

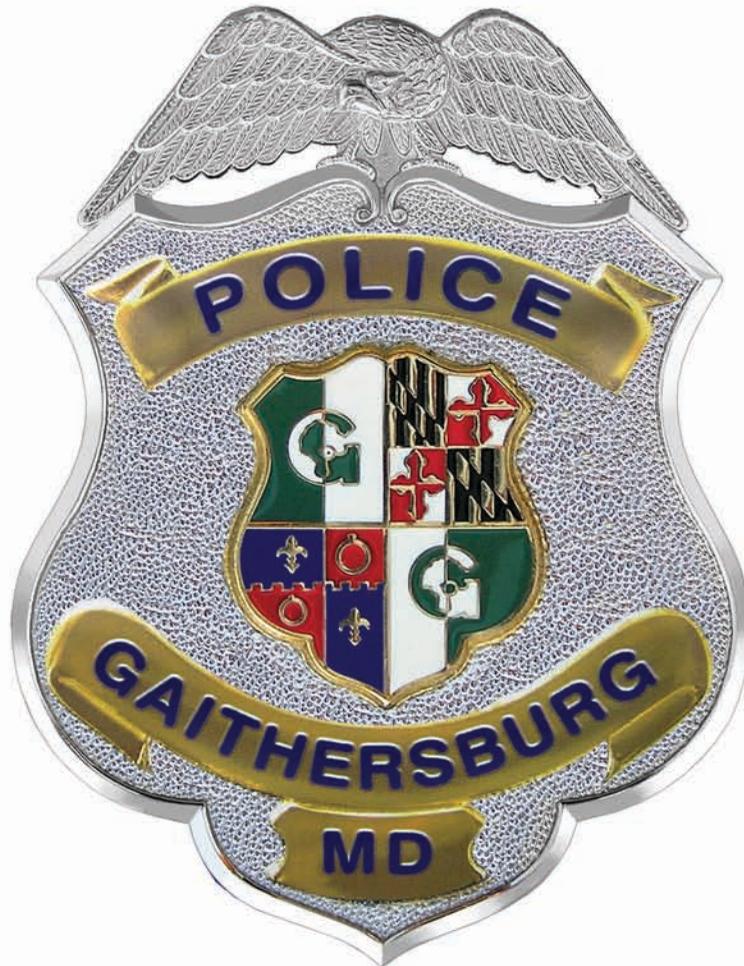


2009

SERVICE

INTEGRITY

RESPECT



Gaithersburg Police

Annual Report



Mayor

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Council Vice President

Cathy Drzyzgula

Council Members

Jud Ashman

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Michael A. Sesma

Ryan Spiegel

City Manager

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I. MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

The Gaithersburg Police Department is proud to present to you, the citizens of Gaithersburg, our 2009 Annual Report. The report reflects the diversity of accomplishments and the numerous tasks completed by the Gaithersburg Police during calendar year 2009.

Thousands of people have been positively impacted by the service of the Gaithersburg Police. Everyday in the City of Gaithersburg lives are saved, crimes are prevented, roadways are made safer and criminals are brought to justice through the commitment and dedication of the men and women of the Gaithersburg Police.

The Gaithersburg Police Department will continue its commitment to excellence and maintain its leadership in the law enforcement community. The cornerstones of Service, Integrity and Respect that are the core of our Values Statement will be the principles that guide us in serving the citizens of the City of Gaithersburg.

Major Mark P. Sroka
Interim Chief of Police
Gaithersburg Police Department



II. MISSION, VALUES AND VISION

OUR MISSION

We are committed to protecting life and property, improving the quality of life for all people and protecting City interests.

We will accomplish this by:

- ★ Working with our community, City Departments and other government agencies;
- ★ Developing and implementing proactive strategies;
- ★ Growing to keep pace with our community; and,
- ★ Maintaining a workplace that promotes equal employment opportunities, respects employees as individuals and fosters teamwork.

