

# AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT 2012 ANNUAL REPORT



**CHIEF OF POLICE**  
**Robert Taylor**





# LAW ENFORCEMENT CODE OF ETHICS



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

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

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

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

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

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



# MISSION STATEMENT



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

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

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

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

# **AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2012**

The 2012 Amarillo Police Department Annual Report was designed and published by the Service Division. All information herein is taken from official records of the various Amarillo Police Department Divisions described, and is provided to give readers an accurate as possible description of the Amarillo Police Department in the year 2012. Changes in the disposition and classification of cases do occur months and years after the initial police reports are filed. These changes may therefore affect the accuracy of our annual reports.

## **SERVICE DIVISION COMMANDER**

Captain Brad Lancaster





## AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT

CITY OF AMARILLO, TEXAS

January 21, 2013

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

Dear Mayor & Commissioners:

It is an honor to present the 2012 Annual Report of the Amarillo Police Department. I am happy to announce that we experienced a -3.9% decrease in Part I crimes. I feel this is due to the increase in our directed patrol program. We are continuing to focus our resources this year towards efforts in “hotspot” enforcement, surveillance of active criminals and increases in directed patrols.

It should be noted that the statistics and graphs in this report that detail Part I crimes might differ slightly from crime statistics reported by this department to the State of Texas, and ultimately to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. This is due to case clearance declarations that continue after the Annual Report is completed.

Please accept our appreciation for your support and that of the City Manager and staff. Together we have made a difference.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Chief Taylor'.

Robert Taylor  
Chief of Police

# AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT



**CHIEF OF POLICE**  
**Robert Taylor**

# AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT



**ASSISTANT CHIEF  
OF STAFF OPERATIONS  
Kenneth Ferguson**

# AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT



**ASSISTANT CHIEF OF LINE  
OPERATIONS  
Perry Gilmore**



# INTER-DEPARTMENT OFFICE COMMUNICATION



**To: All Divisions**

**Date: 01/01/2013**

**From: Chief Robert Taylor**

**Subject: Department Goals for 2013**

The 2013 goals for the Police Department are:

Continue to increase staffing of sworn personnel (All Divisions) to address city growth and crime.

Increase Directed Patrol activities further by increasing on-duty directed patrol assignments that will work year round.

Increase efforts on identifying, capturing and prosecuting habitual criminals by increasing investigative time spent in patrol and detective divisions.

Increase rotation in special assignments to further enhance the law enforcement experience and knowledge of department personnel.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Chief Taylor".

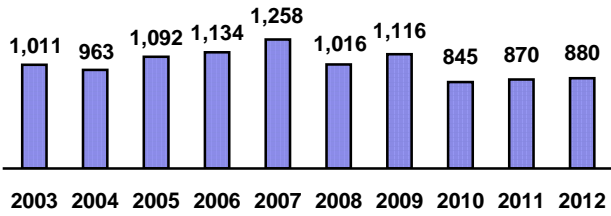
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Chief Robert Taylor

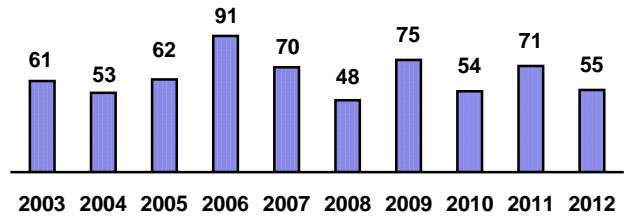


# **CRIME ANALYSIS**

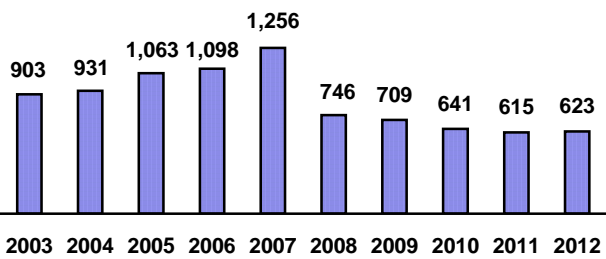
### Aggravated Assault



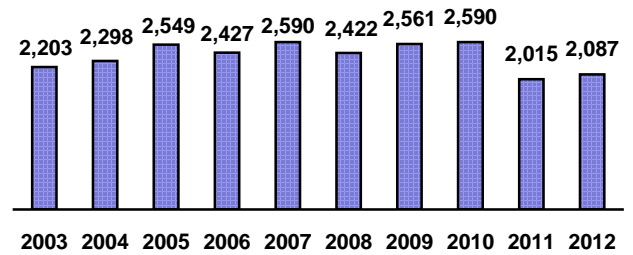
### Arson



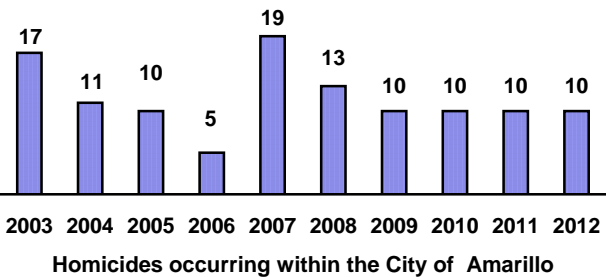
### Auto Theft



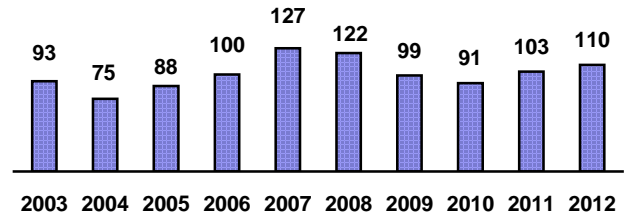
### Burglary



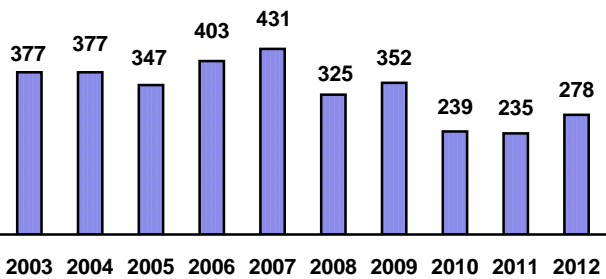
### Homicide



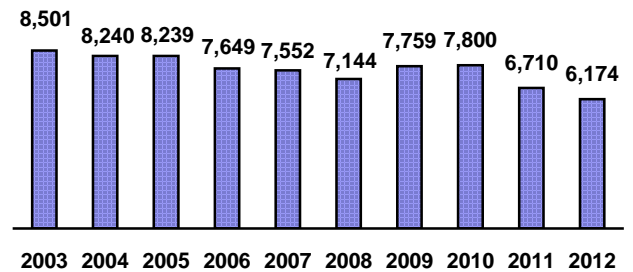
### Rape



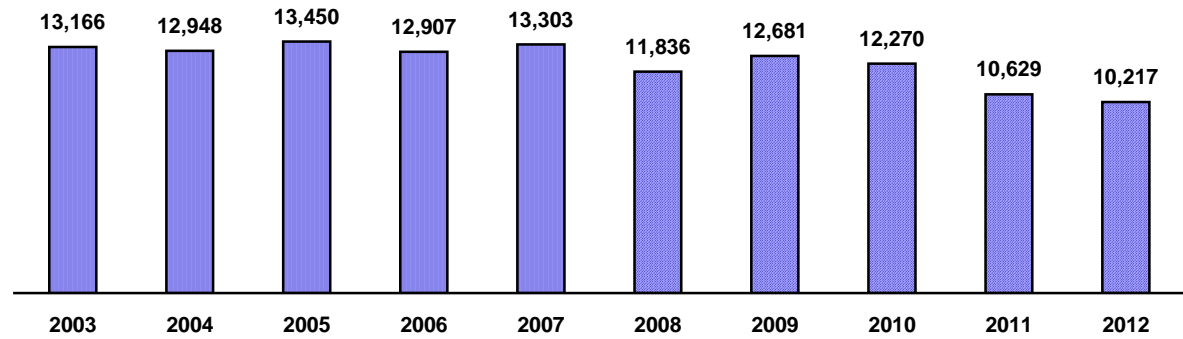
### Robbery



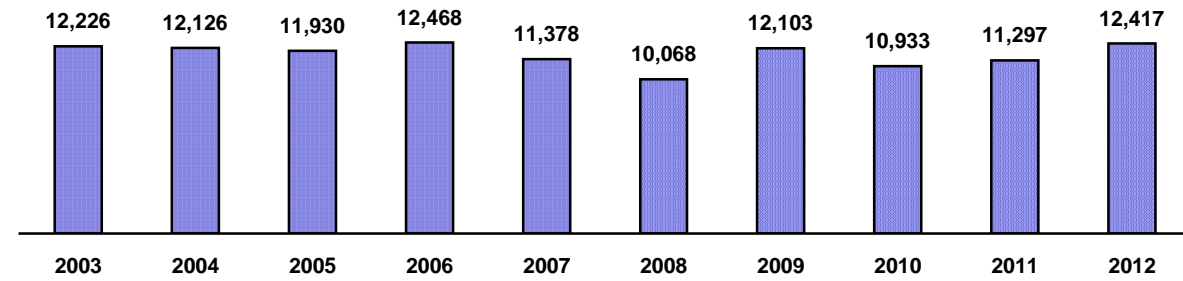
### Theft



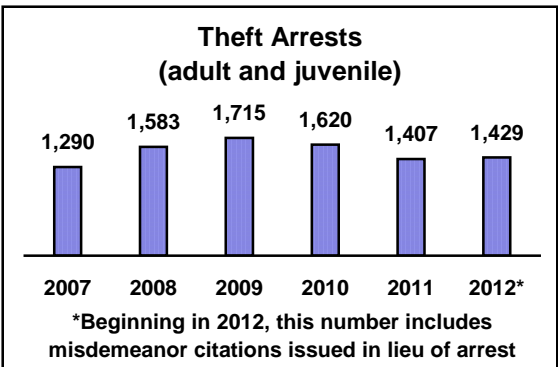
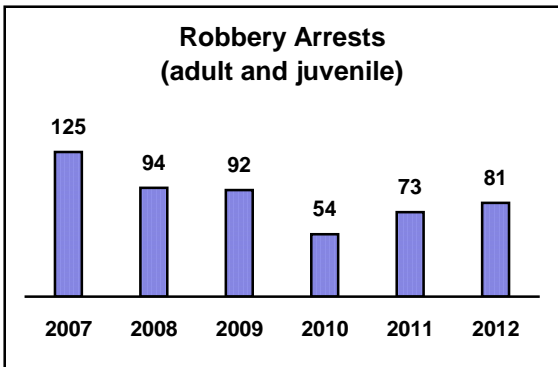
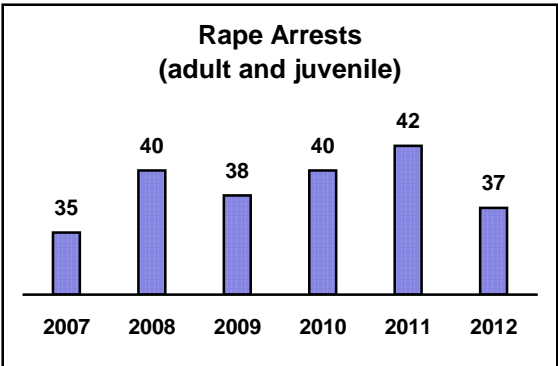
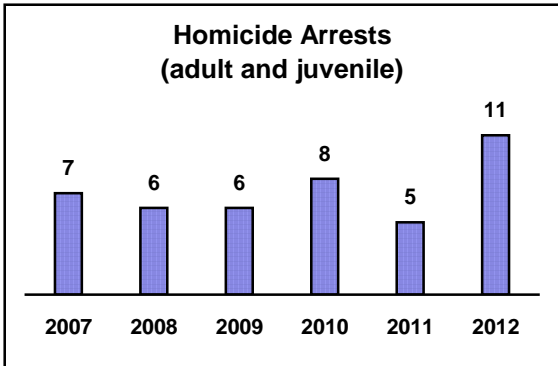
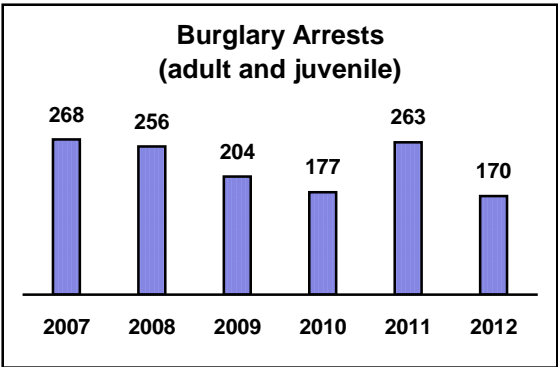
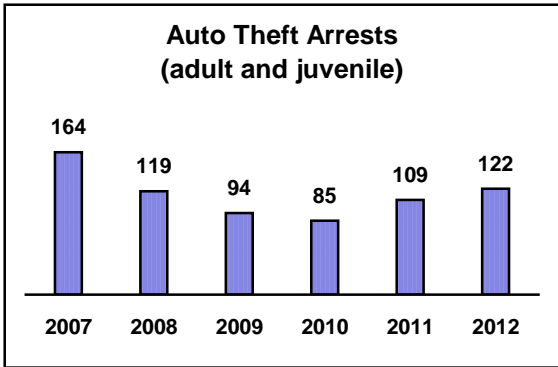
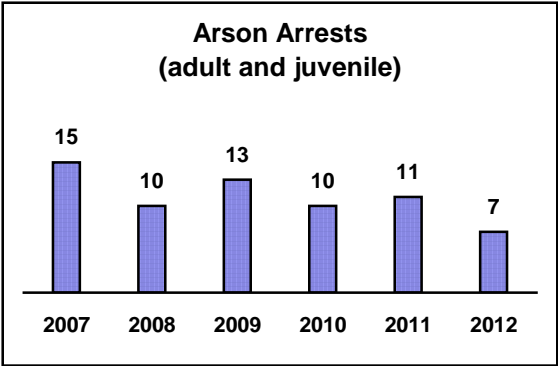
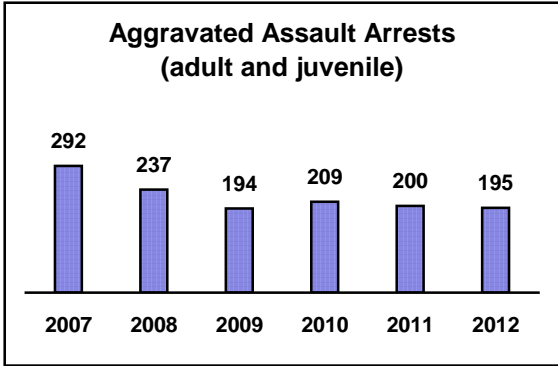
### Part 1 Crimes (yearly totals)



### Adult Arrests (yearly totals)



Totals may include arrests made on warrants in reference to previous year cases





# **DIVISION REPORTS**

# AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT



**UNIFORM DIVISION**  
**Captain Carrel Harris**

## UNIFORM DIVISION



The Uniform Division, commanded by Captain Carrel Harris, is responsible for providing quality police service to the citizens of Amarillo on a continuous basis. The Division provides the initial police response to, and investigation of, most calls for police service in the City. Currently the Division is authorized a staff of 205 sworn officers plus two civilians, and operates a fleet of 103 patrol vehicles, which includes 13 motorcycles.

The officers in the Uniform Division provide police service 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Our Uniform officers are assigned to four 10-hour shifts. This allows for an overlap of personnel during our busiest times, allowing better responses to calls for service. Day shift (2<sup>nd</sup> shift) is staffed with one lieutenant, 4 sergeants, and patrol officers. Evenings (3<sup>rd</sup> shift) is staffed with 1 lieutenant, 5 sergeants and the most officers of any of our shifts due to call volume. Midnights (1<sup>st</sup> shift) is comprised of a lieutenant, 5 sergeants and multiple officers. A fourth shift, consisting of two sergeants and two squads of patrol officers, overlaps the evening and midnight shifts, when our call load is highest.

