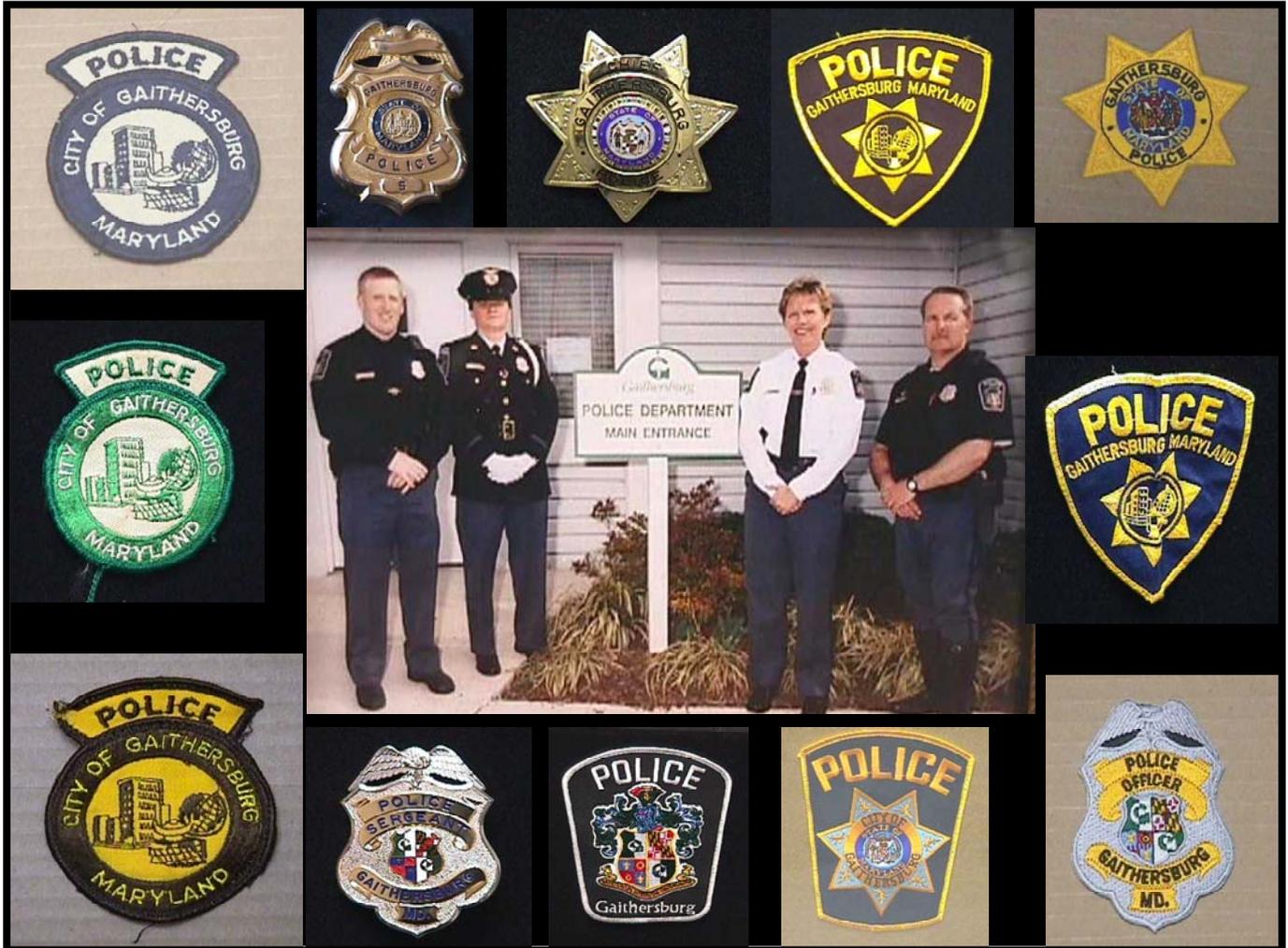


Gaithersburg Police Department



2006 ANNUAL REPORT

A Nationally-Accredited



Law Enforcement Agency



Service

Integrity

Respect

I. Letter from the Chief



On behalf of the men and women of the Gaithersburg Police Department, I am pleased to submit the Annual Report for 2006. Our Annual Report is intended to be a resource, not only for elected and appointed officials, students, law enforcement professionals, libraries and journalists, but also for the people who live and work in the City of Gaithersburg.

