

Tukwila Police Department

2009
Annual Report



In memory of Officer Mark Renninger

Law Enforcement Excellence



In Loving Memory of Police Officers

*Police Officers watch over us today
Some from vehicles along our byways
Others from our cities and towns
Most often they serve as silent heroes, both day and night
All sacrificing
Some laying down their lives*

*Police Officers watch over us today
For those heroes lost – their memories are not forgotten
In the depths of our souls
The reaches of our memories*

*Police Officers watch over us today
Yesterday – Today – Tomorrow
Heroes serve to make a difference
To serve where and when they can*

*Police Officers watch over us today
Thankful hearts full of sorrow
Reach out to share gratitude*

We say Thank You

Chief David W. Haynes



City of Tukwila

6200 Southcenter Boulevard • Tukwila, Washington 98188

Jim Haggerton, Mayor

May 12, 2010

Honorable Mayor Jim Haggerton
City of Tukwila
6200 Southcenter Boulevard
Tukwila, WA 98188

Dear Mayor Haggerton:

It is a pleasure to present the Tukwila Police Department 2009 Annual Report. This year's report is dedicated to Sergeant Mark Renninger of the Lakewood Police Department who was killed in the line of duty on November 29, 2009.

There were multiple major responses during 2009 that required significant resources from the Department. The Howard Hanson Dam was damaged during a major flooding event and that damage required a massive preparation effort for possible flooding in the Green River Valley. We participated in the first Rock 'n' Roll Marathon, which brought 25,000 runners from across the country to our start line that was located at 42nd and Interurban. Through all this we continued our efforts with the Police Department Citizen's Academy, COPCAB, and our Block Watch program.

During the fourth quarter of the year our communities were faced with the murders of police officers from the Seattle Police Department, Lakewood Police Department, and the Pierce County Sheriffs Office. One of the murdered officers was former Tukwila Police Officer Mark Renninger.

As always, the members of the Tukwila Police Department served our community with the highest level of excellence. It was a pleasure to work side by side with each and every one of them.

Thank you for the support you have provided to the men and women that serve.

Sincerely,

David W. Haynes
Chief of Police

VISION STATEMENT

Law Enforcement Excellence
through Leadership,
Philosophy and Mission

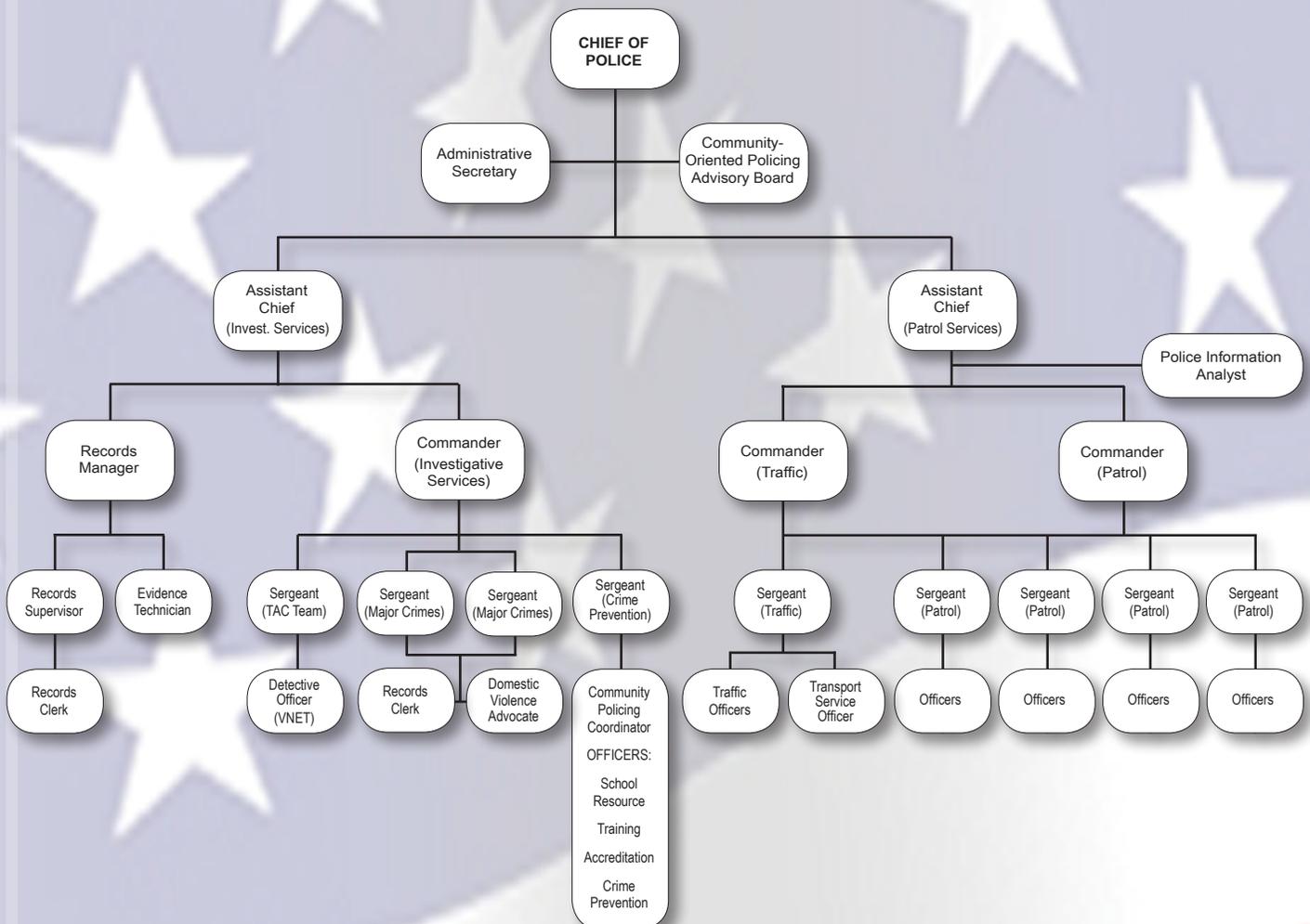
MISSION STATEMENT

We, the members of the Tukwila Police Department, are committed to being responsive to our community in the delivery of quality services.

