

COLUMBUS POLICE DEPARTMENT

2009 YEAR END REPORT

“To Protect and Serve”

Submitted by the Executive Board:

**Chief James D. Worton
Deputy Chief Alan Hayes
Deputy Chief Matthew Myers
Captain Gary Moody
Captain Steven Norman
Captain Kevin Tompkins**

Honorable Fred Armstrong
Mayor
City of Columbus, Indiana

Dear Sir:

The Columbus Police Department submits our 2009 Year End Report. The accomplishments of our Department would not have been possible without the hard work of the men and women, both sworn and civilian, of the Columbus Police Department.

In 2009 the members of the Columbus Police Department, again, demonstrated that personal dedication and quality training result in a safe community. While the contents of this report will show that, once again, Columbus is below the state and national averages in violent crime, our community has not been immune from the negative effects of a sluggish economy. Unfortunately, in 2009, Columbus saw a rise in property crimes including burglary, larceny and auto thefts. While these trends are concerning, the officers of the Columbus Police Department have been very successful this year in apprehending many thieves and burglars resulting in the elimination of several series of crime sprees in our community.

On December 1, 2009, we were reminding of the dangers of our profession and of the sacrifice that our officers put on the line every day when Officer Marc Hutcheson was brutally attacked with a knife by a wanted felon. Thankfully, Officer Hutcheson's wounds were not life threatening and he fully recovered. During the incident, multiple Law Enforcement agencies came together and assisted while members of the SWAT Team safely resolved the situation resulting in another dangerous criminal being removed from the streets of our city.

The statistics detailed in this report show that our community continues to be a safe place to live. This was made possible through the strong contributions of all divisions of the Police Department. Uniform, Detectives, Narcotics, and support divisions all played a very important role in this year's efforts.

During 2009, there were many fundamental changes implemented at the Columbus Police Department, some of which were:

- The change from the 8 ½ hour shifts to 12-hour shifts, resulted in an increased ability to better utilize manpower, while reducing overtime expenditures.
- The Narcotics Division was increased in size to allow an even larger focus on reducing illicit drug sales and manufacturing in our community.
- The transition of operations of the Columbus PAAL Program from the Police Department to the Foundation for Youth went smoothly and the success of the program continues to grow.
- We were able to appoint a full-time DARE Coordinator to continue to serve the youth of our community.

- The front desk officer position was eliminated between the hours of 10:00 p.m. through 8:00 a.m. in an effort to provide more adequate manpower coverage on the streets during those hours.

The list of our Department's accomplishments for 2009 is outstanding. The following details some of those accomplishments:

- CPD received a grant to fund the purchase of new firearms for the entire department;
- The County-Wide OSSI Software system was activated and officers were all trained with the new system;
- The Columbus Police Department Bomb Squad was awarded an emergency command vehicle for use in various emergency situations;
- Our SWAT Team competed in the Indiana SWAT Competition and placed 1st in the Hostage Rescue Competition and 2nd overall. Officer Marc Hutcheson placed 3rd over all in the Super SWAT Cop Competition.

With the continued support of your office, the City Council, the Board of Works and other city departments, we look forward to making 2010 another great year for the citizens of Columbus.

