

LA CROSSE POLICE

DEPARTMENT

2010 ANNUAL REPORT



VOLUNTEERISM: AN ESSENTIAL PIECE

FOCUS: VOLUNTEERS IN POLICING





RESERVE PROGRAM



MISSION STATEMENT

The Police Reserve Unit of the La Crosse Police Department is committed to serving the citizens of La Crosse to the best of our ability and to improving the quality of life for all within our community. We will accomplish this mission by working with residents and our members with professionalism, integrity, and accountability.

VISION STATEMENT

The La Crosse Police Department is committed to sharing the responsibility for a safe community and to creating partnerships that lead to this goal. The partnership created with the Police Reserve Unit is a fine example of the intent of our vision statement.

In 2010, the La Crosse Reserve Police Unit responded to 18 emergency callouts resulting in 219 volunteered hours assisting the Police Department, an increase of 80%. Due to changes in the Police Department, the Reserve Unit was authorized to increase its membership to 30; peaking at 28 members in November. The Reserve Program received some significant donations that helped to grow the unit and provide uniforms and gear for the newly expanded unit. The largest event for the Reserve Program continues to be the Riverside Park Patrol. For the second year in a row, the Reserves have not missed a single night of coverage. In August, The La Crosse Police Reserve became a certified member of the Volunteers in Police Service sponsored by the International Association of the Chiefs of Police. The La Crosse Police Reserve Unit volunteers more hours than any other reserve unit in the state.



PICTURED ON COVER

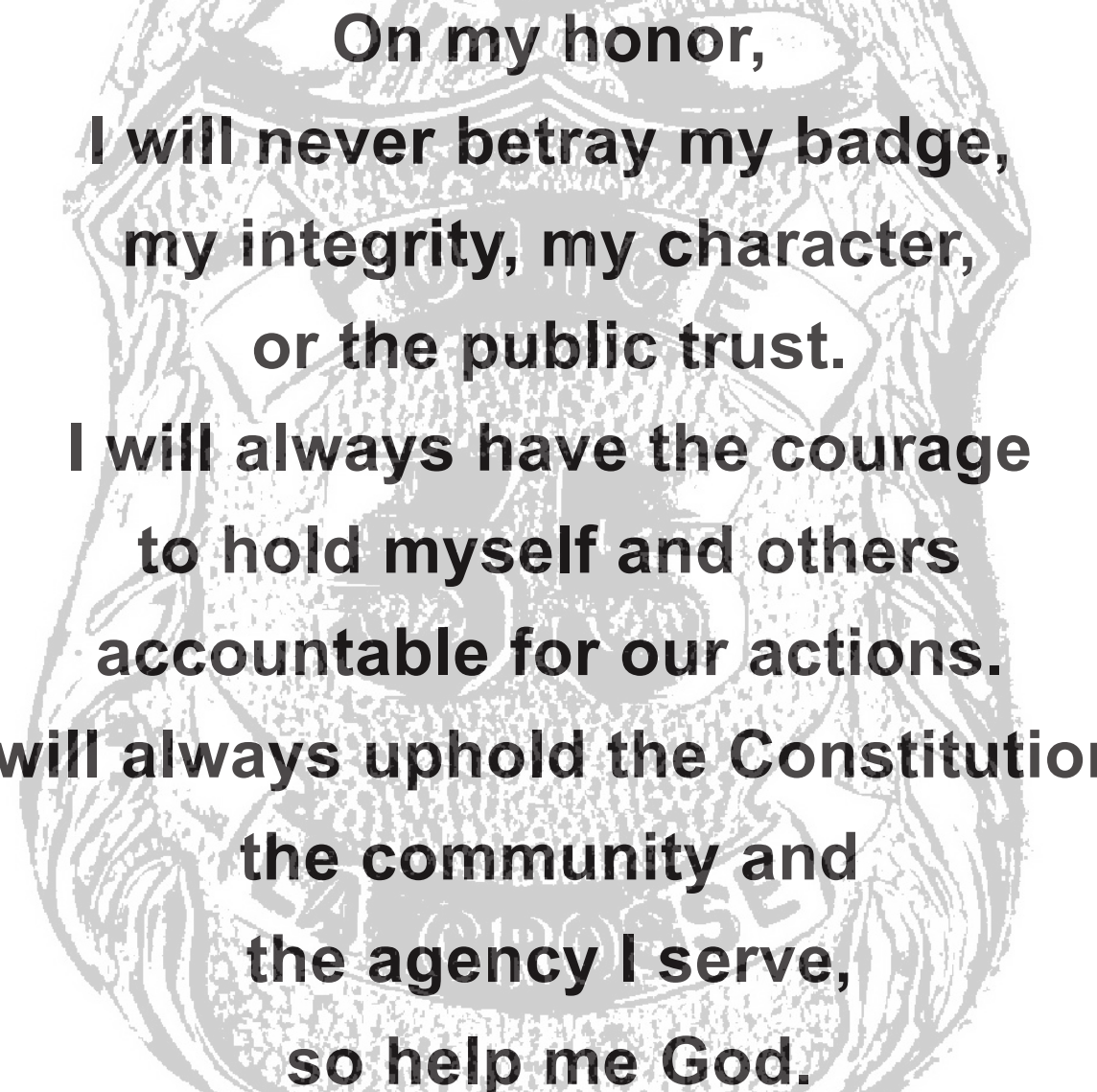
Front Row (left to right): Jeff Alsobrooks, Harley Link, Damian Kruse, Ethan Young, Sgt. Adam Morris, Ken Gast, Quartermaster Amanda Marshall, Alicia Arenz.

Middle Row: Sheila Woodman, Chelsey Wagner, Riley Vogel, Jessica Jorstad, Brittany Henderson, Katherine Wiczorek, Capt. Adam Wohlwend.

Back Row: Sgt. Randy Rank, Lt. D. Marshall Quackenboss, Justin Kremer, Trevor Wennblom, Vincent Scott, Joshua Falk, Roger Hackman, Jack Bell, Nathan Fater, James Hagen, Sgt. Jerry Korger.

Not Pictured: Lt. Molly Schaller, Troy Fitting, Matt Morris, Nate Poke, Thao Moua.

LAW ENFORCEMENT OATH OF HONOR



**On my honor,
I will never betray my badge,
my integrity, my character,
or the public trust.
I will always have the courage
to hold myself and others
accountable for our actions.
I will always uphold the Constitution,
the community and
the agency I serve,
so help me God.**



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FOCUS: VOLUNTEERS IN POLICING

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

The 2010 City of La Crosse Police Department Annual Report is herein presented for your review. This report consists of a statistical comparison of the activities of the La Crosse Police Department for the year 2010 as compared to preceding years. The focus of this year's report is on Volunteers in Policing. Community Policing is the La Crosse Police Department's organization wide philosophy and management approach promoting police/community partnerships. I believe that police/community partnerships are at their very best when members of the community volunteer their personal time and efforts to support and work closely with their local police. I would like to thank all those volunteer groups mentioned in this year's Annual Report and the so many other community partners not mentioned.

The year 2010 ended with no significant increase in major crimes. I am pleased to state that major crime in La Crosse remains at about a twenty year low. I am convinced that by working together and employing a Community Policing philosophy we can continue to combat crime and keep the City of La Crosse a safe place in which to live and work. To that end I will remain open to suggestions, constructive criticism and input from our community in order that the La Crosse Police Department might best meet the needs and expectations of the community we serve.

CHIEF EDWARD N. KONDRACKI
CHIEF OF POLICE

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
ANN WILLFORD





MISSION & VISION

MISSION STATEMENT

We are committed to the delivery of excellent police service to improve the quality of life within our community.

The La Crosse Police Department believes that excellent police service is achieved through the following:

- Problem Solving
- Professionalism
- Partnerships
- Ethical Practices

The La Crosse Police Department believes that our national recognition as a universal leader in policing has been achieved through the consistent excellent police service provided by our members.

VISION STATEMENT

Our vision is to achieve excellence in policing.

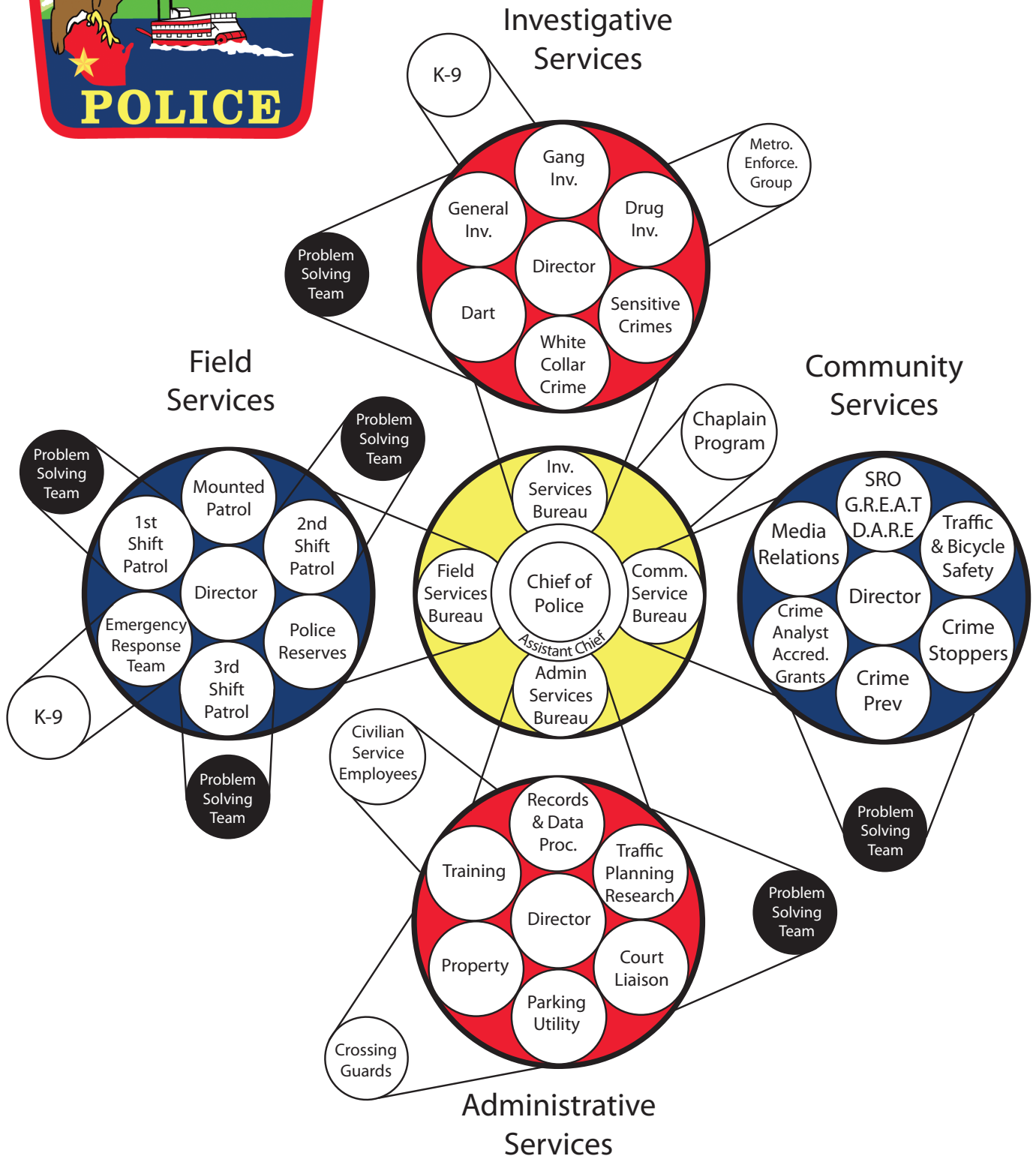
The following values guide how members of the La Crosse Police Department think, feel, and behave to improve the quality of life in La Crosse and thereby achieve our mission and vision:

