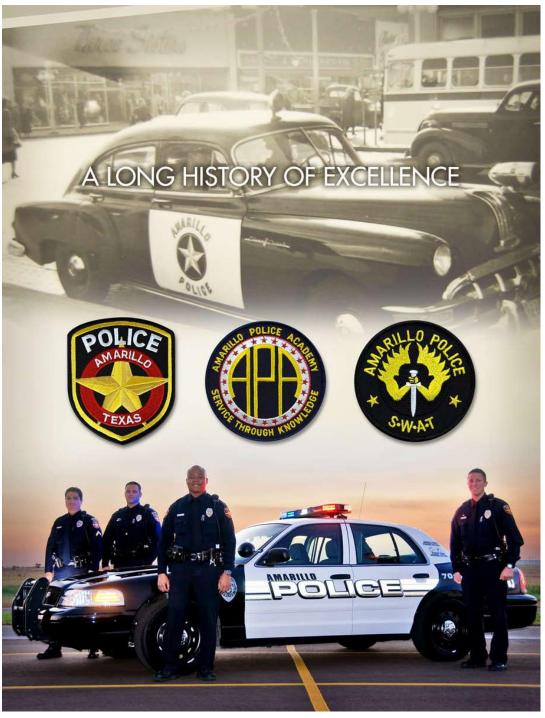
## AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT 2009 ANNUAL REPORT



CHIEF OF POLICE Robert Taylor



## LAW ENFORCEMENT CODE OF ETHICS



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

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

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

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

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

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



## MISSION STATEMENT



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

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

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

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 2009

The 2009 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 2009. 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





February 18, 2010

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

Dear Mayor & Commissioners:

It is an honor to present the 2009 Annual Report of the Amarillo Police Department. Unfortunately, in 2009, we experienced a 7.1% increase in Part I crimes. I feel this is due to the economic problems the nation has been facing. We are focusing our resources this year towards continued efforts in "hotspot" enforcement, surveillance of active criminals and we have increased directed patrols to help combat the rising 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,

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: 1/25/2010

Subject: Department Goals for 2010

The 2010 goals for the Police Department are:

Increase staffing of sworn personnel to address city growth and crime

Expand the Copps program to other areas of the city as increase in staff occurs

Continue "hotspot" enforcement activities

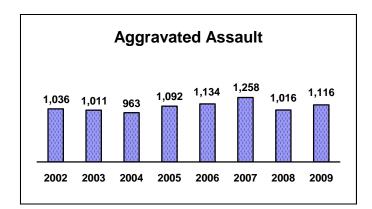
Expand the use of "Nixle" a community communications tool.

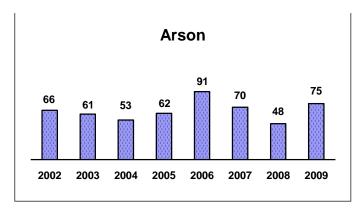
Reduce Crimes Against Person's and Property crimes

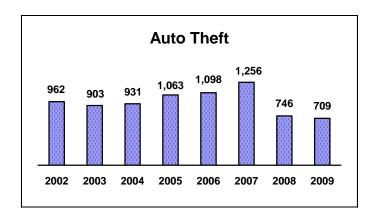
Chief Robert Taylor

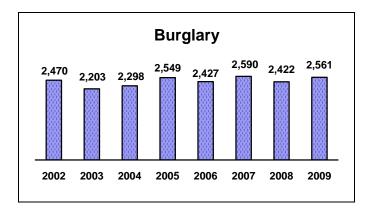


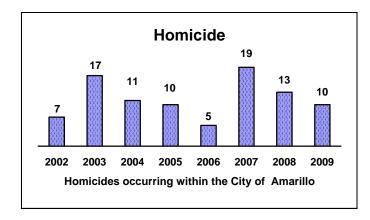
## CRIME ANALYSIS

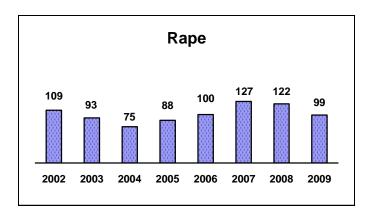


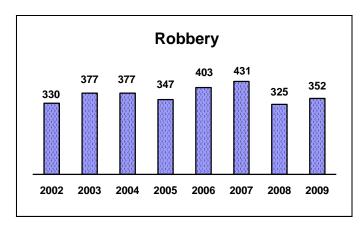


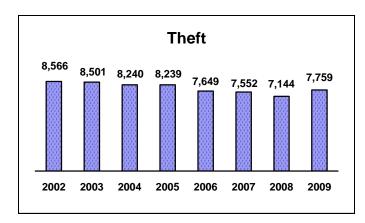


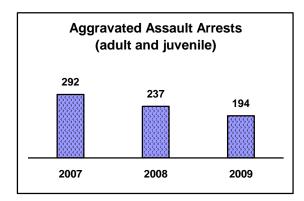


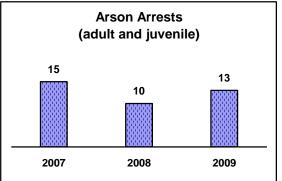


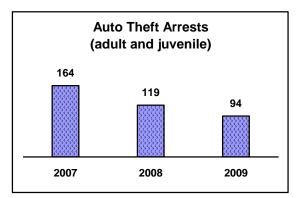


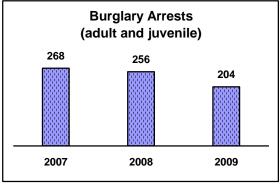


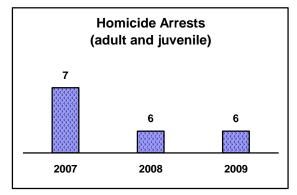


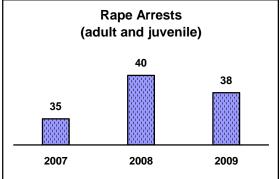


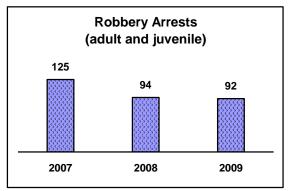


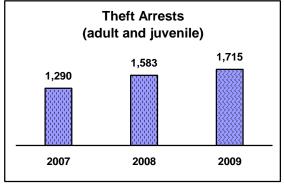














## **DIVISION REPORTS**







**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 94 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. January 1, 2009, we changed our shifts by distributing personnel on four 10-hour work shifts each day. This change has allowed for 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, 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, CIT Officers (Crisis Intervention Team), and other assignments.

In 2009, police radio communications moved from the Amarillo Police Department to the Amarillo Emergency Communications Center (A.E.C.C.). Due to this move, and the change of software utilized by A.E.C.C., data for the number of calls for service we responded to in 2009 is unavailable. We approximate that calls for service increased in 2009 by 7% over the previous year. The police department investigated 6,462 traffic crashes in 2009. There were 18 fatal traffic crashes with a total of 18 fatalities during the year. Uniform Division officers arrested 538 drunk drivers and 522 motorists for driving with a suspended driver license. There were 184 traffic crashes involving drunk drivers. Uniform officers issued 52,553 traffic citations along with 2,330 parking citations and made 269 evading arrest cases in addition to making 257 arrests on failure-to-identify charges.

PATROI

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 38,336 of the traffic citations issued by the Uniform Division.



#### LIB VELETICALIMA ERALIGIA ALTOM

One Lieutenant, one Sergeant, three traffic investigators, crash/DWI one video specialist, one Uniform Division Municipal Court Warrant Officer and one Secretary II staff the Traffic Investigation Unit. This unit investigates hit and run traffic crashes, fatal traffic crashes, and files charges on all driving-while-license-DWIs, and all suspended cases, as well as on all trafficrelated incidents. The Traffic Investigation Unit's video specialist also assists in



providing expert video forensic analysis and scene mapping in ongoing criminal investigations throughout the department.

#### CRIME AMALYSIS

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



#### 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, South Lawn and Downtown areas of Amarillo, COPPS officers work increase to communication between our citizens and the police, resulting in greater police effectiveness and citizen satisfaction with the work done in the community by the



Police Department. In an effort to prevent crime and provide a better quality of life in our community, COPPS officers also undertake various problem-solving endeavors that may reach outside the traditional law enforcement function. 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.

