

Ankeny Police Department 2010 Annual Report

Integrity · Honor · Service · Respect



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**The Ankeny Police Department,
in cooperation with the community,
serves to protect life and property,
reduce the fear and the frequency
of crime, and enhance the quality of
life for all residents.**



The growth and expansion of our city has challenged us in ways other communities cannot imagine. These challenges formed and developed this agency into a leader among law enforcement agencies in the State.



It is an honor to present the 2010 Ankeny Police Department Annual Report to Mayor Steven D. Van Oort, Councilmen, and residents of the City of Ankeny.

We welcomed the 2010 census data that confirmed the City's population had grown 68%

from 2000 to 2010, making us the 11th largest city in the State of Iowa. Our population growth from 27,117 to 45,582 appears to be the largest population growth of any city in our State. The growth and expansion of our city has challenged us in ways other communities cannot imagine. These challenges formed and developed this agency into a leader among law enforcement agencies in the State. We are proud to represent the innovation and resourcefulness of our community; an expectation we gladly accept.

Crime rose 6% in 2010, and most of the crime is attributable to a large spike in property crimes and car burglaries. Domestic violence cases continue to rise and increased 20% to 657 cases. Noteworthy is that arrests decreased primarily because single arrests cleared multiple cases, and in other instances, the work volume outpaced our ability to adequately investigate cases towards clearance. Detectives were assigned 1,258 cases and cleared 38% of those cases. In all instances, the detectives cleared

every major case as a priority of that Division including homicide, robbery, and assault.

We've included new sections in this report that help residents to understand the impact of crime in their area of the city including drunk driving arrests, assaults, robberies and a number of different property crimes. In general, crimes against persons typically involved an offender known to the victim. It remains rare for a stranger on stranger personal crime to occur in our City. Simply translated, the City of Ankeny remains a safe place to live, travel, walk, and enjoy the outdoors without fear of crime.

The men and women who work for the Ankeny Police Department continue to embrace the philosophy and goals of the City Council. We deliver service to our community with pride and professionalism recognizing we are always ambassadors of the City. Despite budget challenges, technology explosion, and a growing population, we clearly understand our objective to serve the residents and guests of our community in a superior manner. Average is not acceptable in our Department and we recognize this high standard of professionalism is an expectation of our customers. We are privileged to deliver law enforcement services to the City of Ankeny. Enjoy the 2010 Police Department Annual Report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary Mikulec". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Gary Mikulec
Chief of Police



Ankeny City Government

Steve Van Oort	Mayor
Dave Kissinger	Mayor Pro Tem
Craig Block	Council Member
Wade Steenhoek	Council Member
Tom Strait	Council Member
Gary Welch	Council Member
Carl Metzger	City Manager
Jim Spradling	Assistant City Manager
Dick Ash	Assistant City Manager

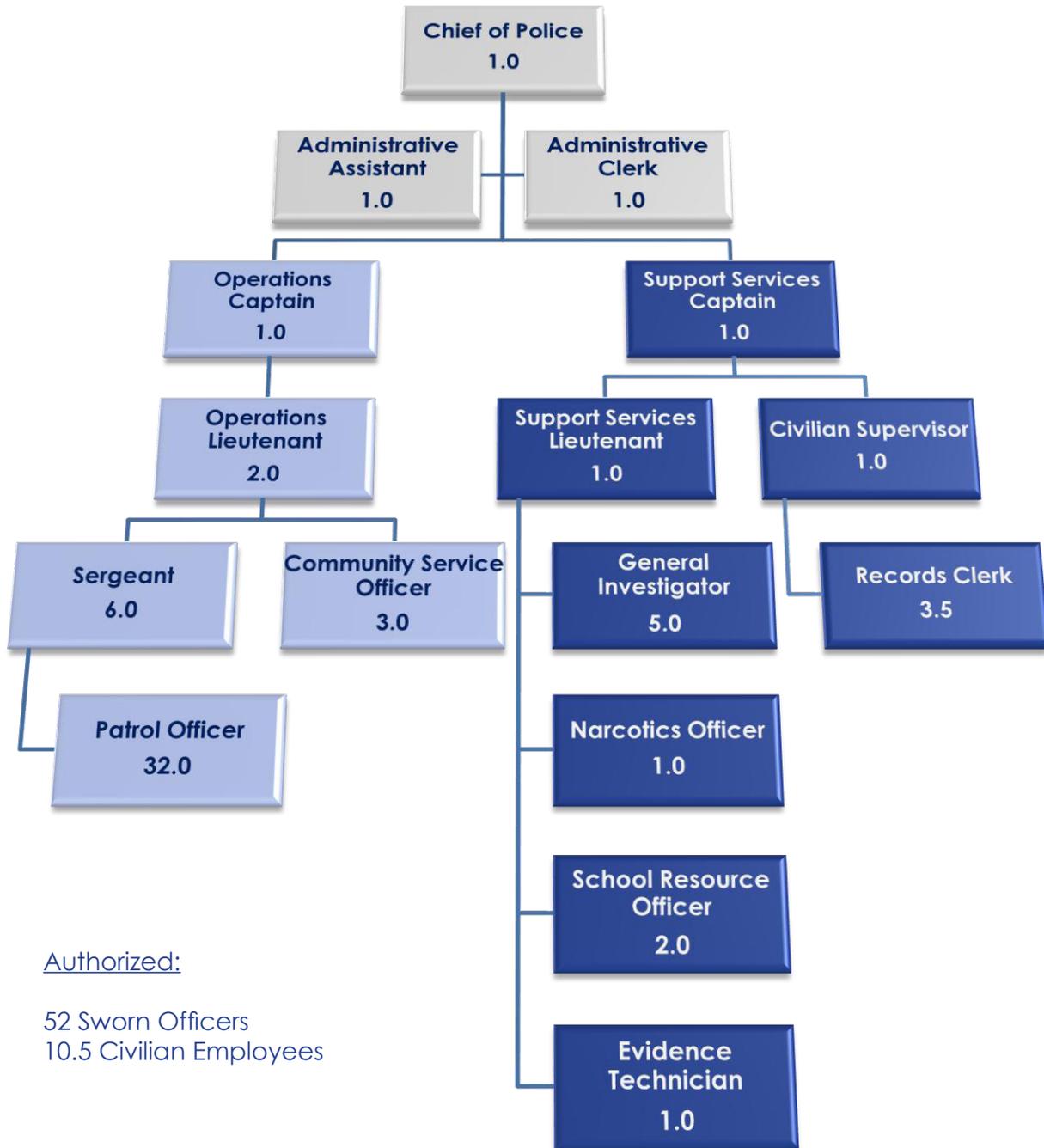
State Government

Chet Culver (D)	Governor
Larry Noble (R)	Senator
Kevin Koester (R)	Representative

Federal Government

Barack Obama (D)	President
Chuck Grassley (R)	Senator
Tom Harkin (D)	Senator
Leonard Boswell (D)	Representative 3 rd District

2010 Ankeny Police Department Organizational Chart



Authorized:

52 Sworn Officers
10.5 Civilian Employees

Administration

Gary Mikulec **Chief of Police**
Brittany Connor *Administrative Assistant*
Lee Vogt *Administrative Clerk*

Support Services

Greg Throckmorton **Captain**
Ed Hamilton **Lieutenant**

Jeremy Ingram	<i>Detective</i>	Mary Chase	<i>Civilian Supervisor</i>
Matt Jenkins	<i>Detective</i>	Janet Banning	<i>Records Clerk</i>
Nate Lampe	<i>Detective</i>	Jo Berry	<i>Records Clerk</i>
Kory Miller	<i>Detective</i>	Lany Herselius	<i>Records Clerk</i>
Mark Moeller	<i>Detective</i>	Theresa Schrum	<i>Records Clerk</i>
Leslee Smith	<i>Detective</i>	Cheryl Turner	<i>Records Clerk</i>
Corey Schneden	<i>School Resource Officer</i>		
Dan Vallejo	<i>School Resource Officer</i>	David Billings	<i>Evidence Technician</i>

Operations

Arnie Porath **Captain (retired September 2010)**
Joe Schaffer **Lieutenant**
Makai Echer **Lieutenant**

Sergeants

Ben Bowersox Scott Crouch Dave DuVal Brian Huggins Rob Kovacs Curtis Pote

Patrol Officers

Betsy Anderson	Michael Evans	Eric Lopez	Jeremy Ripperger	
Stephanie Braun	Willie Figueroa	Ryan Mason	Jon Rogers	Todd Webb
Bruce Christensen	Travis Grandgeorge	Tim McFarland	Lincoln Schmeiser	Kurt Weigl
Kevin Ditsworth	Joel Hall	Matt Mortvedt	Chad Valline	Mike Williams
Tim Dodge	Aaron King	Mark Parks	Adam Vander Leest	James Wilson
Brandon Dyer	Brian Kroska	Craig Phinney	Brian Wasko	

Community Service Officers

Tony Higgins
Kim McWilliams
Kent Webb

Retirements

Captain Arnie Porath

retired from the Ankeny Police Department in September 2010. His service to the City of Ankeny spanned more than three decades and included stints as a patrol officer, detective, school resource officer, sergeant, lieutenant, and finally captain. The City recognized Captain Porath's years of service to the community with a retirement reception attended by City employees, law enforcement colleagues, family, friends, and Alumni from the Citizens Police Academy which Captain Porath developed and led for more than ten years.



