
FINDLAY
POLICE
DEPARTMENT
2007
ANNUAL REPORT



The Findlay Police Department has been serving the community since 1887 and has evolved into an organization with an authorized strength of 73 sworn officers and 19 non-sworn support personnel.

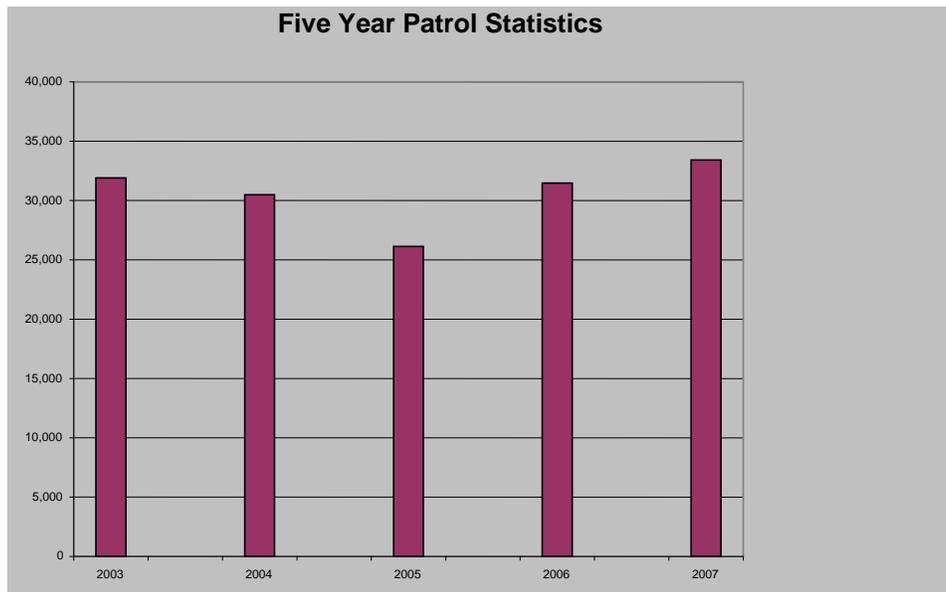
The Department has three divisions including Patrol, Detectives and Special Services. The Patrol Division is responsible for community policing and makes use of both marked and unmarked cars. It also utilizes several trained bike patrol officers and a K-9 trained in narcotics detection and apprehension. The Detective Division includes the Vice Narcotics Unit, which is attached to the Hancock County Drug Task Force, METRICH Enforcement Unit. The Special Services Division is multi-faceted, overseeing the Property Officer, Crime Prevention, and Parking and Records as well as the day-to-day operations of the Communications Center. Special Services is also responsible for the Emergency Response Team (ERT) and the Neighborhood Enhancement and Abatement Team (NEAT).

The Command Structure of the Findlay Police Department is comprised of the Chief of Police William Spraw, a Captain, three Lieutenants, each of which supervises a division. There are 9 Sergeants, one assigned to the Vice Narcotics Unit, one to the Crime Prevention office, and seven to the Patrol Division.

PATROL DIVISION

The Findlay Police Department Patrol Division provides the first response to all emergency and non-emergency calls. When at full strength it is comprised of one lieutenant, six sergeants and 46 patrol officers. Throughout 2007 the division operated with an average of 40 patrol officers and handled 33,414 calls for service, approximately 2,000 more calls from the previous year. This reflects an increase of 6%.

Calls for Service

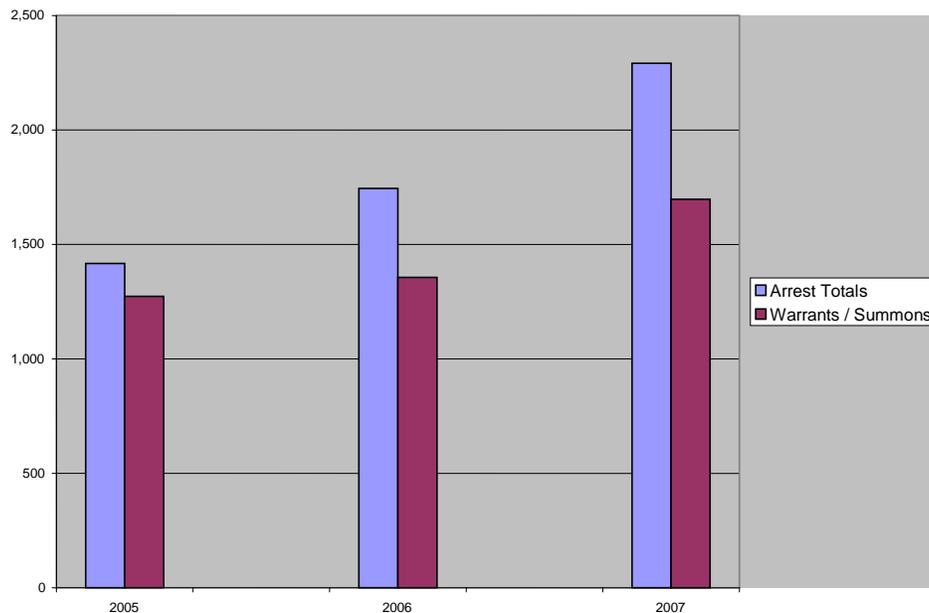


The manpower shortage and increase in calls did not come without a cost. The Findlay Police Department paid almost a quarter of a million dollars in overtime to compensate for the limited resources in personnel and the increased call load. A total of \$231,365 was spent in overtime wages, which was considerably more than the \$178,008 spent in overtime during 2006. With the shortage of officers and the emergency state created by the August flood, the Patrol Division struggled to keep the minimum staffing levels at a safe level for street officers.

