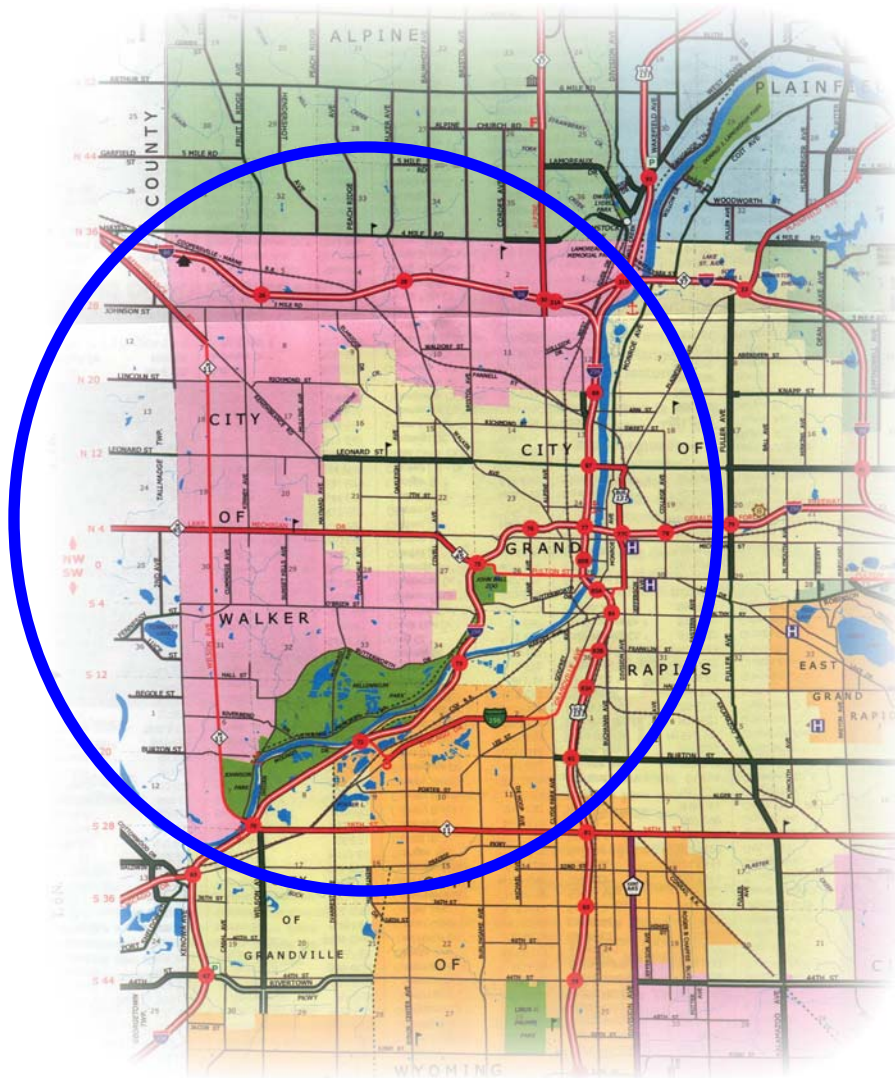


2004

**WALKER POLICE
DEPARTMENT**



**ANNUAL
REPORT**





CITY OF WALKER, MICHIGAN WALKER POLICE DEPARTMENT

MISSION STATEMENT

The primary mission of the Walker Police Department is to protect life and property, enhance the quality of life of the citizens of this community through the enforcement of the law, and by creating a partnership with the members of this community to facilitate this common goal.

VISION STATEMENT

We will be an organization devoted to customer satisfaction and the principles of quality leadership.

We will be the best Police Department in America.



CITY of WALKER

4243 Remembrance Road, N.W.
Walker, Michigan 49544
(616) 453-6311

Dear Citizens of Walker:

As Mayor, I am pleased to provide you with the year 2004 Annual Report on the activities of the Walker Police Department.

This review provides many details concerning the operations of our Police Department, its training, personnel, programs, and achievements during the year. It also contains statistical analysis regarding a number of subjects related to the agency and its area of responsibility. The City Commission is grateful to the men and women of the Department for their dedicated service and professionalism.

The mission of the Walker Police Department is "to protect life and property and enhance the quality of life of the citizens of this community through the enforcement of the law, and by creating a partnership with the members of this community to facilitate the common goal." The growth of our community in population and commercial activity has made the challenges of the Police Department more difficult. This is particularly true in a time of increasingly tightened budget restraints.

Our Police Department needs and deserves the encouragement of the entire community if it is to serve the people by safeguarding life and property, protecting citizens from violence and disorder, and enhancing the quality of life in our City. Our Police Department has earned the support of the schools, churches, neighborhoods and business community. The City Commission asks each member of our community to continue to support our Police Department.

On behalf of the City Commission, I pledge that we will continue to do all in our power to supply the staffing, equipment, training, and other tools necessary for our Police Department to maintain the high level of service we have enjoyed in the past. We extend our deepest appreciation to each member of the Walker Police Department, and promise our continued support as they preserve the rights and security of all citizens.

Sincerely,

Rob VerHeulen
Mayor
City of Walker



Sincerely,

Rob VerHeulen
Mayor
City of Walker

1st Ward



**COMMISSIONER
DAN KENT**



**COMMISSIONER
AL PARENT**

2nd Ward



**COMMISSIONER
CHUCK DESCHAINE**



**COMMISSIONER
BARB HOLT**

3rd Ward



**COMMISSIONER
CYNTHIA STEK**



**COMMISSIONER
STEVE VERSLUIS**

CITY COMMISSIONERS



**CATHY VANDER MEULEN
CITY MANAGER**



**DARREL SCHMALTZEL
ASSISTANT CITY MANAGER**



**SANDRA WISNIEWSKI
CITY CLERK**

CITY OFFICIALS



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

Mayor VerHeulen, City Commission, and Citizens of Walker:

It is with pleasure that I present our 2004 Annual Report that highlights the operations, activities and accomplishments of the Walker Police Department over the past year.

The support of the business community, citizens, Mayor, City Commission, City Manager and Assistant City Manager helped to make 2004 a good year, not only for the Police Department, but for the citizens of Walker.

We are very proud of our community policing efforts, especially in working with our Neighborhood Watch Block Captains. We are equally proud of the fact that we attract dedicated, professional officers among our ranks.

