

# 2009

## Annual Report



Washington City Police

## Message from the Chief



To the Citizens and Visitors of the City of Washington

On behalf of the men and women of the Washington Police Department, I submit our annual report for the calendar year of 2009. This report provides an overview of the many components of our department's operations. Additionally, this report provides our community with future plans in an effort to provide the City of Washington with a safe and pleasant environment.

The economic success of any community begins with the basic building block of a safe and secure environment. Contained within this report is statistical information related to the challenges we face. It is the mission of the Washington Police Department to detail those challenges and our efforts to improve the quality of life by reducing not only the unlawful activity, but the perceived problems within the City. Also provided, is positive steps taken and future projects designed to achieve the goals listed.

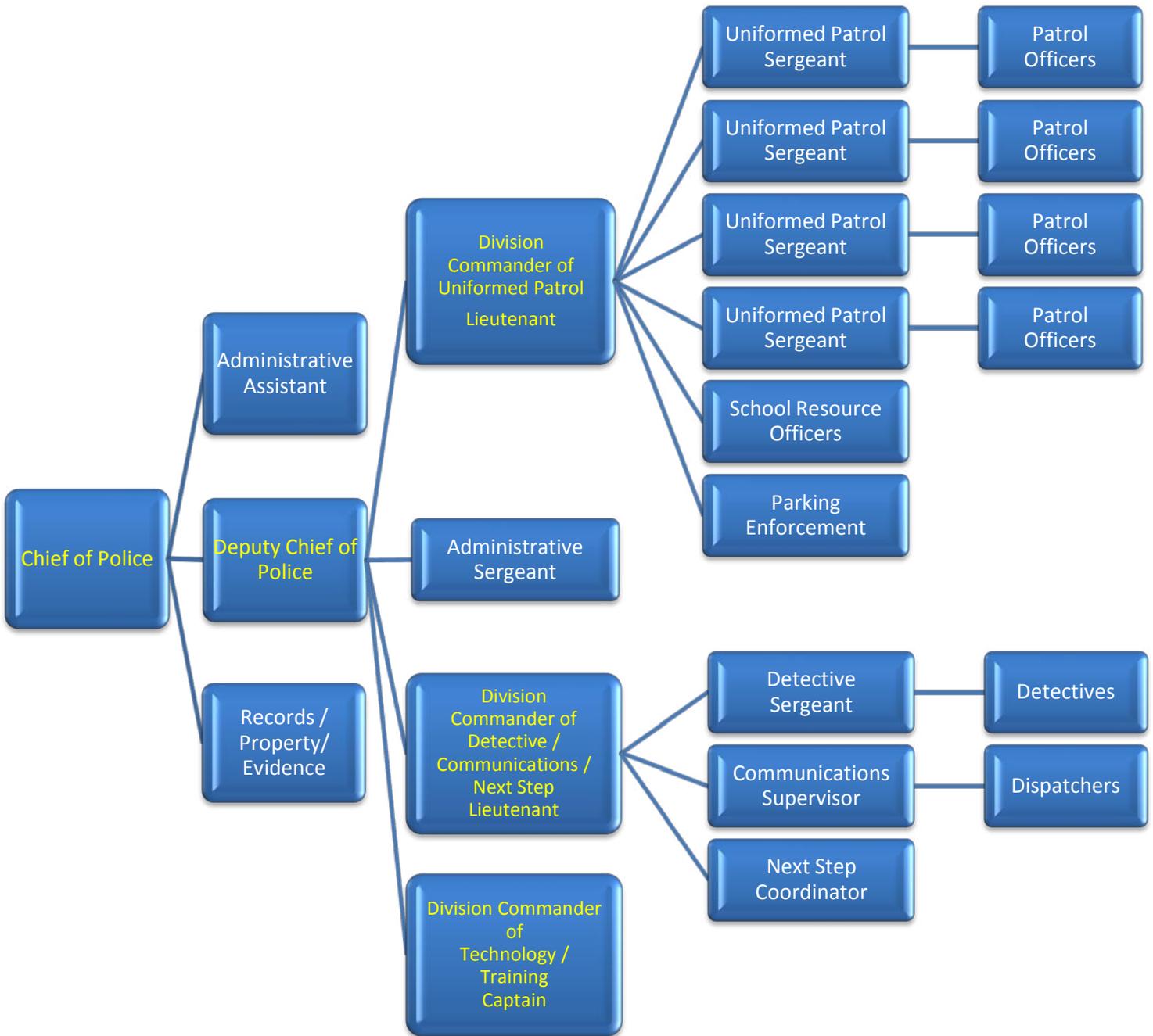
The Washington Police Department maintains a close relationship with our citizens, businesses and visitors. We strive to improve on those relationships and we have embraced the Community Policing Philosophy. Through our many proactive measures to prevent unlawful activity and our emphasis on mutual respect and professionalism, we believe significant improvements have been achieved. It is our pledge to the community, that we will not slow our efforts in these areas. I am proud of the men and women of your police department and I look forward to continued service to the City of Washington.