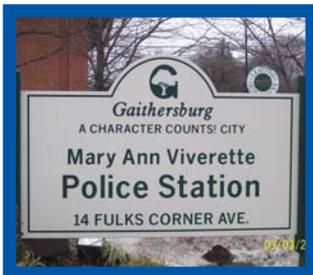
OUR VALUES

We are committed to professionalism through:

- ★ **Service** – Providing quality service and protection to all people in an efficient and competent manner, tempered with courtesy, compassion and understanding;
- ★ **Integrity** – Upholding the public trust through honesty, consistent and forthright interaction with all people, fostering an atmosphere of mutual trust and cooperation; and,
- ★ **Respect** – Treating all persons with dignity and respect by promoting equality and fairness in upholding the constitutional rights of all people.

OUR VISION

We will seek to function as a team with City Departments, other government agencies and our community to provide innovative, effective and efficient service to improve the quality of life for all people.



III. HISTORY OF THE DEPARTMENT

On April 1, 1963, a resolution creating the Gaithersburg Police Department was signed by Mayor Merton F. Duvall. This resolution specified a traffic unit to be created within the Department; however, such a unit was not formed until approximately 1983.

Chief David Marstiller was the first Chief of Police, although there are references to a “Town Marshall” in the minutes of Town Council Meetings prior to 1963. The town budget for FY64 included “police protection” salaries for the solitary officer amounting to \$4,000, and equipment purchases of \$500.

Over the years, there would be several chiefs of police; James Tassie, formerly of the Rockville City Police Department; Marson Johnson, who had been an officer in Michigan; John F. DeVries and George Fusco, both of whom had retired from the Montgomery

County Department of Police as Lieutenants; Mary Ann Viverette who came to the Department from the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office. She was promoted through the ranks and attained her promotion to Chief in 1986.

After serving nearly 28 years in the Gaithersburg Police Department – more than 20 years as Chief of Police – Mary Ann Viverette retired in May 2007. Mary Ann had a distinguished law enforcement career. She was a deputy sheriff with the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office before joining the Gaithersburg Police Department in 1979. In Gaithersburg she became the Department's first female motorcycle officer and was the first woman in every rank she held. When she was appointed Gaithersburg Police Chief in 1986, she became the first female police chief in the State of Maryland.

Mary Ann also became active in the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the largest organization of Police Chiefs in the world. In 2005-2006, she became the group's first female president in its 100-year history. Mary Ann graduated from the 155th Session of the FBI National Academy and returned to school, receiving both bachelors and master's degrees from the University of Maryland.

Chief Viverette's legacy continues to live on. One only needs to look at the sign in front of the police station to learn who the driving force behind this agency was. Prominently displayed by the flag poles is a sign that reads "Chief Mary Ann Viverette Police Station." For her hard work and progressive public safety accomplishments throughout the years, the police station was dedicated in her honor in 2007.

Upon the retirement of Chief Viverette, the City of Gaithersburg appointed John King to the position of Chief of Police in June 2007. John King retired as an Assistant Chief from the Montgomery County Department of Police and was Gaithersburg's Chief of Police for all of calendar year 2009. Upon the resignation of Chief King in January, 2010, Major Mark P. Sroka of the Maryland State Police was assigned as the Interim Police Chief until the position is permanently filled.

The Department grew from an authorized strength of three sworn officers and one civilian clerk in the early 1970's, when the City's population was 7,000, to its current authorized complement of 54 sworn officers, seven civilians and six highly valued part-time Police Services Aides. The majority of growth occurred from 1986 to 1998 under the direction of Chief Viverette. Gaithersburg's population now stands at nearly 60,000.

The Gaithersburg Police Department has seen much growth over the years; however, the importance of remaining community-oriented continues to be a priority. The implementation of the beat plan has allowed the Department to enhance the quality of service and partnerships in the communities we serve. Gaithersburg police officers utilize marked and unmarked vehicles, foot patrol, bicycles, motorcycles and Segways to assist citizens with community concerns. The Department's growth has given the City of Gaithersburg the ability to increase customer focus and problem-solving activities put forth by patrol officers, detectives, traffic officers, members of the Street Crimes Unit, the Educational Facilities Officer, and the canine officer.



IV. GAITHERSBURG POLICE FOUNDATION

The Gaithersburg Police Foundation (GPF), formed as a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization in January 2008, seeks to support the members of the Gaithersburg Police Department with its mission of providing quality services to the citizens of Gaithersburg. The Foundation offers educational opportunities to members of the Department, enhances recruitment and retention of officers, provides logistical support and technology assistance to officers and helps to finance community outreach initiatives.

