

2014 Annual Report

Hartford Police Department

A Message from the Chief

Mayor Dautermann, Members of the Common Council, Members of the Police and Fire Commission, City Administrator Koppelberger, and Citizens of Hartford:

In the pages that follow you will see a “snapshot” of the Hartford Police Department’s activities in 2014. I have attempted to provide you with a record of some of the most significant events of the year in an executive summary format.

In many ways , 2014 was a very historic year for our department in that the lion’s share of the long-overdue facility remodeling project was completed. Our facility was a large portion of the overall City Hall remodeling project. Despite many unexpected surprises that are common to remodeling a building of this age, we were able to keep very close to the project’s budget. **Equally as significant is the fact all of the work was completed without raising municipal taxes.**

As you read through this report, you will see a great deal of statistical data regarding the activities of our department during 2014. There are many indicators in this year’s report that suggest that the quality of life here in Hartford continues to improve from a public safety perspective. At times the data even establishes that some of these improvements are fairly dramatic. However, as in year’s past, I would caution the reader to keep in mind that although these numbers have continued to move in a positive direction this year, they can and may go up at some point as well.

There are any number of potential contributing factors to these trends. However, we believe that we were able to navigate those realities to achieve an operationally advantageous balance in 2014. Some of the key factors in executing our mission in 2014 were community outreach, crime prevention, criminal enforcement, and general deterrence. Therefore, it is as important to note **what is not** in this report as it is to see what is. We believe that Sir Robert Peele’s 9th Principle of policing is apropos to this thought, **“To recognize always that the test of police efficiency is the absence of crime and disorder, and not the visible evidence of police action in dealing with them.”**

2014 was the year that our department’s Emergency Communications Center completed their work to earn the right to become the **first agency in Wisconsin history** with an APCO nationally certified training program. This project took many months to complete, and we are very proud of the superlative quality of emergency communications services we can provide for our community!

On behalf of the department, please accept my appreciation for the valued support and direction you have given to the staff of the Hartford Police Department during the past year. If there are any questions concerning the report data or requests for additional information on any item(s) in the report, please feel free to contact me at your convenience.

Respectfully,

David A. Groves

Chief of Police

“Leadership is action, not position.”



Special points of interest:

- Statistical Data
- A Look at HPD’s K-9 Unit
- 2014 At a Glance
- Captain Horvath’s Retirement

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2014 Elected Officials



Mayor Joe Dautermann



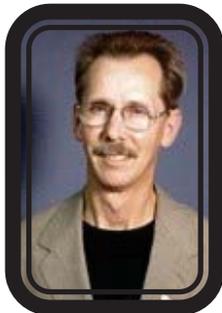
**First District Alderperson
Tim Michalak
Council President**



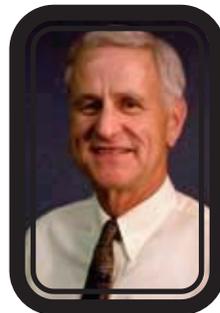
**First District Alderperson
Randy Meyer**



**First District Alderperson
Joe Kohler**



**Second District Alderperson
Dennis Hegy**



**Second District Alderperson
Wayne Rusniak**



**Second District Alderperson
Doug Carroll**



**Third District Alderperson
Barry Wintringer**



**Third District Alderperson
Rachel Mixon**



**Third District Alderperson
Roger Randolph**

2014 Police and Fire Commission



**Commissioner
Dennis Albrecht
President**



**Commissioner
Richard Fehr**



**Commissioner
Dean Kirley**



**Commissioner
R.W. Witt**



**Commissioner
Ed Hurula**



**Aldermanic Liaison
Rachel Mixon**



Senior Command Staff



Chief David Groves



Captain
Tom Horvath



Operations Lieutenant
Rod Lehl



Administrative Lieutenant
Scott MacFarlan

2014 Supervisory Staff



Sergeant
Tim Hayes



Sergeant
Jim Zywicki



Sergeant
Mike Cummings

Investigations Bureau



Detective
Rich Thickers



Detective
Erik Engebretsen



Police School Liaison Officer
Eric Rasmussen

Patrol Division



Officer Troy Fassbender



Officer Russ Wegner



Officer Pat Beine



Officer Tom Conrad



Officer Josh Krick



Officer Nate Dorn



Officer Jesse Deckert



Officer Robin Oliver



Officer Cori Whipple



Officer Derrick Janzen



Officer Ed Hall



Officer Tim Rohrer

Patrol Division (continued)