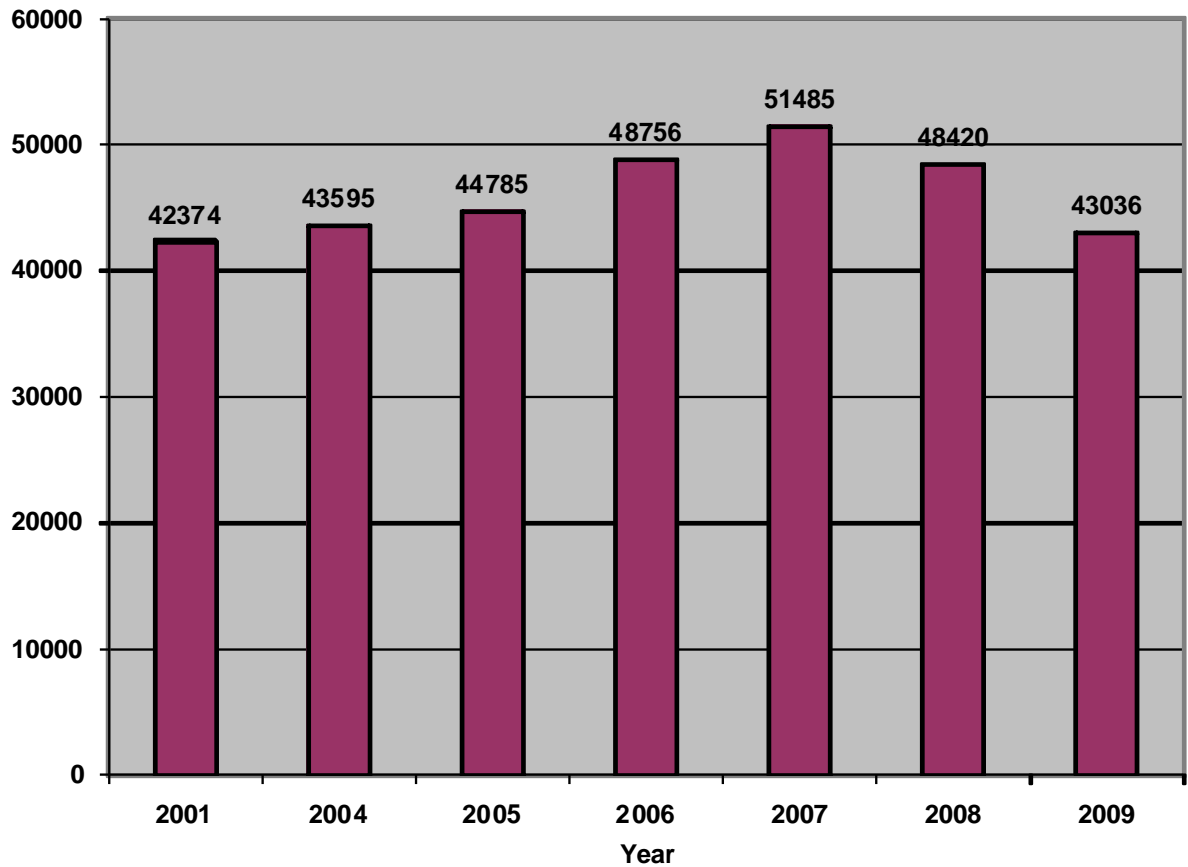
Sincerely,

James D. Worton
Chief of Police

ACTIVITY

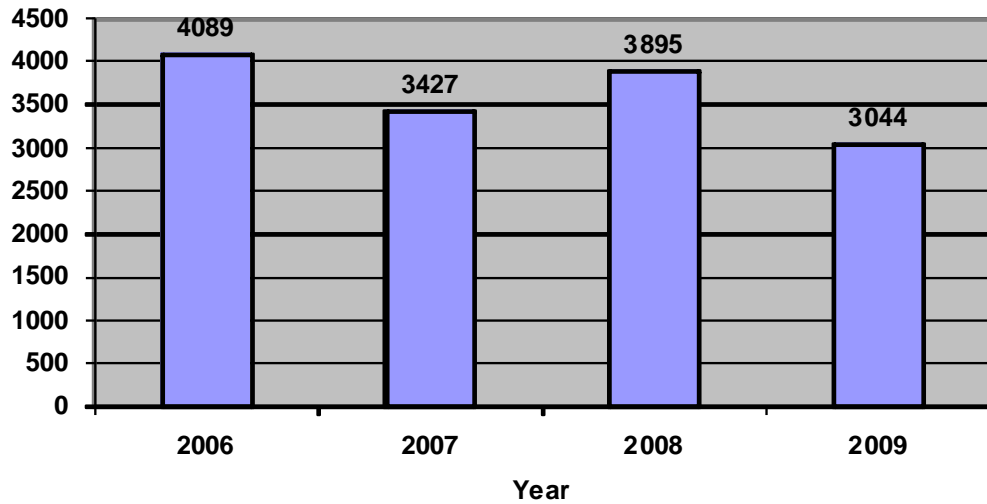
The following details some of the hard work of the officers of the Columbus Police Department.