G. Mitchell Reed

Chief of Police

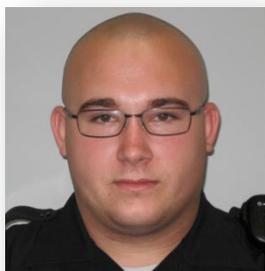
Washington Police Department

# Washington Police Department Organizational Chart



## Washington Police Department New Employees

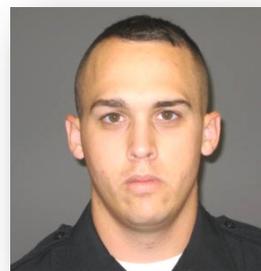
The Washington Police Department's mission is to recruit, hire and retain the finest professionals available. We feel confident that we are successful in that component. We wanted to take the opportunity to identify some of our new members and introduce you to each of them. Our commitment is to find and maintain the finest caliber of individual, who properly represents the wonderful diversity of our community. These individuals joined those who have served our community for many dedicated years and of whom I am equally proud.



**Ofc. C. Hobbs**



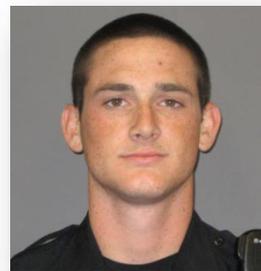
**Ofc. L. Harkley**



**Ofc. D. Clodfelter**



**Ofc. K. Johnson**



**Ofc. C. Rogerson**



**A newly hired officer pledges the Law Enforcement  
Officer's Oath of Office**

## Washington Police Department at a Glance



**During calendar year 2009, the men and women of the Washington Police Department:**

- Responded to 23,911 calls for service & officer initiated contacts
- Reported and investigated 2,500 criminal cases
- Processed and logged 1,233 pieces of property and evidence
- Solved / Cleared 1,419 criminal cases
- Made 504 on-view arrests for crimes
- Served 567 criminal papers
- Served / attempted service of 795 criminal subpoenas
- Reported and investigated 704 traffic crashes
- Issued 2,783 citations for crimes, ordinance violations and infractions
- Responded to 1,244 burglar & panic alarm activations
- Performed 171 funeral escorts
- Provided security for 11 special events, utilizing 516 man-hours
- Provided security for events at our public schools, utilizing 188 man-hours

## Washington Police Department Traffic Safety

### Traffic Crashes / Citations.

During the 2009 calendar year, the Washington Police Department continued efforts to educate and enhance the safe travel of citizens throughout the City. Continuing our proactive philosophy, we constantly adjust our deployment of uniformed officers to areas that have indicated an increase in volume or speed. Our speed trailer is used to remind vehicles of the posted limit compared to their current traveling speed. We also monitor any subtle changes in volume or speed in a particular area via the Stealth Stat, a computer based product that allows accurate data collection more efficiently. An example of this use involved the significant difference in traffic volume on Brick Kiln Road due to bridge construction. We were able to provide Council with accurate information related to this construction project. We also maintain close professional relationships with other City departments to further enhance the quality of travel within our City. Our efforts have resulted in a reduction in reportable traffic crashes in 2009.

#### Traffic Crashes

■ Fatal   
 ■ Injury   
 ■ Non-Injury



#### Citations Issued

2009

Total: 2,783

■ Warning   
 ■ City   
 ■ State



## Washington Police Department Traffic Safety

### DWI Reduction

The Washington Police Department has joined North Carolina in strengthening our resolve to remove Drunk & Impaired Drivers from our highways. This was accomplished through a partnership with the North Carolina Governor's Highway Safety Program. We will continue those efforts with projects like Sobriety Check Points and specialized enforcement activities. Continued education and partnering with our businesses will help reduce the tragedy of loss of life and damage of property, due to unlawful driving under the influence of intoxicants.



