



# **City of Rockford Police Department 2009 Annual Report**



June 2010

Dear Mayor Lawrence Morrissey, City Council Members and City of Rockford Community:

On behalf of the members of the City of Rockford Police Department, I respectfully submit the 2009 Annual Report.

The Rockford Police Department, in 2009, was awarded status by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. This recognizes our elevation of Department standards deemed essential for the protection of the life, health, safety and right of the citizens it serves. The Accreditation Team performed at an outstanding level in this effort with tremendous commitment to obtain this excellence.

The Department continues to show excellence by using crime fighting problem-solving strategies in our community. Our two federally funded Weed and Seed areas, our drug market disruption areas, and a summer focus area are examples of our ability to partner with many within the criminal justice system and the community. These programs assisted us in reducing our crime rate and delivering safety to our neighborhoods.

In 2009, the City experienced the downturn in the economy. At the same time we were fortunate to receive financial funding for police officers under the Community-Oriented Policing Service (COPS) office. Although challenging financial decisions were made, we continued to provide service to our citizens.

We are humbled by our accomplishments of 2009 and are proud our officers continue to provide a quality level of service to our community. My intent is for our department to continue to work through our challenges and provide service to the best of our ability in law enforcement. This report enables you to review our year-long activities.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chief Chet Epperson". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

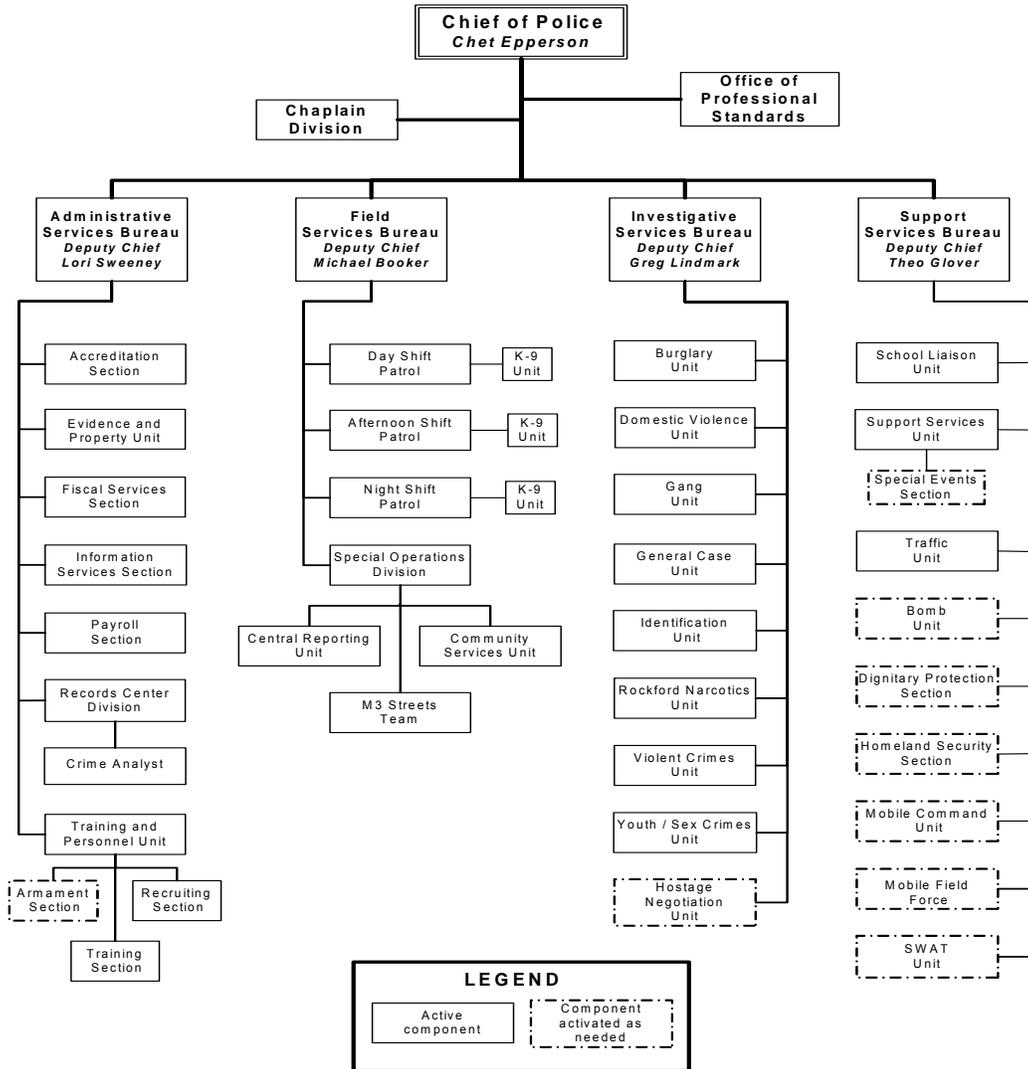
Chet Epperson, Chief of Police  
City of Rockford

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Rockford Police Department

ROCKFORD POLICE DEPARTMENT



Sworn Position Title	Authorized
Chief	1
Deputy Chief	4
Lieutenant	6
Sergeant	32
Investigator	81
Patrol Officer	161
<b>Total</b>	<b>285</b>

Non-Sworn Position Title	Authorized
Records Supervisor	1
Crime Analyst	2
Financial Analyst	1
Fiscal Services Specialist	1
Information Systems Specialist	1
Information Systems Technician	1
Senior Administrative Assistant	2
Administrative Assistant	1
Evidence and Property Technician	3
Senior Office Assistant	1
Police Technician	5
Senior Clerk	3
Data Entry Operator	8
Asset Seizure Analyst	1
Citizen Reporting Assistant (Part Time)	4
<b>Total</b>	<b>35</b>

Information based on budget reductions  
10/01/2009

## Office of Chief of Police

The Chief of Police is the Chief Executive Officer of the Rockford Police Department and is the final authority in all matters of Department policy and operations. The Chief of Police is accountable to the Mayor and works to support the initiatives of the City Council.

- Ensures the Department's Mission is executed efficiently and effectively
- Creates a vision for the future of the Department
- Develops strategic goals and objectives
- Empowers and leads subordinates
- Plans, organizes, directs, staffs, coordinates and controls all Departmental functions

The **Administrative Staff** assists the Chief of Police and Deputy Chiefs in the daily administrative responsibilities of the Department. These responsibilities include the following:

- Correspondence
- Scheduling
- Purchasing
- Maintaining personnel, sick and training records, Department payroll, obtaining and maintenance of grants, budget and purchasing.



Clockwise: Deputy Chief Michael Booker, Deputy Chief Theo Glover, Chief Chet Epperson, Deputy Chief Lori Sweeney, Deputy Chief Gregory Lindmark

## Office of Professional Standards

The Office of Professional Standards exists in order to address allegations of impropriety and misconduct by Rockford Police Department members. OPS also works with the rest of the Department in an ongoing effort to prevent misconduct before it can occur. OPS functions in the following ways:

- Facilitates the process of receiving internal and external complaints alleging employee misconduct
- Investigates complaints against Department members
- Maintains documentation of complaints
- Prepares Department charges when appropriate
- Assists in representing the Department in disciplinary proceedings
- Trains command personnel in the complaint process

In order to file a complaint, citizens may contact the Department in any of the following ways:

- In person to any Department member
- By telephone
- By letter, email of other written communication
- Anonymously

By means of the Board or Police and Fire, the Office of Professional Standards received:

- 37 citizen complaints
- 44 informal inquires
- 18 internal complaints

The dispositions for those cases were:

- |                  |    |
|------------------|----|
| • Exonerated     | 3  |
| • Failed to file | 9  |
| • Not sustained  | 7  |
| • Resolved       | 19 |
| • Sustained      | 32 |
| • Unfounded      | 17 |

Explanation of dispositions:

- Exonerated = conduct occurred but was justified
- Failed to file = after initial contact about the complaint, complainant does not file formal complaint
- Not sustained = insufficient evidence to either support or refute a complaint
- Resolved = complaint was mediated to satisfaction
- Sustained = sufficient evidence to support the complaint
- Unfounded = sufficient evidence to support that allegation in complaint did not occur

The disciplinary action taken on all complaints was:

- |                          |    |
|--------------------------|----|
| • Verbal counseling      | 28 |
| • Oral admonishment      | 11 |
| • Written reprimand      | 6  |
| • Suspension             | 2  |
| • Termination            | 2  |
| • Corrective action slip | 9  |

The Office of Professional Standards also maintains the Department's Early Warning System.