In 2007, patrol officers made a record number of 2,291 arrests and submitted 2,687 requests for charges. Alcohol continues to be directly or indirectly related to 75 percent of all criminal cases investigated by police.

The Patrol Division also served 1,697 warrants and summonses. Suspects with “out of jurisdiction” warrants were involved in 388 of the arrests made. This type of warrant service requires a substantial obligation in man-hours as the arresting agency transports prisoners to the Ohio agency that issued the warrant. In order to alleviate this burden, the Department has adjusted its records management system to allow the Department to correlate warrant service with issuing agencies.

Three Year Comparison Arrests / Warrants / Summons



Findlay Police Officers investigated 2,458 traffic crashes and wrote 1,912 crash reports in 2007. The crash statistic reflects an increase of 249 crashes from 2006. The reports included one fatal crash, 241 injury crashes, 1161 property crashes, 271 private property crashes and 238 crash waivers.

Traffic Crashes from 2003 to 2007

	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007
Property Accidents	1726	1809	1720	1558	1746
Injury Accidents	219	248	220	221	237
Private Property Accidents	204	344	271	204	236
Fatal accidents	0	1	1	0	1

Commuter traffic continues to swell Findlay's daytime population to an estimated 80,000 to 100,000 people. This number can increase substantially during holiday seasons. The high rate of commuter traffic creates congestion on city roadways and statistics show that this has contributed to the increase in motor vehicle collisions. According to Department records during 2007, 6,701 people involved in reported events were non-Findlay residents.

Despite the manpower shortage, officers have attempted to target problem traffic areas. Citation numbers peaked at 6,838 in 2007. There were also 205 intoxicated drivers arrested within the city limits. On the surface, traffic stops may seem minor when compared to other crimes, but during officer-initiated stops in 2007, officers recovered many wanted criminals, narcotics, guns, and other items of evidence from the stopped vehicles.

Drug offense reports generated by the Department's street officers show that narcotics traffic continues to flourish in Findlay. Uniformed officers investigated 195 drug events this year, resulting in 276 seizures of drugs and drug paraphernalia. The Patrol Division works closely with the Vice/Narcotics unit as many of the traffic stops made by uniform officers develop into larger investigations.

The amount of violent crimes in our area remained consistent with the previous year. Two homicides were investigated by Patrol Officers in conjunction with the Detective Division. All suspects involved were apprehended and charged for their crimes.

Officers were dispatched to 435 unlawful-entry complaints in 2007 and they investigated more than 1,500 theft-related cases. Trespassing complaints reached an all-time high, with close to 500 calls being entered. Trespassing complaints are often quite time consuming for the officers as these calls require investigation time to determine whether a statute has been violated. Motor Vehicle thefts continued to rise with a total of 155 vehicle thefts investigated during the year. Fraud complaints also rose from 244 in 2006 to 330 in 2007.

Juvenile-related cases continued their upward trend with 588 reported cases of abused, neglected and/or delinquent children. More than 110 minors were charged with curfew violations for being on city streets without a parent or guardian. In 2007, officers took 180 missing juvenile complaints from local parents. All cases were solved with the safe return of the children reported missing.

Officers responded to 100 sexual assaults in 2007, a number that has remained consistent throughout the past five years. These investigations are extremely involved and often require several hours of investigative time on the part of the responding officers. These cases require the interview of the victim with the assistance of a sexual assault nurse, the collection of evidence and an intense follow-up investigation. The initial reports on child sexual assaults are often written by a Patrol Officer and then transferred to the Detective Division where Detectives with specialized training in interviewing child victims continue the investigation.

The flood of August 2007 created new challenges for the Findlay Police Department as it created several enforcement and logistical problems. The Municipal Building took on water and The City of Findlay was cut in two by the swollen Blanchard River. Department personnel showed their ability to improvise and adapt when they formulated a plan to create three command areas to deal with the divided city. The South Command was operated out of the St. Marks Church Annex at 800 S. Main St. and the North Command was operated from the Family Center at 1800 N. Blanchard St. The Dispatch Center remained at the Municipal Building throughout the ordeal. With a lot of teamwork, both command centers were operating within an hour of the decided move. Shortly after the flood began, police personnel began to operate on a pre-determined emergency schedule of 12-hour shifts in an effort to adequately protect the citizens of Findlay. Dump trucks, driven by members of the Findlay Street Department, transported officers to calls in heavily flooded areas. By diversifying resources, officers were able to respond to their respective areas and maintain peace and order.

The Patrol Division continued to take on more responsibilities after the Hancock Park District Enforcement Rangers were disbanded. Officers patrolled Hancock Park District property within the Findlay City limits and staffed an officer at Riverside Park during the summer. A police presence also became necessary at the CUBE due to the number of CUBE patrons attending "open skate". Attendance at that location often swelled to more than 300 people per night.

The Findlay Police Department has continued with Crisis Intervention Training. The CIT program has educated police officers in how to deal with mentally disturbed, depressed and distraught individuals. It has proven helpful in dealing with domestic disputes and other hostile situations that can be deescalated by the on-scene officer. Patrol officers handled 202 suicide attempts in 2007, 29 death investigations and 126 calls dealing with the mentally disturbed. With the advent of Crisis Intervention Training it has enabled police officers to evaluate the individuals involved, refer the matter to the appropriate agency and in turn, seek an appropriate resolution to the crisis. A description of the program follows.