We recognize our responsibility to maintain order, while affording dignity and respect to every individual.

Our mission is to improve the quality of life for all through community partnerships and problem solving to promote safe, secure neighborhoods.

ORGANIZATION CHART



CITY GOVERNMENT

2009

Tukwila City Administration

Jim Haggerton, Mayor
Rhonda Berry, City Administrator

Tukwila City Council

Joan Hernandez, Council President
Joe Duffie, Council Member
Pamela Linder, Council Member
Dennis Robertson, Council Member
Verna Griffin, Council Member
Kathy Hougardy, Council Member
De'Sean Quinn, Council Member

Tukwila Police Department Administration

David Haynes, Chief of Police
Mike Villa, Assistant Chief
Lori Sutter, Assistant Chief through June 2009
Don Lincoln, Assistant Chief beginning August 2009
Dennis McOmber, Commander
Eric Drever, Commander
Bruce Linton, Commander
Rebecca McGregor, Records Manager
Phi Huynh, Administrative Secretary

RECORDS

The Tukwila Police Department's Records Division operates 24 hours a day and 365 days a year, assisting the citizens and businesses of Tukwila in a variety of ways. In 2009, the Division processed nearly 100 Concealed Pistol licenses, 130 professional licenses, received and responded to nearly 35,000 telephone calls, and processed over 4,600 Public Disclosure requests. The Records Division also provides fingerprinting services to the public, assists with community education programs, and takes found property cases.

In addition to serving the citizens of Tukwila, the Records Division provides support to the commissioned staff. Records staff works in tandem with officers on the street to assist them with their patrol duties. The Division routinely provides searches of local, State, Federal and even international databases to assist officers and detectives with locating information that is pertinent to their investigations and cases. The Division also monitors Tukwila's jail holding facility and assists with prisoner searches.

During 2009, the Records Division processed approximately 8,600 case reports. When processing case reports, the Records Division must ensure accurate, complete and timely information processing. Information is routinely entered into various local, State and Federal databases. These entries include stolen and impounded vehicles, warrants, protection orders, missing persons, and stolen and recovered articles. Entering information into these databases must be done in accordance with various laws and system regulations. In order to ensure a high standard of accuracy, routine internal audits are conducted on these systems. In addition, information entered into State and Federal databases are subject to audits by regulatory agencies such as the Washington State Patrol and the Federal Bureau of Investigations.



The Records Division operates in a continuous cycle of collecting, storing and purging information. Within the first quarter of each year, case reports and other records are reviewed to determine which need to be maintained for extended retention and which should be destroyed. The annual records destruction is completed in accordance with the Washington State General Records Retention Schedule for Law Enforcement Agencies.

PROPERTY AND EVIDENCE

The primary duty of the Property and Evidence unit is to ensure the proper chain of custody for property and evidence items taken in by the Tukwila Police Department.

Once items are turned into the Property and Evidence Division, they are tracked using a bar coding system. Maintaining and properly documenting the chain of custody is imperative to maintaining the integrity of the Department's evidence and property system. Evidence personnel also, at times, assists with crime scene processing and the collection of evidence. Evidence personnel is available 24 hours a day to assist other divisions of the Department with any forensic or evidence packaging questions.

The Property and Evidence Division operates within a continuous cycle of accepting, storing and disposing of items taken into custody. Items are purged when they are no longer needed as evidence due to the expiration of the statute of limitations for the associated crime. This involves a lengthy process of researching the status of related case reports; coordinating approval with various officers, detectives, prosecutors and other personnel; researching court dockets; and researching sentencing information. Destruction of these items must also be done in accordance with various local, State and Federal laws. Certain new or gently used items are routinely disposed of by donating them to a non-profit organization called Treehouse. Bicycles are also donated to a non-profit organization called Bikeworks.

During April 2009, Evidence Technician Susan Holaday received her certification from the Washington State Patrol as a Leaf Marijuana Identification Technician. Along with fellow certified technician Sergeant Eric Lund, they have tested over 70 cases since their certification in April. 2009 also marks Evidence Technician Susan Holaday's 20th anniversary with the Tukwila Police Department.

PATROL DIVISION

During 2009, the Patrol Division was under the direction of Assistant Chief Don Lincoln, Commanders Bruce Linton and Eric Drever. The Patrol Division fulfills many different operational needs – the Patrol function, Traffic, K-9, Police Explorer Program, Emergency Preparedness and Transport Officer.



Tukwila Police Patrol representatives participated in the City-wide flood response planning group which drafted a comprehensive plan for potential flooding in the valley. The Patrol representatives developed the Police Department portion of the flood response plan and the Police Department Continuity of Operations Plan. The Patrol Division conducted extensive training in flood response operations and equipment was purchased to support that response.

The Mall Tukwila Police office was resourced to support patrol officers. Telephone, fax, computer access and furnishings were established in preparation/anticipation of the grant-funded Central Business District Team.