### DWI Arrests Comparison

■ 2009 ■ 2008

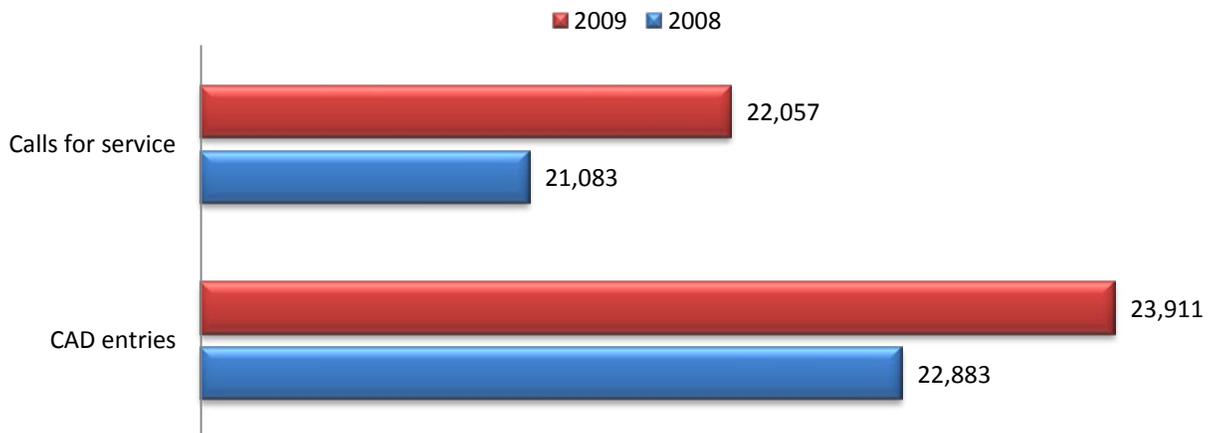


## Washington Police Department Calls for Service

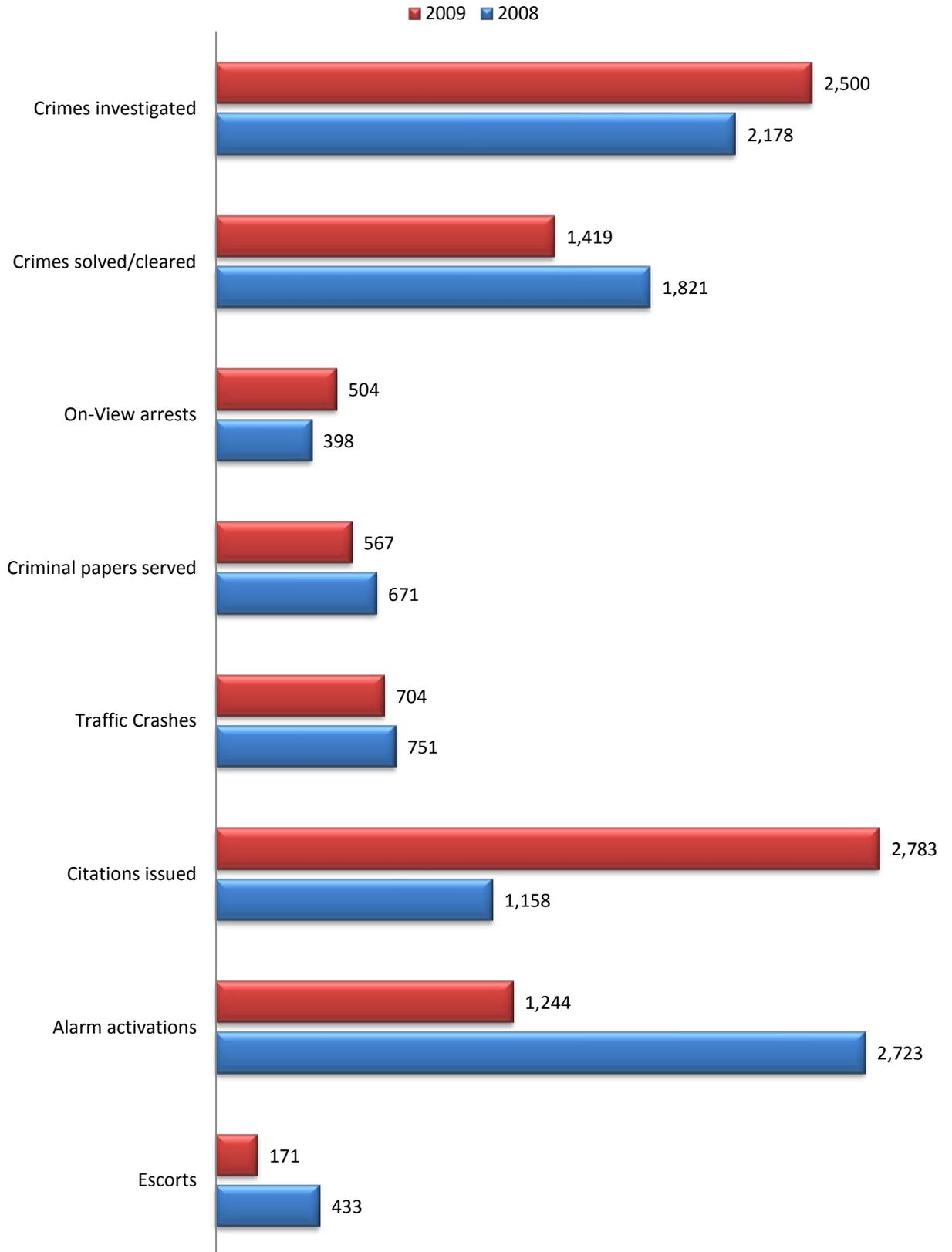
Every citizen, whether a local member of our community or visitor, has access to assistance from the Washington Police Department 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. We never close and we never ignore a request from our community. Below is statistical information regarding the number of calls for service handled through our E-911 center, as well as documented personal contacts with our members. It is important to note the number of our citizens who personally appear at the Police Station for assistance, as we try to maintain access through the Community Policing philosophy. A proactive approach to law enforcement includes, maintaining that ability of our citizens to reach an officer/communications specialist at any time.

