

# OTTUMWA POLICE DEPARTMENT



## 2015 Annual Report

*City of Bridges.....River of Opportunity*

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## *A letter from the Chief of Police...*

Tom McAndrew  
Chief of Police



I am pleased to present the Ottumwa Police Department's 2015 Annual Report. This report details the activities and accomplishments of the dedicated men and women who serve our community.

This was a busy year with our officers responding to over 29,000 calls for service, documenting 3,500 incident reports, and arresting 3,400 suspects. Additionally, our officers issued 3,057 traffic citations, conducted 102 OWI investigations and responded to 329 traffic accidents.

Although the numbers listed above remained roughly the same as previous years, we handled them with significantly less personnel due to officer turn over, retirement and serious injury on the job. As a result we had several people join the Ottumwa Police Department in 2015.

Seven new officers joined the department this past year. After going through a rigorous hiring process our officers must successfully complete fourteen weeks of training at the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy and fifteen weeks of Patrol Officer Training before being allowed to answer their first call alone as an officer. I am confident that Officers Kyle DeRonde, Justin Rice, Scott Adams, Chase Johnson, Jordan Staton, Jeremy Tosh and Joe Johns will serve the department with distinction.

Communications Specialist Pam Courton joined the department in April. Pam has prior dispatch experience, and has completed 64 hours of state mandated training and 10 weeks of on the job training. The importance of having well trained professionals in our Communications Center is vital in keeping our officers safe and providing the best service to our citizens.

Chaplains Jim Shrimplin and Rick Bick came on board in November after several months of discussion and development of the Chaplain Program. Jim and Rick, both graduates of the Citizen's Police Academy, provide personal services to members of the police department and our community.

Edward Wilson was hired as the city IT Manager in 2015. Edward is responsible for all computer systems throughout not only the police department, but the entire city. Edward is currently working on our \$150,000 Capital Improvements Project which involves updating our computer servers, digital storage and camera systems. Edward has proved invaluable in implementing this project.

This past year, we said "Happy Retirement" to Sgt. Brian Johnson. Brian served the citizens of Ottumwa for over 34 years. At one time in his career he had trained over one half of the police department's officers as a Field Training Officer. We wish Brian all the best in retirement.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Citizen's Police Academy sponsored by South Ottumwa Savings Bank was held during February and March of 2015. Twenty-three citizens attended the eight-week program that provides a glimpse into the workings of the police department. Every year those that attend comment on how interesting the program is and how much knowledge they gain about the department.

With an E911 Carry Over Grant we were able to complete an entire remodel of our Communications Center this past year. This required a great deal of cooperation and team work between dispatchers, contractors and IT personnel to totally remodel the center while continuing to provide customer service to our citizens. We are very grateful for and proud of our state of the art communications center.

In response to citizen's concerns pertaining to speeding vehicles in the city, we initiated the RedSpeed Program. RedSpeed is an automated traffic enforcement program which utilizes radar technology to measure the speed of vehicles passing and uses photography to document any violations. We have received several requests for the system to be deployed in specific neighborhoods. The RedSpeed Program will begin issuing citations for speed violations in March 2016.

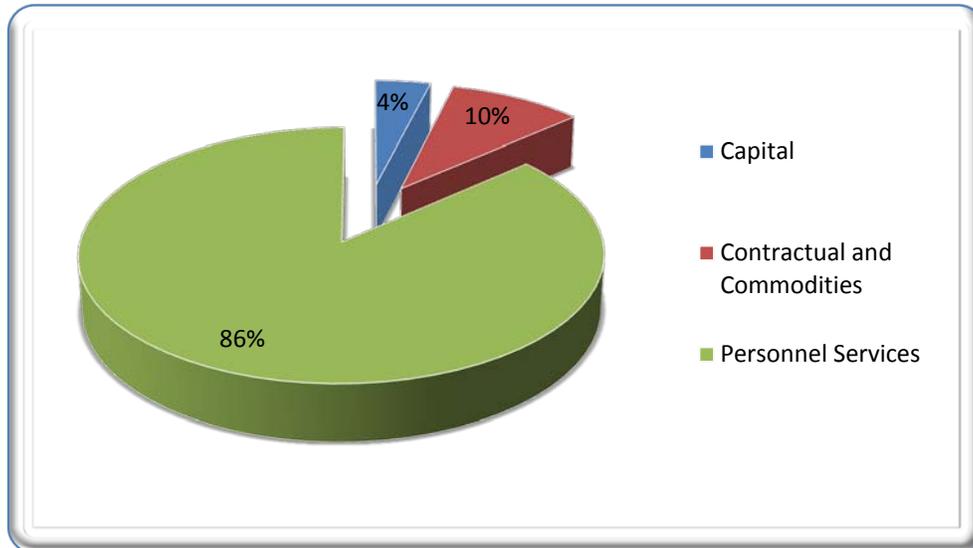
I would like to congratulate Records Clerk Lynn Diveley and Officer Brandon Gravett on receiving the 2015 American Red Cross of Central Iowa Heroes of the Heartland Award. Lynn and Brandon spent hundreds of hours building, remodeling and coordinating the basement of City Hall for the "Nightmare on Third Street" haunted house. Since the beginning of the haunted house in 2004 approximately \$100,000 has been raised for the DARE Program.

The dedicated men and women of the Ottumwa Police Department worked hard this past year to provide quality service to our community. As you review this annual report, you can be proud of the accomplishments of your police department and its staff.

Sincerely,

Tom McAndrew  
Chief of Police

# FY 2015-2016 Budget



The total budget for the Ottumwa Police Department is \$4,771,665.00. The funds can be divided into the following three categories:

## **Personnel Services**

This category is comprised of line items for officer and civilian wages, overtime (including extra duty), and employee benefits, including health insurance, life insurance, retirement, holiday pay, sick leave pay, Medicare and worker's compensation. The total amount budgeted for Personnel Services is \$4,128,051.00.

## **Capital**

This category includes line items for protective vests, vehicles, etc. Total amount budgeted for Capital is \$187,315.00.

## **Contractual & Commodities**

This category is the remainder of the budget which includes line items for employee physicals, dues, books, training, travel, vehicle maintenance, fuel, equipment repair, utilities, sanitation services, telephone, advertising, printing, rents & leases, recruitment, towing, copying, photos, professional services, janitorial services, tools & small equipment, office supplies, postage & shipping, sustenance supplies, and miscellaneous. The total amount budgeted for Contractual and Commodities is \$456,299.00.

# Staff Funding & Generated Revenue

The Ottumwa Police Department's authorized strength was thirty-nine (39) sworn officers and they were funded in the following manner:

## *Current Officers and Funding Sources* *(Includes salary and benefits)*

1 Housing Authority Officer	-	100% from Ottumwa Housing Authority
1 School Resource Officer (Evans)	-	100% from Ottumwa Community School District
1 School Resource Officer (OHS)	-	45% from OCSD / 55% from general fund
1 School Resource Officer (OHS)	-	100% salary OCSD / benefits from general fund
2 Drug Task Force Investigators	-	75% from Byrne grant / 25% from general fund
<u>33 Officers</u>	-	100% from general fund
<b>39 Officers</b>		

From January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015, the Police Department generated the following revenue:

Reports & Fingerprints	-	\$ 6,666.30
Animal Pickup Fees	-	4,878.87
DARE/GREAT Donations	-	174.00
Witness Fees	-	85.00
Extra Duty Administrative Fees	-	12,267.39
Alarm Monitoring Fees	-	1,500.00
Arrest Warrant Service Fee	-	2,996.89
Parking Fines (collected)	-	13,732.32
Traffic & Criminal Fines (collected)	-	219,724.69
<u>Grants &amp; Alternative Funding</u>	-	<u>407,581.00</u>
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 669,606.46</b>

# Alternative Funding Resources

In 2015, the Department received over \$407,581.00 from various local, state, and federal sources for the purpose of enhancing law enforcement in Ottumwa. These funds assisted the Department with a variety of policing functions, including increased traffic and alcohol enforcement; continuing our substance abuse education program; purchasing equipment; and operation of the Southeast Iowa Inter-Agency Drug Task Force.

## Local Grants

The Department received a \$1,500.00 donation from South Ottumwa Savings Bank for sponsorship of the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Citizens Police Academy.

The Department received \$500.00 from the Rosenman's Trust for general law enforcement purposes.

The Department received over \$253,319.00 from local funding sources to place officers at the Ottumwa Housing Authority, Ottumwa High School, and Evans Middle School. Part of the funds were also used to help support the **DARE** Program in the elementary schools and the **GREAT** Program at Evans Middle School

## Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau

The Department received \$22,705.00 from the Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau to fund our traffic enforcement program. The objective of the program was to increase compliance with OWI, seat belt, and other traffic laws in order to reduce the frequency and severity of personal injury accidents in Ottumwa. The grant funds were used to purchase one moving radar gun, two in-car audio/video recorders and to pay overtime costs for enforcement activities.

## Tobacco Grant

The Department received \$1,600.00 from the Alcoholic Beverages Division of the Iowa Department of Commerce. These funds were used to conduct compliance checks of Iowa's tobacco laws.



## Byrne / JAG Grant

The Southeast Iowa Inter-Agency Drug Task Force received \$124,803.00 in federal grant funds from the Bureau of Justice Assistance through the Edward Byrne Memorial State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance Program. These funds were used primarily for the salary and benefits of Ottumwa Police Department personnel who were assigned to the Task Force.

## **COPS Technology Grant**

In 2010, the Police Department received a Congressional appropriation funneled through the COPS Technology Program in the amount of \$375,000.00 for the purchase and installation of computers in the police cars and a camera system for the downtown area to include a wireless network and recording system at the Law Center. The project was divided into two phases.

Phase I included purchasing and installing ten (10) computers in ten (10) marked patrol cars, which was completed in early 2011.

Phase II of the project was the purchase and installation of the downtown camera system, purchase and installation of a recording system at the Law Center, and developing a wireless network to transmit video from the cameras to the Law Center. Phase II was completed in the fall of 2011.

In 2012, the Police Department partnered with the Ottumwa Community School District placing cameras on the exterior of the High School and transmitting the feed to the law center. Likewise, we partnered with South Ottumwa Savings Bank in a similar manner and placed a camera on the exterior of their building. The purchase and installation price of the additional cameras were paid for by the school district and bank, respectively.



In 2013, equipment was installed on the new communications tower to enable a camera to be placed on the north side of Ottumwa.

In 2014, the Technology Grant was closed out with the addition of the final camera for this project. The last camera was installed in the area of North Court Street and Highway 63.