The Gaithersburg Police Department is a nationally-accredited law enforcement agency staffed by dedicated men and women who are committed to maintaining the highest degree of professional standards.

All members of the Department strive to maintain and create innovative programs that are responsive to the needs of the community. Department members at every level actively work toward the goal of improving the quality of life of everyone in the City.

This report contains a description of activities, highlighting specific achievements and community outreach initiatives.

I am proud of the accomplishments and successes we have achieved together in 2006. Throughout this year, it was my great honor to represent the City of Gaithersburg in my role as President of the International Association of Chiefs of Police. I appreciate the support I received while in this position from our elected officials, the City Manager, and all members of the Police Department.

I want to express my personal appreciation to our citizens, the City's elected and appointed officials, and the members of the Gaithersburg Police Department for their continuing dedication to making Gaithersburg a great place to live, work, learn, and play.

Mary Ann Viverette
Chief of Police



Service

Integrity

Respect

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 which 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.



Service

Integrity

Respect

III. History of the Department (cont.)

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 Police Department as Lieutenants; and the current Chief, Mary Ann Viverette. Chief Viverette came to the Department from the Montgomery County Sheriff's Office where she was a deputy sheriff. She was promoted through the ranks and attained her promotion to Chief in 1986.

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 complement of 47 sworn officers and four civilians. The majority of that growth occurred from 1986 to 1998 under the direction of Chief Viverette.

It was under the administration of Chief DeVries that the City Police began to operate under its current system of dispatch through the Montgomery County Police. As a retired Montgomery County Police Lieutenant, DeVries was in a position to work with the County Police in a way which previously had not been possible.

While the Department sent an untrained officer to a police academy in 1971, that was not to occur, again, until 1990. During the interim 19 years, only experienced officers from other agencies were considered for employment with the Department.

The majority of the Gaithersburg Police Officers have come from other agencies. The experience of these officers comes from agencies such as Montgomery County, Washington, D.C., United States Secret Service, Montgomery County Sheriff's Office, Maryland National Capital Police, and Baltimore City, to name a few. This diversity in officer experience has resulted in an agency made up of highly-trained individuals with a variety of special abilities.

IV. International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP)

Chief Mary Ann Viverette was installed as President of the IACP, the oldest and largest police agency in the world, on September 28, 2005. She is the first female to have served as President of the IACP. Chief Viverette has served on the City's police force since 1979 and was the first female chief of police in the State of Maryland. Today, she is one of about 400 female police chiefs and sheriffs in the United States.

The Department is very proud of Chief Viverette and congratulates her on this great achievement.





Service

Integrity

Respect

V. Accreditation

Initially accredited in 1993, the Gaithersburg Police Department became the 258th law enforcement agency in the country to be accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA). Since 1993, the Department has maintained compliance with almost 400 national standards pertaining to law enforcement agencies, thus maintaining its accredited status.

In November 2006, a three-person team of outside agencies reviewed hundreds of files during a “mock” assessment. This assessment is conducted to ensure compliance with the national standards on a continual basis. The Gaithersburg Police Department will be re-assessed in April 2007, when it seeks to renew its accreditation.

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 at least 18 hours of on-going classroom or “in-service” training each calendar year. Officers with the Gaithersburg Police Department far exceed the required 18 hours by attending specialized training classes, quarterly firearms and defensive tactics training and the Department’s own “in-service” training, which covers legal issues as well as the review of Department policies and procedures.

VII. Honor Guard

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

In 2006 the Honor Guard took part in two of the City’s annual events. The Honor Guard posted the colors at the State of the City Dinner in February and led the Annual Labor Day Parade in September.





