

CITY OF FALLS CHURCH POLICE DEPARTMENT 2010 ANNUAL REPORT



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Message from the Chief

Wyatt Shields, City Manager
300 Park Avenue
Falls Church, Virginia 22046-3301

Dear Mr. Shields,

Once again it is my pleasure to present the Falls Church City Police Department Annual Report for Calendar year 2010. Again it is an honor and with great pride, I present our message of successes and accomplishments resulting from the dedicated efforts of the exceptional men and women of the Falls Church City Police Department.

This year, as with the past two years, was a challenge both fiscally and operationally. However, the Department was able to bring the Patrol Division back to full strength and the addition of the City Fire Marshal /Emergency Management Deputy Coordinator will become a reality in January of 2011. In addition, the Traffic Intersection Safety Program will be operational early in 2011. The total amount of arrests was increased in 2010 by 248 maintaining our excellent performance in the areas of traffic, criminal and drunk driving arrests. Again this year, the Department met or exceeded all of the State Accreditation standards and continued with our School Resource Officer program. We were able to restart our community outreach programs by staffing the Community Services Officer position. We also were able to continue the RAD, Toys for Tots and Children's Identifications programs. These programs, by the way, are done with volunteer hours by both sworn and civilian employees of the Department.

As was with 2010, this calendar year will be very difficult. Limited budget resources along with no salary increases for employees will create a difficult climate to maintain and foster excellence in performance and productivity. But public safety simply cannot be allowed to slip into complacency or discord. And we will not. We will always move forward seeking every opportunity in the areas of training and education, superior performance and productivity and we shall do so in the finest tradition and history of the Falls Church City Police Department.

All members of the Falls Church City Police Department are committed to providing exceptional public safety and service to our citizens, our business community and our visitors and we will not just succeed but we will prevail, regardless of the difficulties. Our attention shall always be focused on the City vision of Falls Church as "A Special Place."

With Abiding Respect,
Colonel Harry W. Reitze, Chief of Police
Falls Church City Police Department

Mission Statement

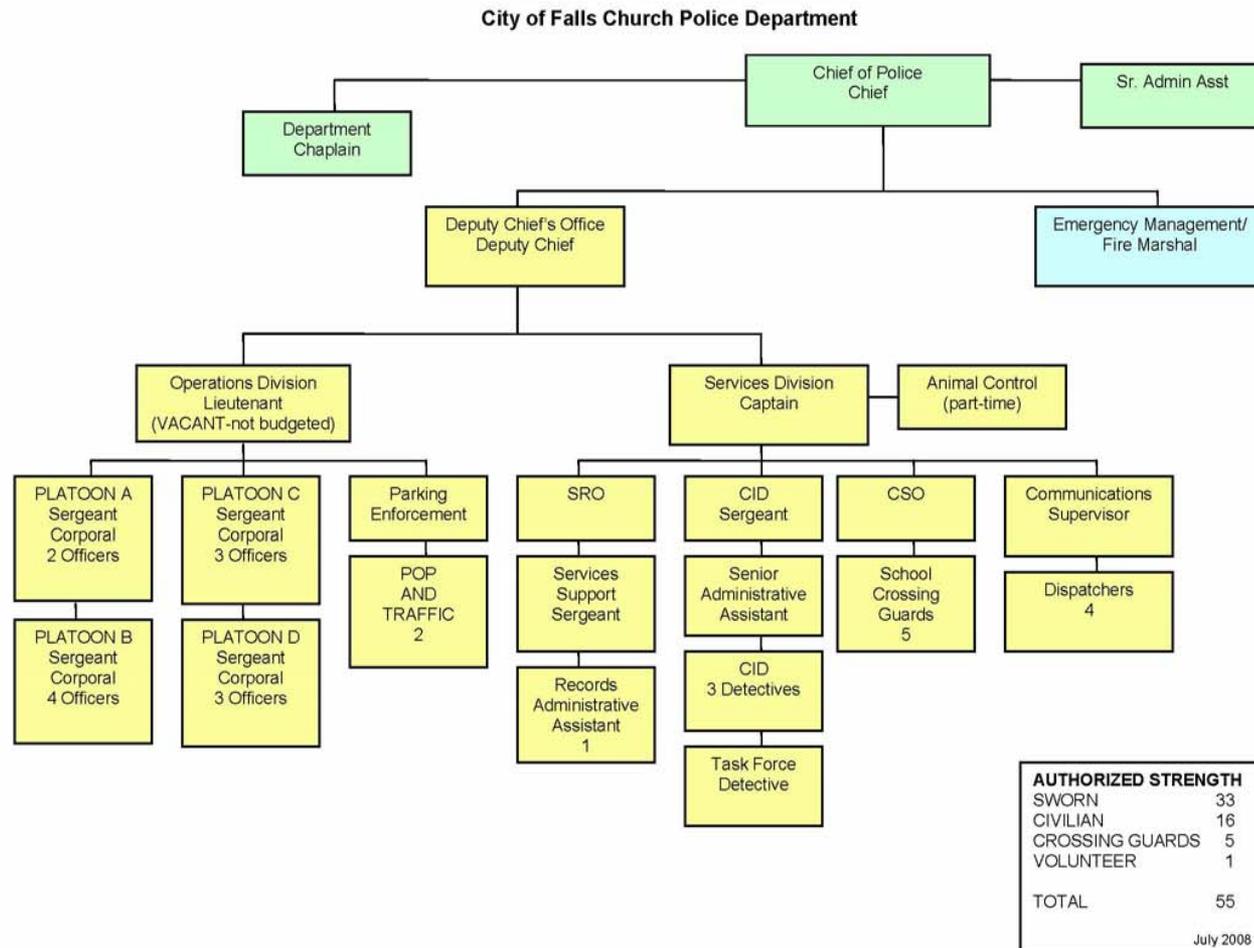
The officers and staff of the Falls Church Police Department are committed to providing a safe environment for all citizens to work and live in by protecting life, property, and preserving peace within the community. The Falls Church Police Department has the responsibility to maintain public safety and order through the enforcement of criminal laws and traffic regulations; development and deployment of effective crime prevention education programs that include children, residents and business owners, proper research and analysis of the service area; and coordination of interagency communications with other organizations in the criminal justice system.

