

“TO PROTECT
AND TO SERVE”

ANNUAL REPORT 2008



BLOOMINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

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(* indicates chart or graph)

Chief's Message

August 10, 2009

To: David Hales
City Manager
Bloomington, Illinois

I am presenting our 2009 annual report for the Bloomington Police Department. For decades, this report was put out during the first quarter of each calendar year. After speaking with you about possibly changing the time frame of our annual report to more accurately fit a schedule for all departments within the city, I am providing the original report with an update contained in this letter.

In December of 2008, our long time Chief of Police Roger Aikin retired and I was named the Interim Chief of Police. I saw the three most pressing issues within our department as morale of the employees, communications and relationships with the public, and a negative view of the city by our local and regional media. Incorporated into the three year strategic plan for the Bloomington Police Department are segments to deal directly with each of these three concerns. We are making great strides to improve each of my initial concerns within the department. I immediately went to all shifts and divisions and spoke to every employee concerning morale and open communications. I held a very successful meeting with our local and regional media just to open lines of communications and get to know each other. We are sponsoring and attending neighborhood watch meetings, church group functions, and addressing concerns of special interest groups such as C.A.R.E., M.A.P.P., and Youth Impact. The response from the media and the public continues to be very positive. This plan is a work in progress and will certainly be fine-tuned as we move into the next few months and prepare for the next fiscal year's budget, planning, and allocation of resources.

With the recent news that the city did not receive any federal funding for the six police officers requested under the COPS grant for fiscal 2009 we will now have to plan carefully how to fill the needs of a growing community with fewer resources. This will mean careful evaluation of the services currently provided and the critical needs of our strategic plan and focus areas as we concentrate our efforts on a matter of priority and a needs analysis.

Although I am very confident in the abilities and service levels provided by the staff of the police department it is not possible to provide for the growing list of concerns throughout the community on an individual level. This is where I depend on the command staff and their subordinates to prioritize the demands on their time with the needs of the patrol areas they are serving. With regularly scheduled neighborhood watch and focus area meetings we have discovered many new ways to share information between the police, other city departments, and the public we serve.

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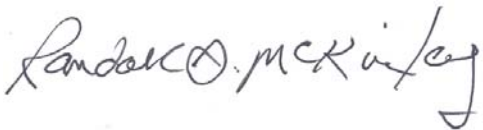
Chief's Message

(Continued from previous page)

One of the other changes we have made to support our strategic plan is to change a unit of the department and the mission they held for many years. The Pro-Active Unit began several years ago as a multi-jurisdictional gang suppression unit. This unit has now become the principal medium for kicking off the new Problem Oriented Policing philosophy of our department. Leading the way for P.O.P. is the newly formed Street Crimes Unit. We added another sergeant and two more patrol officers to this unit, now charged with police related activities in our two focus areas located just to the west and just to the east of downtown Bloomington. These two relatively small areas account for a high percentage of our calls for service, and have been plagued with criminal and nuisance activity for many years. At the last focus area neighborhood group meeting, the reports from those in the community were very positive about the direction the police department has taken and the improvements already seen in the areas. Our Street Crimes Unit works daily hand-in-hand with our Pace Department, the legal staff, the U.S. Marshals Task Force, our Vice Unit, and of course our three patrol shifts to help solve some of these chronic problems.

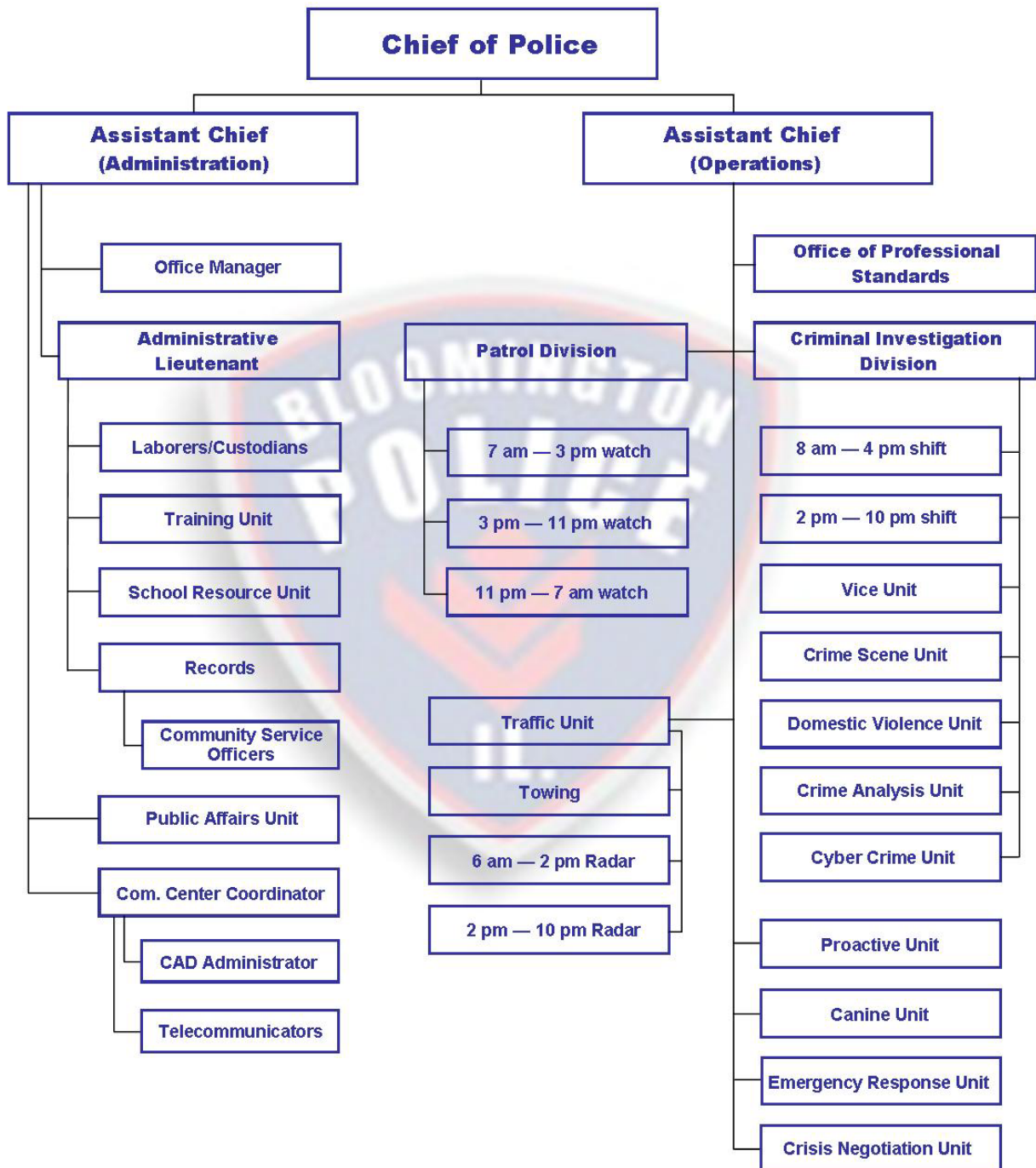
I remain optimistic about the future of Bloomington and our police department as we work through these tough economic times. We have a dedicated and hardworking team of employees that are looking forward to using new technology along with new direction in the department to reach our goals. Please let me know what I can do to assist you and the staff to serve better our wonderful community.

Respectfully,



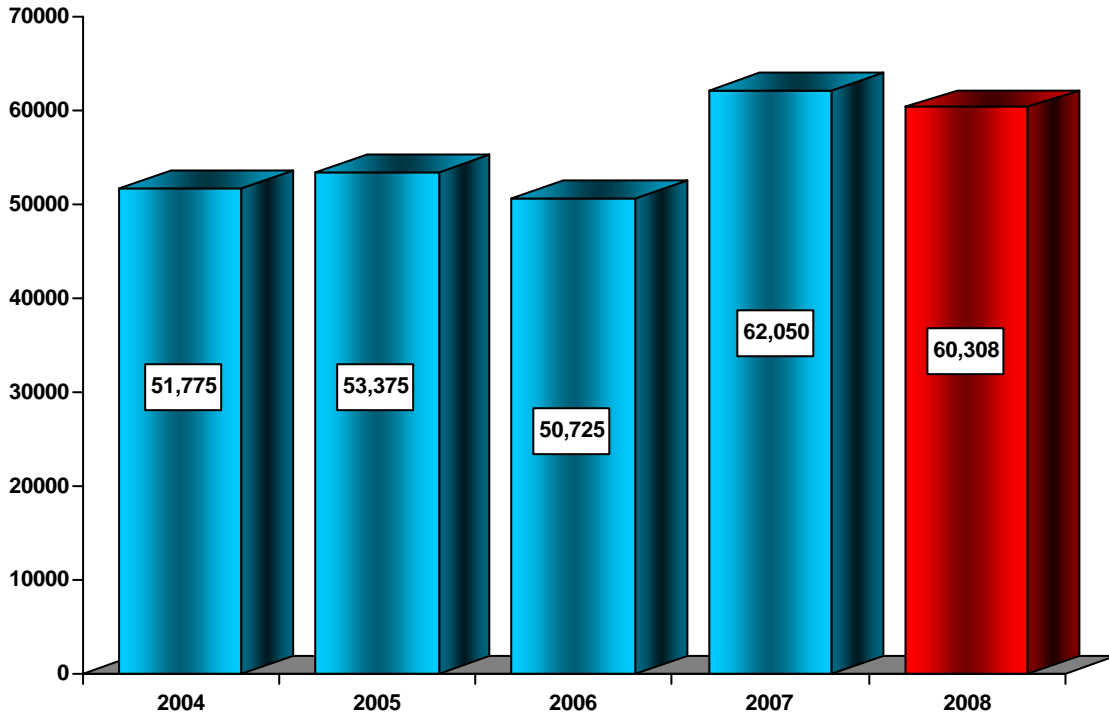
Randall D. McKinley
Chief of Police

Organization Chart



The mission of the Bloomington Police Department is to work in partnership with the citizens of Bloomington to enforce the laws and enhance the quality of life in our community.

