

Columbia Heights Police

Annual Report



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CHIEF OF POLICE SCOTT NADEAU

**COLUMBIA HEIGHTS POLICE DEPARTMENT
CHIEF OF POLICE
SCOTT NADEAU**



Dear Elected Officials and Community Partners,

2010 was a year filled with challenges for our nation, state, and communities. We continued to be in the midst of an economic recession, with record foreclosures and high unemployment, and there were worries about crime and terrorism. The financial challenges of 2010 made for tight budgets and we, as public servants, were constantly evaluating and reassessing the ways in which we could provide exemplary service in a time of economic crises. In this annual report I think you will agree that our police department responded to these challenges with vigor, and not only met the challenges head on, but actually found opportunities to improve our level of service and make adjustments to the ways in which we serve our community, based on our community's needs and resources.

In 2010 the police department was able to add a 28th police officer whose position was funded by a federal grant made possible by President Obama's COPS (Community Oriented Policing Services) Hiring Recovery Program (or CHRP). Officer Terry Nightingale assumed the newly created position of Community Policing Coordinator in April 2010, and he worked on several important initiatives: revitalizing and improving landlord trainings; focusing on and improving our Neighborhood Watch and National Night Out programs; initiating and facilitating Police and Community Picnics in the Park with our strategic partners; working proactively with landlords on problem tenant issues; coordinating efforts for public dialogue with our multi-cultural communities; and coordinating many of the police department's public outreach and branding efforts. His efforts in the first eight months of the position have not only helped to improve crime and livability in the community, but they have brought us closer to the public that we serve.

Another position added to our agency in 2010 was a School Liaison Officer (SLO) for the Alternative Learning Center (ISD 916), located at 40th Avenue NE and Central Avenue NE. This position was fully funded by the school district for 2010, and Officer Rob Harvey was selected to fill this position in January. After some discussions with the school district early in the program, it became evident that Officer Harvey could have an impact that went beyond the traditional role of a school liaison. Officer Harvey was given permission to instruct a class that focused on decision-making and life skills, and other areas pertinent to today's youth. This class was so successful that he was asked to repeat the class a number of times so as to interact with students in a teaching and mentoring capacity. In addition to his SLO responsibilities, Officer Harvey assisted in investigations and returned to the patrol division during the summer months, acting as a force multiplier as needed.

I believe that the addition of these two positions has been very beneficial to our community, and has helped us to reduce crime and be impactful with our youth and community at large. That the police department was able add these positions at little or no cost to the community demonstrates our resolve to continue to creatively search for resources and funding outside of our city in order to improve our service and accomplish our mission.

Our support services staff is instrumental in accomplishing our mission, and as such we re-organized our team in 2010 so as to better serve the police department. Karen Olson moved from Chief's Secretary to Office Supervisor (a position previously known as Support Services Supervisor) and John Nichols was hired as a Police Information Services Specialist. This reorganization, done at no additional cost to the city, allows us more hands-on supervision of our support staff and it improves our ability to effectively utilize technology and computer applications in our operation. Additionally, we cross-trained support staff so that critical tasks can be performed by a variety of staff and work-load can be more evenly distributed.

In 2010 the police department worked on issues related to “Branding”, including identification of our mission and core values; what differentiates us from other law enforcement agencies; what concepts guide us in the decisions that we make as an agency; and how we reflect our “*Brand*” in the activities we are involved in and how we interact with the community. Related to branding, the police department worked on some of the items that symbolically reflect who we are as an agency, to include badges, patches, and printed materials that incorporate our “*Core Values*” and “*Mission*”. This holistic effort, which included a number of police department employees, will serve the department in the years to come as a guide and reminder of what activities the police department will focus on, and our commitment to the ideals of professionalism, service, dedication, and ethical actions.

Outreach to our community’s youth, proactive and preventative relationship building, mentoring, and youth accountability have been key priorities of the CHPD Strategic Plan for the past two years. In 2010 the Police Department continued to find ways to be impactful with youth, and had over 2,900 youth attend the CHPD Cops-n-Kids program events, as well as 175 youth graduate from our DARE program. It is noteworthy that since 2008 the police department has invested heavily in preventative policing as it applies to the community’s youth, committing over 400% more time and resources to both youth outreach and accountability. During this time period crime has not only steadily decreased, but arrests of juveniles decreased by 39%. While we have not scientifically studied the reasons for the massive reduction in juvenile arrests, we are confident that it is at least in part due to the proactive and preventative policing methods that we are using with our community’s youth.

I am again pleased to report that our community’s crime reduction trend continued in 2010. Our initial analysis shows that both Part 1 and Part 2 crimes decreased significantly (see “2010 – Another Successful Year for Crime Reduction in Columbia Heights”) continuing a three-year trend of massive crime reduction. Overall the combined crime rate has decreased by 22% since 2008, a rate that continues to encourage us that we are on the right path as both a community and crime fighting agency. While the police department worked on developing more sophisticated and logic based methods to identify crime trends and patterns in 2008 and 2009, the police department took “*problem solving*” to the next level in 2010 making sure that everyone within the organization was working together and with other strategic partners and stakeholders, to ensure that police resources were strategically focused on areas having higher crime and/or calls for service. This problem solving approach has been adopted department wide and will continue to be implemented in 2011 to further expand the capacity of the police department to identify and remediate problems quickly in our communities.

I opened this letter speaking about the economic crisis faced by our nation, state, and communities in 2010, and I am proud to say that our staff stepped up and found other ways to serve our community by assisting those in need. In 2010 the Police Department held a benefit for the SACA food shelf entitled “***Columbia Heights Police Arrest Hunger***” at the new public safety building on March 16, 2010. Approximately 300 people attended the benefit and had a great time, with a number of activities designed to not only be fun, but educational. CHPD staff, along with other strategic partners, was able to raise awareness and \$6,200. CHPD staff again participated in the annual charity softball game and National Night Out food collection efforts on behalf of SACA, both of which contributed to serving those in need in Columbia Heights and Hilltop. Lastly, our police association began a “***Shop with a Cop***” program. While the original goal was to help one family, it became evident that there were actually four families in need, so with the support of contributions from police staff, the Mayor’s Activity Fund, and some contributions from local businesses, all four families were supported and helped to have a happy holiday season. I think that the volunteer efforts outlined here demonstrate a true commitment to help and serve at a level that is uncommon and it speaks to our staff’s dedication and generosity (both in terms of their time and gifts).

As in years past, I continue to be very proud of the entire staff of the Columbia Heights Police Department, both for their individual and collective accomplishments of 2010. We continue to be grateful for the support and vision that we have been given from our community leaders and stakeholders, and commit to professionally serve the Columbia Heights and Hilltop communities with pride and dedication into the year 2011 and beyond. As a police department, we will continue to focus on our commitment to service, on improving our agency, and working collaboratively with our community and with other stakeholders to ensure that the communities that we serve continue to be both great and safe places to live, work, visit and enjoy.