In 2004 there were 10469 calls for police service for the year. Of that number 8856 incidents resulted in reported offenses; 811 were for serious (part one type) of offenses and 8045 non-index crimes were investigated. Consequently 6821 arrests were made pertaining to these crimes. During the year 1105 traffic crashes occurred on our City's streets and another 128 accidents occurred on private property. These figures do not include self-initiated work that officers many have taken part in, such as community policing efforts, setting up traffic radar if no tickets were issued, etc.

The Walker Police Department is committed to providing efficient, professional services, in addition to maintaining a safe environment for everyone.

Finally, I am pleased and thankful for the overwhelming support our community has given to the Walker Police Department. We will continue to strive to maintain that confidence.

Respectfully,

CATHERINE M. GARCIA-LINDSTROM
Chief of Police
Walker Police Department

SUPERVISION



**DEPUTY CHIEF OF POLICE
STEVEN J. DYKE**



**LIEUTENANT
DAN CRAYMER**



SGT. GREG ANTOR



SGT. GREG LONG



SGT. TROY MYERS



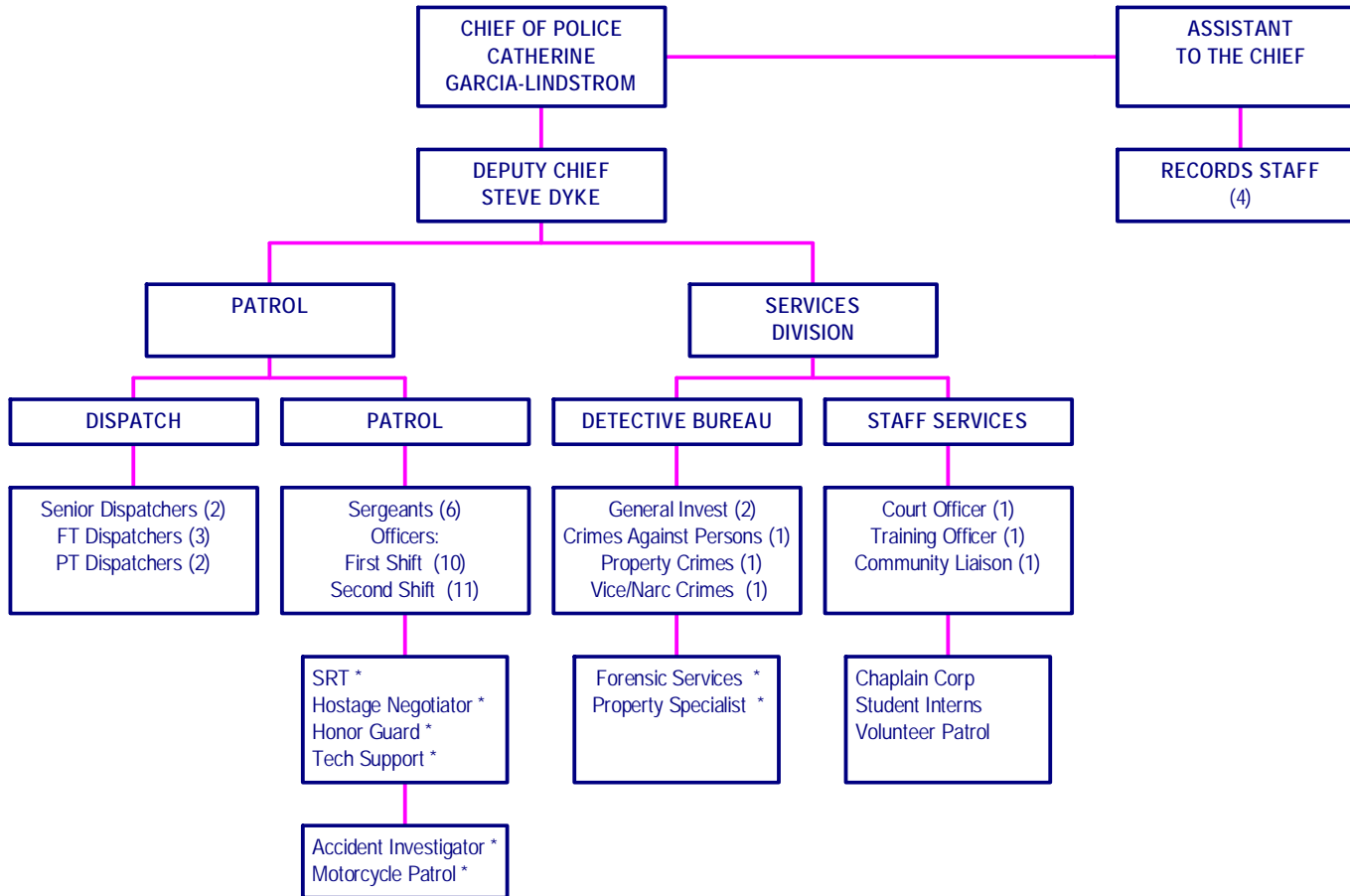
SGT. JASON HOWE



SGT. TIM PEARCE

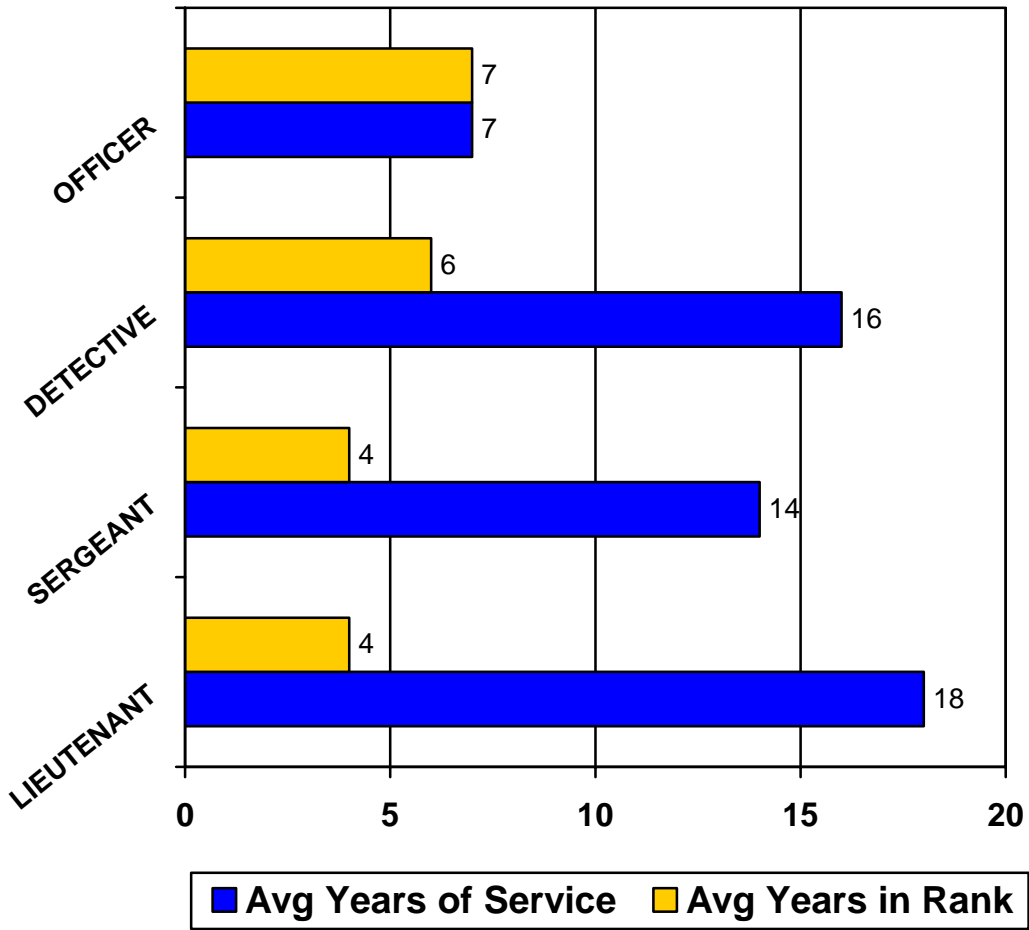


SGT. ROB SHOEMAKER



- PERSONNEL STAFFING THESE POSITIONS HERE PRIMARY POSITIONS ELSEWHERE WITHIN THE DEPARTMENT.

AVERAGE YEARS IN CURRENT RANK
AVERAGE YEARS OF SERVICE



OFFICER OF THE YEAR



**OFFICER KEITH MANKEL
OFFICER OF THE YEAR**

Officer Keith Mankel's job performance clearly typifies the actions of someone who believes strongly in doing an outstanding job. It is not unusual for Officer Mankel to take his work home with him so that he can call a crash victim or their family at a time more conducive to them, rather than to his own work schedule. He exemplifies this high standard on a daily basis, through his efforts as an Accident Investigator, Field Training Officer, SRT member, and coordinator of medical equipment, just to list a few.

Congratulations to officer Mankel for this well-deserved honor!

WALKER POLICE DEPARTMENT

2004

AWARDS CEREMONY

The 2004 Walker Police Award Ceremony was held on June 9, 2004 at the Walker Station Three community room. Family and friends joined together to honor the Police Officers who had gone "beyond the call of duty" in performing their jobs. Those honored at the awards ceremony were:



DEPARTMENT CITATION

Officer Andy Veen
Detective Bert Elliott
Senior Volunteer Tom Rykse
Senior Volunteer Harry Nowicki

CHIEF'S CITATION AWARD

Sergeant Jason Howe
Officer Keith Mankel

CHIEF'S MERIT AWARD

Assistant to Chief Barb Haynes
Records Technician Monica Borgeld
Records Technician Julie Holtrop
Records Technician Kim Jansheski
Records Technician Beth Isham

DEPARTMENT COMMENDATION

Detective Dan Raap
Detective Scott Johnson
Detective Mike Iwanski
Officer Scott Malkewitz
Deputy Chief Steve Dyke
Lieutenant Dan Craymer
Detective Bert Elliott
Officer Keith Mankel