Captain Porath with his family at his retirement reception

New Employees

The Department welcomed three new employees in 2010:

Administrative Clerk Lee Vogt,
hired February 22, 2010

Officer Tim Dodge,
hired August 16, 2010

Officer Brandon Dyer,
hired August 17, 2010



New Officers Tim Dodge (right) and Brandon Dyer were sworn in in August with their families in attendance.

Employee Milestones

In 2010, the City of Ankeny recognized 11 members of the Ankeny Police Department for their continued service to the community. The City honored the following employees:

Officer Betsy Anderson	5 years of service
Officer Matt Jenkins	5 years of service
Officer Tim McFarland	5 years of service
Officer Chad Valline	5 years of service
Civilian Supervisor Mary Chase	10 years of service
Sergeant Curtis Pote	10 years of service

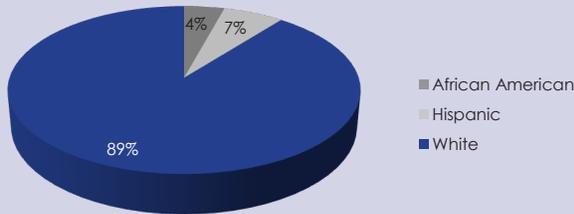
Lieutenant Makai Echer	15 years of service
Officer Willie Figueroa	15 years of service
Sergeant Scott Crouch	20 years of service
Sergeant Dave DuVal	20 years of service
Officer Bruce Christensen	30 years of service

Department Statistics and Turnover

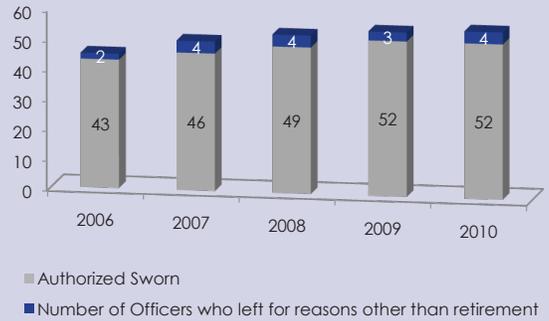
The Ankeny Police Department is committed to a diverse and educated agency reflective of the demographics of the City. Although our agency is relatively young, we have experienced turnover comparable to other police departments in the area; however, we strive to retain our outstanding officers through the excellent training and career opportunities available within our department as well as through competitive benefits.

In 2010, the Ankeny Police Department lost four officers, three of whom resigned to pursue careers in other law enforcement agencies.

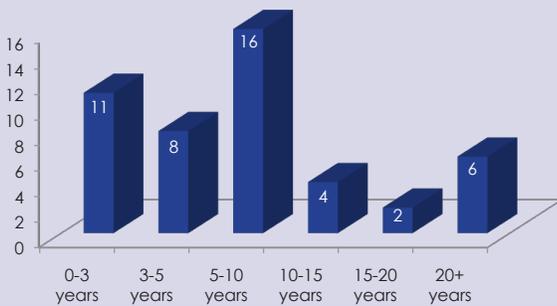
Sworn Personnel by Race or Ethnicity



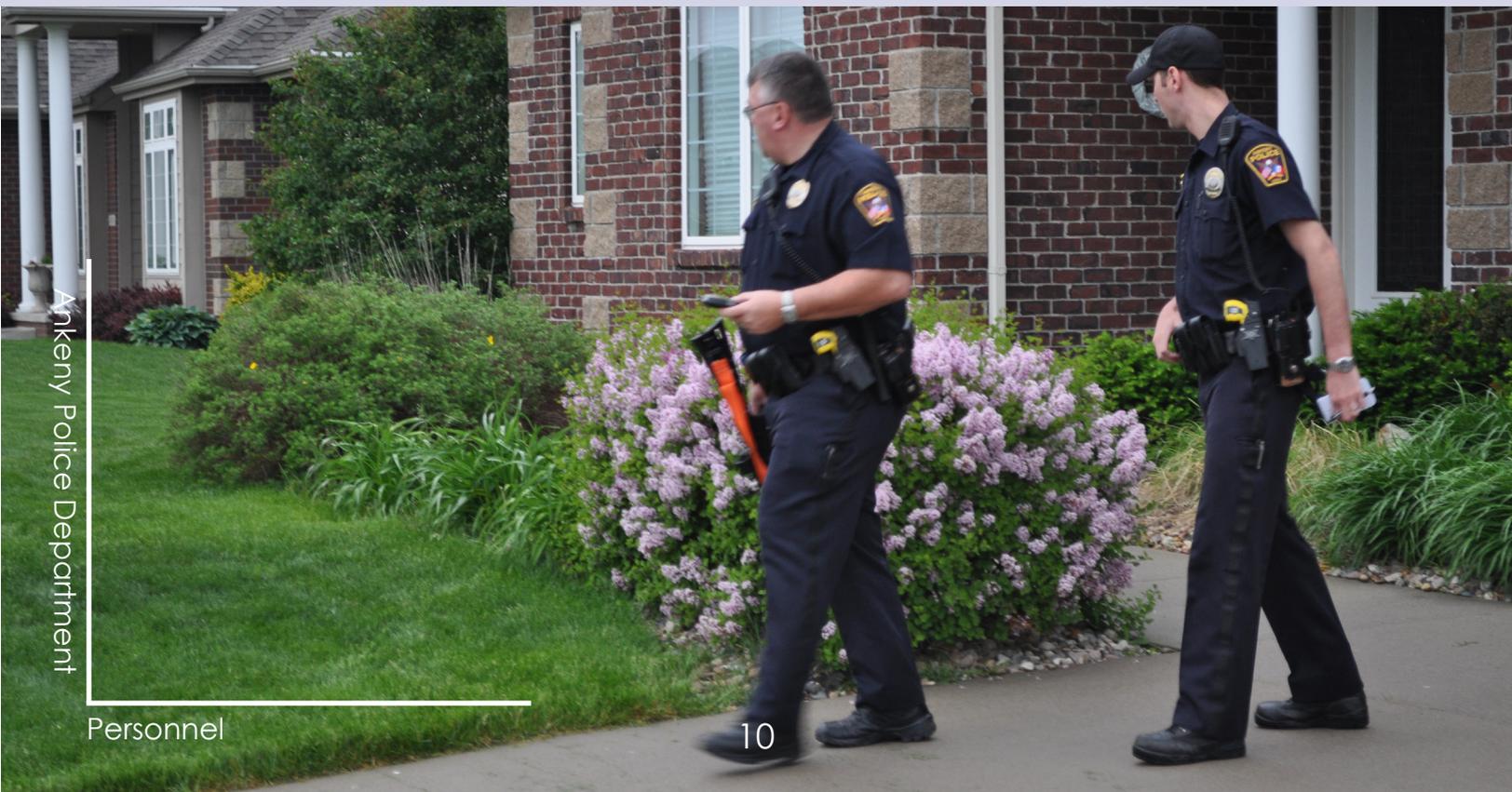
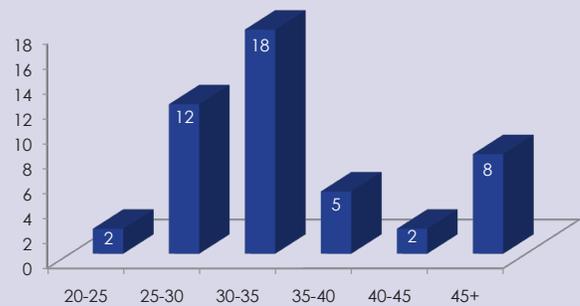
Officer Turnover



