



ANNUAL REPORT 2008



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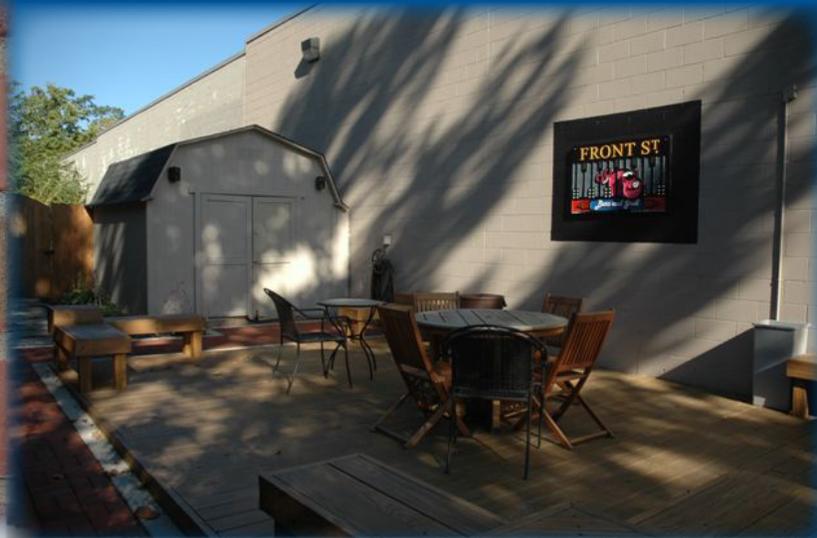


HAMILTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Neil R. Ferdelman, Chief of Police

The Maurey Goebel Memorial Garden was dedicated in 2008.

Maury Goebel
Memorial Garden
— Exclusively For —
H.P.D. MEMBERS
& THEIR GUESTS
Est. 2008



ON THE COVER

The Hamilton Police Department's 2008 Dodge Charger heads past the Carruthers Police Memorial Plaza.





2008 Annual Report

Table of Contents



Administrative Profile

Letter from the Chief of Police	2
Organizational Chart	4
Personnel in Transition - Appointments, Resignations, Retirements, and Deaths	5

Organizational Profile

Operations Bureau	6
Patrol Division	6
Traffic Division	7
Community-Oriented Policing	9
Detective Division	10
Investigations Section	10
Vice Section	14
Administrative Bureau	20
Administrative Specialist	21
Services Division	21
Public Affairs Section	22
Central Records Section	26
Training Section	28
Communications Section	30
Polygraph	32
Court Services Section	33
Canine Units	34
Tactical Response Team	36
Special Weapons and Tactics Team	37
Honor Guard	40
Explorers Post 2902	41
Chaplains	43

Statistical Profile

UCR Reports	44
Statistical Profile	45
Return of Offenses	46
Performance Graphs	47
Traffic Citations	47
Accidents	47
Injuries	48
Accident Tally by Hour/Day of Week	48
Police District Map	49
Calls by District by Month	50
Calls by District, Calls by Month Graphs	51
Five Year Analysis	52

Hamilton Police Department

An Internationally Accredited Law Enforcement Agency

Neil R. Ferdelman

Chief of Police



A message from the Chief of Police:

Mr. Mark Brandenburger
City Manager
City of Hamilton, Ohio

Mr. Brandenburger:

The 2008 Annual Report of the Hamilton Police Department is submitted to you, to members of Council, and to our community. In it, you will read about some of the significant accomplishments of the past year:

- The 2008 arrest and conviction of Daniel Estrada-Lopez for the aggravated murder of Gloria Applegate highlighted two strengths of the department. First, information which led us to the suspect was provided by a recent graduate of our Hispanic Police Academy. This initiative strengthened ties in the community which led to the information resulting in the arrest and conviction. Secondly, our detectives' increasing expertise in forensics and evidence processing was exemplified during this investigation by the setup of a cyanoacrylate body-fuming tent at the crime scene. Using their expertise and current technology, this was the first time our detectives fumed an entire body at a crime scene. This account is detailed on page 12.
- Enforcement efforts against illegal narcotics have increased. In 2008, Vice Section detectives investigated 1093 drug complaints, as compared to 812 received in 2007. We responded by making a total of 723 arrests and executing 125 search warrants. Cocaine, crack cocaine, heroin, marijuana, methamphetamine, and other narcotics at a street value of over \$167,000 were removed from our streets. In addition, 50 guns, ten vehicles, and over \$84,000 in cash were taken from drug dealers. These efforts are detailed starting on page 14.
- Work continues on the implementation of the 800 Mhz. countywide public safety radio system. Towers were built, portable radios were acquired, and console modifications have been planned. We look forward to using the new system by the end of 2009. During 2008, we implemented an Automatic Vehicle Locator (AVL) system using Global Positioning Satellites (GPS) to enhance officer safety. E911 Phase II technology was implemented to track the locations of cellular telephone callers to 911. Details of these technology projects can be found on page 20.
- From December 6-10, an on-site team from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. examined our files, inspected our records, and met with or spoke with dozens of officers, employees, community leaders, and ordinary citizens. The team of three police chiefs from Virginia, North Carolina, and Illinois found that we were in full compliance with 100 percent of the Commission's 459 standards. They reported their recommendations to the full Commission, who formally granted our re-accreditation after a hearing in March of 2009 in Raleigh, NC.

The assessment team found no weaknesses in the department, and told us we were representative of “best practices” in law enforcement. They noted a consistent and evident pride in the officers they spoke with, and found evidence of widespread community involvement and community support. Of the eleven citizens who either called the assessors or spoke at our Public Hearing on Monday night, all were supportive of the department. I saw many of the interviews, and received a great deal of feedback regarding the assessors’ positive interaction with our personnel, community leaders, and our citizens. It was, as are their findings, reflective of the type of professional law enforcement agency that we are.

As this is written in 2009, the nation’s shaky economy has had ominous local implications. Along with other General Fund departments, we continue under a hiring freeze and all capital expenditures have also been frozen. We have cut the current year’s budget, and are preparing next year’s budget with an eye on additional cuts. Already this year, we have made painful cuts, but have avoided the lay off of sworn police officers through contract concessions and over two million dollars in grant funding.

The safety of our citizens and the officers who serve them is not a responsibility that any of us take lightly. We will continue to work, in these very difficult financial times, to ensure the safety of those we are sworn to protect.

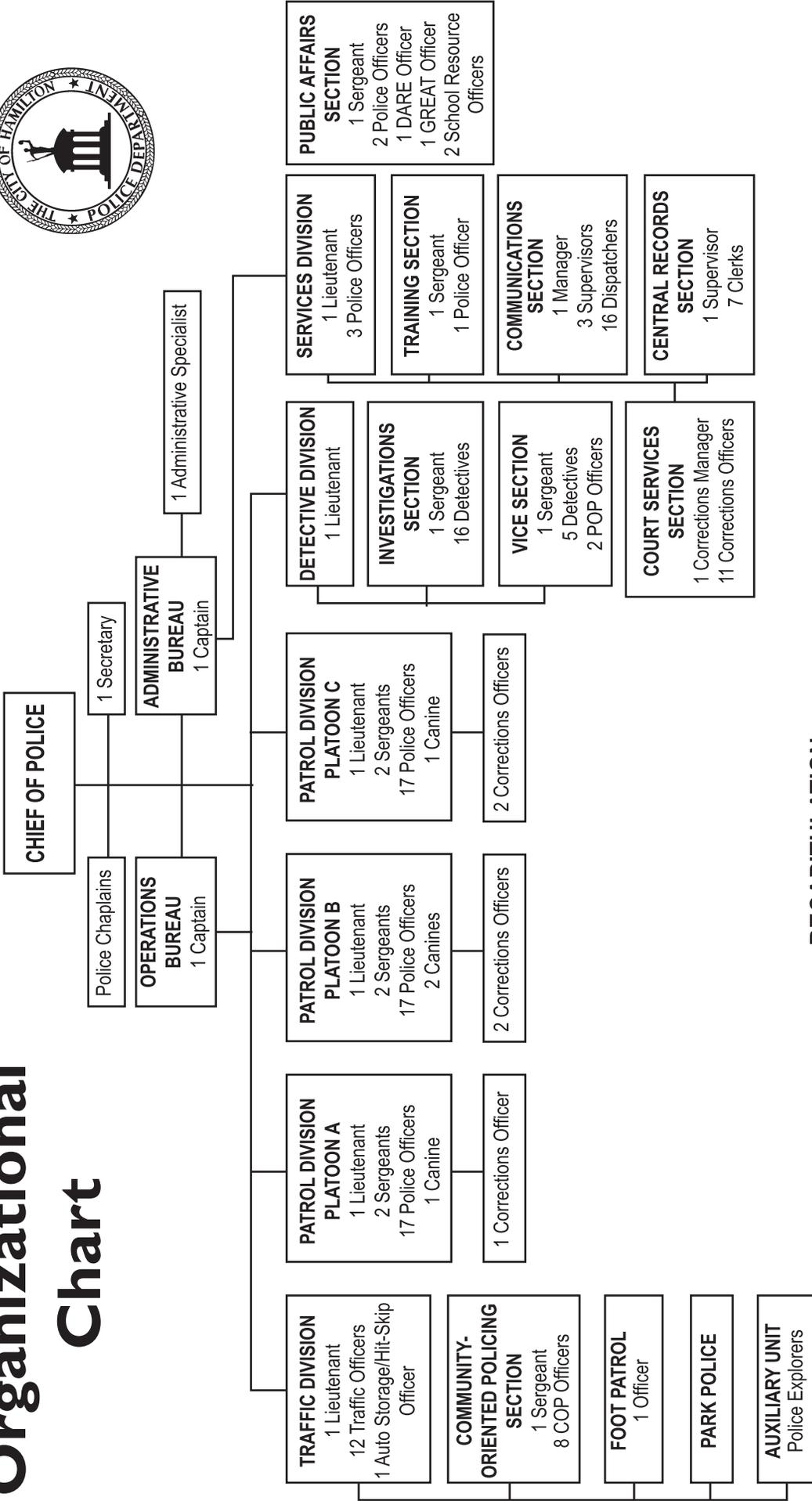


Neil R. Ferdelman
Chief of Police



Neil R. Ferdelman
Chief of Police

Organizational Chart



RECAPITULATION

FULL-TIME SWORN (126)	
Chief of Police	1
Captains	2
Lieutenants	6
Sergeants	12
Detectives	21
Police Officers	84

FULL-TIME NON-SWORN (26)	
Communications Manager	1
Records Supervisor	1
Communications Supervisors	3
Administrative Specialist	1
Secretary to the Chief	1
Communications Operators	15
Records Clerks	4
PART-TIME NON-SWORN (4)	
Records Clerks	3
Communications Operator	1

CORRECTIONS OFFICERS (17)	
Full-Time Corrections Manager	1
Full-Time Corrections Officers	11
Part-Time Corrections Officers	5
SPECIAL POLICE OFFICERS (1)	
Part-Time SPO	1
FULL-TIME PERSONNEL	164
TOTAL PERSONNEL	174

EFFECTIVE: 4/21/08

ISSUED BY:

Neil R. Stelmach
Chief of Police

HAMILTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

2008 Personnel in Transition

Appointments, Resignations, Retirements, and Deaths

APPOINTMENTS & RE-APPOINTMENTS

- ▶ Police Officer Brian D. Gleason January 18, 2008
- ▶ Part-Time Central Records Clerk Lisa C. Weissinger March 17, 2008
- ▶ Public Safety Communication Operator Kathy R. Myers May 5, 2008
- ▶ Corrections Officer Craig S. Farrell February 7, 2008
- ▶ Corrections Officer Calvin Wagers January 2, 2008

RESIGNATIONS

- ▶ Corrections Officer Mary Kern February 22, 2008
- ▶ Communications Operator Katie Wainscott October 15, 2008
- ▶ Police Records Clerk Carolyn Huntington December 16, 2008

RETIREMENT

- ▶ Police Officer Daryl L. Coppock January 11, 2008



In Memoriam

Retired Hamilton Police Officer Howard D. Reynolds was hired May 30, 1959, and retired on July 19, 1985. Officer Reynolds was a twenty-six year veteran of the Hamilton Police Department. He passed away on December 1, 2008. The Hamilton Police Department's Honor Guard participated in the funeral ceremony.



OPERATIONS BUREAU

The Operations Bureau is functionally divided into the Patrol Division, the Traffic Division, and the Investigations Division. These divisions rely heavily on one another to eradicate the criminal element. In simplistic terms, the Patrol Division is the first responder to an emergency or reported crime while the Investigations Division provides the necessary follow up services to bring a crime to a successful conclusion. The Traffic Division responds to and investigates all types of traffic complaints, traffic enforcement, and traffic crash investigations.



*Captain Joseph A. Murray
Operations Commander*

PATROL DIVISION:



*Lt. Gerald M. Martin
Patrol Commander*

PATROL DIVISION "A" SHIFT Supervisors

Lieutenant Gerald M. Martin
Sergeant David Alatorre
Sergeant Mark Thomas

Police Officers

Nathan Zettler, Matthew Mulcahey, Kevin Ruhl, Steven McFall, Jon Richardson, Jeremy Roberts, Craig Hon, Justin Lunsford, Anthony Kiep, Jon Habig, Randall Payne, Jason Chin, Jason Holmes, Scott Arbino, Phillip Root, and Donald Taylor.

Corrections Officer Craig Ferrell

PATROL DIVISION "B" SHIFT Supervisors

Lieutenant John Nethers
Sergeant Steve Ebbing
Sergeant Sherry Richardson

Police Officers

Scott Laney, L. Ernie Huff, Lanny Ash, David Anglin, Ross Sherman, Carla Browning, Peter Gibbons, Jo Hornschemeier, Kevin Flannery, Richard Cardwell, Richard Heidorn, Brian Wynn, Jon Pieron, Terry Kiep, and James Colwell.

Corrections Officers Goldie Robinson, Steven Schmitz

PATROL DIVISION "C" SHIFT Supervisors

Lieutenant Marc McManus
Sergeant Craig Bucheit
Sergeant Ed Buns

Police Officers

Adrian Jackson, Steve Hamilton, Patrick Fackey, Matthew Fishwick, Melva Baker, Chris Browning, Chris Fackey, Chris Robinson, Aaron Laflin, Casey Johnson, Aaron Hucke, Wayne Wells, James Gross, Brian Gleason, Shawn Fryman, Chris Gibson, and Mike Thacker.

Corrections Officer James Carpenter



*Lt. Marc McManus
Patrol Commander*

PATROL DIVISION

The Patrol Division remains the largest component of the Hamilton Police Department and is truly the backbone of the organization. The patrol officers are the ones who have daily interaction with the members of the community. These citizens constitute our customer base.

The Patrol Division provides the basic tenets of police service; preserving the peace and protecting the lives and properties of others. It is our mission that these services shall be professionally provided to our customers in a courteous, empathetic manner. The other sections within the Hamilton Police Department consist of varying degrees of specialization that were created to support the efforts of the Patrol Division in providing quality police services to our customers.

The staffing level of the Patrol Division is 60 officers. At the end of 2008, the Hamilton Police Department was down only one sworn position. Late in the year, a hiring freeze was implemented due to an economic downturn. Fluctuations in the number of sworn officers occur primarily through retirements.

The Patrol Division is divided into three rotating shifts supervised by one lieutenant and two sergeants. Each shift, when fully staffed, is comprised of seventeen officers. Normally, one officer on each shift is trained as a canine officer. However, several canines have been retired from the force, and no replacements are anticipated at this time. It had been past practice to have one patrol canine on each shift but that is no longer feasible. When appropriate, the remaining canine officers flex their hours to afford each shift the specialization that comes from utilizing patrol canines in the suppression and apprehension of criminals. In addition, the Hamilton Police Department has a canine that specializes solely in the detection of illicit drugs.

In 2008, 70,383 calls for police service were dispatched to officers working within the Patrol Division. This was an increase of 1,613 calls from the previous year. Service calls are prioritized to provide immediate assistance to those

citizens who need instantaneous service. Call prioritization enables the Hamilton Police Department to work efficiently and effectively.

It is the policy of the Hamilton Police Department to investigate all complaints against the organization or any of its members. The investigatory process protects the integrity of the agency or the employee, and fosters public confidence in the department. The internal affairs function of the Hamilton Police Department is a comprehensive tool that can be utilized to attain this objective. The process maintains an intensive, objective, and impartial investigation and review system devised to ensure the integrity of the department. The majority of complaints received are not assigned to internal affairs. The criteria for determining whether there is an internal affairs investigation are allegations such as: corruption, brutality, excessive use of force, breach of civil rights, criminal misconduct, or other inappropriate conduct as determined by the Chief of Police.

