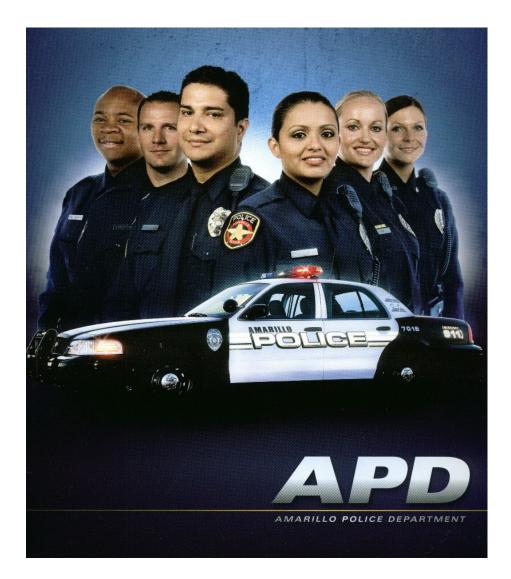
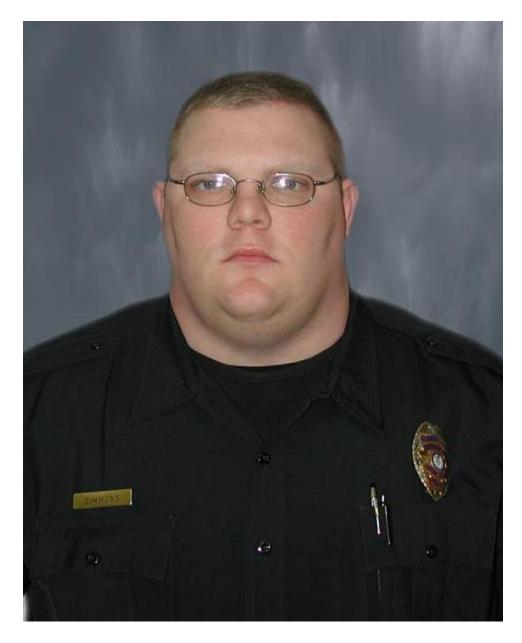




# AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT 2008 ANNUAL REPORT



CHIEF OF POLICE Robert Taylor



## In Memory

Officer Mark Simmons Died in the Line of Duty December 17, 2008



## 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.

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.

## AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2008

The 2008 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 2008. 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







AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT

January 30, 2009

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

Dear Mayor & Commissioners:

It is an honor to present the 2008 Annual Report of the Amarillo Police Department. In 2008, we experienced an 11% decrease in Part I crimes. We are focusing our resources this year towards continued efforts in "hotspot" enforcement and surveillance of active criminals, which appears to be a factor in reducing our crime rate.

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.

Please accept our appreciation for your support and that of the City Manager and staff. Together we have made a difference.

Sincerely,

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Robert Taylor Chief of Police







**CHIEF OF POLICE Robert Taylor** 



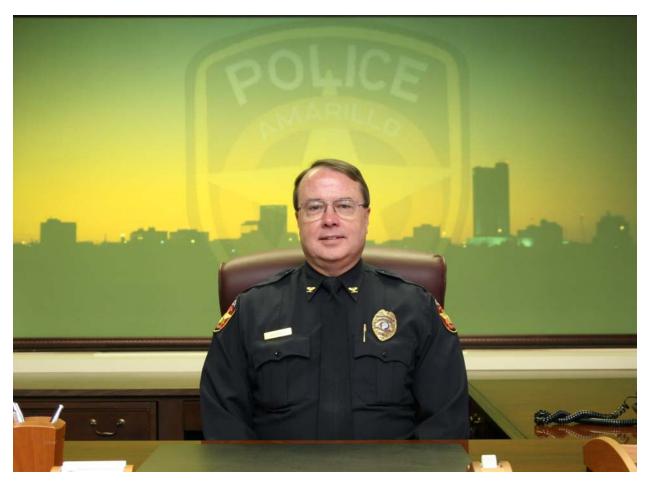




ASSISTANT CHIEF OF LINE OPERATIONS Kenneth Ferguson







ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF OPERATIONS Perry Gilmore

#### **INTER-DEPARTMENT OFFICE COMMUNICATION**



**To: All Divisions** 

From: Chief Robert Taylor

**Date: January 30, 2009** 

**Subject: Department Goals for 2009** 

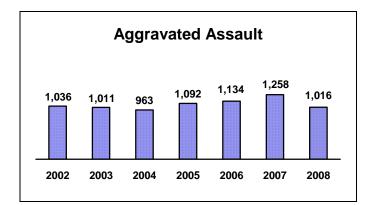
The 2009 goals for the Police Department are:

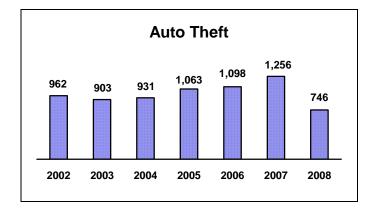
- 1. Increase staffing of sworn personnel to address city growth.
- 2. Expand the COPPS program to other areas of the city.
- 3. Continue efforts to reduce crime by identifying and conducting surveillance on our most active criminals.
- 4. Continue enhancement of training programs and facilities.
- 5. Obtain certification under the Texas Agency Recognition Program.
- 6. Increase "hotspot" enforcement activities.
- 7. Increase utilization of fleet by increasing duel use cars.

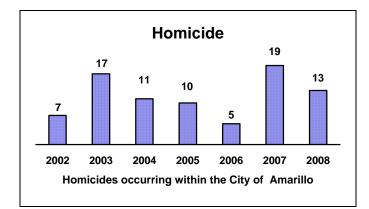
Chief Trylor Chief Robert Taylor

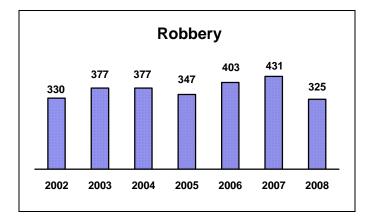


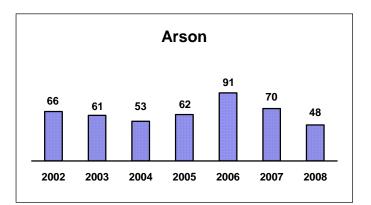
# **CRIME ANALYSIS**

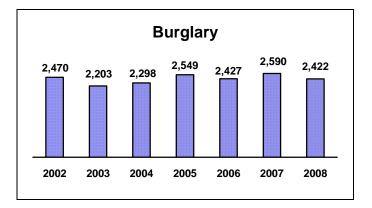


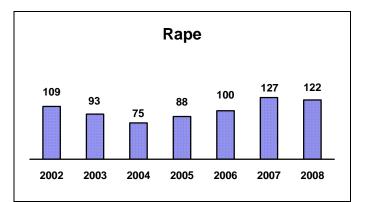


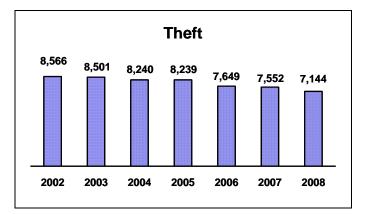


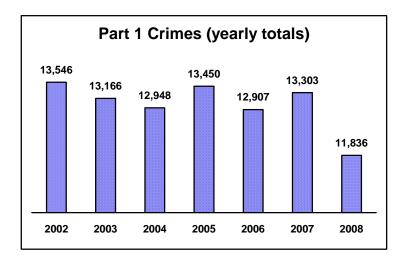


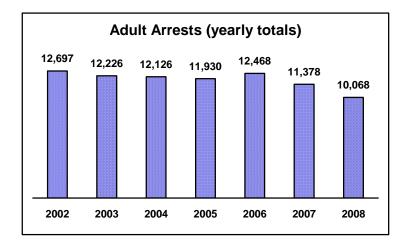


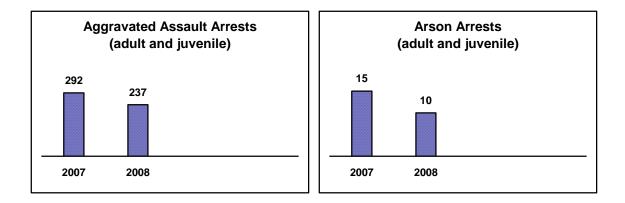


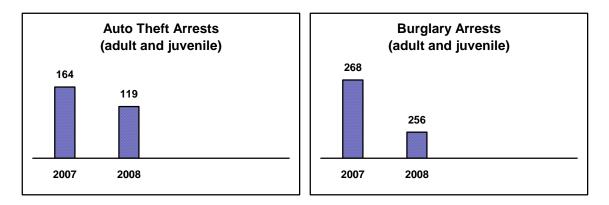


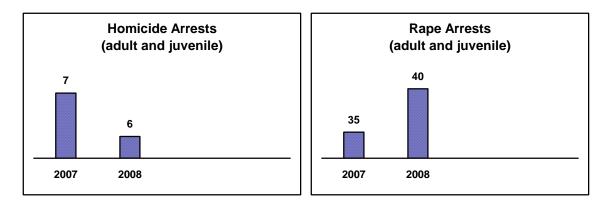


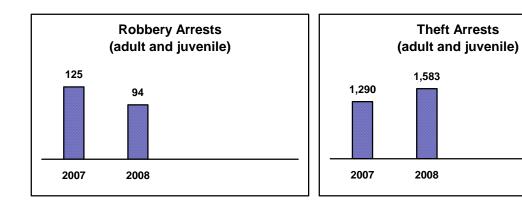












# **DIVISION REPORTS**









**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 208 sworn officers plus three civilians, and operates a fleet of 86 patrol vehicles, which includes 11 motorcycles. We also have 13 patrol bicycles assigned to our COPPS Unit.