The Foundation Board consists of Keith Bryan (President), Mark Nee (Secretary), Ron Perrell (Treasurer), and board members Crystal Carr, Nathaniel Centeno, Aris Mardirosian, and Gil Price, M.D.

After another successful year of fundraising the Foundation purchased a bullet proof vest for “Max,” the Department’s K-9. The Foundation provided valuable training for officers and their families and supported several events/functions that were held by the Police Department.



WELCOMING CEREMONY

On June 4, 2009 at a formal welcoming ceremony hosted at the Kentlands Mansion and partially sponsored by the Gaithersburg Police Foundation, Chief King formally welcomed eight new members and their families to the Department. He was joined by City Manager Angel Jones, Mayor Sidney Katz and members of the City Council.

V. ACCREDITATION



The Gaithersburg Police Department is anticipating an onsite assessment in April 2010 for its fifth reaccreditation by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA). The agency was initially accredited by the Commission in 1993, becoming the 258th law enforcement agency to attain CALEA-accredited status. The agency’s policies and procedures incorporate numerous CALEA standards which reflect best practices in professional law enforcement. CALEA accreditation builds trust in the community and increases accountability in the agency and the community.

VI. TRAINING

The Gaithersburg Police Department is committed to continually improving and enhancing the skills, knowledge and abilities of all Department personnel. The Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commission requires that all sworn officers attend and successfully complete a minimum of 18 hours of on-going “in-service” training each calendar year. This mandated training was completed with our law enforcement partners from across the County in order to ensure a coordinated response to emergency situations. All officers with the Gaithersburg Police Department exceed Commission requirements by attending specialized classes, firearms and patrol operations training.



In 2009, the Gaithersburg Police Department continued emphasis on the professional development of the management and supervisory staff. Officers focused on skill areas associated with patrol and investigative functions. Several supervisors participated as students and adjunct instructors in the ethics and leadership training offered by the Montgomery County Department of Police – Leadership in Police Organizations. In addition, they improved their leadership and supervisory capabilities through training and education opportunities offered by the Maryland Police and Correctional Training Commission – Executive Development Institute, the Federal Bureau of Investigation – Law Enforcement Executive Development Association and the Johns Hopkins University – Police Executive Leadership Program.

Patrol officers and detectives attended a wide range of training programs designed to improve their skills to include responding to emergency situations. The training covered traditional areas such as crime prevention, active shooters, interview and interrogation techniques, vehicle theft investigations, traffic collision investigations, and alcohol-related traffic enforcement. Officers also focused on emerging issues such as human trafficking, cell phone investigative techniques, identity theft and Project Lifesaver. Organizational changes and new technology provided the opportunity for specialized training in Managing Traffic Safety Programs, K-9 Narcotics Detection certification, certification with the Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and collision scene mapping.

The Department hired two patrol officers who, after six months of intense training, graduated from the Montgomery County Department of Police Training Academy in January 2009. These officers then completed a 14-week Field Training Program with an experienced officer. This training provided the new officers the opportunity to learn policies and procedures specific to the agency, and to reinforce, under field conditions, the specialized skills taught in the Academy. The Gaithersburg Police Department, in collaboration with the Gaithersburg Police Foundation, continued to provide a unique course of instruction: “What your FTO Didn’t Teach You.” This training presents practical information on legal, financial and investment issues to assist the staff with the various challenges and concerns associated with a career in law enforcement.



VII. HONOR GUARD

The Gaithersburg Police Department’s Honor Guard, led by Sergeant Curtis Pettaway, was formed in 1996 and is made up of members from all ranks. Current members are Sergeants Pettaway, Wilkes, Quinlan and Wagner; Corporal Lumsden; and Officers Hurtt, Lane, McCarthy, Bellard, and Bennett. Several of the members serving today are original members of the Honor Guard and have participated for the last twelve years in funerals, parades, ceremonies, and other functions as directed by the Chief of Police.

In September the Honor Guard led Gaithersburg’s 71st Annual Labor Day Parade. In addition the Honor Guard was a very active participant in the National Peace Officers Memorial Day activities. On this very important day, members of the Gaithersburg Police Honor Guard escorted the family members of officers from across the U.S. who were killed in the line of duty. This national event is held in Washington, D.C. each May.