The Office of Professional Standards utilizes IAPRO, which is a computer software application designed to assist police departments in recording and tracking of complaints. Additional computer software, BLUE TEAM, enables supervisors to submit complaints, as well as additional early warning system data including uses of force, vehicle pursuits, squad vehicle crashes and discipline into the IAPRO data base. These data factors are routinely analyzed in order to identify and intervene, when needed, in an attempt to correct conduct before serious misconduct occurs.

## Administrative Services Bureau

### Accreditation Section

The Accreditation Section continued to be staffed by two Investigators and the Deputy Chief of Administration, who is the appointed, the accreditation manager.



The accreditation process requires that the Department act in accordance with 463 national standards. CALEA standards encompass all areas of law enforcement, including:

- Operations
- Management
- Research
- Patrol
- Investigations
- Training and many more

The Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA) process is a proven modern management model that, once implemented, presents the Chief of Police with a blue-print that promotes the efficient use of resources and improves service delivery.

The Department continues to work diligently to remain an accredited agency. An annual report is filed with the Commission for Accreditation and another on-site will be conducted in 2011.

### Chaplains Division

This Division is a support unit of the Rockford Police Department. The unit consists of the Head Chaplain, a Personal Services Officer, an Outreach Worker, and 36 volunteer Duty Chaplains. The unit handled many documented calls for services in 2009. Police Chaplains regularly assist with:

- Death and/or accident notifications
- Bereavement counseling
- Family disturbances
- Suicide attempts
- Lonely and despondent persons
- Spiritual Problems
- Major fires
- Liaison with community clergy
- Community Crisis Response Team
- Liaison with other Community helping agencies
- People who have basic crisis needs such as food, shelter, transportation, etc.



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In addition to the above, our Chaplains regularly assist active and retired Police and Fire personnel when difficulties or tragedies arise in their personal lives and with special occasions such as promotions, retirements, weddings, visitations and funerals.

Our Head Chaplain, Duty Chaplains, Personal Services Officer, and Office Administrator are rotated and all on call 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, 365 days per year. Someone is always available to handle whatever crisis arises. Our Duty Chaplains are the backbone of our program, and at least one of them is on duty each day of the month to handle whatever situation arises. Additionally, we also have Resource Volunteers who are invaluable and engage in tasks such as office work, making deliveries, sorting donated food, and transporting people

The Chaplain Division operates financially through private donations and a partnership with the City of Rockford. Private donations come from a variety of sources which include: churches, individuals, civic clubs, businesses, foundations, and various fund raising projects.

Our Teddy Bears program supplies teddy bears which emergency personnel give out children, elderly, and disabled individuals in crisis situations. These bears help bring calm to the crisis situation and allow Police Officers, Fire Fighters, and Chaplains to get their work accomplished more quickly and efficiently. Each year the Gold Wing Road Riders - Chapter L motorcycle group donate fund raiser proceeds to help provide these teddy bears.

We are so thankful for all those who continue to support our program in a variety of ways. We are especially grateful to our volunteer Duty Chaplains who faithfully give of their time, talents, and resources to help those who are hurting and in crisis in our community. Their tireless and often behind-the-scenes efforts are an example and encouragement to us all. They are truly dedicated to helping and caring for our Police Officers, Fire Fighters, 911 Center Operators, and the citizens of our community.

### **Evidence & Property Unit**

The Evidence & Property Unit has custodial responsibility for all criminal evidence and property recovered or seized by officers of the Department. The Unit is also responsible for vehicles impounded by members of the Department. Additionally, the Unit has responsibility for the storage and distribution of office and operational supplies for the Department.

Evidence and property transitioned to a new evidence management system called the BEAST. The intent of this system is to eliminate the various databases which duplicate our work in order to pull information and reports that are needed for our day to day work.

### **Evidence Activity**

The new evidence count for the year totaled 14,900, a 4.3% decrease over 2008. The entire amount of lab submissions were 2,046, an increase of 1.6 % from the previous year. The disposition total for evidence, which is property returned, put into department use, auctioned, forfeited or destroyed in 2009 equaled 8,493 a decrease of 61.7% over 2008.

### **Impound Activity**

The total number of impounds for 2009 equaled 2,745, less (-13.4%) than in 2008. The total amount of impound activity which includes impound releases (2,098) and auctions (523) of unclaimed vehicles equaled 2,621.

The number one reason for having a vehicle impounded during 2009 in the City of Rockford was a failure to have proof of vehicle insurance, which accounts for 34% of our impounds. This was followed by driving under the influence at 23.2%, abandoned vehicles at 12.9%, evidence processing at 9.54%, noise violation, first offense at 7.47%, Hit and Run accidents at 6.19% recovered stolen at 5.10%, fleeing to elude at .80%, parking/booted at .40%, noise violation second offense at .18%, other at .15%, and noise violation third offense at .04%.

Of the unclaimed vehicles we disposed of through auction, the top three reasons for impounding were: Abandoned → 38.4%; Failure to have insurance → 27%; and Hit and Run → 14.7%.

### **Revenue**

The Unit generates revenue for the City of Rockford in two ways. First through impound fees meant to offset the cost of the impound function and secondly through the auction of unclaimed property and vehicles. The Unit collected a total of \$73,775 in impound fees (7.7% decrease) along with \$61,418 in fees to pay tow bills. An additional \$33,000.00 was collected in bonds from vehicles impounded due to violation of the noise ordinance.

Through GRAA (Greater Rockford Auto Auction), the Unit had twelve vehicle auctions. The gross proceeds for these auctions were \$175,460. Expenses include

auction ads and unpaid tow bills. These totaled \$21,529.60. Revenue realized through vehicle auctions totaled \$6,999.90.

Auctions held for unclaimed property through Action Auction generated the following (net) revenue: General Merchandise: \$1,212.54.



### **Fiscal Services Section**

The Fiscal Services Section manages all functions regarding Department purchases, accounts payable, accounts receivable, disbursement and replenishment of petty cash, and maintains an inventory of uniforms and equipment. This Section also monitors the Department's budget, researches various police and office products, prepares bid specifications and oversees contracts with vendors.

### **Payroll Section**

The Payroll Section manages the payroll for sworn and civilian personnel within the Department. Major duties of the Payroll Section include tracking of leave, sick time, vacation, compensatory time, overtime, and regular or special pay schedules. This must be done in compliance with the contract agreements between the two major bargaining units and the City. The Payroll Section also produces reports on the Department's payroll status to command personnel as well as individual reports for personnel retiring or otherwise leaving the Department.

### **Financial Analyst**

The financial analyst assists in preparing the budget, continues to analyze the budget and reports throughout the year, seeks grant opportunities, coordinates with other agencies for funding opportunities, and completes special projects as directed by the Department.

Grant proposals are written and submitted through out the year. Once secured, all of the progress reporting requirements are maintained by the grant writer. For 2009, grants were secured to conduct special details and programs, enhance officer radio communications, purchase equipment, provide training, and add camera surveillance in targeted areas of the City. The department received \$6,006,906.00 in grants in 2009.

### **Information Service Section**

The Information Services Section has assisted several areas of the Department with various projects and project management support. Support Services Bureau replaced all the radios within the Department and at the 911 center. They also finalized the installation of a camera system on city streets that are monitored at the police station. Field Services Bureau has updated the in-vehicle Computer aided Dispatch Software, called Premier Mobile Data Client. Field Services has added GPS to the vehicles and given the police supervisors' access to view the location of the squad cars and the dispatchers the ability to dispatch by the closest available unit. Office of Professional Standards needed the capability to collect and track information that was historically on paper. Records Center reporting server, Motorola NetRMS, was on servers that were end of life. We moved the NetRMS system to a robust server system, which will allow for more redundant backup of data, and ability to keep the reporting system online with a higher level of availability. Property and Evidence Unit needed to update the program that was being used to track evidence. The Program chosen was from Porter-Lee Corporation called BEAST (Barcode, Evidence Analysis, Statistics, and Tracking System).