The officers in the Uniform Division provide police service 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Historically we have run 4 shifts each day with each shift being 8 hours in length. As of January 1, 2009, we have changed our shifts by distributing personnel on four 10-hour work shifts each day. This change will allow for more overlap of personnel during our busiest times, allowing better responses to calls for service. Three shifts (covering 24 hours) are each staffed with one lieutenant, 3 or 4 sergeants, and patrol officers. A fourth shift consisting of two sergeants and two squads 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 2008, officers and civilian employees of the Police Department responded to 127,473 calls for service and investigated 6,315 traffic crashes. There were 20 fatal traffic crashes with a total of 21 fatalities during the year. Uniform Division officers arrested 517 drunk drivers and 325 motorists for driving with a suspended driver's license. There were 172 traffic crashes involving drunk drivers. Uniform officers issued 72,811 traffic citations along with 2,208 parking citations, and made 287 evading arrest cases in addition to making 301 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, providing 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 ten officers. These motor officers concentrate on traffic enforcement at locations identified as high-volume accident sites and problem areas. Motorcycle officers issued 28,913 of the traffic citations issued by the Uniform Division.



#### TRAFFIC INVESTIGATION

One lieutenant, three traffic crash/DWI investigators, one video specialist, 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 DWIs, and all driving-whilelicense-suspended cases, as well as on all traffic-related incidents. The Traffic Investigation Unit's video specialist 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 785 of the parking citations issued by the Department.



#### **CRIME ANALYSIS**

One officer staffs Crime Analysis. He is responsible for tracking crime reports, crime patterns and trends. This information is then made available to Patrol Officers, Detectives, COPPS, SWAT and other law enforcement agencies.



#### **COMMUNITY POLICING UNIT**

The Community Policing Unit was formed as a result of a federal grant under the Cops Ahead Program. Officially 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. This results in greater police effectiveness and citizen satisfaction with the work done in the community by the Police Department.



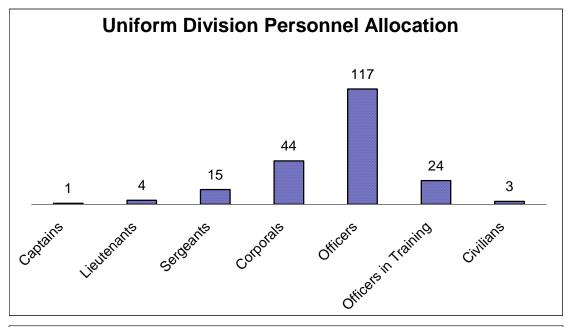
COPPS officers also undertake various problem-solving endeavors that may reach outside the traditional law enforcement function in an effort to prevent crime and provide a better quality of life in our community. COPPS officers work closely with other City departments such as Code Enforcement and Fire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

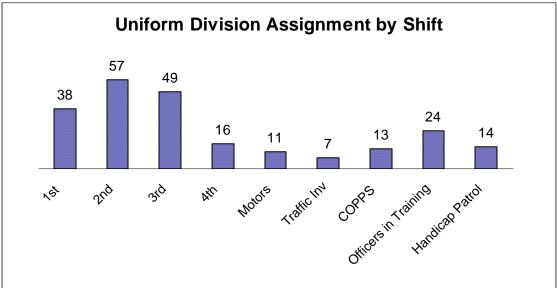
In 2008, the COPPS Unit worked several special assignments at various locations to observe and arrest offenders committing various crimes and causing neighborhood problems. Other assignments included investigations leading to the arrest of felony narcotics violators involved in manufacturing and selling 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.

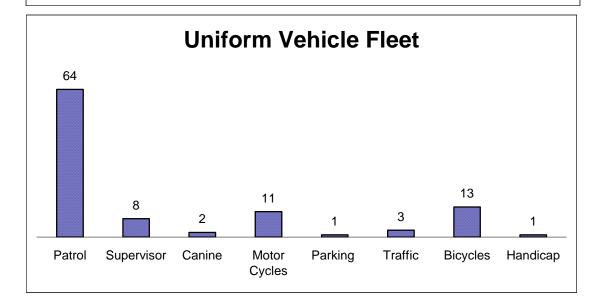
Several of these problems have been solved through coordinated work between the COPPS officers and landlords. By doing so, the COPPS Unit fulfills its mandate to address issues ranging from criminal activity to educating the public in areas including personal safety issues and methods of crime prevention.

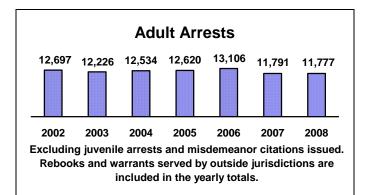
#### HANDICAP PATROL

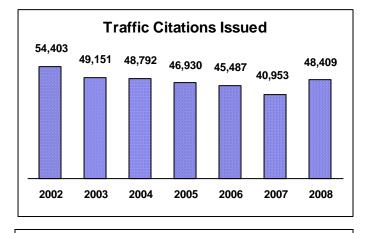
The Handicap Patrol is a group of civilian volunteers who, after being trained, patrol parking lots and enforce handicap-parking violations. This group issued 1042 citations for handicap parking violations. This program is aimed at keeping handicap parking spaces available for those who qualify.

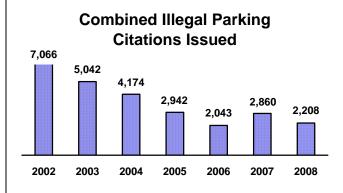


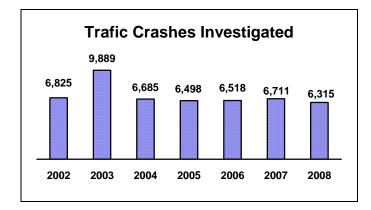


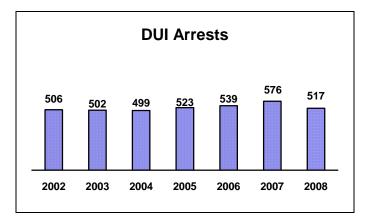


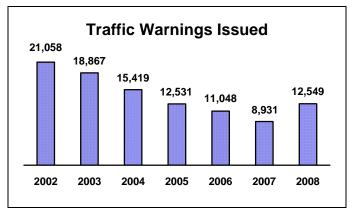




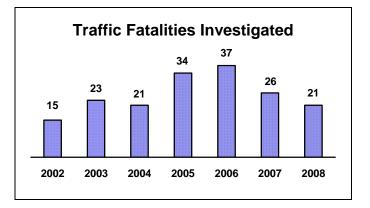






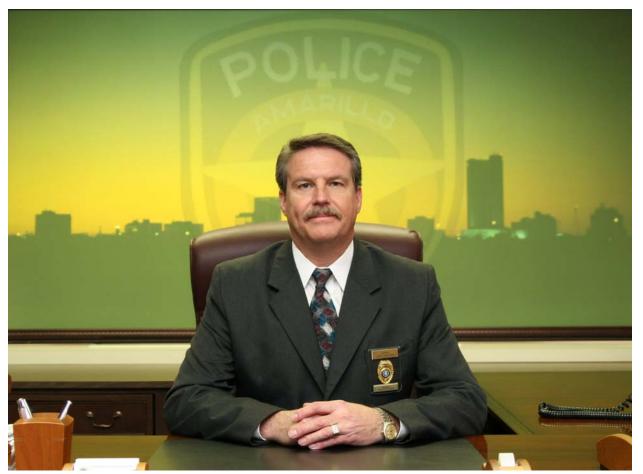












**DETECTIVE DIVISION Captain Jeff Lester** 

## **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 squads 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 assisting the victim through the judicial process, 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 Squad commanded by Lieutenant Tam Boatler; Burglary Squad and Crime Scene Investigation Unit commanded by Lieutenant Jim Burgess; Robbery Squad commanded by Lieutenant Jim McKenny; White-Collar Crime Squad commanded by Lieutenant Brent Womble and the Juvenile Offender Squad and School Liaison Unit commanded by Lieutenant Kenny Albright. Currently the Detective Division has 63 commissioned officers, 12 civilian employees and 1 District Attorney Victim's Assistance Coordinator.

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. Crime Scene Investigation Unit of the Burglary Squad is responsible for photography, evidence collection, evidence processing, fingerprints, laboratory submission of evidence and courtroom testimony. The Pawn Unit of the Burglary Squad is responsible for inspection, records data entry and stolen property recovery from the numerous pawnshops in the city limits. White-Collar Crime Squad detectives investigate forgery, fraud, counterfeiting, computer-related offenses and incidents of identity theft. Detectives in the Juvenile Offender Squad work 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 1216 registrants compared to 1116 in 2007. This number reflects a 9% increase over the previous year. Of those registered, 476 are active adult offenders, 26 are active juvenile offenders (registrants that are of adult age now, but were juveniles at the time of conviction), and 713 compared to 607 last year that 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, died or have moved from the area but still have ties to Amarillo. The Juvenile squad has the responsibility of administering juvenile-age registrants.

#### **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 2008, the Department received reports of 17 drive-by shootings compared to 21 in 2007. The team cleared 41% of the cases compared to 57% of these incidents in 2007. The clearance rate is higher when the team is called out. The team had an 87.5% clearance rate of those cases when they were called out compared to 88% in 2007.

#### **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 print 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 2008 we entered 1080 latent prints and 415 palms compared to 2007 when we entered 999 latent fingerprints and 303 latent palm prints into the SPEX system. In 2007, we had 561 latent fingerprint identifications and 131 latent palm print identifications. In 2008, we changed software and are unable to track the total number of fingerprint and palm print matches were made during the year. The Crime Scene Investigation Unit responded to 228 Call-outs compared to 147 during 2007. That is an average of 19 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 the 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.

Photo Technician, staffed by Brandi Endrizzi, is responsible for all digital photography taken by patrol and detectives. 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 lets 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. Brandi is being trained on both the SPEX and Identix live scan systems to view the photograph of the prints and mark them for entry into the databases.

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.

