

AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT 2005 ANNUAL REPORT



**CHIEF OF POLICE
JERRY NEAL**

AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2005

The 2005 Amarillo Police Department Annual Report was designed and published by the Service Division. All information herein is taken from official records of the various Amarillo Police Department Divisions described and is provided to give readers as accurate as possible description of the Amarillo Police Department in the year 2005. Changes in the disposition and classification of cases do occur months and years after the initial police reports are filed. These changes may therefore affect the accuracy of our annual reports.

SERVICE DIVISION COMMANDER

Captain Kenneth Ferguson





LAW ENFORCEMENT CODE OF ETHICS



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

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

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

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

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

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



MISSION STATEMENT



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

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

Efficiency is the first rule of an officer's conduct. Police officers should remember that in the execution of their duties, they act not for themselves, but for the public, and that their appointment is in no sense for their own advantage. The entire law regulating their function hinges upon this principle. They are required to be governed by no feeling, save zeal to do what the law commands, and should never allow passion to urge them to brutality, nor fear, favoritism, or sympathy to induce them to illegal leniency or neglect of duty. Officers must bear in mind that they represent the dignity and authority of the state and are representatives of the law to whose lawful demands all must submit, and such submission can be compelled when necessary. They should use no unnecessary force nor hesitate to use necessary force when circumstances require. The Rules and Regulations hereinafter set forth are compiled, adopted, and published by the Chief of Police for the information, guidance, government, discipline, and administration of the Police Department of the City of Amarillo, Texas and its officers and civilian employees. They are prepared to present to all employees of the Department, the duties and obligations required of them in the proper performance of their duties. Any violation of these Rules and Regulations will be made the subject of disciplinary charges against all persons responsible for such violation, unless otherwise directed by the Chief of Police.

Since it is not possible to anticipate every situation that may arise, or to prescribe the specific action requisite for each case, somethings therefore must necessarily be left to the intelligence and discretion of the officers of the Department. Those entrusted with law enforcement must be relied upon to exercise good judgment and apply sound common sense at all times to make police service equitable and effective.

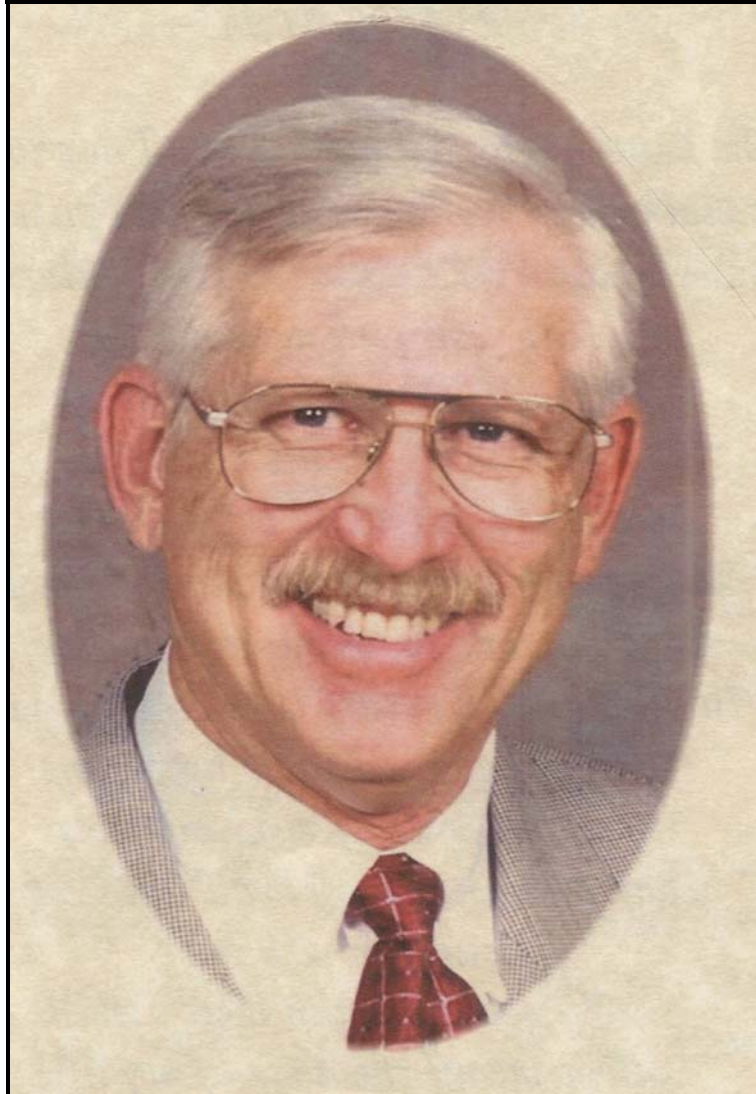
As employees of the City of Amarillo, officers and civilians assigned the Police Department are likewise bound to obey all rules, policies, and procedures of the City of Amarillo. It will be the duty of every employee to familiarize themselves with the contents of these Rules and Regulations and conduct themselves in accordance with its precepts. Ranking officers are enjoined to instruct subordinates frequently to exercise due diligence and zeal in the enforcement of the Rules and Regulations issued therewith. In the event of a real or perceived conflict between these Police Department policies and any other City rule, policy, or procedure, the employee will seek advice through the chain of command for clarification from management.

Ignorance or misunderstanding of any of the provisions of the Rules and Regulations will not be accepted as an excuse in the event neglect charges, emanating from failure to observe the Rules and Regulations, are necessary.

The right and power is reserved to alter, amend, add, or rescind, in whole or in part, any of these Rules and Regulations or to make additional ones from time to time as the circumstances, or the good of the Department, may require. All previous rules, regulations, and orders in conflict with these Rules and Regulations are hereby revoked.



In Memory
Ronald Bob Hudson
April 8, 1953 - October 29, 2005



In Memory
Jimmy Michael Wheeler
April 30, 1947- February 25, 2005



AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT

CITY OF AMARILLO, TEXAS
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

January 30, 2006

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

Dear Mayor & Commissioners:

It is an honor to present the 2005 Annual Report of the Amarillo Police Department. Unfortunately, we experienced an increase of 3.9% in Part I crimes.

The previous six years we experienced a decrease in Part I crimes and seven out of the last nine years. This is a very positive impact for our community as we have experienced a continuous growth in our city with very little growth in the Police Department in recent years.

There are several factors, which affect the crime statistics. It takes everyone in the community working together to provide a better and safe environment. You have done your part to insure the city fulfills its responsibility by increasing the staff of the Police Department.

Please accept our appreciation for your support and that of the City Manager and staff. Together, we can make a difference.

Sincerely,

**Jerry Neal
Chief of Police**

JN/py

AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT



**CHIEF OF POLICE
JERRY NEAL**

AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT



**ASSISTANT CHIEF
OF LINE OPERATIONS
ROBERT FRANCIS**

AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT



**ASSISTANT CHIEF
OF STAFF OPERATIONS
ROBERT TAYLOR**

AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT

OFFICE OF CHIEF JERRY NEAL

TO: ALL POLICE DEPARTMENT DIVISIONS DECEMBER 27, 2005

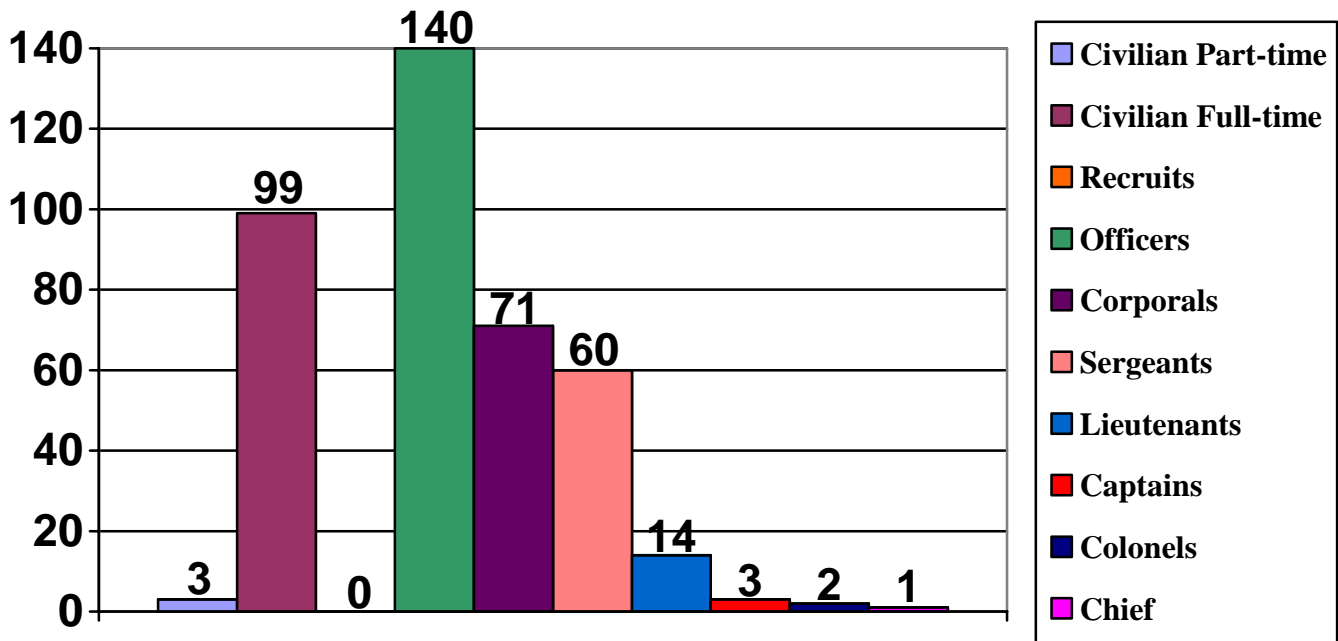
SUBJECT: DEPARTMENT GOALS & OBJECTIVES FOR 2006

1. Continue Enhancement of Analysis and Information Systems
2. Reduce Traffic Accidents/Fatalities
3. Reduce Residential/Business Burglaries
4. Reduce Auto Thefts
5. Continue Enhancement of Training Programs
6. Develop Alternative Methods of Response to calls for service

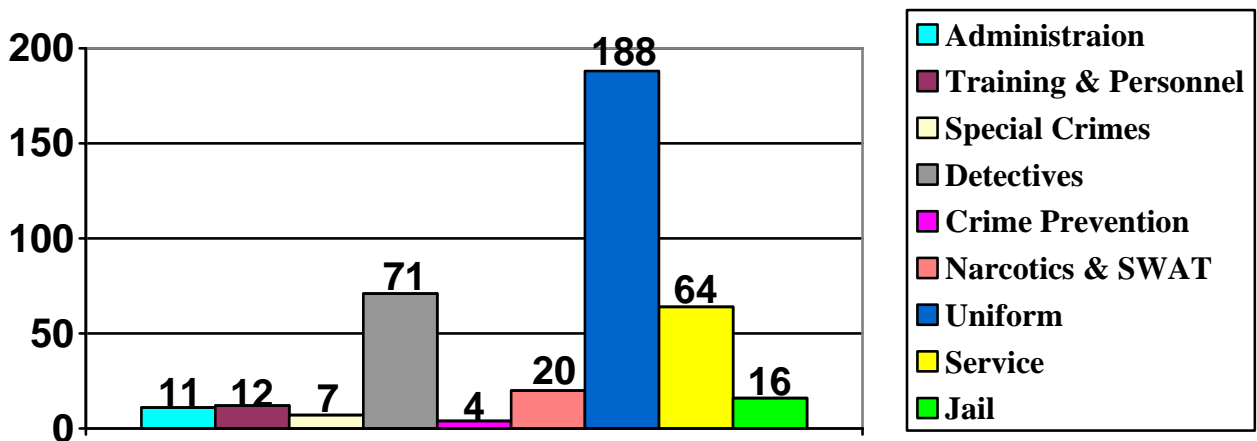


Jerry Neal
Chief of Police

Sworn and Civilian Personnel Allocation



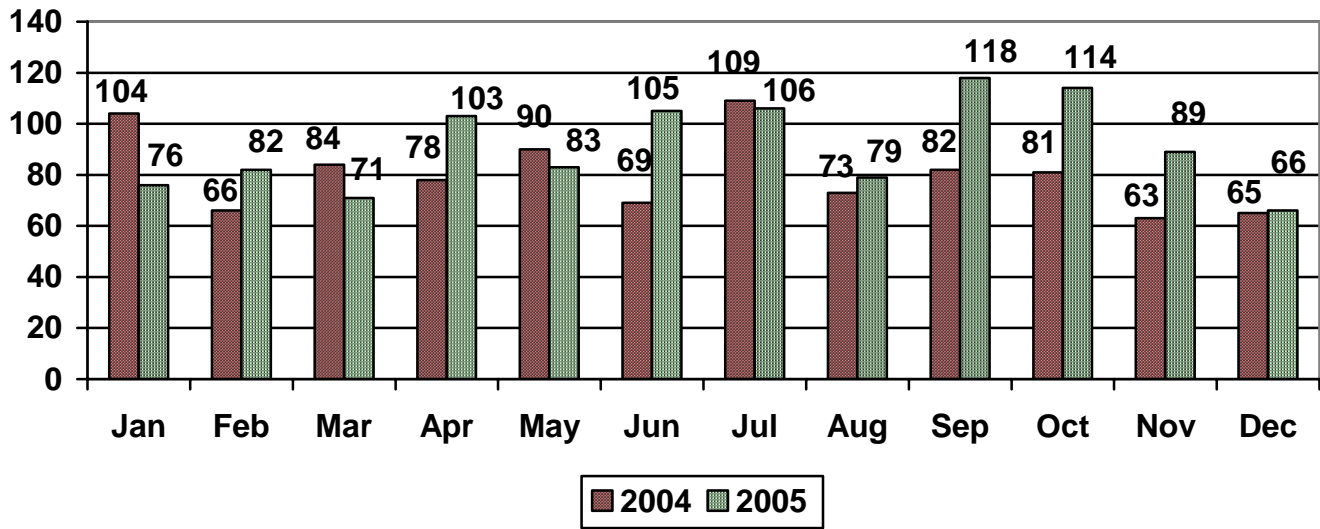
Sworn and Civilian Personnel Allocation by Assignment