Service

Integrity

Respect

VII. Honor Guard (cont.)

In 2006, as in years past, the Honor Guard was a very active participant in National Peace Officers Memorial Day activities. On this very important day, members of the Gaithersburg Police Honor Guard escort the family members of officers killed in the line of duty. These family members come from all parts of the United States to attend memorial services held in the Nation's Capital in honor of the fallen officers that gave the ultimate sacrifice.

VIII. Traffic Enforcement and Education

During 2006, officers issued more than 7,479 traffic citations and 1,311 warnings. In addition, there were more than 1,727 traffic collisions in the City, with 335 resulting in injury and one in fatality. Consistent with previous years, the two most prominent violations that caused or contributed to collisions were speed and right-of-way related. Enforcement activities resulted in 200 arrests for alcohol-related traffic violations.



IX. Community Outreach



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

Cops in Shops

The Gaithersburg Police Department, the Gaithersburg Business Alliance, Montgomery County Police, and the Montgomery Department of Liquor Control collaborated on the Cops in Shops program. This program is designed to target alcohol related issues such as underage alcohol sales. This year, Cops in Shops focused on the problem of habitual drunkenness. The program utilizes both plainclothes and uniformed officers, as well as citizens trained as "Extra Eyes." The program was very successful, and the City plans to extend the program next year.

Chief's Advisory Council

The Chief's Advisory Council 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 Council attend a monthly meeting to make suggestions, voice concerns and give important feedback to the Chief and Department members.



Service

Integrity

Respect

IX. Community Outreach (cont.)



National Night Out

Held annually, the City's National Night Out Against Crime observance took place in August at various locations throughout the City. The event is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness and strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community relations. It also gives the various Neighborhood Watch organizations throughout the City an opportunity to recruit members.

Police Reaching Out to Students (PROS)

Created and implemented by the Gaithersburg Police Department, this five-lesson delinquency prevention program began in January 2003. Uniformed officers teach the program to fifth grade students at several schools in the City. The PROS program deals with topics such as the role of police in society, character, integrity and ethics, laws and rules, delinquency prevention, and harmful substances.

Other programs that are open to citizens include the Watch Your Car Program, the Ride-Along Program, as well as the Citizen Police Academy where participants learn about law enforcement techniques and practices, traffic collision investigation, patrol operations, drug enforcement, crime prevention, community policing, and other topics.

X. Awards

The following personnel received Public Safety Awards from the Gaithersburg-Germantown Chamber of Commerce in 2006.

- ◆ **Corporal Chad Eastman, Officer Bobby Blackmon, Officer Matthew Bellard and Officer Patricia Earp** – Distinguished Service Award – During an early summer evening in June 2006, Officer Bellard was on patrol in the Olde Towne area when he came across a vehicle stopped in the roadway. He investigated and found the driver, a 72-year-old disabled veteran, unresponsive behind the wheel. Officers Earp and Blackmon arrived and it was determined that the patient had suffered cardiac arrest while stopped for the traffic light. Officers Bellard and Blackmon initiated carido-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) and Officer Earp gave continuous updates to fire/rescue. Corporal Eastman arrived several minutes later and immediately began assisting with patient care by inserting an airway to facilitate oxygen delivery. The patient was transported to Shady Grove Hospital where he received further care that resulted in restoration of heartbeat and breathing. None of that would have been possible without the quick efforts of this team of officers. Fire department/rescue personnel who were on the scene were highly complimentary of the officers' lifesaving efforts.





Service

Integrity

Respect

X. Awards (cont.)

- **Sergeant William White** – Meritorious Conduct Award – was recognized not just for the excellent work he has done as the Department’s Community Service Officer (CSO), but also for his complete body of work over his illustrious 28-year law enforcement career. Sergeant White served as the Department’s Community Service Officer for more than two years, initially taking over the position at a time of great change for the Department, with much enthusiasm and dedication. He facilitated technological advances such as the list serve notifications for neighborhoods. He was always ready, willing and able to assist in all other aspects of the department’s mission.
- **Officer Raul Delgado** was also recognized for two incidents. In the first, two armed robberies occurred within 30 minutes at separate locations. From the description broadcast, Officer Delgado recalled he had stopped a subject matching the description shortly before the first hold-up. Using the information from the Field Interview, he then went to the location where the subject was staying and kept it under surveillance until he returned, at which time he was taken into custody and positively identified as the suspect in both robberies. In the second incident, Officer Delgado and **Officer Brian Hurtt** handled a burglary where several high-powered weapons and several hundred rounds of ammunition were taken. Officers Delgado and Hurtt were able to develop a suspect, locate the suspect in a residence, gain access and arrest him. All but one of the weapons were recovered. Additionally, ammunition and Controlled Dangerous Substances (CDS) were recovered.