Calls for Service



Calls for service represent calls to the Police Department or to the Emergency Operations Center to which officers responded. Also included in calls for service is the self-initiated activity of our officers. As you can see our calls for service, again, declined in 2009. This reduction is due in part to our decision to restrict our response to vehicle lockouts to an emergency basis thus freeing up officers to focus on more serious incidents.

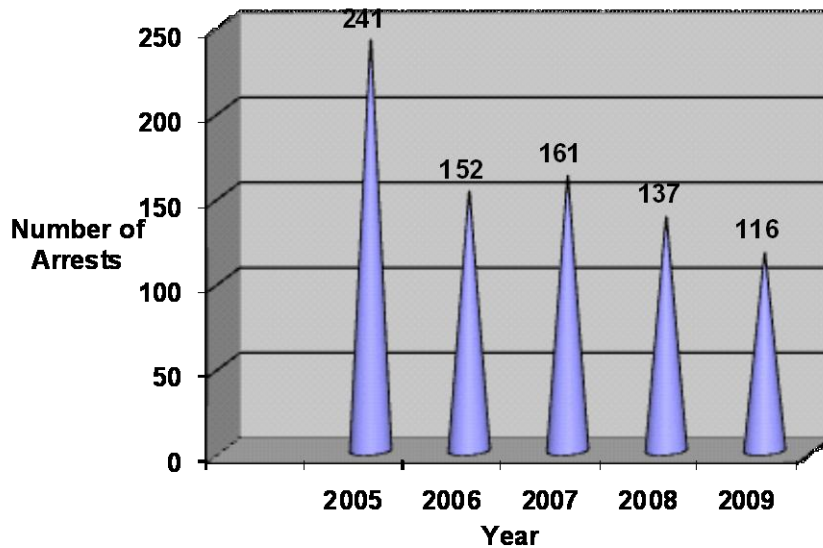
Criminal Arrests



Criminal arrests include both adult and juvenile apprehensions for crimes that are misdemeanors or felonies. 2009 saw a decrease in criminal arrests.

The following graph details drug related arrests for the Uniform Division. Crimes reflected in this graph include arrests made for the offenses of possession of methamphetamine precursors, possession of cocaine, possession of methamphetamine, possession of controlled substances and possession with intent to distribute.

Drug Arrests



INVESTIGATIONS

The Detective Division investigated over 1,135 criminal cases resulting in numerous criminal charges. The following details some of the fine work by our Detective Division:

- In November, 16 counts of theft were filed against two suspects after a rash of vehicle break-ins and vehicle thefts. A search of a residence led detectives to a mountain of stolen property, 2/3 of which was returned to its rightful owners.
- A three-month investigation led to charges against a suspect who embezzled \$18,000 from endangered adults at a home health care facility.
- In July, a previously convicted child molester was arrested following reports that he had molested several preteen boys in a Columbus neighborhood. The arrest resulted in multiple counts of molestation charges being filed against the perpetrator.
- In February, 4 arrests were made after an extensive investigation into a series of three armed robberies within two month's time at a local pharmacy.

UNIFORM DIVISION

The Columbus Police Uniform Division once again had an outstanding year. During 2009 the division was modified from three shifts to two due to the implementation of the 12 hour shifts. While the bulk of the work throughout our department was felt by the uniform division, officers worked tirelessly to handle the myriad of calls that come into our agency. Among the many calls handled by our uniform division officers were:

- Two men were arrested following an attack on a victim with a machete in the downtown area.
- Officers made 12 DUI arrests during a single weekend, resulting in a record number of DUI arrests made over such a short period of time.
- An off-duty officer, in her take-home vehicle, responded to a call involving a felon fleeing from one of our local retail stores. This officer was able to locate and stop the vehicle, resulting in a serious criminal being apprehended.
- During a robbery at a local pharmacy, suspects tied up employees with zip ties and placed them in a back room. Officers were later able to arrest the suspects who ultimately confessed to numerous robberies in various states.

- Officers responded to a call of a female that had been beaten with a hammer. The victim suffered a head injury and two suspects were arrested by officers.
- Officers had a vehicle pursuit with a juvenile that spanned 56 miles. The suspect had stolen the vehicle he was driving and intentionally rammed two police vehicles before the chase ended with the suspect's arrest.