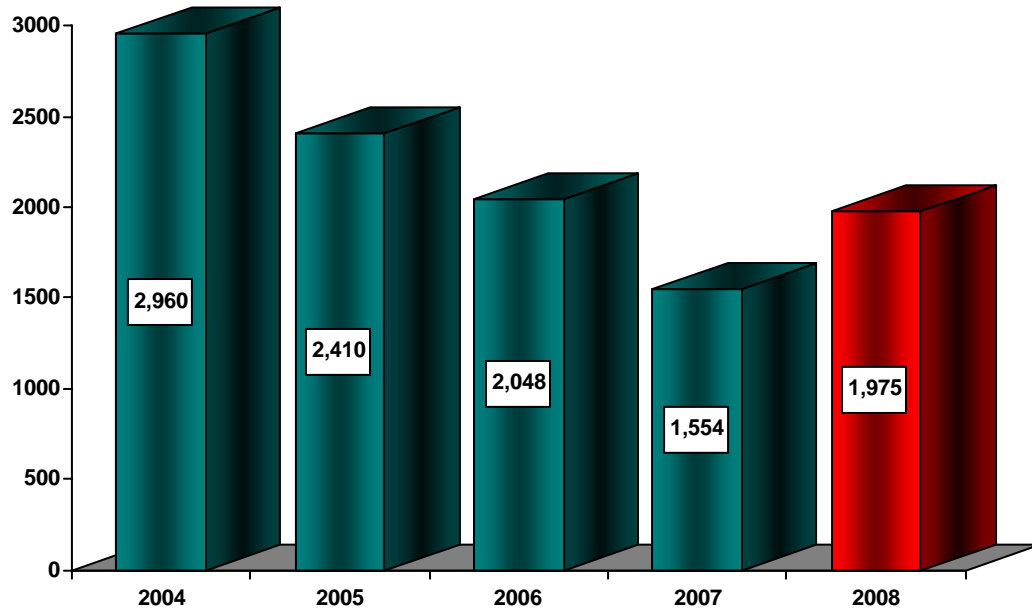
Calls for Service



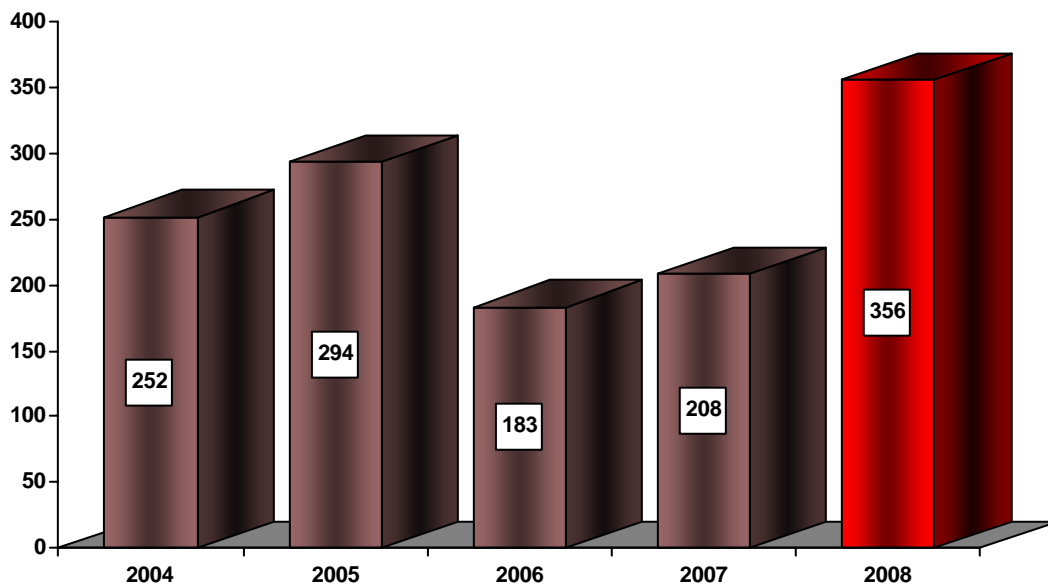
Traffic Stop.....	7,949	Battery.....	585	Alarm/Panic.....	93
Investigation/Follow-up.....	4,583	Traffic Control/Detail.....	578	Custody Exchange.....	93
Disorderly Conduct.....	3,077	Retail Theft/Shoplifting.....	568	Sex Offenses.....	87
Alarm/Burglary.....	2,219	Officers Flagged Down.....	538	Papers/Process Service.....	84
Accident/Property Damage.....	2,111	Foot Patrol.....	524	Mental Subject.....	75
Extra Patrol.....	2,019	Hit and Run/Property Damage.....	490	Animal Bite.....	71
Pedestrian Stop.....	1,954	Criminal Damage to Vehicle.....	458	Prowler.....	52
911 Hang-ups.....	1,809	Accident/Personal Injury.....	423	Death Investigation.....	48
Animal Complaint.....	1,758	Intoxicated Subject.....	408	Robbery.....	41
Loud Music/Party.....	1,519	Telephone Threats/Harassment.....	407	School Crossing.....	36
Domestic Dispute.....	1,511	Drug Investigations.....	371	Information.....	34
Assist Other Agency.....	1,333	D.U.I.....	347	Armed Robbery.....	31
Suspicious Vehicle.....	1,278	Suicidal Subjects.....	332	Radar.....	28
Motorist Assist.....	1,224	Transport/Non-custody.....	332	Stabbing.....	24
Other Public Complaint.....	1,103	Property Removal.....	332	Home Invasion.....	22
Burglary.....	1,094	Barking Dog.....	327	Found Person.....	21
Unknown Problem.....	1,049	Transport/Custody.....	315	Hit and Run/Personal Injury.....	21
Remove Subject.....	1,028	Surveillance.....	309	Accident/Entrapment/Rollover.....	19
Parking Complaint.....	1,022	Civil Dispute.....	268	Drag Racing.....	19
Check Well Being.....	1,018	Found Property.....	257	Lockout.....	14
Suspicious Person.....	979	Stolen Vehicle.....	239	Littering/Illegal Dumping.....	11
Bar Check.....	967	Fireworks.....	196	Liquor Violations.....	10
Juvenile Complaint.....	945	School Check.....	194	Person Shot.....	5
Theft.....	873	Open Door/Window.....	174	Pursuit.....	4
Criminal Damage to Property.....	845	Armed Subject.....	170	Carjacking.....	3
Warrant Attempt.....	788	Trespassing.....	169	Gambling.....	3
Reckless Driving.....	697	Deceptive Practices/Fraud/Forgery.....	162	Kidnapping.....	2
Fights.....	680	Funeral Escort.....	153	Hostage/Barricaded Subject.....	1
Missing Person.....	677	Shots Fired.....	144		
Special Assignment.....	660	Message Delivery.....	110		
Business Check.....	611	Alarm/Hold Up.....	96		

Special Note: The statistics above do not represent a specific count of criminal or non-criminal activity. They represent how incidents were initially reported to the department or initiated by officers. The end result of the incident was sometimes very different than the way it was first called in.

Adult Arrests

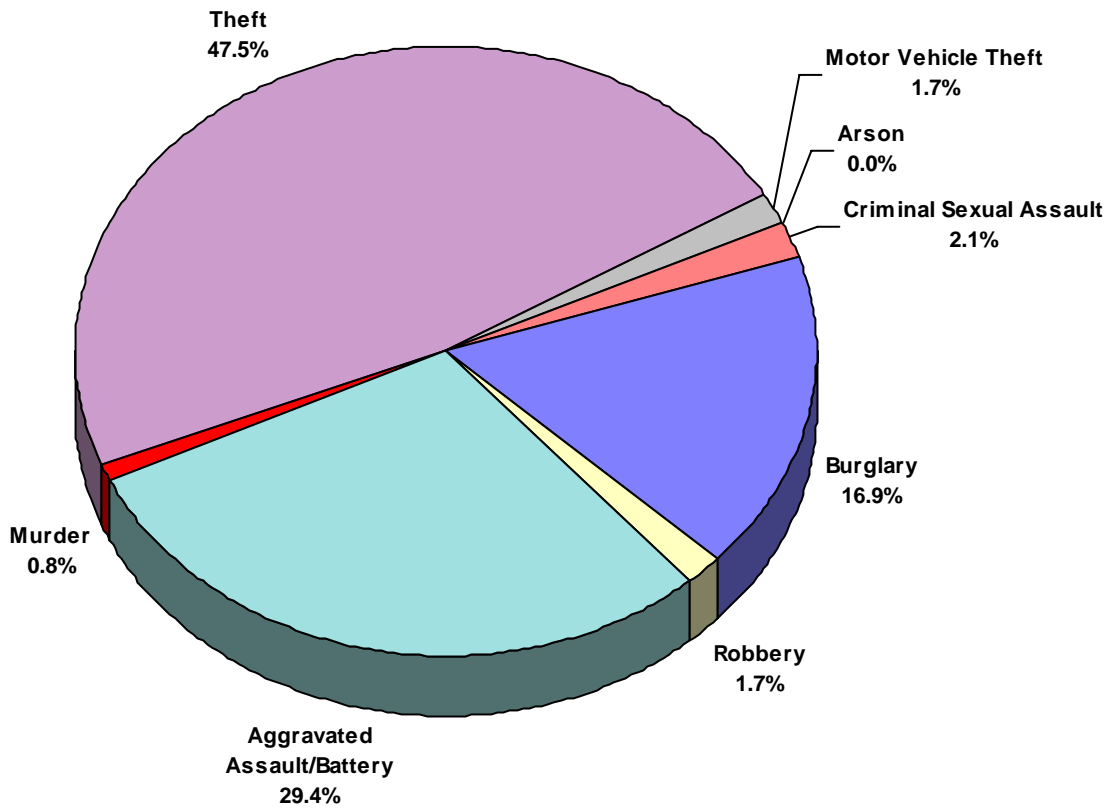


Juvenile Arrests



Index Crime Arrests

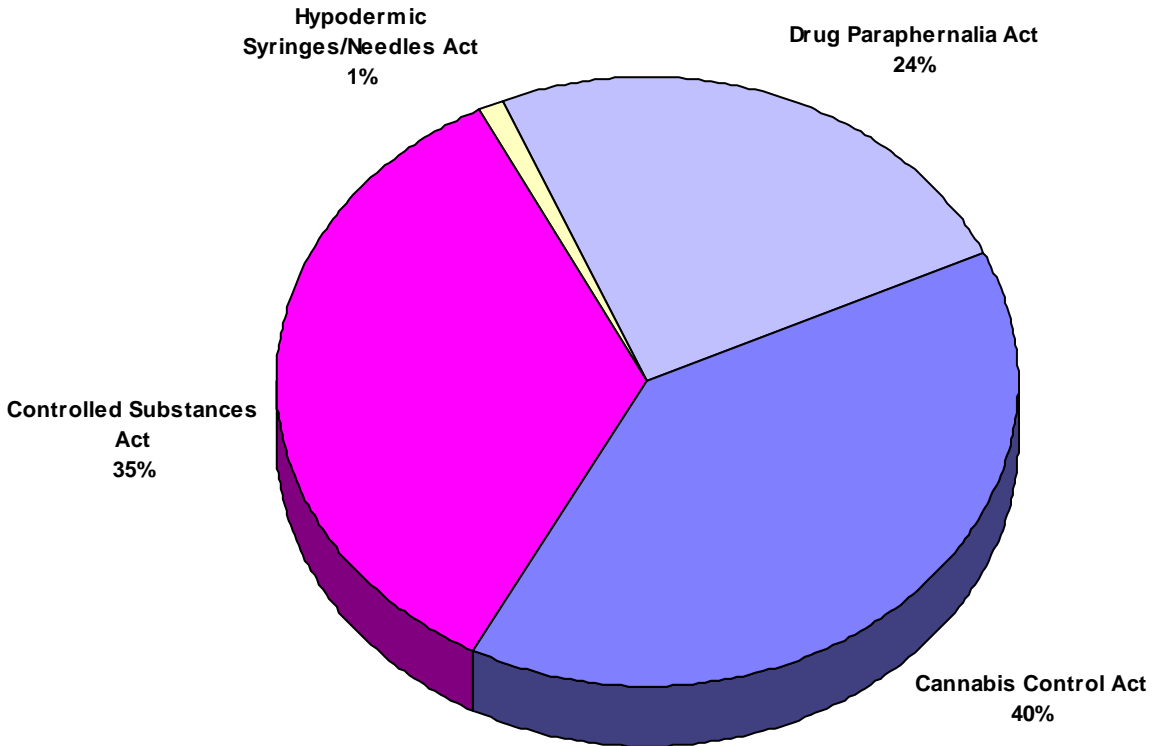
Year	Murder	Criminal Sexual Assault	Robbery	Aggravated Assault / Battery	Burglary	Theft	Motor Vehicle Theft	Arson
2004	2	14	11	142	76	271	10	0
2005	2	17	34	218	163	334	24	9
2006	0	12	13	132	123	275	15	3
2007	1	9	16	150	74	208	6	5
2008	4	11	9	155	89	251	9	0



NOTE: Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

Drug Offense Arrests

Year	Cannabis Control Act	Controlled Substances Act	Hypodermic Syringes and Needles Act	Drug Paraphernalia Act
2004	169	179	2	94
2005	214	131	1	43
2006	168	204	12	108
2007	136	148	7	113
2008	180	156	6	110



NOTE: Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

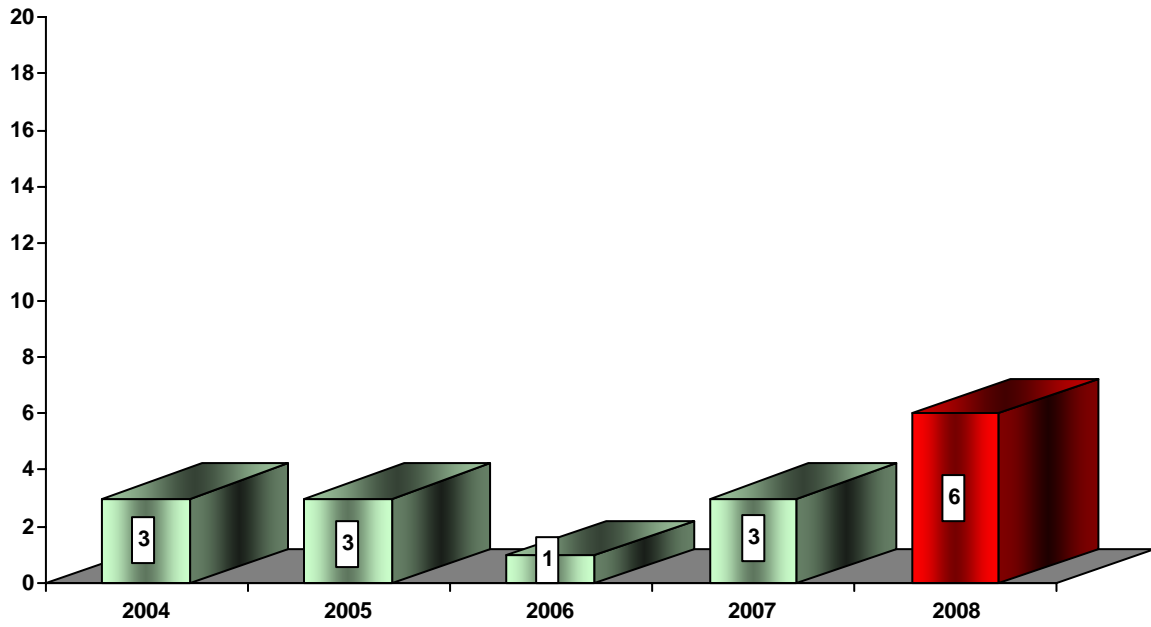
Index Crime Offenses

Index Offenses consist of the violent crimes of murder and non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault; and the property crimes of burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft and arson. These serious crimes are defined as Crime Index Offenses by the International Association of Chiefs of Police Committee on Uniform Crime Reports.

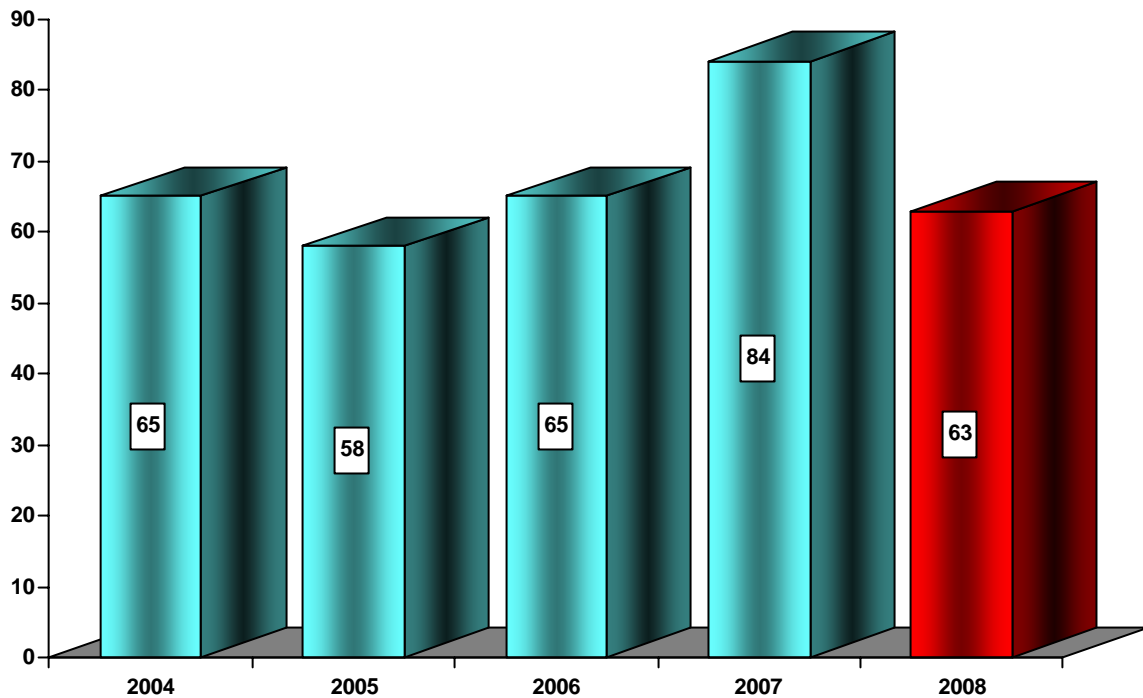
Index crimes used by the Illinois Uniform Crime Reporting Program and this Department translate into the following Crime Index Offenses, as nationally reported:

