Dr. Danielle Fenimore has joined the Public Safety Institute team as a Postdoctoral Fellow. In 2012, Dr. Fenimore earned a B.S. in Anthropological Sciences and a B.A. in Criminal Justice from Radford University, with concentrations in forensic anthropology and forensic evidence and investigation. Then, she received an M.A. in Criminal Justice from Radford University in 2015. She completed the requirements for her doctorate at Texas State University in February of 2020, and is looking forward to her commencement ceremony in May. Her dissertation focused on harm spot mapping, a variation on traditional hot spot mapping techniques, and the environmental context of these spots. She received a proclamation from the mayor of Austin in December 2017 for the Hack Austin Safety Champions Day for her competition entry to help the city improve first responders’ emergency response times.

Danielle is a member of the San Marcos Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association and has dedicated several volunteer hours to the San Marcos Police Department since May 2019. After completing her doctorate, she spent a considerable amount of her off-time catching up on video games and Netflix, reading for fun, going to trivia nights, and working on her fluency in Spanish. She is very excited about starting with the Public Safety Institute and living in Memphis.

CRIME DROPS IN 2019; VIOLENT CRIME DOWN FOR SECOND YEAR IN A ROW
Preliminary figures from the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) for 2019 (January-December) show across the board declines in Memphis and Shelby County in major violent crime, major property crime, domestic violence, and overall crime.

Reported major violent crime declined for the second straight year, driven by sharp reductions in reported robberies. Reported robberies were down 20.8 percent in Memphis and 20.0 percent countywide. Reported rapes dropped as well, by 15.6 percent in Memphis and 14.8 percent in all of Shelby County.

All major violent crime declined 4.1 percent in Memphis and 4.7 percent throughout the county compared to 2018. The major violent crime figure includes murders, rapes, robberies, and aggravated assaults.

The major property crime figure includes burglaries, motor vehicle thefts, and other felony thefts (larcenies). Major property crime dropped 6.3 percent in Memphis and 6.9 percent countywide compared to 2018. Declines occurred in all three categories, including significant declines in reported burglaries – down 11.8 percent in Memphis and 12.7 percent countywide.

An encouraging decline in reported domestic violence which began in 2018 continued, with a reduction of 5.0 percent in Memphis and a 4.5 percent drop countywide.

The overall crime rate is determined by using reported crimes in 54 different categories (called Group A crimes by the TBI). For the second straight year, the overall crime rate dropped, with a decline of 5.5 percent in Memphis and 6.1 percent countywide.

Below are charts showing major violent crime, major property crime, domestic violence and overall crime for both Memphis and all of Shelby County for the years 2006, 2011, 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019.
MAJOR VIOLENT CRIME
JANUARY - DECEMBER
(Incidents Per 100,000 Population and Numbers)\(^{\text{1}}\)

\(^{1}\) Includes murders, forcible rapes, robberies, and aggravated assaults.

Source: Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI). The 2019 TBI figures are preliminary.

\(^{2}\) The 2019 figure is a decrease of 7.6 percent from 2006 and a decrease of 4.1 percent from 2018 in the city of Memphis.

\(^{3}\) The 2019 figure is a decrease of 9.8 percent from 2006 and a decrease of 4.7 percent from 2018 in all of Shelby County.

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MAJOR PROPERTY CRIME
JANUARY - DECEMBER
(Incidents Per 100,000 Population and Numbers)\(^{\text{1}}\)

\(^{1}\) Includes burglaries, motor vehicle thefts, and other felony thefts.

Source: Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI). The 2019 TBI figures are preliminary.

\(^{2}\) The 2019 figure is a decrease of 29.6 percent from 2006 and a decrease of 6.3 percent from 2018 in the city of Memphis.

\(^{3}\) The 2019 figure is a decrease of 31.4 percent from 2006 and a decrease of 6.9 percent from 2018 in all of Shelby County.
More detailed information on local crime trends are available on the Memphis Shelby Crime Commission’s website at memhiscrime.org. For a more detailed explanation of how crime rates are calculated, go to the Public Safety Institute website at memphis.edu/psi.
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