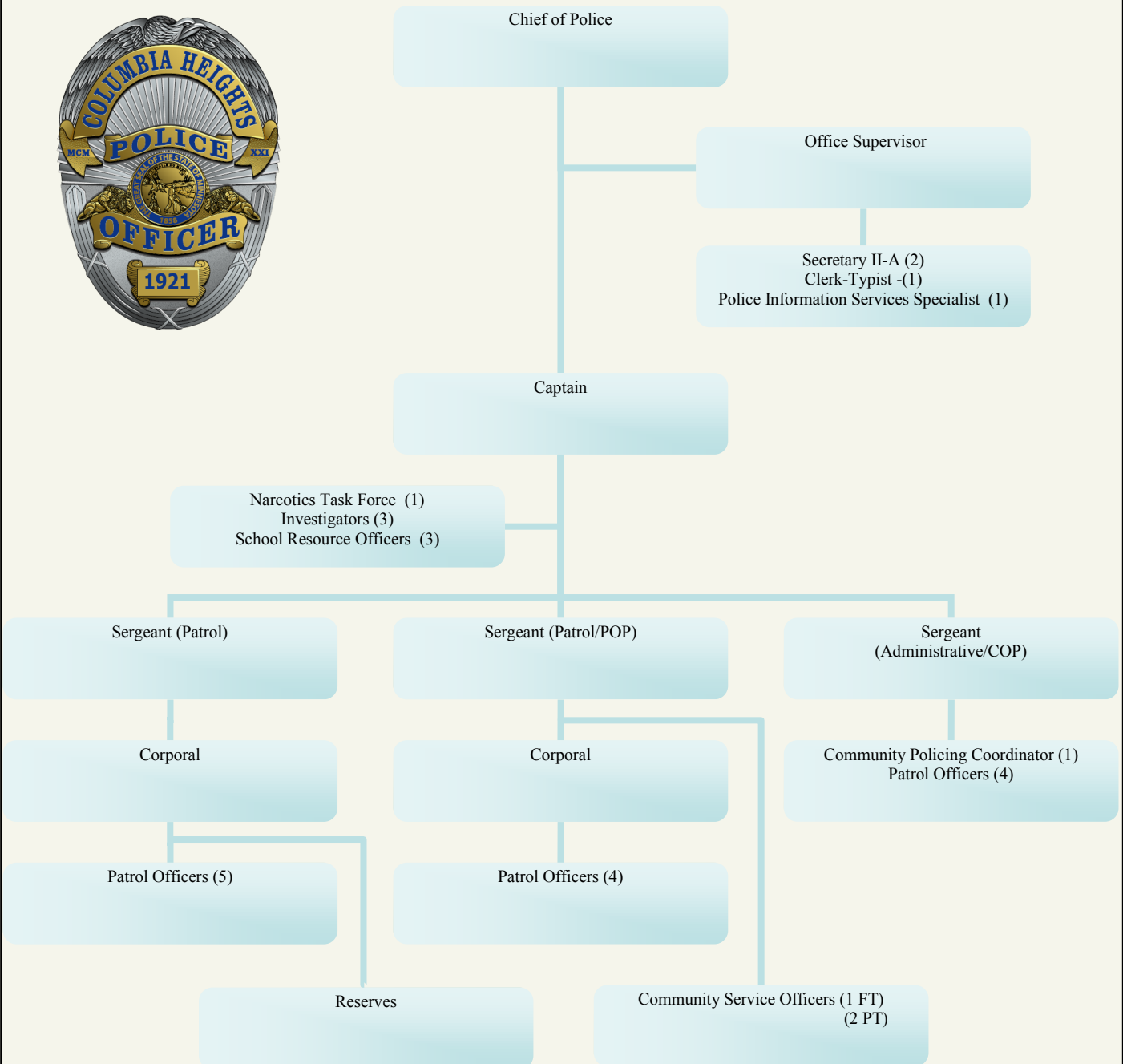
Sincerely,

Scott Nadeau

POLICE EMPLOYEES IN 2010

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Serving From:</u>
Scott Nadeau	Chief of Police	04-21-08
Lenny Austin	Captain	02-15-95
John Rogers	Sergeant	06-12-86
Ted Fischer	Sergeant	10-30-92
Matthew Markham	Sergeant	08-31-98
Lee Okerstrom	Corporal	03-23-98
Dale Sorensen	Corporal	09-11-97
Terence Nightingale	Police Officer/COP Coordinator	04-01-85 New position 04-19-10
Gary Kallestad	Police Officer	04-17-89
Steven Korts	Police Officer	09-13-89
Joe Sturdevant	Police Officer	05-06-96
Paul Bonesteel	Investigator/DTF	09-08-94
Matthew Aish	Police Officer	08-30-99
Gregory Sinn	Investigator	06-05-00
Robert Harvey	Investigator/Alt School Liaison	01-07-01 New position 01-25-10
Jason Beckett	Police Officer	01-08-01
Erik Johnston	Investigator	12-02-02
Jason Piehn	Police Officer/Investigator	04-04-05
Danielle Pregler	MS School Liaison	03-19-06
Diana Bugos	Police Officer	03-20-06
Erik Hanson	Police Officer	02-05-07
Tessa Huber	Police Officer	06-18-07
Ronald Dietz	HS School Liaison	11-26-07
Andrew Carigiet	Police Officer	08-11-08
Joseph Pikala	Police Officer	08-12-08
William Monberg	Police Officer	10-13-08
Maggie Beranek	Police Officer	01-04-10 New grant-funded position
Justin Pletcher	Police Officer	05-24-10 New position-Alt Schl agreement
Karen Olson	Office Supervisor	02-19-86 New position 01-04-10
Elizabeth O'Brien	Records Technician	10-01-83
Dana O'Brien	Records Technician	09-10-07
Carol Femling	Clerk-typist	10-26-09
John Nichols	Information Systems Specialist	03-08-10 New position-Supp Svc reorg
Jerry Wellman	Community Service Officer	01-25-06
Daniel Rose	PT Community Svc Officer	11-04-08
Abdisamad Ahmed	PT Community Svc Officer	07-15-09

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHTS

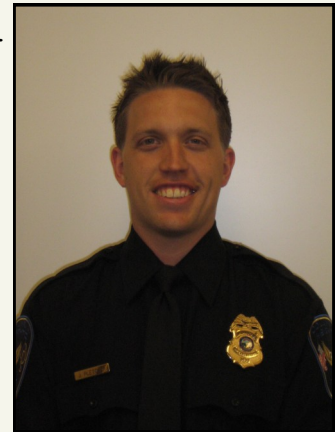
NEW EMPLOYEE: MAGGIE BERANEK



Maggie Beranek started her law enforcement career as a police officer with the department on January 4, 2010. Her position was made possible by a federal COPS grant which the department received in order to focus on Community Oriented Policing activities. Once Maggie completed her field training and was occupying a spot on the patrol schedule, Officer Terry Nightingale was reassigned from the patrol division to his new position as Community Oriented Policing Coordinator.

NEW EMPLOYEE: JUSTIN PLETCHER

Justin Pletcher's first day as a police officer was May 24, 2010. Justin was hired to fill a position authorized by the City Council after the Police Department reached an agreement with Northeast Metro School District 916 for a school liaison at the Alt School.



NEW EMPLOYEE: JOHN NICHOLS



John Nichols, the department's first Information Systems Specialist, started work in his busy position on March 8, 2010. The reorganization of the Support Services unit instituted by Chief Nadeau at the beginning of the year allowed for the hiring of this much-needed position without increasing the overall number of employees in Support Services.

EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHTS, CONT.

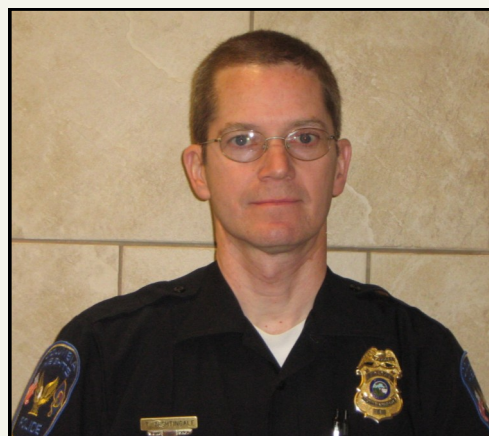
NEW ASSIGNMENT: ROB HARVEY



Officer **Rob Harvey** started serving as the Alt School Liaison on January 25, 2010. An agreement with School District 916 forged by Chief Nadeau and approved by the City Council made way for this position which is fully funded for 2010 by School District 916. Officer Harvey's interest in seeing students succeed, as well as his ability to connect with them, made him a good choice for this assignment.