In 2015, an additional camera was added for the new Highway 34 Underpass. This tunnel is an important link in the Ottumwa Trails System.

## **Bullet Proof Vest Program**

The Bullet Proof Vest Partnership (BVP), created by the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act of 1998 is a unique U.S. Department of Justice initiative designed to provide funding for the purchase of bullet proof vests for local and state law enforcement. Through this program the Ottumwa Police Department receives a 50% reimbursement for the purchase of bulletproof vests for our uniformed officers. This grant does not provide funds for vests utilized by our emergency response team. Bulletproof vests are replaced every five years. We purchased ten soft body armor vests in 2015. Over one million vests have been purchased for local and state law enforcement officers the past fifteen years through this program.

# 2015- 2016 Capital Improvements Plan

This project calls for the police department to upgrade its Local Area Network (LAN) through the purchase of new equipment. The new equipment would include two network servers and one back-up server. One 36TB server will be located at the Ottumwa Police Department; one 36TB server will be located at City Hall along with a 55TB backup server and a 144TB tape backup library. Network Switching will be replaced throughout both facilities. This project also includes the purchase and installation of Windows 7 Professional on seventeen (17) department computers including ten (10) in-car mobile data computers. The cost of the project is approximately \$150,000.00.

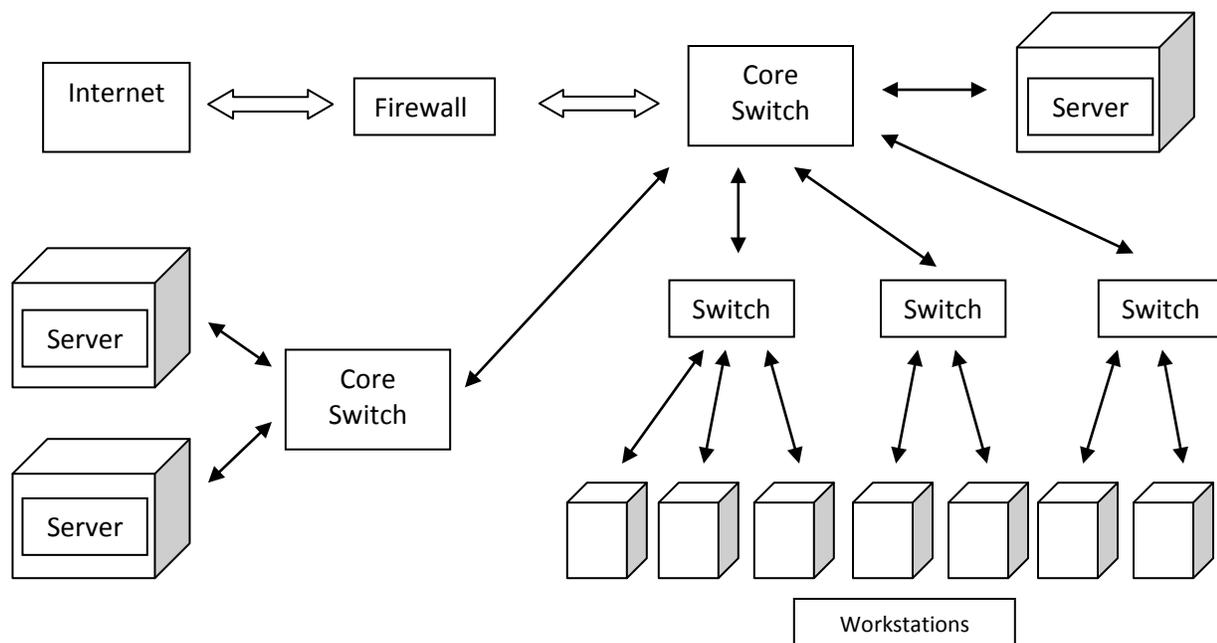
## Existing Condition:

The police department's server storage capacity was exceeded a few years ago at which time additional storage devices (SOHO NAS's) were added to store information. The storage capacity of the NAS's has been exceeded and is being used for functions for which they are not designed. Accessing the NAS on a regular basis exposes the system to system failure with no back-up available. The NAS's will be replaced by one 36TB Direct Attached Storage located at the police department.

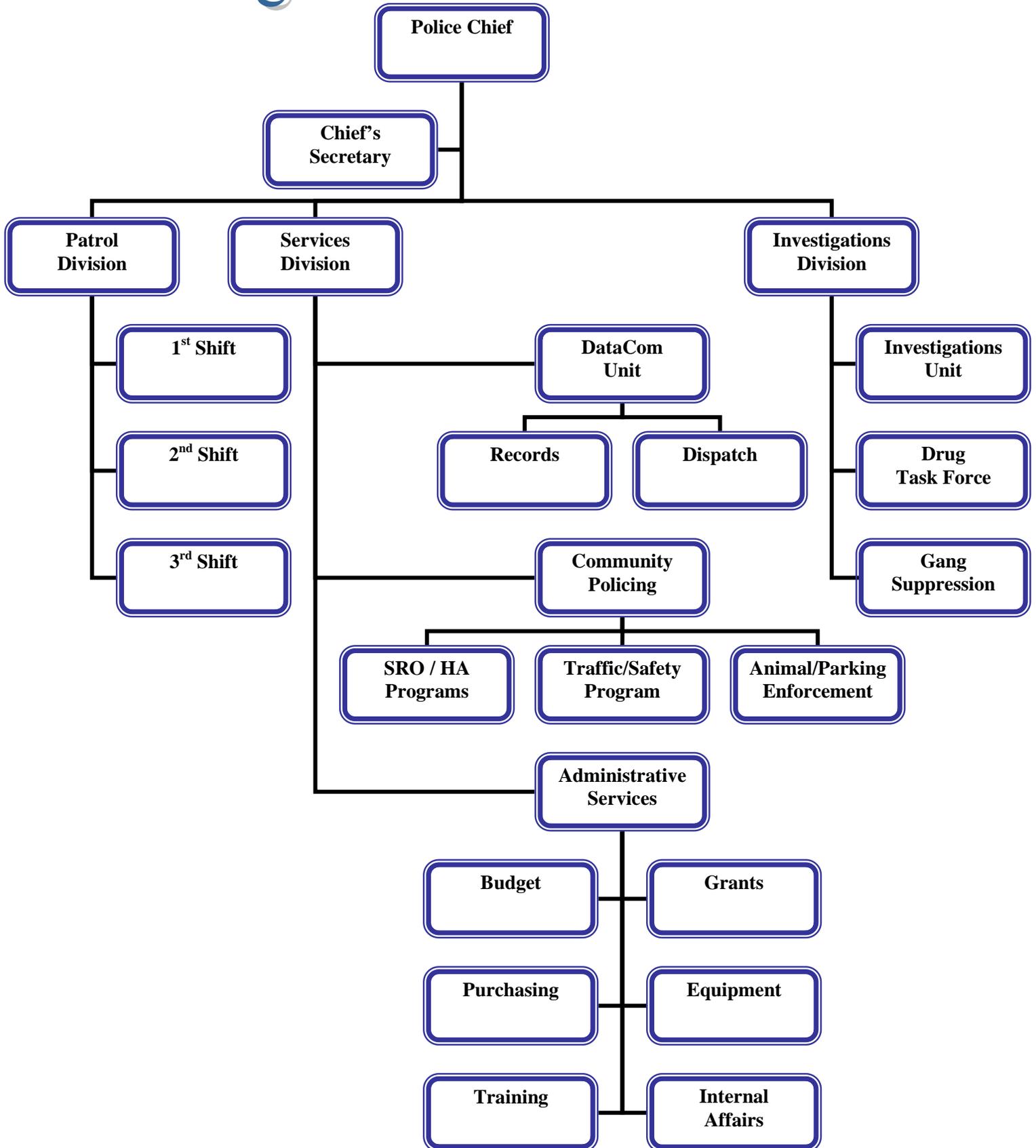
All of the network switches are being replaced. They are outdated causing a bottleneck of information exchange.

The department currently has no offsite storage of electronic information, which would be utilized in case of natural disaster or fire. This issue would be addressed by installing a redundant 36TB server at City Hall. The existing fiber line between the Law Enforcement Center and City Hall would be used to connect to the redundant server. Additionally, the redundant servers will be backed up to a dedicated backup server located in City Hall. The tape backup allows us to store backup copies offsite of City Hall and the Police Department.

The department currently uses Windows XP as its main operating system for its in-house computers as well as ten mobile computers located in each patrol vehicle. Microsoft no longer supports Windows XP and the Department of Transportation will no longer allow our in-car computers to access DOT files using Windows XP. The 27 computers were updated to Windows 7 Professional in December of 2014.



# Organizational Structure



# Department Organization

The Department is organized into three major components: Investigations Division, Patrol Division and Services Division. Each Division operates under the command of a Lieutenant, also referred to as a Division Commander. Each Lieutenant reports to the Chief of Police.



**Lt. Jason Bell**  
**Investigations Division Commander**

The Investigations Division is divided into three units, Investigations, Gang Suppression and Drug Task Force.

The Investigations Unit is responsible for major case investigations, special investigations, intelligence gathering and dissemination. The Gang Suppression Unit is responsible for investigating gang activity. The Drug Task Force is responsible for investigating, apprehending, and prosecuting drug and drug-related criminal offenders in a four county area.

Lt. Bell attended Indian Hills Community College. He was hired in 1996 and was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 2005. In 2013, he was promoted to Lieutenant. Lt. Bell has served as a Patrol Training Officer, Drug Task Force Investigator, Emergency Response Team member and Drug Task Force Supervisor.

**Lt. Mickey Hucks**  
**Services Division Commander**

The Services Division is divided into three groups, DataCom, Community Policing and Administrative Services.

The Division is responsible for Budget/Fiscal Management, Grant Administration, Policy Formulation, Internal Affairs, Training, Entry Level Testing, Department Equipment, Property/Evidence, D.A.R.E./G.R.E.A.T. Program, School Resource Officers, Traffic Safety, K-9 Program, Housing Authority Officer, and Community Service Officers assigned to Parking and Animal Control Enforcement. Additionally, the Division is responsible for the Records and Communications functions within the Department.



Lt. Hucks has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Criminal Justice Administration from Mt. Mercy College in Cedar Rapids. He was hired in 1996 and promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 2004. In 2011, he was promoted to Lieutenant. Lt. Hucks has served as Housing Authority Officer, Investigations Unit Supervisor, Department Training Officer, as well as Commander of the department's Emergency Response Team.

**Lt. Chad Farrington**  
**Patrol Division Commander**

The Patrol Division is made up of six sergeants and 15 officers divided into three patrol shifts.

