



# AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT 2007 ANNUAL REPORT



**CHIEF OF POLICE Robert Taylor** 



## LAW ENFORCEMENT CODE OF ETHICS



AS A LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER, my fundamental duty is to serve the community; to safeguard lives and property; to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against oppression or intimidation, and the peaceful against violence or disorder; and to respect the constitutional rights of all persons to liberty, equality, and justice.

I WILL keep my private life unsullied as an example to all and will conduct myself in a manner that does not bring discredit to me or to my agency. I will maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn or ridicule; develop self-restraint; and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed in both my personal and official life. I will be exemplary in obeying the laws of the land and the regulations of my department. Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature or that is confided to me in my official capacity will be kept ever secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duty.

I WILL never act officiously or permit personal feeling, prejudices, political beliefs, aspirations, animosities or friendships to influence my decisions. With no compromise for crime and with relentless prosecution of criminals, I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice or ill will, never employing unnecessary force or violence and never accepting gratuities.

I RECOGNIZE the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of the police service. I will never engage in acts of corruption or bribery, nor will I condone such acts by other police officers. I will cooperate with all legally authorized agencies and their representatives in the pursuit of justice.

I KNOW that I alone am responsible for my own standard of professional performance and will take every reasonable opportunity to enhance and improve my level of knowledge and competence.

I WILL constantly strive to achieve these objectives and ideals, dedicating myself before God to my chosen profession...Law Enforcement.



### **MISSION STATEMENT**



The prime functions of the Police Department are the preservation of the peace and order, the prevention and detection of crime, the apprehension of offenders, the protection of person and property under the laws of the state, the protection of the innocent, the enforcement of the laws of the state and the ordinances of the City and the performance of a multitude of tasks relating to public welfare and safety. For these purposes the police are endowed with legal authority. In the exercise of this power, justice and equity should be ever the actuating motive.

To achieve true success, the Department must win and retain the confidence and respect of the public whom it serves. This can be accomplished only by constant and earnest endeavor on the part of all officers and civilian employees of the Department to perform their duties in an efficient, honest, and effective manner. This exemplary conduct cultivates in the public mind, the fullest realization that the Police Department is a most vital requisite to public well being.

Efficiency is the first rule of an officer's conduct. Police officers should remember that in the execution of their duties, they act not for themselves, but for the public, and that their appointment is in no sense for their own advantage. The entire law regulating their function hinges upon this principle. They are required to be governed by no feeling, save zeal to do what the law commands, and should never allow passion to urge them to brutality, nor fear, favoritism, or sympathy to induce them to illegal leniency or neglect of duty. Officers must bear in mind that they represent the dignity and authority of the state and are representatives of the law to whose lawful demands all must submit, and such submission can be compelled when necessary. They should use no unnecessary force nor hesitate to use necessary force when circumstances require.

The Rules and Regulations hereinafter set forth are compiled, adopted, and published by the Chief of Police for the information, guidance, government, discipline, and administration of the Police Department of the City of Amarillo, Texas and its officers and civilian employees. They are prepared to present to all employees of the Department, the duties and obligations required of them in the proper performance of their duties. Any violation of these Rules and Regulations will be made the subject of disciplinary charges against all persons responsible for such violation, unless otherwise directed by the Chief of Police.

Since it is not possible to anticipate every situation that may arise, or to prescribe the specific action requisite for each case, some things therefore must necessarily be left to the intelligence and discretion of the officers of the Department. Those entrusted with law enforcement must be relied upon to exercise good judgment and apply sound common sense at all times to make police service equitable and effective.

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### AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2007

The 2007 Amarillo Police Department Annual Report was designed and published by the Service Division. All information herein is taken from official records of the various Amarillo Police Department Divisions described, and is provided to give readers an accurate as possible description of the Amarillo Police Department in the year 2007. Changes in the disposition and classification of cases do occur months and years after the initial police reports are filed. These changes may therefore affect the accuracy of our annual reports.

#### SERVICE DIVISION COMMANDER

Captain Brad Lancaster





March 10, 2008

The Honorable Mayor and City Commissioners City of Amarillo Amarillo, Texas

**Dear Mayor & Commissioners:** 

It is an honor to present the 2007 Annual Report of the Amarillo Police Department. In 2007, we experienced a 3.1% overall increase in Part I crimes. We are focusing our resources this year towards addressing these increases and will continue with our efforts at increasing staff levels.

It should be noted that the statistics and graphs in this report that detail Part I crimes might differ slightly from crime statistics reported by this Department to the State of Texas, and ultimately to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This is due to case clearance declarations that continue after the Annual Report is completed.

Sincerely,

Robert Taylor Chief of Police

RT/bl







CHIEF OF POLICE Robert Taylor







ASSISTANT CHIEF
OF LINE OPERATIONS
Kenneth Ferguson







ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF OPERATIONS Perry Gilmore

### OFFICE OF ROBERT TAYLOR

To: All Police Department Divisions

Date: 01-01-2008

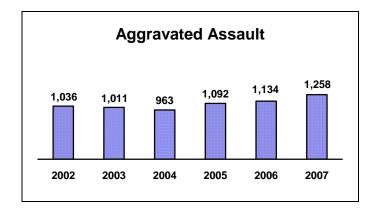
SUBJECT: Department Goals for 2008

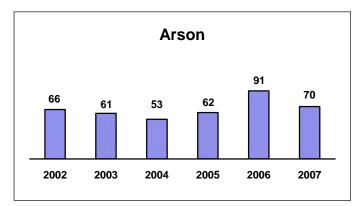
- 1. Increase staffing of sworn personnel to address city growth.
- 2. Expand the COPPS program to other areas of the city.
- 3. Increase proactive efforts to reduce robberies.
- 4. Increase traffic enforcement to reduce traffic accidents/ fatalities.
- 5. Develop alternative methods of response to calls for service.
- 6. Increase proactive efforts to reduce residential/ business burglaries.
- 7. Continue enhancement of training programs.
- 8. Combine Communications Centers and upgrade information technology system & software.
- 9. Obtain certification under the Agency Recognition Program.

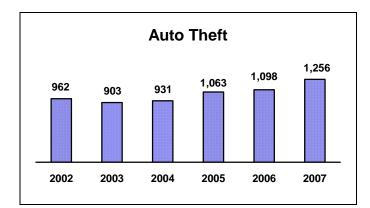
Robert Taylor Chief of Police

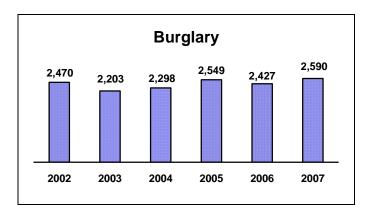


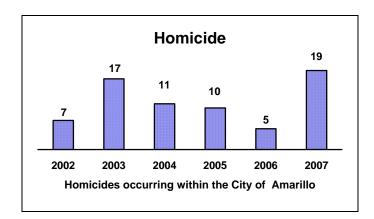
# CRIME ANALYSIS

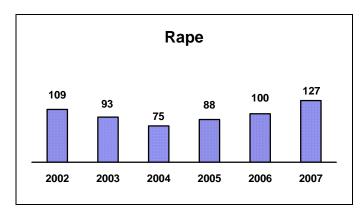


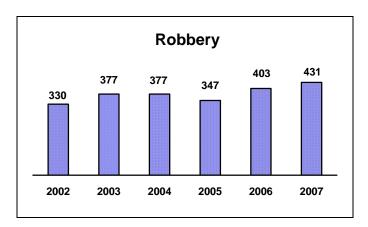


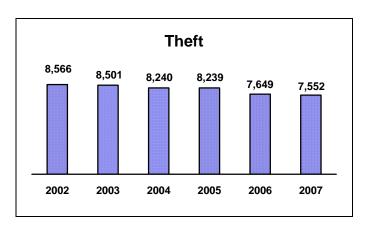


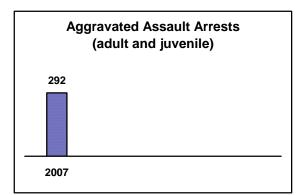


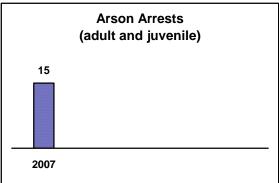


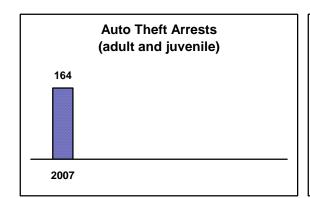


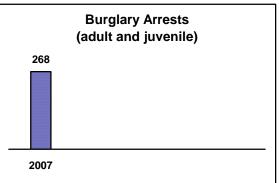


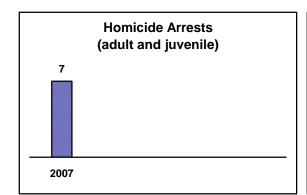


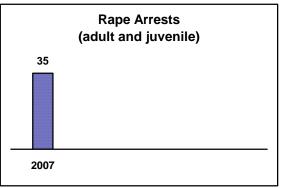


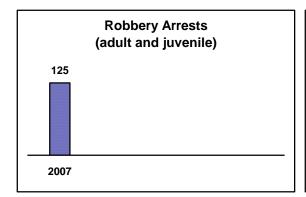


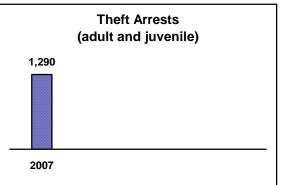














# **DIVISION REPORTS**







UNIFORM DIVISION
Captain Carrel Harris

### **UNIFORM DIVISION**

The Uniform Division, commanded by Captain Carrel Harris, is responsible for providing quality police service to the citizens of Amarillo on a continuous basis. The Division provides the initial police response to and investigation of most calls for police service in the City. Currently the Division is authorized a staff of 203 sworn officers plus three civilians, and operates a fleet of 86 patrol vehicles, 9 motorcycles, and 13 patrol bicycles.



The officers in the Uniform Division provide police service 24 hours a day, 365 days a year by distributing personnel on four eighthour work shifts each day. Three shifts (covering 24 hours) are each staffed with one lieutenant, four sergeants, and patrol officers. A fourth shift consisting of one sergeant and a squad of patrol officers overlaps the evening and midnight shifts when our call load is highest.

In addition, the Motorcycle Squad and COPPS officers provide specialized services. Many officers in the Uniform Division hold part-time assignments in specialized units: SWAT, Hostage Negotiators, Bomb Squad, Dive Team, Critical Incident Stress Debriefing Team, Training Academy Instructors, Field Training Officers, and other assignments.

During 2007, officers and civilian employees of the Police Department responded to 127,402 calls for service and investigated 6,711 traffic crashes. There were 24 fatal traffic crashes with a total of 26 fatalities during the year. Uniform Division officers arrested 576 drunk drivers and 236 motorists for driving with a suspended driver license. There were 148 traffic crashes involving drunk drivers. Uniform officers issued 40,953 traffic citations along with 2,860 parking citations, and made 341 evading arrest cases in addition to making 370 arrests on failure-to-identify charges.

#### **PATROL**

Officers assigned to patrol must be skilled in a wide variety of tasks such as mediating family disturbances, provide first aid, maintaining order, enforcing traffic laws, arresting criminal-law violators, and investigating all types of criminal offenses. Patrol officers take crime scene photographs, process crime scenes for fingerprints, and take statements from witnesses of crimes.





