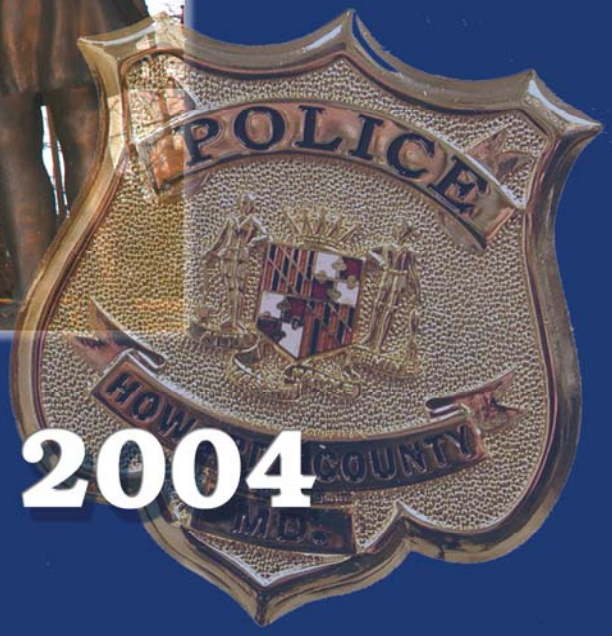
Howard County Department of Police



Annual Report 2004

A Final Tribute

The Howard County Department of Police lost three members of its family to illness in 2004. The department said a sad farewell to former Chief of Police Robert O. Mathews, Jr., Lieutenant Roger Neubauer and Detective First Class Terri Martin.

Former Chief of Police Robert O. Mathews, Jr.

The Howard County Department of Police said a sad farewell to a former Chief of Police in January. Robert O. Mathews, Jr. died following an extended illness at age 66. Chief Mathews served as the department's chief from 1975 to 1978 and was a member of the agency for almost 20 years.

Chief Mathews joined the department in 1959 and was the first officer to rise through the ranks to the position of chief. During his tenure in that role, he created the department's tactical team, burglary unit, youth section, traffic enforcement section and the first police chaplains program. He also designed the department's logo currently displayed on uniforms.

Lt. Roger Neubauer

The Howard County Department of Police said goodbye in April to its longest-serving member, Lieutenant Roger Neubauer, after more than 39 years of service. He passed away after an extended illness.

Lt. Neubauer served the department as a dayshift Watch Commander, supervising dozens of officers under his command. His previous work assignments were in Criminal Investigations, Human Resources, the Patrol Services Bureau and Field Operations.

He joined the department in 1964 and served the citizens proudly with professionalism and dedication. He will forever remain a part of the department's history.

DFC Terri Martin

The Howard County Department of Police family mourned the tragic loss of Detective First Class (DFC) Terri Martin to illness in February.

DFC Martin served as the department's Grand Jury Liaison and worked closely with the Howard County State's Attorney's Office.

She joined the department in 1985 and served the citizens of Howard County with commitment and dedication for almost 19 years. She was an outstanding representative of the police department and will be sorely missed by her fellow officers and friends.

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Howard County
MARYLAND

March 2005

Dear Citizens of Howard County,

It is the mission of the Howard County Police Department to provide a sense of security for our citizens. Our goals are to protect life and property, reduce the opportunity for crime and disorder, enforce laws, assist victims and provide other important services for the community.

Our organizational values are of great importance to our agency. These values—*Integrity, Pride and Community*—are the foundation upon which we make decisions and set goals. These principles permeate everything we do and guide us in our daily interaction with our citizens. We believe in working with the community as part of our team. Together, we strive for understanding through open, timely and clear communication.

In 2004, Howard County citizens and the police department worked together on several issues that were affecting the quality of life in some of our neighborhoods. We listened to the community and responded with several significant initiatives. "Operation Clean Sweep" was one such initiative that targeted drug dealers in several communities. This operation was tremendously successful and resulted in the arrests or indictments of 37 suspected drug dealers. The initiative helped reduce both violent crimes and property crimes in the targeted neighborhoods.

In another initiative, the police department opened a new neighborhood satellite office in the Village of Oakland Mills in Columbia. This office offers citizens the opportunity to work with our police officers and help take part in solving any issues that may arise in the area. This partnership with the community has brought a dramatic decrease in the number of reported crimes in Oakland Mills and has improved quality of life issues in the neighborhood.

We also worked in 2004 to improve our ability to communicate with all citizens in the county. We established formal liaisons with the county's deaf community and its growing Korean community. The department also expanded its outreach to the Hispanic community, providing police officers and recruits with specialized training in the Spanish language. Additionally, we have made many of our police forms and crime prevention publications available in Spanish to help accommodate more of our citizens' needs.

In the years ahead, we will continue to build partnerships and develop new strategies to help us meet the changing needs of our community.

Sincerely,

James N. Robey
County Executive

G. Wayne Livesay
Chief of Police

Howard County Department of Police

Organized
1952

Chief of Police
G. Wayne Livesay

Full-Time Sworn Police Officers
370 authorized positions

Civilian Personnel
163 full-time civilians
21 part-time Crossing Guards

Budget
$57,114,704 (FY05)

Bicycle Officers
13 bicycle patrol officers

K-9 Teams
6 specially-trained K-9 teams

Calls for Police Service in 2004
121,165

Starting Police Officer Salary
$37,003/year

Police Officer Training
42 weeks upon entry
22 hours of annual in-service

Howard County Government

Founded
1851 as Maryland's 21st County

County Executive
James N. Robey

Chief Administrative Officer
Raquel Sanudo

2004 County Council
Guy Guzzone, Chairman
David A. Rakes, Vice Chairman
Charles C. Feaga (as of 11/15/04)
Allan H. Kittleman (thru 11/14/04)
Christopher J. Merdon
Ken Ulman

County Budget
$606,008,404 (FY05)

County Government Employees
2,039 full-time employees

Area
251 square miles/160,640 acres

Population
270,201

Location
20 miles from Baltimore
25 miles from Washington, D.C.

2004: A Year in Review

This year was a significant one for the police department, particularly in the area of technology. We made great strides to further our commitment to bring state-of-the-art equipment and technology to the agency by improving radio communications and computer capability. In every facet of our operation, we continue to provide the highest level of service to the citizens of Howard County.

New System Locates 911 Cell Phone Callers

Over 40 percent of the calls into 911 Centers nationwide are generated from cellular telephones. During 2004, the Communications Division replaced an outdated system with a state-of-the art enhanced telephone system, called VESTA. VESTA is able to capture subscriber information from wireless callers, including pinpointing the exact location of a wireless caller through Global Positioning System (GPS). In 2004, the Howard County Communications 911 Center became "wireless Phase II" operational, which allowed dispatchers to capture the latitude and longitude coordinates of a person calling from a GPS-equipped cell phone. This is critical information when callers are reporting an emergency situation and do not know their exact location.

800 Megahertz (MHz) Radio System

The department completed a conversion to an 800 megahertz (MHz) radio system, which allows interoperability between officers from various jurisdictions and enables teams of officers to communicate openly over the radios in almost any location. This interoperability radio system, known as "8CALL," is reserved for in-progress or emergency incidents such as vehicle pursuits, rescue operations, and crowd control situations involving multiple jurisdictions. The system also provides the extra benefit of better coverage inside all buildings and in low-lying areas.

In an age when terrorism is a true threat and police departments must be prepared for a major event anytime and anyplace, the 800 MHz radio system is a significant step forward to ensure that the line of communication for law enforcement officials is always open.

I/MOBILE Wireless Communications Data System

The department is working with other county agencies to develop a wireless communications data system. This system is intended to give officers more information through a software program installed on mobile data computers in their vehicles, known as I/MOBILE. Using satellite technology, a GPS will be able to track police vehicles through a link to the county's 911 Communications Center and send the closest officer to the scene of any incident.

I/MOBILE integrates mobile data computers in police vehicles with the 911 Center's Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) System. I/MOBILE includes many new features that give patrol officers the ability to view and update CAD, similar to the way a dispatcher can. The program also features a new mapping and GPS that displays all officers' vehicle locations on a map and provides driving directions to officers responding to calls. I/MOBILE also has the ability to integrate with I/LEADS, the department's records system.

False Alarm Reduction Program

In 2004, the department responded to approximately 16,000 false alarm calls. Statistics show that roughly 99 percent of all alarm activations are false. These false alarm calls require officers to respond quickly, causing risks to officers and utilizing valuable resources. When officers arrive at alarm calls, they often learn that the system was activated in error. Statistics again indicate that 80 percent of reported false alarms are caused by fewer than 20 percent of alarm systems.

In an effort to reduce the tremendous drain false alarms cause on police resources, the department implemented a program to fulfill a new county law that requires alarm systems to be registered with the police department. The law was modeled after legislation that has proven to reduce false alarms by nearly 50 percent throughout the region and the country. The program is designed to educate commercial and residential alarm users, establish an automated system to track false alarms and hold repeat offenders accountable through civil fines.

Red Light Cameras Upgrade to Digital Photography

In 2004, the Red Light Camera Program upgraded from film to digital photography, which provides better images and eliminates the need to pull, process and store film. The department continues to oversee the nation's only Regional Automated Enforcement Center, which monitors more than 70 red light cameras throughout Howard County and 11 partner jurisdictions in Maryland. Since the program began in early 1998, accidents at intersections with cameras have been reduced by 40 percent in Howard County.

Members of the department, along with other supporters of Special Olympics, jumped into frigid waters at the Polar Bear Plunge in January.

Liaisons Appointed to Serve Korean and Deaf Communities

Chief of Police G. Wayne Livesay selected two officers in 2004 to serve as new liaisons to the Korean and deaf communities in Howard County. PFC Steve Yi, who is fluent in Korean, and PFC Karen Wilson, who is versed in sign language, were appointed by the chief. The goal for both officers is to help bridge any language or cultural gaps those communities may face.

PFC Yi serves as a consistent "point person" for Korean citizens and assists as a translator at major crime events. PFC Wilson can communicate with deaf/hard-of-hearing citizens through a departmental e-mail account. As the Korean and deaf populations in Howard County continue to grow, the department is working to ensure that the needs of these two expanding communities are addressed.

Charitable Support

Members of the department supported numerous worthwhile charities in 2004. The department actively supports the county's United Way Campaign each year. In addition, the department supports Special Olympics Maryland through various fundraising and awareness efforts, such as the Polar Bear Plunge. The department also maintains a leadership role in the Maryland Law Enforcement Torch Run.

Each year, the department also adopts a home for "Rebuilding Together With Christmas in April." A team of police and civilian staff volunteers come together to aid a low income or elderly home owner with much-needed repairs to ensure a warm, dry and safe living condition.

Bring Your Child To Work Day

On April 22, the department put together an interactive, educational program for employees' children for "Bring Your Child To Work Day." The children of parents who work for the department learned how to determine speed at an accident scene by measuring skid marks and using mathematical calculations. The children learned about LASER speed technology as they ran towards a LASER device and their running speeds were measured by the Traffic Enforcement Section. The Tactical Section conducted demonstrations and the children also learned about how infrared technology is used in law enforcement. Each child had the opportunity to pet animals that were brought to the event by Animal Control personnel.

Animal Control Facility Renovated

The more than 20-year-old Animal Control facility in Columbia began renovation and expansion this year. The project is scheduled to be completed by the summer of 2005. The new facility will be increased in size from 8,000 square feet to over 12,000. It will include a training and education room, new administration offices and double the animal holding capacity space. It will also have a quarantine area, an adoption and visiting area, exotic animal holding capability, 10 indoor/outdoor kennels and much needed storage areas.

National Police Week Commemorated

Throughout National Police Week, May 9-15, departmental vehicles displayed commemorative

ribbons and members wore black shrouds on their badges to honor fallen officers. Members of the department also gathered with officers from around the country on May 15 in Washington, D.C., for the 23rd Annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Service.

The national service was held in honor of the surviving family members of those officers who died in the line of duty during the previous year.