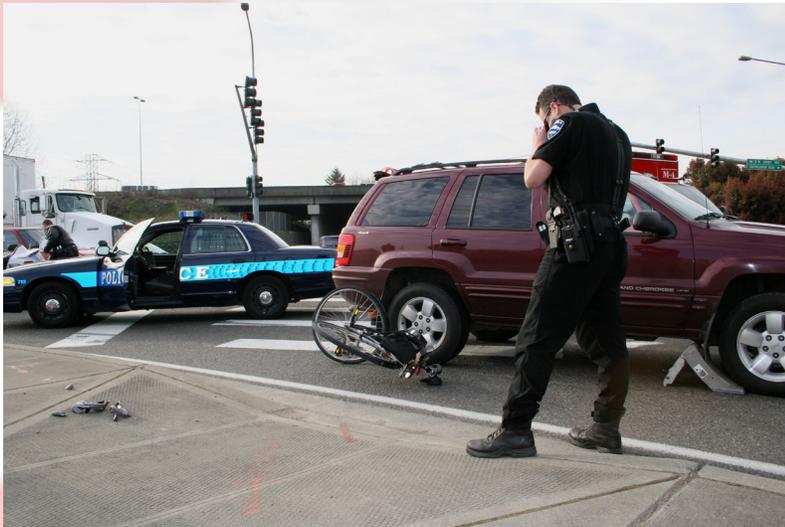
The City of Tukwila sponsored the Start Village for the inaugural Tukwila to Seattle – Rock 'n' Roll Marathon in June 2009. Here in Tukwila 25,000 runners and walkers gathered in the Gateway area on Interurban Avenue in the early morning hours to begin that race. The Patrol Division coordinated the traffic control, the command and control, logistics and planning to ensure the safe execution of a world-class event. Marathon participants included Tukwila citizens, local runners and other enthusiasts who came from across the U.S., along with international runners from 18 countries. The event was a huge success and that success spoke well for the professionalism and competency of this police agency. A job well done!

TRAFFIC UNIT

The Department's Traffic Unit is comprised of one sergeant and three officers. These officers are responsible for traffic enforcement and traffic-related issues in the City. The officers operate on police motorcycles equipped with state-of-the-art traffic enforcement and investigation equipment. These officers have advanced training and investigation experience in the handling of traffic accidents, hit and run accidents, and DUI enforcement. Traffic volunteers assist the Department with parking enforcement and the handling/removal of abandoned vehicles.

In 2009, the Traffic Unit issued over 1,000 traffic-related tickets and made 100 misdemeanor and 12 felony arrests. Additionally, they handled over 550 case reports. The Unit was called out over 15 times for serious injury and/or fatality collision investigations. They investigated three fatality collisions and were also involved in numerous community events as well as regional enforcement efforts. The Traffic Unit handled nearly 400 hit-and-run collision investigations, including 22 injury hit-and-run investigations. Additionally, traffic officers were assigned to augment patrol operations for about four months during the year.

Traffic officers also provided approximately 450 hours of training to Department members in Standardized Field Sobriety Testing, RADAR/LIDAR operations, Firearms, Defensive Tactics, Taser, and Drug Recognition.



TUKWILA POLICE EXPLORERS

Explorers are a group of young adults ranging in ages from 14–21 with a desire to learn about law enforcement. They also perform community service projects while assisting the Police Department.

2009 brought many new faces to Tukwila’s Explorer program – a new start in a new year. In January, there were approximately 10–15 applicants waiting to take the place of several veteran Explorers who left the program after reaching the maximum age limit. During the upcoming year, these new Explorers faced many challenges. They tackled two one-week academies where they learned law enforcement techniques, marching, military drill and – most of all – the confidence and ability to do a job well. They were also involved in weekly meetings, community service and charity events. Many of the remaining experienced explorers found themselves being leaders and role models to the recruits.

Advisors:

Officer Don Dart and Officer Ted Rutt

Civilian Advisor: Mary Hulvey

Post #2999 Explorers:

Chief Andi Delic

Sergeant Crystal Roth

Sergeant Spencer Little

Zoila Barron

Ryan Bentley

Tanessa Burns

Rudrkesh Chand

Tylor Curry

Lacey McWade

Benjamin Morris

KeShawn Mounday

Jackie Scott

Alex Shoopman

Ranveer Singh

Ernest Thomas

Summer
Academy



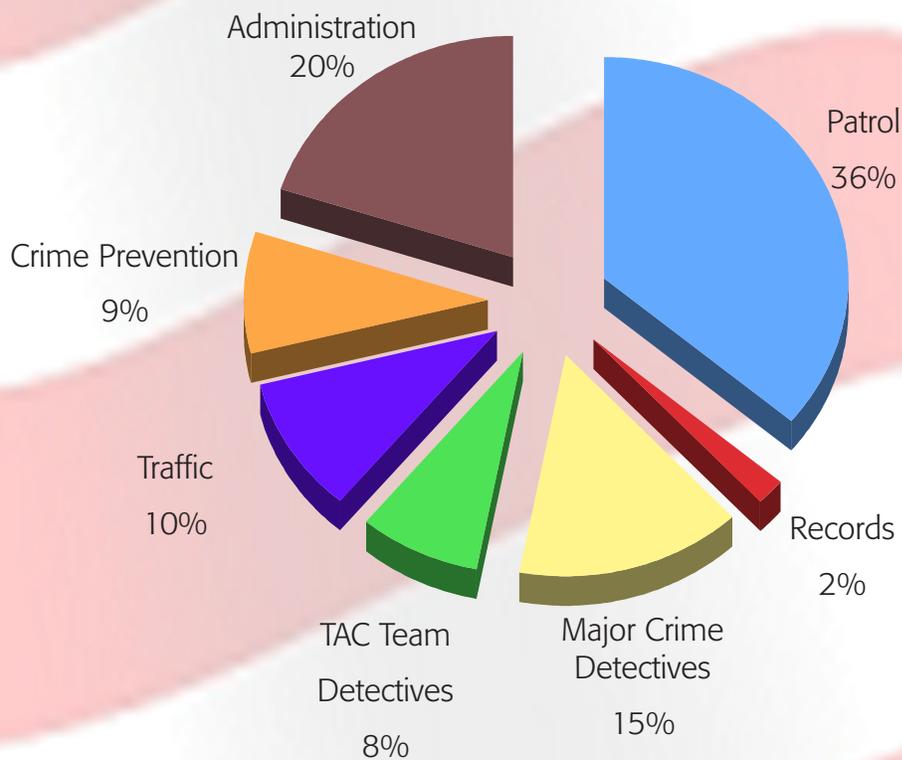
Explorers working
Keystone Kops



TRAINING DIVISION

2009 once again proved to be another busy training year for the Tukwila Police Department. The Division coordinated the in-processing and training of six new employees, and scheduled a wide variety of Departmental training.

Utilization of 2009 Training Hours



- Active Shooter
- Communicable Disease
- Emergency Vehicle Operation Course
- Handgun Proficiency
- HAZMAT
- Homeland Security
- Impact Weapons
- Personal Protection Equipment
- Rifle Proficiency
- TASER
- Unarmed Defensive Tactics

INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

Tukwila's Investigations Division – approximately 1/3 of the total commissioned staffing for the Tukwila Police Department – is lead by Assistant Chief Mike Villa and Commander Dennis McOmber. Within this Division are the Major Crimes Unit, the Tukwila Anti-Crime Team and the Crime Prevention Resource Team. This Division is also home to the Department's Accreditation Processes, Training and School Resource Officer.

Major Crimes Unit (MCU)

The Major Crimes Unit is a team of one sergeant, nine detectives, one support specialist, and one domestic violence victim advocate. The MCU detectives investigate felony crimes including homicide, robbery, burglary, assault, theft, fraud, forgery, sexual assault, and motor vehicle theft. Unit detectives are available 24 hours a day for call-outs and crime scene investigations. In addition, MCU detectives investigate missing persons, monitor registered sex offenders living in Tukwila, and conduct pre-employment background investigations on people seeking jobs as police officers. In 2009, the MCU detectives were assigned to investigate 437 new felony cases, and responded to 15 crime scene call-outs, including two officer-involved shootings. The MCU detectives also successfully concluded several high-profile cases including a murder-for-hire case where three suspects were arrested, a rape/robbery case where the suspect was found guilty after a trial, and a homicide at a local restaurant where the suspect subsequently plead guilty in court.



Tukwila Anti-Crime (TAC) Team

The TAC Team, comprised of a sergeant and three detectives, is essentially the 'undercover' arm of the Police Department. Charged primarily with investigating prostitution and drug-related crimes in the City, the unit had a busy year. The Team made 60 prostitution arrests during the year and put 36 drug dealers in jail. An additional detective is assigned to VNET, the regional drug enforcement task force. That unit – charged with investigating mid- to upper-level drug dealers – was kept busy during the year, primarily working marijuana grow operations and dealers of the prescription drug Oxycontin. Through their efforts, thousands of pills and marijuana plants were seized and many dangerous drug dealers were charged, some in Federal court. Putting their undercover expertise to work, the TAC Team assisted other units throughout the year in their efforts to capture homicide suspects, identify and interview gang members, and curb vehicle break-ins. When a particular problem needs 'special attention,' the TAC Team is ready to respond.

Crime Prevention Resource Team (CPR Team)

The CPR Team, supervised by Administrative Sergeant Suzi Sacha, had a full and productive year. Among their functions, members of the Crime Prevention Resource Team provide training for crime prevention, Crime-Free Multi-Housing and the Citizen's Police Academy, plus assist with Block Watches. The Neighborhood Resource Center, staffed by Officer Gerry Myklebust and Tukwila Police volunteers, serves as a central Police point of contact on Tukwila International Boulevard. From this location, Officer Myklebust also manages the City's Safety In Overnight Lodging program. Operating out of Suite #211 in the 6300 Building, Community-Oriented Policing Coordinator Chris Partman coordinates services in the area of Crime-Free Multi-Housing, Apartment Managers Network, Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) reviews, and Night Out Against Crime in addition to other assignments. Other members of the CPRT include School Resource Officer Lisa Mills, Accreditation Officer Mike Murphy, and Training Officer Ted Rutt.

School Resource Officer

For ten school years Officer Lisa Mills has been assigned to Foster High and Showalter Middle Schools. She works closely with school security and staff to address concerns related to security and criminal activity on and around campus. The program's success has been the relationship between the Tukwila School District and the Police Department. Additionally, having a police officer on school campus furthers positive interactions between police and students. In addition to the School Resource Officer position, Officer Mills serves as the President of the Washington School Safety Organization and as Region 9 Director and national instructor for the National Association of School Resource Officers.

Accreditation Officer

Officer Mike Murphy, a member of the Crime Prevention Resource Team, is the Department's Accreditation and Public Information Officer. He assures the Department maintains professional standards in compliance with WASPC guidelines. He publishes Department policies and procedures. Officer Murphy is the Department's contact with the news media, working to fill requests for information. He is also the regional Valley Civil Disturbance Unit training coordinator.