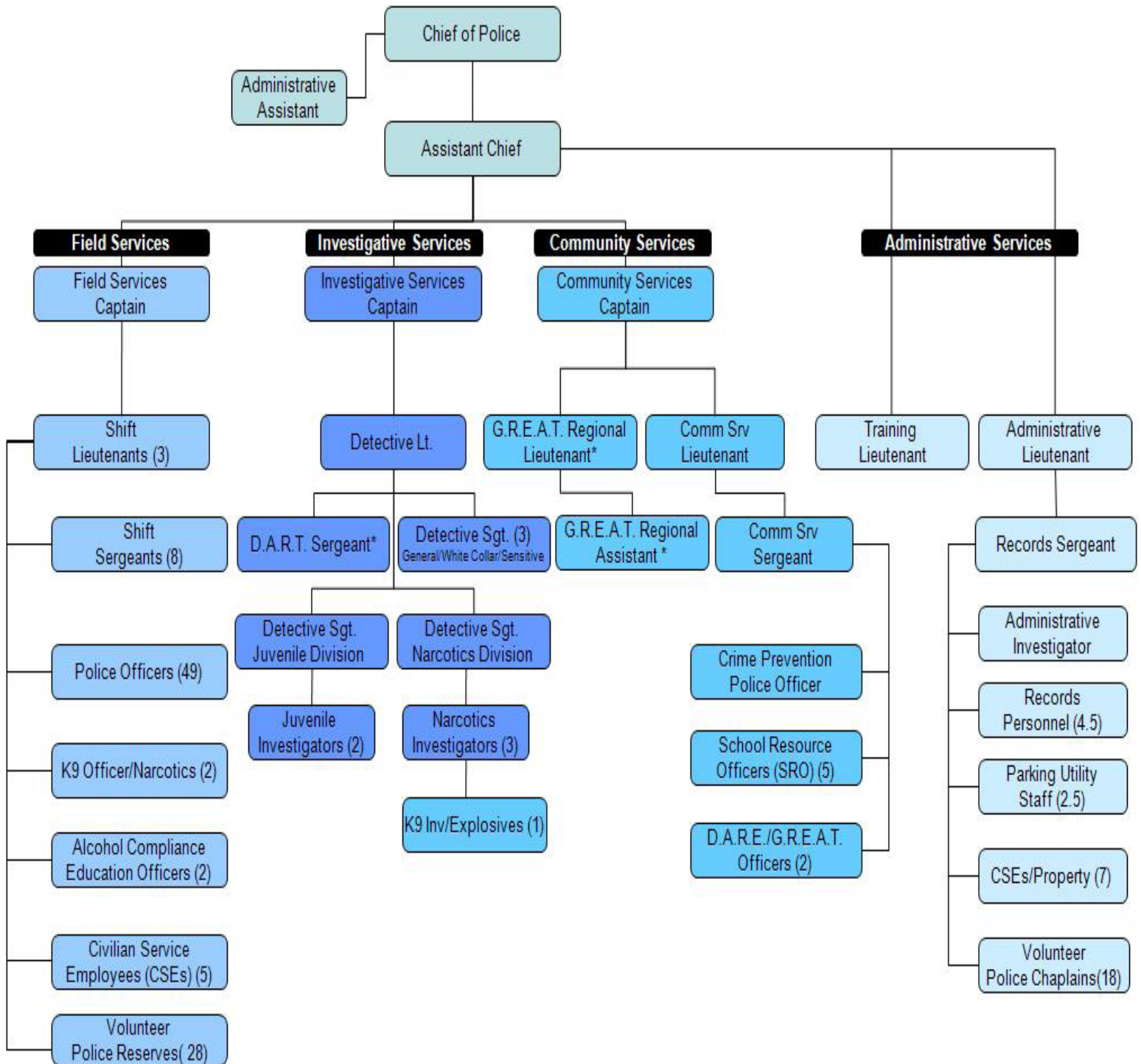
- Excellence
- Loyalty
- Respect
- Integrity
- Accountability

FOCUS: VOLUNTEERS IN POLICING



La Crosse Police Department Conceptual Organizational Chart





* Federally Funded

FOCUS: VOLUNTEERS IN POLICING

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES BUREAU

The Administrative Services Bureau includes the Records Division, Training Division, Court Services, Civilian Services, Parking Utility, as well as the Property and Evidence Section. The Administrative Services Bureau is responsible for accounting, payroll, purchasing, planning, budget development, communications and most other tasks that involve personnel or monies, storage and security of evidence and property. Hiring, research and analysis, appropriations, grants, inventories and funding concerns also fall within this Bureau's purview.

Over the course of 2010, thousands of hours of training were provided to the department. Coordinated by Lt. Raj Ramnarace, Director of Training, the Training Division delivered over 12,000 hours of training to both sworn and civilian personnel. Training consisted of in-house training along with some training provided outside the department. Members of our Department, working with the G.R.E.A.T. Midwest Atlantic Region Training Center, coordinated training and trained officers throughout the Midwest, as well as other parts of the country.

The Records Division, charged with the responsibility to maintain all of our department records, as well as communication hardware, continues to accurately detail the work of our department members. During the 2010 calendar year with the help of our RMS software company, VisionAir, the La Crosse Police Department expanded the use of our Incident Based Reporting system in which we are currently certified. We have expanded the use of our VisionAir RMS system and currently share information with other agencies across the State of Wisconsin by use of the WIJIS information sharing system. This enables Officers and Investigators to gather information from other jurisdictions across the State of Wisconsin.

During the 2010 year we were able to expand and improve a new Record Management System in the Property and Evidence Section of the Police Department. We are currently using the VisionAir Evidence Module to record all property and evidence within the department. We are also using a bar code program to bar code all property that comes in and out of the department.

During the 2010 year the Administrative Services Bureau was able to implement a new crime mapping tool through the help of CrimeReports.com. This crime mapping tool offers a family of affordable, easy-to-use software tools for the La Crosse Police Department to understand current crime trends and share up-to-date neighborhood crime data with the public. Community members can access the information for free on www.CrimeReports.com, letting them make informed decisions to help improve the safety of their neighborhood and the community in which they live. The public can also access the crimewatch program through this crime mapping tool.

ASSISTANT CHIEF THOMAS JACOBS
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES BUREAU





ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

The Police Department has an even more robust and powerful crime mapping tool that allows us to look at trendcasting maps to see what time of day, day of the week and location that current crime trends are taking place. We can also look at current crime analysis to help predict crime trends and possible allocation of resources.

During the listed year, the CSE's and parking utility personnel issued and processed over 48,000 parking citations. The Records Bureau processed over 20,000 police reports and 19,500 citations, warnings and crash reports. The Records Clerks handled over 4,500 open records requests along with processing over 1,200 license applications. The Property Section handled over 5,000 pieces of property/evidence.

Members of this Bureau continue to work hard and support the officers on the street in order to provide the best most efficient service for the citizens of La Crosse.

Assistant Chief
Thomas Jacobs

Administrative Lieutenant
Patrick Hogan

Training Lieutenant
Raj Ramnarace

Records Division Sergeant
Randy Rank

Court Liaison / Traffic Investigator
Evan Stone

Property Section CSE
Kristine Gasch

Civilian Service Employees (CSE)

Diane Skifton	Kong Xiong	Jason Nesbit
Michael Nagy	Kong Lor	Thao Moua
Teng Thao	Ben Burrow	Robert Diersen

Records Division Civilian Employees

Anne Heilman	Joanne Ruegg	Rebecca Smith
Lisa Putz	Nicole Schneider	

Parking Utility Civilian Employees

Antoinette Gelbeck	Mary Sumeracki
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FOCUS: VOLUNTEERS IN POLICING

FIELD SERVICES BUREAU

The Field Services Bureau (also known as “Patrol”) is the largest bureau in the La Crosse Police Department; comprised of uniformed police officers and supervisors who are dedicated to service to the community and respond to citizens calls for service. When you call 911, it is Field Services that respond to your call.

The Field Services Bureau is committed to the pursuit of excellence and in serving the citizens and visitors of the La Crosse community. Our primary mission is the protection of life and liberty, order maintenance and the personal security of our citizens and their property. We accomplish this by aggressively seeking out those who chose to victimize our community and disregard the basic rights and liberties of a civilized people. We are committed to consistent enforcement, community policing, building partnerships with our community and problem solving.

The face of the Field Services Bureau is varied as determined by assignment and transportation. Our members incorporate squad cars, motorcycles, bicycles, foot patrols, ATV’s, mounted horse patrols and K-9 patrols. Two thirds of the sworn officers of the department are assigned to the Field Services Bureau and they are who the public is most likely to come in contact with. They respond to emergencies, alarms, reports of crimes, calls for service, traffic crashes and conduct traffic enforcement. The services provided range from preliminary investigations and documentation of major crimes, to problem solving complex quality of life issues.

The bureau consists of three shifts; each commanded by a Shift Lieutenant supported by sergeants who directly supervise all activities on the street. Bureau members conduct day-to-day street-level operations in uniform being highly visible and accessible. The bureau provides command and control and most of the officers for emergency response situations, dignitary escort and protection, community oriented problem solving, and special events.

Support is provided to and received from the Police Chaplain Program, Police Reserve Program and the Police Internship Program. The key to our success is forging a strong partnership with the community and our ability to conduct immediate problem solving by team effort working directly with all involved.

The Field Services Bureau personnel are among the best trained officers in the State of Wisconsin with many bureau officers providing training to other officers throughout the state.

CAPTAIN ROBERT LAWRENCE
FIELD SERVICES BUREAU





FIELD SERVICES STAFF

Many of the bureau officers have attended Federal Homeland Security Training and State Emergency Management Training. The officers continually demonstrate the highest degree of professionalism under difficult circumstances as they serve the community under the department's Mission Statement.

