

Whitewater Police Department

2007 Annual Report

2008 Management Plan



Whitewater Police Department
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“Protecting Our Community”

Introduction

I am very pleased to present our 2007 Annual Report/2008 Management Plan. While it is my privilege to author this introductory page, the credit for this document goes to the outstanding men and women who comprise the Whitewater Police Department.

Through the years we have worked very hard to fight crime, provide quality safety service to our community, and maintain a progressive and professional law enforcement agency. A low crime rate, public confidence in our ability and integrity, quality personnel, policies and practices in accord with national standards, and innovative community policing programs are just a few of our noteworthy accomplishments.

There are a variety of quantitative and qualitative measurements by which to gauge the performance and effectiveness of a law enforcement agency. How people feel about their police and how safe they feel in their community are two such measures. Responses from the National Citizen Opinion Survey conducted here in Whitewater appear to confirm the results of our own periodic citizen opinion surveys, i.e. that our citizens have a high opinion of our agency's performance and that people feel safe living and working in Whitewater.

Although we are pleased and proud of these results, we can ill afford to be complacent or overconfident. We must strive for excellence and we must continue to work hard to ensure the safety and stability of our community. We enjoy a very good reputation, but the expectations by the citizens we serve require that we not rest on our laurels. Now is the time for us to redouble our commitment to the highest traditions of policing and public safety.

Within the pages of this document we provide a statistical accounting of what has occurred in Whitewater over the last year. We also include details regarding the professional development of our Department and a guide to what we intend to accomplish in the year ahead.

First and foremost among our goals for 2008 will be our endeavor to become reaccredited by the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Accreditation Group (WILEAG). Accreditation is a prestigious honor bestowed on those relatively few law enforcement agencies which have been successful in coming into compliance with a comprehensive set of standards which cover virtually every aspect of a law enforcement operation.

None of what we accomplish could be achieved without the dedication and effort put forth by so many in our organization. It is my opinion that our greatest strength is the quality and caliber of our personnel. As individuals and as a law enforcement agency we have the capacity to meet virtually any challenge. I believe that the future of the Whitewater Police Department remains very bright and that together we stand ready to successfully meet the challenges of a new year.

In conclusion, I wish to thank all of our Department personnel, Police and Fire Commission, City Manager, City Council, and all of our citizens for their continued support and cooperation.

James R. Coan
Chief of Police



City of Whitewater Police Department Mission Statement

The mission of the Whitewater Police Department is to enhance the quality of life for those living in the City of Whitewater by providing quality police service to the community through fairness, integrity and professionalism, promoting a safe environment through police and citizen interaction, and by the equitable enforcement of the laws of the City of Whitewater and the State of Wisconsin within the framework of the Constitution of the United States.

Values

Preserve and Advance Democratic Values - We shall uphold this country's democratic values as embodied in the Constitution, and dedicate ourselves to the preservation of life, individual freedoms and justice for everyone.

Improve the Quality of Community Life - We must understand the importance of community values and expectations, be responsive to the concerns of all citizens, and encourage our officers to expand their role in helping the community to develop into a better place to live.

Compassion - The role of the police is to resolve conflict through impartial enforcement of law, not through imposition of judgment or punishment. All persons shall be treated equitably and with compassion.

Professionalism - We must recognize that our success is dependent on the trust and confidence of the citizens of the community, which we serve. Therefore, we shall always engage in behavior which is beyond reproach and reflects the integrity of police professionals.

Pride - We pride ourselves on being capable and caring people who provide a valued service to the citizens of Whitewater, and we shall promote pride in our community, agency and profession.

Teamwork - Law enforcement and public safety are of community wide concern, thus we must actively seek citizen involvement in all aspects of policing. We shall strive to cultivate effective working relationships with other governmental, public and private service agencies in pursuit of mutual goals.

Commitment - We must have a vision for the future of our community and our agency, and make a firm commitment to foster goals, which will enable us to attain that end.

Excellence - We shall endeavor to meet, or exceed, nationally recognized law enforcement standards in every duty we undertake. We pledge to establish and maintain high performance standards to ensure public confidence and trust.

Quality Service - We shall strive to realize the aforementioned values in order to provide the citizens of Whitewater with the highest quality of police services possible and accomplish our department mission.

149 Years of Professional Policing

In 1858 the first two law enforcement officers, James Shrom and Dominic O'Donnell, were hired to patrol what was then the Village of Whitewater. S.D. Ferguson was later appointed Village Marshall. The town was patrolled primarily on foot, with outlying areas covered by horseback.

With the dawn of the 20th Century came new and innovative ways to serve the incorporated City of Whitewater. The first motorcycle began to patrol the streets. Criminals were now fingerprinted and telephone lines extended from throughout the City into the police station. In 1911, George Gill was appointed the first Chief of Police. In the early 1900's an officer's salary was established at \$55 per month.

The Great Depression-era of the 1930's saw the police department battling the effects of prohibition while policing with very meager resources. In 1941 a civilian Police and Fire Commission was created to oversee the hiring and discipline of officers. By the 1950's the City's population had grown and so too had the size of the Police Department, comprised then of 7 sworn officers.

The 1960's brought change, turmoil, and reform. The Vietnam War, social unrest, and civil rights brought protest and demonstrations to the campus of the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater. In 1970, an arson fire destroyed a famous campus landmark, "Old Main".

By the early 1970's the Police Department had grown to 20 officers. In 1971, Whitewater was distinguished as the first city in the State of Wisconsin to install a 911 system. Although the overall crime rate remained stable, the City experienced its first homicide in 1977.

In the 1980's the Whitewater Police Department entered the age of technology with computers, a fax machine, and a new radio system installed. In 1990, the first fully sworn female officer was hired. Throughout the 1990's the Department saw continued organizational growth and development. This 2007 Annual Report reflects the fact that we continue to be an innovative and very professional law enforcement organization.

Today, the Whitewater Police Department, an accredited law enforcement agency, numbers 23 sworn officers who are fully dedicated to ushering in the twenty-first century with their commitment to professional policing. Quality personnel, a low crime rate, public confidence in our ability and integrity, policies and practices in accord with national standards, and innovative outreach programs are a few of our noteworthy accomplishments. We take great pride in our community, our department, and in our commitment to protect and service the citizens of the City of Whitewater.