It is that kind of police work that the citizens of Columbus have come to expect from their police force. The men and women that serve this city do so everyday with the highest degree professionalism and dedication to their community and to each other. We are all truly fortunate to live in a city that has one of, if not the best, police forces in the State of Indiana.

As the preceding portions of this report show, Columbus Police Officers encountered violent and dangerous criminals in various of situations throughout 2009. The continuous stream of calls for service, the long hours, and the often "less than ideal" conditions were stressful to say the least. From beginning to end, our officers responded with professionalism and exhibited the highest standards of character and conduct.

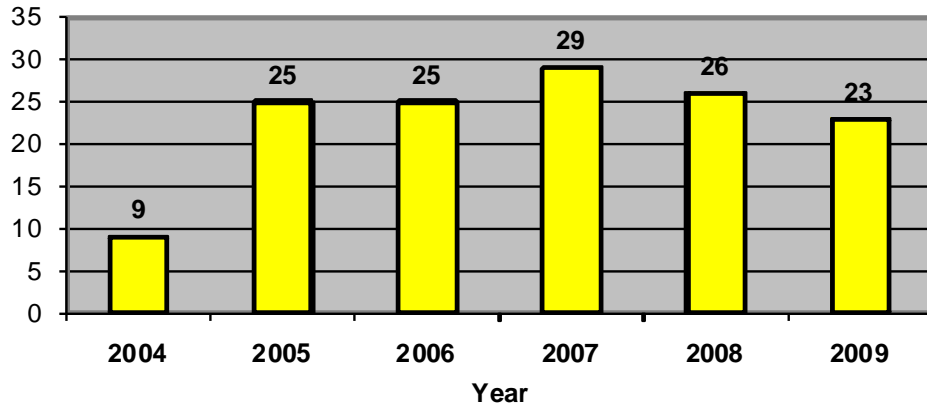
NARCOTICS DIVISION

The Columbus Police Narcotics Division had another busy year. The Division was increased in size in an effort to more effectively combat illicit drug sales and manufacturing in our community.

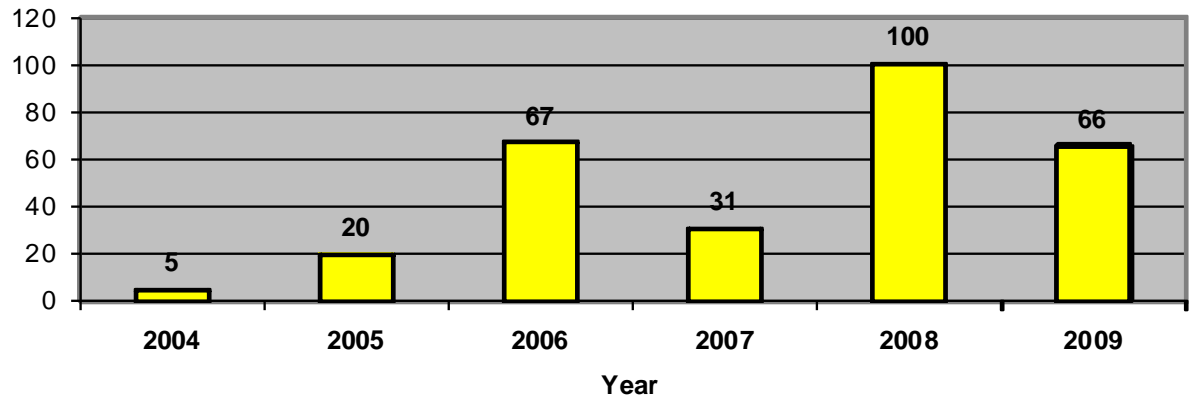
- The Narcotics Division opened 142 new investigations in 2009, adding to their already large existing case load.
- In May of 2009, Narcotics Investigators conducted an investigation into a major marijuana distributing ring that stretched from Arizona to Columbus. The investigation resulted in one of the largest marijuana busts in Columbus history. The bust consisted of over 530 pounds of marijuana worth more than \$500,000.00, 17 guns off the streets, the seizure of five vehicles, and over \$50,000.00 in seized cash. CPD was assisted by the Seymour Police, Indiana State Police, and the FBI.
- In July 2009, Narcotics Investigators began an investigation into a large scale cocaine distributing operation. The investigation resulted in the arrest of four major cocaine dealers connected to 5 other cocaine dealers from previous investigations. This investigation involved the assistance of the Indiana State Police, Johnson County Sheriff's Dept. and the DEA.