The new radio system is a Motorola product called StarCom21 and the radio network covers the entire state of Illinois. All Officers and staff were issued a portable. On August 12, 2009, the 911 Center changed from dispatching on the VHF system to Dispatching on StarCom21. The coverage has proven to be more comprehensive and audio quality is superior. 911 operators can now see what radio is transmitting and get alerts from Officers who press their emergency button on the radio. This has improved officer safety by allowing the Officer to quickly inform the 911 center that they are in need of assistance without having to take the time to



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call in the problem, they just simply press a button. The Information Services Section is currently supporting the programming and setup of the new radios.

The new Computer Aided Dispatch software for Squad cars is a Motorola Product Called PMDC or Premier Mobile Data Client. This software works in conjunction with the 911 Centers Premier CAD, Computer Aided Dispatch, system from Motorola. PMDC allows Officers to get all the information that is available to the dispatcher in the car. The Officers can run queries about vehicles, persons, stolen items, all from their computers. They can look at call history for an address, Look up if a license plate has been run during another incident. PMDC also takes the information from the GPS unit and passes the location to the 911 CAD systems. The CAD system can then suggest the closest available unit for a call, so the dispatcher can get a car to the citizen quickly.

The Office of Professional Standards has implemented a new software package from CI Technologies called IAPro. This replaced the card files and file folders. In addition to IA Pro, all supervisors have access to the system called Blue Team, and they can file the Professional Standards reports online.

Support Services Bureau finalized the installation and began monitoring the on street cameras. There are 21 cameras being monitored at various locations that were selected to give the most assistance to the department. The Information Service Section is supporting the computers and network wireless links, and cameras with the assistance of the Public Works Traffic Signal Electricians.

As we move into 2010, Officers are trained on how to enter items into the BEAST, they will enter the evidence as it is collected and print custom evidence labels to tag evidence. BEAST allows the evidence to be tracked from collection through disposal. The chain of custody is kept by the BEAST capturing all of the signatures electronically, instead of on a piece of paper attached to the item.

### **Records Center Division**

The Rockford Police Department's Record Center uses the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) Program to report Rockford's crime statistics directly to the FBI.

NIBRS collects data on 46 specific crimes identified as Group "A" offenses and 11 additional Group "B" offenses. NIBRS also captures all offenses completed in a particular incident, as well as characteristics of both

victims and perpetrators. NIBRS can produce a more detailed, accurate and meaningful account of what happened in an incident than the previous reporting system. The Rockford Police Department will not only be able to give accurate counts of offenses and clearances that occur, but will be able to identify common crime problems and trends through the analysis of data.

It should be noted that in NIBRS, a single incident could contain many offenses. Statistics are gathered for every offense in that incident. For example, if a Forced Entry Residential Burglary take place, an offense of Criminal Damage to Property would be reported in addition to the Burglary. Other information such as the type of tools that were used to gain access, what was damaged and the type of security are also reported. If an incident is cleared by an arrest, all offenses within that incident are also cleared.

Being a certified NIBRS participant, the Rockford Police Department plays a key role in continuing a nationwide statistical program that will enhance the quantity, quality and timeliness of the crime data gathered by law enforcement. The Records Management System now contains four complete years of NIBRS data. We can accurately compare crime statistics for 2006 and later without conversion of the data.

In addition to maintaining the department's state-of-the-art records management system, the Records Center also responds to requests for that data.

The Records Center responded to 1,213 FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) requests, 5,102 requests for accident information and 772 summaries of police reports. The Records Center also scanned and attached to electronic police reports, 53,876 supporting documents that can be retrieved via the records management system.

Report Review personnel also reviewed and approved 57,036 police reports for content and quality.

The Records Center implemented a system in which authorized agencies can access police incident data electronically. The four major users of the system are the City of Rockford Legal Department, Winnebago County States Attorney's Office, Adult Probation and Juvenile Probation.

Through secure and limited access of the department's records management system, these agencies are able to retrieve needed arrest reports from their own computers, in their own offices. Previously, this information was only, available at the Record Center counter where Records personnel would fulfill each request by making

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copies of reports. Time has been the biggest savings because report information is now available to the agencies as soon as it is approved.

In the past year, the outside agencies performed over 30,000 requests for police report arrest data. Reports were printed by these agencies as needed.

**Crime Analysis Unit**

The Rockford Police Department Crime Analysis Unit falls under the Records Center. With new enhancements in technology and the use of NetRMS, crime data is collected, collated, analyzed, and disseminated on a regular basis. The Crime Analysis Unit perform various tasks and duties such as analyzing crime, forecasting future criminal occurrences, tracking crime patterns, monitoring trends, and preparing statistical crime reports to support daily department function and long term department projects. This analysis is used for weekly District Meetings and assists in the City of Rockford's RockStat performance measurement program.

The Rockford Police Department also uses the ESRI (Environmental Systems Research Institute) mapping software ArcGIS (Geographic Information Systems) to enhance the analysis of crime data. Crime mapping allows for in-depth crime analysis and visual-statistical study of patterns and events to advance the analysis process. In 2008, the Rockford Police Department was approved for purchase of the software Crime View by The Omega Group utilizing funds from a grant. This program has been further developed and is now being implemented for the Crime Analysis Unit. Crime View will allow for more automated procedures and in-depth data to be analyzed in a geographic format. This will enhance our current mapping capabilities to further crime analysis functionality, particularly in our Police District meetings. Geographic analysis will further these weekly meetings by providing the District Crime Analysis used to address needs in the area.

The Crime Analysis Unit (CAU), created many reports which are compiled and subsequently disseminated. This enhancement of the CAU also allows for improved consistency as well as regularity to analysis methods, procedures, and reports. Among many functions there are three primary types of the Crime Analysis. Types of Crime Analysis are:

- Administrative – Involves long range projects and statistical information reports
- Strategic – Concerned with operational strategies and solutions to ongoing problems
- Tactical – Deals with immediate criminal offenses to promote quick response

The Rockford Police Department is an active member of the Crime Analysts of Illinois Association. One of the Rockford Police Department Crime Analysts served on the board as Secretary of the Organization for 2009.

CAI had membership from approximately 40 different Law Enforcement Agencies across the state of Illinois. It is the largest Crime Analysis Organization currently in Illinois. The CAI has members from Local, State, and Federal Law Enforcement Agencies.

**Training Unit**

The Training Unit provided 603 hours of training time to sworn police officers and civilian support personnel. Rockford Police Department Instructors also provided an additional 2,455 hours of specialized instructional time. These ongoing educational and training programs help maintain the skills and knowledge base for the officers and support staff of the Rockford Police Department. The Training Unit works in cooperation with the Northern Illinois Training Advisory Board (NITAB), University of Illinois Police Training Institute, Northwestern University Center for Public Safety, FBI National Academy, Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board. This cooperation includes providing instructors and advisors to assist in the training of area enforcement agencies. Officers received 771 hours of training through NITAB.



The following is a breakdown of specific training provided to both sworn and civilian personnel in 2009:

Department-wide mandatory classroom training:

- Baton / Subject Control Spray / Use of Force (8 hours)
- Taser Recertification (4 hours)
- Firearms Training (Fall Quarry) (5 hours)

Roll Call Training:

- Proper Use of Discretion
- Personal Protective Mask
- Bias Based Policing
- Law Enforcement Officer Flying Armed



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- Autism Awareness
- Ethics – Noble Corruption
- Blood borne Pathogens
- Electronic PC
- Active Shooter
- COP / Elder Abuse
- Star Com Radio
- Arizona v. Gant

Supervisor-Specific Department Training:

- Taser
- Stop Stick Tire Deflation
- Less Lethal Munitions
- Use of Force

The Training and Recruiting Unit conducted a forty-hour orientation for newly hired patrol officers, and an 80-hour City School training session for officers returning from the State Police Academy.

