robbery (-15%), Assault (-17%), and Larceny (-7%), all registered substantial declines when compared with the 1983 figures. A complete crime breakdown can be found below.

1983		1984		
CRIME	TOTAL	CRIME	TOTAL	% CHANGE
MURDER	7	MURDER	6	-14%
RAPE	37	RAPE	31	-16%
ROBBERY	448	ROBBERY	377	-15%
ASSAULT	445	ASSAULT	365	-17%
BURGLARY	1630	BURGLARY	1415	-13%
LARCENY	3287	LARCENY	3038	-7%
AUTO THEFT	1699	AUTO THEFT	1388	-18%
INDEX TOTAL	7553	INDEX TOTAL	6620	-12%

INDIVIDUAL CRIME BREAKDOWN:

MURDER - There were six murders recorded in Cambridge in 1984. Of these six, two were committed by knife, one by handgun, one involved arson, one was by a blunt instrument, and one by strangulation. Three of these murders are still under investigation and represent the first unsolved murders in Cambridge since 1978.

RAPE - Rape was down 16% when compared with 1983 and the final total of 31 was well below the 38 rapes per year that the city has averaged since 1970. A Rape Investigation Unit was implemented during 1984 and increased the number of rapes cleared by arrest to two out of every three. The trend of the majority of victims having a prior acquaintance with their rapists continued during 1984.

ROBBERY - The 17% reduction in robberies last year represents the largest yearly decline for this crime since 1970. Neighborhood's #4, #6, and #7 were beneficiaries of nearly 40% declines in street robberies during 1984. After a summer with only 44 street robberies citywide, this crime heated up in November and December. The old patterns of muggings in the Central Square area on weekend nights resurfaced in large numbers.

Burglary -

Housebreaks - 1000

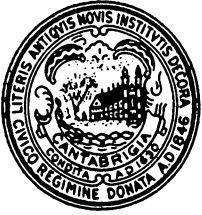
Commercial Breaks - 415

The total of 1415 burglaries in 1984 was the lowest recorded total since 1970. Breaks have been on a downward trend since 1981 when 2745 burglaries were reported. When comparing the burglary figures of 1984 with those of 1981, there were over 1300 less breaks which represents a 48% reduction for this crime. Neighborhood's experiencing major reductions in housebreaks in 1984 were: Neighborhood #4 (-50%); Neighborhood #9 (-29%); and Neighborhood #7 (-27%). Major declines in commercial breaks were registered in Central, Inman, and Harvard Squares.

ASSAULT - Down 17% when compared with 1983. However, the trend of the past two years of increasing domestic, alcohol related, and traffic altercation assaults is continuing.

LARCENY - The large decline in larceny from motor vehicles (-17%) was responsible for most of the reduction in this crime. Neighborhood's with substantial reductions in larceny from motor vehicles were Neighborhood #2 (-20%), Neighborhood #4 (-45%), Neighborhood #6 (-20%), and Neighborhood #7 (-25%). The types of larcenies that were on the increase in 1984 were: larcenies from the person (a substantial increase in the larceny of women's purses while dining in restaurants), and larcenies from buildings (office equipment and personal items from offices).

AUTO THEFT - The total of 1388 auto thefts reported in Cambridge in 1984 was the lowest total this city since 1970. The implementation of the department's Auto theft Unit, increased cooperation with the Governor's Auto Theft Strike Force, and increased citizen awareness, are all responsible for the decline in this crime. Neighborhood's registering major reductions in auto theft were: Neighborhood #1 (-17%); Neighborhood #6 (-20%); Neighborhood #7 (-20%) and Neighborhood #12 (-35%).



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS 02139
Tel. 498-9011

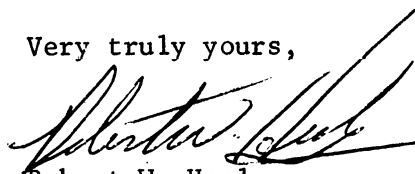
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
ROBERT W. HEALY
City Manager

April 1, 1985

To the Honorable, the City Council:

Enclosed for your information is a copy of the Crime Analysis
Report for 1984 as submitted by Anthony G. Paolillo, Chief of Police.

Very truly yours,



Robert W. Healy
City Manager

RWH/mbf
Enc.

Agenda Item No. 4

S-247

Re: enclosed Crime Analysis Report for 1984, as
submitted by the Chief of Police.

In City Council,

April 1, 1985

4/1/85-

Placed on File-