Activities include answering calls for service, responding to emergencies, traffic law enforcement, preliminary criminal and follow-up investigations, detection of violations of the law, and apprehension of violators of the law.

Lt. Farrington has a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Political Science and Criminal Justice. He was hired in 1998 and promoted to the rank of Sergeant in 2005. In 2013, he was promoted to Lieutenant. Lt. Farrington has served as a Patrol Training Officer, Department Training Officer, Investigator, and Team Leader of the department's Emergency Response Team. Lt. Farrington is a Taser Instructor, Lead Firearms Instructor and serves as the Department Armorer.



## Promotions



Officer Cody McCoy was promoted to the rank of Sergeant June 8, 2015. Sgt. McCoy has been employed with the Police Department for 17 years. He has served as a Patrolman, Investigator, Field Training Officer and currently serves as a Drug Recognition Expert, Accident Investigator, Emergency Response Team Operator and K-9 handler. Sgt. McCoy is currently assigned to Third Shift Patrol as Field Sergeant.

Officer Aaron Vose was promoted to the rank of Sergeant November 9, 2015. Sgt. Vose has been employed with the Police Department for 8 years. He served as a Patrolman and an Investigator. He currently serves as ALICE Instructor, Chemical Munitions/Less Lethal/Distracted Devices Instructor and an Emergency Response Team Operator/Medic. Sgt Vose is also certified Emergency Medical Technician and he also assists the Medical Examiners Office for Wapello County.



# Investigations Division

## Investigations Unit



*Investigator Steve Harris*

The Investigations Unit is a component of the Investigations Division. Under the supervision of the Investigations Commander, an Investigator has the responsibility to investigate a variety of criminal and non-criminal incidents involving crimes against persons, crimes against property, and general investigations; recover stolen property; apprehend offenders; and perform crime scene processing. In 2015, Investigators conducted a total of 79 criminal investigations including Homicide/Death, Sexual Assault, Burglary/Theft, Forgery, Child Abuse, Assault, Robbery, and Registered Sex Offenders.

Job specifications for Police Officer/Investigator includes;

- Knowledge of the fundamentals of police work;
- Knowledge of investigative techniques;
- Knowledge of the rules of evidence, laws of arrest, search and seizures and court procedures;
- Ability to gather, analyze and evaluate facts and evidence and to draw sound conclusions;
- Ability to prepare clear and concise reports;
- Possess interview and interrogations skills;
- Knowledge of photography techniques and equipment;

## Gang Investigator

Under the supervision of the Investigations Division Commander, the Gang Investigator has the responsibility to investigate a variety of criminal and non-criminal incidents involving gangs and their members including crimes against persons, crimes against property, and general investigations.

Job specifications for Police Officer/Gang Investigator includes;

- Collects, collates, and disseminates gang intelligence;
- Conducts investigations into gangs and their members;
- Collaborates with School Resource Officers, school officials, juvenile and adult court officials, probation/parole officers, and other appropriate persons regarding gangs, members, and their activities;
- Aggressively patrols areas frequented by known gang members and areas with suspected gang-related activities;
- Coordinates with other department units and other agencies to share information to enhance enforcement efforts and prosecution of gang members.

## Southeast Iowa Inter-Agency Drug Task Force

In an effort to facilitate multi-jurisdictional drug investigations, area cities and counties banded together to form the Southeast Iowa Inter-Agency Drug Task Force in 1990. The overall mission of the Task Force is to identify, investigate, apprehend and prosecute drug and drug related criminal offenders in its four county area. The Task Force targets drug manufacturers and traffickers through shared investigatory and prosecutorial resources. Our expected outcome is to reduce the availability and demand for controlled substances through the use of the multi-jurisdictional task force in conjunction with its member agencies.

Key activities of the Drug Task Force include the purchase of drugs utilizing confidential informants and undercover officers; investigation of methamphetamine manufacturers through surveillance, informants and information supplied by local businesses who sell precursors; case preparation and court testimony; prosecution of drug cases by the DTF Prosecutor; intelligence gathering and dissemination and coordination of drug investigations with member agencies.

In 2015, the Southeast Iowa Inter-Agency Drug Task Force participated in the execution of 58 search warrants and seized 2 clandestine methamphetamine labs.

The following is a list of controlled substances the Task Force confiscated in 2015 as the result of search warrants, undercover purchases and controlled purchases.

Methamphetamine	42 pounds
Cocaine	10.6 grams
Marijuana	15 pounds
Marijuana Commercial Plant seized	10 plants
Pharmaceuticals	448 dosage units

The Task Force initiated 47 distribution cases, 3 manufacture investigations, and 4 possession cases. Investigators made a case referral involving an individual to the U. S. Attorney's Office for federal prosecution. Investigators filed a total of 173 charges against 79 individuals.



# Services Division

## School Resource Officer Program

The Police Department partners with the Ottumwa Community School District through the School Resource Officer Program. An officer has been assigned full-time at the Ottumwa High School since 1994 while an officer has been assigned full-time at Evans Middle School since 1996. In 2008, a second officer was assigned full-time at the High School. The presence of the officers reduces the potential for crime-related problems and helps to provide a safer environment at each school. An additional benefit is the increased interaction between students and police officers due to the officers' accessibility. The Ottumwa Community School District pays 100% of the salary and benefits of the SRO assigned to the Middle School, approximately 45% of the salary and benefits of the 1<sup>st</sup> officer assigned to the High School, and 100% of the salary of the 2<sup>nd</sup> officer assigned to the High School.



*Officer Brad Higgins*



*Officer Mike Murphy*

## G.R.E.A.T. and DARE Program

In an effort to combat the escalating gang presence in our city, we have partnered with the Ottumwa Community School District to implement the Gang Resistance and Education Training Program, commonly referred to as **GREAT**, in our local middle school. The G.R.E.A.T. Program is a school-based, law enforcement officer instructed classroom curriculum. The Program's primary objective is prevention and is intended as an immunization against delinquency, youth violence, and gang membership. G.R.E.A.T. is a thirteen week program with lessons that focus on providing life skills to students to help them avoid delinquent behavior and violence to solve problems. Additionally, the Property / Evidence Officer instructs the Drug Abuse Resistance Education Program, commonly referred to as **DARE**, in the Ottumwa Community School District's elementary schools. The **DARE** Program is an integral part of the Department's community policing initiative as well as the School District's substance abuse prevention curriculum. The curriculum consists of



seventeen weeks of instruction that focuses on a variety of substance abuse prevention and self-esteem topics, including drugs and their effects, violence, decision making, consequences, social pressures and their sources, and respect. The Ottumwa Community School District contributes \$10,000.00 annually towards the cost of the elementary program.



*Officer Darren Batterson*



*Officer Brandon Gravett*



## Housing Authority Officer Program

### *Officer Scott Carlson*

The Police Department also partners with the Ottumwa Housing Authority through the Housing Authority Officer Program. An officer has been assigned full-time to the Housing Authority since 1996. The officer is responsible for investigating a variety of criminal and non-criminal incidents involving Housing Authority property, personnel, tenants, and clients; coordinating police services to the OHA; and maintaining communication between the OHA and the Department. The Housing Authority Officer patrols over 225 single-family homes, 60 townhouses, and nearly 300 apartments in 3 high-rise towers. The Ottumwa Housing Authority pays 100% of the salary and benefits of the officer assigned to the OHA.



## Community Service Officer

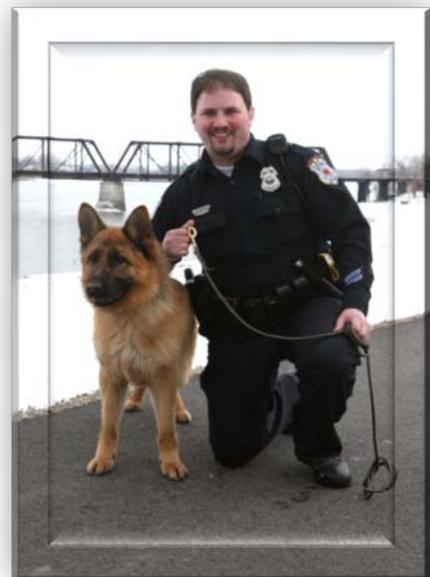
### *Officer Jeff Williams*

The Community Service Officer (CSO) is responsible for the enforcement of animal control ordinances within the city, parking ordinances, and other police-related tasks.

## K-9 Officer

### *Sgt. Cody McCoy and Shariek*

Because of a superior sense of smell and hearing, the trained law enforcement canine is a valuable supplement to police staffing. Meet Shariek and his handler, Sergeant Cody McCoy. Shariek has been on staff since 2010. Shariek has helped the department in narcotics detection, evidence location, officer protection, criminal apprehension and building and area searches.



## Records Unit

The Records Unit is a component of the Services Division and maintains records of all incident reports, traffic citations, arrests, personal injury and property damage accidents, tow sheets, and other documents generated by the Department.

The Records Unit utilizes a computerized records system, which interfaces with the computer aided dispatch system used in the Communications Center. The Records Clerk is responsible for entering data from each report into the computer system so that personnel can prepare required statistical and analytical reports. The Records Clerk also provides copies of reports to the City and County Attorney, the court system, officers, insurance companies, media, and other persons or entities that need or request copies of Department reports. Criminal history checks of Department arrest records are also frequently conducted for military recruiters and employers. Release of Department records is governed by various local, state, and federal laws and guidelines. The Records Unit is staffed by one full-time Communications Specialist, who is supervised by the DataCom Supervisor.



*Lynn Diveley*



*Lt. Chad Farrington*

## MILO Training

The MILO training system consists of computer generated scenarios that requires officers to make use of force decisions. Officers involved in this training are equipped with the same type of equipment and tools they carry on their belt every day at work. It allows for the application of force through verbal commands, OC defense spray, Taser and lethal weapons. The training system is designed to aid the officers in making critical decisions involving the use of force in a controlled environment. Officers can work through scenarios, make decisions and have constructive debriefings about the decisions. Officers train in the MILO room consistently throughout the year.