In 2010, members of the bureau were involved in 57,525 calls for service, issued 9,008 traffic citations, 8,932 warnings and investigated 1,486 reportable traffic crashes. Field Services Bureau members were instrumental in achieving a 52% percent clearance rate of Part I Uniform Crime Report Offenses in 2010.

Bureau Director—Captain

Robert Lawrence

Shift Lieutenants

Raymond Serres

Joe Smith

Troy Nedegaard

Shift Sergeants

Jerome Korger Andrew Gavrilos

Grant Gyllander Gary Hauser

Charles Frandsen Brian Thomson

Craig Oleson Thomas Walsh

Officers

Steven Holinka
Alan Baldwin
Steven Thornton
James Kirby
Gregory Fitzsimmons
Lisa Barrix
Dale Gerbig
Jovanna Nedland
Teri Roden
Frank Racich
Ryan Fitzgerald
Steven Pataska
Andy Rosenow
Tom Hansen
Melissa Sommers
Aaron Erdmann
Phillip Martin
Wade Blazejak

John Matuska
Brian Olson
Andrew Angst
Richard Rank
Robert Wiececorek
Todd Fischer
Faling Yang
James Gegenfurtner
Eric Christianson
Craig Teff
Ryan Stenslien
Joel Miller
Jeremy Rindfleisch
Brad Schomberg
Quintin Schaitel
Andrew Dittman
Joseph Wiegrefe

Gary Clements
Scott Delaney
Mark Rosenmeier
Scott Harmel
Alan Iverson
Corrie Korn
Alan Hagen
Casey Rossman
Tony Leque
James Mancuso
Christopher Schuster
Brian Deyo
Ryan Prock
Timothy O'Neill
Dan Ulrich
Matthew Geenen
Cory Brandl

FOCUS: VOLUNTEERS IN POLICING

COMMUNITY SERVICES BUREAU

The Community Services Bureau was directed by Captain Michael Brohmer. The Community Services Bureau is primarily responsible for community crime prevention, education, news media relations, and school safety programs. The Community Services Bureau also provides staff and logistical support to the Patrol and Investigation Bureaus.

Several of the major crime prevention programs fall under the responsibility of the Community Services Bureau including the delivery of both the D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program in the elementary schools and G.R.E.A.T. (Gang Resistance Education and Training) curricula in our elementary and middle schools. These two programs alone reached over 2000 students in the La Crosse's public and private schools.

The School Resource Officer (SRO) program is another crime prevention program and also under the direction of the Community Services Bureau. The SRO program has an officer assigned to each middle and high school within the city. These School Resource Officers provide specialized classes tailored to the needs of the school or community. Some of these classes include internet safety, constitutional law, over the counter and prescription drug abuse, driver's education, bicycle safety, bullying prevention, and school safety.

The Community Service Bureau also provides the G.R.E.A.T. Summer Programming which allows Officers to work hand and hand with the Boys and Girls Club of Greater La Crosse, Camp Send A Kid, and the La Crosse Park and Recreation Department to provide prevention programs for the youth of our community, working to engage them in becoming a productive citizen in the community. During our summer programs we partnered with the Onalaska Police Department and La Crosse County Sheriff's Office to reach over 2000 kids.

Other major programs include the La Crosse Area Crime Stoppers Program, which received over 330 tips in 2010 helping to clear numerous cases within the La Crosse area. The Bureau was also responsible for fingerprinting 554 members of our community and in 2010 received a grant to update our current equipment which will improve the service to the community. The Community Services Bureau is responsible for administering the G.R.E.A.T. Midwest Atlantic Regional Training Center providing certification training for police officers in sixteen states. G.R.E.A.T., Gang Resistance, Education and Training, a violence prevention program, has components directed towards elementary school, middle school, summer and family programming. Within the department the bureau also oversees the Department Interns, Neighborhood Watch, National Night Out, Community Policing, the School Crossing Guards, and the department's accreditation through the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Accreditation Group.

CAPTAIN MITCH BROHMER
COMMUNITY SERVICES BUREAU





COMMUNITY SERVICES STAFF

Additionally, the Community Services Bureau is the administering bureau for the majority of grants in the Department. In 2010, the Community Services Bureau administered federal and state grants totaling over \$500,000 which included such grants as the Justice Assistance Grant; G.R.E.A.T. Local; G.R.E.A.T. Regional; OJA Homeland Security; COPS Secure our Schools; Justice Assistance Recovery; as well as various Department of Transportation grants. The Bureau also is responsible for writing and administering private foundation grants. In 2010, over \$4500.00 was awarded to the department for the local D.A.R.E. and G.R.E.A.T. programs

Looking forward to 2011, the Bureau will oversee the implementation of a new D.A.R.E. curriculum in our public and private schools. The Community Services Bureau, along with community support, will continue to provide quality community based prevention programs designed to prevent crime; maintaining La Crosse as one of the safest communities in the nation.

Bureau Director—Captain
Mitch Brohmer

Bureau Lieutenant
Robert Berndt

G.R.E.A.T. Lieutenant
Jason Melby

Bureau Sergeant
Kirk Flatten

DARE / GREAT Officers

Kurt Weaver

Jon Wenger

School Liaison Officers

Heath Graves Bradley Stoner
Ronald Secord Avrie Schott Andrew Dittman

G.R.E.A.T. Civilian
Teri Serres
Roger Barnes

FOCUS: VOLUNTEERS IN POLICING

INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES BUREAU

The Investigative Services Bureau is primarily responsible for the investigation of all criminal cases within the City of La Crosse. The Investigative Bureau has a staff of 11 members which are divided into three areas of expertise: general investigations, narcotic/vice investigations and sensitive crimes which includes domestic violence, juveniles, sex crimes, and elderly victims incidents.

The Investigative Bureau is dedicated to the mission of community policing by providing expertise in all areas of criminal investigation. In 2010, the Investigative Bureau investigated over 2,400 criminal cases and seized over 7,000 grams of narcotics.

All Investigative Bureau members are trained in a variety of disciplines and therefore are capable of performing a wide variety of specialized tasks outside their normal assignments. This provides greater flexibility in their work assignments when the need arises. Personnel not only provide expertise in crime investigations, they initiate investigations, and develop sources of information.

Members serve on a variety of local, state and national committees including the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, the Child Advocacy Center, Drug Endangered Children Task Force, La Crosse County Drug Court, Violence Against Women Association, New Horizons, Wisconsin Association for Identification, Wisconsin Association of Homicide Investigators, the National Association of Gang Investigators and Outlaw Motorcycle Gang Investigators.

The staff also provides educational and instructional training presentations at UW- La Crosse, Viterbo University, Western Technical College, Winona State University, both local hospitals, a variety of neighborhood groups, Downtown Business Association, Citizen Police Academy and the area public schools at all levels.

The Department's Domestic Abuse Reduction Team (DART) is assigned to the Investigative Bureau and plays a key role in the community by investigating cases of domestic violence and works diligently to reduce the incidents of domestic violence as well. The team provides a variety of services to aid those in need within the community.

The Investigative Bureau draws from a wide variety of resources to respond to criminal activity in La Crosse. The Investigative Bureau strives to provide excellence in the area of criminal investigation and to respond to the needs of the La Crosse community. Through community policing efforts and improvements in law enforcement technology, the Investigative Bureau will continue to actively work to keep the La Crosse community safe.

CAPTAIN ROBERT ABRAHAM
INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES BUREAU





INVESTIGATIVE STAFF

Bureau Director—Captain
Robert Abraham

Bureau Lieutenant
Shawn Kudron

Sensitive Crimes Sergeant
Linnea Moren

D.A.R.T. Sergeant
Sally Newman

Bureau Sergeants
Michael Blokhuis Patrick Marco
Matthew Malott

Bureau Investigators
Jason Mahairas Rick Pfennig
Dan Kloss

Juvenile Division Investigators
Tony Delap Jake Jansky

FOCUS: VOLUNTEERS IN POLICING

CHAPLAIN PROGRAM



The La Crosse Area Law Enforcement Chaplaincy provides a ministry of presence, supplying a source of strength to law enforcement officers and their families, department personnel, and members of the community. Additionally, our chaplains are trained to serve the needs of others without religious, racial, social, or gender bias, providing care and compassion for those impacted by crisis and traumatic incidents.

In 1970, Father William Wentink asked the Rockford Illinois Police Department if he could ride along with one of their officers. That first night, three children died in a fire. The officer he rode with asked Father Wentink if he would assist at the scene and with the victims' family members. This was the beginning of the modern day Police Chaplaincy movement in America.

Father Wentink still serves the Rockford Police Department and was a founding member of the International Conference of Police Chaplains (ICPC), a worldwide organization with over 2,700 members. (Through membership of its Head Chaplain, our Police Chaplaincy program maintains affiliation with this internationally recognized and well respected organization.)

In July of 2000, the first organizational meeting was held at the La Crosse Police Department for the development and establishment of a Chaplaincy Program here in the Coulee Region. After several months of training, chaplains began serving officially in the City of La Crosse on January 1, 2001. In May of 2002, the program was officially adopted by the City of Onalaska Police Department. In January of 2008, the program was also officially adopted by the La Crosse County Sheriff's Department.

The La Crosse Area Law Enforcement Chaplaincy is comprised of area clergy from many denominations and affiliations. These licensed, ordained ministers serve strictly as volunteers and do not receive pay for their availability or the services they provide. All chaplains have completed a background check, gone through a department initiation, and have received specialized training. They also serve as members of the Police Reserve and receive official department identification badges. They provide the equipment necessary to perform their duties (flashlight, pen, notepad, etc.) and respond to calls in their personal vehicle. They also cover all dues and professional expenses in national police chaplaincy organizations. Chaplains respond to all calls for help on a "no decline" basis, serving all members of our communities in the spirit of the Good Samaritan serving from various faith backgrounds. La Crosse Area Law Enforcement Chaplains are available to respond to calls from all law enforcement agencies in La Crosse County.



REV. MARK D. CLEMENTS

COULEE REGION LAW ENFORCEMENT CHAPLAINCY



CHAPLAIN PROGRAM

This year marked the 10th anniversary of the La Crosse Area Law Enforcement Chaplaincy. Since 2000, our team of trained law enforcement chaplains have responded to over 385 emergency calls including a jet crash, river drownings, homicides, infant deaths, car fatalities, death notifications, missing persons, suicides, and officer involved shootings. Our chaplains responded to every call assisting the victims of tragedy but also in service to our members of law enforcement. In the last 10 years we have also assisted 13 law enforcement agencies and one fire department in starting a Chaplaincy Program within their departments.