The new Ocean systems photo and video enhancement system was purchased. Training began in March 2008. The effect of this system on our cases has been helpful in many instances.

#### SCHOOL LIAISON

Sergeant Ronnie Taff supervises the School Liaison section. Comprised of eleven 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 for students and educators. During 2008 the officers in the program investigated 10,537 campus complaints compared to 12,417 in 2007. They presented programs to over 7000 students compared to 8,000 in 2007. In addition they made 1204 incident reports, 282 physical arrests, wrote 460 citations, and seized 26 weapons compared to 1,258, 312, 581 and 22 respectively.

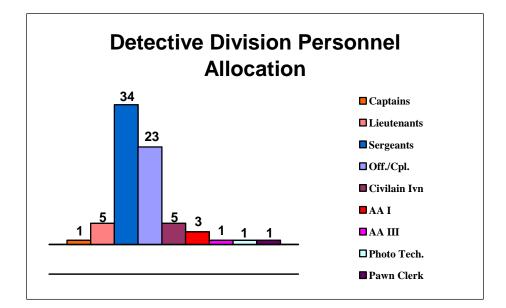
#### STUDENT CRIME STOPPERS

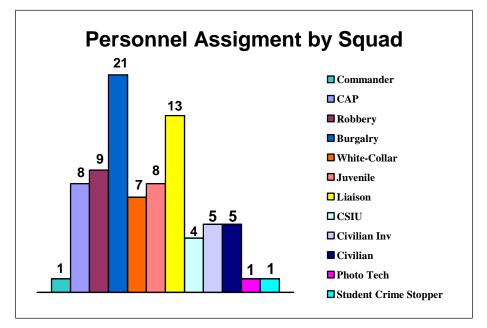
Amarillo Student Crime Stoppers continued its success in a statewide competition by winning Best in State "Crime of the Week" for Television and Radio. Student Crime Stoppers won best "Website" and took 1<sup>st</sup> place in their division in the Amarillo Chamber of Commerce Polk Street Cook-Off.

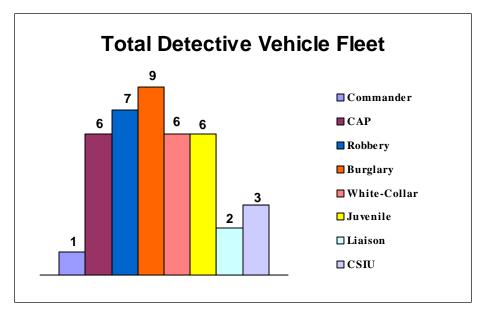
Comparisons of 2007 vs. 2008 are: <u>2007</u> 2008 Tips received 316 297 Arrests made 146 95 Cases cleared 190 140 Rewards paid \$7,885 \$8,515 Property recovered \$85,465 \$4.970

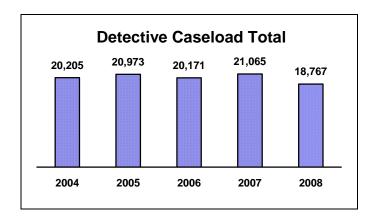


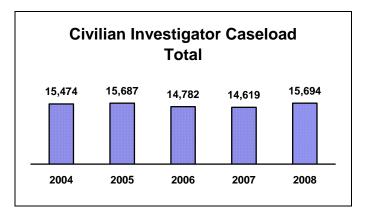


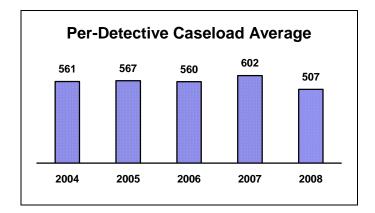


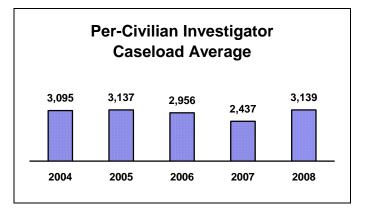


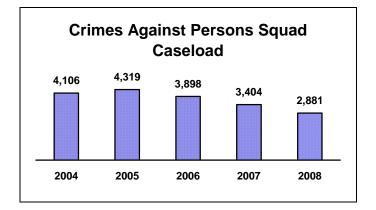


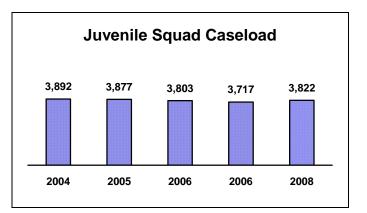


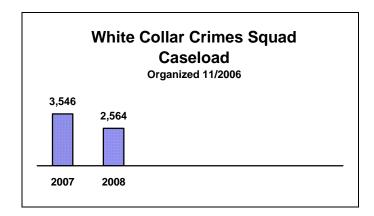


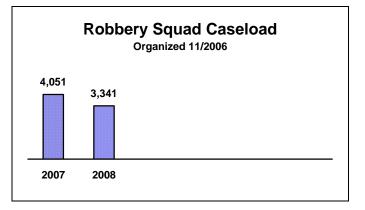


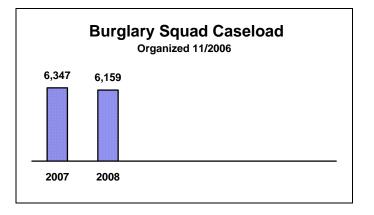




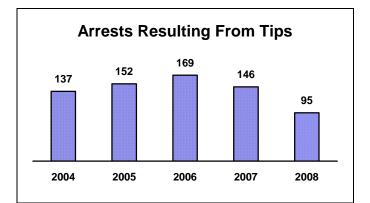


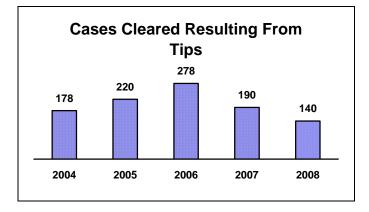


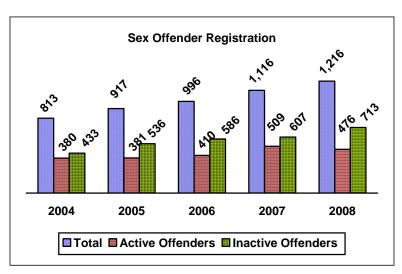












Active offenders are those who are currently residing within the City of Amarillo. Inactive offenders are those who are currently incarcerated, died or have moved from the City of Amarillo, but still have ties to the area.







**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, 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 Texas 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 2008, Report Writers assigned to the Service Division made 1,572 reports from persons calling on the telephone or citizens making reports at the front desk. This is a decrease from the 2007 total of 2,664. In 2008, Clerk typists typed 38,034 reports and 24,538 supplements called in by officers. During 2008, the Department received 1,429 reports made on-line by citizens. Of these, 1,288 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 and twenty-two 9110perators. In 2008 the Communications Section received and processed a total of 398,672 telephone calls. A breakdown of the telephone calls processed consists, in part, of 112,785 incoming 911 calls, 11,889 emergency line calls, 203,636 incoming non-emergency calls, and 77,105 outgoing administrative calls. In 2008, the Department received 127,473 calls for service as compared to 134,402 in 2007.

#### 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 \$14,430.17 to the City's General Fund from unclaimed money in 2008 as compared to \$23,836.24 in 2007. 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 Ben Landrum 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 authorized 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.

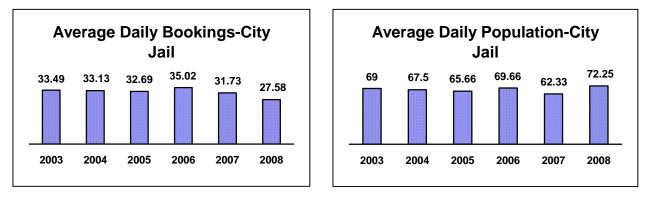
For the 2007-2008 budget year, the total operating cost of the city jail, including staff salaries, benefits and utility costs, was approximately \$737,875.32. This figure breaks down into an inmate cost of \$28.07 per day per inmate. When figuring the inmate cost, the trustee labor has not been included. 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 \$6.55 per hour, the hours worked by inmates would equal a \$211,565 savings to the City. Recalculating average daily cost using the labor savings provided by the trustees lowers the cost per inmate per day to \$20.02. 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 2008 was 55¢ per meal. The City Jail spent \$43,507.10 on food for the calendar year of 2008 while providing 79,286 meals.

During 2008 the Amarillo Police Department made 10,068 physical arrests compared to 11,378 in 2007, which is a decrease of 1,310 arrests. Of the 10,068 arrests made in 2008, Potter County initially housed 4,076; Randall County initially housed 1,189, leaving 4,803 municipal arrests. Many of those arrested, and initially booked into a county jail, were later transferred to the City Jail on Class C charges. The highest the jail population reached in 2008 was 127 inmates, during the annual Warrant Round-up.



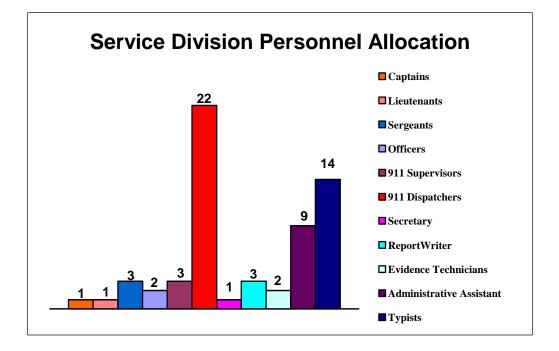
The Jail staff enters the booking information on all arrests, regardless of where the prisoners are initially booked. In addition to maintaining the Computerized Criminal History section, the City Jail staff is also responsible for the data entry of sex offenders registered by the Detective Division.