Years of Service among Sworn Personnel



Age of Sworn Personnel



Ankeny Police Department

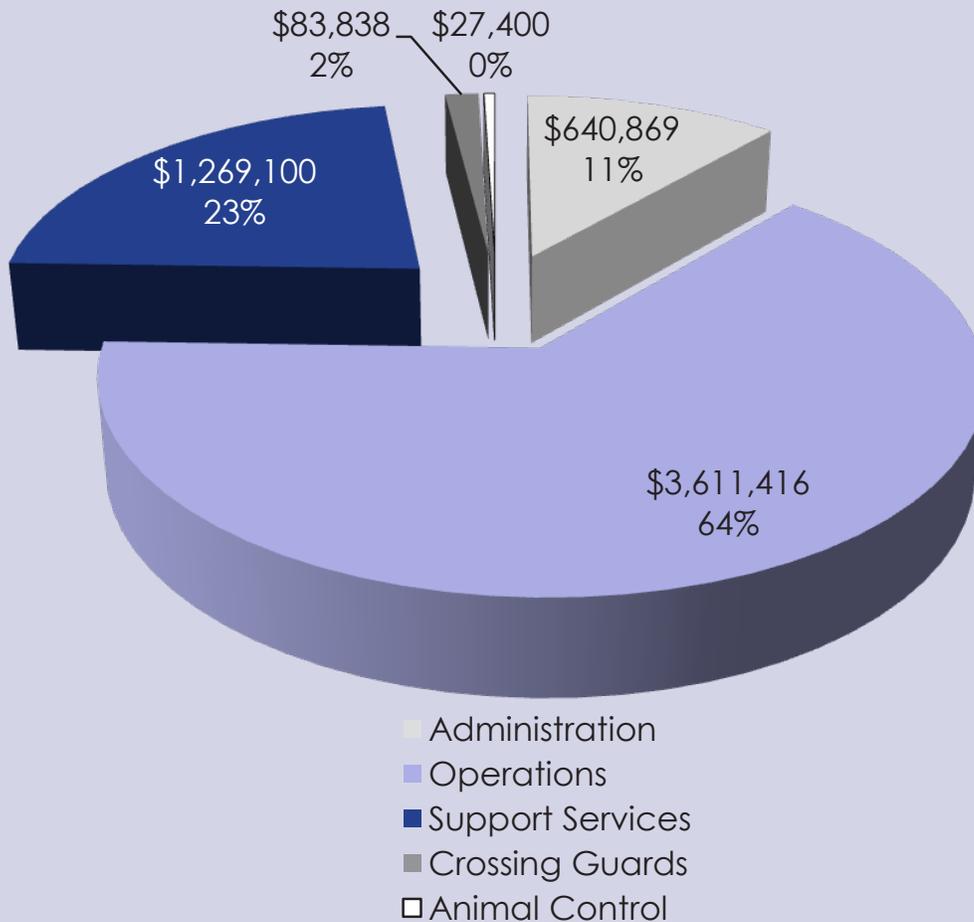
Personnel

Administrative Division

Police Chief Gary Mikulec heads the Administrative Division of the Department. Within this division, policy and standards are written and updated as laws and the practice of law enforcement continually change. The division is also tasked with overseeing all training and education within the Department as well as developing the police budget.

Fiscal Year 2010 Police Budget

	Personal Services	Contractual Services	Commodities	Capital Outlay	TOTAL
Administration	\$223,276	\$385,693	\$31,900	-	\$640,869
Percent of Department	3.96%	6.85%	0.57%	-	11.38%
Operations	\$3,106,809	\$120,166	\$227,918	\$156,523	\$3,611,416
Percent of Department	55.16%	2.13%	4.05%	2.78%	64.12%
Support Services	\$1,167,827	\$56,835	\$39,662	\$4,776	\$1,269,100
Percent of Department	20.73%	1.01%	0.70%	0.08%	22.53%
Crossing Guards	\$82,838	-	\$1,000	-	\$83,838
Percent of Department	1.47%	-	0.02%	-	1.49%
Animal Control	-	\$27,000	\$400	-	\$27,400
Percent of Department	-	0.48%	0.01%	-	0.49%
TOTAL	\$4,580,750	\$589,694	\$300,880	\$161,299	\$5,632,623
Percent of Department	81.33%	10.47%	5.34%	2.86%	100.00%



Operations Division

The Operations Division is the most visible unit of the Department, consisting of uniformed officers providing service in marked vehicles. Officers in the Operations Division provide 24 hours of patrol service every day of the year in three shifts. Patrol officers are often first to respond to a call for service, so they must be trained to deal with a variety of calls, ranging from traffic accidents and quality of life calls to thefts and potentially dangerous domestic violence calls.



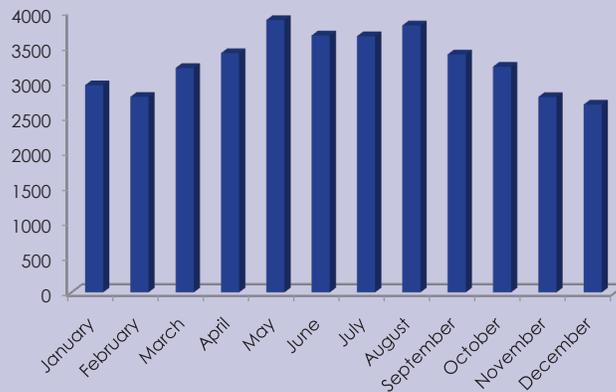
Calls for Service

Calls for Service include self-initiated police activities such as traffic stops along with requests made for police intervention and assistance by the community. In 2010, the Ankeny Police Department received 39,385 calls for service, representing a nearly 5% increase in call volume from 2009.

2010 Calls for Service by Time of Day



2010 Calls for Service by Month



Department Statistics					
	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010
Population of Ankeny	38,500	40,582	41,568	44,231	45,582
Total Authorized Sworn Officers	43	46	49	52	52
Operations Division Authorized Sworn	33	36	39	41	41
Sworn Officers per 1,000 Population	1.12	1.13	1.18	1.17	1.14
Crime Reports Taken	5,775	6,268	6,513	6,308	6,371
Traffic Accidents	958	1,123	1,235	1,285	1,340
Traffic Citations / Warnings	9,620	12,180	11,428	11,557	11,244
Arrests	1,629	1,556	1,523	1,135	1,104
Calls for Service	30,130	34,127	35,668	37,573	39,385

Fleet

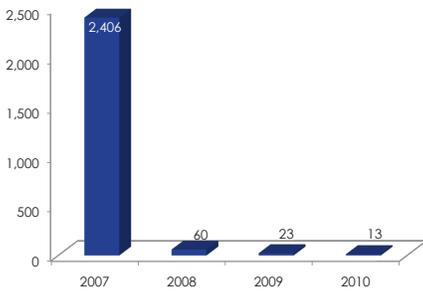
The Police Department operates a fleet of 23 marked vehicles in the Operations Division, mostly Crown Victoria Sedans. Model years range from 2005 to 2010, and at trade-in, vehicles average over 100,000 patrol miles. Patrol vehicles are purchased through State of Iowa bidding at a cost of approximately \$23,000 per vehicle with an additional expenditure of about \$25,000 per vehicle for equipment.



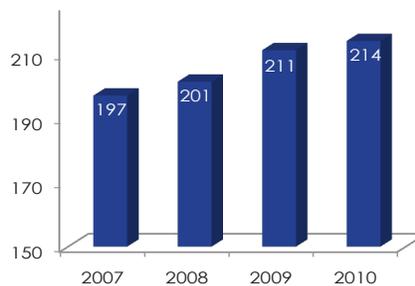
Patrol Area

Housing Permits and annexation in the City of Ankeny have slowed since their highpoint in 2007, but officers continue to patrol an expanding city in both population and area.

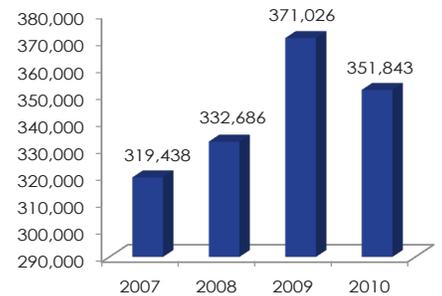
Acres Annexed



Roadway Miles in Ankeny



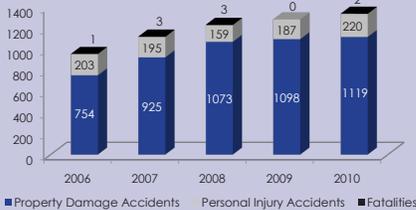
Miles Logged by Patrol



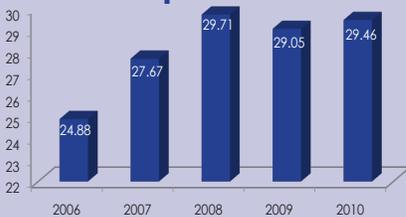
Traffic Accidents

There were 1,340 accidents in 2010, representing a slight increase in accidents per 1,000 population from 2009.

Accident Severity



Accidents per 1,000 Population



Traffic Safety

The Ankeny Police Department works closely with the Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau (GTSB) to promote traffic safety in the community. With GTSB funds and under the direction of program coordinator Sergeant Ben Bowersox, the Ankeny Police Department participates in Iowa's Special Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP), a series of cooperative week-long enforcement efforts coordinated around a holiday and in conjunction with a national campaign. These events call for heightened traffic enforcement for all traffic violations with the main effort to increase safety belt use.

The Department also participates in the Central Iowa Traffic Safety Task Force (CITSTF). CITSTF, also funded by GTSB, is a joint effort of local law enforcement and public safety agencies to promote traffic safety throughout Polk County in monthly multi-agency traffic enforcement projects.

Compliance Checks

The Department regularly conducts alcohol and tobacco compliance checks at local establishments. Compliance checks are necessary to fulfill a contract with the Iowa Alcoholic Beverages Division and Tobacco Enforcement and also to fulfill a Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau Grant obligation. Licensed alcohol and cigarette retailers in Ankeny are subject to a check in order to confirm legal compliance.

Before checks are performed, the Department contacts license holding businesses and offers all managers and employees the opportunity to learn how to read identification cards presented by their customers and how to detect fake IDs. Following the compliance checks, of the businesses that fail, the employee who sold the product faces a criminal charge, and the license holder faces a civil penalty which could be a fine, suspension of license, or combination of the two.