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

In 2012, the police department had 133,694 calls for service, up from the number in 2011, which was 132,380. Our officers investigated 5,789 traffic crashes in 2012. There were a total of 24 fatal traffic accidents in 2012, which resulted in 29 fatalities. In 2011, there were 14 fatal traffic accidents, resulting in 15 deaths. Officers made 12,417 arrests for the year, up from 11,297 in 2011. Officers made 492 drunken driving arrests and 176 arrests for driving with a suspended license. Uniform Division personnel issued 45,234 traffic citations in 2012, compared to 40,690 in 2011.



## PATROL

Officers assigned to patrol must be skilled in a wide variety of tasks, such as mediating family disturbances, providing first aid, maintaining order, enforcing traffic



laws, arresting criminal-law

violators, and investigating all types of criminal offenses. Patrol officers take crime

scene photographs, process crime scenes for fingerprints,

and take statements from witnesses of crimes.



scene photographs, process crime scenes for fingerprints, and take statements from witnesses of crimes.

## CANINE



The Canine Unit is composed of three officers and three police dogs. One canine officer and police dog are assigned to the midnight shift, one team is assigned to the 4<sup>th</sup> shift and one team is assigned on days to the COPPS Squad. We are in the process of adding a 4<sup>th</sup> K9 team, which will be assigned to the evening shift once they are deployed. They all assist officers on building searches for burglars, apprehension of fleeing suspects, and drug detection. When requested, the unit provides drug detection service to

the Amarillo Independent School District and presents canine demonstrations to community organizations.

## MOTORCYCLE

The Motorcycle Squad is composed of one sergeant and twelve officers. This is an increase of two officers from 2011. These motor officers concentrate on traffic enforcement at locations identified as high-volume accident sites and problem areas. Motorcycle officers accounted for 25,515 of the traffic citations issued by the Uniform Division, plus an additional 14,170 warning citations.



## **CRIME ANALYSIS**

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



## **COMMUNITY POLICING UNIT**

The Community Policing Unit was formed as a result of a federal grant under the Cops Ahead Program. Officially named Community Oriented Policing and Problem Solving (COPPS), the COPPS Unit consists of 12 officers and one sergeant. Assigned in pairs to the various sides of town, COPPS officers work to increase the communication between our citizens and the police, resulting in greater police effectiveness and citizen satisfaction with the work done in the community by the Police Department. In an effort to prevent crime and provide a better quality of life in our community, COPPS officers also undertake various problem-solving endeavors that may reach outside the traditional law enforcement function. COPPS officers work closely with other City departments, such as Code Enforcement and Fire Prevention, to provide a combined effort of evaluation and enforcement of quality of life issues.

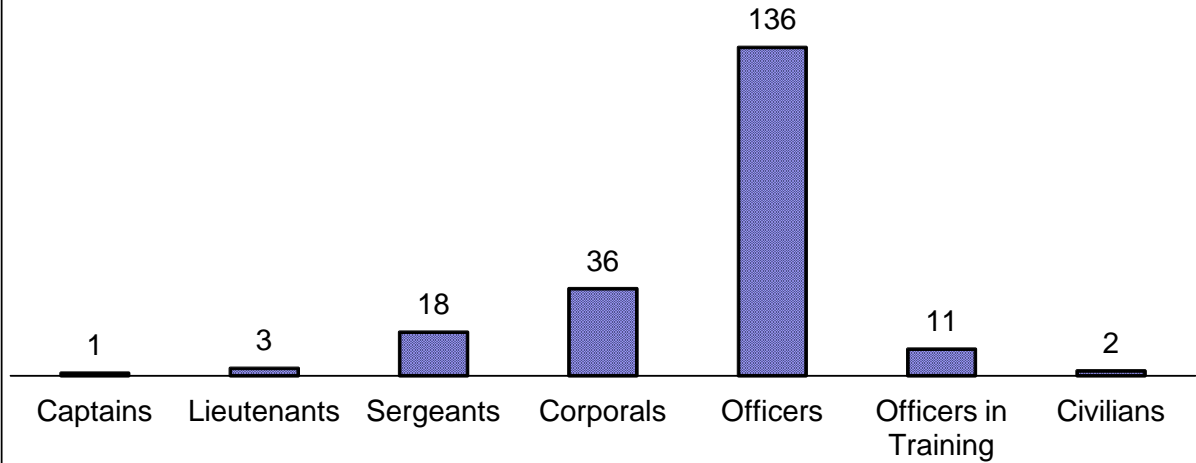
In 2012, the COPPS Unit worked several special assignments at various locations to observe and arrest offenders committing various crimes and causing neighborhood problems. Other assignments included investigations leading to the arrest of individuals involved in manufacturing and selling narcotics, people committing burglaries, and individuals passing forged instruments. COPPS officers did a lot of directed patrol, including working evening and night-time hours to help curb some problems at some of our local bars and our neighborhood parks. Furthermore, these officers have spent time working with citizens who have highlighted specific problems in their neighborhoods during the City Commission meetings. The COPPS Unit also works very closely with the Detective Division to work our repeat offenders and our most active criminals.

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

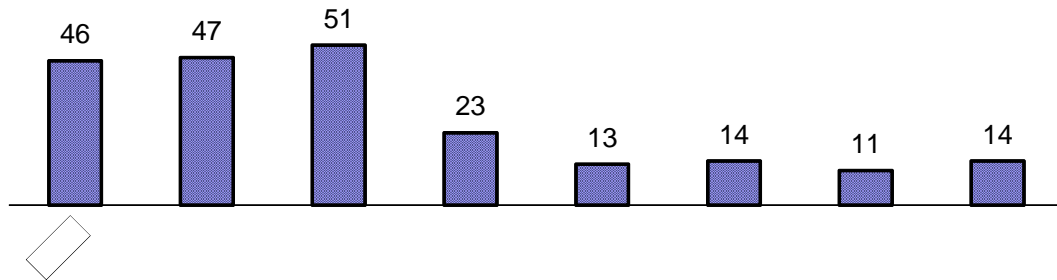
## **HANDICAP PATROL**

The Handicap Patrol is a group of civilian volunteers who, after receiving training, patrol parking lots and enforce handicap-parking violations. This group issued 1,114 citations for handicap parking violations. This is up over 33% from 2011. This program is aimed at keeping handicap parking spaces available for those who qualify.

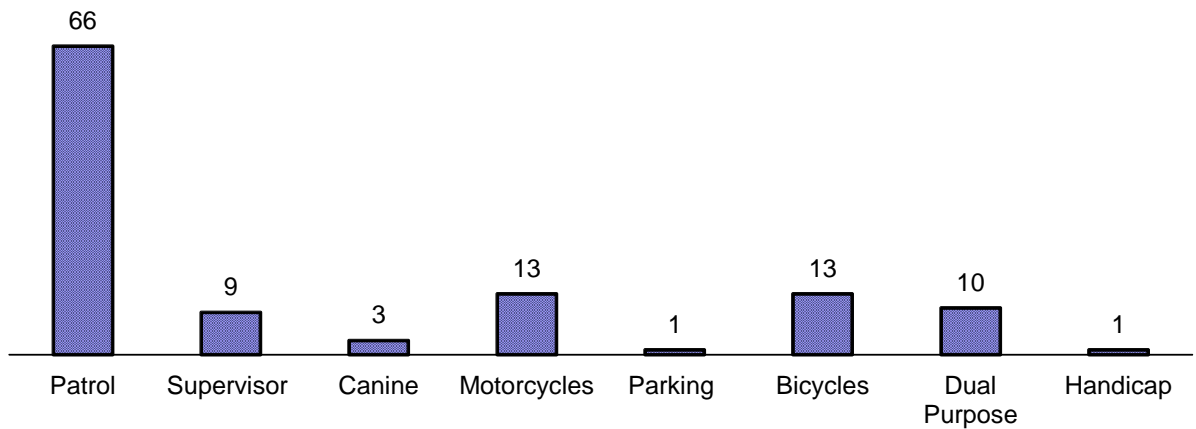
### Uniform Division Personnel Allocation

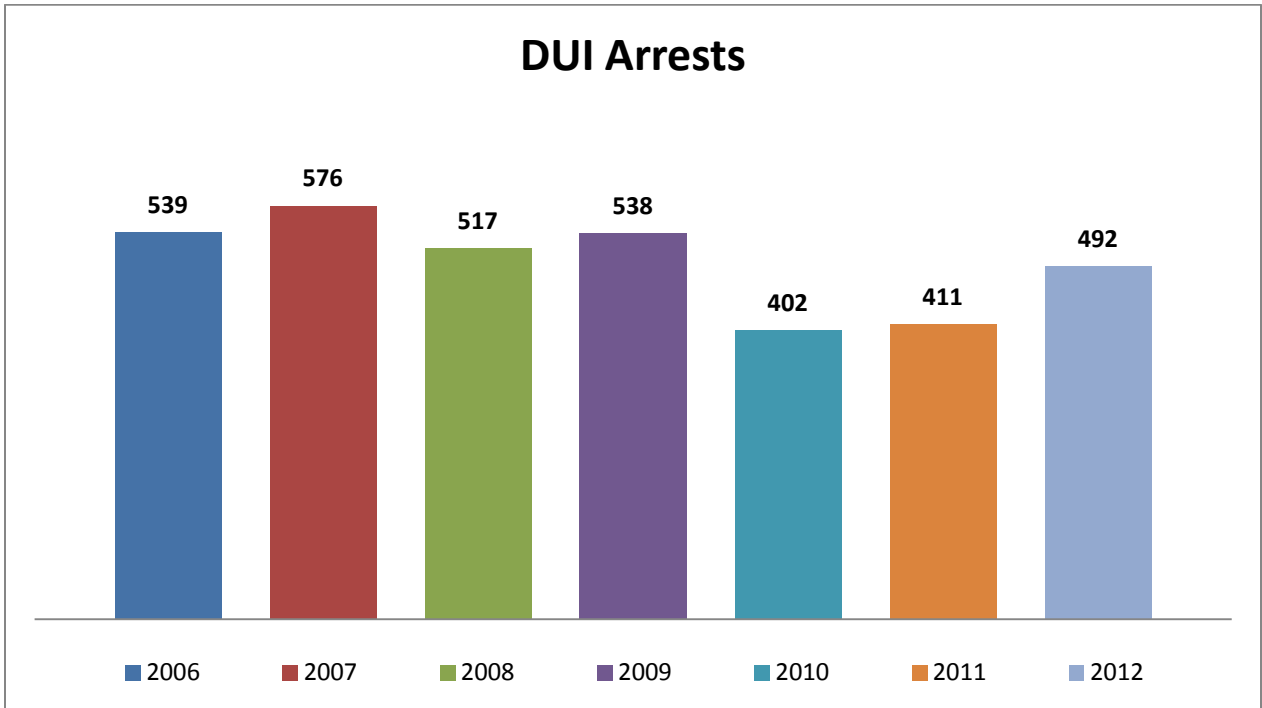
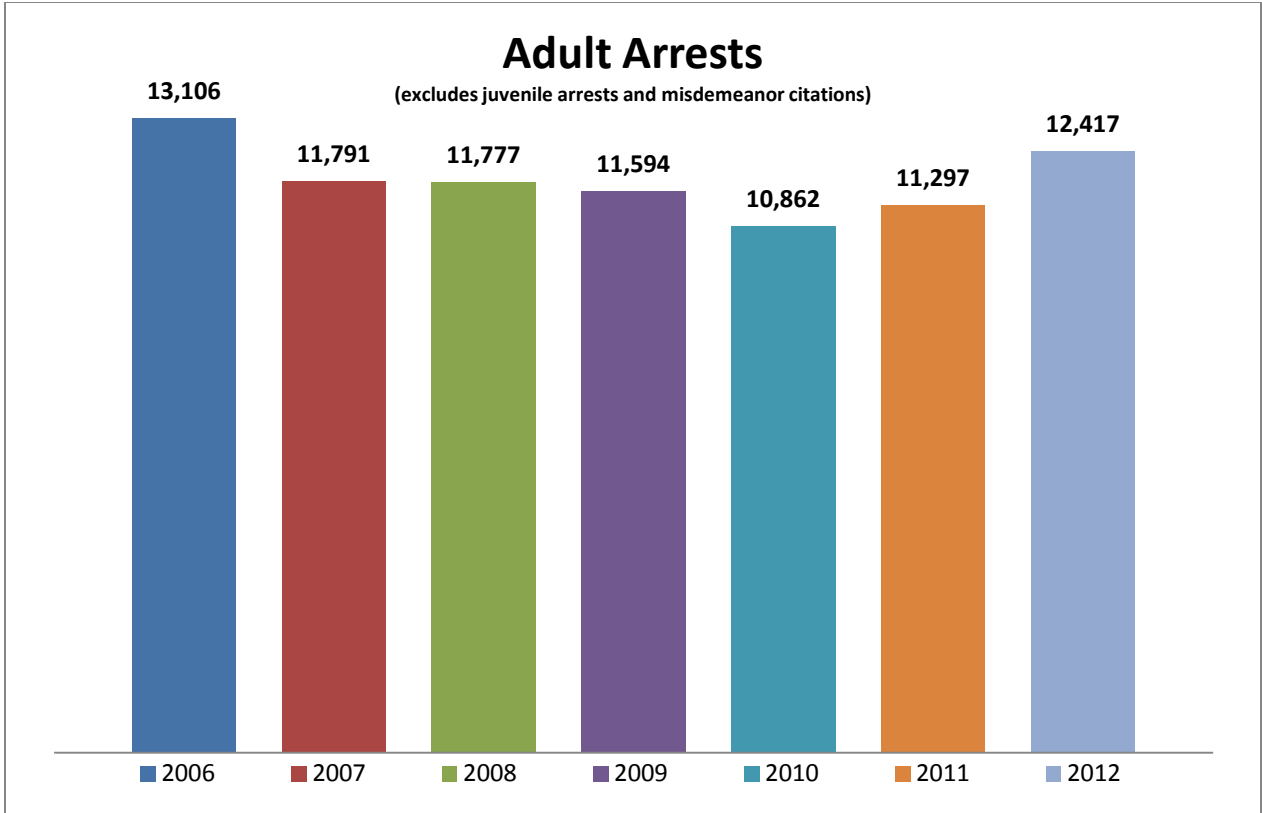


