

# BLOOMINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT



2004 Annual Report  
Roger J. Aikin, Chief of Police

# Mission Statement

*The mission of the Bloomington Police Department is to work in partnership with the citizens of Bloomington to enforce the laws and enhance the quality of life in our community.*

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(\* indicates chart or graph)



**POLICE DEPARTMENT**

305 South East Street  
P.O. Box 3157  
Bloomington, Illinois 61702

Roger J. Aikin, Chief of Police, FBINAA 193rd  
Edward E. Moser, Assistant Chief  
Jeffrey D. Sanders, Assistant Chief

February 28, 2005

Thomas Hamilton  
City Manager  
109 East Olive Street  
P.O. Box 3157  
Bloomington, IL 61701

Dear Mr. Hamilton,

If one word described the efforts of Bloomington Police during 2004, that word would be *perseverance*. Due to continuing suppression efforts and successful police/community partnerships, we have sustained low levels of gang drug-related violence. Our strategy of identifying and focusing maximum resources on chronic violent offenders works well. Having regained the initiative, we plan to maintain the impetus through interagency cooperation, proactive enforcement and federal prosecution.

Despite a decrease in gang drug violence, the twin cities were challenged by a series of bank and business robberies. Inter- and intra-agency cooperation -- and assistance from the public -- led to arrests that cleared all but one of the bank robberies and almost all of the business robberies.

Symbolic of our ongoing community resolve to combat crime, Bloomington received the first-place award in its population category from the National Association of Town Watch for our annual National Night Out Against Crime (NNO) event. The honor came on the eleventh anniversary of our participation in NNO.

Public safety was enhanced In 2004. Less lethal conductive energy weapons were issued to our officers. Their proper use is expected to significantly reduce the risk of death and injury to officers and offenders and decrease insurance claims.

Other technological achievements included website improvements. Internet accessible crime mapping is now available on the department's website. For a better understanding of crime trends in the city, citizens can now relate our monthly crime analysis summaries geographically to their neighborhoods. Public Affairs updates the website regularly, adding a publications page in 2004 for downloading of pamphlets.

During the year, preparation began for reclaiming direct control of our telecommunications. We are confident this is the best course of action for our officers and citizens. Planning for the remodeling of the police station to accommodate the new communications center was completed and equipment needs are being explored.

In 2005, we expect to build on the solid foundation of community oriented policing, strengthening existing partnerships and establishing new ones. We will continue proactive crime suppression efforts and develop mutually beneficial relationships with other agencies. We will explore innovative technologies and adopt effective policing techniques as they arise.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Roger J. Aikin". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a white background.

Roger J. Aikin  
Chief of Police

## PROLOGUE



### *They also served*

Having been sworn in on June 4, 1979, Officer James Rash retired from the Bloomington Police Department on September 2, 2004, after twenty-five years of service to the community. Working patrol on the city's west side for most of his career, Jim was very popular, providing effective police service to those neighborhoods. Even though he handled many violent and dangerous situations, Jim maintained a calm and confident demeanor. No one can recall him ever uttering an unkind word or losing his temper.

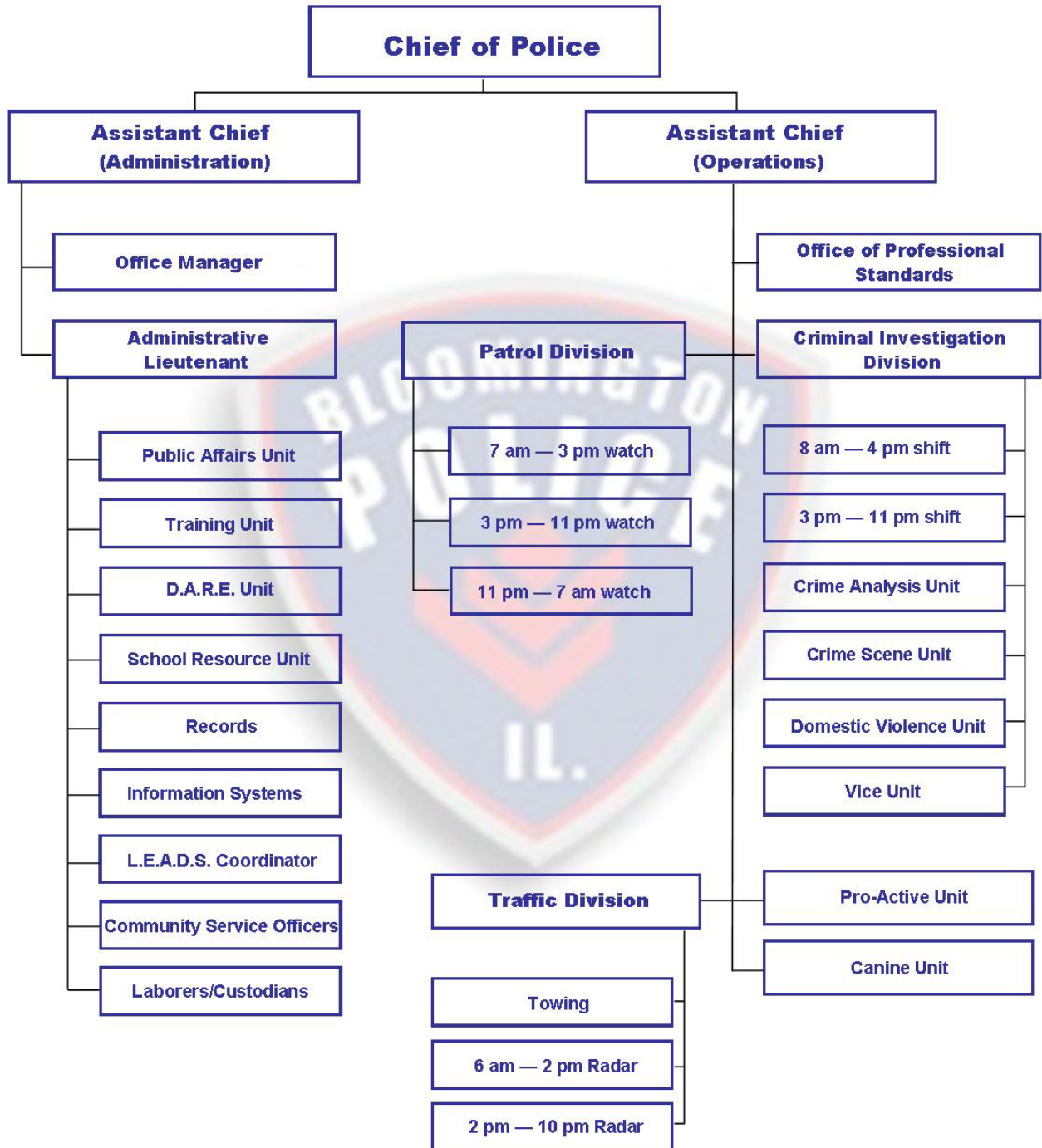
As police officers, we and our families are aware that the day may come when an officer will not return home from his / her tour of duty. Then, in a tragic twist of fate, after only four months of retirement, Jim's wife Linda and their son James II died in an accident in their home. How often had Linda worried that Jim might not return, finding relief in his retirement? How bitterly ironic that Jim returned home one day in January 2005 to find half his family had perished.

While reading this report of the activities of the Bloomington Police for 2004 -- the last year Jim and his family spent together -- consider the deeds and sacrifices of the officers and citizens who help keep our city safe. Most of all, however, think of the Rash family, in whose memory we rededicate our continuing service.

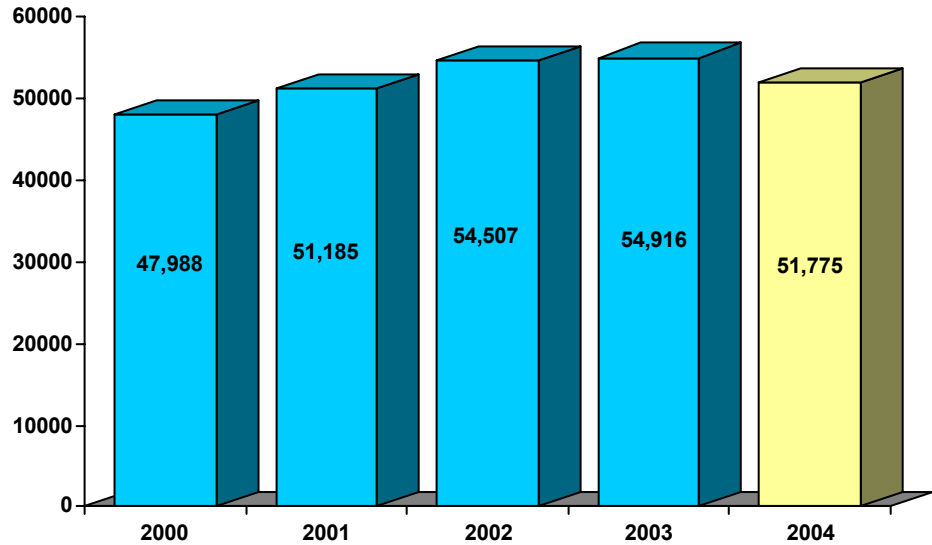
They also served.



# Bloomington Police Department Organization Chart



# Calls for Service



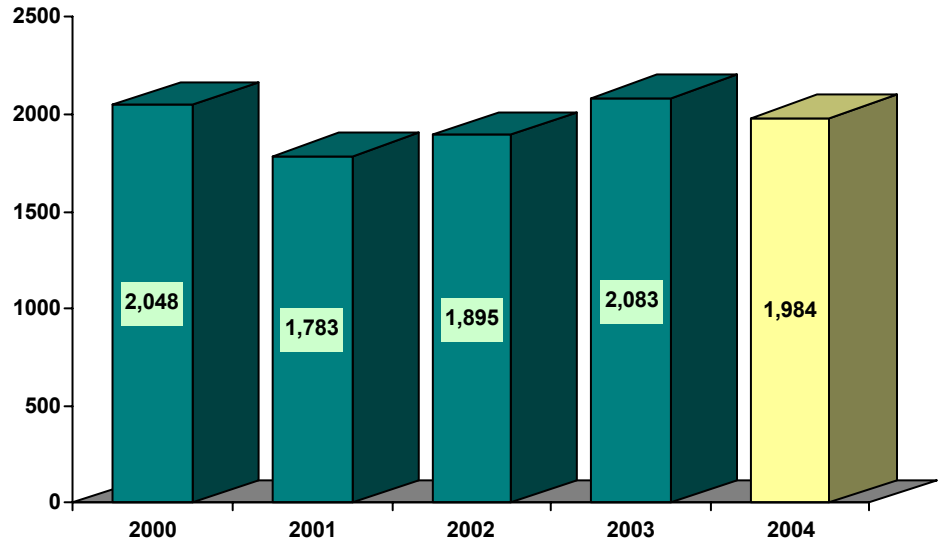
## 2004 "Calls for Service" Breakdown

Traffic Stop.....	8,730	Drug Investigations.....	397	Burglary/Just Occurred.....	48
Investigation/Follow-up.....	3,897	Retail Theft/Shoplifting.....	328	Lockout.....	39
Domestic Dispute.....	2,521	Civil Dispute.....	304	Radar.....	38
Accident/Property Damage.....	2,136	Open Door/Window.....	299	Home Invasion.....	31
911 Hang-ups.....	1,883	Reckless Driving.....	276	Death Investigation.....	26
Disorderly Conduct.....	1,715	Foot Patrol.....	252	Armed Robbery.....	26
Alarm/Burglary.....	1,681	Funeral Escort.....	252	Mental Subject.....	24
Loud Music/Party.....	1,572	Stolen Vehicle.....	250	Lost/Stolen License Plate.....	22
Pedestrian Stop.....	1,528	Business Check.....	248	Littering/Illegal Dumping.....	19
Suspicious Vehicle.....	1,366	Battery.....	245	Breathalyzer.....	16
Motorist Assist.....	1,202	Suicide attempts.....	240	Hit and Run/Personal Injury.....	16
Suspicious Person.....	1,024	Fireworks.....	232	Stabbing.....	13
Warrant Attempt.....	982	D.U.I.....	231	School Crossing.....	13
Fights.....	979	Transport/Non-custody.....	229	Liquor Violations.....	11
Other Public Complaint.....	958	Burglary in Progress.....	227	Pursuit.....	7
Assist Other Agency.....	956	Found Property.....	227	Drag Racing.....	6
Unknown Problem.....	935	Intoxicated Subject.....	215	Person Shot.....	5
Parking Complaint.....	883	Trespassing.....	215	Kidnapping.....	4
Theft.....	864	Battery/Just Occurred.....	204	Officer Needs Assistance.....	4
Burglary/Not In Progress.....	855	Deceptive Practices/Fraud/Forgery.....	200	Vacation Check.....	4
Check Well Being.....	848	Paper/Process Service.....	187	Escape.....	4
Remove Subject.....	811	Transport/Custody.....	179	Bomb Threat.....	3
Criminal Damage to Property.....	710	Armed Subject.....	173	Gambling.....	3
Criminal Damage to Vehicle.....	659	Shots Fired.....	159	Explosion.....	3
Traffic Control/Detail.....	585	Alarm/Hold Up.....	122	Aircraft Incident.....	2
Missing Person.....	582	Prowler.....	121	Carjacking.....	1
Animal Complaint.....	498	Community Policing.....	99	Hunter Complaint.....	1
Liquor Check.....	471	Sex Offenses.....	96		
Hit and Run/Property Damage.....	466	Message Delivery.....	81		
Accident/Personal Injury.....	462	Robbery.....	70		
Telephone Threats/Harassment.....	448	Alarm/Panic.....	68		
Extra Patrol.....	406	Area/town Check.....	62		

**Special Note:** The statistics above do not represent a specific count of criminal or non-criminal activity. They account for call types initiated by officers or to which they responded.