In 2010, the Department administered one round of alcohol compliance checks, during which 9 out of 74 businesses sold to a minor. The Department also administered one wave of tobacco compliance checks in 2010 which resulted in 1 out of 32 businesses being non-compliant.

Holding Facility

The Ankeny Police Department operates a temporary holding facility designed to hold a person for a short period of time until necessary information can be acquired in order to send the person to Polk County Jail. During a calendar year, the department may take 1,500 people into custody; however, only a fraction of these stay in the Department's holding facility. In 2010, 369 people were booked into the holding facility (see chart).

Persons Booked into Ankeny Holding Facility



Community Service Officers

There are three Community Service Officers (CSOs) employed by the Ankeny Police Department. CSOs provide non-sworn support and enforcement functions and services to the public and Police Department staff. Services provided by CSOs include: complaint and inquiry response, report writing, records management, information distribution, roadside assistance, facility security and monitoring, traffic and parking control, and animal control. As many as 500 animals are picked up by CSOs per year, most of which are dogs and cats. In 2010, CSOs responded to or assisted on a total of 3,683 Calls for Service.

Support Services

The Support Services Division, overseen by Captain Greg Throckmorton, includes the investigations section, records division, school resource officers, narcotics enforcement, property and evidence, and the school crossing guard program. The division also assists with the implementation of technology within the Department as well as coordinated efforts with other law enforcement agencies.



Property and Evidence

David Billings has served as the Department's Evidence Technician since 2003. His primary responsibilities include crime scene investigation and acting as the forensic science liaison between the Ankeny Police Department and the Division of Criminal Investigation Criminalistics Laboratory. In addition, the evidence technician is responsible for the documentation, collection, processing, and interpretation of all crime scene evidence, as well as the control and disposition of all evidence and property submitted throughout the Department.

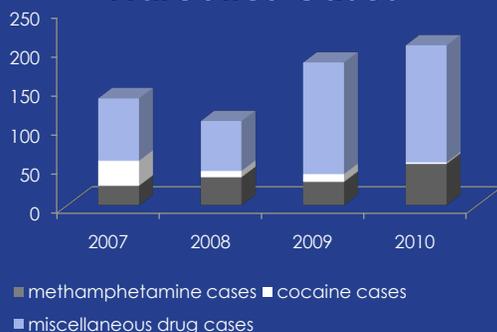
The Property/Evidence Technician has conducted the laboratory analysis of marijuana for the Ankeny Police Department since August 2003. In 2010, he tested a total of 205 items identified as marijuana. Throughout 2010, 514 other requests for forensic analysis were submitted for examinations such as DNA, fingerprints, toxicology, and drugs. A total of 3,672 items were processed by Evidence Supervisor Billings in 2010.

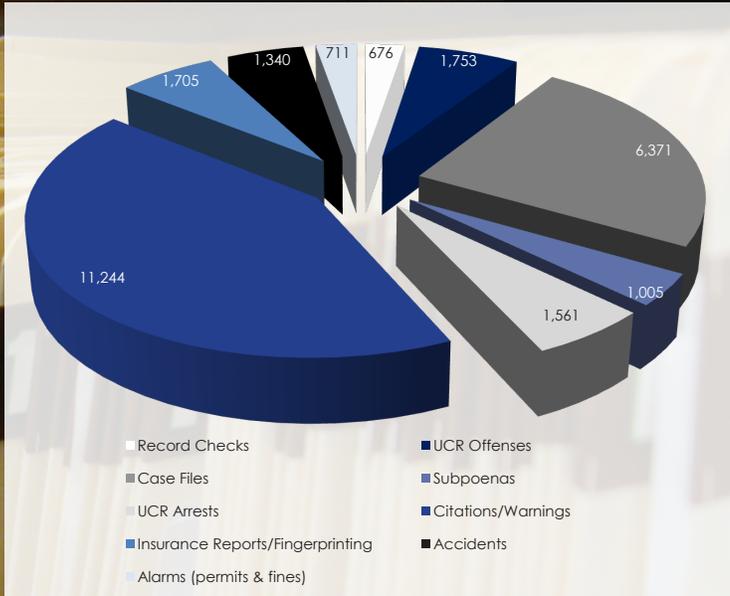
Narcotics

During 2010, Ankeny Police arrested 166 adults and 37 juveniles for narcotics violations. These violations varied from possession of marijuana to manufacturing/delivery of methamphetamine. In addition, 126 people were charged with possession of drug paraphernalia. Ankeny Police handled 53 methamphetamine cases, 2 cocaine cases, 150 miscellaneous drug cases, and 433 drug paraphernalia items in 2010.



Narcotics Cases





Public Records

The Records Department, under the direction of Civilian Supervisor Mary Chase, employs two full-time and three part-time records clerks who handle all requests for information from the public, the Polk County Attorney, other Law Enforcement Agencies, the Clerk of Court, the Department of Transportation, and Child Protective Services, as well as all internal requests.

In 2010, the records staff handled over 25,000 items (see chart). Most requests were for daily police reports, videotapes, cassette tapes, statistics, and photographs. The records department also handles subpoenas, case management, and department statistical reports. In addition, this department enters all of the criminal statistics into the Uniform Crime Reporting computer system based on guidelines established by the Iowa Department of Public Safety. Beyond this, they also process all of the department's citations, warnings, and arrest reports.

Case Management

2010 Case Management

Cases Assigned	1,258
Cases Cleared	315
<i>Cases Cleared by Arrest</i>	121
<i>Cases Unfounded</i>	47
<i>Prosecution Declined</i>	47
<i>Cleared Exceptional</i>	23
<i>Warrant Issued</i>	37
<i>Victim Refused to Cooperate</i>	25
<i>Juvenile Custody</i>	15
Cases Suspended	402
Other Cases Open Without Final Disposition	419

School Crossing Guard Program

The Crossing Guard Program assists the children of our community to cross safely at busy intersections on their way to school. The police department coordinates the Crossing Guard Program in conjunction with the Ankeny School District. The Ankeny Community School District, serving more than 8,600 students, includes eight elementary schools, two middle schools, and one high school campus. Twenty-six permanent part-time employees serve as crossing guards at fourteen supervised school crosswalks throughout the city.



School Resource Officers



In collaboration with school staff and administrators, School Resource Officers (SROs) investigate all assigned police cases involving students as either victims or suspects, and they work to identify potential problems with substance abuse, gang activity, and truancy. The officers also work directly with the juvenile diversion program for first time offenders. The diversion program addresses criminal behavior and also the overall circumstances of the juvenile involved in the program. In 2010, 49 juveniles were referred to the diversion program, and all successfully completed the program.

Ankeny had two School Resource Officers in 2010. Dan Vallejo served at Ankeny High School, and Corey Schneden shared his time between all the other schools in the district. Corresponding to overall city growth, Ankeny SROs are serving a growing student population as enrollments in the Ankeny School System have increased to make it the tenth largest school district in the State.

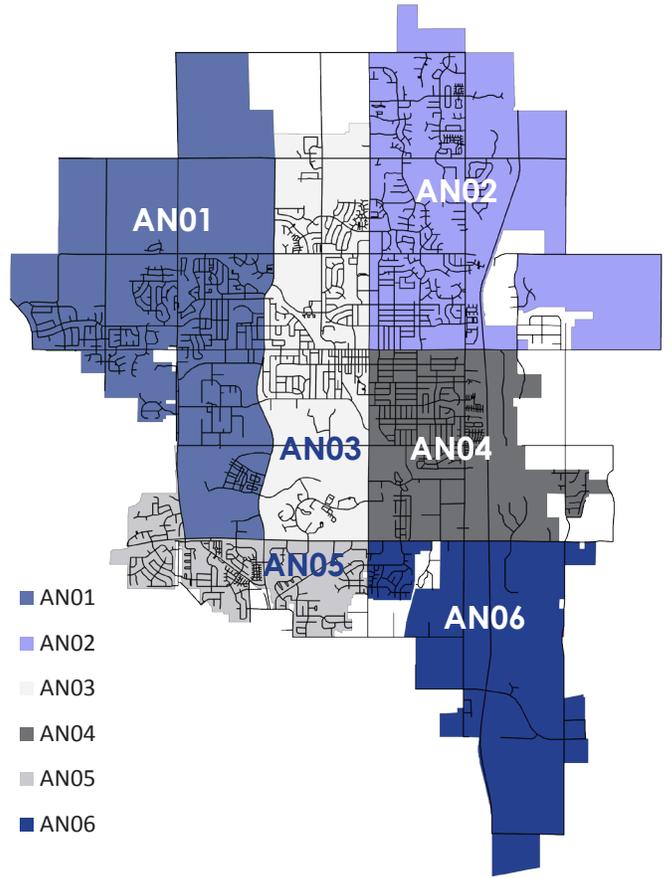


Juvenile Referrals

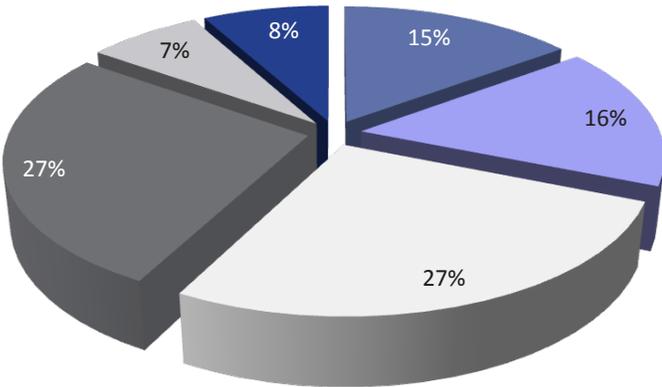
Adopted in 2005, the ReThinking Drinking program offers underage drinkers a second chance by avoiding court in exchange for lessons on responsibility. 369 people were referred to the program in 2010 with the youngest person aged 14 years (one referral) and the oldest aged 20 years (one hundred twenty-five referrals). 207 people completed the program. In May 2007, the Department adopted the Chance 4 Change program to address the similar issue of marijuana and drug paraphernalia charges for juveniles. In 2010, 22 juveniles were referred, of which 9 completed the program; 11 were referred to Juvenile Court; and 2 juveniles were still in the program at the end of the year.