2009 EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION

Employee of the Quarter

- 1st quarter: COP Coordinator Chris Partman
Officer Don Ames
- 2nd quarter: Officer Ceith Cullens
Detective Keith King
- 3rd quarter: Officer Gary Leavitt
Officer Mike Murphy
- 4th quarter: Officer Randy Rusness
Detective Ron Corrigan

Distinguished Service Medals for 20 Years of Service with the City

- Officer Brendan Kerin
Detective David Heckelsmiller
Officer Don Dart
Assistant Chief Don Lincoln
Sergeant Mark Dunlap
Detective Ron Corrigan
Sergeant Steve Gurr
Evidence Technician Susan Holaday
Officer Ted Rutt

Employee Of The Year Award

TSO Juan Delgado

Mayor's Award

Assistant Chief Mike Villa

NIGHT OUT AGAINST CRIME

Tukwila celebrated National Night Out Against Crime in style in 2009. On Tuesday, August 4, nineteen different neighborhoods sponsored events, demonstrating to criminals that they are not welcome in this City.

Through National Night Out, the Tukwila Police Department strengthens neighborhood spirit and partnerships with the community. They work with citizens to send a message to criminals that neighborhoods are organized and they are fighting back.

The Tukwila Police Department organized this special night, from registering the get-togethers to providing some of the drivers for the many City of Tukwila employees who volunteered to visit the events representing the City. Other Departments participating were Fire, Public Works, Code Enforcement, Parks/Recreation and Human Services, in addition to many elected officials.



The Police Badge stickers were a big hit at all the parties!

SPECIAL OLYMPICS WASHINGTON

Once again the Tukwila Police Department was among the leaders in Washington State for fundraising in 2008. The Police Department raised over \$39,000 through the Law Enforcement Torch Run campaign. The events this year included Tip-a-Cop at Claim Jumpers and Red Robin restaurants, sitting on the roof of Kripy Kreme for three days, and the World's Largest Truck Convoy where 189 semi-trucks traveled 75 miles on I-5 to raise awareness for special needs children. The Tukwila Police Department has been involved with Special Olympics for over 15 years, and would like to invite you to volunteer your time at one of their events.

SPECIAL OLYMPICS ATHLETE'S PLEDGE

"Let me win, but if I cannot win,
let me be brave in the attempt."



*Officers and Police Explorers
at Claim Jumper Restaurant
raising money for the
Special Olympics*

COMMUNITY-ORIENTED POLICING CITIZENS' ADVISORY BOARD (COPCAB)

In 2009, COPCAB attended many community meetings and events. One of the Board's 2009 goals was to continue with the visibility and involvement of COPCAB within the community. They fulfilled this goal by designing polo shirts with Community Police Volunteer and City of Tukwila logo, and purchasing their own shirts to wear at various events. Board members' involvement within the community was accomplished by representing COPCAB at Night Out Against Crime, Tukwila Days, Bike Rodeo, Citizens' Academy, Rock n' Roll Marathon and DARE Graduation, having an offsite meeting at Shabelle Internet Café owned by Abdisamad Egal, and holding another meeting in conjunction with the Tukwila International Boulevard Action Committee (TIBAC) at the Tukwila Community Center

Every year, COPCAB nominates two excellent individuals to receive COPCAB Awards – the Citizen Award and the PD Employee Award. The Citizen Award went to Sharon Mann, an active member of TIBAC, and the PD Employee Award went to Don Lincoln, the Assistant Chief in charge of the PD Patrol Division. Both truly deserved to receive these recognitions.

This was a tough year for the Board. Longtime member Donna West passed away from an illness in early 2009. Donna served on the Board as a business representative and is greatly missed by everyone.

While losing Donna, the Board gained three members: Abdisamad Egal (business representative), Rashaun Johnson (student representative) and Mike West (business representative). These members were appointed by the Mayor and approved by the Council, each to serve a four-year term.

COPCAB Members representing:

<i>Residents:</i>	Art Rosengren (Chair)	<i>Business:</i>	Mike West
	Jun Castillo		Abdisamad Egal
	Lynn Churchill	<i>School District:</i>	Jeff Baker
	Sylvia Erskine	<i>Student:</i>	Rashaun Johnson



POLICE VOLUNTEERS

Volunteerism is alive and well in the Tukwila Police Department. The Police use 25 volunteers to enhance Police services throughout the City. Volunteers can provide a variety of services, ranging from filing in the Administrative section to writing parking tickets and towing cars in the Traffic Unit. One volunteer provides fingerprinting services for people applying for teaching jobs, concealed weapons permits, real estate jobs, etc.

The Traffic Unit uses volunteers to monitor parking spaces for disabled drivers. They ticket cars that do not have disabled permits. They also tour the city looking for abandoned cars or responding to complaints of abandoned cars. Once they find one, they put a warning notice on the car. If the car is not moved in three days, they will have it towed away.

The Crime Prevention Unit has volunteers who staff the Neighborhood Resource Center on Tukwila International Blvd. They keep the door open for citizens having questions about obtaining Police and other services. They assist with the closed circuit TV system and record video evidence to be used in court. They also help out with the Safety in Overnight Lodging program by helping to monitor calls for service.

Who are these unsung heroes? Most of them are retirees. Some are middle-aged working people and some are teenagers. They spend anywhere from one hour a day to 16 hours a week – whatever their schedule can bear. Their dedication resulted in countless hours that they've donated to the Police Department in 2009.