NEW ASSIGNMENT: TERRY NIGHTINGALE

The Community Oriented Policing Coordinator position made possible by the federal COPS grant was filled starting April 19, 2010 by veteran officer **Terry Nightingale**. Officer Nightingale's connection with the community allowed him to hit the ground running in this position, coordinating such projects as National Night Out, two community picnics, Neighborhood Watch, and facilitating two landlord meetings.



NEW ASSIGNMENT: KAREN OLSON



Karen Olson became the Office Supervisor on January 4, 2010 after working as Chief's Secretary, and Investigations Clerk-Typist prior to that. The position was created in the reorganization of the Support Services unit which occurred after two clerical employees left the department in 2009.

EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHTS, CONT.

CHPD EMPLOYEE SERVING IN THE MILITARY



As of October 15, Officer **Andy Carigiet**, a U.S. Marine Corps Reserve member, has been on military leave from the Columbia Heights Police Department on active duty in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The deployment is anticipated to run through July of 2011. We are proud of Officer Carigiet's service to our country and look forward to his safe return.

I N T E R N S

The CHPD had three current and former law enforcement students serving as interns during 2010. The three individuals; Laura Harris, Brandon Hollman and Andre Boykin gained experience by riding along with patrol officers, as well as spending time in the office working on special projects and helping with routine duties like filing and scanning. The internship experience helps these individuals gain an understanding and knowledge of what a career in law enforcement is all about. In turn, the department benefits in many ways from their involvement and assistance.

V O L U N T E E R : T O L A O G U N D A R E

Tola Ogundare has been volunteering in Support Services since May of 2010. He contributed over 100 hours through the end of the year, as his typical schedule has him working several hours each Friday assisting with tasks like scanning and filing. Tola, originally from Nigeria, said his appreciation for the work of police officers led to his desire to give back to the community by volunteering. We appreciate Tola's hard work and friendly attitude, and look forward to seeing him each week.



C O L U M B I A H E I G H T S P O L I C E R E S E R V E S

The Columbia Heights Reserve Unit is a volunteer organization committed to assisting the Police Department and the Columbia Heights-Hilltop communities with a wide variety of tasks and assignments. New reservists are schooled through the Anoka County Police Reserve Academy, including training on police skills, tactics and other duties. The Reserve Unit has been in existence for approximately 50 years.

In 2010:

Reserve Officers volunteered a total of 1702 hours. This includes all events, training, meetings and patrol services.

Reserve Officers provided 1057 hours of patrol services, primarily on Friday and Saturday nights.

There were three call outs. Reserves provided crime scene security, prisoner transports and jail processing during these incidents:

- Murder/Suicide
- Riot
- 2nd Degree Assault (shooting)

There were three significant event incidents the Reserves assisted with while they were on patrol. In these incidents, the majority of the assist was crime scene security.

- Death of a child
- Aggravated robbery
- 2nd degree assault (stabbing)

The Reserves assisted at Columbia Heights High School football games, two curfew details, All Hands Day, flyer distribution for a sex offender notification, and the Jamboree parade (canceled) and carnival details.

The Reserves assisted with other Columbia Heights activities:

- National Night Out
- Fire Department Open House

Reserves participated in other agency activities as mentioned below:

- Anoka County Public Safety Fair
- Lino Lakes Triathlon
- New Brighton Stockyard Days
- Anoka Kiddie Parade – Halloween
- ICC Run

Reserves also participated in the funerals of two officers who died in the line of duty.

- Deputy Dewey from Mahnommen County Sheriff's Office
- Sergeant Bergeron from Maplewood Police Department

The Reserves have received training in the following:

- Taser
- Spring Use of Force
- Fall Use of Force
- Jail procedures
- Mental Health

P O L I C E R E S E R V E S I N 2 0 1 0

RESERVE OFFICER NAMES	START DATE
Blaine Muyres	03-07-1991
Bob Schmidt	02-01-1996
Darin Bistodeau	06-25-1998
Brian Getty	01-11-2000
Tim Utz	04-16-2007
Rich Szeliga	08-17-2007
Will Tudor	12-04-2008
Zach Johnson	06-18-2009
Kyle Christy	08-18-2009
Mike Dehn	09-15-2009
Josh Watson	11-12-2009
William Carr	07-01-2010
Mohamed Hussan	07-01-2010
Ross Roetman	07-01-2010
Laura Harris	08-05-2010
Amy Rogers	08-05-2010
Omar Abshir	10-21-2010
Ben Degendorf	10-21-2010
Kevin Gominsky	10-21-2010
Jake Skowronek	10-21-2010
Marco Torunski	10-21-2010

**2 0 1 0 P O L I C E D E P A R T M E N T B U D G E T
S U M M A R Y**

The 2010 Police Department budget was authorized at \$3,515,414.00. Preliminary numbers indicate that the year ended about one percent under budget.

The largest portion of the Police Department's annual budget is Personal Services, which accounts for \$3,163,332.00 of the overall amount. Personal Services includes all the line items for salaries, overtime, taxes and insurances for the department's personnel. With the hiring of one officer in January (funded through a federal grant) and one in May (funded by School District 916 in an agreement for a school liaison officer), the department ended the year with 28 police officers, one full-time and two part-time Community Service Officers, and five Support Services employees.

The Supplies section is the smallest portion of the Police Department's budget, and this came in at 110 percent of the budgeted amount of \$126,850. Several factors played a part here, including expenditures for Minor Equipment items needed for outfitting the new Public Safety building, including equipment for the Evidence/Property Room function. The General Supplies line item, which includes such varied purchases as ammunition and janitorial items, was also higher than anticipated.

The third part of the department's budget is Other Services and Charges. The budgeted amount of \$225,232.00 includes costs for things like training, phones and cell phones, postage and other necessary costs of conducting business such as maintaining and repairing the department's vehicles. Several of these line items came in under budget, resulting in this section coming in approximately 14 percent less than anticipated.

The Animal Control budget amount for 2010 was \$16,263.00, and this ended the year over \$4,000 under budget due to fewer than anticipated animal impounds.

POLICE OPERATIONS

Chief of Police: The Chief of Police is responsible for creating an organizational structure most conducive to maximizing resources for effective and efficient delivery of police services to the Cities of Columbia Heights and Hilltop. The Chief also ensures and maintains a work environment for employees that fosters professional growth, career development and mentoring. Scott Nadeau has been Columbia Heights' Chief of Police since April of 2008.

Patrol Division: The Patrol Division is responsible for handling all 911 and non-emergency calls for service. There are 14 patrol officers who are managed by the Captain and supervised by shift Sergeants. Patrol officers are involved in problem solving in the community by addressing hot spots in a directed fashion. The patrol officer function is ever-changing based on the expectations of the citizens that they serve. To more readily adapt to those changes, officers regularly attend training to expand their knowledge, to better serve the citizens and to resolve complicated issues.