The Training and Recruiting Unit conducted 2 – week-long qualifications. The first was a diminished/low light qualification. The second week-long qualification was the State of Illinois mandatory qualification. Open shoots were also available during 2008 when staffing allowed for the safe operation. The open shoots resulted in 128 hours of additional range time for officers who desired to improve or maintain firearms proficiency. The Training and Recruiting Unit, in conjunction with adjunct armorers, conducted weapons maintenance for all department weapons.

Training and Recruiting Unit personnel and adjunct instructors received specialized training, which certifies them in a variety of areas. These certifications are required by CALEA. The following lists the certifications officers received, followed by the locations where the training was conducted:

- Firearms Instructors Taser Instructor Certification
- Glock Armorer Certification
- Prisms Shooting Simulator Train-the-Trainer
- Weapon Retention and Disarm Instructor
- Expandable Baton Shoot House Instructor
- Combat Physio - Kinesthetic Instructor (Conference)
- Flash-Bang Less Lethal Instructor
- Verbal Judo Instructor
- Carbine Train-the-Trainer
- Edged Weapons Defense Instructor
- Stop Stick Train-the-Trainer
- Tactical Response to Lethal Threats Instructor
- CPR Instructor
- Autism Instructor

All officers issued a personal protective mask participated in the annual FIT testing. This testing ensures the masks are sized appropriately and seal around the officers' faces.

In addition to Department Training, Rockford Police filled 193 training slots with Northern Illinois Training Advisory Board (NITAB). The Rockford Police Department also provided officers with specialized training throughout Illinois and the United States.

**Recruiting Section**

The Recruitment Process requires any candidate testing for the position of Police Officer on the Rockford Police Department to pass all phases of our testing process. The testing process consisted of the following:

- Rigorous physical fitness assessment (POWER test),
- Written examination
- Pre-interview review of the applicant's job history, credit history, and criminal history
- Written M Pulse Inventory Test
- Oral interview with the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners
- Polygraph examination
- Psychological evaluation
- Thorough background investigation
- Medical examination.

Upon the successful completion of all phases in the testing process, 2 candidates were given final job offers. The entire testing process from initial application to the time a final job offer was given totaled about 7 months.

The Recruiting Section is constantly seeking new trends in recruiting in order to locate, attract and select the best candidates possible to become Rockford Police Officers. Additionally, recruiters made themselves available to return phone calls and emails, constantly encouraging, educating, and guiding applicants and any interested person towards a successful career in law enforcement. Our recruiters used innovative and creative recruiting techniques. They initiated conversations, planting seeds of interest at typical recruiting events as well as at non-recruiting related training and community events.

In June, 2009, 2 officers were hired. Due to budget constraints the Rockford Police Department's workforce was reduced by 21 sworn officers = 285.

Our current electronic application system/database (NEOGOV) allows the Recruiting Section to analyze data over long periods of time. This feature allows us to accurately forecast anticipated personnel needs. Also, potential applicants can enter their personal contact



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information into the NEOGOV computer data system for automatic notification of future testing dates.

Rockford Police Recruiters participated in ten recruiting events within Illinois, Wisconsin and Iowa. Recruiters took part in various recruiting efforts within the community to include tours of the police station, presentations at schools, and participation with the youth police academy.

We encourage anyone who has an interest or knows someone who may be interested in a career in law enforcement to e-mail [recruiter@rockfordil.gov](mailto:recruiter@rockfordil.gov) or call (815)987-5838. For more information about the Rockford Police Department and recruiting, visit us online at [www.rockfordil.gov](http://www.rockfordil.gov).

### 2009 Award Presentations

The **Distinguished Service Medal** was awarded to Officer David Nicosia for his quick thinking and timely action at the scene of an in-progress armed robbery which involved significant risk to his personal safety.

On Saturday, December 27, 2008, at 0252 hours, Officer David Nicosia was flagged down by a citizen who had witnessed an armed robbery with a gun at the Citgo Gas Station, 3005 North Rockton Avenue.

At the scene, Officer Nicosia observed a male at the Citgo Gas Station, backing out the door with what appeared to be a handgun. The subject had his back to the officer. Officer Nicosia exited his squad car with his firearm drawn and announced, "Police! Drop the gun!" Without hesitation, the subject dropped the gun to the ground. He was ordered to lay on the ground in a prone position, and Officer Nicosia secured the handgun and handcuffed the subject. Backup arrived and assisted in securing the crime scene. During a later interview, the subject indicated his plan was to shoot the victim if he did not give the suspect money.

Officer Nicosia's quick thinking, timely action and courage brought hasty order to a serious incident that could have been tragic. Officer Nicosia was able to gain control of the situation without harm to patrons or the suspect. This is a prime example of the excellence in services delivered by our officers. We stand proud, this day, in acknowledgment of dedication to the Rockford Police Department and citizens of Rockford.

The **Exceptional Service Medal** was awarded to Investigator Harold Combs for his ongoing dedication to the *Cops and Bobbers Kid's Fishing Derby* annual event. This includes children ages 6-13. Officers share their

fishing experiences and spend time fishing with the children. Nearly 200 children participate annually.

Cops-n-Bobbers began in 2003 as a way for officers to be involved as a positive role model in a child's life and offer them an alternative to drugs and violence through the sport of fishing. This introduces many children to their first fishing experience. Officer Combs has been organizing this derby since its inception and has awarded hundreds of fishing poles during the annual events.

Investigator Combs's, dedication and drive to bring a positive connection in policing to others speaks well of not only him but the Rockford Police Department. He is a fine example to all.

The **Exceptional Service Medal** was awarded to the following employees:

- Deputy Chief Lori Sweeney
- Sergeant Michael Ahrens
- Sergeant Sara Ahrens
- Sergeant Kristin McLester
- Investigator John Hoeksema
- Investigator Kevin Nordberg
- Craig Youngberg

These are seven employees who were instrumental in attaining the department's Accreditation status. Their commitment involved countless sacrifices and obstacles. Each obstacle was reviewed and resolved. Without the extraordinary work of these individuals, Accreditation would not have been achieved in the required time frame.

In 2007, **Deputy Chief Lori Sweeney** assumed the role of Accreditation Manager. The target date for completion was set for December of 2008. This was a considerable undertaking with a challenging time frame. Deputy Chief Sweeney was the driving force behind the achievement of Accreditation. Her constant attentiveness to detail and incredible skill of organization was an important element along with her drive for success.

**Sergeant Kristin McLester** and **Sergeant Michael Ahrens** completed the large task of reconciling two audits. Sergeant Ahrens's demonstrated willingness and perseverance in accepting the detailed and tedious task of auditing evidence. His dedication in the organizing enormous amounts of evidence, and eagerness and flexibility in a wide-range of assignments over the last two years show his commitment to his assignment.

Sergeant McLester became the Custodian of Property and Evidence. She implemented security measures,

purged large amounts of evidence and re-organized and cleaned evidence storage areas. She also coordinated implemented and moved impounded vehicles to new locations. The dedication to the project and tremendous tasks undertaken were to bring the Property and Evidence area into compliance with the standards set by C.A.L.E.A.

Training standards needed updating to comply with C.A.L.E.A. **Sergeant Sara Ahrens** created a lesson plan and schedule for recertifying instructors. It was also necessary to overhaul the department's use-of-force which involved an analysis. This was in addition to day-to-day operations. The assessors emphasized the level of efficiency in training during their review.

**Investigators John Hoeksema, Jr. and Kevin Nordberg** encountered tremendous obstacles during the Accreditation process. Their perseverance prevailed and we succeeded. Their performance was outstanding and the essential link through the process. They developed hundreds of proofs with documents for standards and created templates. They remained on task and are an important component to the department's operation.

Several crystal and demographic reports were needed and **Craig Youngberg** assisted with this and in finding proofs during the research for the Accreditation process. He spearheaded this important task.

It is difficult to articulate what took place in the short time frame, but I want to emphasize, this team performed at an exceptional level with a tremendous commitment to obtain the level of excellence exhibited. They believed in what they were doing and felt a need to overcome challenges. Their dedication and quality of work was recognized by the Assessors. This speaks well of the members of the Rockford Police Department and is time

## Field Services Bureau

to recognize these individuals for the work they have done and sacrifices they have made.