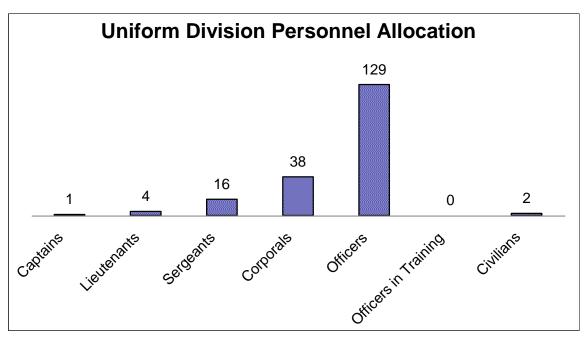
In 2009, the COPPS Unit worked several special assignments at various locations to observe and arrest offenders committing various crimes and causing neighborhood problems. Other assignments included investigations leading to the arrest of felony narcotics violators involved in manufacturing and selling narcotics, committing burglaries, and passing forged instruments. Using nuisance abatement laws and community involvement, COPPS officers also cleaned up

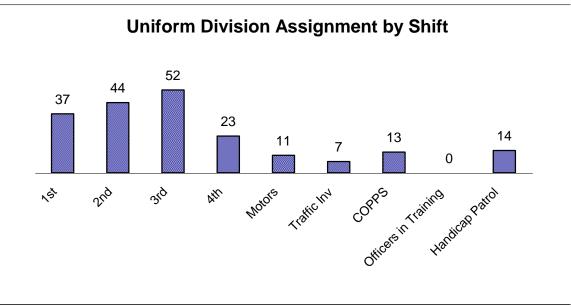
several long-term problem locations in their neighborhoods. Furthermore, these officers have spent time working with citizens who have highlighted specific problems in their neighborhoods during the City Commission meetings.

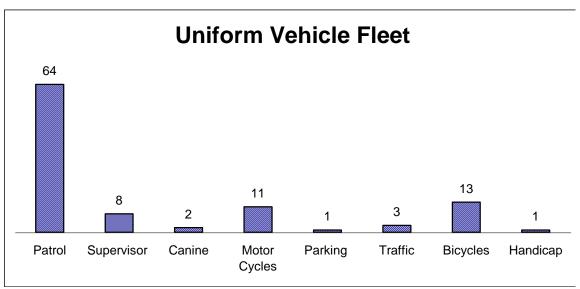
Several of these problems have been solved through coordinated efforts between the COPPS officers and landlords. By doing such tasks, the COPPS Unit fulfills its mandate to address issues ranging from criminal activity to educating the public in areas including personal safety issues and methods of crime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

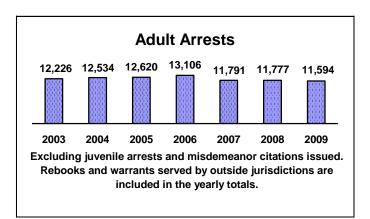
#### FIANDICAP PATROL

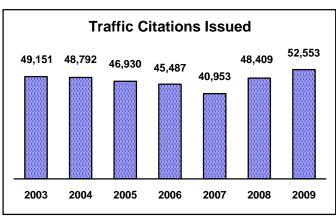
The Handicap Patrol is a group of civilian volunteers who, after receiving training, patrol parking lots and enforce handicap-parking violations. This group issued 1299 citations for handicap parking violations. This program is aimed at keeping handicap parking spaces available for those who qualify.

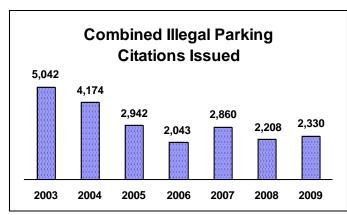


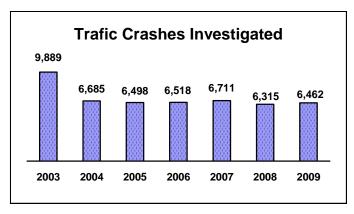


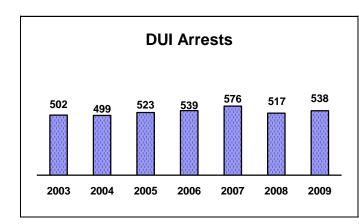


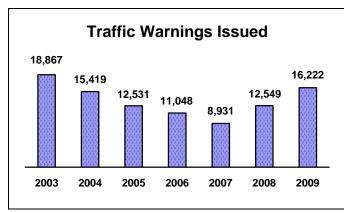


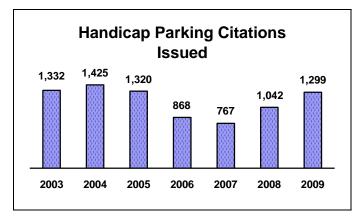


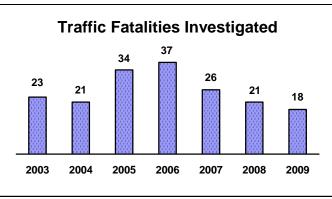


















**DETECTIVE DIVISION Captain Jeff Lester** 

### **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 Martin Birkenfeld; 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 Tam Boatler; Theft Squad, commanded by Lieutenant Ben Landrum, and the Juvenile Offender Squad and School Liaison Unit, commanded by Lieutenant Kenny Albright. Currently

the Detective Division has 64 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 and missing persons. The squad also administers the Department's Sex-Offender Registration program. The Robbery Squad investigates business and personal robberies, assaults, family-related violence crimes and suicides. The Burglary Squad investigates residential and business burglaries. 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. The Theft Squad investigates auto burglaries, thefts and other property-related offenses. White-Collar Crime Squad detectives investigate forgery, fraud, counterfeiting, computer-related offenses, incidents of identity theft and auto theft. Investigators 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, which gives 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 (CAP) Squad administers the Sex Offender Registration Program. There are currently 1,291 sex offenders listed in the Amarillo Police Department database compared to 1,216 in 2008. However, this number includes offenders who have moved away, have been

incarcerated, or are deceased. This increase is reflected in the 75 registrants that were added to our local database in 2009. This is a 6.2% increase compared to last year's 9% increase. There are currently 14 adult registrants that were convicted as juveniles. Four years ago, the Family Code changed, and juvenile offenders do not have to register as a juvenile, but may be required to register as an adult. The previous 26 active juvenile offenders that had to register have now reached the age where they are either registering with the Crimes Against Persons Squad or are no longer required to register. Juvenile Offender Squad no longer has any registrants.

The CAP Squad registers sex offenders on the Texas Department of Public Safety Sex Offender Registry. There are 478 active registered sex offenders currently living in Amarillo and up to date on registration. Additionally, 210 registered sex offenders listed at an Amarillo address are currently in jail or prison. There are 14 registered sex offenders who have "absconded" or they are listed as "whereabouts unknown." These violators are being actively investigated and some have had warrants issued for their arrest and are being sought for Failure to Register as a Sex Offender. "Active" offenders are those individuals who are currently residing in the City of Amarillo. "Inactive" offenders are those individuals who are incarcerated, dead or living elsewhere, but still have ties to Amarillo.

### 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 2009, the Department received reports of 15 drive-by shootings compared to 17 in 2008. The team cleared 20% of the 2009 cases compared to 41% of these incidents in 2008. The clearance rate is higher when the team is called out. The team had a 75% clearance rate of the 2009 cases when they were called out compared to 87.5% in 2008 when they were called out.

### **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. The SPEX and Identix live scan systems are 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 and file 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 prints have been stored in the database.

By giving us the ability to search Class C arrests in the Panhandle, SPEX has increased the

amount of latent finger and palm identifications for the unit. For we entered 1466 latent prints and palms prints. In 2009, we had latent fingerprint identifications 185 latent palm print identifications. The Crime Scene Investigation Unit responded to call-outs in 2009, an average of call-outs per month.



2009

549

725

and

228

19

The Identix live scan systems allow us to store Ten-Print cards electronically. This gives us the ability to have all newly arrested persons' prints placed in the SPEX database and automatically searched against the unidentified latent prints stored in SPEX. Also the Identix and New World computer software 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.

The Photo Technician position, 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 allows her go back and tell what date photos were submitted. She has also started entering all photos with the officers employee identification number so that photos taken by multiple officers under the same incident report number can be separated by officer. Both of these programs greatly improve the efficiency 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.

#### **SCHOOL LIAISON**

Sgt. Ronnie Taff supervises the School Liaison section, which is comprised of eleven officers assigned to various schools within AISD, 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 2009 the officers in the program investigated 10,455 campus complaints compared to 10,537 in 2008. They presented programs to over 10,000 students compared to about 7,000 last year. In addition they made 1,096 incident reports, 243 physical arrests, wrote 451 citations, and seized 16 weapons in 2009, compared to 1,204 incident reports, 282 physical arrests, 460 citations, and 26 seized weapons in 2008.

During the summer months the School Liaison officers hosted the APD/Cpl. Lisa Cherry Summer Camp and conducted their second Summer Warrant Patrol in which they served over 1,100 warrants with fines

totaling over \$197,000.