Investigations Division: The Investigations Division reviews all police reports of criminal incidents, and these cases are assigned based on the type of crime and solvability. The Investigations Division includes one officer assigned to the Anoka Hennepin Drug Task Force, three officers assigned as School Resource Officers at the Columbia Heights High School, Central Middle School, and the Metro Heights Academy Area Learning Center, and three assigned to general investigation. The Investigations Division works closely with the Patrol Division and other law enforcement partners to ensure a successful resolution on cases. Investigators draft and execute search warrants and subpoenas for property, persons, records and other special evidence. The School Resource Officers work with the School District to ensure students and staff are functioning in a safe environment and accountable to applicable laws and school district rules. These officers serve an important function in building close relationships between youth and law enforcement. This opens up the opportunity to mentor at-risk youth.

Community Service Officers (CSOs): The Community Service Officers support the efforts of the Columbia Heights Police Department by providing services to the community. There are one full-time and two part-time CSOs working for the department under the direction of a Sergeant. Duties of the CSO include:

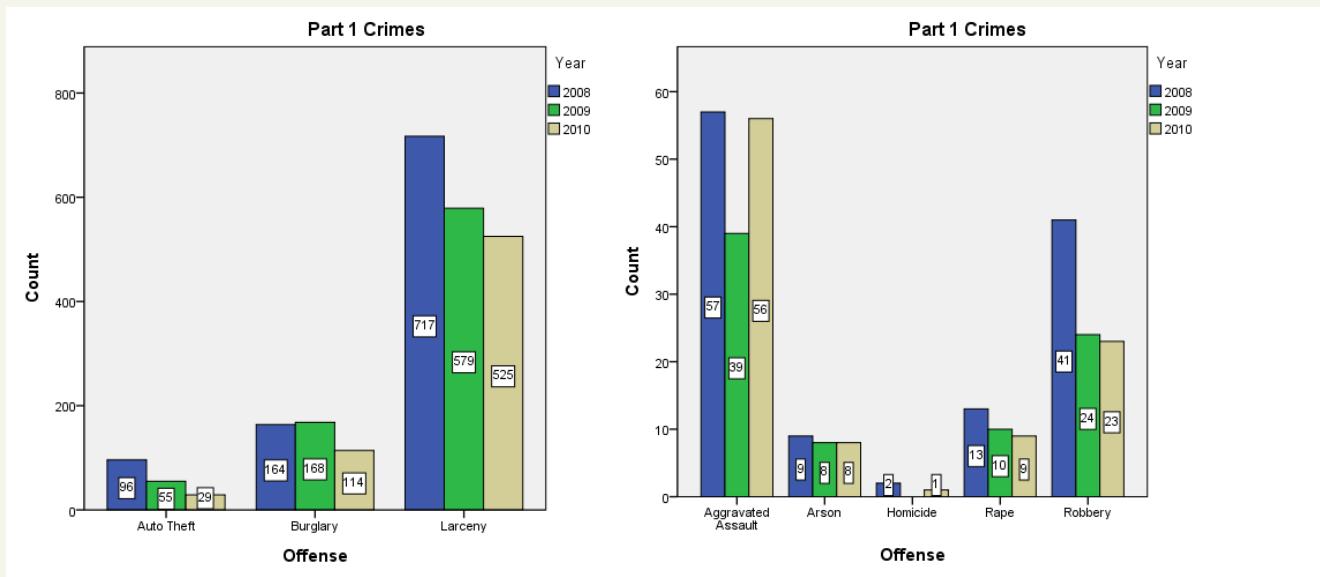
- * Responding to animal calls
- * Fingerprinting
- * Nuisance parking violations
- * Prisoner transports
- * Providing traffic control at accidents
- * Inter-department delivery of mail
- * Transporting of evidence
- * Select enforcement of city code and state statutes

2010 – ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR CRIME REDUCTION IN COLUMBIA HEIGHTS

Overall crime rates for Columbia Heights continued to fall throughout 2010, continuing the pattern of significant decrease since 2007. Crime in Hilltop decreased also, but not as significantly or comprehensively as in Columbia Heights. Columbia Heights Police believe that the continued decrease is directly related to the ongoing strategic application of resources and improved accountability – both within the department and in the community. Equally important are the improved collaborative partnerships between the police department and citizen groups, the business community, the school district, and various agencies such as Anoka County Social Service, Corrections, and Alexandra House.

The statistics for 2010 continue to provide objective corroboration that the department's proactive initiatives are paying dividends in the form of reduced criminal activity and increased public safety. Let's review the numbers and some of the significant initiatives that the police department believes influenced the continuing decrease. There are some ongoing programs that continue to be successful, and some new things designed to meet the dynamic public safety needs of Columbia Heights.

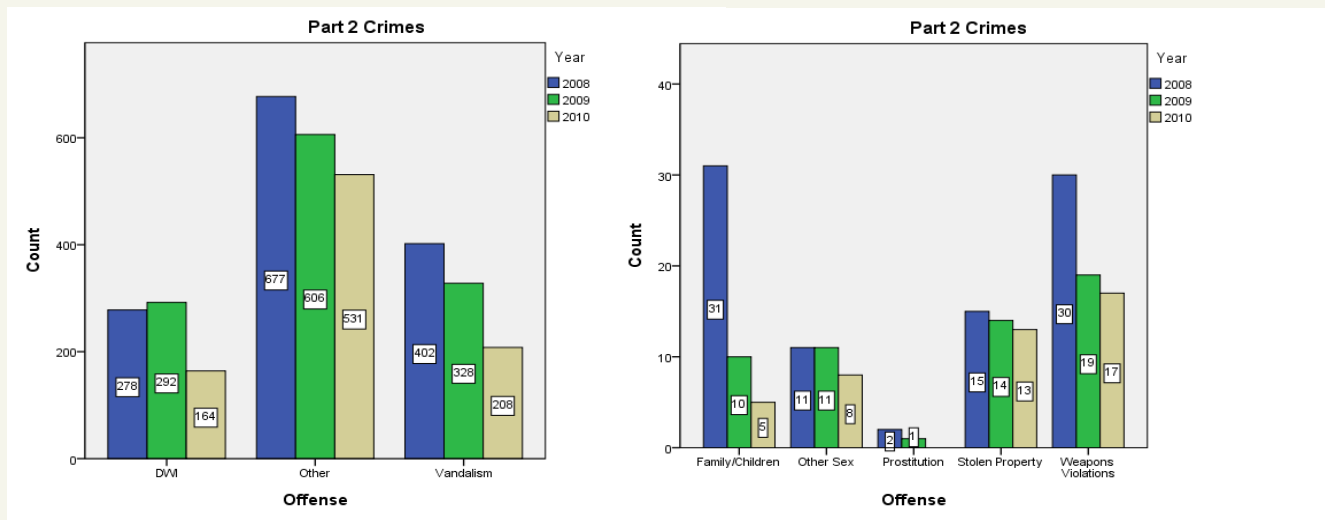
Part-1 Crimes, which includes many of the more serious crimes, were down again this year as can be seen in Figure-1. The exception this year was an increase in the rate of Aggravated Assault, which was not unexpected, and is not indicative of increasing violence in Columbia Heights. Police believe that this reflects changes in department policy and collaboration with Alexandra House to hold perpetrators of domestic violence accountable through increased arrests. This 'zero-tolerance' approach was believed to have caused an increase in misdemeanor assault arrests in 2009. The increased Aggravated Assaults rate in 2010 reflects a continuation of that zero-tolerance policy where repeat offenders are arrested again and the subsequent charges are upgraded to a gross misdemeanor or felony.