Officer Mike Koester



Officer Jeremy Deibert



Officer Scott Jagusch



Officer Chris Terrell



Communications Center Staff



**Communications Officer
Trish Snyder**



**Communications Officer
Samantha Walters**



**Communications Officer
Laura Jossart**



**Communications Officer
Mary Neu**



**Communications Officer
Meridan Flint**



**Communications Officer
Sarah Shaw**

Support Staff



**Administrative Assistant
Patrice Moratz**



Clerk/Typist Deb Musbach



Clerk/Typist Mary Guenzel



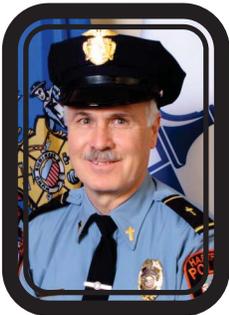
**Parking Enforcement Aide
Dave Troeller**



**Property Clerk
Pam Eggert**



**Police Chaplin
Doug Livingston**



**Police Chaplin
Jeff Shimp**



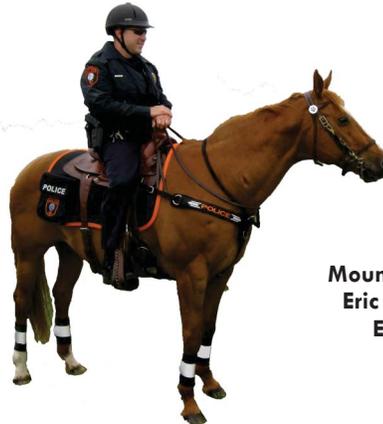
**Police Chaplin
Scott Moore**



**Police Aide
Nick Vorderbruggen**



**K-9 Officer
Cash**



**Mounted Patrol Officer
Eric Rasmussen and
Equine Officer
Amber**

Vision Mission & Values

About the Hartford Police Department

The Mission:

We are a professional police department dedicated to providing the highest quality police service to the citizens we serve. Our mission includes protecting life and property, preventing crime, reducing the fear of crime, apprehending those who violate our laws, and providing needed services to the community while maximizing efficiency today and in the future. Working cooperatively with the public, we strive to improve the quality of life in the City of Hartford.

It is the mission of the Hartford Police Department to enhance the quality of life through community based policing that provides police services in a fair, conscientious and professional manner.

To help accomplish our mission, the Department is committed to these core values that guide our daily work and decisions: **Sensitivity, Honesty, Openness and Accessibility, Accountability and Efficiency, and Ethics.**

The Code:

AS A HARTFORD POLICE OFFICER, my fundamental duty is to serve mankind; to safeguard lives and property; to protect the innocent against deception, the weak against violence or disorder; to respect the Constitutional Rights of all men to liberty, equality and justice.

I WILL keep my private life unsullied as an example to all; maintain courageous calm in the face of danger, scorn or ridicule; develop self-restraint; and be constantly mindful of the welfare of others. Honest in thought and deed in both my personal and official life, I will be exemplary in obeying the laws of the land and the regulations of the department.

Whatever I see or hear of a confidential nature or that is confided in me in my official capacity will be kept ever secret unless revelation is necessary in the performance of my duty.

I will never act officiously or permit personal feelings to influence my decisions. With no compromise for crime and with relentless prosecution of