ILLINOIS CLASSIFICATION	NATIONAL CLASSIFICATION
First Degree Murder Second Degree Murder	Murder and Non-negligent Manslaughter
Criminal Sexual Assault Aggravated Criminal Sexual Assault Forcible Sodomy Criminal Sexual Assault with an Object	
Armed Robbery Robbery Vehicular Hijacking Aggravated Vehicular Hijacking Aggravated Robbery	Robbery
Attempted Murder Aggravated Battery Aggravated Assault Heinous Battery Aggravated Battery of a Child Aggravated Battery of a Senior Citizen Ritual Mutilation	Aggravated Assault
Burglary Residential Burglary Home Invasion	Burglary
Theft Over \$300 Theft \$300 and Under Retail Theft Theft/Burglary from Vehicle Theft/Burglary of Vehicle Parts or Accessories Pocket Picking Purse Snatching Theft from Building Theft from Coin Operated Device	Larceny/Theft
Motor Vehicle Theft	Motor Vehicle Theft
Arson Aggravated Arson	Arson

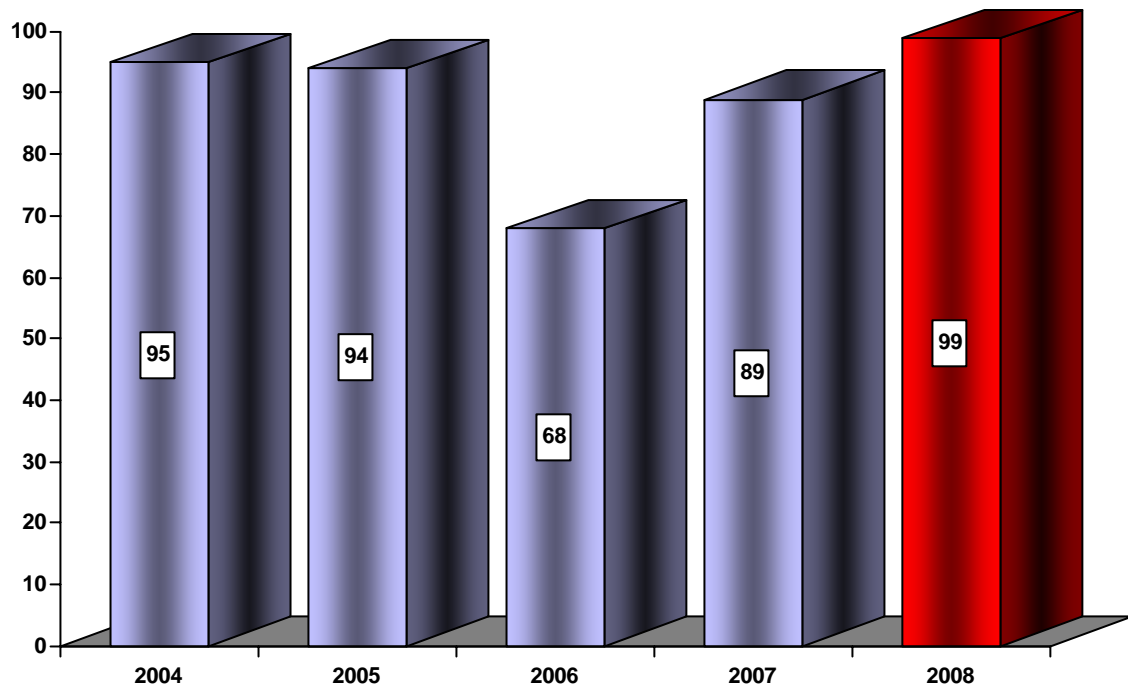
Murder and Non-negligent Manslaughter



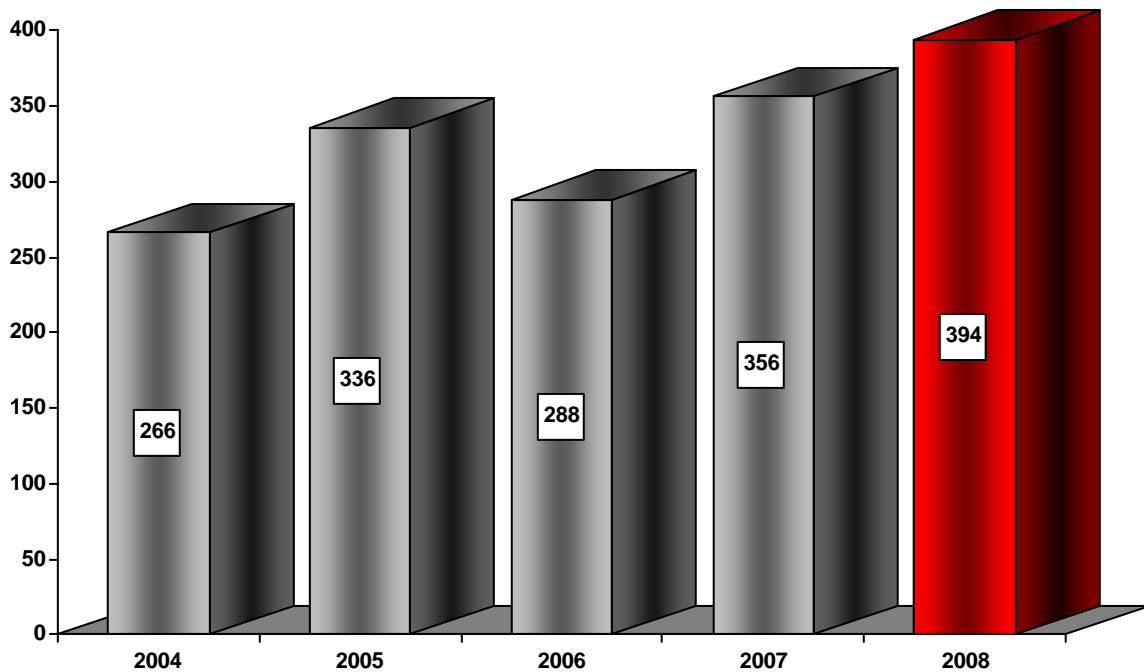
Criminal Sexual Assault



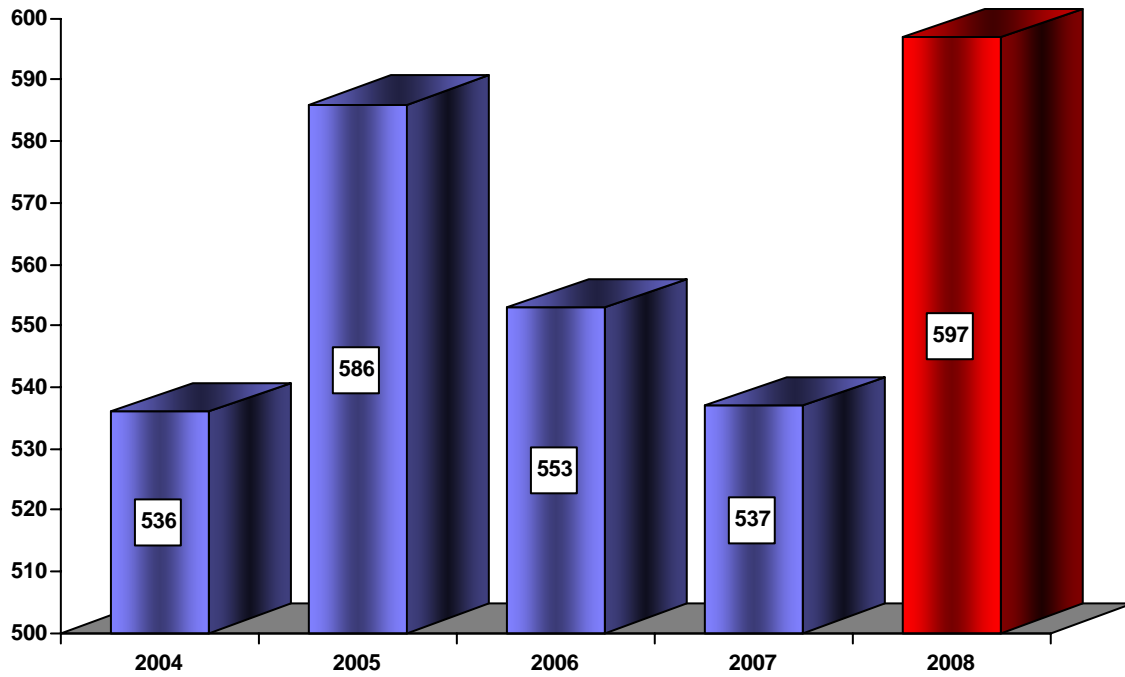
Robbery



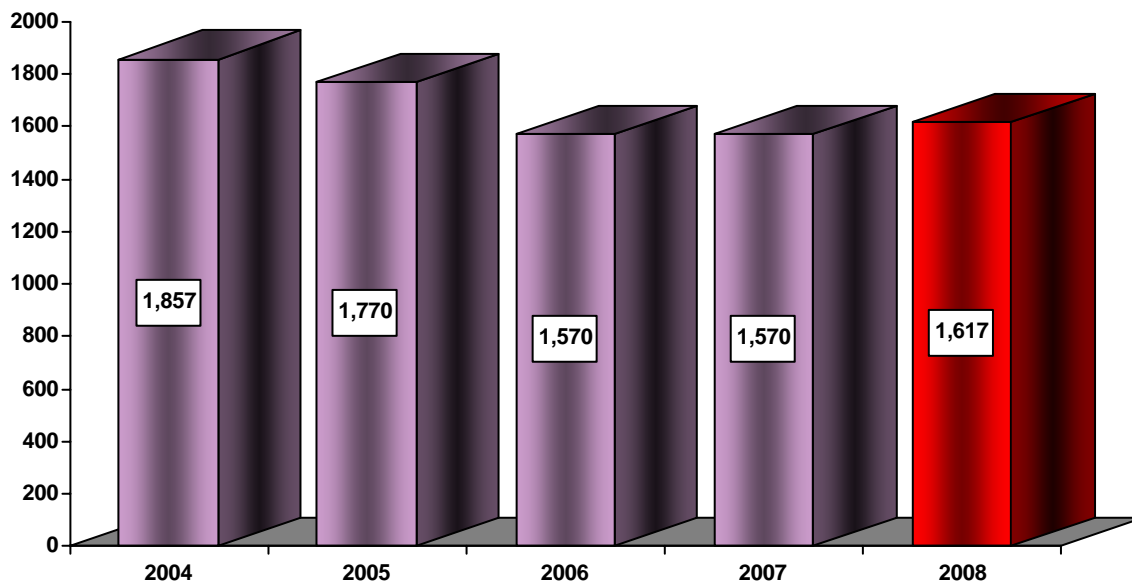
Aggravated Assault / Battery



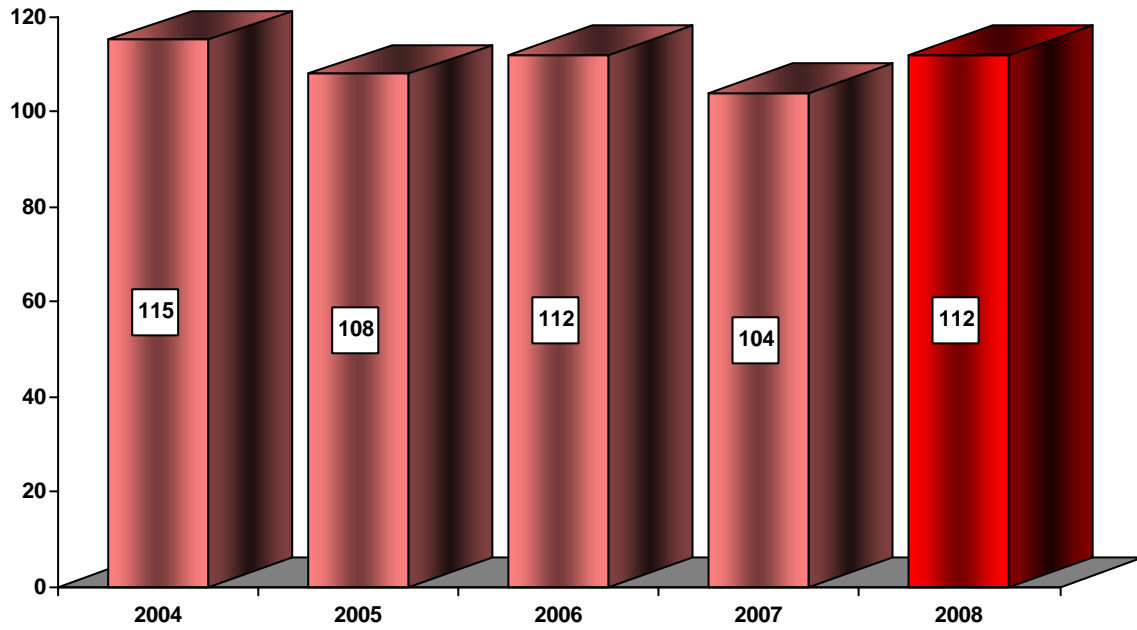
Burglary



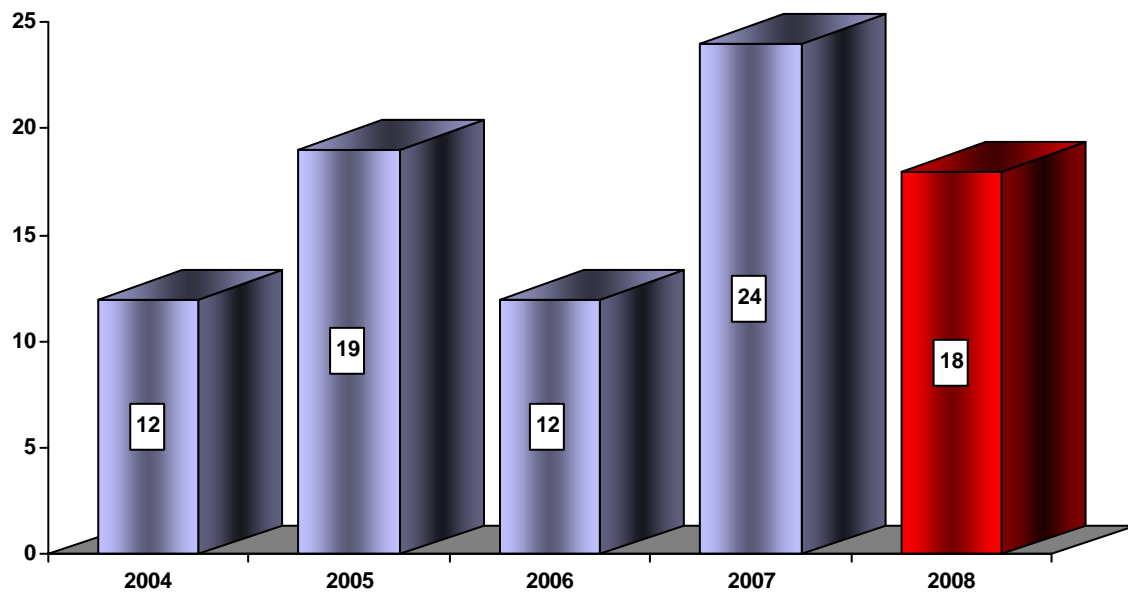
Theft



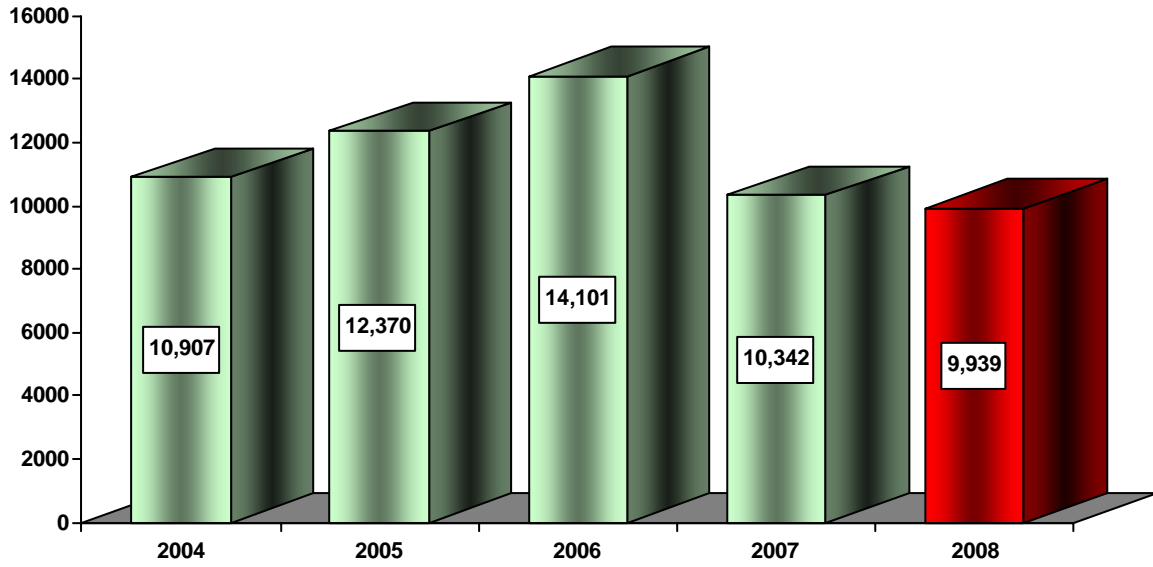
Motor Vehicle Theft



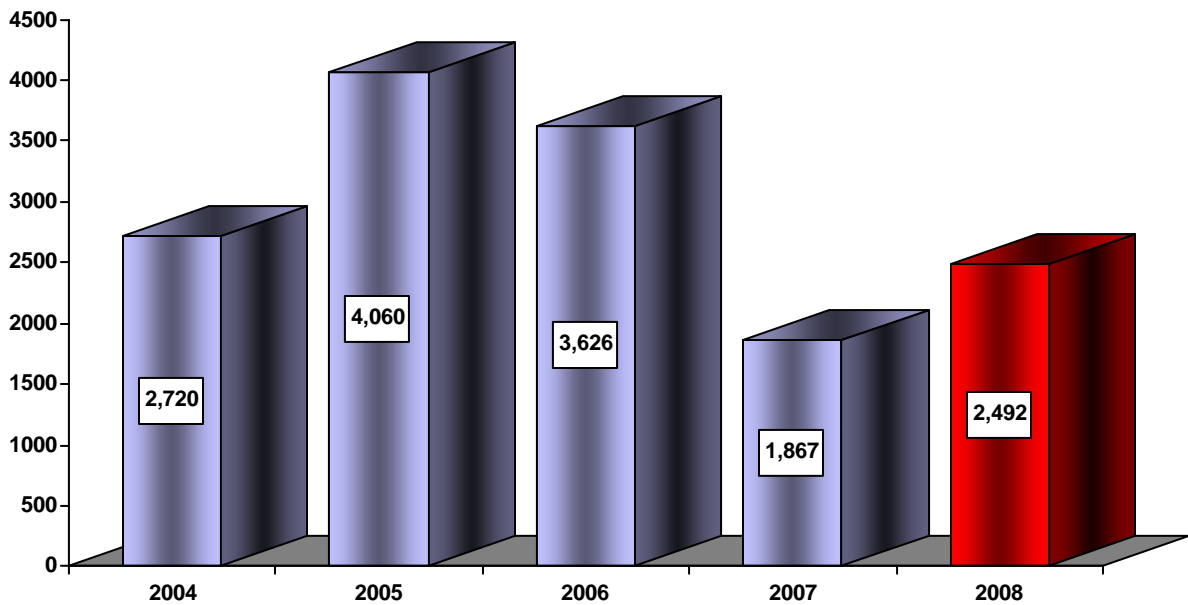
Arson



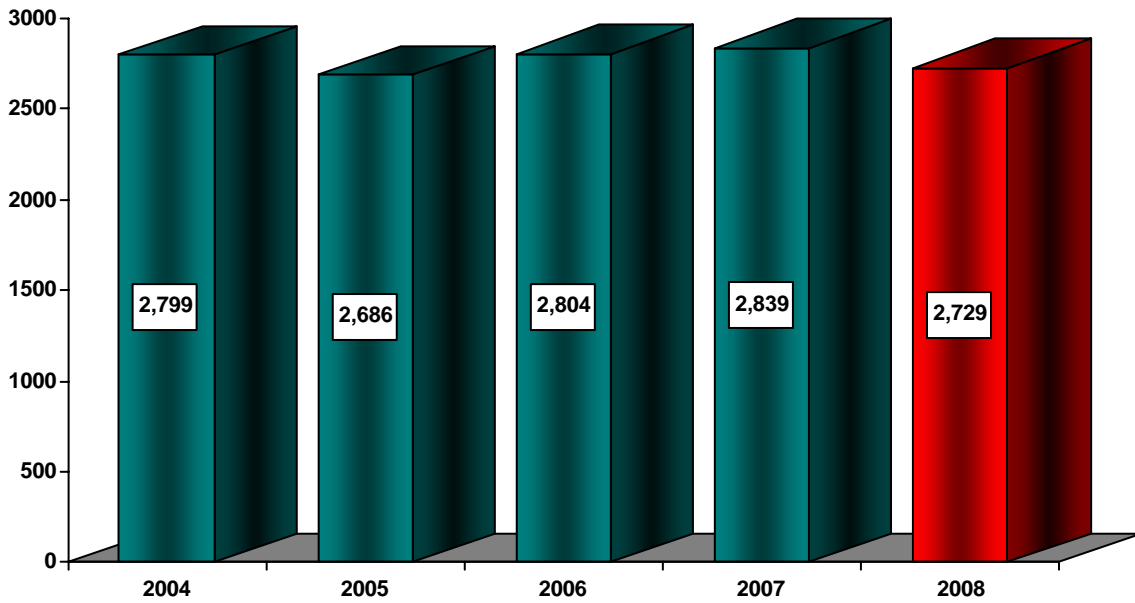
Total Traffic Citations



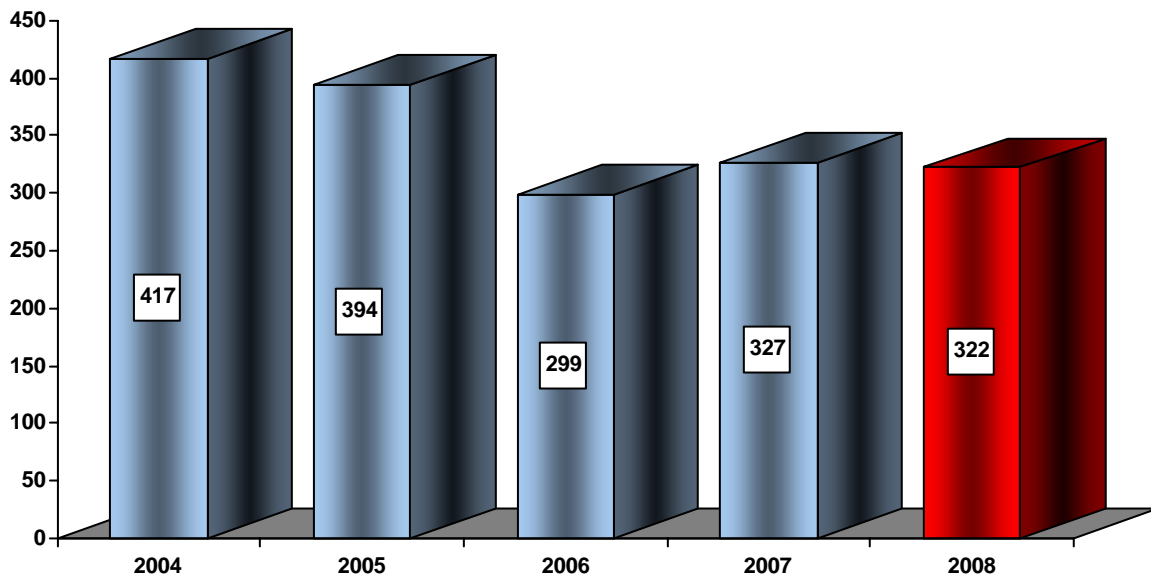
Speeding Citations Only



Reported Traffic Accidents



Traffic Accidents with Injuries



CALL / ARREST ACTIVITY TREND ANALYSIS

Year	Calls for service	% Change	Year	Adult arrests	% Change	Year	Juvenile arrests	% Change
2004	51,775	-5.7	2004	1,984	-4.8	2004	252	14.0
2005	53,375	3.1	2005	2,410	21.5	2005	294	16.7
2006	50,725	-5.0	2006	2,048	-15.0	2006	183	-37.8
2007	62,053	22.3	2007	1,554	-24.1	2007	208	13.7
2008	60,308	-2.8	2008	1,975	27.1	2008	356	71.2
5-year change		16.5	5-year change		-0.5	5-year change		41.3

TRAFFIC ACTIVITY TREND ANALYSIS

Year	Traffic accidents	% Change	Year	Traffic accidents/injuries	% Change
2004	2,799	-0.5	2004	417	-11.5
2005	2,686	-4.0	2005	392	-6.0
2006	2,804	4.4	2006	299	-23.7
2007	2,839	1.2	2007	327	9.4
2008	2,729	-3.9	2008	322	-1.5
5-year change		-3.0	5-year change		-31.6

Year	Traffic citations	% Change	Year	Speeding tickets	% Change
2004	10,907	-5.0	2004	2,720	-26.5
2005	12,370	-20.9	2005	4,060	49.3
2006	14,101	13.4	2006	3,626	-10.7
2007	10,342	14.0	2007	1,867	-48.5
2008	9,939	-3.9	2008	2,492	33.5
5-year change		-8.9	5-year change		-8.4

INDEX CRIME REPORTS TREND ANALYSIS

Year	Murder	% Change
2004	3	50.0
2005	3	0.0
2006	1	-66.7
2007	3	200.0