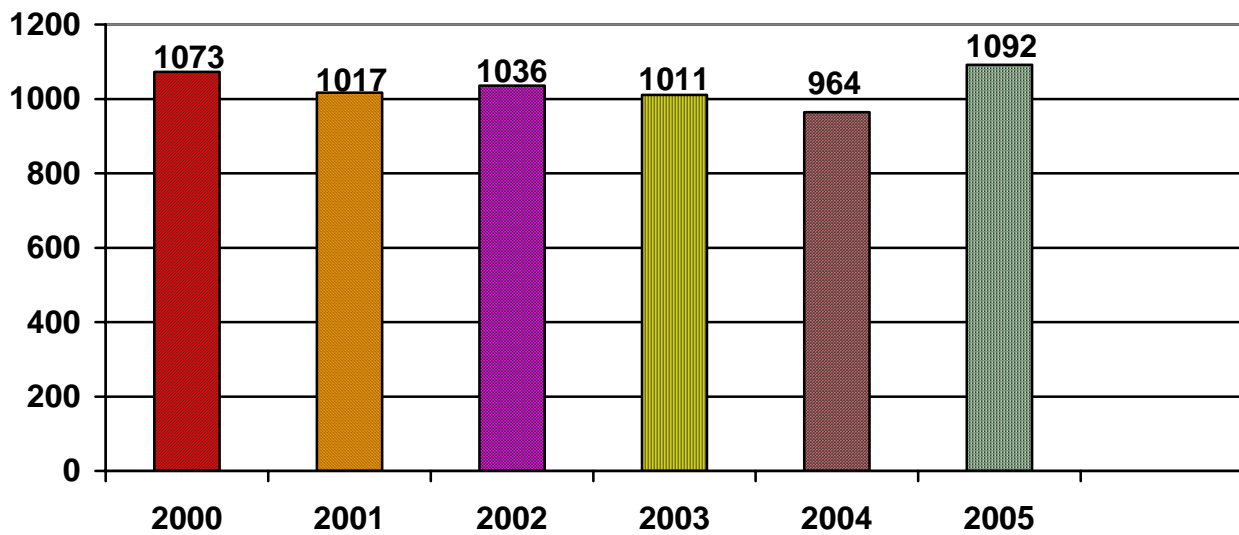


CRIME ANALYSIS

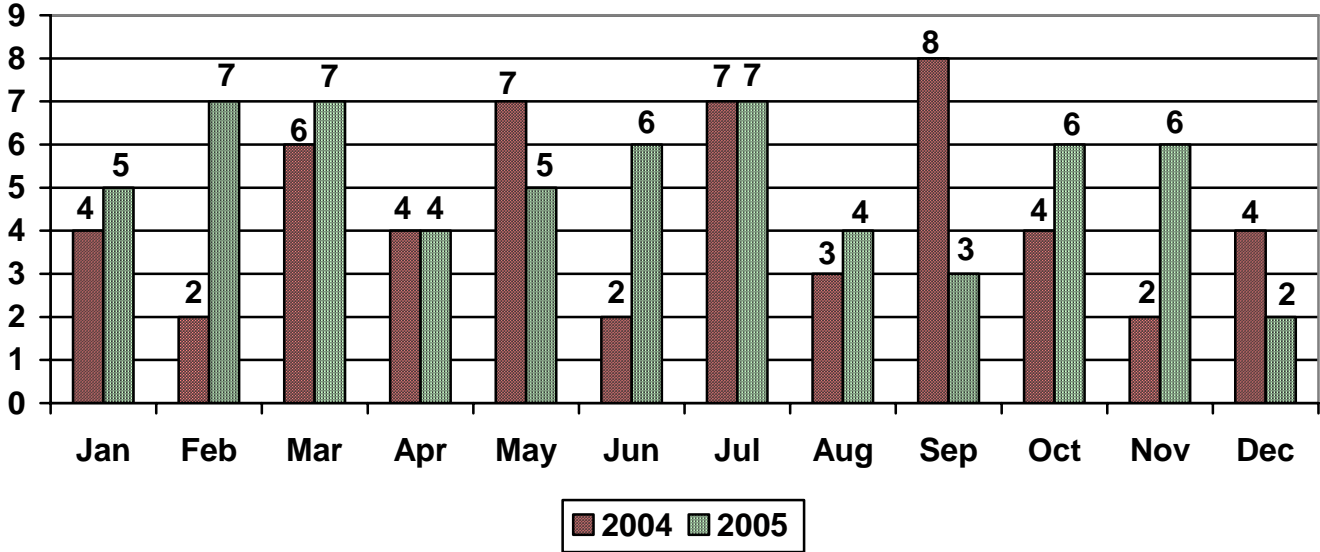
Aggravated Assault



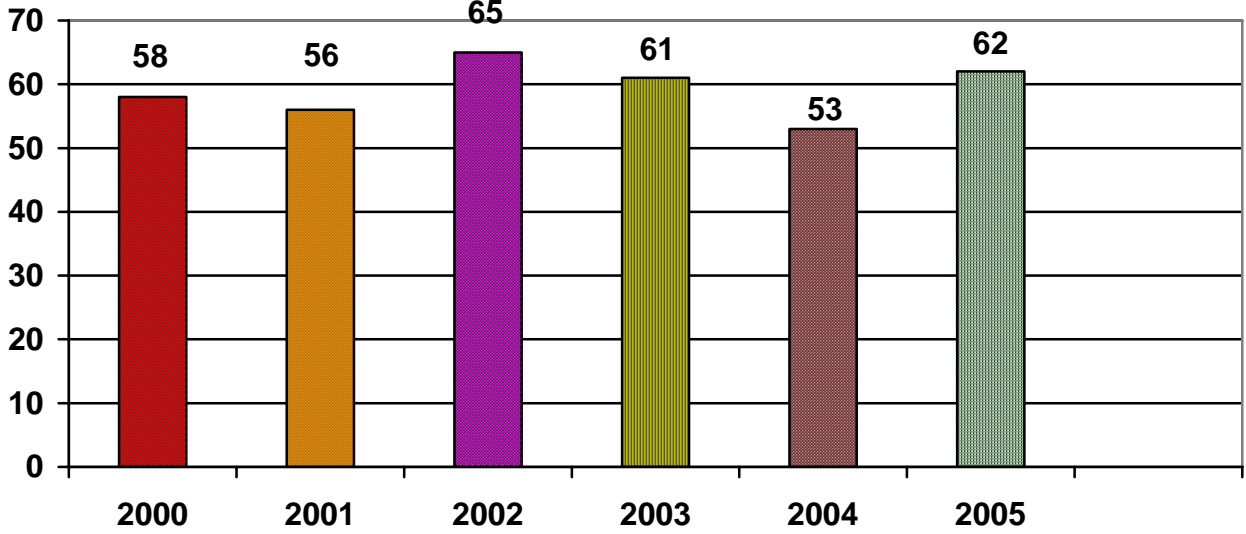
Totals Since 2000



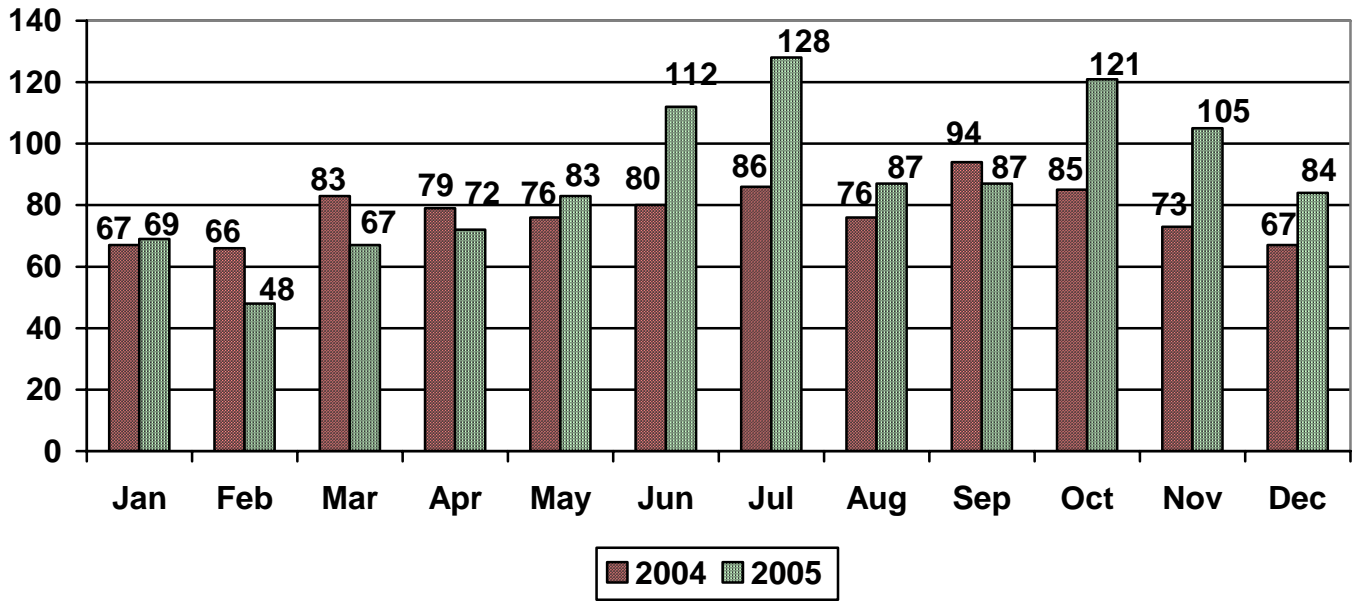
Arson



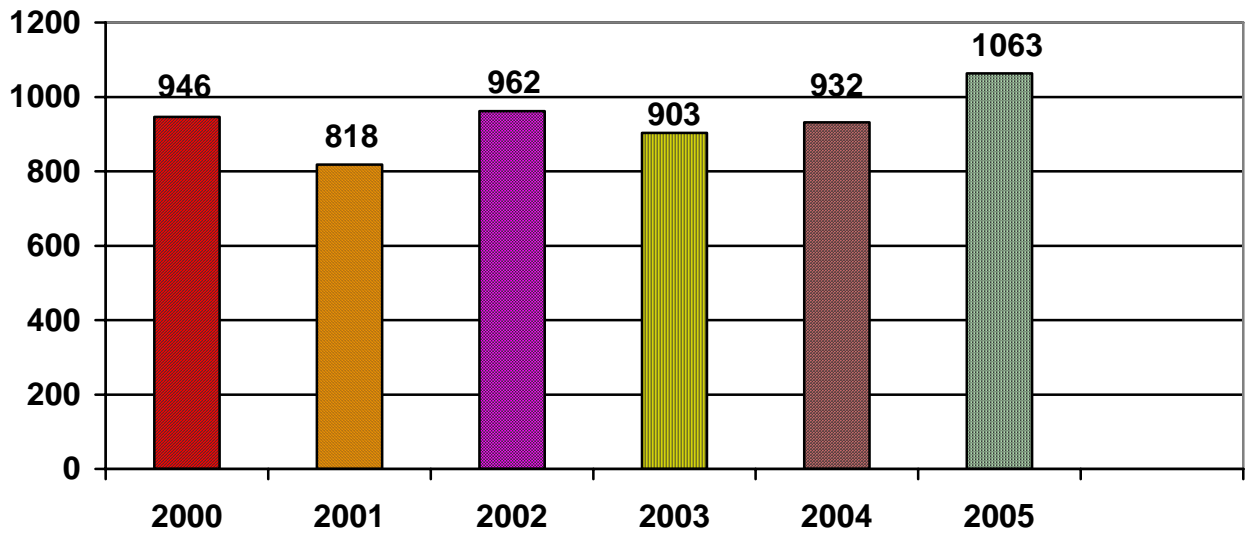
Totals Since 2000



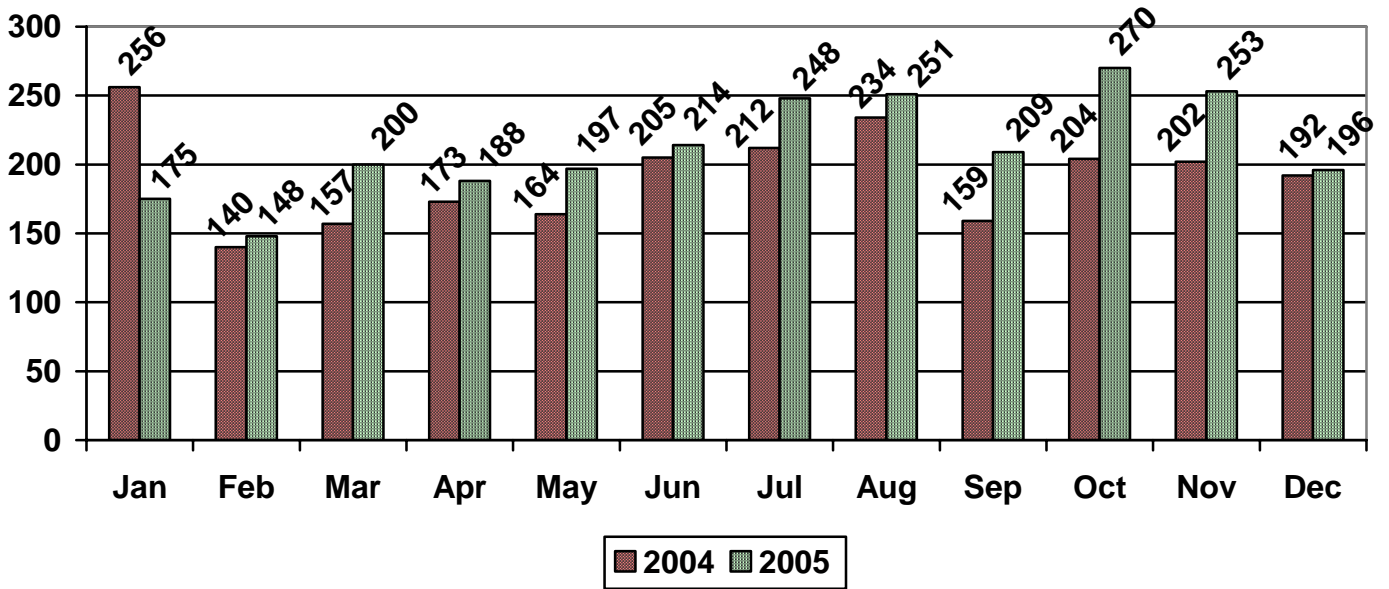
Auto Theft



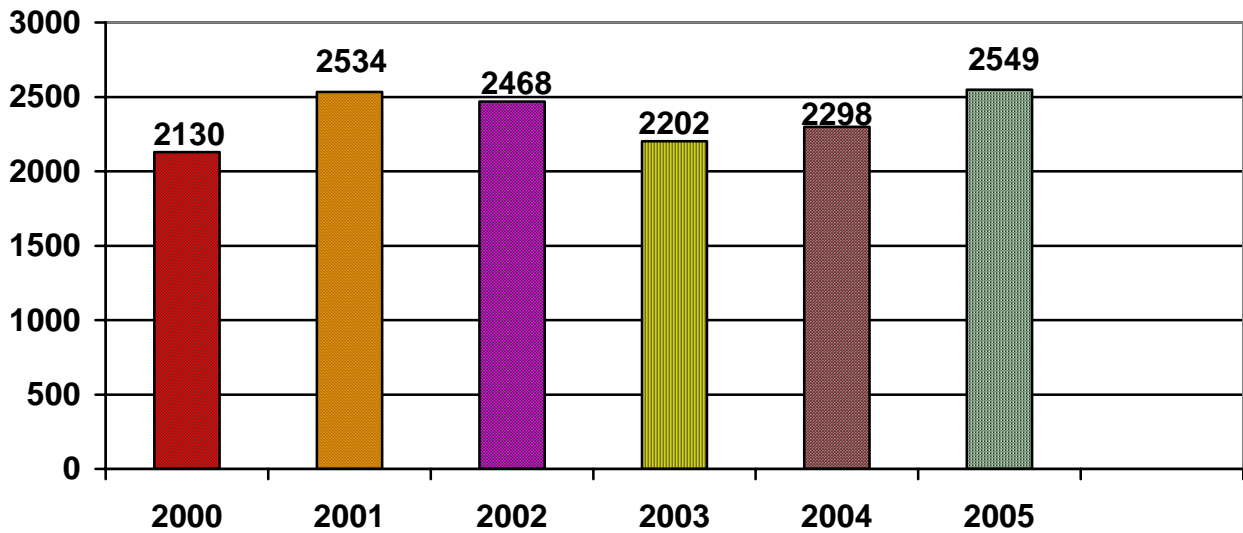
Totals Since 2000



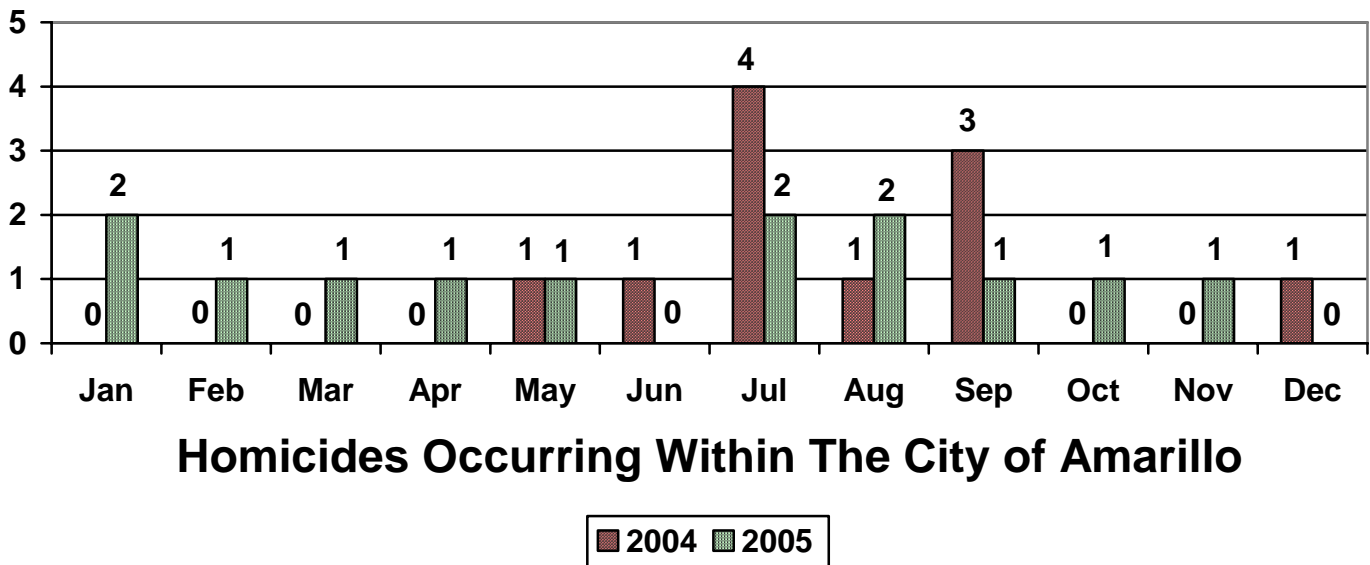
Burglary



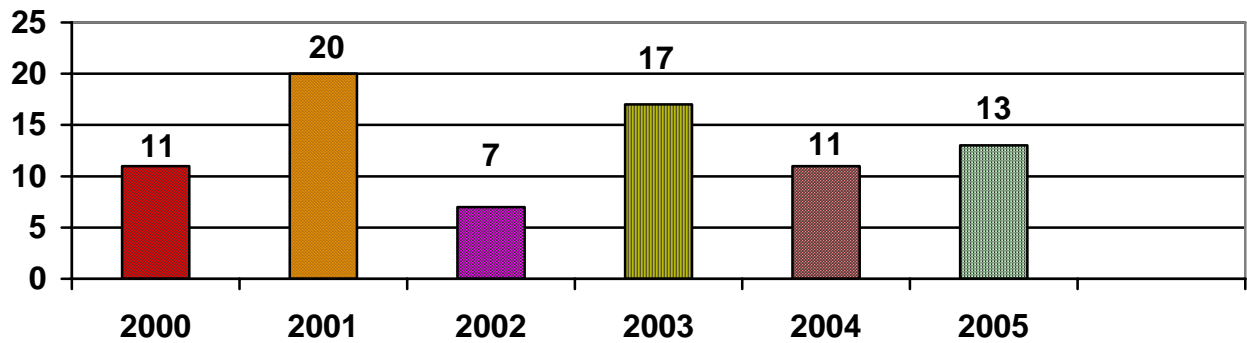
Totals Since 2000



Homicide



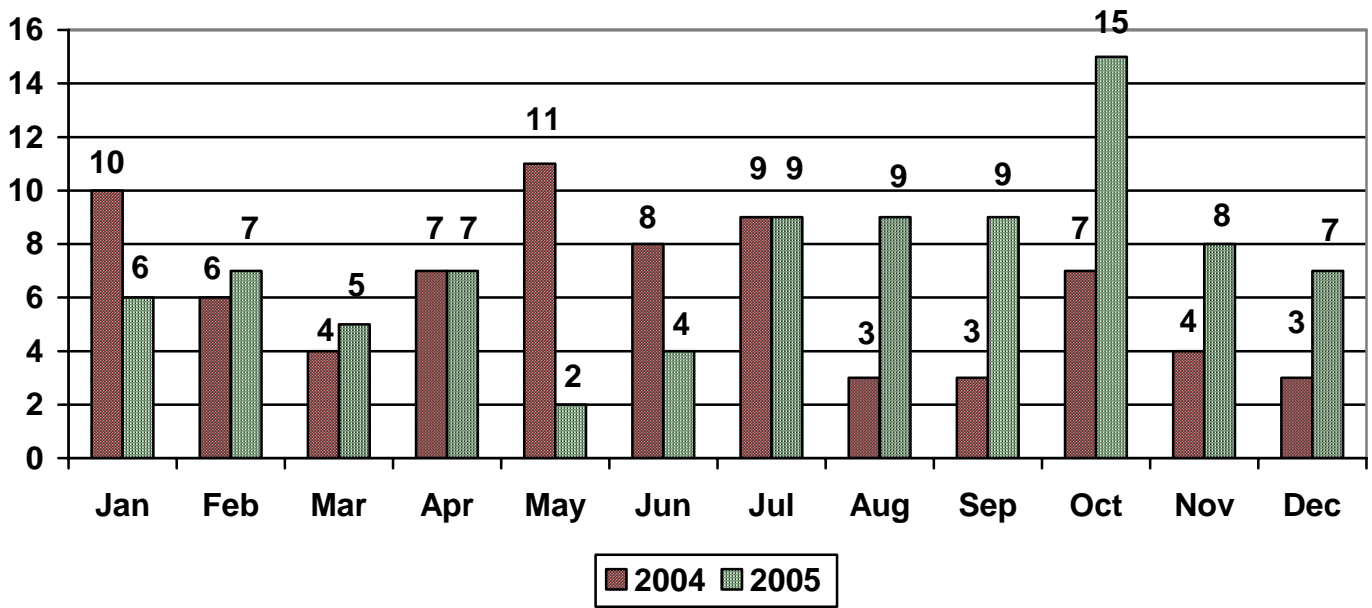
Totals Since 2000- Does Not Include Justifiable Homicides



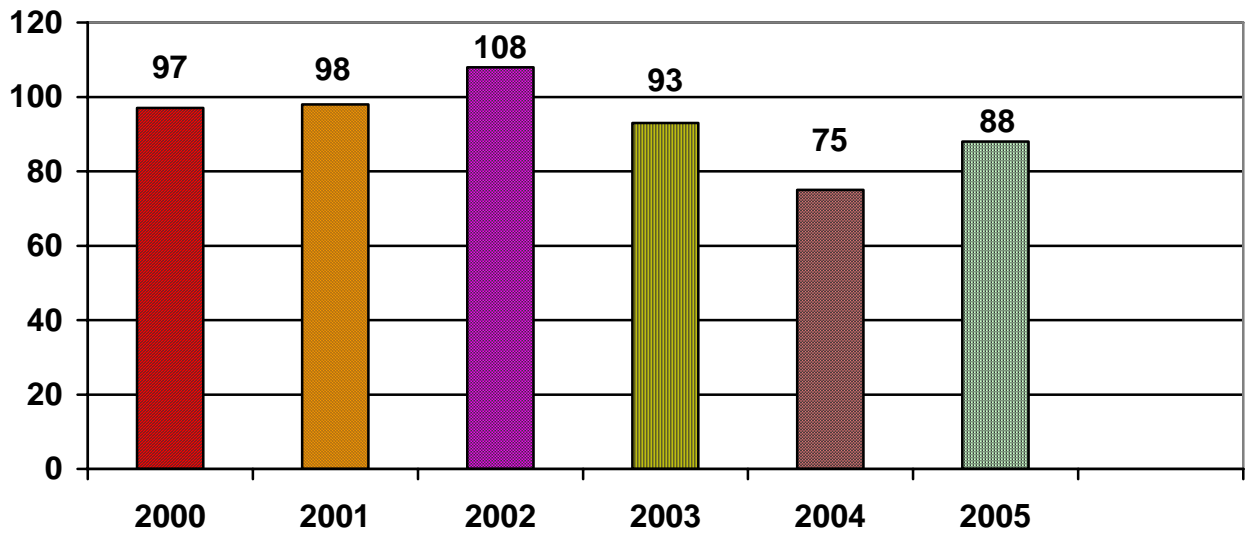
Homicides Investigated By Special Crimes Within The City Of Amarillo

Totals will include assaults upgraded to a homicide after the death of the victim, cases accepted on a lesser charge or at the time of death the victim was outside the jurisdiction.