SWAT

Special tactical needs of the City are served by Valley SWAT, a regional team comprised of six officers and a commander from each of the cities of Tukwila, Renton, Kent, Auburn, Federal Way, and the Port of Seattle police departments. Although these 36 officers train hard and are subject to callout any time of day/every day of the year, SWAT is not a full-time job – each of the officers has a primary assignment within their own agencies, be it as patrol or traffic officers, detectives or the like.

Historically, the team conducts over 60 operations per year, most of which are high-risk warrant service operations. Other common deployments involve dignitary protection details, arrests of dangerous suspects, and responses to barricaded subjects. The team trains three days per month and conducts one week-long training session per year.

The team has developed into one of the most-respected tactical units in the State and boasts some of the best equipment. Of note, the Tukwila contingent was elated to receive delivery this past year of its new equipment vehicle, pictured above with the current team members. The vehicle provides for safe storage and transport of the specialized tactical equipment needed by team members.



2009 CHAPLAIN REPORT

Statistically, Chaplains Lowell Welker and Al Patterson responded to 71 callouts. They volunteered a total of 928.5 hours. These hours include time spent with officers during station visits and ride-a-longs. It has been a privilege to come alongside and encourage new officers as they graduate from the academy, work their way through Field Training, and complete their probationary period.

It was a very difficult final few months of 2009, for the chaplains as well as officers. They made themselves available to Department members while watching along with them in horror the tragic murders of friends and fellow law enforcement members. The memorial services were beautiful and memorable but also very painful, as all relived the reality of the world they serve.

As chaplains, their focus for 2010 will be the ongoing support of officers, staff and community in the discovery with each other of the new "normal".

The Chaplains continue to train and meet regularly with other chaplains in the South King County area. They debrief, encourage and respond for or with them to meet the needs of those in their communities. Of the 71 responses, 39 were in adjacent communities. Tukwila's Chaplains continue to count it a privilege to serve.

Chaplain Al

Chaplain Lowell

POLICE OFFICER'S PRAYER

As I go about my duty, God,
Every step along the way,
Help me make a difference
In this world each passing day.

Give me a heart to be concerned,
A mind that knows what is right.
Give me the eyes and ears to see and hear
The truth as in Your sight.

Give me protection from things unseen,
Strength to face each test,
Help me to stand for law and order,
To daily do my best.

Give me the courage to defend the weak,
Compassion for those oppressed.
Help me lift up the ones who've stumbled,
Give a hand to those who are distressed.

Give me grace to face my final hour,
To give my life in service.
Let Your strong hand and loving heart,
Protect the ones that I hold dearest.