2008	6	100.0
5-year change		100.0

Year	Criminal Sexual Assault	% Change
2004	65	6.6
2005	58	-10.8
2006	65	12.1
2007	84	29.2
2008	63	-25.0
5-year change		-3.1

Year	Robbery	% Change
2004	95	4.4
2005	94	-1.1
2006	68	-27.7
2007	89	30.9
2008	99	11.2
5-year change		4.2

Year	Agg. assault/battery	% Change
2004	266	-9.2
2005	336	26.3
2006	288	-14.3
2007	356	23.6
2008	394	10.7
5-year change		48.1

Year	Burglary	% Change
2004	536	-10.1
2005	586	9.3
2006	553	-5.6
2007	537	-2.9
2008	597	11.2
5-year change		11.4

Year	Theft	% Change
2004	1,857	5.6
2005	1,770	-4.7
2006	1,570	-11.3
2007	1,570	0.0
2008	1,617	3.0
5-year change		-12.9

Year	Motor Vehicle theft	% Change
2004	115	10.6
2005	108	-6.1
2006	112	3.7
2007	104	-7.1
2008	112	7.7
5-year change		-2.6

Year	Arson	% Change
2004	12	71.4
2005	19	58.3
2006	12	-36.8
2007	24	100.0
2008	18	-25.0
5-year change		50.0

INDEX CRIME ARRESTS TREND ANALYSIS

Year	Murder arrests	% Change
2004	2	—
2005	2	0.0
2006	0	-100.0
2007	1	—
2008	4	300.0
5-year change		100.0

Year	Sexual Assault arrests	% Change
2004	14	0.0
2005	17	21.4
2006	12	-29.4
2007	9	-25.0
2008	11	22.2
5-year change		-21.4

Year	Robbery arrests	% Change
2004	11	0.0
2005	34	209.1
2006	13	-61.8
2007	16	23.1
2008	9	-43.8
5-year change		-18.2

Year	Assault/Battery arrests	% Change
2004	142	-7.2
2005	218	53.5
2006	132	-39.4
2007	150	13.6
2008	155	3.3
5-year change		9.2

Year	Burglary arrests	% Change
2004	76	-19.1
2005	163	114.5
2006	123	-24.5
2007	74	-39.8
2008	89	20.3
5-year change		17.1

Year	Theft arrests	% Change
2004	271	7.1
2005	334	23.2
2006	275	-17.7
2007	208	-24.4
2008	251	20.7
5-year change		-7.4

Year	Vehicle Theft arrests	% Change
2004	10	42.9
2005	24	140.0
2006	15	-37.5
2007	6	-60.0
2008	9	50.0
5-year change		-10.0

Year	Arson arrests	% Change
2004	0	—
2005	9	—
2006	3	-66.7
2007	5	66.7
2008	0	-100.0
5-year change		—

DRUG CRIME ARRESTS TREND ANALYSIS

Year	Cannabis Control Act	% Change
2004	169	4.3
2005	214	26.6
2006	168	-21.5
2007	136	-19.0
2008	180	32.4
5-year change		6.5

Year	Controlled Substance Act	% Change
2004	179	3.5
2005	131	-26.8
2006	204	55.7
2007	148	-27.5
2008	156	5.4
5-year change		-12.8

Year	Hypo. Syringes/ Needles	% Change
2004	2	-77.8
2005	1	-50.0
2006	12	1100.0
2007	7	-41.7
2008	6	-14.3
5-year change		200.0

Year	Drug Paraphernalia	% Change
2004	94	23.7
2005	43	-54.3
2006	108	151.2
2007	113	4.6
2008	110	-2.7
5-year change		17.0

Public Affairs Unit

The Media Relations Specialist and Public Affairs Officer continued to positively pursue the media-based posture of the Public Affairs Unit in 2008 by providing the broadcast and print media timely and reliable information, which was then relayed to the public.