Core values

Commitment
Communication
Teamwork

Innovation
Learning
Empowerment

Organization Chart



Statistics

	2010	2009	Difference
Part I Offenses - Total Number	383	399	(4%)
Part II Offenses - Total Number	2634	2,846	(7.5%)
Arrests - Total Traffic	7,006	6,631	5.7%
- Total Criminal	1,316	1,422	(7.5%)
- Total Adult	1,236	1,308	(5.5%)
- Total Juvenile	82	113	(27.4%)
- Felony	88	76	15.8%
- Misdemeanor	1,228	1,346	(8.8%)
DWI - Total Number	72	89	(19%)
Accidents (reportable) Total	239	249	(4%)
- Persons Injured	49	46	6.5%
Calls for Service - Complaints	2,432	2,648	(8.2%)
- Runs	23,731	26,649	(11%)
- Total	26,163	29,321	(10.8%)
Parking Tickets - Total	723	767	(5.7%)

Office of the Chief



The primary function of the staff in Office of the Chief is to oversee the entire Department by ensuring officers are actively engaged in the community as well as providing a high level of quality service to its citizens. This office is comprised of the Chief of Police and his Senior Administrative Assistant. The Chief of Police provides direction in all matters within the Department and coordinates with other City Departments and local law enforcement agencies. In turn, his Sr. Administrative Assistant is responsible for providing lead administrative support to include managing the office work flow, the preparation of the Department budget, Department payroll, screen visitors and a host of other duties.



Operations División

The Operations Patrol División is the most visible of the Department's Divisions, as it is responsible for responding to calls for service in the City 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. The officers provide proactive patrol and respond to complaints from citizens, investigate motor vehicle accidents and perform traffic enforcement duties. Of the 21 officers in the Operations División, one Officer has been assigned to the Traffic unit and one civilian employee is assigned to the Parking Enforcement Officer position. The purpose of the Traffic unit is to dedicate directed patrols for traffic related issues, which is one of most frequent complaints and concerns in the City. The second most frequent complaint and/or concern in the City is parking related issues. The Parking Enforcement Officer investigates and enforces the City ordinances regarding parking regulations and this year the PEO has proactively sought changes in the ordinance and policies to resolve some of the problematic areas in the residential and commercial areas. The Parking Enforcement Officer position is currently a part time employee but his impact in change and proactive enforcement and problem solving has been essential to the community.

Together, with all Divisions of the Police Department and all Departments within the City government, the Operations División works collaboratively in responding to reported crime and quality of life issues that affects the City and its citizenry. The Operations División fulfills this public safety responsibility by embracing the principles of the government service defined in the City's vision to maintain a safe and vibrant community.

Operations Division



In July 2010, recruit Officers Sameer Khan and Alex Cruzvergara were hired. These two recruit officers attended the 123rd Session of the Northern Virginia Criminal Justice Academy and graduated in December of 2010. Both recruit officers have been assigned to the Operation's Field Training process when they are required to complete a 14-week program under the tutelage of certified Field Training Officers. Their anticipated completion of training is April of 2011, where they will be assigned to permanent shifts. Both officers are welcome additions to the ranks and we look forward to their contribution to the City's workforce in forwarding our mission.



Results and Activities

In calendar year 2010, the Operations Division responded to over 24,000 calls for service that did not require a written report and 2432 complaints that did require a written report. The patrol and traffic efforts of the Division produced 7006 tickets for traffic violations, made 1317 arrests, responded to and investigated 239 traffic accidents, 703 alarms and issued 723 tickets for parking violations. In addition, the Division provided security, public assistance and crowd control during the Fall Festival and (4) citizen/community sponsored events to include: First Watch Night, The Falls Church Education Foundation 5K Run, The Friends of the WOJD Trail 5K Run, and The Senior All-Nighter Party for the George Mason High School graduating class of 2010.