### Uniform Division Assignment by Shift

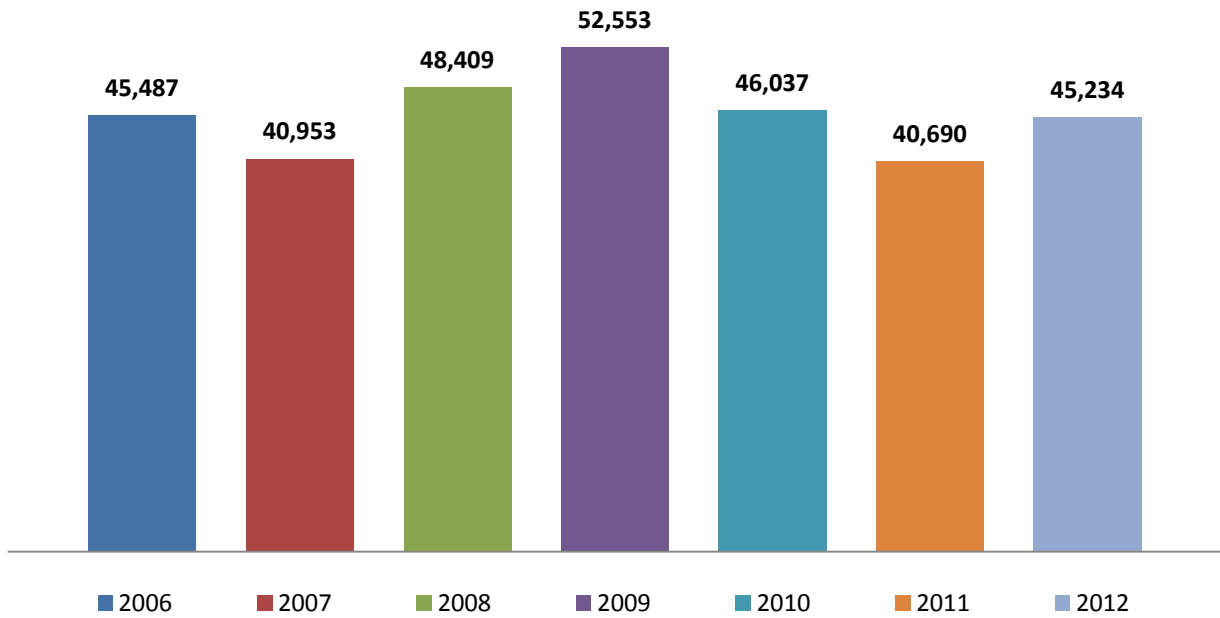


### Uniform Vehicle Fleet

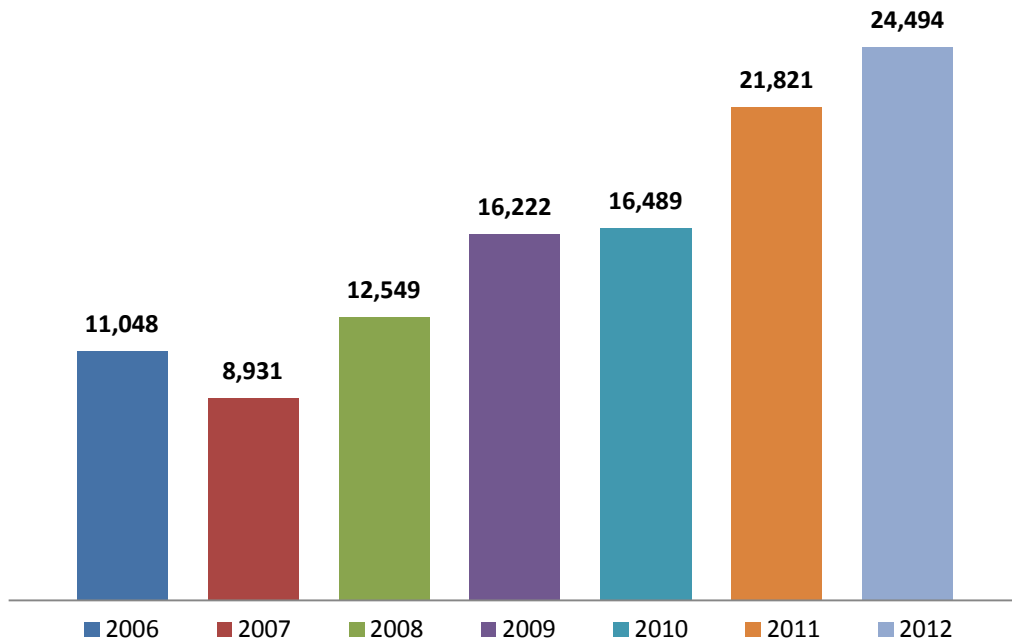




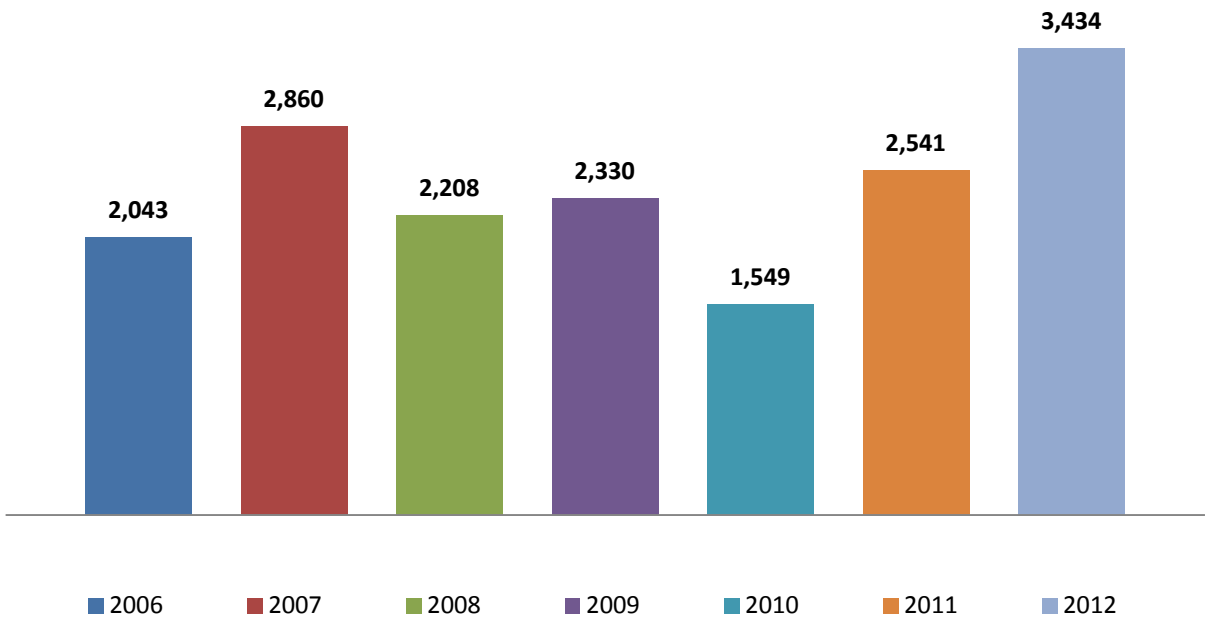
## Traffic Citations Issued



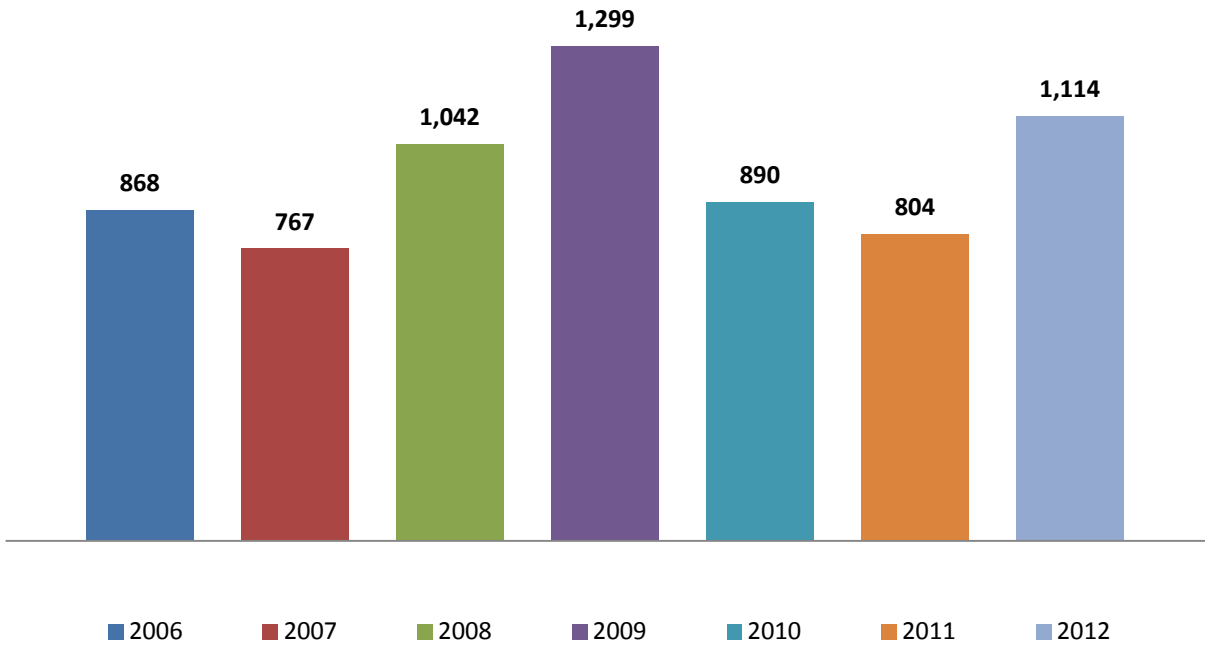
## Traffic Warnings Issued



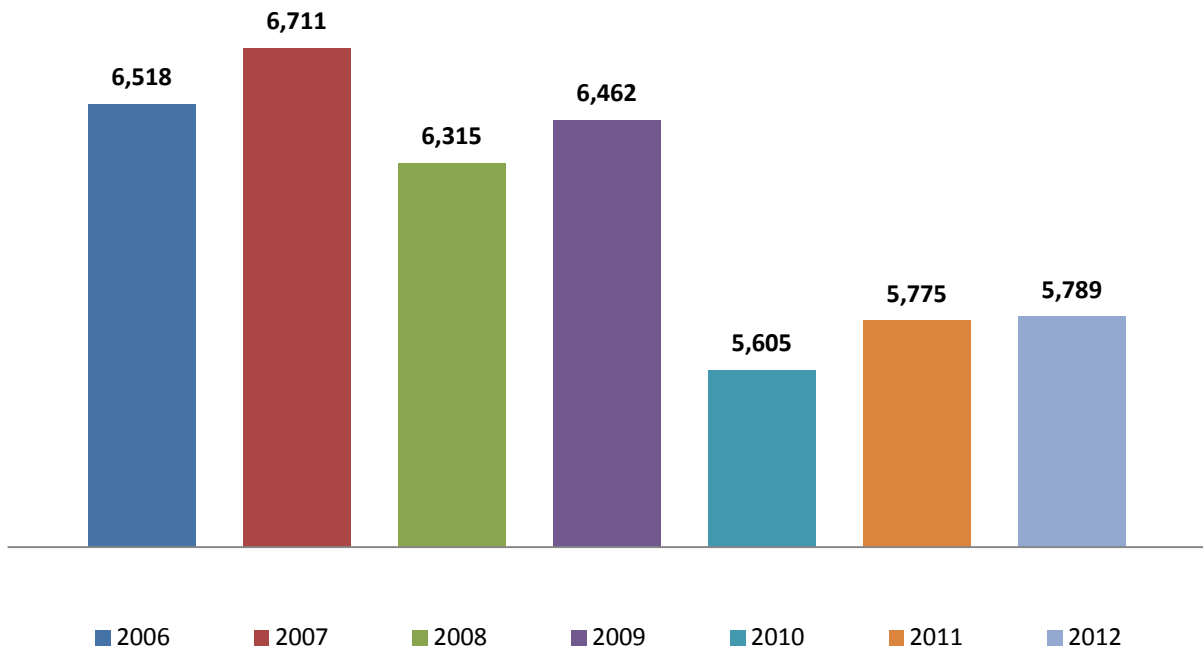
## Combined Illegal Parking Citations Issued



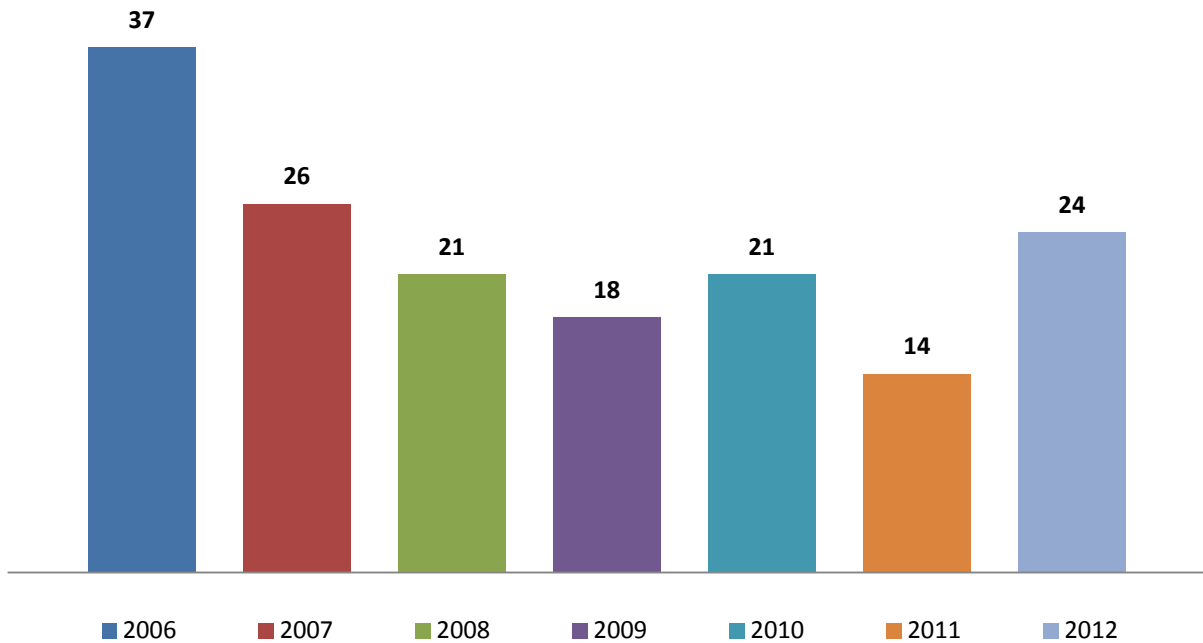
## Handicap Parking Citations Issued



## Traffic Accidents Investigated



## Traffic Fatalities Investigated





# AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT



**DETECTIVE DIVISION**  
**Captain Jeff Lester**

## **DETECTIVE DIVISION**

Commanded by Captain Jeff Lester, the Detective Division is responsible for the investigation and follow-up of criminal cases within the City of Amarillo. The Division does not investigate suspicious deaths, arsons, or narcotics violations. Other squads within the Police Department or the Fire Department are charged with investigating those cases. The Division's primary goal is crime prevention through follow-up investigations on cases initially investigated by the Uniform Patrol Division. The objectives to achieve our goal consist of assisting the victim through the judicial process, apprehension of offenders, testifying at the trial of these offenders, recovery and processing of evidence and recovery of stolen property.

Squads within the Detective Division include Crimes Against Persons Squad, commanded by Lieutenant Martin Birkenfeld; Burglary Squad commanded by Lieutenant Jim Burgess; Robbery Squad, commanded by Lieutenant John Krizan; White-Collar Crime Squad, commanded by Lieutenant Tam Boatler; Theft Squad, commanded by Lieutenant Jason Zang and the General Investigations Lt. Kenny Albright supervises the Juvenile Offender Squad, School Liaison Squad, Traffic Investigation Squad, Pawn Unit and Crime Scene Investigation Unit. Currently the Detective Division has 74 commissioned officers, 14 civilian employees and 1 District Attorney Victim's Assistance Coordinator.



In the Crimes Against Persons Squad, detectives investigate adult sex offenses, child-victim cases and missing persons. The squad also administers the Department's Sex-Offender Registration program. The Robbery Squad investigates business and personal robberies, assaults, family-related violence crimes and suicides. The Burglary Squad investigates residential and business burglaries. The Theft Squad investigates auto burglaries, thefts and other property-related offenses. White-Collar Crime Squad detectives investigate forgery, fraud, counterfeiting, computer-related offenses, incidents of identity theft and auto theft. Investigators in the Juvenile Offender Squad work all crimes (except homicide) committed by persons under the age of seventeen. The School Liaison Program places officers in the schools to mentor students, investigate offenses occurring on school grounds and to take any enforcement action needed. Crime Scene Investigation Unit is responsible for photography, evidence collection, evidence processing, fingerprints, laboratory submission of evidence and courtroom testimony. The Pawn Unit is responsible for inspection, records data entry and stolen property recovery from the numerous pawnshops in the city limits. Traffic Investigation Squad is responsible for traffic related investigations, such as vehicular manslaughter, DUI, hit and run accidents, etc. In 2012, the Squad was called out 67 times; they investigated 24 motor vehicle collisions that resulted in 29 fatalities. There were 5,789 vehicular collisions, 492 DUI's and 278 evading with motor vehicle cases.

To increase the effectiveness of all investigations, the Detective Division employs five civilian investigators. These investigators are assigned cases that lack significant leads or solvability factors, which gives sworn detectives more time to devote to solving crimes that have good leads. If leads develop in a case initially assigned to a civilian investigator, that case is then reassigned to a sworn detective.

The Detective Division Crimes Against Persons (CAP) Squad administers the Sex Offender Registration Program. There are currently 1,580 sex offenders listed in the Amarillo Police Department database compared to 1,509 in 2011. However, this number includes offenders who have moved away, have been incarcerated or are deceased.

The CAP Squad registers sex offenders on the Texas Department of Public Safety Sex Offender Registry. There are 509 active registered sex offenders currently living in Amarillo and up to date on registration. Additionally, 251 registered sex offenders listed at an Amarillo address are currently in jail or prison. There are 14 registered sex offenders who have "absconded" or they are listed as "whereabouts unknown." These violators are being actively investigated and most have had warrants issued for their arrest and are being sought for the felony charge of Failure to Register as a Sex Offender. "Active" offenders are those individuals who are currently residing in the City of Amarillo. "Inactive" offenders are those individuals who are incarcerated, dead or living elsewhere, but still have ties to Amarillo.