The Findlay/Hancock County Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) training is a community partnership among law enforcement, mental health, consumers and family members. This unique alliance began in 2001 when representatives from the mental health community, the Findlay Police Department and the Sheriff's Office were sent to Memphis, Tennessee to assess the Memphis Model CIT program. While there, the Team went on ride-alongs with trained Memphis CIT officers. The consensus from the Memphis visit was to develop and implement CIT as a way to provide a focused and safe approach to resolving psychiatric crisis situations that law enforcement officers face in the line of duty.

Volunteer officers undergo 40 hours of training to recognize the signs and symptoms of mental illnesses and intervene to resolve crises. CIT officers also perform their regular duty assignment as patrol officers. Through the training, officers learn about mental illnesses such as brain diseases, schizophrenia, bi-polar disease, major depression, teenage mental health issues and the required skill-set needed to assess and de-escalate crises. Officers are also immersed in consumer and family member viewpoints on a variety of topics. The training is conducted under instructional supervision of mental health providers, law enforcement and consumer and family advocates. The training is funded through local levy funds from the Hancock County Board of Alcohol, Drug Addiction and Mental Health Services.

Findlay/Hancock County CIT graduated its first class of 24 officers in 2002, of which Chief Spraw was included. Additional classes were held in 2003, 2004, 2006, and three classes in 2007. In 2004, the Findlay Police Department (FPD) and the Hancock County Sheriff's Office (HCSO) each had reached their first CIT training goal of having one quarter of all law enforcement staff trained. This coverage allowed every shift in each of these departments to have a trained CIT officer at the ready. In 2005, the graduates of the first two CIT classes underwent a two day refresher course and in that same year, over twenty-three dispatchers from FPD, HCSO and Bluffton PD were trained in handling calls involving suicide and mental illness. The 2006 training included the jail administrator as well as three other Hancock County corrections officers. In January and May of 2007, an intensive CIT training was adapted and provided to 20 county corrections officers. In October of 2007 the first "blended" training was conducted and included nine corrections officers and nine law enforcement officers (five from FPD).

Presently there are forty-three FPD officers trained (53% of the force). Of this number all four members of the hostage negotiation team are CIT officers as well as several members of the departments Emergency Response Team. Currently five of the nine FPD dispatchers are CIT trained and the remainder will be so trained in January of 2008. Also, a policy on dealing with people with mental health issues was drafted and

approved by Chief Spraw. A CIT tracking form was also created which will be required when a CIT officers uses their skills in dealing with a person in crisis. This will ensure that any training needs or trends are identified and addressed by both the department and the CIT committee.

Finally, the CIT Committee members have responded to presentations and requests for assistance in establishing CIT programs in these areas: Wood County, Seneca County, Tri-County (Miami, Darke, Shelby), and Logan/Champaign Counties. In addition, Committee members presented at all three of the National CIT conferences (2005 – 2007) on the de-escalation model developed by the Committee and adapting CIT training goals to corrections settings.

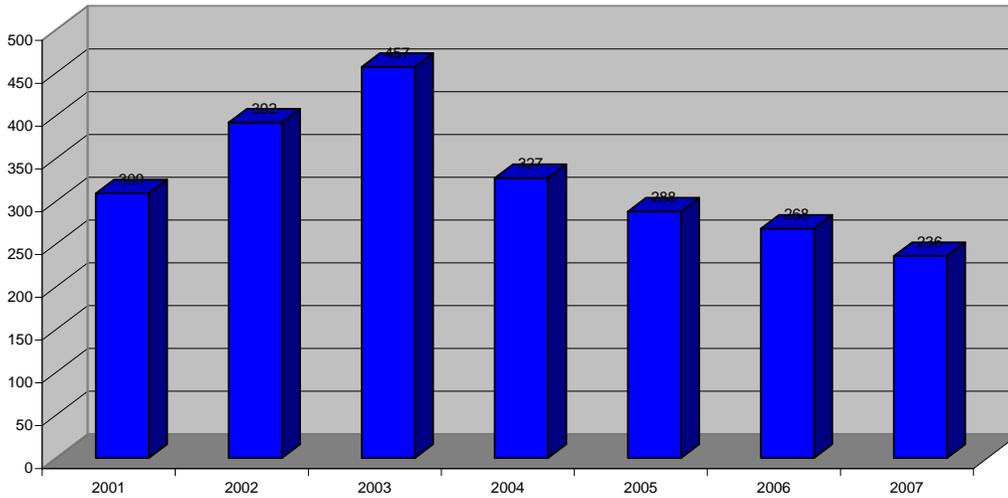
DETECTIVE DIVISION

The Detective Division conducts in-depth investigations on major crimes such as homicides, robberies, burglaries, rapes, assaults, child abuse, thefts, computer crimes, and frauds. Most investigations initiate in the Patrol Division, but may also come from outside sources such as Children Services, Crime Stoppers, social service agencies, Prosecutor's offices or attorneys. The original reporting officers in the Patrol Division investigate many crimes. Investigations assigned to Detectives are usually those that require extensive time, travel, or expertise in specific areas. All criminal reports are reviewed by the Detective Lieutenant for solvability factors and assigned based upon those factors.

The Detective Division was staffed in 2007 with the Detective Lieutenant and six detectives. The Vice-Narcotics Unit is part of the Detective Division and the Sergeant of the Vice-Narcotics Unit reports to the Detective Lieutenant and is second in command of the Detective Division. A secretary is assigned to the Detective Division and assists the Vice-Narcotics Unit.