Annual HCPD Memorial Ceremony

In recognition of National Police Week, the department held its second annual Memorial Ceremony on May 10. Departmental members and their families attended the ceremony, which was held at the Memorial Garden at Police Headquarters. The event included a candlelight vigil and wreath-laying ceremony, as well as the participation of family members of fallen officers. Howard County Officers Randy Brightwell and Roger Cassell, Jr. were remembered at the ceremony.

Officers Carry Torch for Special Olympics

On June 3, officers from the Howard County Police Department and other law enforcement agencies were out in force helping to escort the Special Olympics *Flame of Hope* through Howard County.

Chief of Police G. Wayne Livesay and Lt. John Newnan, who is the Maryland Law Enforcement Torch Run Director and a member of the International Law Enforcement Torch Run Executive Council, and the Howard County team received the *Flame* at the county line. After a brief stop and ceremony, approximately 100 volunteer officers continued to relay the *Flame* to the Prince George's County team. The officers helped to ensure that the *Flame* was protected until it was delivered to the waiting hands of athletes on June 4 at the Opening Ceremony of the Special Olympics Maryland Summer Games at the University of Maryland at College Park.

Police Officers relay the Special Olympics Flame of Hope through Howard County.

Operation Clean Sweep

The department's Vice and Narcotics Division concluded a two-year drug and firearms investigation, known as Operation Clean Sweep, in 2004. The investigation, which was jointly conducted by Howard County Police, the federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms and the Baltimore County Police Department, resulted in arrests or indictments of 37 suspects, the seizure of 20 vehicles and the seizure of $100,000 worth of drugs.

Maryland Chiefs' Challenge

The Maryland Chiefs' Challenge, which ran from April 6 through June 9, is a very intensive annual campaign designed to raise awareness about the benefits of safety belt use. Even though most citizens know that they should buckle up, many often do not. Enforcement and education go hand-in-hand in order to change this behavior. Howard County's campaign consisted of periodic seatbelt and child safety seat checkpoints and inspections throughout the county, saturation patrols in high-traffic areas and fixed patrols near shopping centers, schools and intersections. The department issued 5,261 seatbelt and child passenger restraint citations during this year's campaign. The department has a proud reputation of outstanding performance during the Maryland Chiefs' Challenge, both statewide and nationally. As a result of this year's campaign, Howard County has an impressive safety belt compliance rate of almost 94 percent.

Training Academy Gets Highest Rating

A review of the police department's Education and Training Division in 2004 revealed 100 percent compliance with Maryland Police Correctional and Training Commission (MPCTC) standards for an

Recruit officers at the department's police academy receive extensive training in firearms proficiency and discipline.

entry-level certification program. The review demonstrated the Education and Training Division's commitment to not only keeping the department in compliance, but also recognized it as a model training agency.

Department Gives Terrorism Briefing

Police Chief G. Wayne Livesay hosted an informational terrorism briefing in June for the members of the Howard County Chamber of Commerce. The event, entitled "Terrorism At Home and Abroad—A Howard County Perspective," was intended to help inform the business community about the warning signs of terrorism at a time when national security is a top priority. Lt. John McKissick, Commander of the Emergency Preparedness Division, informed the group that Howard County is working to ensure it is prepared for any event.

National Night Out

Howard County police officers and residents joined forces on August 3 in an effort to fight back against crime. The 21st annual National Night Out was observed in communities around the nation. The evening is intended to generate participation and support for local crime prevention activities. The department worked to heighten awareness and strengthen community spirit by helping residents organize more than 30 block parties throughout the county. The evening included events at the Community Policing Offices in North Laurel, Long Reach and Harpers Choice.

Oakland Mills Community Initiative

In August, the Oakland Mills Community Initiative moved from its original office in the Oakland Mills Village Center office to its permanent location within the village center on Stevens Forest Road in Columbia. This initiative is the fourth community police satellite office that the department has opened in response to community concerns about crime and quality of life issues. The office is staffed by one full-time police officer and is modeled after similar programs in the county. The initiative saw great success in 2004, with a significant reduction in crimes reported in the Oakland Mills area.

New Community Resource Officers

In a show of continued dedication to community policing, the department created two Community Resource Officer positions to help address community needs and concerns in each district. The new positions were filled by PFC Bonita Linkins in the Northern District and PFC Sandra Copley in the Southern District. These officers have taken over projects such as community presentations and meetings, crime prevention outreach, monitoring of policing projects, Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) and working with the Maryland Community Crime Prevention Institute. These officers represent the department as liaisons with citizens by providing crime prevention measures and information that affects all residential and commercial areas in Howard County.

Animal Control Law Improves Safety

A new Animal Control law, which went into effect in September, significantly improved service to the community and better empowered animal control officers to handle dangerous animals. The legislation completely replaces the former law that dictated Animal Control operations. One of the most significant changes in the new law is an animal control officer's ability to immediately remove a dangerous animal from the community and appropriately secure it while a determination about its condition is assessed. The new law addresses all issues pertaining to the operation of Animal Control including vaccination requirements, fees, adoptions, licenses and tags.

13th Annual Howard County Police Pace

The department hosted its 13th Annual Howard County Police Pace 5K Race and One Mile

Walk-Run at Centennial Park in September. The event is sponsored by the Howard County Police Foundation. Proceeds benefit a number of charitable initiatives, including a college scholarship program for the children of officers who have given their lives in the line of duty in Howard County. The Foundation also sponsors educational scholarships and awards, including one to a Howard County high school senior each year. In addition, the Foundation offers support services to officers and their families whenever tragedy strikes. The 2004 event raised nearly $20,000 for the G. Edward Wessel Memorial Fund through the Police Foundation.

Auxiliary Officer Class Graduates

In February, the department's Auxiliary Class #6 graduated from its nine-week academy. Auxiliary officers are specially trained, uniformed volunteers who assist in a variety of police-related functions, including motorist assists, special events, home security surveys and the issuance of parking citations. They contribute thousands of volunteer hours each year to assist the department and the citizens of Howard County.

Chaplains Program Adds New Members

In 2004, three new Chaplains were formally welcomed to the Police Chaplains Program. In January, Rabbi Hillel Baron and Father Martin Burnham were presented with their official chaplain badges by Chief G. Wayne Livesay. In August, Revered Lisa Blake was presented with her official chaplain's badge. The Police Chaplains Program, established in 1978, provides hundreds of hours of service to police personnel and the community. The Chaplains participate in a variety of assignments, including formal ceremonies, death notifications, last rites for the critically injured and assistance to family members in traumatic situations. The Chaplains represent various faiths and provide counseling services to officers and their families in times of need. In addition to the three new Chaplains, the other members of the program are Reverend Martin Eppard, Reverend Jerry Hoots, Deacon Larry Teixeira and Revered John Smith, who is also the department's longest-serving Chaplain.

Officer Selected for National IACP Award

PFC Michael Ensko, Jr. was selected by the International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) as the Grand Prize recipient in the "Looking Beyond the License Plate" Award. This national award program is designed to substantiate and document the importance of using license plates as law enforcement tools.

PFC Ensko saw a suspicious vehicle, ran the tag and determined that both occupants of the vehicle were wanted for felony crimes in two states. The driver was wanted by Florida officials for battery upon a police officer and the passenger was wanted by Colorado officials for murder.

PFC Robert McKnight also received Honorable Mention from the IACP for his role in locating a suspect wanted for murder.

Howard County Police and Fire Expo

The Howard County Departments of Police and Fire and Rescue Services joined together to host the second annual Howard County Police and Fire Expo in October. The event included many police and fire department demonstrations and displays, including a helicopter, K-9 demonstrations, an antique emergency vehicles display, fire-fighting in action, information booths and much more.

Governor's Awards Ceremony

In 2004, the department was proud to announce that 11 programs or individuals were selected to receive Governor's Crime Prevention Awards for their work throughout the year. The police department received a department-wide Initiative Award. For *Comprehensive Community-Based Anti-Crime Strategies*, Long Reach C-SAFE and Oakland Mills Community Initiative were winners. For *Outstanding Proactive Crime Prevention Programs*, the winners were HCPD Homeland Security Awareness Training, Jeffers Hill Citizens on Patrol and Northern District Crime Reduction Initiative. Individual officers awarded for their crime prevention efforts were Corporal Matthew Brennan, PFC David Chesno, PFC Ann Giardina, PFC Michael Johnson and PFC Steve Yi.

Election Day Security

The department spent months developing a security plan to create the safest polling places for voters in November. The planning began with a coalition made up of the police department, the County Elections Board, the State Elections Board and the Maryland Department of Homeland Security. The group held weekly, statewide conference calls to share information and ideas about the best ways to ensure the safety of voters.

While there were no specific threats against Howard County, the department's Emergency Preparedness Division developed a security plan for any eventuality. The plan included additional staffing and extra patrols around polling places and critical infrastructures in the county. It also included extensive planning from assisting election judges with enforcing voting laws to disaster management in the event of a large-scale scenario. Election Day 2004 was a safe, successful event in Howard County thanks to the efforts and hard work of many departmental members and partners.

Auxiliary Officers Win Howard County's Volunteer Award

The department's auxiliary officers were selected from nearly a dozen other nominees as the Howard County Volunteers of the Year for 2004. This is a county-wide award saluting excellence in volunteer organizations or groups. The department's auxiliary officers donated their time to assist the police department with many special events, races, sobriety checkpoints, and various other patrol-associated duties. Although they are all pledged to work 16 hours and one event during each month, these dedicated officers far exceed this expectation. In 2004, they nearly doubled their work hours from the previous year by working an impressive 8,426 hours.

Members of the department's Auxiliary Officer Program.

Officer Wins American Legion State Award

PFC William Vogel won the American Legion Police Officer of the Year Award for the state of Maryland in 2004. Following his state win, his name was submitted for the national award.

Howard County is the only police department in the nation to have won the American Legion *National* Police Officer of the Year Award two years in a row. The two national winners were Corporal Timothy Wiley and PFC Patrick Eckley.

Bear Trax Police-Youth Events

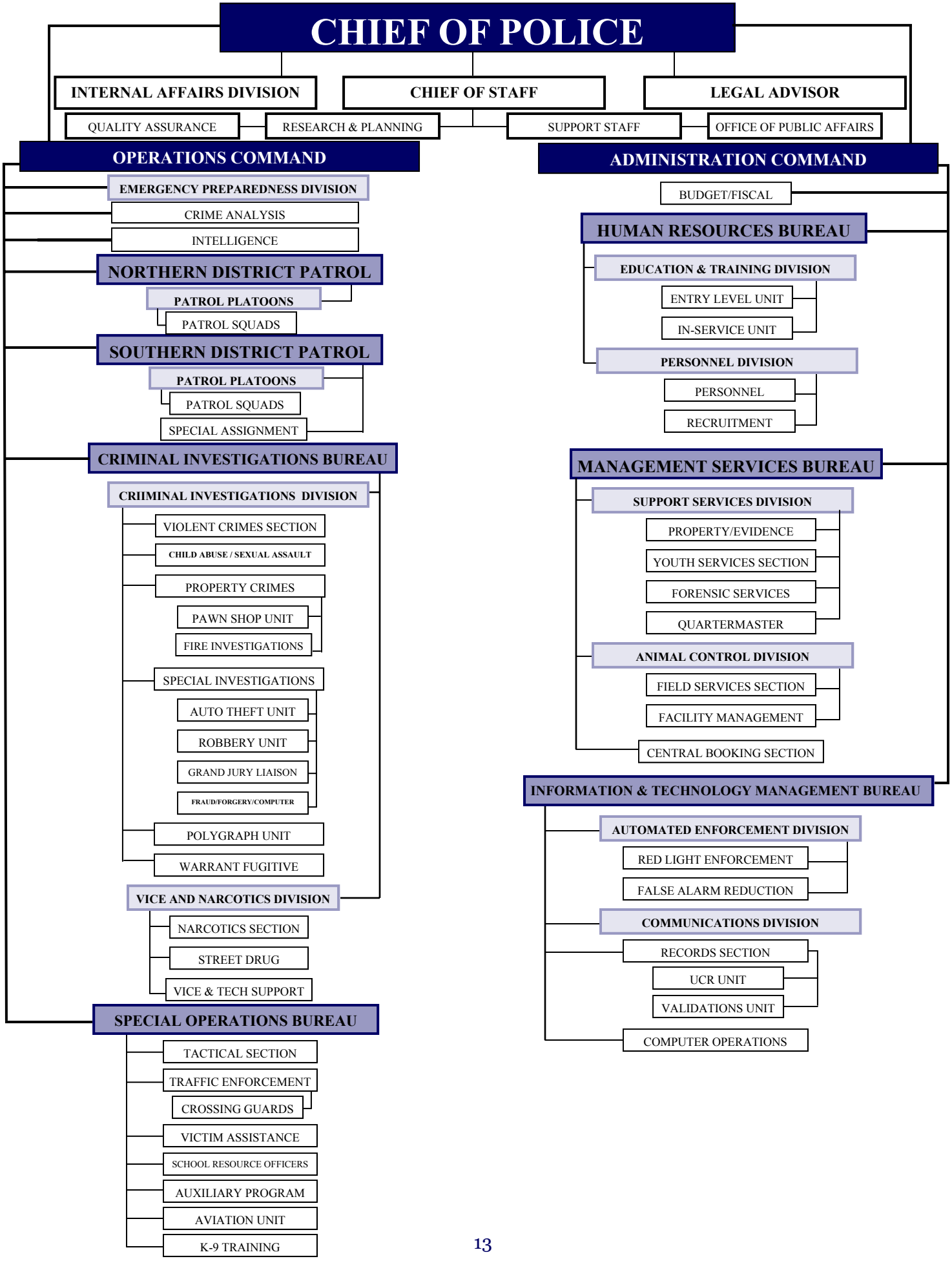
Bear Trax celebrates the theme "Kids, Cops and Community" three times each year in an effort to enhance relationships between police officers and children in the community.