In 2010, eighteen chaplains provided 8,760 hours of support to local law enforcement, to victims and families during times of tragedy. Chaplains also minister to all members of the police departments, which they serve, providing a “listening ear,” with all confidential communications legally protected. In addition to emergency calls, chaplains officiated 3 weddings for department personnel and family members, honored 6 retiring personnel with a plaque and police retirement book, and hosted the 10th Annual Police Appreciation Picnic for all law enforcement in La Crosse County.

The Chaplains of the Coulee Region Law Enforcement Chaplaincy consider it a great honor and privilege to assist and serve alongside the faithful and dedicated police officers of our community.

2010 CHAPLAIN MEMBERS

Jenny Arneson (Methodist)

Mark Boyd (Apostolic)

Art Brown (Evangelical Free)

Mark Clements (Non-Denominational)

Jen Clemmerson (Assembly of God)

Chad Cummings (Southern Baptist)

Leon Franck (Non-Denominational)

Phil Gaddis (Baptist)

Matthew Ludick (Catholic)

Bryan McGrath (Non-Denominational)

Diana McGrath (Non-Denominational)

Houa Moua (Lutheran)

Frank O’Laughlin (Non-Denominational)

Larry Olson (Presbyterian)

Charles Robinson (Church of Christ)

Tom Skemp (Catholic)

Phil Stein (Nazarene)

Jeff Thomson (Assembly of God)

FOCUS: VOLUNTEERS IN POLICING

10TH ANNUAL POLICE APPRECIATION PICNIC





CITY COUNCIL

The City Council enacts legislation and allocates City resources for programs, services, and activities. The La Crosse Police Department sincerely appreciates the support of the La Crosse City Council.

CITY COUNCIL MEMBERS

Richard Becker	Lorraine Decker
Douglas Farmer	Jai Johnson
Audrey Kader	Mike Larsen
Bernard Maney	Chris Olson
Bruce Ranis	Andrea Richmond
John Satory	Eric Schmidt
Bob Seaquist	Richard Swantz
Tom Sweeney	Al Wagner
Marilyn Wigdahl	



POLICE & FIRE COMMISSION

The Police and Fire Commission is a non-political board of citizens appointed by the Mayor and subject to confirmation by the City Council. They oversee personnel matters, including the hiring and discipline of sworn staff members, consistent with State Statute 62.13. We appreciate that these Commission members volunteer their time and services to the La Crosse community.

COMMISSION MEMBERS

James Thornton
Bruce Jentz
Roger Plesha
Mary Lund
Doug Happel



MAYOR MATHIAS HARTER
CITY OF LA CROSSE

FOCUS: VOLUNTEERS IN POLICING

EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM

The Emergency Response Team (ERT) is a part-time team that consists of 3 commanders, 17 tactical members and 10 negotiators. The members have regular duty assignments within the Field Services, Investigative Services and Community Services Bureaus. ERT is assigned to respond to hostage and barricaded persons, high risk warrants and vehicle stops, civil disturbances, natural / man-made disasters and dignitary protection. ERT members are assigned pagers and are able to respond 24 / 7.

ERT members commit themselves above and beyond that of a standard officer. Starting in 2011 they will be required to take part in 96 hours of training per year, separate from their regular duties. ERT members are self motivated to maintain a higher level of physical fitness and commitment to their duties.

ERT continues to enhance its training efforts so it can enhance its ability to provide a safe environment for the La Crosse community. All tactical members are completing training in Incident Command through the Department of Homeland Security. We continue to improve our working relationship with the Wisconsin Regional SWAT Team. Members are training with other SWAT teams from across Wisconsin and expanding its equipment inventory.

A special thanks goes to partnering agencies that have taken part in training with ERT throughout the year: Gundersen Lutheran, Family Childrens Center, WTC, Volk Field, La Crosse and Bangor School Districts, La Crosse MTU, Logistics Health, CenturyLink and Department of Criminal Investigations to name a few.

The primary goal of ERT has and continues to be to solve matters in a safe and peaceful manner.





ERT MEMBERS

OIC

Lt. Troy Nedegaard

Assistant OIC

Lt. Joseph Smith

Team Leaders

Investigator Jason Mahairas
Officer Corrie Korn
Officer Faling Yang
Officer Robert Wiczorek

Negotiators

Sergeant Sally Newman
Sergeant Thomas Walsh
Sergeant Linnea Moren
Sergeant Andrew Gavrilos
Officer Avrie Schott
Officer Teri Roden
Officer Eric Christianson
Officer Steven Pataska
Officer Andrew Dittman

Tactical Members

Sergeant Grant Gyllander
Sergeant Chuck Frandsen
Sergeant Matthew Malott
Investigator Rick Pfenning
Investigator Jacob Jansky
Investigator Dan Kloss
Officer Tony LeQue
Officer Alan Iverson
Officer Joel Miller
Officer Andy Rosenow
Officer Christopher Schuster
Officer James Mancuso
Officer Casey Rossman
Officer Bradley Schomberg



FOCUS: VOLUNTEERS IN POLICING

K-9 UNIT

The K-9 Division of the LaCrosse Police Department continues to serve the LaCrosse community through the general deterrence of illegal drug activity, explosive detection, tracking and public relations. K-9 Handlers Ron Secord (Grumman) and Ryan Fitzgerald (Ralph) were joined in 2009 with the addition of Handler / Officer Casey Rossman and his K-9 partner "Brutus".

On October 27, 2009, Officer Casey Rossman was selected to become the newest handler and to be partnered with K-9 Brutus. Brutus is a 2 ½ year old pure bred German Shepherd imported from Germany by George and Cathy Markos of Bachbett Kennels. Brutus is trained in the detection of Methamphetamine, Marijuana, Cocaine and Heroin. He has additional training in "tracking" and "evidence search". In 2010, Officer Rossman and K-9 Brutus logged 332 hours of training, 218 drug deployments, and 12 hours of tracking & evidence search deployments. Rossman and Brutus competed in USPCA Region 18 detector dog competition held in Duluth, MN where they competed against 46 other handler teams taking 3rd place with a total score of 198.0 out of 200.0 possible points.

Officer Ron Secord and his Explosives K-9 partner Grumman continue to serve the LaCrosse community as this areas only explosives detection dog. Grumman, a friendly Yellow Labrador, remains active in responding to Bomb Threats, Search Warrants, VIP & Special Event security as well as general calls for service involving explosives. Officer Secord and Grumman logged 365 hours of training in 2010 and were called in to service 28 times. Grumman was used by LaCrosse Police and surrounding jurisdictions in 11 bomb threats, 1 officer involved shooting, 1 homicide, the visit of the "Dalai Lama" in Madison, 1 gun call to an area high school, and 3 special event searches to name a few.

Officer Ryan Fitzgerald and his Black Labrador K-9 Ralph remain vigilant in "the war on drugs" and keeping the LaCrosse community safe. They participated in 203 hours of training and were deployed 131 times of which one deployment resulted in the seizure of 4 pounds of marijuana. Fitzgerald continues to utilize Ralph in the general detection of drugs while on patrol, but assists in conducting searches for the





1ST ANNUAL K-9 GOLF OUTING

Investigative Services Bureau and area schools. Ralph still possesses his energetic personality which makes him popular at civic events as a public relations ambassador.

In 2010, the K-9 Division held its first fundraising golf event “Puttin for the Pooches” at Forest Hills Golf Course. With the help of area businesses and sponsors, the event was able to raise \$6,000.00 to be used for the purchasing of equipment, food and training. The event was a huge success and plans are in the works to make it an annual fundraiser. The K-9 unit continues to receive support from the community through generous donations of funds and/or services making the program a huge success.



FOCUS: VOLUNTEERS IN POLICING

3RD STREET AID STATION FOR OKTOBERFEST WEEKEND

On the Corner of 3rd and Pearl St.



We're Here To Help!

In 2007 with the partnership and collaboration with local businesses, government agencies and all 3 universities, this volunteer organization opened up and operated the “3rd Street Aid Station” for the Oktoberfest weekend. This aid station has sat on the corner of 3rd and Pearl Street for the past 4 years and is a medical and information center that is designed to give help to anyone that needs it during the busy Oktoberfest weekend. The “3rd Street Aid Station” is totally run by volunteers from the community and all resources are

also donated from the community and no tax dollars are used to operate the aid station. For the past 4 years the Aid Station has averaged about 60 volunteers for a total of 240 volunteers over the last 4 years. During the first weekend of Oktoberfest the Aid Station is able to give bar goers assistance in areas of medical needs, directions, cell phone usage or charging, or help to get a ride home. The Aid Station is free and available for anyone that needs help. The Aid Station provides a friendly and safe area where the community can come together to help those that might possibly need some help while celebrating at Oktoberfest.

Community Partnerships/Collaboration:

La Crosse Police Department

La Crosse Fire Department

Fortney Companies

Subway

Viterbo University

UW-La Crosse

Western Technical College

Operation River Watch

Reinhart Foods

Tri-State Ambulance

Coulee Council on Addictions

La Crosse Emergency Dispatch Center

La Crosse Emergency Management

Buzzard Billy's

Kish Electric

Century Link

La Crosse Center





La Crosse Area **CRIME STOPPERS**

Hotline
608-784-TIPS (8477)
or 1-800-947-3577
Submit a Tip Online

Crime Stoppers began in La Crosse in 1984. The program was an immediate success and continues to serve the La Crosse Area. The La Crosse Area Crime Stoppers is a nonprofit program that involves the public, the media, and the police in a fight against crime. It offers anonymity and cash rewards to persons who furnish information leading to the arrest and the filing of criminal charges against crime offenders and the capture of fugitives. In order to publicize the Crime Stoppers program and maintain a high profile in the community, a specific unsolved crime is selected each month and publicized via television, radio, and/or newspapers.

Since its beginning in La Crosse, Crime Stoppers has been responsible for the arrest of over 1,100 criminals and has paid out over \$90,000 in rewards. Of the criminals arrested as a result of a Crime Stopper tip, 94% have been convicted.



Text a Tip

Text "**LAXTIPS** plus
your message"
to **274637** (CRIMES)



You could get a cash reward of up to \$1000.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

The model program for what became Neighborhood Watch was developed by the National Sheriffs Association in early 1972. It was first used in an attempt to stop the increasing burglary rate. It was found that communities, who had obtained the assistance of their citizens in the observation and reporting of suspicious and criminal activity, were able to keep the burglary rate down.

Neighborhood Watch works if people want to assume a more active role in making their community safer. Since it is impractical to place a police officer on every corner of every neighborhood, it is more practical to have help from the people who live there. The neighborhood residents know who belongs there and who doesn't and what activity is suspicious. The main reason Neighborhood Watch can be successful is that citizens can begin working with, instead of relying on, law enforcement to combat crime in their community.