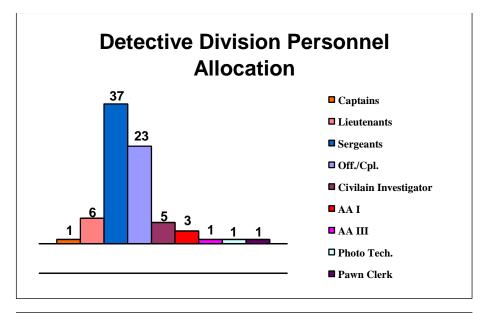


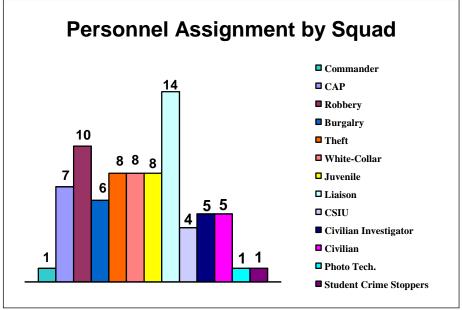
## STUDENT CRIME STOPPERS

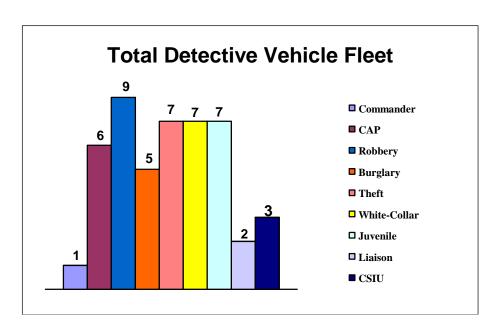
Student Crime Stoppers had a very good year in 2009 with December as the highest amount of cash rewards approved for one month (\$2,120) since Student Crime Stoppers inception on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1991.

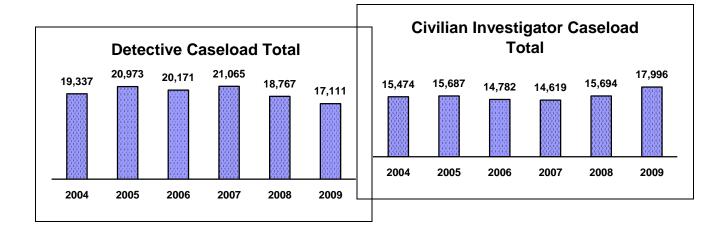
The annual Campus Crime Stoppers Conference for 2009 was held February 15<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup>. We will find out at the conference how our SCS productivity compares to the other programs in the state.

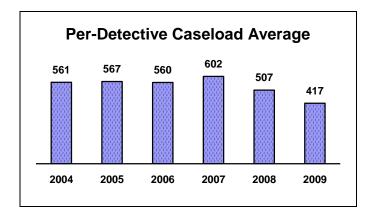
	<u>2008</u>	2009
Tips received	297	347
Arrests made	95	126
Cases cleared	140	142
Rewards paid	\$8,515	\$11,720
Property recovered	\$4,970	\$ 3,554
Narcotics seized	\$1,508	\$ 2,280

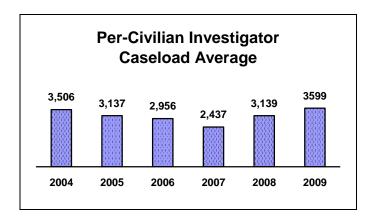


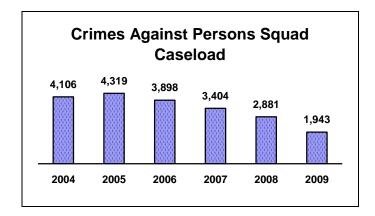


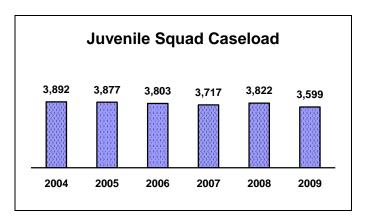


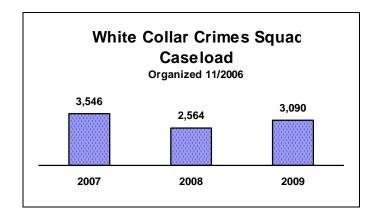


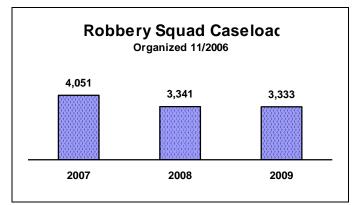


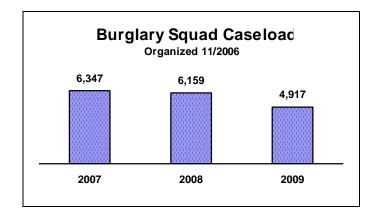




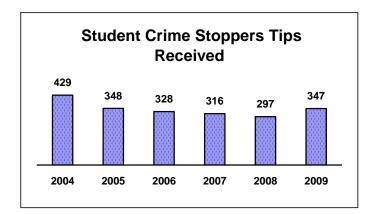


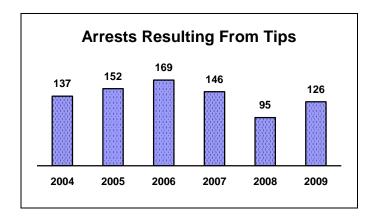


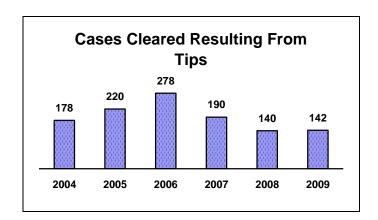


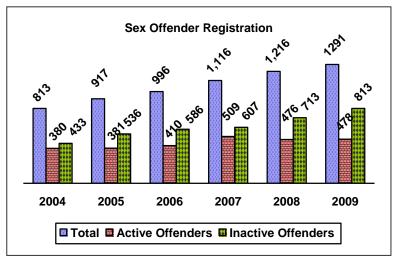












Active offenders are those who are currently residing within the City of Amarillo. Inactive offenders are those who are currently incarcerated, died or have moved from the City of Amarillo, but still have ties to the area.

# AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT







**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, Property and Evidence Section, and the City Jail. In October 2009, the Communication Section left the Police Department and was merged with the Amarillo Fire Department and ambulance service, creating the Amarillo Emergency Communication Center (A.E.C.C.) and relocated to 801 S. Pierce. The Service Division is staffed by a Captain, one Lieutenant, one Sergeant, two Officers, and twenty-eight civilians. Additionally, 10 civilians are currently 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. The Service Division also monitors the City wrecker contract. 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 it 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. 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 2009, Report Writers assigned to the Service Division made 1,873 reports from persons calling on the telephone or citizens making reports at the front desk. This is an increase from the 2008 total of 1,572. In 2009, Clerk typists typed 37,189 reports and 22,473 supplements called in by officers. During 2009, the Department received 2,360 reports made on-line by citizens. Of these, 2,178 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**

Communications Section. now merged into the AECC, is a vital link between the public and emergency assistance, answering requests for law enforcement, fire, medical assistance, or information, while being responsible for dispatching first responders in the field. As the public answering point for the 9-1-1 Emergency Telephone System, the AECC provides the citizens of Amarillo with contact to law enforcement, fire and emergency medical communications



personnel. The Communications Section enters Texas Crime Information Center/National Crime Information Center data, including protective orders, into the computer. These operators take calls from hearing-impaired callers using the Telephone Device for the Deaf equipment or TDD. Due to the change in radio and phone communications to the AECC, data for the number of calls for service received in 2009 is unavailable. During the last 2 months of 2009, the AECC received and processed 116,298 telephone calls. These calls consisted of 19,321 Nine-one-one (9-1-1) calls, 3,567 emergency (non 9-1-1) calls and 93,410 non-emergency calls. Data on incoming phone calls prior to the creation of the AECC is unavailable.

### 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 \$12,412.12 to the City's General Fund from unclaimed money in 2009 as compared to \$14,430.17 in 2008. The money comes from drug busts, unclaimed evidence, found monies, and unclaimed personal property.

City Jail operations are assigned to the Service Division. In 2009 plans were implemented to turn over the housing of Class C arrests to the Randall County Sheriff's

Jail. It is expected that this process will be complete in 2010. During the year, as city jail turnover occurred, vacancies were filled with Randall County deputies. Lieutenant Joe Morris, Randall County, currently supervises the City Jail located at 609 South Pierce Street. The Jail staff is responsible for the housing and safe keeping of prisoners arrested for Class C misdemeanors. The current staff consists of 1 Lieutenant, three jail supervisors, 12 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 performing other jobs as needed.

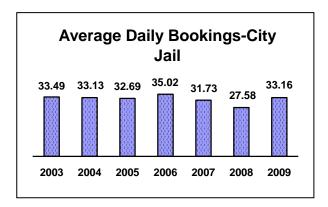
For 2009, the total operating cost of the city jail, including staff salaries, benefits and utility costs, was approximately \$895,899.50. This figure breaks down into an inmate cost of \$28.90 per day, per inmate. When figuring the inmate cost, the trustee labor has not been included. Calculations based 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.

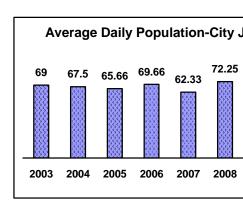
Using the minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour, the hours worked by inmates would equal a \$234,175 savings to the City. Recalculating average daily cost using the labor savings provided by the trustees lowers the cost per inmate per day to \$21.35.