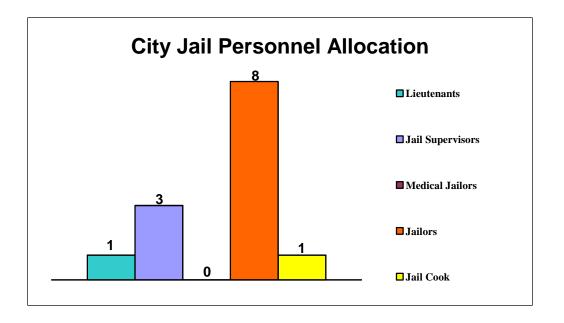
During 2008, the Amarillo Police Department City Jail staff continued to work at improving the facility through needed repairs, equipment updates, continued training, and updating jail operation policies.

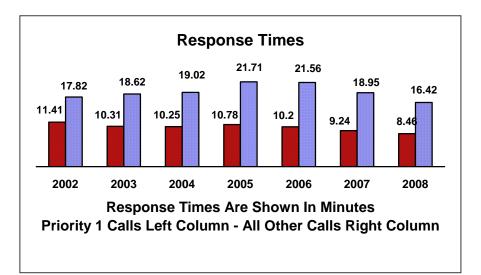
The Amarillo City Jail uses the Identix Fingerprint System. This system makes it possible to obtain digital fingerprints that are downloaded directly into the computer system. The result is a much higher quality of print.

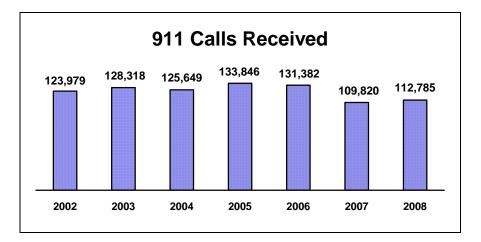
As of July 2005, citizens can now access the daily inmate roster through the Department's Internet web page. The inmate roster is updated daily at 4:00am. The report shows the booking number for the person, their name, which jail they are housed in, the number of Municipal charges against them and their expected release date when one is determined. These improvements should increase the overall efficiency of the facility.

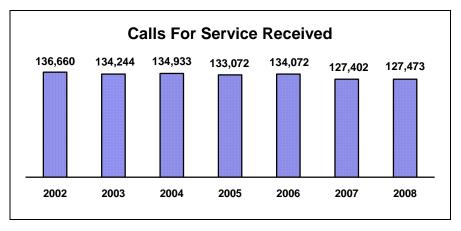


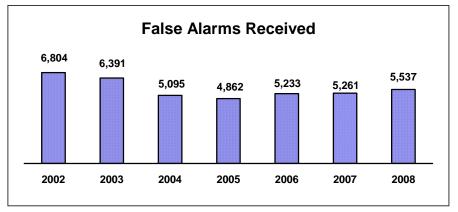












## AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT







# 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, conducting staff inspections of all divisions to ensure compliance with the rules and regulations of the department, insuring compliance with the Federal National Incident Management System program, the administration of the Department's compliance for the Texas Police Chiefs Association Best Practices Recognition Program and teaches in the academy.

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 six part-time civilians who staff three Range Officer positions for the public operations. The Range Master coordinates all self-defense weapons training and qualifications for sworn officers.

The Quartermaster/Purchaser is responsible for ordering, issuance, and return of various issued equipment, in addition to a civilian Quartermaster. Two full time Background Investigators are responsible for the hiring of sworn and civilian personnel. Two Administrative Assistant IValso work for the Division. One manages the records for payroll, training, and the hiring process for sworn positions. The other manages the hiring process for the civilian employees, the records for civilian employees and all Departmental evaluations. An Administrative Assistant I is the Division's receptionist.

In 2008, the Division provided 187 in-service training classes with 1,766 students for 45,837 hours of training. This is a decrease from the 2007 statistics, in which we provided 301 classes with 2,618 students for 58,441 hours of training. In 2006, we provided 176 classes with 1,026 students for a total of 27,386 hours. In 2005, we provided the Department 435 training classes with for 31,016 hours of training. These yearly figures do not include all of roll call training and supervisor directed training or the required NIMS training done by the city. In addition, many employees attended out of town training classes as assigned by their division

The Division is responsible for recruiting, selecting, testing, hiring, and training new police officers. The 77<sup>th</sup> Amarillo Police Department Basic Police Officer Academy began June 7, 2008 with 26 recruits. Twenty-five 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 77<sup>th</sup>



Academy graduated December 14, 2008. The hiring process began with 270 applicants who were notified of the Civil Service Entrance Exam that took place in October 2007 and March 2008. Of the 270 applicants who took the written test 196 passed. The physical ability testing created a list of successful, potential applicants that progressed to the rigorous background investigation. From the 196 applicants who passed the written test, 44 passed their 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.

The 76<sup>th</sup> A Accelerated Academy began January 3, 2008 and lasted eight weeks. The 3 recruits

graduated March 10, 2008. 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. One applicant resigned during the first



phase of the FTO program. These components comprise our Accelerated Training Program; it is designed to attract licensed applicants and officers from other agencies to our Department. Due to its limited success, we have discontinued the Accelerated Academy.



The hiring process is the same for all recruit applicants. 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.

### APPLICATION AND DEVELOPMENT

Additional responsibilities of Training and Personnel include: (1.) 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. (2.) Coordinating compliance with the Texas Police Chiefs Association Best Practices Recognition Program. (3.) Coordinating the Department's compliance with the City of Amarillo's annual "HAZMAT" chemical inventory. Training and Personnel conducts research projects for the Department, and maintains the Amarillo Shooting Complex, a combination public and police firearms range.

### DEPARTMENT STRENGTH



The Department has an authorized strength of 317 officers and an authorized strength of 100 full time civilian employees and 9 part time civilian employees.

In 2008, we increased our authorized strength by 5 officers to 317. The following figures are run against our actual strength of 305 sworn personnel. The average age of a police officer, including all ranks, was 38.43 compared to 38.61 in 2007; the average length of service was 11.97 years, compared to 12.59 in 2007. Average length of service for all employees (sworn and civilian) is 10.64 years compared to 11.0 years in 2007. This indicates slight decrease in tenured personnel. We have 25 (8.19%) female officers compared to 27 (9.09%) in 2007. There are 280 (91.81%) male officers compared to 270 (90.91%) in 2007. There is 1 Native American (.32%), 4 African-American officers (1.31%), 39 Hispanic officers (12.79%), and 261 Caucasian officers (85.79%). The ethnic and racial makeup of the Department maintained a trend during 2008 with a continued increase of 3 Hispanic officers. The ethnic and racial makeup has had a slight increase in Hispanic officers in 2007.

The Department ended 2008 with 93 full time civilian employees and 5 part-time civilian employees (3 positions at the Range, 1 position at the Potter County DA's office and 1 position at the Potter County District Attorney's Office).

### **EDUCATION**

In 2008, 11 officers had Masters degrees; 64 had Bachelors degrees (7 more than 2007); and 26 had Associates degrees (up 2 from 2007). 107 officers had more than 10 college hours but no degree (a decrease of 32 from 2007). On average, an officer has 53.69 college hours. 35 officers had an Intermediate Peace Officer Certificate (a decrease of 7 from 2007), 54 officers had an Advanced Certificate (an increase of 10 from 2007) and 138 had a Master Peace Officer Certificate (an increase of 2 from 2007).

### CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY



The 15<sup>th</sup> Citizen Police Academy (CPA) was held in the Fall of 2008. Eighteen 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. Twenty-five citizens graduated from the 14<sup>th</sup> CPA Academy.

### STUDENT POLICE ACADEMY

In the Spring of 2008, we hosted our 8th Student Police Academy with 25 students participated with 22 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**

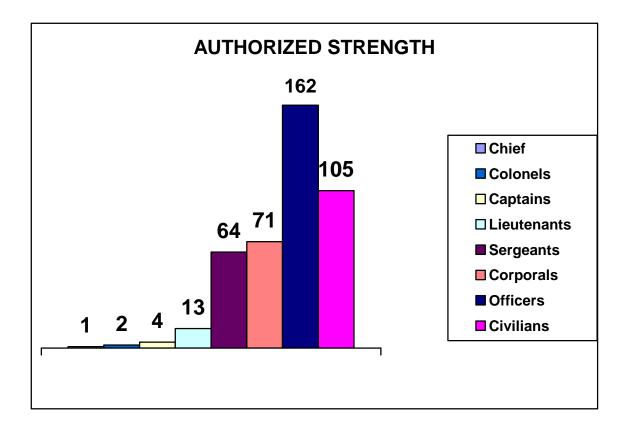
The Amarillo Police Department Volunteer Program started 2008 with only 14 members, three who were inactive. In August 2008, the Volunteer Program gained 6 new people and in November another three. This brought the membership for 2008 to 23 volunteers assigned to various jobs. They work in Victim Assistance, Service Division, Traffic Enforcement Unit, Bomb Squad and Property. The Volunteer Program began in 1992 and has grown. In 2008, the volunteers donated approx 2,306 hours of service to the Department. In addition, Ed Francis who volunteers in the Service Division and David Barnett who volunteers in the Uniform Division Traffic Follow-up put in 1,530 volunteer hours. The Handicap Patrol issued parking tickets to vehicles illegally parked in handicapped parking spaces. Since the program started in 1999 the handicap patrol has written a grand total of 16,658 tickets. In 2008 the Handicap Patrol wrote 896 tickets for handicap violations, which also includes warnings. An appreciation dinner is held once a year to recognize all of the volunteer employees.

