



# Hoquiam Police Department

## *Annual Report-2007*



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## CHIEF'S MESSAGE



**MISSION OF THE HOQUIAM POLICE DEPARTMENT:** *Through community partnerships and problem solving, we take a unified stance against crime, violence, disorder and disregard for the law. With the budgetary support and cooperation of the citizens we serve, we help Hoquiam to be strong and self sufficient- because a strong community is a safe community.*

Dear Mayor Durney, City Administrator Shay, City Council Members and Citizens of Hoquiam:

It has been a pleasure to complete my first full year of service as the chief of police for the City of Hoquiam. The year was very busy and went by much quicker than expected. The positive changes and improvements in the department that started in May 2006 continued all the way through the year. As evidenced in this report, overall crime is down in Hoquiam— in no small part to the dedicated work of our police officers and detectives. Due to the support of the community we serve, I am proud to say that we are clearing our cases, while at the same time sending a strong message that crime and disorder is not tolerated in Hoquiam.

This annual report, including the “2007 Crime Beat” and “2007 Police Department Accomplishments” page is a basic recap of the police activity by the department. In many cases, the statistics are compared to prior years to assist the reader in tracking trends or patterns in the community. Deputy Chief Maloney was responsible for researching and compiling all of the statistics used in this report. This was the first full year of data collected under the new county-wide Spillman records management computer system. According to Deputy Chief Maloney, the functionality of the new system has been better than anticipated.

Although serious crime was down overall, a disturbing trend emerged during the year— robberies. Of the six robberies reported, two involved a firearm and four were “strong-arm” (force used without a weapon). It was determined that each robbery was drug related or a drug dealer rip-off. This continues to demonstrate

that drug abuse is not a victimless crime.

At the end of July, the importance of the department’s “zero-tolerance” stance on underage alcohol, drug and tobacco violations was demonstrated by a vehicular homicide case on the Fifth Street Extension. An intoxicated 17-year old female driver crashed and killed her 17-year old passenger. Driving under the influence of alcohol is not only a tragedy, but also a choice.

With two open police officer positions, the department pursued an aggressive recruitment and hiring program. The department went through several cycles of testing for entry-level and lateral officers. A solid list of entry-level candidates was established by November. Both open positions should be filled in early 2008 with the recruits hopefully completing the academy (and field training) by the end of 2008.

Our new department policy and procedure manual was completed in draft form and will be finalized in 2008. We will then start our work toward State Accreditation. I know that this project, like all of the great efforts in 2007 by our officers, non-sworn staff, and CRIME WATCH senior volunteers will continue to distinguish Hoquiam as a dedicated and community oriented law enforcement agency. I cannot express my appreciation enough for the people who work and volunteer for the department.

With the continued support of the mayor, city administrator, city council and the public we serve, I know that Hoquiam will continue to be stronger and safer— as well as “the friendliest city”.

**JEFF MYERS**  
Chief of Police



## LAW INCIDENTS & PART 1 OFFENSES

### Law Incidents in 2007

During 2007 all law enforcement related incidents increased by 2,017 from the number recorded during 2006 (12,176). **Officers were involved in 14,193 law incidents during the year.** This number represents all calls for service, as well as traffic stops and other officer-initiated law enforcement incidents.

Although there was an increase in total law incidents, the good news was there was a decrease in the number of Part 1 crimes investigated by the department. The serious crimes with the greatest increase over those reported in 2006 were Aggravated Assault and Robbery. There were two incidents classified as Homicide: one for a 'Vehicular Homicide' traffic collision and one case of 'Homicide by Abuse' of a child.

As is illustrated in the accompanying table, the total number of the most serious crimes decreased by 21 incidents from those reported during 2006. The total of 496 "Part 1 Offenses" reported is the second lowest reported since the year 2000 (468).



### Part 1 Offenses—Most Serious Crimes

"Part 1 Crimes" are designated as the most serious offenses investigated by a law enforcement agency. The total number under for each of the crime categories are reported monthly to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (through the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs) in the Uniform Crime Report (UCR).