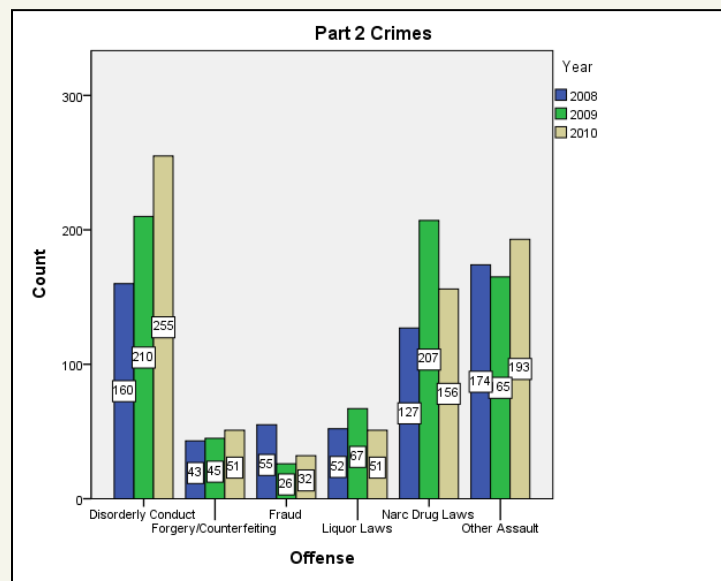
**Figure 1. Part 1 Crime, Three-Year Comparison
(Anoka Co. RMS, 2011)**

CRIME REDUCTION IN COLUMBIA HEIGHTS CONTINUED

The rates for most Part-2 Crimes continued to fall as can be seen in Figure-2, the exception here being rates affected by officer-initiated activity such as arrests for Other Assaults as previously described, and Disorderly Conduct. Only Fraud and Counterfeiting show slight increases not likely affected by increased police enforcement activity (Figure-3).



**Figure-2. Part-2 Crime, Three-Year Comparison
(Anoka Co. RMS, 2011)**



**Figure-3. Part-2 Crime, Three-Year Comparison
(Anoka Co. RMS, 2011)**

CRIME REDUCTION IN COLUMBIA HEIGHTS CONTINUED

The decrease in crime across the various offense categories is even more significant when taken in total as shown in Figure-4. Also shown is Total Arrests as a Percentage of Total Offenses. Reflective of the department's proactive enforcement, Total Arrests as a Percentage of Total Offenses continues to increase, which is believed to positively affect the decreasing Total Offense rate.

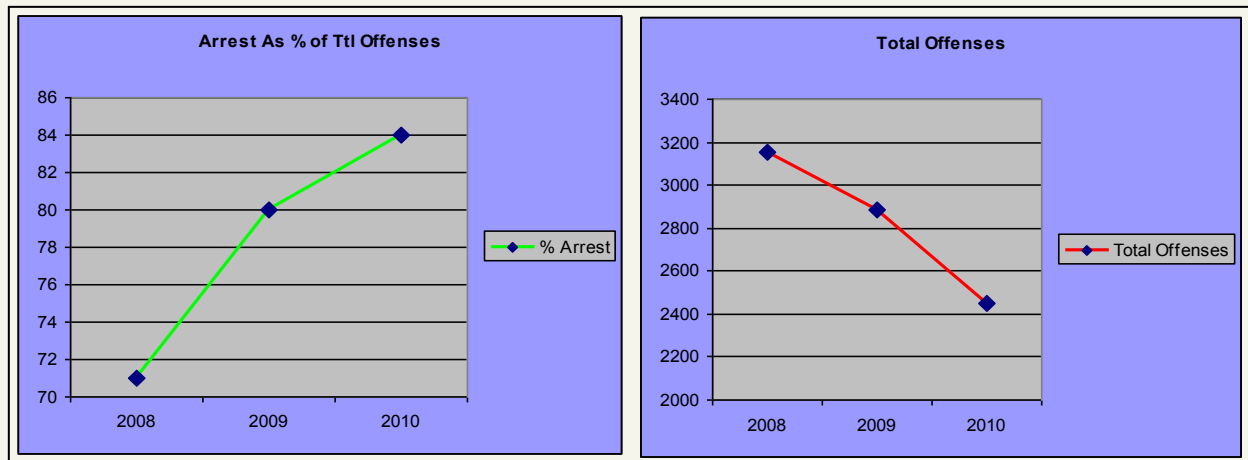
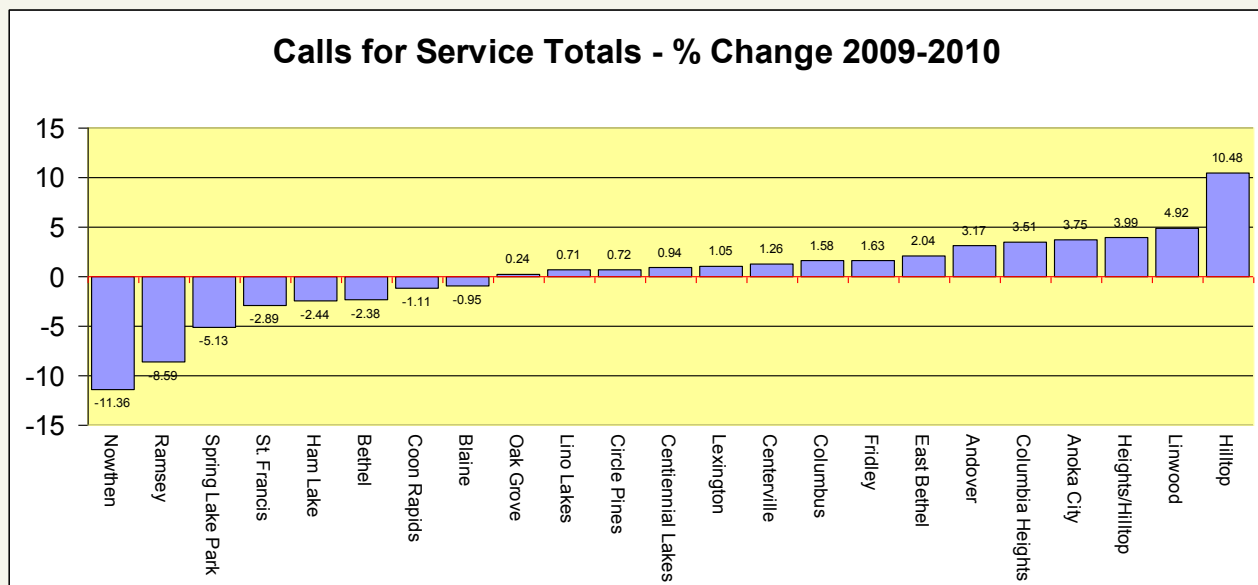


Figure-4. Arrests as % of Total Offenses and Total Offenses: Three-Year Trend

It is interesting to note that the rate of overall Calls For Service (CFS) for Columbia Heights increased during 2010 as compared to the previous year. CFS increased by 3.51% from 2009 to 2010 as seen in Figure-5, yet overall crime rates continued to decrease significantly. This was likely due to increases in public service calls such as medicals and other public assistance calls. Even with the 3.5% increase in 2010, Columbia Heights has a two-year reduction in Total Calls For Service of 6% when taking into account the 9.2% decrease in CFS occurring between 2008 and 2009.



**Figure-5. Percent Change in Calls For Service 2009-2010 for Anoka County Cities
(Anoka County Central Communications, 2011)**

CRIME REDUCTION IN COLUMBIA HEIGHTS CONTINUED

As previously mentioned, changes to Domestic Assault policies and a collaborative initiative with Alexandra House Women's Shelter, Anoka County Sheriff, Anoka Courts, and city and county prosecutors has likely affected assault rates. The police department also began a new Pedestrian Traffic Safety Initiative in the fall of 2009. That initiative has likely increased arrests and citations slightly, but also appears to have improved pedestrian safety as measured by the rate of Pedestrian Accidents as a Percentage of Total Personal Injury Accidents which decreased by 10% during 2010 as seen in Figure-6. The State of Minnesota recognized this significant accomplishment by giving the Department a 2nd place award in the Towards Zero Death Challenge.

