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SOUTH CAROLINA SEES CONSISTANT DECREASE IN PROPERTY CRIME RATES WHILE MURDERS REACH 5-YEAR HIGH ACCORDING TO 2018 REPORT

The rates for overall violent crimes and property crime in South Carolina fell in 2018 according to a report released today by the S.C. Law Enforcement Division. The number of murders in 2018 reached a 5-year high with 393 victims, while the number of law enforcement officers assaulted increased 16 percent.

The Uniform Crime Report for 2018 showed the rate of violent crimes decreased two percent during 2018. The rate of property crimes dropped 4 percent in 2018 when compared to the previous year. It is the fifth consecutive year the number of property crimes declined.

“I am pleased to see a steady decline in the number of property crimes and that the overall violent crime rate dropped,” said SLED Chief Mark Keel. “While these statistics are encouraging, I am deeply troubled by the increasing number of murders, domestic violence incidents and the number of law enforcement officers assaulted in our state.”

The data compiled for this report come from sheriff’s departments and police departments across the state. “Our sincere thanks to the sheriffs, chiefs of police, their officers and staff who protect our communities and provide the data for this report,” said Keel.

The full Crime in South Carolina 2018 report is available on SLED’s website at www.sled.sc.gov.

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