Crimes considered "Part 1 Offenses" are: Homicide, Forcible Rape, Robbery, Assault, Burglary, Larceny/Theft, Motor Vehicle and Arson. The numbers of "Part 1 Offenses" reported during 2007 are listed in the chart below with comparison to prior years:

<b>UNIFORM CRIME REPORT COMPARISON</b>			
<b>CRIME</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
Homicide	0	1	<b>2</b>
Rape	2	5	<b>5</b>
Robbery	3	2	<b>6</b>
Burglary	141	111	<b>106</b>
Aggravated Assault	10	5	<b>13</b>
Theft	450	348	<b>327</b>
Vehicle Theft	69	45	<b>32</b>
Arson	2	0	<b>5</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>677</b>	<b>517</b>	<b>496</b>



## **CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS & DOMESTIC VIOLENCE**

### **Homicide**

In 2007 there was one incident classified as “Vehicular Homicide” related to a traffic collision where the at-fault driver was operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, resulting in the death of a passenger. The other incident is a still open case and involved the abuse and subsequent death of an infant (“Homicide by Abuse”).

### **Simple Assaults and Domestic Violence**

Police officers have little control over the number of assaults that occur from year to year. “Simple Assaults”, the most common of all assaults, showed a significant increase (27 incidents) from those reported during 2006. There were six assaults during which a knife or handgun was used.

Although arrests for Assault related to Domestic Violence decreased slightly, crimes related to violations of Restraining and Protections Order increased by 44 incidents over those reported during 2006.

### **Juvenile Runaways**

Although running away from home is not a crime, runaways are often reported to the police. Since the year 2000, the average number of runaways reported to the Hoquiam Police each year has been about 60. During 2007, there were 41 juveniles reported as a runaway (the lowest number reported since 2001).

### **Sex Offenses**

Unfortunately the greatest number of sex offenses investigated by the police involve the abuse of a child. The number of sex crimes reported during 2007 decreased by only 7 incidents.



<b>CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS</b>			
<b>CRIME</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
Homicide	0	1	<b>2</b>
Assault	141	132	<b>154</b>
Domestic Violence	89	78	<b>68</b>
Other, Simple Assault	46	53	<b>80</b>
Knife	6	1	<b>4</b>
Firearm	0	0	<b>2</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>141</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>156</b>

<b>DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INCIDENTS</b>			
<b>CRIME</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
Family fights resulting in arrest for Assault	89	78	<b>68</b>
Family fights resulting in arrest for property damage	17	9	<b>11</b>
Family fights—no arrest	14	26	<b>30</b>
Violation of Restraining or Protection Order	58	55	<b>99</b>
Custodial Interference	4	10	<b>28</b>
Reports of Child Abuse or Neglect	19	134	<b>20</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>212</b>	<b>256</b>

<b>SEX OFFENSES</b>			
<b>CRIME</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
Rape	2	5	<b>5</b>
Sexual Assault	22	28	<b>21</b>
Public Indecency	2	1	<b>1</b>



## ***CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY***

Crimes against property showed the greatest decline of all crimes reported to the Hoquiam Police during 2007. In fact, the 542 reported was the lowest number recorded since 2000 (527).

However, the six Robberies during the year was the highest number reported since 2003. In two of the robberies a firearm was used while the other four robberies were of the strong arm variety (force only).

Fraud and Forgery incidents reported in 2007 resulted in many extensive and time consuming investigations; most of these investigations were conducted by detectives in the Investigations Division. Several cases involved identity theft, counterfeit cashier's or traveler's checks. In one case, out-of-state suspects stole identification from a person in Minnesota, bank information out of the mail from a person in Montana, and passed the forged checks with forged identification here in Hoquiam.

Complaints of fraud have steadily increased each year since the year 2000. The latest scam involved counterfeit traveler's checks being sent to local suspects via an out-of-state Internet contact. The local suspect would then pass the counterfeit traveler's check at a business for a cut of the value. Several local businesses took large losses on this scam and it has undermined the reliability of traveler's checks.

Forged prescriptions also continued to be a problem, but detectives combated the fraud with a pharmacy email information bulletin.