In June, the department hosted its second annual Bear Trax Day Camp. Thirty-five fifth-grade students, ages 11 and 12, participated in the camp which was designed to enhance relationships between police officers and children in the community. In July, Camp Bear Trax celebrated its 26th anniversary as the week-long overnight camp hosted 51 fifth-grade campers, ages 11 and 12. In December, Bear Trax was busy once again by hosting a holiday dinner party for 49 children, in grades one through four, ages five to ten. This fun-filled evening was a delight for all, complete with entertainment and a gift for each child.

Children who participate in Bear Trax activities are nominated by elementary school guidance counselors as children who could most benefit from the support, encouragement and constructive, organized activities offered through the program.

The police department sponsors many Police-Youth Programs, including the Bear Trax "Kids, Cops and Community" events.

The Department's Organization



Office of the Chief of Police

Police Chief G. Wayne Livesay is the highest-ranking officer and leader of the Howard County Department of Police. Chief Livesay meets regularly with the County Executive and the police department's Command Staff to develop goals, formulate plans and implement programs and new policies designed to strategically solve problems. In addition, the Chief meets with community groups and business leaders to address concerns, solicit input and maintain a direct connection to the citizens served by the department.

Quality Assurance Section

The Quality Assurance Section is responsible for providing a staff inspection function for the police department. Through regular audits, the inspections ensure adherence to departmental policies. The section also handles inspections of liquor establishments and specialized alcohol enforcement programs for the county.

Internal Affairs Division

The Internal Affairs Division is primarily dedicated to receiving, overseeing and subsequent adjudication of police personnel complaints. These complaints range from alleged employee misconduct to matters of deficient performance. A fundamental role of the complaint process is to ensure the professional integrity of the department through a systematic, objective and thorough investigation of complaints.

The Internal Affairs Division is committed to the prompt, just and objective resolution of complaints through administrative actions to protect the integrity of the employee, as well as the department and community it is sworn to serve. All complaints are investigated with adherence to established and accredited policies and in accordance with the Maryland Law Enforcement Officer's Bill of Rights.

Research and Planning Section

The Research and Planning Section conducts research, program analysis, policy development, grant administration, accreditation maintenance and other services for the improvement of law enforcement operations.

The section manages the development of policies and procedures for the department and ensures that all written directives are consistent with applicable laws, departmental goals, accreditation standards and the latest in law enforcement practices.

The section also is charged with grant administration for the department. In 2004, the section was responsible for obtaining and managing over $3 million in grant funding.

Office of Public Affairs

The role of the Office of Public Affairs is to communicate effectively with the public and the media. A civilian director, two police officers and an administrative assistant staff the office. The team is responsible for keeping the public and news media informed about significant police-related events in the county, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Each day, the Office of Public Affairs provides the media and the public with news releases, incident briefings, adult arrest logs and crime reports, all of which highlight significant activities.

The office handles all marketing and public relations for the department, including the monthly department newsletter, *The Beat*, the department's Annual Report and the Web site, www.hcpd.org. The Web site provides the public with insight into the philosophy, goals and priorities of the department and includes access to a news room, daily crime bulletins, crime statistics and maps, community policing information, Animal Control, Recruiting, Red Light Camera Program, Victim Assistance Section, False Alarm Reduction Program, various departmental request forms and a survey for citizens.

The team acts as a liaison for several community and business groups in Howard County. Additional responsibilities for members of the office include involvement with the Hate-Bias Task Force, the TRIAD/SALT Council, National Night Out, Metro Crime Stoppers Committee, Bring Your Child To Work Day and various special event planning. The office also works to promote programs and initiatives sponsored by the department.

Operations Command

The Deputy Chief for Operations manages the five primary components of the Operations Command: Emergency Preparedness Division, Northern District Patrol, Southern District Patrol, Criminal Investigations Bureau and Special Operations Bureau. The Deputy Chief also oversees the Crime Analysis Section, the Intelligence Unit and the officer assigned to the Regional Area Gang Enforcement (RAGE) Task Force.

Emergency Preparedness Division

Last year, the department created a new Emergency Preparedness Division to better coordinate a wide variety of grant opportunities through the state Homeland Security Grant Program. Equipment acquisitions and training opportunities better prepared the community and county government employees to handle Homeland Security issues, weather events and other emergency situations. The team, which consists of a division commander and two police officers, works with the FBI's Joint Terrorism Task Force to share information with other law enforcement agencies around the country.

The team also works with the Maryland Coordination and Analysis Center (MCAC), which gathers and provides information about potential Homeland Security issues to law enforcement agencies throughout the state. Additionally, MCAC gathers and disseminates national and international intelligence. In-service training for departmental personnel provides classified information to those who have appropriate clearance. By broadening the scope of the division, the department ensures its continued mission to handle any emergency situation.

Crime Analysis Section

The Crime Analysis Section analyzes data on reported crimes and criminal offenders. That information is used to identify crime trends, develop suspects and assist in determining appropriate enforcement strategies. Weekly crime maps are produced using crime analysis databases and mapping software. These maps are then distributed to police personnel to provide a picture of crime throughout the county. The section also produces daily crime bulletins and publishes crime statistics on the department's Web site.

Intelligence Unit

Last year, the department reassigned the Intelligence Unit to the Operations Command to provide better information on criminal activity to patrol officers and investigators. The unit publishes a weekly Intelligence Bulletin to keep sworn members well-informed.

Regional Area Gang Enforcement (RAGE)

The Regional Area Gang Enforcement (RAGE) Task Force was created to combine the resources of various surrounding police agencies to ensure a unified effort to address the development of gangs and gang-related crimes in the region. In 2004, the department assigned one police officer to the RAGE Task Force, which is based in neighboring Prince George's County. Assigning one officer to this task force gives our agency advance information and experience in dealing with this growing concern. Participation in this task force had led to significant success in several cases.

Patrol Operations, Northern and Southern Districts

Patrol operations are divided into two districts, Northern and Southern. The districts each are managed by a district commander and are divided into platoons of officers that work 12-hour day and night shifts. Patrol lieutenants, also known as Watch Commanders, oversee patrol operations on a 24-hour basis. The patrol officers respond to the community's calls for service, enforce traffic and

Lt. Glenn Case (right) and members of Patrol Platoon 2, Midnight Shift, Northern District.

criminal laws, address community needs and initiate actions based on their own observations.

The Northern District encompasses Elkridge, the Long Reach community in Columbia, historic Ellicott City and areas west to the Carroll County line. The Northern District is divided into two patrol areas that are each supervised by a sergeant. The district is further broken up into 11 patrol beats with a road patrol officer assigned to each beat. The Northern District patrol office is located at Police Headquarters on Court House Drive in Ellicott City. The district also has a satellite office in the Long Reach area of Columbia.

The Southern District encompasses Columbia, Clarksville, Fulton, River Hill, Jessup, Savage and North Laurel. The district is divided into three areas that are each supervised by a sergeant. The district is further broken up into 13 patrol beats with a road patrol officer assigned to each beat. The Southern District patrol office is located on Scaggsville Road in the Laurel area. A District Court Commissioner's office is located inside the Southern District police station to streamline the booking process.

The Southern District also oversees the North Laurel Community Policing Office and satellite offices in the Harpers Choice and Oakland Mills areas in Columbia.

Special Assignment Section

The Special Assignment Section aids patrol efforts by providing various services as needed, including surveillance and saturation patrols. Through focused enforcement initiatives in specific areas of the community, the officers of the Special Assignment Section have assisted in many critical and successful operations.

Duty Officers

Duty Officers, known as Police Service Aides, work the front desk at each district station and handle incoming calls, write certain types of police reports and handle walk-in inquiries. This assignment ensures that a police representative at each district station is available to the public, both in person and on the telephone, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Police Cadets

Police Cadets are men and women at least 18 years of age who have aspirations of becoming police officers and want to learn more about police work. Cadets are employees assigned to each district station to provide a wide range of administrative and operational services. Duties include traffic direction, parking enforcement and other low-risk police functions, as well as transporting interoffice mail, assisting with front desk responsibilities and conducting daily building checks.

Cadet Edmundo Porras assists in the Property and Evidence Section.

Bike Patrol Program

The Bike Patrol Program is active within the two patrol districts as a very effective and versatile tool. Bike Patrol is especially useful in Columbia's unique expanse of footpaths, open space, lakefronts and parks. One of the program's officers is currently a certified bike instructor who has instructed other officers in the program. Next year, the department plans on training more bike officers to be placed in patrol. In addition to handling their bicycle patrol duties, the department's 13 bike officers also handle normal patrol calls for service.

Bike Patrol Officer PFC James Iacarino.

K-9 Operations

K-9 Operations is a decentralized component of the department, serving patrol operations in both districts. The six K-9 teams play a critical role in the day-to-day operations of the department. Four of the K-9's are trained as drug detection and patrol dogs and two are trained as explosive and firearm

K-9 Officer Robert McKnight and his partner, Raven, an explosive/firearm detection dog.

detection dogs. There is a K-9 team assigned to each 12-hour patrol shift. This year, the department acquired a second explosive/firearm detection dog team, funded by the Homeland Security Grant. This particular K-9 team is assigned to the Special Operations Bureau, where the team works conducting security sweeps at county, state and federal facilities in Howard County. In 2004, the K-9 teams were credited with 262 building searches, 163 trails, 441 drug scans and 237 apprehensions.

Community Resource Officers

In a show of continued dedication to community policing, the department created two Community Resource Officer (CRO) positions in 2004 to help address community needs and concerns in each district. The officers report directly to the patrol offices in each district and are responsible for addressing community needs. They have taken over projects such as community presentations and meetings, crime prevention outreach, monitoring patrol projects, Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) and working with the Maryland Community Crime Prevention Institute.

Criminal Investigations Bureau, Criminal Investigations Division

The Criminal Investigations Bureau serves as the primary investigative arm of the police department and is comprised of two components: the Criminal Investigations Division and the Vice and Narcotics Division. The bureau is committed to solving those cases that have the greatest impact on the safety of residents, from crimes of violence to felony drug violations.