Another initiative that the department has focused on during the past several years was an effort to reduce vehicle thefts through enforcement of the Open Ignition Ordinance. This ordinance was created to deter motorists from leaving their vehicles unattended with the key in the ignition. While this enforcement effort has caused some discomfort for those cited for open ignitions, the effort likely prevented something much worse from happening – vehicle thefts. *Figure 7* shows that over the last three years vehicle thefts declined markedly – more than twice the rate of decline than that of a neighboring community.

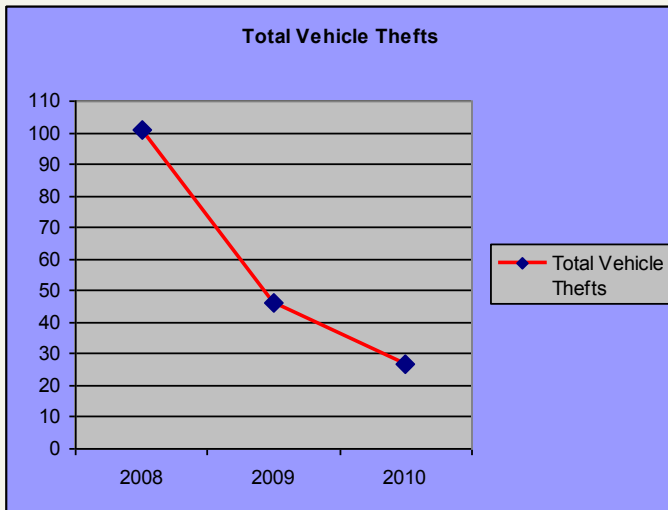


Figure-7. Columbia Heights Auto Thefts, Anoka County Auto-Theft Task Force, (2011)

While the Columbia Heights Police Department cannot guarantee that crime rates will continually decrease, it can control how it responds to the changing public safety needs of the community. The department is confident that the continuing effort to strategically align resources to have the greatest positive impact on crime reduction and increased public safety will build on our past success.

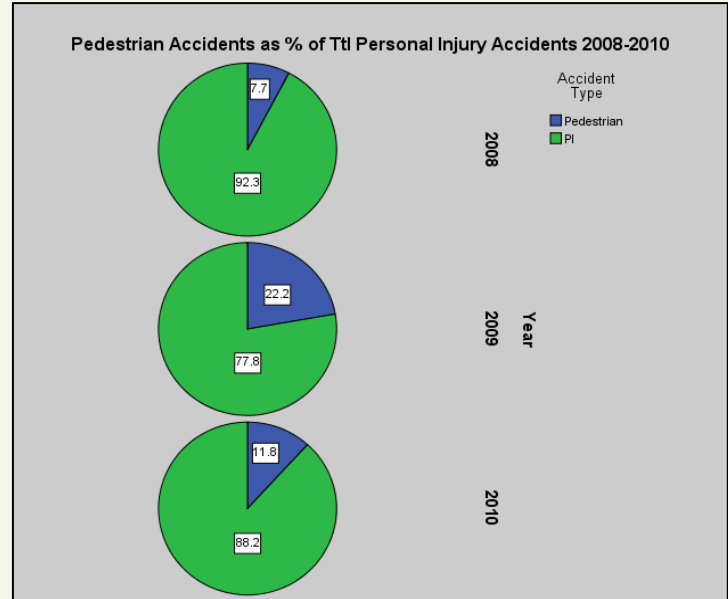


Figure-6. Pedestrian Accidents as % of Total PI Accidents (2008-2010)

Near the end of 2010 the police department launched a new comprehensive program to focus resources on nascent public safety problems developing in the community. This program focuses on 'hot-spots' as identified through statistical data and problem identification and analysis. All department members from administration to patrol are involved in problem identification and resolution. By focusing on the problem in its early stages, the department believes that the problem can be mitigated or resolved before it grows into a major public safety issue. This will likely reduce criminal activity and repeated Calls For Service. The police department is eager to see how this latest effort will positively affect public safety concerns throughout 2011 and beyond.

PART I AND PART II OFFENSES, 2005 - 2010

Offenses: Part 1: 1/1 to 12/31 for 2005 - 2010

	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	1yr % Chg	2yr % Chg	3yr % Chg	4yr % Chg	5yr % Chg
Homicide	1	0	2	0	1	2	---	-50%	---	0%	-50%
Rape	9	10	13	12	26	20	-10%	-31%	-25%	-65%	-55%
Robbery	23	24	41	48	45	56	-4%	-44%	-52%	-49%	-59%
Aggravated Assault	56	39	57	62	65	87	44%	-2%	-10%	-14%	-36%
Total Violent Crimes	89	73	113	122	137	165	22%	-21%	-27%	-35%	-46%
Burglary	116	168	164	242	236	255	-31%	-29%	-52%	-51%	-55%
Larceny	526	579	717	836	758	826	-9%	-27%	-37%	-31%	-36%
Auto Theft	29	55	96	101	98	135	-47%	-70%	-71%	-70%	-79%
Arson	8	8	9	10	15	7	0%	-11%	-20%	-47%	14%
Total Property Crimes	679	810	986	1189	1107	1223	-16%	-31%	-43%	-39%	-44%
Total Offenses	768	883	1099	1311	1244	1388	-13%	-30%	-41%	-38%	-45%

The chart above shows Part One violent offenses have fallen from 165 in 2005 to 73 in 2009. Overall the crime rate has fallen across the board in double digits. Part Two offenses also show significant drops over the same time period as seen in the chart below.

Offenses: Part 2: 1/1 to 12/31 for 2005 - 2010

	2010	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005	1yr % Chg	2yr % Chg	3yr % Chg	4yr % Chg	5yr % Chg
Other Assault	193	165	174	177	241	214	17%	11%	9%	-20%	-10%
Forgery/Counterfeiting	51	45	43	51	64	107	13%	19%	0%	-20%	-52%
Fraud	32	26	55	42	24	30	23%	-42%	-24%	33%	7%
Embezzlement	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Stolen Property	13	14	15	20	36	25	-7%	-13%	-35%	-64%	-48%
Vandalism	207	328	402	437	390	525	-37%	-49%	-53%	-47%	-61%
Weapons Violations	17	19	30	33	21	24	-11%	-43%	-48%	-19%	-29%
Prostitution	0	1	2	2	4	3	-100%	-100%	-100%	-100%	-100%
Other Sex	8	11	11	6	4	13	-27%	-27%	33%	100%	-38%
Narc Drug Laws	156	207	127	106	108	145	-25%	23%	47%	44%	8%
Gambling	0	1	0	0	0	0	-100%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Family/Children	5	10	31	24	11	71	-50%	-84%	-79%	-55%	-93%
DWI	164	292	278	372	330	252	-44%	-41%	-56%	-50%	-35%
Liquor Laws	51	67	52	51	42	66	-24%	-2%	0%	21%	-23%
Disorderly Conduct	255	210	160	252	299	354	21%	59%	1%	-15%	-28%
Other	531	606	677	754	757	695	-12%	-22%	-30%	-30%	-24%
Total Offenses	1683	2002	2057	2327	2331	2524	-16%	-18%	-28%	-28%	-33%

COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING

The term “Community Oriented Policing” refers to a philosophy that combines traditional aspects of law enforcement with prevention measures, problem-solving, community engagement, and community partnerships.

