



2009 Annual Report Bellevue Police Department





Bellevue Police Department 2009 Annual Report



I am pleased to bring you the Bellevue Police Department 2009 Annual Report. This is an opportunity to review the work of your dedicated and professional police staff.

Taking into consideration our three main initiatives of *Safety, Working Smarter* and *Relations*, here are some highlights of our accomplishments in 2009:

We launched a Downtown Policing Squad as part of our strategic plan to respond in a proactive manner to the effects of the increased growth and density in the downtown area. The squad is deployed during the time of day and days of the week where the most calls occur.

We contracted with and transitioned to NORCOM, the new regional Public Safety Communications Center that opened in July of 2009. NORCOM dispatches police services for Bellevue, Kirkland, Medina, Clyde Hill and Mercer Island along with numerous fire districts.

We upgraded and implemented new software systems including a records management system, a system to run the computers in the patrol units and an electronic report writing tool. These new systems will lower overall costs of technology while creating information sharing capabilities with our Communication Center partner agencies.

The overall crime for 2009 remains low for a city of our size.

The Photo Enforcement Pilot Program was launched in September of 2009. A notable decrease in violations has occurred since the program was implemented.

In this difficult economy, **the Police Department was able to come in under budget** and acquire over \$768 thousand in state and federal grants during 2009. The grants helped the department maintain the high level of service this community expects.

The Diversity Focus Group and the Bellevue Police Foundation continued to work closely with the Police Department, building relationships between the police and our community.

I hope this list gives you a flavor of some of our exceptional work in 2009. In the next pages, you will see even more accomplishments as each section reports out on their goals and objectives.

This past year has been a difficult one for law enforcement. Six officers in Washington State were shot and killed while performing their law enforcement duties. Their communities, families and law enforcement brothers and sisters are devastated by the loss. Bellevue Police also lost a key member of our law enforcement family. Lieutenant Christopher McOmer lost his battle with cancer in July. He was only 44 years old. He was one of those exceptional people who made a positive impact on everyone he met. He is greatly missed.

In 2010, the economy will challenge us all. The members of the Bellevue Police Department are committed to providing you with the highest quality law enforcement, community education and support services possible within the resources our community provides.

Linda Pillo
Chief of Police

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Mission Statement

We support the mission of City Government by consistently contributing to our community's reputation as a safe and vibrant place to live, work, and visit.

We accomplish this by providing the highest quality law enforcement, community education and support services possible.

We are responsive to the public interest, transparent and inclusive in our operation, innovative in our ability to adapt to change, and conscientious in expending public funds.

Guiding Principles

Guiding the character and culture of the Bellevue Police Department

Respect: We begin by treating others as we would like to be treated. We are fair and considerate in what we do.