<b>ROBBERY and THEFT</b>			
<b>CRIME</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
Robbery	3	2	<b>6</b>
Thefts	450	348	<b>327</b>
Burglary	141	111	<b>106</b>
Theft of Vehicle	69	45	<b>32</b>
Fraud/Forgery	35	61	<b>71</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>698</b>	<b>567</b>	<b>542</b>

<b>\$TOLEN PROPERTY/VALUE IN \$\$\$</b>			
<b>PROPERTY TYPE</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
Cash	43,755	38,048	<b>21,075</b>
Jewelry	40,050	40,990	<b>31,650</b>
Motor Vehicle	171,949	200,650	<b>107,650</b>
TV, Radio, etc.	17,925	7,500	<b>16,938</b>
Firearms	13,572	2,965	<b>4,195</b>
Clothing	5,459	2,825	<b>2,098</b>
Office Equipment	2,900	450	<b>2,700</b>
Furniture	17,629	3,960	<b>9,760</b>
Food	517	450	<b>1,770</b>
Bicycles	10,155	4,190	<b>2,064</b>
Miscellaneous	141,628	184,328	<b>137,104</b>
<b>Totals</b>	<b>465,539</b>	<b>486,356</b>	<b>337,004</b>



***Interesting Fact: The value of all property recovered during 2007 was \$172,899***



## ADULT ARRESTS

### Physical Bookings into Jail

2005	2006	2007
233	282	302

Since the city jail closure at the end of 2002, the number of prisoners booked into jail has decreased substantially. During the last full year of jail operation in 2002, there were 699 inmates booked into the city jail. Although the number of overall bookings has dramatically decreased, those individuals arrested for major felonies, and most domestic violence crimes, were accepted for booking at the county jail. The department contracted with the City of Forks for all other day-to-day jail services.

During 2007, the department held two “weekend jail” sessions during which officers arrested and booked individuals into the Hoquiam City Jail on outstanding Hoquiam Municipal Court warrants. A total of 40 individuals were booked into the city jail on the two weekend sessions staffed by temporary corrections officers hired from other agencies for the sessions. Prisoners who did not post bail were held over from the weekend until municipal court on the following Tuesday.

For statistical purposes, warrant arrests are listed in three categories: warrant arrests by HPD officers on Hoquiam warrants (WARR); warrant arrests by Hoquiam officers on warrants from other jurisdictions (WARO) and warrant arrests by officers of other agencies on Hoquiam warrants (WART).

### MOST COMMON ARRESTS BY GENDER

CRIME	2006		2007	
	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE
All other offenses	377	117	274	31
Assaults	91	23	114	36
DWI	24	9	33	10
Drugs	21	8	31	9
Theft	38	7	25	8
Fraud/Forgery	9	11	8	6
<b>Totals</b>	<b>560</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>485</b>	<b>100</b>

A person can be arrested and charged with a crime without the person actually going to jail. When an officer issues a criminal citation to an individual, it is also technically listed as an arrest. Another form of arrest is when an officer identifies a suspect in a crime, and submits a report to the prosecutor to request the person be charged with a crime. In **2007** there were a total of **585 adult arrests** of all types, which is 150 less than the number arrested in 2006.

WARRANT TYPE	2005	2006	2007
WARR	80	126	132
WARO	182	131	120
WART	37	57	37

Since we are unable to confirm our municipal court warrants due to the city jail being closed, the number of individuals arrested by officers from other agencies on our warrants fluctuates greatly from year to year.





# JUVENILE ARREST

## Custody

When an officer takes a juvenile into custody for the investigation of a crime the disposition of that contact is usually recorded as one of three types:

- “Handled and Released” is generally when an officer questions a juvenile, in respect to a crime, then releases the juvenile with no further action to be taken.
- “Referred to an Adult Authority” means that a juvenile is questioned, then released to an adult, usually with a verbal warning- or referred to an adult court at a later date.
- “Referred to Juvenile Authority” is used in all cases where a juvenile is booked into the juvenile detention facility, or in cases where the officer submits a written report to the Grays Harbor County Juvenile Prosecutor requesting the juvenile be charged with a crime.

## Offenses

Although total juvenile arrests for 2007 remained at about the same level as those in 2006, the significant changes were: 21 more males were arrested while arrests for females declined by 14 arrests. The single most common arrest was for alcohol violations which coincides with the Department’s “Zero Tolerance Policy” on under age drinking.

JUVENILE ARRESTS (Under age 18)	2005	2006	2007
Males	68	44	65
Females	24	27	13
<b>Total</b>	92	71	78

DISPOSITION OF JUVENILE ARRESTS	2005	2006	2007
Handled and Released	0	0	2
Referred to Adult	0	2	11
Referred to Juvenile Authority	92	69	65

OFFENSE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Alcohol Violations	16	5	21
Theft	10	1	11
Assault	8	0	8
Burglary	7	0	7
Drug Violation	0	1	1
All other offenses	24	6	30

AGE OF JUVENILES ARRESTED	2005	2006	2007
Under 10	2	1	3
10—12	6	5	2
13—14	13	18	14
15	29	10	13
16	17	17	17
17	25	18	29



## TRAFFIC

### Traffic Violations

For the year 2007, officers issued **1,571 citations** for **1,921 different traffic violations**. One citation may contain more than one violation. Officers conducted a total of **3,286 traffic stops**.