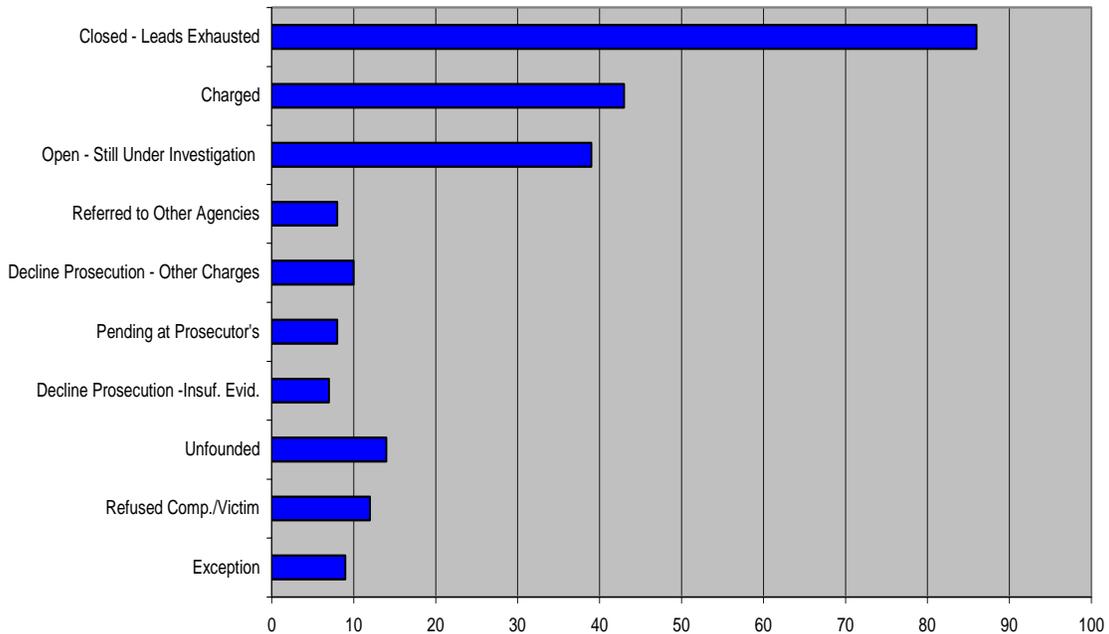
There were 236 investigations assigned to Detectives during the year of 2007, averaging approximately 39 investigations per Detective for the year. Additional assignments that detectives were responsible for during the year included background investigations of new hires within the police department; juvenile court officer; and pawnshop reviews.

Detective Division Case Assignments 2007



Case dispositions for those investigations assigned to Detectives are shown in the following chart. Based upon these figures, there was sufficient evidence to request charges in 29% of the cases.

Detective Division Case Dispositions 2007



The Detective Division continued to work closely with the Hancock County Prosecutor's Office and Hancock County Job and Family Services in the investigation of child abuse and child sexual abuse cases. In 2007, these types of investigations

accounted for over 33% of the case assignments in the Detective Division. Specialized training is required to conduct these investigations. The Center for Safe and Healthy Children was established in 2006 to aid in the investigation of these crimes. Child victims and their families now have a “one-stop shop” where they can take their child for these investigations.

The Detective Division was successful in solving many serious crimes during 2007. Two homicides occurred during the year that were solved and are progressing through the judicial process. Both homicides were rather involved and required extensive investigation. Several armed robberies, felonious assaults and sexual assaults were solved and prosecuted successfully. DNA was successfully used to solve several home invasions and a rape that occurred between 2004 and 2005.

The goals and objectives of the Detective Division in 2007 included increasing training, staffing levels, and solvability factors. The solvability factor for prosecution of cases did not increase, staffing levels remained constant, and training opportunities were limited. The implementation of an Internet Crimes against Children (ICAC) task force has been slow, but is proceeding.

The Detective Lieutenant and the Sheriff’s Office Detective Sergeant received advanced training in supervising an ICAC unit. Detectives from both agencies are on waiting lists to receive advanced training in conducting ICAC investigations. Equipment has been purchased and office space procured to begin operations once this training is completed. One Detective received advanced training in death investigations, and two detectives are on waiting lists for advanced photography and interviewing techniques.

Goals and Objectives

- As staffing levels permit, reinstate the rotating assignment within the Detective Division.
- Provide training in specialized areas to enhance the skills and expertise of the Division.
- Establish and staff an operations center for the investigation of Internet Crimes against Children.
- Continue to improve upon the solvability factor of investigations conducted within the Detective Division.

Vice Narcotics Unit

The Vice Narcotics Unit is part of the Detective Division and is comprised of four Detectives and one Sergeant from the Findlay Police Department and one Deputy and one Sergeant from the Hancock County Sheriff’s Office. The Unit is assigned the task of investigating violations of laws involving narcotics, gambling, weapons, prostitution, and gangs.

The Findlay Police Department is also part of a ten county drug task force called METRICH Enforcement Unit. METRICH is one of the only de-centralized task forces in the state promoting a Community Policing philosophy approach to task force operations. METRICH is also the largest drug task force in the State of Ohio. The Findlay Police Department and the Hancock County Sheriff's Office joined METRICH in October of 1999. METRICH is funded through the State of Ohio Office of Criminal Justice Services.



Our mission is to improve the quality of life for the citizens in Findlay and Hancock County by reducing the availability of illegal drugs and weapons through community partnerships; thus promoting safe and secure neighborhoods.