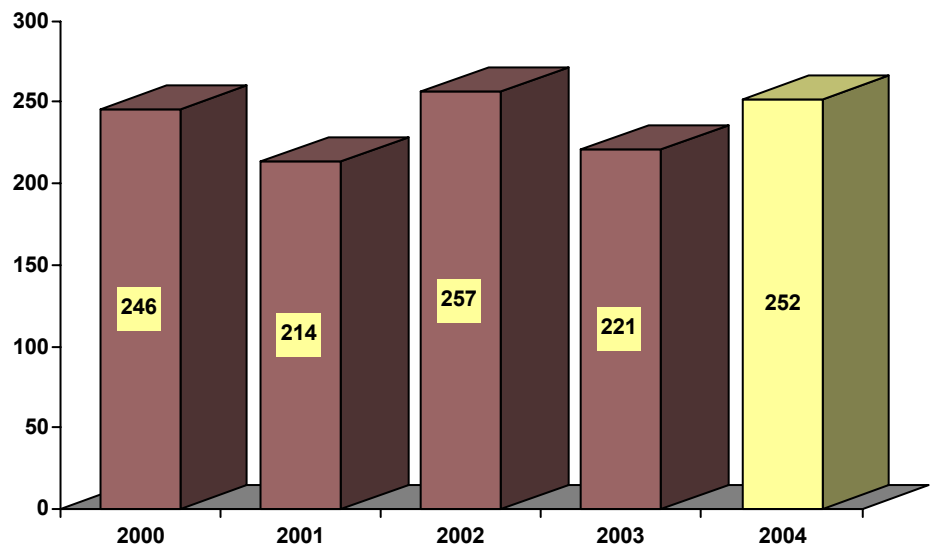
## Adult Arrests

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## Juvenile Arrests

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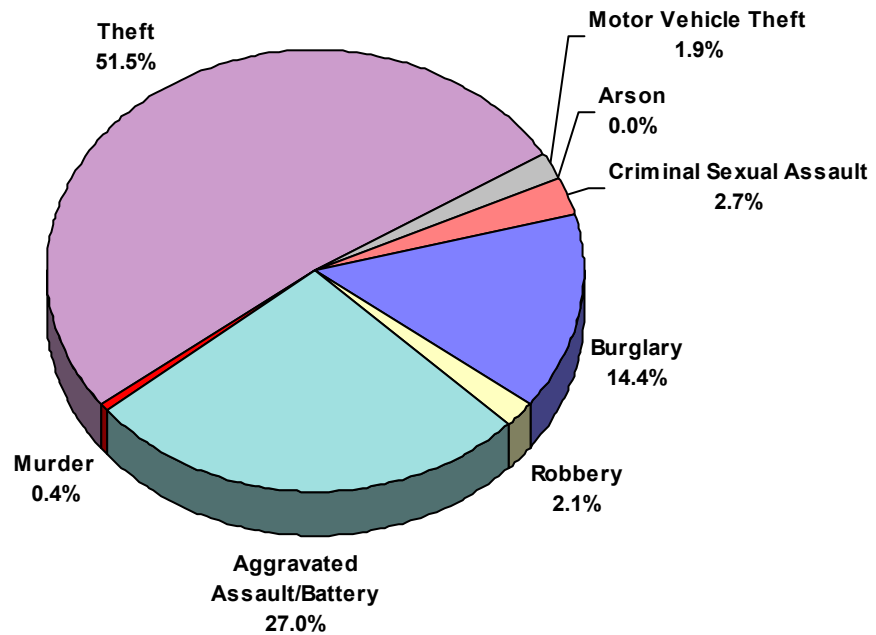




# Index Crime Arrests

Year	Murder	Criminal Sexual Assault	Robbery	Aggravated Assault / Battery	Burglary	Theft	Motor Vehicle Theft	Arson
2000	3	16	8	201	55	317	11	3
2001	2	13	12	153	59	247	13	3
2002	3	8	12	186	82	246	12	0
2003	0	14	11	153	94	253	7	0
2004	2	14	11	142	76	271	10	0

## 2004 Index Crime Arrests

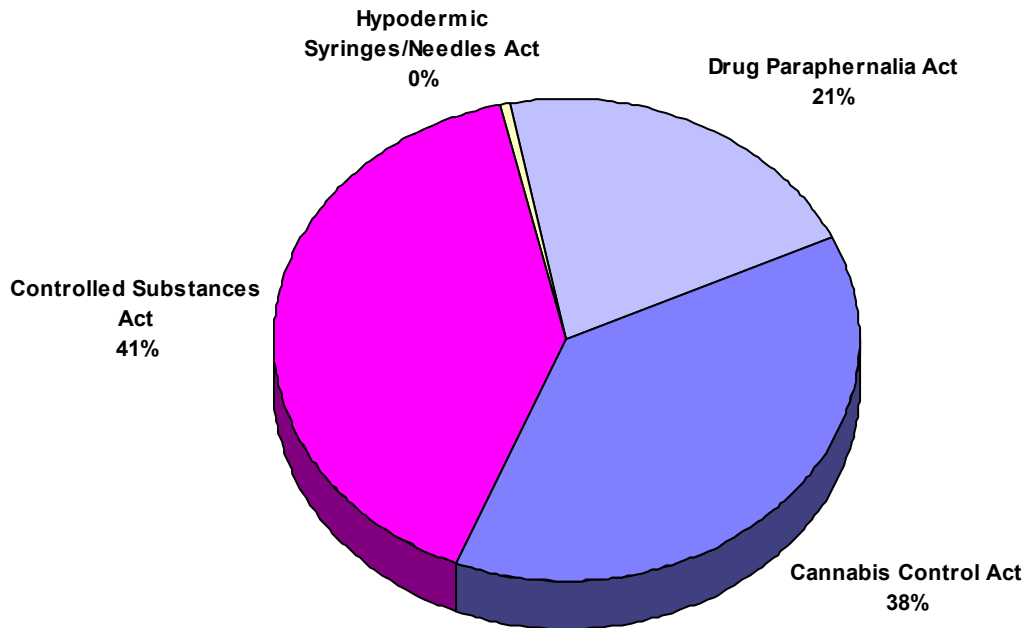


NOTE: Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

## Drug Offense Arrests

Year	Cannabis Control Act	Controlled Substances Act	Hypodermic Syringes and Needles Act	Drug Paraphernalia Act
2000	206	158	5	173
2001	119	116	7	110
2002	144	204	7	86
2003	162	173	9	76
2004	169	179	2	94

### 2004 Drug Offense Arrests



**NOTE:** Percentages may not total 100% due to rounding.

# Index Crime Offenses

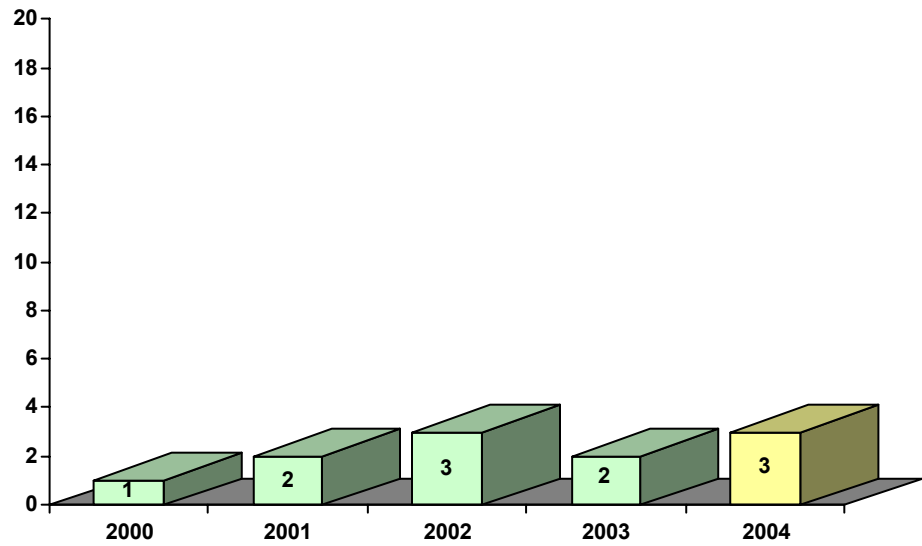
Index Offenses consist of the violent crimes of murder and non-negligent manslaughter, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault; and the property crimes of burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft and arson. These serious crimes are defined as Crime Index Offenses by the International Association of Chiefs of Police Committee on Uniform Crime Reports.

Index crimes used by the Illinois Uniform Crime Reporting Program and this Department translate into the following Crime Index Offenses, as nationally reported:

ILLINOIS CLASSIFICATION	NATIONAL CLASSIFICATION
First Degree Murder Second Degree Murder	Murder and Nonnegligent Manslaughter
Criminal Sexual Assault Aggravated Criminal Sexual Assault Forcible Sodomy Criminal Sexual Assault with an Object	Forcible Rape
Armed Robbery Robbery Vehicular Hijacking Aggravated Vehicular Hijacking Aggravated Robbery	Robbery
Attempted Murder Aggravated Battery Aggravated Assault Heinous Battery Aggravated Battery of a Child Aggravated Battery of a Senior Citizen Ritual Mutilation	Aggravated Assault
Burglary Residential Burglary Home Invasion	Burglary
Theft Over \$300 Theft \$300 and Under Retail Theft Theft/Burglary from Vehicle Theft/Burglary of Vehicle Parts or Accessories Pocket Picking Purse Snatching Theft from Building Theft from Coin Operated Device	Larceny/Theft
Motor Vehicle Theft	Motor Vehicle Theft
Arson Aggravated Arson	Arson

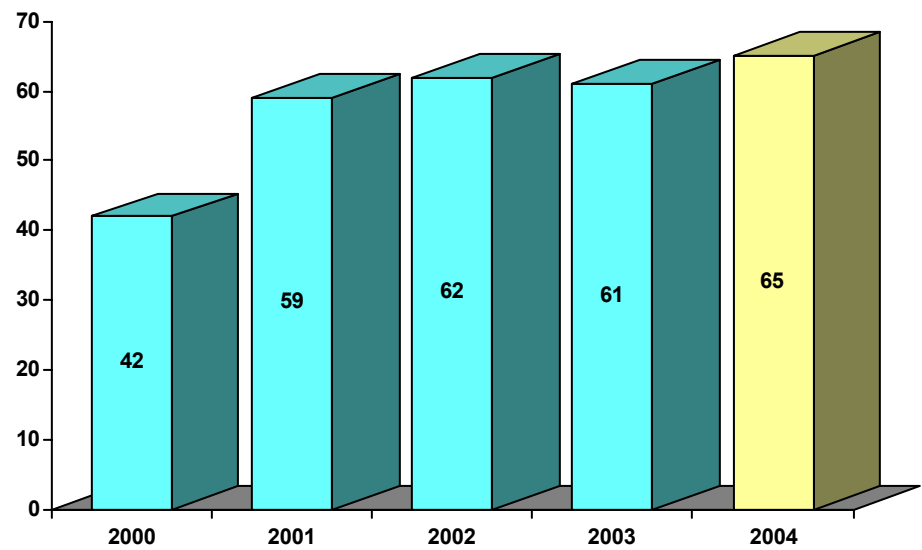
## Murder and Non-negligent Manslaughter