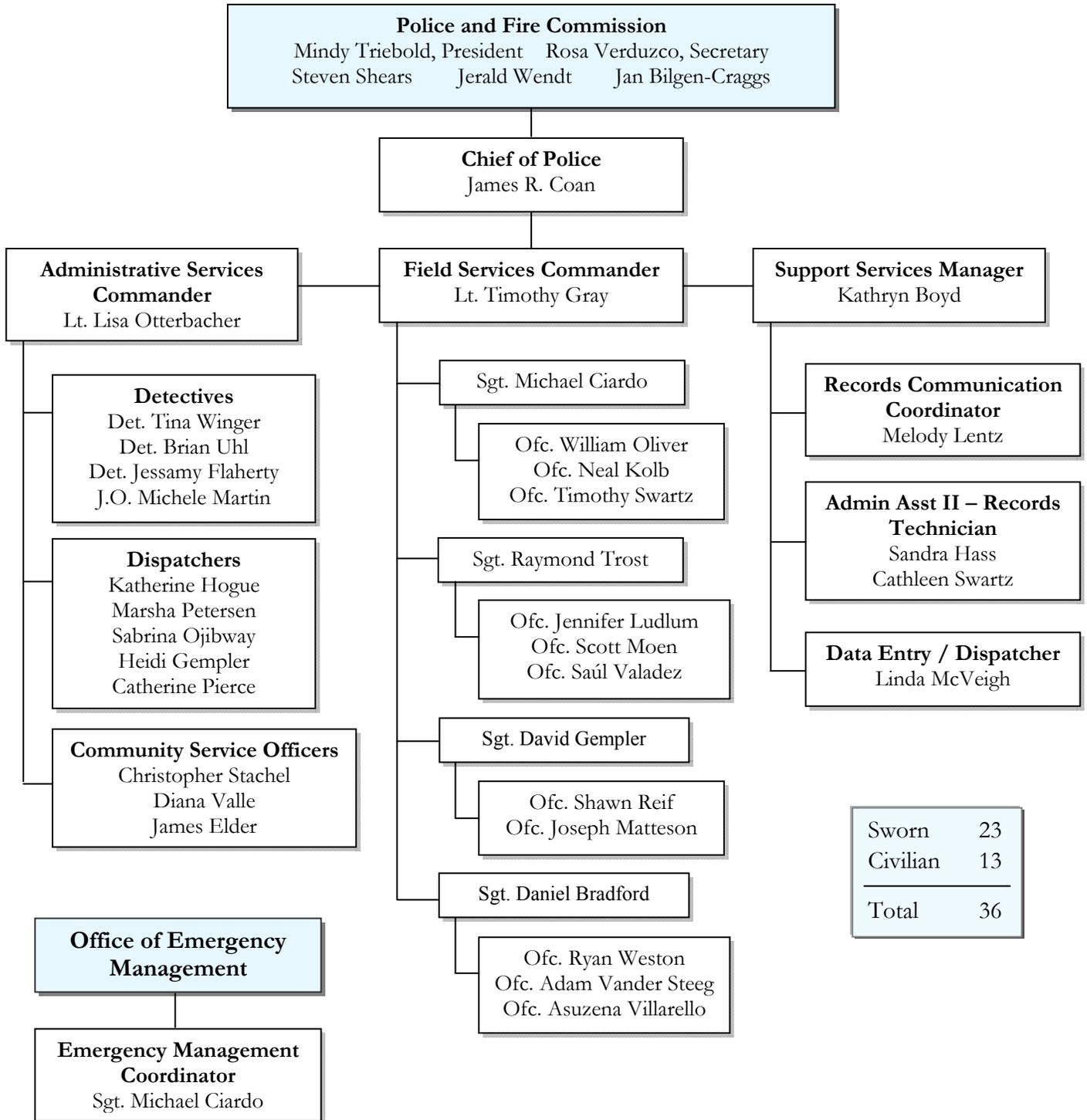


Officer Joe Monahan and squad car circa 1941
Photo courtesy of the estate of Fran Achen



Lt. Lisa Otterbacher and squad car circa 2006
Photo by Cathleen Swartz

Whitewater Police Department Organizational Chart as of December 31, 2007



Sworn	23
Civilian	13
Total	36

Police and Fire Commission

Police and Fire Commissions date back in time, nearly a century ago, when the Wisconsin Legislature enacted a measure establishing such commissions as municipal bodies. Recognizing the critical role of police officers and fire fighters in assuring the public's safety, the legislature believed that by creating an independent body, one that no political party could come to dominate, the selection and removal of police officers and fire fighters would be insulated from the vagaries of partisan politics.

The statutory powers, duties, and responsibilities of a Police and Fire Commission are significant. A commission has authority to appoint, suspend, or remove the Chief of Police, to approve appointments and promotions, to hear appeals of disciplinary action or to impose discipline.

The City of Whitewater Police and Fire Commission was established in 1952 and was created in pursuant to Chapter 2.28 of the Whitewater Municipal Code as well as Wisconsin State Statutes. The commission consists of five citizen members appointed by the City Manager/Common Council. Their terms are for a five year period. We have been very fortunate over the years to have had many thoughtful and dedicated citizens serve our community as Police and Fire Commissioners.

Chief of Police

Our Chief of Police is the highest level management position within the police department. The Chief of Police is ultimately responsible for the complete control, operation and representation of the Whitewater Police Department and its employees. Work involves supervising departmental activities, formulating and enforcing departmental rules of conduct, developing policies, coordinating activities with outside agencies, preparing and justifying operational budgets, making recommendations for hiring, promotions, commendation and discipline, setting individual and departmental goals and objectives, and representing the City and the department to the general public, governmental agencies, news media, etc. Work is performed under the general supervision of the City Manager and the Police and Fire Commission.

Administrative Services Bureau **Year in Review**

In 2007 the Department's Detective Bureau saw supervisory growth with the implementation of a new Detective Sergeant position. The Detective Bureau is a critical element in the successful investigation of complicated and complex crimes. The need for day-to-day supervision of both the active and cold case investigations became even more critical as computer frauds, Internet crimes, identity theft and sexual predators became more multifaceted with advancing technology. The Detective Bureau welcomed two new detectives in 2007. These new employees should bring progressive and innovative approaches to investigating and solving criminal activity.

The Department's Sensitive Crimes Team seeks to keep in line with the technology associated with the increase of sexual predators through the Internet. In an effort to counter this increase the Detective Bureau will seek to become affiliated with Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) in 2008. ICAC is an internet

based organization that works to identify and locate sexual predators that are accosting children through the hidden cloak of the Internet. In an effort to remain pro-active with known sexual predators the Whitewater Police Department joined ranks with the Walworth County Multi-Jurisdictional Task force to perform a “check-up” on all registered sex offenders residing throughout Walworth County. The task force conducted a face-to-face contact with the registered offenders to ensure their on-file information was current with the Department of Corrections. This proactive strategy turned out to be a highly successful operation.

The Communication Center continues to be a professional and innovative component of the department and community. Phase one of the communications center upgrade was implemented in 2007. This phase included the new technology surrounding the taping, storing and retrieving of recorded phone calls and the additional radio traffic. The upcoming year will hold several enhancements in the communications center, to include the complete upgrade of the communications center radio equipment and video cameras throughout the police department.

The Whitewater Police Department remains diligent in providing professional and specialized training throughout the department. A formal training committee, made up of sworn and civilian personnel, was implemented in 2006 to ensure that the department maintained comprehensive training while sustaining adequate patrol and communications staffing. The 2007 core training was identified and implemented based on the training committee’s recommendations.

The Whitewater Police Department continues to maintain strong cultural diversity through department policy, personnel and training. In February of 2007 the department hosted a Hispanic Leadership Retreat in an effort help create a partnership between key Hispanic leaders and police department personnel. In April of 2007 the department hosted a public Hispanic Outreach program with community members to share points of interest gained from the leadership meeting and provide an updated presentation addressing community safety issues.

The year 2008 is expected to include a successful re-accreditation process through Wisconsin Law Enforcement Accreditation Group (WILEAG), a fully upgraded communications center, the utilization and implementation of two new department positions, and the completion of the 8th Citizens Academy.

*Lt. Lisa Otterbacher
Administrative Services Commander*



Det. Flaherty, Det. Sgt. Winger and J.O. Martin measuring and reviewing evidence.



Whitewater Police Department Dispatchers



CSO Stachel directing traffic.

The Administrative Services Bureau provides the communication, investigation, training and community service for the Department.