The following personnel received awards from the City of Gaithersburg Employee Recognition Committee.

- **Officer John Jordan** was recognized for two incidents. In one case he spotted a vehicle just reported as stolen on Route 355 at Summit Avenue. As he approached the vehicle, the driver bailed out, leaving the vehicle in gear. Officer Jordan used his car to stop traffic so the runaway vehicle could not collide with another. The suspect was located and arrested after an area search. In the second incident, Officer Jordan observed a vehicle belonging to a known wanted felon. He kept the vehicle under surveillance and stopped a subject getting into the car. This was not the wanted subject, but using the car as bait, Officer Jordan convinced the owner to come pick it up, at which time he was arrested.
- **Officer Isabel Galvez-Salgado** was also recognized for two incidents. In the first, a serious stabbing occurred in Olde Towne during the evening hours. A suspect was identified, but his whereabouts were unknown. During the day shift, Officer Salgado began walking Olde Towne talking to people in an attempt to locate the suspect. After two days, she was successful and the suspect was arrested without incident. In the second case, a suspected explosive device was found at Rachel Carson Elementary School during dismissal time. This created a major incident as the device was realistic in appearance, until it was determined that the device was a hoax. The next day, Officer Salgado, who was not on duty for the bomb call, received a suspicious package call in the same general area. She conducted follow-up and was able to identify the children involved and connect them to the device at Rachel Carson. After interviewing the children involved (and their parents), it was determined that there was no criminal intent.
- **The Day Laborer Team consisting of Sergeants Wilkes and Scarff, Corporals Fairfield, Leache and Rice, and Officers Jordan, Salgado, Blackmon, Duke, and Jones** was recognized for its actions in addressing the day laborer issue which heated up on both sides, with demonstrations and provocations regularly occurring. A wrong action could have had unfortunate or tragic consequences; however, the two day shifts handled them with impartiality and restraint.



Service

Integrity

Respect

X. Awards (cont.)

- **Officer Joseph Marion** responded to the Gaither House Apartments for a robbery. Once on the scene, the victim was located unconscious, having been severely beaten. The victim was transported to the hospital and the call cleared. Officer Marion took it upon himself to follow-up, with assistance from **Officer Delgado**, and obtained further information regarding the offense. Approximately 12 days after the incident, one of these residents contacted PSCC and advised that a subject fitting the description was in the complex. Officer Marion responded and spotted the subject on Route 355. The suspect was arrested and charged with trespassing, and was interviewed by Officer Marion and **Detective Word**. This subject was not involved, but gave information that implicated three subjects. Armed with that information, Officer Marion was able to charge all three with the armed robbery that had occurred almost two weeks prior.
- **Sergeant Tom Stanton** was recognized for his diligence and attention to detail in bringing a crime spree to an end. During the month of November 2006, two burglaries occurred at the Montgomery County Liquor Control store located in the Muddy Branch Square Shopping Center. In both cases, the suspects drove a stolen vehicle through the front of the store and then took large amounts of property. On November 18, 2006, Sgt. Stanton was on patrol in the Kentlands due to a large number of recent stolen vehicles, burglaries and larcenies. At that time, he observed a suspect fitting the description obtained from surveillance video at the store. After stopping the subject and conducting a follow-up investigation, the suspect was charged with the two burglaries. The suspect, a 17-year-old repeat offender, was also likely connected to a large number of recent crimes in the Kentlands, as they abruptly stopped after his incarceration.