Working with the department's Crime Analyst, Public Affairs regularly updated an interactive crime mapping feature on the BPD web site. The Public Affairs Office was instrumental in the implementation of a new outlet for the public. The application of "Daily Activity" on the Bloomington Police website now gives site visitors a more in-depth view of the Police Department's daily activities. The Media Relations Specialist serves as the "webmaster" for the police web site.

Click here for access to

[BPD Daily Activity](#)

The unit published the BPD annual report and numerous informational pamphlets, updated the Officers' Field Directory for 2009, scheduled guests for a twice-monthly public service television program, and created print advertisements for various events.

The Public Affairs Unit continues to work with the Financial Institutions Security Association (FISA) by providing armed robbery response training to local bank employees. Six classes are conducted each year.



Both the Media Relations Specialist and Public Affairs Officer possess Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) specialist certification from the American Crime Prevention Institute (ACPI).

The Public Affairs Unit arranged for the Bloomington Police Department's participation in the "Shop With a Cop/Firefighter" program. The annual tradition continued as they teamed up with the Bloomington Fire Department, Illinois State Police, Wal-Mart and its foundation, and the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services, to conduct another successful "Shop With a Cop/Firefighter" program. More than 60 disadvantaged children were able to shop for Christmas presents during the 7th annual event.

The 10th annual Badges for Life blood drive was conducted in cooperation with the Heartland Chapter of the American Red Cross and other area law enforcement agencies. Units donated continue to exceed the previous year's total.



Public Affairs Unit

Partnerships with 33 active Neighborhood Watch organizations fostered the cooperation necessary for our Patrol, Proactive, Vice and Criminal Investigation units to continue decreasing criminal activity in 2008.

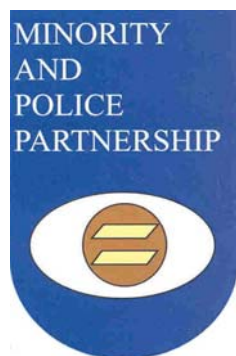
The Public Affairs Unit continues to distribute free cable-style gunlocks provided through a partnership with Operation Childsafe. Free DNA kits are also available from the Public Affairs Unit.

The unit also continues its role as “keepers and cultivators” of the historical archives of the Bloomington Police Department.



Another ongoing function of the Public Affairs Unit involves providing public education and awareness training in a variety of crime prevention and homeland security topics, including gang and drug suppression, personal safety, armed robbery response, cons and frauds, and home and business security.

The Public Affairs Unit conducts tours of the police facility, represents the department at community events, and assists in recruiting efforts of the department by arranging for representation at various job and career fairs throughout Illinois.



The Media Relations Specialist and police administrators continue to serve as BPD representatives to the Minority and Police Partnership (MAPP). The Public Affairs Officer serves as a member and recording secretary for the Crime Detection Network board and on Bloomington's Staff Traffic Advisory Committee.

The Public Affairs Unit also works with a local radio station and Eastland Mall to sponsor an alternative trick-or-treat event at Halloween. The unit arranges for appearances in the community by McGruff, the Crime Dog, and participates each year in the McLean County Community Compact 6th Grade Business Partnership.



Office of Professional Standards

The Office of Professional Standards conducts investigations into all citizen complaints and holds primary responsibility for all internal investigations assigned by the chief of police. The policy of the Bloomington Police Department is to receive and investigate all complaints related to internal discipline in a manner that will assure the community of prompt corrective action when police department personnel conduct themselves improperly, while also protecting police department personnel from unwarranted criticism related to the discharge of official duties.

The Office of Professional Standards reviews all "Response to Aggression" reports. In 2008, Bloomington police officers reported responding to aggression on 333 occasions. It is the policy of the Bloomington Police Department that police officers file a report each time they are required to respond to aggression in the performance of their official duties. After initial reviews by shift supervisors, assistant chiefs, and the chief of police, such reports are forwarded to the Office of Professional Standards. That office objectively reviews each report for accuracy, completeness, and compliance with Standard Operating Procedures and the Response to Aggression continuum.

Findings of investigations conducted by the Office of Professional Standards take one of the following forms:

Unfounded - There was sufficient evidence to prove the complaint or incident is false or not factual and did not occur.

Exonerated - There is sufficient evidence which indicates that the act or incident did occur, but the actions were justified, lawful and proper.

Not Sustained - There is insufficient evidence to clearly prove or disprove the complaint or incident.

Sustained - There is sufficient evidence to establish that the incident did occur and the facts and circumstances support the determination that these acts constitute misconduct.

In 2008, there were 28 citizen complaints filed.

There were 10 complaints claiming Brutality / Harassment / Misconduct
1 was Administratively Closed
6 were Exonerated
3 were Unfounded

Office of Professional Standards

There were four complaints claiming False Arrest / Abuse of Authority / Civil Rights Violations

1 was Administratively Closed

2 were Exonerated

1 was Not Sustained

There were eight complaints claiming Rudeness / Discrimination / Racial Profiling

2 were Unfounded

6 were Exonerated

There were five complaints claiming No Action Taken / Damage to Property / Illegal Search / Improper Traffic Enforcement

4 were Exonerated

1 was Unfounded

There were five Internal Investigations activated by the department in 2008

2 were Sustained

1 was Exonerated

1 was Not Sustained

1 was ended by Employee Resignation

Field Training Unit

The Field Training Unit is commanded by a patrol lieutenant and also includes eleven field training sergeants and twenty one field training officers.

The field training process consists of four phases. As new officers move from one phase to the next, their workload increases. New officers receive instruction ranging from how to handle barking dog calls to proper methods of responding to felonies in progress. Each phase, except the last one, lasts a minimum of four weeks.

The final phase, lasting three weeks, finds the field training officer in plain clothes observing the uniformed recruit handling the entire workload.

In 2008, the unit trained six new police officers, two of whom have since been released to regular patrol duties and four who will be in early 2009.

School Resource Officers

Due to a growing nationwide concern for safety in schools and to meet the needs of District 87, a third position was added to the School Resource Officer (SRO) Unit beginning in Fall 2007. Brian Evans was chosen to move from his position as SRO at Bloomington Junior High School to the new position at the district office and in elementary schools. Bloomington Police are now active in all District 87 schools and have routine patrols in all parochial and Unit Five schools in Bloomington as well.

The primary duties of the School Resource Officer involve building positive relations between District 87 administration and Bloomington Police, addressing residency issues, and assisting with concerns that arise with parents, students, and staff. Those include building safety, the use of security cameras, and crisis plan management. All of the elementary schools have practiced lockdown procedures and continue staff training. Officer Evans gives many presentations students on issues such as bullying, violence, drugs, making good decisions, and being a positive, productive citizen.

Officer Evans involves McLean County State's Attorney Bill Yoder and some of his staff in dealing with some of the situations that arise in and around schools. Officer Evans also organized meetings with Bloomington city attorneys so students could better understand city ordinances and why they can be cited for violations. This proved to be a very effective tool in reducing fights, truancy, and disorderly conduct.

He uses tours of the schools and extracurricular events to train and equip other Bloomington Police officers for those times when they are needed for assistance. He has given in-depth tours to the BPD Emergency Response Unit and arranges for the use of schools for some of the unit's training.

Officer Evans continues to be an active participant with Youth Impact, which address issues with at-risk youth. They provide positive role models and positive ways to deal with different situations. Being part of Youth Impact allows Officer Evans to share information about at-risk students with other officers and agencies.

House calls occur in special situations to ensure that students are in school and to see that families receive any help they may need. When deemed appropriate, the SRO also takes an active role in discipline.

Officer Evans attends many sporting events and other school-related activities throughout the school year to serve as a role model and to reinforce good behavior.



School Resource Officers

Officer Richard Hirsch is in his second year as the School Resource Officer (SRO) at Bloomington Junior High School (BJHS). Since his assignment to the school, he has worked to maintain the positive relationship established by his predecessor, Officer Brian Evans.

Officer Hirsch has continued the school tours for the entire day shift patrol and command, ensuring that the patrol officers who may respond to an emergency will be familiar with the building layout. He is conducting similar tours for the Bloomington Fire Department and members of other area law enforcement agencies who might also be needed in an emergency.

Upon his arrival at BJHS, Officer Hirsch made a list of security concerns he observed. The list was presented to school administrators and several of the concerns have been addressed or are being addressed. Among the most recent :

- Equipment to assist the BPD Emergency Response Unit was ordered and installed.
- A new coded lock was installed on a door to the maintenance area. Access to the door was also dramatically reduced.
- All exterior doors have new reflective labels above them inside and out to help police and firefighters determine their location in the event of an emergency, such as a smoky fire.
- The audio system throughout the building has been repaired to make sure everyone can hear everyday and emergency announcements.

Officer Hirsch has made several presentations to classes since the beginning of the school year. He solicited the assistance of BPD's Public Affairs Unit to create pamphlets and a quick reference guide to help teachers and administrators recognize certain drugs, graffiti, and gang clothing and signs.

Officer Hirsch has assisted guidance counselors at BJHS with counseling sessions for troubled students, students who have been victims of crimes, and students interested in law enforcement. He has also met with several parents to help guide their children toward better behavior at home and at school.



He has accompanied BJHS administrators on home visits to help students and families as needed. When deemed appropriate by BJHS administration, he has also taken an active role in cooperative discipline.

Officer Hirsch has become an active participant in Youth Impact community meetings, which address issues faced by at-risk youth in the community.

School Resource Officers

As Resource Officer at Bloomington High School, Marvin Arnold wears many hats. He's a big brother, a father figure, and an adviser to many students at BHS. First and foremost, though, he's a police officer, and one of his biggest concerns is the safety and security of every student and person at BHS each day. Obviously, Officer Arnold can not be in all places at one time. But, BHS has helped him in that area. Video cameras mounted throughout the school store recorded activity. BHS also employs several hall monitors who are stationed at different entrances to the building and monitor the hallways between classes.

BHS has more than 1,500 students enrolled. Like many other schools in the area, and throughout the country, BHS is not incident-free. Officer Arnold reports that while truancy numbers are down, he made 20 arrests and took 88 police reports during the first half of the 2008-2009 school year.

The school year marks the second under Principal Timothy Moore's leadership. Although there were no drastic changes -- just fine tuning to some existing programs -- Moore and his administrative staff have put in place programs and activities to get parents more involved in their child's high school experience.

The low-achieving student is a concern throughout the country, and Bloomington High School is not immune. To address the concern, BHS invites under-achieving students and their parents to a dinner at the school, during which they discuss ways to improve the students' academic performance.

BHS also rewards good student achievement through a program called "Purple Pride", which formally and publicly rewards students for strong academic commitment and success. Through another program, parents receive "Good News Cards" in the mail, with information about the students' good behavior or strong academic progress. Those kinds of programs, coupled with professional and dedicated teachers and support staff, have helped Bloomington High School receive national recognition as one of America's Best High Schools from U.S. News & World Report magazine.



Patrol Division

In 2008, First Watch officers experienced contacts with a diverse array of citizens. Officers were assigned to routine patrol duties, including making reports of traffic crashes, criminal offenses, and civil matters. Officers mediated disputes between people and helped them find resolution to problems. Officers were assigned Directed Patrol duties focusing on particular offenses, including criminal cases and traffic issues. They devoted time to locating certain offenders, processing crime scenes, and making arrests.

Some First Watch officers possess specialized skills and are assigned to specialized units as needed. Officers are assigned to the Emergency Response Unit (ERU) and the Crisis Negotiation Unit (CNU). These groups handle high-risk incidents, such as barricaded subjects or hostage situations. The officers assigned to these units train regularly and are on call when an incident demands their special skills. Other officers' special skills in crime scenes, photography, accident investigation and other specialties are used as the need arises.

Maintaining social order is a daily task for BPD Officers. Those calls can involve, for example, persons threatening suicide. Some of them are known to officers, as they are persons with whom they have frequent contact. Others involve people with mental illnesses who are acting out in unusual manners. Both groups are regularly referred to area social service agencies once immediate crises are handled. Another focus in 2008 was on certain areas of the community where problems involved homeless persons drinking alcohol in public or panhandling.

Directed Patrol operations focused on neighborhood needs. The West Bloomington Task Force began exploring problems and potential solutions in the area just west of downtown Bloomington. Residents were concerned about the amount of apparent drug related activity in that area. Officers focused on developing probable cause for stopping persons who had been seen at suspected drug houses.