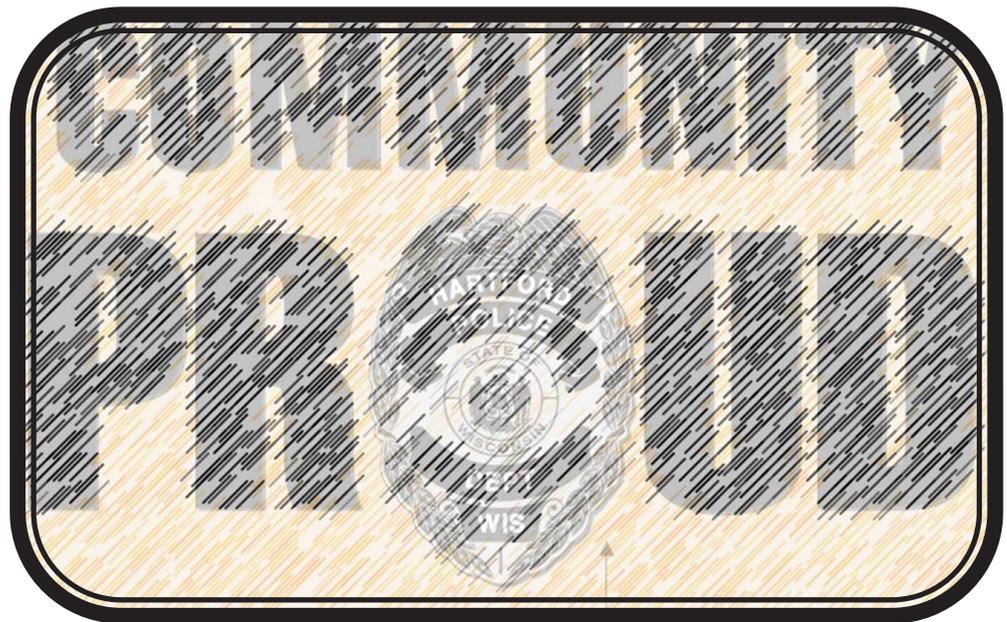
criminals, I will enforce the law courteously and appropriately without fear or favor, malice or ill will, never employing unnecessary force or violence and never accepting gratuities.

I RECOGNIZE the badge of my office as a symbol of public faith, and I accept it as a public trust to be held so long as I am true to the ethics of the police service. I will constantly strive to achieve the objectives and ideals, dedicating myself to my chosen profession, as a **HARTFORD POLICE OFFICER**.

T

he Oath of Honor:

“On my honor, I will never betray my badge, my integrity, my character, or the public trust. I will always have the courage to hold myself and others accountable for our actions. I will always uphold the constitution, my community, and the agency I serve.”



News from 2014



The Hartford Police Department's Honor Guard also had several firsts in 2014. Here they are shown marching in the 2014 Hartford Christmas Parade. The HPD Color Guard was honored to lead the parade for the first time ever this year.



2014 was the year that our own Sergeant Jim Zywicki was recognized nationally as the Explorer Advisor of the Year!

Sergeant Zywicki has worked tirelessly to develop Hartford Police Explorer Post 9910 into not only one of the best in the State of Wisconsin, but also into one of the best posts in the United States. Those efforts were officially recognized in 2014 with this award.

Hartford's Police Explorer Post has become a part of the fabric of Hartford community over the years since its inception. These young men and women work hard to give back to our community and to prepare themselves for potential careers in the law enforcement profession.

Officer Derrick Janzen was the second Hartford Explorer to earn a position with the Hartford Police Department!



"Officer Derrick Janzen was the second Hartford Explorer to earn a position with the Hartford Police Department!"



2014, was also the year that it was the Hartford Police Department's turn to host the Annual Washington County Police Memorial Service at the Washington County Fair Grounds. The Hartford Police Department was joined by the Hartford City Band, the Hartford Police Chaplain Corps, soloist Laura Habeth of Hartford sang the National Anthem, and Assistant Attorney General Dave Perlman joined us as the keynote speaker for the evening.



2014 Fleet Summary



In 2014, we continued to use a fleet of five marked Ford Police Interceptors, one marked Ford Expedition, one unmarked Ford Expedition, and one unmarked Ford Fusion.

On the whole, we have seen a reduction in total mileage in recent years. This can largely be attributable to the use of directed patrol techniques and careful monitoring of