VIII. TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT AND EDUCATION

In 2009, a sergeant was appointed to oversee the agency’s traffic enforcement activities. The Gaithersburg Police Department uses Engineering, Education and Enforcement in its approach when addressing traffic concerns within the City. Using this approach enables officers to involve other governmental agencies as well as the public to solve traffic issues within a community. The Police Department issued 7,896 traffic citations and 1,853 warnings in calendar year 2009. In addition, there were more than 1,795 traffic collisions in the City, with more than 300 resulting in injury and two resulting in death. Consistent with previous years, the two most frequent violations that caused or contributed to collisions were excessive speed and failure to yield right-of-way. Enforcement activities resulted in 483 arrests for alcohol-related traffic violations.

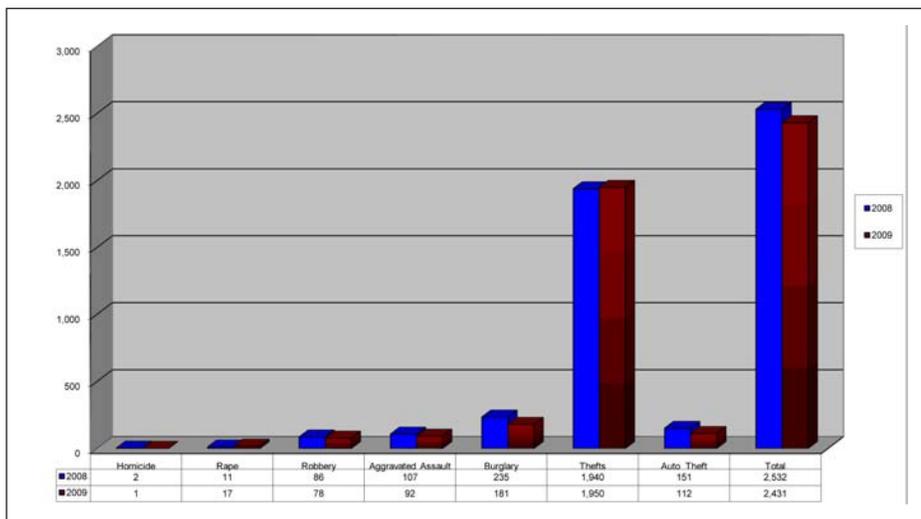
IX. CRIMINAL ENFORCEMENT

There has been a **4% decrease** in Part I Crimes within the City of Gaithersburg for January-December of 2009, as compared to the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) statistics for January-December of 2008.

An analysis of Part I Offense data shows that there was a decrease as compared to 2008 in homicides, robberies, aggravated assaults, burglaries and auto thefts.

There was a 54.5% increase in rapes from 11 recorded in 2008 to 17 in 2009. In 82.4% of the incidents the victim previously knew or was related to their attacker, with 17.6% being “stranger rapes.” Reports indicate that 41.2% of the incidents involved alcohol and/or drug use prior to the assault.

There was a 0.5% increase in larcenies, from 1,940 incidents in 2008 to 1,950 in 2009. Of significance was a 34.8% increase in shoplifting, from 623 recorded in 2008 to 840 in 2009. Theft from vehicles/theft of vehicle parts had a 17.9% decrease, from 823 incidents in 2008 to 676 in 2009.



X. COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Gaithersburg Police Department has several programs in place to assist and educate the citizens of Gaithersburg.

POLICE CHIEF'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The Police Chief's Advisory Committee was established by the Mayor and City Council to facilitate the flow of information between the community and the Department. Members of the Chief's Advisory Committee attend monthly meetings to make suggestions, voice concerns and give important feedback to the Chief and Department members. Ms. Dotty Reitwiesner chaired this Committee in 2009.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

Held annually, the City's National Night Out Against Crime observance took place on August 4, 2009. This year, National Night Out was given back to the neighborhoods so they could demonstrate their commitment to being partners in the fight against crime. Six communities and one business participated: Brighton Village, East Deer Park, Olde Towne, Quince Orchard Park, Saybrooke, West Riding, and Antijitos Restaurant. National Night Out Against Crime is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness, strengthen neighborhood spirit, and enhance police-community relations. It also gives the various Neighborhood Watch organizations throughout the City an opportunity to recruit new members and to educate residents about crime prevention efforts.