A southwest neighborhood was experiencing problems with cars being stolen. Officers working the area made numerous stops and focused on areas where stolen vehicles had been abandoned or stashed for future use. One officer alone recovered 15 stolen vehicles in 2008.

Officers directed their efforts on locating and arresting persons wanted on warrants and numerous arrests were made. During a period of time when residential burglaries seemed to focus on persons of Asian-Indian descent, officers focused Directed Patrol efforts on areas where large numbers of that population resided.

Directed Patrol operations also focused on banks and check cashing businesses during a series of armed robberies. A suspect was finally located and fled from police. The pursuit involved several agencies. BPD officers were correctly called off the pursuit when it left the city limits. The pursuit ended on the Interstate northwest of Normal.

Patrol Division

There were a number of calls regarding juveniles with guns. This is a serious type of call that requires a balanced and safe response. Most of these calls resulted in the guns being BB guns, paintball guns, or other toy "look alike" guns. That does not make the calls less dangerous. Officers have to respond as if the guns are real because many times they have no way to know until the incident is over.

Officers handled investigations of violations of the Sex Offender Registration Act. In 2007, officers and the department's Community Service Officers, who handle the registration of sex offenders, began a cooperative program that resulted in numerous arrests of sex offenders in violation. The program continued in 2008, with one officer assigned as the primary handler of these cases. That officer was responsible for more than 30 arrests or warrants for sex offender-related offenses.

There were numerous other First Watch events of note in 2008:

- Officers were tasked with guarding persons in hospitals while they were in custody. Officers assisted other agencies in locating witnesses to crimes in other jurisdictions.
- Officers were assigned to guard several crime/homicide scenes for extended periods of time. The dedication of all officers is needed because that activity takes officers from the regular patrol function without adding personnel to the shift.
- Numerous drug arrests were made by officers coordinating their activities and information. Large quantities of drugs and cash were seized. In one case, an astute officer connected a traffic stop and drug arrest one day with the same vehicle and a local motel the next day, allowing for several arrests and seizures.
- A call of a robbery at a restaurant prompted officers to respond to three locations as there are three local restaurants in the same chain and the initial robbery location was unclear. After securing all sites and ruling two of them out, the third was thoroughly investigated on a patrol level and arrests were made for drug offenses and intimidation. The case was further complicated by the involvement of a person connected to the restaurants.

Blending veteran officers and young officers recently assigned after completing Field Training allows some tempering of the newer officers by the veterans and keeps the veterans' energy at a high level because of the enthusiasm of the newer officers. The mix works very well.

Regardless of their level of experience, First Watch officers and supervisors performed their duties in the professional manner expected of them. They take pride in their work and their ability to help others. They are self-motivated to provide the best service possible to the community they serve.

Patrol Division

In 2008, Bloomington Police responded to 25,116 calls for service between the hours of 3 pm and 11 pm. This number continues to grow. Officers are very aware of this growth as they attempt to manage their call response.

On February 12, 2008, Second Watch officers heard the type of dispatch that no one wants to hear: "Lots of people shot"... "need rescue". Thus began the response to a multiple homicide that demonstrated cooperation among many agencies. Second Watch responded and established an area of control around the scene. This led to officers locating an injured victim in short order. Response was coordinated through the Bloomington Communications Center. The BPD Criminal Investigations Division responded immediately and initiated an investigation. Assisting agencies included the Normal Police Department, McLean County Sheriff's Office, the Bloomington Fire Department, the McLean County Coroner, the McLean County State's Attorney and MetCom. Cooperation among all agencies resulted in the rapid arrest of suspects.

In March, Second Watch officers responded to a 9-1-1 call. Once at the scene, Officer Maas administered CPR to an unresponsive person. Bloomington Fire Department Rescue responded and took over. Officer Maas received the BPD Life Saving Award in recognition of his efforts.

In July, a witness reported seeing a subject pointing a long gun at someone. The report resulted in a large police response to one of the city's largest employers. Officers answered the call assuming the information was factual and initiated the Incident Command System. While the incident turned out not to involve a weapon, the event provided an opportunity for area police agencies – and the company itself – to determine appropriate responses to such an incident. It turned into a learning experience for all agencies.

Making efforts to build on 2007 training, Second Watch officers and supervisors participated in an area-wide training effort at Illinois State University. "Rapid Response / Active Shooter" training was conducted at Walker and Dunn-Barton Halls. ISU provided the facility prior to demolition to allow officers to train in a realistic environment while simulating high-risk activities. Other area police agencies and the state and local offices of the Illinois Emergency Management Agency participated.

A number of police responses historically involve people with mental health issues. Heartland Community College, through the Law and Justice Commission, provided additional training to officers on mental health issues, enhancing their knowledge as they respond to such calls for service.

Toward the end of 2008, the city began to experience a series of robberies of financial institutions during Second Watch hours. Officers were motivated to find the suspect(s) in those incidents and incorporated nontraditional patrol methods during their shift. As the year ended, there was no resolution to those robbery cases.

Patrol Division

Third Watch officers handled 15,029 calls for service in 2008. Calls ranged from homicides to petty offenses. Third Watch Officers handled more than 120 calls related to DUI complaints.

Third Watch officers issued 1,393 city ordinance violations.

Officers made 1,610 traffic stops and subsequently issued 1,627 moving citations. 259 citations were issued for operation of uninsured motor vehicles. 2,002 parking citations, and 484 compliance citations were issued.

Third Watch officers responded to 695 alarm calls and assisted other police agencies 439 times. Officers made 1,039 pedestrian stops, 280 stops of suspicious people, and 544 stops on suspicious vehicles. Third Watch officers responded to more than 1,100 reports of Disorderly Conduct.

Third Watch officers investigated 60 reports of shots being fired, and handled 14 stabbing related calls.

Each year, the Field Training Officers assigned to Third Watch actively train many new recruit officers. The department hired five new officers in 2008 and each was assigned to Third Watch for a significant period of time during their field training process.



A **Bike Patrol** is used occasionally by the Bloomington Police Department. High call loads and limited patrol manpower can affect the use of Bike Patrols. Most of the opportunities occur on Second Watch. Bike Patrol is frequently used at Miller Park on July 4th and during the McLean County Fair.

Bike Patrol is an effective tool for surprising suspects who are not expecting police to be on bicycles. It also is a safe and quick way to get around in large crowds, such as those on July 4th and at the county fair.

The department has four bicycles available for patrol use.

Training Unit

In 2008, the City of Bloomington continued to be one of the most rapidly growing cities in Illinois. The Bloomington Police Department Training Unit strives to provide the most diverse training that our expanding community requires. With an authorized employment of 129 sworn officers and dozens of civilian employees, training remains one of the department's highest priorities.



The Training Unit is responsible for coordinating and scheduling specialized training, meeting certification requirements, and maintaining accurate records. The Training Unit works with Mobile Training Team 8, a multi-agency training component of the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board, and other training providers to research and evaluate training curricula that meet mandated standards.

The Training Unit has an added role as Quartermaster for the department. The Training Unit oversees the research, testing, selection, distribution, and maintenance of uniforms, equipment and technology.



To maintain high standards, the Training Unit provides ongoing internal training along with local and nationally-recognized programs. The Bloomington Police Department draws from resources that include Northwestern University Center for Public Safety, Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy, International Association of Chiefs of Police, American Society of Law Enforcement Trainers, Illinois State Police Academy, and Indiana State Police Academy,

Other resources include the University of Illinois Police Training Institute, National Intelligence Academy, International Association of Law Enforcement Planners, and Public Agency Training Council. Internal training is provided by specially-trained, highly-skilled and carefully-selected officers from the Bloomington Police Department and civilians from many different professional disciplines.



Community Service Officers

The CSO unit was created in 1997 with four employees. The goal was to assume some of the duties of patrol officers in order to allow them more time for other responsibilities. The unit now consists of six civilian employees who provide a wide variety of services to the public and the Police Department. Though without arrest powers, CSO's work much like plainclothes officers in the delivery of police services, greatly reducing the call load of patrol officers.



CSO's must stay current with ever-changing state laws and local ordinances. They face situations that can be complex and potentially volatile in nature. Citizens approaching the Bloomington Police Department front desk are sometimes confused, frightened, angry, or desperately seeking help in facing their own crises. CSO's must be able to professionally communicate and address various types of people. They must be able to quickly assess the status of each individual, not only for the safety and assistance of the individual, but for the safety of the public and department employees.

Community Service Officers write a multitude of police reports dealing with issues ranging from missing property to domestic violence. These reports require a strong knowledge of the law and considerable patience. In 2008, there were 9,181 initial crime reports filed with Bloomington Police Department. Of that total, 1,206 were taken by CSO's, accounting for more than 13% of all initial reports taken.

The CSO unit is also responsible for the completion of traffic crash reports. If the parties involved in an accident have left the scene, if there has been a time lapse in the reporting of the accident, or if an officer's response will be delayed, citizens are advised to come to the front desk to file the report. During bad weather, when a Traffic Collision Alert is in effect, all reports of accidents involving drivable vehicles and no injuries are referred to the CSO's.

Perhaps the most time consuming and difficult duty a CSO must perform is the recently added responsibility of registering sex offenders living in the city (for five days or more) and the mandate to ensure that the offenders are abiding with every stipulation of their registration. In 2007, CSO's became the primary contact for these offenders. To comply with state statute, registered sex offenders are required to report to their local police department on a regular basis, ranging from weekly to annually. The CSO must obtain the sex offenders' complete personal information, including any changes in addresses, employment, vehicles and physical descriptions.

Community Service Officers

CSO's are also expected to continually monitor telephone lines and activity in the police station lobby, submit intelligence sheets based on information of criminal activity, and assist victims of crime by referring them to the appropriate services.

Community Service Officers also handle compliance tickets, release impounded vehicles while collecting all associated fines, ensure that proper paperwork is completed for any refunds or court action that may be taken, and balance the cash drawer every shift.

CSO's are required to maintain the certification that allows them to identify persons wanted on warrants, stolen vehicles and articles, and determine the criminal status of persons requesting admission to local homeless shelters. Also included in their duties is submission of evidence, documentation of lost and found items, and the filing of statements and supplemental information. CSO's are sometimes subpoenaed to appear and testify in a court of law.

Accident Reconstruction

The Accident Reconstruction Team consists of five members of the Police Department who have received specialized training in the investigation, documentation and reconstruction of traffic crashes. The Team responds to all fatal crashes within the City of Bloomington. Shift supervisors may request the assistance of the Reconstruction Team for crashes they believe require additional expertise. The Team may also be available to assist other jurisdictions when assistance is requested.

The Reconstruction Team uses specialized equipment, computer software and knowledge in an attempt to understand what occurred before, during and after a crash. The Team is able to generate 2D and 3D animations which approximate the sequence of events related to a crash. The recent aerial photographic updates of the City allow the Team to generate reports with crash information represented on an image of the actual location. As a result, those involved with the investigation are afforded a better understanding of the crash.

In 2008, the Accident Reconstruction Team responded to 14 traffic crashes involving four fatalities.

Crisis Negotiation Unit

The Crisis Negotiation Unit (CNU) is a team of officers drawn from other areas of the Department to fill a need for a specialized unit that responds to critical incidents requiring training and skills in negotiating with a person in crisis. The unit responds to incidents in which a person may be suicidal, be holding hostages, or is barricaded and possibly armed. These situations could arise from domestic violence situations, wanted subjects, mentally ill persons or others who have given up hope and are acting out in frustration. The goal of the unit is to make contact with these types of persons and negotiate a satisfactory solution to the incident. Ultimately, it is to talk the person into peacefully surrendering to police without injury to anyone.

In 2008, CNU provided service during three major incidents.

One occurred in a local mobile home park in January and involved a barricaded suicidal subject who was very intoxicated. The Emergency Response Unit (ERU) was called in for the inner perimeter while patrol officers handled the outer perimeter. The McLean County Emergency Management Agency was notified and responded to the scene with their command vehicle...the use of an armored vehicle was secured from the Illinois Law Enforcement Alarm System...the area was secured...and CNU members attempted to make contact with the barricaded subject. There was no response. Several hours later, the subject finally responded and was talked into surrendering. He was taken to a local hospital for psychological treatment.

The second incident was at a major business in town and was concluded before a full deployment of CNU was needed. The event involved someone seeing a person with what was believed to be a rifle near the business. A number of CNU members were involved at the scene with other duties and would have been relieved if CNU were to be fully activated. Two CNU members had the necessary CNU equipment prepared for deployment from the Police Department when the incident was resolved.

The third incident was in a small community in the area and involved a barricaded subject. One CNU member lived near the incident and deployed from his home. Other members of CNU were activated to assist and had prepared the unit's equipment. CNU was gathering at the Police Department when word was received that the incident had been resolved.

Members of CNU handled numerous other incidents during their regular work hours that could have escalated to more major incidents if it had not been for the use of their specialized skills. Among those events were complicated domestic violence incidents. They serve to emphasize the word "Crisis" in Crisis Negotiation Unit.

Crisis Negotiation Unit

Any incidents that occur outside of Bloomington require a request for CNU assistance from the commanding officer of that jurisdiction and need the approval of the Assistant Chief of Operations of the Bloomington Police Department. CNU has been requested many times in past years and has been allowed to respond. BPD continues to offer the services of CNU to other agencies that can use the expertise of the unit.

CNU trains monthly, and at least once a year in combination with ERU. The unit also trains with other law enforcement agencies in the area.

Proactive Unit

The Proactive Unit consists of one sergeant and six officers. It addresses a variety of issues and concentrates on street crimes and gang suppression. The unit also assists the Patrol Unit, the Vice Unit, and the Criminal Investigation Division (CID). Some Proactive Unit members serve as field training officers for the Patrol Division, as on-shift crime scene technicians, and as members of the Emergency Response Unit (ERU). The Sergeant in charge of the Proactive Unit is also a supervisor for the Crisis Negotiation Unit (CNU). Some Proactive officers also instruct Pressure Point Control Tactics and Field Sobriety Testing.