#### **CANINE**

The Canine Unit is composed of two officers and two police dogs. One canine officer and police dog are assigned to the midnight shift and one team assigned on days to assist officers on building searches for burglars, apprehension of fleeing suspects, and drug detection. When requested the unit provides drug detection service to the Amarillo Independent School District and presents canine demonstrations to community organizations.



#### **MOTORCYCLE**

The Motorcycle Squad is composed of one sergeant and eight officers. These motor officers concentrate on traffic enforcement at locations identified as high-volume accident sites and problem areas. Motorcycle officers issued 17,823 of the traffic citations issued by the Uniform Division.



#### TRAFFIC INVESTIGATION

One lieutenant, three traffic crash/DWI investigators, one Uniform Division Municipal Court Warrant Officer, one Traffic Guide, and one Secretary II staff the Traffic Investigation Unit. This unit investigates hit and run traffic crashes, fatal traffic crashes, and files charges on all driving-while-license-DWIs. and all suspended cases, as well as on all trafficrelated incidents. The Traffic Investigation Unit also assists in providing expert video forensic analysis and scene mapping in



ongoing criminal investigations throughout the department.

The Traffic Guide enforces parking violations in the downtown area and issued 1,331 of the parking citations issued by the Department.

#### **CRIME ANALYSIS**

One officer, responsible for tracking crime reports, crime patterns and trends; and then making that information available to patrol officers, detectives, COPPS, SWAT and other law enforcement agencies, staffs Crime Analysis.



#### **COMMUNITY POLICING UNIT**

The Community Policing Unit was formed as a result of a federal grant under the Cops Program. Officially Ahead named Community Oriented Policing and Problem Solving (COPPS), the COPPS Unit consists of 12 officers and one sergeant. Assigned in pairs to the San Jacinto, North Heights, Eastridge, Martin Road, and Downtown areas of Amarillo, COPPS officers work to increase the communication between our citizens and the police, resulting in greater police effectiveness and citizen satisfaction with the work done in the community by the Police Department. COPPS officers also



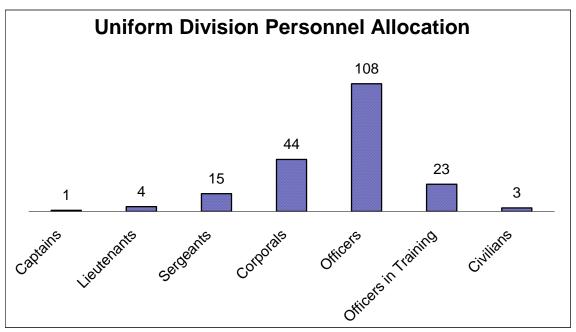
undertake various problem-solving endeavors that may reach outside the traditional law enforcement function in an effort to prevent crime and provide a better quality of life in our community. COPPS officers work closely with other City departments such as Code Enforcement and Fire Prevention to provide a combined effort of evaluation and enforcement of quality of life issues.

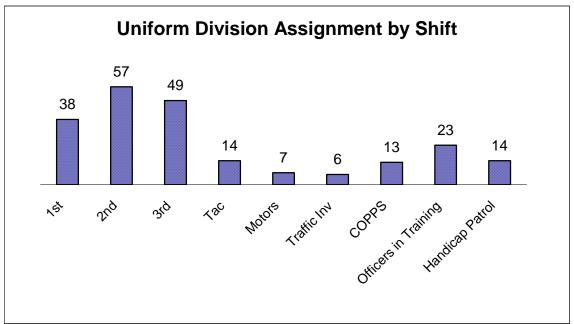
In 2007, the COPPS Unit worked several special assignments at various locations to observe and arrest offenders committing various crimes and causing neighborhood problems. Other assignments included investigations leading to the arrest of felony narcotics violators involved in manufacturing and selling narcotics, committing burglaries, and forgeries. COPPS officers also cleaned up several long-term problem locations in their neighborhoods using nuisance abatement laws and community involvement. These officers have also spent time working with citizens who have brought attention to specific problems in their neighborhoods during the City Commission meetings.

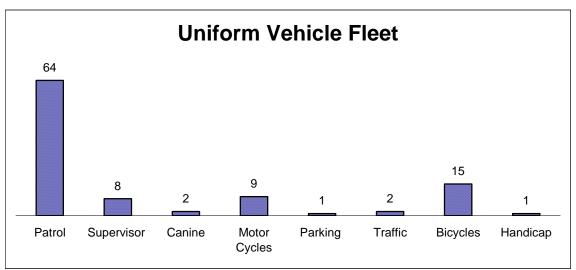
Several of these problems have been solved through coordinated work between the COPPS officers and landlords. By doing so, the COPPS Unit fulfills its mandate to address issues ranging from criminal activity to educating the public in areas including personal safety issues and methods of crime prevention.

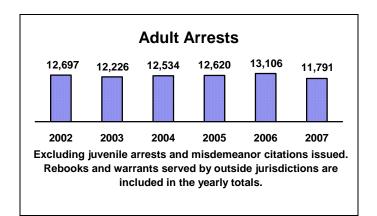
#### HANDICAP PATROL

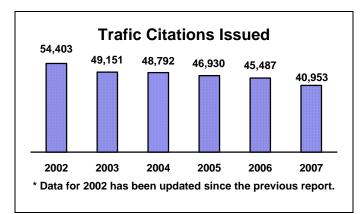
The Handicap Patrol is a group of civilian volunteers who, after receiving training, patrol parking lots and enforce handicap-parking violations. This group issued 767 citations for handicap parking violations. This program is aimed at keeping handicap parking spaces available for those who qualify.

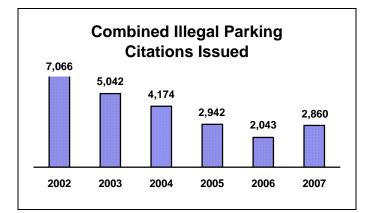


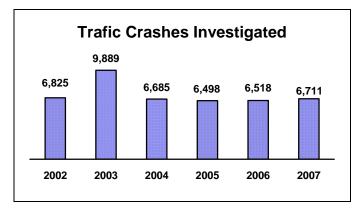


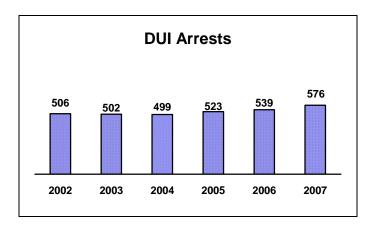






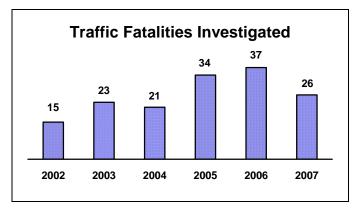


















**DETECTIVE DIVISION Captain Jeff Lester** 

### **DETECTIVE DIVISION**

Commanded by Captain Jeff Lester, the Detective Division is responsible for the investigation and follow-up of criminal cases within the City of Amarillo. The Division does not investigate suspicious deaths, arsons, or narcotics violations. Other units within the Police Department or the Fire Department are charged with investigating those cases. The Division's primary goal is crime prevention through follow-up investigations on cases initially investigated by the Uniform Patrol Division. The objectives to achieve our goal consist of the apprehension of offenders, testifying at the trial of these offenders, recovery and processing of evidence and recovery of stolen property.

Squads within the Detective Division include Crimes Against Persons, commanded by Lieutenant Tam Boatler; Burglary, commanded by Lieutenant Jim Burgess; Robbery, commanded by Lieutenant Jim McKenny; White-Collar Crime, commanded by Lieutenant Brent Womble and the Juvenile Offender and School Liaison Units, commanded by Lieutenant Susan Smith. Currently the Detective Division has 62 commissioned officers and 11 civilian employees.

In the Crimes Against Persons Squad, detectives investigate adult sex offenses, child-victim cases, missing persons and family-related violence crimes. The Squad also administers the Department's Sex-Offender Registration program. The Robbery Squad investigates both commercial and personal robberies, assaults, suicides and stolen auto cases. The Burglary Squad investigates residential, commercial and auto burglaries and other property-related offenses. White-Collar Crime Squad detectives investigate forgery, fraud, counterfeiting, computer-related offenses and incidents of identity theft. Detectives in the Juvenile Squad works all crimes (except homicide) committed by persons under the age of seventeen. The School Liaison Program places officers in the schools to mentor students, investigate offenses occurring on school grounds and to take any enforcement action needed.

To increase the effectiveness of all investigations, the Detective Division employs five civilian investigators. These investigators are assigned cases that lack significant leads or solvability factors giving sworn detectives more time to devote to solving crimes that have good leads. If leads develop in a case initially assigned to a civilian investigator that case is then reassigned to a sworn detective.

The Detective Division Crimes Against Persons Squad administers the Sex-Offender Registration program that has 1,116 registrants compared to 996 in 2006. This number reflects a 12% increase. Of those registered, 435 are active adult offenders, 74 are active juvenile offenders (registrants that are of adult age now, but were juveniles at the time of conviction), and 607 are "inactive" offenders. "Active" offenders are those individuals who are currently residing in the City of Amarillo. "Inactive" offenders are those individuals who are currently incarcerated or have moved from the area but still have ties to Amarillo. The Juvenile Squad has the responsibility of administering juvenile-age registrants.

#### **CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION UNIT**

Under the command of Sergeant Keith Cook and assigned to the Burglary Squad, the Crime Scene Investigation Unit is responsible for documenting crime scenes and searching for physical evidence that includes latent fingerprints, hair, fiber, tool marks, or bodily fluids. In 2007 the Crime Scene Investigation Unit saw a lot of changes. The SPEX and Identix Live Scan systems are both being used to their fullest extent. The combination of the two systems has streamlined the departments fingerprinting and latent identification work. All fingerprints taken by the department are now fully digitized. We no longer take inked hard copy print cards, filing them in a file cabinet. All fingerprint

cards are filed electronically in the SPEX database. This database is connected to all 26 counties of the Texas Panhandle. We can obtain Ten-Print cards from any of these counties once the cards have been stored in the database.

SPEX has increased the amount of latent finger and palm identifications for the unit, providing the ability to search Class C arrests has greatly increased the number of

identifications. For 2007 we entered 999 latent fingerprints and 303 latent palm prints into the SPEX system. Out of those had 561 latent fingerprint identifications and 131 latent palm print identifications. The Crime Scene Investigation Unit responded to 147 callouts during 2007. That is an average of 12.25 call-outs per month. And while some of that evidence was then sent to the appropriate state or federal crimes labs, most of that evidence collected was



processed within the CSI section by its well-trained technicians.

The Identix Live Scan systems allow us to store Ten-Print cards electronically. This gives us the ability to have all newly arrested person's prints placed in the SPEX database and automatically searched against the unidentified latent prints stored in SPEX. Also the Identix and New World systems will have the ability to transfer data. From the New World side, Juvenile and Jail personnel will now be able to transfer personal data directly to Identix to populate arrest records, saving time by not having to re-enter existing information.

Robert Owen of the photo lab retired after 20 years and was replaced with a new Photo Tech, Brandi Endrizzi. Brandi has brought a new, younger approach to the photo lab. She has created new computer programs to assist in tracking photos turned in by the field officers. One program allows her to enter all the incident report numbers with photos by date. This allows her go back and tell what date photos were submitted. She has also started entering all photos with the officers employee identification number so that photos taken by multiple officers under the same IR# can be separated by officer. Both of these programs greatly improve the proficiency of the photo lab. In the near future Brandi will be trained on both the SPEX and Identix live scan systems.