## **CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION UNIT**

Under the supervision of Sergeant Stan Rickwartz and assigned to the General Investigations Lieutenant, the Crime Scene Investigation Unit is responsible for documenting crime scenes and searching for physical evidence that includes latent



fingerprints, hair, fiber, tool marks, or bodily fluids. The SPEX and Identix live scan systems are being used to their fullest extent. The combination of the two systems has streamlined the departments fingerprinting and latent identification work. All fingerprints taken by the department are now fully digitized. We no longer take inked hard copy print cards and file them in a file cabinet. All

fingerprint cards are filed electronically in the SPEX database. This database is connected to all 26 counties of the Texas Panhandle. We can print Ten Print cards from any of these counties once the prints have been stored in the database.

By giving us the ability to search Class C arrests in the Panhandle, SPEX has increased the amount of latent finger and palm identifications for the unit. For 2012 we received 3,820 latent prints and latent palm prints case packets. We entered prints from 1,116 cases (over 4,000 prints) and made identifications in 372 of the cases for a 33% rate of identifications. The Crime Scene Investigation Unit responded to 219 call-outs in 2012, an average of 18.25 call-outs per month.

The Identix live scan systems allow us to store Ten-Print cards electronically. This gives us the ability to have all newly arrested persons' prints placed in the SPEX database and automatically searched against the unidentified latent prints stored in SPEX. Also the Identix and ILeads computer software systems will have the ability to transfer data. From the ILeads side, Juvenile Investigators are able to transfer personal data directly to Identix to populate arrest records, saving time by not having to re-enter existing information.

The Photo Technician position, staffed by Jennifer Torres, is responsible for all digital photography taken by department personnel and detectives. She has computer programs to assist in tracking photos turned in by the field officers. One program allows her to enter all the Incident Report Numbers with photos by date; this allows her go back and tell what date photos were submitted. She enters all photos with the officers' employee identification number so that photos taken by multiple officers under the same incident report number can be separated by officer. Both of these programs greatly improve the efficiency of the photo lab.

Sgt. Rickwartz is working on increasing the amount of training for officers with an interest in crime scene work. CSIU officers and alternates received the necessary fingerprint and crime scene training during the year; however, with Amarillo College now offering fingerprint and other forensic classes, it should be easier to get the needed advanced training.

## **SCHOOL LIAISON**

Sgt. Jerome Godfrey supervises the School Liaison Squad, which is comprised of eleven officers assigned to various schools within AISD, one officer assigned to Randall High School and one officer assigned as the Student Crime Stoppers Coordinator. The purpose of the School Liaison program is to promote good public relations through formal and informal actions.

The assigned officers assist the schools in providing a safe learning environment for students and educators. During 2012, the officers in the program investigated 8,821 campus complaints, compared to 10,161 in 2011. They presented programs to approximately 4,893 students, compared to 6,500 in 2011. In addition they made 824 incident reports and took 1,183 statements/affidavits, made 177 physical arrests, issued 249 citations and seized 11 weapons (none were firearms).



During the first three weeks of summer the School Liaison officers hosted the APD/Lisa Cherry Summer Camp and conducted their fifth Summer Warrant Patrol in which they served 1,483 warrants with fines totaling over \$466,409.00.

## STUDENT CRIME STOPPERS

Student Crime Stoppers had a very good year in 2012 with \$5,030.00 cash rewards approved during the period of June 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31, 2012 and \$4,370.00 worth of recovered stolen property.

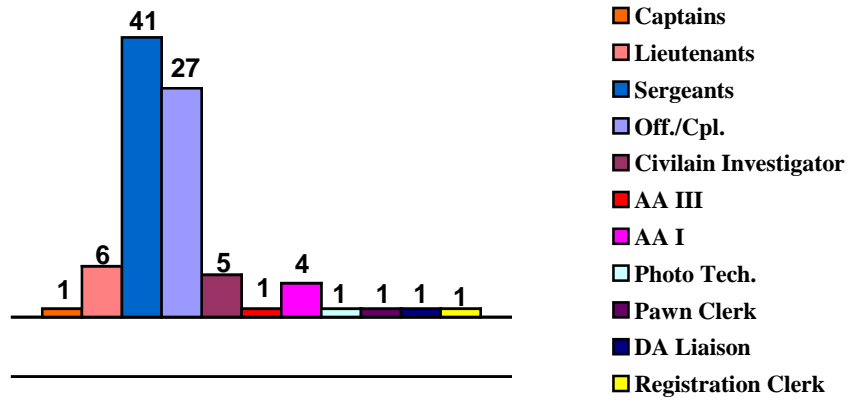
The annual Campus Crime Stoppers Conference for 2012 was held February 11<sup>th</sup>-13<sup>th</sup>. In 2011, the Amarillo Crime Stoppers program was given numerous performance awards including Board Member of the Year, Innovative Publicity, Best Poster, Most Crime Cases Solved and the Greatest Dollar Recovery Amount Awards.

	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>
Tips received*	283	279
Arrests made*	82	87
Cases cleared*	97	124
Rewards paid*	\$5,865	\$5,030
Property recovered*	\$20,890	\$4,370
Narcotics seized*	\$1,750	\$1,521

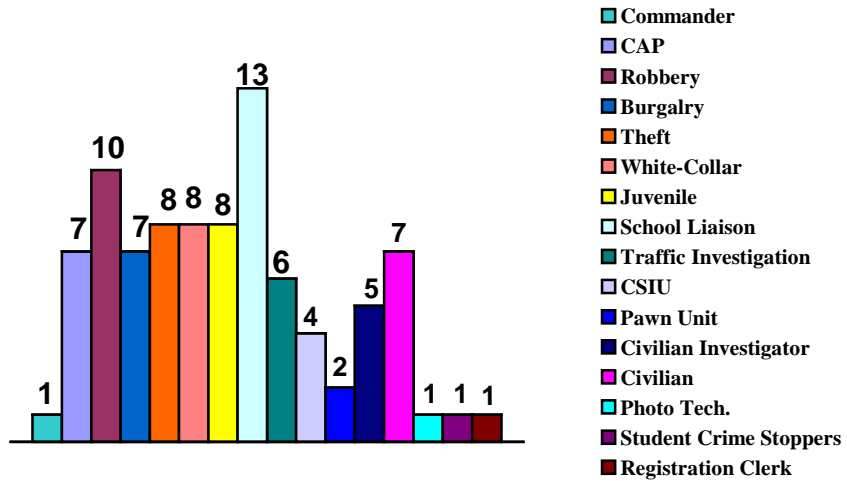
\*The Student Crime Stoppers Program Statewide utilizes the fiscal year of June 1<sup>st</sup> through May 31<sup>st</sup> for reporting and comparison to other programs within the State. These figures only represent statistics for the period of June 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31<sup>st</sup>.



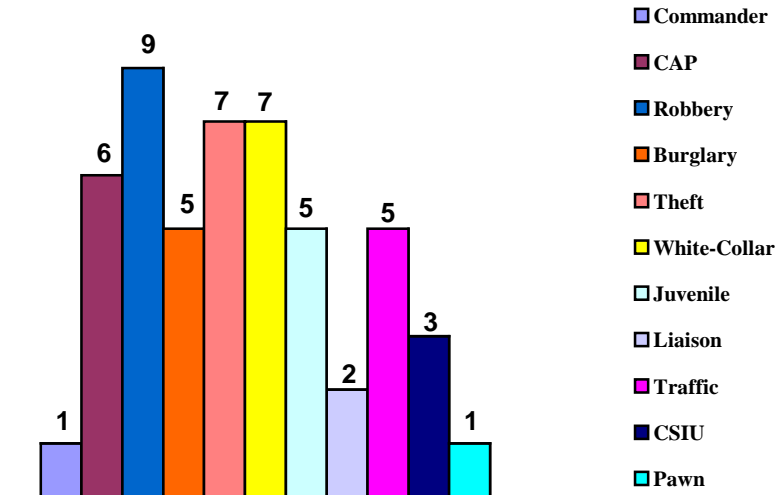
## Detective Division Personnel Allocation



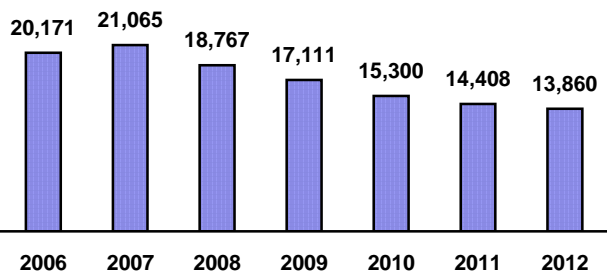
## Personnel Assignment by Squad



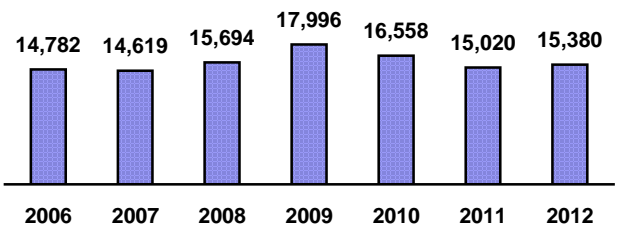
## Total Detective Vehicle Fleet



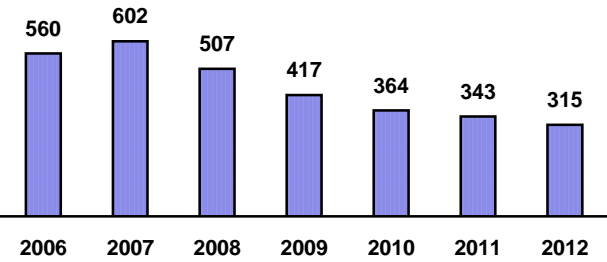
**Detective Caseload Total**



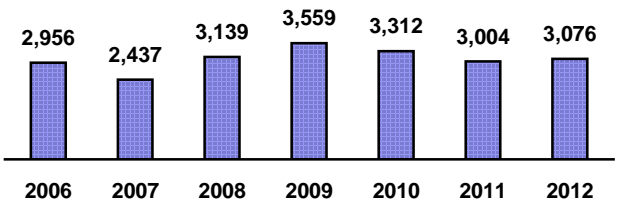
**Civilian Investigator Caseload Total**



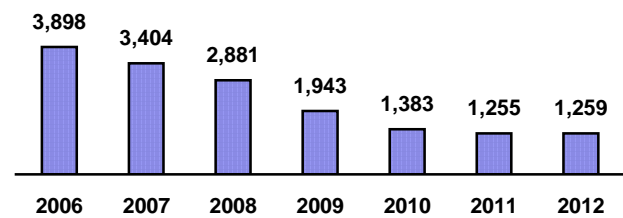
**Per-Detective Caseload Average**



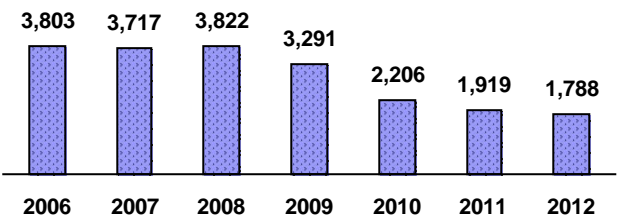
**Per-Civilian Investigator Caseload Average**



**Crimes Against Persons Squad Caseload**

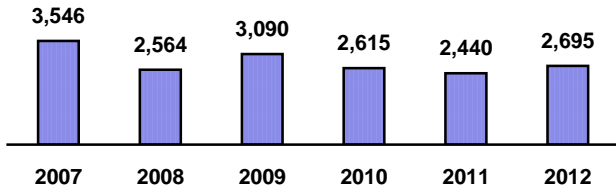


**Juvenile Squad Caseload**



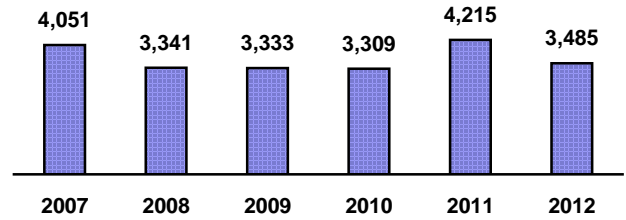
### White Collar Crimes Squad Caseload

Organized 11/2006



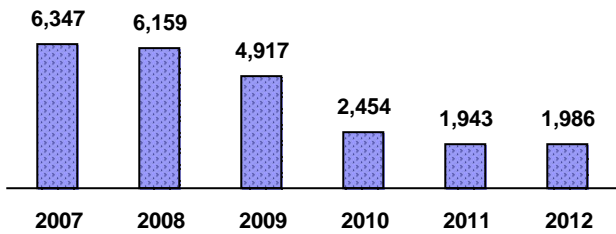
### Robbery Squad Caseload

Organized 11/2006



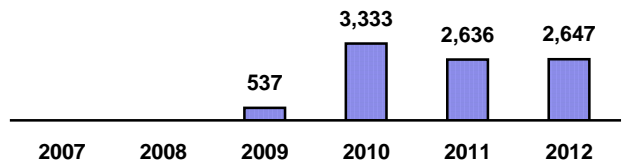
### Burglary Squad Caseload

Organized 11/2006



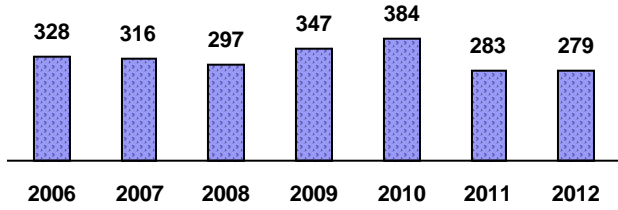
### Theft Squad Caseload

Organized 10/2009

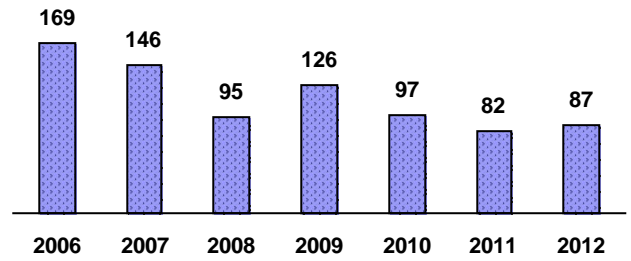




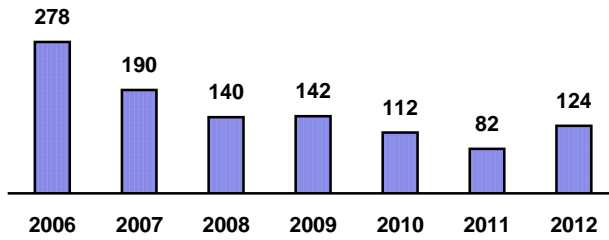
### Student Crime Stoppers Tips Received



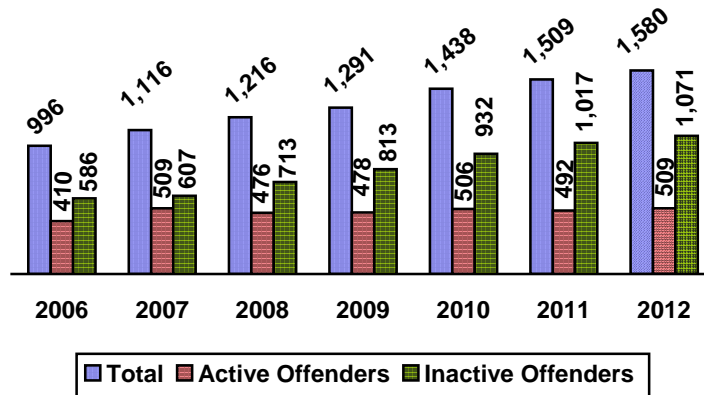
### Arrests Resulting From Tips



### Cases Cleared Resulting From Tips



### Sex Offender Registration



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

# AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT



**SERVICE DIVISION**  
**Captain Brad Lancaster**

## **SERVICE DIVISION**

Captain Brad Lancaster is the commander of the Service Division. Comprised of a team of dedicated professionals, the Service Division provides essential support for the everyday operation of the Department. The major components of the Service Division are the Records Section and Property and Evidence Section. The Service Division is staffed by a captain, one lieutenant, one sergeant, two officers, and 30 (full-time and part-time) civilians. While the principal objective of the Service Division is to provide support for other divisions of the Department, a considerable amount of time is devoted to providing a variety of services to the public. Enforcement of the City's alarm ordinance is a responsibility of this Division. The City's alarm ordinance has been successful in decreasing the amount of time spent by officers responding to false alarms. The Service Division also monitors the City wrecker contract. In addition, the Service Division is responsible for the design and the publishing of the Department's annual report. Our website can be visited at [www.amapolice.org](http://www.amapolice.org).