Regional Traffic Campaigns

The Operations Division participates in four regional traffic campaigns directed at reducing aggressive driving, speeding, and school zone violations: Washington Regional Alcohol Program, Click it or Ticket, Smooth Operator and ASAP's Mothers Against Drunk Driving Campaign. In the Click it or Ticket Campaign, Officer Metin Cay was recognized for his efforts and this is his fourth year winning this prestigious award. In May 2010, MPO Alan Freed and Officer Rachel Henderson were honored with the MADD ASAP Awards for their efforts in the fight against drunk driving. This was Officer Henderson's first year to receive the award and it was MPO Freed's tenth year as an honored recipient.



Click It or Ticket Campaign - ASAP MADD Awards -- Officer Metin Cay, Awardee and Officer James Brooks, Coordinator



MPO Alan Freed and Officer Rachel Henderson Awardees with Master of Ceremony Ms. Peggy Fox

Blizzard of 2010

This year was not without its challenges as the region experienced record breaking snowfall in February, 2010 which paralyzed much of the Metropolitan Washington area. Yet the Police Department along with many other City Departments answered the call of duty by assisting stranded motorists, checking on elderly residents, responding to emergency calls and other calls not weather related.



Additionally, the City experienced a number of significant incidents which required mutual aid response from public safety entities both Police/Sheriff and Fire Departments personnel from throughout the region. The most significant was the accidental fire on Saturday, September 25, at 105 East Annandale Road that compromised the entire shopping center's structure.



Operations Community Policing, Projects & Initiatives

Towing Project

During the year 2010, Patrol Officers, Dispatchers, the Towing Advisory Board and Economic Development have taken a focused look at the towing practices, ordinances and policies of the City. With assistance and input from the community property managers of the major shopping centers the City ordinance was changed to regulate and better define the expectations of customers and tow companies. Signage regulations were set in place and additional evidence for each tow was submitted and accepted into the ordinance in an attempt to regulate tow companies and to ensure property managers would be accountable for each tow. Overall in 2010, 718 tows were tracked by Falls Church's Emergency Communication Center and more specifically Dispatcher Carly Lumsden and Master Police Officer Alan Freed. Of the 718 tows, MPO Freed conducted 10 investigations representing 31 citizens' complainants. From these investigations 1 search warrant was obtained and charges were made against 3 separate businesses. Through these investigations MPO Freed recovered \$1,100 in overcharging fee and each individual was reimbursed separately, yet more importantly MPO Freed and Dispatcher Carly Lumsden have set a standard for fair, timely and reasonable investigations that are venerated by the local towing industry. Through Dispatcher Lumsden's database, Ms. Becky Witsman's (Economic Development) outreach to the business community and MPO Freed's investigations, the City has developed a proactive and accountable process for monitoring the City towing companies. There is still a lot of work to be done in this venue and the Falls Church Police Department is committed to continuing to evolve with the community's needs and assist in resolving the pressures of limited and restricted parking.

Operations Community Policing, Projects & Initiatives

ABC Initiative

Patrol Officers Sy Symoun and Sharee Janda have developed a community initiative to concentrate patrol efforts on alcohol related offenses throughout the City. This initiative was started in mid year 2010 in hopes of scanning problem areas, analyzing data, responding to issues and assessing the community's needs as it related to problems which arise from alcohol related incidents. In the year 2010, the officers made 194 arrests that were alcohol related. Seventy one of these arrests were associated with driving while intoxicated, 10 accidents resulted from drivers under the influence, 37 of the arrests resulted in aggressive and destructive behaviors by arrestees causing damage and/or injury to themselves, others and/or property. Additionally these officers participated in a federal search warrant dealing with a City ABC Licensee that was tied to significant human trafficking violations that spanned the United States. Fall Church Police officers from the Emergency Services Unit, Patrol and Criminal Investigations Unit assisted Immigration Customs Enforcement Agents in securing the target venue, arresting the all conspirators and assisting in the initial investigation. This investigation lead to the closing of the Fall Church business and the successful capture of several top-level conspirator trafficking and enslaving young ladies from foreign lands.

It is anticipated in 2011 that this initiative will grow and the objectives and community liaison will develop into various prevention, intervention and enforcement solutions. The officers have already identified the City's problem areas and now are developing best practices and a comprehensive approach to solving the problems. Officers Symoun and Janda have maintained tight liaisons with Virginia Alcohol Beverage Control, local City businesses with ABC Licensees, non-profit associations such as: Washington Regional Alcohol Program, Mothers Against Drunk Driving, Alcohol Safety Action Program and Training Intervention Procedures for Servers.

Operations Community Policing, Projects & Initiatives

In 2010, Sergeant Joseph Carter spearheaded the Rape Aggressive Defense (R.A.D.) program. This year marks the 9th annual set of classes (2 each year) hosted by the Falls Church City Police. The participation level of this class has been at full capacity each and every time it has been offered. This popular class teaches women how to confidently defend themselves from stranger attacks on the street or in their homes. The class had a compliment of Law Enforcement instructors from throughout the region including: the George Mason University Police, Town of Vienna Police Department and Prince William County Sherriff's Office.