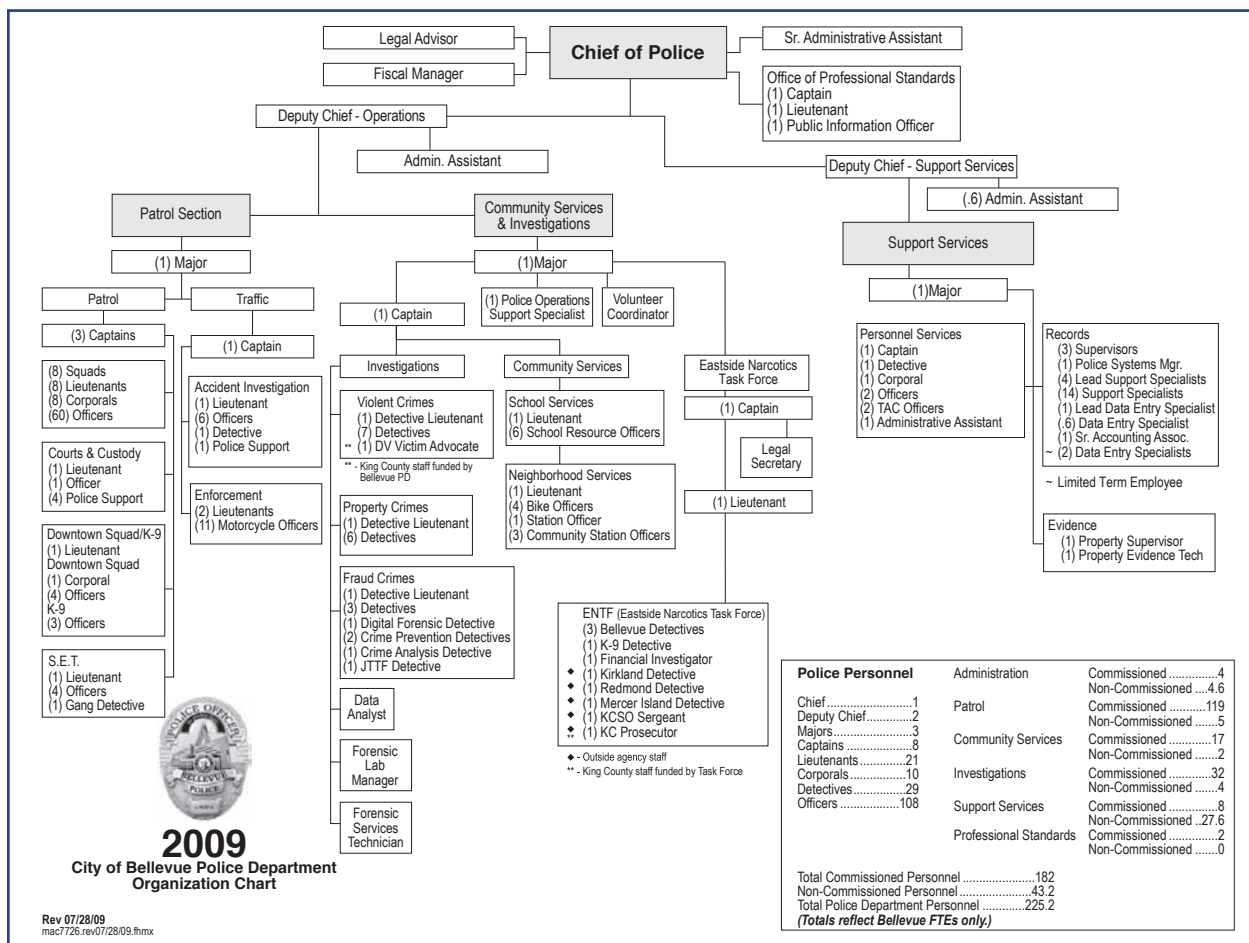
Integrity: We are honest, ethical, steadfast and always strive to do the right thing. We lead by example.

Accountability: On all levels we take responsibility for our actions and decisions.

Service: We are active and committed to providing exceptional service to our community through teamwork, innovation and education.

Organization

The Bellevue Police Department serves a population of 118,000 in a 31 square mile area. Bellevue is the Eastside's major urban population center, making it the fifth largest city in Washington State. The department is allotted 182 commissioned personnel, along with 44 professional support staff. Commissioned ranks are, in ascending order: officer, corporal, lieutenant, captain, major, deputy chief, and chief.



OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE



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OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF POLICE

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The Office of the Chief of Police includes the chief, two deputy chiefs, legal advisor, fiscal manager, two administrative assistants and the Office of Professional Standards, which includes one captain, one lieutenant, the public information officer and one professional part-time employee.



Operations Deputy Chief Bill Quinn

The Operations Division includes Patrol, Traffic K-9, Courts/Custody, Special Enforcement Team, Investigations, Community Services, Eastside Narcotics Task Force, Volunteer Program and the Forensic Lab.