### **RECORDS SECTION**

The Records Section serves as the official repository for all criminal records and documents of the Department. The section is responsible for data entry, maintaining all police reports, arrest records,



and statistics. These duties include the preparation of reports that generate crime statistics sent to the State of Texas, so semi-annual and annual FBI crime data reports can be produced for the City of Amarillo. This section is also the contact point for citizens requesting copies of records under the Texas Open Records Act. The front desk personnel of the Service Division serve as receptionists for citizens seeking information or assistance.

Employment criminal history checks are also available through the records department.

Report Writers assigned to the Service Division receive reports from persons calling on the telephone, or citizens visiting the front desk. During 2012, Report Writers assigned to the Service Division made 1,951 reports from persons calling on the telephone or citizens making reports at the front desk. This is an increase from the 2011 total of 1,748. In 2012, Clerk Typists typed 25,422 reports and 10,544 supplements called in by officers. During 2012, the Department received 387 reports made on-line by citizens. Of these, 337 were assigned case numbers and imported into the records system.

The Department makes traffic accident reports available on the Internet through *PoliceReports.US*. By making this user-friendly site easily accessible to the public, the Service Division eliminates the public's need to drive downtown to purchase copies of accident reports at the front desk, in turn allowing the front desk employees more time to concentrate on other duties. In 2012, a total of 5,971 accident reports were provided by this source.

## 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 Section is to maintain the chain of custody for evidence and to ensure the availability of that evidence for court. The Property Section also performs taxicab inspections for the issuance of permits.



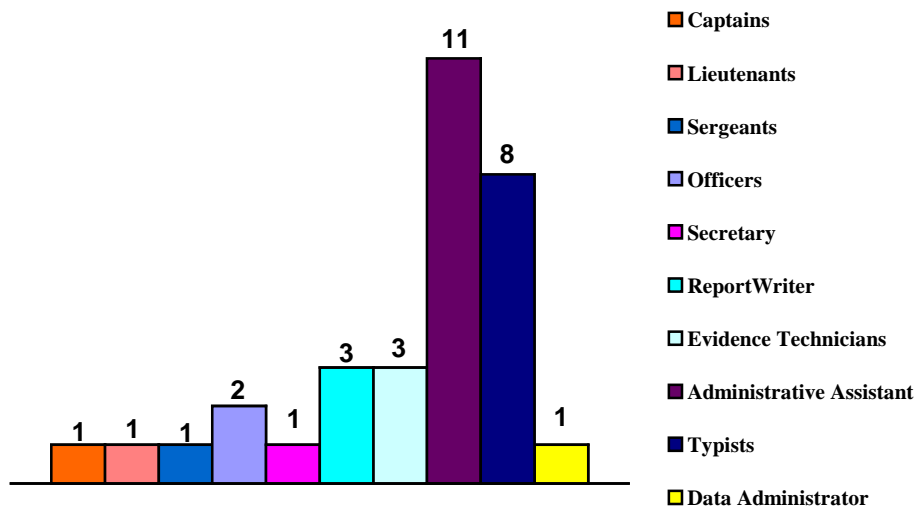
Each year the City of Amarillo has a combined auction with the Police Department for the sale of unclaimed property held by the Property Section. In 2006, the Department began using local licensed Federal Firearms dealers for the sale of unclaimed or forfeited firearms. The Property Section contributed \$852.49 to the City's General Fund from unclaimed money in 2012 as compared to \$578.12 in 2011. The money comes from drug busts, unclaimed evidence, found monies, and unclaimed personal property.

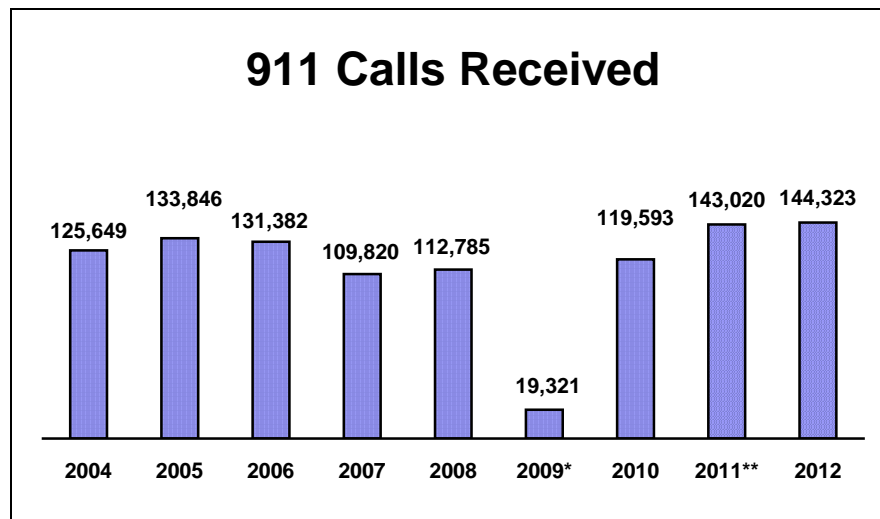
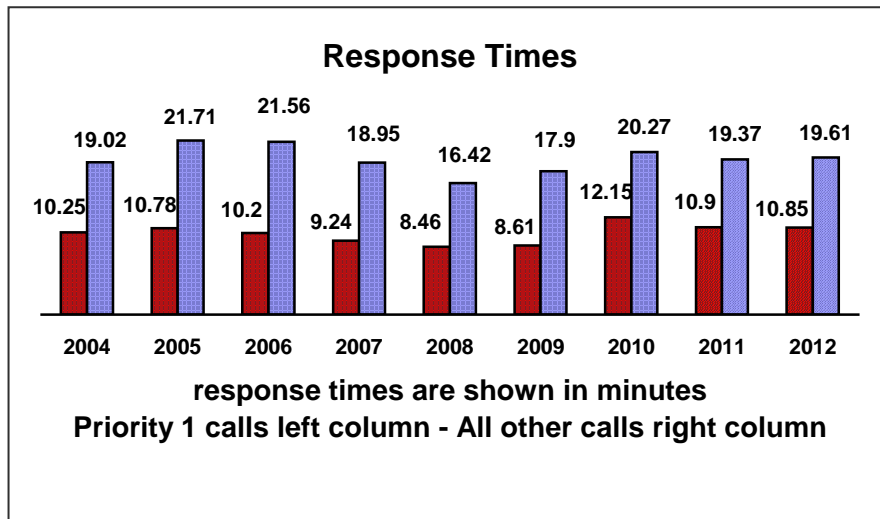
The Property and Evidence section, in the past few years, has outgrown the current space in the basement of the Police Department. In order to alleviate the storage problem, the Police Department began moving

property and evidence into a new storage warehouse downtown. This new facility will ensure that the Police Department can meet its storage needs for the critical service of storage of property and evidence.



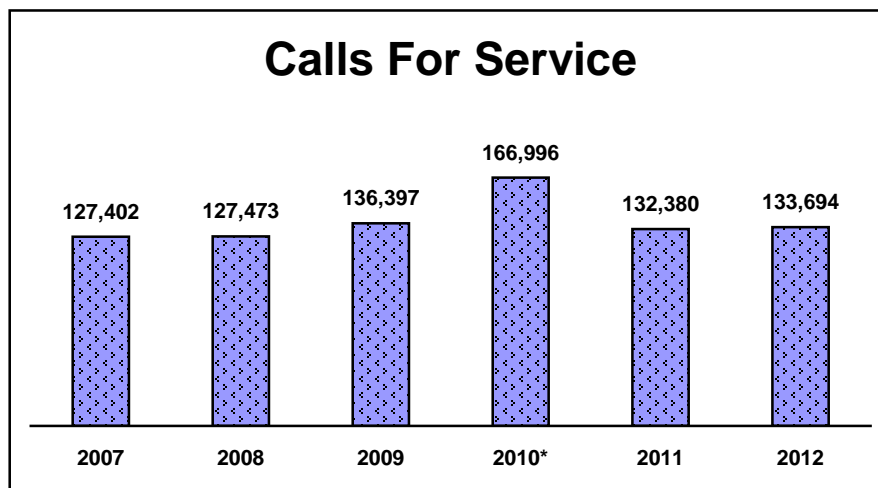
### Service Division Personnel Allocation





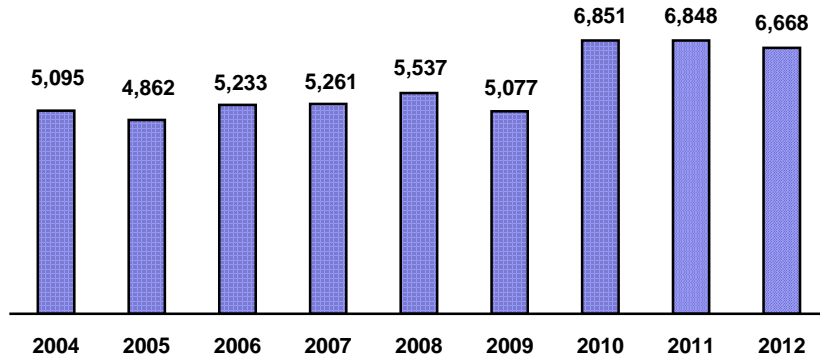
\* 2009 911 calls received represents the number of 911 received at the AECC only for the last 2 months of 2009

\*\* 2011(and beyond) 911 calls received represents the number of 911 calls received at the AECC for ALL City First Responders

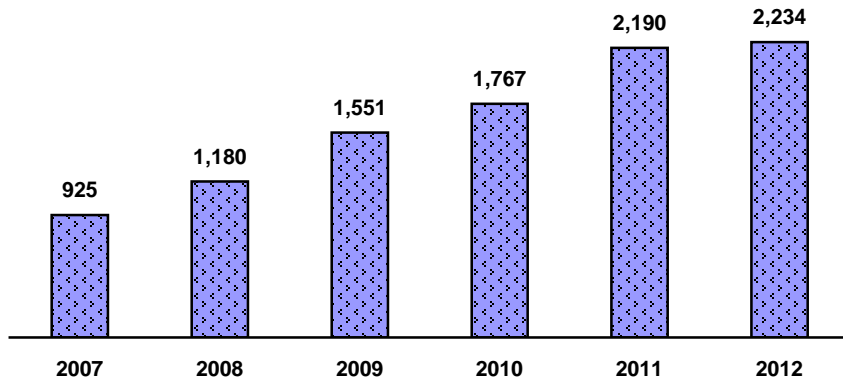


\*Due to AECC policy and dispatch software, 2010 Calls for Service include items that historically have not been counted in Calls for Service. These include self-initiated activity by officers and some inbound telephone calls that do not require a police response.

### False Alarms Received



### Open Records Requests Processed



# AMARILLO POLICE DEPARTMENT



**TRAINING AND PERSONNEL**  
**Captain Ken Funtek**

## 2012 Training and Personnel Annual Report



The Training and Personnel Division (T&P) coordinates the hiring and training of all police department personnel and maintains all personnel and training records of the Department. The Training and Personnel Division Captain is responsible for supervision of all aspects of the Division. The T&P Captain also manages numerous Federal and State grants.

The Division also has an Office of Professional Standards staffed by a Corporal. This office is responsible for maintaining all of the Department's operations manuals, conducting staff inspections of all Divisions to ensure compliance with the rules and regulations of the Department, insuring compliance with the Federal National Incident Management System program, the administration of the Department's compliance for the Texas Police Chiefs Association Best Practices Recognition Program, and teaches in the academy.

The Academy Training Sergeants are responsible for the supervision of one Background Investigator and one Quartermaster, the training of all recruits, and mandatory in-service training of officers. The Firearms Range Sergeant is the Range Master, who manages the Amarillo Shooting Complex. The Range Master supervises eight part-time civilians, who staff three Range Officer positions for the public operations. The Range Master coordinates all firearms training and qualifications for sworn officers.

The Quartermaster Officer is responsible for ordering, issuance, and return of various issued equipment and uniforms. We also have a civilian Quartermaster/Purchaser that is funded by the City. One full time Background Investigator is responsible for conducting pre-employment background investigations for sworn and civilian personnel and teaches various classes. Two Administrative Assistant IV's also work for the Division. One manages the records for payroll, and the hiring process for sworn positions. The other manages the hiring process for the civilian employees, the records for civilian employees, training, and all Departmental evaluations. An Administrative Assistant I is the Division's receptionist.

In 2012, the Division provided 224 in-service training classes with 5,045 students for 75,134 hours of training. This is a decrease in the number of classes provided from the 2011 statistics in which we provided 393 classes. There was an increase in the total number of students who received training from the 2011 figures which totaled 3,172. As well, the total hours of training provided for 2012 was also higher than the 2011 figures where 58,548 hours of training was given. In 2010 we provided 337 classes with 2,741 students for 33,252 hours. In 2009 we provided 293 classes with 2,866 students for 55,262 hours of training. In 2008, we provided 187 classes with 2,766 students for a total of 45,837 hours. In 2007, we provided the Department 301 training classes with 2,618 students for 58,441 hours of training. These yearly figures include all of Roll Call training, supervisor directed training, and the required NIMS training done by the City. Many employees attended out of town training classes as assigned by their Division.



The Division is responsible for recruiting, selecting, testing, hiring, and training new police officers for two academies per year. The 81<sup>st</sup> Amarillo Police Department Basic Police Officer Academy began December 8, 2011 with 13 recruits. Thirteen recruits took the Basic Peace Officers Licensing Exam, all passed on the first attempt, which is a significant accomplishment compared to other academies across the State. Eleven recruits graduated from the 81<sup>st</sup> Academy on June 15, 2012. The hiring process began with 459 applicants who were notified of the Civil Service Entrance Exam that took place in June 2011. Of the 166 applicants who took the written test, 121 passed. The physical agility testing created a list of 93 successful, potential applicants, which progressed to the rigorous background investigation. From the 93 applicants who passed the written and physical agility tests, 22 passed their background investigation.



The 82<sup>nd</sup> Amarillo Police Department Basic Police Officer Academy began June 7, 2012 with 13 recruits. Twelve recruits took the Basic Peace Officers Licensing Exam, all passed on the first attempt, which is a significant accomplishment compared to other academies across the State. Eleven recruits graduated from the 82<sup>nd</sup> Academy on December 14, 2012. The hiring process began with 467 applicants who were notified of the Civil Service Entrance Exam that took place in December 2011. Of the 175 applicants who took the written test, 105 passed. The physical agility testing created a list of 83 successful, potential applicants, which progressed to the rigorous background investigation. From the 83 applicants who passed the written and physical agility tests, 28 passed their background investigation.



The polygraph testing verifies the findings of the background investigation, allowing the best applicants to proceed to the interview board that is staffed by five senior and ranking officers from the Department. The final steps are the psychological and physical fitness for duty exam.

The hiring process is the same for all recruit applicants. The selection process includes a written examination, physical fitness agility testing, a thorough background investigation, a polygraph examination, an interview board, a psychological examination, and a medical physical examination.

Training and Personnel maintains payroll data for all Police Department employees. In addition, our Division processes health insurance benefits, and retirement requests. Training and Personnel also generates, and files, performance evaluations for each employee.

## **Application and Development**

Additional responsibilities of Training and Personnel include: (1) Coordinating with the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education (TCLEOSE) on hiring, training, and licensing of our police officers. (2) Coordinating compliance with the Texas Police Chiefs Association Best Practices Recognition Program. (3) Coordinating the Department's compliance with the City of Amarillo's annual "HAZMAT" chemical inventory. In Addition, Training and Personnel conducts research projects for the Department and maintains the Amarillo Shooting Complex, a combination public and police firearms range.



## **Department Strength**

The Department has an authorized strength of 345 officers and an authorized strength of 55 full time civilian employees, which includes 3 part time civilian employees.