Police Department Places First in Maryland Chief's Challenge Campaign

- The City of Gaithersburg Police Department placed first in its size category in the Maryland Chief's Challenge Campaign for 2006. The goal of the campaign is to raise public awareness of the lifesaving, injury reducing and cost saving benefits of seat belt and child safety seat use. As part of the Challenge, enforcement activities included selective traffic enforcement at intersections and on routine patrol, presentations and lectures on seat belt/child safety seat use and surveys/analysis of public use. Maryland is a leader in the country in seatbelt usage



with a 91 percent use rate. Congratulations to all the City police officers on this excellent effort, and special thanks to **Corporal LESTER RICE** for doing such an outstanding job coordinating the City's campaign this year.



Service

Integrity

Respect

XI. Staffing

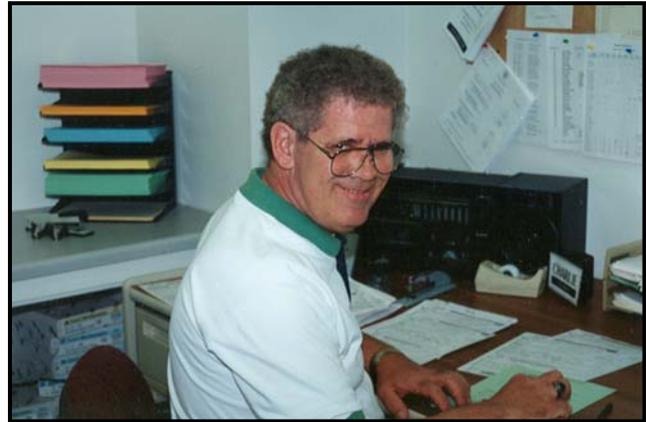
The Gaithersburg Police Department is made up of three bureaus: Administrative, Operations and Special Operations Bureau.

In a ceremony in October 2006, the following members of the Police Department were promoted to the rank of Corporal: **Lester Rice**, **Chris Vance**, and **Patrick Word**. The Department congratulates everyone on their accomplishments.

Christopher Bonvillain was promoted to the rank of Captain in May 2006. He has served on the Department since 1986. He was promoted to Sergeant in 1990 and Lieutenant in 1996. Captain Bonvillain has served as the Bureau Commander in all three bureaus. He earned his B.S. Degree in Law Enforcement/Criminal Justice in 1990 from the University of Maryland. Captain Bonvillain graduated in 1996 from the University of Baltimore School of Law, with a Juris Doctor Degree (Cum Laude). He passed the bar and was admitted to practice in State and Federal Courts in Maryland in 1996. He is also a 1999 graduate of the Southern Police Institute 101st Administrative Officer's Course (Master's level). Captain Bonvillain is an active assessor with the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc.

Remembered – Charlie Burkey

Police Services Specialist **Charlie Burkey** passed away on May 10, 2006 after complications from cancer. Charlie was recruited by Chief Viverette after he retired from the Montgomery County Police. He worked for the Gaithersburg Police Department for seven years, and was one of our most diligent and effective employees. Charlie had a great depth of knowledge for report review and his efforts made us a better department. He is greatly missed by all.



Retirement of Sgt. William H. White



On September 1, 2006 **Sergeant William H. White** retired from the Gaithersburg Police Department after a law enforcement career spanning 28 years (20 of which were spent with the Gaithersburg Police Department), which included service in Pennsylvania and Baltimore City. The excellent reputation currently held by the City's Police Department is due, in no small part, to Sergeant White during all phases of his career, whether it was the sole midnight officer, providing impetus for the bike patrol, or his overall service to the community.



Service

Integrity

Respect

XI. Staffing (cont.)

Administrative Bureau

The Administrative Bureau is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the administrative offices. Members of this team provide support to the Chief of Police, the Operations Bureau and the citizens of Gaithersburg. Personnel within the Administrative Bureau handle responsibilities such as records management, accreditation, policy research and development, cash management, report review and quality assurance, statistics, and data entry. The Department was fortunate to recruit Marie Best as the new Office Manager in 2006, bringing with her 10 years of experience with the City.

Located at 14 Fulks Corner Avenue near Olde Towne Gaithersburg, the administrative facilities are accessible from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., seven days a week. Lobby services include fingerprinting, payment of parking citations, literature distribution, and providing copies of traffic collision reports.