	<u>2008</u>	<u>2009</u>
Personal contacts / CAD (computer aided dispatch) entries:	<b>22,883</b>	<b>23,911</b>
Calls for service:	<b>21,083</b>	<b>22,057</b>
Crimes investigated:	<b>2,178</b>	<b>2,500</b>
Crimes solved / cleared:	<b>1,821</b>	<b>1,419</b>
On-View arrests:	<b>398</b>	<b>504</b>
Criminal papers served:	<b>671</b>	<b>567</b>
Traffic crashes investigated:	<b>751</b>	<b>704</b>
Criminal, ordinance & Infraction citations issued:	<b>1,158</b>	<b>2,783</b>
Fire/Rescue/EMS calls received & dispatched:	<b>1,566</b>	<b>2,018</b>
Walk in customers, after hours:	<b>1,418 *</b>	<b>2,466</b>
Phone calls received via E-911:	<b>6,085 *</b>	<b>12,312</b>
Alarm activations:	<b>2,723</b>	<b>1,244</b>
Business / residential courtesy building checks:	<b>71</b>	<b>65</b>
Escorts – funeral, etc.:	<b>433</b>	<b>171</b>
Subpoena service attempts:	<b>809</b>	<b>795</b>
Summons service Attempts:	<b>107</b>	<b>45</b>
Special Events worked:	<b>14</b>	<b>11</b>

*\* Denotes 6 months worth of data*



# Washington Police Department Calls for Service



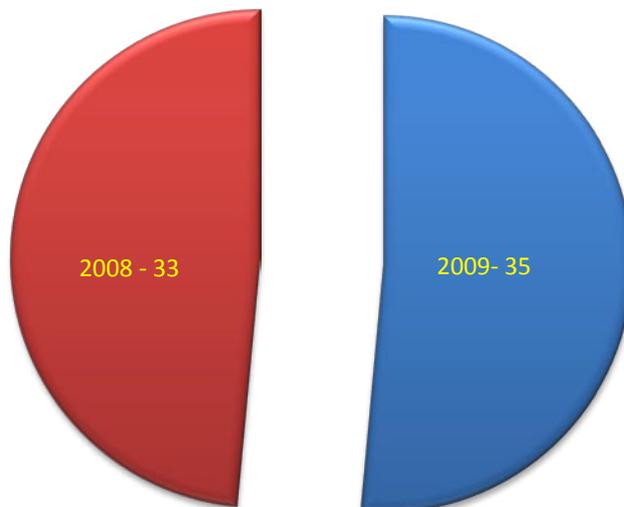
## Washington Police Department Citizen Complaints

During the calendar year, considering the number of citizen contacts, there will always be an occasion where communication is not adequate. It is here, that we provide documented complaints against our members and how they are handled.