Sgt. Cook is working on increasing the amount of training for officers with an interest in crime scene work. CSIU officers and alternates received the necessary fingerprint and crime scene training during the year, however, with Amarillo College now offering fingerprint and other forensic classes, it should be easier to get the needed advanced training.

Lt. Gary Schwab and Cpl. Dale Nevins both retired this year. A lot of experience and knowledge was lost by their retirement. Lt. Jim Burgess and Officer Joe Brown have been assigned to replace them, respectively.

The new Ocean Systems photo and video enhancement system was purchased. Training is scheduled for early March 2008. The effect of this system on our cases is still unknown but should be an asset for our department and other area agencies as well.

#### SCHOOL LIAISON

Sergeant Ronnie Taff supervises the School Liaison section. which is comprised of 11 officers assigned to various schools within AISD, along with one officer assigned to Randall High School and one officer assigned as the Student Crime Stoppers Coordinator. The purpose of the School Liaison program is to promote good public relations through formal and informal actions.



The assigned officers assist the schools in providing a safe learning environment to students and educators. During 2007 the officers in the program investigated 12,417 campus complaints and presented programs to over 8,000 students. In addition, they made 1,258 incident reports, 312 physical arrests, wrote 581 citations, and seized 22 weapons.

#### STUDENT CRIME STOPPERS

Amarillo Student Crime Stoppers continued its success in a statewide competition by winning Best in State "Crime of the Week" for Television and Radio. Student Crime Stoppers won best "Website" and took 1<sup>st</sup> place in their division in the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce Polk Street Cook-Off.

Comparisons of 2006 vs. 2007 are:

	<u>2006</u>	<u>2007</u>
Tips received	328	318
Arrests made	169	146
Cases cleared	278	190
Rewards paid	\$7,735	\$7,785
Property recovered	\$8,200	\$85,465
Narcotics seized	\$1,350	\$4,345



#### DRIVE-BY SHOOTING RESPONSE TEAM

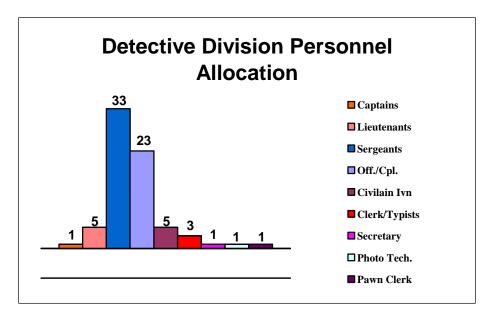
A Drive-By Shooting Response Team is in place within the Amarillo Police Department. Most members come from the Detective Division. In 2007, the Department received reports of 21 drive-by shootings compared to 33 in 2006. The team cleared 57% of the cases compared to 36% of these incidents in 2006. The clearance rate is higher when the team is called out. The team had an 88% clearance rate of those cases when they were called out compared to 76% in 2006.

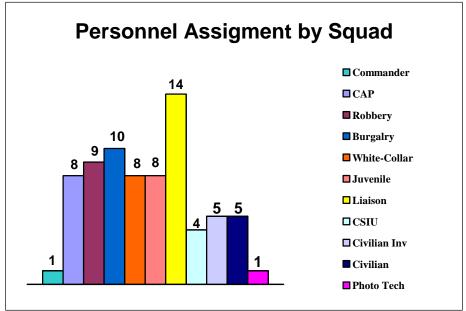
#### **COMPUTER CRIMES**

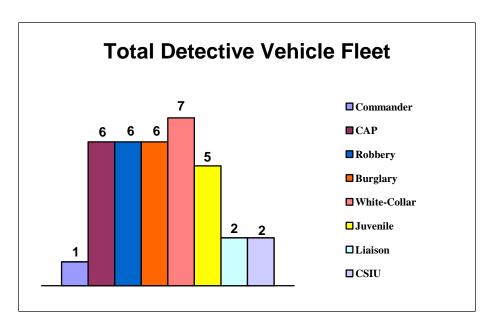
As a certified forensic computer examiner, Sergeant Earnest Douglass, while assigned to the Uniform Division, investigates cases of Child Pornography, Fraud, Theft, and Identification Theft committed by computer. Sergeant Douglas is trained to examine and retrieve digital evidence.

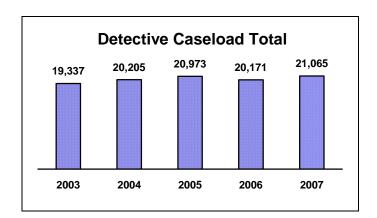


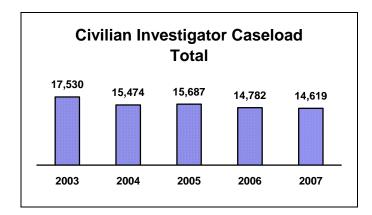
"Forensic Recovery of Evidence Device" = F.R.E.D

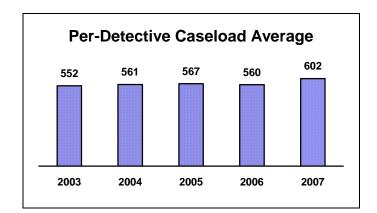


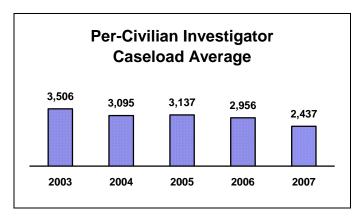


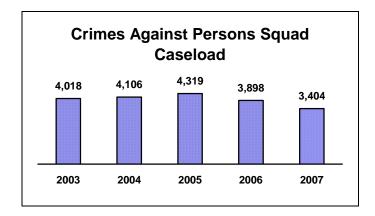


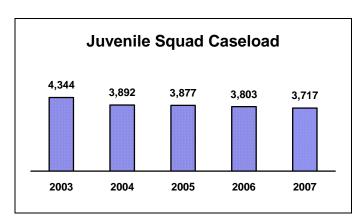


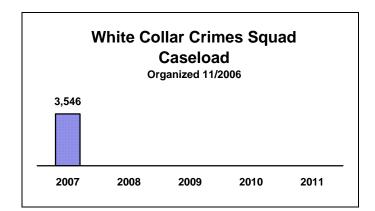


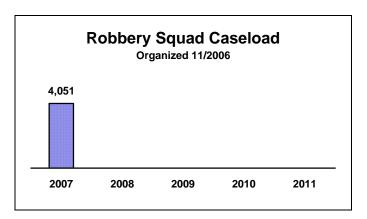


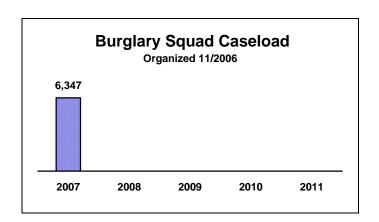




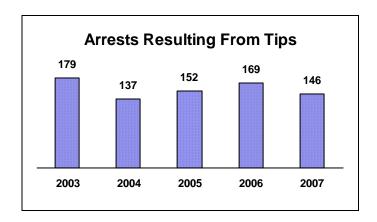


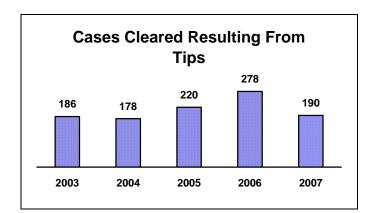


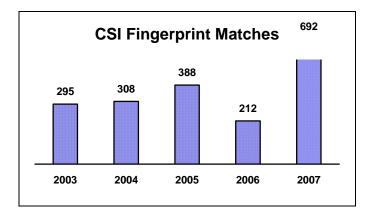


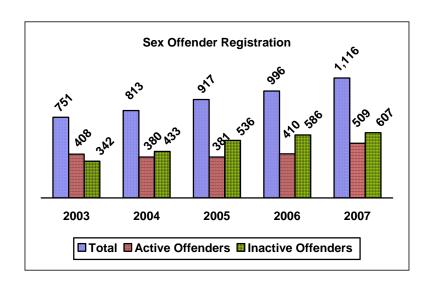












Active offenders are those who are currently residing within the City of Amarillo. Inactive offenders are those who are currently incarcerated or have moved from the City of Amarillo, but still have ties to the area.







**SERVICE DIVISION Captain Brad Lancaster** 

### **SERVICE DIVISION**

Captain Brad Lancaster is the commander of the Service Division. Comprised of several units and a team of dedicated professionals, the Service Division provides essential support for the everyday operation of the Department. The major components of the Service Division are the Records Section, Communications Section, Property and Evidence Section, and the City Jail. The Division is authorized to have two lieutenants (one lieutenant is the Jail Commander), three sergeants, two officers, and seventy-two civilians (fifteen of the civilians are assigned to the Jail). While the principal objective of the Service Division is to provide support for other divisions of the Department, a considerable amount of time is devoted to providing a variety of services to the public. Enforcement of the City's alarm ordinance is a responsibility of this Division. The City's alarm ordinance has been successful in decreasing the amount of time spent by officers responding to false alarms. In addition, the Service Division is responsible for the design and the publishing of the Department's annual report. Our website can be visited at www.amapolice.org.

#### RECORDS SECTION

The Records Section serves as the official repository for all criminal records and documents of the Department, and is responsible for data entry, and maintaining all police reports, arrest records, and statistics. These duties include the preparation of reports that generate crime statistics sent to the state of Texas so semi-annual and annual FBI crime data reports can be produced for the City of

Amarillo. This section is also the contact point for citizens requesting copies of records under the Open Records Act. In addition, the Service Division Commander maintains the sex offender registration book for public inspection. The front desk personnel of the Service Division serve as receptionists for citizens seeking information or assistance, and they process bonds for prisoners being held in the City Jail. Employment criminal history checks are also available at the front desk.



Report Writers assigned to the Service Division receive reports from persons calling on the telephone or citizens visiting the front desk. During 2007, Report Writers assigned to the Service Division made 2,664 reports from persons calling on the telephone or citizens making reports at the front desk. This is a decrease from the 2006 total of 3,045. In 2007, Clerk typists typed 34,158 reports and 24,852 supplements called in by officers. During 2007, the Department received 1,466 reports made on-line by citizens. Of these, 1,297 were assigned case numbers and imported into the records system

In March 2004, the Department began making traffic accident reports available on the Internet through *PoliceReports.US*. By making this user-friendly site easily accessible to the public, the Service Division eliminated the public's need to drive downtown to purchase copies of accident reports at the front desk, in turn allowing the front desk employees more time to concentrate on their other duties.

#### **COMMUNICATIONS SECTION**

The Communications Section is a vital link between the public and emergency assistance, answering requests for police assistance or information while being responsible for dispatching officers in the field. As the public answering point for the 911 Emergency Telephone System, the Communication Section provides the citizens of Amarillo with the link to law enforcement, fire and emergency medical communications personnel. The Communications Section enters Texas



Crime Information Center/National Crime Information Center data into the computer, including protective orders. These operators take calls from hearing-impaired callers using the Telephone Device for the Deaf equipment or TDD. The Communications Section consists of three dispatch supervisors, fifteen dispatchers, and twelve 911 operators. In 2006 an improved methodology was utilized for determining the yearly total telephone calls processed by the Communications Section. As a result of the new tabulating method it was determined that the Communications Section received and processed a total of 529,646 telephone calls for 2007. A breakdown of the telephone calls processed consists of 109,820 incoming 911 calls, 11,670 emergency line calls, 310,357 incoming non-emergency calls, and 97,799 outgoing administrative calls for 2007. In 2007, the Department received 127,402 calls for service as compared to 134,072 in 2006.