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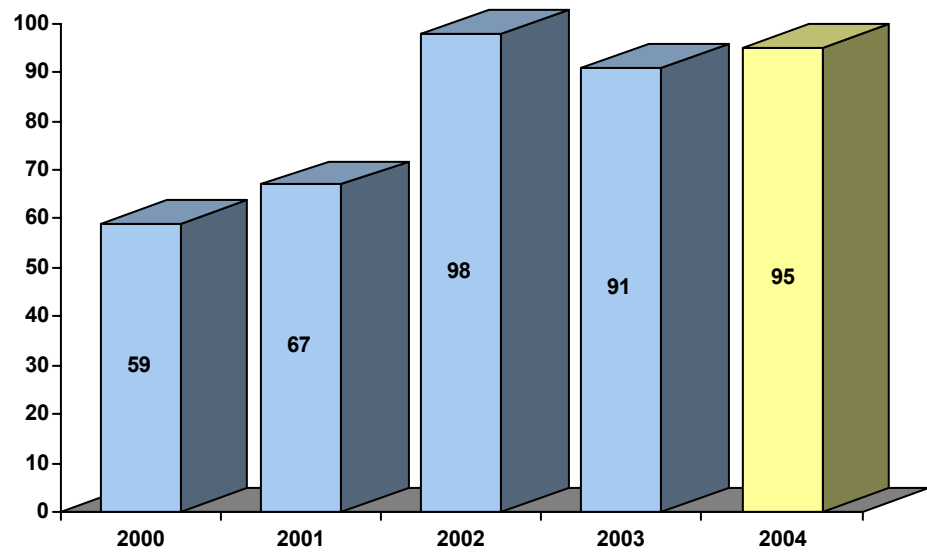
## Criminal Sexual Assault

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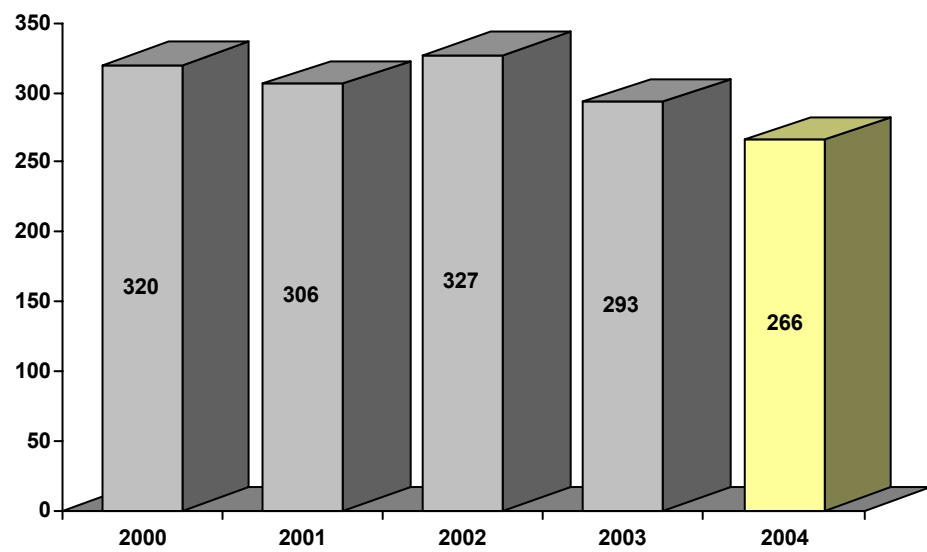
## Robbery

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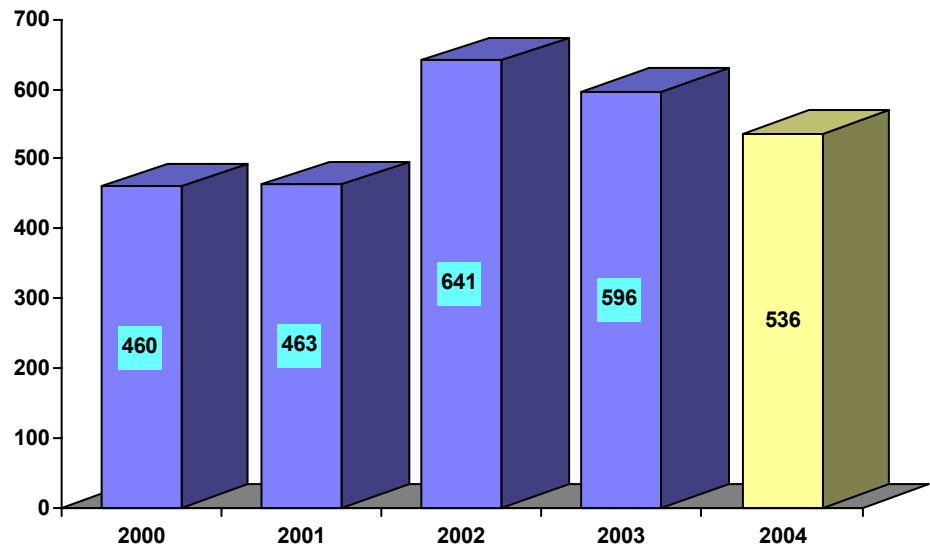
## Aggravated Assault/Battery

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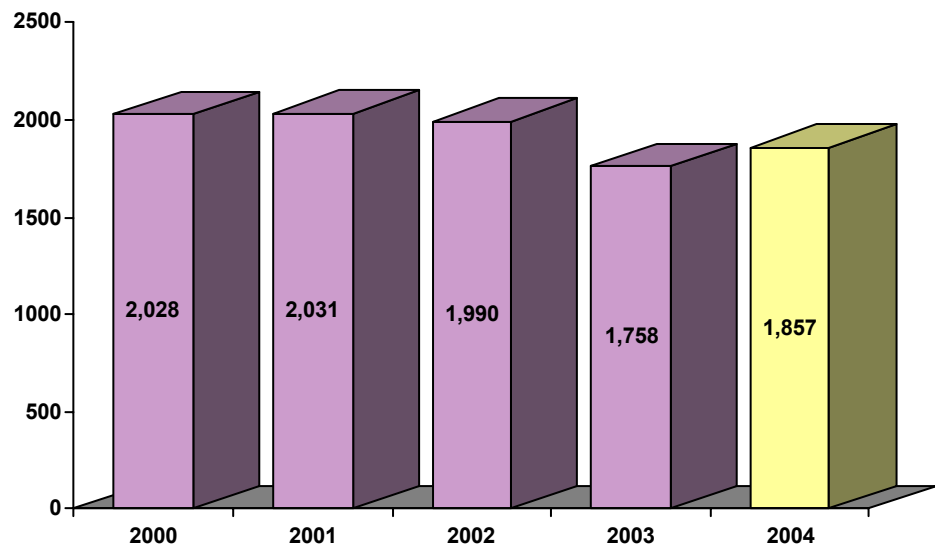
## Burglary

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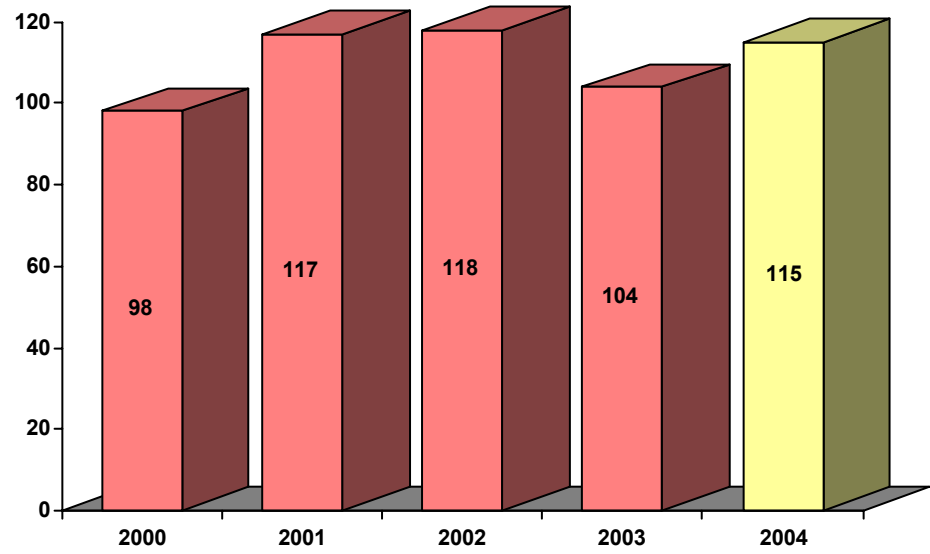
## Theft

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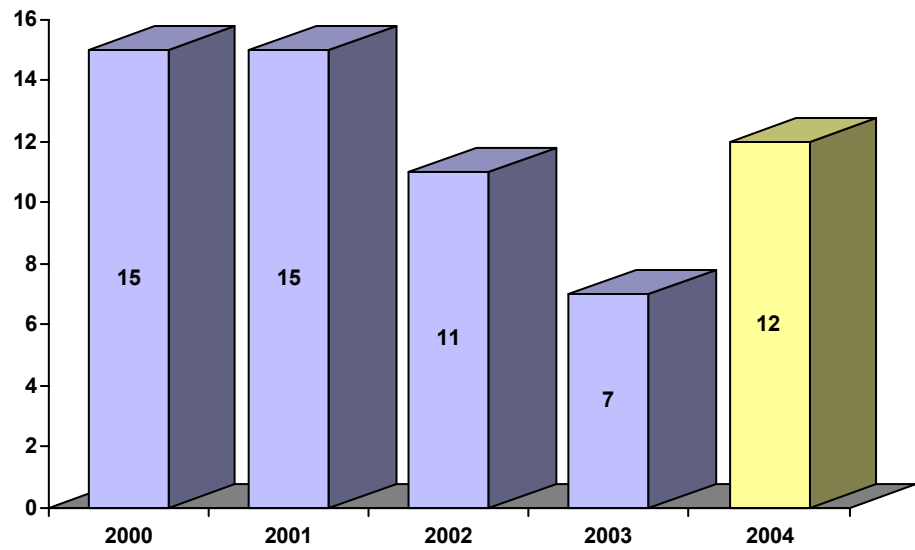
## Motor Vehicle Theft

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## Arson

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## CALL / ARREST ACTIVITY TREND ANALYSIS

Year	Calls for service	% Change	Year	Adult arrests	% Change	Year	Juvenile arrests	% Change
2000	47,988	—	2000	2,048	—	2000	246	—
2001	51,185	6.7	2001	1,783	<b>-12.9</b>	2001	214	<b>-13.0</b>
2002	54,507	6.5	2002	1,895	6.3	2002	257	20.1
2003	54,916	0.8	2003	2,083	9.9	2003	221	<b>-14.0</b>
2004	51,775	<b>-5.7</b>	2004	2,960	42.1	2004	252	14.0
5-year change		7.9	5-year change		44.5	5-year change		2.4

## TRAFFIC ACTIVITY TREND ANALYSIS

Year	Traffic accidents	% Change	Year	Traffic accidents/ injuries	% Change
2000	2,953	—	2000	478	—
2001	2,842	<b>-3.8</b>	2001	454	<b>-5.0</b>
2002	2,816	<b>-0.9</b>	2002	481	5.9
2003	2,813	<b>-0.1</b>	2003	471	<b>-2.1</b>
2004	2,799	<b>-0.5</b>	2004	417	<b>-11.5</b>
5-year change		<b>-4.9</b>	5-year change		<b>-12.8</b>

Year	Traffic citations	% Change	Year	Speeding tickets	% Change
2000	17,426	—	2000	7,706	—
2001	16,582	<b>-4.8</b>	2001	8,514	10.5
2002	14,512	<b>-12.5</b>	2002	6,204	<b>-27.1</b>
2003	13,783	<b>-5.0</b>	2003	3,699	<b>-40.4</b>
2004	10,907	<b>-20.9</b>	2004	2,720	<b>-26.5</b>
5-year change		<b>-37.4</b>	5-year change		<b>-64.7</b>



# INDEX CRIME REPORTS TREND ANALYSIS

Year	Murder	% Change
2000	1	—
2001	2	100.0
2002	3	50.0
2003	2	<b>-33.3</b>
2004	3	50.0
5-year change		200.0

Year	Criminal Sexual Assault	% Change
2000	42	—
2001	59	40.5
2002	62	5.1
2003	61	<b>-1.6</b>
2004	65	6.6
5-year change		54.8

Year	Robbery	% Change
2000	59	—
2001	67	13.6
2002	98	46.3
2003	91	<b>-7.1</b>
2004	95	4.4
5-year change		61.0

Year	Agg. assault/ battery	% Change
2000	320	—
2001	306	<b>-4.4</b>
2002	327	6.9
2003	293	<b>-10.4</b>
2004	266	<b>-9.2</b>
5-year change		<b>-16.9</b>