Crime Statistics

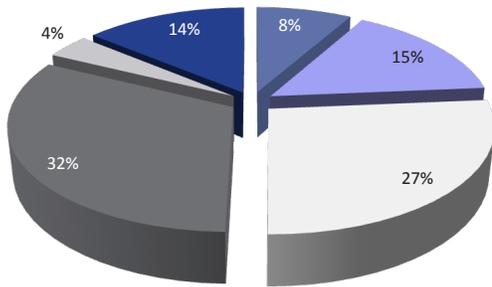
The City of Ankeny is divided into 6 patrol districts, or beats, by the Ankeny Police Department with the city bisected north to south by Ankeny Boulevard, creating 3 beats on the west and 3 beats on the east side of the city. Each neighborhood experiences different crime trends depending on land use. For example, areas with heavy commercial development, and therefore more traffic and congestion, will often experience different crime patterns than predominantly residential areas.



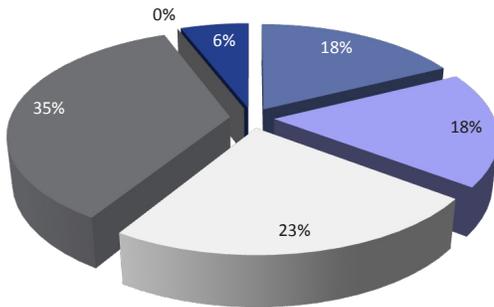
2010 Incident Reports by Beat



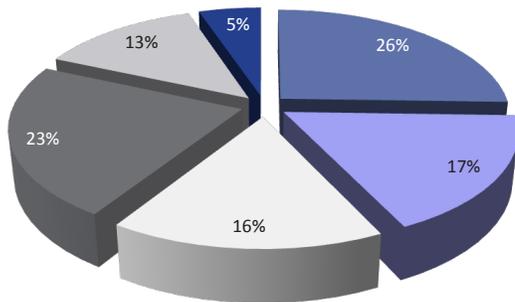
2010 Accidents by Beat



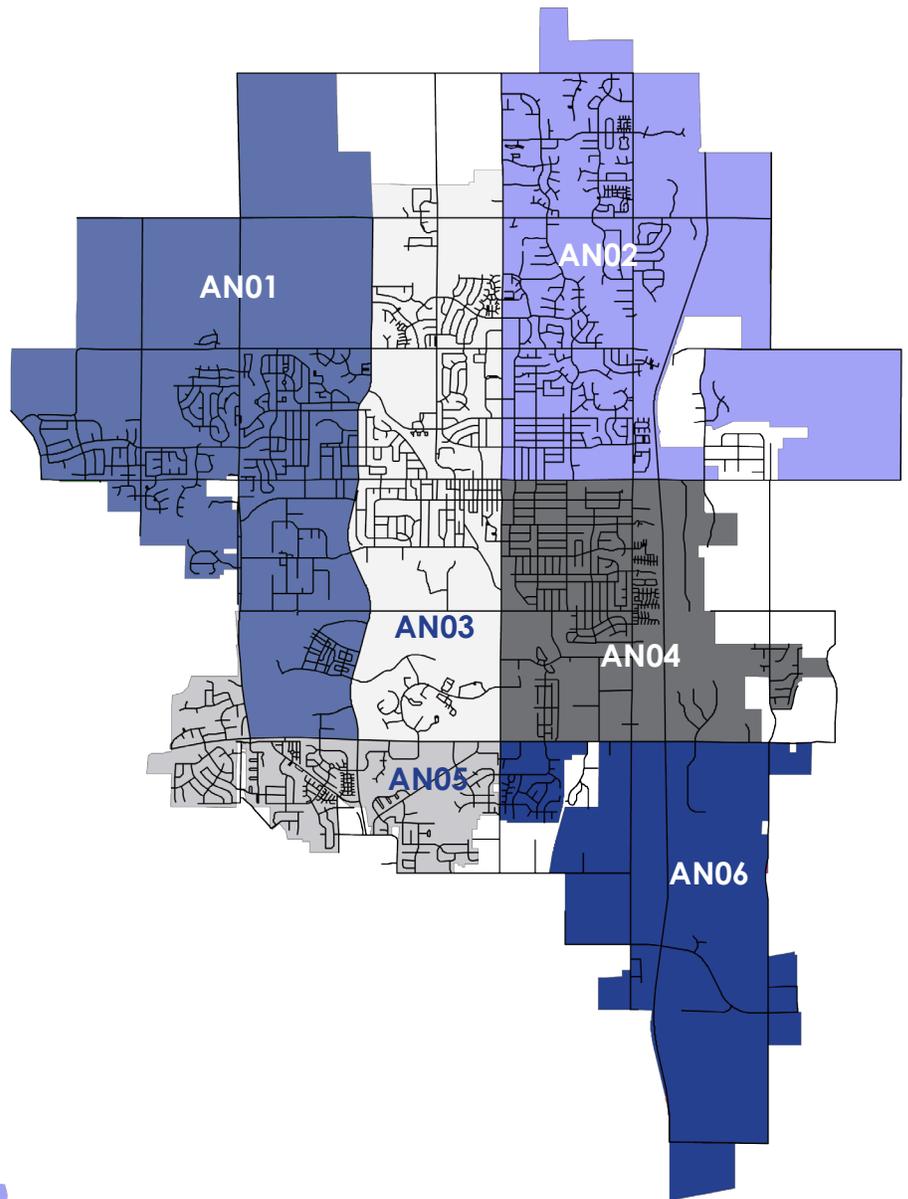
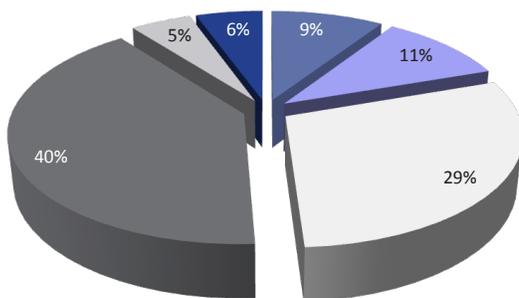
2010 Auto Thefts by Beat



2010 Burglaries by Beat



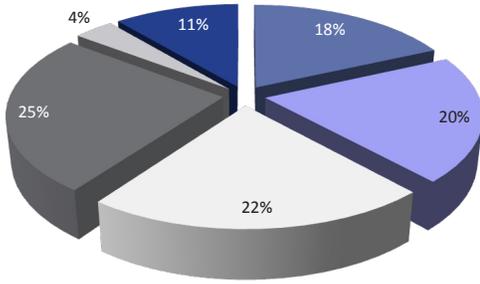
2010 Thefts by Beat



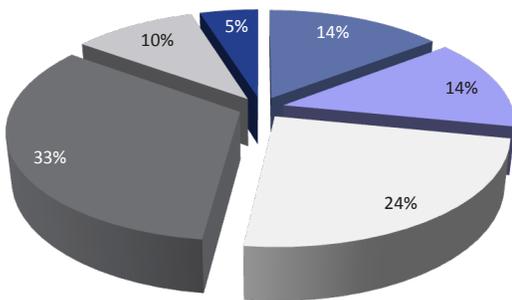
Accidents and Property Crime Trends by Neighborhood

The charts to the left indicate property crime trends as well as traffic accidents for each area of Ankeny. The overall crime rate in Ankeny is low; however, as is to be expected, Ankeny beats three and four experience a relatively higher amount of property crime and accidents as these areas are more developed commercially and therefore experience a higher volume of traffic.