Administrative Services Commander – Our Administrative Services Commander is responsible for a wide range of duties including: internal affairs, audit and inspections, planning and research, personnel and training, policy development, accreditation, and organizational functions designed to enhance the efficiency, effectiveness, and professional competence of employees of the Department. The Administrative Services Commander is an upper management, command level position and serves as second-in-command of the Department.

Detective Sergeant – Our Detective Sergeant is responsible for managing and directing the investigative function of the Department. This individual directly supervises assigned personnel and performs complex investigations and necessary follow-ups of crimes against persons and property. The Detective Sergeant also works closely with internal elements of the Department, other law enforcement and Criminal Justice agencies, and with the general public in the reporting, investigation, and prosecution of offenders.

Detective – Our Detectives perform complex investigations and necessary follow-ups specializing in crimes against persons and property occurring in the City of Whitewater. These individuals work closely with internal elements of the department, other governmental agencies, and the general public in the reporting, investigation and prosecution of offenders.

Juvenile Officer - Our Juvenile Officer is assigned to investigate sensitive crimes, property offenses, acts of violence, and drug/alcohol violations that involve juveniles as suspects or victims. In addition to investigative work, the Juvenile Officer acts as a liaison between the police department and the school system. The Juvenile Officer is responsible for educational presentations, and the patrol and supervision of various school functions.

Dispatcher – Our Dispatchers provide communications service for the City of Whitewater Police, Fire and EMS as well as the University of Wisconsin – Whitewater Campus Police Department. Duties include answering emergency and non-emergency phone lines; operate our radio system; monitor unit activity for response and well being; maintain accurate records; maintain station security by video monitors and speakers; and assist the general public by telephone and in person.

Community Service Officer – Our Community Service Officers are part-time, limited term, non-sworn, para-professional positions responsible for performing limited law enforcement and animal control functions for the department. Work involves parking enforcement, traffic direction, park patrol, motorist assist, recovering lost/found property, animal control, code enforcement, crossing guard duties, funeral escort, traffic and crowd control at civic events, pickup and delivery duties, and other miscellaneous tasks as may be assigned.

Field Services Bureau

Year in Review

The year 2007 served as yet another testament for the dedication and professionalism of The Whitewater Police Department and its Field Services Bureau. While the bureau was down in staff for the majority of the year, the patrol officers continued at or near the same pace as 2006 in terms of arrests and calls for service.

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The officers continued their focus on the detection and arrest of potential drunken drivers with 171 persons being arrested.

Along with the routine calls for service, traffic enforcement and crime prevention, the officers of the Field Services Bureau with much assistance from the other bureaus of the department were able to thwart three suspects from continuing on a local crime spree. As a result of a quick response and diligent investigation, the three subjects involved were held responsible and criminally charged with over 30 car entries and burglaries. Most of the stolen property was recovered by our officers.

Personnel staffing issues are always challenging in order to meet the needs of the community. In 2007, the department received word that for the first time in nearly 20 years, the patrol staff would receive one additional officer. The officer was hired and is currently attending the basic police recruit academy. This position was added to bolster the afternoon shift as it was identified as having the biggest need as a result of the number of calls for service and the complexity of the calls received. With the addition of this officer, the afternoon shift will have more opportunity for traffic enforcement, crime prevention and taking more proactive measures in maintaining safety, peace and order.

Lastly, the department will continue to train on all aspects of police work including but not limited to: Defensive and Arrest Tactics, Firearms Training and Qualifications, Legal Updates, CPR, Scenario Based Training using Simunitions, and Emergency Vehicle Operations. We will continue to strive to have highly trained, professional and dedicated officers in order to keep our community safe.



Lt. Tim Gray
Field Services Commander



Sgt. Ciardo assists Ofc. Swartz
with an accident report..



Ofc. Ludlum conducts a test of a
laser speed detection unit
with Sgt. Gempler.



Ofc. Valadez simulates a felony
traffic stop.

The Field Services Bureau is the uniformed patrol component of the Department.

Field Services Commander - Our Field Services Commander is responsible for directing the field operations of the Department and facilitating the delivery of police service to the community. This position acts as an advisor for his/her subordinates by providing the necessary level of guidance and assistance

required by first line supervisors and patrol officers to accomplish their tasks in an efficient and effective manner. The Field Services Commander is an upper management, command level position.

Sergeant - Our Sergeants are first-line supervisors who direct the field operations of the department and who facilitate the delivery of police services to the community. These individuals act as advisors for their subordinates by providing the necessary level of guidance and assistance required by the patrol officers to accomplish their assigned tasks in an effective and efficient manner. Duties are performed under general supervision of the Field Services Commander.

Patrol Officer – Our Patrol Officers are entry level sworn positions responsible for the protection of life and property through the enforcement of laws and ordinances. Work involves patrolling assigned areas, responding to calls for service; investigating crime, conducting traffic enforcement, apprehending violators, protecting victims and property, and responding to emergency situations. Duties are performed under general supervision of a Sergeant.



Ofc. Reif interviewing a suspect.



Ofc. Moen conferring with
Ofc. Adams

Support Services Bureau Year in Review

I'm sure there are many in our Department that will agree that the year sped by quickly. The following changes and challenges are just a sampling of the issues that the Support Service Staff handled in 2007:

1. **Training:** In an effort to stay current with the State of Wisconsin Public Records Law our two Records Technicians and I attended training on managing the Open Records Act in June of 2007. The public records law can be confusing at best so this training was helpful in clarifying our department's responsibilities as records custodians.

Also in 2007, we utilized a Web based software program to continue our Spanish language training. This is in keeping with the City of Whitewater Strategic Plan's goal of facilitating better communication with the Hispanic community

2. **Cash Receipting:** Working with the Finance Department we streamlined our cash receipting process. Prior to 2007 we manually receipted all payments taken into our department, which was cumbersome and

time consuming. With help from our IT Administrator, we now electronically receipt all payments taken into our department via the Finance Department software. This improvement has not only benefited our department, but has eliminated duplicate data entry for the City Treasurer.

3. Parking Permits: The City Council tasked the City of Whitewater with implementing a parking permit program for downtown residents and businesses to help ease the parking problem in the downtown area. A parking committee was formed by the City Manager and using their recommendations a parking permit program was instituted in August 2007, just in time for the UW-Whitewater fall semester. Working with the Department of Public Works, the sale of the permits and the additional parking enforcement was assigned to our Department. The Support Services Staff, with help from the Communications Staff, took care of selling the permits and answering the many questions and concerns from residents and the business owners and their employees.

4. Hiring Processes: Whenever there is a hiring process within our department the Support Services Staff is there to help with copying, collating, mailing, testing, interviews, and anything else that is asked of us. The Department conducted four hiring processes in 2007, to include one Detective Sergeant, two Patrol Officers, and two Detectives.

5. Technological Advances: Some of the technological advances the Support Services Staff were involved with in 2007 include upgrading the sworn personnel's handheld recorders to newer digital recorders. With changes to state mandates concerning arrest interviews, the benefits of the upgrading to digital recorders are better sound quality, longer recording time, and less chance of mechanical failures.

Additionally, we purchased two new handheld parking ticket units, which are much easier to use and give us more options than the old units. The original parking ticket units were purchased refurbished many years ago and due to their age became unreliable and obsolete. Our department wrote 8, 270 parking tickets in 2007 (1, 235 more than 2006) so we need to keep searching for ways to streamline and improve the process. The handheld parking ticket units do this by cutting down on the duplicate data entry that exists with the handwritten paper tickets and they give our employees a simpler more efficient method for issuing parking tickets. In 2009 we will look at increasing the number of our handheld parking ticket units by two.