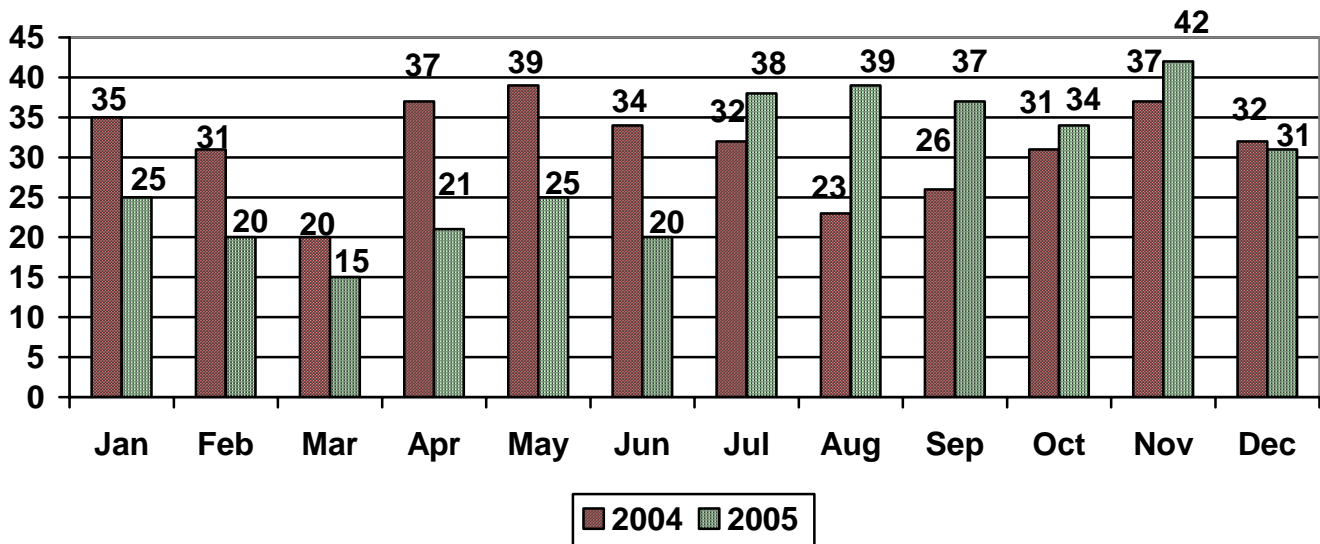
Rape



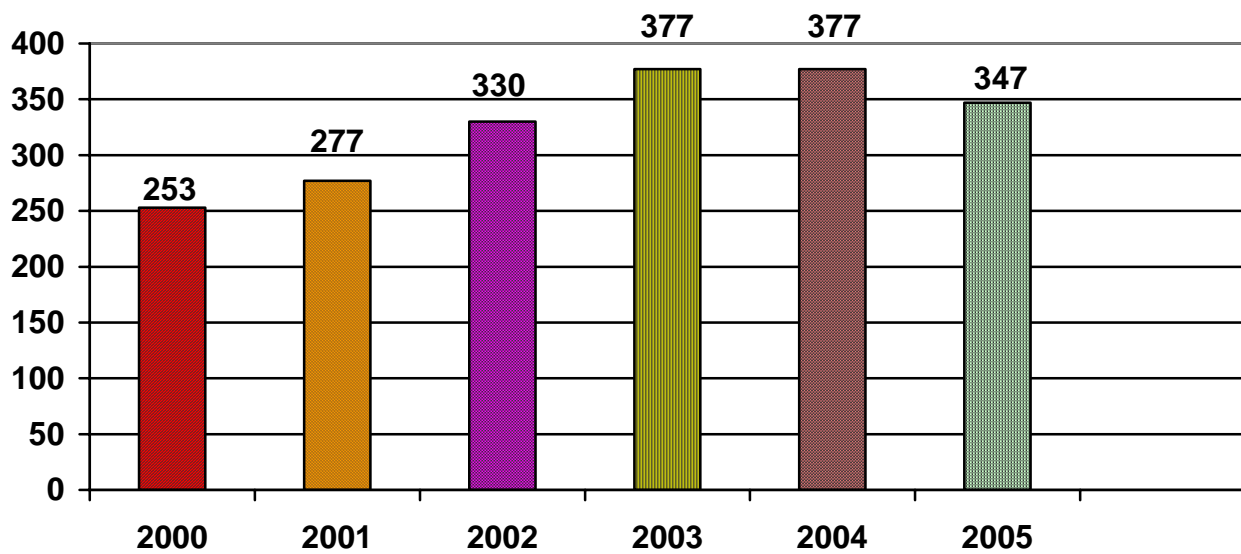
Totals Since 2000



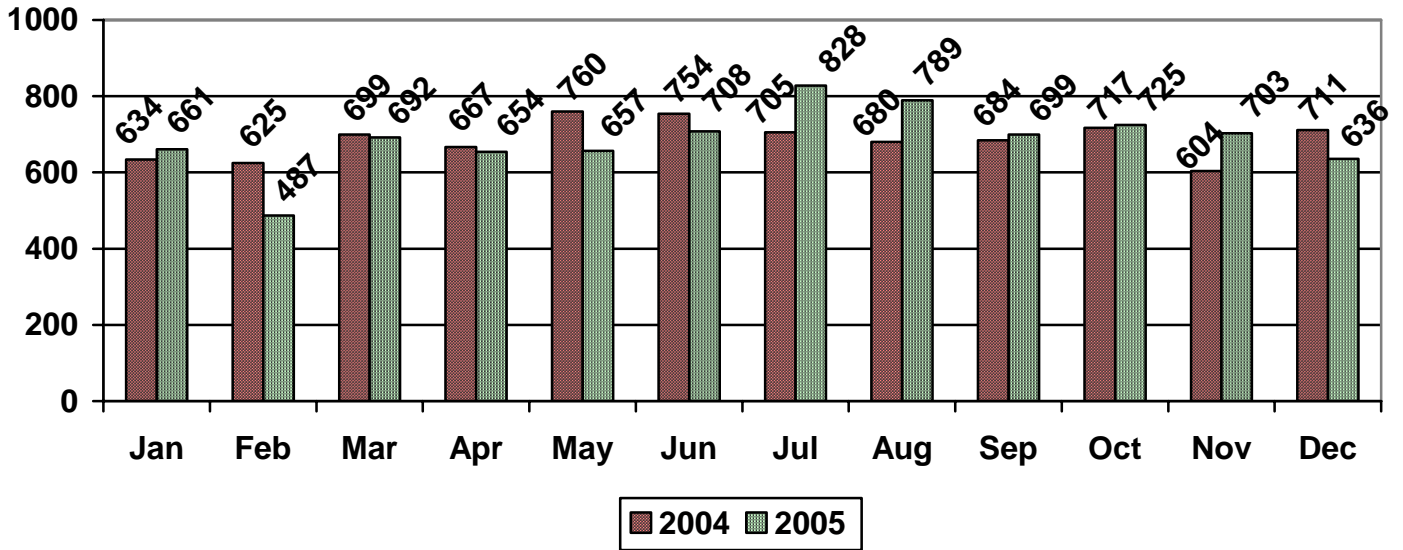
Robbery



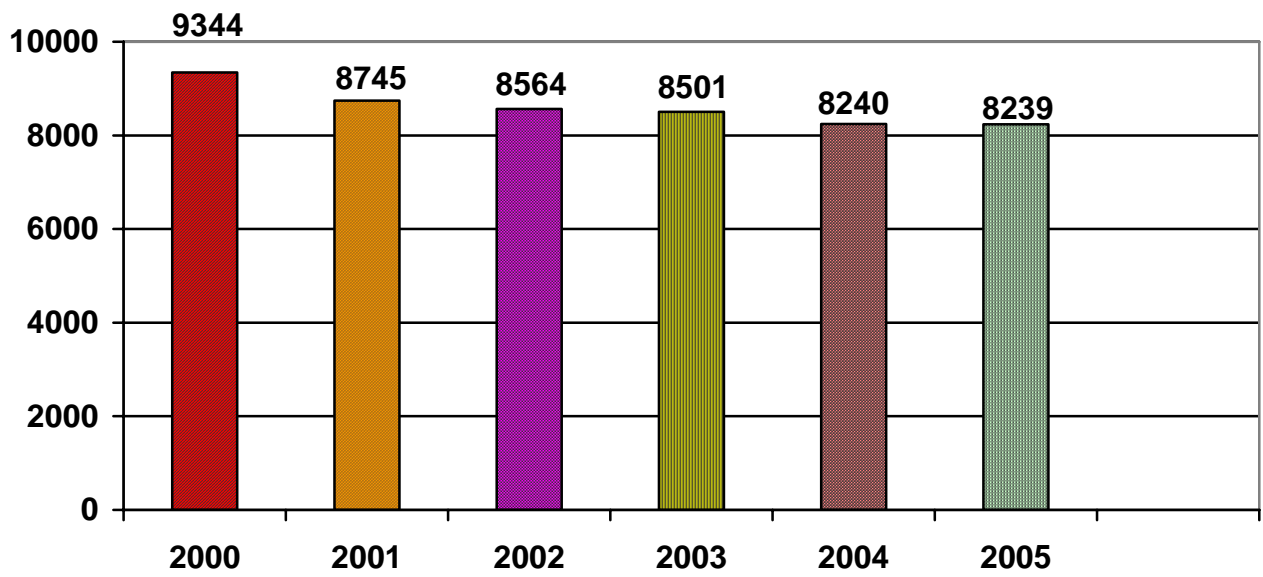
Totals Since 2000



Theft



Totals Since 2000





DIVISION REPORTS

AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT



CAPTAIN PERRY GILMORE UNIFORM DIVISION

UNIFORM DIVISION

The Uniform Division, commanded by Captain Perry Gilmore, is responsible for providing quality police service to the citizens of Amarillo on a continuous basis. The Division provides the initial police response and investigation to most calls for police service in the City. The Division is currently authorized a staff of 185 sworn officers plus three civilians, and operates a fleet of 67 patrol cars, 7 motorcycles, and 13 patrol bicycles.