Community Outreach Volunteer,
Ms. Kathleen Dempsey

The enthusiasm and camaraderie built from this class is contagious, but the value is in the reviews and testimonials from participants that speak of how the techniques and confidence learned in this class have actually saved their lives. A true testimony to the camaraderie of this class is the commitment and dedication of the community outreach volunteer Kathleen Dempsey. Ms. Dempsey has been partnered with the Falls Church Police Department for over 9 years and faithfully organizes, attends and video tapes every class. She brings a sense of purpose and immediate credibility to the officers and the mission of R.A.D. and her service to this community is invaluable.

Approximately 60 participants were certified in R.A.D. in 2010. Four officers, Sergeant Joe Carter, Officer, Sharee Janda, Officer Sy Symoun, and Corporal Justin Cuomo are all certified R.A.D. instructors for the City of Falls Church.



RAD Motto



RAD Supreme Team

Operations Community Policing, Projects & Initiatives

LPR - License Plate Reader

The Police Department received two (2) License Plate Readers devices and installed them on two marked police vehicles. These devices were acquired through a Federal Homeland Security grant that has been awarded to the Washington Metropolitan area Law Enforcement community. The License Plate Reader is a device that captures passing license plates into a computer which then compares them against various databases. This technology boosts police efficiencies and helps fight terrorism at a local level. This program is managed by Officers Mike Gessner and Matt Cay. The databases in the computer are updated daily and include: terrorist watch list, stolen vehicle list, Amber Alerts, and others. To date, the City Falls Church has not captured any violations and/or wanted vehicles or persons as a result of this new technology. The LPR device's use in the City of Falls Church and its ability to capture data is invaluable to the regional efforts in fortifying our homeland security of the Metropolitan area.



Operations Community Policing, Projects & Initiatives

Mutual Aid

The Police Department provided mutual aid assistance to various Police and Sheriff's Departments throughout the Commonwealth of Virginia for various professional opportunities to include weapons training, accreditation and promotional assessments.

For Accreditations through the Virginia Law Enforcement Professional Standards Commission, Sergeant Pilar Uelmen conducted the following mutual aid assessments:

- January 2010, Arlington Sheriff's Office a Mock Accreditation Assessment
- February 2010, Colonial Beach PD On-Site Accreditation Assessment
- August 2010, Leesburg Police Department On-Site Accreditation Assessment
- September 2010, Salem Police Department On-Site Accreditation Assessment
- December 2010, Manassas Park Police Department On-Site Accreditation Assessment.

Captain Rick Campbell conducted assessments:

- November 2010, Lynchburg Sheriff's Office On-Site Accreditation Assessment.

For various Departments and different ranks of supervision the Falls Church Police Department supervisors provided assessors for promotional assessments:

- February 2010, Sergeant Pilar Uelmen, Arlington County Police Department Sergeant Assessment.
- March 2010, Sergeant Dan Zakula, City of Alexandria Police Department Sergeant Assessment.
- April 2010, Captain Rick Campbell, Arlington County Police Department Lieutenant Assessment.
- October 2010, Sergeant Charles Carr, United States Park Police Sergeant Assessment.

In weapons training the Emergency Services Unit members Officer Rachel Henderson and Officer Sy Symoun provided instruction and a comprehensive lesson plan to the Falls Church Sheriff's Office on Rapid Intervention techniques for active shooters.

Fall Church Police Firearms Instructors Unit members assisted in the recruit training at the Northern Virginia Criminal Justice Academy 123rd Recruit session during the month of November.

Operations Community Policing, Projects & Initiatives

Prescription Drug Take-Back Initiative

In conjunction with the U.S. Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration the Falls Church Police Department participated in the first National Prescription Drug Take-Back on September 25, at Fire Station 106. The campaign was coordinated and managed by Officer Amy Earley and Dispatcher Carly Lumsden. This one day collaboration of State, Local and Federal Law Enforcement agencies provided an opportunity for the public to surrender potentially dangerous expired, unused and unwanted prescription drugs stored in our community homes. The purpose of this campaign is to prevent the increased and availability of drugs that can be abused and/or stolen.

Unfortunately, the rate of prescription drug abuse is increasing at alarming rates and most of these offenses occur when a person obtains the drugs from friends and/or family. This campaign helps address this issue and properly disposes of these hazards in a responsible and safe way. The City of Falls Church drop site collected just over 100 pounds in a four hour period. This campaign was also supported by the overall recycling philosophy of the City's Environmental Service's mission which is the leader in the Commonwealth in recycling rate.