Hoquiam officers also participated in the night time “Click It or Ticket” campaign to promote seat belt safety. A grant from the Washington Traffic Safety Commission paid the overtime cost for the officers who worked the emphasis. Throughout the school year, patrol officers also conducted regular school zone speed enforcement during unassigned time. In 2007, officers issued **151 infractions** for speeding in a school zone.



TRAFFIC OFFENSES	2007
Driving Without Insurance	<b>359</b>
Speeding	<b>328</b>
School Zone Speeding	<b>151</b>
Driving While License Suspended	<b>335</b>
Seat Belt Violations	<b>122</b>
No Valid Operator’s License	<b>70</b>
Driving While Intoxicated	<b>43</b>
Negligent/Reckless Driving	<b>31</b>
Fail to Stop	<b>89</b>
All other violations	<b>43</b>

### Parking Enforcement

The Hoquiam Animal Control Officer (ACO) has the additional duty of enforcing parking violations and handling complaints of abandoned vehicles on the city streets. During 2007, the department handled **569 abandoned vehicle incidents** of which the vast majority were initiated by the ACO. In addition there were **278 parking infractions** issued by the department (mostly by the ACO as well).

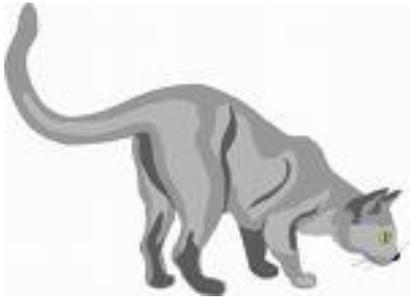
### Collisions

The total number of collisions investigated during 2007 remained at the same level as the number the department investigated during 2006. However, the number of collisions classified as “Non-Reportable” (under \$700 damage to a vehicle) increased dramatically. Of the 234 collisions in 2007, a total of 61 were listed as “hit and run”.

COLLISION TYPE	2005	2006	2007
Fatal	1	0	<b>2</b>
Property Damage Only	159	165	<b>145</b>
Injury	35	37	<b>31</b>
Non-Reportable	5	27	<b>56</b>
Total	212	234	<b>234</b>



*Interesting fact—Collisions most often took place on Thursday and Friday between 2:00-3:00 PM. Traffic citations were most often issued between 8:00-9:00 AM followed by 3:00-4:00 PM on Wednesday and Thursday.*



## ANIMAL CONTROL

For Hoquiam, animal problems were the number one type of complaint called into the E-911 Communications Center during 2007. **There were 1,017 animal complaints** handled by the department. The total number of animal complaints resolved during 2007 is almost double the number handled in 2006. Many of these complaints were self-initiated contacts by the animal control officer (ACO) while patrolling the city.

The sheer number of complaints handled is reflective of the first full year for the reinstated animal control officer position. Due to the education and enforcement efforts of the ACO, there were **421 animal licenses issued** in 2007. This represents the highest number of cat and dog licenses ever issued in a single year in Hoquiam! Animal impounds and the number of infractions / citations for animal violations also reached an all time high.

The animal control officer held two very popular licensing and rabies shot clinics at the police station during the year. Many animal owners purchased animal licenses and had their animals inoculated. The department appreciated the assistance of Dr. Westby and his staff from the Raintree Veterinary Clinic.

In addition to complaints about domestic animal problems, the ACO also responded to wildlife issues in the city. This included trapping trespassing possums and roving raccoons, as well as clearing dead animals from the roadways.

A large part of the animal control officer's duties included educating citizens on responsible pet ownership. The ACO worked closely with local animal shelter organizations to facilitate the adoption of abandoned animals who deserve a loving home.