### **Community Services Unit**

The Community Services Unit was staffed with six officers and one sergeant. Each Community Services Officer was assigned a specific geographical area of the city where they have numerous responsibilities. The responsibilities included reducing or eliminating ongoing problems, taking note of crime trends and using police department and other city resources to reduce crime and improve the quality of life in their assigned areas. Community Services Officers used traditional and non-traditional policing methods to achieve these results.

Community Policing is one of the methods used by the Officers in the Community Services Unit to address issues in their respective areas. Officers assigned to the Community Services Unit attend neighborhood meetings to discuss and resolve crime, traffic and quality of life issues. The City of Rockford has over 40 active neighborhood organizations. The Community Services Officers attended more than 280 neighborhood meetings in 2009.



Problem Oriented Policing is another method of policing Community Services Officers utilized to address crime and other problems in their areas. When a Community Services Officer determines there is a problem in their area, they use problem-solving techniques to resolve the problem.

Community Services Officers continued to work in the Ellis Heights and Kishwaukee Corridor, Weed and Seed neighborhoods. Community Services Officers attended more than 48 Weed and Seed meetings held to discuss crime reduction strategies in the Weed and Seed areas. More than 50 Weed and Seed enforcement details were conducted between both Weed and Seed areas. During these enforcement details, hundreds of arrests were made for criminal and traffic violations. As the enforcement continued in the Weed and Seed areas, the "Seeding" phase of the Weed and Seed strategy continued to increase. Rock River Training provided instruction to Weed and Seed residents on computer and other employment-related skills to help the residents obtain employment or add additional work skills. The Community Garden in the Ellis Heights Weed and Seed initiative was a success. Citizens throughout the entire Ellis Heights Weed and Seed area benefited from the gardens whether it was obtaining fresh vegetables from the gardens or just enjoying the beauty of the gardens. The Rockford Police Department School Unit along with the Community Services Unit combined their efforts to sponsor two Youth Police Academics, in which more than seventy children from the Weed and Seed areas attended.

The Community Services Unit continued to utilize the State of Illinois Nuisance Abatement Laws to shut down property where uncooperative landowners refused to respond to persistent drug activity occurring on their

property. The Community Services Unit used Temporary Restraining Orders (TRO's) on more than three occasions to temporarily shut down residences or businesses where drug recoveries have been made. These properties remained closed until Nuisance Abatement agreements were made with the owners. Nuisance abatement agreements were reached with owners of at least three residential or businesses properties during the year.



In collaboration with the Winnebago County States Attorney's Office, the Community Services Unit obtained Temporary Restraining Orders (TRO's) and completed Nuisance Abatement agreements.

Community Services Officers staffed five Rockford Police work stations on a part-time basis. These work stations are located at 1810 W. State Street, Heartland Church complex located at Alpine and Newburg Roads, 7th Street and 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 1005 S. Main and the Concord Commons Housing Complex. Citizens from these areas met with Community Service Officers at the police work stations to discuss concerns they have about their neighborhoods. Many neighborhood organizations held their meetings at the work stations.

Community Services Officers used bicycles during the course of their duties. The use of bicycles enabled the officers to get out of their squad cars and into the neighborhoods for which they are responsible.

Community Services Officers provided public education on crime related issues by conducting more than 30 security surveys at businesses and residences. Community Services Officers also gave more than 100 presentations relating to crime issues including theft, identity theft, burglary, robbery and personal safety.

The Community Services Unit sponsored a Crime-Free Multi-Housing seminar. This seminar was attended by more than 60 landlords. During the seminar, landlords received training on how to recognize drug/gang/criminal activity at their respective properties, proper tenant screening, landlord/tenant rights, working with the police department, fire department as well as the Community Development Department.

Community Services Officers referred more than 390 building code and code enforcement issues to the Community Development Department. Also, Community Services Officers collaborated with the City's Community Development Department on several problem properties. This collaboration led to the condemnation of more than 280 buildings for various health and safety issues.

Community Services Officers verified the addresses of more than 610 registered sex offenders, while obtaining arrest warrants for no less than ten non-compliant sex offenders. Community Service Officers issued more than 250 traffic citations and 740 parking tickets.



The Community Services Unit hosted two Citizen Police Academies last year. The mission statement of the Citizens Police Academy is to build cooperative relationships between citizens and the police through training and education. The police academy will produce a network of informed citizens who will be able to return to their neighborhoods to organize, and motivate others, to partner with the Department in reducing crime in the City of Rockford. In these academies, citizens were given instruction on the operation of the Patrol and Investigative Services Bureaus, operation of the 911 Center, the Mayor's vision for the City of Rockford and community policing. Additional topics included the Rockford Police Department video camera system, including an observation of the viewing room, recognizing drug and gang activity, Illinois criminal laws and City of Rockford ordinances. Additional subjects included starting and maintaining neighborhood organizations, identity theft and crime prevention through

environmental design (CPTED). These academies graduated 46 residents of Rockford.

Community Services Officers are committed to problem solving as well as building and sustaining effective government and community partnerships to reduce crime and improve the quality of life for the citizens of Rockford.

The Field Services Division concentrated efforts in several areas including improving efficiencies through technology and information sharing, moving forward in the Geographic and Community Policing models and customer service. The Field Services Division worked closely with the Department's Information Services Section to streamline and reduce the tremendous burden paperwork places on the patrol function.

## Investigative Services Bureau

### Burglary Unit

The Burglary Unit is responsible for investigative follow-up of residential, commercial and vehicle burglaries. In addition to this, the Burglary Unit also monitors pawn shops to ensure compliance with both local and state ordinances.

The Burglary Unit, in a cooperative effort between the Winnebago County Sheriff's Department and the Illinois State Police, conducted targeted surveillance of individuals involved in burglaries. This effort resulted in numerous arrests of individuals for residential and commercial burglary. Based on information obtained through this cooperative effort, detectives were able to obtain search warrants for locations and upon execution of those search warrants, thousands of dollars in property was recovered that had been taken during burglaries in the Rockford and surrounding counties. The Crime Analysis Unit continues to provide crucial information to detectives regarding burglaries. The Identification Detectives of the Rockford Police Department solved many cases by processing crime scenes which led to the identification of individuals involved in burglaries by obtaining forensic evidence.

Detectives from the Burglary Unit were assigned over 900 cases. 194 people were arrested for burglary (non-residential), 122 for residential burglary, 6 for attempted burglary, 33 for home invasion and 11 for possession of stolen property. This led to a 17% decrease of burglaries compared to 2008 and an 11% increase in arrests.

The Burglary Unit in 2009 started the inception of an Automated Electronic Pawn Shop Program (Leads on Line) for area pawn shops and second-hand stores which will greatly increase the officers ability to track stolen property.

### Identification Unit

The Identification Unit (ID Unit) responded to 2,027 calls for service. It is staffed seven days pre week, twenty-two hours per day.

The detectives of the ID Unit must identify, collect, and package evidence. They must also document crime scenes through photography, videography, and diagramming. All of these tasks must be performed in a way to pave the way for successful prosecutions by the Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office. The task of Forensic Computer examination is a function of the ID Unit. These cases involved crimes from Retail Theft to Predatory Criminal Sexual Assault of a Child, with the emphasis on sexual crimes against children. Detectives in the unit receive special training in blood spatter analysis, fingerprint analysis, crime scene Photography, and forensic video analysis as well as forensic computer examinations as mentioned above.



The ID Unit also provides photograph copies, videotapes, and audio tapes for courtroom prosecution. Detectives in the ID Unit are also called upon to create visual aids that will be used as exhibits in court and at various out-of-court presentations.

Because of their specialized and continuing training, many detectives in the ID Unit are also recognized as expert witnesses in the fields of Fingerprint Identification



### **Rockford Police Department**

and Blood Spatter Analysis in Illinois courts. ID detectives have also testified as experts on Fingerprint Identification in federal court. Detectives lifted latent prints in over 210 cases in 2009.

Detectives of the ID Unit identified over 66 individuals from 86 fingerprint matches. These matches came substantially from latent prints at crime scenes, but also included numerous individuals trying to hide their true identities. A number of the matches were aided by the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) employed by the Rockford Police Department. There were 75 searches in AFIS on latent prints and of those searches, 17 yielded matches. Also, 10 searches were conducted on ten-print submissions with 7 yielding matches.