Complaints that do not fall into the internal affairs category are handled by appropriate supervision. In 2008, there were 12 documented complaints against officers or the department in general. Of these documented incidents, eight were deemed unfounded and three resulted in exoneration. Only one complaint was sustained. In 2007, the department received 13 documented complaints, a decrease of one from 2008. Several years ago, the complaint process was revamped, giving broader leeway to first-line supervisors to handle problems. This change enhanced communication between the complainant and members of our department, and has significantly reduced the number of written complaints received, resulting in better customer service.

This report submitted by:
Captain Joseph A. Murray
Operations Bureau Commander

TRAFFIC DIVISION

The mission of the Traffic Division is to provide excellent customer service to the motoring public. The Traffic Division's main responsibility is the investigation of traffic crashes and the successful prosecution of those found to have violated traffic laws. Officers are trained in all facets of traffic investigation.

The Traffic Division is comprised of one Lieutenant, and 13 traffic officers. Three traffic officers are assigned to work the 10:00A.M. to 6:00P.M. shift, nine traffic officers are assigned to the three rotating patrol shifts, and one traffic officer is assigned as the auto-storage/hit-skip officer.

The Traffic Division maintains a marked van to transport needed items to investigate serious injury or fatal crashes, as well as the scales for weighing overweight vehicles. The



Police Officer W. Michael Thacker directs traffic on High Street after a September storm disrupted power service to the entire city.



Officer Aaron Hucke helps a citizen on a snowy afternoon.



*Lt. Michael L. Lease
Traffic Commander*

The Traffic Division consists of:

Lieutenant Michael Lease, Traffic Commander; Traffic Officers Timothy Less, Christa Alfrey, David Patterson, Darrell Prewitt, Jim Beeler, Mike Coleman, Robert Snyder, John Ebbing, Cliff Heidorn, Chad Stafford, Rodney Wilson, Carole Walters and Brett Britt.



Officer Tim Less waits to interview a driver at one of the OVI checkpoints.



Officer Kevin Holstein directs traffic at a crash scene.

Traffic Division maintains a trailer for the Butler County Operating a Vehicle while Impaired (OVI) Task Force that contains all the needed equipment and signage to conduct low-manpower OVI checkpoints. A speed trailer is maintained and placed in areas of speed complaints. The trailer will display and record the vehicle's speed. A stealth stat unit is also maintained, and placed covertly, to measure the speeds of vehicles. Both of these devices can determine if there is a speeding problem, and if so, the times for needed enforcement action.

The Hamilton Police Department continued as the sponsoring agency for the Butler County OVI Task Force. Retired Ohio State Highway Patrol Lieutenant Mike Asbrock served as the Task Force Coordinator until June of 2008. He was replaced by retired Hamilton Police Traffic Officer Carl Phillips. The task force is composed of various law enforcement agencies in Butler County. The task force utilizes OVI arrest and crash-related data collected by each agency to determine the times and locations of sobriety checkpoints and saturation patrols. The Hamilton Police Department conducted three low-manpower sobriety checkpoints in cooperation with the Butler County OVI Task Force. There were 13 OVI arrests by officers working the checkpoints and saturation patrols around the checkpoint locations.

During the year, the Hamilton Police Department held five driver's license checkpoints. Statistics revealed that approximately 25% of citations issued by Hamilton Police officers were for driver's license violations. Officers working the checkpoints issued 33 No Driver's License and 46 Driving Under Suspension citations. There were 74 vehicles impounded. The drivers of 62 of the impounded vehicles had no insurance. Sixty-two of the 79 drivers issued citations had no insurance.

The Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) was successful again in 2008. Officers worked on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday attacking traffic complaints received by the Traffic Division. Officers working the program issued 2,578 citations and arrested 27 persons for OVI.

In 2008, there were four fatal crashes in the City of Hamilton, an increase of 300% over 2007. Only one of the fatal crashes was speed and alcohol related, and one involved a pedestrian. There were 1,962 total crashes in 2008, down 1% from 2007. There were 287 injury crashes for 2008, down 13% over 2007.

Through education and enforcement, the Traffic Division will continue to reduce the number of crashes in the City of Hamilton.

*This report submitted by:
Lieutenant Michael L. Lease
Traffic Commander*

COMMUNITY-ORIENTED POLICING SECTION

Some police experts would argue that over the last twenty-five years the concept of community policing has quietly revolutionized law enforcement in America. The precise nature and scope of this transformation is still the source of much debate, but it is clear that community policing has captured the attention of the nation's government and police departments. According to the latest estimates, community policing is widespread, with approximately 80 percent of larger municipal and county police departments employing an average of 20 or more community policing officers. The Hamilton Police Department is no exception. We employ nine officers assigned to four communities, and the downtown business district. These officers work with community residents and business owners. Citizens are encouraged to voice their concerns, and it is the responsibility of the Community-Oriented Policing Section (COPS) to thoughtfully address them. Under community policing, our officers initiate frequent personal contacts and interact in an attentive, friendly, and compassionate manner. Enforcing the law and fighting crime remain important elements of policing, but community policing recognizes that most police work is oriented toward non-enforcement tasks such as maintaining order and providing social services. Consequently, reducing community disorder, helping to mitigate residents' fears about crime, solving problems, and caring for individual victims, are all regarded as equally important to making arrests and solving crimes.

The Community Oriented Policing Section strives to build ties within our community. COPS officers spend a great deal of their time in their communities and become a familiar site to the residents. We patrol on foot, bicycle and horseback to help eliminate the barrier the police cruiser places between the residents and ourselves. All COPS officers have cell phones, and their numbers are given to the residents, business owners and school personnel so they can be easily contacted to discuss community issues or problems. Officers will attend any neighborhood meeting or gathering, to better interact with residents. We teach Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) and Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT) in our schools. This allows the students, teachers and parents to become more familiar with our officers on a personal level. We attend after school programs where officers participate in activities and assist students with their homework. We do this to build a long-term relationship within the community. We are confident that this relationship will continue if we are responsive to community needs.

Along with relationship building, the section remains committed to combating neighborhood problems and crime in their assigned communities. To further this, beginning in 2008, Officers Frank Botts and Mark Kibby were

The Community Oriented Policing Section consists of:

Sgt. Steve Henderson; COPS Officers Andrew Beckelhymer, Matt Blauvelt, Frank Botts, Mel Gray, Kevin Holstein, Mark Kibby, Eric Taylor, Paul Webb and Jeff Eck.

On December 11, the Hamilton Police Department's Traffic Division completed the investigation of a fatal traffic crash that occurred on November 24, 2008. David Lee Egner, 15, of Hamilton, was charged with Aggravated Vehicular Homicide, Operation While Under the Influence of Alcohol or Drug of Abuse, Reckless Operation, and No Driver's License.

David Lee Egner was driving under the influence of alcohol when he lost control and struck a tree and a telephone pole in the 1200 block of North "B" Street. The passenger, Louis Senger, 25, of Hamilton, was pronounced dead at the scene.



Officer Jo L. Hornschemeier prepares a report.



*Lt. J. Scott Scrimizzi
Detective Commander*

The Detective Division consists of:

Lt. J. Scott Scrimizzi Detective Division Commander; Sgt. Carl Sigmon and Sgt. Michael Waldeck Investigations Section Supervisors; and Detectives Steven Rogers, David Collins, James Smith, Pat Erb, John Fischer, Greg Baker, James Cifuentes, Robert Horton, Mark Henson, Mark Hayes, Daniel Stevenson, Brian Robinson, James Calhoun, David Weissinger, Mark Poppe, and Mark Nichols.



Detectives Mark Poppe and Mark Nichols canvas a neighborhood in search of a suspect.



Officer Casey Johnson takes an inventory, before sending the vehicle to the impound lot.

assigned as COPS officers in the Lindenwald and Rossville communities, thus expanding the COPS role within the Hamilton Police Department.

We have renewed our focus on combating criminal activity and using problem solving to address notable crime trends. The notion that the police and the public should collaborate in solving neighborhood problems aids in moving community policing past the criticism that it is just an exercise in improving community relations. Rather than reacting to specific incidents and resorting primarily to law enforcement as a means of controlling crime, we encourage the community to help identify local problems and we work with them to find the most effective resolution. The onus is on our officers to discover and carefully analyze the underlying cause of concern. It is then their responsibility to focus their efforts on a solution specifically tailored toward solving the problem at hand. Law enforcement is still recognized as one of the means available, but effective problem-solving demands that police officers should search for alternative methods of social control, and be guided by community preferences. This might require that our officers draw upon resources beyond the confines of the police department, such as coordination between citizens and other local government and community organizations. Problem solving does not only rely upon greater familiarity between the police and the community, but on the ability of the COPS officer to recognize patterns or relationships between incidents, and to choose long-term and highly selective solutions over short-term and universal responses.

*This report submitted by:
Sgt. Steve Henderson
COPS Supervisor*

DETECTIVE DIVISION

The Detective Division is comprised of two sections, the Investigations Section and the Vice Section. There are a total of 27 officers assigned to the division, which is commanded by a lieutenant. The lieutenant is in charge of both the Investigations and Vice Sections.

The Investigations Section has two sergeants and 16 detectives. Within the section, detectives are divided into four groups of four. The four squads rotate shifts to provide coverage during normal business hours and the evening. The Vice Section is supervised by a sergeant, and staffed with five detectives and two Problem Oriented Policing officers. Each section of the Detective Division has diverse and specific primary duties and responsibilities.

The Detective Division supervisors are also responsible for all internal affairs investigations within the police department. The goal of the internal affairs function is to insure that the integrity of the police department is maintained through an internal system where objectivity, fairness, and justice are assured by intensive, impartial investigation and review.

The primary function of the Investigations Section is to provide follow-up investigations on criminal complaints involving homicide, robbery, rape, burglary, theft, fraud, kidnapping, and abduction. Additionally, the Investigations Section handles all juvenile complaints. Investigations Section detectives investigate all crimes except for vice and narcotics-related crimes.

The objective of the investigator is the conviction of the perpetrator. In order to achieve this objective, the investigator must prove in court that a crime was actually committed and that the person charged with the offense did, in fact, commit the crime. All members of the section are trained in the techniques of criminal investigation, and an effort is made to constantly stay abreast of the latest innovations in this area. To aid the investigators in this process, two small rooms on the lower level of the building house the Hamilton Police Department's crime laboratory. The lab contains several pieces of high-tech equipment aiding detectives in processing evidence and identifying criminal suspects.

The Detective Division received 4,642 Part I crime reports and 5,085 Part II crime reports. The Investigations Section assigned 5,531 of these reports to detectives for follow-up action. On average, each detective was assigned 345 reports for the year. We investigated four homicides in 2008, three of which were cleared with arrests. We investigated 85 rapes, 172 robberies, 182 aggravated assaults, 1,027 burglaries, 2,885 thefts, and 287 auto thefts. Investigators followed up on 639 reports of domestic violence, which was again a decrease from the previous year. There were 762 total arrests as a result of our investigations.

The Investigations Section worked closely with other outside support agencies. Some of those agencies include: Butler County Prosecutor's Office, Butler County Juvenile Court and Probation Department, Ohio and Butler County Adult Parole and Probation Departments, Butler County Children Services Board, Butler County Child Assault Task Force, Hamilton City Schools, Cincinnati Children's Hospital, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms and the United States Marshall's Service. Additionally, detectives worked with several surrounding police agencies to solve crimes extending over many jurisdictions.

Our crime lab, combined with the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS), continues to be a huge asset to the department. The AFIS system enables detectives to submit a fingerprint collected from a crime scene into a nationwide database. Within minutes, a list of possible suspects is provided to detectives. A fingerprint expert can then compare the crime scene print with possible matches from the database. The Investigations Section currently has four fingerprint experts. This system has greatly reduced the amount of man-hours needed to solve crimes. Arrests are now being made in hours instead of months.

The below listed incident is an example of outstanding investigative work on the part of the detectives, and the



Officers Adrian Jackson and Carole Walters console a crash victim.

To keep up with the changing trends in cyber crimes, the Hamilton Police Department has invested in training, equipment, and software to recover evidence, seize computers, and prosecute subjects who violate the law through the use of technology.

Hamilton Police Detective Mark Henson completed three weeks of intensive training in computer data recovery in computers. He has also attended a two-day training seminar at the National White Collar Crime Center (NW3C) in Cincinnati, Ohio.



Officer Jim Beeler investigates a traffic crash on High Street.

On July 8, the Hamilton Police Department's Investigations Section arrested Kenneth Lee Ashcraft of New Miami, Ohio. Ashcraft, age 41, was charged with three counts of Rape and three counts of Unlawful Sexual Conduct with a Minor.

Detectives charged Ashcraft after investigating allegations that he had sexually abused minors from 1989 until 2006.

The charges stated that Ashcraft raped two minors from 1989 until 1997. Ashcraft was charged with raping one of the victims when she was only eleven years old. This abuse lasted until the child was fifteen years of age.

In 2002, Hamilton Police detectives arrested Lonnie Ted Crabtree as a part of an undercover Internet operation sting. Crabtree was a traveling predator who was looking for sexual relations on the Internet with underage female children. Crabtree was arrested in 2002 for Attempted Compelling Prostitution, Attempted Unlawful Sexual Conduct with a Minor Child, and Importuning.

After his arrest on these charges, Crabtree posted bond, and then failed to appear for his preliminary arraignment in 2002.

Detectives continued to investigate, and found that he had fled to Michigan, where he disappeared from detectives. During the summer of 2008, the case appeared on America's Most Wanted. The show received a tip that Crabtree was in Costa Rica.

Hamilton Police investigators and the Butler County Prosecutor's Office worked together, notifying Costa Rican officials. Crabtree was apprehended on an immigration violation and was taken into custody and deported to the United States.

day to day teamwork provided by other members of this department.

On June 1, Hamilton Police officers responded to a body found in an alleyway in the rear of 507 South 11th Street. The body was that of a white female found nude except for her shoes and socks. The victim was known and identified by patrol officers as Gloria Applegate, a 32 year-old white female. Patrol officers immediately secured the scene and called for homicide detectives. Detectives James Smith and David Collins responded along with Lt. Scrimizzi. The scene was that of a homicide and sexual assault. The victim suffered a contact gunshot wound to the left temple, with the bullet exiting the lower right rear of her head. After arriving on the scene and being briefed by patrol officers, detectives began to work the crime scene, which was first photographed using digital and 35mm photos. The scene was then measured and a sketch was made. Detectives located the spent casing and bullet jacket in the dirt by the victim's head. A shoeprint located next to the victim was measured and photographed. Once all of the evidence had been collected, and prior to moving the body, detectives swabbed the victim for the suspect's DNA. A cyanoacrylate body-fuming tent was placed around the victim in an effort to attain a fingerprint from her body. This is the first known account of Hamilton Police detectives fuming an entire body at the scene of a crime.

Two days passed without a lead, so on June 3, flyers were printed in English and Spanish requesting information regarding the murder of Gloria Applegate. Patrol officers distributed hundreds of flyers to residents and businesses in the city. Two days later, a Hispanic female who had attended our Hispanic Police Academy came forward with information that led detectives to Daniel Estrada Lopez. Lopez had an outstanding warrant for his arrest, which due to the circumstances, was served by SWAT officers. Lopez was taken into custody without incident and the scene was turned over to homicide detectives who executed a search warrant at Lopez's residence. Detectives located a Kel-Tec 9mm handgun with blood on the barrel and frame. The blood turned out to be that of Gloria Applegate. A pair of shoes found under the suspect's bed matched the tread pattern of the shoeprint left at the scene. The spent casing and bullet jacket matched the Kel-Tec 9mm found in the closet. The suspect's DNA was also found on the body of Ms. Applegate.

Detectives interviewed Daniel Estrada-Lopez, who eventually confessed to the murder of Gloria Applegate. Detectives charged Mr. Lopez with Aggravated Murder for the death and attempted rape of Gloria. On October 2, 2008, Daniel Estrada-Lopez was found guilty of Aggravated Murder and was sentenced to 33 years to life.

Another example of excellent police work was from a referral received from Butler County Children's Services in

December of 2007. It concerned the alleged sexual abuse of a 15 year-old girl. The girl disclosed to Detective Mark Hayes, a specialist in child assault cases, that Kenneth Ashcraft, age 41, had repeatedly sexually abused her over the course of two to three years during the time she and her mother lived with him in Hamilton and Fairfield Township. In 2002, Ashcraft was accused of sexually abusing his daughter and a five year-old girl that lived at his residence in Hamilton. The Butler County Prosecutor's Office declined to prosecute him at that time.