Two-thirds of the bureau's detectives work within the six primary components of the Criminal Investigations Division. These detectives investigate violent and property crimes, present cases to the Grand Jury, maintain a liaison with the State's Attorney's Office, compile and analyze pawn shop activity, conduct polygraph examinations and coordinate the Repeat Offender Program.

Violent Crimes Section

Detectives in this section investigate crimes of violence including homicides, aggravated assaults, abductions, kidnappings, extortions and suicides. They also investigate adult missing persons, unattended deaths, cold case homicides and other serious crimes. The Violent Crimes Section was assigned 183 cases in 2004 with an 82 percent closure rate.

Child Abuse/Sexual Assault Section

Detectives assigned to this section conduct investigations at the Howard County Child Advocacy Center. Cases involving sexual and serious physical child abuse are investigated through a multidisciplinary framework, including Child Protective Services, the Howard County State's Attorney's Office, the Howard County Health Department, the Sexual Trauma Treatment Advocacy and Recovery (STTAR) Center and the Domestic Violence Center. Child pornography cases, as well as Sexual Offender Registration investigations, are also conducted by child abuse detectives. The section's detectives conduct all juvenile and adult sex crimes investigations through a Sexual Assault Response Team (SART). In 2004, the section's nine detectives investigated 348 cases.

Property Crimes Section

The Property Crimes Section consists of 10 detectives assigned to investigate cases of burglary, theft, arson and pawn shop activity. One corporal, seven detectives and two arson investigators comprise the burglary, theft and fire investigation components of the section. One civilian completes the section's pawn unit functions. The Property Crimes Section investigated a total of 361 cases in 2004.

The Arson/Fire Investigations Unit within the Property Crimes Section was created in 2001 as a joint effort between the police department and the Howard County Department of Fire and Rescue

Services. The unit is comprised of detectives from the police department and fire department who work together on fire investigations. The detectives are special deputies with the State Fire Marshal's Office. In 2004, the Arson/Fire Investigations Unit handled 190 calls, with a clearance rate of 19 percent. The national average for these typically unwitnessed crimes is only about 15 percent.

Special Investigations Section

The Special Investigations Section is comprised of the Auto Theft Unit, the Robbery Unit, Grand Jury Liaison/Repeat Offender Program, the Fraud/ Forgery Unit and Computer Forensics.

The Auto Theft Unit consists of one corporal, two detectives and one civilian Auto Theft Prevention Specialist. This year, 541 vehicles were reportedly taken from Howard County. Every auto theft report is assigned to this unit for follow-up investigation. Detectives from this unit conducted investigations in 137 cases, resulting in a clearance rate of 30 percent. The national clearance rate average is 13 percent.

The Robbery Unit consists of four detectives who focus on robbery cases in the county. In 2004, the unit was assigned 176 cases and the detectives cleared 38 percent of those. The national clearance rate average is 26 percent.

Robbery detectives Aaron Dombrowsky (left) and Joe King.

The Grand Jury Liaison is a full-time detective who conducts all felony screening of cases and case preparation for most of the Grand Jury presentments for indictment. This detective is responsible for performing background investigations for all defendants whose cases are brought before the Circuit Court to determine if they are eligible for enhanced sanctions. The liaison also identifies those who should be in the Repeat Offender Program and provides that information to the State's Attorney's Office. This has resulted in increased penalties and, in some cases, qualifies repeat offenders for sentences without the possibility of parole.

The Fraud/Forgery Unit consists of two detectives who investigate various types of complex and involved fraud and forgery crimes. In 2004, this unit was assigned 76 cases and had a clearance rate of 51 percent.

Computer Forensics has one detective assigned to handle cases involving computer evidence. In 2004, he was also assigned to the Maryland State Police Task Force on Child Pornography.

Polygraph Unit

The Polygraph Unit provides investigative support for both criminal and pre-employment investigations. These investigators use a combination of interrogation techniques and technology to gain valuable information to help close criminal cases and screen potential employees.

Warrant/Fugitive Section

The Warrant/Fugitive Section consists of one sergeant, one corporal and eight detectives. This section is responsible for all arrest warrants received for service from the District Court of Maryland for Howard County, as well as warrants sent to the department from other police agencies. The section also handles the coordination of all fugitive matters.

In 2004, this section cleared 3,377 warrants, resulting in 1,370 arrests. This success was partly attributed to members collaborating with the Baltimore Warrant Task Force.

In October 2004, the section began participating in the Maryland Motor Vehicle Administration's (MVA) Outstanding Arrest Warrant Program, in a joint effort between the MVA and law enforcement agencies throughout the state. By participating in this program, the police department reports individuals with outstanding arrest warrants to the MVA. The MVA then has the authority to suspend the driving privilege of those wanted individuals and flag their vehicle records for law enforcement.

Criminal Investigations Bureau, Vice and Narcotics Division

The Vice and Narcotics Division is comprised of the Narcotics Section, Street Drug Section and a Vice and Technical Support component.

This division is responsible for investigating violations of the narcotics and controlled dangerous substance laws. The team also investigates vice crimes, including prostitution and gambling. The division also is responsible for coordinating efforts with other county agencies to monitor activities occurring in local massage parlors.

Narcotics Section

The Narcotics Section investigates drug distribution networks that may be operating in the county. Narcotics detectives operate in a covert capacity, purchasing controlled dangerous substances and infiltrating drug organizations to gather sufficient evidence for prosecution. This section also investigates the illegal dispersion of pharmaceutical drugs.

During 2004, the section assigned two members to participate in the Washington-Baltimore High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) to foster cooperation among law enforcement agencies in this region and to develop strategies to address the region's drug-related public safety threats.

Street Drug Section

The Street Drug Section investigates drug activity in our communities. The section's primary focus is to address controlled dangerous substance problems in neighborhoods and respond to calls placed to the Drug Tip Line. On occasion, the section conducts drug scans at county high schools at the individual request of a high school principal.

Vice and Technical Support Unit

Vice and Technical Support investigates vice crimes and is responsible for asset forfeiture proceedings. In 2004, the unit seized $1.55 million in proceeds. Members of this unit maintain databases for vice and narcotics-related criminal activity, as well as intelligence-related databases. This unit maintains responsibility for operating highly sophisticated counter-intelligence equipment used to assist officers in their investigative efforts.

Special Operations Bureau

The Special Operations Bureau supports departmental operations with a variety of specialized skills and equipment.

The bureau includes the Tactical Section, Traffic Enforcement Section, School Crossing Guard Unit, Victim Assistance Section, School Resource Officer Section, Auxiliary Officer Program, Aviation Unit and K-9 Training. Additionally, the Critical Incident Negotiations Team and the Civil Disturbance Unit—both decentralized components—are also managed within the bureau.

Tactical Section

The members of the Tactical (TAC) Section are specially trained and equipped to handle a variety of high-risk situations and emergencies. In 2004, the section executed 25 high-risk search and seizure warrants. TAC Section officers also handled 10 barricade situations and nine high-risk vehicle takedowns.

The section also invested countless hours assisting detectives, both from the Howard County Police Department and other jurisdictions, in a variety of high-risk situations.

The section was tasked with providing security at music concerts, the July 4th Celebration at the Columbia Lakefront, the Howard County Fair and several other crowd-drawing events.

HCPD Tactical team members and officers from other agencies at the Howard County Police SWAT School.

The section also coordinated and hosted its sixth annual three-week SWAT School in September. Thirty-eight officers from 15 police agencies participated in the training. The Immediate Action Team (IAT) is a component of the Tactical Section. The IAT was developed and implemented to provide a group of trained officers who can quickly deploy to active school and workplace violence incidents with the goal of preventing the loss of life.

Critical Incident Negotiations Team (CINT)

The Critical Incident Negotiations Team (CINT) is a decentralized component comprised of one sergeant and ten specially trained police officers divided into two teams. Both teams work under the direct supervision of the bureau lieutenant. The lieutenant and the sergeant respond with the on-call negotiations team of officers to high-risk situations. These teams also work in conjunction with the Tactical Section in a variety of dangerous and life-threatening incidents, usually involving armed barricaded subjects or hostage situations.

Traffic Enforcement Section (TES)

The Traffic Enforcement Section (TES) investigates fatal and serious personal injury collisions, conducts seat belt checkpoints, inspects commercial vehicles and manages the DUI (Driving Under the Influence of Alcohol or Drugs) Programs, which includes sobriety checkpoints and saturation patrols.

PFC Jamie Myers (left) and PFC Chris Krieger, two of the members of the department's Motor Unit.

The section is responsible for conducting speed enforcement device training (RADAR and LASER) for all officers, and all traffic-related training for new recruits. The section also handles all operational planning for special events in the county, including parades, block parties, concerts, fairs, protests and foot and bicycle races.

Members of the section also coordinate all speed enforcement programs. The Speed Monitoring and Awareness Radar Team (SMART) Program allows trained citizens to sign out a portable speed display board to collect speed data, which is used for directed enforcement. Every fall, at the start of the school year, the department concentrates its speed enforcement efforts in and around designated school zones.

The Community Traffic Safety Program (CTSP) is a grant-funded initiative designed to assess the traffic safety needs of Howard County and develop effective safety programs. The program is sponsored by the Maryland Highway Safety Office and is a coordinated effort throughout the state. In 2004, the program focused on initiatives including DUI Programs, aggressive driving, pedestrian safety, speed enforcement, occupant protection and young and elderly drivers.

School Crossing Guard Unit

The School Crossing Guard Unit consists of one supervisor, 21 part-time Crossing Guards and one substitute Crossing Guard. The unit staffs over 1,100 school posts each month to ensure all elementary school students arrive safely at school every day.

Victim Assistance Section (VAS)

The Victim Assistance Section (VAS) provides crisis intervention, advocacy and support services to crime victims. Assistance includes emotional support, referral to provider agencies, assistance with filing court papers and monetary claims, accompaniment to court hearings, guidance through the criminal justice process and evaluation services for referral to trauma debriefing.

VAS staff members also provide transitional support to the State's Attorney's Office Victim Assistance Unit during prosecution, and act as liaisons between victims and officers. The VAS also presents recruit and in-service training programs for sworn members.

The VAS staff includes one full-time coordinator and one part-time advocate. Three part-time volunteers provide support services and assist with administrative obligations. In 2004, assistance was provided to 4,130 primary and secondary victims.

In honor of National Crime Victims' Rights Week, the VAS worked with a nationally recognized stalking investigator from the National Center for Victims of Crime. This investigator taught a class on stalking investigations and provided a victim services workshop that was attended by 17 law enforcement agencies and state's attorney's offices.

School Resource Officer (SRO) Section

This section consists of two sergeants supervising a dozen officers assigned to each of the 12 Howard County high schools. A School Resource Officer (SRO) mentors students and conducts instructional classes on a variety of topics. Officers handle requests for services in the schools including disturbances, arrests for criminal offenses, counseling and mediation sessions, parent-student conferences and community meetings. When possible, officers try to resolve minor infractions without having to make an arrest. The officers work in partnership with the school administrators to develop other alternatives to correct delinquent behavior.

Members of the Special Operations Bureau School Resource Officer Section, including Ms. Carolyn Bennett, SRO supervisors Sgt. John Paparazzo and Sgt. Bill Walsh, Deputy Commander Lt. Mike Price and Bureau Commander Captain Greg Marshall.

Auxiliary Officer Program

The Auxiliary Officer Program is an intense, demanding volunteer assignment requiring a commitment of at least 16 hours of service each month, including one special event. The auxiliary officers perform a wide variety of support services to both the police officers on the street and the citizens of the county. Many of the auxiliary officers have received official commendations recognizing their dedication to duty and the quality of the services they provide. Some of the police-related functions these volunteers perform include directing traffic, identifying and processing abandoned vehicles, retrieving and storing recovered property, investigating roadway hazards, performing home security surveys, patrolling senior citizen residential complexes, performing courier duties, handling vehicle lockouts, assisting at sobriety checkpoints, supplementing the school crossing guard program when needed, issuing parking tickets for specific violations and other non-emergency activities.

