



Hoquiam Police Department

Annual Report-2006

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CHIEF'S MESSAGE

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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 serve as your new Chief of Police since May of 2006. The department has undergone many drastic and positive changes in 2006. These changes were made possible through the dedicated work of the police department staff, the leadership of Mayor Durney, the interest shown by each member of the City Council, and most importantly, the support of the citizens of Hoquiam.

This annual report, including the “2006 Police Department Accomplishments” page, is a basic recap of the police activity by the department for 2006. In some 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 no easy task given the volume of information the department collects, as well as the fact the department upgraded computer systems to the county-wide Spillman records management on July 1, 2006. I appreciate Deputy Chief Maloney’s leadership in the department over his 30 years of service here.

In addition to the positive changes and accomplishments in 2006, the department also faced many challenges. This included several missing persons cases, disturbing child sexual assault investigations and a home-invasion robbery/ double-homicide case. Even though each of these cases taxed our manpower, each and every member of the department stepped up and showed their best. Both suspects in the murder were in custody within six and a half hours of

the 911 call based on “street information” gleaned by Officer Joe Strong. In my first week of work during the homicide, I learned more about the department than I could have learned in a year. The community should be very proud of the men and women of this department and their years of dedicated and loyal service— especially through trying economic times and layoffs in recent years.

Due to the excellent staff at the department, most of the changes made in 2006 revolved around upgrades to equipment, the police station itself, a new direction for the department and implementing some innovative solutions to some old challenges. The latter half of 2006 included a new department mission (above), replacing five of six patrol cars, new uniforms and duty gear, a new trial patrol schedule, securing over \$53,000 in grant funds, running “week-end” jail/warrant sweep sessions, and finishing the upstairs portion of the station to create a fitness room, updated evidence room, evidence processing area and training/meeting room. One of the most important accomplishments was a new era of communication and outreach to the community we serve with Chief-Community Ward Meetings, National Night Out, a new Explorer Scout post and other such programs.

Although “Rome was not built in a day”, I believe our accomplishments and activity in 2006 demonstrate the professionalism within the department and illustrate what we are capable of in the future.

JEFF MYERS
Chief of Police

LAW INCIDENTS & PART 1 OFFENSES

Law Incidents in 2006

During 2006 all calls for service decreased by just over 1,000 from the number recorded during 2005 (13,382). Officers responded to 12,176 law incidents during the year.

Since 2001, calls for service had shown an increase over each of the previous year...until 2006.

Along with the decrease in total law incidents there was also a decrease in the number of Part 1 crimes investigated by the department. The serious crimes with the greatest decrease over those reported in 2005 were Burglary and Auto Theft. There were 30 less burglaries reported in 2006 and 24 less Vehicle Thefts than reported in 2005.

As is illustrated in the accompanying table, the total number of the most serious crimes (as reported in the monthly Uniform Crime Report) decreased by 160 incidents from those reported during 2005.

The total of 517 "Part 1 Offenses" reported represents the lowest number reported since the year 2000 (468).

Part 1 Offenses—Most Serious Crimes

"Part 1 Crimes" are the most serious offenses investigated by a law enforcement agency. The total numbers for each of these 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 2006 are listed in the chart below with comparison to prior years:



UNIFORM CRIME REPORT COMPARISON			
CRIME	2004	2005	2006
Homicide	0	0	1
Rape	7	2	5
Robbery	2	3	2
Burglary	185	141	111
Aggravated Assault	17	10	5
Theft	388	450	348
Vehicle Theft	45	69	45
Arson	5	2	0
Totals	649	677	517

CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS & DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Homicide

The police department investigated a home-invasion robbery/ double homicide in May which was the first homicide to occur in the city since 2002.

Simple Assaults and Domestic Violence

Police officers have little control over the number of assaults that occur from year to year. "Simple Assaults", which are the most common of all assaults, showed a very slight increase (7 incidents) from those reported during 2005. There was only one assault involving a knife or a firearm.