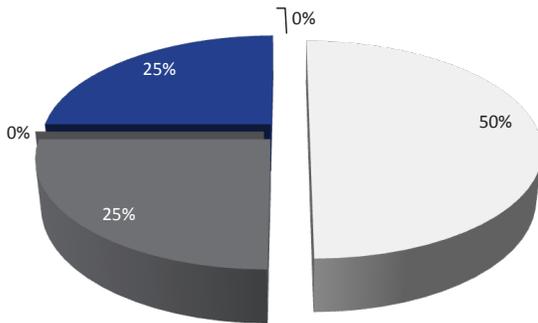
2010 OWI Cases by Beat



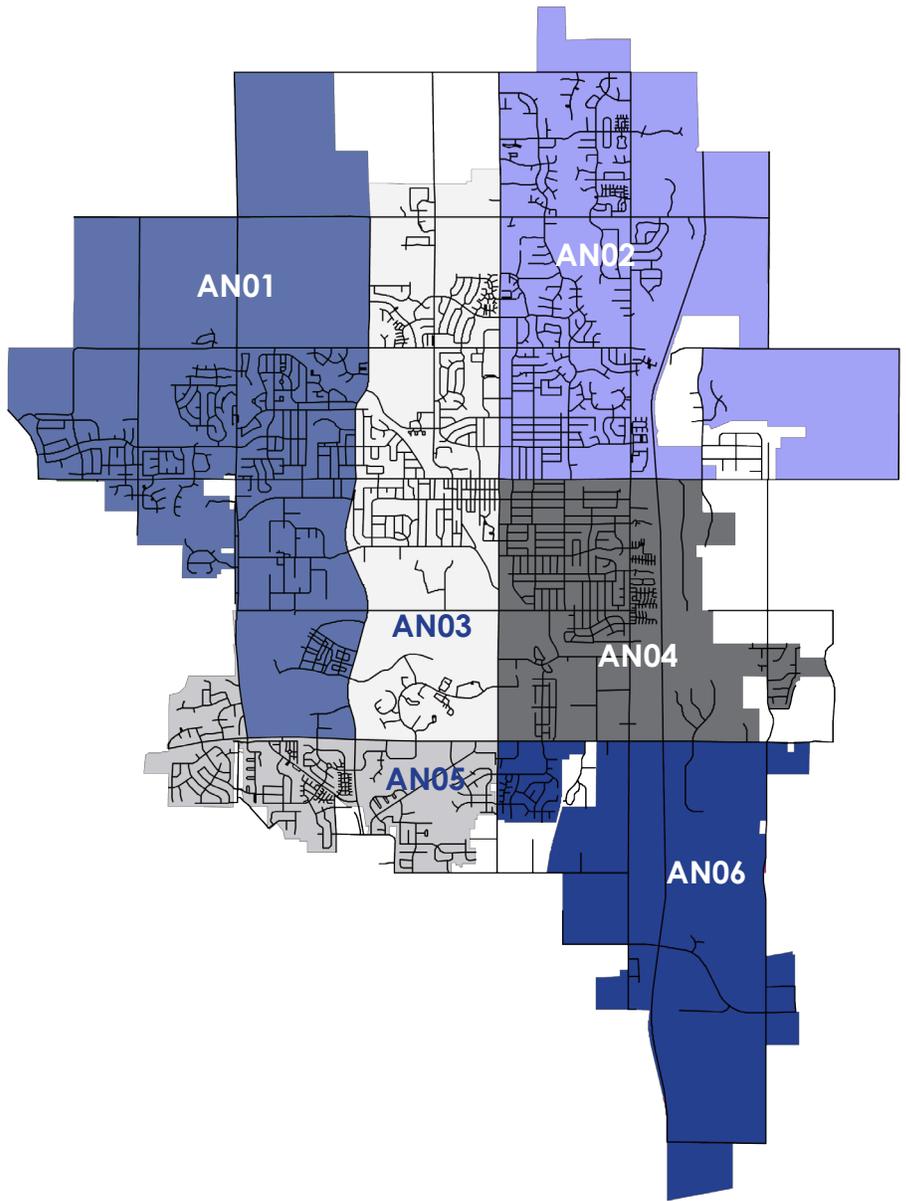
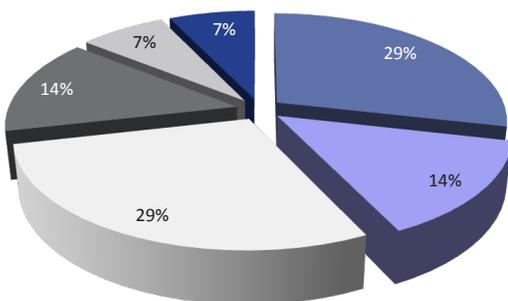
2010 Assaults by Beat



2010 Robberies by Beat



2010 Sex Abuse Cases by Beat



OWI Cases and Violent Crime Trends by Neighborhood

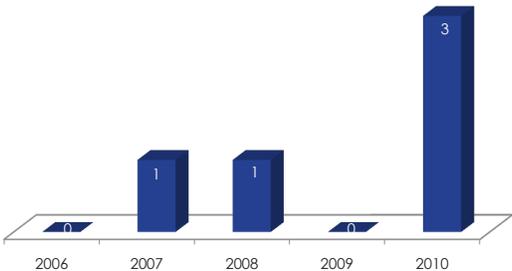
The charts to the left indicate violent crime trends as well as OWI cases for each area in Ankeny in 2010. Our City is fortunate to enjoy a low violent crime index. Because of the low number of cases, it is difficult to discern true neighborhood trends in violent crime. We do know that most violent crimes are committed by suspects known to the victim. This suggests that Ankeny remains a very safe community to travel, bike, or walk.

2010 Incident Reports

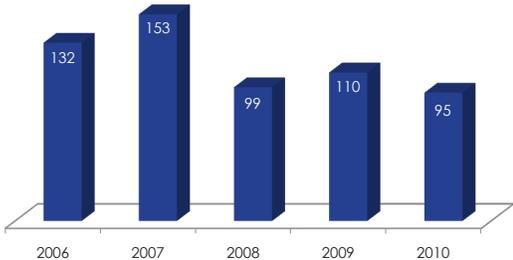
	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	TOTAL	% change from 2009
Calls for Service	2,950	2,784	3,197	3,407	3,878	3,659	3,550	3,802	3,389	3,214	2,783	2,772	39,385	+5%
Crime Reports Taken	517	477	505	534	541	532	564	605	561	550	537	448	6,371	+1%
Arrests	86	79	93	115	109	81	93	95	100	82	91	81	1,105	-3%
Adults	81	72	88	112	106	79	87	88	94	78	87	74	1,046	+4%
Juveniles	5	7	5	3	3	2	6	7	6	4	4	7	59	-53%
Arson	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	4	-87%
Assaults	3	6	11	10	16	7	7	8	3	8	10	6	95	-10%
Assaults on PO	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	-50%
Auto Theft	0	1	2	4	2	3	4	1	2	4	2	2	27	+50%
Bomb Threats	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	3	+300%
Burglary	8	9	24	22	25	24	31	39	25	18	35	24	284	+21%
Disorderly Conduct	1	2	8	11	6	2	3	0	4	4	1	3	45	0%
Domestic Offenses	37	49	56	54	73	61	58	59	52	56	42	60	657	+20%
Drug Paraphernalia	7	10	7	10	17	6	10	20	18	7	9	8	129	+24%
Forgery/Counterfeit	1	4	4	4	5	1	3	5	2	2	2	2	35	-3%
Fraud	18	12	11	25	26	18	17	15	18	17	23	9	209	-2%
Threats/Harassment	20	28	29	29	35	40	30	22	34	37	28	27	359	-8%
Indecent Exposure	1	3	0	0	4	2	4	3	2	4	1	1	25	+19%
Liquor Law Violations	22	14	13	24	18	10	29	16	34	15	10	8	213	+27%
Missing Persons	12	10	9	26	18	13	20	13	5	14	16	7	163	+1%
Adults	1	1	0	4	2	2	3	3	0	2	3	5	26	+37%
Juveniles	11	9	9	22	16	11	17	10	5	12	13	2	137	-4%
Trespass	4	4	11	5	4	0	4	3	3	0	2	5	45	-10%
Homicide	0	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	3	+300%
Narcotic Violations	6	11	4	14	16	15	11	13	17	14	12	8	141	+14%
OWI	22	31	27	29	24	21	18	16	19	18	16	17	258	+36%
Public Intoxication	4	3	2	6	6	4	6	3	11	4	4	1	54	10%
Sexual Assault	1	0	4	1	4	1	4	7	3	4	3	2	34	+13%
Robbery	0	1	0	1	1	2	1	0	1	0	0	1	8	-20%
Suicide (includes attempts)	6	6	4	5	9	8	6	9	11	8	9	9	90	+15%
Theft	31	31	64	51	45	54	74	71	50	55	51	28	605	+10%
Traffic Accidents	170	149	86	89	94	108	78	82	112	125	120	127	1,340	+4%
Injury Accidents	24	16	14	14	12	25	13	18	29	21	15	19	220	+18%
Fatal Accidents	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	+100%
Hit and Run	25	18	7	9	6	12	4	10	6	13	10	14	134	+49%
Criminal Mischief	8	6	31	34	29	39	31	36	20	30	23	15	302	+4%
TOTALS	468	469	501	570	587	520	544	537	546	528	511	452	6,233	+6%