Detective Hayes interviewed Mr. Ashcraft again in February 2008. He denied having sexually abused any of these young girls.

Det. Hayes discovered that Kenneth Ashcraft had a 17 year-old son and that the mother of that child was 31 years of age. During an interview, the woman disclosed that she and Mr. Ashcraft were involved in a sexual relationship in 1989 and that he fathered her son. The woman was 12 years of age when the sexual relationship began. Mr. Ashcraft was 22 years of age. A DNA test would later confirm that Mr. Ashcraft was the father of that child.

The investigation led to the discovery of two other confirmed victims and several other suspected victims. Mr. Ashcraft forcibly raped one of the known victims when she was just 11 years old. He started another sexual relationship with a known victim when she was 11 years old. This relationship continued until she was 15 years of age. The offender proposed marriage to this victim when she was 12 years of age and then cohabitated with her when she turned 14. Mr. Ashcraft was 27 years old when he initiated this relationship. Many of the other suspected victims could not be located. Several others did not disclose abuse, but the circumstances strongly indicated that it was likely that Mr. Ashcraft sexually abused them as well. This included a very young girl with whom he shared a bed with at his residence. It was also discovered that Mr. Ashcraft married a 14 year-old girl in 1988, when he was 21 years of age.

On July 8, 2008, Detective Hayes arrested Kenneth Ashcraft as he continued to deny the allegations. The case was presented to the Butler County Grand Jury and they returned a True Bill indicting him on 11 counts of Rape, three counts of Corruption of a Minor, one count of Felonious Sexual Penetration, and one count of Unlawful Sexual Conduct with a Minor. These were charges for offenses committed from 1989 to 2004, and included the 2002 cases. Kenneth Ashcraft was convicted of all charges at his trial. Judge Noah Powers sentenced Mr. Ashcraft to the maximum sentence of 129 to 189 years in prison.



COPS Officer Mel Gray helps with traffic during the Wendy Walk.



Sgt. Carl Sigmon and Sgt. Steve Henderson are interviewed by the media.

*This report submitted by:
Lt. J. Scott Scrimizzi
Detective Division Commander*

VICE/POPS SECTION

The VICE/POPS Section consists of:

Sgt. Wade McQueen and Detectives Gerald Butler, Paul Davis, Joe Gabbard, John Marcum, Joey Thompson and Officers Gary Crouch and Brian Ungerbuehler.



Officer Mark Christian speaks to DARE graduates at Van Buren Elementary.



Officer Matt Blauvelt assists a stranded motorist on New London Road.



The Vice/POPS Section is comprised of a sergeant, five detectives and two Problem Oriented Policing Section (POPS) officers. The section investigates complaints involving drugs, pharmaceuticals, prostitution, pornography, illegal gambling, liquor permit premise inspections and complaints, and organized crime. The section gathers information on criminal activity, and discreetly secures and analyzes highly sensitive intelligence information. This information is passed on to other elements of the police department or maintained within the Vice Section. With the addition of the uniformed POPS officers, the section also addresses specific problem areas that are too time consuming for officers assigned to patrol duties. POPS officers attack issues using creative and unique methods that eliminate the problem.

In 2008, the Vice/POPS Section received a total of 1093 complaints, compared to 812 received in 2007. We responded by making a total of 723 arrests and executing 125 search warrants. The following contraband was seized during these actions: over one kilo of cocaine, more than eight ounces of crack-cocaine, three ounces of heroin, over 36 ½ pounds of marijuana and 75 plants, more than five ounces of methamphetamine, over 600 oxycontin pills and numerous other prescription drugs, 50 guns, ten vehicles, and over \$84,000.00 in cash. The total street value of the seized drugs amounted to over \$167,000.00.

Prostitution enforcement remained as one of the top priorities for the section. Detectives contacted and worked with the

city's Law Department to rewrite current ordinances. New ordinances contain stiffer penalties and include additional elements to the offense that pertain to "Johns" who Loiter to Engage in Prostitution. The detectives and officers in the Vice Section spend numerous hours each week responding to complaints and conducting self-initiated activity. The office conducted five prostitution stings throughout the year. Over the course of the year, a total of 85 prostitution-related arrests were made. We will continue with aggressive enforcement action.

During the year, detectives devoted a substantial portion of their investigative time toward drug complaints received from citizens and patrol officers. These investigations led to the execution of numerous search warrants by the Vice/POPS Section.



The year started off with a search warrant that was served at 604 N. E St., where over 600 grams of marijuana, scales and other paraphernalia were recovered.

Later that month, Officer Eric Taylor referred a confidential informant who was able to set up a purchase of a kilo of cocaine. We contacted the West Chester Police Department, set up a search warrant, and jointly arrested Jose Seda and two other suspects.



In February, the Walgreens on High Street was robbed. Patrol did an outstanding job of locating and arresting the perpetrator. Unfortunately, a large portion of the stolen Oxycontin were still on the street. We were able to have



Officer Bob Snyder checks out keys before the start of his tour of duty.

On Thursday June 26, 2008, the Hamilton Police Department and the Butler County Juvenile Court conducted a curfew violation sweep in the city of Hamilton. Sixteen juveniles were picked up in the citywide sweep, which lasted from 10:00 p.m. until 1:00 a.m.

Of the 16 juveniles picked up for curfew violations, 14 were cited into Juvenile Court. One juvenile was also cited for Underage Consumption of Alcohol.

The sweep was a joint effort in which Community and Problem-Oriented Policing Officers teamed with Juvenile Probation Officers and Hamilton Detectives.



Officer Lanny Ash speaks to a citizen at the Butler County Job Fair.

On April 11, 2008, the Hamilton Police Department's Vice Section, working in cooperation with the Middletown and Fairfield Township Police Departments, made a significant drug arrest. Officers from these departments arrested Byron Hornsby, age 49, 1460 Tuley Road, Hamilton, for Possession of Methamphetamines after serving a search warrant at his home.

In Hornsby's residence, police found 80 grams of methamphetamines, \$6,000 in cash, 13 guns, marijuana, pills and scales.



Officer Robert Payne incinerates confiscated drugs.



Officer Dominic Spinelli loads records that will be archived.

a confidential informant make an introduction and arrange for the purchase of 500 tablets. Once the deal was consummated, officers moved in and arrested Tonya Bailey. The next day, we received information regarding the location of the last remaining bottle of pills. As a result, all but two pills were recovered from the original robbery.



The Vice/POPS Section received information concerning several heroin related deaths that were linked to a single heroin source in Dayton. Detectives were able to make several buys from local dealers, but were unable to lure the main supplier into Hamilton. Our investigators contacted Dayton Police and began working with them. Detectives made several hand-to-hand buys in Dayton, and eventually were able to persuade the main supplier to meet them in Monroe. The Monroe Police Department was contacted and Diante Everhart was arrested after selling an ounce of heroin to detectives. A search warrant was executed in Dayton, and nearly an ounce of crack was seized. Several people were arrested and charged with corrupt activities.

The Vice/POPS Section received information that James King was dealing major amounts of marijuana from his home at 306 South 5th Street. Detectives served a search warrant, and through investigative techniques, recovered over \$20,000 in cash, four guns, drug paraphernalia, and over a pound of marijuana.



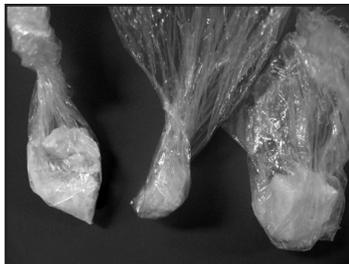
Detectives received a complaint of marijuana being grown at 1101 Hunt Avenue. Detectives conducted surveillance and were granted a search warrant. They found 75 marijuana plants being grown in the back yard along with marijuana and paraphernalia inside of the residence.

Detectives responded when patrol found the business at 336 S. "B" Street unsecured late at night. Patrol officers found crack cocaine laying in plain view while conducting a

security check. Detectives prepared a search warrant based on the information, and confiscated crack cocaine scales and two guns.



In 2008, detectives committed substantial resources to the city's North End. More than 20 search warrants were served in that area. Two of the warrants were at 1123 and 1147 Heaton St. The former was the third served in the past several years. The drug dealers from these addresses were riding bikes around the North End selling drugs and running between both houses. The warrants were served and several arrests were made. Detectives recovered crack, marijuana and drug paraphernalia. Detectives also began abatement proceedings to make sure the tenants would be out of the residence for good. Once served with the letter, the landlord complied and evicted the tenants.

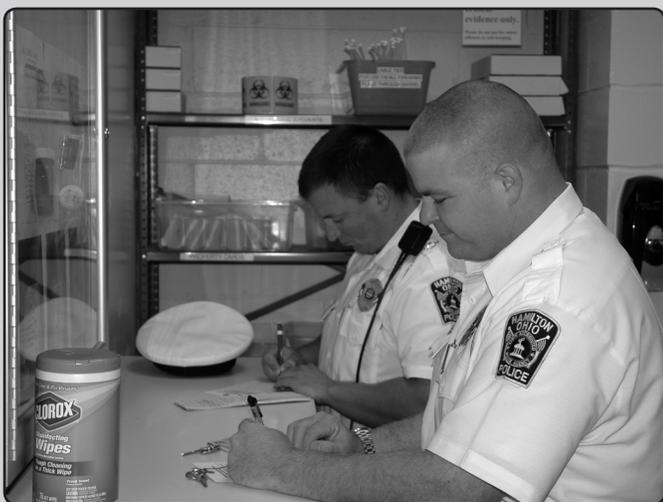


On July 25, 2008, the First Financial Bank on Main St. was robbed. The suspect handed the teller a note, displayed a weapon, and demanded cash. The teller gave him money and the suspect fled the area. Police were notified, and the license plate of the suspect's vehicle was dispatched to officers. Officers Aaron Hucke and Brian Gleason ran the registration, but discovered that the plate was not in file in Ohio. They then realized that they had seen the plate earlier in the shift and that it belonged to a vehicle registered in New York. They subsequently located the car on Hueston Steet. They even found a resident that was associated with that car. Detectives were notified, and after interviewing the resident, learned the identity of the bank robbery suspect. Detectives issued a warrant for the First Financial robber. A mere two days passed before Officer Casey Johnson located and arrested the suspect on the east side of town. Excellent police work was conducted by all the officers involved, and they demonstrated the effectiveness of working as a team. Finally, detectives also determined that the suspect was also involved in a bank robbery in our city during the month of March. The suspect was charged in both robberies.



Chief Ferdelman swears in Officer Brian Gleason.

On June 22, 2008 Officers Chris Gibson and Pat Fackey Jr. responded to a call of a male in a red truck attempting to pick up a young girl. Officer Gibson spotted and stopped a vehicle matching the description of the suspect's vehicle. During the stop, Officer Gibson conducted a check on the driver and discovered that he was a registered sex offender with a past history of rape. Officers Fackey and Gibson spoke with the victim and she identified the suspect. The suspect was arrested and detectives were notified. The investigating detective discovered that the suspect had served approximately twenty years in prison for his involvement in the rape of a seventeen year-old girl. The detective also recalled that another detective had an open case involving the same suspect for other sex offense violations. The suspect was charged with Criminal Child Enticement as well as other crimes. He is now serving time in prison for his actions. It is readily apparent that the suspect was cruising the area for the purpose of picking up children. The actions by Officers Gibson and Fackey Jr. prevented him from achieving his goal.



Officers Jon Pieron and Scott Arbino tag evidence in the property room.

Detectives had received complaints about Robert Ross for quite some time, however, a break in the case occurred when a few informants surfaced. We were able to start purchasing cocaine and pills from Ross. When we obtained the evidence needed, a search warrant was executed at both his business and home. Detectives recovered cocaine and numerous oxycontin tablets. Ross and his wife were charged with numerous counts of Trafficking in Drugs and Corrupt Activities.

In 2007, the Vice/POPS Section became involved in an investigation of a local doctor. A joint investigation was launched between our department, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the State Medical Board, and the Butler County Prosecutor's Office. This resulted in the indictment of Mark Blankenburg for Corruption of a Minor, two counts of Unlawful Sexual Conduct with a Minor, two counts of Corrupting Another with Drugs and 22 counts of Trafficking in Drugs.

The Vice/POPS office has been tracking information on local, national and international gang movements for the past several years. We have seen a significant increase in some of the local gangs. The POPS officers spent a great deal of time investigating and putting together a case against the Riverside 500 Bloods. Numerous search warrants were served where guns, drugs, gang paraphernalia and over \$20,000 was seized. Detectives also made numerous drug buys connected to the Riverside 500 Bloods.



Vice detectives confiscated firearms and weapons from the Riverside 500 Bloods.

The Vice/POPS section also completed three underage alcohol purchase stings that resulted in numerous arrests and citations at local carryouts and bars. The section has aggressively pursued bars that officers have repeatedly had to respond to and that have had numerous complaints lodged against them. Bob's Café will be permanently closed due

to the efforts of the Patrol and Detective Divisions. We are confident that Tail-Gators' license will be suspended, which could result in that bar being closed permanently.

Over the past year, the Vice Section has increased the number of search warrants served on suspected drug houses and increased our community contacts. The link to the community is one that is vital. The section also continues to benefit from the addition of uniformed officers to the unit. Detectives are able to act and react much more quickly and efficiently. The Vice Section will continue working together with citizens and other agencies to stop the flow of drugs into our community. Every resource will be used, and our commitment remains strong to rid Hamilton of drug dealing and prostitution.

This report submitted by:
Sgt. Wade McQueen
Vice Section Supervisor



Traffic officers respond to an accident on the High-Main bridge.

Vice detectives served a search warrant at 1460 Tuley Road and recovered guns, pills, scales, cash and 80 grams of methamphetamines.



ADMINISTRATIVE BUREAU 2008

The Administrative Bureau is headed by Captain Steve A. Poulemanos and is functionally divided into the Services Division, Central Records Section, Training Section, Communications Section, Public Affairs Section, and Court Services Section. The Administrative Bureau serves to support the functions of the Operations Bureau. Sheila Pennington is responsible for the personnel function, along with her duties as secretary to the Chief of Police. Administrative Specialist Michael Collopy is responsible for writing grants, policies, procedures, and for departmental budgeting. He is also the Accreditation Manager.

During the year, the Administrative Bureau participated in several major projects, which included:

- Partnering with other Butler County agencies to design, purchase and implement a new regional 800MHz radio communications system;
- Implementing an AVL (Automatic Vehicle Location) GPS (Global Positioning System) in all marked and unmarked police units to provide the capability to locate our personnel in any emergency situation;
- Installing and implementing E911 Phase II technology in the 911 Communications Center to identify and track cell phone callers' locations when in need of emergency assistance;
- Renovating the four-bay garage located on our adjacent property for the secure storage and processing of vehicles needed for evidence in criminal cases and the secure storage of other departmental equipment; and
- Implementing a new electronic "Defensive Action" report to replace the paper "Use of Force" report.

The Administrative Bureau received 14 complaints from the public or from within our department during 2008. Of those, three were completely unfounded; three were unsustainable, and seven were sustained. The sustained complaints resulted in six employees receiving seven separate disciplinary actions for minor infractions.

*This report submitted by:
Captain Steve A. Poulemanos
Administrative Bureau Commander*



Officer Brian Wynn reviews the daily activity report.



Officer Scott Laney checks a business after receiving an alarm call.

ADMINISTRATIVE SPECIALIST

The Administrative Specialist reports directly to the Administrative Bureau Commander. The duties of the Administrative Specialist include: serving as the department's Accreditation Manager; development and revision of all departmental rules, regulations, policies, and procedures; grants management and grant proposal writing; annually preparing the departmental fiscal budget; and assisting with special projects as assigned by the Chief of Police or Administrative Bureau Commander.

During the year 2008, the Administrative Specialist, in his capacity as Accreditation Manager, guided the department through another successful on-site inspection, as conducted by representatives from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc.



Additionally, the Administrative Specialist was responsible for obtaining grant funding used to purchase equipment and provide walking patrols in business districts and low-income residential areas.

*This report submitted by:
Michael R. Collopy
Administrative Specialist*

SERVICES DIVISION

The Services Division encompasses several units of the Hamilton Police Department. These include the Central Records Section, Training Section, Public Affairs Section, Communications Center, Property and Evidence, Court Services Section, and Technical Support. These various functions are supervised by a Training Sergeant, Public Affairs Sergeant, Corrections Manager, Communications Manager, Central Records Supervisor, and are overseen by the Services Commander. The Services Commander also acts as the department's comptroller for purchasing and maintaining daily expenditures. The Services Division provides administrative, technical, and training support to all members of the Hamilton Police Department.