Officer Brandyn Heugel
Officer Damian Huber
ECO Heather Bacon
Officer Tom Raisanen
Officer Tiffany MacKellar
Officer Andy Veen
Officer Ken Martiny
Officer Ken Martiny
Officer Christine Bender
Sr ECO Carl Wood

POLICE OFFICER OF THE YEAR

Officer Keith Mankel

M.A.D.D. AWARD

Officer Andy Veen

CHIEF'S UNIT AWARD / SIESLING MURDER

Deputy Chief Steve Dyke
Lieutenant Dan Craymer
Sergeant Greg Long
Detective Mike Iwanski
Detective Dan Raap
Detective Bert Elliot
IBO Carl Wood
Records Technician Monica Borgeld

Records Technician Julie Holtrop
Sgt. Jason Howe
Officer Sam Powell
Officer Tom Raisanen
Officer Tiffany MacKellar

CHIEF'S UNIT AWARD / SIESLING MURDER (Cont)

PERFECT ATTENDANCE

Officer Shawn Bailey
Detective Bert Elliott
Officer Jason Frank
Detective Dan Raap
Detective Mike Iwanski
Detective Scott Johnson
Detective Robin Maley
Officer Scott Malkewitz
Officer Dan Martinek
Officer Ken Martiny
Officer Andy Veen
Officer Brad Williams
Sergeant Greg Long
Sergeant Troy Myers
Sergeant Tim Pearce
Sr. ECO Carl Wood
Assistant to Chief Barb Haynes

LETTERS OF RECOGNITION

Officer Tom Raisanen
Officer Gil Redzinski
Detective Dan Raap
Sr. ECO Carl Wood
Officer Brandyn Heugel
Records Technician Monica Borgeld
Records Technician Julie Holtrop
Records Technician Kim Jansheski
Records Technician Beth Isham
Officer Ken Martiny
Sergeant Tim Pearce
Sergeant Greg Antor
Officer Brian Sulak
Officer Shawn Bailey
Officer Scott Malkewitz
Officer Dan Martinek
Officer Sam Powell
Detective Bert Elliott
Lieutenant Dan Craymer

TRAINING YEAR IN REVIEW



January

Medical First Responder

February

Residential Security Surveys
Forensic Interviewing of children
Ground Avoidance & Escape Instructor
Digital Photography for Law Enforcement
Advanced Law Enforcement Dispatch
Evidence Technician School
Preliminary Breath Test Training

March

Advanced Narcotic Investigation
Defensive Tactics
Less Lethal Instruction (Lecture)
Tactical Scene Analysis
Staff & Command
Hostage Negotiation Practical Evaluation

April

Word 2000 – Level I
Honor Guard Camp
Basic Radar Operator
REID Interview & Interrogation
Hostage Negotiator
Patrol Rifle Instructor School
Medicolegal Investigation of Death
Firearms Qualification
Less Lethal (Practical)

May

Standard Field Sobriety Testing
First Line Supervisor

June

Police Motorcycle School
Basic SWAT School

August

ISM Dialogues

September

Simunition Scenario Safety Instructor
Advanced Law Enforcement Dispatch
Datamaster Operator
Basic Incident Command Systems
Patrol Rifle Instruction
Firearms Qualification

October

Honor Guard Camp
Crime Prevention Association of Mich.
Defensive Driving Course
ISM Dialogues

November

Legal Update
Emergency Planning
ISM Dialogues

December

Unified Incident Command System
ISM Dialogues
Medical First Responder
Rapid Response (Active Shooter)

STAFF SERVICES – YEAR IN REVIEW

Following is a summary of all training attended by the personnel of the Walker Police Department. Listed below are the total number of hours per category.