Crimes Against Persons

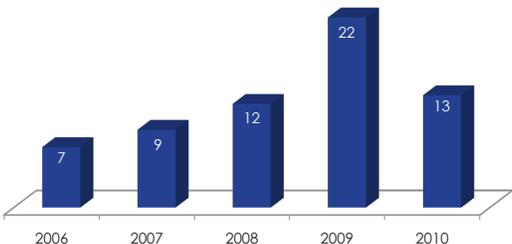
Homicide



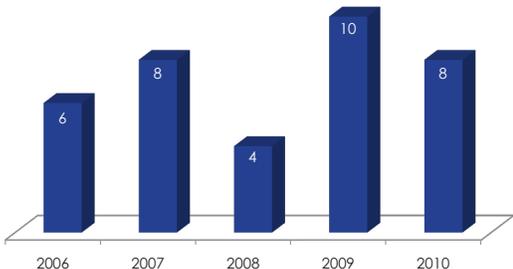
Assault



Rape

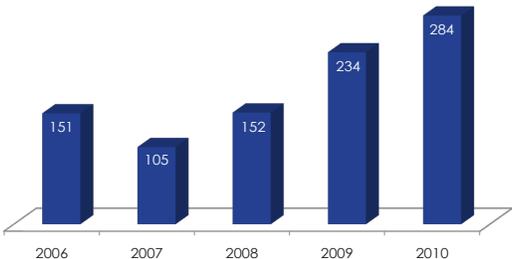


Robbery

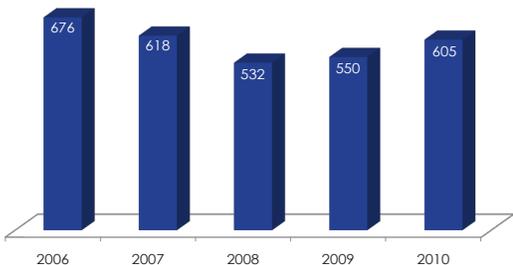


Crimes Against Property

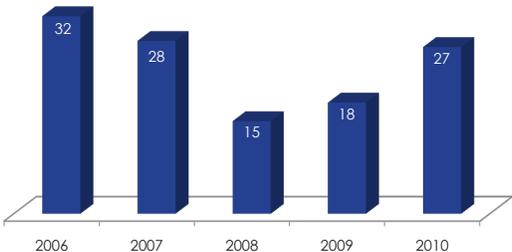
Burglary



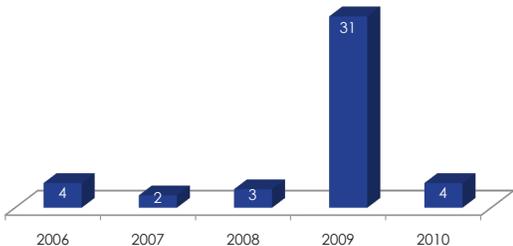
Theft



Auto Theft

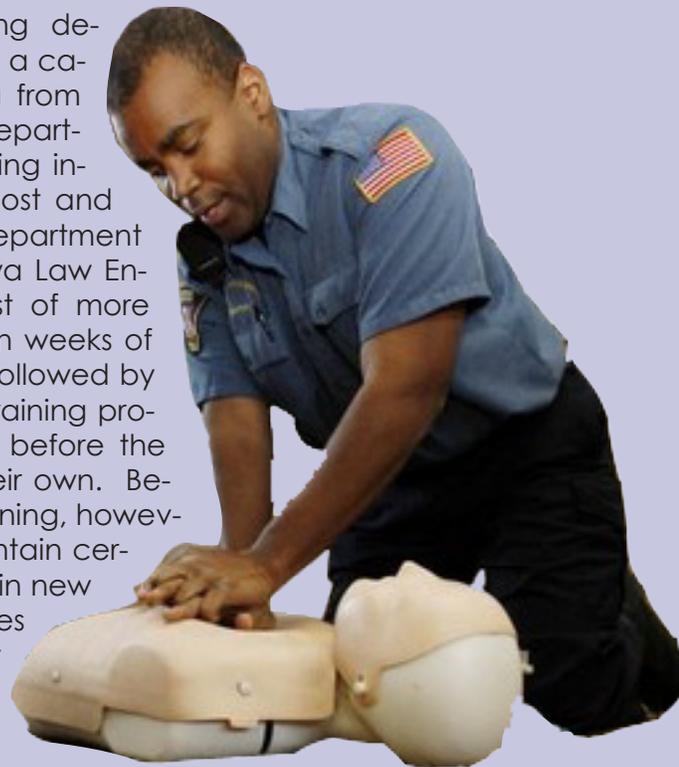


Arson



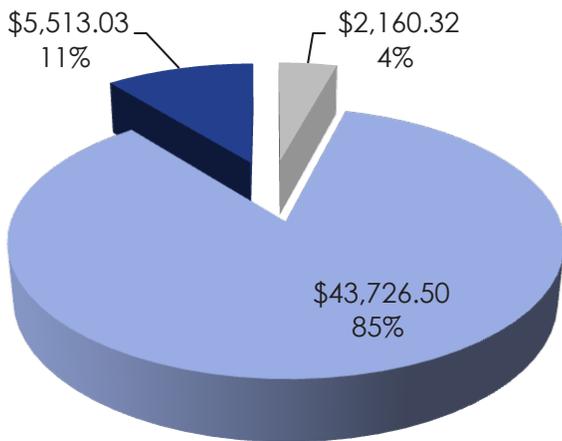
Training

Keeping up with the ever-changing demands in law enforcement requires a career long commitment to training from all officers in the Ankeny Police Department. Of course, the initial training investment remains high in both cost and hours. In Fiscal Year 2010, the Department sent four new officers to the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy at a cost of more than \$5,000 each; their thirteen weeks of Basic Academy training was followed by a rigorous fifteen week field training program within the Department before the new officers could patrol on their own. Beyond initial certification and training, however, officers are required to maintain certifications and receive training in new law enforcement techniques and practices throughout their careers.

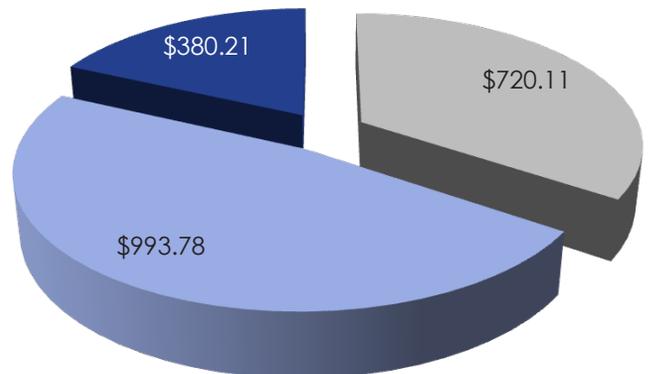


Training Costs

FY10 Training and Travel Expenses by Division



FY10 Average Per Capita Training and Travel Dollars per Division

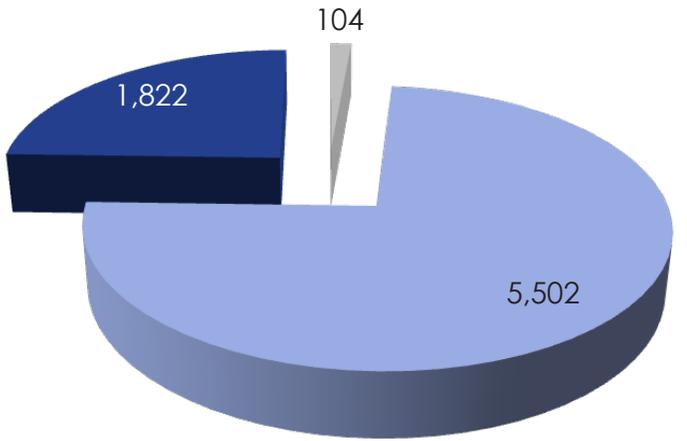


■ Administration ■ Operations ■ Support Services

Ankeny Police Department

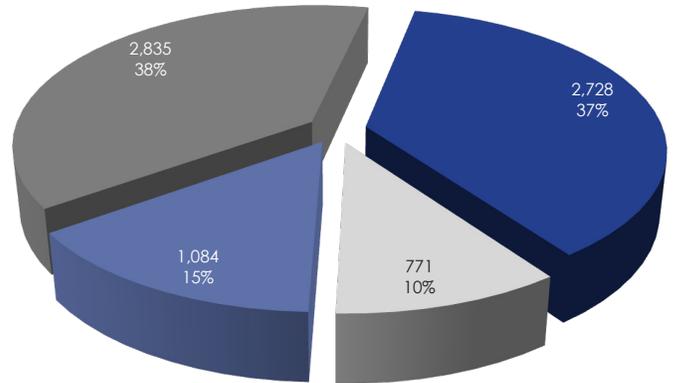
Training Hours

FY10 Training Hours by Division



■ Administration ■ Operations ■ Support Services

FY10 Training Hours by Type of Training



■ Basic Academy ■ Department Training
 ■ Certifications ■ Officer Development



2010 Cases of Note

The calls for service rarely decrease from one year to the next. In fact, calls for service grew 5% in 2010 with 39,385 calls, an increase of 1,812 calls from 2009. Calls for service include officer initiated traffic stops. In fact in 2010, officer initiated traffic stops involved several moving meth cooking labs, theft of building materials, and arrests of robbery and assault suspects among myriad crimes solved through self-initiated work. A few years ago, we started to profile crimes that remained in the public eye and garnered media attention.