VNU Detectives handled 245 incidents in 2007, a decrease of 26% from last year with 331 incidents and a 17% decrease from 2005 with a total of 296 incidents. This Division was directly affected by the flood in August with over 22 inches of water in the office. The Unit had to be relocated and new equipment had to be purchased before resuming normal business; approximately 3 months. VNU Detectives investigated 96 narcotics cases, 17 pharmacy/prescription cases, 6 calls to assist other agencies, 1 prostitution case, 1 gambling incident, and 124 field interviews/sources of other information to obtain intelligence; of which 24 phone calls and/or e-mails to Crime Stoppers or other related tip lines were received from the public for further investigations. In addition to Hancock County Crime Stoppers (419-425-TIPS or online at - hancockcrimestoppers.org), there is the METRICH online website - crimeline@metrich.com, or contacting the VNU office at 419-424-DRUG (3784) to leave

any type of drug related information. The pharmacy/prescription cases have increased tremendously in the past year with VNU and with over 20 reported incidents on the street level.

While comparing the statistics from 2006 to 2007 there has been an increase in the number of requested felony charges. 110 cases were closed out with 144 felony indictments for drug related offenses. There are 38 drug investigations from 2007 that are currently open/under investigation. VNU conducted 3 high risk buy bust operations and served 7 search warrants with the assistance of the Findlay Police Department's Emergency Response Team. VNU also examined and/or followed up on some of the additional 195 narcotic involved reports generated by the Department.

The following were seized from drug investigations:

- 243.61 grams of Crack Cocaine
- 78.8 grams of Cocaine
- 7,391.31 grams of Marijuana (including 15 pounds intercepted through the mail)
- 120 Unknown tablets
- 90 tablets of Darvocet
- 31.5 tablets of Vicodin
- 15 tablets of Hydrocone
- 3 tablets of Oxycontin
- 1 tablets of Percocet
- 6 Marijuana plants
- \$7,699.30 in U.S. currency
- 20 altered prescriptions
- Requested forfeiture on seven vehicles and two properties
- 7 surveillance cameras on a drug house obtained during execution of a search warrant

Most of the seizures were also down this year in the categories listed above. Some of this is due to funding being cut dramatically for the third year in a row and more projected budget cuts for 2008. The biggest projected cut is the JAG formula grant to provide \$170 million nationally for 2008, down from the actual \$520 million from 2007.

VNU Detectives are spending increased time with surveillance and working with Findlay Patrol Officers and Deputies from the Hancock County Sheriff's Office with areas known to have a high volume of traffic and suspected drug activity. VNU assisted the following agencies with additional manpower: Seneca METRICH Enforcement Unit on three occasions, Wyandot METRICH Enforcement Unit on two occasions, and BCI&I for marijuana plant eradication. Other agencies that assisted VUN throughout the year with additional manpower were: BCI&I (Bowling Green, OH Office) and D.E.A. (Toledo, OH Office) on several occasions. The majority of this combined effort is to help identify sources from the surrounding communities of Fostoria, Lima, and Toledo; which directly affect drug crimes in Findlay and Hancock County.

VNU Detectives received the following training: NARCO Conference in Columbus, OH; Clandestine Laboratory Investigation Conference in Columbus, OH; Covert Vehicle Installations in Meridan, MS; and several sessions of in-house training at the Findlay Police Department. Certain VNU Detectives also spoke at four different organizations in reference to illegal narcotics through the use of a visual presentation along with handout information. One presentation was conducted at Blanchard Valley Hospital to doctors for fraudulent prescription drug investigations which was well received.

Goals and Objectives

- To increase drug removals.
- To increase investigations aimed at reducing the availability of weapons to drug violators and felons.
- Following up with the forfeiting of money and/or property being seized from suspects.
- Increase pharmaceutical diversion cases and seizure of diverted drugs or prescriptions.
- Effective and efficient use of manpower and use of covert funding for operations.
- Drug awareness through more presentations to various local groups/agencies and the continued support of the Red Ribbon campaign with the schools.

SPECIAL SERVICES DIVISION

The Special Services Division is comprised of several smaller but vital and important units that contribute to the Police Department as a whole. These units include: Crime Prevention, N.E.A.T., Court Officer, Records, Parking, Property Officer, Training, Crossing Guards and Communications.

CRIME PREVENTION UNIT

The Crime Prevention Bureau continued to be a dynamic and essential part of the police department and community.

The Bureau was very active in 2007 in the public and private school system educating school age children about Crime Prevention issues. There was a monthly topic following the virtues that each would encounter during the year. Some of the virtues were self-discipline, responsibility, courage, compassion, perseverance, respect, integrity, hope, and diversity. Topics were taught to all 3rd, 6th, and 8th grade students monthly or

weekly depending on the grade level. Each grade was instructed with numerous positive results. Some of the topics taught were as follows:

3rd Grade

Turning Failure into Success
We Can All Get Along
Put Yourself In Someone Else's Shoes: Building Character
Harassment Hurts: Gossiping, Taunting, and Bullying
Stress busters
What to Do About Anger
Seatbelt Safety
What about Tobacco?
What Should I Do? Making Decisions: Summer Safety

6th Grade

Say No and Keep Your Friends
Drugs, Your Friends, and You
The Law and Court Terms
The Truth about Marijuana
Respect: The Real Deal
When Anger Turns to Rage
The Truth about Inhalants
Drinking and Driving—Josh Meyers Video
Vision Goggles/Alcohol Dangers with Peer Pressure

8th Grade

Change Your Attitude: Change Your Life
Respect: Why Does It Work?
Taunting, gossiping, and Hazing: It's Harassment
The Law and Court Terms—Criminal Law Dictionary
Teen Adult Conflict: Working It Out
If You Drink...Anything Can Happen
Anger Management Skills
Internet Safety—What You Don't Know May Hurt You
Facts about Drugs and What You Need To Know

A tour of the police department was given to all 6th grade students in the City and St. Michael's school system. At the end of the school year a police academy was conducted for the students involving four officers outside the Crime Prevention Bureau. This was organized and given in a half-day increment with each officer teaching a 45 minute session about their prospective topic. The topics offered during the academy were:

Alcohol/Tobacco/Drug Prevention
K-9 Officer and Flip Demonstration
Crime Scene Investigation
Crash Scene Reconstruction

The instructors, along with the Crime Prevention Officer, ate lunch with the students and teachers after the academy allowing them to answer any questions they had. This allowed the students to personally meet the officers. The schools collected “pop-tabs” and turned them in for money which was donated to the Crime Prevention Bureau for supplies.