Arrests for assaults related to Domestic Violence also declined from those reported in 2005. All other crimes related to domestic violence decreased slightly from the numbers reported during 2005.

Juvenile Runaways

Although running away from home is not a crime most of these incidents are reported to the police. Since the year 2000, the average number of runaways reported to the Hoquiam police each year is about 60. In 2006 this number increased to 72.

Sex Offenses

Unfortunately the greatest number of sex offenses investigated by the police involve the abuse of a child. Most child abuse and sex crimes were investigated by detectives within the Investigations Division of the department.



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CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS			
CRIME	2004	2005	2006
Homicide	0	0	1
Assault	144	141	132
Domestic Violence	75	89	78
Other, Simple Assault	55	46	53
Knife	10	6	1
Firearm	4	0	0
Total	144	141	132

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INCIDENTS			
CRIME	2004	2005	2006
Family fights resulting in arrest for Assault	83	89	78
Family fights resulting in arrest for property damage	14	17	9
Family fights—no arrest	15	14	26
Violation of Restraining or Protection Order	54	58	55
Custodial Interference	1	4	10
Reports of Child Abuse or Neglect	8	19	34
Total	175	201	212

SEX OFFENSES			
CRIME	2004	2005	2006
Rape	7	2	5
Sexual Assault, misc.	33	22	28
Public Indecency	3	2	1

CRIMES AGAINST PROPERTY

Crimes against property showed the greatest decline of all crimes reported to the Hoquiam police during 2006. In fact, the 567 reported crimes is the lowest number recorded since the year 2000 (527).

Fraud and Forgery incidents reported in 2006 resulted in many extensive and time consuming investigations; most of these investigations were handled by detectives in the Investigations Division. Several of these cases included reports of identity theft- a new crime of the technological age. The identity thefts and many of the fraud cases entailed the use of credit cards over the Internet. In the end, many of these cases required a joint effort by a number of different jurisdictions, banks and other related non-police agencies.

During the past several years the number of counterfeit money complaints has also risen dramatically. Most of the currency collected in these cases was printed with the use of a personal computer and a printer (another side effect of the computer era). The most common denomination was a \$20 bill. In the majority of these investigations, it was difficult to identify the person who passed the counterfeit bill and even more difficult to determine who printed it.

Fraudulent notices via email or regular mail notifying someone that they have won a substantial amount of money in a lottery are one of the more common fraud complaints reported to the police during the past several years.



ROBBERY and THEFT			
CRIME	2004	2005	2006
Robbery	2	3	2
Thefts	388	450	348
Burglary	185	141	111
Theft of Vehicle	45	69	45
Fraud/Forgery	57	35	61
Totals	677	698	567

\$TOLEN PROPERTY/VALUE IN \$\$\$			
PROPERTY TYPE	2004	2005	2006
Cash	19,776	43,755	38,048
Jewelry	29,407	40,050	40,990
Motor Vehicle	117,621	171,949	200,650
TV, Radio, etc.	30,020	17,925	7,500
Firearms	10,435	13,572	2,965
Clothing	4,084	5,459	2,825
Office Equipment	2,380	2,900	450
Furniture	13,219	17,629	3,960
Food	860	517	450
Bicycles	5,101	10,155	4,190
Miscellaneous	150,635	141,628	184,328
Totals	383,538	465,539	486,356

The value of all property recovered during 2006 was \$136,185

ADULT ARRESTS

Physical Bookings into Jail

2004	2005	2006
226	233	282

Since the city jail closure at the end of 2002, the number of people booked into jail has substantially decreased. 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 misdemeanor crimes were booked into the county jail. The department contracted with the City of Forks for all other jail services.



During 2006, the department held three "weekend jail" sessions during which officers arrested and booked individuals into the city jail on outstanding Hoquiam Municipal Court warrants. A total of 60 individuals were booked into the city jail on those three weekend sessions. More weekend jail operations are planned for 2007.