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| In-service Training | 795 Hours | All Certified Officers |
| External Training | 1128 Hours | |
| Honor Guard Training | 228 Hours | |
| Field Training | 680 Hours | 1 Officer |
| Special Response Training | 650 Hours | |
| Firearms Training | 296 Hours | All Certified Officers |
| Diversity Training | 90 Hours | |
| Non-Sworn Personnel | 218 Hours | |
| Total Training Time | 4085 Hours | |

SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM

This year the SRT team conducted training every month. Below is a summary of training and actual callouts.

In January we conducted an eight-hour training block that consisted of classroom training. The training conducted included chemical agents, Flash bangs, less lethal guns, breaching and policy and procedure.

We attended a ten-hour training class in February on covert entries, dynamic entries and hostage rescue.

In March we spent a ten-hour day at Walkers range. This included firearms qualifications with all SRT weapons. We also completed a GRATA bus active shooter-training incident. GRATA bus donates a bus to us twice a year to train on.

We completed our physical readiness test at the fitness center in April. After the physical test we used an abandoned house on Three Mile Road for some real life training. The house was used as a drug house with an active shooter inside. The shooter inside used a SIMS weapon that we borrowed from Kent County. The SIMS weapon shoots a paint ball style round which leaves paint on you if you were to be hit. This training was conducted for six hours. This is the best training available to Officers for real life training.

In May we attended an exercise with our department. The call was for a domestic assault suspect that had injured his wife and son. The suspect had barricaded himself inside the house and began to fire at Officers. The entire area was secured and after about four hours of negotiations with the suspect he surrendered.

The team practiced throwing the negotiator's phone into open windows and doors in June. We also practiced setting up the portable P.A. system. Firearms training and dynamic entry was also completed this month.

In July instructors trained the team on the use and deployment of distraction devices and less than lethal rounds. All members took a written test and deployed both devices.

During August we conducted a mock critical incident at the abandoned house on Three Mile Road. Personnel attending were the SRT team, Lt. Craymer, the Chief of Police and the department's hostage negotiators. This was the first time that the denoted truck from life was used as a command post. The call was that of a domestic situation that turned to a barricaded person with hostages inside. A perimeter was set up and the negotiators conducted negotiations. After negotiations failed, the SRT team deployed inert gas into the residence and the team made entry and the subject was taken into custody.

Firearms training were conducted during September. Training was done on the Glock pistol, M-4's, 11-87 shotgun, patrol rifle, less lethal shotgun and the 40mm gas gun. All team members qualified on all weapons. This is done twice per year.

The physical readiness test was completed in October and we traveled to our range for the yearly distraction device test and deployment training. We also tested our distraction device pole we made out of a painter pole (it worked great).

A joint tactical scenario was conducted in the city of Kentwood in November. Other teams participating were from Wyoming, Kentwood, Michigan State Police and members from Life and AMR ambulance. The teams were split up and sent to two different locations for two different calls. The teams were integrated and worked on the calls as one team. Scenario one was a bank robbery suspect who took hostages in a

residence. The second scenario was at a factory dealing with a disgruntled employee who took hostages. Both scenarios went well working with other departments.

In December we conducted Rapid response (active shooter in a school) training. The Kenowa Hills middle school was used for this training. The department used twelve volunteers as students and conducted the training. Each volunteer was given safety equipment and both the students and Officers used SIMS weapons for the training. Our team practiced movement and different search methods for securing a school.

WALKER SRT CALLOUTS 2004

January 2004

We conducted a raid in a residential area in the south district. This was a search warrant for marijuana. Drugs were seized and turned over to WMET.

March 2004

We assisted our detective unit in serving a search warrant for two armed suspects that committed an armed robbery of a local store.

May 2004

We conducted a search of an apartment in the north district for crack cocaine. Several ounces of crack were recovered from in the apartment and the suspect's vehicle.

July 2004

A search warrant was executed of a residential home in the south district for a marijuana grow operation.

August 2004

The Chief of Police requested the special response team for possible crowd control and security during a concert. This concert had protestors and some possible gang members attending.

This is a summary of activities of the Walker SRT team for 2004. All members of this team are dedicated and proud to serve for the City as a special response team member.



PATROL — YEAR IN REVIEW

Overall in 2004 our total call volume was down 4.5% compared to 2003. There were several major categories that remained consistent from last year. Accidents remained consistent with a slight increase in accidents involving personal injuries. Breaking and Entering crimes were consistent with last year as well as drunk driving arrests. False alarm response also remained consistent.

The single largest apparent increase involves the category for warrant arrests. It appears that there was a 69% increase in these arrests from 2003 to 2004. The reason for the perceived increase is due to the tracking mechanism in our records system. In 2003 and years prior the numbers have remained consistent. The only record of a warrant arrest was due to a Walker officer physically arresting a wanted subject. For 2004 this category was expanded to include the incidents when dispatch personnel confirm our warrants for other departments that have made an arrest on our warrant. In the past we had not tracked these warrant confirmations and have had other jurisdictions inadvertently release wanted persons prior to answering to the charges from our department. Now that information is monitored to prevent these wanted persons from being released.

The major categories that saw an increase from last year were disorderly conduct complaints. They increased 22% from 2003. Robberies were the most dramatic increase. They were up 66% from last year. As we all know from watching the news, violence appears to be on the rise in the west Michigan area. Our response to medical incidents also increased notably in 2004. They were up 9% from last year.

The good news is that numerous categories declined from 2003 to 2004. Domestic Assault complaints were down 20% as well as Stalking which was down 17%. Motor Vehicle thefts were down 33% from last year. Retail Frauds decreased 8% but I do not expect 2005 will see the same reduction with the development of Meijer in Standale. Larcenies also decreased 13%.

Traffic remains a major concern for our department and residents of the City. I was glad to see that accident rates have remained consistent regardless of the increase of traffic volume as the City continues to grow. Traffic violations decreased 19% from last year. Part of that reduction is most likely due to the method utilized with the 'wolf pack' style enforcement. The number of participating departments has increased dramatically. The result is that the enforcements that occur in our city are less frequent. The enforcement zones rotate through all the jurisdictions.