Two police officers are assigned to the property room and fingerprint duties. Another officer is assigned as a technology officer and provides technological support to all Hamilton Police employees. All of our police cruisers are equipped with Mobile Computer Terminals (MCT), which must be kept up, and running. Overall, the police department uses more computers than any other city department, and



*Captain Steve A. Poulemanos
Administrative Commander*



*Lieutenant Daniel R. Pratt
Services Commander*

Services Division:

Lieutenant Daniel Pratt
Sergeant Steve Henderson
Property Officer Robert Payne
Identification Officer Dominic Spinelli
Technology Officer Richard Miller



The CALEA on-site team takes calls from citizens.



Police Officer Craig Hon assists a citizen while working as desk officer.



Officer Terry Kiep issues a citation.



Public Affairs Officer Dave Crawford briefs the media.

they are in use around the clock. The Technology Officer is responsible for keeping these systems current and operational.

The Training Section consists of a Training Sergeant and one Training Officer. These two officers are responsible for providing all of the training within the Hamilton Police Department. Also, these officers are responsible for documenting and maintaining the department's training records. These officers also provide training to officers from other agencies, either by hosting schools at Hamilton Police Headquarters, or teaching at other locations.

Security within the Hamilton Municipal Court, as well as the municipal building, is the responsibility of the Court Services Section. Corrections Officers run the court security checkpoint, transport prisoners, provide building security, and respond to trouble calls within the municipal building. A Corrections Manager supervises these officers.

During 2008, the Services Division continued to upgrade building security. We added the newly acquired garage to our keyless entry and alarm monitoring system. We also updated the alarm users for the SWAT and Armory rooms in addition to the police department firing range.

All marked police vehicles have MCTs that have been replaced with updated models.

The goal of the Services Division has been to provide support to both the Operations and Administrative Bureaus of the Hamilton Police Department. This promotes efficiency in both bureaus and increases the level of service to our citizens.

*This report submitted by:
Lieutenant Daniel R. Pratt
Services Commander*

PUBLIC AFFAIRS SECTION

One Sergeant, two Public Affairs Officers, one Drug Abuse Resistance Education (DARE) Officer, one Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT) Officer, and one full-time and one part-time School Resource Officer staff the Public Affairs Section.

In 2008, we received a DARE grant from the State of Ohio, a GREAT grant from the federal government, and funding from the Hamilton City School District for a School Resource Officer.

The Public Affairs Supervisor oversees the DARE and GREAT programs. The kindergarten through fifth grade

part of the DARE program was four weeks in duration. The sixth grade program was ten weeks and ended with an essay contest. During commencement exercises, each sixth grade graduate received a DARE t-shirt and a certificate of completion.

The GREAT program educates teens on the dangers of gangs and then provides them with suitable alternatives. This program targets seventh grade students and is nine weeks long. Each seventh grade participant is required to complete a workbook and a community service project. Upon completion of the program, each graduate is awarded a GREAT t-shirt and a certificate of completion. In addition to the DARE/GREAT officers, the eight Community-Oriented Policing Section's (COPS) officers are teaching the DARE/GREAT program in their target areas.

During the 2008 school year, School Resource Officer Robert Gentry conducted programs in the Hamilton City and private school classrooms for grades kindergarten through six. The various programs consisted of Pedestrian Safety Training, Halloween Safety, Kids & Company program, Safety Town, Gun Safety, the Third Grade Seat Belt program, and the Bicycle and Helmet Safety programs.

In 2008, Officer Rich Burkhardt was assigned to the Public Affairs Section. He attended crime prevention and media relation classes during the year.

The Neighborhood/Business Watch program continued throughout the community in 2008. Meetings were held in churches, parks, and private homes. Citizens voiced their concerns about traffic problems, drug activity, youth problems, and the condition of some properties in their neighborhood.

Officers from the section participated in the "So You Want to Drive a Car" program. The Greater Hamilton Safety Council offers the program to all ninth grade students of Butler County. Also, we participated in the Safety Round-Up, City-Wide Clean-Up and mock crashes at Badin and Hamilton High Schools.

Public Affairs Section Supervisor Sergeant Thomas Kilgour continued to interact, monitor, and work with Hamilton City School administrators and private school administrators regarding House Bill 422 for safety lockdown protocols.

The Public Affairs officers are responsible for telephone and mail-out citizen surveys to every 50th caller for police service. Also, at public events, citizens are asked to give their input concerning their interactions with dispatchers, police officers, and detectives. These surveys are then compiled, tracked, and analyzed. The Public Affairs Section



Chief Ferdelman and Officer Kristy Collins congratulate a D.A.R.E. graduate at Hayes Elementary.



Officer Eric Taylor readies a fishing line for one of the Future Role Models of GREAT.



The first employee picnic in the Maury Goebel Memorial Garden was held in 2008.

Public Affairs Section consists of:

Sergeant Thomas Kilgour, Public Affairs Supervisor;
Public Affairs Officers Dave Crawford and Rich Burkhardt;
DARE/GREAT Officers Mark Christian and Kristy Collins;
School Resource Officers Tom Hurst and Robert Gentry.



Officer Beckelhymer entertains children at a Christmas event.



School Resource Officer Bob Gentry, Public Affairs Officer Dave Crawford and Sgt. Steve Henderson prepare bratwurst before an employee picnic.

is committed to providing empathetic customer service to the citizens of the City of Hamilton, which reflects our Mission and Values statement. Public Affairs officers filed 486 crime reports taken from citizens by either way of walk-in or telephone reporting, which was an increase of 159 reports from 2007.

In 2008, the Public Affairs Section continued selling brick pavers and limited edition coins for the Police Memorial Plaza. Brick pavers are being sold, along with a limited edition "challenge" coin. In November, a third statue portraying a boy holding an ice cream cone and carrying a school backpack was added to the memorial. Pat and Donna Carruthers generously donated the memorial statue. The girl statue was officially named "Elizabeth" and the boy statue was named "Rogue". In 2009, we will officially dedicate the third sculpture.

The Public Affairs Section continued to work with businesses and residential owners of alarm systems in an attempt to prevent and deter false alarms. Public Affairs officers conducted numerous physical security inspections of residences and businesses free of charge. Officers made up-to-date crime prevention recommendations aimed at improving the security of these properties.

Public Affairs officers received grants from the Hamilton Community Foundation to offset costs for programs conducted during the summer months. Officers worked in conjunction with the Weed and Seed coordinator in the Second Ward, Fourth Ward, North End, Lindenwald, and Rossville areas.

The Public Affairs Section hosted the second Hispanic Citizens' Police Academy in 2008. The program lasted six weeks and targeted the Hispanic and Latino communities. This program aims to build trust between the police department and the Hispanic community, and to promote cooperation in the reporting and the solving of crimes.

In late January, the City of Hamilton purchased a parcel of property on the northside of the police department with a garage located on the premise. Captain Poulemanos and Public Affairs Officer Dave Crawford coordinated building renovations, which included a new evidence bay for the Detective Division. Lieutenant Daniel Pratt and Officer Crawford worked with companies to install a keyless entry system, along with an alarm system. Security lighting was installed in the parking lot, and we hope to obtain additional surveillance cameras. The project is scheduled for completion in early 2009. In the future, when funding is available, our goal is to fence in the parking lot with electric security gates, and install a pedestrian gate and an intercom system.

The Public Affairs Section established a new program called “Light the Night” targeting crime prevention efforts for seniors. Application requirements were set for the program, and funding was provided by the Hamilton Community Foundation. We networked with other organizations to make this program cost-effective. The Public Affairs Section screens the applications and then forwards them to Neighborhood Housing Services, Inc. for installation of motion sensor lights. Not only are the lights a safety factor, they serve as a crime prevention tool by illuminating obstructions on the sidewalk. The lights also draw attention to suspicious persons and activities.

Captain Joe Murray and Officer Dave Crawford began another project on the southside of the police department. The department built a customized employee picnic area. The entrance is outlined with a stone planter, brick columns, fencing, and an entry gate. Inside the area, carpenters installed a wooden deck with brick pavers that surrounded the deck. Landscaping was added. The department received donated items for the picnic area, which was named the “Maury Goebel Memorial Garden” in honor of an officer who lost his life in 1986.

Finally, the Public Affairs Section, along with Records Intern Elise Beckett, produced our third holiday greeting card. The holiday card depicted a wintry scene of the Hamilton Police Department’s entrance, along with the Carruthers Police Plaza. (See image on page25). The department also released the second customized holiday ornament and it was sold to the public.

*This report submitted by:
Sergeant Thomas E. Kilgour
Public Affairs Supervisor*



Officers Jeff Eck and Kevin Holstein entertain children at Public Safety Vehicle Day at Jefferson Elementary.

A new initiative by the Hamilton Police Department and Neighborhood Housing Services Inc. will help keep Hamilton seniors and others safe. A \$3,500.00 grant from the Hamilton Community Foundation funded the “H.P.D. Light the Night” program. The program is designed to assist seniors and special needs persons with nighttime safety around their homes.



Former Records Intern Elise Beckett produced the department holiday greeting card.

CENTRAL RECORDS SECTION

The Central Section consists of:

Allison Baker Records Supervisor; Records Clerks Andrea Young, Karen Snyder, Maureen Kollstedt, Carolyn Huntington, Amy Beasley, Maxine Menninger, and Lisa Weissinger.



Central Records Clerk Amy Beasley microfilms reports and fingerprints.



Central Records Supervisor Allison Baker retrieves a theft report for the Public Affairs Section.



COPS Officer Paul Webb takes Grant Elementary School students on a tour of headquarters.

For most of 2008, the Central Records Section was staffed with one records supervisor, four records clerks and three part-time clerks. We hired our third part-time clerk in the first quarter of the year but lost one of our records clerks in the fourth quarter. The unit reports directly to the Services Commander.

The Central Records Section is responsible for maintaining all criminal and traffic records for the police department. All accident, crime, arrest and released vehicle impoundment reports are scanned and entered into the departmental computer system. All citations, field interview cards and pawned and new gun sales are entered into the departmental computer system. Pawned and swap shop items are sorted and filed. Items selected by the Investigations Section are entered into the departmental computer system. Additionally, all fingerprint cards are processed and matched with fingerprint classifications received from the Bureau of Criminal Identification and Investigation (BCI&I) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). They are then scanned and entered into the computer system. The section is also responsible for ensuring that mug shots in our digital imaging system and those taken from the digital camera in Court Services are connected to the correct jacket. All warrants and summons from Hamilton Municipal Court are processed in our section. Warrant information is also entered into the computer system. A records clerk copies and distributes all reports to other sections of the department and departments in other buildings.

The Central Records Section provides statistical data to BCI&I and the FBI on a monthly basis. Statistical data is also provided to other sections of the department, and to other agencies and individuals. The section is responsible for maintaining cash voucher reports from funds collected through the sale of copied reports, discs and mug shots. The section is also responsible for cash voucher reports of administrative fees involved with processing impounded vehicles. The section also replaces the Chief's Secretary when she is absent.

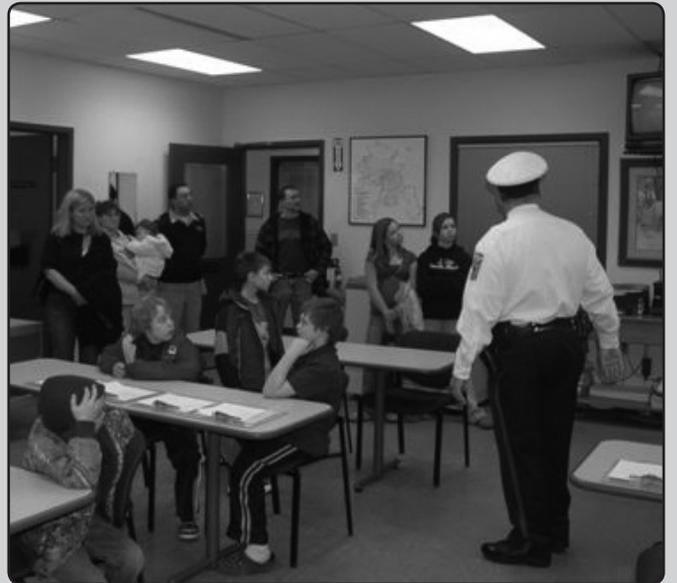
In 2008, payroll entry duties were transferred to the Central Records Section. One clerk was assigned to this duty and a second was trained in case of absence.

The Central Records Supervisor is the computer systems administrator and must keep all computer tables updated and assists in changes when new versions are installed. The Central Records Supervisor is also responsible for maintaining the Records Retention Schedule for the Department.

*This report submitted by:
Allison Baker
Central Records Supervisor*



School Resource Officer Bob Gentry assists at the Hispanic Citizens Academy. Academy members wear goggles that simulate driving under the influence of alcohol.



Cub Scout Troop 926 takes a tour of police headquarters. School Resource Officer Bob Gentry explains the telephone voice mail system.



The Honor Guard marches past a podium of dignitaries at the Ohio Police Officer's Memorial.

TRAINING SECTION

The Training Section consists of:

Sgt. Trent Chenoweth; Police Officer Lee Brian Buchanan.

Fitness Specialists:

Detective Greg Baker; Police Officers Brian Wynn and Robert Snyder.

Unarmed Self Defense Instructors:

Police Officers Brian Buchanan, Robert Snyder and Ryan Beckelhymer.

Firearms Instructors:

Lieutenants Gerald Martin and Scott Scrimizzi; Sergeants Ed Buns and Trent Chenoweth; Detectives Paul Davis and Dan Stevenson; Police Officers Melvin Gray, Brian Buchanan, Mike Coleman, Paul Webb and Chad Stafford.

Ohio Peace Officer's Training Commission Certified Instructors:

Sergeants Ed Buns and Trent Chenoweth; Detective Dan Stevenson; Police Officers Richard Miller, Brian Buchanan, Anthony Kiep and Christa Alfrey.



Officer Shawn Fryman deploys stop sticks during in-service training.

The Training Section is responsible for training all sworn and civilian members of the department and the Communications Center. This begins at their initial date of hire and runs throughout their career. It is our goal to provide the best training available. Training for agency personnel is offered internally via in-service training sessions, and externally through outside training agencies. The department also hosts many training courses. In doing so, personnel are afforded the opportunity to learn from expert instructors and make contact with other law enforcement personnel from outside agencies. Training needs for employees are identified by several means; request by the officer or employee to attend job specific training, need as identified by supervisors, employee evaluations, defensive action reports, or other documents identifying additional training that would benefit employees.

The Training Section is a component of the Services Division and is under the direction of a sergeant who evaluates training needs. The Training Supervisor coordinates with local academies, plans and implements in-house training programs, and is the departmental liaison with governmental and private training companies that bring training to the Hamilton Police Training Center.

Police Officer Lee Brian Buchanan is assigned full-time to assist in the functions of the section. Officer Buchanan is the primary hands-on instructor, and operates directly out of the firing range. He serves as our in-house instructor on a variety of training topics, and oversees the day-to-day operations of the police range. Due to his extensive training and personal commitment to the agency, his efforts are vital to the department's success. Also, personnel who are assigned to various shifts and sections support the Training Section. They teach specific subject areas, such as firearms, traffic investigation, drug recognition and diversion, gang-related activities, and other subjects as needed.

In 2007, the Ohio Legislature, under the direction of the Peace Officers Training Commission (OPOTC), enacted Continuing Professional Training (CPT) requirements for all peace officers commissioned in the state. The Training Section is responsible for ensuring that all sworn officers of the department receive the mandated training to maintain their peace officer status.