The Identification Unit also provided services in the form of Citizen Fingerprinting using Live Scan. ID Detectives fingerprinted over 273 persons during 2009 to include 335 fingerprint cards.

### **Domestic Violence Unit**

The Domestic Violence Unit investigates complaints of family/household member violence including but not limited to: aggravated domestic battery, domestic battery, violation of order of protection, interfering with the reporting of domestic violence and stalking. In 2009, approximately 3860 domestic related offenses were reported to the Rockford Police Department, with 1,114 people arrested for violations. Of the total number of reported domestic related offenses approximately 543 cases were assigned to investigators resulting in 129 cases cleared by arrest. The Unit is also responsible for assisting victims in seeking protective shelter, obtaining orders of protection, or referrals to other social agencies.

The Domestic Violence Unit works in close concert with the Winnebago County State's Attorney's Office in its effort to decrease domestic violence through case development, report preparation, evidence collection, and education. The Domestic Violence Unit is a member of the Seventeenth Judicial Circuit's Family Violence Council and the Violence Prevention Collaborative.

The Domestic Violence Unit Works in conjunction with other social agencies such as WAVE, DCFS, and Visiting Nurse's Association. The Family Violence Council is currently working on a Domestic Violence Initiative which will seek to reduce the number of domestic related calls through intervention with law enforcement and the other social agencies.

The Domestic Violence Unit is an annual recipient of a grant provided by the Illinois Attorney General's Office.

This grant is applied to the salary of an investigator in the Unit.

### **Gang Unit**

The Gang Unit works with several state, local and federal agencies to combat gang violence.

The Gang Unit conducted 258 investigations on gang-related crimes with a clearance rate of 55%. The Gang Unit is responsible for collecting intelligence on gang members and their activities and is involved in street patrol to include the summer crime initiative.

The Gang Unit provides education to various organizations and has an ongoing relationship with Rockford Public Schools. In 2009, the Gang Unit arrested over 177 individuals for various gang related crimes. The Gang Unit recovered 14 firearms, recovered over 1,500 grams of Cannabis, 11 grams of Cocaine, and 23 grams of heroin. The Gang Unit contributed to the 15% decrease in Weapons Violations along with a 7% decrease of Assaults compared to 2008.

Gang Information Management System (GIMS 2) was implemented to provide current information via computer to other members of the Police Department.

### **Crimes Against Persons Unit**

The Crimes Against Persons Unit is responsible for the investigation of a simple Battery or Assault up to and including Murder investigations. In 2009, the Unit investigated 708 incidents with an overall clearance rate of 63.4%.

The Crimes Against Persons Unit was also responsible for the investigation of several other serious crimes in 2009. These incidents included:

- 91 shooting investigations
- 70 commercial armed robberies
- 219 death investigations that varied in their circumstances; including 41 that were suspicious in nature, but determined not to be Murders.

The Unit also solved a 2005 and 2006 cold case murder.

### **Youth / Sex Crimes Unit**

The Youth / Sex Crimes Unit was responsible for the investigation of 656 crimes involving victims and suspects under the age of 17 years old. The Unit is also responsible for all adult and juvenile sex crimes. The Youth / Sex Crimes Unit works closely with the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services and the Carrie Lynn Children's Center. In 2009, the Unit



### **Rockford Police Department**

investigated over 700 cases, along with numerous cases of computer-related crimes and child pornography.

The Youth / Sex Crimes Unit conducts alcohol and tobacco compliance checks throughout the year. Sex offender compliance checks are made with the State Police and the Department of Corrections.

The Youth / Sex Crimes Unit is also responsible for investigating missing persons and runaway juveniles. In 2009 there were approximately 1000 missing/runaway incidents investigated. The Unit also assisted other law enforcement agencies in locating individuals.

The Youth / Sex Crimes Unit began work on a new computerized system to better track and monitor registered sex offenders in the City of Rockford. The new system, Offender Watch, will be coming on line in early 2010. This will give the community an instant on line verification if sex offenders are living in their neighborhood. There are currently over 450 registered sex offenders in the City of Rockford.

The Youth / Sex Crimes Unit has a detective assigned to the Illinois State Police Auto Theft Task Force.

#### **General Case Unit**

Members of the General Case Unit are responsible for the investigation of a wide variety of crimes including Forgery, Deceptive Practice, Identity Theft, Criminal Damage, Computer Internet Crimes as well as all other types of frauds.

The General Case Unit investigated 1,189 cases with a 55% clearance rate. The General Case Unit also works with other law enforcement agencies (local, state, and federal).

The General Case Unit, along with Community Services Unit, organized meetings with retail and financial institutions. These meetings were to take a proactive approach to decrease forgeries and credit card fraud. This type of collaborative effort resulted in a noticeable decrease of 29% of reported fraud and forgery cases in 2009, compared to 2008.

The General Case Unit has a Detective assigned to Graffiti investigations which continued to decline in 2009 (-17%) compared to 2008. There were 58 arrests for graffiti and \$42,050 was obtained for restitution.

#### **Rockford Narcotics**

The primary focus of the Narcotics Unit is to investigate illegal drug trafficking from the street level dealer to the drug dealers. The Narcotics Unit routinely works with and shares information with the Community Services Unit in order to directly respond to citizen complaints. The Narcotics unit continues to work with other agencies on the local, state, and federal level to combat drug trafficking on multiple fronts. These agencies include the, Stateline Area Narcotics Team (SLANT), Winnebago County Sheriffs Police, Alcohol Tobacco Firearms and Explosives (ATF), Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI), and the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA).

The Rockford Narcotics Unit conducted 226 narcotics investigations. These investigations include various types of strategies including search warrants, undercover buys, and buys using confidential informants and "knock and talks". A total of 163 individuals were arrested by the Narcotics Unit in 2009 for various offenses involving illegal narcotics. Some of these arrests are/or were prosecuted on the federal level.

The investigations conducted by the Rockford Narcotics Unit resulted in confiscating large amounts of drugs with a street value of over \$3,850,000. The main drugs confiscated were cocaine, cannabis, and heroin. Sixty three guns, which include handguns, shotguns, and sawed off shotguns, were recovered and taken out of the hands of drug dealers. The Rockford Narcotics Unit seized nearly \$168,926 in United States Currency, and started the proceedings to seize several vehicles that, if awarded to us, will be put in use for law enforcement drug enforcement purposes.

The Rockford Narcotics Unit continues to target drug dealers, from the street level dealer to some of the areas larger "suppliers". In 2009, the Rockford Narcotics Unit, along with the Winnebago County Sheriff's Department, SLANT, and the DEA investigated and large scale heroin drug trafficking organization. After a lengthy investigation, over 20 arrests were made which included the top tier of the organization being charged in Federal court.

The Rockford Narcotics Unit continues to work side-by-side with other units within the Rockford Police Department. On a regular basis, the unit is involved with sharing information with the Community Services Unit as well as the M3 Streets Team. This information has resulted in drugs and weapons being recovered and drug houses being closed. The Narcotics Unit also teamed up with the Gang Unit and the M3 Streets Team and worked at night in various "Hot Spots" throughout the year.

The Rockford Narcotics Unit continues to compile information into our Drug Complaint data base within RMS. This data base is used to map our incoming drug complaints and provides a much better tool to assign and track complaints. The data base is also a good resource tool that other supervisors can access.

The Rockford Narcotics Unit continues to be committed to investigating the complaints of the citizens of Rockford and targeting the drug dealers on all levels within our community.

## Support Services Bureau

### Support Services Bureau

The Support Services Bureau consists of several units which helps the department function daily. The units assigned to the Bureau are ATV, Bomb Squad, Dignitary Protection, Mobile Command, Mobile Field Force, School Liaison, and SWAT.

### Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Unit

The Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Unit consists of 28 Police officers who provide the department with the capability to safely resolve high-risk situations such as hostage situations, barricaded subjects, high risk search warrants, high risk arrests and VIP protection details.

### All Terrain Vehicle Unit (ATV)

This unit is responsible for enforcing off-road State Laws and City Ordinance infractions. They are also used for special events perimeter patrol and off-road search details.