Although our call volume has shown a decrease, the resources required to fulfill our policing duties have increased. Incidents that have involved numerous personnel being recalled have increased. The most recent involved a kidnapping that did not result in a crime statistic. It happened the day before our publicized kidnapping event that required a similar response. The incident I am referring to caused most of the department to be recalled because a hostage situation was unfolding. A search warrant was obtained for the residence and the SRT was deployed. While attempting to make contact with the suspect both verbally and by phone for several hours we were prepared for the worst scenario. Finally the suspect and victim called our dispatch center and exited the home peacefully and without incident. No criminal charges were filed due to the circumstances. We have seen an increasing number of like calls that ultimately do not get reflected in statistical numbers. As previously stated, violence has been escalating within the west Michigan area making it necessary to staff and react at a much higher level than in years past.

Injuries to officers have increased from 2003-2004. In 2003 there were five reported injuries to police personnel with a total loss of 46 working days. The largest loss occurred with a knee injury that took 36 of those total days. In 2004 we had twelve reported injuries to police personnel with a total loss of 31 working days. The largest single occurrence resulted in 13 lost days. The injury reports again illustrate the increasing danger of the policing duties that our personnel are facing.

Patrol continues to be the backbone of policing for the City of Walker. The men and women of the Walker Police Department have been doing an excellent job with the resources available.

PATROL – SPECIAL ENFORCEMENT

This last year has been one of the busiest years for special enforcements. We participated in three separate enforcement types.

We worked on Lake Michigan Drive near Manzana and on Wilson near Burton for the Michigan Department of Transportation (MDOT). This was an overtime-reimbursed project where the goal was to keep the speeds down in the active construction zones to help insure the safety of the construction workers and the accidents at a minimum. The head of MDOT in our area had a lot of positive things to say about our Officers and the aggressive enforcement that was taken. Officers commented that when they would go after a speeder the workers would cheer and thank them for their efforts. From the attention that our enforcements got, I believe our efforts were successful. Unfortunately there was one fatality of a worker in the construction zone but this was not caused by traffic outside of the zone. This was contained to work inside the non-public traffic area.

During this enforcement 225.75 hours were dedicated to this effort. The bill to MDOT was \$7,785.96. The statistics are 395 vehicles were stopped resulting in 349 citations and 100 verbal warnings for various traffic infractions. Once again this was reimbursed by MDOT. Court time would not have been reimbursed but all citations are written under city ordinance and this portion of the ticket goes into the city budget.

The next type of enforcement was the Red Light Enforcement that utilized on duty personnel from the road patrol, and during the summer, our School Liaison Officer. This was also a big success. Each of the police departments that participated in this project was happy with the results. During this enforcement 670 vehicles were stopped in total resulting in 629 citations for any number of traffic violations. This project was so successful that the State of Michigan Office Of Highway Safety and Planning (OHSP) is looking into a grant to help to fund this project on an overtime basis like the Click It or Ticket Program. This project was done once a week for about 20 weeks.

The last Project was the Click It or Ticket and the You Drink, You Drive, You Lose Project. Our department was one of the only departments that was able to staff each one of the enforcements and locations. Once again this was a reimbursed grant just like the MDOT program instead this was through OHSP.

During the calendar year of 2004, we billed OHSP **\$20,206.54**. This covered 615 hours. During this 1125 traffic stops were made. 177 misdemeanor arrests, 13 felony arrests and 742 various citations were written.

The down side to this enforcement was three cruisers were damaged. Car 11 was involved in a traffic crash in January 2004. The officer was slightly injured in this, as was her passenger. Then just this last December, cars 6 and 2 were damaged when an intoxicated individual decided to kick out the rear windows. This man was charged with four separate felonies. We are still waiting for the outcome of this.

The unfortunate part of all these statistics is that they do not reflect how hard the efforts have been for the Walker Police Department. There have been a few individuals that have worked numerous of these events to make them so successful.

TRAFFIC UNIT REPORT

This year was again very busy year investigating serious traffic crashes and fatal crashes. Twelve major scenes were investigated this year compared to fifteen last year. We investigated six fatal crashes in 2004 compared to four fatal crashes in 2003. The number of crashes dropped however there were two more fatalities this year than last year.

We also assisted in the fatal house fire at 2521 Alpine. The entire scene was mapped using the Total Station. A scaled drawing was created that was very helpful in the investigation.

High CRASH INTERSECTIONS

| | |
|--------------------------------|----|
| ▶ ALPINE @ NORTH CENTER NW | 87 |
| ▶ ALPINE @ CENTER NW | 87 |
| ▶ WILSON @ LAKE MICHIGAN DR NW | 72 |
| ▶ ALPINE @ THREE MILE NW | 59 |
| ▶ ALPINE @ RAMP 030G | 52 |
| ▶ ALPINE @ KINGSBURY NW | 52 |
| ▶ ALPINE @ FOUR MILE RD NW | 44 |
| ▶ ALPINE @ COVENTRY NW | 37 |
| ▶ ALPINE @ HILLSIDE NW | 27 |
| ▶ WALKER @ THREE MILE NW | 27 |



**TIME OF DAY MOST
INTERSECTION RELATED
ACCIDENTS OCCUR IN WALKER**

4 PM – 5 PM
3 PM – 4 PM

12 PM – 1 PM
5 PM – 6 PM
1 PM – 2 PM
2 PM – 3 PM

PER M.S.P. STATISTICS

HONOR GUARD

Sergeant Greg Long
Sergeant Rob Shoemaker
Officer Dennis Kneibel
Officer Scott Johnson
Detective Bert Elliott
Officer Jason Frank
Officer Sam Powell
Officer Tiffany MacKellar
Officer Brandyn Heugel



The Walker Police Department Honor Guard Unit added a new member to its ranks in 2004. Sgt. Rob Shoemaker joined the unit in mid-year to serve as auxiliary command and bring the number of members to nine. Sgt. Shoemaker brings with him the experience of a military background, after serving in the U.S. Air Force for 4.5 years. We've also been fortunate enough to add the services of Pastor Tom Bradley, who will be available to bagpipe for needed events. Along with this personnel addition the unit also achieved a number of 2003 goals, including the procurement of the requested equipment designated as "non-priority" in the 2003 report. This equipment, although considered non-essential, is important in the aspect of portraying the professional image that an honor guard is intended. The equipment includes winter overcoats, newly designed unit patches, newly designed honor guard badges and name bars that will remain upon members' jackets to prevent excessive wear and tear due to everyday usage. Another 2003 goal realized was the opportunity to send six members to the 40-hour Goshen Police Department's Honor Guard camp. As was mentioned in the 2003 report, this experience will enable our unit to continue with training within our unit, strengthening our entity within the police department. Additional information will be discussed in later sections regarding this camp.