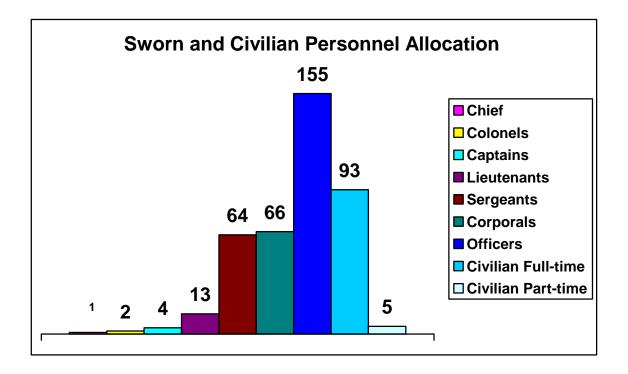
#### CHAPLAIN PROGRAM

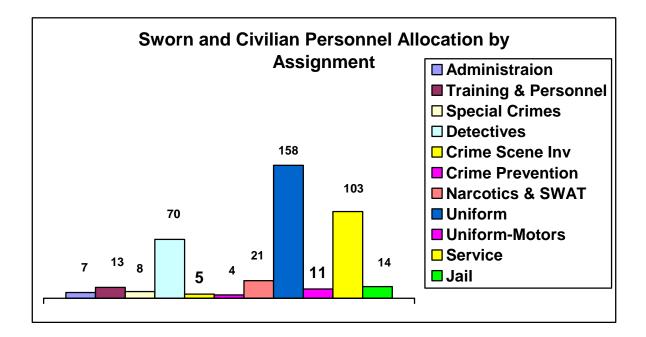
The Chaplain Program at the Amarillo Police Department has four volunteer chaplains in order to ensure availability of a chaplain for our employees in times of illness, injury, or death. Two volunteers are full time employees, one is a retired officer, and the other is the retired officer's wife. Department 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.

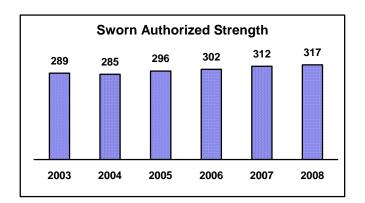
### CRISIS INCIDENT STRESS DEBREIFING PROGRAM

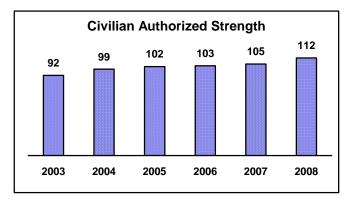
The Amarillo Police Department provides peer counselors for our employees. The counselors are trained volunteers from within the Department. Peer counselors conduct critical incident stress debriefings after traumatic events and make confidential referrals to professional counselors upon request.

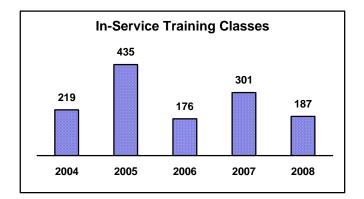




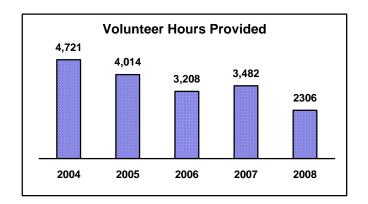


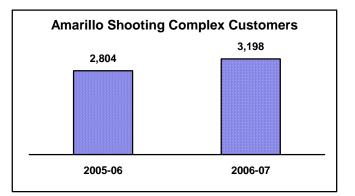


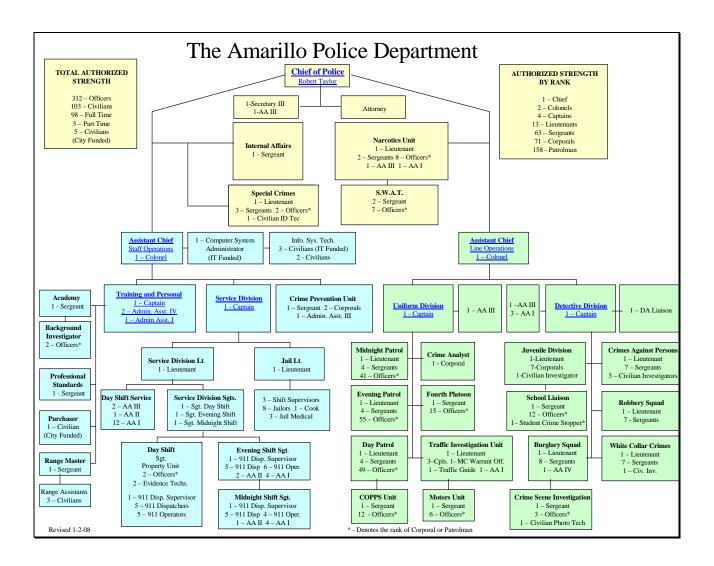










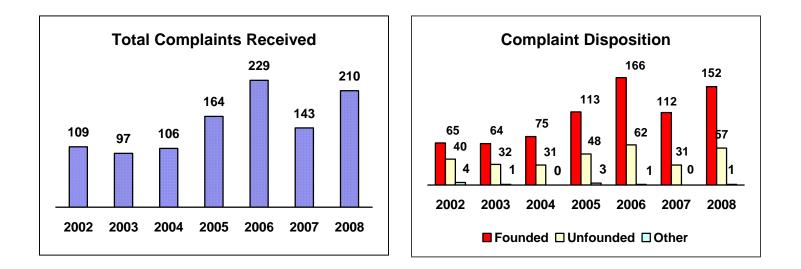


### **INTERNAL AFFAIRS**

Complaints from citizens and complaints from within the Department are investigated by the Internal Affairs Investigator. During 2008 there were 210 formal complaints filed. After investigation, 152 complaints were determined to be founded, 57 complaints unfounded. There was insufficient evidence to make a determination in one incident. Each of the 152 founded complaint resulted in disciplinary action.

On one occasion officers were involved in a shooting incident. The incident was presented to a Grand Jury; the Grand Jury determined the shooting was justified. There were eight discharges of firearm incidents involving the shooting of an animal. The Shooting Review Board found these incidents were justified.

Sergeant Berry Carden Internal Affairs



### **2008 INTERNAL AFFAIRS STATS**

Complaint Type:	Founded	Unfounded	Other	Total	%Founded
Excessive Force:	1	15	0	16	6%
Illegal Search:	1	2	0	3	33%
Illegal Arrest:	2	4	0	6	33%
Neglect or Inattention to Duty:	131	23	0	154	85%
Falsify or Release Of Records:	0	1	0	1	0%
Conduct Unbecoming:	16	11	1	28	57%
Criminal Offenses:	1	1	0	2	50%
	0	0	0	0	
Racial Profiling:	0	0	0		
TOTALS	0 152	57	1	210	72%
					72%
TOTALS Officer Involved Shootings:	152				72%
TOTALS Officer Involved Shootings: Justified: Discharge of Firearm:	152 1 1 8				72%

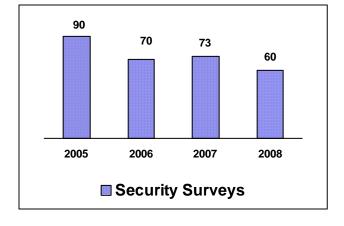
Disciplinary action was taken on all founded complaints. Such action included verbal counseling, written reprimands, suspensions, and terminations. Resignations were submitted during some investigations.

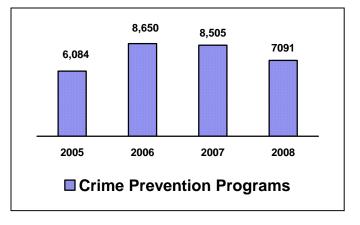
### **CRIME PREVENTION UNIT**

Officers of the Crime Prevention Unit (CPU) are well versed in the methods of providing information to the public, both directly and through various media outlets. The CPU often serves as liaison between the Amarillo Police Department and the community we serve. The CPU offers education about local crime issues, provides citizens with general safety information, is a resource for information about APD's services and practices, and helps interpret Texas criminal and traffic laws. Amarillo Crime Stoppers operates within the CPU. In 2008, the CPU helped the Department provide information to thousands of citizens through thirty-four Email Alert Messages sent to subscribers, and distributed 9333 pieces of informational literature. Civic groups and private citizens are encouraged to call the CPU at 378-4257 to request a presentation about any crime or safety issue, arrange for a home security survey, or just to learn more about preventing crime.



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 citizens 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 allowed us to reach over 7000 citizens. The CPU provided group education on crimes such as identity theft, Internet-based fraud, workplace violence, and armed robbery prevention. They created personal safety and crime prevention presentations especially for owners of specific types of businesses, as well as for children, senior citizens, and specific areas of the city.





### AMARILLO CRIME STOPPERS, INC.



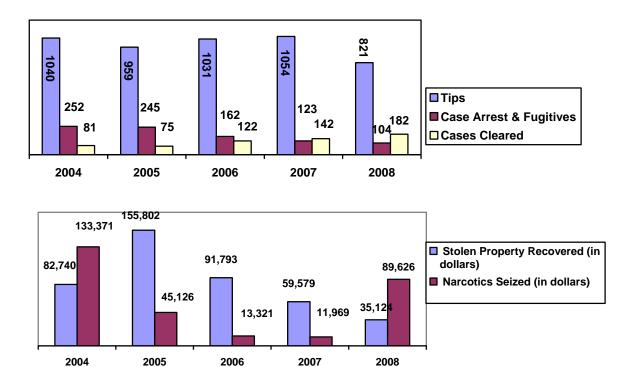
In May of 2008, Amarillo Crime Stoppers attended the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Crime Stoppers Conference in Wichita Falls Texas. At this conference, the program was granted the required hours to maintain program certification. On December 1<sup>st</sup>, Crime Stoppers started using an updated software system that enables us to receive fully encrypted e-mail tips and text tips from cell phones. This has already proven to be very successful, with the numbers nearly matching the number of our "call-in" tips for December. We are also able to text or e-mail back and forth with the "Tipsters" to obtain more information.