In 2004, the auxiliary program grew in size when it graduated Auxiliary Academy Class #6. The auxiliaries volunteered 8,426 hours to assist the department and the citizens of Howard County during 2004. Since the program began in 1995, the auxiliary officers have donated an impressive 76,770 hours of volunteer service.

Aviation Unit

The police department added aviation service in April of 2000 as part of a regional effort with the Anne Arundel County Police Department. The helicopter has proven to be an important tool in investigative efforts such as searches and pursuits.

Members of the Aviation Unit with Air 30.

In 2004, the department's helicopter accrued more than 700 flight hours, engaging in 21 pursuit responses, 404 searches, 69 arrests, 32 suspect bail-outs, 17 surveillances, 671 patrol assists, 36 missing persons, 11 photo flights, 15 wildlife surveys, 15 static displays and 3,738 directed patrols for area checks.

While on dedicated patrol missions for Howard County, the helicopter is often called upon to assist other jurisdictions with serious incidents. This has helped build more harmonious relationships with other airborne law enforcement units in the area. It has also served to better promote the Howard County Police Department as one of the premier law enforcement agencies in the state.

Civil Disturbance Unit

The Civil Disturbance Unit (CDU) is a decentralized component within the Special Operations Bureau comprised of approximately 45 officers who make up five squads. Each officer is specially trained in civil disturbance tactics to include crowd control and large riot situations.

Members of the department's Civil Disturbance Unit in front of the World War II Memorial.

This year, CDU members were deployed to assist the United States Park Police on the National Mall with the dedication of the World War II Memorial. In the past, CDU has assisted other agencies with large demonstrations and citizen protests within their jurisdictions.

K-9 officer and trainer, Tech Cpl. Tommy Harding with his partner, Baro.

K-9 Training

All training for the police K-9 teams is managed and coordinated by the Special Operations Bureau.

To maintain their skills at a high level of proficiency, the teams undergo a variety of training activities on a weekly basis.

Four of the six K-9's are trained as patrol/drug detection dogs and two are trained in explosive/firearm detection.

The department welcomed an additional K-9 team to the Special Operations Division in September. The department added the team to expand the K-9 program and provide for more explosive screening as part of a number of changes in homeland security. This K-9 was purchased with funds from the Homeland Security Grant.

Raven is a one-year-old chocolate Labrador Retriever and is assigned to the department's newest K-9 team.

In 2004, Chief G. Wayne Livesay authorized the assignment of this additional K-9 team to conduct security sweeps at county, state and federal facilities in Howard County. This team conducts high visibility patrols at various locations in the county with a higher potential of risk. They also assist with bomb threats and related incidents.

The K-9 team not only assists with Howard County's Emergency Preparedness Division, but also assists other law enforcement agencies such as the Metropolitan Police Department in Washington, D.C.

Administration Command

The Deputy Chief for Administration manages the four primary components of the Administration Command: Budget Fiscal Section, Human Resources Bureau, Management Services Bureau, and Information and Technology Management Bureau.

Budget Fiscal Section

The Budget Fiscal Section reports directly to the Administration Command and is responsible for the financial administration of the department's operating budget, multiple grants and various revenue accounts. This section maintains and reconciles internal expenditure reports, authorizes purchase requisitions, initiates all accounts payable requests and completes financial reports filed with various agencies for multiple grants. The fiscal year 2005 police department budget is $57,114,704.

Human Resources Bureau

The Human Resources Bureau consists of the Education and Training Division, the Police Personnel Section and the Recruitment and Screening Section.

Education and Training Division

The Education and Training Division is responsible for the coordination of all police training, both at the entry level academy for new police recruits and at the in-service level for current police officers. In April 2004, Academy Class 25 graduated and in September, Academy Class 26 began training.

Members of graduating Academy Class 25.

The curriculum for entry level academy classes consists of 28 weeks of classroom instruction followed by 14 weeks of field training.

Police academy recruit officers participate in an endurance exercise.

Lateral Class 19 began in October of 2004. This class of experienced police officers from other jurisdictions received four weeks of classroom instruction followed by four weeks of field training.

During this year, two Citizens Police Academy classes were conducted by the division. The first class graduated 20 citizens in June and the second class graduated 23 citizens in December.

In 2004, the division continued to offer an updated menu system of in-service training for the department's officers. This menu system combines mandatory classes along with elective and supervisory classes, enabling officers to learn about and implement the latest in police techniques and skills.

Police Personnel Section

The Police Personnel Section coordinates employment activities in coordination with the Howard County Office of Human Resources for all hiring, payroll, employment and benefit-related issues.

The staff of the Personnel Section handles the employment-related activities of all employees in the department. At present, the department consists of 370 authorized sworn positions and 163 authorized civilian positions. The responsibilities of the Personnel Section include maintaining accreditation standards, Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) tracking, payroll processing, maintaining leave and attendance records, extensive computer tracking of personnel records, managing and implementing the department's three union contracts,

coordinating worker's compensation and disability leave bank usage, and coordinating, tracking and scheduling of light duty personnel. Additional responsibilities include the testing, selection and hiring of all new employees.

Section personnel provide orientations for new employees, prepare and store all employment-related documents and track classifications and assignments. In 2004, all newly promoted first line supervisors received a two-hour block of in-service training relating to personnel matters.

Recruitment and Screening Section

During 2004, the department's Recruitment Section continued to strive to recruit and focus on working towards a diversified workforce representing the population that it serves. The section

PFC Della Myers, assigned to the department's Recruitment Section, speaks with a prospective applicant.

makes an aggressive effort each year to recruit qualified applicants both within and outside of the metropolitan area. The recruiters are assigned to various job fairs, schools, colleges, military installations and many other forums to seek out prospective applicants.

The section also has civilian special investigators, a civilian polygraph examiner and a support staff employee, who together completed 238 background investigations and 133 polygraph examinations of prospective applicants. The section also uses non-conventional methods of recruitment, including conducting out-of-state outreach, Internet recruiting and departmental video advertising.

Management Services Bureau

The Management Services Bureau is comprised of the Support Services Division, the Animal Control Division and the Central Booking Section.

Support Services Division

The Support Services Division is comprised of the Property and Evidence Section, the Youth Services Section, the Forensic Services Section and the Quartermaster.

Property and Evidence Section

The Property and Evidence Section maintains safe and secure custody of all evidence related to police cases, as well as property found or turned over to the police. The section handled more than 15,500 items in 6,100 cases in 2004.

Youth Services Section

The Youth Services Section is responsible for providing prevention, intervention and enforcement services for youth through a variety of programs, including Bear Trax, Explorer Post 1952, the After-School Program, the Diversion/First Offender Program and Runaway Investigations. The section is the clearinghouse for all juvenile arrest reports and civil citations. It also serves as the liaison with the Department of Juvenile Services and the State's Attorney's Juvenile Division Office.

Bear Trax activities are designed to enhance relationships between police officers and children in the community. Children who participate in Bear Trax activities are nominated by elementary school guidance counselors as those who could most benefit from the encouragement, support and constructive activities offered by Bear Trax.

The After-School Program is a collaborative effort between the Departments of Police, Education, Health, and Recreation and Parks. The program has a current enrollment of 58 children and is designed to provide elementary and middle school students in the Harpers Choice community with positive, supervised programs during the high-risk after-school hours. The program includes tutoring, recreation and a social skills development component.

Explorer Post 1952 serves as an introduction for youth, ages 14 to 21, to law enforcement activities. During 2004, the department's 23 Explorers volunteered 5,003 hours of community service at events such as the Howard County Fair, the Centennial Park Summer Sunset Serenades and the Police and Fire Expo.

Members of the department's Explorer Post 1952.

The Diversion/First Offender Program addresses the needs of juveniles who are identified as status offenders (non-criminals) or minor first-time offenders. An intervention plan is developed for each youth and his or her family.

The Runaway Investigator is responsible for investigating all reported runaways in the county, as well as assisting outside agencies with locating runaways from other jurisdictions. In 2004, the section investigated 571 runaway cases.

Forensic Services Section

The specially trained crime scene technicians assigned to the Forensic Services Section collect evidence and photograph crime scenes. Technicians carefully collect shoe and tire impressions along with latent finger and palm prints. These dedicated professionals handle all aerial and ground photography, as well as a wide variety of routine documentation of crime scenes and departmental events.

Members of the department's Forensic Services Section under the command of Captain Merritt Bender (right).

During 2004, the Forensic Services Section responded to 581 calls for crime scene processing. These requests resulted in approximately 8,601 photographs, 2,011 latent fingerprint lifts and the collection of many other items of evidence.

Due to the efforts of the crime scene technicians, 369 individuals were identified through fingerprint matches, 259 of whom were identified through the Maryland Automated Fingerprint Identification System (MAFIS). The MAFIS database consists of approximately 1.5 million individuals. MAFIS has the capability of narrowing a field of candidates down to 100 possible suspects whenever different latent fingerprints match individuals from the database.

Section personnel also review both current and "cold" case files for DNA evidence. Excellent results have developed in both areas. During 2004, the section also transported evidence to designated laboratories on a routine basis and supplied crucial testimony in their areas of expertise. Due to the superb collective reputation of the personnel in the section for their thoroughness, cooperation and overall expertise, they were called upon throughout the year to assist other law enforcement agencies in major case investigations.

Quartermaster

The Quartermaster is responsible for vehicle fleet management and supplies and inventory. The Quartermaster also is tasked with facilities management, which is the day-to-day monitoring and management of all police department buildings and structures.

The Quartermaster provides all of the supplies and materials that are used by the members of the department. In 2004, the Quartermaster processed more than 1,900 requisitions for supplies and uniforms. It also received more than 2,750 pieces of freight. Additionally, the Quartermaster maintains inventory records for assets such as computers,

radios and weapons assigned to the department and personnel.

The Quartermaster is the coordinator between the department and Central Fleet. This year, it processed requests for maintenance and repair of the more than 360 vehicles assigned to the department, including over 1,700 preventive maintenance (PM) requests for vehicles to be serviced.

Central Booking Section

The Central Booking Section processes all incoming adult arrestees and takes them to their initial hearing before a District Court commissioner. All arrestees coming into the facility are searched, fingerprinted and photographed. In 2004, 4,584 adult arrestees were processed by the Central Booking Section.

All arrestees are fingerprinted using live scan technology. These images are then sent electronically to CJIS, the Criminal Justice Information System, where fingerprints identify the arrestee. The arrestee's photograph is captured using digital technology.

Construction began in 2003 on a new booking facility adjacent to the Howard County Detention Center. The new facility will include booking officers, a commissioner and correctional officers, all in one location, eliminating the need to transport prisoners. The project and transition are scheduled for completion in March of 2005.

Animal Control Division

The Animal Control Division investigates animal cruelty cases, rescues endangered animals, accepts unwanted pets, administers a pet adoption program, conducts humane education programs and operates the county's Animal Control Facility.

Animal Control Field Supervisor Lynn Neser.

In 2004, over 2,850 animals, representing domestic, wildlife and strays, came through the shelter for processing. Of all the adoptable animals, the division arranged for the adoptions of 805 animals—this represents an adoption rate of 56 percent. In addition, the division handled 2,376 calls for service. The division issued 548 citations and 282 warnings to citizens for a variety of Animal Control violations. By the end of 2004, 77 volunteers had assisted with operations by taking the animals for walks, giving the animals personal attention and assisting with the adoption process.

Information and Technology Management Bureau

The Information and Technology Management Bureau manages all public safety communications, automated enforcement activities, records management and computer operations. The Automated Enforcement Division includes the Red Light Camera Program and the False Alarm Reduction Program. The Communications Division houses the county's 911 Center. The Records Section consists of the Uniform Crime Report (UCR) Unit and the Validations Unit. The Computer Operations Section coordinates computer services for all components within the department.

Automated Enforcement Division

The police department's Automated Enforcement Division (AED) for red light camera enforcement manages the nation's only Regional Automated Enforcement Center. The AED managed over 70 red light cameras for Howard County and the 11 partner jurisdictions. In 2004, the department began a transition from wet film cameras to digital cameras to produce better images and eliminate the need to pull, process and store film.