The average cost of providing meals to inmates in 2009 was  $72\phi$  per meal. The City Jail spent \$67,242.12 on food for the calendar year of 2009 while providing 92,948 meals.



During 2009 the Amarillo Police Department made 12,103 physical arrests compared to 10,068 in 2008, which is an increase of 2,035 arrests. Of the 12,103 arrests made in 2009, Potter County initially housed 4,087; Randall County initially housed 1,104, leaving 6,912 municipal bookings. Many of those arrested and initially booked into a county jail were later transferred to the City Jail on Class C charges. During the annual Warrant Round-up, the jail reached its highest capacity of 123 inmates.





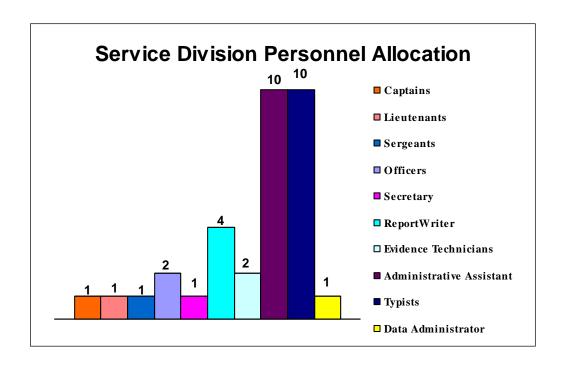
The Jail staff enters the booking information on all arrests, regardless of where the prisoners are initially booked. In addition to maintaining the Computerized Criminal History section, the City Jail staff is also responsible for the data entry of sex offenders registered by the Detective Division.

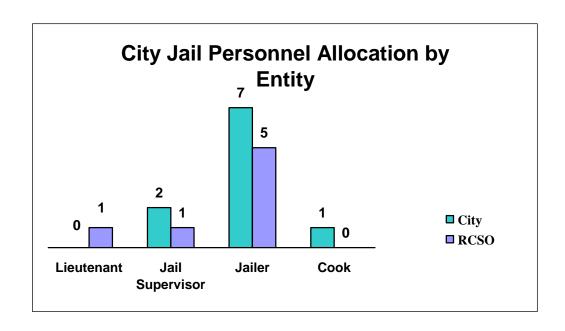
During 2009, the Amarillo Police Department City Jail staff continued to work at improving the facility through needed repairs, equipment updates, continued training, and updating jail operation policies.

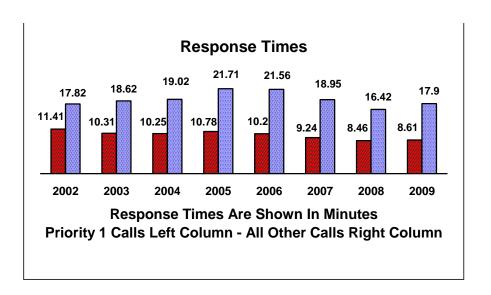
The Amarillo City Jail uses the Identix Fingerprint System. This system makes it possible to obtain digital fingerprints that are downloaded directly into the computer system. The result is a much higher quality of print.

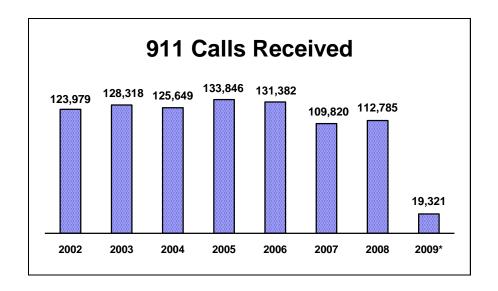


Since July 2005, citizens have been able to access the daily inmate roster through the Department's Internet web page. The inmate roster is updated daily at 4:00am. The report shows the booking number for the person, their name, which jail they are housed in, the number of Municipal charges against them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









<sup>\* 2009 911</sup> Calls Received represents the number of 911 calls received at the AECC only for the last 2 months of 2009



# 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 and maintains all Department personnel and training records. 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 T&P Captain also manages numerous Federal and State grants.

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 personnel within the division teach 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 manages the Amarillo Shooting Complex. The Range Master supervises one officer and six part-time civilians, who staff three Range Officer positions for the public operations. The Range Master coordinates all firearms training and qualifications for sworn officers.

The Quartermaster Officer is responsible for ordering, issuance, and return of various issued equipment and uniforms. We also have a civilian Quartermaster/Purchaser that is funded by the City. Two full time Background Investigators are responsible for teaching various classes and conducting pre-employment background investigations for sworn and civilian personnel. Two Administrative Assistant IV also 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 2009, the Division provided 293 in-service training classes with 2,866 students for 55,262 hours of training. This is an increase from the 2008 statistics, in which we provided 187 classes with 1,766 students for 45,837 hours of training. In 2007, we provided 301 classes with 2,618 students for a total of 58,441 hours. In 2006, we provided the Department 176 training classes with 1,026 students for 27,386 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 78<sup>th</sup> Amarillo Police Department Basic Police Officer Academy began January 02, 2009 with 11 recruits. Eleven 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. Nine recruits graduated from the 78<sup>th</sup> Academy on 07-14-09. The hiring process began with 116 applicants who were notified of the Civil Service Entrance Exam that took place in July 2008. Of the 116 applicants who took the written test, 84 passed. The physical ability testing created a list of 75 successful, potential applicants that progressed to the rigorous background investigation. From the 84 applicants who passed the written test, 21 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 exams.



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 66 full time civilian employees, which includes 5 part time civilian employees.

The following figures are run against our actual strength of 306 sworn personnel. The average age of a police officer, including all ranks, was 37.93 compared to 38.43 in 2008; the average length of service was 12.69 years, compared to 11.97 in 2008. Average length of service for all employees (sworn and civilian) is 12.23 years compared to 10.64 years in 2008. This indicates slight increase in tenured personnel. We have 25 (8%) female officers the same number as in 2008. There are 281 (92%) male officers compared to 280 (91.81%) in 2008. There is 1 Native American (less than .5%), 5 African-American officers (2%), 37 Hispanic officers (12%), and 263 Caucasian officers (86%). The ethnic and racial makeup had a slight increase in Hispanic officers in 2004 thru 2008.

The Department ended 2009 with 56 permanent 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 with the Special Crimes Unit).

#### **EDUCATION**

In 2009, 11 officers had Master's Degrees; 66 had Bachelor's Degrees (2 more than 2008); and 24 had Associate's Degrees. 113 officers had more than 10 college hours but no degree (an increase of 6 from 2008). On average, an officer has 59.10 college hours. 37 officers had an Intermediate Peace Officer Certificate (an increase of 2 from 2008), 56 officers had an Advanced Certificate (an increase of 2 from 2008) and 139 had a Master Peace Officer Certificate (an increase of 1 from 2008).

### CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY



The 16<sup>th</sup> Citizen Police

Academy (CPA) was held in the Fall of 2009. Twenty 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 they provide a solid base of community support for the department. Eighteen citizens graduated from the 16<sup>th</sup> CPA Academy.

### STUDENT POLICE ACADEMY

In the Spring of 2009, we hosted our 9th Student Police Academy. Seventeen students participated, with 17 graduating. Attendees were 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**

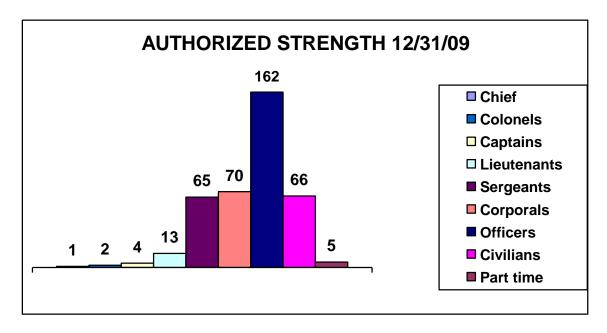
The Amarillo Police Department Volunteer Program was started in 1992. The program averages 15-25 members who work in various assignments within the department. They work in Victim Assistance, Service Division, Traffic Enforcement Unit, Bomb Squad and Property. The Volunteer Program began in 1992 and has grown over the years. In 2009, the volunteers donated approx 2400 hours of service to the Department. The Handicap Patrol issues parking tickets to vehicles illegally parked in handicapped parking spaces. Since the program started in 1999 the handicap patrol has written approximately 18,000 tickets. The Handicap Patrol writes approximately 1,600 tickets per year for handicap violations, which also includes warnings. An appreciation dinner is held once a year to recognize all of the volunteer employees.