Our website has been updated to offer links to this information. Our first Web tip lead to a search warrant of residential marijuana grow operation, seizing \$12,000 in mature plants and other evidence. The Web and text tipsters can and have included pictures to assist in the cases made. Two tips lead to the arrest of a suspect who tried to run down a Fritch PD officer while fleeing from another felony. Tips also lead to the identification and arrest of two robbery suspects who had committed four armed robberies. Eleven child pornography related charges were filed on a suspect identified from a tip. One tip lead to the identification and location of a capital murder suspect. Another tip lead to a marijuana grow operation in which 45 plants, valued at \$71,685, were seized. One suspect was identified and arrested as a result.

Cpl. Sean Slover began training in Crimes Stoppers in late October to replace Cpl. Brian Thomas. Slover was permanently assigned to the Crime Prevention unit as Amarillo Crime Stoppers Coordinator on December 1, 2008.

The Fugitive of the Week program provides the public with information on wanted persons and publicizes the reward program for them. Every week, information on the Fugitive of the week is distributed to every local television station broadcast outlet. This year, we highlighted 46 fugitives, and 27 of them were arrested. In 2008, Amarillo Crime Stoppers received 821 tips. From those tips we cleared 182 cases and arrested 104 suspects. Those tips lead to the recovery of \$35,124 in property, and removed \$89,626 in narcotics from our city streets. This figure is up \$77,657 from last year! Amarillo Crime Stoppers approved 69 rewards, for a total of \$16,908.

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. Our website is updated weekly with the current crimes we need help solving and information on fugitives that we need to locate. The web site is www.amapolice.org. The Crime Stoppers anonymous reward system, Fugitive of the Week program and help from the public continues to make the Amarillo area a safer place for all of us to live and work.



### **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 Doug Peoples are CSI officers assigned to the unit from the Amarillo Police Department. From the Potter County Sheriff's Office, Sergeant Paul Buckles was assigned to the unit in August 2008 replacing Sgt. David Johnson who promoted to Lt., working 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 January 12, 2008, at 2:30 AM, Off. Esrael Silva was on routine patrol in the 1200 blk E. 10<sup>th</sup>. Off. Silva spotted two individuals near the door of the La Movida bar, one who appeared to be armed with a handgun. These two subjects attempted to enter the bar, but could not. These two suspects spotted Off. Silva and one subject produced a rifle and fired a single shot at Off. Silva, which missed. The subjects ran south from the scene and hid a handgun behind a dumpster in a near by alley. Special Crimes was called to investigate this shooting and believed that Off. Silva interrupted a robbery in progress.

On January 28, 2008 a tip was received identifying the two suspects in this shooting. Evidence from the handgun recovered was compared to these 2 individuals and it was found that one of them had handled it. A crime bulletin identifying Roman Martinez was put out to all local officers for safety purposes and at the same time it was determined that Martinez was wanted on a Felony warrant. Information was received that Martinez may be staying at the Sungate Apartments, 2727 S. Virginia and that he was still in possession of a SKS rifle. COPPS officers were assigned to watch this area and on January 29, 2008, Martinez was spotted and ran from officers and while doing so fired a single shot from a rifle he had hidden under his coat. The apartment complex was secured and over the next several hours numerous officers searched the complex for Martinez. It was discovered that Martinez had barricaded himself in an apartment in Building #20. When SWAT attempted to enter the apartment Martinez fired several shots at them through the door and walls. The SWAT team retreated, returning fire. Martinez did come out onto the balcony and fired shots, which struck the SWAT team armored vehicle. Cpl. Toby Hudson returned fire at this point and Martinez was last seen kneeling or falling down. Several hours later after attempts were made to talk to Martinez and it was found that he was deceased on the balcony from a gunshot wound to his head. Martinez fired over 10 shots of 7.62 rounds at officers who were at the scene with a SKS rifle. It was determined that Martinez was responsible for shooting at Off. Silva. Cpl. Hudson and the SWAT team members, who had fired at Martinez during this incident, were taken in front of a Potter Co. Grand Jury who felt that the officer's actions were justifiable.

On March 6, 2008, at 9:03 PM, officers were sent to 308 N. Lincoln on a shooting in progress. Upon arrival they discovered three people had been shot. A suspect had entered the upstairs apartment and had shot Severo Rodriguez, H/M 11, several times when he answered the door. The suspect entered the apartment and shot Jesus Rubio, H/M 44, a single time in the upper body and then shot Ricardo Chairez, H/M 15 in the leg. The suspect then fled the scene in a pick-up. All three of the victims were taken to NWTH where Severo and Jesus died from their wounds. Ricardo was treated and released.

Over the next several hours the Special Crimes unit with the assistance of several officers were able to determine that the suspects in these shootings was Marcos Portillo, H/M 20. Marcos was questioned and was booked on two counts of Murder, which were later indicted as Capital Murder. It was determined that Marcos was assisted by his brother Gonzalo Portillo, H/M 21, who helped by hiding evidence. Gonzalo was charged with Tampering with Evidence. It was believed that this incident occurred over a previous fight and vandalism. On June 24, 2008 the Special Crimes unit was contacted to investigate the death of Marcos Portillo at the Potter County Correction Center. It was determined that Marcos was dismissed. The Tampering with Evidence case against Gonzalo Portillo is still pending a trial in Potter County.

On May 10, 2008, at 5:52 PM, officers were sent to 2511 N. Orange to meet family members on a welfare check. When the officers checked the house they found Max Stanhope, W/M 77, deceased in his bedroom the apparent victim of a homicide. It appeared that Mr. Stanhope had walked in on a burglary in progress, where coins and cash were stolen, after returning home from getting groceries. It was determined that Mr. Stanhope had been murdered at least 2 days before he was found. During the investigation it was discovered that Mr. Stanhope's home had been broken into on April 21, 2008 and the same room was ransacked during this burglary. Mr. Stanhope had been severely beaten and stabbed which caused his death.

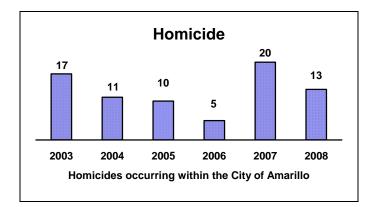
On June 23, 2008 the Special Crimes unit conducted a third neighborhood canvass and obtained a nickname on a subject who had been in this area around the time of the murder. This nickname was found to belong to Deshawnqee Williams, B/M 17. Evidence collected from the scene was compared to Williams and it was determined he had been inside of Mr. Stanhope home. A Burglary of a Habitation warrant was issued from Williams. With the assistance of the Amarillo Swat team, the Narcotics unit and the Lubbock Police Department Williams was arrested in Lubbock, Texas on June 20, 2008 without incidence. Williams was questioned about this homicide and has since been charged and indicted for Capital Murder. The case against Williams is still pending a trial in Potter County.

On September 12, 2008, at 3:44 AM, officers were sent to 6107 Hatfield on a reported shooting. Upon arrival they found Amy Yager, W/F 26, dead in her bedroom, from a gunshot wound to her upper back. Officers who responded to this call arrested Amy's husband Jeff Yager, W/M 26, for this homicide. Jeff Yager was brought to the Special Crimes unit where he was interviewed and later booked into the Randall County jail on a charge of Murder. It was discovered during the investigation of this incident that Jeff Yager was employed as a Federal Law Enforcement officer assigned as a Courier with the Department of Energy. It was determined that Amy had been shot multiple times and the weapon used was recovered. It is believed that Domestic Violence played a part in this Murder. This case is pending a trial in Randall County.

## HOMICIDES INVESTIGATED

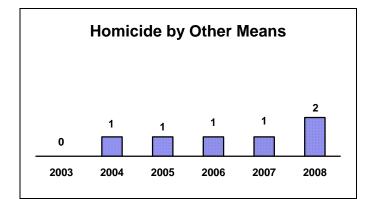
TOTAL 2008 HOMICIDE CASES INVESTIGATI	ED	16		
TOTAL 2008 HOMICIDE CASES CLEARED		13		
PREVIOUS YEARS HOMICIDE CASES CLEARED				
TREVIOUS TEARS HOMICIDE CASES CLEAR		1		
NUMBER OF DEATHS BY: GUNSHOT		7		
ARSON		0		
STABBING		3		
BLUNT FORCE		4		
STRANGULATION		0		
AUTOMOBILE		1		
OTHER		1		
HOMICIDES IN JURISDICTION OF:	CITY OF AMARILLO	13		
	POTTER COUNTY SO	3		
	ARMSTRONG COUNTY SO	0		
HOMICIDES BY MONTH (all jurisdictions)	JANUARY	2		
	FEBRUARY	1		
	MARCH	4		
	APRIL	0		
	MAY	5		
	JUNE	0		
	JULY	3		
	AUGUST	0		
	SEPTEMBER	1		
	OCTOBER	0		
	NOVEMBER	0		
	DECEMBER	0		
SUSPICIOUS DEATHS INVESTIGATED		18		
ASSIST OFFICERS OF OUTSIDE AGENCY				
HOMICIDES FROM PRIOR YEARS RE-INVESTIGATED				
MISCELLANEOUS INVESTIGATIVE ACTIVITY				
OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTINGS		2		
FIRE DEATHS		3		
IN CUSTODY DEATHS		4		
INFANT DEATHS INVESTIGATED				

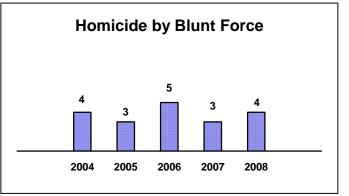


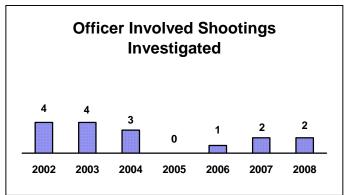












## NARCOTICS UNIT AND SWAT ANNUAL REPORT

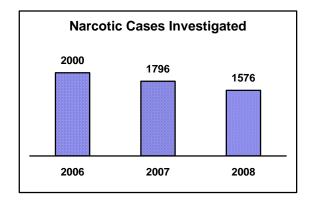
### **Narcotics Unit**

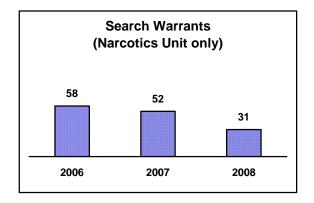
Lt. Erick Bohannon is the Commander of the Narcotics Unit and SWAT Team. Lt. Bohannon has been with the Amarillo Police Department for 16 years. He has had various assignments throughout the Department in the Uniform Division, Service Division, and Detective Division.