TRAINING

In April two members attended the Goshen Police Department's Honor Guard camp and came back with glowing recommendations, suggesting we continue sending our personnel to this prestigious training. In May, these same officers conducted an in-house training for the rest of the unit, sharing their learned information with the rest. Following this training, members commented on how positive the instruction was relayed. In October, four additional members (including ourselves) attended this camp, returning with the same positive impression. The camp was presented with a paramilitary approach and proved to be very beneficial in reaffirming the integrity necessary to staff a professional honor guard unit. We are confident that those attending this camp will be very capable of providing effective training for the remaining members. Future plans include resuming unit training, the frequency to be determined with members' input. With the passing of the "busy holiday times", we will focus on preparing a training schedule for the future months of the year.

UNIT GOALS

As was from the start of forming the honor guard unit, emphasis will continue to be placed upon the on-going training of all members. We are hopeful that with the skills obtained from the camp, training will take on a more "personalized" approach as we can adapt the material to meet department needs. Additional goals include experiencing as many new opportunities/events that we may participate in, as representatives of the Walker Honor Guard Unit (positive exposure). As was addressed in the 2003 report, a secondary goal was to outfit each member with an honor guard badge, name bar and winter overcoat. We can proudly report that these items have been distributed to each member, further enhancing the professional image of our members.

CONCLUSION

The commitment and dedication continues amongst this fine group and should only flourish in upcoming years with the experience and confidence we are gaining. As was previously indicated, we can proudly report that all original members are still active and eager to serve in this capacity. All members continue to look forward to serving the department and community in the positive light that has become the model of professionalism within the Walker Police Department's Honor Guard Unit.



DETECTIVE UNIT

GENERAL CASE:

Overview:

The year 2004 saw a slight decrease in General Case report assignments from 2003, but still above previous years. Below is a chart detailing the total General Case assignments for the past 4 years:

| 2001 | 2002 | 2003 | 2004 |
|------|------|------|------|
| 854 | 894 | 1115 | 973 |

Whereas, the overall case assignment declined, the incidence of more serious, violent crimes increased.

Case Highlights:

The first couple weeks of the year were spent for the preparation and trial of Jon Siesling. On January 14th, the trial concluded with the jury returning a guilty verdict against Siesling on three counts of 1st degree murder.

The Detective Bureau investigated a fire that occurred on Alpine Avenue in an abandoned building. The first fire units that entered the building for extinguishments located a body in one of the rooms. The subject was deceased from the fire and had been severely burned hampering identifying the body. The state Fire Marshall was called to the scene and assisted with the investigation. Both autopsies for the subject and also assisted in identifying who their victim was. Ultimately the death was determined to be accidental.

A grocery store was robbed by 2 W/Ms wearing Halloween masks and armed with handguns. A combination of tips, surveillance, and search warrants produced enough evidence to identify and charge the two suspects. Both were also charged with a similar style robbery in Plainfield Township. A DNA sample taken from a suspect subsequently identified him as a suspect in a kidnapping/CSC/attempt murder in Ionia County.

We received information from the Grand Rapids Police Department on a subject that they arrested in a commercial break in. The subjects were interviewed and they admitted to breaking into the Wonderland Party Store back in November. This same subject was responsible for nearly 21 other break-ins in the Grand Rapids area.

The Detective Bureau was able to identify the suspect responsible for a commercial break in at a local party store. Subsequent investigation proved that this one suspect was responsible for 21 other break ins in the area.

A double stabbing was investigated at a residence on Lake Michigan Dr. A domestic dispute between a step brother and sister escalated to violent conclusion with both receiving stab and slash type wounds. Felonious assault charges did result from the incident.

A bank on Lake Michigan Drive reported an armed robbery. The suspect, a Hispanic male was disguised and armed with a black handgun. This suspect was believed responsible for several other bank robberies in the area, including a bank on Alpine, on May 4th. The third bank robbery in our city in May was reported on May 19th at a bank on Lake Michigan Drive. This suspect, a taller W/M, wore no disguise and produced only a note. This same suspect returned on July 12th and again robbed the Flagstar Bank.

The Detective Bureau was called to another stabbing that had occurred in the 2400 block of O'Brien SW. A dispute between two 23 year old females resulted in the stabbing of one of them in the chest. The suspect plunged a 10 inch kitchen knife into the chest of the victim. The knife missed inflicting a fatal wound to the victim's heart by a half inch. The victim was able to escape and flag down a nearby police officer. The suspect was picked up a short distance from the scene. She did admit to her intent to "wound" the victim and steal her car and money. The suspect was charged with Assault with intent to commit great bodily harm and Assault with intent to rob while armed, a life offense.

There was an aggravated felonious assault involving a domestic between a husband and wife at a local apartment complex. The suspect stabbed her husband with a knife. The victim was treated at the hospital and survived the attack. An arrest warrant was obtained charging the suspect with the assault.

The owner and operator of a local motel was the victim of a robbery when one of the guests assaulted him and stole the money. Investigation resulted in the identification of the suspect. A felony robbery warrant was subsequently obtained for arrest of the suspect.

Investigation of an attempt homicide at a local business in Walker has been completed. This incident involved an altercation between two coworkers. One of the subjects stabbed the other with a knife causing serious injury to the victim. The investigation consumed many investigative hours and required the utilization of a Spanish-speaking interpreter. The investigation resulted in charges against the suspect for assault with intent to murder.

Financial crime investigations continue to grow more complex with greater financial losses than ever before. The criminals who perpetrate these crimes have become more sophisticated and better educated at defeating preventative measures. Several criminal enterprises were identified in the metropolitan area this past year. Counterfeit checks and fraud related crimes have caused substantial financial losses to area merchants and financial institutions. Many of the fraud investigations have resulted in arrests as well as recovery of assets.

A college student was the victim of loan fraud perpetrated by a Walker resident. The suspect stole \$17,000 from the victim. Investigation of this case resulted in felony charges filed against the suspect and recovery of the money.

Embezzlement caused a loss of nearly \$18,000 from a local entertainer. Although many investigative hours were spent on this case criminal prosecution was not possible.

A non-profit organization of a local school was victim to an embezzlement of approximately \$20,000. This was a lengthy investigation that consumed several hundred investigative hours. A great deal of time was devoted to obtaining and analyzing financial records. As a result the Kent County Prosecutors office issued a felony warrant charging the suspect with embezzlement over \$20,000.