The following graphs detail some of the trends in numbers that our Narcotics agents are reporting in our community.

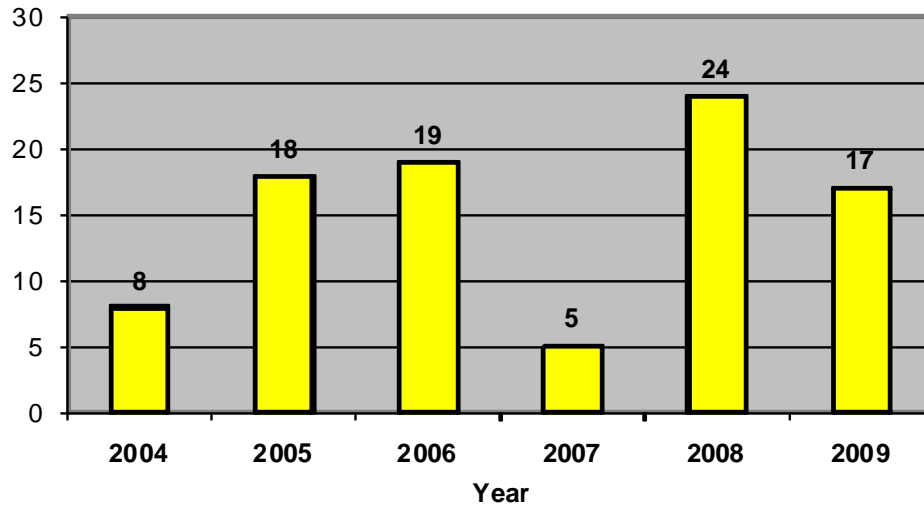
Methamphetamine Cases



Cocaine



Controlled Substances



The Columbus Police Department Narcotics Division will remain vigilant again in 2010 to continue to strive to keep Columbus among the safest cities in which to live.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

At one time, the Public Relations area of the Police Department focused solely on answering questions from the media. Today, Public Relations are much more. Not only coordinating community events for the Department, but also making sure that our citizens are educated about the quality and kinds of services we provide. Our Public Relations Division did another outstanding job in 2010 of providing information to the public, and keeping our citizens informed throughout the year.

Though recent budget cuts have forced us to restructure some of our community programs, our Public Relations Division provided safety lectures for various community groups, tours of the department for many of our youths, and provided support for the other various divisions of the Columbus Police Department. We look forward to providing the City of Columbus with quality community based programs throughout 2010.

SWAT

The Columbus Police Department SWAT team responded to, and successfully resolved, nine (9) critical incidents that required the specialized services provided by the team. The following information is a brief summary of each response conducted by the SWAT team.

1. A suicidal subject in the residence with a live- in partner and possible hostage. The perpetrator relayed to family that he was suicidal and armed with a handgun. Forced entry was made into the residence and the two subjects were safely taken into custody and the incident resolved.