Legal Advisor Kyle Aiken



Support Services Deputy Chief Bruce Vestal

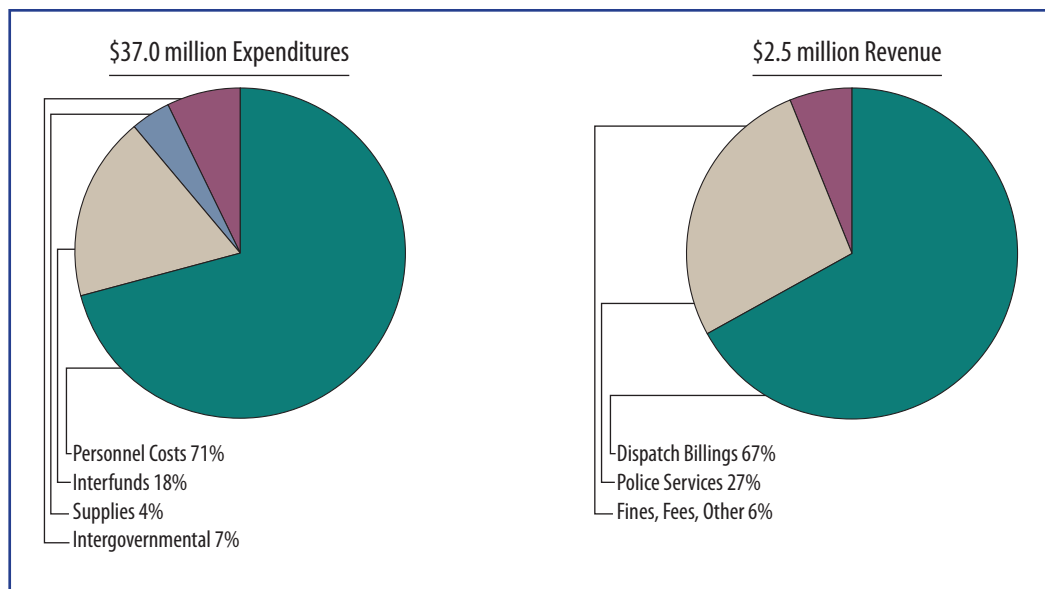
The Support Services Division includes Communications, Personnel Services, Records, and Property/ Evidence.



Fiscal Manager Carl Krikorian

Financial Summary for 2009

The Bellevue Police Department expended \$37.0 million in 2009 against an annual budget of \$37.3 million. \$2.5 million was generated in revenue, mostly from Dispatch billings, and \$768 thousand in federal, state, and local grants were received. The grant funding was utilized for drug task force staffing, Eastside crime analysis, out-of-state travel/training, and miscellaneous equipment such as Tasers, SWAT rifles, and traffic enforcement tools. The majority of the budget (71%) was for personnel costs for the 182 commissioned officers and 43.2 professional support staff.



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Part One Crimes	2008	2009	% Change
Homicide	0	2 ▲	+200%
Rape	33	25 ▼	-24.2%
Robbery	71	61 ▼	-14.1%
Aggravated Assault	63	74 ▲	+17.5%
Total Violent Crime	167	162 ▼	-3.0%
Burglary	687	621 ▼	-9.6%
Larceny (theft)	3,327	3,150 ▼	-5.3%
Motor Vehicle Theft	274	179 ▼	-34.7%
Arson	23	16 ▼	-30.4%
Total Property Crime	4,311	3,966 ▼	-8.0%
Total Part I Crime	4,478	4,128 ▼	-7.8%



OFFICE OF PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

Captain Mike Johnson

The Office of Professional Standards (OPS) oversees and manages four distinct areas: Internal Affairs, Accreditation Management, Policies and Procedures, and the Public Information function.

Internal Affairs: Complaints are received and reviewed in this office. Policy dictates how complaints are handled: Dissatisfaction with Service, Informal Standards Investigation, or Formal Standards Investigation.

Accreditation Management: The department is internationally accredited through the Commission for the Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA). This important task is managed by the OPS commander. In 2009, there was a mock assessment in preparation for our re-accreditation in 2010. A team of personnel has been formed in an effort to develop a more efficient and effective process for gathering and assembling information throughout the year.

Policies and Procedures: Each year, our policy manual is reviewed to check for errors, changes and outdated practices. This is an ongoing process that is guided, in part, by the CALEA standards. Policy updates and changes are disseminated via Executive Order.