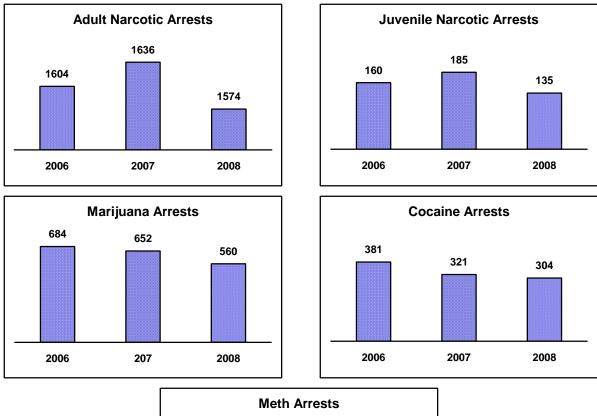
The Narcotics Unit is comprised of 2 sergeants and 7 narcotics agents. One additional narcotic agent is assigned to the local office of the federal Drug Enforcement Agency in Amarillo. The Narcotics Unit is responsible for the following:

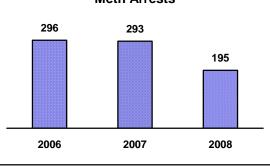
- Enforcement of pornography laws.
- Enforcement of laws prohibiting the illegal sale, possession, and distribution of controlled substances.
- Enforcement of laws prohibiting illegal gambling operations.
- Enforcement of laws prohibiting prostitution.
- Providing community education programs about illegal narcotics.
- Investigating any offense involving organized criminal activity.

The narcotic agents use various investigative methods such as surveillance and undercover operations to complete their investigations, which results in the issuance of an arrest warrant or search warrants.

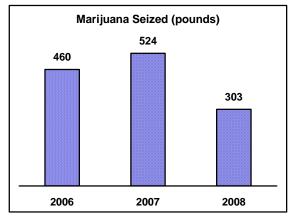


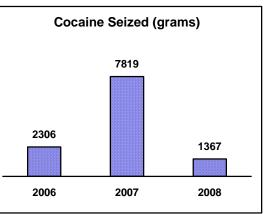


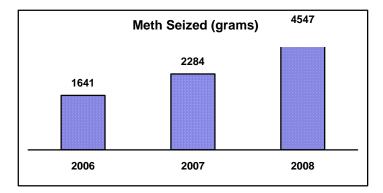




The following charts show the amount of several types of illegal narcotics seized by the Amarillo Police Department in the last 3 years:









10 pounds of cocaine seized in a search warrant



Over 1 ounce of meth ice seized during a search warrant



A Narcotics Agent investigating a meth lab

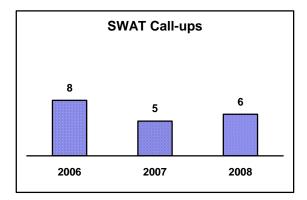
Marijuana plants seized during a search warrant

In addition to conducting narcotic 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 fulltime 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. The SWAT Team also works closely with the Narcotic Agents during the planning phases and execution of search warrants and high-risk operations involving drug dealers. 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.



The SWAT Team's armored vehicle



SWAT officers training at the Amarillo Shooting Complex.

## **Officer Dewayne Griffin**



## Rotary Club South Officer of the Year 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.

# Cpl. Kenny Gore



# Rotary Club South Officer of the First Quarter 2008

Cpl. Gore was the acting SWAT supervisor on January 29 when SWAT responded to an individual armed with a high-powered assault rifle at the Sungate Apartments. The suspect was believed to have been responsible for shooting at a uniformed officer approximately 1 week earlier and had fired a round while running from the police in the apartment complex when the officers attempted to detain him. Cpl. Gore directed the tactical entry into the apartment the armed suspect ran from so he could make sure there were no other people inside who could harm others. Cpl. Gore led the SWAT Team into the apartment and several of the suspect's acquaintances were taken into custody.

A large-scale search began for the suspect and Cpl. Gore directed 12 other officers that included SWAT officers and SWAT alternates. After a lengthy search, there was reason to believe the individual was barricaded in apartment 178. Cpl. Gore took the lead at the door of apartment 178 and placed himself in a position to lead his officers into the apartment when he and the other

officers took direct fire from the suspect through the front door. Cpl. Gore maintained his composure while he laid down cover fire for the other officers as they began their retreat from the hail of bullets exploding through the door and wall in their direction. Not only did he have to contend with bullets flying in his direction, he had to make sure his officers were safe.

After Cpl. Gore and the entry team were safe inside another apartment, he then ordered the officers on the ground to lock down the building perimeter and prepare to introduce chemical agent into the apartment the man occupied. He ordered the other SWAT officers to introduce chemical agent into the apartment to keep the suspect from firing any more rounds at innocent civilians and the officers on the ground. Later, Cpl. Gore assisted officers in the armored vehicle drive up to the balcony the man had fired his rounds so they could push a mattress out of the way to check his status. When Cpl. Gore was convinced the suspect was no longer a threat, he then assembled an entry team into apartment 178 to clear it and verify the shooter was deceased.

Cpl. Gore demonstrated outstanding leadership and decision making in a highly stressful situation. His decisions and commands were instrumental in bringing a deadly situation to a successful resolution. Cpl. Gore exhibited his leadership skills in a highly dynamic and ever changing problem by providing tactical expertise and leading his officers without hesitation and with complete confidence in his abilities and the abilities of those in his command. While Cpl. Gore directed 12 officers under his command he had many other responsibilities. He had to answer to the Chief of Police, other Administration members, and place the SWAT officers in the appropriate tactically correct positions while considering their safety and the safety of the other officers and civilians in the immediate area.

This was a monumental task to say the least and Cpl. Gore performed extremely well considering the enormous amount of pressure he was under. He led his team while taking fire and maintained his composure in spite of being within inches of the rounds coming through the door at him. Cpl. Gore is routinely assigned as the acting supervisor of SWAT when his sergeant is absent. His actions on January 29 confirmed that the decision to have him supervise the SWAT Team was the absolute correct decision. Cpl. Gore represented the City of Amarillo, the Amarillo Police Department, and the Amarillo Police Department SWAT Team admirably and he is to be commended for a job well done.

# **Cpl. Andrew Huffman**



# Rotary Club South Officer of the Second Quarter 2008

On 6-2-08, Cpl. Huffman saw a HM25 in a car at the Camelot Motel. He recognized the man because he knew he was wanted for robbery. That robbery was actually a residential burglary in which the victim came home in the middle of the burglary. The burglary victim found the man in a white Mercury Cougar, parked in front of his home. When he confronted the suspect, the suspect told him he had a gun and threatened to shoot him if not allowed to leave. The investigation of that case lead to issuance of the robbery warrant.

On this day, the wanted man saw Huffman, and a foot chase ensued. The suspect was able to escape through the back of the motel before responding units could stop him. Huffman returned to the room from which the man initially fled. He interviewed the man's wife. He developed a lot of information about the man and his wife, along with the white vehicle that he had seen the suspect get into before the initial attempt to arrest him. A search of the Cougar turned up several men's watches, about twenty-nine women's bracelets, other jewelry, collectible coins and

foreign currency, rings, earrings, medallions, a zippered gun case, and some ammunition. The car's trunk contained more jewelry and jewelry boxes, auto accessories, and many other indicators that the man had been, through one means or another, in contact with stolen property from home and auto burglary cases.

The next day, Huffman returned to continue his hunt for the man. He believed the suspect would return to the motel because he had had paid to stay for several more days. The wanted man wasn't in the room. He asked the motel employees for help in locating him if he returned. At 11:47 AM, the motel notified the department that the suspect had returned. Cpl. Huffman was out on another call, but was able to join officers dispatched to the motel. The officers organized a perimeter to stop the man from escaping again. When Huffman knocked on the man's door, his wife answered. Huffman heard the sound of movement in the room. Perimeter officers spotted the fugitive climbing out on the balcony and to the roof of the motel. Officers went to the roof.

A motel tenant then reported hearing the suspect climbing back down to the second floor. Officers saw the fugitive on a second floor balcony of a vacant room. Other officers entered the room and arrested him. Officers that searched his room found more jewelry and a small air pistol. The man told Huffman that he ran the day before because he thought he was going to be arrested on a probation violation warrant. The suspect actually had a robbery warrant, three JP warrants, and a capias warrant, along with the pending evading charge.

The character of the initial robbery case and the large amount and types of property seized from the suspect's car and room lead officers to the opinion that this suspect might be linked to a lot of criminal activity. Formal charges related to the property have not been filed and a great deal of research will be necessary to link it to any crime in particular, but the investigation is open. It was Cpl. Huffman's persistence that triggered the man's arrest, putting an end to his activities.

On 6-10-08, Cpl. Huffman was again checking the Camelot Inn. He saw a green Chevrolet Trailblazer parked on the west side of the motel. He recalled that there was a green Chevrolet on the stolen auto list. The tag number on the vehicle didn't match the tag number of the stolen car, however. Huffman's check of the tags on the vehicle revealed that they actually should have been on another vehicle. A check of the VIN confirmed his suspicion that it was indeed the stolen 2006 Chevrolet. While searching the vehicle, he found narcotics paraphernalia, two purses, jewelry, a lawn trimmer, various forms of identification and credit cards belonging to at least three people, and mail that was later found to be "missing" from at least two different mailboxes.