<b>COMPLAINT SUMMARY</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
Complaints	604	587	<b>1,017</b>
Citations Issued	54	44	<b>94</b>
Licenses Issued	381	177	<b>421</b>

<b>ANIMAL IMPOUNDS</b>	<b>2005</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2007</b>
Domestic Animals	156	262	<b>471</b>

<b>DISPOSITIONS</b>	<b>2007</b>
Animals Euthanized	<b>134</b>
Animals Adopted	<b>22</b>
Redeemed by Owner	<b>194</b>
To PAWS	<b>121</b>





## 2007 HOQUIAM CRIME BEAT

On January 17, 2007, Officers responded to a reported home-invasion burglary/ assault. Three men (all related) kicked in a door at a residence in the 2800 Block of Simpson Ave and assaulted the residents inside.

On January 20, 2007, a female arrived at the Hoquiam Police Department to report that she had just been held against her will and sexually assaulted by her boyfriend for the preceding 15 hours. The suspect pleaded guilty to kidnap and sexual assault.

On January 24, 2007, Hoquiam Police Officers and members of the Drug Task Force with the Grays Harbor County Sheriff's Department conducted an early dawn raid of a suspected drug house in the 500 block of Second Street.

In the late evening of January 24, 2007, Officers responded to a residence in the 200 Block of Hayes Street in regard to a barricaded female inside the residence armed with a 20 gauge shotgun.

On January 29, 2007, a 17-year old female was struck by a van while attempting to cross Ontario Street. The driver was arrested and booked at the county jail pending charges of felony hit and run and vehicular assault as he was intoxicated at the time of the collision.

On February 10, 2007, patrol officers were dispatched to a "man-down" in the area of 15<sup>th</sup> Street and C Street. Officers located a 15 year-old male lying in the street in a pool of blood. Patrol officers and detectives called out over the weekend subsequently learned that the victim had been attending a juvenile alcohol party on 16<sup>th</sup> Street when he was assaulted by a large group of intoxicated juveniles. Five suspects pleaded guilty to felony assault.

On February 18, 2007, patrol officers were dispatched to Sumner at 25<sup>th</sup> Street for a car versus pedestrian collision. The pedestrian, an 86 year-old Hoquiam man, was killed in the collision.

On February 26, 2007, a rape was initially reported to the Aberdeen Police Department until it was discovered that the crime actually occurred in Hoquiam near the city line. A 13 year-old Hoquiam female had sex with a 21 year-old Hoquiam male; he was arrested for "rape of a child in the second degree".

In an example of irrational vandalism, 11 separate vehicles were damaged in the first week of March by suspects throwing "billiard balls" through the windows of cars and trucks on the west and north end of the city.

The department investigated three arson fires in March, to include a portable toilet behind Hoquiam Middle School, damage inside of a local bar and the destruction of an abandoned van.

The chronic problem of metal theft again hit in March with the burglary of two industrial locations to remove wiring that was likely later sold as scrap (likely directly tied to methamphetamine abuse).

On March 14, 2007, a 7-year old Central Elementary School student was struck in the crosswalk in front of the school. The driver who struck the child was talking on a cellular phone at the time. The child suffered only minor injuries.

On March 28, 2007, a Hoquiam man was robbed of his 1993 Acura by two men in the 700 block of Broadway Ave. The vehicle was later recovered in the north Pacific County area.

During the month of March, the Investigations Division interviewed several students and former students in regard to allegations of inappropriate sexual contact between a Hoquiam High School choir teacher and a student. The case is currently in the court of appeals.

On April 13, 2007, Detective Sergeant Fretts and Detective Krohn arrested a 42-year old Hoquiam man for sexually stalking a female resident at an apartment complex. The suspect pleaded guilty to the crime as has to register as a sex offender.

On April 16, 2007, David Gannon was sentenced in Grays Harbor County Superior Court to over 72 years in prison for the murder of Vern and Maxine Bishop.

The department, including all members of the Administration and Investigations Division, worked over the weekend of May 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> to assist with anticipated protests at the Port of Grays Harbor.

In the early morning hours of May 9, 2007, unknown suspect(s) shot out the living room window of a residence in the 200 block of Chenault Avenue with a shotgun.

On May 11, 2007, a female visiting a residence in the 500 block of Second Street was assaulted and robbed of her car keys and other personal property. Suspects were identified during the investigation, but the incident appears to be drug related.

On May 25, 2007 at approximately 6:20 PM, a 38-year old Hoquiam man was struck in the parking lot of the apartment complex in the 400 block of Queen Avenue by an intoxicated driver. The driver was convicted of vehicular assault.