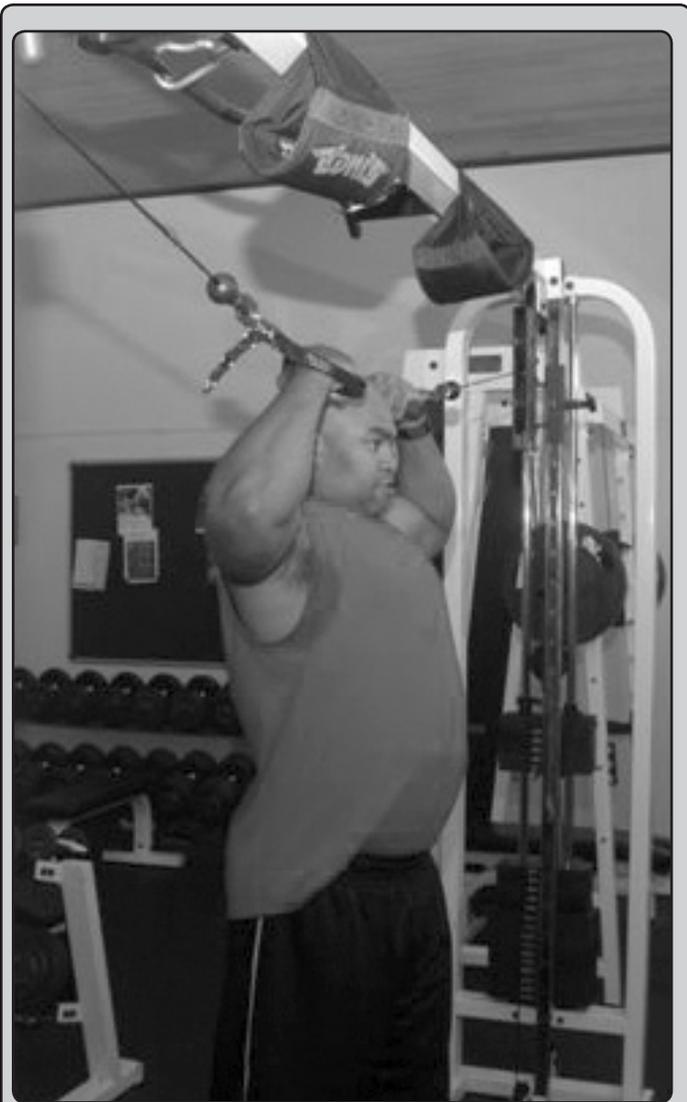
The Training Section must ensure that new officers receive training that is in compliance with the OPOTC basic training curriculum. The section also oversees the post academy field-training program, which consists of a 13-week practical application pupil/coach program.

The section coordinates the semi-annual in-service training of Hamilton police personnel. Mandated topics, as well as current issues, are covered. This training provides officers with up to date information that facilitates professional service. For non-sworn personnel, such as records clerks and communications operators, the Training Section provides training on job appropriate topics such as general orders, sexual harassment policy, departmental computer usage, e-mail, and the city telephone system.

As part of the training function, the Training Supervisor arranges for travel to and from training, financial reimbursement for training-related issues, payment of bills for training, registrations, and maintenance of the training records of all department employees. The Training Section is responsible for the upkeep and care of the firearms training facility, the training center in police headquarters, and the armory.

During 2008, the Training Section focused on the following:

- Meeting all requirements of CPT, as mandated by OPOTC. This will result in the reimbursement to the department of approximately \$16,800 for completing training;
- Throughout 2008, we assisted Civil Service and Personnel with fitness testing of departmental applicants;
- Conducted fitness testing for departmental and city employees for the city fitness incentive program;
- Conducted an annual review of departmental training needs to identify new trends in training that would benefit our officers;
- Hosted a Tactical Rifle Instructor course that was administered by the Butler Technology Career and Development Centers Law Enforcement Institute;
- Changed the firearms training of the department to focus on basic shooting skills during the winter in-service session, and required annual re-qualification on weapons during the fall in-service session;
- Enhanced the training of Officers Ryan Beckelhymer and Bob Snyder to improve their teaching skills as related to self-defense training;
- Continued the Carrying Concealed Weapons training classes;



Officer Lanny Ash works out on the pulley machine.



Officer Brian Gleason starts his workout at the bench press.



Sergeant Trent Chenoweth takes ammunition to the range before in-service training.



Dispatcher Linda Lairson explains how the Communications Section codes calls for service.

- Instituted a Women's Self Defense class and an Advanced Carrying Concealed Weapons class;
- Worked closely with other local agencies such as Fairfield Township Police Department, Miami University Police Department, Fairfield Police Department, and others to provide training to multiple agencies through combined resources;
- Conducted a Top Gun competition for all sworn members during in-service training;
- Hosted the annual S.W.A.T. competition;
- Made multiple improvements to the range facility;
- Worked toward the implementation of the Patrol Rifle program;
- Renovated the Law Library with the assistance of Judge Moser;
- Developed a newsletter to update agency personnel on activities undertaken by training personnel.

*This report submitted by:
Sergeant Trent Chenoweth
Training Section Supervisor*

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

The Communications Section, operating out of the Police and Fire 911 Communications Center, serves the citizens of Hamilton on a 24-hour basis. The Communications Center dispatched a total 70,383 calls for police service and 11,870 calls for fire and paramedic service in 2008.

The Communications Center handled approximately 243,340 telephone calls during 2008. This total includes calls handled that were either duplicate reporting, informational, transfers to other sections, or referrals to other agencies. The Communications Center answered 77,831 911 calls (35.63% of 911 calls in Butler County) for 2008. The City of Hamilton's 911 Center remains one of the busiest Public Safety Answering Points in the Tri-State.

The control of the center is under the auspices of the police department due to the requirements set forth by the National Crime Information Center (NCIC) and the Law Enforcement Automated Data System (LEADS). NCIC is located in Washington, D.C. and is operated by the FBI. It is a computerized information center established as a

service to all criminal justice agencies. LEADS, located in Columbus, Ohio, is operated by the Ohio State Highway Patrol. The LEADS and NCIC mainframes are directly linked to each other. Ohio criminal justice agencies have the ability to add data to NCIC files, as well as make inquiries. The LEADS system is also directly linked to the National Law Enforcement Telecommunications System (NLETS) in Phoenix, Arizona. Out-of-state inquiries concerning persons, vehicles, property, driver's licenses, and administrative messages are processed by LEADS through NLETS and NCIC. This network also allows communications with Canada and The International Criminal Police Agency (Interpol).

The Communications Section is responsible for disseminating information received from NCIC and LEADS to the appropriate offices. The information varies in content from information on stolen property and wanted persons, to information related to officer safety and homeland security.

The vital and specialized support role of communications in the contemporary public safety environment dictates the need for highly dedicated and self-motivated personnel to be assigned to this key function. Professional demeanor and a strong personal desire to provide effective service must be the primary job goals of the men and women who provide the critical electronic link between the needs of the community and the resources of the police and fire departments. As members of police and fire communications, dispatchers are a part of the total public safety team. They provide vital support functions while working toward the larger goals and objectives of the police and fire departments. Dispatchers provide efficient and cost-effective safety services to the citizens of Hamilton, Ohio.



*Communications Manager
Daniel Philpot*

Members of the Communications Section include:

Communications Manager Daniel Philpot; Communications Supervisors Gary Gabbard; Timothy Rankin, and Nancy Smith; Dispatchers Jennifer Ferneding; Lucy Harbrecht; Amy Isaacs; Linda Lairson; Ralph Magill; Michelle McGlosson; Angela Mondello; Kathy Myers; Kim Owens; Michele Philpot; Jill Powell; Holly Robertson; Erica Scott; Darla Turner, and Karen Wells.



Dispatcher Michelle McGlosson loads an emergency call.

*This report submitted by:
Communications Manager Daniel Philpot*

*Public Affairs Officer
Dave Crawford talks with
Tom McClellan and Joe
Lubbers, as they pour
concrete at the Maury
Goebel Memorial Garden.*



POLYGRAPH

Polygraph Examiners:

Lieutenant Gerald M. Martin and Sergeant Mark Thomas



Officer Mike Coleman leads the way, at the annual "Blessing of the Bikes."



Captain Steve Poulemanous addresses Leadership Hamilton.



Corrections Officer Pat Erb Sr. scans an item at Hamilton Municipal Court.

The Hamilton Police Department has two qualified polygraph examiners. These examiners are graduates of nationally accredited polygraph schools. Additionally, these examiners have attended numerous training seminars conducted by the American Polygraph Association, and the American Association of Police Polygraphists. These organizations are recognized worldwide as providing some of the best training in polygraph available, and their membership is international. Our examiners have attended advanced training on chart interpretation, question formulation, interview and interrogation techniques, countermeasures, United States Supreme Court rulings, background investigations, and recent polygraph research. Instructors for these courses are the cream of the crop from the FBI, CIA, DEA, Department of Defense, United States Military, State and Local Police Departments, and various accredited polygraph schools.

Polygraph examinations are used to resolve cases that cannot be solved through ordinary investigative methods. Typical types of examinations include criminal suspects, witnesses, victims, pre-employment, civil court proceedings, and internal affairs investigations. The goal is always to determine the "Truth" of the matter under investigation. Numerous innocent persons have been freed from further suspicion by use of the polygraph. In other cases, the guilty party or parties have been uncovered and the case solved.

Our examiners hold memberships in several professional organizations dedicated to the administration of qualified, ethical polygraph examinations. These organizations include the American Polygraph Association, the American Association of Police Polygraphists, and the Ohio Association of Polygraph Examiners.

In 2008, Lt. Gerald Martin conducted a polygraph examination on a suspect in a child molestation case. The molestation of a 9 year- old girl had allegedly occurred two years earlier. The suspect adamantly denied these allegations prior to the polygraph examination. The results of the polygraph examination clearly indicated that the suspect was being deceptive. The suspect subsequently pled guilty to the charges and is currently serving time in an Ohio State Prison.

*This report submitted by:
Lieutenant Gerald M. Martin
Senior Polygraph Examiner*

COURT SERVICES SECTION

The Hamilton Police Department is responsible for security at the Hamilton Municipal Court and at One Renaissance Center, the Hamilton Municipal Building. The court security unit was formed in 2001. The now-titled Court Services Section is composed of 11 corrections officers, who are appointed under the Hamilton City Charter. This unit is under the direction and responsibility of the Corrections Manager Dan Schultz, who reports to the Services Division Lieutenant.

The Court Services Section is responsible for operating a checkpoint security station located on the second floor entrance of the Hamilton Municipal Court. The checkpoint is equipped with a magnetometer used to detect concealed metal items. On average, the security checkpoint processes 5,311 visitors a month to the Hamilton Municipal Court. A state-of-the-art x-ray scanner processes over 6,000 packages per month. The x-ray scanner allows officers to see inside sealed containers, briefcases, and other packages that may harbor a firearm or another dangerous device.

The checkpoint efficiency is maintained by routine security checks conducted by officers, or others, as directed by the Corrections Manager. Corrections officers also maintain security in the Hamilton Municipal Courtrooms and prisoner holding areas.

Officers transport prisoners to other jail facilities in Butler, Warren, Montgomery, Hamilton, and Preble Counties. Each month, officers transport an average of 613 prisoners from the Butler County Jail and 125 prisoners from the Hamilton Police Department's holding cell.

Corrections officers process 274 warrants per month. All prisoners booked at the Hamilton Municipal Court are photographed and fingerprinted, if required.

The responsibilities at the Hamilton Municipal Building include maintaining security for city offices, responding to alarms and daily foot patrol of the outside perimeter. Corrections officers assist city directors with security issues. Officers maintain a working relationship with the Butler County deputies who provide security at the Government Services Center.



*Corrections Manager
Daniel Schultz*

The Court Services Section consists of:

Corrections Manager Daniel J. Schultz, Special Police Officer Ernest Howard, Corrections Officers Patrick Erb Sr., Patrick Fackey Sr., Dwain Flick, Joseph Martin, Joel Mast, John McDaniel, Dave Mick, Calvin Wagers, Chris Waldeck, and Robert Gordon.



Corrections Officers head to court with a van load of prisoners.



Corrections Manager Daniel Schultz monitors the happenings in Hamilton Municipal Court.

*This report submitted by:
Corrections Manager Daniel J. Schultz*

CANINE UNITS

Canine Officers consist of:

Todd Hurst and Terry Kiefer.
Police Canines Taz and Regret



Hamilton Police Detective James Smith coordinates a K-9 search on East Zimmerman Avenue.



Canine Officer Terry Kiefer and Regret search the perimeter of Ford's Pool.

The Hamilton Police Department has had canine units continuously since 1991. At the beginning of 2008, we had one detective, three police officers and four canines assigned to the Canine Program.

Shortly after the beginning of the year, canine Casper retired due to medical conditions related to his age. Detective Joey Thompson and Casper were a team for nine years. Their hard work and talent resulted in a substantial amount of drugs being removed from the streets, and numerous drug dealers being put behind bars. One of Casper's most memorable arrests occurred when he discovered 50 pounds of marijuana during a United Parcel Service interdiction. His actions resulted in a major felony arrest. Detective Thompson and Casper competed in the United States Police Canine Association Regional and National Competitions several times. They came in first and third respectively, in regional and national competitions for vehicle searches.

A few months later, we had a second canine retire due to his age. Officer James Gross and Wolf were also a team for nine years. During their partnership, they had numerous catches from tracks, and building searches. Five times, the United Police Canine Association awarded them with the catch of the month. Once, the United Police Canine Association awarded them with the catch of the quarter. As a team, they competed in numerous U.S.P.C.A. competitions, placing 4th in one of the regional trials. One of the most memorable catches for Officer Gross was the apprehension of two burglars inside the Westside Baptist Church in 2002. Without Wolf, these two burglars would never have been found.

Due to these two retirements, we are now down to two canine units. Each unit consists of an officer and a canine. One canine is used for narcotics detection during search warrants, vehicle stops, school searches, and public demonstrations. The narcotics canine is a black Labrador Retriever named Regret. Regret is assigned to Patrol Shift "B" for patrol duties. The other canine is used for tracking, building searches, article searches, area searches, officer safety, and public demonstrations. He is a German Shepherd named Taz. In 2008, he was assigned to the "B" shift.

The canines live at their officer's home and become part of their family. The canine officer is responsible for the feeding, maintaining, and overall health of his animal. The officer is also assigned a vehicle to transport the canine to work, training, and veterinarian visits.

Canine units attend mandatory training for eight hours a month at the Hamilton Police Department Canine Training

area, the Middletown Police Canine area or the Cincinnati Police Canine Training area. They also conduct additional training throughout the city, during their regular work hours. All of our canine handlers are members of the United States Police Canine Association and all of the canines are certified through the Ohio Peace Officer Training Academy. They are re-certified every two years.

In 2008, there were 58 incidents where our canines were used. The 58 canine uses were for 39 drug searches, three building searches, six tracks, and eight public demonstrations. There were two felony arrests and nine misdemeanor arrests related to these canine uses. The canines used force on one occasion. During that incident, the suspect tried to strike Taz during a building search. Canine arrests are related to suspects resisting arrest, fleeing officers or hiding to avoid detection.

In 2009, we hope to secure the funds to add another patrol canine to our program.

*This report submitted by:
Sergeant Michael Waldeck*



School Resource Officer Bob Gentry teaches pedestrian training at Fillmore Elementary School.



Detective Jim Calhoun and Molly Hudgins, of the Ohio K-9 Search Association, climb to the top of the underpass on East Zimmerman Avenue. Detectives reacted quickly to the false call of a deceased body.

TACTICAL RESPONSE TEAM

In 2008 the Tactical Response Team consisted of:

Lieutenant John Nethers, Commander
Lieutenant Daniel Pratt, Executive Officer

Det. Daniel Stevenson, Squad Leader/Less Lethal Team Leader
Det. Mark Nichols, Squad Leader

Det. Mark Poppe

Officers: David Anglin, Scott Arbino, Lanny Ash, Andrew Beckelhymer, Jason Chin, Michael Coleman, Gary Crouch, Chris Fackey, Peter Gibbons, Chris Gibson, Jon Habig, Stephan Hamilton, Aaron Hucke, Thomas Hurst, Todd Hurst, Casey Johnson, Mark Kibby, Anthony Kiep, Terrence Kiep, Scott Laney, Matthew Mulcahey, Dave Patterson, Randall Payne, Jon Pieron, Jon Richardson, Kevin Ruhl, Robert Snyder, Chad Stafford, Donald Taylor, Eric Taylor, William Thacker, Brian Ungerbuehler, and Nathan Zettler.



SWAT members train at the firing range.

The Hamilton Police Department's Tactical Response Team (TRT) is a specialized unit that consists of 38 team members. Of these, there are two lieutenants, three detectives, and 33 officers. Our TRT responds to situations involving civil disorder, crowd control and other occurrences requiring special tactics, equipment, and training that are not normally available in routine patrol operations.

Our TRT trains on a semiannual basis in the spring and fall. This training consists of line formations and team movements that are employed to move large crowds. Additionally, our TRT prepares for security measures at demonstrations, protests, and rallies of a controversial nature, as well as perimeter security for dignitaries visiting our city.

In the fall training, we conducted an equipment and inventory check. The team was instructed in use of force issues as they pertain to crowd control situations. We practiced marching movements and moving as a team, along with crowd control formations. Lieutenants Nethers and Pratt recertified the FN303 operators on the team and conducted demonstrations for the rest of the team. Lastly, we covered the proper use of the 36" riot baton.

This year, the team welcomed the addition of Officers Jason Chin, Kevin Ruhl, and William Thacker.

*This report submitted by:
Lieutenant John Nethers
TRT Commander*



Lieutenant John Nethers directs Detective Mark Nichols, Officer Gary Crouch and Detective Mark Poppe, during TRT training.