Conclusion: In the year to come we will restructure the Data Entry/Dispatcher position to a Parking/Community Support position. This new position will concentrate on the oversight of the parking ticket program along with parking and community quality of life issues. Along with the many other services and tasks performed by the Support Services Staff, we will continue with the review and revision of the incident report guidelines, purchase and implement voice recognition software to aid our sworn personnel in decreasing the time they spend on report writing, and coordinate the distribution and tabulation of the Departments citizen survey. We will also attend training that will focus on call taking and quality service and support, thus continuing the City's emphasis on providing the best customer service possible.

Kathryn Boyd
Support Services Manager





RCC Lentz reviewing a file.



Records Technicians Hass and Swartz working at the inner lobby window.



Data Entry/Dispatcher McVeigh completing parking duties.

Support Services Bureau is the clerical and records component of the Department.

Support Services Manager – This is a non-sworn, supervisory position responsible for the management of the clerical staff of the Police Department. Work involves supervision of the clerical staff and Data Entry/Dispatcher in maintaining the official records of the police department, assisting in preparation and monitoring of the departmental budget, and oversight of the department computer system. Additional responsibilities include oversight of the department payroll, monies collected, and support to the administrative staff.

Records Communication Coordinator - The Records/Communications Coordinator performs tasks related to record keeping and data entry. These duties are performed under the general supervision of the Support Services Manager. The Records/Communications Coordinator also supports the operations of the communications center. This individual acts as an advisor by providing the necessary level of guidance and assistance required by the dispatchers to accomplish their assigned tasks in an effective and efficient manner.

Records Technicians – Our Records Technicians provide clerical support for the managerial staff and police officers to include transcription of dictation; maintenance of the filing system, computer data entry; payroll; record keeping; development and updating of documents; and assistance to the general public both by telephone and in person.

Data Entry / Dispatcher – Our Data Entry / Dispatcher oversees the data entry, fine collection, and all correspondences pertaining to the parking ticket program. Duties also include all dispatching responsibilities, answering emergency and non-emergency phone lines; operate our radio system; monitor unit activity for response and well being; maintain accurate records; maintain station security by video monitors and speakers; and assist the general public by telephone and in person.

Office of Emergency Management Year in Review

The Whitewater Office of Emergency Management continued to improve upon the overall safety of the community through equipment acquisition and the upgrading of technology associated with the Emergency Management office and the emergency operations center. Most of the focus for 2007 was the continued

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training of all city employees on the National Incident Management Systems (NIMS) and principles of incident command in order to qualify for federal funding. The following are highlights of activities conducted in 2007.

During 2007, I participated in several meetings of the Walworth County Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC). A mission trip to Whitewater's Sister City was conducted in early January providing needed labor hours and donated funds and supplies. In May and June, speeches were given on emergency management topics to local Optimist and Rotary clubs. Homeland Security brochures were distributed throughout the city. I also assisted in providing feedback to UW-Whitewater officials in areas of emergency response planning and exercising. In December, the coordinator visited with each critical care and CBRF facility providing contact information and ensuring response plans were in place at each facility.

During February and March, a recruitment for severe weather spotters resulted in the certification of fifteen spotters. These spotters, through their residential locations allow for a broad area of coverage should activation be needed. This will allow for accurate and longer range notification of storm systems as they approach the city. The spotters were activated only twice during 2007. Although severe weather and tornadoes were reported state-wide, Whitewater continued to remain safe from these storms with little or no wind related damages. Whitewater continued to maintain certification as a "Weather Safe" community for 2007.

In April, I received formal recognition by Wisconsin Governor James Doyle as a certified emergency manager successfully completing all training requirements. "Laptop exercise", a concept developed in the State of California was introduced to department staff. This concept allows representatives from each department to engage in exercise by providing response to scenarios presented by the emergency manager through the use of e-mail messages. This type of exercise allows employees to provide timely feedback without the need for formal classroom type training. The first such exercise is being planned for the first quarter of 2008. In October, I attended a two day course in Madison entitled "Resource Management" Also in October, the coordinator facilitated training in incident command to employees of Cogentrix/LSP Whitewater in conjunction with their mandated HAZWOPER training. On October 16, 2007, I took part in a tabletop exercise involving pandemic flu in Jefferson County. A CERT course was attempted in September however, due to lack of training participants, the training was cancelled for a future date in 2008. Grant funding for this training was approved and transferred to the 2008 budget.

Throughout most of the year Whitewater remained relatively safe from severe weather and other incidents requiring this office's response. On November 12, 2007 an apartment fire at 1238 W Main St (TKE Fraternity) resulted in the evacuation and displacement of 10 college age students indefinitely. This office assisted in temporary housing and needs of the individuals, coordinating with UW-Whitewater officials, the property owner and members of the Red Cross. On November 27, 2007 a residential fire at 404/406 W Center St resulted in 10 college age students being displaced from their home for a three week period. This office assisted the students with temporary housing coordinating with the Red Cross and UW-Whitewater officials. Public information releases were developed informing people of the fire hazards associated with overloaded electrical circuits and the importance of working smoke detectors.

Capital equipment purchases for the year included the purchase of 15 multi-channel portable radios with capabilities to reach an area of coverage that is consistent with the fire/rescue service area. These radios allow severe weather spotters, living within a ten mile radius, the opportunity of unrestricted

communications during severe weather while allowing other city departments supplemental equipment if needed. A computer and software were purchased in anticipation of the approved upgrades to the communications center and outdoor sirens. This upgrade required special funding for the total hardware upgrade of all eight outdoor warning sirens and software capable of daily testing of sirens without the need to activate the siren itself. This upgrade is needed due to the current software being obsolete. Maintenance was conducted on all eight outdoor warning sirens throughout the year and as of November; all sirens were in good working order. Testing of the sirens is conducted monthly from April to November.

It is the goal of this office to continue with the request for future exercises among city employees by conducting “laptop exercises”. A tabletop exercise is being planned for 2008 in conjunction with UW-Whitewater. Continued upgrading of the city’s outdoor warning capability will also be this year’s focus. The development of another CERT training program will be offered to Whitewater residents with the course to be held during mid year. I will be researching and applying for equipment grants and working with the State Federal Property programs in acquiring needed equipment to enhance all city departments’ preparedness and mitigation of emergencies.



Sgt. Michael Ciardo
Emergency Management Coordinator

The Office of Emergency Management coordinates the planning for the City of Whitewater’s response to natural and man-made disasters.

Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) - The Whitewater Police Department has appointed an officer to serve as Emergency Management Coordinator. The Emergency Management Coordinator works closely with City government, the fire department, EMS, and with the county emergency government director in matters of mutual concern. Duties include conducting training, development of policies and procedures, management of grants, and the readiness of our Emergency Operations Center.

Personnel Changes

Promotions



Tina Winger
Detective Sergeant, March

New Assignment



Jessamy Flaherty
Detective/Crime Prevention, October

Appointments



Saúl Valadez
Patrol Officer, January



Catherine Pierce
Dispatcher, August



Brian Uhl
Detective, September



Josh Adams
Patrol Officer, November

Awards & Commendations

Officer of the Year



J.O. Michele Martin

American Legion Award



Ofc. Joseph Matteson



Resignations

Donna Leighton, Dispatcher – May 2007

Eric Disch, Patrol Officer – June 2007

Ryan Lipovsek, Patrol Officer – October 2007

Community Involvement

The Whitewater Police Department is committed to many of the precepts of a community-oriented philosophy of policing such as our emphasis on problem solving, addressing quality of life concerns, and in developing partnerships with our community. The following photos illustrate some examples of the way in which our personnel reach out and interact with our community throughout the course of the year.