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 AND GENDER

CRIME	2005		2006	
	MALE	FEMALE	MALE	FEMALE
All other offenses	406	103	377	117
Assaults	73	32	91	23
DWI	27	9	24	9
Drugs	37	8	21	8
Theft	42	17	38	7
Fraud/Forgery	9	10	9	11
Totals	594	179	560	175

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 an arrest. Another form of arrest is when an officer identifies a suspect in a crime, and submits a report to the prosecutor requesting the person be charged with a crime. In **2006** there were a total of **773 adult arrests** of all types which is 38 less than the number arrested in 2005.

WARRANT TYPE	2004	2005	2006
WARR	58	80	126
WARO	204	182	131
WART	13	37	57





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:

- “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 a juvenile be charged with a crime.

Offenses

Juvenile arrests in recent years have steadily declined from **129** arrests in 2004 to **71** in 2006. Alcohol possession or consumption violations represent the single offense with the most arrests. The greatest decline was in the number of juveniles arrested for Theft from 18 in 2005 to only 2 in 2006.

OFFENSE	MALE	FEMALE	TOTAL
Alcohol Violations	11	9	20
Theft	2	0	2
Assault	6	3	9
Burglary	4	1	5
Drug Violation	2	2	4
All other offenses	19	12	31

JUVENILE ARRESTS (Under age 18)	2004	2005	2006
Males	106	68	44
Females	23	24	27
Total	129	92	71

DISPOSITION OF JUVENILE ARRESTS	2004	2005	2006
Handled and Released	1	0	0
Referred to Adult	0	0	2
Referred to Juvenile Authority	128	92	69

AGE OF JUVENILES ARRESTED	2004	2005	2006
Under 10	0	2	1
10—12	12	6	5
13—14	40	13	20
15	27	29	10
16	24	17	17
17	26	25	18

TRAFFIC



Traffic Violations

For the year 2006 officers wrote 999 citations for 1,207 traffic violations. One citation may contain more than one violation.

Hoquiam officers also took part in the “Click It or Ticket” campaign to promote seat belt safety and the Driving While Under the Influence (DUI) Emphasis programs. Officers of the Hoquiam Police Department, the Grays Harbor County Sheriff’s Department and other local law enforcement agencies form teams, on specific dates throughout the year, to target drunken driving in Grays Harbor County.

Parking Enforcement

The Hoquiam Animal Control Officer has the additional duty of enforcing parking violations and handling complaints of abandoned vehicles on the city streets. Before he was hired in May of 2006 there had been 62 parking infractions issued but in the months following there were an additional 138 parking infraction issued. He has also been responsible for removing many abandoned vehicles from the streets.

Collisions

Although the total number of collisions increased by 31 collisions over those reported in 2005, half of the increase was of the non-reportable or minimal damage variety.

TRAFFIC OFFENSES	2006
Driving Without Insurance	264
Speeding	123
School Zone Speeding	72
Driving While License Suspended	213
No Valid Operator’s License	97
Driving While Intoxicated	33
Negligent Driving	23
Fail to Stop	45
All other violations	129

COLLISION TYPE	2004	2005	2006
Fatal	0	1	0
Property Damage Only	149	159	165
Hit and Run	54	44	44
Injury	27	35	37
Non-Reportable	12	5	27
Total	242	244	273

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



ANIMAL CONTROL

Animal complaints of all types were the number one complaint, for Hoquiam, called into the E-911 Communications Center during 2006. There were 587 animal complaints called in. The 587 complaints represents a decrease of only 17 animal complaints from those reported in 2005. The animal control officer also handles an undetermined number of walk-in complaints.

Hoquiam was without an animal control officer from August 2005 until May of 2006. The duties of the animal control officer were also changed and in addition to animal complaints those duties now include parking and code enforcement.

Because of the efforts of the animal control officer animal complaints have been reduced from the highest number reported in 2004 (825) to the 587 reported during 2005.