SPECIAL WEAPONS AND TACTICS

The Hamilton Police Department Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) team provides a ready response to situations that are beyond the capabilities of normally equipped and trained department personnel. The City of Hamilton recognizes that the presence of a highly trained and skilled SWAT unit has been shown to substantially reduce the risk of injury or loss of life to citizens, police officers and suspects; and recognizes that a well managed team response to critical incidents usually results in their successful resolution.

Hamilton SWAT officers have dual assignments within the department, serving as patrol officers, investigators and field supervisors. The team complement was increased in 2006, when the cities of Hamilton and Fairfield signed a new agreement in which Hamilton SWAT would handle all critical incidents in both cities. In 2008, Miami University signed a similar memorandum of understanding with HPD SWAT to cover any critical incident on Miami's campus. In accordance with these agreements, five new positions from Fairfield Police Department, and two from Miami University Police Department were added to the team. The total complement of 36 officers includes: the SWAT Commander, team leaders, operators, sniper teams, crisis negotiators, intelligence officers and Hamilton Fire Department paramedics.

The unit is activated for a variety of situations to include: barricaded subjects, hostage rescues, high-risk warrants, armed suicidal subjects, officer and citizen rescues, and dignitary protection details. The unit is on-call, and ready to respond, 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

In 2008, the team handled 12 call-outs. Several were high-risk search warrants, including four at Riverside 500 Gang members' homes. The team responded to two barricaded subject calls in Fairfield and a hostage rescue call in Hamilton that was filled with drama.

On February 1, 2008, James Bedinghaus who was awaiting trial for bank robbery, escaped from corrections officers while being transported to court. Bedinghaus was last seen running southeast from the Government Services Center. Numerous officers from the City of Hamilton and the Butler County Sheriff's Office searched the city attempting to locate the escaped prisoner.

At 10:02 AM, a tip was received that Bedinghaus was inside 601 Ludlow Street. Within three minutes, the house was surrounded and 14 SWAT officers were on the scene. While other SWAT officers were being summoned, the suspect smashed out a second story window and said he was armed and holding two hostages. He then barricaded the upstairs

2008 SWAT Members

Commander:

Lieutenant J. Scott Scrimizzi

Team Leaders:

Lieutenant Marc McManus, Sergeants Wade McQueen and Craig Bucheit.

Operators:

Hamilton:

Detectives David Weissinger, Paul Davis, Joey Thompson and Greg Baker; Police Officers Jeff Eck, Mel Gray, Brian Buchanan, Paul Webb, Frank Botts, Matt Blauvelt, Matthew Fishwick and Brian Wynn

Fairfield:

Sergeant Steve Maynard; Detectives Doug Day and Mike Woodall; Police Officers Kevin Harrington and Rob Corner.

Miami University:

Police Officers Aaron Baker and Alex Baker.

Sniper Commander:

Lieutenant Gerald M. Martin

Snipers:

Lieutenant Marc McManus; Fairfield Sergeant Steve Maynard, Detectives David Weissinger, Brian Robinson and Greg Baker; Police Officers Mel Gray, Matt Blauvelt.

Negotiators:

Lieutenant John Nethers; Sergeant Steve Henderson; Detectives Steve Rogers and Jim Calhoun; Officer Eric Taylor.

Intelligence Officers:

Detective Sergeants Carl Sigmon and Michael Waldeck

Paramedics:

Jennifer Mason, Joseph Gregory and Nate Robinson





Lieutenant Scrimizzi assists team members.



Detective Greg Baker, Sergeant Wade McQueen and Officers Paul Webb and Matt Fishwick compete in a SWAT competition.



SWAT team members practice rescue techniques at the range.

doorway and placed mattresses and box springs over the upstairs windows.

Sniper teams were immediately deployed and the emergency assault team placed cameras inside the suspect's location. During the next three hours, the Crisis Negotiations Team (CNT) spoke with the suspect in an attempt to get him to release the hostages. The suspect was extremely agitated, and at times he stated that he would kill the hostages and himself. At 12:57 PM, the suspect agreed to exchange a hostage for a bottle of water. Due to the fact that the suspect was barricaded in a second floor room and refused to take the barricade down, the emergency assault team rescued the hostage using a ladder.

With one female hostage left inside, CNT officers continued their negotiations. The emergency assault team moved into a position directly outside the door that the suspect was holding his hostage. The suspect asked CNT members several times to shoot him because he did not want to return to prison.

Approximately one hour after releasing the first hostage, Bedinghaus released the second hostage and was taken into custody. James Bedinghaus pled guilty as charged to Aggravated Robbery, Aggravated Burglary and Kidnapping. He was sentenced to 54 years in prison.

Personnel Selection

The team relies heavily upon each other, and must not only trust the impending actions of their teammates, but also confidently anticipate them. Coupled with the intensity of the situations that the SWAT team encounters, this makes it imperative that each member is a good fit physically, psychologically and cohesively. Therefore, the team screens applicants based on physical fitness testing, firearms qualification, and an oral interview. Applicants must serve three years on the force before applying. If accepted to the team, they remain on SWAT probation for one year.

Equipment

Officers assigned to the unit are issued specialized equipment such as ballistic helmets, level 3 load bearing tactical vests, tactical headsets, Glock model 35 pistols with tactical lights, Benelli super 90 12 ga. shotguns, H&K MP-5 sub machine guns, and .223 assault rifles. The team is also equipped with several tools to administer less lethal force, and an assortment of tools used for breaching. Given the broad spectrum of tools that each SWAT team member must have ready at all times, it has proven effective to assign several of the team members take home vehicles. The remainder of our equipment is transported in a one-ton truck. We can also deploy an armored Heavy Rescue truck.

Training

The SWAT unit trains a minimum of one day per month. In addition to the monthly training, members attend two weeks of specialized training, instructed by leading experts in the tactical community. Instructors in this process have included members of the Los Angeles Police Department SWAT team and leading experts in the tactical community.

During training drills, SWAT officers utilize live fire bullet traps, as well as simunitions. This environment gives SWAT members conditions as close to “real-life” as possible.

We continue to improve the obstacle course at our firearms range. The course includes 19 different obstacles: several walls, a cargo net, a rope climb, monkey bars, a 55 foot rappel tower, an A-frame, and a running trail through the 40 acre wooded property.

On August 14, 2008, the Second Annual Southwest Ohio SWAT Challenge was held. Eight SWAT teams competed in this one-day competition that included four separate events. The event was no small undertaking; it required the assistance of more than 50 volunteers. Hamilton SWAT captured the overall championship, while Cincinnati SWAT finished in second place.

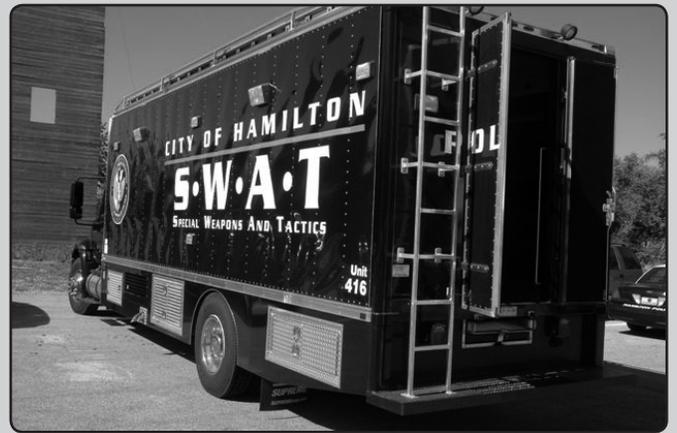
For the fourth consecutive year, Hamilton SWAT sent eight team members to Orlando, Florida to compete. Sixty SWAT teams from eight states and nine foreign countries participated in this international event. Teams battled through five days of events that challenged their tactical skills, physical fitness, and teamwork. The events included Hostage Rescue, Pritcher Scramble, Officer Rescue, Tower Scramble, and the Obstacle Course. Hamilton SWAT left Florida with the Top National Team award.

This international competition is a simulation of real life scenarios that enables SWAT officers to evaluate their performance in a stressful environment. Team members devoted numerous hours of training on their own time to prepare for this competition. Bringing home a prestigious trophy was a testament to their dedication.

Our SWAT team is constantly challenging one another to be the best of the best. By participating in these international competitions, the team can see firsthand how they stack up against the world’s finest. This competition validated that they are on the right track for success.

The team members who competed in Orlando consisted of Sgt. Wade McQueen, Detective Greg Baker, Officers Mel Gray, Paul Webb, and Matt Fishwick of the Hamilton Police Department. Also competing were Officers Aaron and Alex Baker of the Miami University Police Department and Fairfield Police Sgt. Steve Maynard.

*This report submitted by:
Lieutenant J. Scott Scrimizzi*



The SWAT Team’s heavy rescue vehicle is ready 24 hours a day.



The Southwest Ohio SWAT Challenge was held on August 14th. Volunteers tallied team scores under the HPD tent.



The Sgt. Wade McQueen obstacle course.

HONOR GUARD UNIT

The Honor Guard Unit Consists of:

Sergeant Edward W. Buns, Honor Guard Coordinator; Honor Guard Officers: Lanny Ash, David Anglin, Richard Burkhardt, Chris Fackey, Pat Fackey Jr., Shawn Fryman, Todd Hurst, Tom Hurst, Mark Kibby, Anthony Kiep, Terry Kiep, Richard Miller, Randall H. Payne, Robert C. Payne, Jon Richardson, Robert Snyder, Chad Stafford and Mike Thacker.



The Honor Guard leads the way during the Santa Claus parade.



Members of the Hamilton Police Honor Guard pose in front of the U.S. Capitol with other Ohio Honor Guard Officers.

The Honor Guard of the Hamilton Police Department is made up of eighteen police officers and a supervisor/coordinator that represent the department and the City of Hamilton. The unit participates in local parades, and presentations that decorum dictates a ceremonial presence. In addition to local functions, the Honor Guard has participated in the National Police Memorial Week and the Ohio Police Memorial Service to honor our officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our community. The unit also participates in local and regional events as a representative of the City of Hamilton and the Hamilton Police Department. The unit also participates in funerals for retired members of the Hamilton Police Department and other persons deemed worthy of such recognition by the Chief of Police.

Unit members pride themselves on their level of training, and the manner in which they conduct the duties of the Honor Guard. Training of unit members concentrates on marching and ceremony. All members are trained to march in a coordinated marching formation. The Hamilton Police Honor Guard provides several services at funerals. They honor the deceased with 21 gun salutes, folding of the United States flag, and serving as pallbearers. Initially, members received training from the 3rd U.S. Infantry, "The Old Guard," in Washington, D.C. This is the official military ceremonial unit of the United States Army, and the ceremonial unit of the President of the United States. Due to recent budget constraints and manpower concerns, the unit has conducted all training in-house. Through the dedication of its members, the unit has been able to maintain a high level of precision.

Events that the Honor Guard participated in during 2008 were:

- The National Police Officers' Memorial Week in Washington, D.C. During memorial week, the unit participated in numerous ceremonies honoring fallen officers, such as a candlelight vigil, presentation of the state flags at the United States Capital Building and the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Service on the west lawn of the United States Capitol. Officers also participated in an Honor Cordon at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial at Judiciary Square. The survivors of fallen officers were received and recognized for their loss. During this ceremony, family members were inspired by the motto, "It is not how they died that made them heroes, it is how they lived."
- The Ohio Law Enforcement Officers' Memorial Service at the Ohio Peace Officers Training Academy in London, Ohio.

- Marched in the Memorial Day and 4th of July Parades representing the city and the department.
- The unit presented colors at a Cincinnati Reds game on City of Hamilton day.

To insure the sustainability of the Honor Guard, Hamilton City Council authorized the department to teach “carrying concealed weapon” classes. The Training Section and the Honor Guard Unit conduct the classes, and the monies raised are directed by ordinance to fund the expenses of the Honor Guard. No general fund monies are used to purchase equipment, train, or pay any overtime involved in participation in events.

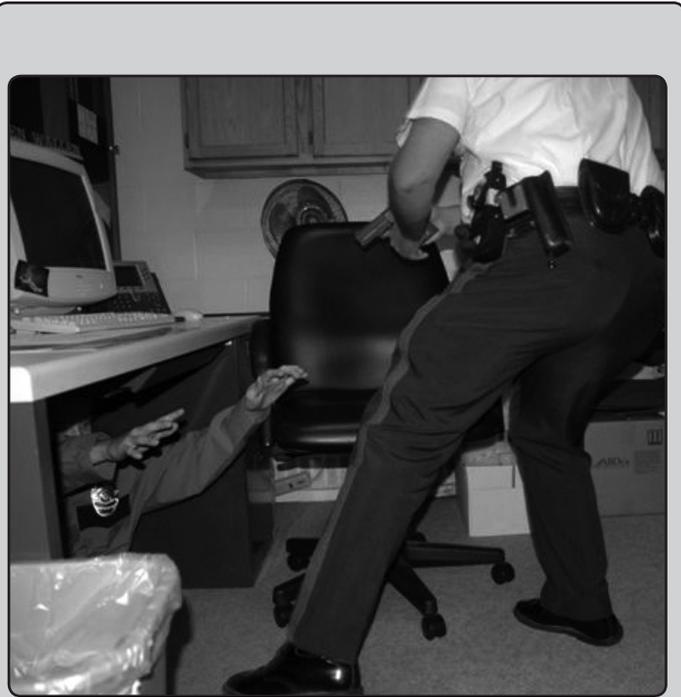
*This report submitted by:
Sergeant Edward W. Buns
Honor Guard Coordinator*

HAMILTON POLICE EXPLORERS POST 2902

The Explorer Program consists of an average of ten members. Explorers are taught straight from the Student Performance Objectives (SPO) provided by Butler Technical School’s Police Training Academy. Each meeting consists of two segments. The first segment is classroom instruction. The second segment concentrates on the practical application of the classroom instruction. The lesson plan we apply is based on actual scenarios at Explorer competitions. Each year, we compete against other Explorer programs from the tri-state area. Explorers participate in real- life scenarios that put their training to the test. They are judged and scored by police officers. After completion of each scenario, the judges reveal their scores and brief the students on their performance. Extra pressure is exerted because the Explorer’s parents are permitted to observe. This gives parents a first-hand view of the curriculum. The events are as follows:

1. Arrest, Search, & Seizure
2. Suspect Approach
3. Burglary in Progress
4. Crime Scene Investigation
5. Crisis Intervention
6. Domestic Violence
7. Traffic Accident Investigation
8. Traffic Stop
9. Emergency Field First Aid

Also, our lesson plans include techniques aimed at successful completion of the ten events. Explorers gain practical experience in handcuffing, report writing, pat-downs searches, and muzzle awareness. All aspects of vehicle



Officer Tom Hurst finds an intruder, during an Explorer drill.



Officer Tom Hurst practices entry techniques with the Explorers.

The Explorers consist of:

Explorer Administrator Police Officer Tom Hurst and Officers Chad Stafford, Todd Hurst, and Scott Arbino.



In 2008, Rogue, far right, was added to the Carruthers Police Memorial Plaza.



stops are covered to include, vehicle searches, accident measurement, traffic violation recognition, and vehicle approach. Once an SPO is completed, students are given both a written and a practical test the following week.

We also teach the Hamilton Police Department Core Values:

1. **Empathy**
2. **Integrity**
3. **Excellence**
4. **Justice**
5. **Cooperation**

Hamilton Police Explorers are expected to be professional in and out of uniform because they represent the Hamilton Police Department. They are taught to follow the chain of command. All members are provided with, and expected to follow, the Hamilton Explorer General Orders Manual.

Meetings

Meetings take place every Monday at the HOPE/RESCUE School from 7pm-9pm. Officers Chad Stafford, Todd Hurst and Scott Arbino assist when their schedules allow. We attempt to incorporate as much learning as we can in one night. To help keep the members on track, we have created an online calendar that includes meeting dates and times. The calendar sends an e-mail reminder 24 hours before our next meeting. All prospective applicants fill out an application. If they are deemed to be an acceptable candidate, they are welcomed as a Hamilton Police Department Explorer.

Last summer, five of our members joined HPD officers at a bicycle certification school in Middletown. Also, we met at police headquarters and patrolled the bike path from the Fitton Center to Joyce Park. Explorers wore their grey polo shirts, black shorts and safety helmets. In December, we had a Christmas party for the members. We ordered pizza, watched a movie and played video games.

Practical Applications

On occasion, we are asked to assist with OVI checkpoints in Hamilton, Fairfield, and West Chester. We have also assisted with crowd control at parades. We were asked by Council Member Kathy Becker to assist with traffic control at an event hosted by Transitional Living.