#### PROPERTY AND EVIDENCE SECTION

The Property and Evidence Section is responsible for receiving, processing, storing and disposing of evidence, found property, and personal property. A fundamental responsibility of the Property and Evidence Officer is to maintain the chain of custody for evidence and to ensure the availability of that evidence for court. The Property Section also performs taxicab inspections for the issuance of permits.

Each year the City of Amarillo has a combined auction with the Police Department for the sale of unclaimed



property held by the Property Section. In 2006, the Department also began using local licensed Federal Firearms dealers for the sale of unclaimed or forfeited firearms. Results are still under review but the Police Department expects a higher return to the City by this method as opposed to the returns generated by the yearly auction. The Property Section contributed \$23,836.24 to the

City's General Fund from unclaimed money in 2007 as compared to \$12,709.54 in 2006. The money comes from drug busts, unclaimed evidence, found monies, and unclaimed personal property.

#### **CITY JAIL**

City Jail operations are assigned to the Service Division. Lieutenant Ken Albright is the commander of the City Jail located at 609 South Pierce Street. The City Jail staff is responsible for the housing and safe keeping of prisoners arrested for Class C misdemeanors. The staff consists of three civilian jail supervisors, three jail medical officers, eight jailors, and one cook. Five inmates are used to staff additional positions in the Jail. Three inmates are used in the kitchen from 6:00 am to 6:00 pm while two inmates staff the



laundry, each working a twelve-hour shift. On average, five inmates are sent out each day to work various tasks for the City of Amarillo. These assignments include cleaning cages at the City of Amarillo Zoo, working at the Municipal Golf Courses, washing police vehicles, and other jobs as needed.

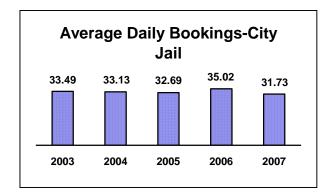
For the 2006-2007 budget year the total operating cost of the city jail, including staff salaries, benefits and utility costs, was approximately \$873,552.50. This figure breaks down into an inmate cost of \$38.76 per day per inmate. When figuring the inmate cost, the trustee labor has not been included. Calculations based on an average of ten trustees per week with five working 12-hour shifts in the jail seven days a week, and five trustees working outside the jail for an 8-hour shift during the workweek produce 32,300 inmate work hours.

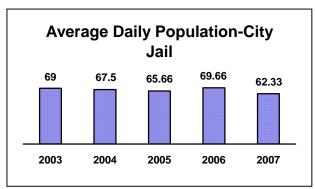
Using the minimum wage of \$5.85 per hour, the hours worked by inmates would equal an \$188,955 savings to the City. Recalculating average daily cost using the labor savings provided by the trustees lowers the cost per inmate per day to \$30.37. This is well below average statewide housing cost of a prisoner in a county jail that is calculated as being between \$44.00 and \$55.00 per day.



The average cost of providing meals to inmates in 2007 was 64¢ per meal. Adding the cook's salary, utilities, maintenance, and other equipment expenses raised the total per meal to \$1.08 marking a slight increase over the previous year's cost per meal. The City Jail spent \$43,352.21 on food for the calendar year of 2007 while providing 68,252 meals.

During 2007 the Amarillo Police Department made 11,378 physical arrests compared to 12,468 in 2006, which is a decrease of 1,090 arrests. Statistics show that there were 11,930 arrests in 2005, 12,126 in 2004 and 12,226 in 2003. Many of the arrests resulted in prisoners being booked directly into the City Jail.





County arrests accounted for slightly more that 52% of the total arrests in 2007. However, many of those arrested and booked into the county jails are later transferred to the City Jail on Municipal charges.

The Jail staff enters the booking information on all arrests, regardless of where the prisoners are initially booked. In addition to maintaining the Computerized Criminal History section, the City Jail staff is also responsible for the data entry of sex offenders registered by the Detective Division. They are required to keep all information in the CCH folders.

In previous years a "Warrant Roundup Operation" has been conducted during the summer months. During these times the inmate population spiked over 100. The highest daily population was 122 inmates that occurred during the "Warrant Roundup Operation" of 2006. During those sharp population increases, we worked with Municipal Court Judges to address the situation by obtaining approval for the early release of inmates when they are close to having their time served. This has been an ongoing proactive measure used to avoid overcrowding problems in the City Jail.



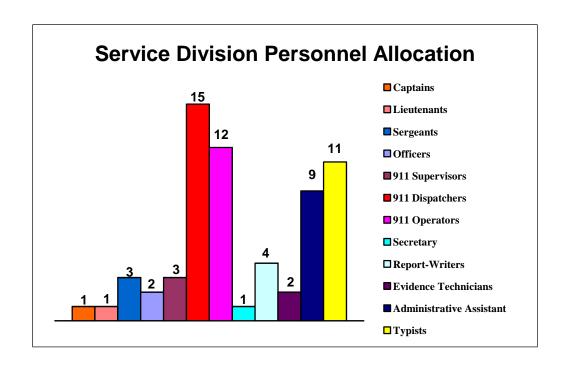
During 2007, the Amarillo Police Department City Jail staff continued to work at improving the facility through needed repairs, equipment updates, continued training, and updating jail operation policies.

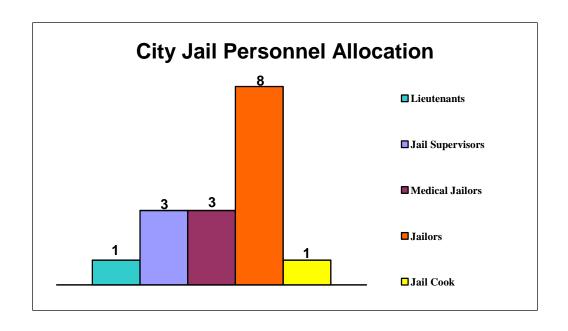
The Amarillo City Jail uses the Identix Fingerprint System. This system makes it possible to obtain digital fingerprints that are downloaded directly into the computer system. The result is a much higher quality of print.

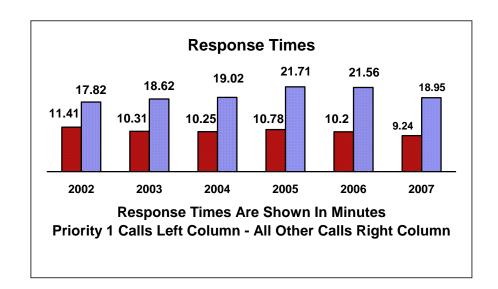
As of July 2005, citizens can now access the daily inmate roster through the Department's Internet web page. The inmate roster is updated daily at 4:00am. The report shows the booking number for the person, their name, which jail they are housed in, the number of Municipal charges against them

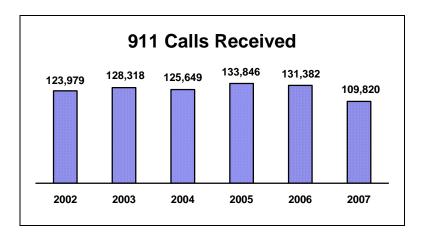


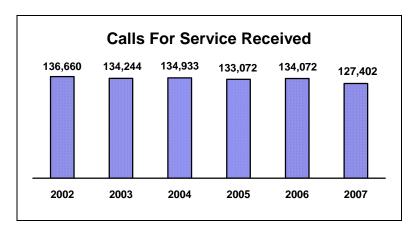
and their expected release date when one is determined. These improvements should increase the overall efficiency of the facility.

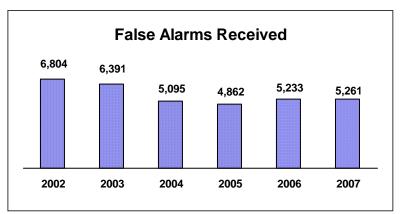












# AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT







TRAINING AND PERSONNEL Captain Ken Funtek

### TRAINING AND PERSONNEL

The Training and Personnel Division coordinates the hiring and training of all police department personnel. The Training and Personnel Division maintains all personnel and training records of the Department. The Training and Personnel Division Captain is responsible for supervision of all aspects of the Division, as well as teaching several courses of instruction, including the New Supervisor's Course, Mental Health Peace Officer, Intermediate Child Abuse, Family Violence Investigation, and the Basic Instructor's Course. The Division also has an Office of Professional Standards staffed by a Sergeant. This office is responsible for maintaining all of the Department's operations manuals and conducting staff inspections of all divisions to ensure compliance with the rules and regulations of the department. The Academy Training Sergeant is responsible for the supervision of the two Background Investigators, training of all recruits, and mandatory advanced training of officers. The Firearms Range Sergeant is the Range Master, who supervises the Amarillo Shooting Complex. The Range Master supervises eighteen part-time civilians, staffing three Range Officer positions for the public operations. The Range Master coordinates all self-defense weapons training and qualifications for sworn officers. Quartermaster/Purchaser is responsible for ordering, issuance, and return of various issued equipment, in addition to a civilian Quartermaster. Two Human Resource Technicians are responsible for the hiring of sworn and civilian personnel. An Administrative Assistant I is the Division's receptionist.

The Department has an authorized strength of 312 officers. We have 105 full time civilian employees and 6 part-time civilian employees, for a total of 111 authorized civilian employees.

In 2007, the Division provided 301 in-service training classes with 2,618 students for 58,441 hours of training. This is an increase from the 2006 statistics, in which we provided 176 classes with 1,026 students for 27,386 hours of training. In 2005, we were providing Weapons of Mass Destruction classes, which dramatically increased these totals from previous years. In 2005, we provided 435 classes for a total of 37,016 hours. In 2004, we provided the Department 219 training classes with 2,358 students for 31,405 hours of training. These yearly figures do not include all of roll call training and supervisor directed training. In addition, many employees attended out of town training classes as assigned by their division. These hours and student numbers cannot be completely accurately tracked in that most of the out of town training is for advanced certification training and instructor certification. If the student does not return their certificate to Training and Personnel, we will not have a record of that training. We have implemented a procedure of retaining the approved training/travel requests and we are requesting the certificates from the students upon their return for more accurate records.



The Division is responsible for recruiting, selecting, testing, hiring, and training new police officers. The 76<sup>th</sup> Amarillo Police Department Basic Police Officer Academy began June 7, 2007 with 20 recruits. Eighteen recruits took the Basic Peace Officers Licensing Exam, all passed on the first attempt, which is a significant accomplishment compared to other academies across the State. The 76<sup>th</sup> Academy graduated December 14, 2007. The hiring process began with 225 applicants who were

notified of the Civil Service Entrance Exam that took place on January 7, 2006. Of the 244 applicants notified, 136 applicants took the test with 94 passing the written exam. The physical ability testing created a list of successful, potential applicants that progressed to the rigorous background investigation. The polygraph testing verifies the findings of the background investigation, allowing the best applicants to proceed to the interview board that is staffed by five senior and ranking officers from the department. The final steps are the psychological and physical fitness for duty exam. These new officers received 1,064 hours of in class training and

640 hours of one-on-one training from Field Training Officers (FTO) before the new officers are finally allowed to work without direct supervision.