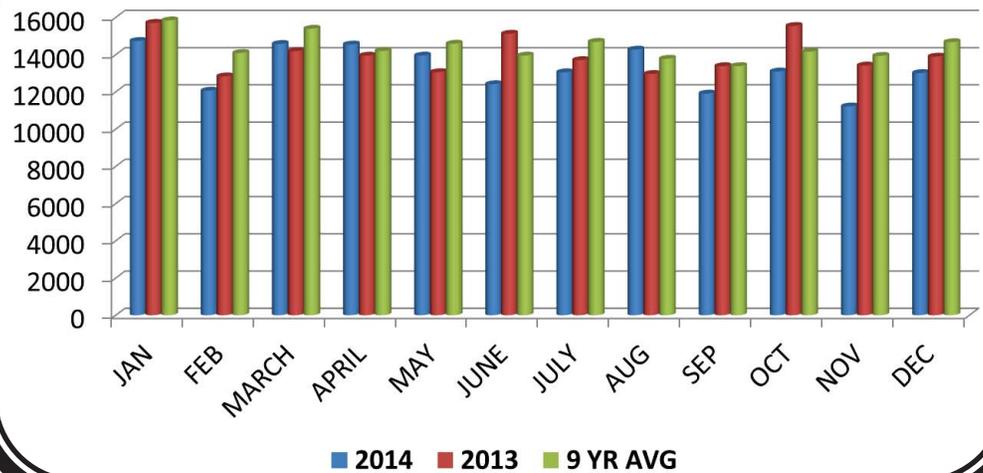
fleet usage by shift supervisors.

Other factors to consider are an organizational commitment to more time being spent on non-mobile community interactions by the Patrol Division, efficiencies that were gained with the "Every Street Every Day" Program, and staffing shortages for recruitment and training new personnel.

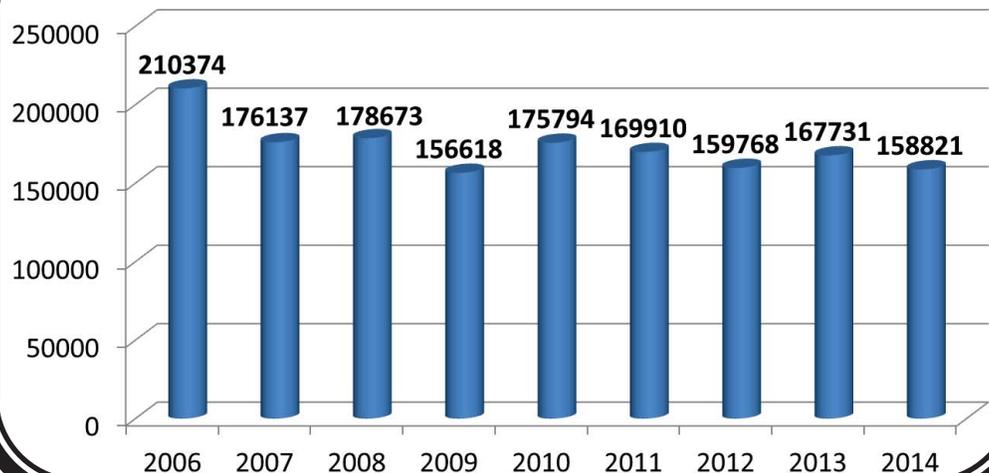
It should be noted that since we were forced to utilize the authorized Captain's position to add an additional employee to help address workload in the Patrol Division, there will most likely be an increase in total mileage in 2015. This has also resulted in us keeping the unmarked Ford Expedition longer than we had planned for use by our Police Aides and expanding our fleet to nine vehicles.

"On the whole, we have seen a reduction in total mileage in recent years."

MONTHLY FLEET MILEAGE



ANNUAL FLEET MILEAGE



Regular inspections and routine maintenance are utilized to maximize the operational value of every fleet vehicle.

2014 Overtime Analysis

2014 was a year of unprecedented and simultaneous staffing shortages. This necessitated a great deal of overtime in both the Patrol Division and the Communications Division.

While replacement personnel were being recruited and trained to function in their new positions, monthly overtime spiked, reaching its highest

monthly total in July.

2014 was a historical anomaly in that it required almost 1,000 hours of overtime to accomplish our mission more than the average year since 2008.