Proactive officers receive additional specialized training, including: Trouble Shooting Searches and Seizures, Drug Interdiction, Consensual Encounters and Hotel Interdiction Operations, Active Shooter, Street Survival, Gangs-Street Crimes, Gangs-Outlaw Motorcycle Gangs, Ground Fighting Techniques, Mental Prep for Winning Violent Encounters, Conducting Alcohol & Tobacco Compliance Checks, and Police Suicide Awareness.

2008 statistics include:

- 201 Adult criminal arrests
- 75 Drug-related arrests
- 86 Warrant arrests
- 6 Prostitution-related arrests
- 12 Weapon possession offenses

The Proactive Unit participated in a wide variety of special details, including the Cultural Festival, the July 4th celebration at Miller Park, and security at the McLean County Fair. The Unit conducted undercover details that included stakeouts on felony suspects, liquor compliance checks, and surveillance of high crime areas involving illegal drug sales and prostitution. Proactive also participated in the Youth Impact program, working to help discourage at-risk youth from joining gangs.

Criminal Investigation Division

2008 was a very busy year for the Criminal Investigation Division. There were six homicides, five of which were cleared by arrest. The sixth is still being reviewed by the McLean County State's Attorney's office.

2008 brought closure to a high-profile case involving a serial rapist who had committed several attacks over a three-year period. The suspect, who had been arrested the previous year, went to trial, was convicted on all counts, and was sentenced to 440 years in prison. It is believed to be the longest prison sentence handed down in the history of McLean County.

2008 saw a rash of residential burglaries that targeted the local Asian-Indian community. More than 40 break-ins occurred and gold jewelry valued in excess of \$100,000 was taken. The suspect who was arrested admitted to his involvement and possessed a notebook listing dozens more potential victims. At year's end, he was awaiting trial.

There were several robberies at local financial institutions, with one suspect thought to be responsible for many of them. Detectives also dealt with a string of robberies involving pizza delivery people as victims. All of the cases were cleared by arrests.

CID ASSIGNED CASES	2007	2008	% CHANGE
Administratively cleared	469	509	+ 8.5
Cleared — adult arrest	134	238	+ 77.6
Cleared — juvenile arrest	22	36	+ 63.6
Cleared — death of offender	1	3	+ 200.0
Cleared — prosecution declined	36	33	- 8.3
Cleared — no victim cooperation	11	29	+ 163.6
Cleared — juvenile, no custody	0	6	—
Referred to other jurisdiction	181	156	- 13.8
Unfounded	6	9	+ 50.0
Pending at year's end	76	85	+ 11.8
TOTAL	936	1104	+ 17.9

Cyber Crime Unit

In 2008, the Bloomington Police Department continued to dedicate two detectives to its Cyber Crime Unit to address this emerging area of law enforcement. The Unit is still without equal in this area of the state. The unit is a member of the Central Illinois Cyber Crime Unit (CICU) headquartered in the U.S. Attorney's Office in Peoria.

The two Bloomington detectives are assigned to the FBI Cyber Crime Task Force, which covers an 18-county area in the central part of Illinois. The BPD Cyber Crime Unit performs advanced computer forensics for the Bloomington Police Department and other area departments that request mutual assistance. In addition, it performs advanced computer forensics for the FBI on federal cases.

The unit provides lectures to local businesses concerning risks to their networks, discussing what to do if their networks are attacked and what they can expect from the police. In 2008, the unit also presented internet safety awareness programs to local service groups, parents groups, and school children.

A new capability for the BPD Cyber Crime Unit was added in 2008. The unit is now able to remove data from cell phones, PDAs, and smart phones for court purposes. No other agency in the area is capable of this task. It has already been used in local homicide investigations, other violent crimes, and robbery sprees.

In 2008, the BPD Cyber Crime Unit again experienced an increase in computer analysis requests. Computer forensics provided by the unit played a part in investigations that led to 12 felony arrests and 13 federal and state indictments. The crimes included sex crimes against children, sexual assaults of women, and homicide.

The BPD Cyber Crime Unit also investigated 25 cases referred by the Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3), a joint effort of the FBI and the National White Collar Crime Center. The unit also opened 26 local cases involving cyber investigations.

The unit was involved in two high-profile cases in 2008. In one, former police sergeant Jeff Pelo was accused of sexually assaulting several women. Forensic analysis of his personal computers produced evidence linking Pelo to the same type of sexual assault committed against the local women. Pelo was convicted and sentenced to 440 years in prison.

The other case involved a local minister accused of molesting a young boy. A forensic examination of his personal computer produced evidence that allowed investigators to identify nearly a dozen additional victims of sexual abuse. As a result, the suspect pled guilty to production of child pornography and received 20 years in prison. Evidence found by the Cyber Crime Unit also revealed that the 38-year-old suspect had been posing online as a 19-year-old boy who may have been soliciting other children.

Crime & Intelligence Analysis Unit

The Crime & Intelligence Analysis Unit (CIAU) is tasked with collecting, analyzing and disseminating information on active criminal offenders and organized criminal groups. One of the primary goals of the unit is to identify crime patterns and link offenders and groups responsible for these crimes.

The unit also prepares threat assessments, crime maps, crime bulletins, and investigative summaries. These products are used by various local, state, and federal agencies in a variety of capacities to support planning, strategy development, and operations.

The CIAU uses specialized computer hardware and software systems designed to organize and develop information used to target and suppress criminal hot spots, assist in short and long-term operational planning and increase the overall efficiency of police patrol and investigative functions.

The CIAU also acts as the department's link to agencies throughout the United States through a network of local, state, and federal agencies. Analysts assigned to the unit maintain a large network of contacts to facilitate the flow of crime information among agencies.

In 2008, the Crime & Intelligence Analysis Unit enhanced BPD's Problem-Oriented Policing approach by upgrading the department's crime mapping software, identifying areas of high-density crime for use in directed patrol initiatives, and targeting high-risk violent offenders in destabilized neighborhoods.

The CIAU also provided major case analysis on four local homicide cases, multiple long-term narcotics investigations, and several high-profile regional crime series. Through the ongoing use of specialized crime analysis techniques, the department remained focused on directing its resources toward habitual offenders, violent gang offenders, and large-scale drug traffickers.

The unit also expanded its provision of tactical and strategic crime information to both the investigative and patrol divisions. In 2008, CIAU staff also expanded support to departmental administrators in the areas of long term-planning, research and development, as well as program / practice analysis. Through CIAU staff research, the unit was able to locate private funding for departmental training, new anti-crime technologies, crime analysis software, and investigative hardware for use by the department.

The CIAU also continued to collect and analyze data on departmental traffic stops in response to a state of Illinois mandate regarding racial profiling data collection.

Forensic Sciences / Crime Scene Unit

Crime scenes in the City of Bloomington are processed by the Bloomington Police Department Crime Scene Unit. The unit is staffed by two full-time crime scene detectives. It is supported in-house by several patrol officers. Further processing of evidence occurs at the Bloomington Police Department Crime Lab, including:

- Latent fingerprint development
- Forensic photography/imaging
- Marijuana Leaf Identification
- Crime scene investigation and analysis
- Computer assisted composite drawings

Additional processing of evidence is completed by the Illinois State Police Crime Labs, which offers:

- Microscopy
- Operation of the Automated Fingerprint Identification System
- Drug chemistry trace analysis
- Latent print examination and comparison
- Firearms and tool mark examination
- Operation of the Combined DNA Indexing System (CODIS) database
- Tire track and footwear examination and analysis
- Questioned documents examination and analysis
- Polygraph examination



In 2008, the Unit responded to 315 crime scenes and worked 30 cases forwarded to the unit by patrol officers. Patrol level crime scene technicians processed 123 scenes during the year. The unit worked 187 marijuana leaf identification cases and processed 229 exhibits involving 21,959 grams (more than 48 pounds) of marijuana.

The Bloomington Police Department submitted to the Illinois State Police Crime Labs for analysis and processing 408 cases that included 557 exhibits.

The Livescan (electronic fingerprinting) machine was added to the unit's tools in August with assistance from a state grant. Fingerprints rolled on the machine are automatically added to the AFIX Tracker system that was obtained by the department in the Fall of 2007. It allows the unit to search latent prints against our own *local* database. Using the AFIX, the unit was able to identify the suspect in 15 cases in 2008. The database on the AFIX Tracker is now up to almost 8,000 sets of fingerprints.

Several new patrol level crime scene technicians were trained in 2008.

The Bloomington Police Department anticipates adding a third full-time detective to the Forensics/Crime Scene Unit in 2009.

Vice Unit



The primary mission of the Bloomington Police Department is to address and reduce local crime rates. Since the distribution and use of illegal narcotics are primary contributing factors for criminal activity, the Bloomington Police Department has placed a high priority on development and operation of its Vice Unit. The unit consists of four highly-trained detectives and a sergeant with fifteen years of police-related narcotics experience. The unit's focus is on the arrest and conviction of street-level and mid-level narcotics dealers.

The Vice Unit also has close working relationships with other local, state, and federal offices connected to law enforcement and prosecution of drug-related offenses. The Bloomington Police Department assigns an additional vice unit detective to the State Police drug unit, Task Force 6. The Bloomington Police Department Vice Unit and Task Force 6 have a reciprocal agreement for case assistance and often work closely together to share information and provide tactical support.



The unit often works with the Federal Prosecutor's Office in Peoria, as high-level cases are sometimes prosecuted at the federal level. At the local level, the Bloomington Vice Unit works with the Normal Vice Unit on an almost daily basis in the development of cases that extend beyond the jurisdictional areas of each department.

Internally, the Vice Unit also works in conjunction with the Bloomington Police Department Emergency Response Unit. In 2008, the Vice Unit executed 26 search warrants, many of which required the assistance of the Emergency Response Unit.



In 2008, the Bloomington Vice Unit opened 84 cases involving 114 defendants. The unit made seizures valued at more than \$74,000. That included six vehicles and more than \$26,000 in cash. The unit also removed eleven handguns from the streets of Bloomington.

Task Force 6

Task Force 6 is a multi-jurisdictional drug enforcement unit servicing the Central Illinois area encompassing McLean and Dewitt counties and beyond. The unit is comprised of eight officers from member agencies including the Illinois State Police, Dewitt County Sheriff's Department, McLean County Sheriff's Department, Clinton Police Department, Bloomington Police Department, and Illinois State University Police Department.

Also assigned to Task Force 6 is an office manager who is responsible for the administrative function of the unit, as well as asset / forfeitures. Although Task Force 6 focuses on the immediate needs of the member agencies, the unit offers assistance to agencies outside of McLean and Dewitt counties with a documented need and nexus to the Task Force 6 operational area.

Task Force 6 Activity Summary for 2008

Number of officers assigned: 8
(from ISP, ISUPD, Bloomington PD, Clinton PD, McLean County, Dewitt County)

Number of cases opened: 112

Number of arrests: 98

Number of firearms seized: 15

DRUG SEIZURES

Substance type	# of seizures	Quantity / Weight	Street value
Cannabis	36	27,619 grams	\$169,244
Cocaine	11	197 grams	\$20,215
Crack	1	19 grams	\$1,900
Ecstasy	1	1 pill	\$15
TOTAL	49	27,835 grams	\$191, 374

Emergency Response Unit

In 1978, the Bloomington Police Department initiated a unit that focused on tactical resolutions to incidents. The unit was first used to assist in the Pontiac Prison riots that same year.

The Emergency Response Unit (ERU) -- comprised of officers from throughout the Bloomington Police Department -- is a part-time unit. All members have regular responsibilities and take time away from those duties to train and respond when the unit is activated. ERU has two teams. One is primarily an entry team. The second functions as a sniper / observer team. Some members are cross-trained and work in both venues.



The majority of ERU activations are to support the Vice Unit in the service of search warrants. In those instances, the use of the sniper / observer team provides important information to the entry team so that unit safety is enhanced when the target is reached.

The number of Emergency Response Team call-outs can vary widely from year to year. The team was activated 12 times in 2008, 19 times in 2007, 34 times in 2006, and 20 times in 2005.

ERU members attend regular training oriented toward their team's specialty. The entry and sniper / observer teams also train together to enhance their skills.

ERU also trains with the Bloomington Police Crisis Negotiation Unit, U.S. Army National Guard, and other agencies. In the past, members have worked with the FBI, Illinois State Police Task Force 6, U. S. Marshals Task Force, Bloomington Police Vice Unit, Normal Police Vice Unit, and Bloomington Police Criminal Investigation Division.



In 2009, the Bloomington Police Department plans to change the name of the Emergency Response Unit to the Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team.

Records

The Records Division of the Bloomington Police Department underwent some noticeable changes in the past year. The evidentiary system has been completely reorganized and updated. In both Records and Evidence, several outmoded and redundant systems have been deleted, creating more time for more important services.

The control of all evidence from a crime is vital. From the time a piece of property is entered into our evidence system -- until it is returned to its rightful owner, destroyed, forfeited, or sold -- it is catalogued, maintained, and stored by BPD's Records Division. Preserving the "chain of custody" for each and every piece of evidence is critical.

The main evidence room has undergone a complete overhaul. Any property at least seven years old has been removed and the remaining property has been sorted into numerical order. This makes the retrieval of evidence, particularly small items, much quicker.

During the reorganization, all old evidence which had to be retained indefinitely, such as homicide and sexual assault evidence, was moved to long-term storage. Additionally, all incoming evidence from those types of cases will go straight to long-term storage.

Since November 1999 -- when the county-wide E-Justice computer system went on-line -- 61,773 pieces of property of every conceivable shape and size have been entered into the system as evidence at BPD -- 9,745 of them in 2008.

Because evidence continues to be submitted every day, space is at a premium. That means the disposal of property is a high priority. While evidence from homicides and sexual assaults is retained indefinitely, evidence in most other cases is reviewed once there is a disposition by the courts. At that time, the McLean County State's Attorney's Office determines what evidence may be returned to its owner, forfeited by its owner, destroyed, or sold. Any evidence from a case which did not go to court is reviewed by the Criminal Investigation Division.

In the past, the Records Division conducted an annual surplus sale. In 2008, police department administrators decided to use PropertyRoom.com, an on-line auction service, similar to e-bay. Instead of *dozens* of bidders at past live auctions, the on-line sale could potentially have *hundreds* of bidders.