Bike Safety Program



Hispanic Outreach Program



Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run



Law Enforcement Luncheon at Lincoln Elementary



Freeze Fest Relay for Special Olympics



Citizen Academy Class



School Liaison Officer teaching CounterAct



Safety Fair held at Wal-Mart



C.E.R.T. Training Photo



Police Department Families participate in the Whitewater Holiday Parade



UWPD Ofc. Thompson, WW Firefighter/EMT Zach Acker, and WPD Ofc. Oliver

Specialized Programs

Bicycle Patrol - The bicycle patrol unit provides an alternate and highly visible means of policing special events and areas of the City, which are inaccessible by motor vehicle, and promotes greater interaction with citizens of the community. Specially trained officers on all-terrain bikes are involved in targeted patrol, crime prevention, public relations, special operations, and bike safety.

Citizen Academy - In an effort to enhance our community policing effort, the Whitewater Police Department has developed a citizen police academy. The academy is designed to provide selected members of the community with a hands-on look at the important job of law enforcement. The eight-week curriculum covers such topics as criminal investigation, police ethics, firearms training, officer survival techniques, crime prevention, first aid, court procedures, tactical operations, and police administration. Various members of the department act as instructors for the course.

Counteract Drug and Alcohol Resistance Education - CounterACT is a program designed to assist schools, parents, and police in working together to prevent the abuse of alcohol and other drugs among young people in our community. Several of our officers instruct fifth grade children how to resist the pressures to use alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs and to make positive choices in life. They also instruct parents in the positive roles they can play in helping their children resist these substances.

Crime Prevention - The mission of the Whitewater Police Department includes crime prevention among its areas of greatest concern. The department is committed to the development and fostering of community based crime prevention efforts. We have a crime prevention coordinator for the department and have developed an associated policy. Specific crime prevention efforts include Operation ID, Crime Stoppers, Safe Night Out, Safety Fair, and Safety Education Presentations. Projected programs include Neighborhood Watch and Business Watch.

Defensive Tactics Instructors - These officers are responsible for the development and presentation of defensive tactical skills and techniques to other Department employees. The instructors are specifically responsible for training and educating officers on the use of pepper spray, baton techniques, handcuffing, and hand-to-hand defense.

Department Newsletter - In 1995, the Whitewater Police Department introduced a highly successful newsletter. The quarterly publication promotes a feeling of belonging, teamwork, and community policing among our employees. Although the newsletter is directed at our own members, it is made available to interested city officials, citizens, and members of the local law enforcement community. The newsletter is aimed at making a positive statement about our people and our organization.

Field Training Officers Program - Field Training Officers are responsible for training and educating new officers through a very comprehensive and structured program. The intense training prepares recruit officers to face and correctly respond to a wide range of physically and mentally challenging situations

Firearms Instructors - This group of officers is certified by the State of Wisconsin to teach other officers the correct techniques and procedure for shooting their side arms and other firearms owned by the Department. Training programs also include the care and use of weapons as well as qualification and proficiency.

Honor Guard - The honor guard is a voluntary unit comprised of uniformed officers of the Whitewater Police Department. The honor guard represents our department and our city at funerals and special events.

ID / Evidence Technicians - Evidence Technicians are trained and equipped to process crime scenes, e.g. fingerprints, photographs, collection and preservation of evidence. Evidence Technicians allow for the rapid response to situations, which may require the gathering of evidence in a timely manner.

McGruff Program - The McGruff the "Crime Dog" safety project started in December of 1992. Using the universally recognized McGruff Dog, children are taught to say no to drugs, alcohol, vandalism, gangs, molestation, and abuse. McGruff's primary function is to bring his message to the elementary school children in the Whitewater area. McGruff has also made many public appearances. McGruff is always accompanied by a uniformed police officer.

Sensitive Crimes Investigative Team - Recognizing the intense and painful psychological and social pressures placed on the victims of sensitive crimes, the Whitewater Police Department approaches the investigation of such offenses with great sensitivity for the victim and with the unique skill afforded by a specialized Sensitive Crimes Investigative Team. The team is comprised of officers who are responsible for the investigation of complaints related to sexual assault and child abuse/neglect that require specialized training and intervention.



Bicycle Patrol



Citizen Academy



Defensive Tactics Instructors



ID/Evidence Technicians



Firearms Instructors



Honor Guard

"Protecting Our Community"

Maintaining Professional Policing

It is crucial for the community to have confidence in its police department. The internal affairs function of the Whitewater Police Department is important for the maintenance of professional conduct. The integrity of a law enforcement agency depends on the personal ethics and discipline of each employee.

It is the policy of the Whitewater Police Department to promptly investigate allegations of misconduct or wrongdoing by department members and to take appropriate action to discipline, change policy, or exonerate the employee.

The Department encourages citizens to bring forward legitimate complaints regarding misconduct by employees. It also recognizes that malicious and false accusations are sometimes made. Nevertheless, all allegations must be properly investigated so as to ensure the integrity of the Department and our employees. This is accomplished through an internal system of investigation and review founded on objectivity, fairness, and justice.

An internal affairs investigation can result in five different findings:

Unfounded: Investigation indicates that the allegations are false.

Sustained: The allegations are supported by sufficient evidence to conclude they are true.

Not Sustained: Insufficient evidence to either prove or disprove the allegations.

Exonerated: Investigation indicates that the incident occurred, but was justified, lawful, and proper under the circumstances.

Policy Failure: The investigation revealed that the allegations are true; however, the employee was acting in accordance with an established department policy.

A sustained disposition may result in disciplinary action ranging from reprimand, suspension, demotion or dismissal.

During 2007 the Whitewater Police Department received no formal citizen complaints.

Wisconsin Unified Crime Reporting Index

The **TOTAL INDEX CRIME** increased by 10% in 2007, according to the Office of Justice Assistance. This is due to an increase in crime against persons.

Three incidents of **MOTOR VEHICLES THEFT** (two cars and one truck) were reported during 2007, which is three less than in 2006 when there were six motor vehicles stolen. Of the 2007 incidents, the keys had been left in two of the vehicles. One of the motor vehicle thefts were cleared by arrest (or exceptional clearance) in 2007.