CITIZEN POLICE ACADEMY

In 2009, the Gaithersburg Police Department once again hosted a Citizen Police Academy. During the Academy, participants learned about law enforcement techniques and practices, traffic collision investigation, patrol operations, drug enforcement, crime prevention, community policing, and other topics. The training consisted of classroom lecture, demonstrations and field trips. Attendees were also encouraged to ride along with officers on patrol. The Citizen Police Academy is open to residents of the City who are at least 16 years of age.



BROTHERS PROGRAM

BROTHERS (Brothers Reaching Out To Help Each Reach Success) is a mentoring program focusing on "at risk" African American males at Gaithersburg High School. Street gangs, negative peer pressure, domestic violence, and substance abuse are daily realities for some of our City youth. BROTHERS focuses on recidivism prevention for its members who are currently involved in the legal system, provides counseling services to benefit the members and their families, and offers an alternative to gangs and gang related activities.

BROTHERS partners with the Gaithersburg Police Department to provide guest speakers via officers that share their personal experiences as well as educate the members on the legal system and criminal justice. A Junior Police Academy was the highlight of the program in 2009. BROTHERS also teams with Gaithersburg Middle School, reaching out to that age group before they enter high school. Officer Bobby Blackmon, the school's Educational Facilities Officer, serves as a liaison between the program and the Police Department.



John Leache



Joe Marion



Jonathan Bennett



John Paulichen



Dan McCarthy



Kathy Fairfield

XI. AWARDS

GAITHERSBURG - GERMANTOWN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Corporal John Leache and **Officer Joseph Marion** received the Medal of Valor along with two Montgomery County officers for their actions on June 20, 2009 in subduing and subsequently rendering emergency aid to a man who attempted suicide at the Gaithersburg Hilton. The subject had inflicted a number of potentially lethal cuts to various parts of his body. When officers arrived they had to force entry into the room and subdue the subject who violently resisted the officers' efforts to assist him. After the subject was restrained, the officers took action to control severe bleeding from numerous parts of the subject's body while awaiting the arrival of emergency medical personnel. The officers' actions kept the subject viable until he could be transported to the hospital for care. As a result of the officers' actions the victim survived.

A Citation for Bravery was issued to Gaithersburg Police **Officers Jonathan Bennett** and **John Paulichen** and to Montgomery County Officer Eric Montysko for their response to an incident on January 14, 2009. A suspect concealing a knife confronted the officers following an incident on a Ride-On Bus in which the suspect stabbed a rider, assaulted the driver and threatened other passengers. When police responded, the suspect was on a median strip surrounded by traffic along Rt. 355. The officers used a taser and were able to take the subject into custody without using deadly force and without injury to the suspect or the officers.

Gaithersburg Police **Officer Dan McCarthy** was also presented with a Citation for Bravery. Officer McCarthy responded to a call for a robbery involving two armed suspects on October 20, 2008. He saw a single suspect matching the description, overtook him and placed him into custody. A loaded .45 caliber pistol was recovered and the suspect was positively identified. Officer McCarthy was commended for his actions in capturing the suspect without benefit of backup and with the likelihood that the second suspect was in close proximity.

A Distinguished Service Award was presented to Gaithersburg Police **Officer Brian Hurtt**, and Meritorious Service Awards were presented to **Corporal Kathy Fairfield**, **Officer Dan McCarthy**, and Montgomery County Police Officer Ira Schoem for their efforts in rescuing a missing elderly woman. Initiating a search on foot at night, Officer Hurtt located the woman, who had wandered from her home. She had fallen in a stream on a frigid evening and was in an advanced state of hypothermia. Joined by other officers, Officer Hurtt carried the woman from the area to a waiting ambulance.

Gaithersburg Police **Officers Jimmy Gross** and **Holly Parke** were presented with Meritorious Service Awards for their efforts in apprehending a burglary suspect. The incident occurred on June 24, 2009. The officers were on routine patrol when they were notified of a smash and grab burglary at an electronics store. Observing a suspicious vehicle, they ran the registration plate and stopped the vehicle. Audio visual cables were protruding from the trunk and a flat screen monitor was observed in the back seat. The occupants were separated and gave differing accounts of how the equipment came to be in their vehicle. The suspects were placed under arrest and several thousand dollars worth of property was recovered. Subsequent investigation showed that the suspects had been involved in several other burglaries of electronic stores in Montgomery County.