DEA Agent, Officer Amy Earley and Dispatcher Carly Lumsden at the Prescription Drug Take-Back Initiative

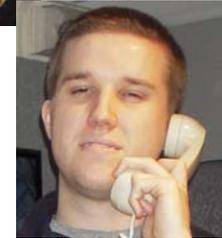
Services Division



Emergency
Communications
Unit



Criminal
Investigations
Unit



S.A.R.S.
Task Force
Detective



School Resource
Officer



Senior Administrative
Assistant



Supervisor of
ECU



Administrative
Sergeant

Records
Unit



Criminal Investigations Unit

In 2010, the Criminal Investigations Unit was assigned 326 cases, an increase of 8% from 2009. Part I offenses, which include serious crimes such as murder, rape, robbery, assaults, burglaries, larcenies, and motor vehicle thefts, were down by almost 3% for 2010. Only two categories experienced slight increases; Burglaries and Motor Vehicle Thefts. Fraud cases remained fairly constant showing only a 2% increase. The overall case closure rate for the unit increased to 76% for 2010 as compared to 72% in 2009. The City of Falls Church Police Department's closure rate continues to be higher than the national and regional averages, which range from 64% to 69%.



Here are some highlights of just a few of the cases handled by the City of Falls Church Police Department's Criminal Investigations Unit in 2010:

Bank Robbery

On Friday, January 15, 2010 at approximately 12:30 pm officers responded to NASA Federal Credit Union in the 1100 block of W. Broad St. for a bank robbery that had just occurred. Upon arrival it was determined that a suspect, described as an older black male, approximately 6'0" tall, 170 pounds wearing a black leather jacket and a Buffalo Bills baseball cap, had entered the bank and passed a note demanding money to one of the tellers. The suspect implied that he had a weapon.

While reviewing the video it was determined that the suspect matched the description of a suspect in a number of similar Bank Robberies in Maryland. Falls Church detectives compared the bank video to video and surveillance stills from various jurisdictions in Maryland and the suspect appeared to be one in the same. After additional investigation and collaboration with officers and detectives from Maryland State Police, Frederick County Police, Charles County Sheriff's Office, and Anne Arundel County Police Department, detectives were able to identify the suspect and obtain warrants.

Criminal Investigations Unit Highlights

Cyber Stalking

- On February 20, 2010 officers responded to a residence for a report of harassment. The victim reported that she has been receiving sexually explicit text messages and emails from an unknown person since 2009. The first communication was a text message that stated that they had both gone to the same school. The messages started coming more frequently and were becoming more personal, referencing family members and work. She stated that it must be someone who knows her, but had no idea who it might have been. The victim had been ignoring the messages at first, but then emailed back requesting that the emails and texts stop. Her requests were ignored.

A detective met with the victim and obtained copies of the emails.

The victim indicated that in the first few emails the suspect portrayed himself as a friend from high school. The emails began to change in tone and began discussing her personal relationships and family pictures and videos. From that point on the communications included sexually graphic pictures and sexually explicit and vulgar propositions.

In March, the texts and emails began to evoke even more terror. The suspect was making reference to the clothing she had worn to work and stated that he had watched her walk from her car to her office. The victim changed her phone number only to receive a text message the next day on the new number. The suspect's behavior continued to escalate. The victim found flyers on her car one morning that contained the same pornographic images that had been in the emails. The texts and emails began discussing detailed personal information about the victim's family and making real time observations of the victim.

The Falls Church Police detective working the case is trained to work with digital evidence. With her considerable expertise, and through her investigative efforts, that included obtaining court orders, subpoenas, and writing search warrants, our detective was able to identify the suspect and secure warrants for his arrest.



Detective Missy Elliott

Criminal Investigations Unit Highlights

Assist Homeland Security

On October 14, 2010 the City of Falls Church Police Department assisted the Department of Homeland Security Investigations Agents (HSI (ICE) with the execution of arrest and search warrants at High Society Bar and Restaurant located at 1245 W. Broad Street, Falls Church, VA.

These warrants were the culmination of a year long investigation by HSI (ICE) and were for five individuals known to own, operate or work in High Society. These individuals were known to harbor illegal aliens for the purposes of prostitution and the possibility of human trafficking. There were approximately 40 HSI (ICE) agents and 14 Falls Church police officers involved. The premises were secured and HSI (ICE) arrested the five targeted individuals and found 9 possible victims inside the club.

The operation was executed without incident. The Falls Church Police Emergency Services Unit made the entry and secured the scene while members of Uniform Patrol and The Criminal Investigations Unit maintained perimeter security. HSI (ICE) investigators were responsible for the identification, search and transportation of arrested individuals as well as securing the business after the operation.



Detective Sergeant Lancaster at the Eden Center

Criminal Investigations Unit Highlights

Stolen Vehicle

On April 2, 2010, a vehicle was stolen from the parking lot in front of the Planet Fitness Gym 6764 Wilson Blvd. The suspect had taken car keys from behind the front counter and driven the vehicle away. The owner reported that he had left his wallet in the vehicle. A short time later the owner reported that the credit cards in the wallet had been used within an hour of the theft at the Macys in Ballston Common Mall in Arlington. Later that night at approximately 11:30 pm the vehicle was recovered from the 5000 block of Wilson Blvd.

Detectives responded to the Eden Center sub-station office and retrieved a copy of the surveillance video. The video showed the suspect wearing black track pants with white stripes, a red long sleeve t-shirt, white "hoody", and a black baseball cap with a New York Yankees emblem. The suspect could be seen in the video entering the stolen vehicle from the passenger side, moving to the driver's seat, and driving the vehicle away.