Community policing in Columbia Heights received a boost when Officer Terry Nightingale started as the department’s Community Policing Coordinator on April 19, 2010. Although the CHPD had been performing many of the functions of community policing, the coordination of those tasks is now facilitated by Officer Nightingale. Thanks to the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Columbia Heights competed for and received a grant that pays for a full-time police officer above and beyond the regular authorized strength of the department. The four-year grant is being used to fund the community policing coordinator’s position. Only one other metro suburb received such a grant.

Officer Nightingale’s position oversees Neighborhood Watch, National Night Out, rental property owner interaction, neighbor conflict resolution, and community outreach initiatives.

National Night Out

Also known as Minnesota’s Nite to Unite, the 2010 National Night Out event on August 3 was a success. The exceptionally hot evening did not deter more than 1,136 Columbia Heights and Hilltop residents from coming together at 43 neighborhood gatherings. Thirteen officers and four council members visited those block parties supporting a stand against crime and strengthening neighbor interaction. As part of the police department’s interest in partnering with the community it serves, this was the seventh year N.N.O. participants were asked to donate non-perishable food items for the Southern Anoka County Assistance food shelf. Police officers collected 1,025 pounds worth of food for SACA.



COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING CONT.**Neighborhood Watch**

Neighbors looking out for neighbors has been a very effective crime prevention philosophy. With five new blocks organized in 2010, Columbia Heights' 76 block leaders form a liaison with the police department to be a critical link in a stable community. More block leaders are needed and it is a simple process to organize and connect with police. Officer Nightingale seeks residents willing to stand and continue the fight against crime and disorder by volunteering to be a block leader.

Rental Property Owners and Managers

The Columbia Heights Community Development Department cites that about 34 percent of the city's housing stock is rental property, according to calculations using information from the comprehensive plan, rental records and census data. Considering that, a disproportionate amount of police time can be spent on problems at rental properties. City ordinances are in place to address trouble, but the CHPD would much rather work together with landlords to quell that trouble and realize a mutual benefit. Officer Nightingale organized landlord training meetings in June and October to teach landlords how to identify drug activity, become aware of city ordinances, file for court evictions, and follow best practices on being a rental owner. Eighty-five landlords attended the sessions. A new ordinance took effect in 2010 that allows the city to impose a fee for certain repeat calls for service. Two apartment building crime mitigation plans occurred in 2010 with positive results.

Community Picnics

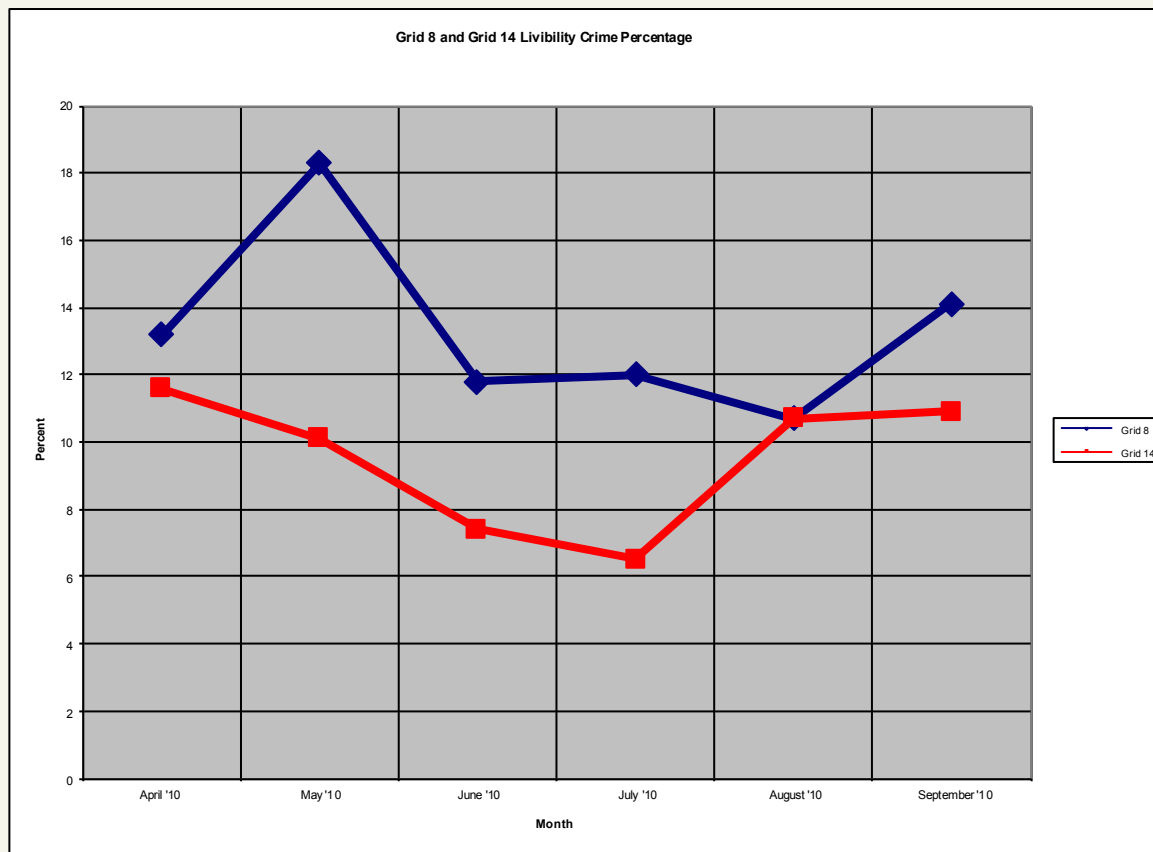
City residents were invited to police sponsored picnics on August 16 and 18. As another way to spend time with the community, the two evening picnics were fun and informational for the residents who attended. About 250 attended these events where demonstrations included Canines, Taser, shooting simulator, M.A.D.D. crash car, police electric bicycles, a mobile DWI processing truck, and squad car touring. In addition, representatives from the Jacob Wetterling Resource Center, the Anoka-Hennepin Drug Task Force, and the city's library, recreation, community development, fire, and public works departments were on-hand to heighten community involvement.



PROBLEM ORIENTED POLICING

The Columbia Heights Police Department has maintained its emphasis on problem oriented policing in 2010. We have expanded our ability to focus resources in the most efficient manner possible with the assistance of John Nichols, the department's Information Systems Specialist, who produces crime statistics and maps showing information officers need to analyze crime data in a timely manner. This analysis lets us identify "hot spots", crime trends, and to use mapping in an ever more efficient manner to deploy our resources where they are needed, and to track their effectiveness. This allows us to adjust tactics to meet the circumstances that are occurring on the street.

In analyzing our crime statistics, we found that the Sheffield neighborhood accounted for 13.7% of the livability crimes for the entire city of Columbia Heights in the first quarter of 2010. This was much higher than any other neighborhood in the city. In April we required patrol officers to spend an hour or two each shift patrolling that neighborhood. They patrolled in marked cars, unmarked cars, on foot, and by bike. This concentrated effort continued through September. Dedicated patrol time totaling 1153 hours was logged, 2485 contacts were made, and there were 67 arrests and 309 citations. Since May the average crime rate was 11.48%, which is a reduction of 3.72% from the average the previous three years.



In the graph above, the blue line shows the decrease in the percentage of livability crime for the Sheffield neighborhood when the project started in April.