Brian Hurtt

Gaithersburg Police Awards

Several of the officers recognized by the Chamber of Commerce were also submitted to the Gaithersburg Police Awards committee. Those officers were awarded the following for their actions as listed above:

Bronze Star Award

- Corporal John Leache
- Officer Brian Hurtt
- Officer Joseph Marion

Commendation Award

- Officer Dan McCarthy

Certificate of Commendation

- Corporal Kathy Farifield



Jimmy Gross

Montgomery County Awards

Corporal John Leache and Officer Joseph Marion were also honored with a Lifesaving Award by the Montgomery County Police for their actions at the Gaithersburg Hilton.



Holly Parke

Employees of the Quarter

First Quarter

- Sergeant Randy Rude**
- Sergeant Tom Stanton**

These two supervisors were recognized for their actions at the scene of a shooting on April 2, 2009 where rival gang members opened fire on each other in a crowded apartment building. They quickly took charge of the scene and placed officers in positions that kept several of the involved parties trapped within the perimeter. They maintained an excellent grasp of an evolving situation, deployed their resources in the appropriate manner and kept the scene contained until SWAT's arrival. According to Captain Luther Reynolds, the sergeants provided an excellent assessment of the situation to SWAT personnel upon their arrival, enabling the SWAT team to bring the situation to a timely and peaceful resolution.



Randy Rude

Second Quarter

Officer John Breck

Officer Breck was recognized for the additional effort that he puts into the betterment of the Department on a regular basis. In addition to being highly productive and taking a great deal of pride in his normal duties in the Traffic Unit, he is always the first to step up to assist with any project or problem. Whether it is helping young officers become better collision investigators, ICOP issues, Packetwriter issues, MDC issues or the like, Officer Breck is always available to help or answer a question even when he is off duty. Further, he has often come in early or stayed late to assist his co-workers with various problems.



Tom Stanton



John Breck



Jeff Nugent

Third Quarter

Officer Jeff Nugent

Officer Nugent was recognized for his attention to duty while on routine patrol on August 14, 2009. On that date he observed a vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed southbound on Muddy Branch Road. He initiated a stop of the vehicle, which contained five subjects. He requested an additional unit and prior to that unit's arrival a call was dispatched for a robbery that had just occurred at the Festival Shopping Center. Believing the vehicle may have been involved in the robbery, he maintained control of the subjects until sufficient units arrived to remove them from the car. The victim was eventually located and taken to the stop, where he positively identified all five subjects as the ones who had robbed and assaulted him. Officer Nugent showed excellent judgment in believing this vehicle might be involved with the incident, even though no vehicle description had initially been given.

Fourth Quarter

Officer Danny Vaca



Danny Vaca

Officer Vaca was recognized for his work on December 28, 2009 when he, along with numerous other units, responded to a fight involving a large group at Russell and East Diamond Avenues. While enroute, he observed two vehicles on Chestnut Street he thought may have been involved. Officer Vaca followed the vehicles and watched as one vehicle began to ram the other as they traveled northbound on Rt. 355. The vehicles were in fact related to the fight call that had been dispatched and one of them had been stolen during the fight. The driver of one of the vehicles was arrested and charged with first degree assault, theft of a motor vehicle and driving while intoxicated

Maryland State Highway Administration Impaired Driver Enforcement Awards

Officers **Jonathan Bennett** and **Shane Eastman** received Distinguished Service Awards for excellence in identifying and arresting impaired drivers during 2009. Officer Bennett had 145 such arrests (second highest in the state) and Officer Eastman had 64 such arrests.



Shane Eastman

Officer Jimmy Gross received a Meritorious Service Award for his sustained work performance. He effected 32 arrests in a four month period.

XII. ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Gaithersburg Police Department is made up of three bureaus: Administrative, Operations and Special Operations.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUREAU

The Administrative Bureau is responsible for overseeing various functions that support the operational units in the agency. These functions include planning and research, policy review and development, fleet management, quartermaster/supply, technology implementation, and budget preparation and administration. The bureau is also responsible for recruitment and selection as well as all accreditation activities.