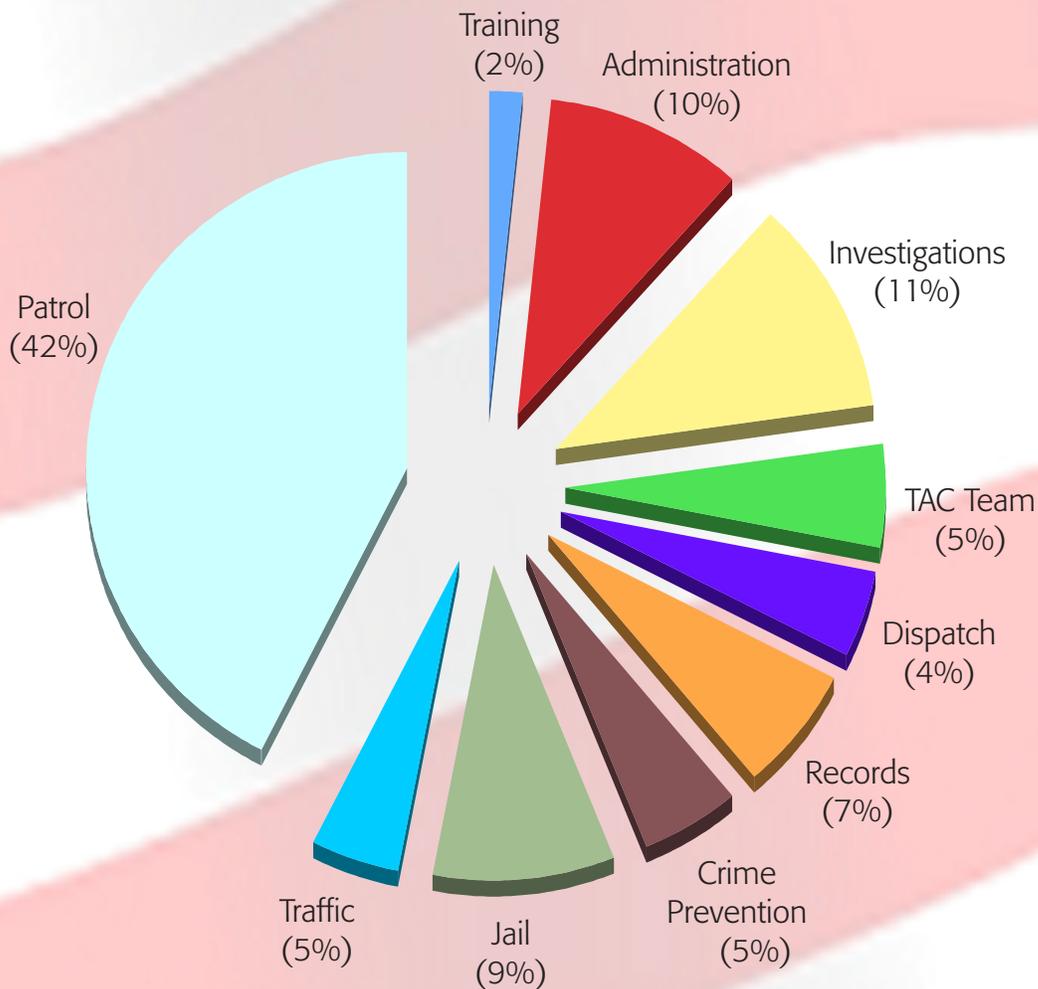
YEAR AT A GLANCE

With Comparative Totals for 2008 and 2007

	2009	2008	2007
Population	17,092	18,080	17,930
Budget	\$12,851,964	\$12,442,964	\$11,135,282
Police Staff:			
Commissioned	68	68	68
Non-Commissioned	16	16	16
Calls for Service	30,132	31,148	30,375
Part 1 Crime	3,446	3,015	3,069
Traffic Citations/Infractions Issued	2,894	3,594	3,618
Reported Vehicle Accidents:			
Injury	183	191	189
Fatal	2	4	1
Non-injury	420	436	517
Injury Hit-and-Run	23	27	23
Total	628	658	730
Emergency Response Time (<i>minutes</i>):			
Priority 1	3.04	2.9	2.95
Priority 2	7.04	7.5	8.47
Non-Emergency Response Time (<i>minutes</i>)	13.78	13.2	14.98

2009 POLICE BUDGET

Training	\$ 225,990
Administration	1,288,609
Investigations.....	1,404,752
TAC Team.....	698,650
Dispatch	556,142
Records.....	837,547
Crime Prevention.....	616,724
Jail.....	1,183,284
Traffic	594,186
Patrol	5,445,464
Total 2009 Budget	\$12,851,348



TUKWILA POLICE DEPARTMENT

Crime in Tukwila

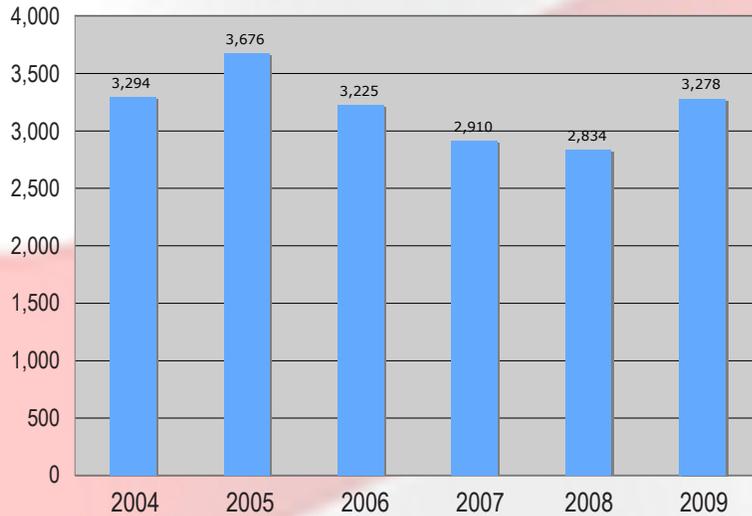
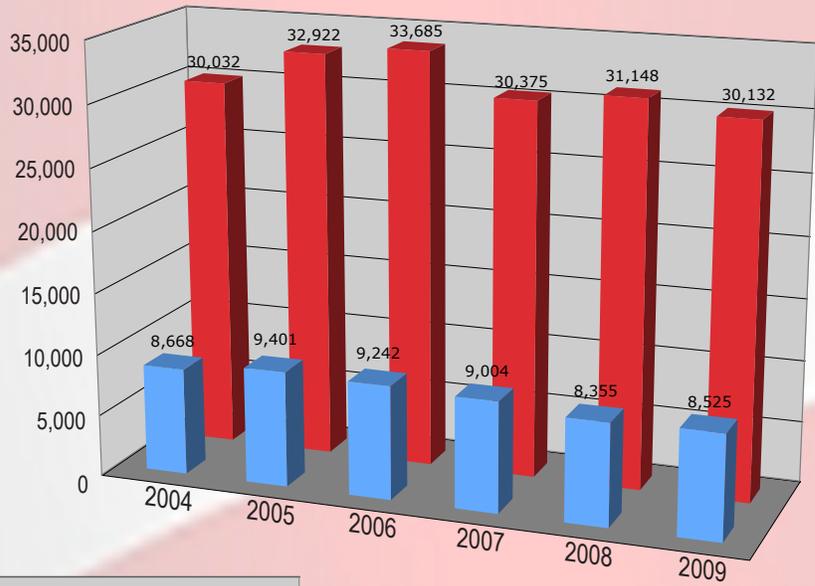
	2009	2008	2007	2006	2005
Population	17,092	18,080	17,930	17,930	17,110
Calls for Service	30,132	31,148	30,375	33,685	32,922
Violent Crime:					
Murder	1	7	2	1	2
Rape	22	15	13	18	22
Robbery	88	91	80	91	89
Aggravated Assault	57	68	64	68	84
TOTALS	168	181	159	178	197
Property Crime:					
Arson	11	13	2	10	13
Burglary	327	374	298	312	342
Theft	2,584	2,038	1,976	2,271	2,505
Auto Theft	356	409	634	632	816
TOTALS	3,278	2,834	2,910	3,225	3,676
Total Part 1 Crime	3,446	3,015	3,069	3,403	3,873
Crime Clearances	??	456	403	464	771