The officers in the Uniform Division provide police service 24 hours a day, every day of the year, by distributing personnel on four eight-hour work shifts each day. Three shifts (covering 24 hours) are each staffed with one lieutenant, four sergeants, and patrol officers. A fourth shift of one sergeant and a squad of patrol officers overlaps the evening and midnight shifts, when our call load is highest.



“Dusting for fingerprints”

In addition, the Motorcycle Squad and COPPS officers provide specialized services. Many officers in the Uniform Division hold part-time assignments in specialized units: SWAT, Hostage Negotiators, Bomb Squad, Dive Team, Critical Incident Stress Debriefing Team, Training Academy Instructors, Field Training Officers, and other assignments.

During 2005, officers and civilian employees of the Police Department responded to 133,072 calls for service and investigated 6,498 traffic crashes. There were 32 fatal traffic crashes during the year, with 34 fatalities. The Uniform Division officers arrested 523 drunk drivers and 625 individuals for driving while his or her license was suspended. There were 183 traffic crashes involving drunk drivers. Uniform officers issued 46,930 traffic citations and 2,942 parking citations. They also made 353 evading arrest cases and 570 failure to identify arrests.

PATROL

Officers assigned to patrol must be skilled in a wide variety of tasks. They mediate family disturbances, provide first aid, investigate all types of criminal offenses, maintain order, enforce traffic laws, and arrest criminal law violators. Patrol officers take crime scene photographs, process crime scenes for fingerprints, and take statements from witnesses of crimes.



“Uniform patrol unit with updated computer, light bar, etc”

CANINE

The Canine Unit is composed of three officers and three police dogs. One canine officer and police dog are assigned to each shift and assist officers on building searches for burglars, apprehension of fleeing suspects, and drug detection. The unit provides drug detection service to the Amarillo Independent School District. The unit also presents canine demonstrations to community organizations.



“Scanning for narcotics”

MOTORCYCLE

The Motorcycle Squad is composed of one sergeant and six officers. The primary assignment of the motor officers is traffic enforcement; in particular, enforcement at identified high accident locations and problem areas. Motorcycle officers issued 17,899 of the traffic citations issued by the Uniform Division.



“New motorcycles with updated cameras, radars, etc”

TRAFFIC INVESTIGATION

One lieutenant, three traffic crash/DWI investigators, one Uniform Division Municipal Court Warrant Officer, one Traffic Guide, and one secretary staff the Traffic Investigation Unit. This unit investigates hit and run traffic crashes; fatal traffic crashes, and files charges on all DWIs, driving while license suspended cases, and traffic-related incidents. The Traffic Guide enforces parking violations in the downtown area and issued 783 of the parking citations issued by the Department.



“Tying down the scene”

CRIME ANALYSIS

Crime Analysis is staffed by one officer who is responsible for tracking crime reports, crime patterns and trends, and then making that information available to patrol officers, detectives, SWAT and other law enforcement agencies.



“Weekly crime analysis meeting”

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING AND PROBLEM SOLVING (COPPS)

The COPPS Unit was formed as a result of a federal grant under the Cops Ahead Program. Officially named Community Oriented Policing and Problem Solving (COPPS), the COPPS Unit consists of 12 officers and one sergeant. The COPPS officers are assigned in pairs to the San Jacinto, North Heights, Eastridge, Martin Road, and Downtown areas of Amarillo. In their areas, the COPPS officers work to increase the communication between our citizens and the police, resulting in greater police effectiveness and citizen satisfaction.



“Downtown COPPS patrol”

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

The COPPS officers work closely with other departments in the City, such as Code Enforcement and Fire Prevention, to provide a combined effort of evaluation and enforcement of quality of life issues. In 2005, the COPPS Unit worked several special assignments at various locations to observe and arrest offenders committing automobile burglaries. Other assignments included investigations leading to the arrest of felony narcotics violators involved in manufacturing and selling narcotics, committing burglaries, and homicides.

The COPPS officers also eliminated some long-term problem locations in their neighborhoods using nuisance abatement laws and community involvement. One example is the on-going nuisance

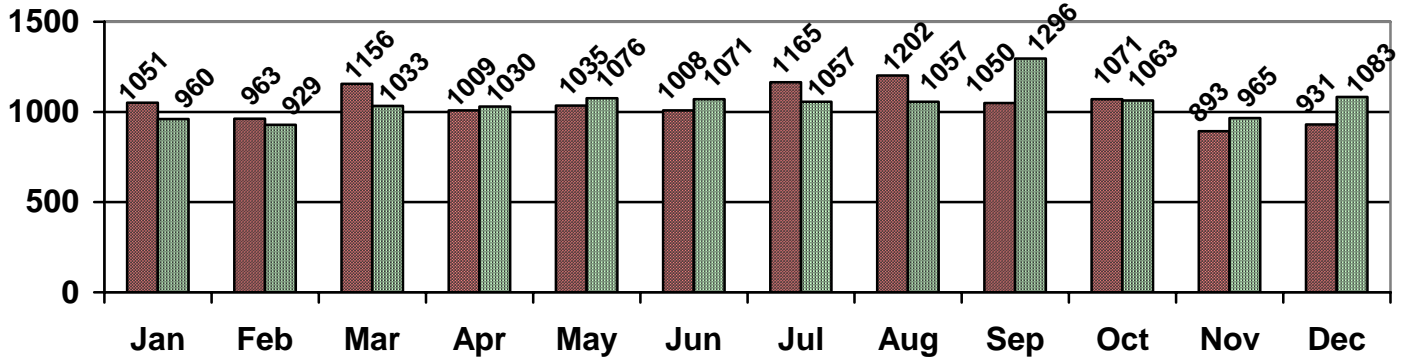
abatement in Ellwood Park using the Gang Activity Abatement Statute. This was the first case of its kind ever to be filed in Potter or Randall County.

HANDICAP PATROL

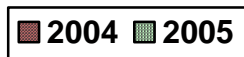
The Handicap Patrol is a group of civilian volunteers who, after receiving training, patrol parking lots and enforce handicap-parking violations. This group issued 1,320 citations for handicap parking violations. This program is aimed at making handicap parking spaces available for those who qualify.

Captain Perry Gilmore

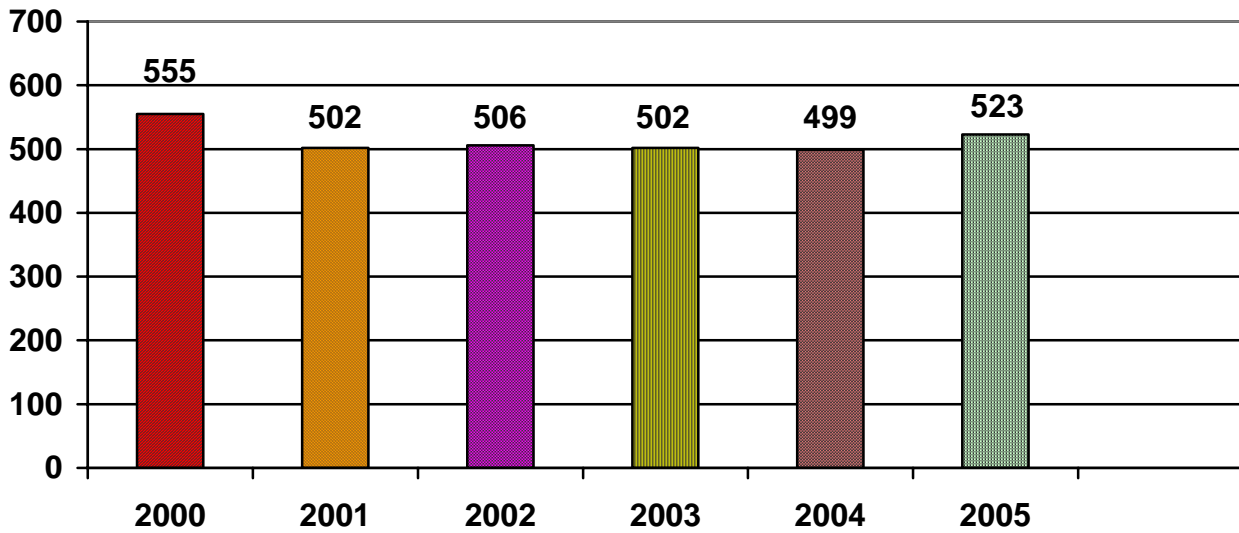
Total Adult Arrests



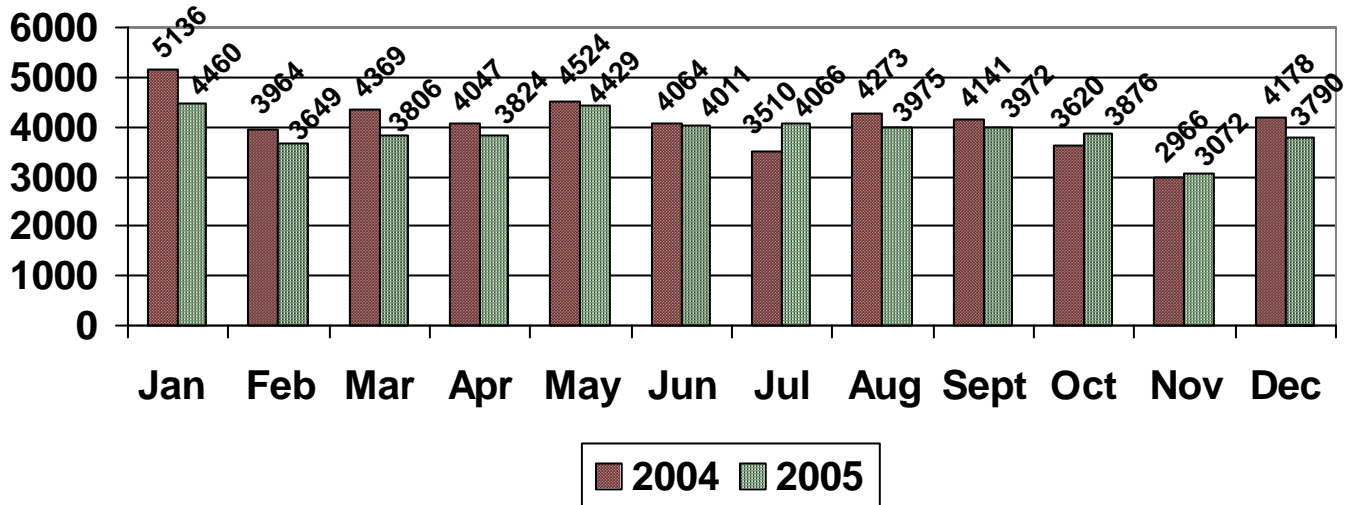
Excluding juvenile arrests and misdemeanor citations issued. Rebooks and warrants served by outside jurisdictions are included in the monthly totals.



Total DUI Arrests Since 2000

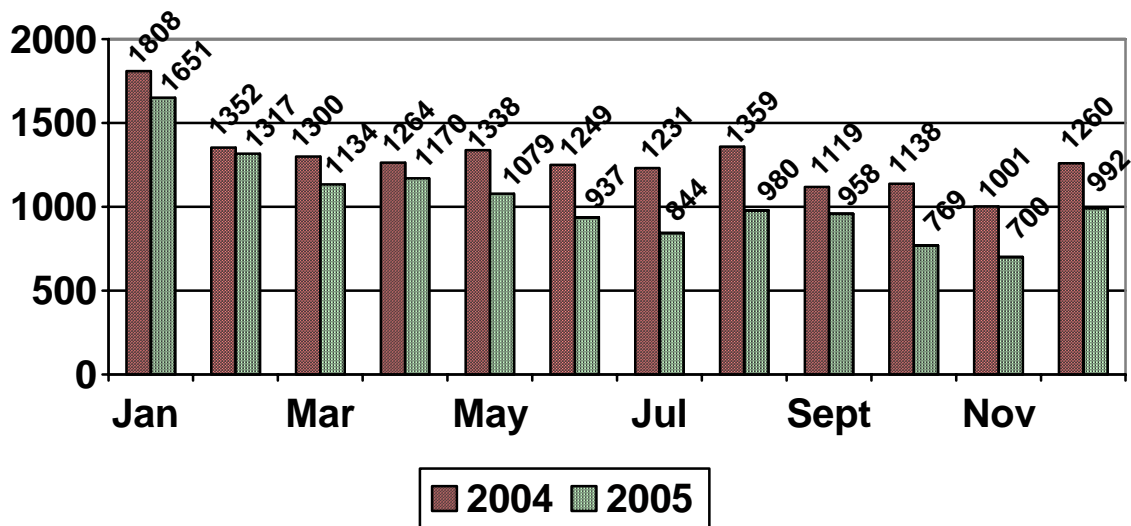


Traffic Citations Issued



During the year 2005 officers issued 46,930 citations as compared to last year's total of 48,792.

Traffic Warnings Issued



During the year 2005 officers issued 12,531 warnings as compared to last year's total of 15,419.

AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT



**CAPTAIN BRAD LANCASTER
DETECTIVE DIVISION**

DETECTIVE DIVISION

The Detective Division, commanded by Captain Brad Lancaster, is responsible for the investigation and follow-up of criminal cases within the City of Amarillo. The Division does not investigate suspicious deaths, arsons or narcotics violations. Other units within the Police Department or the Fire Department investigate these cases. The Division's primary goal is crime prevention, through follow up investigations of reported criminal offenses. The Division is also responsible for the apprehension of offenders, testimony at trials, processing evidence, and the recovery of stolen property.

Units within the Detective Division are: Crimes Against Persons, commanded by Lieutenant Brent Womble; North/East crimes, commanded by Lieutenant Gary Schwab; South/West crimes, commanded by Lieutenant Carrel Harris; Evening shift detectives, commanded by Lieutenant Kenneth Funtek; and the Juvenile and School Liaison section, commanded by Lieutenant Susan Smith. The Detective Division has 60 commissioned officers and 11 civilian employees.

Crimes Against Persons detectives investigate adult sex-related offenses, child victim cases and in-custody misdemeanor cases, including domestic violence. The squad also administers the Department's sex offender registration program. North/East and South/West squads investigate all other adult offender crimes that occur within the area of town they represent. Evening shift detectives work 3:00pm – 11:00pm, and are made up of members from the North/East, South/West and Juvenile squads. The Juvenile section works all crimes that are committed by persons under the age of 17.

To increase the effectiveness of our investigations, the Division employs 5 civilian investigators. These investigators are assigned cases that lack significant leads or "solvability factors". Sworn detectives therefore have more time to devote to solving crimes that have good leads. If leads develop in a case initially assigned to a civilian investigator, the case is "upgraded" to a sworn detective.

The Division administers a sex offender registration program that currently has 917 registrants. This is a 13% increase over the number of registrants handled in 2004. Of these, 353 are active adult offenders, 28 are active juvenile offenders (registrants that are of adult age now, but were juveniles at the time of conviction) and 536 are "inactive" offenders. "Inactive" offenders are those that are currently incarcerated or have moved from the area, but still have ties to Amarillo. The Juvenile squad administers registration for juvenile-age



"Presenting a case for review"

registrants. Currently, there are no juvenile sex offender registrants, due to the decision of local juvenile courts to choose rehabilitation therapy in lieu of mandatory registration in the hopes of both correcting and preventing further negative behavior.

CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATIVE UNIT

The Crime Scene Investigative Unit, under the command of Sergeant Keith Cook, and assigned to the North/East crime squad, is responsible for documenting crime scenes and searching for physical evidence, such as latent fingerprints, hair, fiber, tool marks, or body fluids. During the year, CSIU members were called out 78 times. Some of the evidence, which can include DNA evidence, is sent to the appropriate state or federal crime labs. Most of the collected evidence is processed within the CSIU section by trained technicians.



“Entering fingerprints into A.F.I.S.”

During 2005, CSIU officers matched a total of 388 fingerprints lifted at crime scenes. The Automated Fingerprint Identification System (A.F.I.S.) was used to match 129 unknown latent prints. A civilian technician operates the CSIU photo lab. The lab processed 2,518 rolls of film last year. All photos are now being downloaded digitally to case photo files.

In 2005, the Panhandle Regional Planning Commission (PRPC) began implementation of a Regional Advanced Fingerprint Identification System (R-AFIS). When completed this will tie all 26 counties of the Texas Panhandle together for identification of criminals by fingerprints. The Amarillo Police Department's CSIU and the City of Amarillo's Public Safety Information Technology (PSIT) group provided the leadership and technical expertise as well as hosting the regional database for the project.

APD is now a clearinghouse for a fingerprint network larger than seven of the statewide networks. So far, 15 counties in the Panhandle are participating. The remaining 11 counties should be on-line this year. This regional system will dramatically increase the number of fingerprint records available for searching.

DRIVE-BY SHOOTING RESPONSE TEAM

Within the Department, a Drive-by shooting response team is in place. The majority of the members are from the Detective Division. In 2005, the Department received reports of 32 incidents of drive-by shootings. The Team was called out on 23 shootings, clearing 83% of those cases. Ten of the drive-bys were determined to be gang-related. The

immediate response by investigators decreases the opportunity for gang retaliation and improves the clearance rate on these violent crimes.

SCHOOL LIAISON

Sergeant Ronnie Taff supervises the School Liaison section. It is comprised of 11 officers assigned to various schools within the Amarillo Independent School District, 1 officer assigned to Randall High School, and 1 officer assigned as the Student Crime Stoppers Coordinator.



“Amarillo Police Department’s Summer Youth Camp”

The purpose of the School Liaison program is to promote public relations through formal and informal action and to assist the schools in providing a safe learning environment.

During 2005, the officers in the program investigated 10,760 campus complaints and presented programs to over 9,000 students. In addition, they made 1,152 incident reports, made 258 physical arrests, wrote 638 citations and seized 11 weapons.

STUDENT CRIME STOPPERS

Student Crime Stoppers continued its success in a statewide competition, winning Best Website and Radio-Best Crime of the Week (Spanish and English). Student Crime Stoppers also won 1st place in their division in the Chamber of Commerce Polk Street Cook-Off.



Comparisons of 2004 vs. 2005 are:

	<u>2004</u>	<u>2005</u>
Tips received	429	348
Arrests made	137	152
Cases cleared	178	220
Rewards paid	\$7,964	\$6,265
Property recovered	\$35,964	\$27,875
Narcotics seized	\$28,470	\$9,160

COMPUTER CRIMES

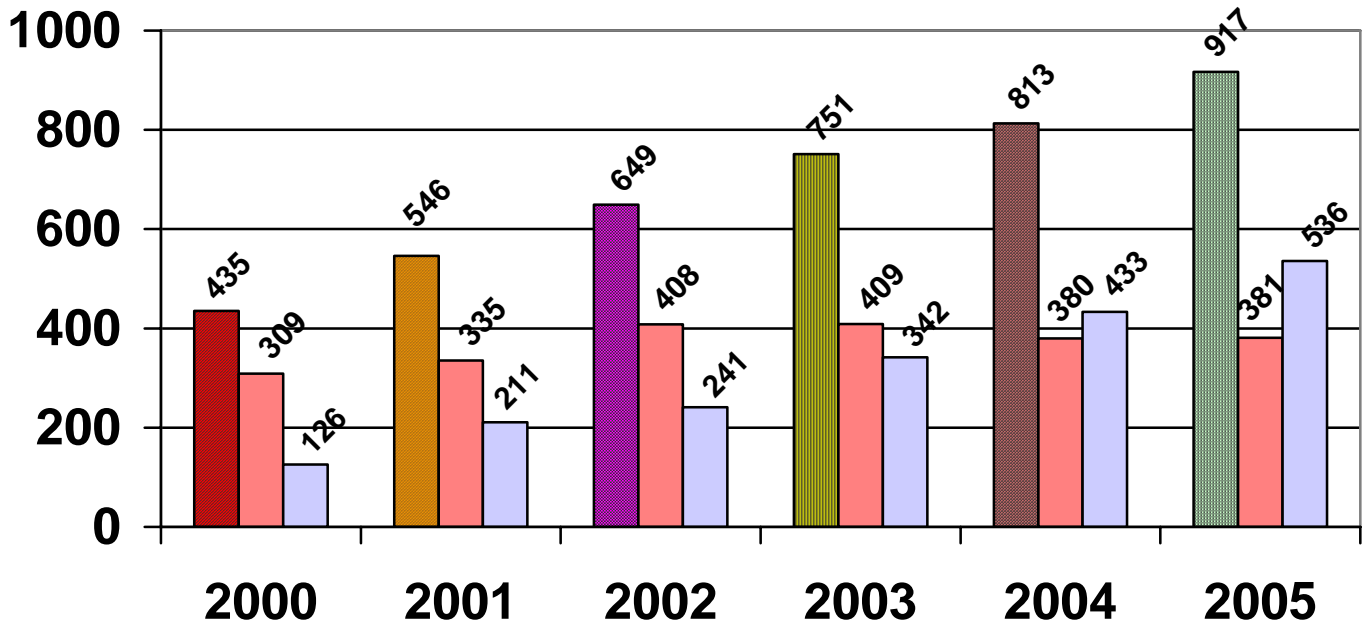
Sergeant Earnest Douglass, previously assigned to the Detective Division, is a certified forensic computer examiner. He investigates pornography, fraud, theft, and identification theft committed by computers and is trained to examine and retrieve digital evidence. Sergeant Douglass processed 347 evidentiary items in 2005.



“Computer Forensics Lab”

Captain Brad Lancaster

Sex Offender Registration



Total Registrants Left Column - Active Offenders Center Column - Inactive Offenders Right Column

Active offenders are those who are currently residing within the City of Amarillo. Inactive offenders are those who are currently incarcerated or have moved from the City of Amarillo, but still have ties to the area. As of 2004 there are no juvenile sex offender registrants. This is due to the decision of local juvenile courts to choose rehabilitation therapy in lieu of mandatory registration in the hopes of both correcting and preventing further negative behavior.

AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT



CAPTAIN KENNETH FERGUSON SERVICE DIVISION

SERVICE DIVISION

Captain Kenneth Ferguson is the commander of the Service Division. The Service Division is comprised of several units and a team of dedicated professionals who provide essential support for the everyday operation of the Department. The major components of the Service Division are the Records Section, Communications Section, Property and Evidence Section, and the City Jail. The Division is authorized two lieutenants (one of the lieutenants is the Jail Commander), three sergeants, two officers, and seventy-three civilians (fifteen of the civilians are assigned to the Jail). While the principal objective of the Service Division is to provide support for other divisions of the Department, a considerable amount of time is devoted to providing a variety of services to the public. The enforcement of the City's alarm ordinance is a responsibility of the Division. The City's alarm ordinance has been successful in decreasing the amount of time spent by officers responding to false alarms. The Service Division is also responsible for the design and the publishing of the Department's annual report. Our website can be visited at www.amapolice.org.

RECORDS SECTION

The Records Section serves as the official repository for all criminal records and documents of the Department. It is responsible for data entry and maintaining all police reports, arrest records, and statistics. This includes the preparation of reports for reporting crime to the state of Texas so semi-annual and annual FBI crime data reports can be produced for the City of Amarillo. This section is also the contact point for citizens requesting copies of records under the Open Records Act. In addition, the Service Division Commander maintains the sex offender registration book for public inspection. The front



“ Records Room”

desk personnel of the Service Division serve as receptionists for citizens seeking information or assistance. They also provide the public with information and they process bonds for prisoners being held in the City Jail. Employment criminal history checks are also available at the front desk. Report Writers assigned to the Service Division receive reports from persons calling on the telephone or citizens reporting to the front desk. Report Writers assigned to the Service Division in 2005 made 3,806 reports from persons calling on the telephone or citizens reporting to the front desk. This is an increase from the 2004 total of 3,559. In 2005, Clerk typists typed 38,130 reports and 21,140 supplements called in by officers. In March of 2004, the Department began making traffic accident reports available on the Internet through PoliceReports.US. In 2005, 9,975 accident reports have been purchased from the Internet with a net return of \$46,034.63 that was deposited into the City's General Fund. The program has proven to be successful by being user friendly to the public by eliminating the need to purchase copies of traffic accident reports at the front desk. This allows employees to concentrate on other tasks, and citizens to avoid a trip downtown.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

The Communications Section is a vital link between the public and emergency assistance. The Communications Section answers all requests for police assistance or information and is responsible for radio dispatching officers. It is the public answering point for the "911" Emergency Telephone System. This provides citizens of the Potter-Randall County "911" district a link to law enforcement, fire, and emergency medical communications personnel. The Communications Section also enters all Texas Crime Information



"Communications Room" Center/National Crime Information Center data into the computer, including protective orders. Hearing-impaired callers are assisted by use of the "Telephone Device for the Deaf" equipment or "TDD". In 2005, the Department received 133,072 calls for service as compared to 135,023 in 2004. The Communications Section received and processed 133,846 "911" calls for service in 2005 compared to 125,649 calls in 2004. In 2004, the Communications Section was reorganized to improve its overall operation. The Communications Section now consists of three dispatch supervisors, fifteen dispatchers, and twelve call-takers. The Communications Section also received major equipment updating during its reorganization, which should improve its overall efficiency.

PROPERTY AND EVIDENCE SECTION

The Property and Evidence Section is responsible for receiving, processing, storing and disposing of evidence, found property, and personal property. A fundamental responsibility of the Property and Evidence Officer is to maintain the "chain of custody" for evidence and to ensure the availability of it for court. The Property Section also performs taxicab inspections for the issuance of permits. Each year the City of Amarillo has a combined auction with the Police Department for the sale of unclaimed property held by the Property Section.



"Department Property/ Evidence Warehouse"

In August of 2005, proceeds from the auction totaled \$26,030.00. The proceeds were deposited into the Department's account. The Property Section also returned \$12,626.43 to the City's General Fund from unclaimed money in 2005 as compared to \$14,252.08 in 2004. The money comes from drug busts, unclaimed evidence, found monies, and unclaimed personal property.

CITY JAIL

The City Jail operations are assigned to the Service Division. Lieutenant Tam Boatler is the commander of the City Jail and the facility is located at 609 South Pierce Street. The City Jail staff is responsible for the housing and safe keeping of prisoners arrested for Class C misdemeanors. The staff consists of three civilian jail supervisors, three jail medical officers, eight jailors, and one cook. Five inmates are used to staff additional positions in the Jail. Three inmates are used in the kitchen from 6:00AM To 6:00PM. Two inmates staff the laundry, each working a twelve-hour shift.



“City Jail”

On average, five inmates are sent out per day to work various tasks for the City of Amarillo. These assignments include cleaning cages at the City of Amarillo Zoo, working at the Municipal Golf Courses, and at the Amarillo Shooting Complex, washing police vehicles, and other various duties as needed.

The budget for the City Jail, including all salaries and benefits is approximately \$694,838.14. This figure equates to an inmate cost of \$28.99 per day. This is an increase of 71¢ per day from 2004. The cost for training replacement employees at the City Jail and maintaining minimum staffing requirements accounts for most of the increase in cost. When figuring the inmate cost, the trustee labor has not been calculated. Calculating an average of ten trustees per week with five working 12-hour shifts in the jail seven days a week, and eight trustees working outside the jail for an 8-hour shift during the workweek, equals 25,168 inmate work hours. In addition, in 2005 trustee inmates were used extensively during both hurricane incidents, assisted with moving property to and from the City’s auction, and working at the Amarillo Shooting Complex that brought the total up to 31,660 inmate work hours for the calendar year. Using the minimum wage of \$5.15 per hour, the hours worked by inmates would equal a \$163,049.00 savings to the City. Recalculating average daily cost, using the labor savings provided by the trustees, lowers the cost per inmate per day to \$22.19. This is well below average statewide housing costs of approximately \$45.00 per day.

The average cost of providing meals to inmates in 2005 was 60¢ per meal. When the cook’s salary, utilities, maintenance, and other equipment costs are added, the cost is 97¢ per meal. This is a very slight increase of 1¢ per meal as compared with 2004 average of 96¢. Even with the slight increase, the Jail’s kitchen provides nutritious meals at a low cost. The City Jail spent \$42,824.09 on food for the calendar year of 2005, and provided 71,858 meals.

In 2005, the Amarillo Police Department made 11,930 physical arrests compared to 12,126 in 2004. This is a decrease of 196 arrests. In 2003, there were 12,226, 12,697 arrests in 2002 and 12,392 arrests in 2001. The majority of the arrests were prisoners who were booked directly into the City Jail.

County arrests accounted for less than 40% of the total arrests in 2005. However, many of those arrested and booked into the county jails are later transferred to the City Jail on Municipal charges. The Jail Staff enters the booking information on all arrests, regardless of where the prisoners are initially booked. In 2005, the daily bookings averaged 32.69, as compared to 33.13 in 2004, 33.49 in 2003, and 34.80 in 2002. In addition to the Computerized Criminal History section, the City Jail staff is also responsible for the data entry of sex offenders registered by the Detective Division. They are required to keep all information in the CCH folders.

The average jail inmate population for 2005 was 65.66. This equates to 23,965 "prisoner days." This is a very slight decrease from the 2004 average of 67.5. This can be attributed to lower fine totals of inmates, increased trustee work, fewer warrants per prisoner, and a decrease of physical arrests for the year. The average jail population was 69.0 in 2003, 70.93 in 2002, 74.00 in 2001, and 71.31 in 2000. The Jail's actual bed space availability is 93. During 2006, additional bunks will be installed in the City Jail to bring the actual bed space up to 99.

There were times during the summer months when inmate population spiked over 100. During those sharp population increases, we worked with both Municipal Court Judges to address the situation by obtaining approval for the release of inmates earlier in the day, as well as giving additional credit to trustees when they are close to being released. This has been an ongoing stopgap measure used in order to take a proactive approach in avoiding overcrowding problems in the City Jail.

During 2005, the Amarillo Police Department City Jail staff continued to work at improving the facility through needed repairs, equipment updates, continued training, and updating jail operation policies. We also purchased an Automatic Electronic Defibrillator (AED) for the City Jail. This allows us to provide even better medical attention, should a cardiac incident take place.