OPERATIONS BUREAU

Lieutenant Richard Elliott is the Operations Bureau Commander. Officers are on patrol 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The primary function of this Bureau is the protection of life and property through aggressive motorized, bicycle, foot, and Segway patrols. This Bureau consists of six patrol shifts.

The patrol shifts are each assigned a permanent set of hours. Gaithersburg Police Officers are dispatched through the Montgomery County Department of Police Communications Center in the same manner as Montgomery County Police Officers. In many cases both a City and County officer will respond to the same call. The Department enjoys an excellent working relationship with the Montgomery County Department of Police at all levels.

CURRENT STAFFING BY POSITION

Position	Authorized	Actual
Police Chief	1	1
Captain	1	1
Lieutenant	2	2
Emergency Management Coordinator	1	1
Sergeant	9	9
Corporal	9	9
Police Officer	32	31
Community Outreach Specialist	1	1
Administrative Support Supervisor	1	1
Administrative Assistant II	1	1
Receptionist	1	1
Part-Time Personnel	4	4
TOTAL	63	62

SPECIAL OPERATIONS BUREAU

Lieutenant Tom Campbell is the Special Operations Bureau Commander, which consists of the Community Services Office, the Investigative Section, the Street Crimes Unit, the K-9 Unit, the Traffic Unit, the Photo Radar Enforcement Unit and Parking Enforcement. All of these specialized units work directly with the patrol officers to focus on crime patterns and areas of concern within the community.



Dan Lane

Community Services Office

In 2009 the Community Services Office consisted of the Community Services Officer (CSO), Sergeant Wagner, and the Community Outreach Specialist (COS), Elena Ingram. The office was responsible for coordinating community outreach efforts and establishing and maintaining communication with Homeowners Associations, Neighborhood Watch

groups, and other civic organizations. The Community Services Office was also responsible for the crime analysis function and the public information function with the goal of ensuring that information is relayed to the public via the Crime Summary Web Page and the local media in a timely fashion. In the latter part of 2009, the Community Services section was reorganized to include an Educational Facilities Officer and a Crime Analyst. Officer Dan Lane replaced Sergeant Wagner as the Community Services Officer and Elena Ingram was reassigned as the Crime Analyst.

Crime Analyst

Originally a component of the Community Service Office, the Crime Analyst has evolved into a full time position providing timely and accurate data to both the Department and the public. Constant communication with allied agencies has helped provide de-confliction and timely dissemination of information. This position has become vital as we depend more and more on timely and accurate information.



Bobby Blackmon

Educational Facilities Officer

This position was created in 2009 at the request of the principal of Gaithersburg High School. The Educational Facilities Officer (EFO) is responsible for coordinating services with the Montgomery County Police 6th District EFO. Currently our EFO, Officer Bobby Blackmom, is responsible for Gaithersburg High School, Gaithersburg Middle School and Forest Oak Middle School. Although it is a pilot project at this time, feedback from students, school staff and the Montgomery County Department of Police has been positive.



Investigative Section

The Investigative Section handled 50 criminal cases resulting in 22 arrests in 2009, with a case closure rate of 58%. In addition to ongoing criminal investigations and intelligence work, the Investigative Section is also responsible for providing background investigations for all new Police Officer applicants, conducting internal affairs investigations, and administering Computer Voice Stress Analyzer Examinations.

Street Crimes Unit

The Street Crimes Unit was formed in December 2003. Created to deal with specific types of crimes in designated areas, this unit made more than 117 arrests in 2009, including arrests for Homicide, Aggravated Assault, Robbery and Burglary. The mission of this unit is to focus on areas that have higher-than-average crime issues (burglaries, street robberies, auto theft, drug sales). The Street Crimes Unit works closely with the Montgomery County Department of Police and various federal agencies. Currently there is an officer from the Street Crimes Unit assigned to a federal gang task force to address gang issues in Gaithersburg.

K-9 Section

In 2009, Corporal Chad Eastman and his partner “Max” successfully completed drug detection training through the Washington D.C. Metropolitan Police Department. During 2009 the pair deployed 93 times, made 16 apprehensions and recovered more than 1 kilogram of cocaine.



Traffic Unit

In 2008, the Department created a traffic unit to enhance its traffic enforcement and education efforts. The unit is responsible for handling community complaints of traffic violations, collision investigation and commercial vehicle enforcement. The unit is also responsible for coordinating programs designed to address traffic and pedestrian safety concerns and planning for special events held in the City.