Public Information: A commissioned officer is rotated through this office every three to five years and reports to the commander of OPS. The public information officer is responsible for providing orderly and timely information to the news media, the public and department personnel.

Office of Professional Standards Key Performance Measures	2008	2009
Formal Standards investigations	14	19
Informal Standards investigations	42	44
Dissatisfaction with service	54	70
Employee preventable collisions	29	24



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PATROL Major Cherie Baker

Patrol is the largest section in the department with 125 commissioned officers and 5 limited commissioned personnel. The section is headed by Major Cherie Baker and divided into units with Patrol and Traffic being the largest. This year Patrol created a Downtown Squad to address growth and density in the downtown core. It is an 18-month pilot project to determine efficiencies and effectiveness with a high-density population. The first six months of the pilot program have been successful. Other units include the Special Enforcement Team (SET), Courts and Custody Unit and Canine. Specialty assignments in Patrol include Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT), Explosives, Hostage Negotiator, Crowd Control, Crime Scene Investigations (CSI), and Honor Guard.

Courts and Custody Unit has one lieutenant, one commissioned officer as the court liaison officer (CLO), and four police support officers (PSOs). The PSOs are responsible for transporting prisoners to court from three different contracted jails (King County, Issaquah and Yakima) and back to the jail facilities. The CLO tracks all cases referred for filing to the prosecutor's office.

Patrol/Traffic Key Performance Measures

	2008	2009
Part One crimes committed per 1,000 population	37	34
Customer satisfaction indicating good or excellent service (survey results)	83%	*
Percentage of citizens who feel safe or moderately safe (survey results)	96%	*
Felony arrests by Patrol	562	436
Misdemeanor arrests by Patrol	1,514	2,596
Warrant arrests by Patrol	727	645
Injury collisions as % of total collisions	14%	20%
Citations issued	21,414	22,914
Collisions investigated	1,919	1,669

* Survey taken every other year.

The Bellevue Police fleet includes patrol cars, traffic, administration, bomb, undercover, and motorcycles. Pictured below is our newly acquired Lenco Bearcat armored rescue vehicle.



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The Crowd Control unit is comprised of 30 team members. They train quarterly and support surrounding agencies.

SET

The Special Enforcement Team (SET) is comprised of one lieutenant, four officers and one detective. Together, the unit solves specific crimes utilizing a proactive approach. Their primary responsibility is car crimes including car prowls and motor vehicle thefts. They collaborate with other agencies in the Puget Sound area to combat these crimes. Because of their efforts in catching car thieves and car prowlers on the Eastside, motor vehicle thefts have been reduced dramatically. SET received the first WATPA (Washington Auto Theft Prevention Authority) Award for Auto Theft Agency of the Year.

K-9

As an extension of Patrol, the K-9 Unit seeks to locate evidence of crimes and apprehend suspects using tracking dogs. The K-9 Unit is comprised of one lieutenant, three handlers and three dogs.

K-9 Officer Brad Knudtsen and his dog Roc started their Police Patrol Canine Certification training in October, 2009 and will complete four hundred hours of training required for certification. In order for the handler and dog to form a good partnership, the officers must incorporate the dog into their family life. The dog lives and trains with the handler, and becomes the family pet after retirement.



Roc and his trainer, Officer Brad Knudtsen.



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Bomb Squad

The Bellevue Police Department Bomb Squad consists of six certified bomb technicians. The squad is a regional asset and responds to calls for service throughout King County.



SWAT

In 2009, SWAT performed 22 missions, which included safely capturing two barricaded subjects and assisting on seven high risk search warrants in joint operation with detectives, Special Enforcement Team and Eastside Narcotics Task Force. The SWAT Team includes a commander, two team leaders, two assistant team leaders and team members.



Bellevue Police SWAT Officers Jim Keene and Curt McIvor keep a watchful eye from the roof top of the Tacoma Dome during the funeral for the four Lakewood officers killed in the line of duty.