In May, the Investigations Division arrested a Hoquiam man after he reportedly violently shook his under 6-month-old baby; filed Child Molestation charges against a 33-year old Hoquiam man for an incident involving a 14 year-old girl; and assisting the Bonner County, Idaho Sheriff's Office on a multi-state child sex abuse case possibly involving twenty additional victims.

In May, April Hensley, the co-defendant in the Bishop homicides was sentenced to over 19 years in prison for her role in the crime.



## 2007 HOQUIAM CRIME BEAT

A stabbing occurred in a downtown bar on June 1, 2007, all captured on video. The victim was subsequently killed in a traffic accident, thus the suspect pleaded guilty to a reduced assault charge to avoid a “third strike” with life in prison.

On June 8, 2007, officers and detectives investigated the arson of a car. The suspect was later convicted of arson for torching the vehicle that belonged to his estranged girlfriend.

On June 15, 2007, detectives started investigating another reportedly inappropriate sexual relationship between a teacher (and wrestling coach) and a high school student. The suspect later pleaded guilty and is required to register as a sex offender.

On July 29, 2007 at 3:47 AM, officers were dispatched to a one-vehicle versus power pole fatality collision in the area of the 5<sup>th</sup> Street Extension and Adams Street. The driver, a 17-year old Tokeland girl, killed a 17-year old female passenger from Westport. The driver admitted that she had been drinking and was traveling around 55 to 60 miles per hour (in a 30 zone). The vehicular homicide trial is pending.

In August, detectives investigated a fraud case in which three suspects from out-of-state stole identification from man in Minnesota, mail from couple in Montana and then cashed checks they made with the stolen identification and bank account number at Swanson's.

On August 21, 2007 at approximately 4:54 PM, a 15-year old Hoquiam bicyclist apparently accidentally veered off the sidewalk and into traffic in the 500 block of Emerson Ave where he was struck by a vehicle. The bicyclist was not wearing a bike helmet and was subsequently airlifted to Harborview with non-life threatening head injuries.

HPD detectives cleared an extortion case that actually started back in July but was not reported until September. A Hoquiam resident reported receiving repeated calls demanding cash in exchange for explicit photos depicting the victim.

On September 18, 2007, officers were dispatched to a reported burglary that had occurred in the 900 block of Soule Ave in North Hoquiam. By pursuing leads throughout the night, the officers and detectives were able to recover all the firearms and most of the stolen items. Several juveniles and adults were arrested and have since been convicted.

On September 26, 2007, officers were dispatched to a reported stabbing in front of the Hoquiam Library. The victim, a 16-year old Aberdeen youth, has not been cooperative in the investigation and the incident was possibly in retaliation for an earlier fight.

On September 29, 2007 at approximately 2:20 AM, a 17-year old Aberdeen youth was arrested for driving under the influence after he reportedly struck the Simpson Ave Bridge with his vehicle and then drove the wrong-way on 22<sup>nd</sup> Street back to Sumner Ave.

The first set of counterfeit \$500 traveler's checks hit the Hoquiam area on October 4, 2007. Counterfeit checks were sent to local suspects who in turned passed them at local

businesses for a cut of the proceeds. One suspect was arrested and charged, while the other suspect has been identified, but has not yet been located.

On October 28, 2007, a 20-year old Hoquiam woman reported that she was attacked with a knife and robbed the previous evening. Further investigation during the month indicated that the incident may have actually been a drug rip-off or attempt at debt collection.

On November 2, 2007, Detective Sergeant Fretts and Detective Krohn were requested to assist the Washington State Patrol with an apparent child pornography case on behalf of Montesano PD. The case involved a police department volunteer and high school coach.

On November 4, 2007, two suspects- armed with a sawed-off shotgun and knife, committed a home-invasion robbery on Aberdeen Ave that was drug-related. Both suspects were identified and in police custody within six hours. One suspect had pleaded guilty and the other is awaiting trial.

Starting on November 23, 2007, officers and detectives starting investigation the death of a 6-month old infant who was in the care of her parents. The investigation revealed that the child was suffocated; the parents will likely be facing charges for “homicide by abuse” after additional follow-up is completed.

On November 25, 2007, three masked suspects robbed a couple at a residence on Broadway Ave with baseball bats. It would appear from the subsequent investigation that the robbery was likely drug related. The homeowner retrieved a pistol and had fired upon the suspects as they ran away. The suspect's vehicle was struck and one suspect was grazed in the abdomen by a bullet. Three suspects have been charged in the crime.