Operations Bureau

The Operations Bureau is 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 and foot 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 Police Communications Center in the same manner as Montgomery County Police Officers. Gaithersburg Officers are dispatched to all calls within the City when they are available to respond. If a City officer is not available, a Montgomery County officer is dispatched. In many cases both a City and County officer may respond to the same call. The Department enjoys an excellent relationship with its Montgomery County counterparts.

Special Operations Bureau

The Special Operations Bureau consists of the Community Services Office, the Street Crimes Unit, the K-9 Unit, and the Investigative Section. All of these specialized units work directly with the patrol officers to focus directly on crime patterns and areas of concern within the community. The Bureau added a second investigator, Corporal Shawn Eastman, in September 2006.

Community Services Office

In 2006, Sergeant White retired from the Department and Corporal Rudy Wagner took over as the Community Services Officer (CSO). The Department created a new civilian position, the Community Outreach Specialist (COS), within the Community Services Office. Elena Ingram was hired to fill this position and she works with the CSO performing a variety of crime prevention duties including security surveys, organizing Neighborhood Watch programs, coordinating both vacant house checks and community complaint checks, and crime analysis.





Service

Integrity

Respect

XI. Staffing (cont.)

Street Crimes Unit

The Street Crimes Unit, formed in December 2003 with City and County Officers, was created to deal with specific types of crimes in designated areas. This unit made more than 203 arrests in 2006, with the majority relating to Controlled Dangerous Substance violations. The mission of this unit is to focus on areas that have higher-than-average crime issues (burglaries, auto theft, drug sales). The Street Crimes Unit works closely with the Montgomery County Police Narcotics and Special Assignment Teams.

K-9 Buddie

In 2006, Buddie, along with his handler Corporal C. Eastman, received 80 hours of training from Montgomery County Police K-9 Unit, and conducted 60 searches in and for the City of Gaithersburg and Montgomery County Police. The efforts of the Department's K-9 resulted in 25 arrests, five vehicle seizures and total currency seizure of \$3,500.00. Corporal Eastman and Buddie are assigned to the Street Crimes Unit.



Investigative Section

The Investigative Section handled 44 felony criminal cases resulting in 21 arrests in 2006, with a case closure rate of 60 percent. In addition to ongoing criminal investigations and intelligence work, the Investigative Section is also responsible for providing background investigations of all new City Police Officer applicants, conducting return of firearms investigations, as well as administering Computer Voice Stress Analyzer Examinations.

Detective Patrick Word was elected as President of the Mid-Atlantic Regional Gang Investigators Network (MARGIN) in 2004, and continued to serve in that capacity during 2006. MARGIN (one of 16 gang investigator associations throughout the U.S. and Canada) represents approximately 400 criminal justice professionals, and provides intelligence sharing, investigation and suppression of gang crime in the Washington Metropolitan area. Detective Word was also elected to the Executive Board of the National Alliance of Gang Investigator Associations (NAGIA), which oversees the 16 associations in the U.S. and Canada, and represents over 20,000 criminal justice professionals and gang investigators. Detective Word is a well-known expert on the subject of gangs, and his services are regularly provided to the U.S. Department of Justice, the National Youth Gang Center and other allied organizations.