Detectives then coordinated with Arlington County detectives to obtain the surveillance video from the Macys in Ballston Common Mall, where the suspect had used the credit cards belonging to the vehicle owner. The surveillance video showed the suspect wearing the same clothes as in the surveillance video from Planet Fitness. The suspect had purchased jewelry and gift cards at Macys.

Still photos were created from the video and an Information Bulletin was sent to surrounding jurisdictions. Calls began pouring in reporting that the same suspect had been committing similar offenses at other gyms throughout the metropolitan area for more than a year.

On April 23, 2010 the City of Falls Church Public Information Office put out a press release including photos from our Information Bulletin. Two major television stations picked up the story, interviewed the Falls Church detective, and ran the video on the news. Within a couple of days numerous independent tips were called in identifying the same person. After verifying the identity of the suspect, warrants were obtained for Grand Larceny and Credit Card Theft. Search warrants were also obtained for the suspect's residence in Montgomery County, Maryland, where evidence from the Falls Church case was recovered, as well as evidence necessary to close numerous cases throughout the Washington Metropolitan Area.

Community Services Officer



Community Services Officer James Brooks

For a good portion of the past year, the Community Services Officer was assigned to the Operations Division due to staffing shortages while new officers were in the training academy.

During 2010 the Community Services Officer:

- Conducted numerous Police Department tours to various groups and organizations.
- Coordinated the Smooth Operator traffic safety program that resulted in 790 targeted traffic citations, 5 DWIs, and 94 citations for violations other than target offenses.
- Implemented a Pedestrian/Bicycle Awareness week in conjunction with the department's Traffic Unit
- Toured school bus stops throughout the City to meet with parents and students to discuss concerns and needs.

Another member of the Services Division is the Community Services Officer. The Community Services Officer is responsible for providing home and business security surveys, coordinates the School's Crossing Guards, provides educational programs for the City's elementary schools, as well as the private/parochial schools, and conducts numerous training programs for our citizens and the business community. The Community Services Officer also reviews blueprints and building plans for construction projects in the City and makes recommendations based on Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED). The C.S.O. also coordinates National and State Traffic Safety campaigns and assists in managing Traffic Safety Grant programs. Additionally, the C.S.O. provides information for the Weekly Crime report and other press releases.



Crossing Guard Janet Haines

School Resource Officer

The School Resource Officer is the liaison between the Falls Church City Police Department and George Mason High School/Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School. The SRO is responsible for Law Enforcement and Crime Prevention on the campuses of George Mason High School and Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School. The SRO also provides student, staff and parent education on such topics as Drugs and Alcohol, Driver Safety, Internet Safety, Gangs, and Crime Prevention. The SRO and the School Division Safety and Security Supervisor work together fingerprinting, photographing and issuing employee badges to all Falls Church City Public School employees, as well as maintaining and upgrading the school system's video surveillance system.

Some of the other classes and activities organized and presented by our School Resource Officer are:



Classes presented at the High School level:

- 8th Grade Physical Science - Velocity & Speed
- Forensic Chemistry - Effects of drugs and alcohol
- US Government - 4th & 5th Amendments
- Driver's Education (10th Grade)
- Internet Safety (8th Grade)
- Drugs & Alcohol (9th Grade)



Classes presented at the Middle School level:

- Risky Behavior/Gangs/Crime (7th Grade)
- Character Education

All grades, meet with each classroom once during the school year

Animal Control Division

The Animal Control unit is responsible for the investigation of all animal related complaints. These complaints include, but are not limited to: Animal Bites, Animal Cruelty Complaints, Injured Animal (Companion Animals and Wildlife) Complaints, Animal Noise Complaints, Animal Quarantines, Impoundment of Companion and Wild Animals, Dog Licensing and any other call for service concerning animals. The Animal Control Division receives an average of 25-35 phone calls from citizens per day asking for advice or assistance. The Animal Control Officer is also a state certified Police Emergency Communications Technician and a trained Parking Enforcement Officer.



The Animal Control Officer responded to 198 calls related to companion animals and was directly involved in the handling, impoundment and disposition of 39 animals. Also, 13 animals were quarantined after being involved in bite incidents with residents.

The Animal Control Officer responded to 96 wildlife complaints and was directly involved in the handling, impoundment and disposition of 51 wild animals including 4 animals that tested positive for rabies.

Some other notable statistics:

Calls for Service 349

Assist other Officers 62

Assist Police Emergency Communications 71

Assisted other Jurisdictions 1

Animal Cruelty Complaints 4

Animal Quarantines 18

Animal Bite Complaints 13

Rabies Exposures 6

Wildlife Complaints 76

Written Complaints 31

Run Slips 361

Contacted while off duty at home by PD 64

Records Unit

The Falls Church Police Department Records Unit is a vital part of the overall operation of the organization. Even though we have a comprehensive computerized Records Management System, the Records Unit still handles tens of thousands of paper records that help document every event and activity handled by the department. They record and reroute every parking ticket, traffic summons, and arrest warrant. They scan impound sheets, court orders, release forms and any other form of documentation that needs to accompany a police report. They issue parking and drive through permits to our City residents. They create and distribute copies of records for numerous outside agencies, courts, and insurance companies.