*This report submitted by:
Police Officer Tom Hurst
Explorer Program Coordinator*

CHAPLAINS

Chaplains see the best of times and the worst of times. They offer aid, comfort, and support in life's most tragic circumstances. Many times, they are the key to the survival of those involved in tragedy. Hamilton Police Department Chaplains counsel on a non-denominational and non-judgmental basis to anyone needing assistance. Often, chaplains are just good listeners, as well as a much-needed shoulder to cry on.

The Hamilton Police Department is served by three volunteer chaplains, each with many years of ministerial and law enforcement experience. We offer services to our citizens and members of the department on a round-the-clock basis.

Chaplains serve in the following ways:

- Assist officers at scenes of traumatic incidents;
- Provide counseling to crime victims and their families;
- Provide confidential counseling to department members when requested;
- Make death notifications;
- Perform services such as weddings, baptisms, and funerals for members and their families;
- Participate in new employee orientation, as well as promotion and retirement ceremonies;
- Teach classes at various in-service training sessions;
- Serve as a liaison with area clergy and civic organizations.

We encourage members of the department and citizens to take advantage of our experience and expertise.

Submitted by:
Senior Chaplain Gary Gabbard



Chaplain Reed hands out police stickers at the Butler County Fair.



Senior Chaplain Gary Gabbard



Chaplain James Kowalski



Chaplain Don Reed

The Hamilton Police Department Chaplains are:

Reverend Gary Gabbard, Reverend Don Reed, and Reverend Jim Kowalski.

A Police Officer's Prayer

Lord I ask for courage

Courage to face and conquer my own fears...
Courage to take me where others will not go...

I ask for strength

Strength of body to protect others
And strength of spirit to lead others...

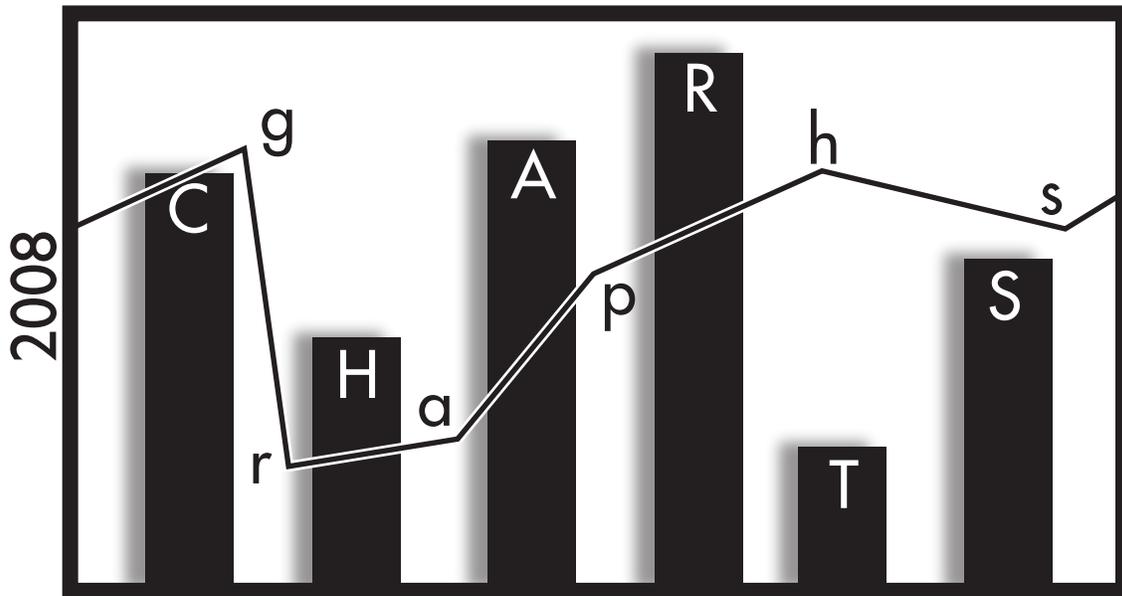
I ask for dedication

Dedication to my job, to do it well
Dedication to my community
To keep it safe...
Give me Lord, concern for others who trust me
And compassion for those who need me...

And Please Lord

Through it all, be at my side.

Hamilton Police Chaplains distribute these cards to all Hamilton police officers.



Tables



Statistical Profile

Consolidated Report - 2007 & 2008

CRIMINAL ANALYSIS	OFFENSES KNOWN		ARREST CHARGES		TRAFFIC ANALYSIS	CITATIONS ISSUED	
	2007	2008	2007	2008		2007	2008
PART I OFFENSES					ILLEGAL SPEED	2,341	2,283
CRIMINAL HOMICIDE: MURDER & NONNEG. MANSL.	2	4	1	3	FAIL TO YIELD	212	145
NEGLIGENT HOMICIDE	0	0	0	0	STOP SIGN	306	334
FORCIBLE RAPE	111	73	7	8	DISREGARDED SIGNAL	248	294
ROBBERY	249	159	31	33	FOLLOWED TOO CLOSE	370	374
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	201	178	51	50	DUI (OVIs)	350	354
BURGLARY/B&E	1,095	1,007	54	56	OTHER HAZARDOUS VIOLATIONS	1,869	1,394
LARCENY/THEFT	2,797	2,832	396	424	TOTAL HAZARDOUS VIOLATIONS	3,115	5,178
AUTO THEFT	352	266	7	10	SEAT BELT VIOLATIONS	535	579
ARSON	26	38	4	2	OTHER NON-HAZARDOUS	1,246	5,115
TOTAL PART I CLASSES	4,833	4,557	551	586	TOTAL OF ALL VIOLATIONS	10,057	10,872
PART II OFFENSES					TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS	2,034	1,962
OTHER ASSAULTS			374	641	INJURY ACCIDENTS	703	503
FORGERY & COUNTERFEIT.			55	47	DEATHS / FATALITIES	1	4
EMBEZZLEMENT AND FRAUD			108	103	REPORTS PROCESSED CRIMINAL OFFENSE	2007	2008
STOLEN PROPERTY, BUYING RECEIVING, POSSESSING			100	72	REPORTS	10,011	9,730
WEAPONS, CARRYING, POSS.			105	73	TRAFFIC ACCIDENTS	2,034	1,962
PROSTITUTION/COMM.VICE			115	84	ARREST RECORDS	8,112	7,720
SEX OFFENSES (EXCEPT RAPE & OFFENSES AGAINST FAMILY)			53	49	TRAFFIC CITATIONS	10,057	7,094
OFFENSES AGAINST THE FAMILY AND CHILDREN			771	64	F. I. CARDS	554	490
NARCOTIC DRUG LAWS			1,553	1,545	IMPOUNDMENTS	2,219	2,124
LIQUOR LAWS			204	256	TOTAL REPORTS PROCESSED	32,987	32,832
DRUNKENNESS			246	286	MINOR MISDEMEANORS	277	416
DISORDERLY CONDUCT			249	242	PARKING CITATIONS	767	1,157
ALL OTHER OFFENSES			3,628	4,258			
TOTAL PART II OFFENSES			3,933	3,462			
GRAND TOTAL			8,112	7,720			

Some statistical data has been modified by arrests, clearances, and other updates since the original submission to the FBI.

Return of Offenses - 2008

OFFENSE CLASSIFICATION	OFFENSES REPORTED	UNFOUNDED	ACTUAL OFFENSES	CLEARED BY ARREST OR EXCEPTION	CLEARED PERSONS UNDER 18
1. CRIMINAL HOMICIDE	4	0	4	3	0
A. MURDER/NON-NEGLIGENT MANSLAUGHTER	4	0	4	3	0
B. MANSLAUGHTER BY NEGLIGENCE	0	0	0	0	0
C. NEGLIGENT HOMICIDE.....	0	0	0	0	0
2. FORCIBLE RAPE (TOTAL)	85	12	73	8	3
A. RAPE BY FORCE	83	12	71	8	3
B. ATTEMPTS TO COMMIT FORCIBLE RAPE	2	0	2	0	0
3. ROBBERY (TOTAL)	160	1	159	33	3
A. FIREARM	34	0	34	6	1
B. KNIFE OR CUTTING INSTRUMENT.....	12	0	12	6	1
C. OTHER DANGEROUS WEAPON	15	0	15	3	0
D. STRONG ARM	99	1	98	18	1
4. ASSAULT (TOTAL)	1,761	34	1,727	690	103
A. FIREARM	32	2	30	8	1
B. KNIFE OR CUTTING INSTRUMENT.....	44	2	42	13	2
C. OTHER DANGEROUS WEAPON	73	0	73	18	1
D. HANDS, FISTS, FEET, ETC. - AGGRAVATED INJURY	33	0	33	10	2
E. OTHER ASSAULTS (SIMPLE)	1,579	30	1,549	641	97
5. BURGLARY (TOTAL)	1,027	20	1,007	56	3
A. FORCIBLE ENTRY.....	635	11	624	45	2
B. UNLAWFUL ENTRY - NO FORCE.....	341	8	333	9	1
C. ATTEMPTED FORCIBLE ENTRY.....	51	1	50	2	0
6. LARCENY-THEFT (EXC. MOTOR VEH. THEFT)	2,885	53	2,832	424	63
7. MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT (TOTAL)	289	21	266	10	2
A. AUTOS	223	13	210	10	2
B. TRUCKS AND BUSES	49	4	45	0	0
C. OTHER VEHICLES	15	4	11	0	0
GRAND TOTAL *	6,221	142	6,079	1,225	177

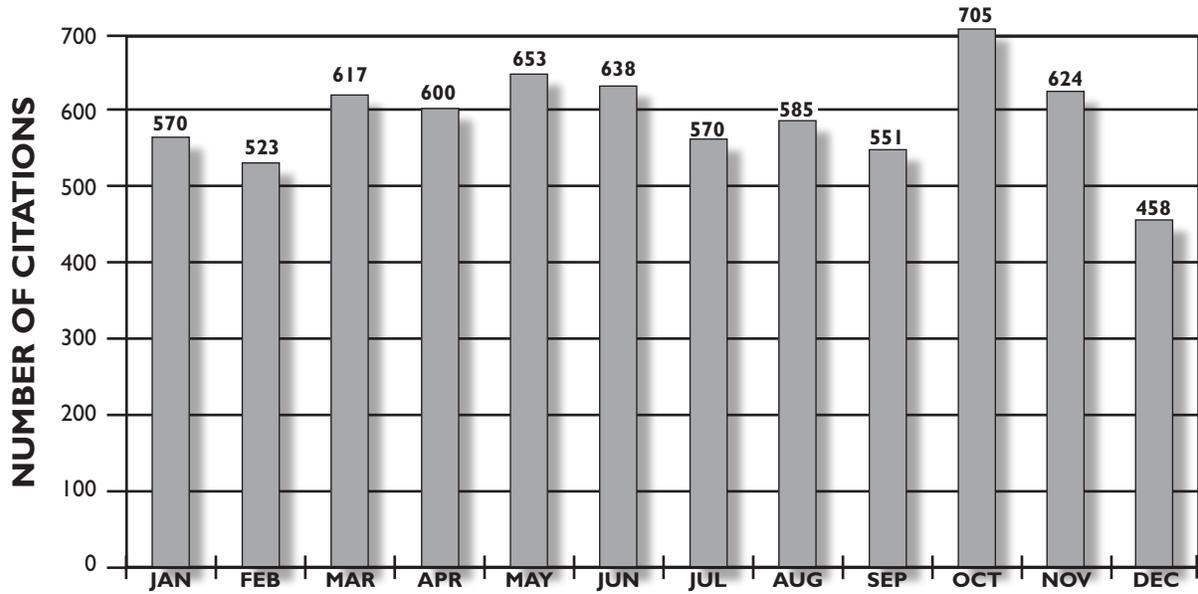
* Includes simple assaults. Does not include arson. Some statistical data has been updated since originally submitted to the FBI.

Police Officers Assaulted

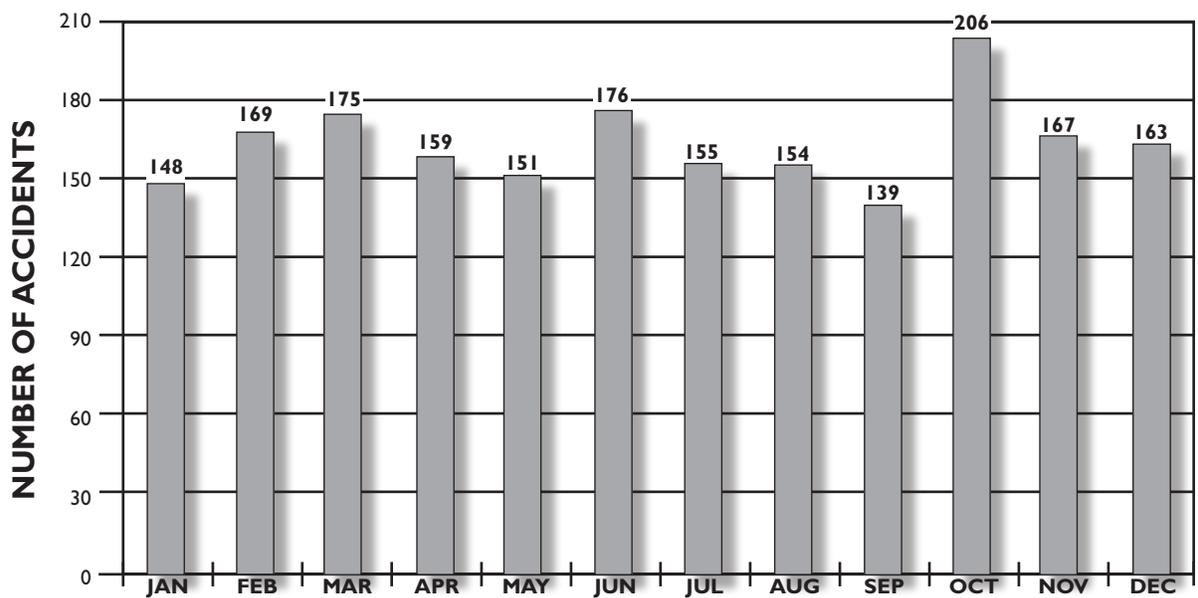
Officers Assaulted in 200814



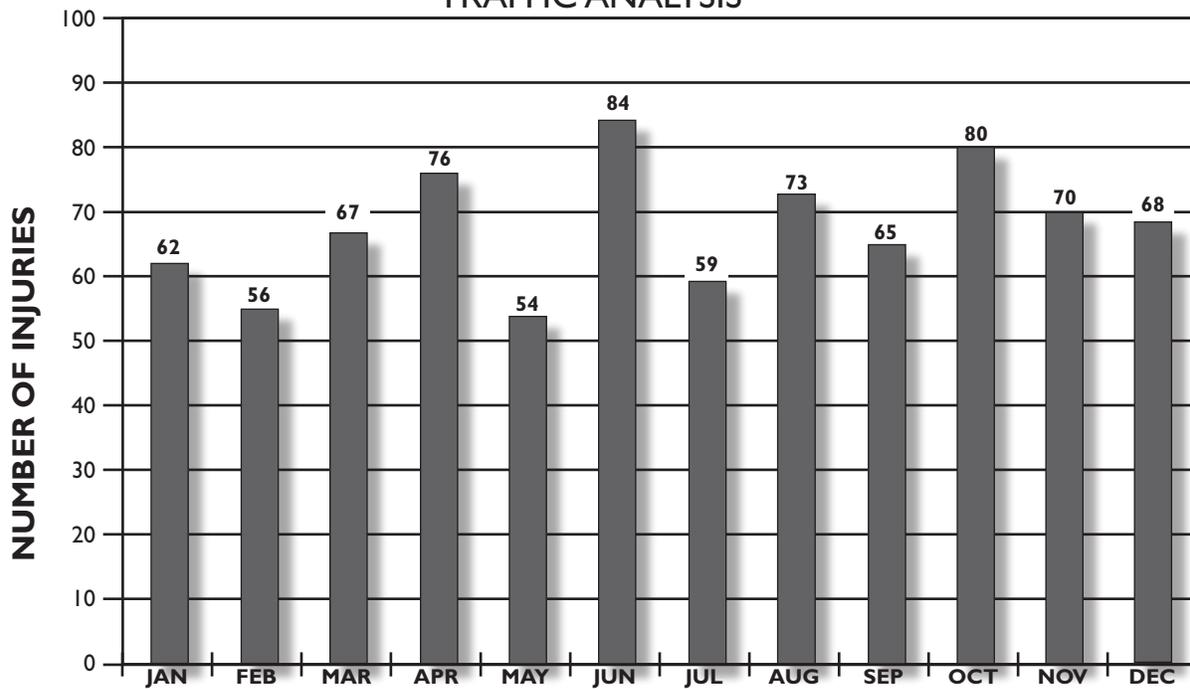
MOVING VIOLATION CITATIONS ISSUED TRAFFIC ANALYSIS