Year	Burglary	% Change
2000	460	—
2001	463	0.7
2002	641	38.4
2003	596	<b>-7.0</b>
2004	536	<b>-10.1</b>
5-year change		16.5

Year	Theft	% Change
2000	2,028	—
2001	2,031	0.1
2002	1,990	<b>-2.0</b>
2003	1,758	<b>-11.7</b>
2004	1,857	5.6
5-year change		<b>-8.4</b>

Year	Motor Vehicle theft	% Change
2000	98	—
2001	117	19.4
2002	118	0.9
2003	104	<b>-11.9</b>
2004	115	10.6
5-year change		17.3

Year	Arson	% Change
2000	15	—
2001	15	0.0
2002	11	<b>-26.7</b>
2003	7	<b>-36.4</b>
2004	12	71.4
5-year change		<b>-20.0</b>

# INDEX CRIME ARRESTS TREND ANALYSIS

Year	Murder arrests	% Change
2000	3	—
2001	2	<b>-33.3</b>
2002	3	50.0
2003	0	<b>-100.0</b>
2004	2	—
5-year change		<b>-33.3</b>

Year	Sexual Assault arrests	% Change
2000	16	—
2001	13	<b>-18.8</b>
2002	8	<b>-38.5</b>
2003	14	75.0
2004	14	0.0
5-year change		<b>-12.5</b>

Year	Robbery arrests	% Change
2000	8	—
2001	12	50.0
2002	12	0.0
2003	11	<b>-8.3</b>
2004	11	0.0
5-year change		37.5

Year	Assault/Battery arrests	% Change
2000	201	—
2001	153	<b>-23.9</b>
2002	186	21.6
2003	153	<b>-17.7</b>
2004	142	<b>-7.2</b>
5-year change		<b>-29.4</b>

Year	Burglary arrests	% Change
2000	55	—
2001	59	<b>7.3</b>
2002	82	39.0
2003	94	14.6
2004	76	<b>-19.1</b>
5-year change		38.2

Year	Theft arrests	% Change
2000	317	—
2001	247	<b>-22.1</b>
2002	246	<b>-0.4</b>
2003	253	2.8
2004	271	7.1
5-year change		<b>-14.5</b>

Year	Vehicle Theft arrests	% Change
2000	11	—
2001	13	18.2
2002	12	<b>-7.7</b>
2003	7	<b>-41.7</b>
2004	10	42.9
5-year change		<b>-9.1</b>

Year	Arson arrests	% Change
2000	3	—
2001	3	0.0
2002	0	<b>-100.0</b>
2003	0	—
2004	0	—
5-year change		<b>-100.0</b>

## DRUG CRIME ARRESTS TREND ANALYSIS

Year	Cannabis Control Act	% Change
2000	296	—
2001	119	<b>-42.2</b>
2002	144	21.0
2003	162	12.5
2004	169	4.3
5-year change		<b>-18.0</b>

Year	Controlled Substance Act	% Change
2000	158	—
2001	116	<b>-26.6</b>
2002	204	75.9
2003	173	<b>-15.2</b>
2004	179	3.5
5-year change		13.3

Year	Hypo. Syringes/ Needles	% Change
2000	5	—
2001	7	40.0
2002	7	0.0
2003	9	28.6
2004	2	<b>-77.8</b>
5-year change		<b>-60.0</b>

Year	Drug Paraphernalia	% Change
2000	173	—
2001	110	<b>-36.4</b>
2002	86	<b>-21.8</b>
2003	76	<b>-11.6</b>
2004	94	23.7
5-year change		<b>-45.7</b>

## Public Affairs Unit



First place! After placing in the top ten nationwide for the past several years, Bloomington won first place in its population category (50,000 to 99,999) for its 2004 National Night Out Against Crime event at Miller Park on August 5, 2004. The award from the National Association of Town Watch came on the eleventh anniversary of Bloomington's participation in the program and in the twenty-first year of the national anti-crime initiative. The Public Affairs Unit helps Bloomington's NNO steering committee plan, organize and coordinate activities for the annual event. National Night Out is supported by the Mayor and City Council, local civic groups and businesses, city employees, police officers, and individual citizens. Attendance typically in excess of 8,000 is an example of Bloomington's commitment to public safety and effective law enforcement. Several appearances in the community by McGruff, the Crime Dog in the latter part of 2004 were part of a campaign leading up to NNO 2005, a celebration of McGruff's 25th birthday.

The annual National Night Out event is symbolic of our community's ability to work with police throughout the year to fight crime in our neighborhoods. It celebrates our successes and focuses attention on continuing challenges. This year, there was much to celebrate. After a particularly troublesome period of gang- and drug-related violence in 2002-03, we have regained the initiative and reduced reported gang-related incidences of violence by 25%.

During the first half of 2004, Bloomington and Normal experienced overlapping sprees of bank and business robberies. By fall, all but one of the bank robberies and all of the business robberies were cleared by arrest. Certified Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) specialists in the Public Affairs Unit conducted assessments on numerous banks and business, responded to some of the robberies and assisted in the apprehension and identification of a suspect. The Unit continues to provide armed robbery response training to financial institution employees in partnership with the Financial Institutions Security Association (FISA).

The Media Relations Specialist and Public Affairs Officer strengthened the media-based posture of the unit by improving our relationships with the broadcast and print media to convey timely and reliable information to the public.

## Public Affairs Unit

Regularly updating and improving the BPD website, Public Affairs now offers an interactive crime mapping feature. Additionally, the unit is responsible for compiling data and publishing the BPD annual report and numerous informational pamphlets, as well as updating the Officers' Field Directory.



Ongoing functions of the Public Affairs unit include providing public information, education, and awareness training on a variety of crime prevention and homeland security topics; recruiting; conducting tours of the police facility; and representing the department at community events.

Public Affairs continued efforts to “beef up” the police department’s historical records. Information and documents relating to various aspects of the department’s past were obtained from the McLean County Museum of History and were added to the archives or put on public display in the police facility.



The Public Affairs Unit created a Veterans Hall on the police facility’s main floor. It features dozens of photographs of BPD officers and civilian employees who retired honorably after at least twenty years with the department. The display will continue to grow as retirements happen in the future. In addition, the unit created a wall display that chronicles “extraordinary events”, such as officer-involved shootings.



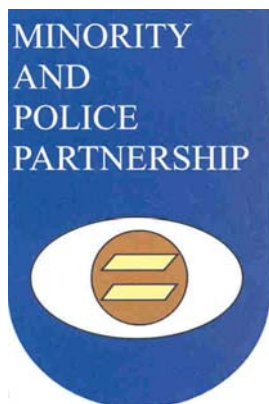
The third annual Shop With a Cop/Firefighter event was conducted in association with WalMart, the WalMart Foundation and the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services.

The Public Affairs Unit continued to partner with Project Childsafe to make cable-style gunlocks available to local residents free of charge. Hundreds were distributed at various events during the year. Locks continue to be available at the police facility.



The American Red Cross, BPD, and other area emergency service agencies teamed up again in 2004 for the annual “Badges for Life” blood drive.

## Public Affairs Unit



Public Affairs Unit goals for 2005 include:

- Continuing in a “Community-Oriented Government” philosophy, embracing the following principles: a comprehensive strategy in approaching community crime issues; a coequal partnership with the community; and building upon the assets of the community.
- Continuing to cultivate a dynamic media-based posture.
- Providing leadership for the community in crime prevention and reduced victimization
- Expanding our Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) capabilities to include review authority over all new commercial and governmental development.
- Continuing to update and improve the BPD website.
- Strengthening partnerships with Neighborhood Watch associations and other community groups.
- Evaluating existing programs and maintain those meeting the needs of the community.
- Exploring new practical and cost-effective programs to meet the needs of the community.

## **D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education)**

The Bloomington Police Department D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) program continued to educate local youth about the dangers of drug use and violence. The program's main objectives are to

- reduce drug usage among youth
- enhance the decision-making processes of children
- help youth consider the risks and consequences of their actions
- improve the police/community relationship by developing a positive rapport with today's children who will be tomorrow's adults



BPD D.A.R.E. officers follow the curriculum set by D.A.R.E. America. This curriculum primarily addresses 5th grade students. However, 2nd, 4th and 7th graders also receive the D.A.R.E. message as continuing reinforcement. The officers may also, if requested by a teacher, make special appearances at other grade levels. About 2,500 students received the D.A.R.E. program in 2004 in both District #87 public schools and Bloomington's parochial schools.



Officer Mark Ashmore teaches at Sheridan, Bent, Trinity Lutheran, Oakland, St. Mary's, and Bloomington Junior High School. Officer Dan Donath teaches at Washington, Irving, Stevenson, Holy Trinity (elementary and junior high), and Bloomington Junior High School. Officers Ashmore and Donath also spoke to Drivers Education students at Central Catholic High School about the hazards of drinking and driving. Graduations are held at each of the elementary schools and are typically attended by prominent members of the community, including the Mayor of Bloomington, Judy Markowitz.



To supplement classroom education, Bloomington Police D.A.R.E. officers look for positive alternative activities for students. Events in 2004 included attending sporting events at Illinois State University (ISU), including men's and women's basketball games. Others included swimming at Illinois Wesleyan University, bowling at Pheasant Lanes, Peoria Chiefs baseball, roller skating parties at Skate 'N' Place, a dance party, and a trip to Six Flags in St. Louis. D.A.R.E. Officers Evans and Ashmore also hosted a two week day camp at Lake Bloomington. Irving School won the annual D.A.R.E. free-throw contest conducted during half-time at an ISU basketball game.

## **D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education)**



Darian Bays from Irving School won the annual Katie Maguire Essay Contest, having written the best essay among all Bloomington D.A.R.E. programs. The award was named for an outstanding D.A.R.E. student killed in a 1995 car/pedestrian crash. Darian's name was added to a plaque displayed in the lobby of the Police Department. She also received tickets to a Peoria Chiefs baseball game. Darian's essay can be read on-line from the D.A.R.E. link on the Police Department's website ([www.cityblm.org](http://www.cityblm.org)).



In 2004, fundraising continued to be an important part of D.A.R.E. Local financial support was provided by Bloomington School District #87, the McLean County Sportsmens Club and numerous individual donors. Money was also raised through the sale of D.A.R.E. Supporter cards and by hosting the annual D.A.R.E. golf outing. Proceeds from fundraising help offset transportation costs for trips, workbooks, and prizes for students.

D.A.R.E. officers continued operating the McGruff House Program during the first half of the year. The national program enlists community volunteers to offer their homes as safe havens for children in need of assistance. Households throughout Bloomington were actively involved in the program.



BPD D.A.R.E. officers promoted the program by their involvement in numerous community events, including the Downtown Festival, Fishing Derby, ISU Homecoming parade, Family Fun Festival, Halloween events, Day of the Dozer, McKids Day, Labor Day parade, and the McLean County Fair.

The future goals of the D.A.R.E. program include

- expanding and growing with any curriculum changes
- continuing involvement with alternative activities for students
- keeping abreast of student and school needs and making necessary changes
- improving the relationships between police, schools and the community



## School Resource Unit

### *Bloomington High School*

As the School Resource Officer at Bloomington High School, I've come to rely upon the support of a dedicated faculty and administrative staff led by Principal Cindy Helmers. In 2004, I was not disappointed.



BHS School Resource Officer  
Marvin Arnold

Excited at the prospect of another school year, returning staff and students found continuing construction. With a reconfigured campus traffic plan, vehicles no longer circle the school. Faculty and staff parking has been enlarged and buses now pick up and drop off most students on the north side of the building. With BPD input, a new camera system has been installed to monitor hallways in the building and other areas of the campus.

Enrollment remained about the same, but the obvious diversity might lead one to think BHS is an international high school. Besides transfers from the Chicago area and other states, BHS also welcomed students from many other nations, including Brazil, Mexico, Russia, Guatemala, Japan, Germany and India.

Once again, BHS football and golf teams had great seasons. The football team advanced to the class 6A state championship for the third consecutive year. The golf team advanced to the state golf championship for the second straight year. The basketball team was off to a great start at year end. Accordingly, there was a lot of student and community excitement.

Unfortunately, there has been an increase in the number of in-school fights involving female students. To help address the issue, I have a very valuable resource. La'eeqa Khalilallah, a Project Oz School Youth Specialist assigned to BHS.

Thefts in the building have also increased and some students -- primarily males -- were still attracted to BB or pellet guns that look like firearms. Two freshmen were arrested for pointing one at other students near BJHS.

Arrests doubled, with eight in 2004, compared to four in the previous year. Fortunately, cannabis-related incidents and gang activity (colors and graffiti) seem to have decreased.