2. Assist Seymour PD SWAT on a warrant service. CPD SWAT held the perimeter while Seymour made the entry.
3. High risk warrant service for Narcotics Division. Narcotics received information of large amounts of narcotics being moved to and from this location and a warrant was obtained. SWAT was called due to many of the suspect being known to frequently be armed with handguns, and some of the suspects possibly having been involved in a shootout with Missouri law enforcement recently. The team rolled to the location on the command unit and conducted a dynamic entry of the residence, port and cover of a window, and located some subjects inside and several subjects outside in a back yard and detached garage. A large amount of narcotics was seized.
4. Rosewood Dr. in Candlelight Village, high risk warrant service on armed robbery suspect residence. Two male suspects and a female assistant were identified as committing several armed robberies at a local pharmacy and located at a trailer on Rosewood Dr. Surveillance was conducted and the suspects were safely taken into custody by patrol units, Detectives, and SWAT members at Wal-Mart on 46 W. The SWAT team then conducted a dynamic entry on their trailer and cleared the residence, finding no other persons.
5. High risk warrant service on second armed robbery suspect from pharmacy incidents mentioned above. SWAT personnel and detectives conducted surveillance on location while other team members formed deliberate action plan for dynamic entry. While in route to serve warrant suspect emerged and was safely taken into custody by Detectives and SWAT personnel.
6. Barricaded robbery suspect at location. The suspect was driven from residence by chemical munitions and safely taken into custody and residence cleared.
7. White River, south of Water St. boat ramp, shots fired by a suspect, Bobby Davis, at a friend while camping together after an argument ensued. SWAT team responded to boat ramp and formed immediate action team. Suspect's brother had found him and was standing by with suspect down river and negotiating suspect's surrender by telephone. Suspect and brother drove up river in john boat and felony stop procedures were conducted by SWAT and both subjects safely taken into custody.
8. High risk narcotics warrant service. A suspect was discovered to be involved in the manufacturing and selling of narcotics and a search warrant obtained. SWAT developed deliberate dynamic entry plan and rolled to location on Command Unit. Suspect answered door, but fled into house as team made entry. The suspect and a female at the location were safely taken into custody, residence cleared, and narcotics division located a methamphetamine lab.
9. High risk narcotics warrant service. A search warrant for the residence was obtained, and served. Stealth approach was made, went dynamic as noise from inside residence indicated no one was answering the door. Several suspects were located.

10. 703 Hutchins Avenue, one officer was stabbed and another officer was involved in a shooting with the suspect. Information was obtained that the suspect was likely in the basement or crawl space. The suspect was located hiding in the basement and had suffered injuries to both ankles. Suspect was taken into custody without further incident.

SWAT Training for 2009

The team trained 2 times each month splitting the time between working on tactics and weapons training. Topics for tactics include; warrant service, immediate action element, barricaded subjects, and hostage rescue. Live fire scenarios were used at the range as well as some force on force training using simunitions in buildings for realistic training.

The team obtained new rifles to replace the aging rifles that had been used by the team for the past 14 years. Training for the new weapons was a priority for the team.

The team will be looking at ways to improve the level of training. Critiquing call outs is a way that we can better use our available resources.

Other items of interest

CPD SWAT competed in the Indiana SWAT competition in Muncie. The team was split into two smaller teams. One team scored 1st in the hostage rescue portion of the competition and placed 2nd overall. The second team placed 11th. Team Leader Marc Hutcheson placed 3rd in the Super SWAT cop competition.

TRAINING DIVISION

The Columbus Police Department is committed to providing our officers with the best training available. This was no different in 2009. The State of Indiana increased the number of yearly training hours that all police officers must complete from 16 hours to 24 hours of in-service training in various areas each year. Once again, the Columbus Police Department more than met this requirement. The average officer at CPD completed more than 80 hours of annual training.

POLICE ATHLETIC AND ACTIVITIES LEAGUE

Columbus PAAL provides sporting leagues for children in grades 1 through 12. Offering four sports; Basketball, Golf, Volleyball, and Football, the leagues are designed as crime prevention programs as children interact with police officers and other community leaders in a positive atmosphere using sports as a common bond. PAAL is a not-for-profit entity funded by registration fees and donations from the community.

2010 was another successful year for PAAL as the programs continue to grow. In 2008, the Columbus Police Department suffered a near tragedy when our department no longer could fund the PAAL program due to budget cuts. Luckily, our department did not

give up. We were able to garner support from the community and thankfully, the Columbus Foundation for Youth and Columbus PAAL merged to keep the program going. The PAAL Director's position was transferred to the FFY and the games will continue. Throughout 2010, the PAAL program flourished and the transfer of operations did not negatively affect the program.

PAAL could not function without the countless volunteers from the community. Parents play many roles in our program; coaches, concession stand workers, fund-raising coordinators, registration workers as well as assisting with equipment distribution. The Columbus community also plays a vital role in the success of PAAL, from corporate sponsorships, to the local high schools, and the media for all of their positive coverage.