The animal control officer also held two of the popular animal licensing and rabies inoculations clinics at the police facility. One is held in the spring and one in the fall of each year. At the clinics there were about 50 animal licenses issued and 70 rabies inoculations were given.

The Hoquiam Animal Shelter is listed as a link on the internet at petfinder.com.

Visit: www.petfinder.com

COMPLAINT SUMMARY	2004	2005	2006
Complaints	825	604	587
Citations Issued	54	34	44
Licenses Issued	381	302	177

ANIMAL IMPOUNDS	2004	2005	2006
Impounds	250	156	262

DISPOSITIONS	2006
Animals Euthanized	116
Animals Adopted	51
Redeemed by Owner	76
To PAWS	19





POLICE DEPARTMENT ACCOMPLISHMENTS- 2006

After the retirement of the former long-time Chief, the department went through a period of **internal and external evaluation** commissioned by Mayor Durney, to include a comprehensive report by former Aberdeen Chief Bill Ellis. A new Chief of Police was selected in May with a **new mission** for the Hoquiam Police Department. Since his appointment, Chief Myers held two **Community-Chief Ward Meetings**; covering Wards 1, 2, 4 and 6 as well as several **Department Leadership Meetings**; incorporating the Deputy Chief and Sergeants to set the direction of the agency. The department started drafting a **new policy/ procedure manual** and has initiated an aggressive **recruitment drive** to fill a vacant Police Officer position.

The department was faced with a **home-invasion robbery, double homicide investigation** in May. As a result of the diligence and hard work of the Patrol and Investigations Divisions, both suspects were in custody within 6 1/2 hours of the discovery of the crime.

All of the law enforcement agencies in Grays Harbor County **consolidated police records**; into one central Spillman Records Management System this year. Hoquiam PD was a key participant in the change and is the system administrator for Westport PD and Ocean Shores PD. The department also created a new **internal network** to link all the department computers together with the new records system.

As per a goal in the 2006 budget, the department was proud to participate in a very successful **"National Night Out Against Crime"** in August. Hoquiam hosted a total of ten "block parties" around the city. A contingent of city officials, police officers and fire staff visited with citizens at the different locations.

In response to over 1,200 outstanding Hoquiam Municipal Court arrest warrants, the department launched an innovative **"weekend jail-warrant sweep"** effort supported by the City Council. The three session program not only allowed the department to utilize the existing

City Jail facility, but it sent a strong message that Hoquiam is serious about the safety and appearance of our neighborhoods.

As a result of the efforts of Officer Mitchell, the department was awarded a \$25,000 Rural Development Grant from USDA for the purchase of two used sport utility vehicles for patrol cars. The grant coupled with budgeted city funds facilitated the **replacement of 5 of the 6 department patrol vehicles** and put the department back on a regular replacement cycle for 2007-2008.

In conjunction with the Fire Department, Hoquiam PD launched a volunteer **Chaplaincy program** for both departments. The department has also started recruiting volunteers to create an **Explorer Post** and a **Senior Patrol Program**.

In November, the Patrol Division entered into a trial period for a **compressed workweek schedule** of three 12-hour shifts, followed by three days off. The schedule has proven popular with the Officers while at the same time has expanded patrol coverage during the afternoon hours. This replaced the old schedule of over 25 years and has shown definite advantages to the Association and the City.

By the end of December, the **upstairs remodel of the police station** was almost complete. Using the \$20,000 supplemental budget provided by the City Council, as well as ending fund balance in the police budget, a new fitness room, meeting room, latent fingerprint room and modern evidence room was created in what was unfinished space since the building's construction in 1981.

The department **replaced and updated badly needed uniforms, duty gear and patrol equipment** (such as crime scene materials and cameras) for all department staff. In addition to the use of city funds and drug seizure funds, the department also secured **\$53,936 in equipment grants** in 2006.

2006