Training



Training is a critical function of the Services Division. It keeps the Department personnel current with changing trends and technology. Providing quality training to all personnel results in a more professional and capable work force. During 2010, Police Department personnel received over 2,658 hours of training. This training was in the form of Mandatory In-service Retraining, Firearms training, Legal updates, First Aid, CPR, and Roll Call training that covers a vast array of topic and subject areas. Additionally, two officers successfully completed Basic Academy Training, spanning 20 weeks (800 hours).



Emergency Communications



The function of the Police Emergency Communications Unit is to serve as the "Lifeline" between the citizens and the Police Department. Oftentimes, the Emergency Communications Unit member is the first contact that citizens will have with the City Government.

It is the main control center for the ongoing operations of the Department. The Emergency Communications Unit provides the patrol units with access to local, state and federal criminal justice information systems.

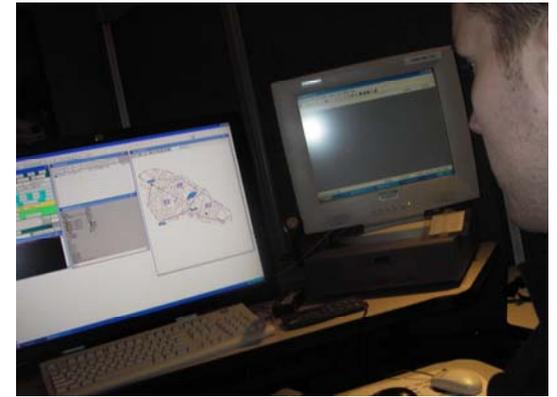


The primary function is to provide the uniformed patrol units with accurate information in order to respond to the needs of the citizens in a safe and in an expeditious manner. The Police Emergency Communications Unit is also responsible for the entry of the Department's wanted and stolen entries into the Virginia Criminal Information Network State and National Crime Information Central databases. The accuracy with which these entries are made assists in determining how quickly wanted persons are apprehended and stolen items are recovered.



Emergency Communications

Not only does The Police Emergency Communications Unit handle calls for the Police Department, but it's members are also responsible for monitoring and keeping track of The Falls Church Sheriff's Department Deputies and obtaining information from various databases for them.



Other responsibilities include but are not limited to monitoring various cameras and alarms around City Hall and other City properties such as the schools.



The Police Emergency Communications Unit is operational 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. It serves as the City Hall's gatekeeper during non-business hours.



In 2010, the Police Emergency Communications Unit processed 24,628 calls for service (This does not include the thousands of informational calls that required no police action.).

Fire Marshal & Emergency Management

Beginning in February 2011, Fire Marshal services that were previously contracted was integrated with the position of the Emergency Manager. This section is comprised of one (1) Captain.

Fire Marshal

The function of the Fire Marshal includes responsibilities as the City's Fire Code Official to enforce the Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code, thereby reducing the risk of fire. Additionally, the Fire Marshal is the lead investigator into the origin and cause of fires, explosions and environmental crimes including hazardous material releases.



Fire Marshal & Emergency Management

Accomplishments:

- Completed all state regulatory requirements for the recognition of the City's Fire Marshal.
- Prepared for Council the City of Falls Church Fire Prevention Code for adoption.
- Submitted fee schedule for Council approval as provided by the Statewide Fire Prevention Code to charge permit fees to defray the costs of inspections for certain types of buildings and operations.
- Established procedures working in conjunction with the City's Planning Office to perform plans review for construction projects to identify design deficiencies that could impede the effectiveness of emergency operations.
- Partnered with Dept. of Housing and Human Services to establish inspection procedures for Home Day Care providers.
- Establish a strong working relationship with the Building Official to formulate team inspections for identified unsafe structures.
- Approved as user for the A.T.F.'s Bomb Arson Tracking reporting system.
- Notifications provided to neighboring jurisdictions and COG for membership into regional fire prevention groups.

Specific Upcoming Objectives:

- Inspect all commercial structures in the City to provide an accurate indication of their occupancy use group under the Fire Prevention Code. This will provide for an accurate indication of the number of required annual inspection permits thereby showing estimated fiscal revenue.
- Evaluate all buildings with Fire Protection Systems to determine the number of annual inspections required to assure all suppression and notification systems are being maintained by approved third party contractors.
- Receive and equip response vehicle for the purpose of fire investigation and emergency management.

Fire Marshal & Emergency Management

Emergency Management

The function of the Emergency Manager is to manage hazards in an effort to avoid or lessen the impact of disasters resulting from those hazards. Emergency Management is divided into four phases Mitigation, Preparedness, Response and Recovery.