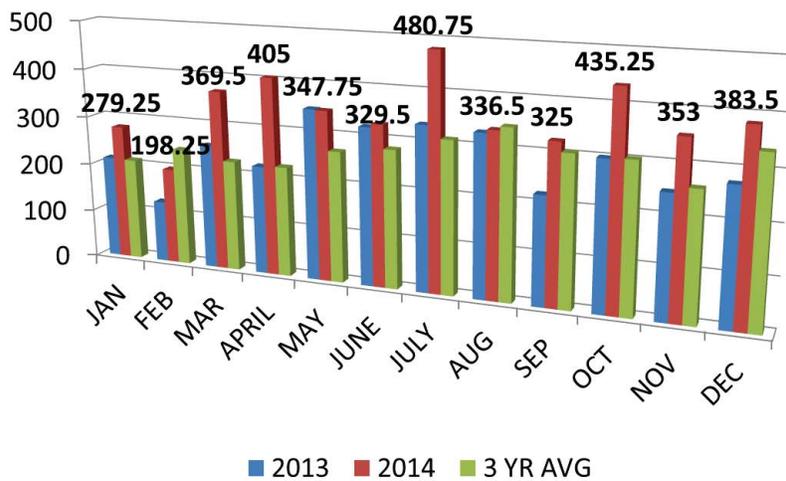
As we entered 2015, we had filled all of the vacancies, and we completed all required training for these staff mem-

bers early in the year. This fact alone will dramatically impact these totals as we go forward.

A special word of thanks is due to all of the men and woman who put in so many hours in 2014 to keep our community safe.

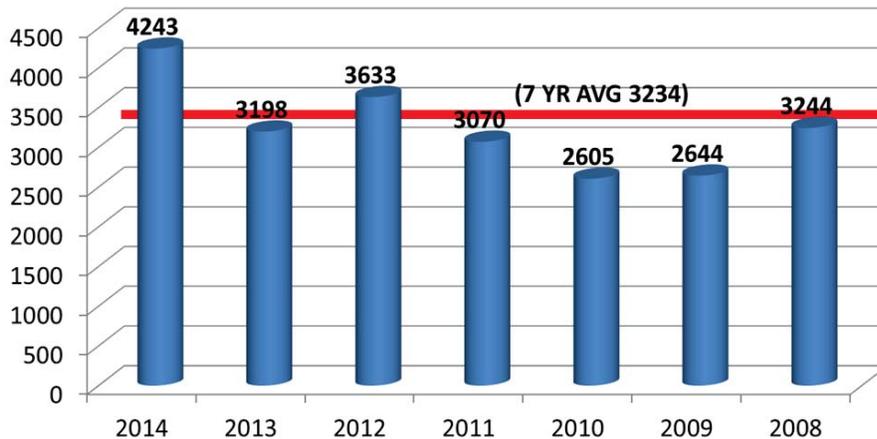


2014 OVERTIME



“2014 was a year of unprecedented and simultaneous staffing shortages.”

ANNUAL OVERTIME



2014 Calls for Police Service



In 2014 we received 347 fewer calls for police service than we did in 2013. This is a reduction of 864 calls from 2009, and 1,397 fewer calls than the total received nine years ago.

While it is true that many times the nature of the complaints we receive tend to require more investigation and utilize more time to properly address, these num-

bers are very telling.

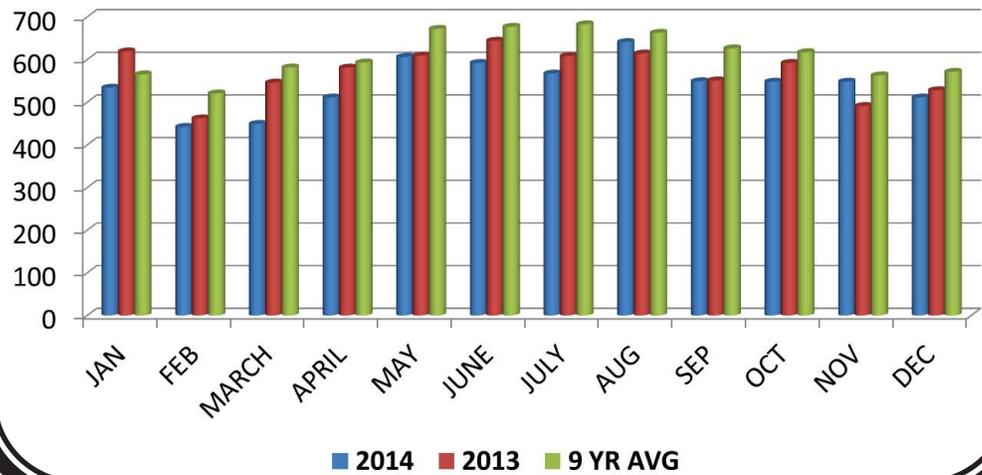
We believe that it is significant that we have experienced an **18%** reduction in the number of citizens who have found themselves in need of police services in our community!