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Traffic

The Traffic Unit is comprised of one captain, three lieutenants, one detective, seven investigators, 11 motor officers, and one parking enforcement officer. Investigators are responsible for collision investigations and DUI enforcement. The primary focus of the motorcycle officers is handling traffic enforcement in the downtown core and neighborhoods throughout the city.



Bellevue Police Motor Officer performs maneuvers during training at City of Bellevue Training facility.

In 2009, Traffic personnel successfully handled 17 special events throughout the city. The motorcycle officers attended training at the North American Motorcycle Officers Association Conference, the Washington State Patrol advanced high speed training in Shelton and also administered a Basic Motor School. The collision investigators took 1,148 collision reports, including only one fatal collision (DUI), showing an overall reduction in reportable collisions this year.

School Zone and Red Light Photo Enforcement

In an effort to reduce collisions and make city streets safer, Bellevue has implemented a photo enforcement program. Cameras and violation sensors monitor two school zones and two city intersections. Early indications are that this one year pilot program has already reduced red light running and speeding in school zones.



Stevenson Elementary on N.E. 8th Street and 143rd Avenue N.E. is one of the two school zones monitored by photo enforcement in the City of Bellevue.





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INVESTIGATIONS



INVESTIGATIONS AND COMMUNITY SERVICES

Major Mike Pentony

Investigations

The Investigations section includes the Violent Crimes/Special Assault Unit, the Property Crimes Unit and the Fraud Unit. These units are staffed by very highly trained and seasoned investigators. They conduct follow-up investigations on a wide variety of crimes ranging from murder to car prowls. They are a hard working group that consistently achieve high case clearance levels. Their work is supported by our own state of the art Forensics Crime Lab, which does latent fingerprint examinations, precursor DNA testing and marijuana examinations. We also have a state of the art Digital Forensics Lab that does extensive work on recovering evidence from computers, video recorders and cell phones.



Detectives Lindquist and Finkel consult on a current investigation.

Eastside Narcotics Task Force (ENTF) includes Bellevue, Kirkland, Mercer Island, King County Sheriff's Office, Washington State Patrol, Redmond, K-9, a King County deputy prosecutor and a financial investigator. These



Detectives load marijuana plants into truck after the Eastside Narcotics Task Force served search warrants and seized over 25,000 plants with a street value of over \$50 million in September 2009.

agencies collaborate to investigate drug trafficking in our area. In 2009, ENTF was involved in a large scale outdoor marijuana grow operation in remote East King County. This one case resulted in the seizure of over 25,000 marijuana plants with a street value of \$50 million. ENTF has had major success in fighting drug crimes for the entire region.

Investigations/CSS Key Performance Measures	2008	2009
Cases with evidence processed by AFIS (Automated Fingerprint Identification System)	182	260*
AFIS hits	65	81
Persons crimes cases assigned	612	609
Persons crimes cases cleared	90%	95%
Fraud cases assigned	186	188
Fraud cases cleared	80%	80%
Property cases assigned	686**	601
Property cases cleared	43%	44%

* The increase in cases cleared by AFIS is due to full staffing in the crime lab, eliminating testing delays.

** A change in case tracking procedures allowed for accounting of resolved cases that previously went uncredited.

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Patrol Officer Eric Lee and Crossroads Station Officer Dave Porter work diligently at the Police Community Station in the heart of East Bellevue.

Community Services

The Community Services Section includes a Neighborhood Services Unit and a School Services Unit. Both units increase the department's exposure and involvement with our citizens.

The School Services Unit includes one lieutenant and six school resource officers, who partner with the Bellevue School District to proactively problem-solve issues at middle and high schools.

The Neighborhood Services Unit is comprised of one lieutenant, four bicycle officers, three community station officers and one headquarters officer. These officers are placed in communities and use a problem oriented policing approach to solving crimes and other issues. In 2009, this section made 101 arrests, making significant impact in 49 neighborhood problem areas. They also gave safety presentations at 280 community meetings. We have two crime prevention detectives and one crime analyst who work closely with businesses and residents to educate our community on ways to reduce crime. Sex offenders are tracked and monitored by the crime analyst.



Officers Jamie Collins and Curt McIvor proactively take care of the community while maneuvering through the city on police bicycles.