Accomplishments:

- Completed all state requirements for notification as the Deputy Emergency Manager including all regional stakeholders.
- Identified priorities and responsibilities for emergency notification broadcasts messages with the Office of Communications.
- Met with the City's Contractor for the Roam Secure Alert Network (RSAN) system to have a greater understanding of the capabilities of the system along with the number of users.
- Reviewed the current needs and requirements for the city with the Virginia Department of Emergency Management Regional Coordinator, Planner and NIMS Compliance Officer.
- City participated in Statewide Tornado Drill on March 15.
- Deputy Emergency Manager named to the Arlington County, Local Emergency Planning Commission to represent the City of Falls Church.

Specific upcoming Objectives:

- The Continuity of Operations Plan (COOP) will be updated resulting from the changes in government structure and staff positions.

- The 2007 Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) is required to be reviewed annually and promulgated by the Council every four years. This plan has been identified to be rewritten by the Deputy Emergency Manager with the assistance of the Virginia Department of Emergency Management. The plan will take into consideration changes in the realignment of departments in the city.
- Assure completion of the appropriate NIMS compliance level for ALL employees. The importance of NIMS compliance has a direct relationship for emergency preparedness as well as future Federal and State funding. Systems to determine training requirements for every city department will be established as well as record keeping certifying that training. Emergency Management and the NIMS Compliance Officer will lead this effort.
- RSAN System: Increase the number of system subscribers is a priority. This includes greater exposure for citizens to become subscribers as well as mandating all city and school system employees as subscribers for emergency notifications.
- Review all functions of the EOC with Police, Communications and Senior staff.
- Develop and execute an emergency preparedness exercise with multiple city agencies.
- Falls Church Volunteer Fire Department continues to train the Citizen Emergency Response Team.

Volunteer Fire Department

The mission of the Falls Church Volunteer Fire Department (FCVFD) is to aid in the preservation of life and property. This mission is completed in cooperation with the City of Falls Church government and the Arlington County Fire Department (ACFD). During the calendar year 2010, the volunteers participated in a myriad of functions related to the public safety of the citizens of the greater Falls Church and Arlington communities. The FCVFD is involved in training and other activities that its members have completed in order to continue to provide a high level of professional emergency response and public education services.



A significant majority of the funding for the Volunteer Fire Department under the City of Falls Church budget is used for the provision and maintenance of firefighting equipment and facilities, specifically:

- Apparatus Maintenance
- Building Maintenance
- Vehicle Equipment
- Building Utilities
- Vehicle Fuels
- Telecommunications

The equipment and facilities are utilized by all fire department personnel including both Falls Church volunteers and Arlington County career firefighters.

Volunteer Fire Department

Hours and Emergency Responses

The number of hours contributed by the FCVFD membership totaled nearly 21,000 during 2010. Membership contributions are categorized into three major categories, Apparatus Staffing and Standby, Training, and Administration.

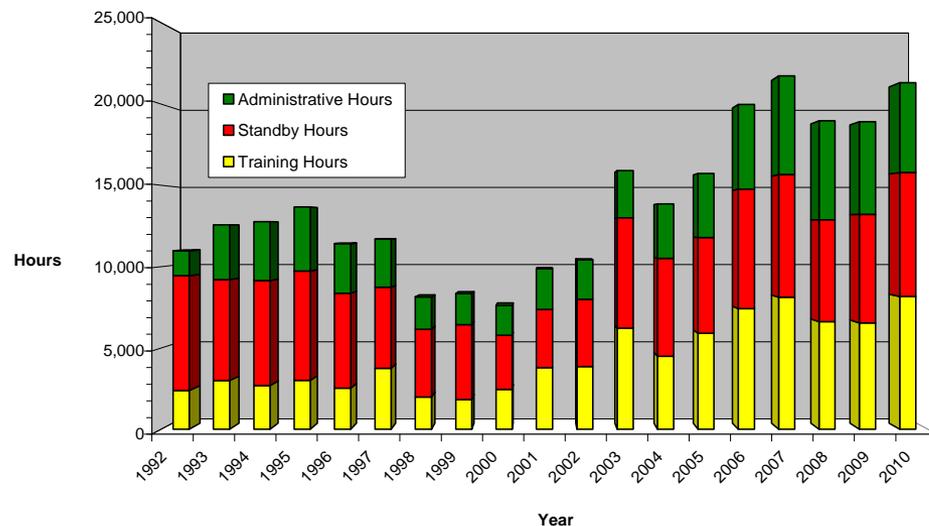
Apparatus Staffing and Standby

Members of the FCVFD contributed over 7,600 hours staffing volunteer units and supplementing the career staff during 2010. This represents a 15% increase over 2009. During those hours, personnel participated in 1,885 incidents.



Hours Contributed to the Community

1992 to 2010



Training

In preparation for fire department activities, members participated in over 8,100 hours of fire and EMS training.

Administration

In addition to the actual emergency operations and service delivery aspects of the Department, members spent over 5,500 hours completing the necessary administrative functions to deliver fire prevention information, raise funds, maintain facilities, and perform other basic business tasks.

Photo Gallery



FCPD Honor Guard



Intersection Safety Program



More Photos



FCPD Firearms Instructors



ESU Members with citizen

