

Purpose

We, the members of the O'Fallon Police Department, are committed to being responsive to the community in the delivery of quality services. Recognizing our responsibility to maintain order, while affording dignity and respect to every individual, our objective is to improve the quality of life through a community partnership which promotes safe and secure neighborhoods.

Accomplishments

- On October 18, 2004 we began operations in the new Public Safety Facility. The building project was completed on time and within the approved budget. The combined Police / EMS facility has a total of 36,000 square feet and includes all new communications systems, expanded jail facilities and a Community Room that is available to the public for meetings or other events.
- Completed installation of the new 25 MPH residential speed limit signs created by grade school students. The program is designed to educate the public on the need for increased attention to vehicle speeds in residential areas.
- Responded to 25,902 calls-for-service, a 5.7% decrease over 2003. The decrease in calls for service came largely in the number of traffic contacts made by patrol officers as we experienced fewer complaints about speeding in residential areas of the city. Traffic data indicates that we have succeeded in slowing traffic down in our neighborhoods. No additional sworn personnel were added during the budget year.
- In June, the department hosted the second annual Police Youth Academy. The weeklong event was attended by 16 young men and women from throughout O'Fallon and it was a great success. In addition to training in public speaking and first aid, to name just a few, the kids visited the court house, the crime lab and the county jail.
- On August 3rd, the Police department hosted our second annual "Night Out against Crime" event at Community Park. The event featured rides and other attractions along with information on crime prevention. The event culminated with a pool party that was attended by approximately 200 people. We hope to improve on our success next year by scheduling the event later in the day. We coordinate this event through the "Neighborhood Watch" program.
- Over the course of the last three calendar years, the number of crimes reported to the police has remained fairly consistent. In all, we have seen a 6% drop in the number of "Part I" offenses (Murder, Sexual Assault, Robbery, Assault/Battery, Burglary, Theft, Auto Theft and Arson). When coupled with the increase in population this results in a significant reduction in our crime rate (the number of crimes reported per person). Thefts reports accounted for more than 72% of our crime reports while more violent crimes such as assault and battery, sexual assault and robbery came in at less than 8% of the total.

Goals and Objectives

- Complete a comprehensive staffing needs assessment to be used to quantify personnel needs, both sworn and civilian, in the future.
- Continue the implementation and development of the Computer Aided Dispatch and Records Management system to include development of Standard Operating Procedures. In addition, more specialized training will be provided.
- Begin the process of moving toward a field reporting system that will allow officers to interact with dispatchers and complete reports from computers in their patrol cars in an effort to maximize their productive patrol time.
- Continue to develop the traffic unit and traffic safety programs to address quality of life issues in our neighborhoods and to further reduce traffic accidents.
- Continue to concentrate on occupant restraint and impaired driver enforcement initiatives.

Programs and Highlights

- Continue to develop department personnel as trainers in a variety of fields to allow for total flexibility in program development.
- Work with other agencies throughout the county to develop an interagency plan for a county-wide public safety radio system.