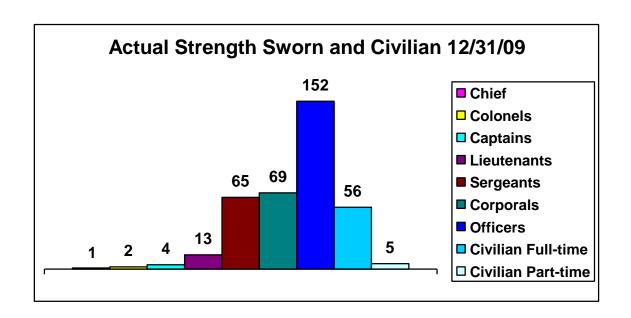
#### **CHAPLAIN PROGRAM**

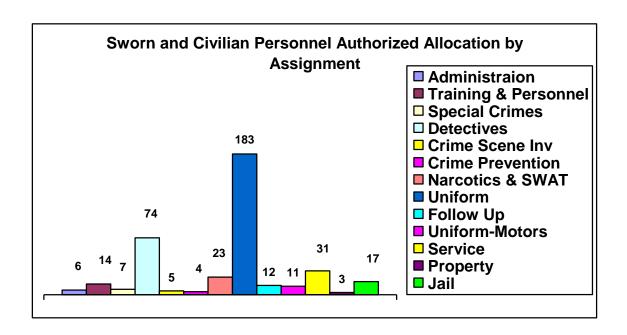
The Chaplain Program at the Amarillo Police Department has three volunteer chaplains in order to ensure availability of a chaplain for our employees in times of illness, injury, or death. One volunteer is a full time employee, one is a retired officer, and the other is the retired officer's wife. Department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

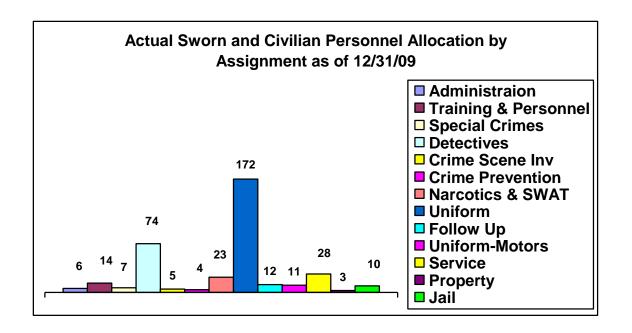
#### CRISIS INCIDENT STRESS DEBRIEFING PROGRAM

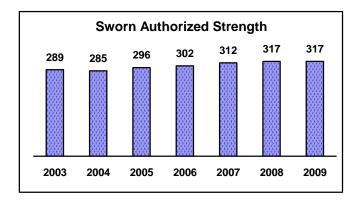
The Amarillo Police Department provides peer counselors for our employees. The counselors are trained volunteers from within the Department. Peer counselors conduct critical incident stress debriefings after traumatic events and make confidential referrals to professional counselors upon request.

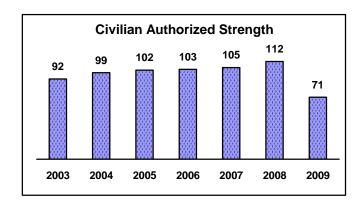






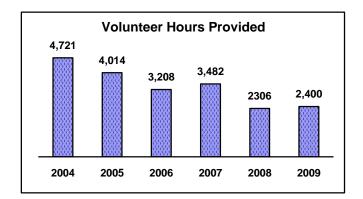


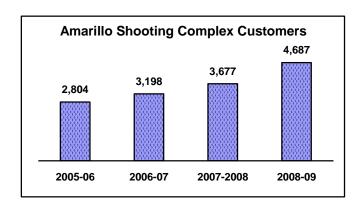


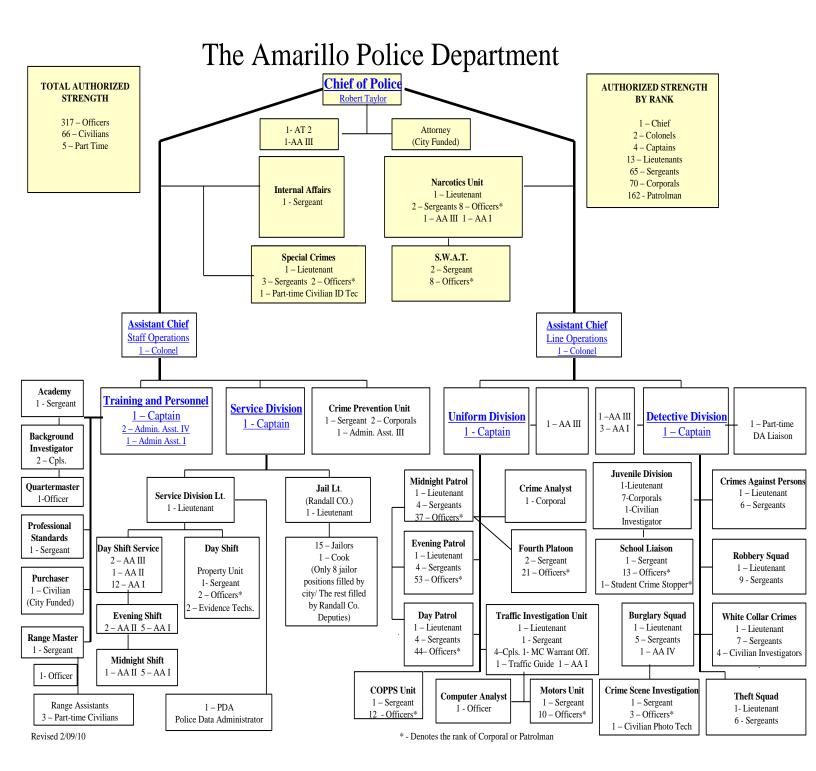










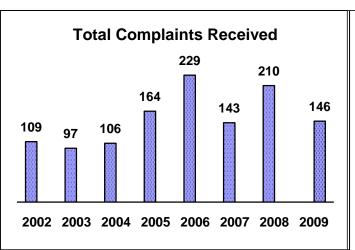


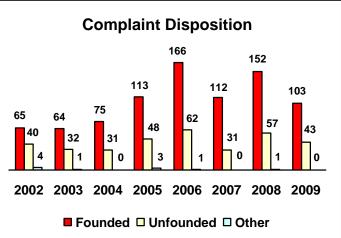
# **INTERNAL AFFAIRS**

Complaints from citizens and complaints from within the Department are investigated by the Internal Affairs Investigator. During 2009 there were 146 formal complaints filed. After investigation, 103 complaints were determined to be founded, 43 complaints were determined unfounded. Each of the 103 founded complaint resulted in disciplinary action.

On one occasion, an officer was involved in a shooting incident. The incident was presented to a Grand Jury and the Grand Jury determined the shooting was justified. There were five incidents where a firearm was discharged in the shooting of an animal. The Shooting Review Board found these incidents were justified. There were two incidents where a firearm was unintentionally discharged. These incidents resulted in disciplinary action.

Sergeant Berry Carden Internal Affairs





## 2009 INTERNAL AFFAIRS STATS

Complaint Type:	Founded	Unfounded	Other	Total	%Founded
Excessive Force:	1	10	0	11	9%

Illegal Search:	2	0	0	2	100%
Illegal Arrest:	1	4	0	5	20%
Neglect or Inattention to Duty:	87	12	0	99	88%
Falsify or Release Of Records:	2	0	0	2	100%
Conduct Unbecoming:	10	17	0	27	37%
Criminal Offenses:	0	0	0	0	0%
Racial Profiling:	0	0	0	0	0%
TOTALS	103	43	0	146	71%
Officer Involved Shootings: Justified:	1 1				

Discharge of

Firearm: 5 Justified: 5

Accidental

Discharge: of Firearm 2

In Custody

Death 0

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**

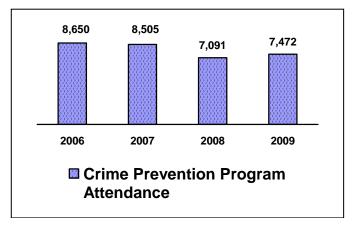
Officers of the Crime Prevention Unit (CPU) provide information to the community through personal and telephone contact, educational programs, and releases to the news media. Amarillo Crime Stoppers operates within the CPU. The CPU offers education about local crime issues, provides citizens with general safety information, and is a resource for information about APD's services and practices. We utilize the **E-Mail Alert System** to communicate with the public and, in 2009 started using **Nixle**, another subscriber messaging service, to provide information to the community via text and e-mail. In 2009, the CPU helped the Department provide information to thousands of citizens through 29 E-mail Alert Messages and through 60 Nixle subscriber alerts, and distributed 23,942 promotional or educational items. Civic groups and private citizens are encouraged to call the CPU at 378-4257 to request a presentation about a crime or public 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; but 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.

70 73 60 9 2006 2007 2008 2009 Security Surveys

This year, public interest in CPU presentations allowed us to reach 7,472 citizens. The CPU provided education about prevention of crimes including identity theft, Internet-based fraud, workplace violence, and armed robbery. They created personal safety and crime prevention presentations especially for specific types of businesses, as well as for children, senior citizens, and specific areas of the city.