Neighborhood Watch has seven primary objectives:

- Maintain a cooperative system of surveillance over one another's property, children, etc.
- Report suspicious activity and persons, or crimes in progress accurately and immediately to the police.
- Mutually assist and encourage comprehensive crime prevention awareness.
- Maintain a continuing system for the dissemination of information and educational materials.
- Encourage neighbors to report crimes and come forward as witnesses of criminal activity.
- Assist and support victims of crime.
- Help elderly or debilitated citizens and children protect themselves from becoming crime victims.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

The 27th year of National Night Out campaign involved citizens, law enforcement agencies, civic groups, businesses, neighborhood organizations and local officials from over 15,000 communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities and military bases worldwide. In all, over 37 million people participated in National Night Out 2010.

The main goals of National Night Out are to:

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness;
- Generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime programs;
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police community partnerships; and
- Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

NNO has proven to be an effective, inexpensive and enjoyable program to promote neighborhood spirit and police community partnerships in our fight for a safer nation. Plus, the benefits your community will derive from NNO will most certainly extend well beyond the one night.



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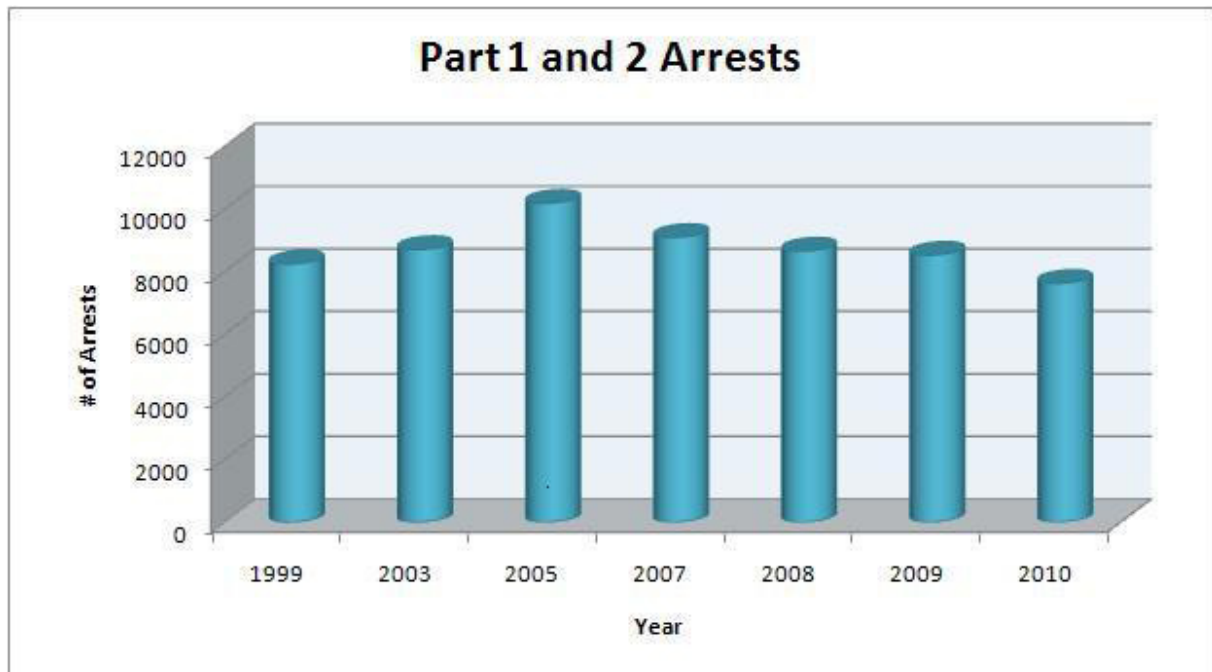
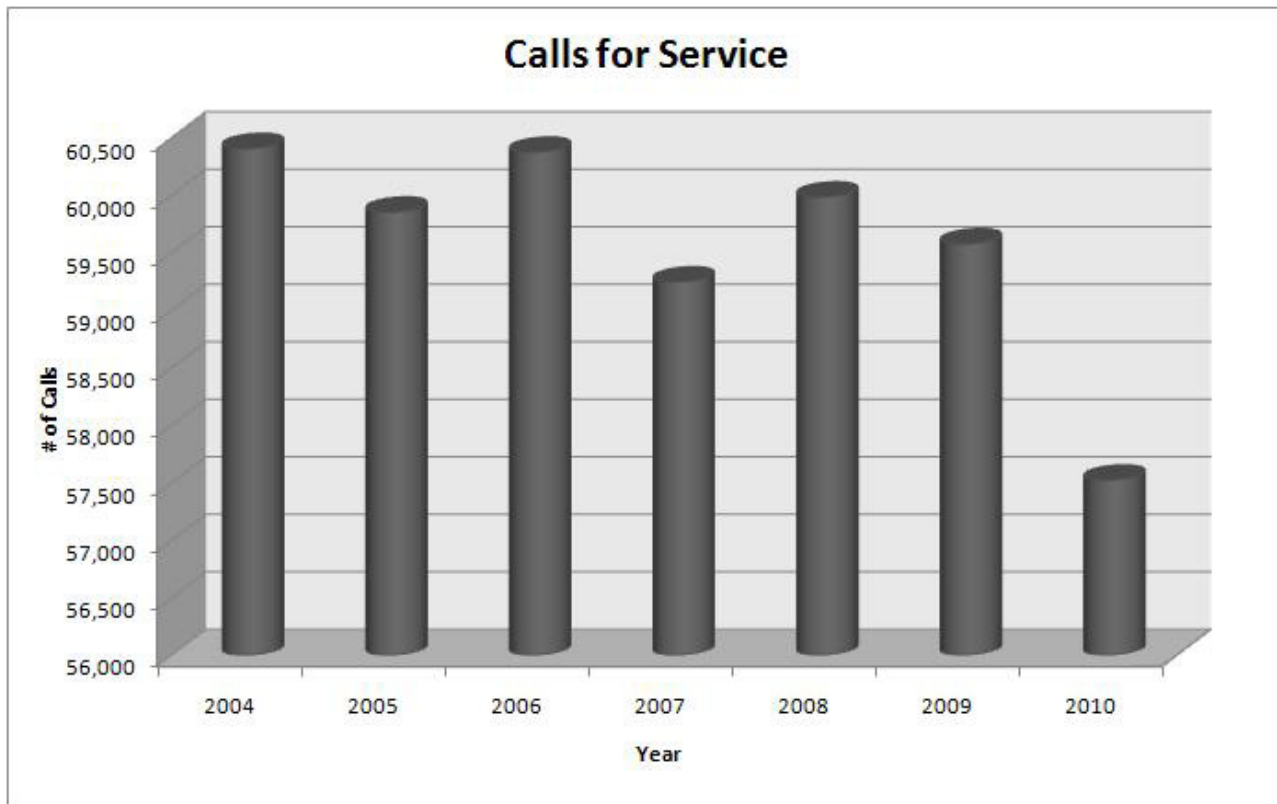
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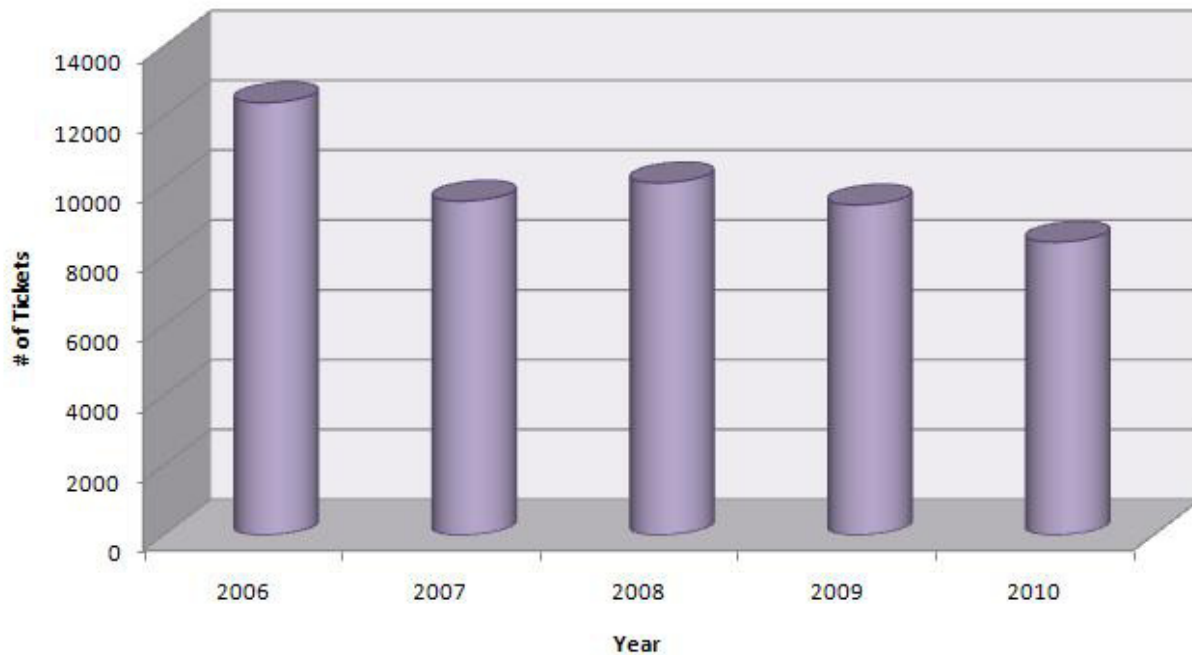
FOCUS: VOLUNTEERS IN POLICING