Wisconsin Unified Crime Reporting Index Offenses for the City of Whitewater 2007 compared to 2006

Violent Crime Offenses	2007		2006	
	# offenses	loss amount	# offenses	loss amount
Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter	0	\$ 0	0	\$ 0
Forcible Rape *	9	\$ 0	10	\$ 0
Robbery	1	\$ 1750	0	\$ 0
Aggravated Assault	9	\$ 0	14	\$ 0
Property Crime Offenses	2007		2006	
	# offenses	loss amount	# offenses	loss amount
Arson	1	\$ 10	1	\$ 0
Burglary	74	\$ 93,949	46	\$ 65,624
Motor Vehicle Thefts	3	\$ 4,200	6	\$ 50,565
Total Thefts (breakdown of thefts below)	240	\$ 54,508	229	\$ 50,339
▪ All Other	68	\$ 10,383	83	\$ 8,996
▪ Motor Vehicle Parts/Accessories	18	\$ 5,172	21	\$ 4,584
▪ Bicycles	40	\$ 6,303	21	\$ 3,075
▪ Coin Operated Machines	5	\$ 617	0	\$ 0
▪ From Motor Vehicles	46	\$ 18,452	44	\$ 10,762
▪ From Buildings	44	\$ 12,192	55	\$ 22,853
▪ Pocket Picking	5	\$ 571	0	\$ 0
▪ Purse Snatching	0	\$ 0	0	\$ 0
▪ Shoplifting	14	\$ 818	5	\$ 69
Grand Total of All Offenses	337	\$ 154,417	306	\$ 166,528

* There were 11 sexual assault incidents (1st, 2nd, 3rd, and 4th degree) in 2007 compared to eight in 2006. (Note: These numbers are not reflected in the Wisconsin Unified Crime Reporting Index Crime statistics)

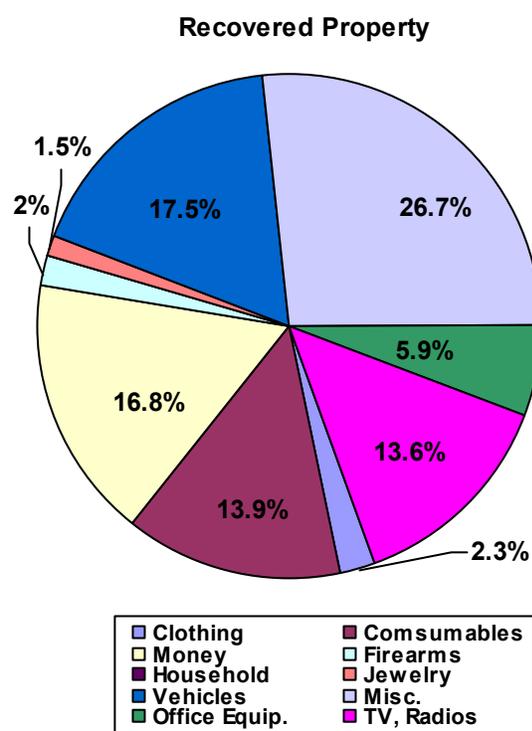
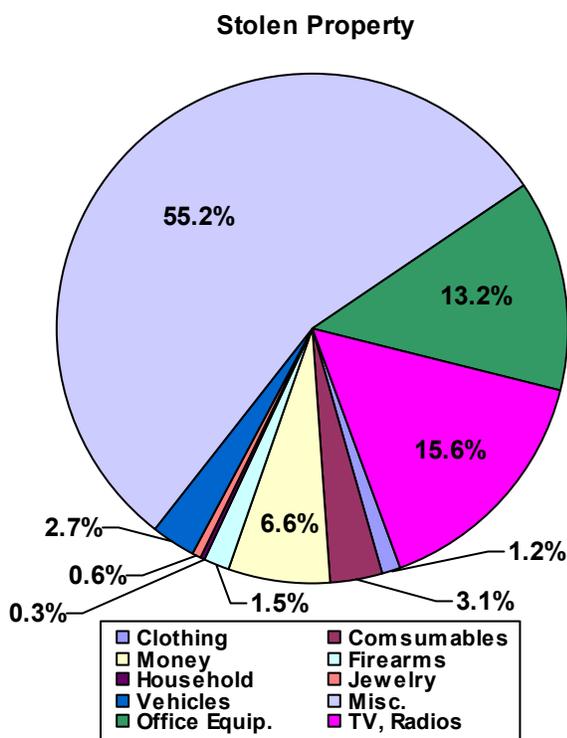
2007 Property Stolen and Recovered

The total dollar amount of **PROPERTY STOLEN** in 2007 was \$154,407 with \$24,060 being recovered, a recovery rate of 16%. Compared to 2006, the value of stolen property decreased by \$12,121 or 7%.

In addition to the recovery of stolen property in 2007, there was \$4,674 recovered as a result of restitution paid for investigative costs and “non-sufficient funds” checks cashed. This is a decrease from 2006 when \$4,838 was recovered.

Property Stolen vs. Property Recovered

Type of Property	Stolen	Recovered	Recovery Rate
	dollar amount	dollar amount	percentage
Clothing and Furs	\$ 1,904	\$ 559	29.4 %
Consumable Goods	\$ 4,764	\$ 3,336	70.0 %
Currency, Notes, Etc.	\$ 10,116	\$ 4,051	40.0 %
Firearms	\$ 2,305	\$ 450	19.5 %
Household Goods	\$ 524	\$ 0	0 %
Jewelry and Precious Metals	\$ 915	\$ 355	38.8 %
Locally Stolen Motor Vehicles	\$ 4,200	\$ 4,200	100.0 %
Miscellaneous	\$ 85,215	\$ 6,419	7.5 %
Office Equipment	\$ 20,432	\$ 1,409	6.9 %
Televisions, Radios, Stereos	\$ 24,032	\$ 3,281	13.7 %
Total	\$ 154,407	\$ 24,060	15.6 %



Arrests for 2007

In the areas of major crime, **ARRESTS** for burglary, criminal damage, operating motor vehicle while under the influence, and sexual assaults have increased compared to 2006. Arrests for forgery, fraud, motor vehicle theft, liquor laws, obstruct/resist officer, reckless endanger safety, possess or receive of stolen property, theft, weapons, aggravated assaults, simple assaults, possess controlled substances, disorderly conduct, and bail jumping have decreased for 2007.

There were 200 **CRIMINAL DAMAGE** incidents reported to this department in 2007, an increase of 22 or 12% compared to 2006 when there were 178 incidents. There were 82 arrests made for criminal damage in 2007 compared to 48 arrests in 2006. This is an increase of 34 or 71%. The total loss amount for 2007 due to criminal damage (or damage incurred during the commission of other crimes) was \$130,446. This is an increase of \$66,612 or 104% compared to 2006 when there was a loss of \$63,834. Restitution was paid in 42 incidents in 2007, an increase of six from 2006 in which restitution was paid in 36 incidents. The amount of restitution received for 2007 losses was \$42,606 compared to \$15,483 recovered in 2006, an increase of \$27,123 or 175%.

There were 171 arrests for **OPERATING A MOTOR VEHICLE WHILE UNDER THE INFLUENCE** of alcohol or drugs in 2007. These shows an increase of two arrests or 1% from 2006 when there was a total was 169. There were an additional 167 citations written for illegal blood alcohol content in addition to the operating a motor vehicle while under the influence citations.

A total of 470 Whitewater Municipal Court **WARRANTS** were cleared by the department during 2007. There were an additional 148 warrants or apprehensions served for other agencies.

In 2007, there were four municipal citations written for **PARKING TICKETS** that were contested by the public.