## School Resource Unit

### *Bloomington Junior High School*



BJHS School Resource Officer  
Brian Evans

Consistent with a continuing concern for school safety, School Resource Officers have been involved with Bloomington's Public and parochial schools for several years. Since August 2003, Officer Brian Evans has been the Bloomington Police Department's full time School Resource Officer at Bloomington Junior High School.

Primary duties include building positive relationships with students and addressing building safety and security concerns. Accordingly, Bloomington Junior High School is installing security cameras and receiving updated school crisis training. The exchange of information between police and school administrators solved some crimes and deterred others.

In 2004, Officer Evans worked with McLean County States' Attorney Bill Yoder and his staff to remedy some school-related situations. He also organized meetings with Bloomington city attorneys concerning ordinance violations, a commonly used enforcement option at the school. It was very effective in reducing fights, truancy and disorderly conduct at BJHS. Working with BPD patrol officers and detectives, Officer Evans also makes arrests in and around the school when necessary. To familiarize other BPD personnel with the school, Officer Evans conducted tours of the building and invited them to extracurricular events. This served to enhance their effectiveness when responding to calls at BJHS.

In addition to his law enforcement role, Officer Evans acts as a counselor to address general and specific student needs. Students' families and school staff have been very supportive and positive. When families need extra help, "house calls" are made to ensure attendance and reinforce parental discipline.

Promoting good behavior both at school and at extracurricular events, Officer Evans attends many sporting events and other activities throughout the school year. Feedback from school administrators, faculty, referees, parents, and students confirms the effectiveness of that approach.

## Office of Professional Standards

The Office of Professional Standards (OPS) began operations on July 30, 2003. The office answers citizens' questions about department policy. Moreover, it offers the opportunity for citizens to register complaints, compliments and concerns regarding the performance of our sworn officers and civilian employees.

The Bloomington Police Department is proud of the effective police service provided by our well-trained and dedicated employees. We are pleased to hear from citizens and visitors who have received exemplary service. We also recognize that policies can be improved and employees sometimes make mistakes. We also need to hear when our services have not met expectations.

With the growth of the city and the department, addressing quality assurance and human resource issues is imperative. The administration, supervisory staff and the Office of Professional Standards will continue to review each legitimate complaint that comes to our attention and make the proper inquiry.

To protect officers from anonymous and fictitious complaints that cause undo stress and breed public mistrust, a new law was enacted in 2003. Effective January 1, 2004, the law (50 ILCS 725/3.8(b)) requires any complaint filed against a sworn peace officer be supported by a sworn affidavit. The law is part of the Illinois Uniform Peace Officers' Disciplinary Act. The act and negotiated contracts between the City of Bloomington and the Police Benevolent and Protective Association, help protect officer's rights. Recognizing and respecting these rights, lawful complaints are vigorously investigated.

In 2003, we experienced a spike in the number of citizen complaints. More than half the fifty-five complaints were filed after the OPS was established and widely publicized in the local media. In 2004, there was a decline to a level consistent with previous years.

### ***Complaints***

In 2004, twenty-five complaints were filed against sworn officers. Complaints generally fall into one of four categories:

- Rudeness/Improper Action/Harassment
- Discrimination
- Excessive Force
- Other Misconduct

## Office of Professional Standards

There were seventeen complaints of rudeness, improper action or harassment:

- Three were sustained
- Three were not sustained
- Two were unfounded
- Nine were exonerated

There was one complaint of discrimination:

- It was not sustained

There were six complaints of excessive force:

- One was unfounded
- Two were exonerated
- One was retracted
- Two are pending

There was one complaint of other misconduct:

- It was administratively closed due to lack of cooperation from the complainant.

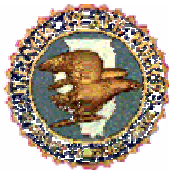
### *Internal Investigations*

In 2004, there were six internal investigations conducted by the Office of Professional Standards. OPS was assisted by Criminal Investigation Division command in two of them.

- Two were sustained
- One was not sustained
- Two were exonerated
- One investigation incomplete (the officer resigned)

The Office of Professional Standards also reviews and updates Standard Operating Procedures (SOP's). Several have been updated. Quality assurance duties of the office include review of in-car video, use of force reports and racial profiling forms.

## Training Unit



The growth of the Bloomington Police Department reflects the growth of the city. Accordingly, the Training Unit continued to meet increasing training and equipment needs in 2004. With a current authorized strength of 125 sworn and 23 civilian employees, training remains one of the department's highest priorities. The unit is responsible for coordinating core (First aid / CPR, hazardous materials, etc.) classes and specialized training, meeting various certification requirements, and maintaining training records. Additionally, the unit works with the *Mobile Team 8* multi-agency training component, the *Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board*, and other providers to research, develop, and evaluate training curricula and meet mandated standards.

In its capacity as Quartermaster, the Training Unit oversees the research, testing, selection, procurement, distribution, maintenance, and deployment of uniforms, equipment and technology. As an example, in 2004 the department issued *Taser* "less-than-lethal" weapons to officers. The Training Unit was instrumental in obtaining *Tasers*, developing procedures, and training officers in their proper use. The deployment of *Tasers* in the "use of force" continuum should reduce officer and offender injuries and decrease exposure to liability.

Our community deserves the best trained and most effective police force possible. It is the goal of the Training Unit to ensure that our officers are properly trained and equipped to provide the best service possible. To attain that goal, the Training Unit employs external providers, supplemented with internal training. Outside private training providers and public and private institutions include: *Northwestern University Center for Public Safety*, *F.B.I. National Academy*, *Illinois State Police Academy*, *Indiana State Police Academy*, *University of Illinois Police Training Institute*, *National Intelligence Academy*, and *Mobile Team 8*. Internal training is provided by qualified officers certified in a variety of disciplines and through regular roll call training at shift briefings. During 2004, "in house" training increased significantly.

Training essentially involves an exchange of important information, providing our officers with a foundation upon which they may develop expertise in providing effective police service to the community. They are expected to become proficient in all aspects of law enforcement while respecting fundamental constitutional and human rights.

## Patrol Division

The uniformed Patrol Division is the backbone of the Police Department and the focal point for most police activity. Other police services are either supportive of, or supplemental to, the patrol operation. Officers not assigned to a specialized function, regardless of rank, are patrol officers.

Each patrol shift develops its own character because the nature of police service delivery varies according to the time of day, types of calls for service and characteristics of the population being served.

All shifts share a commitment to preventive patrol — time during which an officer pro-actively patrols an assigned area, looking for suspicious activity, issuing traffic citations or contacting individual citizens and/or groups to discuss policing in the area. Officers may identify dangerous situations or problems and engage citizens, other City resources, business leaders or fellow officers to assist in addressing concerns. Preventive patrol is a time for officers to build partnerships and focus on Community Policing.

### *First Watch*



In 2004, First Watch officers experienced a wide variety of citizen contacts. They dealt with traditional police activities of taking crime reports, investigating traffic crashes, and answering calls for service from the public. The officers made criminal arrests, enforced traffic laws, processed crime scenes, and assisted in civil matters. Veteran officers consider all of these activities routine.

Most contacts are with residents who live in the officers' assigned patrol areas. In the spirit of Community Policing, stopping to speak with residents and/or business persons and their patrons is a normal way of maintaining contact and fostering mutual understanding. In 2004, officers made a concerted effort to establish and maintain a relationship with those working in The Compassion Center and the Center's clients. Officers assisted in finding resources, including temporary housing, transportation, and referral to other community resources. Compassion Center personnel contacted BPD several times for help in handling particularly difficult situations.

## Patrol Division

First Watch officers assisted the BPD Vice Unit and Task Force 6 in serving search and arrest warrants. They also aided the U. S. Marshal's Violent Fugitive Apprehension Task Force with arrests of several criminals hiding in the city or fleeing prosecution. In addition to his regular duties, a First Watch officer coordinates Crimestoppers activities. He and other officers made numerous arrests of wanted persons based on tips to Crimestoppers.

Besides patrol and traffic enforcement, several First Watch officers also serve on special BPD units, including the Emergency Response Unit (ERU), serving high-risk arrest and search warrants; and the Crisis Response Team, dealing with hostage situations or barricaded subjects.

Officers responded to a potential biohazard when a suspicious package was misdelivered and opened. It contained a biological sample from a Middle Eastern country. The incident response was a combined operation of BPD, Bloomington Fire Department, McLean County Emergency Services and Disaster Agency, and State and Federal agencies. The situation was safely resolved after several tense hours.

Several *Directed Patrol Operations* during the year were successful. Some involved focused traffic enforcement and education efforts at specific locations, making those areas safer for the motoring public. Another *Directed Patrol Operation* addressed a series of armed robberies and bank robberies. Provided with crime analysis information regarding possible times, locations, and offenders, First Watch officers -- working with other units, divisions and agencies -- helped clear by arrests all but one bank robbery. As an example, in a coordinated response to the robbery of Bank One on West Market Street, a First Watch officer climbed a tower at a nearby business. From there, he directed officers on the ground toward a fleeing suspect, resulting in an arrest within minutes of the robbery.

Responding to a shooting at a local business, First Watch officers approached the scene, made an arrest, and secured the scene for processing. They located witnesses for investigators and secured a weapon. A murder indictment followed.



## Patrol Division

Among the more frequent and difficult cases handled by First Watch officers are incidents of domestic violence. These emotionally charged cases require special consideration and care in reporting. The victims often need added support and assurance. Our officers handle such cases with compassion and understanding, often making extraordinary efforts to ensure a positive outcome.

Whether responding to high-risk situations or routine calls, First Watch officers consistently perform their duties in an exemplary fashion. They consider policing a helping profession; settling neighborhood disputes, finding shelter for the homeless, directing the lost, and seeking treatment for the mentally ill and suicidal. The officers of First Watch are dedicated individuals working together to achieve a common goal, the mission of the Bloomington Police Department.

### ***Second Watch***

There is no such thing as a “normal” tour of duty on Second Watch. For example, “open door” calls are practice for the “burglaries in progress” that inevitably arise. Even though most “open door” calls are just an oversight by property owners, officers responding to each establish a perimeter and safely deploy resources, in case a suspect is encountered. Accordingly, initial responding officers develop leadership skills.

Due to the high traffic volume, Second Watch officers encounter a variety of traffic issues. Responding to citizen complaints, they are often assigned to specific areas for STEP (Selective Traffic Enforcement Program). They proactively focus on violations that cause traffic crashes. The goal is to reduce the number of traffic crashes that result in death, injury, or financial loss.

In July 2004, a barricaded subject call required cooperation among Second Watch, the Emergency Response Unit (ERU), the Crisis Response Team (CRT), Third Watch officers, detectives, Bloomington Firefighters, MetCom, and Illinois State Police. This incident began during Second Watch. The initial responding patrol officer coordinated resource deployment until relieved by a supervisor. This incident ended when the suspect was taken into custody with self-inflicted injuries. The rapid response and leadership skills of the initial responding officer helped ensure a positive resolution.





## Patrol Division



There was a series of bank and business robberies in 2004. Second Watch officers responded, established perimeters, controlled the scenes, and gathered and broadcast initial information and suspect descriptions. Almost all of the robberies were cleared by arrest. In December, a suspect leaving the area of a robbery was arrested by Second Watch officers.

In August 2004, a controversial group from Kansas came to Bloomington to protest at several locations. To ensure public safety, plainclothes and First and Second Watch patrol officers monitored the protests. No significant offenses occurred.

Second Watch command participated in the 2004 disaster drill at the Central Illinois Regional Airport (CIRA). Volunteers assisted in testing emergency response procedures of law enforcement, fire/rescue, EMS, and their support operations.

Second Shift assisted in a number of security details during the 2004 election season. Vice Presidential candidate John Edward's security detail involved Second Watch officers and those of other shifts working with the U.S. Secret Service, McLean County Sheriff's Police and Illinois State Police. Second Watch also provided security for a congressional debate at the Interstate Center.

The training, experience and talents of Second Watch officers enables them to work together to the benefit of the community. They are grateful for the opportunity to do so.

### ***Third Watch***

In 2004, Third Watch staffing consisted of a lieutenant, two sergeants and fifteen patrol officers. Seven of the officers also served as Field Training Officers (FTO's). They trained twelve new police officers during the year. Additionally, four Third Watch officers are trained as shift-level crime scene technicians. They process routine crime scenes such as burglaries and criminal damage to property. They also advise fellow officers in the collection, preservation and documentation of physical evidence. One of them is certified in marijuana leaf identification (MLI), spending time in the crime lab testing seized marijuana for court purposes. Four officers served with the Emergency Response Unit (ERU) and one with the Crisis Response Team (CRT).