The following figures are run against our actual strength of 345 sworn personnel in 2012. The average age of a police officer, including all ranks was 38.55 compared to 38.41 in 2011; the average length of service was 12.48 years, compared to 13.14 in 2011. Average length of service for all employees (sworn and civilian) is 12.33 years compared to 12.59 years in 2011. This indicates a slight decrease in tenured personnel. We have 25 (7.25%) female officers which the same as 2011's figures. There were 320 (92.75%) male officers compared to 310 (92.5%) in 2011. There is 1 Native American officer (.3%), 5 African-American officers (1.45%), 46 Hispanic officers (13.3%), 0 Asian officers (0%), and 293 Caucasian officers (84.93%). The ethnic and racial makeup had a slight increase in Hispanic officers in 2005 thru 2012.

The Department ended 2012 with 55 permanent civilian employees and 3 part-time civilian employees that include 2 positions at the Potter County DA's office and 1 position with the Special Crimes Unit.

## **Education**

In 2012, 1 officer held a Doctorate Degree; 9 officers held Masters Degrees; 84 held Bachelor's Degrees (2 more than 2011); and 28 held Associates Degrees. 129 officers had more than 10 college hours but no degree (an increase of 17 from 2011). On average, an officer has earned 61.96 college hours, which is a slight increase from 59.77 earned hours in 2011. 54 officers held an Intermediate Peace Officer Certificate (an increase of 6 from 2011), 69 officers held an Advanced Certificate (an increase of 10 from 2011) and 148 held a Master Peace Officer Certificate (an increase of 3 from 2011).

## **Citizen Police Academy**

The 19<sup>th</sup> Citizen Police Academy (C.P.A.) was held in the Fall of 2012. These citizens met one night a week for twelve class sessions covering Department organization, crime

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

### **Student Police Academy**

The 11<sup>th</sup> Student Police Academy (S.P.A.) was held in the Spring of 2012. The S.P.A. is very similar to the C.P.A., but is geared towards Juniors/Seniors in high school exploring career opportunities in law enforcement. The S.P.A. also provides students to ride on observations with patrol officers.

### **Volunteer Program**

The Amarillo Police Department Volunteer Program was started in 1992. The program averages 15-25 members who work in various assignments within the Department. They work in Service Division, Traffic Enforcement Unit, and Property. As a whole, the Volunteer Program has been in decline over recent years as evidenced by a trend in fewer hours donated. For example, in 2004 volunteers donated 4,721 hours, and in 2012 volunteers donated 4,294 hours. To help address this issue, a new volunteer employee training school is scheduled for 2013, which should begin to help reverse this downward trend. As evidenced by the increased hours volunteered in 2012, the strategies in place are working to help increase this vital function of the Department.

The Handicap Patrol issues parking tickets to vehicles illegally parked in handicapped parking spaces. Since the Handicap Patrol program started in 1999, it has had 95 volunteers participate. The Handicap Patrol has written approximately 20,903 tickets. On average, Handicap Patrol issues approximately 1,100 tickets per year (including warnings) for handicap parking violations. An appreciation luncheon is held once a year to recognize all of the Department's volunteer employees.

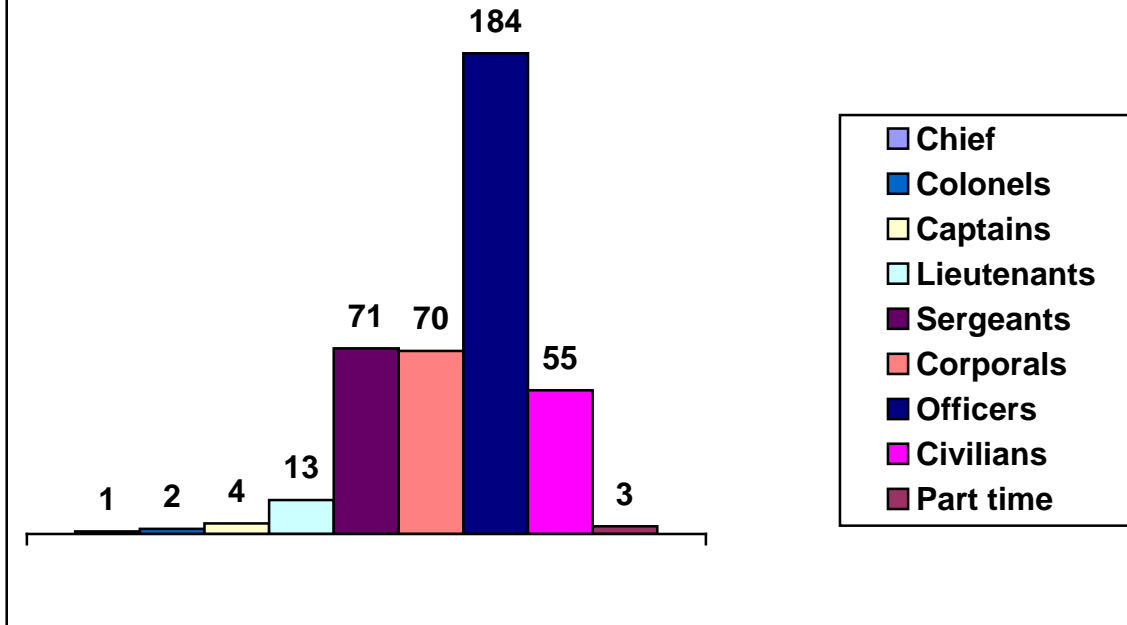
### **Chaplain Program**

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

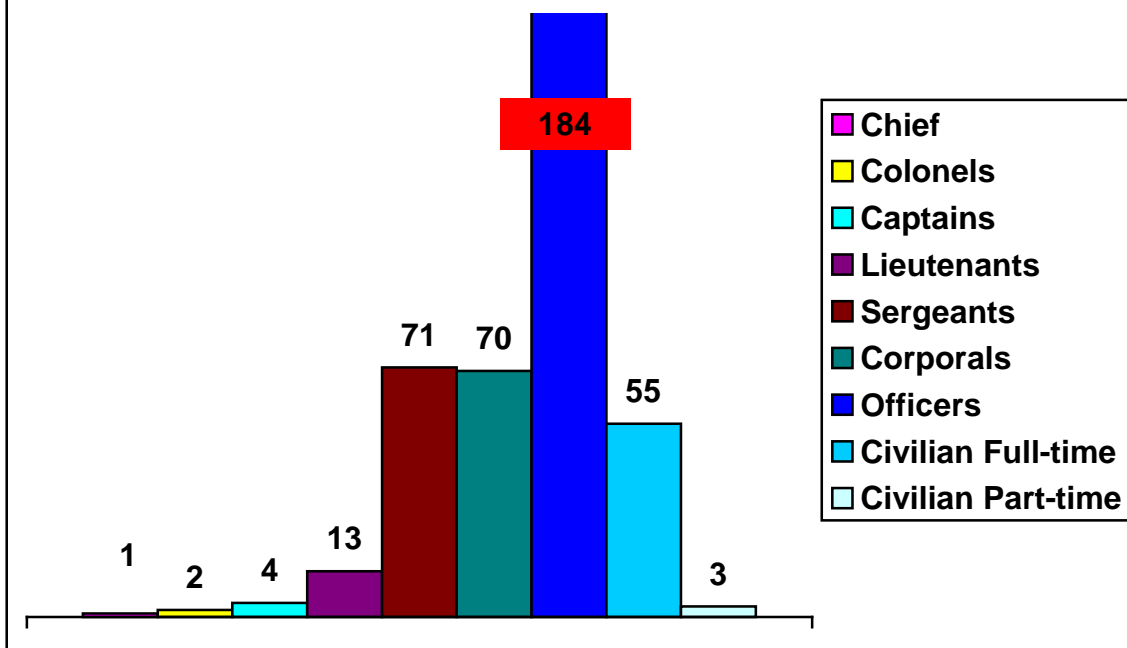
### **Crisis Stress Debriefing Incident Program**

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

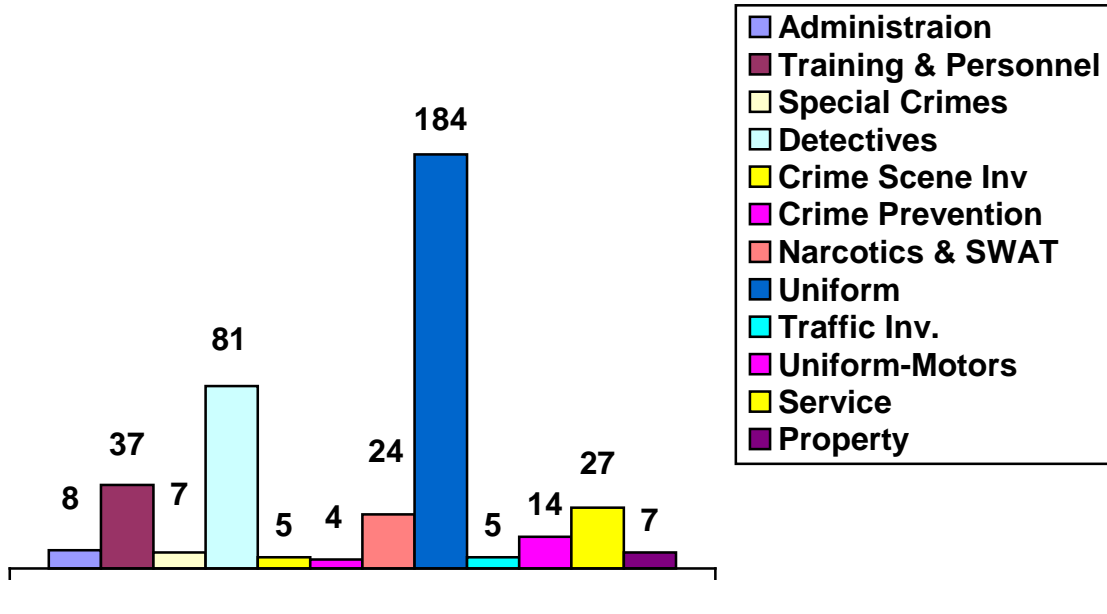
### AUTHORIZED STRENGTH 12/31/12



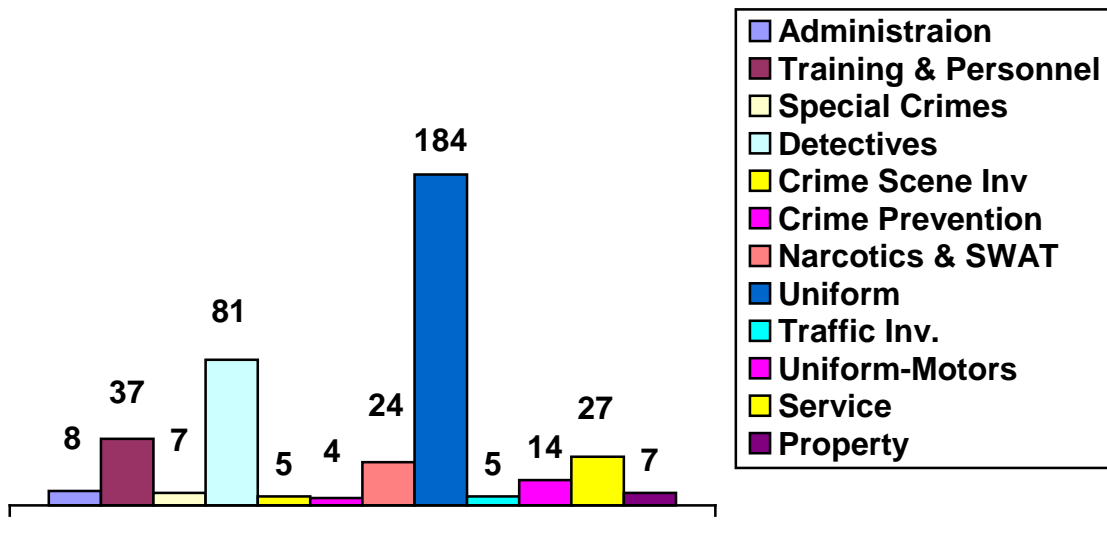
### Actual Strength Sworn and Civilian 12/31/12



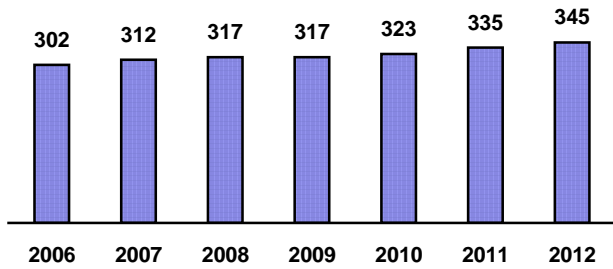
**Sworn and Civilian Personnel Authorized Allocation by Assignment as of 12/31/12**



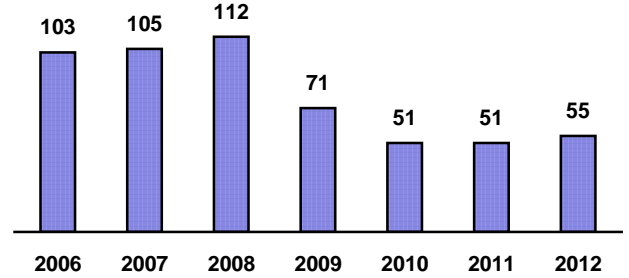
**Actual Sworn and Civilian Personnel Allocation by Assignment as of 12/31/12**