"City Jail Booking Counter"

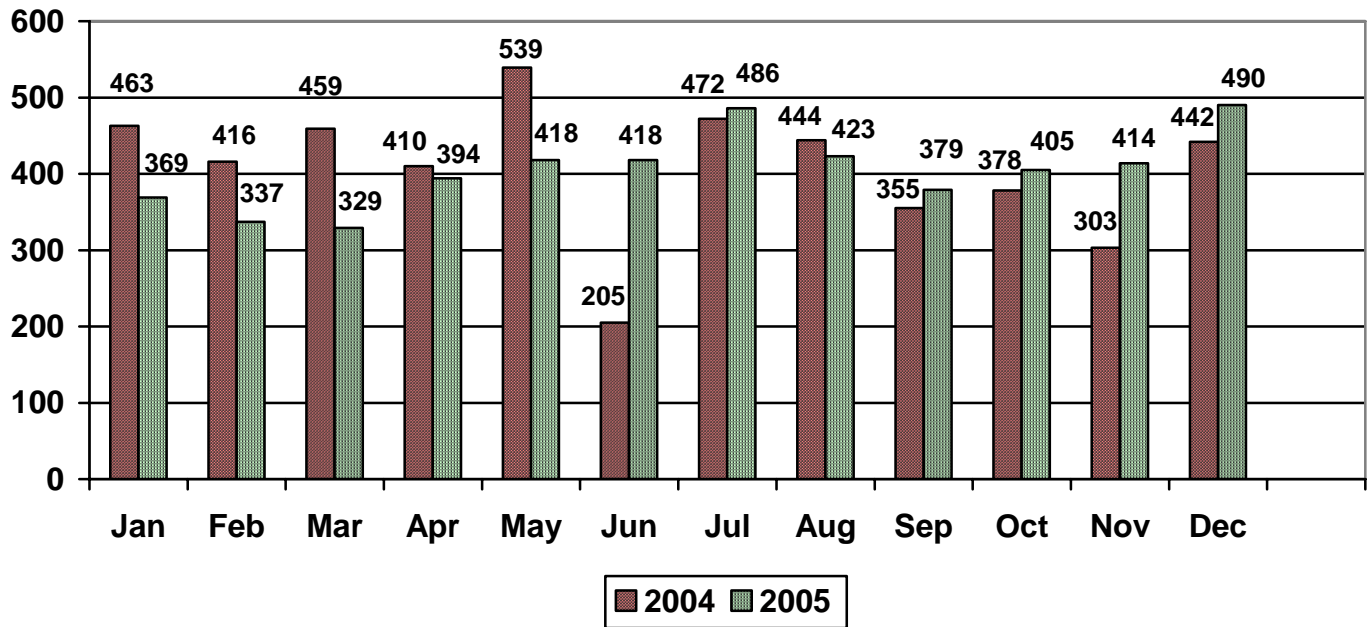
In 2004, the City Jail also acquired LiveScan equipment. LiveScan makes it possible to obtain digital fingerprints that are downloaded directly into the computer system. The result is also a much higher quality of print. In 2006, portions of the City Jail will be remodeled, which will include updating the security camera/audio system.

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

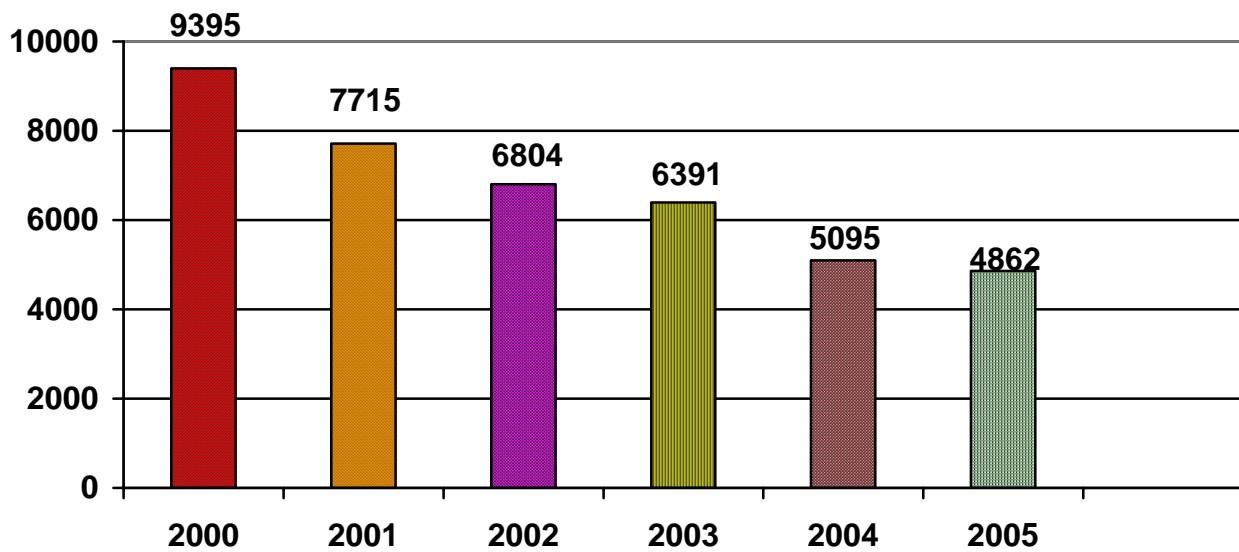
Even with the improvements that have and will take place, construction of a new jail facility merits further review. The increase of both residents and jail populations indicate our current facility will serve us for approximately six to eight more years. This includes taking into consideration the increased bed space obtained in 2005. Regardless, we will continue to strive to make the necessary improvements in the jail facility in order to improve its overall operation. The current facility has been in operation since 1956.

Captain Kenneth Ferguson

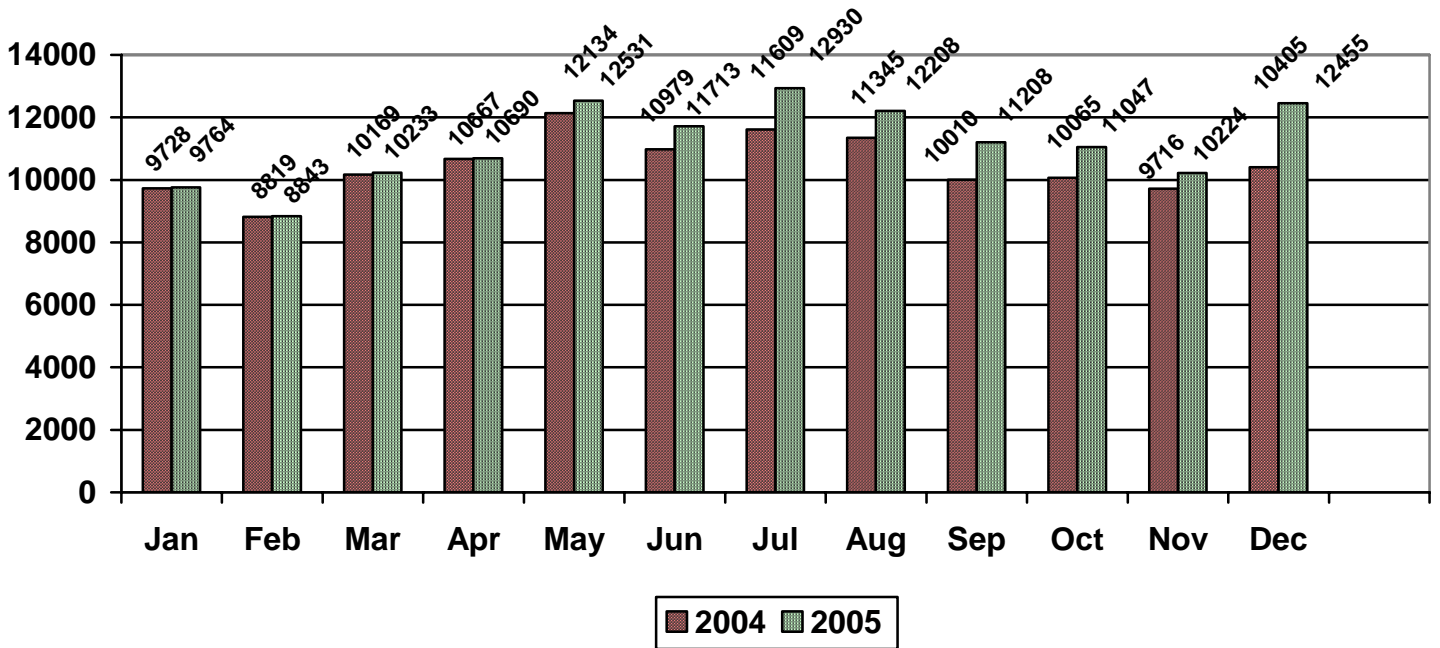
False Alarms



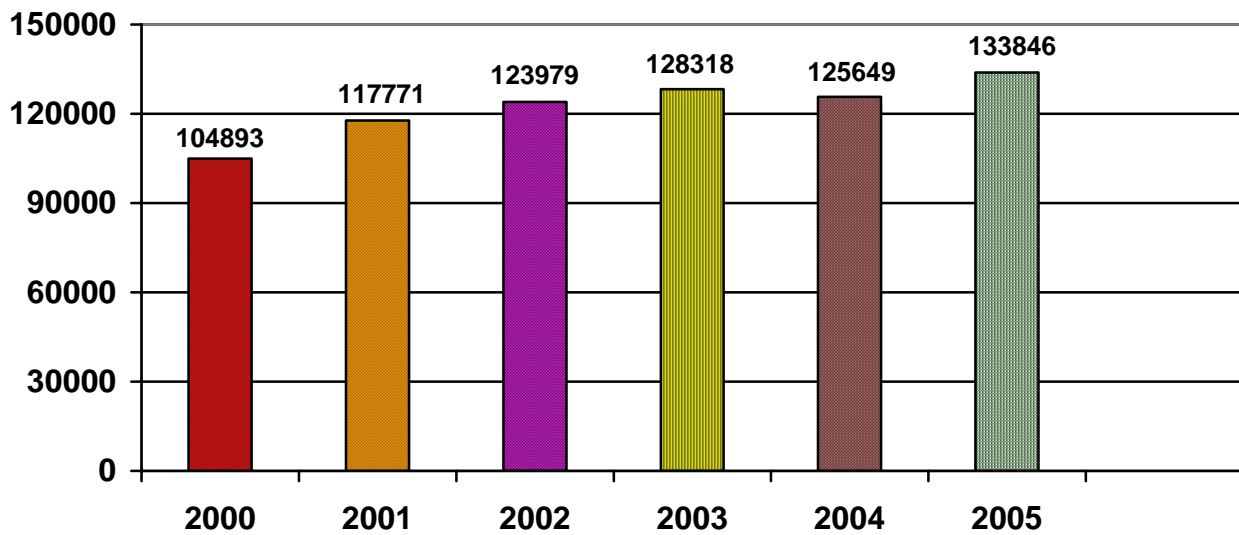
Totals Since 2000



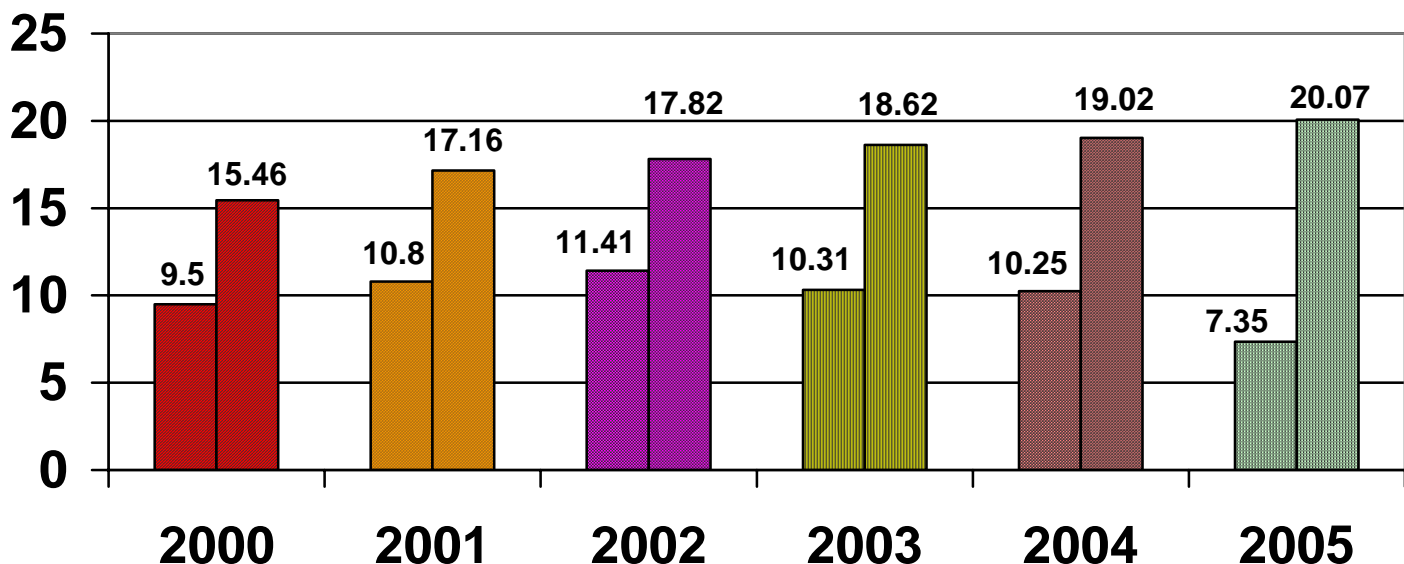
911 Calls Received



Totals Since 2000



Response Times

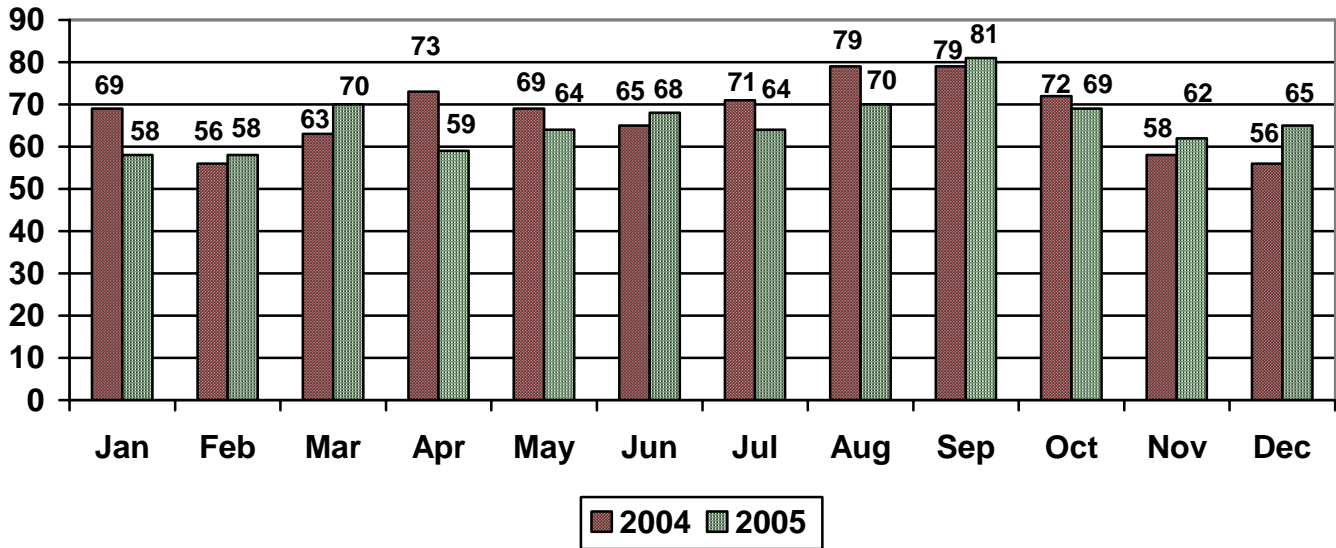


"Response Times Are Shown In Minutes"

"Priority 1 Calls Left Column - All Other Calls Right Column"

Calls for service are assigned a priority rating from 1 through 9 based upon the nature of the incident. Incidents involving an immediate threat to life, violent criminal acts in progress, weapons used or being displayed or an officer in need of immediate assistance receives a higher priority rating. Factors that can affect response times are volume of calls and officer availability.

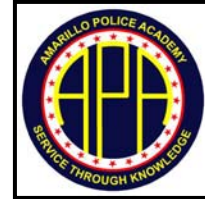
Average Daily Population-City Jail



The average daily inmate population for 2005 was 65.66 as compared with 2004 average daily inmate population of 67.5.

TRAINING AND PERSONNEL

Training and Personnel Division coordinates hiring and training of all police department personnel. The Training and Personnel Division maintains all records of the department personnel and their training records. The division also has an Office of Professional Standards. This office is responsible for maintaining all department operations manuals and conducting staff inspections of all divisions to ensure compliance with the rules and regulations of the department. The Quartermaster is responsible for ordering, issuance, and return of all issued equipment. The Academy Training Sergeant is responsible for the supervision and training of all recruits and advanced training of officers.



“Amarillo Shooting Complex”

The Range Sergeant is the Range Master who supervises the Amarillo Shooting Complex that has 15 part-time civilians for the public operations and the Range Master coordinates all weapons training and qualifications for sworn officers. A Lieutenant is responsible for supervision of all aspects of the division as well as teaching many courses of instruction, including the training and certification of emergency vehicle operation, basic jail course, new supervisors course, search, seizure and laws of arrest. Along with the Lieutenant, three Sergeants, two Patrolman and three civilians staff the Training and Personnel Division.