## Patrol Division

During the year, Third Watch responded to more than 16,000 calls for service. Calls ranged from animal complaints to serious felonies. Third Watch officers were the initial responders to three of the city's five homicides. They were also sent to more than 600 alarm calls, arresting several burglars -- three at businesses and two connected with a burglary at Bloomington High School. Another person was arrested when officers saw him shatter a business window with a marble fired from a sling shot. He was responsible for more than \$10,000 worth of criminal damage to windows of several businesses over the course of several months. Officers involved in his apprehension received meritorious service awards from the department.

Third Watch officers responded to several armed robberies which resulted in arrests. They conducted nearly 900 pedestrian stops. In the spirit of cooperation, Third Watch officers assisted other area law enforcement agencies on 300 occasions.

In support of Community Policing, Third Watch officers frequently acted proactively to prevent criminal activity. They conducted hundreds of residential vacation checks and business security checks. They also provided an additional police presence in neighborhoods upon request.

In 2004, Third Watch issued more than 1,700 traffic citations, more than 2,000 parking tickets and more than 350 ordinance violations. Officers also made more than 100 DUI arrests. Each officer assigned to Third Watch made at least one DUI arrest. In an attempt to reduce speeding, officers using radar issued 171 speeding tickets.

Third Watch officers combined aggressive proactive policing techniques with professionalism in providing quality police service and protection to the citizens of Bloomington.



## **Criminal Investigation Division**

2004 was a very active year for the Criminal Investigation Division (CID). The Criminal Investigation Division investigated and cleared a total of 919 cases. Of those cases, 32% were cleared by arrest. Another 25% were referred to the McLean County State's Attorney for warrants. More notably, seven of eight bank robberies were cleared by the arrest of one or more suspects. All of those cases were referred to the U.S. Attorney for federal prosecution. Concurrent with the bank robberies was a series of thirteen armed robberies of local businesses, for which two local residents were arrested.

### ***Major Investigations***

In 2004, CID investigated several major cases, including five homicides resulting in three murder cases. The most significant investigations included the following:

- In July, CID opened an investigation into the shooting of an individual in the 600 block of West Locust Street. This investigation continues, but has already resulted in closing down an illegal night club that was being operated at 612 West Locust.
- In August, CID opened an investigation into what was initially reported as a suicide at 2602 Park Ridge Road. The investigation resulted in the arrest of a juvenile on charges of reckless discharge of a firearm and involuntary manslaughter.
- In September CID investigated a vehicle-related death on the west side. The investigation remains open.
- In October, CID opened an investigation into a homicide that occurred in a west side hair salon. The investigation resulted in the arrest of the suspect, who is awaiting trial.
- In December, CID opened an investigation into a double homicide on the city's near west side. The investigation resulted in the arrest of a suspect within three days. The suspect, who had fled to Chicago, is in custody awaiting trial.

### ***Inter / intra Agency Cooperation***

Consistent with BPD's spirit of cooperation, CID assisted Peoria area police agencies with a serial murder investigation in 2004. Bloomington Police provided one full-time detective for a task force investigating a series of deaths of African-American females. As a result, BPD gained valuable experience in working a complex, multi-jurisdictional investigation. Such interagency cooperation would benefit Bloomington if a similar situation arose here.

## **Criminal Investigation Division**

### ***Prosecutions***

In 2004, Bobby Johnson was tried and sentenced to 145 years in prison for a series of five shootings and a home invasion that occurred in 2003. Also in 2004, a grand jury returned a “true bill” of indictment against a suspect in a 2003 Miller Park murder. Subsequently, the suspect was arrested and is awaiting trial.

### ***Court Liaison***

One of the responsibilities assigned to the first watch CID sergeant is that of court liaison. In 2004, an improved relationship between officers reporting for court and the McLean County State’s Attorney’s office was evident by the reduced number of complaints. The State’s Attorney also implemented an “on-call” attorney rotation to address officers’ legal questions after hours. In addition, the court liaison sergeant holds monthly meetings with the first assistant state’s attorney to maintain open communication and to share information.

### ***Audiovisual Technology***

Acoustical upgrades were completed in all CID interview rooms in 2004. Evidence quality was improved when DVD replaced VHS as the standard recording medium, reducing copy time by about 75%. Accordingly, efficiency, morale and productivity increased, while current and projected media storage requirements decreased.

### ***Cyber Crimes***

In 2004, one BPD detective was assigned full-time to the FBI’s *Central Illinois Cyber Crimes Task Force* (CICCTF). A collaborative effort between the FBI, U.S. Attorney, Tazewell County State’s Attorney, Peoria Police Department and BPD, the task force optimizes available resources. Focusing on computer-related crimes, the enhanced relationship supports more efficient prosecution of multiple crimes, not just those conducted by the CICCTF. The task force has investigated several child pornography cases, significant financial crimes, and missing child cases. In 2004, three child pornography cases were opened in Bloomington. Two arrests were made and more are pending.

## **Criminal Investigation Division**

One of the arrests led to several other arrests elsewhere in central Illinois. Tried in federal courts instead of state courts, the defendants received more severe sentences.

### ***Domestic Violence***

During the latter part of 2004, CID refocused efforts on the prevention, investigation, and prosecution of domestic violence. In partnership with the McLean County State's Attorney, BPD received a federal domestic violence grant. It allows officers to be hired back for 34 hours each week to conduct follow-up domestic violence investigations and assist civilian social workers. Grant implementation and re-education of officers was followed by a sharp increase in domestic violence reports.

### ***Synopsis***

Through training, experience, and technological advancements, the Criminal Investigation Division broadened its investigative capabilities in 2004. Throughout the year, detectives performed in a very efficient and professional manner. They worked long hours to solve complex crimes. Through their achievements, CID enhanced its reputation as a premier investigative unit.

## **Field Training Unit**

The Field Training Unit is commanded by a patrol lieutenant. It also includes six supervising field training sergeants and sixteen field training officers (FTO's), all of whom work to train new police officers. The field training process consists of four structured phases. While in the program, officers receive intensive training, learning how to handle calls as simple as barking dogs to more serious calls involving felonies in progress. Each phase, except the final one, lasts a minimum of four weeks. The three-week final phase involves the FTO (in plain clothes) observing the uniformed recruit handling the entire workload. In 2004, the Field Training Unit trained and released ten officers for regular patrol duties. The professionalism of highly-motivated field training officers is reflected in the successful performance of each new Bloomington Police officer.

## Community Service Officers

The Bloomington Police Department public reception desk is operated by a team of civilian Community Service Officers, or CSO's. The CSO Unit was created in 1997 with four employees. The goal was to assume some of the duties of patrol officers to allow them more time for Community Policing and other duties. In 2004, the CSO Unit consisted of six non-sworn Community Service Officers and a supervisor.

CSO's are the first point of contact for hundreds of people who call or visit the Bloomington Police Facility daily. They are responsible for assisting citizens who come to the police facility and for writing police reports. Those reports deal with various issues, ranging from disorderly conduct to domestic violence. They require strong knowledge of the law and considerable patience. In 2004, 8,412 crime reports were filed with BPD. Of that total, 1,269 were taken by CSO's.

The CSO Unit is also responsible for the completion of traffic crash reports. During periods of bad weather, CSO's may be inundated with these time-consuming reports. Civilian employees wrote 207 of them in 2004.

The Unit also monitors the Crime Stoppers hotline, taking tips and passing them on to the appropriate law enforcement agencies in McLean County. Additionally, CSO's are expected to identify "wanted" persons who enter the Bloomington Police Facility and determine the criminal status of persons requesting admission to local homeless shelters.

In 2004, the Bloomington Police Department implemented a new towing ordinance for specific offenses. This requires CSO's to collect appropriate tow fees and to ensure that the proper paperwork is completed for any refunds or court action that may be taken. When the necessary paperwork is completed, CSO's check for proper ownership of the vehicle to be released. These tasks require CSO's to be extremely thorough and error-free.

Other duties of CSO's include collecting and logging evidence, releasing impounded vehicles, handling burglar alarm reports, and updating business contact lists. As with patrol officers, CSO's are presented with various situations, must remain flexible and have the knowledge to address each case within departmental guidelines.

## **Community Service Officers**

Though unarmed and without arrest powers, CSO's work much like plainclothes officers in the delivery of police services by reducing the call load on patrol officers. Occasionally, patrol officers are temporarily assigned to work with CSO's. Such assignments benefit both. Patrol officers share their street experience and expertise, while CSO's explain internal procedures to which officers are not routinely exposed.

## **Crime & Intelligence Analysis Unit**

The analysts assigned to the Crime & Intelligence Analysis Unit (CIAU) collect, analyze and disseminate intelligence information on active criminal offenders and organized criminal groups. Their goal is to identify patterns and links among those offenders and groups and prepare reports used to target and suppress criminal activity. The CIAU has computer network links, sharing information with other agencies throughout the state and nation.

In 2004, the Crime & Intelligence Analysis Unit continued to support both general and special operations. The unit provided major case analysis and support on crimes ranging from armed robberies and homicides to multi-state criminal drug conspiracies. The CIAU also collected and analyzed traffic stop data in response to a state legislative mandate.

An additional criminal intelligence analyst was added to the Crime Analysis and Intelligence Unit of CID in 2004. There are now two intelligence analysts and one crime analyst in the unit to support the ever-increasing complexities of criminal investigations. The need for specialized analytical support has grown incrementally over the past several years. Further, new computer software including Lexus-Nexus, Choice Point, Accurint, and the ISYS data mining tool have been added to the unit's arsenal of investigative tools.

## Forensic Sciences / Crime Scene Unit

As part of the Criminal Investigation Division, the Forensic Sciences/Crime Scene Unit is staffed by two full-time detectives who operate a modern crime laboratory. The unit is responsible for the collection, preservation and documentation of physical evidence at crime scenes as well as coordination of the forensic efforts of the entire department.

In 2004, the unit worked 418 cases, a decrease of 77 from the previous year. Of those cases, 126 were submitted to Illinois State Police Forensic Science Laboratories for further analysis. By comparison, 220 cases were submitted in 2003. There were 233 Marijuana Leaf Identification tests performed during 2004, an increase of 10 over 2003.

Subsequent to its collection, most forensic physical evidence is forwarded to one of eight Illinois State Police forensic laboratories for analysis. The closest is in Morton, Illinois. However, some analytical functions are performed in the Bloomington Police Department laboratory. Services the forensic detectives use that are provided by the Illinois State Police Laboratories include:



- Latent fingerprint examination and comparison
- Operation of the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS)
- Drug chemistry trace analysis
- Microscopy
- Firearms and tool mark examination
- Operation of the National Integrated Ballistics Information Network (NIBIN) database
- Biology/DNA analysis and comparison
- Operation of the Combined DNA Indexing System (CODIS) database
- Tire track and footwear examination and analysis
- Polygraph examination
- Questioned documents examination and analysis

Besides collecting and submitting evidence for all of those disciplines, the BPD Forensics Unit offers the following services:

- Marijuana leaf identification
- Forensic photography/imaging
- Computer forensics
- Latent fingerprint development
- Crime scene investigation and analysis
- Forensic art



## Forensic Sciences / Crime Scene Unit

The Forensic Sciences Unit upgraded digital photography capabilities during the year. Besides saving money on film and processing, new technology allows technicians to analyze and enhance images as needed. The unit also acquired computerized “total station mapping” based on global positioning. Technicians can map an entire interior and/or exterior crime scene using a laser transit. The information can also be downloaded, creating an extremely accurate map or diagram.



The Bloomington Police Department is one of a few agencies in the world that offers both hand-drawn and computer-generated composite art services by International Association for Identification (IAI) Certified Forensic Artists. The Forensics Unit uses the E-FIT (Electronic Facial Identification Technique) software for computer-generated composites and maintains a thirty-percent “hit rate” of suspect identification.

Forensics Unit detectives often teach or lecture at local colleges and make presentations to civic groups and schools.

## Vice Unit

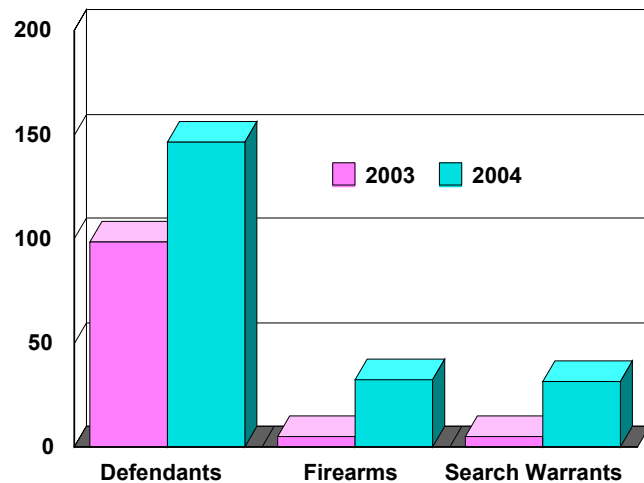
The Bloomington Police Department places a high priority on illegal drug and weapons enforcement. The Vice Unit, consisting of three undercover officers and a supervisory sergeant, is tasked with the identification and apprehension of street-level to mid-level narcotics dealers. Additionally, the unit sometimes assists other Criminal Investigation Division detectives with high-profile cases requiring drug and surveillance expertise or where suspects are the focus of an ongoing vice investigation.