### Bomb Unit

The Bomb Unit consists of 9 members; these members include two sergeants and 6 investigators who are fully certified bomb technicians. The other member is a patrol officer who is a certified explosives detection canine handler and his canine. This squad responds to bomb threats, hazardous materials incidents and major post-blast or blast investigations. The squad also assists in SWAT team call-outs.

### Traffic Unit

The Traffic Unit investigated 12 fatal traffic crashes. Members of the Major Accident Reconstruction Team along with other traffic investigators are primarily responsible to investigate these crashes.

The Department as a whole investigated 6,125 traffic crashes, in 2009. That is a reduction of five percent from 2008. 1,608 of the crashes were investigated as hit and run crashes. The solve rate was 24%. Personal Injury crashes reduced 9% from 2008 to 2009.



The DUI Task Force cited a total of 600 impaired drivers. These impaired drivers were both alcohol and/or drug impaired individuals. The Traffic Unit was recognized by Alliance Against Intoxicated Motorists (AAIM) for finishing first in the State for DUI Arrests for both 2007 and 2008; it is believed 2009 will be no different.

The Traffic Unit deployed four motorcycles. The motorcycles augmented the Traffic Unit's effectiveness and efficiency. The Traffic Unit also continued the use of the portable scales for enforcement of overweight trucks. This enforcement helped lengthen the life of the city streets.

The Traffic Unit maintained wrecker inspections for the rotating wrecker list, provided escorts for funeral processions, and traffic control for numerous civic events.

The Traffic Unit conducted enforcement zones, saturation patrols, and roadside safety checks. During these efforts DUI, speeding, disobeying traffic control devices and seat belt usage was stressed. The Traffic Unit partnered with the Illinois State Police during these enforcement efforts.

The Traffic Unit continued to concentrate on effective selective enforcement targeting high crash locations during high crash times and enforcing those violations contributing to those crashes.

2009 was the Traffic Unit's first year of participating in the Illinois Traffic Safety Challenge. Our department tied



**Rockford Police Department**

for first place with Springfield in that competition. The Department later finished third in a National competition and was rewarded for our efforts at the 2009 IACP Conference held in Denver Colorado.

The Traffic Unit was and continues to be committed to reducing deaths, injuries, and property loss through effective and efficient traffic enforcement strategies.

**School Liaison Unit**

In 1998, the Rockford Police Department initiated a liaison position with Rockford School District #205 in order to improve communications and provide service for Rockford's public schools student population. The School Liaison Unit Supervisor position is staffed by a Sergeant and reports to the Deputy Chief of Support Services. The duties of the supervisor consist of the supervision of officers assigned to the unit and act as liaison between school district administrators and the Rockford Police Department. This includes fostering a free flow of information between the two organizations to optimize law enforcement services. In 2009, nine School Liaison Officers and one Sergeant were assigned to the unit. They were tasked to meet the law enforcement needs of over 30,000 students and employees of the Rockford Public Schools.

**Elementary/ Middle School Liaison Program**

The Elementary/ Middle School Liaison Program require police officers to respond to calls for police service from individual elementary schools/ middle schools and conducting criminal investigations. Community policing in the school atmosphere is the emphasis of the elementary security program. Mediation and conflict resolution, with arrest being the final option, is the goal of this program. In the schools, officers have a secondary education function such as addressing assemblies, and classes about law enforcement topics.

**2009 STUDENT CONTACTS**

<b>High School Contacts</b>	<b>2,671</b>
<b>Middle School Contacts</b>	<b>1,794</b>
<b>Elementary Contacts</b>	<b>167</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>4632</b>

**High School Liaison Program**

The Rockford School District has four high schools staffed with a full time police officer from the School Liaison Unit. This type of deployment reflects the "School Resource Officer" approach where the liaison

officers are relied upon to provide other functions like classroom presentations and student crisis referrals. These functions, plus the primary function of law enforcement and maintaining site security, combine for a holistic approach of police service to the Rockford Public Schools.

**Rockford Youth Police Academies**

The Rockford Park District and Winnebago County Sheriff's Police partners to conduct a Youth Police Academy at Lewis Lemon School and Patriot's Gateway Center. The program targets children age 13 – 17, primarily living in the Weed and Seed designated areas of the City.



The Youth Police Academy is a five-day program instructed by Police and Juvenile Probation Officers. Students attend sessions from 1pm to 8pm. The participants take part in hands-on activities like crime scene investigation techniques, alcohol & drug awareness education, character and team building activities. Students are also required to take part in a guided tour of the Public Safety Building, Winnebago County Criminal Justice Center and Winnebago County Courthouse. The tour provides a first-hand look at where the police work and also educate them on the criminal justice system process from arrest to incarceration to trial. The ultimate goal of the program is to have the children interact, on a more casual level, with police officers and to foster better relationships. The event was a great success.

The School Liaison Unit has developed a documentation system for the purpose of keeping individual school statistics and assessing unit performance. This system recognizes two categories of contacts, school contact and student contact. Student contacts are those which relate directly to an individual student. For the 2009 school year, the table below shows the number of student contacts.



**Rockford Police Department**

**The Special Events Section** is responsible for the planning and management of all special events and projects. Through training, lean management, and evaluation of prior events, The Support Services Bureau has made substantial reductions in security costs while maintaining adequate staffing levels to assure public safety. This section also manages the Department's fleet vehicles/equipment, serves as liaison with court services, provides research and development support and provides assistance with the video surveillance program.

**Mobile Field Force**

The Mobile Field Force is a platoon of specially trained officers who respond to rioting, and civil protesting situations. This rapid-response unit has been trained to diffuse unruly crowds and protestors.

**Dignitary Protection**

The Dignitary Protection Team is responsible for the protection of VIPs political candidates, celebrities or anyone in need of special security. Team members are trained in high-risk and low-risk operations to include operational planning, situation awareness, and observation techniques. This team is also assisted by the SWAT Team with political candidates assignments.

**Mobile Command**

The Mobile Command Unit continues to provide an efficient command post or operations headquarters in the field. The vehicle is equipped with state-of-the art technology and communications capabilities and is used primarily for field assignments ranging from special event dispatching to providing incident command for major incidents.



Rockford Police Department

Offenses/Clearances for January 1 - December 31, 2009

Code	Offense Description	# of Offenses	Unfounded	Total	Offenses Cleared by			% Cleared
					Arrest	Exception	Total	
	<b>Group A</b>							
09A	Murder & Nonnegligent Manslaughter	21		21	11	1	12	57.1%
09B	Negligent Manslaughter	1		1	1		1	100.0%
09C	Justifiable Homicide			0			0	
10C	Kidnapping/Abduction/Unlawful Restraint	46		46	25	3	28	60.9%
11A	Forcible Rape	114	9	105	21	44	65	61.9%
11B	Forcible Sodomy	10	1	9		6	6	66.7%
11C	Sexual Assault With an Object			0			0	
11D	Forcible Fondling	75	7	68	24	48	72	105.9%
12C	Robbery	628	7	621	102	58	160	25.8%
13A	Aggravated Assault	1,028	8	1,020	333	155	488	47.8%
13B	Simple Assault	4,565	15	4,550	1,980	850	2,830	62.2%
13C	Intimidation	615	3	612	128	53	181	29.6%
20C	Arson	39		39	11	1	12	30.8%
21C	Extortion/Blackmail	2		2			0	0.0%
22C	Burglary/Breaking & Entering	2,345	11	2,334	239	251	490	21.0%
23A	Pocket-Picking	1		1			0	0.0%
23B	Purse Snatching	1		1			0	0.0%
23C	Shoplifting	1,211	1	1,210	812	26	838	69.3%
23D	Theft From Building			0			0	
23E	Theft From Coin-Operated Machine or Device	11		11			0	0.0%
23F	Theft from Motor Vehicle	1,329		1,329	44	23	67	5.0%
23G	Theft of Motor Vehicle Parts or Accessories	280	1	279	6	5	11	3.9%
23H	All Other Larceny	3,041	23	3,018	207	260	467	15.5%
24C	Motor Vehicle Theft	526	56	470	11	42	53	11.3%
25C	Counterfeiting/Forgery	329		329	100	37	137	41.6%
26A	False Pretenses/Swindle/Confidence Game	184		184	29	26	55	29.9%
26B	Credit Card/ Automatic Teller Machine Fraud	293	1	292	23	18	41	14.0%
26C	Impersonation	254	2	252	10	16	26	10.3%
26D	Welfare Fraud			0			0	
26E	Wire Fraud	2		2	1		1	50.0%
27C	Embezzlement	3		3	2	1	3	100.0%
28C	Stolen Property Offenses	49		49	46	1	47	95.9%
29C	Destruction/Damage/Vandalism of Property	5,875	12	5,863	560	466	1,026	17.5%
35A	Drug/Narcotic Violations	1,034	2	1,032	938	4	942	91.3%
35B	Drug Equipment Violations	357	1	356	341		341	95.8%
36A	Incest			0			0	
36B	Statutory Rape			0			0	
37C	Pornography/Obscene Material	8		8	4	3	7	37.5%
39A	Betting/Wagering			0			0	
39B	Operating/Promoting/Assisting Gambling	3		3	2		2	66.7%
39C	Gambling Equipment Violations			0			0	
39D	Sports Tampering			0			0	
40A	Prostitution	56		56	55		55	98.2%
40B	Assisting or Promoting Prostitution	12		12	11		11	91.7%
51C	Bribery			0			0	
52C	Weapon Law Violations	475		475	336	9	345	72.6%
	<b>Total Group A Offenses</b>	<b>24,823</b>	<b>160</b>	<b>24,663</b>	<b>6,413</b>	<b>2,407</b>	<b>8,820</b>	<b>35.8%</b>