## Communications

The Communications Unit is a component of the Services Division and is responsible for meeting the informational and communication needs of the Department in the course of its normal daily activities and during emergency situations. The duties and tasks of the Communications Unit personnel include receiving incoming emergency and non-emergency telephone calls twenty-four hours a day; dispatching police, fire and ambulance personnel to calls-for-service; monitoring police and fire activities; entering all police and fire calls-for-service data into the in-house computer system; monitoring numerous radio frequencies, including police, fire, ambulance, public works, state patrol, and sheriff's department; monitoring residential and business fire and burglar alarms; querying the state computer system for motor vehicle registration, driver license status, stolen property, and wanted/missing persons; entering wanted/missing person and stolen property information into the state computer system; activating the Outdoor Warning System; entering traffic citation data into the in-house computer system; conduct criminal history checks through the state and federal repositories; and acts as the first contact person for people walking into the police station

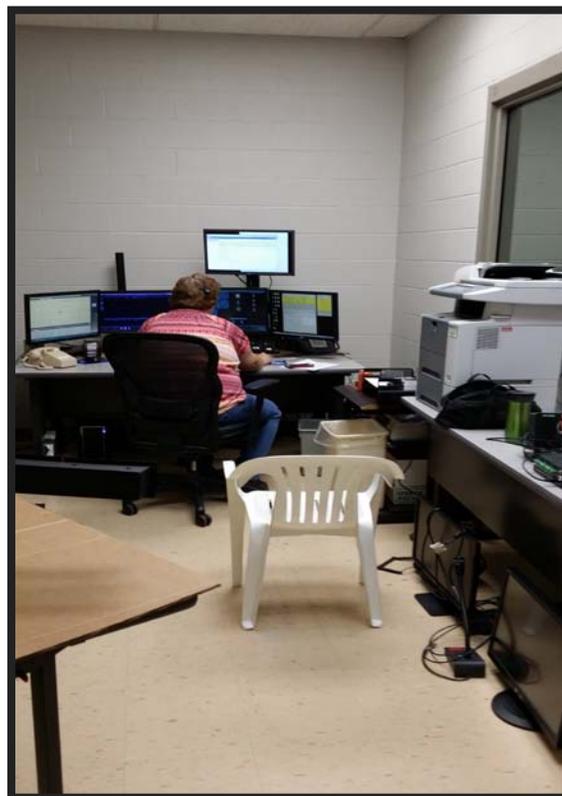
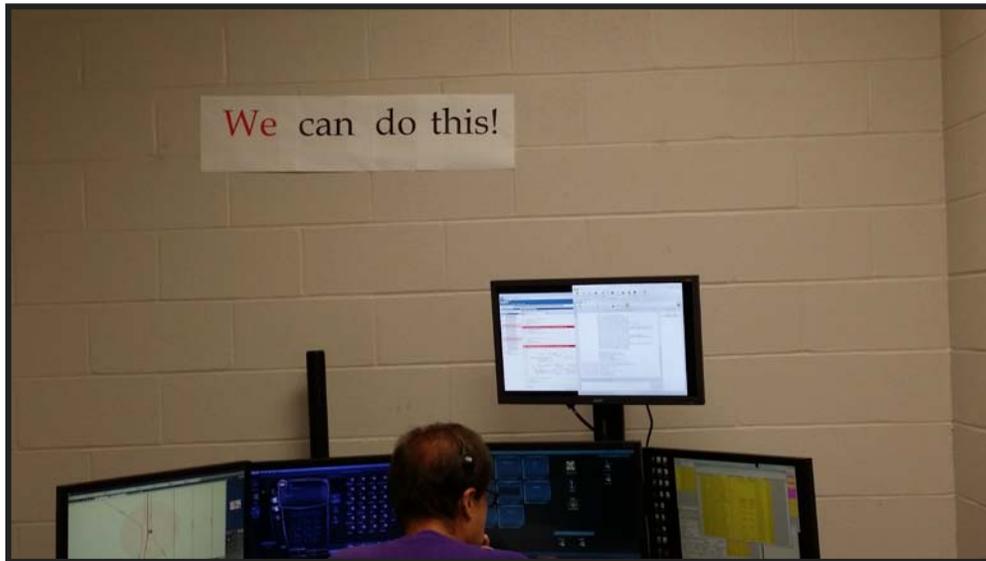
The Communications Unit documented 60,727 activities in 2015 which included 29,234 calls-for-service. The Unit also received 11,895 emergency 911 telephone calls, averaging 32.6 emergency calls per day. These calls included police, fire and medical emergencies. The Communications Unit also answered 61,548 administrative calls. The Unit has five 911 emergency lines (2 wireless and 3 landline), 1 fire line and 4 administrative lines. Our Communications Unit is staffed with six full-time Communications Specialists (dispatchers), who report to the Datacom Supervisor.

In 2015, the Communications Center was totally remodeled with the acceptance of a \$79,505.00 Wireless E911 Carryover Grant through the State of Iowa Homeland Security Department. This project allowed for the addition of third dispatch position (PSAP) allowing the ability to have more than one dispatcher on duty during large scale incidents and events. Having a third position will also enhance training new employees.

This was a large project that required several hours of preplanning and tremendous cooperation between departments, employees and vendors. The first phase of this project was to prepare a temporary location for our center. We moved (along with the Wapello County Dispatch) into a very small room. But prior to this move, we had many hours of installing temporary wiring and power to this area.



The next step was to actually move tables into the temporary Dispatch Center and create a “console” environment by physically installing the telephone and radio equipment. All of this was completed without disrupting emergency services.



Dispatchers worked in a 10ft by 15ft room for about 2½ weeks while the project was being completed in the next room.

The demolition begins.



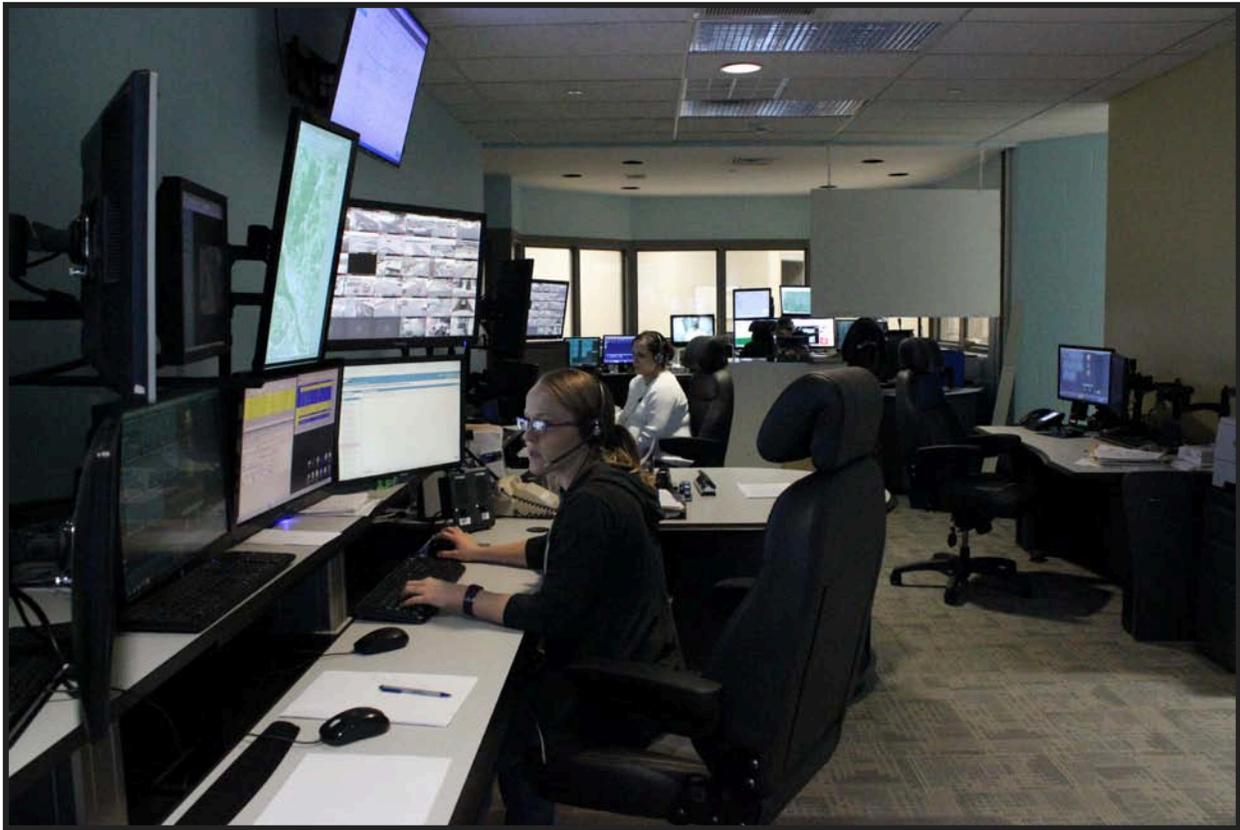
Paint and carpet installed.



Installing console furniture.



Project completed.



Because of this project the Ottumwa Police Department and the Wapello County Sherriff's office now has one of the most state of the art Communications Centers in the State of Iowa. We would like to thank the Iowa Department of Homeland Security, the State of Iowa E911 Council and the Wapello County E911 Board for making this grant possible.

### **Pocket Dials to 911**

Accidental pocket dials (or butt dials) are making up a significant percentage of 911 calls in every communications center across the United States. All mobile phones are required to have the ability to make an emergency call without their screens being unlocked, which facilitates accidental 911 calls. To avoid placing a pocket dial to 911, please lock your phone's home screen. Also if you do accidentally



call 911, stay on the line so we can confirm you do not have an emergency. If you don't stay connected, we may be sending patrol units to your doorstep. Not only is this waste of resources it can be embarrassing to the home owner. Be responsible, lock your phones!

# Ottumwa Animal Control

Community Resource Officer Jeff Williams and Public Information Coordinator Tom Rodgers in cooperation with Pipestone Veterinary Clinic administers the Facebook group, **Ottumwa Animal Control Ottumwa Police Dept.** to assist community members in finding



their lost pets. When the Ottumwa Police Department finds a stray animal, they catch it and transport it to Pipestone Veterinary Clinic located at 2830 North Court Street in Ottumwa. Pipestone staff posts a photograph and description of the animal on the Facebook page along with instructions on how to claim the animal. This effort has proven very effective in reuniting owners with their pets as well as sparking interest in the adoption of unclaimed pets.

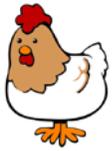
Pipestone Veterinary houses found animals for seven days per city code. If the animal is not claimed within the first five days, it becomes available for adoption on the sixth and seventh day. If the animal does not get adopted, it may be euthanized; however, most of the animals that have not been claimed after seven days go to a local animal shelter or rescue to be placed for adoption.