False Alarm Reduction Program

The Automated Enforcement Division also manages the county's False Alarm Reduction Program. False alarms cost taxpayers over $1 million each year and take police officers away from other crime prevention efforts. The False Alarm Reduction Program is designed to educate alarm users, establish an automated system to track false alarms and hold repeat offenders accountable through civil fines. Enforcement of commercial civil penalties began in April of 2004; residential enforcement will begin in April of 2005. Howard County now requires all residential and commercial alarm

systems to be registered with AED. Last year, the police department received nearly 20,000 false alarm calls. Alarm legislation was adopted in Howard County in an effort to reduce this tremendous waste of resources. This year, the number of false alarm calls went down to 16,000—a reduction of 20 percent.

Communications Division

The largest component within the Information and Technology Management Bureau, the Communications Division, is a mixture of specially trained call-takers, dispatchers and supervisors who handle all police, fire and emergency medical services (EMS) calls, 24 hours a day, seven days a week. During 2004, Communications personnel answered and processed a total of 542,916 police, fire and EMS phone calls.

Chief Livesay with Communications personnel at a promotional ceremony in 2004.

During 2004, the Communications Division replaced an outdated telephone system with a state-of-the-art enhanced telephone system called VESTA. In addition to capturing data better, the system now allows the division to capture subscriber information from wireless callers, including pinpointing the exact location of a wireless caller through GPS. New technology allows dispatchers to capture the latitude and longitude coordinates of a person calling from a GPS-equipped cell phone.

Records Section

The Records Section's primary function is the maintenance, security and retrieval of police reports and related documents. The section is responsible for the processing of all requests for police reports, dissemination of reports, court-ordered expungements of criminal records, Freedom of Information Act requests, citations, foreign adoption requests, internal report notifications, local criminal history checks, report and arrest data entry, maintenance of adult and juvenile arrest and detention logs and the tracking of all departmental summonses and subpoenas.

Candy Joyce, a member of the Records Section, celebrated 30 years as an HCPD employee in 2004.

The section includes the Validations Unit, designated as the MILES/NCIC/CJIS Terminal Agency Contact, which is responsible for the monitoring of system usage, validation of entries into the system and monthly reporting to the state. The section produces the monthly Uniform Crime Report (UCR), which is a compilation of statistical crime data in accordance with federal and state reporting procedures and guidelines. The section is also responsible for compiling and distributing the department's Sex Offender Registry and oversees the department's traffic stop data collection.

Computer Operations Section

Personnel assigned to the Computer Operations Section coordinate computer services for the police department. The section manages all computer system service requests related to both software and hardware issues. Members are also responsible for the complete system administration of records management-related databases, as well as the Mobile Data Computer (MDC) program.

Last year, the department implemented a new software program called I/MOBILE. By the end of 2004, every officer was trained and equipped with I/MOBILE equipment. I/MOBILE allows patrol officers and supervisors to communicate quickly by computer and run various inquiries from their vehicles. The adoption of this new technology has enabled the department to operate more efficiently.

Honor Guard

The decentralized Honor Guard is comprised of sworn members from throughout the department. The Honor Guard presents the colors at all departmental graduation and formal ceremonies and represents the department at police funerals and special events.

Members of the department's Honor Guard participating in one of many special events.

Citizens Advisory Council

In a continuing effort to involve the community with the activities of the police department, the Citizens Advisory Council is utilized to advise the Chief of Police on issues affecting citizens and the police department.

Comprised of community representatives from around the county, the Council meets monthly to facilitate the flow of information to and from the police department and to engage in creative problem-solving efforts. The Council then makes recommendations to the Chief of Police in an effort to improve the efficiency of police services.

Police Foundation

The Howard County Police Foundation is comprised of local business leaders who provide assistance to the department by sharing business and management expertise. The Foundation provides funding for the annual Bear Trax youth programs, manages a scholarship fund and provides resources for special projects. It also sponsors the annual Howard County Police Pace 5K Race and One Mile Walk-Run to raise money for the families of fallen officers.

Police Chaplains Program

The Police Chaplains Program, established in 1978, provides hundreds of hours of service to police personnel and the community. The Chaplains participate in a variety of assignments including formal ceremonies, death notifications, last rites for the critically injured and assistance to family members in traumatic situations. The Chaplains represent various faiths and provide counseling services to officers and their families in times of need.

In 2004, three new Chaplains were formally welcomed to the Police Chaplains Program; Rabbi Hillel Baron, Father Martin Burnham and Reverend Lisa Blake. In addition to the three new Chaplains, the other members of the program are Reverend Martin Eppard, Reverend Jerry Hoots, Deacon Larry Teixeira and Reverend John Smith, who is also the department's longest-serving Chaplain.

Critical Incident Stress Management Team

The Critical Stress Management Team (CISM) is comprised of officers who volunteer to be peer support providers. The team provides crisis support services for members of the department who are involved in a traumatic incident. The team aims to help accelerate the recovery processes of people who are having normal reactions to abnormal events. They also work to identify personnel who might benefit from additional services.

Outstanding Performers in 2004

Officer Anthony Nigro
January

Officer Jennifer Reidy
February

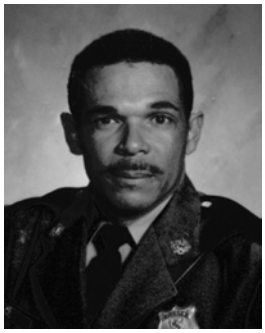
Officer Bryon Dietzel
March

DFC Leeza Grim
April

PFC Jason Hall
May

DFC Clayton Davis
June

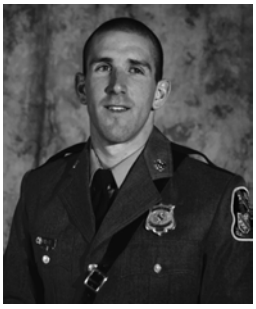
Officer Amy Meek
July



PFC Mark Richmond
August

Officer Anthony Nigro
September

Officer Robert Rauch
October



Officer Jamie Machiesky
November

CPL Donna Rowlette
December

ECS Kathy Smith
Civilian of the 1st Quarter

Carl Layman
Civilian of the 2nd Quarter

Deborah Baracco
Civilian of the 3rd Quarter

DIII Debbie S. Saunders
Civilian of the 4th Quarter

PFC Michael Ensko, Jr. Officer of the Year

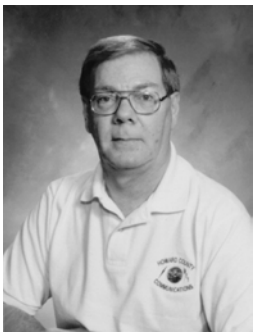
PFC Michael Ensko, Jr. is an 18-year veteran whose tremendous dedication to duty, professionalism and work ethic were evident throughout the year. The quality of his investigations, his above-average initiative in the performance of his duties and his ongoing involvement with the community resulted in PFC Ensko's selection as Police Officer of the Year.

PFC Ensko patrols the Route 1 corridor of Howard County on a dayshift schedule. During 2004, he produced extremely impressive statistics, including 1,176 business contacts, 87 self-initiated reports, 591 reported incidents and 248 foot patrols. In addition, PFC Ensko generated 106 arrests for the year—an extraordinary average of almost 9 arrests each month.

PFC Ensko was named one of the Southern District's "Top Cops" during nine months in 2004. In addition to his patrol assignment, PFC Ensko is also a member of the department's Civil Disturbance Unit.

PFC Ensko was selected by the International Association of Chiefs of Police as the Grand Prize winner in the "Looking Beyond the License Plate" Award. PFC Ensko received this award after stopping a vehicle with an incorrect license plate. His suspicions were heightened when he determined that neither the driver nor the passenger of the vehicle had any identification. He continued to investigate and, after seeing drug paraphernalia inside the car, placed both occupants under arrest. FBI fingerprint checks revealed that the driver was wanted for felony assault upon a police officer in Florida and the passenger was wanted for murder in Colorado. The arrests were a direct result of PFC Ensko's excellent observation skills and thorough actions.

With his many years of experience, PFC Ensko continues to show enthusiasm and a passion for the job, performing admirably on a daily basis. He takes an active part in the community and serves as a role model to younger officers.



Richard "Dick" Jordan Civilian of the Year

Richard "Dick" Jordan was indispensable to the Communications Division in 2004 and was instrumental in not only maintaining a smooth-running division, but also in implementing significant technological advancements. Dick maintained the county's GIS Centerline, brought the VESTA phone system to Phase II, created the Tot Lot Sign Program, served as the project manager for the Chart System and assisted with the delivery of the Community Notification System to Howard County.

One of Dick's greatest accomplishments was the Tot Lot Sign Program. He took GPS locations for every tot lot, playground, golf hole, state park and picnic area and entered them into a mapping program. As a result, 911 dispatchers can now pinpoint cell phone calls in any of these locations, which can dramatically reduce response time and save lives.

He was also instrumental in bring the VESTA phone system to "Phase II" operational. This program now allows dispatchers to capture the latitude and longitude coordinates of a person calling from a GPS-equipped cell phone.

While Dick's innovation and proactive outlook regarding technology are helping the department become cutting-edge, his role in keeping the current system running smoothly is equally important. Dick's abilities have been instrumental in maintaining the 911 services provided by the police and fire departments. In one instance, Dick single-handedly rescued the CAD system when a major computer crash occurred in January 2004. In another incident, Dick handled a serious situation when an alarm system failure left numerous county buildings unprotected.

Dick has been described as "the most important person in the department's ability to supply 911 services." With his 35 years of service, commitment, drive and ability to implement new programs that enhance the division, he is most deserving of this award.

PFC Michael Johnson

Outstanding Community Service

PFC Michael Johnson is a seven-year veteran of the police department. In late 2003, he was assigned to the new community-policing project in the Oakland Mills area of Columbia. By combining modern police tactics and effective foot patrols, PFC Johnson has had a major impact on the reduction of crime in Oakland Mills. He has gained trust within the neighborhoods and is a familiar face to many residents. Because of his initiative and knowledge, he is routinely called upon by patrol officers, detectives, community leaders and, most importantly, citizens regarding many quality of life or criminal issues in Oakland Mills.

Edward Wallace

Auxiliary Officer of the Year

Auxiliary Officer Edward Wallace works a full-time job, yet he still manages to volunteer several hours a month and has been doing so since 1995. In 2004, he worked 573 hours, which brought his career total to 4,400 volunteer hours. In addition to his normal duties, during which he issued 85 parking citations, handled 237 abandoned vehicle calls, assisted 66 motorists and wrote 32 recovered property reports, he also helped train a new class of auxiliary officers in February. He averages approximately 500 hours of volunteer hours each year and volunteers at many special events.

Thomas Cole

Police Explorer of the Year

Police Explorer Thomas Cole has been with Explorer Post 1952 since October of 2003. In addition to being a 10th-grade student at Howard High School and working at his family's ice cream parlor, he has devoted over 460 hours of volunteer service to the department. Explorer Cole assisted at the Bear Trax summer youth camps and the Sunset Serenades Summer Concert series. Additionally, he worked every day of the week-long Howard County Fair. He says that he sees his work as time spent doing what he enjoys.

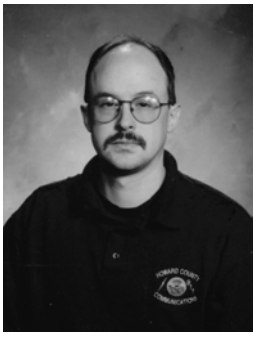
Police Officer Christopher Williams

First Year Service Award

Police Officer Christopher Williams is described as a well-rounded and dedicated officer. His selection for this award reflects his quality of work and high volume of productivity during his seven months in patrol. He exceeded the expectations of his supervisors, with over half of his 74 total arrests coming from self-initiated investigations. His work led to arrests for drugs, assaults and weapons violations. During the winter months, he demonstrated his commitment to community service by shoveling snow and cutting down trees for residents in his beat.