There were approximately 500 eighth grade students, 500 sixth grade students, and 450 third grade students taught during the school year. The Crime Prevention officer also taught classes or assisted at Findlay High School, Brown Mackie College, University of Findlay, and Owens Community College during the school year servicing approximately 300 students.

The Crime Prevention Bureau is also active during the year in many organizations and committees such as: Triad, File of Life, Red Ribbon Campaign, Ohio Crime Prevention Association, Hancock County Community Partnership, Just Say No Club, Safety Town, Safe Kids, Pre-School and Adult Education, Health and Safety Fairs, Block Watch, Family Month Task Force, Millstream Employer Advisory Team, Independent Living through Findlay High School, Project “Happy” Weekend, Home Depot Safety Day, Sterling Store Safety Day, Best Buy Safety Fair, Job Fairs, National Night Out, Adult Cluster, Senior Solutions, Crime Stoppers, Boy Scout Merit Badge seminars, Home Security, Robbery Prevention Training w/Banks and Credit Unions, and Business Security Inspections



The Crime Prevention Bureau position has also allowed the officer to assume positions of leadership as President of Safety Town and Chairperson of the Community Partnership and other committees listed above.

Donations were received by many organizations and individuals during the year. The Wal-Mart Corporation was a large contributor to the unit, enabling the unit to purchase numerous items used by the Bureau in its day to day operations. A lap-top computer used for power-point presentations was also used which had been purchased with Wal-Mart donations. This was very much appreciated by the Bureau with the money put to important use.

The Bureau was also involved with a fund-raising program initiated in 2006 to buy books for the 6th and 8th grade students in Findlay and St. Michaels Schools. The Community Safety Net along with the Findlay Police Department-Crime Prevention Bureau was able to raise approximately \$24,000 in donations from civic-minded organizations, businesses, and individuals in order to purchase personal and drug safety books which were given to each individual student. This campaign was very successful

and illustrates the importance placed on prevention within our community. Two of the biggest donations came from Ball Metal and the Findlay-Hancock County Community Foundation. New students received books in 2007.

Many important relationships have been established within the community through the Special Services Division and Crime Prevention Bureau. By presenting a positive and helpful image, the Crime Prevention officer can instill trust and responsibility within our school age children and provide education for the adults of our community.

Fingerprinting individuals for criminal record checks and employer checks is another well known function of the Crime Prevention Bureau. The computerized system called “Web-Check” continues to be utilized. Criminal checks are done for taxi licensing, solicitor’s licenses, and for employers. A minimum of two hours is devoted weekly to performing this task.

Goals and Objectives

- Continued training for the Crime Prevention Officer.
- Continue to teach and develop new programs for all ages of children.
- Research new policing techniques and up to date community policing objectives.
- Continue the public relations area within our department and community by staying involved with committees and groups.
- Continue to update our “photo board” with new programs.
- Increase the awareness of the National Night Out and Block watch programs.

N.E.A.T.

The Neighborhood Enhancement & Abatement Team (N.E.A.T.) handles complaints of junk on premises, junk vehicles, weeds, overgrowth, dilapidated structures, trash, etc. It is staffed by a police officer and a clerk/secretary. N.E.A.T. received 1193 complaints throughout the year, which is the highest since the unit’s inception. The breakdown is as follows:



- Junk on Premises 180
- Junk Vehicles 166
- Weeds 354
- Overgrowth 38
- Dilapidated Structures 32
- Trash 107
- Right of Way Issues 14
- Sidewalks 253
- Minor Maintenance 15
- Miscellaneous 34

Goals and Objectives

- Continue to provide an efficient and professional service to the community through both education and enforcement

COURT OFFICER

The Police Department supplies an officer to the Findlay Municipal Court whose duties include courtroom security, court paper service such as summonses, subpoenas, eviction notices, prisoner escort, and copying reports for officers and the Law Director’s Office. Activity generated by the court officer includes the following:

	2006	2007
Papers Processed	2894	2516
Paper Service hours	1056	921
Transports	814	935
Miles Driven	9440	8616
Copies Made	560	528
Total Summons		998
Court Security Hrs.	805.5	989.5

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- Continue good relations between the Court and the Police Department.
- Examine procedures so as to insure streamlined productivity.

RECORDS ROOM

The Records Room is comprised of one (1) Supervisor and two (2) Clerks. The records management system software allows officers to make direct entries into the system. This has decreased the record room workload to a manageable level. With the current system, reports are essentially ready when the officer completes them, decreasing the time considerably for the public's access to those reports.

Even though the records management system software allows direct entries, there are still records that require Clerks to enter into the system. Clerks are still responsible for entering some traffic citations, warning tickets, private property crashes, crash waivers, gun registrations and bicycle licenses.