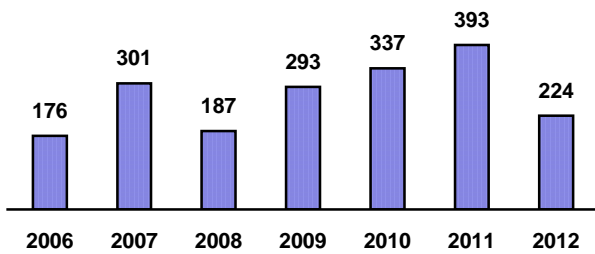
**Sworn Authorized Strength**



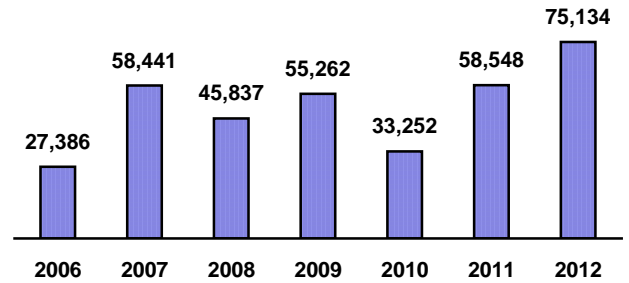
**Civilian Authorized Strength**



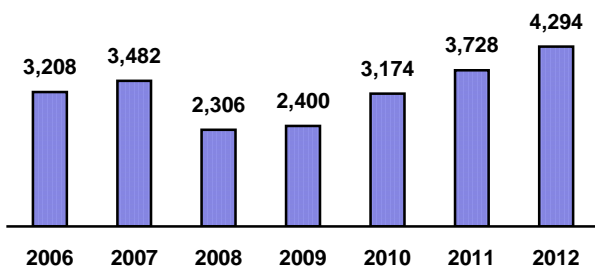
**In-Service Training Classes**



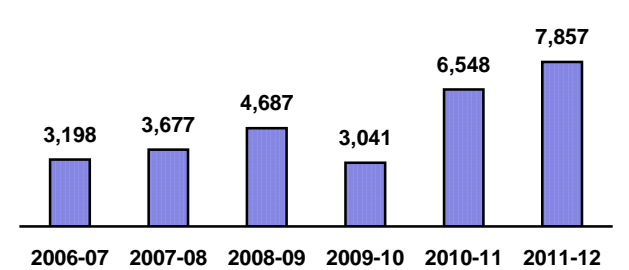
**In-Service Training Hours**

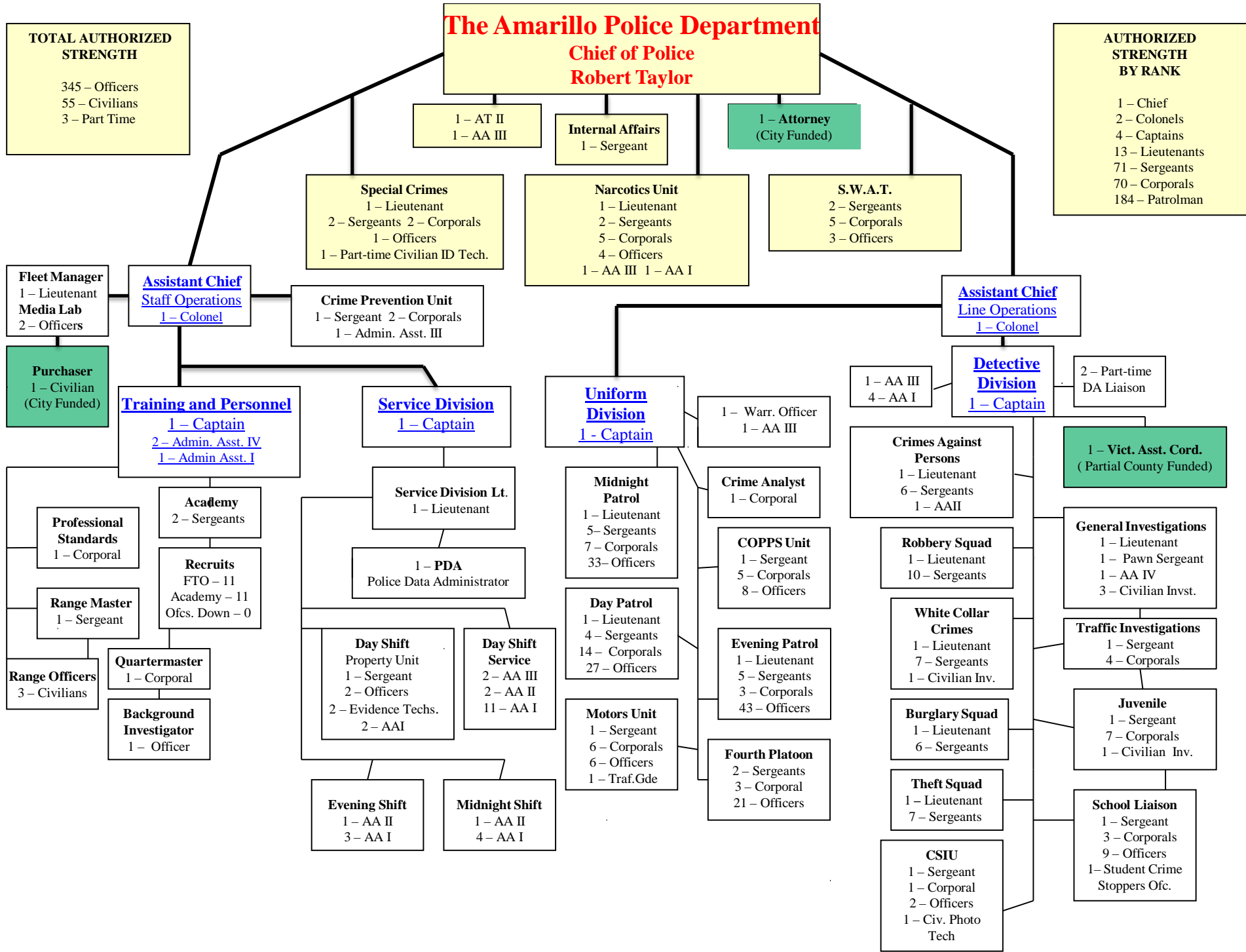


**Volunteer Hours Provided**



**Amarillo Shooting Complex Customers**





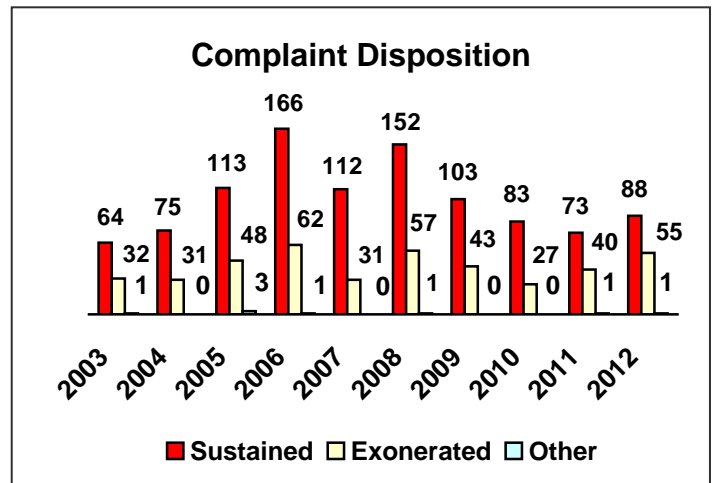
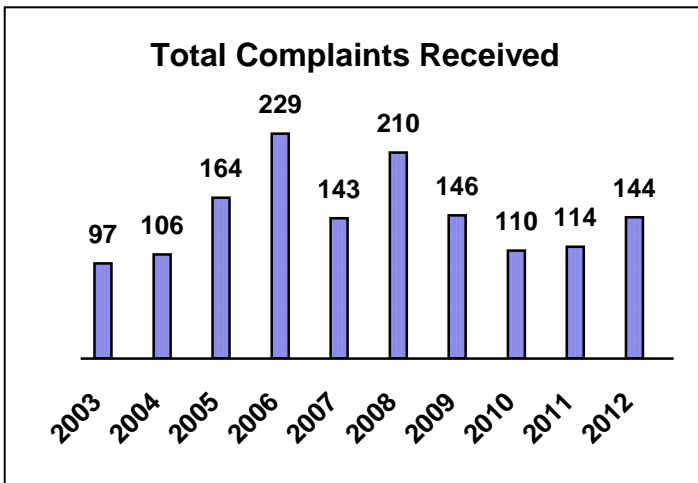
## INTERNAL AFFAIRS

Complaints from citizens and complaints from within the Department are investigated by the Internal Affairs Investigator. During 2012 there were 121 formal complaint cases filed. Some of those cases involved more than one Officer and/or more than one specific complaint. After investigation, 88 complaints were determined to be “Sustained”, 55 complaints were “Exonerated” or “Unfounded”, and 1 complaint was “Not sustained”. Each of the 88 sustained complaints resulted in disciplinary action in some manner.

On one occasion an Officer was involved in a shooting incident. The incident was presented to a Grand Jury, and the Grand Jury determined the shooting to be justified. There were six incidents where a firearm was discharged in the shooting of an animal, and the Discipline Review Board found that those incidents were all justified.

There were no in-custody deaths which occurred in 2012.

Sergeant M.D. Hill  
Internal Affairs





## 2012 INTERNAL AFFAIRS STATS

Complaint Type:	Sustained	Exonerated	Other	Total	% Sustained
Excessive Force:	3	21	0	24	13%
Illegal Search:	0	3	0	3	0%
Illegal Arrest:	1	4	0	5	20%
Neglect or Inattention to Duty:	77	6	1	84	92%
Falsify or Release Of Records:	0	0	0	0	0%
Conduct Unbecoming:	7	20	0	27	26%
Criminal Offenses:	0	1	0	1	0%
Racial Profiling:	0	0	0	0	0%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>144</b>	<b>61%</b>

### Officer Involved

Shootings: 1  
Justified: 1

Discharge of  
Firearm: 6  
Justified: 6

Accidental  
Discharge:  
of Firearm 0

In Custody  
Death 0

Disciplinary action was taken on all founded complaints. Such action can include verbal counseling, written reprimands, suspensions, and terminations.

# CRIME PREVENTION



**Crime Prevention Education**



**Public Information**

Officers of the Crime Prevention Unit (CPU) provide education in specific crime prevention and safety matters. They also serve as a resource for general information about department activity through media releases and the Nixle messaging system. The CPU strives to be a two-way line of communication between the Amarillo Police Department and the community we serve, responding to many different questions about the law, departmental practices, and police operations through in-person, telephone, and electronic communication. The CPU provides home and business security surveys to the public at no cost to help citizens prevent burglary, theft, and other crimes, and to secure a discount on home owner's insurance. The CPU provided 213 programs, along with 399 releases and Nixle messages, to reach thousands of citizens. The CPU provides education in crime prevention, conducts programs to help reach the community, and creates presentations to respond to specific needs such as security awareness for a business or type of work. Civic groups, business organizations, and private citizens are encouraged to call the CPU at 378-4257 to request a presentation to their group about any crime or related safety issue including Neighborhood Watch, Fraud and Scam Prevention, Workplace Violence Prevention, and Personal Safety for Women. Amarillo Crime Stoppers operates within the CPU and had 54 appearances or presentations related to their role in the CPU, and countless media contacts.



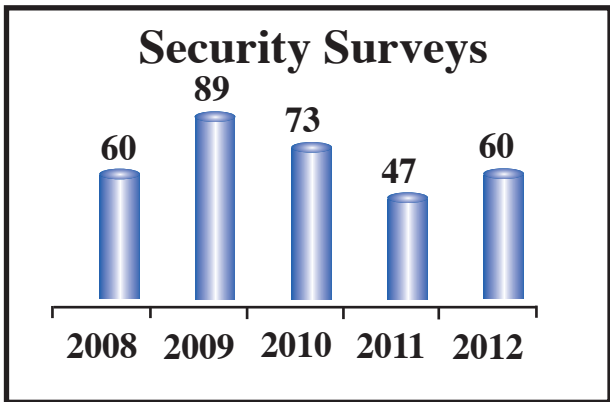
**CPL. SEAN SLOVER**



In 2012, the CPU helped the Department provide information to over 5400 Nixle subscribers through e-mail, web postings, and text messages. The CPU worked to improve community awareness in crime prevention and information about the Police Department's work through Nixle ([www.nixle.com](http://www.nixle.com)), a free service that permits us to instantly and directly provide information to citizens.



A Security Survey is a no-cost service that helps citizens secure their home and reduce their risk of becoming a crime victim. It also gives the APD an opportunity to connect with citizens on an individual basis. This service is often promoted by insurance companies to reduce a homeowner's premiums.



# AMARILLO CRIME STOPPERS



In October of 2012, Amarillo Crime Stoppers attended the 24th Annual Crime Stoppers Conference in New Braunfels, Texas. At this conference, the program received the required training

hours to maintain program certification. The program also celebrated several successes by receiving two awards at the state conference. We received a productivity award for most cases cleared based on the population we serve. We witnessed a record year for the 4th year in a row for tip volume, totaling 1604 tips, up from 1468 tips in 2011. We also had a record amount of cleared cases totaling 296 cases, up from 176 in

2011. We also received the "Board Member of the Year" given to our Treasurer, Wanda Call.

The Fugitive of the Week program provides the public with information on wanted persons and publicizes the reward program for them. Every week, information on the Fugitive of the Week is distributed to every local television broadcast outlet. This year, we highlighted 48 fugitives, and 47 of them were arrested. Crime Stoppers tips directly lead to the arrest of 109 wanted people this year. In 2012, Amarillo Crime Stoppers tips cleared 296 cases and led to the arrest of 165 suspects. Those tips lead to the recovery of \$42,985 in property, and removed \$17,592 in narcotics from our city streets. Amarillo Crime Stoppers approved 114 rewards for 2012 compared to 108 rewards in 2011, for a total of \$21,145. Even though a total of 114 rewards were approved, only 61% of the tipsters called back to collect a reward compared to 68% in 2011. Amarillo Crime Stoppers also continued the use of "Nixle" as a very useful tool to notify the community about fugitives, captures and unsolved crimes. The use of "Nixle" has already generated tips that have provided information leading to fugitive arrests and leads on crimes in the Amarillo area.



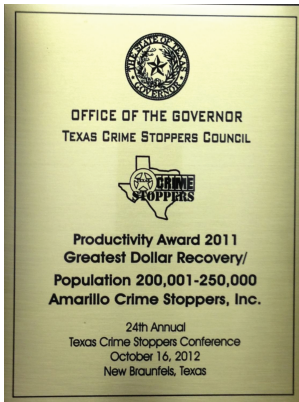
We conducted our 4th Annual Amarillo Crime Stoppers car

show, which was held over Labor Day weekend. Amarillo Crime Stoppers and Student Crime Stoppers of Amarillo worked together to make this a success. We had 125 vehicles in attendance this year. This was a great way for our entire board to be among the community we serve. The car show also included games, food, and music. The Chief of Police, Robert Taylor, was on site to select a special "Chief's Choice" award to a lucky winner. We also participated in a battery operated charity vehicle race for the 2012-13 ice hockey season with the "Amarillo Bulls" hockey team. The race is held 15 times during the home games. Proceeds from the race directly benefit Amarillo Crime Stoppers.

The vehicle is a 12 volt replica of a police cruiser embellished with Amarillo Crime Stoppers logos. Our program name is announced to thousands of spectators at every home game and the vehicle is always on display with our hot line tip number.



We are grateful that the citizens of the Amarillo area support us by providing tips, volunteering on our Board, and for the generous monetary support to keep the program running. We could not have been this successful without the tremendous help of the law enforcement community following up on the tips we received. Our website is updated several times a week with the current crimes we need help solving and information on fugitives that we need to locate. The web site also allows direct links to submit web tips on various crimes and fugitives. The web site is [www.amapolice.org](http://www.amapolice.org). The Crime Stoppers anonymous reward system, Fugitive of the Week program, and help from the public continues to make the Amarillo area a safer place for all of us to live and work.



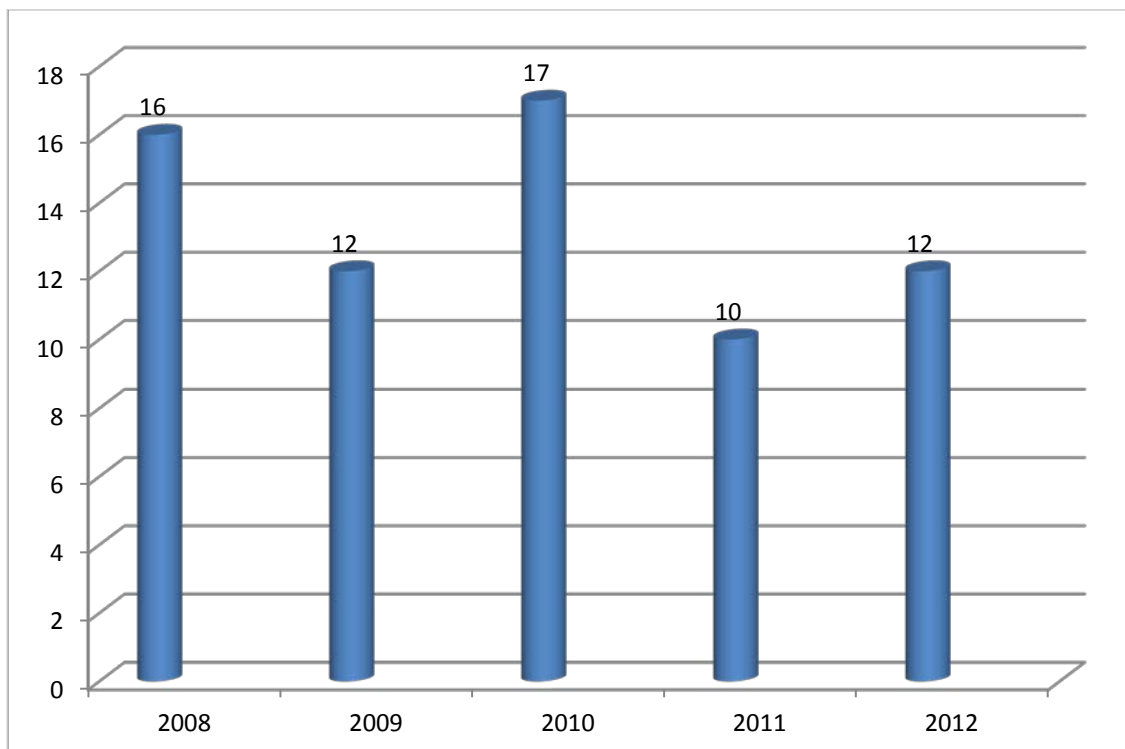
## **SPECIAL CRIMES UNIT**

Formed on December 10, 1981, the Special Crimes Unit is responsible for the investigation of homicides and suspicious deaths that occur within the City of Amarillo, Potter County, and Armstrong County. The Special Crimes Unit also investigates officer-involved shootings, in-custody deaths, fire deaths, and the deaths of children for the Amarillo Police Department and the Potter County Sheriff's Office. The Unit consists of seven full-time members from the Amarillo Police Department and the Potter County Sheriff's Office.