Marcus Amberman

Telecommunicator of the Year



DIII Marcus Amberman far exceeded expectations with his accomplishments in 2004. He maintained an active, hands-on role in the development of the department's 800 MHz system. He implemented a full instructional course for the system, including towers, failures, back-up center operations, communications etiquette and general communications procedures. He also taught recruit dispatchers at the academy blocks of instruction which included the 800 MHz system, an Incident Command Familiarization Course and Radio Policy and Procedures.

Chris and Joan Lord

Animal Control Volunteers of the Year

Husband-and-wife team Chris and Joan Lord have been volunteering at Animal Control since March 2002. Even though they both have full-time jobs, together they have amassed nearly 500 hours of volunteer time in less than three years. They work to increase each animal's chance of being adopted and help provide the animals with a clean, friendly and loving place to live. They are always willing to help and often will volunteer even when they are not scheduled. Animal Control values and appreciates their outstanding service.

Crime Statistics

The following pages contain various statistical data including crime statistics for Howard County.

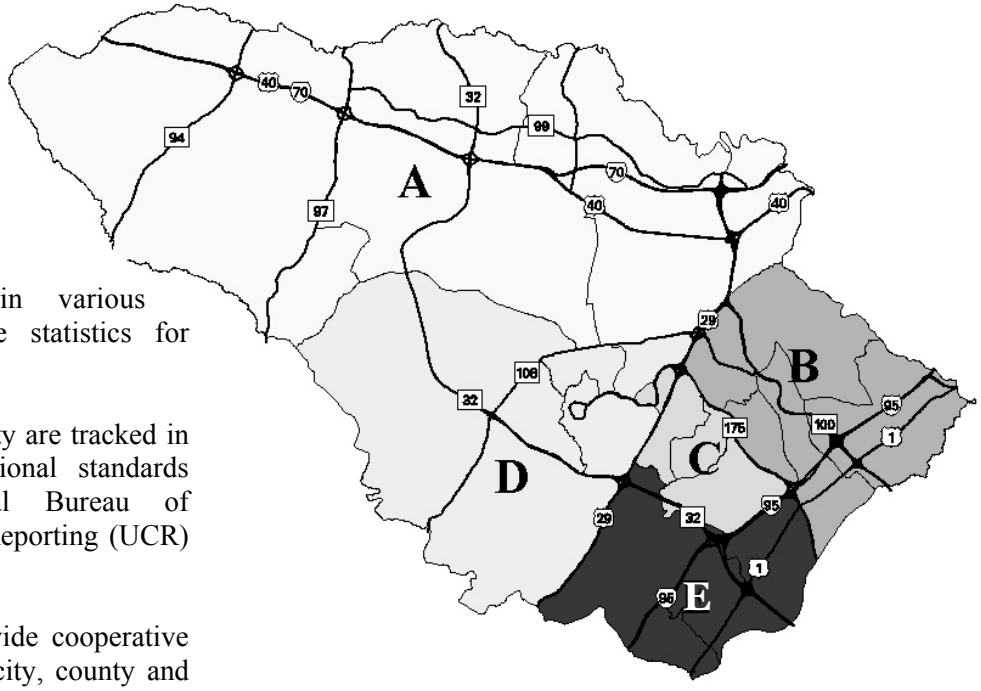
Crime statistics in Howard County are tracked in strict accordance with the national standards administered by the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program.

The UCR Program is a nationwide cooperative statistical effort of over 17,000 city, county and state law enforcement agencies voluntarily reporting data on crimes brought to their attention.

The program's main objective is to generate a reliable set of criminal statistics for use in law enforcement and has become one of the country's leading social indicators.

Additional information on crime reporting and nationwide statistics can be obtained from the Federal Bureau of Investigation through the publication "Crime in the United States," which is available at libraries.

UCR crimes are divided into three parts. PART I offenses include homicide, theft, aggravated assault, robbery, burglary, motor vehicle theft and forcible sexual offenses. PART II offenses encompass sixteen additional types of crime ranging from simple assault to vandalism to disorderly conduct. PART III offenses are all other crime classifications outside those defined as PART I and PART II offenses.



This map depicts the five patrol areas better known as Adam, Baker, Charlie, David and Edward.

UCR allows citizens to easily compare crime rates where they live to those of surrounding counties and cities.

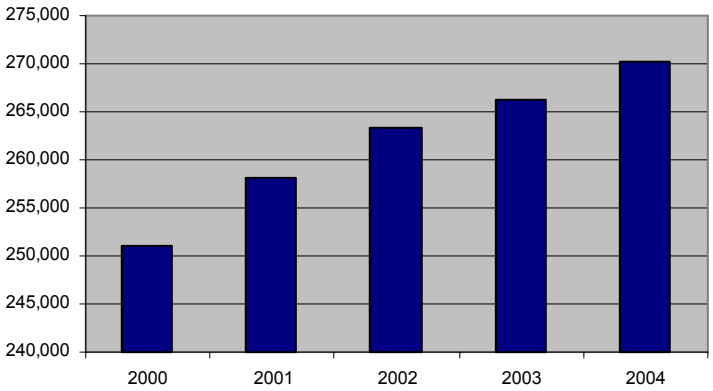
This report presents basic statistics for the county as a whole. Detailed statistical information is also available for the various patrol areas. The county is currently divided into five patrol areas illustrated on the map above.

The Howard County Police Department tracks calls for service and various crimes on a monthly basis by patrol area. That information is available as needed from the Crime Analysis Section or by visiting the department's Web site at www.hcpd.org.

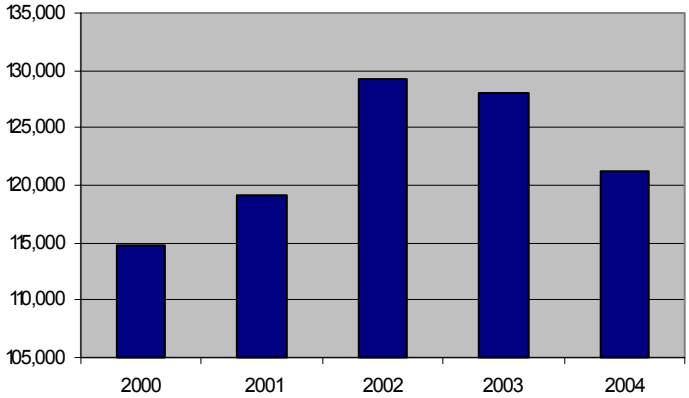
CALLS FOR SERVICE, POPULATION, AND AUTHORIZED STRENGTH

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
POPULATION	251,065	258,131	263,391	266,300	**270,201**
CALLS FOR SERVICE	114,828	119,044	129,180	128,063	**121,165**
AUTHORIZED STRENGTH	328	345	357	358	**370**

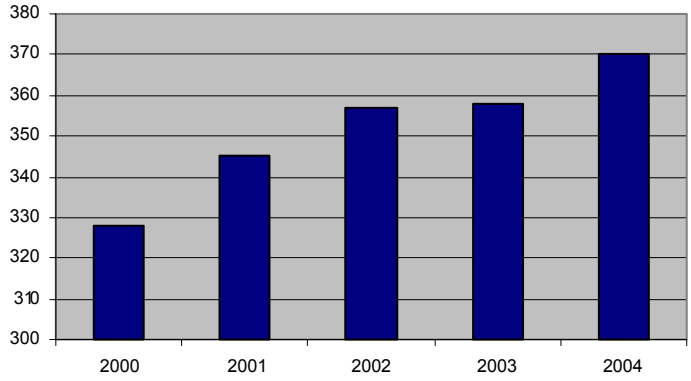
Population



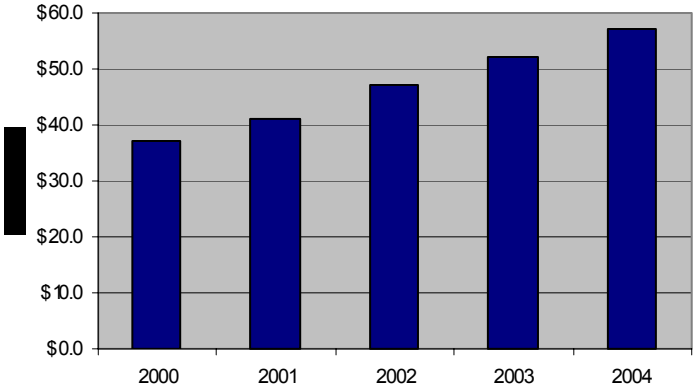
Calls for Service



Authorized Strength



Police Budget

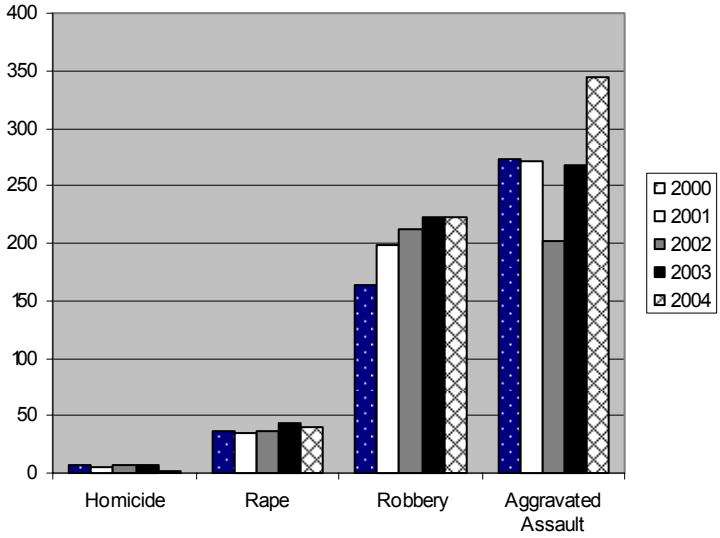


FISCAL YEARS	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005
ANNUAL BUDGET (in millions)	$37.1	$41.1	$47.1	$52.0	**$57.1**

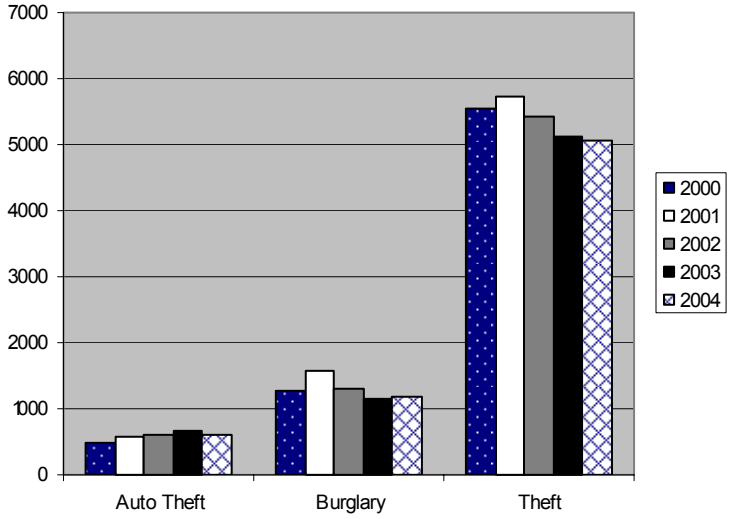
Crime Statistics: UCR Part I Offenses

	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	5 YR AVG.
HOMICIDE	7	5	7	7	**1**	5
THEFT	5,544	5,739	5,422	5,122	**5,060**	5,377
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	273	271	202	268	**344**	272
ROBBERY	164	198	212	222	**223**	204
BURGLARY	1,271	1,582	1,293	1,157	**1,167**	1,294
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	477	582	611	680	**592**	588
RAPE	36	34	37	44	**40**	38
TOTALS	**7,772**	**8,411**	**7,784**	**7,500**	**7,427**	**7,778**