That translates into an enhanced quality of life, stemming from a safer community!

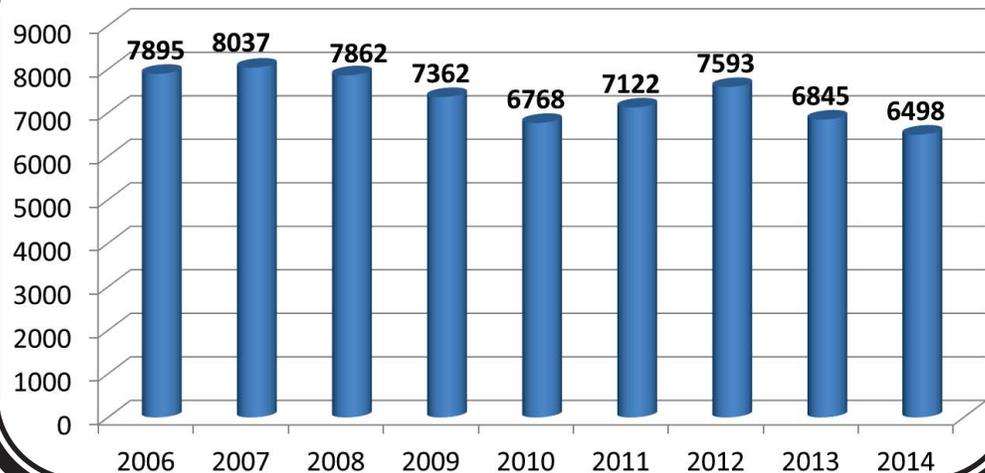


“We believe that it is significant that we have experienced an 18% reduction in the number of citizens who have found themselves in need of police services in our community!”

MONTHLY CALLS FOR SERVICE



ANNUAL CALLS FOR SERVICE



2014 Complaints Filed

The number of formal complaints generated by the department is always lower than the total number of Calls for Service because not every call for police service will ultimately be serious enough to require a formal complaint to be filed.

Since 2006, the average number of complaints filed in

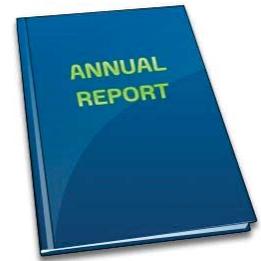
a year has been 3,195. The total number of complaints filed in both 2013 and 2014 have been below the annual average, 8% and 10% respectively.

Since 2006, we have experienced a steady decline in the number of complaints required over the course of the year, with a slight uptick in

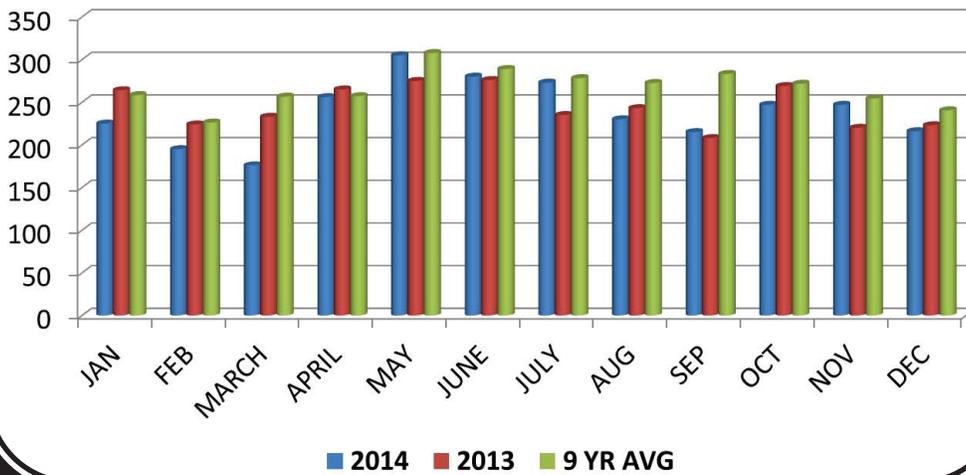
2011 and 2012. A downward trend in this area is also clearly apparent.