One of the pieces of mail was a U.S. Treasury check in the amount of \$44,810 that had been taken from a mailbox on Langtry. The owner of this check later confirmed that he didn't yet know it was missing. The most significant paperwork in the vehicle was a pawn receipt issued to a man that Cpl. Huffman knew had been a Crimestoppers "Most Wanted." He was wanted for evading arrest, theft by check, and burglary of a habitation. As with the prior related case from a week earlier, there were indications that whoever had been operating this vehicle had been in possession of other people's property. While processing the vehicle for evidence, Huffman had other officers begin checking the motel to try to locate the suspect. Huffman found identification

and photographs in the Trailblazer, and gave them to the officers to use in their search.

Officers eventually located a room rented to another person, but believed it to be occupied by the suspect and a female. As with the prior case, the female answered the door and delayed the officer's entry. As with the other arrest, the male made use of the delay at the door to flee. This suspect also went out a balcony door. He then jumped down to an area near the pool. He first tried to hide, then tried to force a door to continue his escape. Two officers on the scene arrested him. Officers later found the keys to the stolen Trailblazer in the area in which the wanted man was arrested. He fit the physical description of the person that reportedly stole the vehicle, and that case is still pending. His girlfriend was arrested for four misdemeanors, two related to theft by check. Investigation into the property found at the scene again indicated that Cpl. Huffman had recovered a large of amount of stolen property from various sources. There were indications that forgery type offenses were also part of the crimes involved in this event, though no formal charges have been filed and the investigation is still under way.

On the very next day, Cpl. Huffman again arrested a wanted felon that happened to be in possession of a large amount of someone else's (stolen) property-the most of any of the three arrests. That morning, Sgt. Vargas had put out information to field officers that she suspected a WM 50 of at least four local auto burglaries and some related crimes. He was believed to be armed, as he was suspected of taking a rifle and a handgun from a vehicle in another jurisdiction. Sgt. Vargas was able to link him to a \$15,000 ring stolen in an Amarillo auto burglary, and then pawned. He was wanted for a parole violation and for two crimes involving illegal credit card use in Odessa. Sgt. Vargas had information from Odessa that the man was driving a blue 2002 Ford Expedition bearing R92NXS. Due to where some of the crimes were being committed, he was suspected of doing them. Officers were looking for this man along the IH-27/Loop 335 area and motels in the IH-40 and Coulter/Soncy area.

Sgt. Vargas was about to request additional manpower to search motels near IH-40 and Coulter. Cpl. Huffman took a different approach. He told me later that he felt that if the suspect was "working (committing crimes) near IH-40 and Coulter, he would be "living" somewhere else...the east side motels that are on his beat. Huffman's logic proved correct. Huffman spotted the blue Expedition at the Quality Inn at 3205 E. IH-40. The tag on the Expedition was not the same as the one given. The suspect later told officers that he had stolen the tags and replaced the tags that should have been on it. A visit to the motel office showed that the wanted felon was indeed registered in a room. Huffman had other units join him to assist. Within a few minutes, the suspect was in custody and being interviewed by Det. Vargas in his hotel room.

Officers booked sixty-one evidence tags of evidence, around **700** items. There are too many items to name them all, but they included money, gift cards, designer purses, jewelry and personal electronics that had been packaged in zip-lock bags for resale, cameras, new power tools and lawn tools (possibly purchased with stolen gift or credit cards), and the correct plates to the Expedition. They also recovered gloves, a spring-loaded window punch, and a shredder that contained the shredded pieces of various forms of identification taken in auto burglaries. Some items have now been returned to the owners, most notably the \$15,000 ring and all the jewelry taken with it.

Exactly what charges (aside from the initial warrants) will be filed is not known yet, Midland, Odessa, Lubbock, and Amarillo are all in the early stages of long and complicated investigations into the sources of the huge amount of property.

The suspect has a criminal record going back at least 30 years. He has at least 13 convictions, and an even greater number of arrests. At the time he was arrested, he was on parole. He told Sgt. Vargas that he was paroled out after 13 ½ years of a 45-year sentence related to auto theft. His interview revealed that his methods and practices are certainly well advanced from the normal drug-fueled thief that we arrest. The amount of property in his possession under questionable circumstances suggests that he was a HIGHLY active offender.

In each arrest above, many different officers took part in arresting the offender or by investing many hours booking huge quantities of evidence and property. The one common factor is Cpl. Andrew Huffman. Cpl. Huffman's dedication to duty in the form of his directed patrol efforts, knowledge of criminals and their likely locations, and investigations paid off in taking three felons out of circulation in ten days. I have never seen an officer turn in this number of high-quality, self-initiated arrests in such a short time period.

## **Officer Royce Bushey**



## Rotary Club South Officer of the Third Quarter 2008

Officer Bushey shows a lot of initiative and likes to work narcotics. He continues to do a lot of "knock and talks" from tips he develops or from Crime Stopper Tips when not answering calls. He has received several fingerprint "hits" from latent fingerprints he lifted reference incidents 2008-17691 and 2008-20298. He cleared up two vandalisms when he stopped a car matching a partial description and then got a confession from the suspect under incidents 2008-26639. Then in March, Off Bushey and Off Newton arrested a sex offender on the run reference 2008-25990 and 2008-27523. Off Bushey conducted a knock and talk at 1017 Ricks and a large amount of money, along with a body armor vest were seized. The suspect was arrested for Felon in Possession of Body Armor, under 2008-66601. Officer Bushey was also involved in the search warrant drawn up by Off Heath for Sgt Wallace under incident 2008-75785. On September 18, Off Bushey received a blue sheet for teamwork and initiative in getting additional leads in a robbery at Toot N'Totum, 1735 S Nelson. The suspect and his girlfriend

were found and arrested for this robbery, along with the money being recovered. Officer Bushey also did a thirty-day rotation in narcotics and continues to use his experience and knowledge on the street. Lt Burgess also commended Officer Bushey for a very good burglary report made and doing good ID work in reference to incident 2008-51488

# Sgt. Eric Smith



## Rotary Club South Officer of the Fourth Quarter 2008

On Friday, November 21, 2008, Sgt. Smith was contacted by the Columbus, Indiana Police Department and advised that a witness to a homicide in their city on November 7, 2008, had called them stating he was in Amarillo. This witness gave specific information to the Columbus, Indiana detective that Sgt. Smith was able to confirm. On Nov. 24, 2008 Sgt. Smith interviewed this witness and obtained a detailed affidavit about the murder and the shooting of 3 additional people, the names of the suspects, as well as their alias's, and the disposal of the murder weapon.

Columbus, Indiana authorities confirmed that this information was correct, but did not have enough evidence to obtain a murder warrant. The two suspects were identified as Moise Osorio AKA Carlos Villa H/M 23 and Jose Ruiz H/M 24. Sgt. Smith found out Osorio was working at Chavez Concrete under a false name and SS Number. On Nov 26, 2008 Osorio was contacted and agreed to accompany Sgt. Smith to be interviewed. Osorio admitted to being present at the murder and arguing with the victim, but denied shooting and killing him. He also admitted to purchasing a fake ID and SS card for \$150, which caused him to be arrested for False ID.

On Nov. 27, 2008, a vehicle that the suspects had been driving was stopped by patrol officers. This led to the arrest of a suspect on a Felony warrant and the identification of the second suspect's brother. The suspect arrested on the Felony warrant was found to be Jose Ruiz, the second suspect in this murder. Ruiz had purchased the ID he was using when he was arrested. Sgt. Smith interviewed Ruiz, who gave a full confession about his involvement in this murder, and that Osorio had actually committed the murder and other shootings. Ruiz brother also gave a statement corroborating his brother's admission. On Nov. 28, 2008 detectives from Columbus, Indiana arrived in Amarillo and re-interviewed Osorio. Due to the mountain of evidence collected by Sgt. Smith for them, they were able to get a full confession from Osorio about committing this murder.

Osorio was filed on for Murder and Ruiz was filed on for Assisting a Murder. Both Osoria and Ruiz are back in Indiana awaiting their trials. The Columbus, Indiana detectives assigned to this case thanked me on behalf of their department, and stated they would not have been able to have cleared this case without the work done by Sgt. Eric Smith. Sgt. Smith and others received a Departmental commendation for their outstanding work on this case on behalf of another city and state.

On October 29, 2008 Sgt. Smith was contacted by a person identifying himself as Omar, who was from Juarez, Mexico. Omar had specific information about a person in Juarez, Mexico that he believed was wanted for a murder in Amarillo. During this, and several other conversations, Sgt. Smith was able to determine that Omar was talking about the murder of Henry Hernandez, that occurred in Amarillo on Aug. 17, 2007. Omar told Sgt. Smith that he knew the whereabouts of Amador (Mieto) Lomeli, who was wanted for the murder of Mr. Hernandez. Sgt. Smith was aware that Lomeli had fled the United States, but was not sure where in Mexico Lomeli was hiding. Sgt. Smith worked with Omar and gained his confidence. Omar agreed to work with a representative of the US State Department assigned to Juarez that had helped us previously to bring a wanted felon back to Amarillo. Sgt. Smith worked with Ryan Williams of the US State Dept, the Mexican Federal Police and Omar, which led to Lomeli being taken into custody on Dec. 15, 2008, to determine his immigration status in Mexico.

Lomeli denied his true name, but later admitted he was indeed Amador Lomeli. With this information, Lomeli was deported from Mexico and turned over to the US Marshall's, who booked him on our Murder warrant, into the El Paso jail. Lomeli has since been returned to Amarillo for his trial. Sgt. Smith was never able to fully identify Omar. The Hernandez family was made aware of the arrest of Lomeli and were ecstatic that the person who killed their family member was brought to justice. They have been highly complimentary of the work done by Sgt. Smith to have Lomeli returned to the US. In the 5 ½ yrs I have been in Special Crimes this is only the 2<sup>nd</sup> person arrested for murder and returned to the US from Mexico. This was only accomplished by the hard work and dedication Sgt. Smith brought to this case.