Rockford Police Department

Code	Offense Description	# of Offenses	Unfounded	Total	Offenses Cleared by			% Cleared
					Arrest	Exception	Total	
<b>Group B</b>								
90A	Bad Checks			0			0	
90B	Curfew/Loitering/Vagrancy Violations	409		409	406		406	99.3%
90C	Disorderly Conduct	2,109	5	2,104	1,175	105	1,280	60.8%
90D	Driving Under the Influence	744		744	755		755	101.5%
90E	Drunkness			0			0	
90F	Non-Violent Family Offenses	2,221	1	2,220	194	314	508	22.9%
90G	Liquor Law Violations	683		683	678		678	99.3%
90H	Peeping Tom	2		2			0	0.0%
90I	Runaway	855	1	854	7	2	9	1.1%
90J	Trespass of Real Property	1,038		1,038	736	29	765	73.7%
90Z	All Other Offenses	9,378	9	9,369	7,774	120	7,894	84.3%
<b>Total Group B Offenses</b>		<b>17,439</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>17,423</b>	<b>11,725</b>	<b>570</b>	<b>12,295</b>	<b>70.6%</b>

Total Number of Incidents this period: 37,870

Total Number of People Arrested this period: 15,248

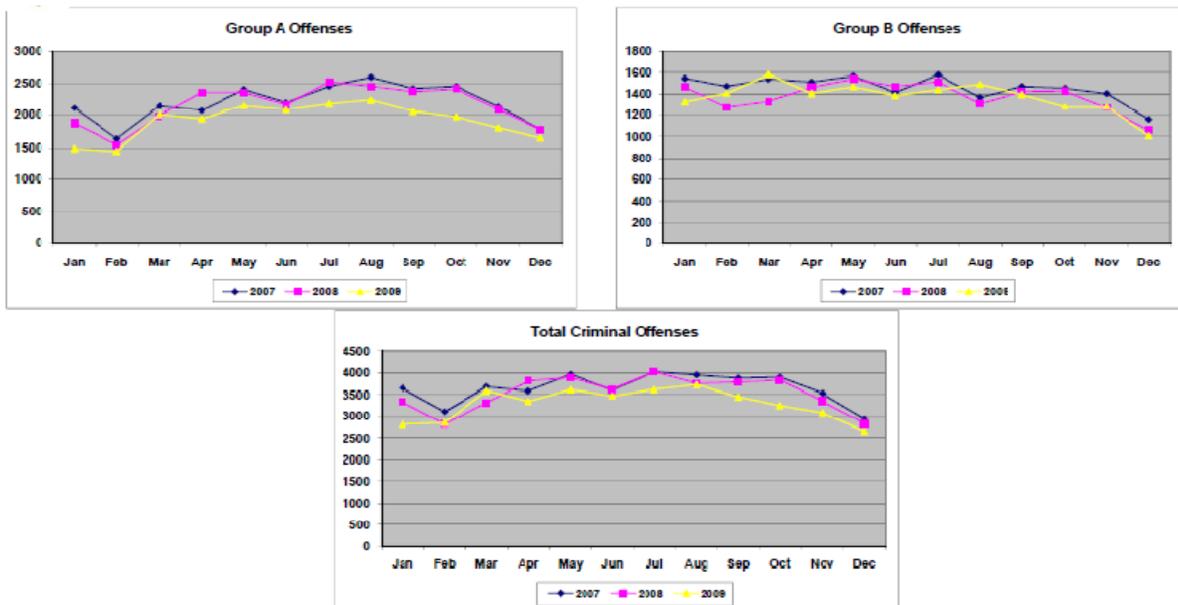
Since January 1, 2006, the Rockford Police Department's Record Center has been using the National Incident Based Reporting System (NIBRS) Program to report Rockford's crime statistics directly to the FBI.

NIBRS collects data on 46 specific crimes known as Group A offenses and 11 additional Group B offenses. NIBRS also captures all offenses completed in a particular incident as well as characteristics of both victims and perpetrators.

NIBRS can produce a more detailed, accurate and meaningful account of what happened in an incident. The Rockford Police Department will not only be able to give accurate counts of offenses and clearances, we will also be able to identify common crime problems and trends through the analysis of the data.

It should be noted that in NIBRS, a single incident can contain many offenses. Statistics will be gathered for every offense in that incident. For example, if a Forced Entry Residential Burglary occurred, an offense of Criminal Damage to Property would be reported in addition to the Burglary. Other information, such as the type of tools that were used to gain access, what was damaged and the type.

City of Rockford Crime – 12 Month Period  
2007, 2008, & 2009



# Milestones

**Retirements:**

Milo Scheffels	04-05-09
Richard Petersen	04-16-09
Sam Pobjecky	05-29-09
Jeffry Short	06-16-09
Richard Cunningham	09-15-09
Robert Woodford	11-02-09
William Maschke	11-02-09
Charles McDonald	11-02-09
Larry Yastrab	11-02-09

**Anniversaries:**

**10 Years:** Eric Boettcher, Joseph Caltagerone, Mark Castronovo, Daniel Cruz, Richard Devlieger, Paul Gallagher, Richard Gambini, Erich Rohde, Patty Rohde, Apostolos Sarantopoulos, Juan Tapia, Bradley Walker

**15 Years:** Randy Berke, Erik Gulbrantson, Phillip Harris, John Hoeksema, Michael McDonald, James Randall, Gregory Ross, James Rossow, Brian Shimaitis, Timothy Stec, Joseph Stevens, Lori Sweeney, Eddie Torrance

**20 Years:** Christine Bishop, Cheryl Buntjer, Doug Clinite, Patricia Durham, Reynaldo Gallardo, John Gradick, Timothy Joseph, Colin Kvoool, Rosemary Mathews, Erik Swenson, Robert Veruchi, Thomas Villa

**25 Years:** Patty Bond, Charlene Getty

**35 Years:** Debra Musso



**Appointments:**

Joseph Sester	06-01-09
Matthew MacRoy	06-01-09

**Promotions:**

**To Sergeant:**

Investigator Dennis Oblinger	04-16-09
Investigator Kevin Ogden	06-04-09

**To Investigator:**

Officer Jason Mallo	04-12-09
Officer Bryce Lambrecht	05-24-09
Officer Richard DeVlieger	05-24-09
Officer John Eissens	05-31-09

**Remembered:**

	<b>Retired</b>	<b>Died</b>
Ferde Erickson	01-23-93	08-03-09
Thomas Forsyth	05-02-84	06-08-09
Larry Lindstrom	06-30-96	08-28-09
William Tetzlaff	01-07-08	11-20-09