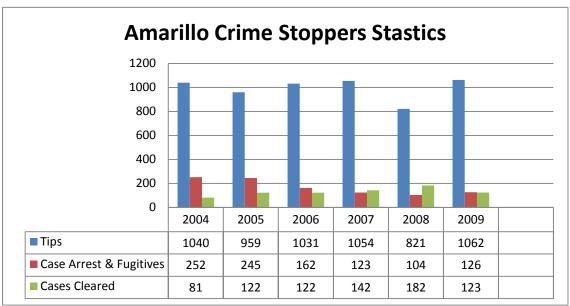
In May of 2009, Stoppers Annual Crime Conference in El Amarillo Crime attended the 21<sup>st</sup> Stoppers Paso, Texas. At

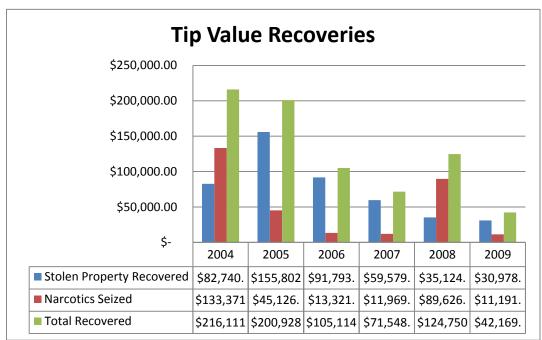
this conference, the program received the required training hours to maintain program certification. Amarillo Crime Stoppers was also awarded the Greatest Dollar Recovery/ Most Cases Cleared Award. This award was based on the population our program serves. We witnessed a record year for tip volume, totaling 1062 tips. During this operating year, "On-Line" tipping and "Text Tips" have averaged 18% of our total tips. Updates to our latest version of software now allow us to include our own photos of suspects and fugitives uploaded from our database. We are also able to download and print street view maps of tip locations in most circumstances. The mapping ability better assists field officers and detectives with their surveillance. Successful tips this year have lead to: the location and arrest of two parents responsible for the death of their 3 year old son, the location and arrest of a man in Louisiana who kidnapped two Amarillo children who were later returned unharmed, and the arrest of a female robber who was tied to a series of at least 8 different business gun point robberies. Cpl. Sean Slover celebrated his 1<sup>st</sup> year as the Coordinator for Amarillo Crime Stoppers on December 1<sup>st</sup>. Our board has grown to 29 members this year, up from 26 last year.

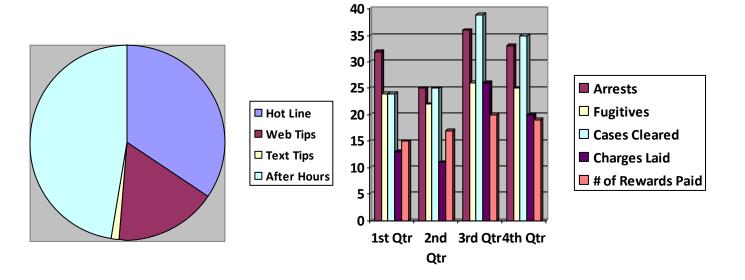
We started a new fundraiser, in the form of a car show, which was held over Labor Day weekend. Both Amarillo Crime Stoppers and Student Crime Stoppers of Amarillo worked together to make this a success. We had 95 vehicle entries and approximately 3,000 people in total attendance. This was a great way for our entire board to interact with the community we serve. The car show also included free kids photo ID cards, games, food, and music.

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 broadcast outlet. This year, we highlighted 48 fugitives, and 44 of them were arrested. Crime Stopper tips directly led to the arrest of 97 wanted people this year. In 2009, Amarillo Crime Stoppers received 1062 tips. From those tips, we cleared 123 cases and arrested 126 suspects. Those tips led to the recovery of \$30,978 in property and removed \$11,191 in narcotics from our city streets. Amarillo Crime Stoppers approved 89 rewards compared to 69 rewards in 2008, for a total of \$19,150, up from \$16,908 in 2008. Amarillo Crime Stoppers also implemented the use of "Nixle" as a very useful tool to notify the community about fugitives, captures and unsolved crimes. The use of "Nixle" has already generated tips that have provided information leading to fugitive arrests and leads on crimes in the Amarillo area.

We are grateful that the citizens of the Amarillo area support us by providing tips, volunteering on our Board, and giving 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 <a href="www.amapolice.org">www.amapolice.org</a>. The Crime Stoppers anonymous reward system, Fugitive of the Week program, and public support 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 that occur within the City of Amarillo, Potter County, and Armstrong County. In addition to those duties, the unit investigates Officer-involved shootings, In-Custody Deaths, Fire Deaths and the deaths of infants for the Amarillo Police Department and the Potter County Sheriff Department. 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 Department serves as the Special Crimes Coordinator. Sergeant Kevin Dockery and Eric Smith with the Amarillo Police are two of the unit's Investigative Detectives. Jimmy Rifenberg, Officer Doug Peoples and Carroll are CSI officers assigned to the unit Amarillo Police Department. Sergeant Paul the Potter County Sheriff's Office, is the unit as an Investigative Detective. Sergeant Modeina Holmes works as a Crime Specialist and Karen Fitzgerald, from the



Police
Unit
Sergeant
Department
Officer
Cpl. Ed
from the
Buckles, of
assigned to
Retired APD
Scene
Potter

County District Attorney's Office, is the unit's Secretary.

On January 7, 2009, at 7:56 AM, officers were dispatched to 4117 S. Hughes on a reported home invasion robbery with shots fired. Upon the officers arrival they found a young man suffering from a gunshot wound down in the front yard. They dragged this man to a place where he could be treated and found that he was deceased. It was determined that two suspects, armed with knives, had forced their way into the home. The homeowners had a shotgun in the house for safety after being robbed in December. One of the homeowners fired several shots at the robbers while they were inside his house. One suspect ran from the house and collapsed in the front yard, dead from his wound. The second suspect was last seen running south from the house. On January 8, 2009, the second suspect turned himself in, and it was discovered he had a single shotgun pellet wound to his shoulder. During the investigation, it was discovered that this house had been burglarized on 12-13-2008, and the homeowners were the victims of an armed robbery on 12-29-08. During all three crimes, marijuana was the item that was being sought. Later, a third suspect in these cases was identified as being involved. It was determined that all 3 of the suspects were responsible, either individually or together, for all three crimes. The shooting was presented to a Randall Co. Grand Jury and they determined the homeowner's actions were justifiable. The two robbery suspects have been filed on for Burglary of a Habitation and Aggravated Robbery and their cases are pending. The homeowners have been filed on for Possession of Marijuana in a Drug Free Zone, and their cases are pending.

On April 18, 2009, at 6:18 AM, officers were dispatched to 3010 Westhaven #A on a reported shooting. When the officers arrived, they found Stephanie Beard, W/F, 24 and Daniel Brittain, W/M, 24, inside the house, both dead from multiple gunshot wounds. The responding officers also found that there were 4 small children, unharmed, inside of the house when they arrived. An eyewitness to the shooting, who had been threatened at gunpoint but was able to escape and flee, was located. The witness identified the shooter as her former boyfriend, Wilbert Banks, B/M, 26, whom she had been hiding from at the victim's house. A warrant for Banks arrest charging him with Murder was obtained from the Randall County DA and numerous officers were called in to assist in the search for Banks. Later this same day, a tip was received that Banks was hiding at an address in the 1300 block of Herman. Banks was located at this address and gave up without incident. A weapon believed used by Banks was recovered at this same residence. During the course of this investigation, it was discovered that Banks had an outstanding warrant for Aggravated Assault Domestic Violence for an assault

against the former girlfriend. Banks has since been indicted by a Randall Co. Grand Jury for Capital Murder and Aggravated Assault and his trial on those charges is pending.

On January 25, 2009 Sherry Ann Mondragon, W/F 55, was reported missing by her father, Al Mondragon, from the 4700 block of S. Virginia. Mr. Mondragon hadn't spoken to his daughter since January 19. Detectives were assigned the case and began to look for and do background on Ms. Mondragon in hopes of locating her. Special Crimes was asked to assist in searching Ms. Mondragon's apartment and to assist with talking to possible witnesses. No leads were developed on where Ms. Mondragon had gone. On April 25, 2009, at approximately 7:46 AM, a man reported he was "junking" at 1306 N. Spring and found what he thought was a body wrapped in a carpet inside of the garage. The house where the body was located was abandoned and had been for quite some time. A fingerprint was lifted from the body and identified as belonging to Ms. Mondragon. It was determined during autopsy that Ms. Mondragon had been shot one time in the upper body and had been dead for an indeterminate amount of time. The investigation into Ms. Mondragon's death is still ongoing and no arrests have been made. The picture of the carpet in which Ms. Mondragon was wrapped has been released to the public several times in search of a lead.