The Ottumwa Police Department encourages all pet owners to be responsible stewards of the animals they keep. Dog licensing is the best insurance for getting your dog returned to you in case he or she becomes lost. It also lets our officers know if the dog is currently vaccinated against rabies. We encourage spaying and neutering as the best solution to controlling the pet over-population. Dog licenses can be purchased at the Ottumwa Police Department or City Hall for \$5 (\$10 after February 1<sup>st</sup>) or at local Vet Clinics for \$7. (\$12 after February 1<sup>st</sup>).

In 2015, a total of 257 animals were impounded by the Ottumwa Police Department.



## Code Changes for Chickens & Rabbits



In June of 2015 the Ottumwa City Council adopted changes to the Municipal Code to allow residents to legally keep rabbits and chickens within the city limits of Ottumwa under a permit to be issued by the Ottumwa Police Department.

Persons wishing to keep chickens and rabbits must meet certain requirements in order to receive a permit. A maximum of six chickens and/or rabbits may be kept per premises. No roosters are allowed. The animals must be kept in a coop or pen, and are not allowed to run at large. Coops or pens must be in a rear yard area and at least ten feet away from the property line. They must be at least fifty feet away from any adjacent residential dwelling, building, church, school or place of business. Coops and pens are subject to inspection to ensure adequate space for each animal and proper sanitation of the enclosure. The initial permit fee is \$60 and is valid for three years.

Persons who would like to keep chickens or rabbits within the city limits must contact Officer Jeff Williams at the Ottumwa Police Department at 641-683-0648 to begin the permit application process.



The City's Urban Chicken and Rabbit Policy can be reviewed online at [cityofottumwa.com](http://cityofottumwa.com)



# Patrol Division

The Patrol Unit is a component of the Patrol Division, under the direction of the Patrol Division Commander. A Patrolman's function to the community cannot be overestimated. Patrol is the mainstay of police work whether measured in terms of police patrol personnel, the portion of the budget allocated to patrol operations, or the fact that the uniformed police officer is the most visible component of the Department. The manner in which patrol officers discharge their responsibilities affects not only the quality of justice, but also citizens' perceptions of the Department and law enforcement in general.

The functions and major responsibilities of the Patrol Unit include, but are not limited to:

- Responding to routine and emergency calls-for-service 24 hours per day, every day of the year
- Arresting criminal offenders
- The investigation of incidents, offenses, and criminal acts
- Traffic enforcement
- Traffic direction and control
- Accident investigation
- Crime prevention
- Preventative patrol directed towards the prevention of criminal acts and traffic violations, the maintenance of public order, and the discovery of hazardous situations
- Parking enforcement
- Animal enforcement
- Inspectional services to determine compliance with various statutes including liquor and gambling laws
- Community relations
- The sharing of information with other divisions of the Department and with outside agencies

The Patrol Division consists of the Patrol Division Commander, six Patrol Supervisors and 15 Patrol Officers.



## Emergency Response Team

The Emergency Response Team (ERT) was formed in 1991 to handle high-risk calls and warrant services. Since then, the Ottumwa Police Department and the Wapello County Sheriff's Office joined together to form a joint Emergency Response Team. The ERT trains monthly in the use of special weapons and tactics, and trains to respond to a wide variety of emergency situations in the city and county.

The team consists of thirteen members, all of whom are sworn law enforcement officers with either the Police or Sheriff's Department. Each team member is assigned to other areas of their respective Department on a full-time basis and participation on the team is in addition to their regular duties. Members volunteer to serve on the team and all officers are eligible to apply for positions as they become available. Upon appointment to the team, personnel are required to maintain satisfactory performance during both regular duty assignments and ERT activities.



The Emergency Response Team can be deployed for any situation that requires a police response that likely could result in serious injury and/or death to citizens, officers, or suspects. The ERT team was deployed a total of eight times in 2015.

Lt. Mickey Hucks is the Team Commander. Under the direction of the Chief, the Team Commander is responsible for the overall operation, direction, and administration of the Emergency Response Team. When the ERT is deployed, he is the liaison between the Chief of Police and the Team, and carries out all orders of the Chief. Lt. Chad Farrington is the Team Leader. Under the direction of the Team Commander, he is responsible for the training and immediate supervision of the team, and for its deployment at the scene of a critical incident.

While we can never be completely prepared for all eventualities, we must constantly strive to expand our resources and capabilities to ensure the highest likelihood for success while ensuring the highest possible degree of safety in all of our enforcement activities.

# Part 1 Index Crimes

Part 1 Index Crimes are those crimes that are required to be reported to the FBI and are divided into two categories – property crime and violent crime. Property crimes of burglary, theft, motor vehicle theft, and arson decreased by 11.6% when compared to 2014; while violent crimes consisting of murder, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault decreased by 8.9%.

## PART 1 Index Crimes

OFFENSES	2014	2015	2015 COMPARED TO 2014
Homicide	1	1	NA
*Rape	48	45	-6.25%
Robbery	8	6	-25%
Agg Assault	233	212	-9%
Burglary	177	223	+25.9%
Theft	813	638	-21.5%
Motor Vehicle Theft	53	65	+22.5%
Arson	13	8	-38.5%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1346</b>	<b>1198</b>	<b>-11.0%</b>
<b>VIOLENT CRIMES</b>	290	264	-8.9%
<b>PROPERTY CRIMES</b>	1056	934	-11.6%

\*The crime of Theft does not include shoplifting.

\*In May of 2013, The FBI's Uniform Crime Report (UCR) changed the definition of Rape to reflect state criminal codes and the reality of victim experiences. The revised definition of rape includes any gender of victim or perpetrator, and includes instances in which the victim is incapable of giving consent because of temporary or permanent mental or physical incapacity, including due to the influence of drugs or alcohol or because of age.

## Total Crimes Reported

The total number of incidents reported to the Ottumwa Police Department in 2015 was 3,589. This was a decrease of 9 % when compared to 3,944 in 2014. As in previous years, the most frequently reported crime was theft with a total of 638. The second most frequent crime was narcotics with a total of 299.

## Arrests

Officers made a total of 3,414 arrests during 2015. The number of arrests decreased by 5.1% when compared to 3,599 in 2014. Topping the list of arrests were Narcotics at 424 and Disorderly Conduct (including Interference With Official Acts) at 313. The third most common arrest was Public Intoxication at 200.

## Traffic Citations

Officers issued 3,057 traffic citations during the year. This is an increase of 1.6% from 2014. The Ottumwa Police Department responded to 96 personal injury accidents and 233 property damage accidents in 2015.

# Annual Statistics

Year	Annual Budget	Alternative Funding	Activities	Calls for Service	Incidents	Arrests	Traffic Citations	OWI's	Personal Injury Accidents	Property Damage Accidents	Animals Impounded
2006	\$3,075,014.00	\$347,819.91	54,427	29,392	4,973	3,788	5,222	224	161	329	323
2007	\$3,126,904.00	\$349,495.46	58,007	31,077	4,792	3,606	4,620	167	175	321	312
2008	\$3,132,238.00	\$320,550.84	61,140	31,479	4,559	4,110	4,710	206	154	353	448
2009	\$3,462,270.00	\$530,404.94	58,038	29,298	4,098	3,780	5,179	162	156	265	430
2010	\$3,628,290.00	\$675,091.41	57,691	29,197	4,084	3,925	4,168	180	130	274	355
2011	\$3,953,135.00	\$817,277.08	58,825	27,329	3,980	3,987	4,042	146	121	227	400
2012	\$4,336,770.00	\$483,794.31	63,505	29,111	3,893	3,775	4,554	120	119	190	337
2013	\$4,520,419.00	\$437,685.00	63,503	29,614	4,164	3,899	3,041	118	110	255	343
2014	\$4,548,624.00	\$377,620.00	63,163	31,199	3,944	3,599	3,010	95	118	257	365
2015	\$4,771,665.00	\$407,581.00	60,727	29,234	3,589	3,414	3,057	102	96	233	257

# Annual Arrests and Traffic Citations By Race and Gender

Ottumwa enjoys a very diverse population. In an effort to support our diversity, the Police Department has implemented a program to collect statistical data on the race and gender of each person arrested or issued a traffic citation. The data is then reviewed in order to ensure that officers are not engaged in racial profiling and that laws are enforced without regard to race, gender, or ethnicity.

## Arrests

Gender	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Total	Percentage
Male	1915	223	253	13	<b>2404</b>	<b>70.4%</b>
Female	847	79	83	1	<b>1010</b>	<b>29.6%</b>
Total	<b>2762</b>	<b>302</b>	<b>336</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>3414</b>	
Percentage	<b>80.9%</b>	<b>8.8%</b>	<b>9.8%</b>	<b>.4%</b>		

## Traffic Citations

Gender	White	Black	Hispanic	Other	Total	Percentage
Male	1630	134	202	6	<b>1972</b>	<b>64.5%</b>
Female	976	38	67	4	<b>1085</b>	<b>35.5%</b>
Total	<b>2606</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>269</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>3057</b>	
Percentage	<b>85.2%</b>	<b>5.6%</b>	<b>8.8%</b>	<b>.3%</b>		



Iowa Department of Public Safety  
GOVERNOR'S TRAFFIC SAFETY BUREAU

## GTSB Year End Report

The Ottumwa Police Department received a total of \$22,705 from the GTSB of which \$13,705 was used for overtime while \$9,000 was used to purchase equipment. In partnership with GTSB, the Department set a goal of using 345 hours of overtime to continue to strive for traffic safety through education and enforcement in Ottumwa. From October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2015, we used 363.75 hours of overtime, which exceeded our original goal. We were able to purchase 2 in-car video systems. Listed below are some additional goals and results reported to the GTSB;

- Seatbelt average usage was at 90%
- Alcohol related offense - OWI, drugged, .02, public intoxication, PULA, open container - Goal 60- Result 336 Arrests
- Occupant Restraint – day/night seatbelt & child restraint - Goal 150, Result 264 Citations
- Moving/Speed Violations – speed, stop sign/traffic light citations - Goal 400 - Result 976

# Operating While Intoxicated

In 2015, the Ottumwa Police Department arrested 102 persons for drunk driving. The following is a summary of the drivers arrested for OWI (Operating While Intoxicated) in 2015:

- The average age of the drivers was 59.
- 76.5 % (78) of the drivers were male.
- 23.5 % (24) of the drivers were female.
- The average blood alcohol content of the drunk drivers was .157. (As of July 2003, a person with a blood alcohol content of .08 or above is considered legally intoxicated in Iowa).
- 31 persons refused to provide a breath sample in order to determine the level of alcohol in their system. (Failure to provide a sample for testing results in a person having their drivers license revoked for a minimum of one year).
- .05 % of accidents are alcohol related in Ottumwa.
- 29 % of Ottumwa's accidents resulted in personal injury or death.