The Police Department has an authorized strength of 291. We have 99 full time civilian employees and 3 part-time civilians for a total of 102 authorized civilian employees.

In 2005, the Division provided 435 training classes with 2,460 students for 37,016 hours of training. This is a significant increase over 2004 statistics in which we provided the Department 219 training classes with 2,358 students for 31,405 hours of training. In 2003, we provided the department 179 training classes with 2,306 students for 19,887 hours of training.

The Division is responsible for recruiting, selecting, testing, hiring, and training new police officers. The 74th Amarillo Police Department Basic Police Officer Academy began June 9th, 2005 with 22 recruits. All 22 passed the Basic Peace Officers Licensing Exam on the first attempt, which is a significant accomplishment compared to other academies across the State. The 74th graduated December 2nd, 2005.



“74th Amarillo Police Department Academy”

The hiring process began with 262 applicants who were notified of the Civil Service Entrance Exam that took place on 12-18-04, of the 262 applicants notified, 138 applicants took the test with 77 passing the written exam. The physical agility testing created a list of successful, potential applicants that progressed to the rigorous background investigation. The polygraph testing verifies the findings of the background investigation, allowing the best applicants to proceed to the interview board that is staffed by five senior and ranking officers from the department. The final steps are the psychological and physical fitness for duty exam. These new officers received 1072 hours of in class training and four months of one-on-one training from Field Training Officers (FTO) before the new officers are finally allowed to work without direct supervision.

The 73rd Accelerated Academy began December 13th, 2004 and lasted seven weeks. The 10 recruits graduated January 26th, 2005. The Accelerated Academy is for applicants that are already licensed in the State of Texas as peace officers. Accelerated recruits receive classroom training consisting of a review of search and seizure, Texas law, Amarillo Police Department Rules and Regulations, radar operation, motor vehicle collision investigation, computer operation, ethics, self defense and defense of others, etc. Upon graduation, they proceed to an accelerated Field Training Officer (FTO) program. These components comprise our Accelerated Training Program; it is designed to attract licensed applicants and officers from other agencies to our Department.

The hiring process is the same for all recruits, Basic Academy or Accelerated Academy. The selection process includes a written examination, physical agility testing, a thorough background investigation, a polygraph examination, an interview board, a psychological examination, and a physical examination. Training and Personnel maintains payroll data for all Police Department employees. In addition, our Division processes health insurance benefits, Family Medical Leave Act requests and retirement requests.



Training and Personnel also generates and files performance evaluations for each employee. Additional responsibilities of Training and Personnel include coordinating with the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education (TCLEOSE) on hiring, training and licensing of our police officers, jailors and telecommunication operators. Training and Personnel conducts research projects for the Department, and maintains the Amarillo Shooting Complex, a combination public and police firearms range.



In 2005, we increased the authorized strength by 6 officers to 291, but these figures are compared against the actual strength of 289, which changes the percentage comparisons slightly. The average age of a police officer, including all ranks, was 39.08 compared to 39 in 2004; the average length of service was 13.28 years, compared to 13.5 in 2004. Average length of service for all employees (sworn and civilian) is 11.74 years compared to 10.67 years in 2004. This indicates we are retaining more tenured civilian personnel. We have 23 (7.95%) female officers compared to 24(8.51%) in 2004, there are 266 (92.04%) male officers compared to 258 (91.5%) in 2004. There is 1 Native American (.35%), 5 African-American officers (1.74%), 31 Hispanic officers (10.8%), and 251 Caucasian officers (87.45%). The ethnic and racial makeup of the Department changed during 2005 with an increase of Hispanic and African-American officers. The ethnic and racial makeup had remained constant during 2002 and 2003, with a slight increase in Hispanic officers in 2004.

In 2005, 12 officers had Masters degrees (same as 2004); 55 had Bachelors degrees (an increase of 5 from 2004); and 24 had Associates degrees (same as 2004). 114 officers had more than 10 college hours but no degree (an increase of 10 from 2004). On average, an officer has 43.3 college hours. Forty-four officers had an Intermediate Peace Officer Certificate (a increase of 5 from 2004), 65 officers had an Advanced Certificate (a decrease of 12) and 128 had a Master Peace Officer Certificate (an increase of 4).

CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY

The 12th Citizen Police Academy (CPA) was held in the fall of 2005. Twenty-one (an increase of 2) members of the community were selected to attend the CPA. These citizens met one night a week for eleven class sessions covering



Department organization, crime scene investigation, evidence collection, firearms orientation, police driving tactics, crowd control measures, narcotics identification, investigative procedures, and other topics. Citizen Police Academy members are allowed to ride on observations with patrol officers and upon graduation provide a solid base of support for the department in the community.

STUDENT POLICE ACADEMY

In the spring of 2005, we hosted our 5th Student Police Academy with 19 students graduating. Attendees are selected from area high school juniors and seniors. Students attend evening classes at the Police Department one night a week. Class topics include crime scene investigation, patrol operations, radar operations, narcotics identification, and crowd control. Students are allowed to ride observation with patrol officers during the Academy. Students are introduced to law enforcement as a career choice and also provide support to the department through their relationships with their peers.

VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

The Amarillo Police Department Volunteer Program uses from thirty to forty volunteers in various jobs. They work in Victim Assistance, Service Division, Traffic Unit, and Property. The Volunteer Program began in 1992 and has continually grown. In 2005 the volunteers donated approx 7,000 hours of service to the Department. Approximately 14 volunteers are assigned to the Handicap Patrol program that began in 1995. The Handicap Patrol issued parking tickets to vehicles illegally parked in handicapped parking spaces. An appreciation dinner is held once a year to recognize all of the volunteer employees.

CHAPLAIN PROGRAM

The Chaplain Program at the Amarillo Police Department has one full time chaplain and two volunteer chaplains in order to ensure availability of a chaplain for our employees in times of illness, injury, or death. Department chaplains visit employees and family members in local hospitals and assist in funerals. The chaplains provide counseling that is confidential to Department personnel and their families. The Chaplain Program is made up of volunteers without cost to the Department.

CRISIS INCIDENT STRESS DEBRIEFING PROGRAM

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

Lieutenant Jeff Lester

INTERNAL AFFAIRS

Complaints from citizens and complaints from within the Department are investigated by the internal affairs investigator. During 2005 there were 164 formal complaints filed. Investigations of these complaints determined that 113 were founded and 48 complaints were unfounded. There were 3 complaints investigated with insufficient evidence to make a final determination. Disciplinary action was taken on each of the 113 founded complaints.

There were no officer-involved shooting incidents investigated in 2005. There were 3 discharges of weapons incidents involving the shooting of an animal. It has been determined these 3 shooting incidents were justified. There was one incident of accidental discharge of a firearm this year.

Sergeant Berry Carden
Internal Affairs

2005 INTERNAL AFFAIRS STATS

Complaint Type:	Founded	Unfounded	Other	Total	% Founded
Excessive Force:	3	4	0	7	43%
Illegal Search:	3	1	0	4	75%
Illegal Arrest:	1	1	0	2	50%
Neglect or Inattention to Duty:	88	22	0	110	80%
Falsify or Release Of Records:	2	0	0	2	100%
Conduct Unbecoming:	16	17	3	36	44%
Criminal Offenses:	0	3	0	3	0%
Racial Profiling:	0	0	0	0	0%
<hr/> Totals:	113	48	3	164	69%

Officer Involved

Shootings: 0
Justified: 0

Discharge of
Weapon: 3
Justified: 3

Accidental
Discharge: 1

In Custody
Death(s): 0

Disciplinary action was taken on all founded complaints including verbal counseling, written reprimands, suspensions and termination. Resignations were submitted during investigations.

CRIME PREVENTION UNIT

The Crime Prevention Unit is responsible for providing information from and about the Amarillo Police Department to the various media organizations and directly to the public. These officers also provide public education concerning city and neighborhood crime issues and what citizens can do to reduce their risk of becoming crime victims.

For the second year, Identity Theft and Personal Safety presentations were requested more frequently than any other. Public attendance at these presentations rose by 2.5% for 2005.

Request for updated home and business security surveys increased in 2005. Insurance agents documented a decrease in the rate of claims from their clients who previously had C.P.U. complete the initial survey. The security survey is quick and free of charge.

One addition to the Crime Prevention Unit is the S.I.D.N.E go-cart (Simulated Impaired Driving Experience). This



equipment will give our officer “S.I.D.N.E. go-cart” the ability to give improved anti D.U.I. presentations to the school aged young adults. Citizen and civic groups are encouraged to call the Crime Prevention Unit at 378-4257 to request a presentation or learn more about what they can do to reduce their risk of crime.

Sergeant Randy TenBrink

AMARILLO CRIME STOPPERS, INC.



In 2005, Amarillo Crime Stoppers approved to pay 143 rewards, for a total of \$26,270. Amarillo Crime Stoppers could not have been this successful without the help of area law enforcement. The other two important components that are crucial to our success are media support and the many calls we receive from our citizens. We could not solve the cases without them calling and supporting our fundraising efforts. Keep watching and listening to all the media outlets in town and check us out on the web at www.amapolice.org. Let's make 2006 even safer for the people of Amarillo.

Every Thursday we feature our "Fugitive of the Week". 45 fugitives were displayed and tips we received led to the arrest of 23 of them. We also had a total of 959 other tips called in to Amarillo Crime Stoppers and officers made 160 arrests and cleared 64 cases. Also from these tips, we recovered \$155,802 in stolen property and removed \$45,126 worth of narcotics from the streets of Amarillo. One of our larger cases netted 1,501 gross grams of marijuana valued at \$2,648, 1,242 gross grams of illegal mushrooms valued at \$11,180, and the seizure of \$12,977 in cash.

	<u>2005</u>	<u>2004</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Tips Received	959	1049	-90
Arrests Made	160	172	-12
Cases Cleared	64	81	-17
Fugitives Caught	96	80	+16
Rewards Approved	\$26,270	27,575	-\$1,305
Rewards Paid	\$20,510	N/A	N/A
Property Recovered	\$155,802	\$82,740	+\$73,062
Narcotics Seized	\$45,126	\$133,371	-\$88,245



“ Containment of the crime scene / Interviewing of witnesses”

SPECIAL CRIMES UNIT

The Special Crimes Unit was formed December 10, 1981. The primary function of the unit is the investigation of homicides and suspicious deaths or other cases assigned by the Board of Governors. The unit consists of eight full-time members from the Amarillo Police Department and the Potter County Sheriff’s Office. The unit investigates some cases that occur outside the city limits.

Lieutenant Gary Trupe is the Special Crimes Unit Coordinator. The following members staff the unit: Sergeant Kevin Dockery, Sergeant Eric Smith, Sergeant Mike Crandell and Officer Jimmy Rifenberg all with the Amarillo Police Department. The unit is also staffed with Sergeant John Coffee and Corporal Tedd Lanning with the Potter County Sheriff’s Office. The unit also consists of Retired APD Sergeant Modeina Holmes as a Crime Scene Specialist and Karen Fitzgerald, from the Potter County District Attorneys Office, as the Unit’s Secretary.

On January 10, 2005, Mathew Sheldon Vaughn, 40, was the victim of a homicide and found inside his residence. Mr. Vaughn had died from blunt force trauma to his head. Mr. Vaughn’s vehicle, a black Chevrolet Tahoe, was stolen during this homicide and was later found abandoned in Santa Rosa, New Mexico. Mr. Vaughn’s cell phone was also stolen and calls made after Mr. Vaughn’s death led to the identity of the suspect. A warrant charging murder was issued for the arrest of Roy Carl Jones, 33. Mr. Jones was arrested in California and extradited back to Amarillo. Mr. Jones had only been in Amarillo for two weeks when this homicide occurred and was described as being a transient. Mr. Jones was indicted by the Randall County Grand Jury for Capital Murder and a trial date has not been set.

On March 9, 2005, the Amarillo Police Department received a Teletype from the Polk County Arkansas Sheriff's Department advising that Roberto Gabriel Diaz, 24, was wanted for homicide and maybe on a bus stopping in Amarillo. Mr. Diaz was located on the bus and arrested on the homicide warrant. Mr. Diaz was brought to the Special Crimes Unit where he was questioned about the homicide. The Special Crimes Unit was able to assist the Polk County Sheriff's Department in clearing their case. Mr. Diaz waived extradition and the Polk County Sheriff's Department came and picked him up and took him back to Arkansas. The Polk County District Attorney was very appreciative of the work performed by Sergeant Dockery and the Special Crimes Unit on this case.

On April 25, 2005, Ma Thein was brutally murdered in front of several small children inside her residence. Robbery was considered as a motive. A possible suspect was developed, but there was insufficient evidence to make an arrest. Christy Craft, an APD civilian employee who enters and checks pawnshop records, was able to locate where our suspect Thein Naing had pawned property within hours of murder. This property was identified as belonging to the victim. An arrest warrant charging murder was issued for Thein Naing and he was arrested hiding in the back seat of a car. Ma Thein and Naing Thein had immigrated to the United States from Burma and had arrived in Amarillo at about the same time. Christy Craft was issued a Departmental Citation for her assistance in clearing this case. An interpreter with the Catholic Family Services was used extensively during the investigation of this case due to a language barrier and he was later received the Amarillo Police Department Citizens Recognition Award for his assistance. Trial date has not been set.

On July 4, 2005, Rondy Watson 17, Chad Lewis 19, and Taddius Woods 17, received gunshot wounds while they were at a local after-hours club. Mr. Watson died from his wounds. Witnesses were able to identify the shooter of all three victims as Henry Sebastian Rohden, 17. Information was gathered that Mr. Rohden had fled from Amarillo and was enroute to Miami, Florida. Mr. Rohden was arrested in Miami, Florida and waived extradition back to Amarillo. The weapon used in this homicide was recovered where it had been hidden. Since then Mr. Rohden has been indicted for Murder and his date for trial has not been set.

Lieutenant Gary Trupe



“Special Crimes Unit Newly Remodeled Lab”

HOMICIDES INVESTIGATED

TOTAL 2005 HOMICIDE CASES INVESTIGATED		13
Potter -12	Randall -1	Armstrong - 0
TOTAL 2005 HOMICIDE CASES CLEARED		12
PREVIOUS YEARS HOMICIDE CASES CLEARED		0
NUMBER OF DEATHS BY:		
GUNSHOT		5
ARSON		0
STABBING		2
BEATING		5
STRANGULATION		0
AUTOMOBILE		0
OTHER		1
HOMICIDES IN JURISDICTION OF:		
	AMARILLO POLICE	13
	POTTER COUNTY SO	0
	RANDALL COUNTY SO	0
	ARMSTRONG COUNTY SO	0
HOMICIDES BY MONTH (all jurisdictions)		
	JANUARY	2
	FEBRUARY	1
	MARCH	1
	APRIL	1
	MAY	1
	JUNE	0
	JULY	2
	AUGUST	2
	SEPTEMBER	1
	OCTOBER	1
	NOVEMBER	1
	DECEMBER	0
SUSPICIOUS DEATHS INVESTIGATED		21
ASSIST MEMBERS OF OUTSIDE AGENCY		15
HOMICIDES FROM PRIOR YEARS RE-INVESTIGATED		4
MISCELLANEOUS INVESTIGATIVE ACTIVITY		19
OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTINGS		0
FIRE DEATHS		4
IN CUSTODY DEATHS		0
INFANT DEATHS INVESTIGATED		12

NARCOTICS UNIT AND SWAT ANNUAL REPORT

NARCOTICS UNIT

Lieutenant Erick Bohannon is the Commander of the Narcotics Unit and SWAT Team. Lieutenant Bohannon has been with the Amarillo Police Department for 13 years. He has had various assignments throughout the Department in the Uniform Division, Service Division, and Detective Division.

The Narcotics Unit is comprised of two sergeants and six narcotic agents. Two additional narcotic agents are assigned to the local office of the Drug Enforcement Agency in Amarillo. The Narcotics Unit is responsible for the following:

- Enforcement of pornography laws.
- Enforcement of laws prohibiting the illegal sale, possession, and distribution of controlled substances.
- Enforcement of laws prohibiting illegal gambling operations.
- Enforcement of laws prohibiting prostitution.
- Provide community education programs on narcotics and vice.
- Identify and combat fencing operations involving stolen property.
- Investigate any offense involving organized criminal activity.

The agents use various investigative methods such as surveillance and undercover operations to complete their investigations. The end result of most investigations is an arrest warrant or a search warrant.