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COMMUNITY SERVICES

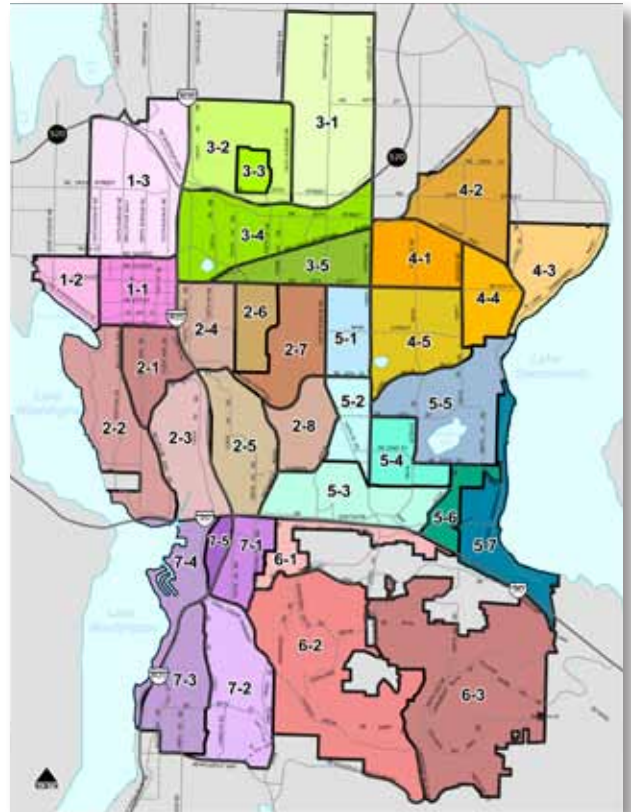
Volunteers

The Bellevue Police Department's volunteer program, Citizens and Police in Partnership (CAPP), was established in 1994 to address the issue of providing the highest quality law enforcement service to a growing population under tightly restricted budgetary and staffing constraints, and to expand the Department's commitment to community-oriented policing. In 2009, more than 50 volunteers worked a total of over 8,128 hours. The volunteers' work efforts are responsible for countless individual project achievements and have enabled us to enhance the services we provide to the community and to our own staff. This program also has a tremendous positive impact on the lives of the individuals who volunteer. They tell us that their service with the Bellevue Police Department enriches their own lives by providing them with a renewed sense of mission and purpose.

This program contributes to making Bellevue one of the safest cities in the state and helps us maintain consistently positive satisfaction ratings among our citizens. As new growth and development transforms Bellevue into its own major metropolitan center with new law enforcement challenges, the volunteer program will remain an integral part of our ability to serve our citizens. As summed up by one officer, "We are a better police department because of this program."



Pauline Beerman, who has volunteered with the Police for 15 years, is pictured with Factoria Community Station Officer Rob Wood.



The City of Bellevue is divided into several patrol neighborhoods and districts for dispatching and records tracking.

Location of Community Police Stations:

Crossroads: 15600 N.E. 8th Street, Suite P3

Factoria: 3915 Factoria Boulevard S.E.

Transit Station: 10850 N.E. 6th Street

Police Headquarters: 450 110th Avenue N.E.



Officer John Bosseler assists various citizens at Police Headquarters.

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SUPPORT SERVICES

Major Todd Simonton

The staff members of the Support Services Section deliver the records, property/evidence and personnel services functions for the Police Department. The Records Unit provides the public with non-emergency information services, distributes court orders, maintains case files, runs criminal background checks for officers, and maintains the police reporting database. Walk-in services include case copies, bail collection, and concealed pistol licensing. Records public business hours are 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., Monday through Friday. A new integrated Records Management System was initiated late in 2009 and will continue into 2010 for final conversion of all prior data. In 2009, Personnel Services Unit staff worked hard to focus on our department initiatives of safety, working smarter, and relations. Additionally, we worked continuously to keep officers current in all their certifications and training needs.