## **DISTRACTED DRIVING FACT SHEET**

- ✚ In 2011, Iowa had 679 traffic crashes as a direct result of a distracted driver.
- ✚ In 2010, 3,092 people were killed in U.S. traffic crashes involving a distracted driver and about 416,000 more were injured in these types of crashes.
- ✚ Iowa data shows that in the decade between 2002 and 2011, a total of 6,697 crashes occurred that involved a distracted driver.
- ✚ Tragically, 16 persons have been killed in Iowa crashes where cellular telephone use was involved.
- ✚ Drivers who use hand-held devices are 4 times more likely to get into crashes serious enough to injure themselves. Text messaging creates a crash risk 23 times worse than driving while not distracted.
- ✚ Sending or receiving a text takes a driver's eyes from the road for an average of 4.6 seconds, the equivalent, at 55 mph, of driving the length of an entire football field, blind.

put  down  
it

# Professionalism Through Training

The Police Department has an obligation to provide a professional standard of law enforcement service to the community. In fulfilling that responsibility, it is essential to properly train all employees. The Iowa Legislature also recognizes the need to properly train law enforcement personnel and, as a result, has mandated specific training for both sworn and civilian employees.

## *Academy Training*



Iowa Administrative Code (IAC) Chapter 501-3.1(1) requires that any person hired as a police officer must become certified through the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy within one year from the date of hire. The Iowa Law Enforcement Academy is located at Camp Dodge in Johnston, Iowa. Currently, the police academy is fourteen (14) weeks in duration and its curriculum includes training in patrol techniques, traffic law and enforcement, officer survival skills, investigation of specific crimes, criminal and constitutional law, court procedures, and human behavior. The Police Department hired 7 new recruits in 2015. The cost of the academy was approximately \$7,000.00 per officer.

## *PTO Training*

Following academy certification and a return to the Department, a recruit officer is placed in the Police Training Officer Program (PTO). The PTO Program is a minimum of fifteen (15) weeks in duration and is the process by which an individual recruit officer receives formal job instruction. Each recruit is placed with a Patrol Training Officer and receives consistent, systematic, and documented training while in the program. The recruit is evaluated weekly by his PTO and the shift supervisor. Additionally, each recruit is evaluated midway through the training with a comprehensive evaluation at the end of the training period. Following successful completion of the program, each recruit officer functions as a single-officer unit and is evaluated by his supervisor on a monthly basis through the remainder of the probationary period. Although state law does not require implementing a PTO Program, agencies that fail to do so have been found to be negligent by federal courts in civil lawsuits.

## *Dispatcher Training*

IAC Chapter 501-13.2(1) requires that any person hired as a police dispatcher must successfully complete a 40-hour basic telecommunicator training course within one year from the date of hire. Currently, only the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy offers the course. Its curriculum includes human relations and communications skills, basic dispatch/broadcast techniques, multiple tasking and prioritization, liability and legal issues, and stress management and awareness. The Iowa Administrative Code also requires each dispatcher to receive a minimum of 8 hours of in-service training annually. In addition to training requirements, dispatchers must be certified every two years to operate the NCIC/state computer system. This is the system that is used to query motor vehicle registrations, driver licenses, wanted or missing persons, and stolen property.

## *Training Administration*

The Sergeant assigned to the Services Division is responsible for the training function. This person spends approximately half his time performing training duties while the other half is spent supervising Services Division personnel and performing administrative duties.

# In-Service Training

A police department must ensure that officers continually receive in-service training that serves to reinforce previous training and develop new skills. Our agency has emphasized such training by establishing annual “Basic Skills” training for all officers. These sessions cover critical policies, legal updates, and mandatory certification renewals for such things as CPR, firearms, defensive tactics, mandatory reporting, and hazardous material recognition. We train in-house instructors to develop and deliver this training. We currently have instructors certified to teach firearms, baton, tactics, less lethal weapons, chemical agents and CPR.

In 2015, Basic Skills Classes were held on September 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup>. All officers received one full day of training. The training consisted of a four hour Heartsaver/AED CPR instruction by the Ottumwa Fire Department. Automated External Defibrillators (AED) are located in many City of Ottumwa buildings as well as other businesses across the city.

The next hour consisted of Hazmat recertification instructed by Deputy Chief Corey Bengel with the Ottumwa Fire Department. The officers were instructed on local potential hazards and on how to identify certain chemicals.

Lt. Jason Bell led the one hour instruction for Legal Updates, Search and Seizure, 4<sup>th</sup> amendment and vehicle searches.

The remaining two hours of training were instructed by Sgt Aaron Vose who is a certified EMT on Medical Updates which included Tactical Medicine for Patrol Officers.

In addition to in-house training, we regularly send officers and communications personnel to classes at ILEA (Iowa Law Enforcement Academy) along with miscellaneous classes and certifications listed below:

Human Resources Management Training (8 hrs.)  
Iowa Medical Examiner’s Conference (24 hrs)  
APCO / NENA 2015 (24 hrs)  
Asp Instructor School (40 hrs)  
GTSB 2015 (24 hrs)  
Iowa Assoc. Women of Police Conf. 2015 (16 hrs)  
Iowa SRO conference 2015 (24 hrs)  
Iowa Association of Property Management Conference (24 hrs)  
ILEA – Animal Investigations (8 hrs)  
ILEA – Chemical Munitions School / OC Instructor School (32 hrs)  
ILEA – Defensive Tactics Instructor School (40 hrs)  
ILEA – Defensive Tactics Inst. Re-Cert (8 hrs)  
ILEA – Internal Affairs School (32 hrs)  
ILEA – Telecommunicator School (40 hrs)  
ILEA - Glock Armorer Course (16 hrs)

BIST School (16 hrs)  
Iowa DARE Conference 2015  
Iowa Narcotics Officers’ Association Conference 2015  
K-9 Recertification school (32 hrs)  
Managing Police Discipline (24 hrs)  
Officer Involved Critical Incident Seminar (16 hrs)  
Midwest Gang Inv. Association Fall Conference (24 hrs)  
PSTC (What if it were Family)(16 hrs)  
Iowa Sex Crimes Investigators Conference 2015 (32 hrs)  
Iowa Crime Prevention Conference (16 hrs)  
Police Training Officer School (Louisville, KY)(40 hrs)  
Iowa Sex Offender Registry Symposium (16 hrs)  
IBRS/UCR Crime reporting (16 hrs)



The goal of the Below 100 Initiative is to reduce police line-of-duty deaths (LODDs) to fewer than 100 per year.

The last time LODDs were below 100 was 1944. For the last 50 years, the average has been well over 150 and the

last decade over 160. 2010 and 2011 both had 174 line-of-duty deaths. The first complete year after Below 100 began was 2012 and we saw a 50 year low in line-of-duty deaths with 120. In 2015, there were 133 Line of Duty Deaths.

The Five Tenants of Below100 are:

### 1. Wear Your Belt

It might sound simple to you, even unnecessary, but the truth is too many agencies don't mandate belt wear. And even among those that do, many officers ignore policy because the culture doesn't value it. *The truth:* Seatbelts save lives.

### 2. Wear Your Vest

We know vests save lives. We know that bullets can fly when we least expect it. Add to that the fact that body armor can improve your likelihood of surviving a car accident or other traumatic event and you quickly see why you must wear it. Always. Period.

### 3. Watch Your Speed

Why do cops drive fast? Because they can, right? Well, driving faster than what conditions warrant is a sure way to get in trouble. Of course there are times when getting on scene quickly is critical. But these times are rare. Too often, officers are speeding—just because they can. In the process, they are putting themselves and the public at perilous risk *for no good reason*.

### 4. WIN—What's Important Now?

It's a simple question that can elicit profound results. It's a question that will lead to deliberate action, not reaction. If you are constantly prioritizing what's most important, you won't have time for the distractions that can get you in trouble, hurt or killed.

### 5. Remember: Complacency Kills!

Chief Jeff Chudwin perhaps said it best: "Complacency is among the most dangerous and insidious threats we face because it lays us open to all others." Complacency is why police officers think they can go without vest and seatbelts. It's why they think they can speed and allow themselves to be distracted. To quote Chief Chudwin again: "Complacency will kill you."

# RedSpeed

Automated Speed  
Enforcement

Help Them  
Show Up...



Slow Up!





# RedSpeed

## Automated Speed Enforcement Program

### Frequently Asked Questions:

#### **Why is Ottumwa choosing to utilize Automated Speed Enforcement Technology?**

According to the IIHS, Speeding is a contributing factor in nearly one-third of all fatal crashes. The result is that more than 1,000 people are killed every month in speed related accidents. According to the Federal Government, almost half of all speeding fatalities occurred on local and collector roads which are generally low speed roads found in business and residential areas.

Ottumwa officials are using this technology as a tool to assist Police in enforcing posted speed limits, ensuring the safety of both our children and citizens by reducing the number of speeding violations throughout the City.

#### **What is Automated Speed Enforcement**

Automated Speed Enforcement Systems use radar technology to measure the speed of every vehicle that passes the camera within the enforcement zone. If the vehicle's speed exceeds the predetermined limits established by the City, the vehicle will be photographed to document the violation and determine the vehicle's registered owner. After the violation is reviewed and approved by a Ottumwa Police Officer, a citation, including the violation photos and the vehicle's speed, will be sent to the registered owner.

#### **Isn't Conventional Police Enforcement Sufficient?**

The City of Ottumwa is committed to protecting the safety of its residents, however, resources simply do not allow for Police to monitor high risk areas as often as needed. This equipment provides enforcement while enabling officers to focus on other crimes where technology cannot assist.

## What does the Speed Enforcement Program Cost to Taxpayers?

The Mobile Speed Enforcement Program the City has selected comes at no out-of-pocket cost to the community. The selected vendor provides the mobile speed vans and all processing software. Maintenance and processing fees are deducted from the collected fine revenue, making the program completely violator funded.

## Aren't Speed Cameras just a way to generate revenue?

Studies have proven that photo enforcement deters dangerous driving behavior and shows significant safety benefits. Any violation of law has a monetary (fine) component attached to it and photo enforcement is no different. Law abiding citizens are not affected, and the funds generated by the program cover operating expenses and provided additional funding for the City to use for other safety programs.

## How will I Know if I'm in a Speed Camera Zone?

Potential enforcement locations will be publicly announced in advance on the City's Website. [www.cityofottumwa.com](http://www.cityofottumwa.com)

## What do I do if I receive a Citation?

### How much is the fine?

The amount of the fine is determined by the number of miles per hour the vehicle is travelling above the posted speed limit and will be indicated on the Citation. If the violation occurs within a designated construction zone, the fine amount will be doubled.