“Successful results of a search warrant”

The following is a list of some of the illegal narcotics confiscated by the Amarillo Police Department during 2005:

Narcotic	Amount Seized	Street Value
Marijuana	200 pounds	\$120,000.00
Cocaine	2,914 grams	\$291,400.00
Methamphetamine	2,153 grams	\$215,300.00
	Total Street Value	\$626,700.00

The Narcotics Unit executed 90 search warrants, investigated 6 meth labs, and investigated 1,857 narcotics cases in 2005. The Department made 1,577 narcotics arrests. 910 of those arrested for narcotics were first time offenders.

The following is a list of the number of arrests for different narcotics:

Drug	# Of Arrests
Marijuana	637
Methamphetamine	403
Cocaine	303
Heroin	13

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



“SWAT and Narcotics members practicing search warrant techniques”

SWAT TEAM

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

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

In 2005, the SWAT Team served 110 arrests warrants. They made 150 felony arrests and 61 misdemeanor arrests. The team executed 8 search warrants and assisted other divisions on 66 search warrants. The SWAT Team trains continuously throughout the year to maintain tactical proficiency.

The SWAT Team works closely with the Narcotics Unit in all facets of narcotics investigations. This includes pre-raid planning and surveillance, providing tactical expertise during the execution of search warrants, and the collection of evidence. Because both units work together on a daily basis they train together several times a year.



"Weapons training at the Amarillo Shooting Complex"

Lt. Erick Bohannon

Corporal Tony Merryman



Amarillo Police Department Officer of the Year 2004

Sergeant Davis nominated Corporal Tony Merryman as Officer of the Third Quarter for his outstanding performance during that period. Sergeant Davis describes Corporal Merryman as a nine-year veteran who is an extremely dedicated officer and is professional in every sense of the word. Corporal Merryman arrives for work daily with a fantastic attitude. He is well liked and respected by his fellow officers. Corporal Merryman can always be counted on to be a high producer with quality arrests and investigations. After receiving Officer of the Quarter Corporal Tony Merryman received the honor of being named Officer of the Year for 2004.

On April 11, 2004, Corporal Merryman received a commendation for his part in a traffic stop with another officer on Fulton Street. During the course of the investigation it was determined the driver was wanted out of Lubbock for felony forgery of a financial instrument. Corporal Merryman began to question the passenger who claimed to be a juvenile. Corporal Merryman noticed that the date of birth the suspect gave did not coincide with the age he was claiming to be. After a considerable amount of questioning he was able to determine that the subject was actually an adult and was wanted out of Lubbock for engaging in organized criminal activity and for theft over \$20,000 and under \$100,000. A search of the vehicle revealed some marijuana and a tool commonly used for breaking out car windows. Obviously these subjects came to Amarillo with criminal intentions and were stopped and arrested before they were able to start their crime spree.

On August 3, 2004, Corporal Merryman received a commendation for a traffic stop he made on IH-

40 at Western Street on July 27, 2004. He had stopped a Nissan pickup with Arizona license plates. Three Hispanic males occupied the vehicle. The bed of the vehicle was covered with a tarp. After making contact with the driver Corporal Merryman noted the steering wheel of the vehicle was broken near the ignition switch with wires protruding. After some investigation he learned the pickup had been stolen from Glendale, Arizona. Corporal Merryman and another officer also discovered four illegal aliens hiding under the tarp. The driver was arrested for the stolen vehicle and unlawful transportation of illegal aliens.

On September 15, 2004, Corporal Merryman heard dispatch send patrol units to a stolen vehicle that was spotted in the area of Benton Park. Corporal Merryman drove in the direction of the call in order to assist the other assigned officers. While traveling to the call, Corporal Merryman spotted the stolen vehicle driving westbound in the 3000 block of East 10th Ave. He stopped the vehicle and arrested the occupants. The recovered stolen vehicle was returned to its rightful owner.

On October 8, 2004, Corporal Merryman heard another officer broadcast information over the radio about a vehicle that had just been stolen. Soon after receiving the information Corporal Merryman spotted the stolen vehicle in the parking lot located at 2205 NW 3rd Ave. The suspects were not located but the complainant was able to take possession of his vehicle just minutes after it had been stolen.

On October 11, 2004, Corporal Merryman learned of a stolen vehicle that had been seen in the area of Caprock High School. While searching the area he spotted the stolen vehicle and stopped it. The driver of the vehicle was arrested and the vehicle was returned to its rightful owner.

Sergeant Davis said Corporal Merryman's actions cited above, accompanied by his professionalism and upbeat attitude during this period, made him a very worthy candidate for the honor of officer of the quarter.

Sergeant Kevin Dockery



Rotary Club South Officer of the First Quarter 2005

Lieutenant Trupe recommended Sergeant Kevin Dockery as the Officer of the Quarter for his outstanding performance during that period. Sergeant Dockery has excelled as a member of the Special Crimes unit, especially during the month of January 2005 when he was instrumental in solving three recent homicides in the Amarillo area.

On January 7, 2005, the Special Crimes unit was dispatched to the area of 34th and Eastern on a found body, an apparent victim of a homicide. Donald Ray White had been murdered and left in a bar ditch just outside the city limits in Randall County. On January 14, 2005, APD officers arrested a subject on drugs and weapon charges who told them he wanted to give information on a homicide. Sergeant Dockery questioned this subject and was able to identify the two individuals who were responsible for this murder. On this same date Sergeant Dockery along with Randall Co. Investigator Paul Horn questioned a female in the Potter County Jail. This female had been uncooperative initially, but due to knowing Sergeant Dockery, from his school liaison days, gave him a statement identifying the same two suspects as responsible for committing the murder.

On January 10, 2005, the Special Crimes unit was assigned the murder investigation of Matthew

Vaughn at 3210 South Lipscomb. Sergeant Dockery was assigned to assist the lead investigator in this case. The identity of the offender was not known and as the investigation proceeded we only had a vague description of the person responsible. Mr. Vaughn's cell phone was also stolen and calls were made after his death. Sergeant Dockery on his own initiative began following up on the victim's missing cell phone which led to the identity of the suspect. A warrant charging murder was issued for the arrest of Roy Carl Jones, 33. Mr. Jones was arrested in California and extradited back to Amarillo. Mr. Jones was indicted by the Randall County Grand Jury for Capital Murder and a trial date has not been set.

On January 15, 2005, Sergeant Dockery was assigned as the lead investigator in the murder of Jesse Sandoval at 1308 South Houston. Within five hours Sergeant Dockery had identified the offender as Matthew Olivas, H/M 35, obtained a search warrant for his truck and a warrant charging Olivas with Murder.

In summary over a period of eight days Sergeant Dockery was able to identify four people responsible for three separate murders. Sergeant Dockery spent countless hours, both on and off duty, to clear these homicides and bring closure to the families. All homicide investigations require a great amount of time, effort, and paperwork, and even more so when two cases are "who done its". Lieutenant Trupe describes Sergeant Dockery's drive and dedication in the Special Crimes unit as exemplary. Sergeant Dockery outstanding performance as an investigator and his work on these last three homicides led Lieutenant Trupe to nominate him for Officer of the Quarter.

Officer Raymond Holsey



Rotary Club South Officer of the Second Quarter 2005

Sergeant Schlong nominated Officer Raymond Holsey for Officer of the Quarter because of his outstanding performance during this period.

On April 26, 2005, Officer Holsey observed a vehicle driving erratically and dangerously in North Amarillo. The vehicle was stopped near the intersection of Northeast 16th and Mirror. Officer Holsey immediately noticed that the driver and front seat passenger were talking to each other frantically. Knowing that something was going on in the car, Officer Holsey called for a backup unit. The vehicle had an expired rear license plate. When he approached the vehicle he observed that the inspection sticker was expired and the front tag was different than the rear tag. While talking to the driver, Officer Holsey noticed a great number of car electronic devices and CDs in the front and back seats of the vehicle. The two occupants were immediately separated. Officer Holsey obtained permission to search the vehicle. During the search the officers found a large number of CDs with different people's names on them and a personal check of questionable origin. Another officer searching the trunk of the vehicle advised Officer Holsey that he found what he believed to be crystal methamphetamine and marijuana. He also located a scale and small plastic baggies commonly used to package drugs. The methamphetamine weighed 15.2 grams, and the marijuana weighed 38 grams.

When the driver of the car was booked into jail Officer Holsey found \$803.83 cash in his wallet.

Officers booked 7 items of car electronic equipment and 84 CDs.

On April 25, 2005, Ma Thein was brutally murdered in front of several small children inside her residence. Officer Holsey was one of the officers on the scene. During the course of the investigation a Burmese male named Thien Naing emerged as a suspect. Investigators located missing property taken from the victim's home and a murder warrant was issued for Naing. A very intense search for Naing began. On the afternoon of April 27th 2005, a description of a vehicle Naing might be in was disseminated to officers. A very short time later Officer Holsey stopped a vehicle he thought might be the one dispatch had broadcast earlier. The driver was removed from the vehicle, but it appeared he was by himself. Officer Holsey asked the driver where Naing was and he was told that Naing was under a pile of clothes in the back seat. Officer Holsey took Naing into custody. Naing was taken to the Police Department where members of the Special Crime unit questioned him. Thien Naing was subsequently booked in county jail and charged with the offense. It was later learned from the driver of the vehicle Officer Holsey stopped that Naing was about to leave town.

These are just two fine examples of Officer Holsey's work. Officer Holsey is very respectful to the public, his supervisors, and his fellow officers. Sergeant Schlong said since Officer Holsey's assignment to his squad over three years ago his exuberance for his chosen profession has never waned. Sergeant Schlong believes Officer Holsey is truly an asset to this Department.

Officer Jeffery Brazz Vanover



Rotary Club South Officer of the Third Quarter 2005

Sergeant Taff nominated Corporal Jeffery Brazz Vanover as Officer of the Third Quarter for his outstanding performance during that period. Corporal Vanover is a 10-year veteran with the Department, who has exhibited many leadership qualities and has shown a great deal of interest in training his fellow officers.

In 2000, Officer Vanover became a field-training officer and in 2002 he received his instructor's certificate. Since then Corporal Vanover has taught Racial Profiling and Asset Forfeiture as well as Patrol Procedures to the new recruits. In October of 2005, he began teaching Crisis Intervention Training to the new recruits. A fellow instructor described Corporal Vanover as having a professional teaching demeanor and a positive attitude toward his job. Corporal Vanover received recognition by the students of the 72nd Police Academy and he was presented with the "Best Instructor Award".

In the fall of 2004, Corporal Vanover transferred to the Juvenile Division and was assigned as a liaison officer at Fannin Middle School. There he continued to demonstrate his leadership skills and his enthusiasm for his job. He started a Fannin Community Awareness Program for the students to help them become more aware of what is going on in their community and what they can do to help. The student can also address concerns they have about their school and what they can do to make it a better campus.

Corporal Vanover has also spent many off duty hours assisting the football coaches with their teams. The staff at Fannin Middle School recognized Corporal Vanover's efforts and awarded him the honor of being "Fannin's Finest" for the first six weeks of the 2005-2006 school year. This award is designed to recognize and celebrate professionalism and excellence among the Fannin faculty. In nominating him the staff described him as working tirelessly with their students to be a constructive role model. Corporal Vanover has demonstrated many leadership qualities and become a positive role model for both the students of Fannin Middle School and to other officers of the Amarillo Police Department.

Corporal Thomas Hightower



Rotary Club South Officer of the Fourth Quarter 2005

Sergeant Hart nominated Corporal Thomas Hightower for Officer of the Fourth Quarter for his performance during a recent investigation. On November 9th, 2005, Corporal Hightower was assigned the investigation of an assault that took place in Ellwood Park.

The complainant was walking in the park when an unknown male approached her. The suspect briefly spoke with the complainant then without provocation he violently assaulted her. The suspect indicated he had a gun and was going to shoot the complainant as he was assaulting her. The suspect struck and choked the complainant as he dragged her to the interior of the park. At one point the complainant was able to spray the suspect's face with Mace that causes him to release his hold on her. After striking the complainant once more he ran off from the complainant's location.

Corporal Hightower made contact with the complainant and after obtaining a detailed description he coordinated the search for the suspect. Numerous officers searched the area for the suspect but he was not located. After other officers were released to answer other pending calls Corporal Hightower stayed in the area to search for the suspect.

Due to his perseverance the suspect was located and subsequently identified by the complainant. The suspect was arrested and later booked in jail charged with the offense. Had it not been for the extra effort Corporal Hightower gave during this investigation this dangerous offender might never have been identified and arrested. Corporal Hightower's actions surely prevented future attacks by this

violent individual. In addition the quick arrest of the offender by Corporal Hightower will help in the complainant's recovery from the trauma associated with the attack.

Sergeant Hart indicates this is typical of Corporal Hightower's performance and he works very hard in the San Jacinto neighborhood to make it as safe as possible for the residents.

Corporal Brian Thomas



Texas Crime Stoppers Coordinator of the Year 2004

“Dedication” that is Brian Thomas’s middle name. Not a day goes by that he isn’t taking tips, paying rewards, following up on leads, working through mounds of paper work, dealing with a Board of Directors, developing innovative ideas to earn money; or working with another program in the Panhandle that is trying to get started; the list goes on and on.

Brian’s enthusiasm for our program is evident in our annual statistics. Our program has improved and flourished since Brian took over as Coordinator. The first year he took over in 2002 was spent getting us back on track and making connections with the media outlets in town. The statistics for that year were starting to improve over years past. In 2003, our statistics took on a strong increase due to Brian’s continual hard work. In 2003, we had a 19% increase in tips taken and 19% as well in both arrest and cases cleared. Property recovered rose 132% that year and narcotics seized increased by 10%.

In 2004, our statistics continued to rise and again it was due to Brian’s hard work on making Amarillo Crime Stoppers a household name. You could not turn on a radio or TV newscast and not see something about Amarillo Crime stoppers. In 2004, we again had an increase in tips received by 29.6%. Arrests made went up 38.7%. Rewards paid out went up 61.5% and narcotics seized went up 65.1%. These percentages were above the 2003 figures!

Brian serves on the Crime Stoppers Advisory Council as well as serving Amarillo and surrounding community as a very visible and approachable leader. He is recognizable to the community due to the “Crime of the Week” episodes that air on our local channels and for his many appearances in public for events other than just Crime Stoppers. Brian is very active in his Church and a dedicated family man.

The Amarillo Crime Stoppers Board of Directors wish to nominate Cpl. Brian Thomas as Coordinator of the Year for his hard work, dedication, enthusiasm and professionalism to not only Amarillo Crime Stoppers but to Texas Crime Stoppers in general.

Dispatcher Becky Lucero



Texas Chapter of the National Emergency Number Association Silent Hero Recognition Award of the Year 2005

Becky Lucero has been employed with the Amarillo Police Department since December 20, 1984. She promoted to the position of dispatcher on December 3, 1987. Since her employment Dispatcher Lucero has been assigned to every position of the Communication Section and she has become proficient at every station. She is bilingual and can be counted upon to translate when needed. She is a true leader in the Communications Section and is a primary trainer for new communications employees. She is described as enthusiastic, cheerful and promotes a positive work environment to her coworkers and to the new employees. Since her employment Dispatcher Lucero has received two Department Commendations for outstanding performance during emergency situations and for her day-to-day proficiency.

In 2001, Dispatcher Lucero was recognized by the Amarillo Police Department when she answered a call from an armed suspect making threats during a SWAT callout. She kept the suspect on the telephone and developed a rapport with him until a trained hostage negotiator became available. Dispatcher Lucero was able to calm the suspect down demonstrating her ability to handle stressful calls in a professional manner.

In 2004, Dispatcher Lucero was commended for helping to clear an unsolved homicide. She spoke with a caller who had witnessed two suspects assaulting a victim. The caller identified one of the suspects only by a first name. Dispatcher Lucero was able to match the description of the crime to a recent homicide and forwarded that information to the Special Crimes Unit. The suspects were unknown until Dispatcher Lucero forwarded the information to the homicide detectives. Two suspects were apprehended a short time later.

These are just two fine examples in which Dispatcher Lucero has gone above and beyond her duties to get the job done. Dispatcher Lucero has been a valuable asset to the Amarillo Police Department since her employment and well deserving of the Silent Hero Certificate of Recognition for 2005.