Property/Evidence Room

The Property/Evidence Unit consists of one manager and one full time employee and is responsible for the intake, cataloging, retention and disposal of all items collected from case investigations. In 2009, 11,085 pieces of property were collected. Over 7,000 pieces of unclaimed items were auctioned off, destroyed or donated. At year end, the property room's inventory totaled 37,300 pieces of property/evidence.

Records Key Performance Measures	2008	2009
Warrants processed		
New	2,249	2,004
Recalled by Court	757	620
Not Served/Expired	449	486
Protection Orders served (Domestic Violence)	1,015	1,212
Computer-Aided Dispatch entries	10,610	N/A*
Records Checks	8,859	6,317
Firearms License applications processed	600	592
Pistol Transfer applications processed	839	1,009
Data entered into Records Management System		
Arrests	4,286	4,770
Cases	12,597	14,433
Criminal Citations	2,702	2,473
Field Interview Reports	2,164	3,486
Non-Traffic Infractions	8	7
Parking Tickets	1,230	1,738
Traffic Accidents	1,948	1,669
Traffic Infractions	21,414	22,914
Trespass Notices	820	768

* N/A Computer-Aided Dispatch Entries are no longer provided by Records.



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Personnel Services Unit

The Personnel Services Unit is responsible for recruiting, training and equipping the department's officers. The unit is managed by one captain, and consists of one hiring coordinator detective, one hiring and recruiting corporal, four training officers, one quartermaster and an administrative assistant. This unit stays very busy working with all 225 employees.

In the area of safety we introduced many new and exciting skills, equipment, and training techniques. Staff were certified in the Lateral Vascular Neck Restraint, the VIRTRA shooting simulator training was initiated, 30 additional patrol rifles were put into service, new HK P30 pistols were purchased to begin replacing older USP models, tasers were provided to every uniformed officer, active shooter training was conducted at a new location, and monthly defensive tactics training was expanded to include all specialty units.

In an effort to work smarter, we began hosting training from respected outside resources to provide the latest information to our officers. We partnered with the Department of Homeland Security to become the Eastside host for regional training. We negotiated new contracts for our ballistic vests, uniforms, equipment, and dry cleaning. We also streamlined and improved our quartermaster process to quickly and efficiently provide essential items to our officers.

Striving for excellence in relations we introduced new ethics based training during Fall in-service training. We began inviting other city departments to use our classrooms for meetings and seminars. In 2010, the Bellevue Police Department will host the Law Enforcement Information and Records Association Fall conference.



Officer Joe Engman manages the training program for the department and teaches defensive tactics to police officers.

Personnel Services Key Performance Measures	2008	2009
Background investigations	96	29
Commissioned staff hired	21	1
Professional staff hired	9	2
Hours of training conducted:	27,001	29,940
Average hours of training per officer:	144	165

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Employees recognized in 2009

Officer of the Year Detective Jennifer Robertson	Professional Support Staff of the Year Police Support Specialist Sheila Evans
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Special awards

Police Medal Officer Casey Hiam	Lifesaving Award Deputy Chief Jim Jolliffe
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Commander's Awards Lieutenant Marcia Harnden Lieutenant David Sellers Officer Mark Tomlinson	Years of Service (30 years) Mark Trout, Application Analyst
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Officer Jeff Liddiard Officer My Tran Officer Joe Engman	Retirements Captain William Ferguson (30 years)
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In Memory of Lieutenant Chris McOmber
October 1964–July 2009

Lieutenant Chris McOmber began his law enforcement career with the Los Angeles Police Department in 1990. In 1994, he joined the Bellevue Police Department Patrol Division.

Chris rose rapidly through the ranks as a detective with the Eastside Narcotics Task Force, a patrol corporal, a patrol lieutenant, and finally as a lieutenant supervising the K-9 Unit, field training officers and all patrol corporals. He was also an active and proud member of SWAT for several years and the commander of the Bomb Squad.

Those who knew Chris remember him as a wonderful friend and a loving husband and father. He was dedicated to the Bellevue Police Department and enjoyed everyone he worked with. Chris was a much loved member of the department and will be truly missed.





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