HAZARDOUS DEVICES UNIT (HDU)

In the spring of 2004, the Columbus Police Department was selected by "NABSCAB" (North America Bomb Squad Commanders Advisory Board) to have a certified "bomb squad". After the graduation of our two officers from the five-week school at the Redstone Arsenal in May of 2004, our Hazardous Devices Unit was officially started.

The mission of the Columbus Police Department's HDU is to:

- Maintain the safety of the public and officers
- Render safe any suspected device
- Provide for safe transportation, disposal or storage of said device
- Collect and preserve evidence
- Educate community members as to potential threats

The Columbus Police Department Hazardous Devices Unit or Bomb Squad strives to take an active roll in community education as well as safe disposal of hazardous and explosive materials. In 2008 the Bomb Squad was awarded a grant, which was used to purchase a robot for the unit. They were also awarded a grant that purchased a new vehicle for the team in 2009.

Members of this unit continue to study trends in domestic and international terrorism and establish and nurture ties with emergency response assets at the state and federal level. Our goal for 2010 is to continue to provide a level of service that enhances the safety of the community through education while maintaining a readiness to respond to emergency situations.

DARE

The Year 2009 brought many changes to the Columbus Police Department's DARE program. In June, CPD went from having six part time DARE Officers to having one full time DARE Officer.

The summer's DARE golf tournament was a great success due to the generosity of individuals and the business community. This tournament provides the operating costs for the DARE program each year and helps us support other worthy causes.

The DARE Officer spoke about the dangers of drugs to a number of groups and businesses including the Columbus Masons, Columbus North High School Health Classes, Cummins Inc. and Moms Off Meth.

CRIME TRENDS

The following chart provides an overview of information pertaining to the Columbus Police Department's Part I crime statistics. The Part I crimes are known as the Index Offenses, since they serve as a measurement of criminal activity.

Part I Crimes are an indicator of reported criminal activity within a designated area. These crimes consist of two categories: **Crimes Against Persons** and **Crimes Against Property**. Violent Crime is composed of the offenses of Homicide, Rape, Robbery and Aggravated Assault. Property Crime is composed of the offenses: Burglary, Larceny and Motor Vehicle Theft.

The statistics reflected in this report are based on data gathered for the FBI's Uniform Crime Report. Each incident reflects crimes **reported** to police which follow strict guidelines established by the FBI. If a crime is determined to be unfounded then the figures are amended. These figures do not reflect the final disposition of the reported crime (charges filed, not filed, convictions etc.) The chart further reflects monthly and yearly totals, as well as other items of interest to community citizens.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	YTD Total
Murder	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
Forcible Rape	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	1	0	4
Robbery	2	2		0	0	1	3	2	2	2	3	0	17
Aggravated Assault	2	1	6	1	3	0	3	2	2	2	2	0	24
Burglary	13	11	15	13	16	21	26	29	39	15	29	31	258
Larceny - Theft	115	96	133	111	162	187	164	156	170	161	187	158	1800
Motor Vehicle Theft	7	9	9	10	26	17	12	15	25	11	22	13	176
Arson	1	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0		0	5
Monthly Total	140	121	163	136	208	227	208	204	240	191	244	202	2284
Officers Assaulted	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Dollars Stolen	63,323	114,517	95,999	35,468	172,729	137,686	117,003	133,812	208,771	140,696	220,189	176,878	1,617,071
Simple Assault	32	32	41	36	18	36	30	42	26	28	33	24	378

CLOSING

The beginning of this report detailed the goals and accomplishments for 2009. Positive changes within the department will ensure that the citizens of Columbus will continue to receive the high level of service that they deserve.

Our department is committed to providing the best law enforcement service available to our community through technological advances, training, state of the art equipment for our officers, recruitment of the best talent our State has to offer, and retention of the talent that our department already has.

The Columbus Police Department would once again like to thank all the citizens of Columbus who supported our department in 2009. While we are extremely proud of our accomplishments this year, our eyes are on the future. The Columbus Police Department will continue our partnership with the citizens of Columbus in an effort to better serve and protect the community.