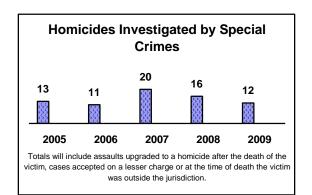
During the year of 2009, the Special Crimes Unit worked several homicides involving either a child or baby as a victim, or a juvenile as the offender. On February 3, 2009, a 3-year old, residing at 3005 NE 11<sup>th</sup>, died as a result of a blunt force injury to the head, along with malnourishment and dehydration. His mother, Diane Fuentes, 26 and her boyfriend, Adam Adame, 18, have been filed on for Injury to a Child by Omission, and their trials are pending. On April 25, 2009 Richard Appling, W/M 65, of 4718 Cherokee, was shot a single time by his grandson, a W/M, 15 during an argument. The 15 yr old was booked into the Detention Center on a charge of Murder, and Randall County Juvenile Probation is handling his case. On September 10, 2009 the remains of a baby boy were located at 4231 W 11<sup>th</sup>. It was determined that the baby boy had been delivered several days prior. He was born alive and had been suffocated. An Indian Female, 15 was taken into custody and was found to be the mother of the baby. The 15 yr old has been charged with Capital Murder and is currently in the Detention Center awaiting trial.

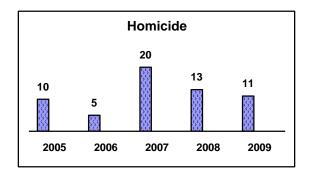
On November 5, 2009, at 10:40 PM, officers were sent to the Spotted Pony Bar at 2042 Paramount on report of shots fired inside the bar. When they arrived, they found that an Armed Robbery had occurred and at least two patrons of the bar had been shot. The suspect had entered the bar and immediately began to fire shots and announced he was committing a robbery. Thomas Reeve, W/M 28, from Berkshire, England was shot once in his upper body and died later from that wound at Northwest Texas Hospital. Gordon Gollihugh was shot in the hand and is recovering from that wound. Mr. Reeve and two traveling companions from England were traveling across the United States from California to Florida and had stopped in Amarillo for the night and visited the bar. Several patrons, along with the bar, were robbed of items and cash. Several people were assaulted, and one female was sexually assaulted during this crime. The entire incident was captured on surveillance video. Ray Carlos Cisneros, H/M 25, from Lubbock, Texas was identified as the suspect, and he was arrested approximately 18 hrs after the crime at a local truck stop. Cisneros has been charged with Capital Murder. This case has not yet gone to trial.

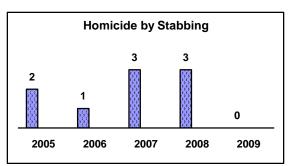
## HOMICIDES INVESTIGATED

TOTAL 2009 HOMICIDE CASES INVESTIGATED	12
TOTAL 2009 HOMICIDE CASES CLEARED PREVIOUS YEARS HOMICIDE CASES CLEARED	10
NUMBER OF DEATHS BY: GUNSHOT	8

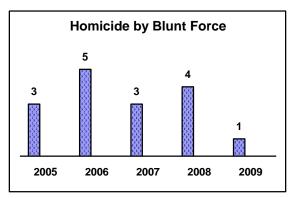
ARSON		0
STABBING		0
BLUNT FORCE		1
STRANGULATION		0
AUTOMOBILE		0
OTHER		3
HOMICIDES IN JURISDICTION OF:	CITY OF AMARILLO	11
	POTTER COUNTY	1
	ARMSTRONG	0
<b>HOMICIDES BY MONTH (all jurisdictions)</b>	JANUARY	1
	FEBRUARY	1
	MARCH	0
	APRIL	4
	MAY	1
	JUNE	0
	JULY	2
	AUGUST	0
	SEPTEMBER	1
	OCTOBER	1
	NOVEMBER	1
	DECEMBER	0
SUSPICIOUS DEATHS INVESTIGATED		16
ASSIST OFFICERS OF OUTSIDE AGENCY		5
HOMICIDES FROM PRIOR YEARS RE-INVESTIGATED		
MISCELLANEOUS INVESTIGATIVE ACTIVIT	<b>Y</b>	22
OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTINGS		1
FIRE DEATHS		0
IN CUSTODY DEATHS		0
INFANT DEATHS INVESTIGATED		14

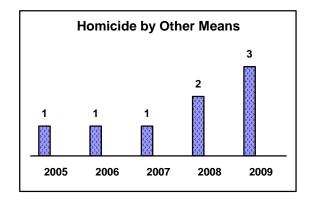


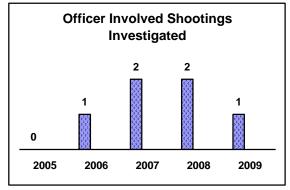












## NARCOTICS UNIT AND SWAT

Marcotics Unit

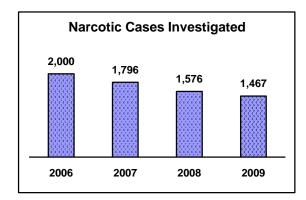
Lt. Erick Bohannon is the Commander of the Narcotics Unit and SWAT Team. The Narcotics Unit is comprised of 2 sergeants and 7 narcotics agents. One additional narcotic agent is assigned to the local office of the federal Drug Enforcement Agency in Amarillo. The Narcotics Unit is responsible for the following:

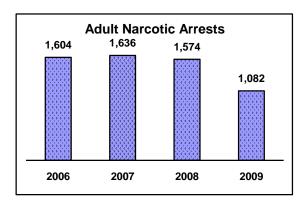
- Enforcement of pornography laws.
- Enforcement of laws prohibiting the illegal sale, possession, and controlled substances.

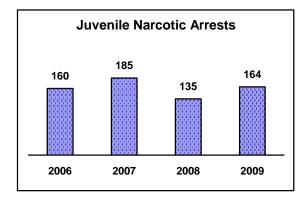
distribution of

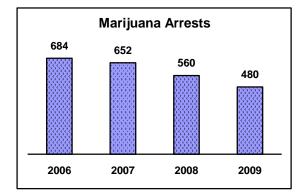
- Enforcement of laws prohibiting illegal gambling operations.
- Enforcement of laws prohibiting prostitution.
- Providing community education programs about illegal narcotics.
- Investigating any offense involving organized criminal activity.

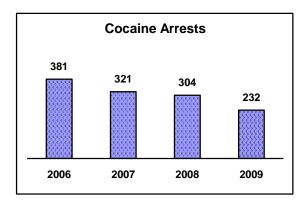
Narcotic Agents use various investigative methods such as surveillance and undercover operations to complete their investigations. These result in the issuance of arrest warrants or search warrants.

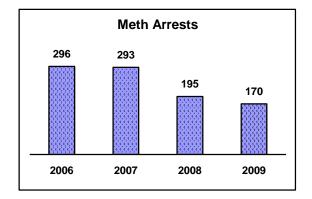




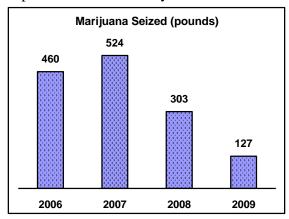


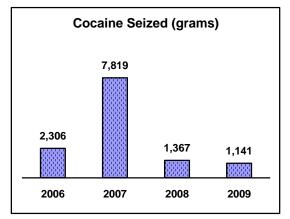


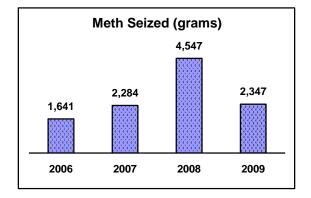




The following charts show the amount of several types of illegal narcotics seized by the Amarillo Police Department in the last 4 years:









Crack cocaine seized during a search warrant



49 pounds of marijuana seized during a traffic stop

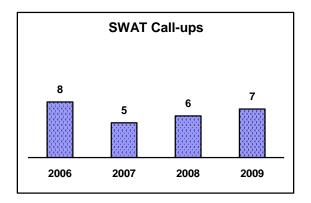
In addition to conducting narcotic investigations, agents of the Narcotics Unit presented narcotics awareness programs to local professional and civic groups throughout Amarillo.

S'WAT' Team

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

## - Hostage situations

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



The SWAT Team trains continuously throughout the year to maintain tactical proficiency. 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 give many presentations to local schools and civic groups throughout the year.



The Amarillo Police Department SWAT Team



The SWAT Team's armored vehicle





SWAT officers training at the Amarillo Shooting Complex.

# Sgt. Kenny Gore



# Rotary Club South Officer of the

# **Year 2008**

Sgt. Gore was the acting SWAT supervisor on January 29, 2008 when SWAT responded to an individual armed with a high-powered assault rifle at the Sungate Apartments. (At the time, Gore was a Corporal, but has since promoted to Sergeant.) 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. Sgt. 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. Sgt. 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 Sgt. Gore directed 12 other officers that included SWAT officers and SWAT alternates. After a lengthy search, officers found reason to believe the individual was barricaded in apartment 178. Sgt. 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 through the front door from the suspect. Sgt. 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 Sgt. 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, Sgt. Gore

assisted as officers in the armored vehicle drove up to the balcony the man had fired his rounds from, so they could push a mattress out of the way to check his status. When Sgt. 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.

Sgt. 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. Sgt. Gore exhibited 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 Sgt. 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 Sgt. 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. Sgt. Gore is routinely assigned as the acting supervisor of SWAT when the supervisor is absent. His actions on January 29 confirmed that the decision to have him supervise the SWAT Team was the absolute correct decision. Sgt. 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.