<u>Speed over the limit</u>	<u>Civil Fine</u>	<u>Construction Zone Violation</u>
1-5mph	\$20	\$ 40
6-10 mph	\$40	\$ 80
11-15mph	\$80	\$160
16-20 mph	\$90	\$180
Over 20mph	\$100 + \$5 for each additional mile over 21	\$200 + \$10 for each additional mile over 21

## **If I pay the fine will my insurance rates increase?**

No. These violations are being treated as civil and not criminal offenses so no license points are assessed and vehicle insurance providers are not notified.

## **How do I know these Violations are valid?**

Images of your vehicle were captured and recorded by an Automated Speed Photo Enforcement System which uses a Doppler radar to track all vehicles as they pass through the detection zone. The speed of each vehicle is calculated using the “Doppler Shift” and confirmed using a time over distance calculation to verify accuracy. The unit is calibrated and tested daily, and undergoes an Annual Calibration Verification by an independent test laboratory.

If the vehicle is found to be exceeding the posted speed limit, a series of images are taken. These images passed a two part review process by qualified technicians before being submitted to the Ottumwa Police Department for final review and approval. The alleged Speed Monitoring System Citation is then mailed to the registered owner or identified driver.

## **Isn't it a violation of my privacy to have a camera photograph my vehicle without my permission?**

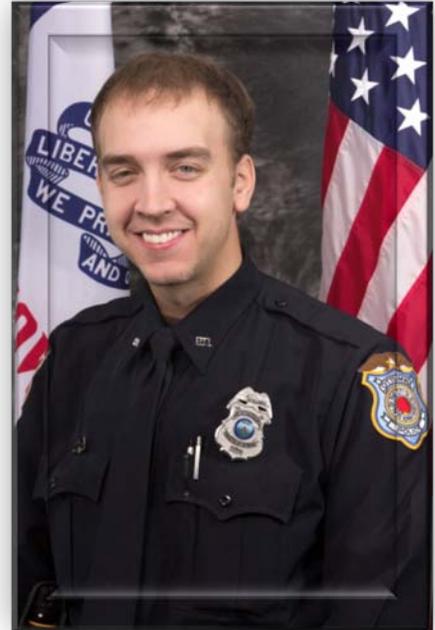
No. Individuals applying for a Driver's License are agreeing to abide by the established Rules of the Road. Speed Enforcement Cameras only capture images of vehicles whose drivers have chosen to violate the established laws by speeding, and according to established Court doctrine, individuals who are breaking the law forfeit their privacy rights.



# New Employees

## **Officer Kyle DeRonde** **Patrol Division**

Officer Kyle DeRonde was sworn in as an Ottumwa Police Officer on January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015. He received an Associate of Arts Degree from Indian Hills Community College and a Bachelor of Arts Degree from Buena Vista University. Officer DeRonde graduated from the 261<sup>st</sup> Basic Iowa Law Enforcement Academy on April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Officer DeRonde has been assigned to the patrol division



## **Pam Courton** **Communication Specialist**

Communications Specialist Pamela Courton was hired on April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2015. She obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree from the University of Kansas, and a Master of Science Degree from Louisiana State University. Prior to working for the Ottumwa Police Department, she was employed as a Communications Specialist for the city of Dickinson, North Dakota. Communications Specialist Courton completed 64 hours of state mandated training along with 10 weeks of training in the police department communications center. Communications Specialist Courton has been assigned to the Services Division.



**Officer Justin Rice**  
**Patrol Division**

Officer Justin Rice was sworn in as an Ottumwa Police Officer on April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015. He received a Bachelor of Arts Degree from the University of Tennessee Martin. Officer Rice previously served as a police officer for the Memphis, Tennessee Police Department and Oskaloosa Police Department. Officer Rice has been assigned to the patrol division.



**The Police Officer's**

**Oath of Office**

*I, \_\_\_\_\_, do solemnly swear that I will support the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution of the State of Iowa, and that I will faithfully and impartially, to the best of my ability, discharge all duties of a police officer for the City of Ottumwa, Wapello County, and the State of Iowa, as now or hereafter required by law.*

**Officer Scott Adams**  
**Patrol Division**

Officer Scott Adams was sworn in as an Ottumwa Police Officer on April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2015. He received a Bachelor of Arts Degree from William Penn University. Officer Adams graduated from the 263<sup>rd</sup> Basic Law Enforcement Academy on August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Officer Adams has been assigned to the patrol division.



**Officer Chase Johnson  
Patrol Division**



Officer Chase Johnson was sworn in as an Ottumwa Police Officer on August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015. Prior to being hired by the Ottumwa Police Department, Officer Johnson served in the United States Army. Officer Johnson Graduated from the 265<sup>th</sup> Basic Law Enforcement Academy on December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Officer Johnson has been assigned to the patrol division.



**Officer Jordan Staton  
Patrol Division**

Officer Jordan Staton was sworn in as an Ottumwa Police Officer on August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2015. He received his Emergency Medical Services certification from Southeastern Community College. Officer Staton previously worked as an EMT for the Ottumwa Regional Health Center and other ambulance services. Officer Staton graduated from the 265<sup>th</sup> Basic Law Enforcement Academy on December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Officer Staton has been assigned to the patrol division.





**Officer Jeremy Tosh**  
**Patrol Division**

Officer Jeremy Tosh was sworn in as an Ottumwa Police Officer on August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2015. He attended Indian Hills Community College prior to joining the Iowa National Guard, where he still currently serves. Officer Tosh graduated from the 265<sup>th</sup> Basic Law Enforcement Academy on December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Officer Tosh has been assigned to the patrol division.

**Officer Joe Johns**  
**Patrol Division**

Officer Joe Johns was sworn in as an Ottumwa Police Officer on August 24<sup>th</sup>, 2015. He obtained a Bachelor of Science Degree from Iowa State University. Officer Johns served in the United States Air Force where he also obtained an associate degree. Officer Johns currently serves in the Iowa Air National Guard. Officer Johns graduated from the 265<sup>th</sup> Basic Law Enforcement Academy on December 11<sup>th</sup>, 2015. Officer Johns has been assigned to the patrol division.



The Police Department is staffed with 39 sworn officers and 9 civilians. All positions within the Police Department are civil service positions and subject to Chapter 400 of the Iowa Code. Officers and Communications Specialists are represented by the Ottumwa Police Union, Teamster's Local # 238.

## Police Chaplains

In November of 2015, the Ottumwa Police Department initiated its Chaplain Program. Police Chaplains Jim Shrimplin and Rick Bick on a voluntary basis will provide personal services to officers and their families in times of stress and difficulty; will provide exceptional services to the community in times of personal or city-wide crisis; will assist officers in addressing community issues; and will promote community policing ideals. The Chaplains attend police training sessions and meetings; ride along with patrol officers and observe in the Communications Center on a regular basis.



Rick Bick is the Pastor of NewLife Center in Ottumwa. Next year he will celebrate 40 years in ministry. He and his wife came to Ottumwa six years ago with a vision to work with other area churches serving the community. He was drawn to Ottumwa by the city's slogan, City of Bridges, River of Opportunity. He sees the Chaplain program as an opportunity to partner with local law enforcement in making a difference in Ottumwa.

Jim Shrimplin is a pastor in the United Methodist Church and has served Wesley United Methodist in Ottumwa since July 2012. Before moving to Ottumwa, Jim attended the University of Dubuque Theological Seminary from 2008-2012 graduating with a Masters of Divinity degree. He earned his bachelor's degree from Southwestern Assemblies of God University. He is married to his wife of 20 years Rebekkah Shrimplin who also pastors in Bussey. Their son Philip attends OHS and is active in drama and is a member of Meistersingers. Jim is looking forward to serving OPD and the community of Ottumwa as chaplain.



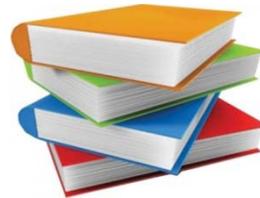
# Higher Education Is Important for Today's Criminal Justice Practitioners

For the past several decades, there have been efforts to increase the education requirements for law enforcement officers across the country. Newspaper, magazine, and journal articles cite numerous studies whose findings support the notion that better educated police officers are better performers. Increasingly, departments are requiring applicants to have completed a certain number of college credit hours or even earned two or four-year college degrees.

Researchers, practitioners, commissions, and even police agencies themselves have been calling for increased education requirements for police officers for many reasons. Some point out that police work has become increasingly complex and, as a result, education requirements for police officers should be increased. Others suggest that better educated police officers will be "more rounded thinkers and exhibit a greater humanistic approach to the profession." Still others believe that college educated officers were less likely to break the rules and, consequently, needed less discipline. Most agree that college educated officers have better communications skills, both oral and written.

Although the minimum educational requirement to be an Ottumwa Police Officer is graduation from high school or possession of a GED, we have been fortunate to develop a close relationship with the Criminal Justice Program at Indian Hills Community College as well as similar programs at colleges across Iowa. As a result, we have a high percentage of our employees with advanced college degrees. The following is a breakdown of the higher education possessed by our 37 sworn officers and 9 civilian employees:

- 1 employee 2% Master Degree
- 23 employees 50% Bachelor Degree
- 13 employees 28% Associate Degree
- 7 employees 16% Some College
- 2 employees 4% No College Credits
- **46 employees 100%**



80% of our employees have an Associate, Bachelor, or Master Degrees.

## Employee Averages

Interesting facts about Ottumwa Police Department personnel:

- Average age of an Ottumwa Police Officer is 36.4 years.
- Average age of non-ranking sworn is 34.8 years.
- Average age of a patrol officer is 31.1 years.
- Average age of a civilian employee is 44.4 years.
- Average years on the department of all sworn is 10 years
- Average years on the department for patrol officers is 4.8 years.
- Average years at the rank of Sergeant is 3.5 years.
- Average years at the rank of Lieutenant is 2.67 years.

# Community Policing

## Shop with A Cop



The Ottumwa Police Department partnered with the Wapello County Sheriff's Reserve for their "Shop with a Cop" program. This year they took 43 kids shopping and gave 22 gift cards to local families.

## Community Policing Through Radio

The Department continued to partner with local radio station 1240 KBIZ-AM to have the Police Chief as a regularly scheduled guest on the "Ken Williams Dialogue Show" at 9:15 AM the second Thursday of each month. The Chief discusses relevant law enforcement issues, updates the community on police activities, and answers questions from the public.