Lieutenant Erick Bohannon of the Amarillo Police Department serves as the Special Crimes Unit Coordinator. Sgt. Jason Riddlespurger and Sgt. Clay Rolan with the Amarillo Police Department, and Sgt David Brown of the Potter County Sheriff's Office are assigned to the Unit as Investigative Detectives. Officer Jimmy Rifenberg, Cpl. Joe Brown and Cpl. Ed Carroll are CSI officers assigned to the Unit from the Amarillo Police Department. Retired APD Sgt Modeina Holmes, a member of the original Special Crimes Unit, works part-time as a Crime Scene Specialist. Callie Haney from the 47th District Attorney's Office is the Unit's Secretary.



### **Homicides Investigated by Special Crimes by Year**



## Homicides and Other Cases Investigated by Special Crimes

<b>2012 Homicides Invesitgated</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>2012 Homicides Cleared</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Number of Homicides by:</b>	
Gunshot	9
Arson	0
Stabbing	1
Blunt Force	1
Strangulation	0
Automobile	0
Other	1
<b>Homicides by Jurisdiction:</b>	
City of Amarillo	12
Potter County	0
Armstrong County	0
<b>Homicides by Month:</b>	
January	0
February	1
March	1
April	1
May	0
June	3
July	2
August	1
September	0
October	1
November	0
December	2
<b>Homicides:</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Suspicious Deaths Investigated:</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Outside Agency Assistance:</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Cold Cases Investigated:</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Miscellaneous Investigative Activity:</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>Fire Deaths:</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Officer Involved Shootings:</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>In Custody Deaths:</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Child Deaths:</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>Total Number of Cases Investigated:</b>	<b>68</b>

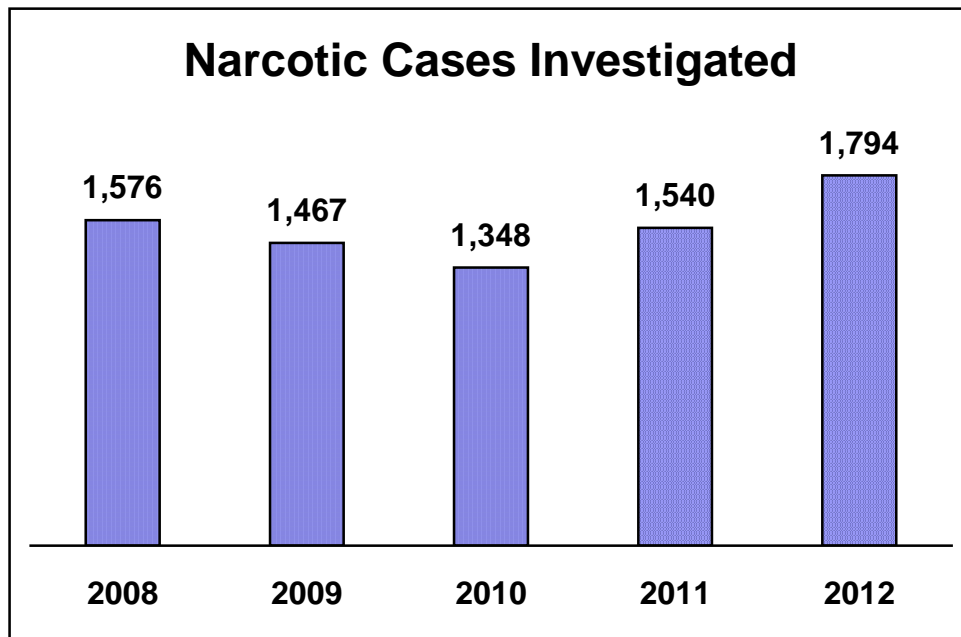
## **2012 NARCOTICS UNIT AND SWAT**

### **Narcotics Unit**

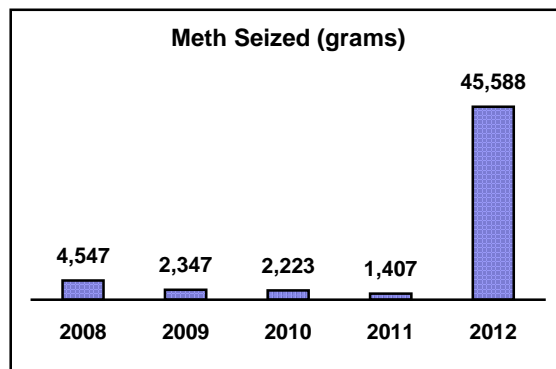
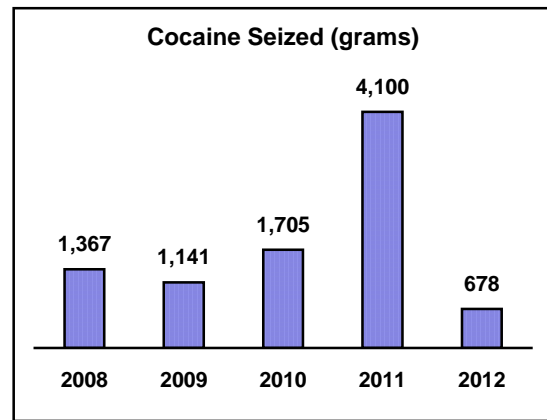
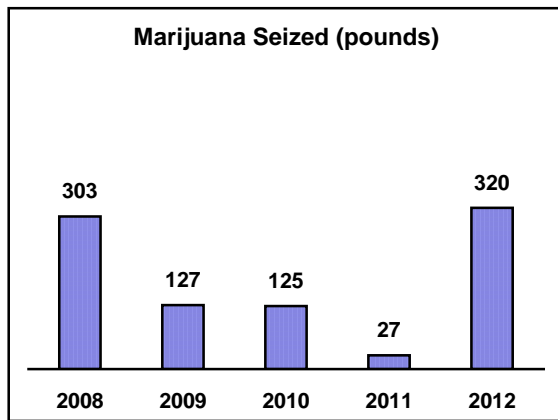
Lt. Terry Lichtie is the Commander of the Narcotics Unit and SWAT Team. The Narcotics Unit is comprised of 8 narcotic investigators. Sgt Brent Clay supervises all agents and runs the day to day operations. Sgt Bill Ottoson is the case manager and files all narcotic cases. One additional narcotics agent is assigned to the local office of the Federal Drug Enforcement Agency in Amarillo. The Narcotics Unit is responsible for the following:

- Enforcement of pornography laws.
- Enforcement of laws prohibiting the illegal sale, possession and distribution of controlled substances.
- Enforcement of laws prohibiting illegal gambling operations.
- Enforcement of laws prohibiting prostitution.
- Providing community education programs about illegal narcotics.
- Investigating any offense involving organized criminal activity.

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



The following charts show the amount of several types of illegal narcotics seized by the Amarillo Police Department in the last 5 years:

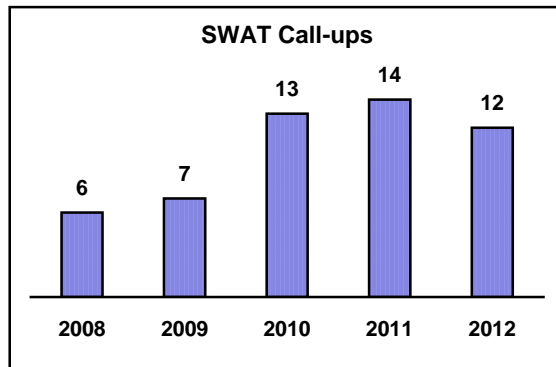


In addition to conducting narcotic investigations, agents of the Narcotics Unit presented narcotics awareness programs to local professional and civic groups throughout Amarillo.

## SWAT Team

There are 8 full-time members of the SWAT Team led by Sgt Kyle Hawley. 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





## **Cpl. Sean Slover**



## **Rotary Club South Officer of the Year 2011**

**Cpl. Sean Slover, the Amarillo Crime Stoppers Coordinator, was Officer of the Year in 2011. Cpl. Slover was previously selected as the Rotary Officer of the Fourth Quarter of 2011 for bringing new successes to the ACS program with his implementation of strategies to take tips by text and web, his high number of tips and arrests, fund raising success, and cases solved.**

**Since then, he has continued to build on his success and has achieved State-wide recognition for his efforts. Cpl. Slover received letters of recommendation sent by the Crime Stoppers Board to the State Council of Crime Stoppers. One letter details many of the things he was recognized for since he became coordinator and it also includes other information about his performance. Cpl. Slover has continued to expand the program by formally adding Carson County to the area the ACS program serves. The car show fundraiser he started in 2009 (\$5600 net profit and \$5700 in 2010) brought in \$10,105 in 2011, nearly doubling the money for reward funds raised the previous two years. This is amazing considering the economy, and reflects a great deal of both public and sponsor support for the program.**

**As a result of the program's success and the nomination, Cpl. Slover was selected from seven nominees from agencies all over the state as Crime Stoppers Coordinator of the**

**Year. This was announced at the 23<sup>rd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Texas Crime Stoppers Council, held 10-25-11 in McAllen. At the same meeting, the program received two more awards: One for “Most Innovative Publicity” for his Crime Stoppers theme-wrapped one-ton pickup, and the Productivity Award for Most Cases Cleared for cities between 200,001 and 250,000 people (179).**

**Cpl. Slover’s work not only promotes the program and brings positive attention to Amarillo from outside the community, it continues to make Amarillo a better place for all of us in the community. By the end of October of 2011, Crime Stoppers had directly contributed to officers making 141 arrests-three more than last year’s end of year total of 138. The program is on track for another improved year of arrest numbers under his stewardship.**

**I’d like to repeat one sentence from one of the nomination letter from the ACS board:  
*“Cpl. Slover has a contagious enthusiasm that has rejuvenated the entire ACS Board of Directors. His television and radio appearances have created a new interest from the community and with his guidance and leadership ACS will continue to flourish.”***

## **Sgts. Rodney Clark and Dean Coleman**



### **Rotary Club South Officers of the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2012**

Together, Sgts. Clark and Coleman have been working the auto theft detail for the detective division for about five years. These two officers continuously produce good work and good investigations. They have arrested numerous active auto theft suspects and broken up auto theft rings and chop shops involved in disposing of stolen cars. These two officers are not afraid of getting their hands dirty if this means crawling under a vehicle or taking it apart to find a hidden VIN number. These officers are consistently checking wrecker yards, scrap yards, or old garages for suspected stolen vehicles. Both officers work as a team and work on each other's cases. They are well respected and constantly called upon by other officers and investigators, including outside agencies, to check suspected stolen vehicles. If the situation requires crawling around a semi truck or using acid to bring up a ground off VIN, these officers do so in a positive manner. Our auto theft rate has consistently gone down over the past five years in a very impressive manner. These numbers are quite impressive, from 1,623 reported auto thefts in 2007 to a reduction of 839 reported auto thefts in 2011. Their recovery rate is also very remarkable, 80 to 90 percent of cars, pickups and SUVs reported stolen to the APD are recovered, compared to a nationwide rate of 57 percent.

## **Off. Abel Mendoza**



### **Rotary Club South Officer of the 2nd Quarter 2012**

**Off. Mendoza is a highly motivated and driven officer. Since August 2011, he has answered 1,176 calls for service, made 211 reports, and 41 field interview cards. He has investigated 3 DUI's, served 109 warrants, made 177 arrests, and had 307 traffic stops. Between April 2011 and September 2011, Off. Mendoza submitted 5 AFIS quality prints for analysis. Between October 2011 and March 2012, Officer Mendoza submitted 3 AFIS quality prints for analysis. Some of the more notable stops and investigations performed by Off. Mendoza are listed below.**

**On July 16, 2011, Off. Mendoza stopped a vehicle for traffic violations on I-40. During his investigation, Mendoza learned that the suspect's mentally challenged son was left alone in an Amarillo motel. This stop did not yield narcotics, but led to the seizure of \$7300 in cash.**

**In September 2011, Off. Mendoza and Off. G. King contacted a suspect for suspicion of possession of marijuana. The suspect assaulted officers and was later found to be in possession of approximately 40 rocks of cocaine.**

**On November 11, 2011, Mendoza stopped a vehicle on I-40 for traffic violations. The driver was traveling from Juarez, Mexico to Oklahoma. There was a two way radio and a Saint Malverde symbol in the vehicle. Off. Mendoza began questioning the occupants of the vehicle. Narcotic agents assisted Off. Mendoza and found that the vehicle's gas tank had recently been unbolted and replaced back on the vehicle. This stop did not net illegal drugs, but Mendoza alerted other agencies about the activity.**

**Mendoza was working off duty as directed patrol on November 17, 2011 with Off. A. Hernandez. The officers stopped two suspicious subjects in the parking lot of a local bar. Both subjects had warrants for their arrest. A subsequent search of their vehicle revealed burglary tools and drug paraphernalia. Officer Mendoza located two debit cards for an individual by a different name. Officers could not contact this person, nor could they find any activity in the APD computer system showing that the cards were reported as stolen. Unbeknownst to the officers, the individual was found dead in a ditch on Smelter Road an hour and a half later. Both officers received a Personnel Commendation for their attention to detail and example of excellent police work.**

**On November 20, 2011, Off. Mendoza helped other officers gain entry into the subject's residence. The suicidal subject was unconscious and received treatment for the suicide attempt. Officer Mendoza received a Personnel Commendation for his actions during this incident.**

**On April 28, 2012, Mendoza located the suspects in a burglary. Both suspects were arrested.**

**On May 11, 2012, Mendoza spotted a suspect that had broken into a car and threatened a witness with a knife. The suspect was arrested.**

**On April 27, 2012, Off. Mendoza stopped a vehicle for traffic violations on I-40. A cloud of marijuana smoke came from the vehicle. A subsequent search of the vehicle revealed four 6 oz. packages of marijuana.**

**On May 12, 2012, Off. Mendoza stopped a vehicle for traffic violations on I-40. After Off. Mendoza had reasonable suspicion due to unusual behavior and answers, he asked for consent to search the vehicle. The consensual search revealed eleven bundles of marijuana weighing approximately 275 pounds. Off. Mendoza received a Personnel Commendation for this investigation.**

**Off. Abel Mendoza is a well rounded officer who shows initiative to make traffic stops, but he also shows competence to do good investigations and field identification work.**

## **Cpl. Mary Willis**



### **Rotary Club South Officer of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter 2012**

Since the first of the year Cpl. Willis has investigated numerous fatal accidents and other serious collisions.

Cpl. Willis' work resulted in an indictment for Intoxication Manslaughter concerning 2012-501708. This was a particularly involved reconstruction with a massive amount of investigation. Her work also resulted in another indictment for Intoxication Manslaughter and Accident Causing Injury or death reference 2012-507328. Since the first of the year she has been called out 24 times. Of those 24 callouts, she has handled 2 Intoxicated Manslaughters, 6 victim-violator fatalities, 2 Deadly Conduct cases, 4 Intoxicated Assault cases, 2 medical-related collisions and 1 animal-caused serious crash. Several other cases are open pending evidence from the DPS lab. Mary has also helped other Investigators in our unit on their cases and assisted other agencies. She is a hard worker and is well liked by all.

**The above listed cases are not the only work she does. Cpl. Willis also investigates Hit and Run collisions and maintains a heavy case load. She is a hard worker that functions well alone or as a team. She has brought new and novel ideas to how we investigate fatalities. Cpl. Willis strives to be thorough and professional in all investigations. She makes a point to call and keep the loved ones of the victims up to date on the progress of the cases**

## **Cpl. Sam McGallian**



### **Rotary Club South Officer of the 4th Quarter 2012**

**In 2012, Cpl. McGallian investigated a number of fatal collisions and other serious crashes.**

**Cpl. McGallian was able to obtain an indictment for a double Manslaughter case concerning 12-501892. He did a lot of work on this case as he had to show that the speeding driver of one of the vehicles was the violator since the excessive speed made it impossible for the victims to see the oncoming SUV.**

**He has worked a high profile case in the media concerning a Racing Causing Death collision. He also worked a victim violator-triple fatality. For the calendar year 2012, he was called out 14 times. Of those call outs, he has 2 indictments for Manslaughter, 1 Racing Causing Death case, 1 Intoxicated Manslaughter case, 3 Intoxicated Assault cases, 2 medical-related collisions, 1 Accident Causing Injury or**



**Death and 5 Victim-violator crashes. He has helped others in the unit when they need assistance, as well as other agencies.**

**I want to emphasize these major incidents are not all that he does. He also keeps up with a heavy case load concerning DWI cases, evading cases and some hit and run cases, as well.**