The total amount of money brought into the Records Room amounted to \$81,706.13. A breakdown of those amounts is as follows:

Fingerprint Fees	3,390.00
Bicycle Licenses	48.00
Cone Rental Fees	240.00
Parking Lot Rental	21,415.00
Parking Violations	44,434.18
False Alarm Fees	3,000.00

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- Provide service in a professional and timely manner
- Destroy hard copy records that can be destroyed

PARKING ENFORCEMENT

The Parking Division is staffed by one Parking Violations Representative. This Representative is responsible for the enforcement primarily in the downtown area and all City owned parking lots.

The total number of parking tickets issued by the Department in 2007 was 6914 of which 6049 were written by Parking Violations Representatives for 87% of all tickets issued.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- Continue to provide a professional approach to parking enforcement

PROPERTY ROOM

All property such as impounded vehicles, evidence from crime scenes and recovered bicycles is the responsibility of the Property Officer. The Property Officer also has the responsibility of running the City auctions. Total proceeds from the two (2) auctions this year amounted to \$15,113.50. The Police Department's contribution to the total was \$5,555.00. Twenty-five percent of the Police Department's auction proceeds (\$1,388.75) are donated to the Crime Stoppers Program.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- Continue to manage property in an efficient manner
- Restore the property to its pre-flood state

TRAINING

In 2007 the Police Department received updated training in Rapid Response Drills when responding to an Active Shooter event. The training consisted of both classroom and reality based scenarios. During weapon qualifications additional shooting drills were incorporated, further enhancing the officer's confidence when using their firearms.

This year was the first year for mandated continuing education from the Ohio Peace Officers Training Commission. In addition to the weapons qualification mandates, Officers were required to complete five hours of victim assistance training. With complying with the state mandates the Department is entitled to additional training funds, which will further enhance the training program of the Findlay Police Department.

It is believed that both Goals and Objectives of 2007 were met. The first being incorporating and maintaining in house certified trainers. In 2007, officers were sent to outside training to be certified instructors in Defensive Tactics, Driving, Less-Lethal/Chemical Deployment and Rapid Deployment. The second goal was to create a training curriculum that challenged the officers. This was accomplished through the shooting drills and active shooter response training, as previously mentioned.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

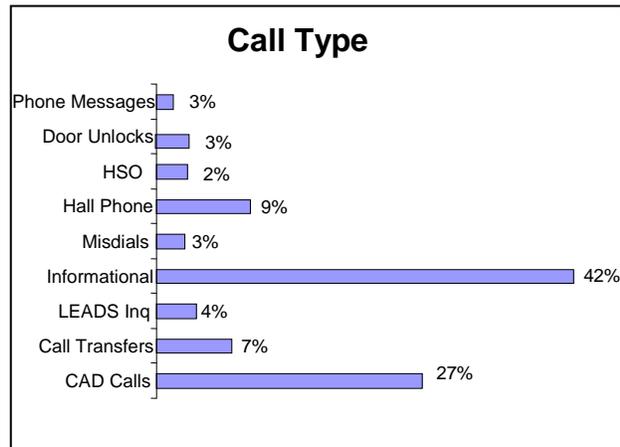
- Continue to maintain a worthwhile training curriculum
- Look to expand the training staff and insure that current trainers receive proper updates in the specific area of expertise.

COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

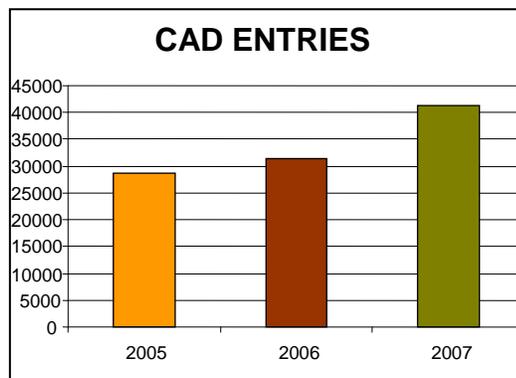


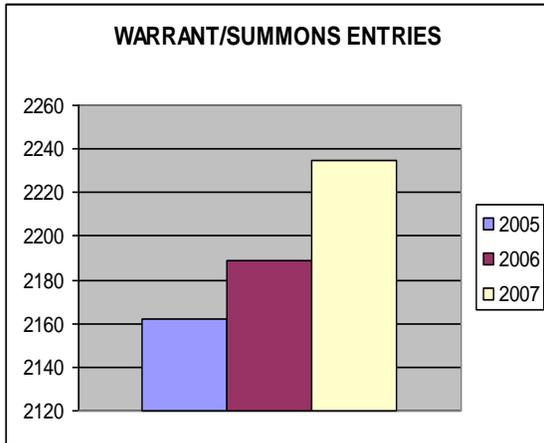
The Findlay Police Department's Communications Division has developed a reputation for being progressive in its approach to integrating public safety resource allocation with customer service. The work done within the Center has evolved into a technical profession requiring workers to manage three to five computer systems in order to track and manage personnel in the field. In addition, we are the only agency in Hancock County that requires all of its dispatchers to be certified in CPR and Emergency Medical Dispatching. This enables them to provide pre-arrival instructions during medical emergencies. The combination of these skills has afforded the citizens of our City an excellent level of care.

Our Center is the central answering point for public safety agencies within the City. Dispatchers receive requests for emergency services from the public through an Enhanced 911 telephone system. In addition, non-emergency calls for Police, Fire, EMS and other departments are handled by the Center. Generally, the number of calls to and from the Center ranges from 100-200 calls per day. That number can increase substantially during bad weather or other emergency situations.