In 2004, the Vice Unit worked several major cases in conjunction with federal government agencies, including United States Postal Service inspectors and the Organized Crime Drug Enforcement Task Force (OCDETF). The latter is a federal program that focuses attention and resources on the disruption and dismantling of major drug trafficking organizations. OCDETF provides a framework for federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies to work together in targeting well-established and complex organizations that direct, finance, or engage in illegal narcotics trafficking and related crimes.

## Vice Unit

In 2004, the Vice Unit worked 78 cases that resulted in the arrest of 151 defendants, a 53% increase in arrests over the previous year. The unit conducted two major operations in 2004 -- Operation Market Place and Operation Crackdown. Operation Market Place targeted a "drive-up" crack operation. The investigation resulted in the service of two search warrants and the arrest and prosecution of 14 defendants. Operation Crackdown targeted a group of street-level narcotics dealers. The investigation was conducted in conjunction with the Normal Police Department Vice Unit and Illinois State Police Task Force 6. Five search warrants were served and 23 defendants were arrested.



The Vice Unit was exceptionally productive in 2004, with substantial increases in the number of warrants obtained and arrests made, as well as in seizures of cannabis, cocaine, vehicles and cash. Additionally, thirty-three firearms -- a record number -- were removed from the streets. To address growing community needs, increased staffing of the unit is planned for 2005.

### Statistics

Defendants	151
Search Warrants	32
Firearms Seized	33
Vehicles Seized	9
Cocaine Seized	1,460.7 grams (\$146,700 street value)
Cannabis Seized	9,148.1 grams (\$48,317 street value)
Money Seized	\$ 44,380



## Records Division

The Bloomington Police Department Records Division is responsible for insuring control of police evidence and criminal history record files. The Records Division is staffed by an office manager and two support staff people.

The office manager oversees the duties of the support staff and maintains control of all evidence and lost-and-found property held at the Bloomington Police Department. In 2004, the Records Division checked into evidence 7,397 pieces of property. Officers checked out 355 property items to be used in court cases. 257 property items were returned to owners and 2,153 property items were properly disposed of after cases were closed.

Each year, the Records Division is in charge of conducting a public auction to sell abandoned and lost-and-found property. In June 2004, 104 bicycles, 173 property items that were lost, stolen or abandoned, and 26 surplus city property items were sold at public auction.

Records Division staff maintain files on each individual arrested by the Bloomington Police Department. 2,960 adult male and female subjects were processed by the division in 2004.

The Records Division maintained records on citations written by Bloomington officers. In 2004, staff entered information on 4,954 parking tickets, 10,907 traffic citations, 600 compliance tickets, and 2,425 ordinance violation tickets. The division also entered information on all crash reports submitted by members of the department. In 2004, 2,799 crash reports were processed.

It is very important to keep up on latest records keeping procedures in order to maintain accurate records. Staff attends training to insure accurate records are available to qualified officers and criminal justice agencies.

The Records Division works closely with other units and divisions within the department. Much of the information collected by Records is used by officers for court or investigations on which they may be working. The Records staff also fields calls and other contacts from agencies outside the department and from Bloomington citizens.

## Pro-Active Unit

The Pro-Active Unit consists of officers from the Bloomington and Normal Police Departments. Commanded by sergeants from both agencies, the unit addresses a variety of street crimes, focusing on gang suppression.

In mid-August 2004, Bloomington Sgt. Don Newton joined the highly-motivated and productive unit. There have been few changes since then, but the unit now compiles daily statistics.

The unit was understaffed during 2004, as several officers were detailed to assist Patrol Division with field training of new officers. In March, Pro-Active received a Unit Citation for a traffic stop that resulted in a major drug arrest and identification of suspects in a federal drug investigation. Pro-Active assisted the U. S. Marshal's Service with a federal case in Peoria. The unit also supplemented security at Miller Park on Independence Day and at the McLean County Fair in August.

Continuing their specialized training, Pro-Active officers attended a gang crimes conference in St. Charles, Illinois and completed a Drug Identification Course in Volk Field, Wisconsin.

The Pro-Active Unit prepares operational plans for all plainclothes details. In 2004, the Pro-Active Unit participated in Operation Crackdown, a major drug sweep, and helped clear a series of bank robberies. Further, the unit conducted an Armed Robbery detail that directly solved fifteen armed robberies in the twin cities.

Using innovative techniques, including building code enforcement, the Pro-Active Unit effectively closed down

a neighborhood nuisance (drug house) through condemnation. In 2004, the unit fielded an unmarked vehicle with a new, improved emergency light configuration. More visible to the public and less distracting to the officers, the new lights enhance safety for both.



## Crisis Response Team

Having undoubtedly saved lives, the Crisis Response Team (CRT) has proven its value since its inception three years ago. In 2004, the team continued to justify the time and equipment invested in it. Training monthly for inevitable crisis situations, the twelve-member team averages eleven deployments a year.

Volunteering for the additional specialized assignment, the team consists of ten patrol officers from various divisions and shifts within the department. While the team is commanded by a lieutenant, a supervisory sergeant's position was added in the last quarter of 2004.

The team's purpose is to prevent injury or death, particularly to tactical officers, and to listen to those in despair. Communication doesn't end once the situation is resolved, however. Often, negotiators continue providing support until medical staff intervene. They must also work closely with members of the Emergency Response Unit, officers assigned to perimeters, and investigators.

Training can occur during officers' time off or during regularly scheduled duties. While never convenient, call outs are usually life and death crises. CRT Officers are compassionate, motivated lifesavers willing to talk for hours with angry and/or despondent subjects. Every crisis to which the CRT has responded has been successfully resolved.

In 2004, the Crisis Response Team responded to seven incidents:

- Despondent over the dissolution of his marriage, a man armed with a shotgun and a handgun threatened suicide. After a perimeter was established, CRT Officers negotiated for three and a half hours before the subject agreed to surrender to ERU Officers.
- A man threatened to commit suicide by jumping onto concrete steps from his roof. He attempted to draw gunfire from responding officers by repeatedly reaching into his coat as if he had a weapon. A patrol officer and trained former CRT member talked him into submission after about fifteen minutes.

## Crisis Response Team

- Armed with a knife pressed firmly against his neck, a distraught man threatened suicide. Under the influence of alcohol and pain medications, he attempted to draw gunfire from responding officers by threatening them with the knife. An on-duty CRT member and two patrol officers were successful in talking the subject into submission after about fifteen minutes.
- Initial information indicated a suicidal woman was holding a hostage at gunpoint, barricaded in an upper floor condominium. Responding officers established a perimeter, notified CRT command and initiated conversation with the subject. One of the responding officers, a former CRT member, used his training and skills to develop a rapport with the barricaded individual. After about two hours of negotiations, she agreed to come out and was taken into protective custody. It was then learned that she was not armed and held no hostage.
- The CRT assisted Livingston County Sheriff's Police and the Pontiac Police SWAT team with a barricaded suicidal subject in a residence just outside the city limits of Pontiac, Illinois. A mental health counselor was talking with the subject by the time the CRT arrived. Two CRT members advised the counselor. Since trust had already been established, the CRT vicariously guided negotiations. The standoff ended with the subject's surrender after about three hours.
- The McLean County Sheriff Police requested CRT assistance with a wanted subject located in a residence just outside Bloomington's city limits. The felon, a drug abuser, was well known to police. There were at least three people in his house and there were reports he would not let them leave. Initial responding deputies met resistance and threats. The suspect broke out windows and then boarded up the house. The CRT began initial preparations at Bloomington Police headquarters, gathering intelligence information on the subject and the others in the house. However, the Sheriff aborted negotiations prior to CRT making contact with the subject. He was arrested later that morning.

## Crisis Response Team

- Pontiac Police again requested CRT assistance with a barricaded suicidal subject in a residence on that city's west side. After the arrival of the commander, but before the rest of the CRT was deployed, the subject simply opened the door and gave up. He was taken into police custody without resistance.

Training needs for 2005 have been identified and will include:

- Scenario training
- Combined CRT/ ERU scenario training
- Mental Health guest speakers
- Off-site visit to State Farm for crisis planning with the county's largest employer
- Combined training with area agencies that have asked for help in establishing their own negotiations units.

All members of the CRT are members in good standing of the Illinois Crisis Negotiators Association. At least four members attend ICNA annual training conferences held in central or northern Illinois. ICNA training offers opportunities for networking among agencies with similar units.

The community can be proud of the dedicated professionals of the Crisis Response Team as they continue to provide compassionate service and save lives.

## Canine Unit

In 2004, the Bloomington Police Department Canine Unit consisted of three Belgian Malinois full-service police dogs and their handlers. They are trained to track humans, detect human scent on articles, search buildings, detect the odor of illegal narcotics, and protect their handler. Maintaining a high level of proficiency, the canines average forty hours of training each month.

The canine units respond to a variety of calls, including shots fired, violent fights, confrontations involving crowds or armed subjects, burglaries, robberies, and those related to illegal narcotics. They also provide assistance to BPD's Vice and Emergency Response Units, and other area police agencies.



## Canine Unit

2004 was a very busy year for the canine units. They responded to 3,100 calls, including 475 burglary alarms and 100 open windows or doors. Additionally, they responded to more than 450 complaints of suspicious vehicles thought to be involved in criminal activity, such as robbery, burglary, or the sale of narcotics. They also provided assistance to other police agencies more than 100 times.



BPD canine units apprehended four felony burglary suspects inside or as they exited businesses. Further, several successful tracks were conducted and suspects were located after they fled a burglary scene or stolen vehicle.

While tracking suspects from the scene of robberies, stolen vehicles, and burglaries, canine units located evidence discarded by suspects, including money, keys, clothing (ski mask), two-way radios, and a firearm. Similarly, canines also located shoe and vehicle tire impression evidence.

In a high-profile example of the canines' tracking abilities, they assisted state, federal and local police when out-of-state prison escapees fled a vehicle stop in McLean County. One of the suspects was tracked, located, and arrested with the assistance of a BPD Canine Unit.

BPD Canine Units were used locally and as far away as East Peoria and Dwight, Illinois to search schools, jails, and prisons for illegal narcotics. The canine units also conducted more than fifteen public relations demonstrations for area schools, businesses, civic organizations, and other groups.



Bloomington Police Canine Units organized and hosted a police canine narcotics detection competition in May 2004. Nearly two dozen canines from throughout central Illinois and Indiana participated in the competition, the first in this area.

Late in 2004, the Canine Unit experienced a career-ending injury to one of the police dogs, which was then retired from active duty. Efforts are under way to replace the dog.



## Emergency Response Unit (ERU)



Since its formation in 1978, the Bloomington Police Department Emergency Response Unit (ERU) has focused on tactical operations. First used in the Pontiac Prison Riots, the unit consists of officers from other units and divisions of the department. Assistant Chief Ed Moser is the only member of the original unit still with the department.

In 2004, ERU participated in twenty-nine operations. Most deployments involved assisting the Vice Unit in serving high-risk search warrants. ERU has also responded to incidents involving armed barricaded individuals and suicidal subjects.



ERU officers train regularly to develop skills in a variety of areas required to serve with the highly specialized unit. They practice open field operations with the U. S. Army, building entries with their Normal Police Department counterparts, and barricaded subjects / hostage situations with BPD's Crisis Response Team.

Specialized equipment and reference materials are continually acquired from a variety of sources. ERU officers train in the use of the equipment, intended to enhance the safety of both police and subjects "on the other side of the door."



ERU has used precision shooter / observers since its inception. Since 1999, four officers have been so designated. In 2004, three new positions were added and a sergeant with ERU experience was selected to command them. In May, team members attended a week-long precision shooter / observer training school at the Springfield (IL) Police Academy. They have trained monthly since then. Some training is held in conjunction with the full ERU team, the Crisis Response Team, the Army National Guard, and other agencies. Team members cross-train with multiple weapons, communications and optical packages. In the coming months, training will be expanded to include counter-terror operations and hazardous material incidents.

## Traffic Division

The primary function of the Traffic Division is to promote safe vehicular and pedestrian travel on our streets and highways. Traffic officers attempt to gain compliance with traffic laws, to reduce the number and severity of traffic crashes. Their methods range from public education to strict enforcement.