Each complaint, regardless of origin, is documented and sent via the Chain of Command to the Chief of Police. Every citizen complaint is investigated thoroughly and reviewed with the goal of addressing any training/disciplinary issue identified. In addition, every use of force, from physical altercations to the deployment of less-than-lethal weapons, is critiqued by the supervisors as well as the Department's Administration. Additionally, those reports are presented to a committee, which includes department trainers in this area, along with experts in the field not employed by the Washington Police Department. The stated goal of that committee is to recommend to the Chief of Police any training/disciplinary actions needed, either with a particular member or the department as a whole. A professional law enforcement agency is faced with confrontation and must be diligent in its willingness to constantly review its policies and procedures.

*\*Please note that North Carolina Law prohibits releasing information concerning some details in this category.*

The members of the Washington Police Department made contact with members of the community 23,911 times in 2009. Of those contacts, a complaint was filed against a member 35 times. There were 2 internal complaints filed in 2009.



## Washington Police Department Parking Enforcement

In 2009, the Washington Police continued our efforts responding to citizen concerns, by assigning an individual to the enforcement of parking regulations in our Downtown area. It is with pride, that we note that this individual is employed via a partnership with Project New Hope and our shared efforts to go beyond simply enforcing the rules, but be a part of proactive steps to remove the desire/need to commit unlawful activity. We continue to work with DWOW and other entities to maintain a positive working relationship to enhance the economic prospects of our community.



## Washington Police Department Proactive projects

### Project Next Step

The Washington Police Department is in the second year of Project Next Step. This project, funded through the Governor's Crime Commission, seeks to reduce unlawful activity in a specific area, thereby increasing the quality of life in that area, as well as City wide. Our efforts, with the support of many other agencies and the citizens of our neighborhoods, have resulted in a reduction of reported Part I crimes across the board. As a result of this success, we augmented our efforts with the introduction of a Gang Prevention Investigator and the planned procurement of an Automated License Plate Recognition system. These additions are a result of an additional \$191,000.00 two (2) year grant authorized by Washington City Council. The investigator is responsible for coordinating with Project Next Step to reduce the environment attractive to the gang culture. The ALPR is another step in taking advantage of technology to identify unwelcome visitors from outside our community, who have been identified as known members of unlawful organizations. We pledge continued efforts to maintain a high quality of life throughout our community.



**Bishop & Mother Jones, of Project New Hope, address youthful offenders and their families at a Project Next Step call-in**



**Young people tour the Police Station**

## Washington Police Department Proactive projects

### Special Events

In addition to Project Next Step, the Washington Police Department provides security for, and participates in many functions throughout the year. It is with pride that we partner with other City departments and businesses, to create a safe and relaxing atmosphere during the year. We provided security for 11 special events, utilizing 516 man-hours during 2009. Among some of the events with which we partner with City support are:

- National Night Out
- Music in the Streets
- Turnage Theater events
- Flotilla
- Summer Festival
- Smoke on the Water
- Celebration of Children Parade
- Christmas Parade
- Homecoming Parade
- Hispanic Walk
- Freedom March
- Young Life 5K
- New Year's Eve
- Halloween



Cpl. J. Kuhn helps light the torch at the  
Special Olympics



Det. I. Barrett at the annual Health Fair

## Washington Police Department Training

The mission of the Washington Police Department cannot be fulfilled without properly trained, educated and devoted members, representing our agency. Law enforcement is a constant series of learning new legislation, technology, in-service, diversity training, and field work. A fresh point of emphasis on training and education is in place, and below is only a partial list of work-related training. An overall plan to ensure training is continuous is also provided. Additionally, the City maintains a positive program to encourage our members to continue their formal education, through incentives available.