The Records Division is also responsible for ensuring the control of criminal history record files, documenting daily arrests and court dispositions, maintaining the sex offender registry, updating the towing database daily and compiling a monthly report, and the conversion of arrest reports to laser fiche.

Records

Every person arrested by BPD is processed by the Records Division. 1,975 adults were arrested by Bloomington police officers on 4,527 offenses in 2008. Each person is documented from the initial date of contact, through the arrest, the court process, and then conviction or acquittal. Arrest records are kept indefinitely.

The Records staff uses arrest files to perform background checks on prospective employees at BPD or other police agencies and on Armed Forces recruits. Arrest records are also used to document arrestees' backgrounds for various state government agencies, including Corrections, Children and Family Services, Attorney General, and Public Health, and the U.S. Department of Personnel Management. The Records Division also handles Freedom of Information Act requests from the public.

Every subpoena for BPD records information is processed by the Records Manager, who also handles court-ordered expungements, requiring the sealing of people's arrest records.

Canine Unit

The Bloomington Police Canine Unit is comprised of four police dogs and four handlers. The Canine Unit started 2008 with two new police dogs. One of them replaced an ill police dog that eventually passed away. The other new canine replaced a dog that was retired due to age-related health issues. The two new police dogs underwent a rigorous training schedule and were first used on the street in April.

Traditionally, canine units from surrounding police agencies train together and provide mutual assistance when their respective dogs are not available. In 2008, at least two neighboring agencies either re-established their canine programs or replaced retired dogs. Those circumstances probably contributed to the unusually high number of calls involving BPD's Canine Unit assisting other agencies.

The most frequent use of the BPD police dogs is detecting illegal drugs and narcotics. Most often, this activity occurs at traffic stops, where the dogs are called upon to sniff the exterior of vehicles. But the dogs were also used to sniff various containers, luggage, and even rented storage units.

Canine Unit

Some of the narcotics detection requests stem from information gathered well beyond the Bloomington area, and often result from work by the BPD Vice Unit in conjunction with the United States Drug Enforcement Agency (DEA). During one incident in 2008, a BPD canine was used in an investigation that involved an aircraft landing at the Central Illinois Regional Airport.

Numerous arrests were made and volumes of illegal drugs, property, and cash were seized in 2008 as a result of the BPD Canine Unit's direct involvement in drug-related crime fighting.

The abilities of the BPD Canine Unit go well beyond their use for narcotics detection. The unit responded to many incidents that involved reports of "shots fired" or even actual shootings. Several guns were recovered by using various abilities of the dogs. On at least two "shots fired" occasions, the Canine Unit was directly involved in the traffic stops of the suspect vehicles. The suspects were contained in their vehicles by one of the canines, allowing officers to arrest them and to locate illegal firearms either on the suspects or in the vehicle. Another incident that initially started as a narcotics-related sniff of a vehicle resulted in firearms being recovered. The Canine Unit also assisted in locating a gun that had been tossed from a car prior to the vehicle being stopped by police.

The BPD Canine Unit also assisted during two murder cases by conducting article searches, tracking, and/or providing security during the initial confusion that resulted from a large group of people. Countless number of times, the mere presence of a police dog assists officers in maintaining control or bringing large crowds of potentially violent offenders under control.

The tracking and searching abilities of the dogs were further observed when several offenders armed with weapons while committing a robbery/home invasion were located and arrested. One of the offenders was located hiding under a stairwell. Two other offenders were located within the perimeter established by patrol officers. In this particular incident, two BPD dogs and their handlers worked in conjunction with each other.

In four instances, suspects were located by canines, detained, and arrested following their efforts to escape after committing commercial or vehicle burglaries.

The Bloomington Parks and Recreation Department was victimized by a crime spree that involved damage to city-owned property and the burglary of various city-owned buildings. The BPD Canine Unit, working with Park Police, located suspects after they broke windows in a city-owned vehicle. All attempted to flee to avoid arrest. One of the BPD dogs was deployed to prevent the escape of one of the offenders, who was apprehended by the dog. Officers captured the others.

Canine Unit

A work schedule for the Canine Unit has been established that makes them available during the times of the day when they are most needed. The dogs and their handlers are also subject to being called in during their off hours to assist with certain situations in which they might be able to provide assistance.

In addition to their regular duties and their many hours of training, the Bloomington Police Department Canine Unit also provides public demonstrations. Thousands of school children, civic groups, clubs, and businesses have observed the dogs in action during such demonstrations. In 2008, the Canine Unit performed at events hosted by State Farm Insurance, Country Companies, Kiwanis, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, and several public and private schools in Bloomington.

In accordance with national standards, the BPD Canine Unit logs at least 40 hours of on-going training each month. A portion of the training involves national certification of the dogs' abilities to reliably detect drugs and narcotics.



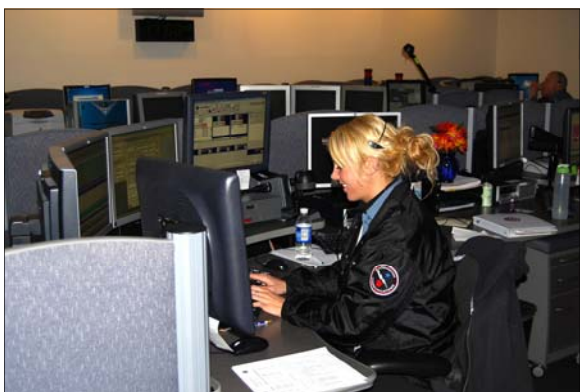
Communications Center

On March 6, 2006, the City of Bloomington welcomed 17 full-time telecommunicators (TCM's) -- or "dispatchers", as they are also known -- to staff the new Bloomington Communications Center. Shortly thereafter, the city allowed the hiring of an additional TCM, bringing the full-time count to 18. Since the date the Communications Center went "live", five more seasonal / part-time telecommunicator positions have been added to accommodate the workload.

As new TCM's are hired, they undergo several weeks of specific critical training in all areas of call-taking and dispatching procedures. Along with classroom training, the dispatchers are assigned to the police and fire departments for ride-alongs in order to obtain first-hand exposure to the work of police officers and firefighters. This field observation period gives them a better understanding of what first responders are subjected to, and exactly what they will need from the Communications Center in order to do their jobs and protect and serve the citizens of Bloomington.

All telecommunicators are trained in Emergency Medical Dispatch, which is a protocol of structured questions and directions. TCM's determine the nature of the problem and coach the caller with medical instructions until emergency personnel arrive on the scene. The telecommunicators work together as a team when taking and dispatching calls. The call-takers receive the phone calls. Once the call-taker has determined the nature of an event, the information is forwarded to the dispatcher. Police calls for service and fire department calls are routed to the appropriate telecommunicator and units are promptly dispatched. All TCM's are cross-trained and certified in various job functions.

The Communications Center is also able to handle calls from non-English speaking callers through use of a language line. It allows a translator to speak with both the caller and TCM simultaneously. TCM's used the language line 106 times in 2008, with foreign languages ranging from Spanish to Mongolian to Arabic.



Communications Center

The Bloomington Communications Center also serves as MetCom's back-up and vice-versa, should there be a situation in which capabilities are lost at a specific agency. Each communication center can effectively dispatch for the other, should the need ever arise.

The Bloomington Communications Center is a member of the Illinois Telecommunicator Emergency Response Team. Any time there is an emergency or disaster in the State of Illinois and another agency needs additional resources to operate, our agency will send telecommunicators to assist with operations. The Bloomington Communications Center was one of the first dispatch centers in Illinois to become involved in the newly-formed organization.

The Fire Department recently altered its policy for dispatching units, switching to AVL (Automatic Vehicle Locator) dispatching. That simply means the closest available fire or rescue vehicle will be assigned to a call, instead of a unit from a specific fire station.

Bloomington Communications Center	2007	2008	% change
Total calls	102,137	99,452	- 2.7%
9-1-1 calls	27,610	27,786	+ < 1.0%
Non-emergency calls	74, 527	71,666	- 3.8%
Police calls	62,318	57,312	- 8.0%
Fire calls	9,748	10,400	+ 6.7%
Wireless transfers from MetCom	14,877	15,488	+ 4.1%

U.S. Marshals Violent Fugitive Task Force

In 2002, the Bloomington Police Department joined the United States Marshal's Great Lakes Fugitive Task Force. The main purpose of the joint venture was to expand local resources in an effort to more effectively arrest violent fugitives wanted on outstanding warrants, locally and elsewhere.

In 2008, the Bloomington and Peoria Task Force consisted of Deputy U.S. Marshals from the United States Marshal Service and Special Deputies from the Bloomington Police Department, McLean County Sheriff's Department, Dewitt County Sheriff's Department and Peoria County Sheriff's Department. Through this combined effort, Task Force Officers are able to draw from various other governmental resources throughout Illinois and the United States. The Bloomington Police Department continues to commit two detectives to the Task Force.

In 2008, the Bloomington/McLean County Task Force Office made more than 240 felony hands-on warrant arrests and 99 misdemeanor warrant arrests. The Bloomington / McLean County office, combined with the Peoria Office, accounted for a total of 481 felony warrant arrests.

The Task Force arrested five fugitives wanted on homicide charges. Task Force Officers were also able to locate subjects in other states such as Mississippi, Arizona, Texas, and Florida. In those cases, Bloomington / McLean Task Force Officers were able to obtain information on where the suspects were hiding to avoid capture. That information was sent to other U.S. Marshal's Task Forces, which were then able to locate and arrest the fugitives.

The Bloomington / Peoria Office of the Task Force accounted for 19 arrests for Criminal Sexual Assault, 22 arrests for weapon violations, 42 arrests for Armed Robbery / Burglary, and 188 arrests for drug violations.

In addition to the arrests, the Task Force seized eight long guns; 68.8 grams of crack cocaine; one gram of heroin; 97.5 grams of cannabis; and \$3,020 in cash.



Traffic Unit

The mission of the Traffic Unit is to enhance the quality of life by promoting safe vehicular and pedestrian travel. This is accomplished through a combination of efforts which include education and enforcement.

The goal of the unit is to accomplish its mission by obtaining voluntary compliance from the public so that enforcement is limited to where it is most needed. Voluntary compliance is gained by educating the public on laws and ordinances and then checking for compliance. The education component is accomplished in coordination with the Public Affairs Unit, by way of media releases and appearances on City Vision, a local public access television program.

The Traffic Unit is commanded by a sergeant and is comprised of officers who specialize in several areas, including truck enforcement, speed enforcement, taxi and for-hire vehicle regulation, and nuisance vehicle removal. The unit is also responsible for parking enforcement in the downtown area of Bloomington and keeping traffic records for the Department.

The Traffic Unit sergeant serves as the Department's representative on a variety of committees that have an impact on traffic movement and parking within the city. These include the City of Bloomington Special Events Committee, the Downtown Parking Committee, the Downtown Traffic Committee and the Staff Traffic Advisory Committee. The sergeant also works closely with the city Engineering staff to determine areas where enforcement can best be used to reduce traffic crash frequency and severity.

The enforcement officers assigned to the unit are responsible for conducting radar speed enforcement at a variety of locations, such as school zones and other areas that have been identified as high accident or high violation areas.

The officers assigned to truck enforcement are responsible for monitoring large trucks to ensure that they are being operated according to law. This includes determining if trucks are overweight, have proper safety inspections and equipment, ensuring that drivers are properly licensed, and that the vehicles are being driven on designated truck routes. The purpose of checking for overweight vehicles is to ensure that city streets are not being unnecessarily damaged by vehicles that are too heavy or being driven on roads not designed to support heavy weights.

The Towing Officer is responsible for removing and disposing of vehicles that violate city ordinances. That includes abandoned vehicles, inoperable vehicles, and unregistered vehicles. Such vehicles may be removed and stored until the owner makes adequate arrangements for their return. Vehicles that go unclaimed are disposed of as prescribed by law.

Traffic Unit

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Vehicles towed * (Traffic Unit)	538	479	561	389	347
Vehicles towed * (Patrol Division)	1136	1149	1214	1192	1082
Towing ordinance violations	199	187	172	190	206
Junk vehicles sold	429	491	461	462	347
Proceeds from junk vehicle sales	\$37,115	\$50,634	\$84,034	\$115,215	\$117,982

* Includes tows of abandoned vehicles, tows relating to the mandatory towing ordinance, tows subsequent to arrests, and "consent to tows". Does not include tows from vehicle crashes, vehicle seizures, and tows made at request of vehicle owners.

Citations issued by Bloomington police officers

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
DUI	208	200	209	192	123
Truck Overweight	76	78	114	51	54
Truck Safety	47	45	161	306	223
School Zones	237	401	179	57	56
Seat Belt	365	635	1,117	250	130

Explorers

The Explorer program is part of the young adult division of the Boy Scouts of America. It is co-educational, developed and supervised by local community organizations, and provides members with opportunities to explore particular career fields. The Bloomington Police Department Explorer program is composed of young men and women between the ages of 14 and 21 who are interested in law enforcement as a profession.

Explorers meet monthly to receive training in some of the same topics as police officers. This includes how to conduct proper traffic stops, building searches, Emergency Vehicle Operators Course (EVOC), DUI arrests, and police canine handling. Explorers are also allowed to participate in ride-alongs with officers.

In 2008, members of the Metro 911 Post were involved in a variety of events in and around Bloomington. Explorers participated in several parades, the McLean County Fair, Heyworth Hey-Days, and other public events, with a focus on providing public safety services.

During traffic details, Explorers staff intersections to keep the flow of traffic from impacting the events. The McLean County Fair at the Interstate Center is an annual detail for the Explorer Post. The Explorers work in conjunction with local law enforcement, fire and emergency medical services, and emergency management to provide public safety for the five-day event. A few of the Explorers services include searching for lost children, staffing an information awareness booth for the Bloomington Police Department, lost and found collection, and grandstand security. Services provided at other details staffed by the Explorers include traffic control, crowd control, looking for missing children, and recruiting.

2008 was another successful recruiting year, thanks in large part to Greg Patton of the Area Vocational Center. He allowed the Explorer post supervisor and a representative from the W. D. Boyce Council of Boy Scouts to speak to students in his criminal justice classes, and then added incentive to join Explorers by making it extra credit. Even after the extra credit ended, students were still applying.