Our intention of profiling significant cases is to expose the community to the complexities of case investigation, team work and the need for ongoing training. Officers work tirelessly to clear the most difficult cases, and the cases selected below reflect the professionalism and dedication of the men and women who serve the City of Ankeny.

Forgery, Mail Theft, and Technology

One of the most complex cases in 2010 involved a group of criminals who made the mistake of committing several criminal forgeries and thefts in Ankeny in February 2010. This group was led by a 71 year old career criminal and his 43 year old partner. In addition there were several women associated with the group.

While attempting to cash a forged check in the amount of \$624.00 at a local bank, the suspects left when the bank teller checked on the authenticity of the check. The bank determined the check was forged and fraudulently printed. The case was assigned to the Detective Bureau and the investigation was led by Detective Mark Moeller.

The search for the suspects extended throughout Iowa after detectives determined the suspects had committed similar offenses in more than a dozen locations in the State. In fact, the same group was wanted for similar crimes in Tennessee and Missouri. Our detectives quickly identified the case as a serial offense and methodically collected information of evidentiary value from every victim city where similar crimes were committed. A vehicle description, suspect description, company logos found on checks, stolen identities, false accounts, the age of the suspect and the methodology of cashing the checks all led to two suspects, Larry Agee and Shane Pratt. Both Agee and Pratt rented multiple vehicles with stolen identities in order to disguise their movements.

Technology contributed to the arrests when a stolen laptop computer was found in a rental vehicle used by the suspects. Unknown to the suspects when they opened the laptop, the built-in camera recorded the user who at the time was constructing forged checks with stolen identities while using the computer to photo shop and build the checks. The same computer captured images of criminal associates in the same hotel room. Search warrants for cellular phones confirmed the movement of the group to those locations where they committed crimes. In fact they grew so emboldened that they were able to convince a bank teller to walk money out to their vehicle rather than enter the bank to commit a forgery and be caught on bank surveillance cameras.

This 600 page police report reflects the complexity of tracking identify thieves throughout several states. There were at least 100 victims of their crimes including businesses, banks and those who had their identity stolen. While technology helped the suspects carry out their crimes, the same technology helped investigators locate the group and seek successful prosecution. This case represents the complexity of cases we are called upon to investigate and the willingness and patience of the Ankeny Police Department to assemble a puzzle of clues in order to identify suspects.



Fatal Car Crash on SE Creekview and SE Tones Drive

At the time of this review, this case has yet to go to trial. Charges of vehicular homicide -2 counts have been filed against Kevin A. Dalasta. These 2 counts of vehicular homicide are included in the total of 3 homicide cases recorded by the Ankeny Police Department in 2010 as required by national reporting guidelines.

On Thursday, May 6, 2010 at 3:40pm the lives of two families were forever changed when Kevin Dalasta drove his pickup truck around 2 vehicles queued at a stop sign and into the intersection, striking a van driven by Heather DeJoode. Two DeJoode children died in the crash and Heather DeJoode and her other son suffered serious injuries.

A third vehicle was also struck by the careening vehicles. All three vehicles separated and went in different directions creating a scene that was several hundred feet in circumference to reconstruct. As many as 18 officers and detectives worked on the case under the supervision of the Support Services Captain and Lieutenant. Our evidence technician and 2 community service officers also provided professional assistance on this date.

Ankeny Police Department reconstruction specialists worked closely with experts from the Iowa State Patrol to unfold the mystery of speed, movement and direction in this crash. Polk County prosecutors and medical experts were consulted throughout the investigation in an effort to understand the relationship of injury to crash data. Vehicle manufacturer specialists were summoned for their assistance and technical advice as well.

This crash quickly presented us with facts that we were able to discard as contributory to the crash itself. In searching for answers, it is helpful to know what you don't have in order to establish a relationship to cause. In this case we quickly discounted drugs and alcohol as contributory. Investigators were confident from eye witness accounts that the pick up truck did not stop at the stop sign, but we were left perplexed as to why the driver negotiated his vehicle around 2 vehicles safely but struck a vehicle in the intersection.

Professional opinion and theory in concert with evidence gathered in this case were presented to Polk County prosecutors for charging considerations. This same professional opinion and theory will be used to prove the charges of vehicular homicide. The complexity of this case is not lost by those prosecuting and defending the charges. It is in the end a tribute to the persistent, measured approach by officers and detectives to search for facts and present those facts in an unadulterated manner to prosecutors and experts.

We are confident as this case nears trial that we have professionally exhausted all known strategies. Our consultation with experts reflects upon our goal to holistically seek the answers to this tragic event.

2010: Year in Review

The dynamics of police work challenge us to organizationally adjust quickly to new situations and often chart a new direction. Change can result from events, elections, new laws, and interpretation of old laws, to name a few. We've listed several bellwether moments for the Ankeny Police Department in 2010:



The City of Ankeny endured one of the harshest winters on record followed by summer flooding in 2010. The unforgiving weather tested officers who nevertheless maintained and in most cases increased service levels.

The City Council passed a new special event ordinance and noise ordinance to better meet the demands of those events with the expectations of the community. The Police Department is now tasked with enforcement of the noise ordinance associated with all events.

March 12th the Future Farmers of America hosted a summit at their FFA headquarters in Ankeny. Dignitaries included Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack and United States Attorney General Eric Holder. The Police Department provided security and logistics for this nationally televised event.



The City of Ankeny's new employee-driven improvement project Inno•vision was introduced to Police Department employees in March 2010. Subsequent employee input meetings flushed out nearly 300 processes with 56 of those processes owned by the Police Department.

A Polaris ATV was acquired through a grant to complement the patrol fleet. Officers now use the ATV for special events, surveillance, and for patrolling recreational trails and construction sites.



In June of 2010 the Ankeny Police Department officially joined the Suburban Emergency Response Team (SERT) which has members from Altoona, Ankeny, Clive, Johnston, Urbandale and West Des Moines police departments as well as members from the Dallas County Sheriff Office. In joining this program, we abandoned our intentions of forming a local SWAT team. Six officers are qualified to join SERT, but at this time we've dedicated four officers to include two snipers and two entry team personnel. This decision will save the City minimally \$250,000.00.

Cascade Falls, Ankeny's newest aquatics facility, opened to the public in the summer of 2010.

In August of 2010, the Police Department and City officials met with School District personnel to forge a formal document for crossing guard and School Resource Officer (SRO) services. No formal contract had existed prior.



September 3, 2010, the new Ankeny dog park was dedicated.

November 2nd, Republican Terry Brandstad was elected as Governor. In an unprecedented vote, three Supreme Court justices lost on retention votes due to their ruling to vote down a law defining marriage as between a man and a woman.

November 8-12, the Ankeny Police Department hosted Kaminsky Field Training Officer development at our facility. Several statewide training opportunities were hosted in our training room throughout 2010, and this nationally recognized school allowed us to train multiple officers without the cost of lodging, travel, or meals.



On December 7th, the City Council voted on a Franchise Fee of 2% which funded positions for the Ankeny Fire Department.

Citizens Police Academy

The Ankeny Police Department offers a glimpse into the world of a police officer each year to members of the community who want to better understand the various responsibilities members of the department are sworn to perform. The underlying belief is that the more information the public has about the police department, the fewer fears and misconceptions will exist. Through this experience, the public gains valuable knowledge of the Ankeny Police Department's important role in the community.

2010 marked the thirteenth class to graduate from the Citizens Police Academy (CPA). Participants met for three hours once a week over the course of ten weeks. Each week, instructors from the Police Department presented hands-on training in a wide variety of topics such as defensive tactics, firearms, homicide investigation, search and seizure, felony stops, accident investigation, and narcotics investigation. 22 members participated in the 2010 CPA (pictured below).

Graduates of the CPA have the opportunity to continue their relationship with the Department through the Alumni Association. The Ankeny Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association works with the Police Department by providing volunteers to help in community events and also through fundraising events--most notably the annual Murder Mystery Dinner--to help the Department purchase equipment it would ordinarily be unable to afford in the City budget.



Front Row, Left to Right: Amanda Santee, Kerry Shannon, Lisa Loiola, Bryan Jansen, Amin Bakri, Cindy Crouch, Mike Page, Pam Nation
Back Row, Left to Right: Tammy Sass, Kathryn Thompson, Paul Boughton, Mary Jane Spies, Robert Loiola, Sean Harmon, Cecilia Gutierrez, Sue Jansen, Jack Baker, Charles House, Barb McCarty, Amanda Freel, Rhonda Nyman, Chad Magee

Community Outreach

The Ankeny Police Department subscribes to the community policing model wherein the community and police form a partnership with the mutual goal of establishing and maintaining a safe place to live, work, and play. In the Department's efforts to engage the community in this partnership, police attend block parties, give tours of the police facility, and participate in charity, City, and school events.

Some of the community outreach activities in which the Department participated in 2010 include: installation of over 100 child passenger seats by certified safety seat installers; providing security during the 2010 Ankeny Summerfest, an event which takes nearly 450 hours of devoted police time including planning; and multiple offerings of the nationally recognized Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) Systems course throughout the year in which the Department taught 25 women techniques in self defense.



2010 Annual Report



city of
Ankeny

bringing it all together

Ankeny Police Department

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