The 75<sup>th</sup> A Accelerated Academy began January 11, 2007 and lasted eight weeks. The 5 recruits graduated March 15, 2007. The Accelerated Academy is for applicants that are already licensed in the State of Texas as peace officers. Accelerated recruits receive classroom training consisting of a review of search and seizure, Texas law, Amarillo Police Department Rules and Regulations, radar operation, motor vehicle collision investigation, computer operation, ethics, self defense and defense of others, etc. Upon graduation, they proceed to an accelerated Field Training Officer (FTO) program. These components comprise our

Accelerated Training Program; it is designed to attract licensed applicants and officers from other agencies to our Department.



The hiring process is the same for all recruits, Basic Academy or Accelerated Academy. The selection process includes a written examination, physical fitness ability testing, a thorough background investigation, a polygraph examination, an interview board, a psychological examination, and a physical examination.

Training and Personnel maintains payroll data for all Police Department employees. In addition, our Division processes

health insurance benefits, Family Medical Leave Act requests and retirement requests. Training and Personnel also generates and files performance evaluations for each employee.

Additional responsibilities of Training and Personnel include coordinating with the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education (TCLEOSE) on hiring,

training and licensing of our police officers, jailors and telecommunication operators. Training and Personnel conducts research projects for the Department, and maintains the Amarillo Shooting Complex, a combination public and police firearms range.

In 2007, we increased the authorized strength by 10 officers to 312. The following figures are run against our actual strength of 297 sworn personnel. The average age of a police officer, including all ranks, was 38.61 compared to 39.01 in 2006; the average length of service was 12.59 years, compared to 13.15 in 2006. Average length of service for all employees (sworn and civilian) is 11.0 years compared to 11.5 years in 2006. This indicates slight decrease in tenured personnel. We have 27 (9.09%) female officers compared to 23 (7.79%) in 2006.



There are 270 (90.91%) male officers compared to 272 (92.21%) in 2006. There is 1 Native American (.34%), 4 African-American officers (1.36%), 36 Hispanic officers (12.12%), and 256 Caucasian officers (86.20%). The ethnic and racial makeup of the Department changed during 2007 with an increase of one Hispanic officer. The ethnic and racial makeup had remained constant during 2002 and 2003, but has had a slight increase in Hispanic officers in 2004 thru 2007.

In 2007, 11 officers had Masters degrees; 57 had Bachelors degrees (2 more than 2006); and 24 had Associates degrees (up one from 2006). 139 officers had more than 10 college hours but no degree (an increase of 34 from 2006). On average, an officer has 50.41 college hours. 42 officers had an Intermediate Peace Officer Certificate (an increase of 3 from 2006), 44 officers had an Advanced Certificate (a decrease of 2 from 2006) and 136 had a Master Peace Officer Certificate (a decrease of 2 from 2006).

#### CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY



The 14<sup>th</sup> Citizen Police Academy (CPA) was held in the Fall of 2007. Twenty-five citizens were selected to participate. These citizens met one night a week for twelve class sessions covering Department organization, crime scene investigation, evidence collection, firearms orientation, police driving tactics, crowd control measures, narcotics identification, investigative procedures, and other topics. Citizen Police Academy members are allowed to ride on observations with patrol officers and upon graduation provide a solid base of community support for

the department. Fifteen citizens graduated from the 13<sup>th</sup> CPA Academy.

#### STUDENT POLICE ACADEMY

In the Spring of 2007, we hosted our 7th Student Police Academy with 33 students graduating. Attendees are selected from area high school juniors and seniors. Students attend evening classes at the Police Department one night a week. Class topics include crime scene investigation, patrol operations, radar operations, narcotics identification, crowd control, and others. Students are allowed to ride observation with patrol officers during the Academy. Students are introduced to law enforcement as a career choice and also provide support to the department through their relationships with their peers.

#### **VOLUNTEER PROGRAM**

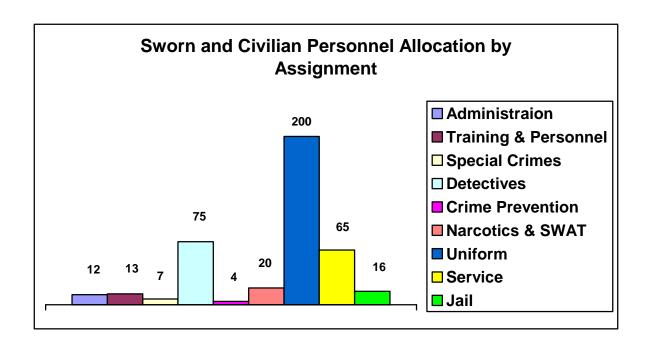
The Amarillo Police Department Volunteer Program had 23 volunteers assigned to various jobs during 2007. They work in Victim Assistance, Service Division, Traffic Enforcement Unit, and Property. The Volunteer Program began in 1992 and has grown. In 2007, the volunteers donated approx 3,482 hours of service to the Department. Approximately 15 volunteers (an increase of 3 from 2006) are assigned to the Handicap Patrol program that began in 1995. The Handicap Patrol issued parking tickets to vehicles illegally parked in handicapped parking spaces. An appreciation dinner is held once a year to recognize all of the volunteer employees.

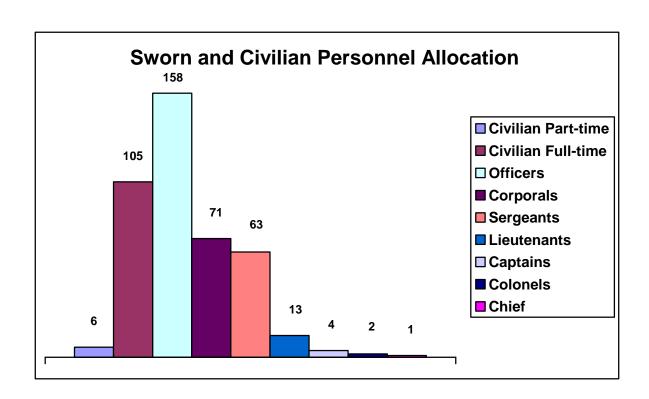
#### CHAPLAIN PROGRAM

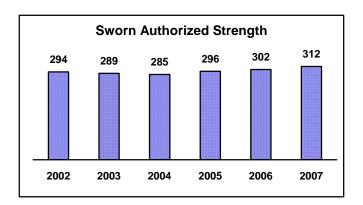
The Chaplain Program at the Amarillo Police Department has one full time chaplain and two volunteer chaplains in order to ensure availability of a chaplain for our employees in times of illness, injury, or death. Department chaplains visit employees and family members in local hospitals and assist in funerals. The chaplains provide confidential counseling to Department personnel and their families. The Chaplain Program is made up of volunteers without cost to the Department.

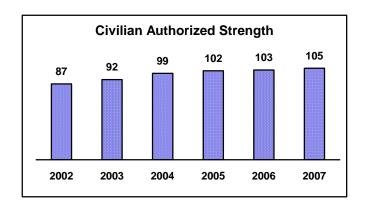
#### CRISIS INCIDENT STRESS DEBREIFING PROGRAM

The Amarillo Police Department provides peer counselors for our employees. The counselors are trained volunteers from within the Department. Peer counselors conduct critical incident stress debriefings after traumatic events and make confidential referrals to professional counselors upon request.



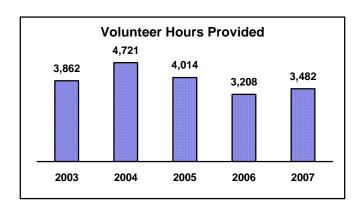


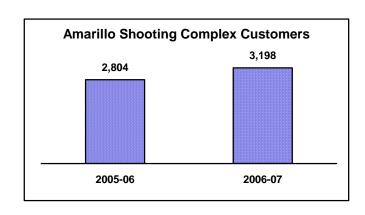


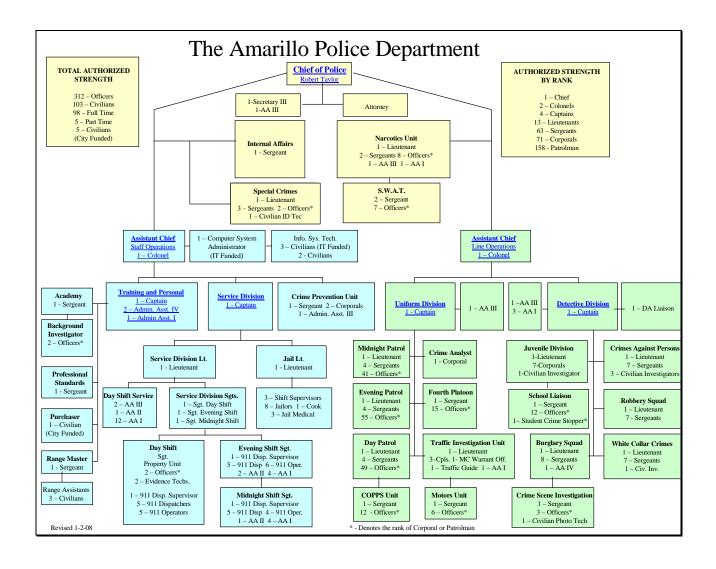










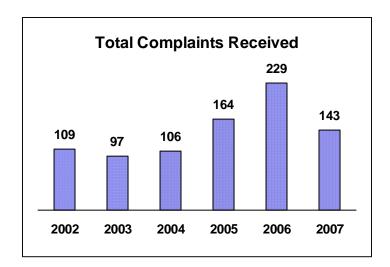


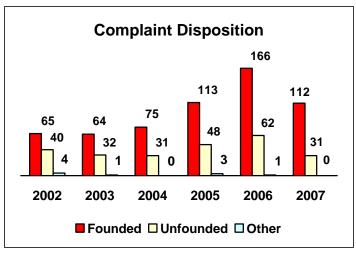
## **INTERNAL AFFAIRS**

Complaints from citizens and complaints from within the Department are investigated by the Internal Affairs Investigator. During 2007 there were 143 formal complaints filed. After investigation, 112 complaints were determined to be founded, 31 complaints unfounded. Each of the 112 founded complaint resulted in disciplinary action.

On two separate occasions officers were involved in shooting incidents. The two incidents were presented to a Grand Jury; they were determined to be justified. There were eleven discharges of firearm incidents involving the shooting of an animal. The Shooting Review Board found these incidents were justified.

Sergeant Berry Carden Internal Affairs





## **2007 INTERNAL AFFAIRS STATISTICS**

Complaint Type:	Founded	Unfounded	Other	Total	%Founded
Excessive Force:	3	3	0	6	50%
Illegal Search:	0	1	0	1	0%
Illegal Arrest:	0	0	0	0	0%
Neglect or Inattention to Duty:	93	17	0	110	85%
Falsify or Release Of Records:	0	2	0	2	0%
Conduct Unbecoming:	15	8	0	23	65%
Criminal Offenses:	1	0	0	1	100%
Racial Profiling:	0	0	0	0	
TOTALS	112	31	0	143	78%

Officer Involved

Shootings: 2 Justified: 2

Discharge of

Firearm: 11 Justified: 11

Accidental Discharge

of Firearm 0

In Custody

Death 2

Disciplinary action was taken on all founded complaints. Such action included verbal counseling, written reprimands, suspensions, and terminations. Resignations were submitted during some investigations.