2010 STATISTICS

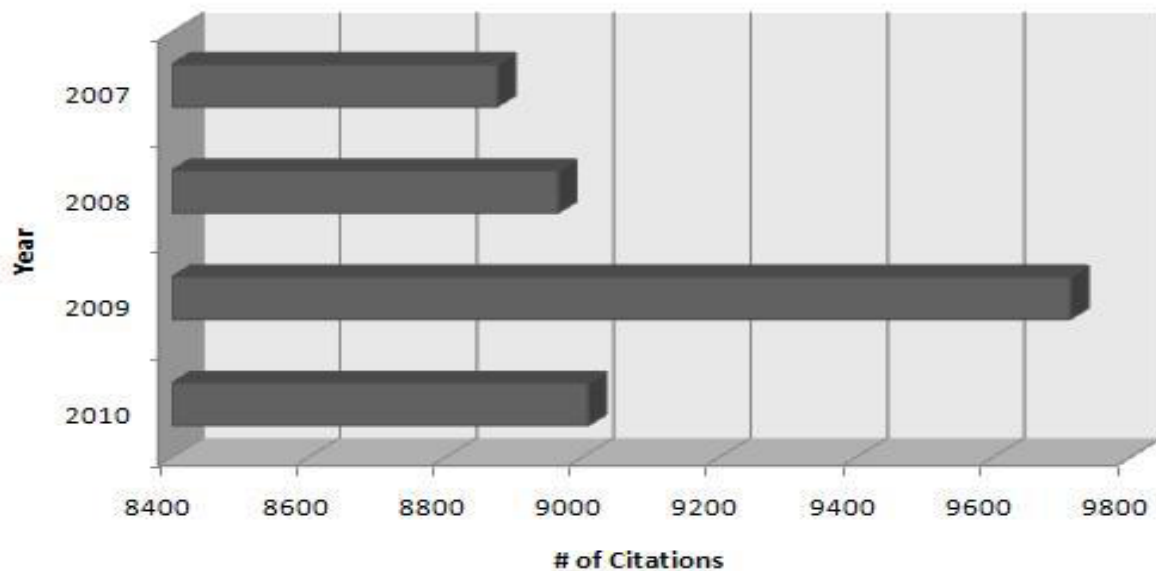




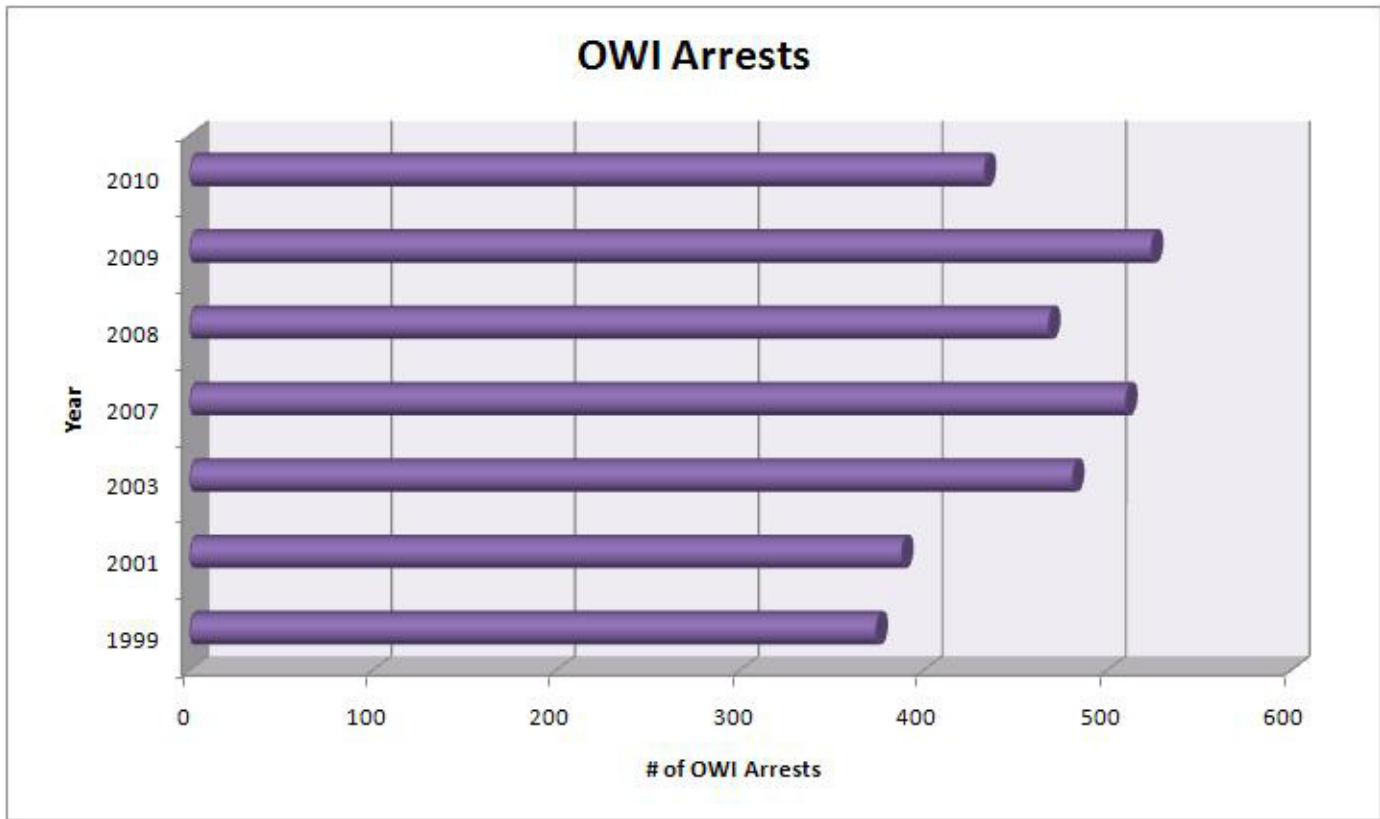
Warning Tickets



Traffic Citations

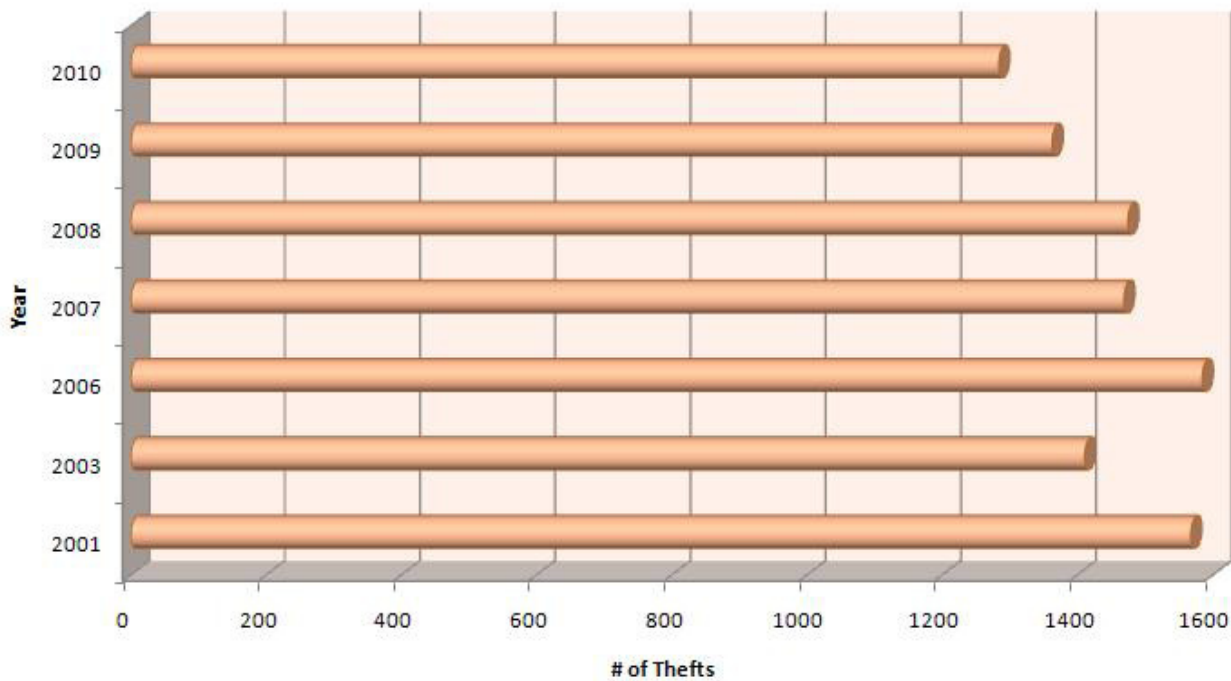


FOCUS: VOLUNTEERS IN POLICING

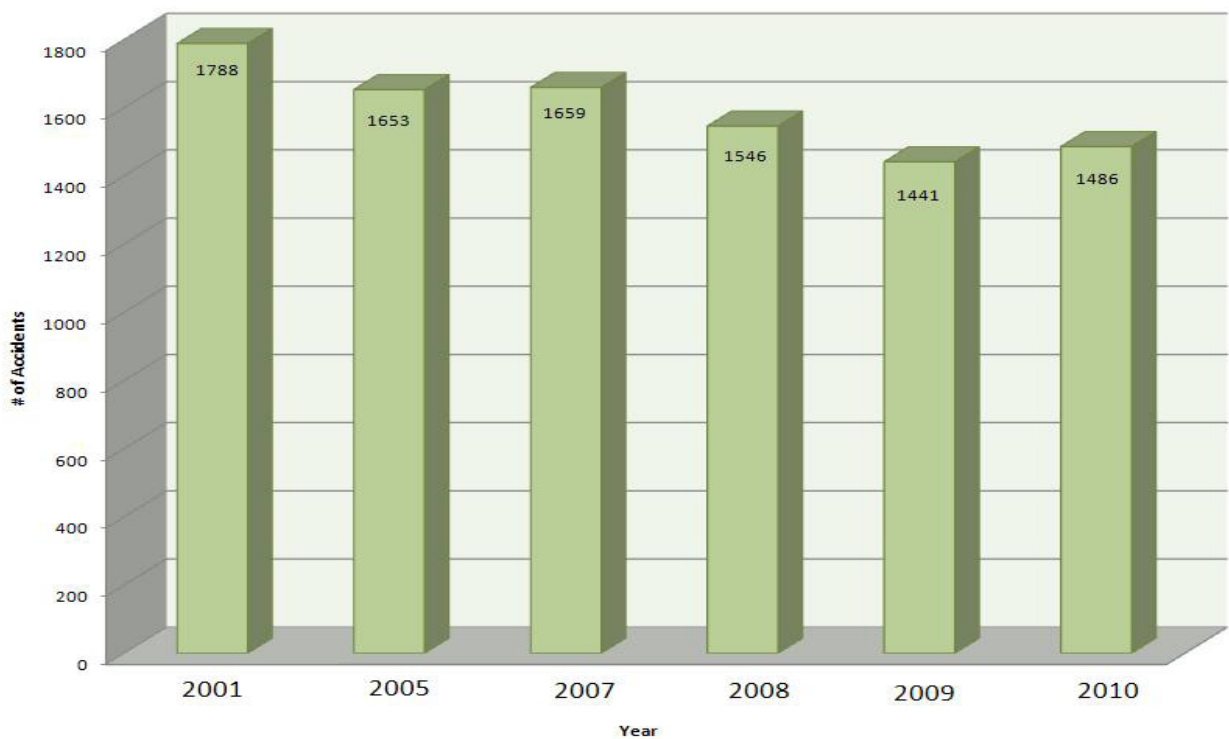




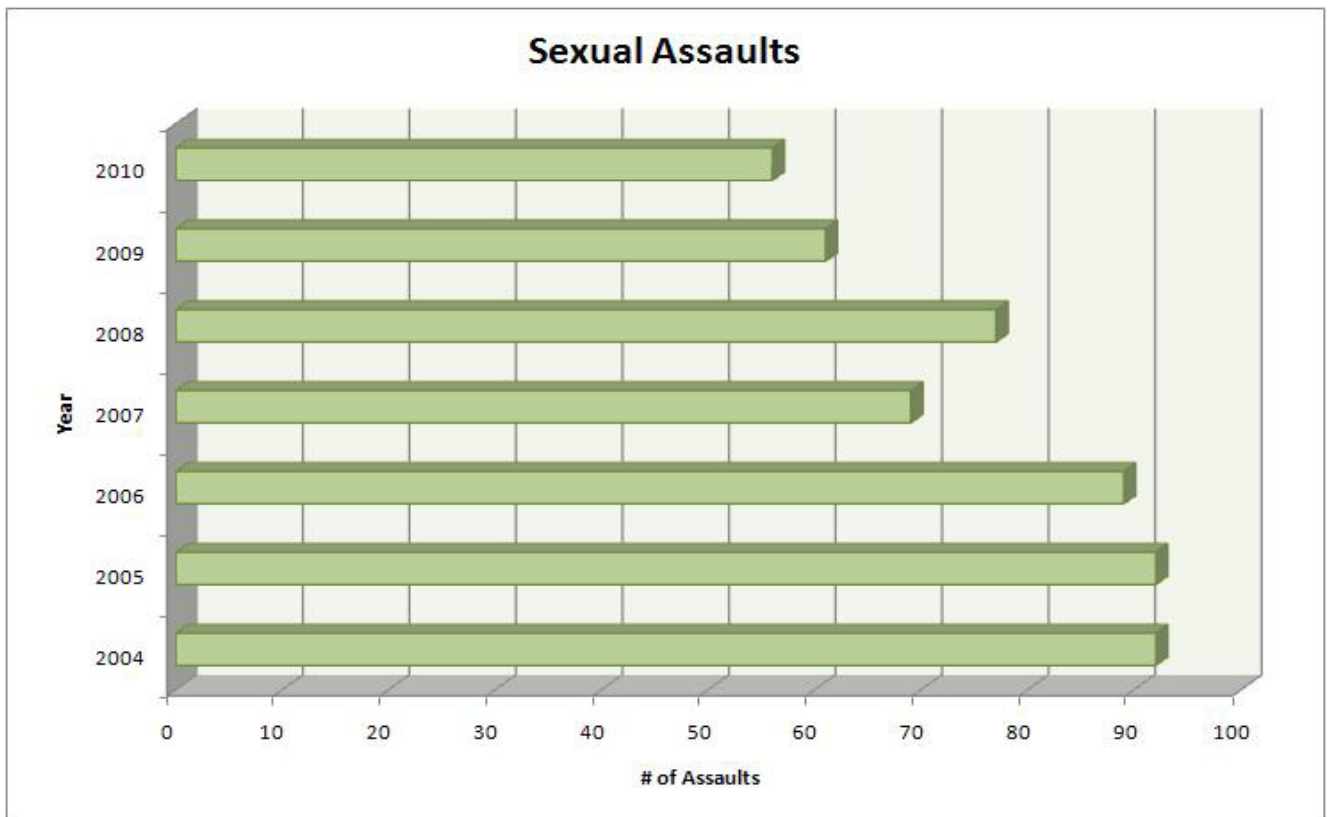
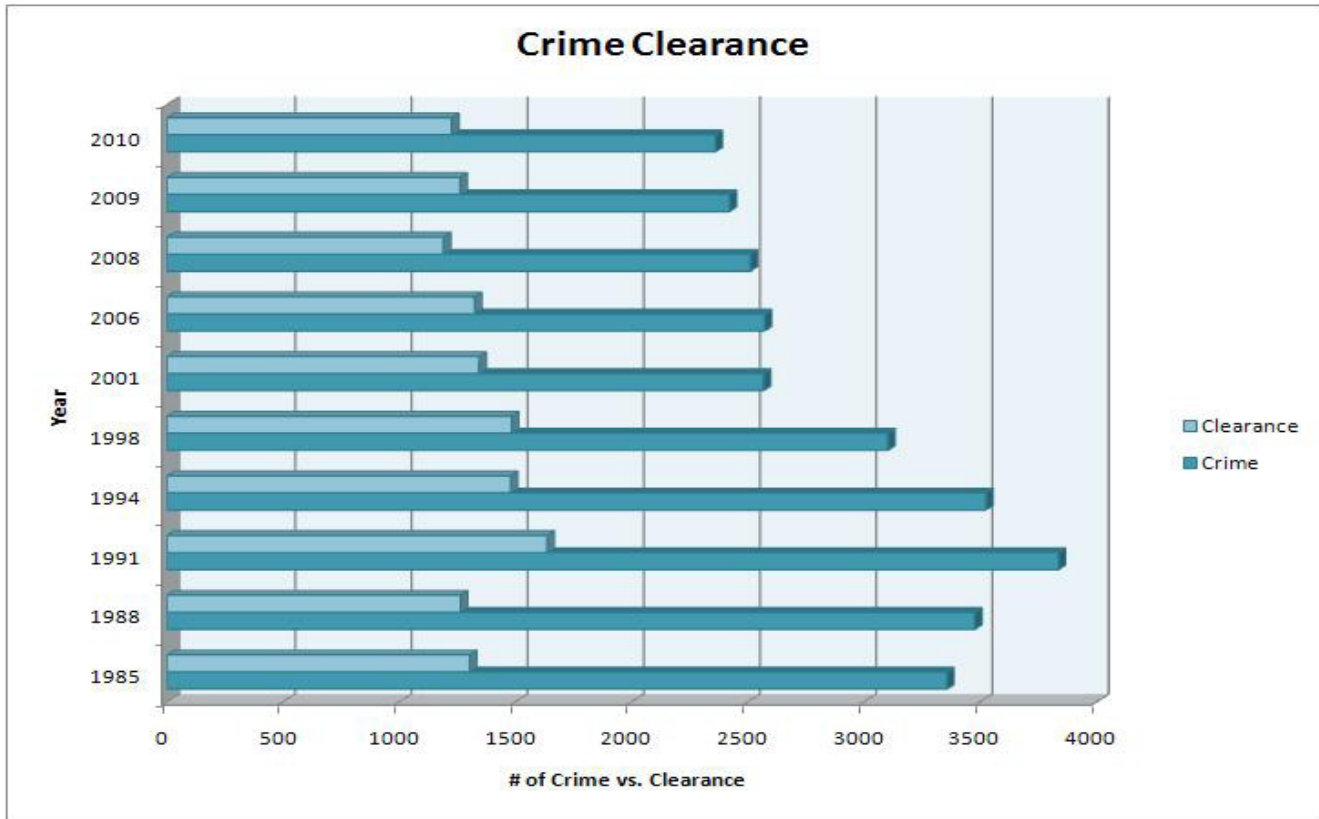
Theft and Larceny Offenses



State Reportable Accidents



FOCUS: VOLUNTEERS IN POLICING





IN THE NEWS...

Bank robbery, then standoff

Members of the La Crosse County Emergency Response Team enter a home with guns drawn Friday at 403 Avon St. on La Crosse's North Side during a standoff with a suspected bank robber. PETER THOMSON LA CROSSE TRIBUNE



'Alabama John' Tolar arrested for 47th time

By ANNE JUNGEN
ajungen@lacrossetribune.com

A La Crosse man was arrested for his 47th time Friday after authorities say he robbed a North Side bank and threatened to harm officers during an hour-long standoff.



Tolar

John Tolar, 45, North Side home and taken to was arrested about 3 p.m. at a Gundersen Lutheran Medical

"Quite frankly, I'm fed up with it. Hopefully in the future we're not going to have to deal with him."

Police Capt. Rob Abraham, about the frequency of John Tolar's encounters with police

Center with self-inflicted stab wounds to his chest and wrists, La Crosse police said.

Tolar about three hours earlier had entered M&I Bank, 1232 Rose St., smelling of alcohol and claiming he was dying. He demanded cash but did not show a weapon and fled east with an undisclosed amount of money, Sgt. Kirk Flatten said.

Tolar later stopped at George Street Pub, 1728 George St. — he

See ROBBERY, A7

ROBBERY

From A1

did not finish his beer, the bartender said — and left behind clothing matching what had been worn in the robbery, police said.

A tip led officers and the La Crosse County Emergency Response Team to surround a two-story home at 403 Avon St.

"He (Tolar) said if they came in, he would shoot them," Flatten said.

A woman inside the home locked herself in a closet, but police did not describe her as a hostage. She emerged from the home before he surren-



PETER THOMSON/LA CROSSE TRIBUNE

A robbery was reported late Friday morning at M&I Bank at Clinton and Rose streets on La Crosse's North Side.

dered.

Tolar, also known as "Alabama John," has had 86 incidents with police,

Flatten said, including violent confrontations. His 30 criminal cases in Wisconsin include convic-

tions for battery, resisting officers and criminal trespass to a dwelling.