As with the rest of Grays Harbor County, the department weathered the “December Windstorm” of December 2-4. During the first night of the storm, the department responded to four commercial burglaries or attempted burglaries.

In December, two residential burglaries were investigated: the first occurred on December 12<sup>th</sup> and the second the 14<sup>th</sup>. In both cases, the suspect entered the residence while the homeowner was sleeping and both of the victim's vehicles were stolen. Detective Krohn cleared the cases by tracing a cell phone call; the suspect pleaded guilty.

A suspect was arrested on December 13, 2007 for an alleged domestic violence assault in the 900 block of Simpson Ave that involved a knife. The suspect has prior convictions for violent felonies and is facing a “third-strike” conviction with life in prison.

On December 26, 2007, the Shell Station in the 2600 block of Simpson Ave was robbed at gunpoint by a white male, age 40-50, slim build. The robbery was captured on video surveillance and the suspect was identified through a tip. A warrant is out for his arrest.



## ***POLICE DEPARTMENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS- 2007***

12

The final Chief-Community Ward meeting was held in April after Mayor Durney's Town Hall Forum in March. The response and interest from the citizens was greatly appreciated and has helped to shape the direction of the department.

Members of the department participated in numerous public outreach activities during the year. This included presentations, appearances and visits to local civic groups, business organizations, schools, community festivals and many other public events.

During 2007, the department completed a new policy and procedure manual in a draft form. The manual is in the process of a final review and revision phase through the work of the Policy Development Board consisting of officers who volunteered for the task. The final manual should be issued in 2008.

The department was proud to participate in a very successful "National Night Out Against Crime" in August. Hoquiam hosted numerous "block parties" around the city. A contingent of city officials, police officers and fire staff visited with citizens at each the locations.

The department started a "business fraud email bulletin" in October. When the detectives became aware of a fraud, forgery or bad check case, a broadcast email was sent out to all the registered businesses to include details of the case, suspect photos and other information.

The department held two "week-end warrant sweep" sessions in 2007. The City Jail was staffed with temporary corrections officers and a total of 40 individuals were arrested during the events. Both sessions were unannounced and sent a clear message that Hoquiam Municipal Court warrants cannot be ignored.

The senior citizen volunteer CRIME WATCH program was successfully launched in December with a total of 16 outstanding members. After completing training and obtaining uniforms, the CRIME WATCH members started volunteering for CRIME WATCH residence/ business patrols, conducted safety presentations in the schools and assisted with office tasks around the station. The CRIME WATCH patrol vehicle was donated by One Star Motors with the vehicle decals donated by Coastline Signs. The response from the public has been very positive.

Police Service Dog "Enno" was state certified as a narcotics detection

canine in addition to being a certified apprehension dog. This dual certification demonstrated hours of additional training and effort.

Many unbudgeted facility upgrades were completed in 2007 by leveraging department funds, including the final work on the upstairs portion of the police department. This included completing the fitness room, the training/ meeting room, an evidence processing area and a modern evidence room. An alarm system and security cage (for firearms and homicide evidence) were installed for additional evidence integrity. After over 25 years, all of the original carpet in the police station was replaced in May. Through the assistance of the Jones Photo Collection, several older department photos, as well as copies of the articles from the six HPD recipients of "The Daily World Officer of the Year" were proudly added to the hallways in the station. The department's phone/ voicemail system (with individual extensions for each staff member) was upgraded in July.

With unencumbered funds, the department was able to purchase a used SUV to replace one of the detective's vehicles with high mileage.

2007 was the first full-year of operation on the combined county-wide law enforcement Spillman Records Management System computer. All of the agencies in the county, including the city and county jails, now use the same system. This system provides access for all agencies to law incidents and crime reports and thus encourages interagency cooperation and the sharing of information.

With one open position, and the city council's addition of a new patrol officer position, the department conducted an aggressive police officer recruitment and hiring campaign during the year.

The department secured numerous grant funds to further expand and update needed department equipment. Through Homeland Security grants and traffic safety grants, the department secured approximately \$82,379 in equipment funds and/or equipment value. This included a \$49,950 "Video Detective" computer unit to enhance and clarify video surveillance footage, as well as additional mobile computer terminals and several additional radar units for the patrol cars. All of the patrol cars are now equipped with the most modern radars and four of the six vehicles issued to patrol have the in-car computers used to check police records, driver's license status and other dispatch related information.

***2007***