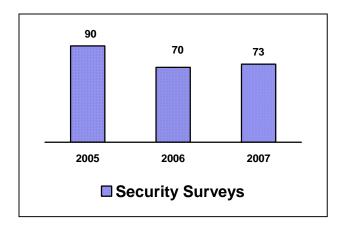
### **CRIME PREVENTION UNIT**

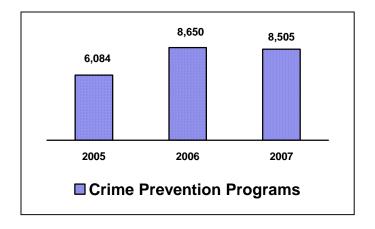
The Crime Prevention Unit (CPU) is made up of officers well versed in the methods of providing information to the public, both directly and by working with various media organizations. The CPU provides a liaison between the Amarillo Police Department and the community we serve. The CPU offers education concerning city and neighborhood crime issues, advises citizens about safety tips, gives general information about APD's services and practices, and helps interpret Texas Criminal and Traffic Laws. Civic groups and private citizens are encouraged to call the CPU at 378-4257 to request a presentation, security survey, or learn more about crime prevention.



A Security Survey is a service that not only helps citizens reduce their risk of becoming a crime victim, it also gives the APD an opportunity to connect with the member of the public on an individual basis. This service is free and may entitle the participating homeowner to a reduction in homeowner's insurance.

This year, public interest in CPU presentations proved consistent with Identity Theft and Personal Safety presentations provided in 2006. These programs continue to be requested more frequently than any other CPU program. In 2006 & 2007, nearly 10% of Amarillo's population attended a Crime Prevention Presentation. CPU's *Fast and Furious* presentation outlining safe driving practices is gaining momentum with both teen and adult audiences.





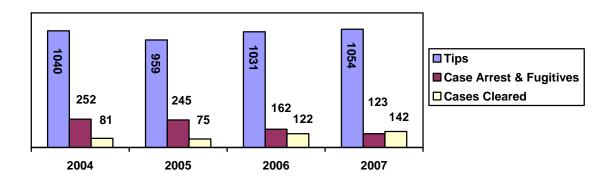
## AMARILLO CRIME STOPPERS, INC.

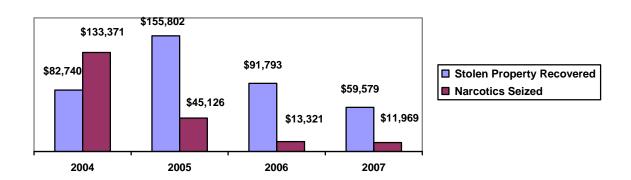


In 2007, Amarillo Crime Stoppers approved 103 rewards, for a total of \$23,175. We are grateful that the citizens of the Amarillo area support us by providing tips, volunteering on our Board, and by the generous monetary support to keep the program running. We could not have been this successful without the tremendous help of the law enforcement community following up on the tips we received. We have also been extremely fortunate to have a great working relationship with our media outlets in Amarillo. Keep watching and listening to all media outlets in Amarillo for updated information on Amarillo Crime Stoppers each week. Also we have a great website that is updated weekly with the current crimes we need help solving and fugitive faces we need to track down located at <a href="www.amapolice.org">www.amapolice.org</a> helping us to continue to make the Amarillo area a safer place for all of us to live and work. Each week we go to the media for help in broadcasting a crime of the week we need help solving as well as featuring a new fugitive each week. We use all local radio outlets in Amarillo as well as the 6 local TV stations for help getting information out.

This year we highlighted 40 fugitives, 28 of them were picked up. In 2007 Amarillo Crime Stoppers received 1054 tips. Out of those tips we cleared 142 cases and put 123 people in jail. From those tips as well we recovered \$59,579 in property and removed \$11,969 in narcotics off our city streets.

Amarillo Crime Stoppers was very busy in helping train other programs throughout the state in 2007. In May we hosted the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Texas Crime Stoppers Conference and had close to 350 participants from all over the State in Amarillo for about four days. Then in November we did what no other program has ever done and that was hosted a second conference within the same year! In November we hosted the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Campus Crime Stoppers Conference at Ceta Canyon where we had about 450 participants. Both conferences went very well and folks learned a lot. We could not have done either of them without the generous support of the businesses in Amarillo making wonderful and generous donations to our programs.





### **SPECIAL CRIMES UNIT**

Formed on December 10, 1981, the Special Crimes Unit is responsible for the investigation of homicides and suspicious deaths, or other cases assigned by the Board of Governors that occur in the City of Amarillo, Potter County, and Armstrong County. In addition to those duties, the unit investigates officer-involved shootings and In-Custody Deaths for the Amarillo Police Department and the Potter County Sheriff Department, with the exception of incidents involving the shooting of an animal. At the present time, the unit consists of seven full-time members from the Amarillo Police Department and the Potter County Sheriff's Office.

Lieutenant Gary Trupe of the Amarillo Police Department serves as the Special Crimes Unit Coordinator. Sergeant Kevin Dockery and Sergeant Eric Smith with the Amarillo Police Department are the unit's Investigative Detectives. Sergeant Stan Rickwartz, Officer Jimmy Rifenberg, and Officer Wes Lang are CSI officers from the Amarillo Police Department. From the Potter County Sheriff's Office, Sergeant David Johnson works as an Investigative Detective. Retired APD Sergeant Modeina Holmes works as a Crime Scene Specialist, and Karen Fitzgerald, from the Potter County District Attorney's Office, is the Unit's Secretary.

On April 1, 2007 Houng Rowlette, 63, was working alone at the B & B Convenience Store on E. 10<sup>th</sup>. At approximately 6:00 pm a customer entered the store and found Ms. Rowlette behind the counter stabbed numerous times. Ms. Rowlette was taken to NWTH where she died from her injuries. The initial investigation indicated that Ms. Rowlette was stabbed during a robbery of the store. Over the period of 10 days Special Crimes worked on this case interviewing witnesses and having a composite drawing done of the suspect. On April 9, 2007 fingerprints developed from a crucial piece of evidence recovered on the day this occurred was identified as belonging to Dewayne Paul Hindman, 19, of Amarillo. Hindman was located on April 9, 2007 and a warrant charging Hindman with Capital Murder was obtained from the Potter County District Attorney's office that same day. The trial for this case has not been scheduled.

Beginning April 10, 2007 through May 17, 2007 the Special Crimes Unit worked the murders of three children. The first child was Quionna Jones, 4 months old, who received trauma to her head and was sexually abused. Quionna's father Devon Jones, 21, was charged in Randall County with Capital Murder in the death of his daughter. The next death was of Evyn Vaughn, 14 months old, that occurred on April 21, 2007. Evyn suffered injuries to his head and died on April 22, 2007. Michael Garrard, 32, has been indicted for Injury to a Child in regards to the death of Evyn. The last death involved Jayda Ash, 20 months old, that occurred on May 17, 2007. Jayda was scalded over a large area of her body by hot bath water. Jayda died from her injuries on May 20, 2007. Jayda's mother's boyfriend, Mario Torres, 33, has been charged with Murder in Randall County in the death of Jayda Ash. Unfortunately on September 9, 2007 Joseph Diehl-Hart, 2 months old, received injuries to his head and died on September 10, 2007. Joseph's father, Joshua Diehl, 19, has been arrested in the death of his son and charged with Injury to a Child in Potter County. Trials in all of these cases have not been scheduled.

On July 20, 2007 Alberta Byars, 88, was found inside of her home at 2011 N. Mirror viciously

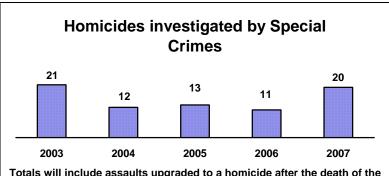
beaten around her face and upper chest. A joint investigation was begun using Detectives from the Crimes Against Persons Squad, CSI and Special Crimes Unit. It was determined that a unknown person had broken into Ms. Byars' home, assaulted her, and then stole dolls from inside of her home. Within a short period of time the investigation led to a trailer house located across the alley from Ms. Byars'. A search warrant was obtained for two different properties adjacent to each other. Items taken from Ms. Byars' home were recovered as well as clothing worn by the suspect and other items. Charles Hess, 44, was detained on the day this occurred and has since been charged with Burglary with Intent to Commit Aggravated Assault in Potter County. Alberta Byars remained under medical care after this assault and died on October 8, 2007. This case is still under review by the Medical examiner in Lubbock, Texas. No trial date has been set for Hess.

On October 12, 2007 the body of an unidentified female was found at the City of Amarillo Wood Chipping site at 3718 S. Eastern by employees of the city. This female was later identified as Candice Herrera, 25. Candice was found to have been shot several times in her upper body. It was determined that Candice had bought minutes for her cell phone at a local business and a record of her phone calls indicated the last phone call was made shortly before 5:00 am on the day Candice was murdered. The Special Crimes Unit tracked down several leads in this murder over the next several days. On October 18, 2007 an arrest warrant was issued for Steven Solis, 21, charging him with a probation violation. A search warrant was obtained and was executed on the home of Steven Solis. Solis was taken into custody and later was charged with the murder of Candice Herrera. From information gathered during the arrest of Solis a murder warrant was issued for Sebastian Roys, 25, as well as a search warrant being issued for his home. With the assistance of SWAT, Narcotics and COPPS officers both Solis and Roys were taken into custody without incident. Both Solis and Roys have been charged with murder in Randall County. No trial dates have been set for either Solis or Roys.

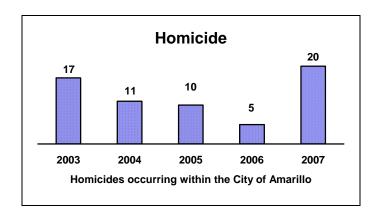
During the Month of December 2007 the Special Crimes unit worked 5 homicides beginning on December 11 and continuing through December 13, December 16, December 21 and December 23. All of these Homicides are still being actively investigated. On December 25, 2007 The Special Crimes unit was assigned to investigate the Officer-involved shooting of Duane Schneider. The officer involved was No-billed by a Potter County Grand Jury.

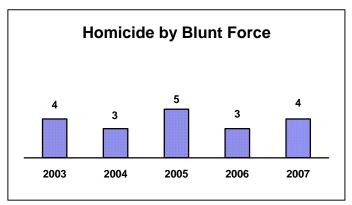
## **HOMICIDES INVESTIGATED**

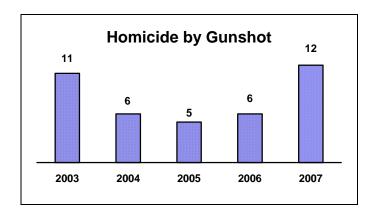
TOTAL 2007 HOMICIDE CASES INVESTIGATED		20		
TOTAL 2007 HOMICIDE CASES CLEARED		20		
PREVIOUS YEARS HOMICIDE CASES CLEARED				
FREVIOUS TEARS HOWICIDE CASES CLEARED		3		
NUMBER OF DEATHS BY: GUNSHOT		12		
ARSON		0		
STABBING		3		
BLUNT FORCE		4		
STRANGULATION		0		
AUTOMOBILE		0		
OTHER		1		
HOMICIDES IN JURISDICTION OF:	CITY OF AMARILLO	20		
	POTTER COUNTY SO	0		
	ARMSTRONG COUNTY SO	0		
HOMICIDES BY MONTH (all jurisdictions)	JANUARY	0		
	FEBRUARY	1		
	MARCH	1		
	APRIL	3		
	MAY	1		
	JUNE	0		
	JULY	0		
	AUGUST	3		
	SEPTEMBER	3		
	OCTOBER NOVEMBER	2		
	DECEMBER	1 5		
	DECEMBER	5		
SUSPICIOUS DEATHS INVESTIGATED		16		
ASSIST OFFICERS OF OUTSIDE AGENCY				
HOMICIDES FROM PRIOR YEARS RE-INVESTIGATED				
MISCELLANEOUS INVESTIGATIVE ACTIVITY		11		
OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTINGS FIRE DEATHS		6		
IN CUSTODY DEATHS		3		
INFANT DEATHS INVESTIGATED		11		



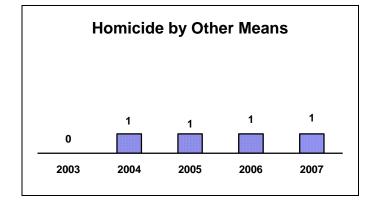
Totals will include assaults upgraded to a homicide after the death of the victim, cases accepted on a lesser charge or at the time of death the victim was outside the jurisdiction.