A felony case filed May 13 in La Crosse County Circuit Court accuses him of assaulting a man in a wheelchair.

Police Capt. Rob Abraham called the frequency of Tolar's offenses "sickening."

"Quite frankly, I'm fed up with it," he said. "Hopefully in the future we're not going to have to deal with him."

Tolar, of 1024 Redfield St., is expected to be transferred to the La Crosse County Jail when released from the hospital. He faces a robbery charge when he appears in court.

Drunken student found in Riverside, police say

By Tribune staff

An intoxicated and disoriented University of Wisconsin-La Crosse student believed he was in Superior, Wis., when La Crosse police reserves and Operation: River Watch volunteers stopped him late Saturday in Riverside Park.

Christopher Wightman, 20, ran southbound through the park about 11:15 p.m. from a police reserve officer toward two watch volunteers, according to a police report released Thursday.

Wightman, who registered a 0.14 alcohol level on a breath test, was confident he was on the banks of Lake Superior, reports stated. He was transported to his university dorm.

Officers cited Wightman for underage consumption, being in the park after hours and possession of a false identification after finding another man's driver's license in his wallet, reports stated.

Highly secure police property rooms hold over 20,000 pieces of evidence

By ANNE JUNGEN
ajungen@lacrossetribune.com

Proof of guilt can be found here, tucked inside manila envelopes stacked floor to ceiling.

Cash hijacked from a bank. A DNA-laden rock used to smash a window during a burglary. Drugs seized from an apartment after an overdose.

The La Crosse Police Department's property area is the official repository of evidence — methodically organized and preserved — gleaned from crime scenes, victims and suspects.

The 1,000-square-foot area on the first floor is monitored by two security cameras and sealed to all but three people: a sergeant, a lieutenant and a property clerk. Even the chief is prohibited from entering without supervision.

GROWING COLLECTION

La Crosse police collect thousands of pieces of evidence each year in misdemeanor and felony cases.

Year	Items collected
2006	6,215
2007	5,897
2008	5,441
2009	6,147

WHAT IS EVIDENCE?

Any tangible item police can gather from a crime scene or a victim can be considered case evidence. Those items can include anything from DNA and vehicles to digital records from security cameras and squad cars.