The men and women of the Washington Police Department attended 4,015 hours of training in 2009.



**An Officer negotiates a course during Precision  
Driving Training**



**A Firearms Instructor assists an Officer during annual  
Firearms Training**

## Washington Police Department Training Matrix

This matrix shows what training is to be accomplished, according to years in grade / position.

	1st Year	2nd year	3rd Year	4th Year	5th Year
<b>Police Officer</b>					
Intoxilyzer Certification	X		x		X
Radar Certification		X			X
Public Speaking					X
Diversity Training	X			x	
National Incident Management System	X				
TASER Training		X			
PPCT & Tactical Baton Training	X				
Officer Survival 1		X		x	
Precision Driving	X		X		X
Crime Scene & Evidence	X				
Interview & Interrogation		X			
DWI Detection	X				
Standardized Field Sobriety Test	X				
Police Law Institute			X		
Tactical Handguns			X		
Adv. Interview & Interrogation					X
Death Investigation				X	
Courtroom Testimony		X			
<b>Unit Supervisor / AUS</b>					
First Line Supervision	X				
Leadership			X		
Management Courses				X	
<b>School Resource Officer</b>					
SRO Cert	X				
Gang Awareness		X			
School Law	X				
Gang Training		X			
<b>Detective</b>					
White Collar Crime	X				
Computer Crimes		X			
Advanced Interview & Interrogation	X				
Police Law Institute	*				
Death Investigations	*				
Advanced Crime Scene Investigation	X				
Advanced Photography			X		
First Line Supervision				*	
Mass Casualty Evidence Collection					X
Courtroom Testimony	*				

## Washington Police Department Information Technology

The most valuable tool in Law Enforcement is information. The Washington Police Department has taken the lead in providing access to our members and our community, with technology that allows connecting to, sharing and utilizing information from other localities, state agencies and federal Homeland Security initiatives, which allows our members to best serve our community. Through grant funding and with support from our leadership, we have deployed mobile data computers in our vehicles, allowing for paperless transfer of reports and keeping our officers in the community and less time in the office. Additionally, it provides 'real time' access to law enforcement sensitive data via the internet. Our ALPR, as described earlier, further allows us to meet our goal of utilizing the technology available. We have also upgraded our office, to comply with legal requirements for interviewing witnesses, maintaining records, and securing evidence. Additionally, this reduces our use of paper and other resources in the 'going green' atmosphere. Although the price of technology is significant, we believe that we must keep up with the technology, in order to best serve our community. Updates and improvements are also connected to our E911 communications division, to best ensure quick, professional response to calls for assistance.