Photo Radar and Parking Enforcement

In an effort to address community concerns regarding traffic and parking issues in neighborhoods, the Department utilizes Photo Radar technology at 14 locations within the corporate limits of Gaithersburg and deploys a part time employee to supplement parking enforcement activities of sworn personnel. More than 1,900 citations for parking violations were issued in 2009.

Emergency Management

In 2009, the emergency management focus was primarily on three critical components – planning, response and information sharing. The City collaborated with the County and all members of the Emergency Management Group (EMG) in the completion of the County Emergency Operation Plan (EOP). At the same time the City obtained a Homeland Security grant and utilized the funds to support the development of Emergency Operations Plans for Gaithersburg, Rockville, Takoma Park and Chevy Chase Village. This unique opportunity allows all the major municipalities and Montgomery County to be on the same operational pages in the event of emergency. The City's EOP will be submitted to the Mayor and City Council for approval in early 2010. This comprehensive plan required significant input and collaboration from all components of City government.

The City also began work on a Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP), which establishes protocols in the event that City facilities, functions or staff are adversely affected by an emergency. The COOP identifies alternate facilities, essential staff, vital resources, authorities for the delegation of key responsibilities, succession plans, and other key issues necessary for a sustained City response under unusual circumstances. A COOP document is under development for each City Department and the City Manager's Office. These plans, like the EOP, were started in 2009 and will be completed in early 2010.

The second key responsibility includes response to actual events and potential or emerging situations. This began with the historic Inauguration of President Obama and the pre-planning, coordination and staffing of the County Emergency Operations Center and high visibility patrol throughout that weekend. During the late spring and summer we responded to the H1N1 flu, dealing with the actual effects and perceptions throughout the community. This involved close coordination with the County Emergency Management Group, County Public Health Office, City Manager's Office and our Public Information Office. The year ended with a December snow storm that challenged Public Works, Police and Public Information components to provide services, clear the roadways and inform the public.

The Alert Gaithersburg system continues to be an effective tool for providing emergency information to the public and City staff for notification of traffic incidents, weather

events, public health alerts and changes in the operational status of different City departments, divisions and facilities. To subscribe to Alert Gaithersburg, update or change contact information or be removed from the Alert Gaithersburg system, interested individuals should visit <http://alert.gaithersburgmd.gov>. The City continues to explore emerging technologies and other resources in order to enhance our public information efforts.

XIII. STATISTICS

Calls for Service	34,119
Traffic Citations	7,896
Adult Arrests	450
Juveniles Taken into Custody	95

INTERNAL AFFAIRS 2009

Member Status	Offense	Investigation Results
Police Officer	Discourtesy Bias Based Policing	Administrative Closure (Complaint withdrawn by complainant)
Police Officer	Misconduct	Sustained
Police Officer	Misconduct Bias Based Policing	Not Sustained Unfounded
Police Officer	Bias Based Policing Excessive Force Misconduct	Not Sustained Exonerated Exonerated
Police Officer	Excessive Force False Arrest Misconduct Falsifying a Police Report	Not Sustained Exonerated Exonerated Not Sustained
Police Officers (2)	Excessive Force Abuse of Authority	Exonerated Exonerated
Police Officer	Officer Involved Accident Policy Violation	Sustained Sustained
Police Officer	Misconduct Policy Violation	Administrative Closure (Officer resigned)

The Department is a nationally accredited law enforcement agency that strives for continuous improvement and professionalism while closely monitoring the conduct of its officers and civilian staff. The Department accepts and records all complaints and is committed to operating transparently when investigating complaints against the agency and its personnel. Of the 68 complaints received in 2009, only eight resulted in formal internal affairs investigations.

XIV. LOOKING TO THE FUTURE

As the Department looks to the future, we see an exciting time in the history of the Gaithersburg Police Department. Some of the new initiatives for 2010 will include:

- ★ Placement of a new mobile incident command vehicle;
- ★ Acquiring surveillance cameras for deployment in Olde Towne;
- ★ Exploring patrol areas within the two existing police beats;
- ★ Acquiring a Live Scan digital fingerprinting system;
- ★ Outfitting multiple police vehicles with automated license plate reader technology; and continuing improvement in the delivery of quality law enforcement services.