ACCIDENTS TRAFFIC ANALYSIS



INJURIES IN ACCIDENTS TRAFFIC ANALYSIS



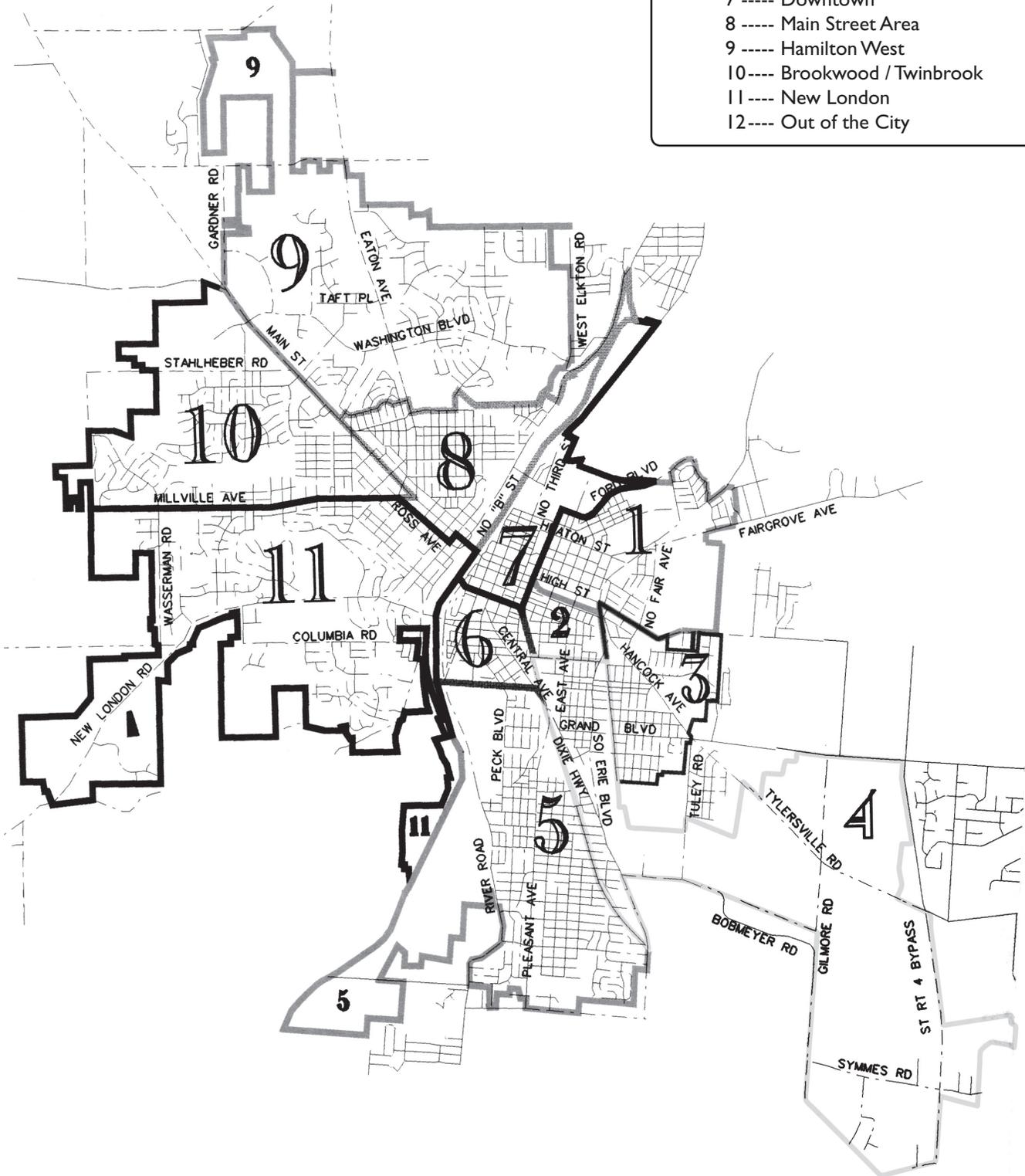
ACCIDENT TALLY BY HOUR/DAY OF WEEK

TIME	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	TOTAL
0000	9	8	5	1	3	4	17	47
0100	14	3	3	6	6	4	9	45
0200	10	3	4	4	3	5	11	40
0300	4	1	3	3	2	2	6	21
0400	3	4	2	3	1	1	5	19
0500	0	1	3	2	4	1	1	12
0600	5	5	8	9	11	4	3	45
0700	2	13	14	14	14	18	1	76
0800	3	17	7	12	6	19	12	76
0900	6	7	7	11	8	14	14	67
1000	9	18	8	14	14	19	11	93
1100	10	17	14	15	9	8	17	90
1200	14	14	12	10	13	24	20	107
1300	16	15	12	12	16	19	27	117
1400	21	14	27	31	15	24	20	152
1500	15	16	26	30	22	26	19	154
1600	13	30	34	32	28	40	14	191
1700	6	23	27	26	23	25	10	140
1800	13	16	15	23	17	27	8	119
1900	9	5	19	8	15	19	22	97
2000	13	10	8	9	10	12	15	77
2100	6	10	6	9	7	9	18	66
2200	7	8	10	6	8	12	16	67
2300	7	7	5	6	4	9	6	44
TOTAL	215	265	279	296	259	345	303	1,962

Hamilton Police Department Districts

BEAT CONFIGURATION

- 0 ---- Police Headquarters
- 1 ---- North End
- 2 ---- Fourth Ward
- 3 ---- East Hamilton
- 4 ---- RT4 Area / SOID
- 5 ---- Lindenwald
- 6 ---- Second Ward
- 7 ---- Downtown
- 8 ---- Main Street Area
- 9 ---- Hamilton West
- 10 ---- Brookwood / Twinbrook
- 11 ---- New London
- 12 ---- Out of the City

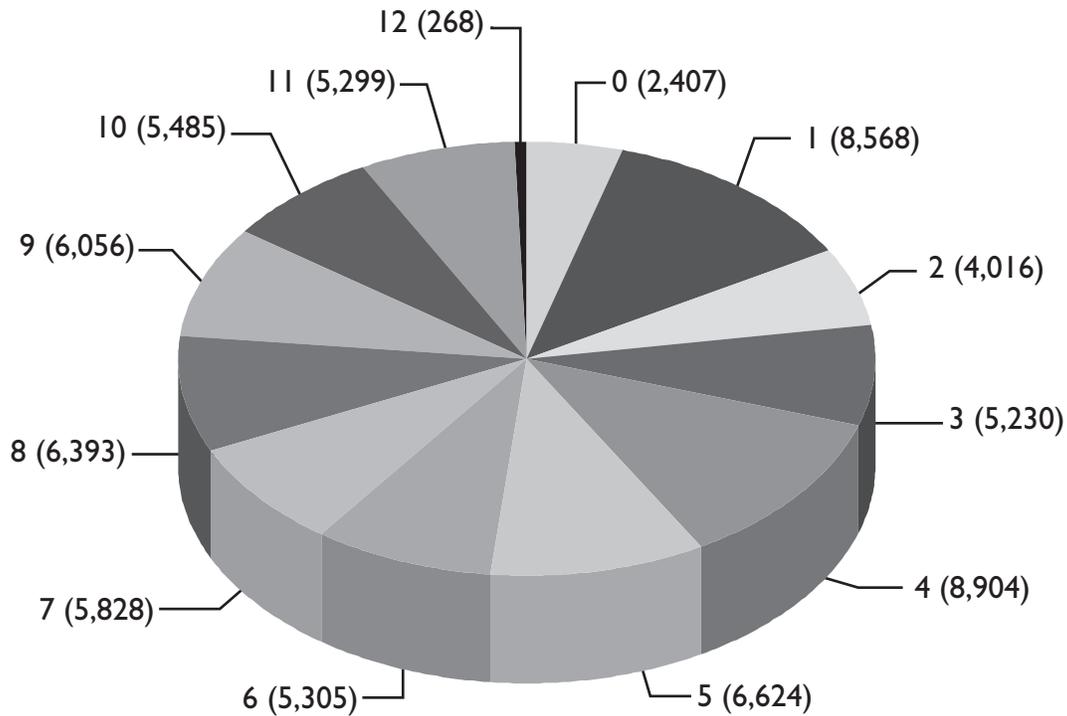


**GEOGRAPHICAL AND CHRONOLOGICAL
DISTRIBUTION OF CALLS FOR POLICE SERVICE
CALLS BY DISTRICT**

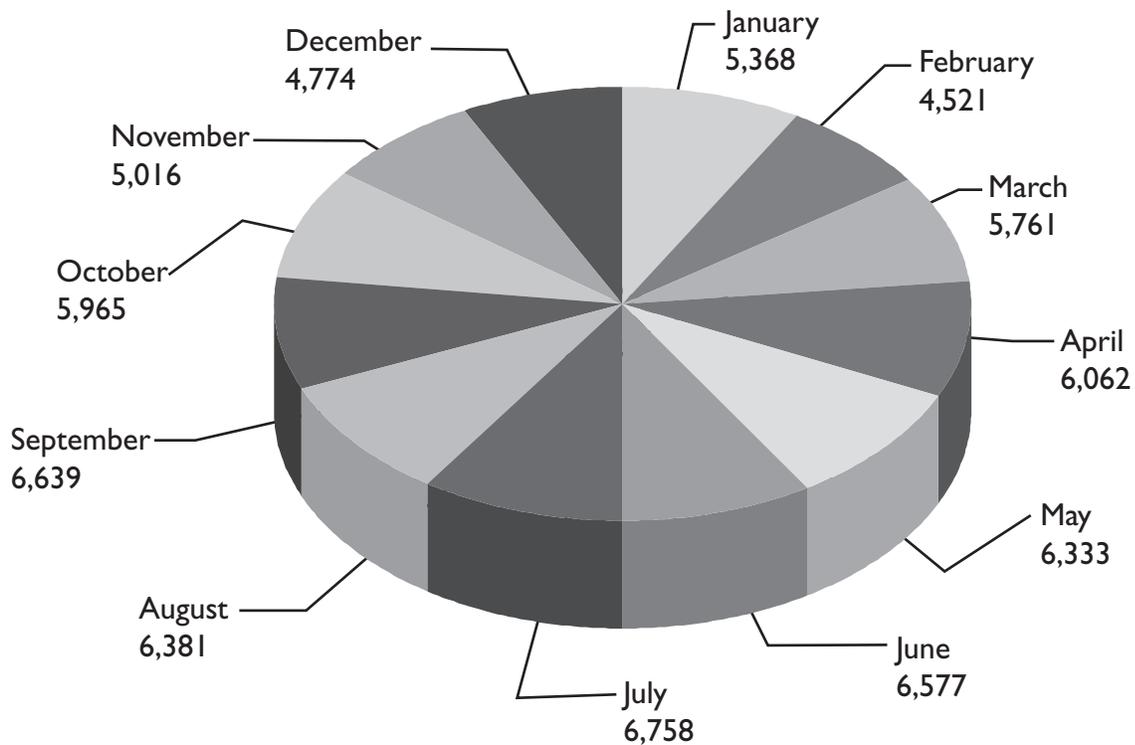
Dist #	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	TOTAL
Jan.	211	647	308	407	661	502	403	427	504	465	417	401	15	5,368
Feb.	197	479	252	317	574	474	324	388	391	388	344	356	37	4,521
Mar.	188	738	309	462	781	499	478	433	511	501	429	408	24	5,761
Apr.	226	775	308	469	741	582	447	527	554	486	492	430	25	6,062
May	233	767	334	4666	803	575	534	455	549	545	552	497	23	6,333
June	221	782	432	529	798	588	477	529	589	541	562	506	23	6,577
July	215	849	238	505	787	651	551	551	647	569	550	479	22	6,758
Aug.	217	793	406	437	746	669	490	545	613	524	439	483	19	6,381
Sep.	199	786	407	488	868	593	492	579	623	571	502	515	16	6,639
Oct.	180	674	346	430	808	557	397	532	553	565	425	472	26	5,965
Nov.	148	618	307	329	705	453	342	455	423	428	401	388	19	5,016
Dec.	165	637	207	373	598	456	357	384	411	454	360	353	19	4,774
TOTAL	2,407	8,568	4,016	5,230	8,904	6,624	5,305	5,828	6,393	6,056	5,485	5,299	268	70,383

**GEOGRAPHICAL AND CHRONOLOGICAL
DISTRIBUTION OF CALLS FOR POLICE SERVICE**

2008 CALLS BY DISTRICT



2008 CALLS BY MONTH



FIVE YEAR ANALYSIS

CRIMINAL TRAFFIC AND WORKLOAD ANALYSIS	TOTAL YEAR 2004	TOTAL YEAR 2005	TOTAL YEAR 2006	TOTAL YEAR 2007	TOTAL YEAR 2008	FIVE YEAR AVERAGE	VARIANCE OVER/ UNDER AVERAGE*
CRIMINAL ANALYSIS							
1. (A) MURDER	4	4	1	2	4	3	1
(B) MANSL.	0	0	1	0	0	0.2	-0.2
2. FORCIBLE RAPE	77	82	82	111	73	85	-12
3. ROBBERY	209	220	180	249	159	203.4	-44.4
4. AGG. ASSAULT	250	194	239	201	178	212.4	-34.4
5. BURGLARY/B & E	1,159	1,032	1,076	1,095	1,007	1073.8	-66.8
6. LARCENY	3,467	3,022	2,945	2,797	2,832	3012.6	-180.6
7. AUTO THEFT	601	496	483	352	266	439.6	-173.6
8. ARSON	33	22	37	26	38	31.2	6.8
TOTALS	5,800	5,072	5,044	4,833	4,557	5061.2	-504.2
TRAFFIC ANALYSIS							
1. CITATIONS	14,209	15,247	14,335	10,057	7,094	12188.4	-5094.4
2. ACCIDENTS	2,751	2,383	2,304	2,034	1,962	2286.8	-324.8
3. INJURIES	1,958	629	597	703	461	869.6	-408.6
4. DEATHS	6	4	4	1	4	3.8	0.2
CALLS FOR SERVICE							
I. NUMBER OF CALLS	75,196	74,404	72,044	68,776	70,383	72160.6	-1777.6

* THE "VARIANCE OVER/UNDER AVERAGE" COLUMN DENOTES THE AMOUNT THAT THE CURRENT YEAR IS OVER OR UNDER THE FIVE YEAR AVERAGE

The 2008 Hamilton Police Department's Annual Report was produced and prepared by Officer Richard Burkhardt.

Hamilton Police Department

Mission and Values

OUR MISSION

The members of the Hamilton Police Department, in partnership with the community to which we are sworn to protect, preserve, and defend, shall professionally provide our customers with courteous, empathetic service.

OUR VALUES

- Empathy** We will treat all persons with compassion and understanding, always demonstrating our strong belief that one should always treat others as they would like to be treated. A significant part of our business involves customer service. All personnel who come into contact with citizens shall treat ordinary citizens with extraordinary respect. Each citizen-police encounter should foster a feeling of goodwill that extends throughout the community. We will treat all persons with dignity and respect, regardless of their race, creed, sex, or social position.
- Integrity** We will do the right thing even when no one is watching. Our word is our bond. We will be honest in all of our dealings, with justice as our objective. Our decisions will be based on common sense guided by integrity.
- Excellence** By reaffirming our goal of overall excellence, we set the standard for pride in ourselves and in our department, always being mindful that members of the Hamilton Police Department, in both their professional and personal lives, are held to a higher standard than those we serve.
- Justice** We are sworn to protect and preserve all human life. We will scrupulously observe the rights of all suspects, but will not coddle criminals. We will give recidivists the scrutiny they deserve. We will skillfully enforce the law fairly and impartially. Our decisions will be based on common sense with integrity.
- Cooperation** We welcome neighborhood involvement and encourage our officers to be role models within the community. We will strive to cooperate with the community and among ourselves. Differences in opinions are not only inevitable, but are also healthy. Conflict in appropriate settings encourages creativity that leads to equitable problem-solving and trust-building. We will be innovative, open-minded, and imaginative when solving problems. How we settle our differences sets the tone for our future working relationships. Whenever possible, we will strive for a “win-win” resolution.

Command Staff:


Neil R. Ferdelman
Chief of Police


Scott Scrimmige





Dan Pratt




The Wade McQueen obstacle course is used by members of the department, and also during competitions.