Monthly Breakdown of Arrests

Month	Adult # of arrests	Juvenile # of arrests	Total # of arrests
January	223	31	254
February	180	21	201
March	204	35	239
April	274	55	329
May	173	34	207
June	150	52	202
July	201	70	271
August	224	23	247
September	230	33	263
October	341	123	464
November	160	14	174
December	211	38	249
Total	2,571	529	3,100
Monthly Average	214	44	258

Comparison of Arrests (Adult and Juvenile) by Year by Category

Type of Arrests	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
	# of arrests					
Arson	0	0	1	0	0	0
Assault (Aggravated)	5	24	18	17	9	6
Assault (Other)	39	57	32	49	46	34
Bail Jumping	26	23	60	58	50	47
Burglary	18	33	18	6	28	95
Controlled Substance – Possession	85	121	181	157	123	75
Controlled Substance – Sale/Manufacturing	4	25	20	26	10	10
Criminal Damage	57	51	66	63	48	82
Disorderly Conduct	304	393	401	406	391	361
Failure to Obey Officer	14	17	28	22	12	12
Forgery and Counterfeiting	30	21	19	10	41	39
Fraud	157	152	191	170	173	116
Liquor Laws	740	489	713	537	640	620
Motor Vehicle Theft	7	4	4	2	5	3
Murder and Non-Negligent Manslaughter	0	0	0	0	0	0
Noise	41	28	39	43	36	29
Obstruct/Resist Officers	51	65	68	57	61	55
Offenses Against Family and Children	2	8	1	3	1	2
Operate Auto While Intoxicated	134	197	249	225	169	171
Reckless Endangering Safety	0	3	0	3	5	2
Robbery	3	2	0	2	1	0
Sexual Assault – 1 st Degree	1	3	3	2	3	5
Sexual Assault – 2 nd Degree	10	5	12	5	6	8
Sexual Assault – 3 rd Degree	4	0	0	0	1	3
Sexual Assault – 4 th Degree	0	6	11	2	1	5
Sex Offenses (Other)	15	1	7	4	12	9
Stolen Property	7	1	0	4	5	3
Theft (Except Motor Vehicle)	130	155	125	97	114	124
Traffic Offenses	764	823	1,166	981	877	767
Weapons (Conceal, Possession)	12	20	24	18	23	9
Miscellaneous Charges *	258	336	324	313	335	408
Total	2,918	3,063	3,781	3,282	3,226	3,100

* See Next Page for Breakdown

“Protecting Our Community”

Miscellaneous Charges

Charges	Adult & Juvenile # of arrests
Animal at Large/Noise	9
Animals/License Required	1
Cigarette/Tobacco Violations	35
Contribute to Delinquency of a Minor	1
Contribute to Truancy	3
Court Order Violations	12
Criminal Trespass	4
Curfew	44
Deliver Tobacco to Individual < 18 years old	1
Emergency Detention/Protective Custody	41
Encourage Probation/Parole Violation	1
Entice Child for Immoral Purposes (Prostitution & Vice)	3
Extortion	1
Fireworks – Sell/Discharge without Permit	1
Harbor/Aid a Felon	1
Junk Vehicle Storage – License Required	4
Lewd and Lascivious Behavior	1
Local Warrants Served	136
Operate Motor Vehicle in Area not Designated	1
Possession of Drug Paraphernalia	41
Runaway	19
Solicitors/Peddlers Prohibited	1
Truancy	47
Total	408

Year Comparison of Charges against Juveniles by Age

Year	12 & under # of arrests	13-14 # of arrests	15 # of arrests	16 # of arrests	17 # of arrests	Total # of arrests
2003	28	101	90	129	135	483
2004	20	58	83	114	140	415
2005	15	68	84	116	117	400
2006	8	53	96	129	195	481
2007	26	78	83	149	193	529

Charges against Juveniles

During 2007 there were 529 charges filed against **JUVENILES**, compared to 481 in 2006, an increase of 48. Accounting for the majority of arrests were disorderly conduct, theft, traffic, burglary, criminal damage, truancy and curfew violations.

Type of Property	12 & under	13-14	15	16	17	Total
	# of arrests					
Arson	-	-	-	-	-	0
Assault (Aggravated)	-	-	-	-	1	1
Assault (Other)	-	-	-	-	1	1
Burglary	-	2	2	23	34	61
Criminal Damage	9	9	1	12	12	43
Curfew	1	11	8	7	17	44
Disorderly Conduct	7	21	18	16	14	76
Drugs – Possession	-	1	3	2	6	12
Drugs – Sale	-	-	-	1	1	2
Forgery	-	-	-	1	-	1
Fraud	-	-	-	10	-	10
Liquor Laws	1	-	-	12	16	29
Operate Auto While Intoxicated	-	-	-	-	1	1
Obstruct/Resist Officers	-	2	2	4	1	9
Robbery	-	-	-	-	-	0
Runaway	-	8	1	6	4	19
Sexual Assault – 1 st Degree	2	-	-	-	-	2
Sexual Assault – 2 nd Degree	-	1	-	-	-	1
Sexual Assault – 3 rd Degree	-	-	-	-	-	0
Sexual Assault – 4 th Degree	-	-	-	1	-	1
Sex Offenses (Other)	-	-	-	-	-	0
Stolen Property	-	-	1	-	-	1
Theft (Except Motor Vehicle)	1	9	15	11	28	64
Theft – Motor Vehicle	2	-	-	-	1	3
Traffic Offenses	-	2	1	15	24	42
Truancy	1	5	15	10	14	45
Weapons (Conceal, Possession)	2	1	-	1	-	4
Other Offenses	-	6	16	17	18	57
Total	26	78	83	149	193	529

Motor Vehicle Accidents

MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS increased by 28, or 11% in 2007. Hit and run accidents decreased by seven, or 9% and personal injury accidents increased by nine or 28%. There were no traffic fatalities in 2007.

Accidents by Category by Year

Type of Accident	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
	# of incidents					
Fatal	0	1	0	1	1	0
Personal Injury	56	44	35	50	32	41
Pedestrian	7	5	5	2	1	12
Hit and Run	99	82	68	66	78	71
Property Damage > \$1,000	169	131	116	119	88	103
Property Damage < \$1,000	72	69	95	79	66	67
Total	403	332	319	317	266	294

Accidents by Month by Year

Month	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
	# of incidents					
January	28	25	34	30	19	23
February	32	40	25	32	22	29
March	32	24	29	24	24	29
April	35	29	29	19	24	16
May	35	15	27	22	29	26
June	26	21	28	22	15	18
July	22	29	19	30	11	23
August	39	25	15	16	12	18
September	52	31	27	29	19	22
October	36	46	31	22	32	22
November	37	19	37	26	26	24
December	29	28	18	45	33	44
Total	403	332	319	317	266	294

Miscellaneous Activities

Of the 27 persons **INCARCERATED** in the City jail during 2007, 23 were male and four were female. This is a decrease of 19 individuals, or 41% compared to 46 persons confined in 2006. In accordance with state statutes, the annual jail inspection found our jail to be in compliance with all statutory and departmental requirements, and in an orderly condition.

There were 7,453 **CALLS FOR SERVICE** to the Whitewater Police Department in 2007, a decrease of 1096 or 13% compared to 2006. This decrease included all areas of complaints. The department responded to 564 emergency medical calls in 2007 compared to 545 in 2006.

The department responded to 404 **NOISE COMPLAINTS** during 2007 and issued 29 citations. This figure shows a decrease of 100 complaints compared to 2006 when we responded to 504 complaints and issued 36 citations.

There were 261 **ANIMAL COMPLAINTS** during 2007 compared to 313 in 2006, a decrease of 52 or 17%. These complaints cover noise by dogs, cats, or other animals, animals disturbing garbage, running at large, or lost and found animals.

The department issued a total of 8,270 tickets for **PARKING VIOLATIONS** during 2007, compared to 7,035 in 2006, an increase of 1,235. A total of \$136,724 revenue was collected during 2007 from parking violation tickets. This reflects an increase of \$23,051 or 20% compared to the 2006 revenue of \$113,673.