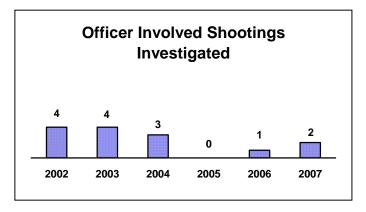












### NARCOTICS UNIT AND SWAT ANNUAL REPORT

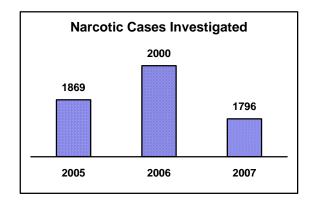
#### **Narcotics Unit**

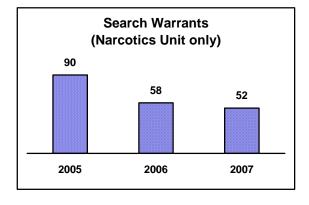
Lt. Erick Bohannon is the Commander of the Narcotics Unit and SWAT Team. Lt. Bohannon has been with the Amarillo Police Department for 15 years. He has had various assignments throughout the Department in the Uniform Division, Service Division, and Detective Division.

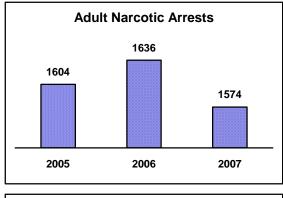
The Narcotics Unit is comprised of 2 sergeants and 6 narcotics agents. Two additional narcotics agents are assigned to the local office of the Drug Enforcement Agency in Amarillo. The Narcotics Unit is responsible for the following:

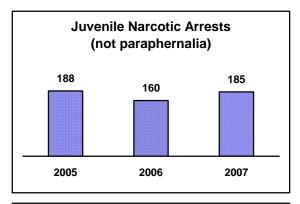
- Enforcement of pornography laws.
- Enforcement of laws prohibiting the illegal sale, possession, and distribution of controlled substances.
- Enforcement of laws prohibiting illegal gambling operations.
- Enforcement of laws prohibiting prostitution.
- Providing community education programs on narcotics and vice.
- Identifying and combat fencing operations involving stolen property.
- Investigating any offense involving organized criminal activity.

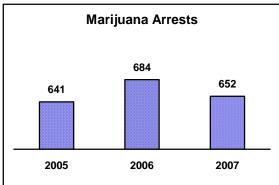
The agents use various investigative methods such as surveillance and undercover operations to complete their investigations. The end result of most investigations is an arrest warrant or a search warrant.

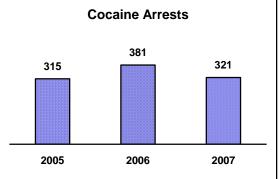


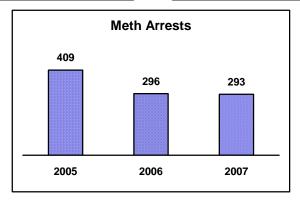




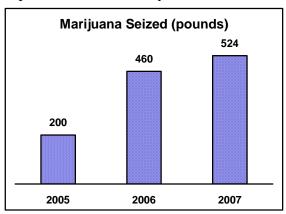


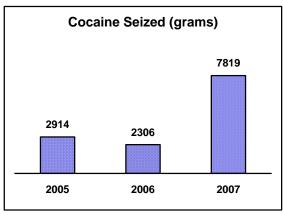


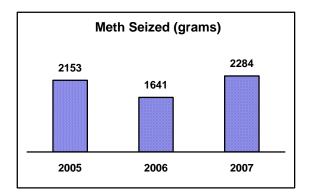




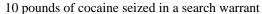
The following charts show the amount of several types of narcotics seized by the Amarillo Police Department in the last 3 years:













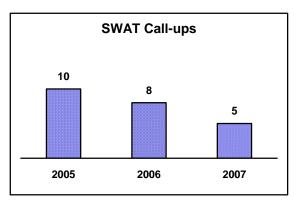
Over 1 ounce of meth ice seized during a search warrant

In addition to conducting narcotics investigations, agents of the Narcotics Unit presented narcotics awareness programs to local professional, civic, and student groups throughout Amarillo.

#### **SWAT Team**

Sgt. Tim Williams supervises the Amarillo Police Department's SWAT Team. There are 8 full-time members of the SWAT Team. The mission of the SWAT Team is to support the Amarillo Police Department with a tactical response to critical incidents. Critical incidents include, but are not limited to:

- Hostage situations
- Barricaded situations
- Sniper situations
- High-risk suspect apprehension
- High-risk search warrants



The SWAT Team trains continuously throughout the year to maintain tactical proficiency and works closely with the Narcotics Unit in all facets of narcotics investigations. This includes preraid planning and surveillance, providing tactical expertise during the execution of search warrants, and the collection of evidence. Because both units work together on a daily basis, they train together several times a year. Members of the SWAT Team make many presentations to local schools and civic groups throughout the year.





SWAT officers training at the Amarillo Shooting Complex.

## **Officer Paul Ware**



# Amarillo Rotary South Officer of the Year 2006

Sergeant Barbee nominated Officer Paul Ware as Officer of the Second Quarter for his outstanding performance during that period. Officer Ware's active patrol work has earned him five Departmental Commendations, favorable written comments from two detectives, a letter of thanks from two detectives, and a letter of thanks from the Adult Probation Department in the last few months. After being recognized as Officer of the Quarter of the Second Quarter, Officer Ware received the honor of being named Officer of the Year 2006.

On January 5<sup>th</sup>, Officer Ware was commended for his attention to duty and teamwork while recovering a stolen car. He had taken an auto theft report as part of his normal shift work on December 17, 2005. That evening, while working holiday patrol, Officer Ware spotted the car in the heavy seasonal traffic around the mall. The driver of the stolen car attempted to evade him by driving through private lots and the heavy holiday traffic. Officer Ware lost track of the car and began a search of the area. He contacted a citizen standing on the street in the area and got information about which direction the vehicle was last seen traveling. He searched that neighborhood and found the car abandoned in a cul-de-sac on Adirondack. Other officers joined the search of that area, and two suspects were arrested. These suspects were found to be in possession of items stolen from the car, and one suspect had a parole violation warrant. Officer Ware was

commended for his attention to duty.

On January 20, 2006, Officer Ware was checking motels along IH-40 for transient methamphetamine users/dealers who frequent them. From his years of experience on the street, Officer Ware knew meth users/dealers could often be found in the IH-40 motels, so he checked these motels regularly when on patrol. On this date, he recognized a car in the lot of the Motel 6, having seen it at the Kiva motel earlier in the week. Officer Ware had information that the registered owner of the vehicle was involved in drug trafficking. He contacted motel employees and found out which guest room was connected with the car. Officer Ware then contacted the room's occupants to determine if they were the registered guest or the car's owner. Officer Ware searched the room and seized 16 grams of methamphetamine. He also found a loaded 9mm handgun. Afterwards, Officer Ware arrested the male in the room on a narcotics-related probation violation warrant and the narcotics charges. The female was arrested on traffic warrants. A wanted felon, a loaded gun, and 16 grams of methamphetamine were seized due to Officer Ware's initiative and knowledge.

On January 23, 2006, the Department received a letter from Heather Hollingsworth of Potter County Adult Probation. She complimented Officer Ware for the above-described arrest of a felon who had been wanted since July 2005. In addition, Ms. Hollingsworth wanted to thank him for his work on another case, one that led to the arrest of a sex offender wanted for violating the terms of his probation. That arrest was another self-initiated arrest by Officer Ware. While checking the parking lots of a local adult bookstore for criminal activity, Officer Ware found a car used by a local sex offender. He did some follow-up research to establish that this man frequented the establishment and had been doing so for some time in violation of his probation agreement. Officer Ware's actions led to the revocation of that sex offender's probation.

On April 24, 2006, Sgt. Vogel commended Officer Ware for his role in a team effort leading to the arrest of a man wanted on felony evading. One officer reported a Ford Mustang that had fled from officers during an event about two weeks earlier was entering the downtown area from IH-40. The reporting officer could not stop the vehicle because he was transporting a prisoner. Officer Ware located the vehicle and attempted to stop it, but he lost sight of it as the vehicle fled across a private lot and went behind a business. A witness saw the driver abandon the vehicle and run into a business at 10<sup>th</sup> and South Lincoln. Officer Ware talked with this witness and relayed that information to the other officer involved in the search of the area. The officers located the wanted felon hiding under a mattress armed with a .45 caliber handgun. The suspect was arrested and later booked into county jail.

Around the same time Officer Ware received these commendations, Sergeant Barbee received two notes from detectives about Officer Ware's work. Sergeant Vargas wanted his supervisor to know how much she appreciated his attitude and willingness to assist her on one of the most time-consuming administrative tasks every officer dreads—the recovery of and lengthy process involved in booking a great deal of stolen property. On another occasion, Officer Ware's investigation of a minor theft from a local motel room resulted in a complimentary note from Sergeant Mitchell. Officer Ware's knowledge of a possible suspect's whereabouts allowed him to conduct a follow-up investigation that resulted in the recovery of items stolen from a motel room. This incident shows Officer Ware maintains interest in and knowledge of many of the people in his sector.

On May 31, 2006, Sergeant Barbee commended Officer Ware for his self-initiated arrest of a parolee caught driving a stolen car. Because of body damage on the car in question, Officer Ware became suspicious, ran the vehicle's tag, and discovered the vehicle was stolen. The driver was wanted on a parole violation of an original charge of burglary. Evidence found in the vehicle indicated that the driver was involved in narcotics and was a very active check-forger who had evidently been making regular, large deposits to a personal bank account despite not having a job.

On June 5, 2006, Sergeant Barbee again commended Officer Ware for his role in the arrest of two narcotics offenders. Officer Ware had become suspicious of a vehicle parked at another motel frequented by drug users, this suspicion based on the vehicle being parked in a portion of the motel lot normally not used by motel guests. He checked the records on the car and its listed owner but was unable to develop any reason to investigate any further at that time. Officer Ware contacted the driver of the vehicle and obtained legal consent to search the room. Assisting officers located a sawed-off shotgun in the room. In addition, Officer Ware located stolen identification documents and recognized the name on them as the name first given by the suspect who had shot Officer Brown a few days earlier. Officer Ware's continued search turned up the retail packaging and receipt for a holster. The clear plastic bag was for the holster the same suspect was still carrying when arrested for shooting Officer Brown. The receipt was in the suspect's first name. Seizure of methamphetamine, a shotgun, evidence in an attempted capital murder, and having two felony complaints filed were the end result of Officer Ware's careful attention to duty.