The bookkeeper of a local professional office was responsible for embezzlement of at least \$40,000. This case also consumed many investigative hours and resources. Several hundred pages of financial records were tracked and analyzed. The investigation resulted in the recovery of most of the money.

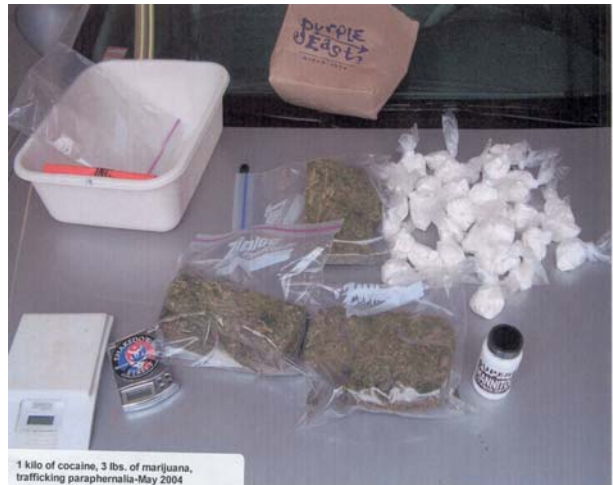
Cold case follow up is also the responsibility of the family services detective. There are three outstanding homicides that are currently being worked on by the family services detective. Most recently DNA evidence from a 1976 homicide was obtained and has been submitted for analysis.

VICE UNIT:

The year 2004 was another busy year for the Kent Area Narcotics Enforcement Team. The Team conducted 45 search warrants and 55 consent searches. The Team also initiated 7 Buy/Busts, 13 Traffic Stops, and 46 K-9 searches. These cases led to the arrest of numerous high and mid-level drug traffickers and several low-level drug traffickers in and around the Kent County area. This led to 137 seizures of cash and property worth approximately \$228,221.

For the city of Walker specifically, there were 87 Violation of Controlled Substance Act complaints in 2004. This is compared to 80 complaints in the year 2003. There were also 30 reports of people being cited for possession of drug paraphernalia. The Kent Area Narcotics Enforcement Team responded to 20 road call-outs in Walker this year.

In closing, 2004 saw some significant progress in disrupting and dismantling numerous high level trafficking organizations in and around Kent County. Numerous investigations continue, so it appears 2005 will be another significant year for this Task Force.



FORENSIC UNIT



The Walker Police Forensic Unit is responsible for crime scene processing, evidence collection and preservation.

January started out with yet another possible homicide in which a male subject perished in a house fire. This same month Walker FSU and Detectives attended Circuit Court trial on the Siesling Homicide, which ended in the jury finding Jon Siesling guilty with life in prison w/o possibility of parole.

In April we added a new member to the Forensic team; Suzi Thompson, who also spent her time in Detroit getting basic training in crime scenes. This brings the Forensic Team to 3 persons strong. Suzi then had on the job training and was released from training on specific crimes scenes in October.



The unit has also enjoyed training and doing photography work with the Walker Police SRT.

The Walker Forensic Unit conducted lectures at the Kenowa Hills High School to a class studying Forensic Science. We staged 3 crime scene scenarios at the SRT training house. Students were split up into three separate teams and had to process the crime scene from initial briefing to photos, dusting for prints and casting of footwear. Student interns worked with the Forensics Services Unit throughout the year as well.

The Forensic Unit was utilized for on scene processing 102 times throughout the year and processed approximately 350 specific evidence cases within the lab including DNA collection, latent print development, tool marks examination and FOIA requests.

Currently the Forensic Unit is working with Walker Police Detectives in opening and additionally processing cold case crimes.

KENOWA HILLS HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS LEARN ABOUT IBO



COMMUNITY/SCHOOL LIAISON

The mission of the Community Liaison Officer is to coordinate police department interaction and involvement with the community. Community is a broad term, which encompasses businesses, churches, neighborhoods, city staff, schools, organizations and visitors. For simplicity sake the past year's events will be broken down into two major categories – community events and school events.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Community Liaison Officer is responsible for coordination of volunteer programs as well as the high school internship program. Both programs pose significant challenges with scheduling, organization, training and supervision. For details, see the attached annual report on each.

National Night Out was a success again this year. Sixteen neighborhoods participate with over 1000 people involved. Some of the activities included potlucks/cookouts, kids games, bike rodeos, and neighborhood walks. Remember National Night Out is always the first Tuesday in August.

The Down Hill Race was very exciting this year. Once again the city participated, along with several private citizen cars. Students from local schools were recruited as “police car” drivers. The teachers and principals recommended students who have excelled in school.

The Christmas baskets in 2004 turned into a full-fledged food drive. The chaplains, volunteers, interns, three intermediate school classrooms, the army reserve, and numerous generous people all came together to provide food for 100 needy families. Three months worth of work culminated with a half dozen drivers delivering food on December 20th, just in time for Christmas.



SCHOOL EVENTS

The Community Liaison Officer worked closely with the schools on bus and transportation issues, from traffic enforcement on bus violations to students violating rules and laws at bus stops. Bus stops were monitored and, when requested, ride alongs took place to speak to the kids. It is important that children feel safe at the bus stops and on their bus. Over the year several students have lost bus privileges and even have been expelled for violations.

Kenowa once again offered their eighth graders the opportunity to participate in a daylong job shadow. Twelve students expressed an interest in job shadowing with the Police Department. On six different days the eighth graders were invited to the department. Several aspects of our jobs (schools, court, patrol, and dispatch) were explained to and witnessed by the students.

The Metro High School Police Academy was very successful in 2004. Forty-five students attended the weeklong academy in June. The students put in approximately 45 hours, volunteering their time, to learn about police work. When the week was complete, all 45 students graduated. The five police agencies, once again, put together a golf outing in May. The proceeds paid for the expenses incurred from running the academy. Because of the success of the golf outing, the police academy is now self-sufficient.

By the end of spring, 2000 kids sat through a "Stranger-Danger" presentation. Schools, churches, organizations, and preschools, were all included. Other classroom presentations included subjects such as drugs, alcohol, bullying, larcenies, M.D.O.P., bike safety, Internet safety, and general safety.