As indicated on the chart below, the amount of data entry being done by the dispatchers continues to climb. This year, 41,250 CAD entries were made compared to 31,466 entries in 2006 and 28,757 entries in 2005. This sharp increase can be attributed to several factors including a growing population, increased requests for public safety assistance, the new accountability program introduced by the Patrol Division, and the flood. While a majority of CAD entries were police related, there were fire dispatches and EMS runs. The fire department was dispatched as first responders on advanced life support (ALS) calls.





Warrant and summons entries were also areas that experienced an increase during 2007. This was precipitated by the courts decision to recall warrants that were previously entered only into the CAD system. Once recalled, these warrants were reassigned a greater pickup radius and re-entered into the CAD as well as the Law Enforcement Data System (LEADS). Entry into LEADS makes warrant information available to other law enforcement agencies throughout the country.

Several years ago the LEADS system was upgraded to OMNIX, which is a windows based program. The OMNIX format allows for a more user-friendly way for dispatchers to enter and extract information. One of the more recent OMNIX upgrades was a transaction inquiry program which allows the Department to verify how much the system is being used. The statistics provided below are a depiction of transactions conducted within the center during 2007. All of this was done in conjunction with the regular duties of processing and dispatching calls.

NCIC III/CCH	4568
NCIC SECURITY TRANS.	21
NLETS CANADA	45
NLETS INS/INTERPOL	9
NLETS ORI TRANS.	203
NLETS VEHICLE TRANS.	1608
NLETS MISC. TRANS.	1306
NLETS PAROLE	6
NCIS ORIS	3
BOAT INQUIRY	3
DOLLAR MESSAGE	5

WANTED PERSON	72,026
MISSING PERSON	415
STOLEN VEHICLE	17,214
STOLEN/MISSING PLATE	58
HIT CONFIRMATIONS	879
TITLE QUERIES	1097
REGISTRATIONS	17982
DRIVER LICENSES	24,992
BCII QUERIES	2916
NCIC ARTICLES	17
NCIC GUN TRANS	133

The Communication Center's role in the summer flooding was a testament of our employees' skills and dedication as they worked around the clock answering phones and dispatching services. While the flood was certainly a disaster for the City, it did give us an opportunity to assess our needs when meeting such a challenge. It also gave the dispatchers an opportunity to work within the NIMS and Basic Incident Command (ICS) guidelines. All tolled, the dispatch center had over 4,600 phone contacts, processed over 700 calls for service and generated over 300 pages of documentation during this crisis. Mayor Iriti acknowledged their efforts by issuing a proclamation before the Findlay City Council.

The dispatchers have all participated in continuing education through the Department of Homeland Security's Emergency Management Institute, earning certificates in *NIMS 700/800 and ICS 100/200*. They have also obtained certificates of completion from FEMA for *Decision Making and Problem Solving* and *Effective*

Communications. These studies were done in addition to the required 12 CDE's required to maintain their E.M.D. certifications. Five dispatchers completed the EMD recertification process and three dispatchers obtained there EMD certifications.

At the end of 2006, the Communications Division established a quality audit for customer service. Calls for service are picked at random and the complainants are sent questionnaires. The questions focus on whether the caller felt the dispatcher was courteous, and if their needs were met. While the solicitations were limited, all of the responses were to the positive.

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

- Update the communications response plan for unusual occurrences.
- Work towards developing a more comprehensive fire dispatch program.
- Continue to obtain training and certifications through FEMA and Homeland Security.
- Increase the manpower complement.

CRISIS MANAGEMENT TEAM



The Findlay Police Department maintains a crisis management team. This team consists of four main components. The first component being the Emergency Response Team (ERT), the ERT is a 16 man team of officers that are trained in tactical operations. The ERT is responsible for conducting all drug related or high risk search warrants. The ERT is also trained to respond to hostage or barricade situations, assist in dignitary protection and any dynamic event that is considered high risk. This team trains for at least 10 hours every month. The training is critical to being able to

effectively respond to the above mentioned events.

The second component of the Crisis Management Team is the crisis negotiators. The Department has four crisis negotiators. The crisis negotiators are specially trained police officers, called upon to intervene in situations involving hostage takers, barricaded subjects or potentially self-destructive individuals. In 2007 the crisis negotiators attend the National Tactical Officers Association Crisis Negotiators Conference. This conference proved to be invaluable. Not only did the negotiators receive training from some of the most respected negotiators in the business. They were able to make valuable

contacts with vendors at the Conference. Through these contacts the negotiators were able to gain insight into some of the features of their current equipment.

The third component of the Crisis Management team is the tactical dispatchers. Our Tactical Dispatch Team is trained in All-Hazard tactical dispatching. They responded to four warrant services, three barricaded subjects and three flood call outs. During these events, the dispatchers logged all radio traffic and documented unit positions and resource allocation. While documentation was initially done by hand, the team has now acquired a new software program that is networked and allows real time data entry by multiple users. The Department also acquired a portable



interoperability unit for the tactical dispatchers to use during call outs. This unit enables agencies with incompatible radio systems to interact on the same frequency. It has been used during training with the Emergency Response Team in preparation for actual use.

The fourth component is the tactical medics. The tactical medic program was incorporated into the crisis management team in 2004. The tactical medics are a support element to the deployment of the

ERT. The medics provided by Lifeflight are all certified paramedics who have gained their experience through combat medicine in a military environment or through EMS responses.

The tactical medics are required to train with the ERT every month. During those training days, scenarios are implemented that test the abilities of the medics to provide combat casualty care. This service is a invaluable resource for the City of Findlay should a mass casualty event occur.