Service

Integrity

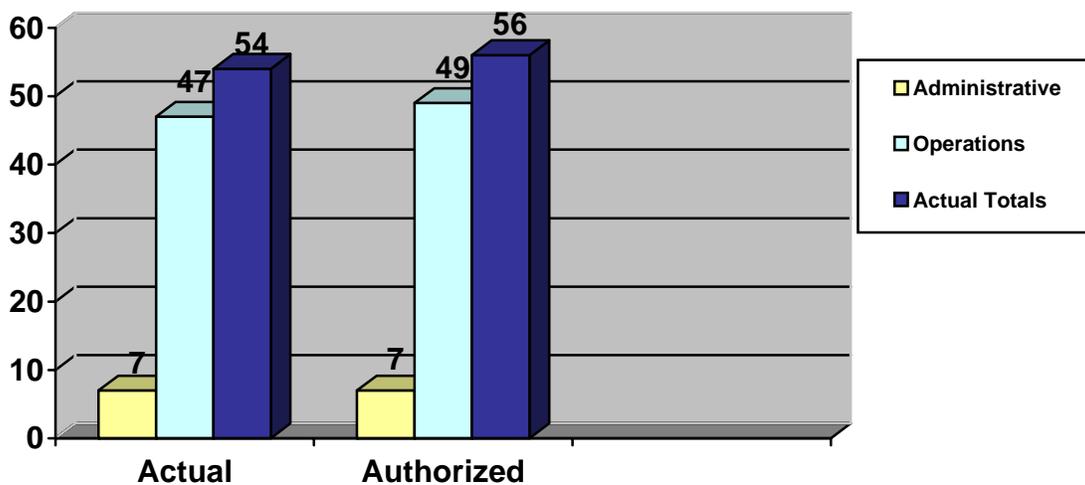
Respect

XI. Staffing (cont.)

By Position

Position	Authorized	Actual
Police Chief	1	1
Captain	1	1
Lieutenant	2	2
Sergeant	9	10
Corporal	9	9
Police Officer III	10	9
Police Officer II	7	7
Police Officer I	10	8
Community Outreach Specialist	1	1
Office Manager	1	1
Police Services Aide	1	1
Employment Agreement	1	1
Part-Time Personnel	3	3
TOTAL	56	54

By Assignment





Service

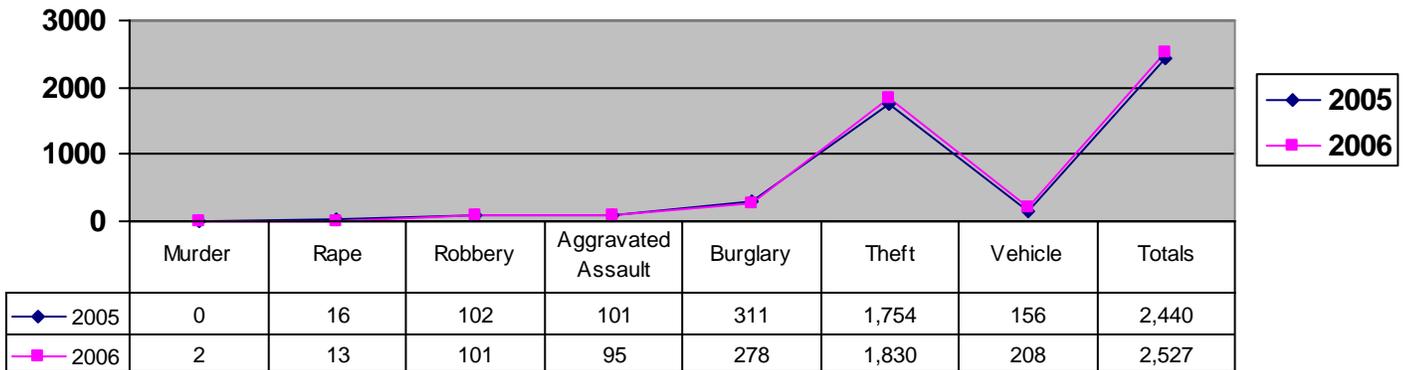
Integrity

Respect

XII. Statistics

Calls for Service	32,908
Traffic Citations	7,352
Adult Arrests	927
Juveniles Taken Into Custody	111

Crime Analysis Report



Internal Affairs

The Department investigates all complaints made against the Department or its members. During 2006, there were 19 occasions when a member’s conduct was questioned, three of which resulted in a formal internal affairs investigation. After initial investigations were conducted, the remaining 16 instances did not merit formal investigations.

Member Status	Offense	Investigation Result
Civilian	Rule Violation	Sustained
Police Officer	Discourtesy	Sustained
Police Officer	Rule Violation	Sustained



City Officials

Mayor

Sidney A. Katz

Council Vice President

Stanley J. Alster

Council Members

Geri Edens

Henry F. Marraffa, Jr.

John B. Schlichting

Michael A. Sesma

City Manager

David B. Humpton