In Sergeant Barbee's fourteen years as a field sergeant, he has found Officer Ware to be one of the most—if not *the* most—self-motivated officer he has had the pleasure to supervise. Sergeant Barbee is able to routinely document that 25% to 33% of Officer Ware's reports are made for arrests that are the result of self-initiated traffic stops and his checking of suspicious persons, vehicles, and places in his sector. Officer Ware's performance in this regard is consistently well above the rest of the squad. In addition, Officer Ware is well liked and respected not only by his co-workers but also by other supervisors for his hard work and ability to find criminals. Routinely kind and approachable, always professional in his contacts with members of the public, Officer Ware presents the image of the sort of professional police officer the Amarillo Police Department is proud to convey to the public.

# Officer Jimmy Rifenberg



Rotary Club South Officer of the First Quarter 2007

Lt. Gary Trupe, Coordinator of the Special Crimes Unit, nominated Officer Jimmy Rifenberg as the Rotary Club Officer of the Quarter for the following work he had done in the Unit.

On April 19, 2001, Donald Heath, 62, was working the midnight shift as a store clerk for Toot-N-Totem at 211 S. Western. A suspect entered the store, shot and killed Mr. Heath. A suspect was arrested shortly after this homicide, but was later released after an eyewitness was found to have been lying. In August 2006 this case was re-opened by Off. Rifenberg and Sgt. Dockery. Off. Rifenberg reviewed videotape of the homicide and took it to a local photo shop to see if it could be enhanced. Off. Rifenberg had seen a shadow on the neck of the suspect who was wearing pantyhose over his head during the commission of this homicide. Enlargements of these frames indicated that this shadow was rectangular in design. An additional suspect had been identified during the original investigation and this enhanced photo was compared to him. This suspect, Milo Williams, was found to have a rectangular birthmark on the right side of his neck as well as hair on his chin that matched the suspect in the video. Additional witnesses were located that gave information that Milo Williams had committed this homicide during a planned theft. The video showed that the suspect did not attempt to commit a theft, but instead just entered the store and shot Mr. Heath a single time and left. In February 2007 this case was

presented to a Potter County Grand Jury, that indicted Milo Williams on a charge of murder. This case would not have been cleared if it hadn't been for the work of Off. Rifenberg in reviewing the videotape and seeing the one thing everyone had missed previously. This was a crucial piece of evidence that helped clear a 6 year old case and bring some closure to a grieving family. This case has yet to go to trial.

In a previous unsolved case from May 16, 1991 Off. Rifenberg was instrumental in identifying the suspect through fingerprints and footprint identification. In May 1991 E. J. Henderson was murdered inside his home in Washburn, Texas. This case went unsolved until 2006. Mr. Henderson's pick-up was located in Illinois several days later and his murder was shown on Unsolved Mysteries. Sgt. Dockery was able to identify a suspect, Lawrence Tutt, after interviewing previous witnesses. Off. Rifenberg went through the evidence in this case and believed that one palm print recovered at the scene was actually a footprint. Off. Rifenberg compared fingerprint evidence and was able to match Tutt to items inside the house and the stolen pick-up recovered in Illinois. In January 2006 Sgt. Dockery and Off. Rifenberg met with Tutt, who was in the Ohio prison system. Armed with a search warrant, they were able to obtain Tutt's DNA and footprints. Off. Rifenberg was able to compare these footprints and made an immediate identification on the disputed palm print as being Tutt's footprint that he had left at the scene in 1991. Since that time, additional DNA evidence has tied Tutt to the scene. Tutt was indicted by an Armstrong County Grand Jury for murder in 2006. This is an ongoing case and would not have been solved without the work of Off. Rifenberg and others. The family is very thankful that their father's murderer has been identified after this many years.

Since January 1, 2007 Off. Rifenberg has been assigned as the lead CSI officer on 3 out of 4 homicides the Unit has worked, and one officer involved shooting that occurred at Wal-Mart. Off. Rifenberg's work on these 3 homicides has assisted in the arrest of the suspects, and, due to his CSI work, it made a stronger case for the prosecution and cleared the officer of any wrong doing in his shooting. Off. Rifenberg is recognized as a fingerprint comparison expert within the Department and has reviewed all prints lifted at homicide scenes for identification or elimination. In the 2 years Off. Rifenberg has been assigned to the Special Crimes Unit he has 100 % clearance rate on the cases he has been assigned. Off. Rifenberg has been assigned several high profile cases over these two years, and with the exception of one person, everyone has pled for a lengthy prison sentence. Off. Rifenberg is one of the reasons the Special Crimes Unit maintains such a high clearance rate.

## **Officer Dewayne Griffin**



# Rotary Club South Officer of the Second Quarter 2007

On June 26, 2007 Officer Griffin was sent to 2526 Redwood on a report of prowlers. The caller reported that there were three suspects, and one was possibly armed with a pistol. When the officers arrived on scene, they spoke with the complainant, and the suspects were pointed out to them in the alley. The officers began moving into position to capture the suspects when they fled on foot. The officers then began setting up a perimeter to keep the suspects contained while more officers arrived. While all of this was happening, the house at 2525 Redwood began to catch fire. It was later found that the suspects, using Molotov cocktails, started the fire.

Officer Griffin stationed himself in 2500 block of Redwood to help with the capture. The Fire Department had already been called for the fire. As Officer Griffin held his position on Redwood Street, he saw a subject drive up to the house at 2525 Redwood. The subject walked around the house, and then approached Officer Griffin. He told him that his 70-year-old mother was in the house that was burning.

Officer Griffin and the son went to the house and began trying to make entry. As heavy black smoke poured out of the residence, Officer Griffin entered the burning house with no regard for his own safety. Officer Griffin went as far into the house as he was able but was forced out by

the heavy smoke causing him to have trouble breathing.

When Officer Griffin got back outside, the son again told him that his mother was inside and told him she should be in a room "to the left". At this point, Officer Griffin could hear someone screaming. With no more information, Officer Griffin again put his personal safety aside and entered the house a second time. This time the smoke was heavier and Officer Griffin was forced to crawl on his hands and knees. Even though he was trying to get below the smoke level, he was still inhaling smoke while trying to yell for the woman. Despite the danger, Officer Griffin continued into the house using his hands to feel his way around. He worked his way "to the left" until he found a room with the victim standing in the doorway. Officer Griffin stood to his feet and physically took hold of the woman and carried her out of the house. A witness saw Officer Griffin carry the victim from the house, with the smoke and fire so close to him that the witness believed Officer Griffin himself was on fire. As Officer Griffin carried her out of the house, he was overcome by the smoke and fell to the ground, still holding the victim. The witness called the Police Department to report an officer down.

With the victim seriously injured, and Officer Griffin having trouble breathing, he still had the presence of mind to get further away from the burning house and call an ambulance for the woman. He got them both to his patrol car until the ambulance arrived. Both were taken to Northwest Texas Hospital.

Officer Griffin not only entered the house one time to search, but also entered a second time, knowing how bad the smoke was and the effect it would have on him, for no other reason than it was the right thing to do. The courage it took to do this was above and beyond the call of duty. He risked injury and death to save a citizen of our city.

# **Sgt. Earnest Douglass**



# Rotary Club South Officer of the Third Quarter 2007

Lt. Birkenfeld nominated Sgt. Earnest Douglass for Officer of the Quarter. Sgt. Douglass is a supervisor for the midnight shift at the Amarillo Police Department. Sgt. Douglass is assigned the south side of town, which has the highest call volume during this shift. Sgt. Douglass is also assigned to conduct computer forensic investigations. He balances this job with his duties as a supervisor.

Sgt. Douglass is a good supervisor. He keeps track of the professional and personal lives of his subordinates and works to ensure the needs of the Department and the individual are in balance. Sgt. Douglass leads by example. He consistently patrols his assigned area along with his subordinates. He encourages them to make contacts and check problem areas. He takes personal responsibility for his assignment. When a crime trend is identified, Sgt. Douglass puts together data and maps of the criminal activity. He has done this on his own time and never asks for compensation. Sgt. Douglass helped identify a target area for burglaries that were occurring in the late summer. This aided in the eventual capture of some of the suspects.

Sgt. Douglass also plays a direct on role in the capture of criminals. One recent example is where he arrested a suspect who had just broke into a water vending business. This arrest cleared up several other burglaries. In early October, Sgt. Douglass saw a car driving erratically and endangering other motorists. He tried to stop the car, and after a short vehicle pursuit, the

suspect was arrested. In August, he arrested a suspect in a stolen car after a vehicle pursuit. Another example occurred in April where he arrested three persons who had just committed a robbery.

Sgt. Douglass has been at the Amarillo Police Department for 31 years. He continues to do a good job and his actions reflect favorably on the Amarillo Police Department. He does good work at night and works hard to ensure the safety and security of the citizens of Amarillo.

## **Officer Chris McElreath**



# Rotary Club South Officer of the Fourth Quarter 2007

On 11/3/2007 at approximately 2140 hours, Officer McElreath was on patrol in the area of Amarillo Blvd. West and N. Georgia when he observed a large amount of smoke coming from the area of NW 5<sup>th</sup> and Georgia. Officer McElreath drove towards this area and saw that the smoke was coming from the residence at 411 N. Georgia. Officer McElreath saw an individual lying in the doorway of this residence who had obviously been overcome by the smoke. Officer McElreath notified dispatch and then ran to this person's aid. Officer McElreath also observed another individual lying on the floor of the living room of the burning house. Officer McElreath ran through the heavy smoke and grabbed the person lying on the porch and dragged him to a safe area. After rescuing this victim, Officer McElreath turned his attention back to the house and the other victim. A citizen, identified as Johnny Schaef, had stopped at the scene and began to help Officer McElreath in rescuing the second victim. Both Officer McElreath and Mr. Schaef entered the burning house to try and pull the other victim out. After two attempts they were able to pull this individual from the burning house and save his life. This second victim suffered severe burns and was later flown by air ambulance to the burn unit in Lubbock for treatment. If not for Officer McElreath's quick and heroic actions in this incident both of these victims would likely not have survived.

# 9-1-1 Dispatcher Camie Clark



# Texas Chapter of the National Emergency Number Association Silent Hero Certificate of Recognition for the Year 2007

Camie Clark has worked for the Amarillo Police Department for 2 years as a dispatcher. Camie is truly an asset to the Communications Division. Camie is a trainer for new Communications Officers. She is a dedicated employee and promotes a positive work environment.

Camie has attended the Associate Trainer's Course by DPS and has begun teaching the Full Access and Less than Full Access classes. Camie has come to the Police Department on her own time to make sure things were ready for a class when another instructor became ill the night before and was unable to teach. Camie has also trained to take over Protective Order entries when the Dispatch Support Specialist is out of town. Camie does this in addition to her daily duties as a Dispatcher. Camie is always willing to help out.

There have been many times that Camie has gone above and beyond her duties to get the job done and she has not been formally recognized. Camie has been a valuable asset to our Department.