Clearance Rates - Part 1

	2009 Crime Totals	Number Cleared	Percent Cleared
CRIME:			
Murder	1	1	100%
Rape	22	9	41%
Robbery	88	29	33%
Aggravated Assault	57	25	44%
Burglary	327	18	6%
Theft	2,584	302	12%
Motor Vehicle Theft	356	5	1%
Arson	11	0	0%
TOTALS	3,446	389	11%

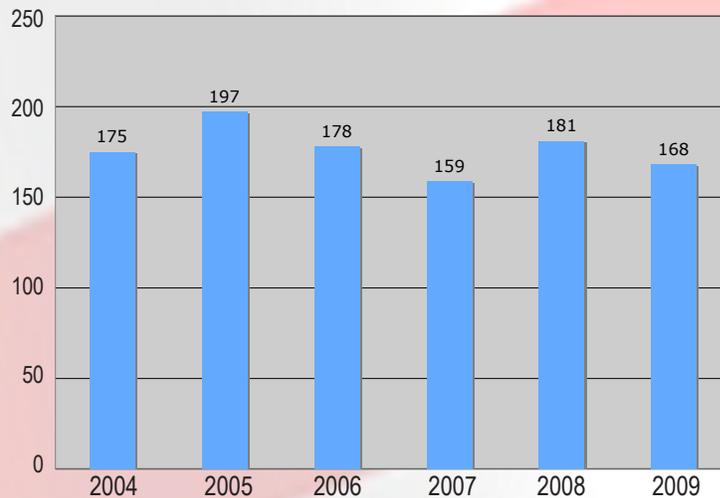
Calls for Service/ Case Files

Year	Case Files	Calls for Service
2004	8,668	30,032
2005	9,401	32,922
2006	9,242	33,685
2007	9,004	30,375
2008	8,355	31,148
2009	8,525	30,132



Incidents of
Property Crime

Incidents of
Violent Felony Crime



REMEMBERING MARK RENNINGER



Sergeant Mark Renninger was brutally murdered in the line of duty on November 29, 2009. The memorial service for Sergeant Renninger, along with the three other Lakewood Officers murdered on that tragic day, was in the Tacoma Dome. Approximately 20,000 people – including members from law enforcement, corrections, and the military from all across the nation and Canada – attended.

Before becoming an officer at Lakewood Police Department, Sergeant Renninger was a member of the Tukwila Police Department and had gained widespread respect. He served as a US Army Ranger from 1989–1996. In a letter recommending him to the Tukwila Police Department, Major Raymond Thomas said "Mark Renninger represents the best of what our society has to offer... He is the consummate professional who strives for perfection in all his endeavors. SSG Renninger will be a valued member of your (Tukwila's) organization and will undoubtedly make a lasting and positive impact."

Sergeant Renninger worked with the Tukwila Police Department for eight years, from 1996 until 2004. He was a patrol officer, Civil Disturbance Unit team member, SWAT team member, Acting Sergeant, Department Instructor, and president of our Officer's Guild.

Sergeant Renninger excelled as a police officer. His work ethic, investigative skills and instinct led to the arrests of many dangerous criminals, including his arrest of one of America's Most Wanted – a murder suspect from Oklahoma – who had been staying at a local hotel in 2004.

Although Sergeant Renninger was an outstanding patrol officer, his calling was SWAT. The purpose of SWAT is saving lives: saving the lives of hostages; saving the lives of innocent bystanders; saving the lives of other officers by providing them with specialized training, weapons, and tactics; and many times saving the lives of the people that present the threat in the first place. Sergeant Renninger did all of these things on numerous occasions. We don't know how many lives Sergeant Renninger saved by his years of service, both directly and indirectly through the others that he trained. Sergeant Renninger was an asset to the civilian and the police communities in this entire region. His dedication to public service and training others to excel in life saving skills was a service to all of us.

Valley SWAT has a SWAT coin and on one side of the coin it says "Through team we achieve strength, unity, knowledge and success in Mission." Sergeant Renninger was an integral part of this team. He was a leader that was dedicated to learning tactics and

pushing himself to excellence, but also pushing the team to operate at the highest level and be successful on every mission. He had a natural ability for tactics, teamwork, and making split-second good decisions during the most stressful situations. He led by example, was courageous, and willing to put himself in the front when confronting the most dangerous criminals.

It was a loss to our team when he left Tukwila, but another team gained. Once going to Lakewood he then joined the Metro Pierce County regional SWAT team in 2005. He was an operator, Assistant Team Leader, and a Team Leader. During his eight years of SWAT experience Valley SWAT and Metro SWAT responded to over 300 missions. Sergeant Renninger was with his team members during most of those missions.

King and Pierce County were made safer on the days and nights that Sergeant Renninger worked. He got up each day and put on the vest, the uniform, and the badge and walked out the door knowing the risks and the threats that he would face. He did it with dedication, with honor, and with courage. One of the Metro team members said "you knew it was going to be okay when Mark got there, no matter what the operation was." He went on to say, "We are a better team because of him. Mark made the team what it is today."

He became a Department Defensive Tactics Instructor for us in 2002. He also became a SWAT instructor in a variety of different disciplines. His teaching skills were recognized by others and in 2006, he began teaching for the Washington State Tactical Officers' Association. He taught SWAT Basic in March of 2006, and every SWAT Basic class after that. He taught Advanced SWAT, Tactical Mindsets; Breaching, and a course he and Jeff Selleg developed called Mission, Tactics, & Entry Techniques.

He loved his wife and children. He was a family man whose demeanor always changed slightly from the tough Pennsylvania SWAT guy to a sincerely loving father and husband when he spoke of his kids and wife.





Tukwila Police Department
Patrol Districts

T-9

T-7

T-1

T-5

T-3