The Traffic Division consists of a supervising sergeant, a towing officer, and four radar / enforcement officers. Besides supervising the division, the traffic sergeant serves on the weekly City Special Events Planning Committee. He is also a member of the Operation Cool Committee, Safety Committee, and Neighborhood Traffic Calming Committee. Further, he reviews all parking ticket appeals and assists with fleet and vehicle equipment management.



When possible, Traffic officers attempt to gain voluntary compliance with traffic laws and ordinances by educating the public. One method is the placement of the speed trailer at locations of speed complaints or crashes caused by speeding. Traffic officers also provide information to the media, making public service announcements on local radio television, explaining new or changing laws.

To reduce damage to our streets, overweight truck enforcement gained a high priority in 2004, with the purchase of portable scales and a pickup truck to transport them. Two officers were certified in their use. Traffic Officers enforcing overweight laws made contact with drivers of over 800 large trucks or equipment and issued 74 overweight tickets, eventually resulting in fines totaling \$32,965. There were also 45 citations issued for safety violations.

Radar / enforcement officers monitor high crash locations and areas of citizen complaints, enforcing all appropriate traffic laws. In 2004, officers from the Traffic Division issued 4,262 uniform traffic tickets, 165 parking tickets, and 274 city ordinance violations. Also during the year, Traffic officers investigated 81 reported school bus stop arm violations and directed traffic and monitored parades, races, and other special events, such as the Christmas Parade and the Jingle Bell Run for Arthritis.

## Traffic Division



In March, Traffic Division and Illinois State Police targeted 34 high crash intersections, enforcing laws against violations that cause crashes. Crash reduction details resulted in 297 traffic tickets and 17 written warnings issued for hazardous violations such as disobeying a traffic signal, speeding, and following too closely.

The towing officer is responsible for locating, identifying, and removing vehicles that are in violation of City ordinances, including inoperable, unregistered, abandoned, and nuisance vehicles. Of 1,674 vehicles towed by Bloomington Police during the year, 538 were towed by authority of the Traffic Division's towing officer. He also initiated 199 towing ordinance violations and maintains the tow records for the entire department. The towing officer also disposes of all unclaimed vehicles through monthly sales. He sold 429 unclaimed vehicles, generating \$37,115 in revenue during 2004. Another duty of the towing officer is to inspect and certify all taxis and taxi drivers operating in the City.

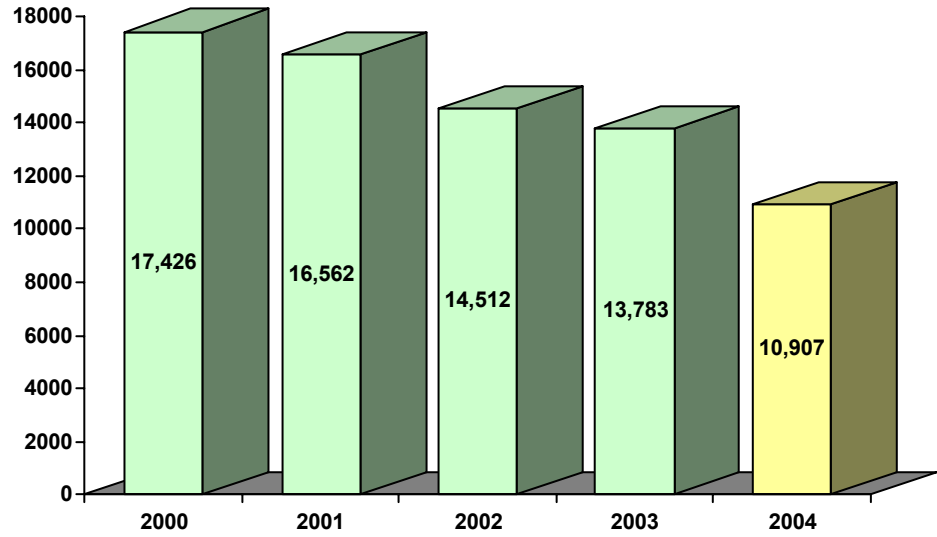
All traffic officers are certified child safety seat inspection technicians. They conducted 36 child safety seat inspections at BPD, and a number of others while participating in inspection events at State Farm Insurance Companies, BroMenn Regional Medical Center, Eastland Mall (Children's Discovery Network), Interstate Center (Day of the Dozer), and the McLean County Safe Kids Coalition. Traffic Division officers often assist Illinois State Police with their seat belt enforcement programs, entitled "*Save our Students*", and "*Working to Save Lives*."

The department completed 2,799 traffic crash reports during 2004, down from 2,813 in 2003. Of that number, 417 included crashes involving injuries. There were two fatalities in 2004, the same as in 2003.

In 2005, Traffic Division will continue to focus education and enforcement efforts on school speed zones and at high crash intersections. Voluntary compliance with traffic laws will be sought through appropriate education. However, strict enforcement awaits those who choose otherwise.

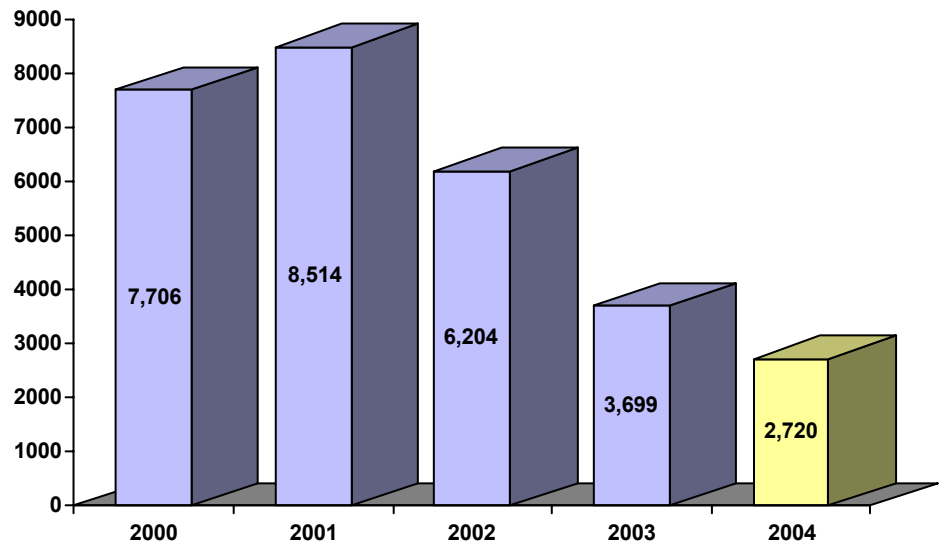
## Total Traffic Citations

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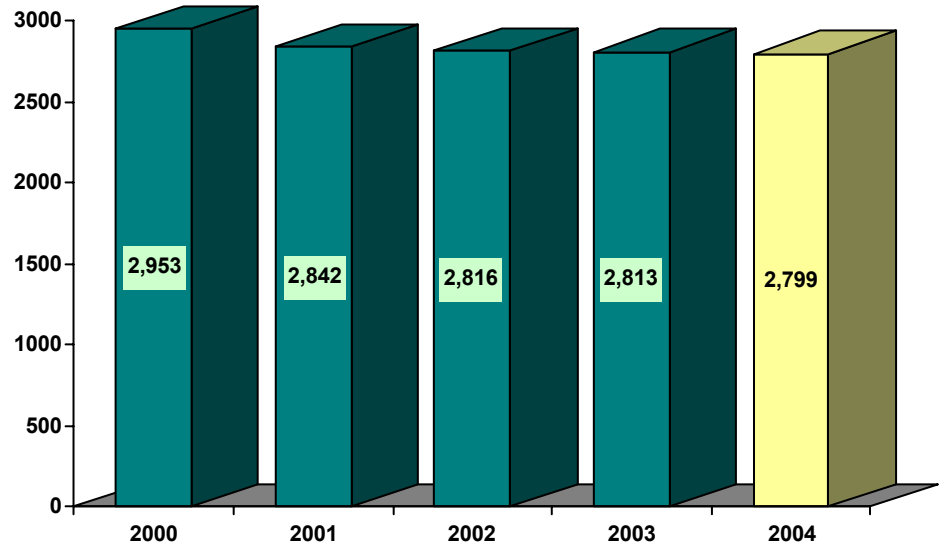
## Speeding Citations Only

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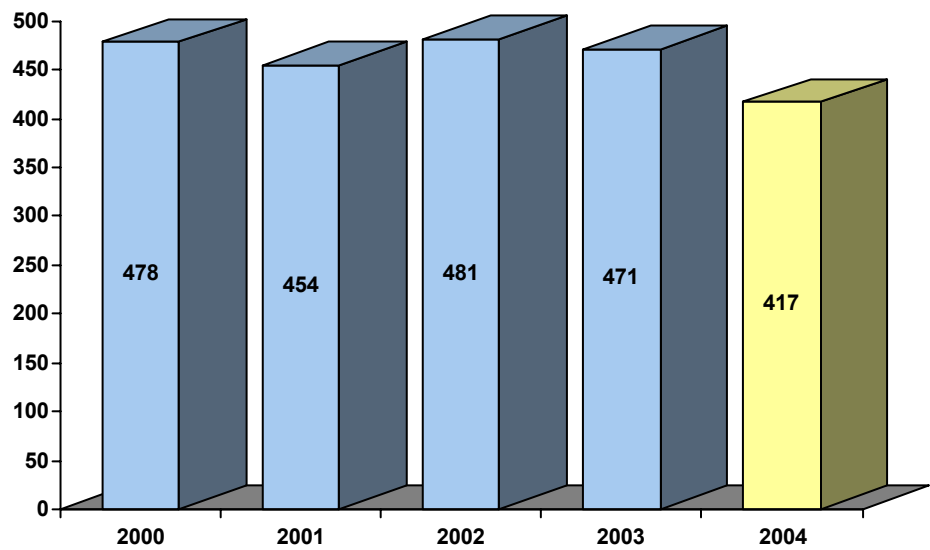
## Reported Traffic Accidents

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## Traffic Accidents with Injuries

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## Central Illinois Violent Fugitive Apprehension Task Force

Created in 2002 for the purpose of arresting violent fugitives wanted on outstanding warrants, the Central Illinois Violent Fugitive Apprehension Task Force consists of Deputy United States Marshals from the U.S. Marshals Service and Special Deputy Marshals from the Bloomington Police Department, Normal Police Department, McLean County Sheriff's Police, Dewitt County Sheriff's Police and Illinois State University Police. The unit, based at the Bloomington Police Department, has access to resources of similar task forces throughout Illinois and the United States.

In 2004, BPD increased its participation in the U.S. Marshals Service Great Lakes Regional Violent Fugitive Apprehension Task Force from one full-time detective to two. The task force made 122 arrests of violent fugitives for crimes including murder, armed robbery, sexual assault, and various drug offenses. Additionally, the task force provided personnel to assist with surveillance during a series of local bank and business robberies in the summer. Recently, they helped track a suspect in a double homicide that occurred in Bloomington. He was located and arrested in Chicago.

### Task Force 6

2004 marked the 21st year of multi-jurisdictional cooperation between the Bloomington Police Department and Illinois State Police Task Force 6.

Even after forming its own unit, the Bloomington Police Department continues to assign an inspector to the Task Force. The two units work together on a regular basis. The ability to share intelligence and other resources results in more effective investigations.

Task Force 6 opened 195 cases in 2004. There were 164 arrests in 2004, compared to 181 the year before. The inspector from Bloomington investigated 14 task force cases and made 9 arrests.



**DEAL TO THEM... DEAL WITH US!**

The graphic features a group of people on the left, a central logo for Task Force 6 (Illinois State Police, Narcotics Unit), and a group of police officers in tactical gear on the right. Below the images, it includes the text: TIP LINE **Taskforce6.com** or **828-1111** Crimestoppers. Message made possible by Caterpillar.

## EPILOGUE



Dear Citizen,

After reading our 2004 annual report, you probably agree with my observation that effective police community partnerships have resulted in another successful year. Working together, we have met challenges and exceeded expectations. Based upon our experience, that should come as no surprise. If you study previous annual reports, you find that our community consistently overcomes crime problems as they arise. In doing so, we become stronger and better able to face new and more complex situations, concurrent with the city's growth.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our Mayor and City Council, City Manager, and especially our partners -- the citizens we serve -- for their continuing support. Further, I want to express my sincere appreciation to all of the Bloomington Police Officers and civilian employees who protect and serve our community in an exemplary fashion. I am confident they will continue to do so.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Roger J. Aikin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Roger J. Aikin  
Chief of Police