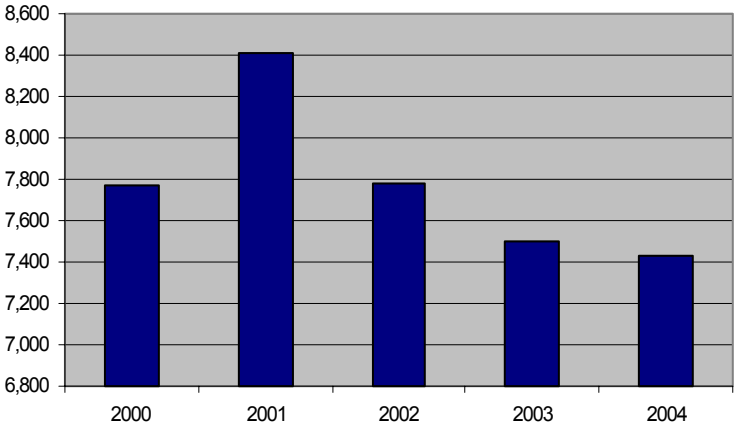
Crimes Against Persons



Crimes Against Property



Crimes-Overall Part I Offenses

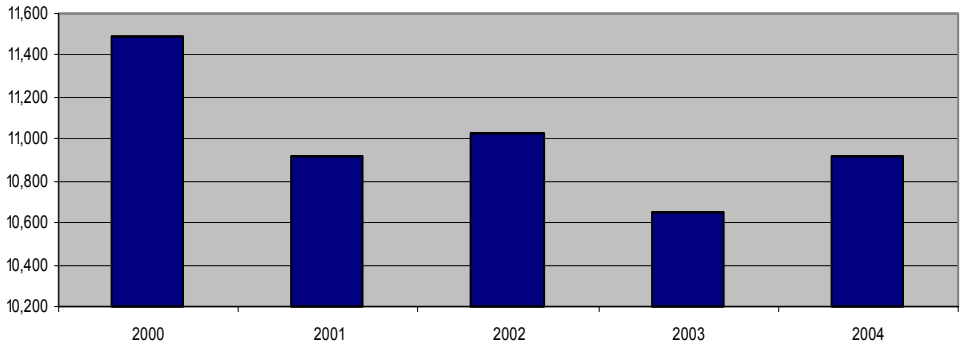


Crime Statistics: UCR Part II Offenses

Part II Offenses	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Simple Assault	2,266	2,221	2,416	2,841	**2,580**
*Arson	N/A	N/A	N/A	72	**155**
Forgery-Counterfeiting	39	43	25	48	**116**
False Pretense-Fraud	430	557	601	463	**538**
Embezzlement	88	58	2	3	**9**
Vandalism	3,210	3,008	3,031	2,731	**2,976**
Weapons Violation	108	137	114	157	**166**
Prostitution-Vice	29	31	19	10	**13**
Sex Offenses	130	176	124	121	**94**
Drug Violations	859	820	899	828	**802**
Gambling	2	1	1	2	**1**
Family, Child Neglect and Child Abuse	176	168	135	230	**215**
Driving While Intoxicated	1,283	1,091	1,159	1,009	**1,085**
Liquor Law Violation	404	294	283	278	**272**
Disorderly Conduct	345	367	339	249	**244**
All Other Part II Crimes	2,123	1,951	1,885	1,679	**1,653**
TOTAL PART II OFFENSES	**11,492**	**10,923**	**11,033**	**10,721**	**10,919**

*Prior to 2003, Arson Offenses were reported by the Fire Marshal's Office.

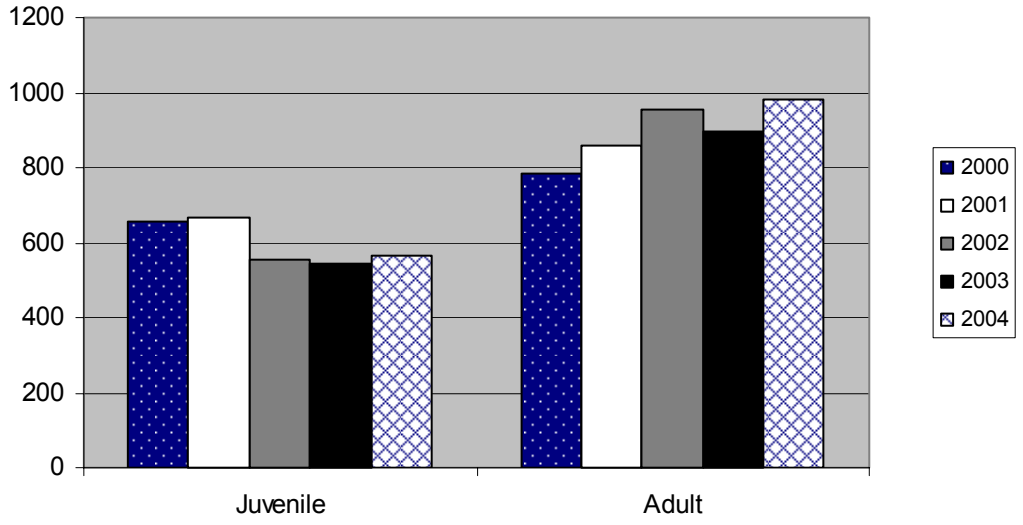
Crimes—Overall Part II Offenses



Arrests for UCR Part I Offenses

Arrests	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Juvenile	658	669	555	542	**567**
Adult	782	861	954	896	**981**
TOTAL	**1,440**	**1,530**	**1,509**	**1,438**	**1,548**

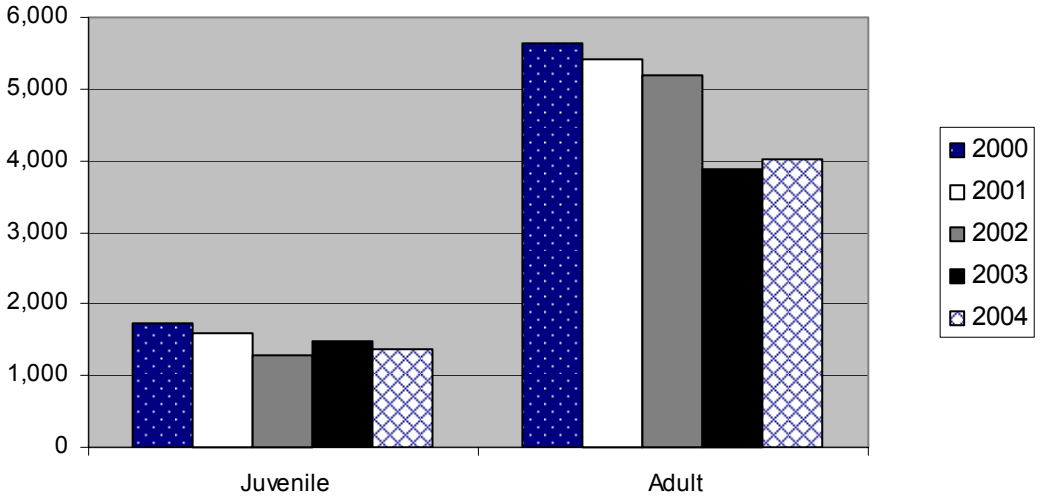
Arrests for UCR Part I Offenses



Arrests for UCR Part II & III Offenses

Arrests	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Juvenile	1,736	1,580	1,275	1,493	**1,377**
Adult	5,625	5,417	5,178	3,867	**4,005**
TOTAL	**7,361**	**6,997**	**6,453**	**5,360**	**5,382**

Arrests for UCR Part II &III Offenses

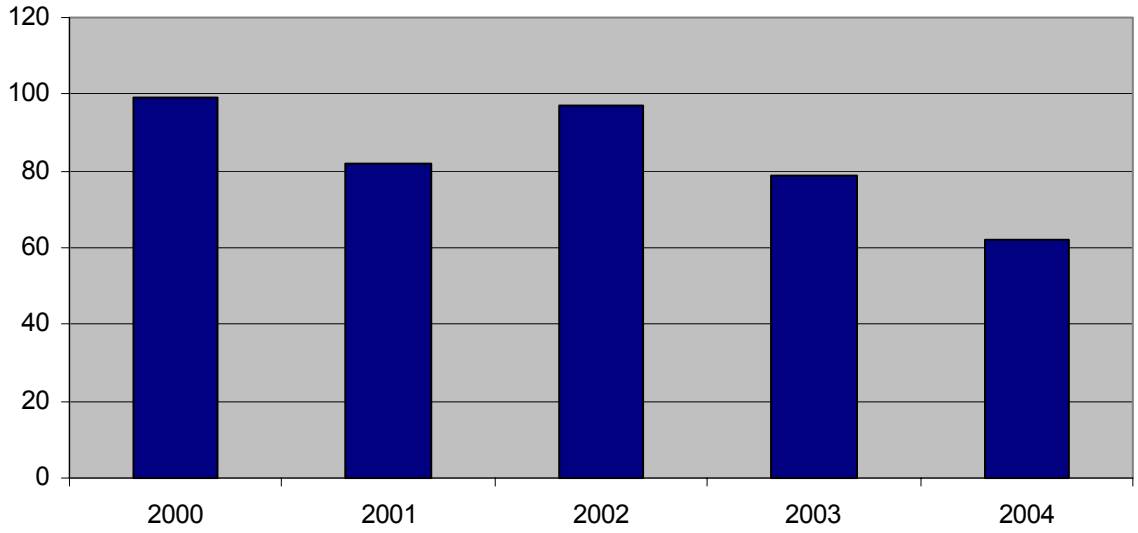


Complaint Statistics

Type of Complaint	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004
Performance	30	33	42	27	**17**
Conduct	31	17	31	25	**25**
Use of Force	11	20	7	14	**12**
Racial Profiling	2	1	3	5	**3**
***Conformance to Laws**	3	4	1	3	***0**
Secondary Employment	0	0	1	1	**1**
Failure to Appear	22	7	12	4	**4**
TOTAL	**99**	**82**	**97**	**79**	**62**

**The Howard County Police Department conducted two "Conformance to Laws" investigations for other agencies in 2004. They are not reflected in this data.*

Total Complaints by Year



Complaints Handled by the Internal Affairs Division

All complaints received about members of the department are investigated following a strict policy and in accordance with the Law Enforcement Officers' Bill of Rights (LEOBR) as required by law. Specific information regarding an employee's discipline is regulated by state law and usually cannot be released. The department keeps the individual who initiated a complaint informed about the status of that particular case. The department also releases complaint statistics publicly.

Contacting Your Police Department

Police Headquarters/Northern District
3410 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043
(410) 313-3200
Fax (410) 313-2272

Southern District
11226 Scaggsville Road
Laurel, MD 20723
(410) 313-3700
Fax (410) 313-3705

Communications Division
3430 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043
Administrative (410) 313-2300
Non-Emergency (410) 313-2929
Emergency—Dial 911
Fax (410) 313-2212

Animal Control Division
8576 Davis Road
Columbia, MD 21045
(410) 313-2780
Fax (410) 313-2720

Automated Enforcement
9250 Bendix Road
Columbia, MD 21045
(410) 313-3216
Fax (410) 313-7533

Recruitment and Screening
Police Headquarters/Northern District
3410 Court House Drive
Ellicott City, MD 21043
(410) 313-HCPD
E-mail: recruitment@co.ho.md.us

Youth Services Section
3427 Rogers Avenue
Ellicott City, MD 21043
(410) 313-2620
Fax (410) 313-2611

Child Advocacy Center
3421 Rogers Avenue
Ellicott City, MD 21043
(410) 313-2630
Fax (410) 313-2633

Police Satellite Community Offices

Long Reach C-SAFE
8775 Cloudleap Court, #M
Columbia, MD 21045
(410) 313-7455

Harpers Choice C-SAFE
5485 Harpers Farm Road
Columbia, MD 21045
(410) 313-5790

North Laurel Community Initiative
9105 All Saints Road, #G
Laurel, MD 20703
(410) 888-8833

Oakland Mills Community Initiative
5820 Stevens Forest Road
Columbia, MD 21045
(410) 313-5805

Please visit us online at www.hcpd.org

HOWARD COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF POLICE

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Office of Public Affairs.