## Sgt. Rudy Montano



# Rotary Club South Officer of the First Quarter 2009

Sgt. Montano is a 37-year veteran of the Amarillo Police Department. For the last year and half, Sgt. Montano has been assigned as the Pawn Detective of the Burglary/Theft Squad. Sgt. Montano's duties are routine in nature. They require him to travel to each of the twenty-one pawnshops throughout Amarillo, at least twice a week, picking up pawn tickets, and then, often returning to the same pawnshops to pick up property that has been identified as having been stolen from a citizen and pawned by suspects.

On April 13, 2009, Sgt. Montano was in the area of the 1500 block of S. Lincoln when a call went out that a citizen found two subjects in his home and they had just left running from his home. Sgt. Montano shortly saw the two on foot running and notified patrol officers. Sgt. Montano chased the suspects on foot before losing them. He had contacted officers and coordinated with them in a search for the two. Eventually, patrol officers found a suspect hiding in a shed in the backyard of another citizen. He was taken to the station where Sgt. Riddlespurger interrogated him. The suspect was filed on for Burglary of a Habitation and Criminal Trespass. The suspect gave truthful information about who his partner in crime was.

On May 4, 2009 Sgt Montano was spotted up on North Lincoln when he observed 2 subjects in a truck trying to sell an orange, Forney welder to the occupants of another truck. When they were spotted, the potential buyers fled. Sgt Montano stopped the suspect truck in the 400 block of N. Lincoln. After the suspects were brought to the station, Sgt. Reed interrogated one of the suspects, who agreed to show some locations where additional stolen property was stored. An unreported stolen Yamaha 400 4-wheeler was recovered from 911 N. Johnson. It

had been stolen from 913 S. Georgia, reference IR #09-49985. The other locations are still under investigation. The suspect was arrested for a probation violation. The welder that was being sold is believed to have been stolen outside of Amarillo and an owner is still being sought.

# **Cpl. Janie Cortez**



# Rotary Club South Officer of the Second Quarter 2009

At 900 a.m. on April 17, 2009, Cpl Janie Cortez was dispatched to a person having a heart attack at the Burlington Northern Santa Fe Car Shop at SE 11<sup>th</sup> and S. Garfield. She arrived approximately 1 minute after being dispatched and was directed to a building in the railroad yard. Cpl Cortez did not waste any time and took her AED (automatic defibrillator) with her. When she reached the 55-year old victim, Cpl. Cortez found two employees performing CPR. The victim, an employee, had collapsed, falling out of his chair and struck his face on a wooden desk in the office. Two employees, Michael Trask and Andy Bailey, had already been performing chest compressions on the victim, prior to Cpl Cortez' arrival, but the victim was not responding. Cpl Cortez evaluated the patient and determined that he had no pulse. She immediately placed defibrillator electrodes on him and administered a cardiac shock. The shock effectively resuscitated the victim, and he began gasping for air. Paramedics arrived shortly and transported the patient to Northwest Texas Hospital. While enroute to the hospital, the patient had to be shocked a second time with Cpl Cortez' AED. The victim survived and was released from the hospital several days later. I received an e-mail from Deputy Fire Chief James Amerson on April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2009 as a result of compliments from Fire Captain Joe Neely and the crew of Fire Engine 1. Captain Neely wanted to express their appreciation for the competent and skillful manner that Corporal Cortez performed her duties. Chief Amerson said, "Her exemplary performance made a significant difference in the incident and they were able to deliver a viable patient to the emergency room staff."

# Officer Mike Williams



# Rotary Club South Officer of the Third Quarter 2009

Off. Williams is assigned to the motorcycle squad, where traffic enforcement is his primary duty. He makes numerous arrests during traffic stops. Off. Williams was also credited, along with Sgt. Wallace, with saving the life of a 5-yr. old boy on July 4<sup>th</sup> of this year.

In the 4-month period of 6/1/09 to 10/01/09 Off. Williams made 38 arrests. He also served 70 warrants off of these arrests and his arrests included 2 DWI's.

On 9/30/09 Off. Williams was making a traffic stop on a simple traffic violation at I40/Washington at about 12:30 PM. The vehicle was occupied by 2 males and 1 female. The male driver pulled into the Dairy Queen parking lot and continued to the back side of the building. Off. Williams became suspicious of the driver as he didn't stop right away. The driver continued driving south behind the building when he slowed way down and suddenly jumped out of the car that was still moving. The suspect ran west on foot and Off. Williams pursued him on his cycle. The suspect tripped and fell while running. Off. Williams pulled up next to the suspect who was standing back up and was obviously going to continue running. He ordered the suspect to stop. The suspect continued running, this time eastbound into the drive-up windows of the Wells Fargo Bank. The suspect reached the east side of the bank and tripped and fell again. Off. Williams jumped off of his cycle and was able to place the suspect in custody. It was discovered that this suspect was high on marijuana and had an outstanding felony warrant for parole violation and an outstanding felony warrant for forgery out of Harris

County. Off. Williams' quick actions prevented this suspect from escaping in the area of a bank and restaurant during the noon hour.

On 10/1/09 Off. Williams made a traffic stop at 7200 Fulton. The male driver was wanted for a felony warrant for probation violation. A search of his vehicle revealed a baggie of marijuana. Once again, Off. Williams demonstrated that a simple traffic stop could result in an arrest.

Off. Williams' daily production and professionalism alone make him a very worthy recipient of Officer of the Quarter. This production was overshadowed by his quick actions on July 4<sup>th</sup> 2009 that saved the life of 5-year old Joshua Weatherly. Joshua was in the back seat of a car that was driven by his grandmother at 7:05 PM on this date. His mother was in the front seat and his 3-year old brother was in the back seat next to him. As they slowed to turn into the John Stiff Park at 4800 Bell for the July 4<sup>th</sup> fireworks show, a drunk driver behind them slammed into their car at a high rate of speed. The collision caused a tremendous amount of damage to the car that Joshua was in. His grandmother and mother were unable to exit the car or reach back to the children because of the amount of damage. They were able to tell that Joshua was not breathing. Sgt. Brian Wallace and Off. Williams were working security in the park at the time of the accident. Both officers started for the accident scene. Sgt. Wallace arrived first and learned that Joshua was not breathing. He was able to reach into the car and unbuckle Joshua and lift him up thru the sunroof to Off. Williams, who had climbed on top of the car. Off. Williams then lifted Joshua out of the car and handed him back to Sgt. Wallace. Sgt. Wallace laid Joshua on the ground and began rescue breathing. Off. Williams tilted Joshua's head so the rescue breaths could be effective and he also gave some chest compressions. After some time Joshua began breathing. Joshua was transported with severe injuries to Northwest Texas Hospital by ambulance. Both of Joshua's legs were severely broken, and he had a skull fracture, along with many other injuries. He underwent several surgeries and stayed in the Intensive Care unit of the hospital several days in an induced comma. Joshua was released several days later from the hospital, and has made a miraculous recovery. The actions of Sgt. Wallace and Off. Williams definitely saved his life.



Officer Henchcliffe

Officer Newton

Officer Heath

# Rotary Club South Officers of the Fourth Quarter 2009

On September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2009, Off. Heath was assigned a call at 910 S. Browning. The details of the call stated the caller was being held at gunpoint in the driveway by an ex-boyfriend. Off. Heath arrived shortly after getting the call and saw the suspect getting out of a car, which was blocking a second car in the driveway. He could immediately see the suspect was armed with a handgun. Off. Heath was met with non-compliance and belligerence from the suspect. Although Off. Heath would have been completely justified, both legally and morally, to use deadly force at this time, he chose not to. With great risk to himself, he kept trying to get the suspect to drop the weapon. Numerous officers, including Off. Newton and Off. Henchcliffe, soon joined Off. Heath. All of the officers demonstrated great discipline in not firing at the suspect immediately, not only due to the victim and other bystanders in the area, but out of concern for the suspect himself. After several more minutes of trying to get the suspect to drop the weapon, Off. Henchcliffe, having been assigned the duty to use deadly force if necessary, saw the suspect make a furtive movement with his gun that led him to believe lives were in immediate jeopardy. Using great care for the safety of the victim and other bystanders, and under a great amount of stress, Off. Henchcliffe fired one round, hitting the suspect, who immediately fell to the ground, dropping his gun. At that time, all officers moved in to secure the suspect and scene. Off. Newton, who is a former paramedic, and Off. Heath immediately began treating the suspect with a First Aid kit from one of the patrol cars. Off. Newton, drawing from his past experience, and Off. Heath, working under Off. Newton's directions using paramedic-level, life-stabilization care, were able to keep the suspect alive. He was turned over to Paramedics upon their arrival, who continued his care, and although still in serious condition, the suspect is still alive.

The actions of Off. Heath, Off. Newton and Off. Henchcliffe, while each very different, all went above and beyond their call of duty and all contributed to the successful resolution of this incident.