In August of 2007, the department began selling parking permits to downtown residents and to downtown business employees. A total of 114 **PARKING PERMITS** were sold in 2007. Downtown Employee Parking Permits made up 23 of the total sold. The remaining 91 were sold to downtown residents for parking in permitted spaces in various lots in the downtown area.

During 2007, officers of this department responded to 107 **FALSE ALARMS** at business establishments and public buildings. This is an increase of 11, compared to 2006 when there were 96 false alarms.

Miscellaneous Activities Comparison by Year

Type of Activity	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
	# incidents					
Calls for Service	8,191	8,890	8,632	8,574	8,549	7,453
Family Disturbances	38	30	35	46	39	40
Open Window and/or Doors	24	17	9	10	11	6
Noise Complaints	425	436	476	474	504	404
Noise Citations Issued	41	28	39	43	36	29
Animal Complaints	423	356	301	307	313	261
False Alarms	191	137	124	140	96	107
Parking Permits Issued	-	-	-	-	-	114
Bike Licenses Issued	38	18	35	24	16	34

Open Records Requests

The department processed record checks for 43 persons involved in 44 **ALCOHOL BEVERAGE LICENSE APPLICATIONS**, and 201 **APPLICATIONS FOR BEVERAGE OPERATORS LICENSES** (bartender) during 2007.

During 2007 there were 2,456 **OPEN RECORDS** requests processed. Of the 2,456 requests the department completed 923 requests for **BACKGROUND CHECKS** of individuals. Also included in the total were 11 miscellaneous open record requests, 249 requests for motor vehicle accident reports, 443 requests for incident reports, and 830 incident reports were sent to other government agencies for law enforcement purposes.

Type of Request	2005	2006	2007
	# requests	# requests	# requests
Incident Reports (to other government agencies)	1,014	842	830
Incident Reports (to public)	394	435	443
Motor Vehicle Accident Reports	349	228	249
Background Checks	809	863	923
Miscellaneous	14	7	11
Total Requests	2,580	2,375	2,456

WPD Personnel Statistics

Department personnel participated in 1,789 hours of **TRAINING** in 2007, compared to 2,659 hours in 2006, a decrease of 870 hours or 33%. This training covered all phases of law enforcement.

During the year officers of the department worked 4,324 hours of **OVERTIME** compared to 4,470 hours in 2006, a decrease of 146 hours. Holiday overtime (not included in above figure) accounted for 829 hours.

In 2007 there were 38 **PRESENTATIONS** given by department personnel. These presentations included information on accidents, traffic safety and alcohol awareness to high school driver's education classes, Internet safety for children and adults, identity theft, Hispanic community outreach, safety awareness and protective behaviors for grade school children, middle school and high school career days, tavern employees training video and tours of the department. Included in this year's total are seven, forty-five minute sessions of CounterAct drug and alcohol awareness presentations. These sessions are presented by the Juvenile Officer on a yearly basis for elementary school fifth graders. Also included are three presentations to the parents of the fifth grade classes.

Type of Statistic	2005	2006	2007
	# hours/speeches	# hours/speeches	# hours/speeches
Training Hours	2,362	2,659	1,789
Overtime Hours	4,441	4,470	4,324
Holiday Overtime Hours	930	1,090	829
Presentations given by WPD Personnel	27	23	38

2008 Management Plan

Based on an assessment of departmental operations, supervisory and command staff discussions, budgetary considerations, accreditation standards, and a review of our Strategic Plan, we propose the following organizational goals and objectives for 2008. Our goals represent direct and definitive objectives for us to accomplish over the course of the year. Other issues will be reviewed and projects developed as opportunities arise or as conditions change.

1. To Ensure Our Status as an Accredited Law Enforcement Agency

Accreditation is a process by which a police department, such as ours, comes into compliance with a body of standards relating to every aspect of a law enforcement operation. Over the years we have sought to develop policies and practices in accord with state and national standards. Five years ago we became a State Accredited Law Enforcement Agency. In 2008, we intend to undergo a reaccreditation process which is designed to ensure our on-going compliance with accreditation standards.

Accreditation is a prestigious honor bestowed on those relatively few law enforcement agencies which have been successful in coming into compliance with the comprehensive standards set forth by the Wisconsin Law Enforcement Accreditation Group (WILEAG). We are the only such agency in all of Walworth County and adjacent Jefferson County. Accreditation recognizes the quality of our organization, the caliber of our personnel, and places our agency among the elite in Wisconsin law enforcement.

2. To Conduct a Police-Citizens Academy

Citizen academies have played an integral role in our community policing efforts and have served to enhance public awareness of safety related issues. Each eight-week academy provides members of our community with a hands-on perspective of law enforcement and public safety operations. In recent years we have included Fire Suppression, Emergency Medical Service, and Emergency Government as subjects taught in our academy. In 2008, we intend to conduct our seventh such citizen academy.

3. To Conduct a Citizen Opinion Survey

We periodically conduct surveys of our citizens in an effort to gauge public opinion relative to such issues as the quality of service provided by our Department, the professionalism and effectiveness of our personnel, and the level of perceived safety in one's neighborhood. We find the responses and written comments to be very useful in identifying public concerns, assessing organizational strengths and weaknesses, and in finding solutions to problems. It is our intent to conduct another such citizen opinion survey in 2008.

4. To Upgrade our Communications Center/System

Perhaps the most significant technological improvement that we will undertake in 2008 is the upgrade of our radio communications center and system. The upgrade will include new radio consoles for two dispatch positions, remodeling of the communications center, a Net Clock system which will synchronize all equipment within the communications center, better audio and visual monitoring of selected areas of the station, and an upgrade of the emergency early warning system. The extensive nature of this project will call for a year of patience and cooperation by our communications personnel.

5. To Accomplish Annual Patrol/Team Objectives

Per policy, on an annual basis each shift or team of officers formulates and then seeks to accomplish certain specific goals and objectives. Our Sergeants will be submitting their annual team goals in the weeks ahead. Objectives generally fall into three categories, i.e. traffic enforcement/safety, anti-crime/problem solving, and community policing/crime prevention.

In recent years our officers have been very successful in applying these objectives in addressing such issues as the stability of the “central city” residential area adjacent to the east side of campus and in controlling alcohol related violations at or near downtown taverns. Officers have also conducted traffic safety/enforcement operations along West Main Street, reduced traffic congestion and speed violations around school zones, and enforced speed limits on the Hwy 12 By-pass.

Conclusion:

The Whitewater Police Department is a very progressive and professional law enforcement agency. We continue to make significant progress on a broad range of strategic issues, e.g. recruitment and selection of quality personnel, ensuring a high standard of training, maintaining a high degree of ethical conduct, delivering quality safety service to our community, etc.

We take great pride in our professional growth and development and in the knowledge that we are doing a very good job of protecting our community. We are very diligent in combating crime, recovering property, controlling parking problems, enforcing code violations, promoting traffic safety, dealing with sensitive crimes, countering drug and alcohol violations, and in improving the quality of life in our community. We continue to make Whitewater an inhospitable place for those who would engage in criminal conduct.

None of what we accomplish could be achieved without the dedication and concerted effort put forth by so many in our organization. As individuals, and as a law enforcement/public safety agency, we have the capacity to meet virtually any challenge. With the continued support of our City Manager, Police and Fire Commission, City Council, and Citizens, I believe that the future of our Department remains very bright and that together we stand ready to successfully meet the challenges of a new year.