Source: La Crosse Police Department

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS



collecting, packaging and labeling evidence before it's turned over to property clerk Kristine Gasch, who electronically logs and labels the item by case number.

The cache includes DNA samples, drugs, soda cans, clothing, knives, metal bats, surveillance videos and car parts. An arson case yielded a charred piece of roof.

"You name it, we got it," Rank said.

Three freezers hold dried and preserved biological evidence. Advances in forensic technology have increased the volume of DNA samples in the past several years, Rank said, and the department becomes responsible after processing at the state Crime Laboratory in Madison.

Confiscated drugs are stored in two old jail cells, in a small room with a fan to control odor and mold growth. Guns are kept in locked cabinets; cash also is stored separately.

Vehicles and other larger items are stored under the same security measures in a pole barn on city-owned property.

Audits are done annually on a small, random selection of guns, drug items, cash and other items, and the rooms can be inspected unannounced by the chief.

The site also holds evidence from cold or older cases, including the 1954 investigation into Evelyn Hartley's disappearance.

Police annually collect 5,000 to 6,000 pieces of evidence. Properly maintaining and organizing each piece is crucial to building a criminal case, La Crosse County District Attorney Tim Gruenke said.

"It's even more important they maintain the evidence in a way that allows it to be analyzed if necessary for fingerprints, DNA, or other scientific testing, for trial and sometimes even after a conviction to support an appeal," Gruenke said.

Audits are done annually on a small, random selection of guns, drug items, cash and other

See POLICE, A6

La Crosse police to change procedure for non-emergency calls

A lagging economy and diminishing resources means the La Crosse Police Department might not respond to certain types of non-emergency calls, Chief Ed Kondracki said. "We are now living in a new era of cost containment and cutback management," he said.

The department in 2011 will alter how it handles non-emergency calls to let officers focus more on patrolling, Kondracki said. Minor incidents will be lower priority, he said, and the department may refer to another agency.

Minor crimes without suspects, witnesses or evidence — bike thefts, for example — can be reported online next year to save sending an officer, he said.

The department also may go to 10- and 12-hour shifts to overlap officers during busier periods, meaning fewer officers during quieter times.

"These are new times, and the economy dictates we look at different ways of doing things," Kondracki said.

There's no reason for others to be in here, police Sgt. Randy Rank said.

"You want to keep who has access to a minimum," he said.

Within the property area, three rooms house more than 20,000 pieces of evidence, most sealed

inside large envelopes filed in boxes and plastic tubs on six movable shelving units. This year alone has produced about 3,100 items from 1,200 cases.

Officers and investigators are responsible for



Woman, 75, robbed at gunpoint in her home

Grandson, two others arrested for crime

By ANNE JUNGEN
ajungen@lacrossetribune.com

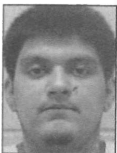
Criminal charges are pending against two La Crosse men and a 16-year-old male authorities say assaulted and robbed an elderly woman at gunpoint early Saturday.

The 75-year-old woman told La Crosse police investigators three men, one of them armed, dressed in dark clothing entered her home on Vista Court about 1 a.m., according to the police report.

One of the suspects pushed her to the floor and threatened to shoot her before knocking a phone out of her hand when she tried to call for help, according to police. She



Anderson



Flores

The suspects fled in the woman's 2009 Toyota Camry with her purse, television, cash and a safe containing coins and jewelry, police said.

then was ordered to remove her jewelry.

The suspects fled in the woman's 2009 Toyota Camry with her purse, television, cash and a safe containing coins and jewelry, police said.

The victim escaped to a neighbor's house and called 911. She was not injured, police said.

Her grandson, 25-year-old Jonathon L. Anderson of La Crosse, was arrested at a North Side home early Saturday.

The investigation led police to a home on the 200 block of Broadway Street in Blair, Wis., where authorities located the safe and its contents, television, purse, cash and a C02 gun during a search. The stolen vehicle was found in La Crosse.

Jeffrey Flores, 21, of La Crosse and a 16-year-

old were arrested at the home. All three are expected Monday in La Crosse County Circuit Court on charges of armed robbery and intimidation of a victim with use of force. Flores also is facing charges of taking a motor vehicle without consent and possession of THC.

La Crosse police credited ongoing technology training and the La Crosse County Sheriff's Department, Blair Police Department and Trempealeau County, Sheriff's Departments Emergency Response Team for a successful investigation.

Police say area man a major crack dealer

By ANNE JUNGEN
ajungen@lacrossetribune.com

Criminal charges are expected to be filed today against a town of Shelby man authorities named as a major local drug distributor after they seized \$15,000 worth of crack cocaine.

"This is probably one of the more significant crack cocaine cases in recent history," La Crosse police Capt. Rob Abraham said.

Tremayne Palmer, 32, of the town of Shelby, and Christopher Young, 22, of La Crescent, Minn., were arrested during a traffic stop about 6:30 p.m. Tuesday on Monitor Street after investigators saw the pair sell 40 grams of crack cocaine worth \$1,800, Abraham said.

Palmer also had about 2.7 grams of crack cocaine in his coat pocket, Abraham said.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Two men face criminal charges after La Crosse police and the La Crosse County Sheriff's Department seized \$15,000 worth of crack cocaine Tuesday.

CRACK

From A1

The La Crosse County Emergency Response Team later found 10½ ounces of crack cocaine worth \$12,600 while searching Palmer's Hwy. K home, sheriff's Sgt. John Zimmerman said.

Abraham praised both the police and sheriff's department for taking "down a substantial player in drug trafficking market."

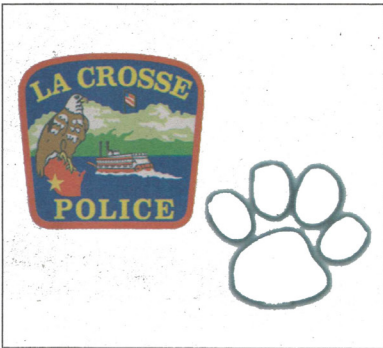
"This is going to have an impact on the area," Zimmerman said.

Palmer faces charges of possession with intent to deliver cocaine, delivery of cocaine and maintaining a drug trafficking dwelling when he appears today in La Crosse County Circuit Court.

Young could be charged with party to the crime of possession with intent to deliver cocaine and delivery of cocaine.

Both are jailed on \$50,000 cash bonds.

FOCUS: VOLUNTEERS IN POLICING



Thank You

THE LA CROSSE POLICE K-9 UNIT WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING BUSINESSES FOR THEIR GENEROUS DONATIONS TOWARDS OUR GOLF TOURNAMENT ON JUNE 9TH. THEIR GENEROSITY HELPED MAKE OUR GOLF TOURNAMENT A SUCCESS AND HELPED RAISE ENOUGH MONEY TO EQUIP, FEED AND TRAIN OUR K-9 UNIT.

A BIG THANK YOU GOES OUT TO THE OWNERS AND STAFF AT BROTHERS BAR FOR PROVIDING THE FOOD AND THE USE OF THEIR FACILITY.

- Brothers Bar & Grill
 - Freightouse
 - Jimmy's Gyro Hut
 - Smith's Cycling & Fitness
 - Rose Jewelers
 - Thompson Animal Medical Center
 - Vick's Bar
 - Cedar Creek Golf Club
 - Firefighter's Credit Union
 - Taco John's
 - Quillin's
 - Home Depot
 - Neule's Varsity Club
 - Franke, Weisbrod & Turbull, CPA's
 - Bluffside
 - SBA Funding Partners - Colin Fleming
 - State Bank Financial
 - Quizno's Subs
 - Washa Chiropractic
- Recenyx Inc. - TJ Stenger
 - Wettstein's
 - The La Crosse Logger's
 - CKY Outfitters
 - The Menogram Co.
 - Herberger's
 - GO's Chapter 2
 - Rudy's Drive-In
 - La Crosse Professional Police Supervisory Assoc.
 - Coney Island
 - La Crosse Professional Police Non-Supervisory Assoc.
 - Snap Fitness-Bluffside
 - Coulee Bank
 - Beef, Etc.
 - Wiebke Fur Co., Inc.
 - T.D. Padesky Electric
 - Howes Diamond Jewelers
 - Main St. Law Office Dan Dunn
 - Wine Guyz
- Hungry Peddler
 - Noelke Distributing
 - Macy's
 - B.A. Burrite
 - La Crosse Radio Group/WKTY
 - Wisconsin Insurance Center
 - LHL - Logistic Health Inc.
 - Purina Pet Foods
 - Disciascio's Coon Creek Inn
 - Radisson Hotel La Crosse
 - Curtis Printing Company
 - Gerrard Companies
 - Lock Net
 - Don's Towing and Repair
 - Government Employees Credit Union
 - Billy's Lantern
 - Sloopy's Alma Mater
 - Hooper's
 - Preferred Distributing

La Crosse PD named law enforcement agency of the year

By Tribune staff

The state Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention named the La Crosse Police Department this year's law enforcement agency of the year for its dedication to preventing and reducing underage drinking.

The department states the continuous efforts by officers Al Iverson and Bob Wiczorek, Capt. Robert Abraham and Chief Ed Kondracki prove that evidence-based policies and practices, implemented and sustained with community support, can make a difference.

The award will be presented later this month during a conference in California.



PETER THOMSON/LA CROSSE TRIBUNE

Graffiti and tags are seen along a downtown La Crosse alley. La Crosse police say they are seeing a rise in graffiti and tagging in the city.



THINKSTOCK IMAGE

Tagged off

Graffiti, tagging up 17% in La Crosse

By ANNE JUNGEN
ajungen@lacsosetribune.com

Four white, spray-painted letters branded the North Side La Crosse business's brick red wall.

"It was A, K, something," said Miles Wilkins, owner of The Board Store Home Improvements at 514 Copeland Ave. "It's the first time in 20 years it has happened."

The blemish, about 3 feet in height, was more "annoyance" than violation, Wilkins said, and disappeared Tuesday under a half-gallon of paint.

Still, Wilkins said, "Anytime you have to spend money and time for something done maliciously is frustrating."

The city has had 34 reports of graffiti and tagging this year, up 17 percent compared with the same period in 2009, La Crosse police Lt. Shawn Kudron said.

"They're damaging public or private property and, even if they see it as being artistic, they're still damaging property and it's still criminal behavior," Kudron said. "It is frustrating, because it really is a community issue."

La Crosse's downtown and the Old Towne North areas are most vulnerable to graffiti and tagging because they offer the tempting combination of alleys, buildings and large refuse bins, Kudron said.

City ordinance forces private property owners to remove the graffiti at their expense.

"You'd prefer not to spend time doing that kind of thing," said Bill Kroner, manager of Kroner True Value

FOCUS:

VOLUNTEERS IN POLICING

LA CROSSE POLICE DEPARTMENT

2010 ANNUAL REPORT