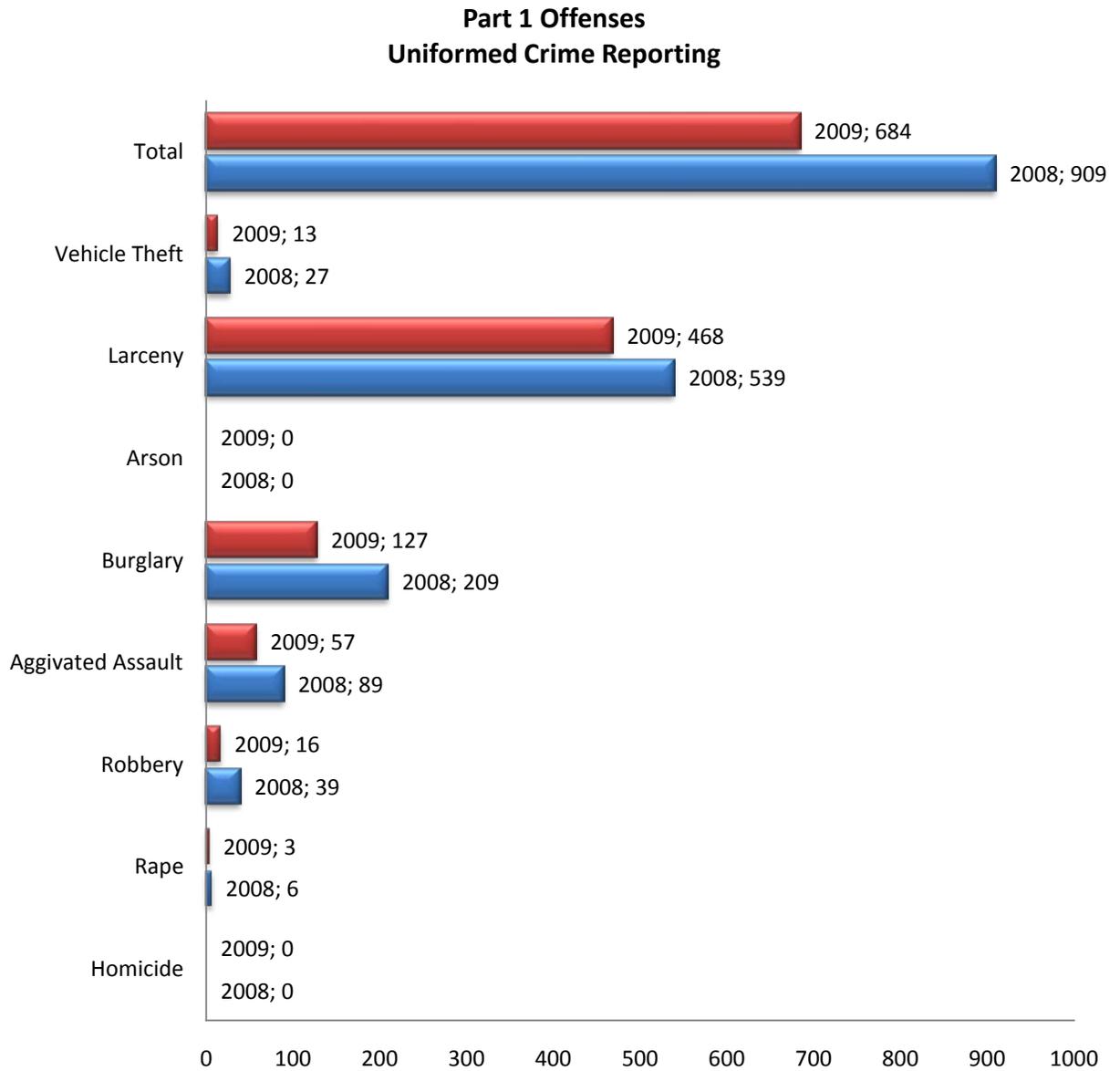
**Telecommunicators use technology to receive E-911 calls and dispatch resources**



**Police cars are equipped with mobile computers, printers, digital video systems and automatic vehicle locators as well as two-way radios and emergency equipment**

## Crime in Washington

In 2009, the reported crime rate in Washington decreased overall by 25% from the previous year.



Washington Police officers solved 39% of all part 1 offense cases compared to 40% in 2008. It is significant to note that the State average is around 30%. Additionally, please note that State figures are not available at this writing; therefore we are unable to provide detailed comparisons.

## Washington Police Department Goals and Projections

The final portion of this report is to establish a list of goals which will ensure continued success with our mission to maintain safety and security in the City of Washington. While it is important to review our statistical analysis of 2008, we do so with the objective of identifying areas where our future needs to be focused. The members of the Washington Police Department commit ourselves to the goals listed and we wish to thank our City Manager, our Council and our citizens for their support of our efforts.

- **Combine our education and enforcement of traffic laws to further reduce injury and destruction of property, resulting from vehicular traffic.**
- **Increase our use of and educate our community, regarding our ability to prevent unlawful activity, through our Certified Crime Prevention Specialists, specifically with our Business Community.**
- **Continue our reduction in the destructive result of narcotic use within the City of Washington.**
- **Partner with the citizens, in a joint effort to reduce violations of city ordinances, thereby increasing the quality of life within neighborhoods.**
- **Continue our positive progress in the area of communication with our community, thereby providing proactive strategies to improve the quality of life.**
- **Maintain and increase our use of community policing philosophies, which increase our partnership with our business community.**
- **Improve our participation in CPTED (Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design) concepts with other City departments, to attract future growth throughout the City.**
- **Diligently work through Project Next Step, to reduce unlawful activity throughout the City, with the ultimate goals of changing the environment within our community.**
- **Continued partnership with DWOW and Beaufort County Chamber of Commerce in the attraction of events throughout our City.**
- **Promote a positive image through the City providing a better opportunity of economic success for the City of Washington.**
- **Improve our ability to provide one of the basic 'quality of life' components, a safe environment, to increase the economic attraction and success of the City of Washington.**