P R O B L E M O R I E N T E D P O L I C I N G C O N T I N U E D

The 2010 Summer Initiative program focused on combatting the increase in crime that is seen each summer when the weather turns warm and the schools let out. Sergeant Markham, Officer Dietz and Officer Piehn were the primary officers involved in the Summer Initiative this year. They focused on drugs and violent crime. They used unmarked cars, foot patrol, and electric bikes to patrol the city. They made 240 arrests and wrote 270 citations. Some of the highlights were:

- On June 18, Officer Dietz observed a hand-to-hand transaction in the Star Bar lot, and a stop led to the arrest of two males for possession of heroin.
- On June 24, Sergeant Markham arrested an unregistered level three predatory offender at the Starlite Motel (10143473).
- On July 2, Officer Piehn stopped a male on a bike who was in possession of controlled pills and meth.
- On July 7, Sergeant Fischer arrested a male on a stolen bike that was in possession of heroin.
- On July 15, Officer Dietz arrested a burglary suspect from an in progress burglary at the Global Academy (10161966).
- On July 16, the team arrested a robbery suspect from 4935 University Avenue in north Minneapolis with the assistance of the Minneapolis Police Department (10159730).
- On August 11, the team along with other officers to include DTF Detective Bonesteel arrested suspects in a series of robberies in which a baseball bat was used.
- On August 12, Officer Dietz arrested stabbing suspects at 940 39th Avenue (10186625).

This program was once again very valuable in ensuring that law and order prevailed during the summer months.

We continued to hold those landlords and business owners experiencing high call levels at their properties responsible for actively partnering to solve those problems. We did this through entering into crime mitigation plans and using the Excessive Calls for Service ordinance.

Toward the end of the year, patrol officers became more involved in problem solving. Working with their supervisors, officers are assigned to analyze weekly and monthly crime statistics to evaluate hot spots and problem areas. When a problem is discovered, officers are required to design a plan to deal with that problem, and to enlist help as needed. There have already been several successes with this problem solving initiative.

- CHPD worked with the Alexandra House to help an elderly resident get an order for protection against her alcoholic grandson who lived with her. He would not leave her house and put her in a vulnerable and dangerous situation.
- A problem at a convenience store was identified, and officers worked with the management to make changes to reduce the opportunity for crimes there.
- Officers worked with Social Services and the mother of a chronic runaway to stop the repeat calls there.

Continuing to analyze crime statistics in an effort to address problem areas increases the skill level of officers and makes the department more effective in reducing crime and increasing livability for the residents of the community.

Y O U T H I N I T I A T I V E S

D.A.R.E. Drug Abuse Resistance Education is a program taught by High School and Middle School Liaison Officers. We are currently instructing 5th grade students at Highland Elementary, Valley View Elementary and Immaculate Conception schools. The Columbia Heights Police Department has been teaching DARE since 1990 and believe in the positive message and learning opportunities presented by the program. Officers instructing the DARE program teach approximately 175 5th grade students each year in skills that include decision making, ways to say no, and education about the harmful effects of alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. The program has also added curriculum to address new concerns caused by prescription drugs and bullying in schools. The Minnesota National Guard has collaborated with our local DARE program for the past three years by conducting helicopter fly-ins with the Black hawk Helicopter. The pilots then deliver a curriculum about the things students can accomplish when they make the right choices and lead a chemical and violence free lifestyle.



Cops-N-Kids is a youth outreach program for the Columbia Heights Police Department targeting high school and middle school age students. The goal of the program is to provide a safe and fun opportunity for students where they can interact with police in a positive way. The Police Youth Open Gym has been the flagship of the Cops-N-Kids program and had a gate count of about 2,900 youth for the year 2010. In addition to continuing to partner with the school district and Columbia Heights Recreation, representatives from Anoka County and the St. Paul Saints joined with us in adding an educational component to the program this year. Short sessions were held during Open Gym in which health, career and safety messages were relayed. In 2010 the program continued to host a 3 v. 3 Basketball tournament attended by over 100 high school students, and added a soccer tournament at the Middle School.



COLUMBIA HEIGHTS POLICE RESPONDING TO COMMUNITY NEEDS

The CHPD serves its community in all the traditional ways; enforcing laws, quelling disorder, and assisting those with various problems. But our department has given back to the residents of Columbia Heights and Hilltop in other ways as well.

The year 2010 was our first full year in the new public safety building. At the suggestion of Chief Scott Nadeau, the building was used in March 2010 to house a fundraiser for the Southern Anoka County Assistance food shelf. March is Minnesota's Food Share month, and the event, entitled "Cops Arrest Hunger", raised over \$6,200.00 to help re-supply SACA's depleted shelves. Staff donated their time to give tours and speak to the hundreds that attended. There were displays and demonstrations on use of deadly force, squad cars and taser use. Partnering law enforcement agencies also gave demonstrations of their specialties; crime laboratory, canines, S.W.A.T., horse patrol, and the State Patrol's roll-over simulator. As a result of our efforts, we were proud to receive the Minnesota Food Share's "Most Creative New Food Drive" award for 2010.



Some police department members have been helping SACA for years with a charity softball game that usually coincided with the summer Jamboree. Teamed up with the fire department, the police department competed in the August 2010 game this year against Fridley Police. The event yielded 259 pounds of food and \$714.00 for SACA. Additionally, 1,025 pounds of food plus \$30.00 in cash were collected from participants of the 2010 National Night Out program on August 3. For many years the police department has partnered with National Night Out attendees to assist in delivery of their food donations to SACA.

The Columbia Heights Police Association sponsored a Shop-With-A-Cop family adoption program. The CHPA donated money to see that gifts or food would ensure a Merry Christmas for those in need. Selected families shopped at Target with staff members. Thanks to donating partners in the community, including the Columbia Heights Activity Fund, Financial One Credit Union, NE Bank employees, Jeff's Bobby and Steve's, Rainbow Foods, and Holiday Station, four families were assisted this year with \$1,300.00 in gifts and food. One patrol officer donated \$200.00 and went shopping with the mother of one of the families. Upon bringing the purchases home to her apartment, her son spied them and smiled from ear to ear, asking if they were Christmas presents. The officer explained that it was a heart stopping moment, and he felt that he was able to make a positive impact on the family's holiday.

In 2011, the employees of the CHPD will once again be hosting a fundraiser for SACA. This year Police Department employees will be teaming up with members of the Fire Department for an event called "Arrest and Extinguish Hunger" which is set for March 29, 2011.

C O L U M B I A H E I G H T S P O L I C E A S S O C I A T I O N

The Columbia Heights Police Association (CHPA), a non-profit organization of current and retired employees of the Columbia Heights Police Department, was founded in 2008. The CHPA is funded through a combination of member dues, fundraising and private donations. The primary mission of the CHPA is to provide support to Columbia Heights law enforcement employees and their families. CHPA donations are made when police officers are killed or injured in the line of duty or the police department is presented with a need that cannot be funded through traditional means. In 2010 the CHPA worked with a handful of area businesses and was able to sponsor four local families in need for the holiday season by assisting them with gifts, groceries and other holiday related purchases.



Columbia Heights Police

Mission Statement

The Columbia Heights Police Department is committed to active partnerships with the community in order to protect life and property, innovatively solve problems, and enhance the safety and quality of life in the communities we serve.

Core Values

Commitment

As a group we are committed to the honest and fair treatment of all our community members, while recognizing that each citizen has different needs and values.

Helpful

Employees of the CHPD will strive to meet the needs of our community and the people that we have contact with. We are mindful that we draw our authority from the public, and it is our mandate to assist others whenever possible.

Professional

The employees of the CHPD will hold themselves to the highest professional standards, utilizing the best practices in law enforcement to carry out our duties professionally and with integrity

Dedication

The CHPD is dedicated to excellence in its delivery of law enforcement services. We will seek opportunities to serve in a manner that exceeds expectations and adheres to the ideals of the United States Constitution and our professional Oath of Honor.