## Ride-Along Program

The Police Department believes a Ride-Along Program promotes a better understanding of the challenges, risks, and rewards of the police officer's role in the community. Therefore, the Department allows interested citizens and college students to ride as passenger observers with patrol officers. All participants in the Ride-Along Program must be at least 18 years of age and must sign a liability waiver.

## Ottumwa Police Department Internship Program

The Ottumwa Police Department Internship Program is a cooperative effort between the Police Department and participating area colleges and universities with Criminal Justice Programs. Students interested in law enforcement related careers gain valuable experience and knowledge by working with officers while they perform their law enforcement duties. Upon successful completion, an intern receives academic credit for participating in the program. Interns may be assigned to the Patrol Unit, Records Unit, Communications Center, Investigations Unit, School Resource Officer Program, K-9 Program, or Traffic Enforcement Program.

# 5th Annual Citizens Police Academy

In 2011, the Ottumwa Police Department implemented a new program called the Citizens Police Academy. As part of our community policing effort, the purpose of the Academy is to provide an educational opportunity for citizens to learn first-hand about local police operations and to gain a deeper understanding of today's law enforcement functions. It is our belief that a clearer understanding of a police officer's duties, how the officer carries out those duties, and the end result of the officer's actions will help develop a better relationship between the police department and the community.

The Citizen Police Academy is an eight-week program, with each session lasting three hours. Sessions were held from 6:00 – 9:00 PM on each Monday in February and March. The course curriculum included Department Overview & Orientation, Administration, Operations Division, Services Division, Drug Task Force, Gang Suppression, Animal Control, Parking Enforcement, Immigration, Communications (Dispatch), and Records.

Participants also had the opportunity to schedule time on the Department's new state-of-the-art use-of-force simulator and test his/her judgment in reacting to potentially volatile situations. Participants also had the option of going to the Department's firearms range during the summer and shooting a variety of weapons.



Scott Adams – *Citizen*  
Brent Baker -*Cargil*  
Sue Baker – *Citizen*  
Tim Bitner – *Citizen*  
William Dalbey - *Citizen*  
Nick Davis– *KBIZ*  
Kelly Genners – *Legacy Foundation*  
Skylar Genners – *Citizen*  
Ed Greer – *Messerschmitt Ice*  
Amy Hering – *Wapello Co Attys's Office*  
Jane Hodoly – *Citizen*

Lloyd Keith– *State of Iowa*  
Danielle Lunsford – *Ottumwa Courier*  
Chuck Manson – *Douds Stone*  
Nancy Manson – *Citizen*  
Nick Martini – *Wapello Co Emergency Mgt.*  
Curt Meeks – *River Hills*  
Andres Perez – *Citizen*  
Lorena Perez– *Citizen*  
Jimmie Post – *Cargil*  
Mel Robbins – *Citizen*  
Jean Sporer – *Citizen*  
Russ Sporer – *Citizen*

**The Police Department would like to thank *South Ottumwa Savings Bank* for their ongoing sponsorship of the Citizens Police Academy**

# Community Events

## Heartland Heroes

Each year, the Red Cross in Iowa recognizes individuals whose extraordinary acts of courage make them someone's hero. Heroes of the Heartland honor those whose heroic acts mirror the daily accomplishments of the American Red Cross. Indian Hills Community College also acknowledged these heroes during an IHCC basketball game to kick off the new season of Heroes in the Heartland.



In 2015, Lynn Diveley and Brandon Gravett were honored as heroes for their hundreds of volunteer hours over many years to create a fundraiser for the Ottumwa D.A.R.E. and G.R.E.A.T. Haunted House. These programs provide the tools for children in the Ottumwa Community School System to help with the prevention against drugs and gang violence. Since 2004, Lynn and Brandon strategically created each room of the haunted house every year and organized hundreds of volunteers raising over \$100,000.



## Ottumwa Girl Scout Cookie Eating Contest

Officers Derek Shaw and Devin Yeager participated in the 2015 Girl Scout Cookie eating contest held at the Quincy Place Mall. Members of the Ottumwa Fire Department, Mayor Lazio and Councilman, Bob Meyers also helped to kick off Girl Scout Cookie sales.

# Ottumwa Police Partnerships

The Wapello County Trails Council received a C.A.T. (Community Attraction and Tourism) Grant from Vision Iowa so a connecting tunnel could be built under Highway 34 just east of Quincy Place Mall to connect the Ottumwa Park with Wayside Park. This Underpass will provide a safe linkage of our trails system in Ottumwa.

Primary Funding came from the Ottumwa Legacy Foundation, City of Ottumwa, Wapello County, Vision Iowa - C.A.T. Project, John Deere Foundation, Wapello County Foundation, Community Foundation, and community donations. For a total of \$654,375.

In December 2015, a pole and camera equipment linked to the City of Ottumwa's Milestone network located at the Ottumwa Police Department was installed.



## **Legacy Grant Provides Vests to OPD Emergency Response Team**

The Ottumwa Regional Legacy Foundation responded to a request from the Ottumwa Police Department to assist with the purchase of two bullet proof vests for the Emergency Response Team. The Emergency Response Team (ERT) was formed in 1991 to handle high risk calls and warrant services. The ERT can be deployed for any situation that requires a police response that could likely result in serious injury and/or death to citizens or officers. Due to the types of situations ERT members can encounter specialty vests are necessary. Unfortunately, there have been no federal or state grants available for this type of vest. During the past budgeting cycle, the department was able to budget for three vests, but had a need for a total of five bullet proof vests for officers of the team which is where the Legacy grant of \$6,170 was able to assist.



Sgt. Brian Johnson  
Retired  
Sept 14, 1981- October 11, 2015

Sgt. Johnson has served the department as Patrol Officer, Department Training Officer, Defensive Tactics Instructor, Precision Driving Instructor, and was an original member of the Ottumwa Emergency Response Team. In 1989 Sgt. Johnson was placed in charge of developing and implementing the police department's motorcycle patrol unit being the first motorcycle patrolman the department had utilized in decades. Sgt. Johnson was also the department's first Field Training Officer and at one time had provided training to over one half of the department's patrol officers.

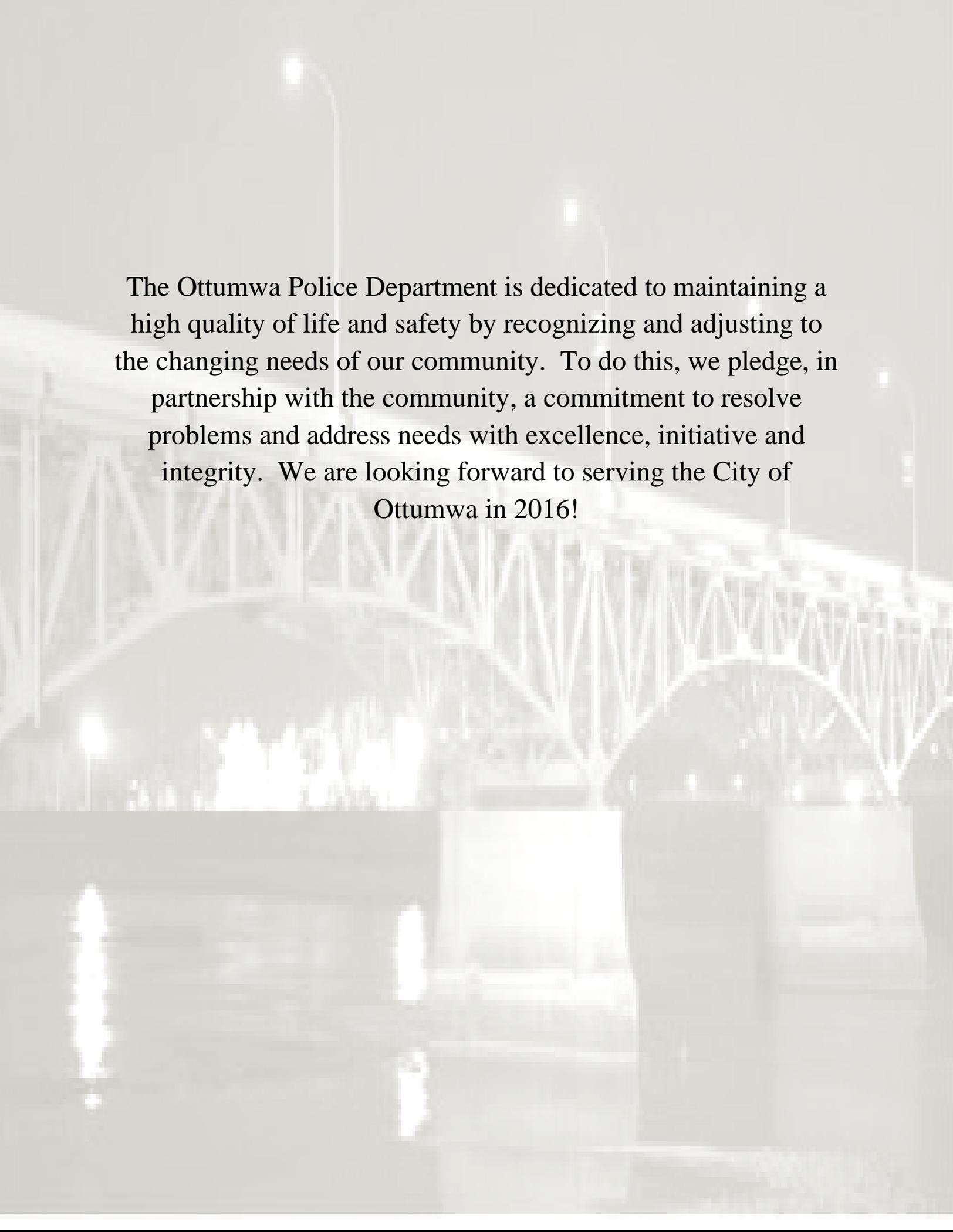


Sgt. Johnson was promoted to the rank of Sergeant in October of 1990 and served as Field Supervisor and Watch Commander. During this time Sgt. Johnson was an Excellence in Law Enforcement Program Instructor.

Sgt. Johnson is a recipient of the Medal of Valor, the highest award given by the department.



**The employees of the Ottumwa Police Department, the City of Ottumwa and Citizens of Ottumwa wish you the best in your retirement!**



The Ottumwa Police Department is dedicated to maintaining a high quality of life and safety by recognizing and adjusting to the changing needs of our community. To do this, we pledge, in partnership with the community, a commitment to resolve problems and address needs with excellence, initiative and integrity. We are looking forward to serving the City of Ottumwa in 2016!