"STRANGER-DANGER"

POLICE ACADEMY



Metro City High School Police Academy 

2004 Staff

Back Row (left to right) Of: Walker (WYPD), Of: Augustin (KPD), Of: Martink (WPD), Dep. McCutcheon (KSCD), Of: Zimmerman (KPD), Of: Pausch (WYPD), Of: Sooner (KCSO), Sgt. Zanderson (WYPD), Of: Redanski (WPD), Sgt. Long (WPD), Of: Roscher (GPD)
 Front Row (seated, left to right) Of: Keaton (KPD), Of: Colvin (GPD), Of: Reynolds (WYPD), Dep. Glover (KCSO), Of: Bishop (WYPD), Of: Gicko (GPD)

Grandville Police Department Kent County Sheriff's Department Kentwood Police Department Walker Police Department Wyoming Police Department



Metro City High School Police Academy

Grandville Police Department Kent County Sheriff's Department Kentwood Police Department Walker Police Department Wyoming Police Department

Class of 2004 



TECHNOLOGY AND COMMUNICATIONS

The following is a summary of major activities completed during the calendar year 2004:

A grant award was received from the Public Safety Foundation of America for a mapping module to work with the Lifeline 100. Positron PowerMap enhances E911 telephone call location mapping. Equipment was purchased and installed. This system provides E911 Phase II compliance as required by the FCC. 911 cellular callers can now be located on a map from the GPS coordinates when provided to the telephone companies thereby enabling efficient emergency response. Further, because of compliance, we can receive fund distributions from the State of Michigan when 911 surcharge dollars are allocated.

A decision was made to replace the antiquated Computer Aided Dispatch and Records Management Systems used since 1992. Investigation was undertaken to locate a cost effective replacement. Due to the age of data equipment in the mobile units, the radio link to the mobile laptop computers was also in need of replacement. Ultimately contracts were signed with SBC/Positron911 for a new CAD system. Specifications were drawn for a new records management system and a new data radio backbone was designed.

Telephone service to the outlying fire stations was reviewed as was the need for data connectivity to those buildings. A temporary data connection was erected and tested to Station 2 with success. Efforts are underway to make the system permanent and also connect Station 3.

As part of the new CAD package for the Police, the City decided to take Fire Department dispatching in house. A new radio system was needed to handle fire services. That system was designed and is being procured. Work is underway to ensure a seamless transition of emergency services.

The LEIN system changed security requirements during 2004 and required Walker PD to make many system changes internally as well as acquire a new PC based terminal. The expansion of the Core MultiBridge product beta test required the installation of a new server. Several new PCs were obtained during the year requiring configuration to accept interagency programming.

The City of Walker was experiencing slow Internet connectivity on its shared IDSN line. A replacement was found and installed in the form of a cable broadband connection.

New furniture was installed in the dispatch room replacing an inefficient collection of cabinetry.

Day to day maintenance and repairs continued.

The 297 hours were worked in calendar year 2004.

Additional documentation or detail is available if requested

EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

Members of the communications division are responsible for dispatching calls for service. In 2004 the department had 10,469 calls for service. This was a decrease of 571 calls from 2003. In addition to calls for service the communications division also handles routine incoming calls to the police department. These calls range from questions regarding assistance for victims of crimes to the dates and times for recreation department events. A dispatcher's duties also include entry and cancellation of warrants, vehicles, missing persons and articles into the Law Enforcement Information Network (LEIN) and National Crime Information Center (NCIC). Dispatchers also handle routine office functions when records department staff are not available. These include release of impounded vehicles, private property accident reports and other various duties. Besides dispatching for the Walker Police Department, we also handle communications for the City of Lowell and Kent County Road Commission after hours on weekdays and all hours on weekends.

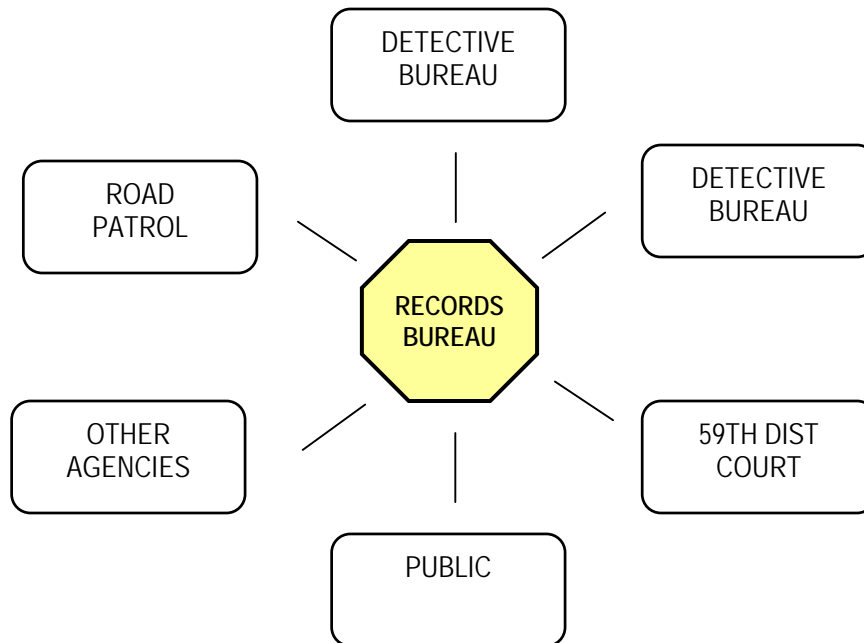
On December 31st 2004 there were five (5) full-time and one (1) part-time dispatcher in the communications division. Of the five full-time dispatchers, two are senior dispatchers that act in a supervisory capacity. The senior dispatchers are responsible for scheduling, training, monthly and annual LEIN/NCIC audits, quarterly updates of the Sex Offender Registration list, maintaining the 9-1-1 master street address guide and well as other supervisory duties. In the last quarter of 2004 the communication center got a much needed facelift. New cabinets and counter tops were installed to increase usable space and to prepare the center for the new computer aided dispatch system that will be installed in 2005 (see attached photos).

Communications officers are sent to training classes as often as possible based on scheduling and proximity of the classes. This year our dispatchers attended classes in homeland security, advanced law enforcement dispatching and cultural diversity. The senior dispatchers also attended a class on fire dispatching and in turn trained the other dispatchers. The community benefits greatly from the continued training and professionalism of our communications officers.



RECORDS BUREAU

The Records Bureau staff has the ongoing task of keeping up with changes in the laws, state requirements for reporting crime, departmental procedures, and the ever-changing world of technology as it affects law enforcement and record keeping for all police matters within the City of Walker. Whether it be an impounded car, a bank robbery, registering a guns, assisting the general public, or traffic citations, everything needs to be documented.



PLEASE MEET THE DEDICATED STAFF THAT FORMS THE NUCLEUS OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT.

Kim Jansheski

Barb Haynes

Beth Isham

Julie Holtrop

Monica Borgeld