In fact, the total number of complaints needed in 2014 was **23%** less than the number filed in 2006.

This downward trend is also an encouraging indicator for the overall quality of life in our community.

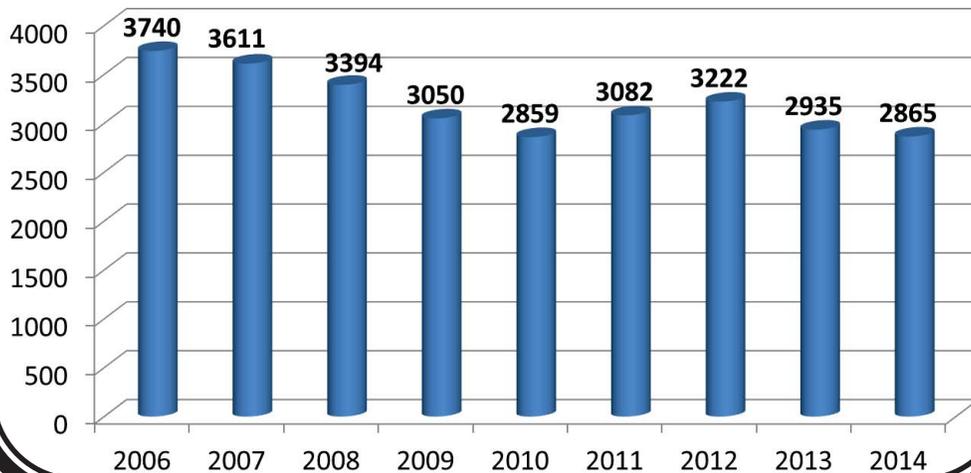


MONTHLY COMPLAINTS FILED



“In fact, the total number of complaints needed in 2014 was 23% less than the number filed in 2006.”

ANNUAL COMPLAINTS FILED



2014 Adult Arrests

Adult arrest totals continued their downward trajectory in 2014. Totals were down **23%** from 2013. In fact, 2014 adult arrest totals were actually **49%** less than the nine-year average.

2014 adult arrests were down a full 61% from their nine-year high in 2007.

The most dramatic reductions in adult arrests took place

between 2012 and 2013. We experienced a **21%** reduction in arrests that year. This appears to be primarily due to a **36%** reduction in the number of Disorderly Conduct arrests. In short, fewer people are choosing to engage in disorderly behavior, resulting in fewer arrests.

Finally, another important fact to realize is that while the total number of arrests are

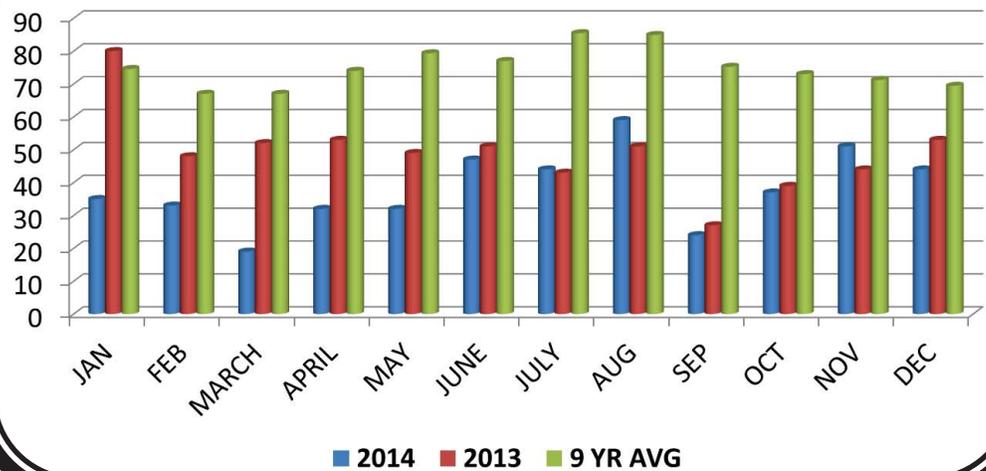
down, our criminal clearance rate for the offenses we do have remains well above the state average at approximately 47%.

This, too, is a positive indicator with regard to the quality of life here in Hartford.

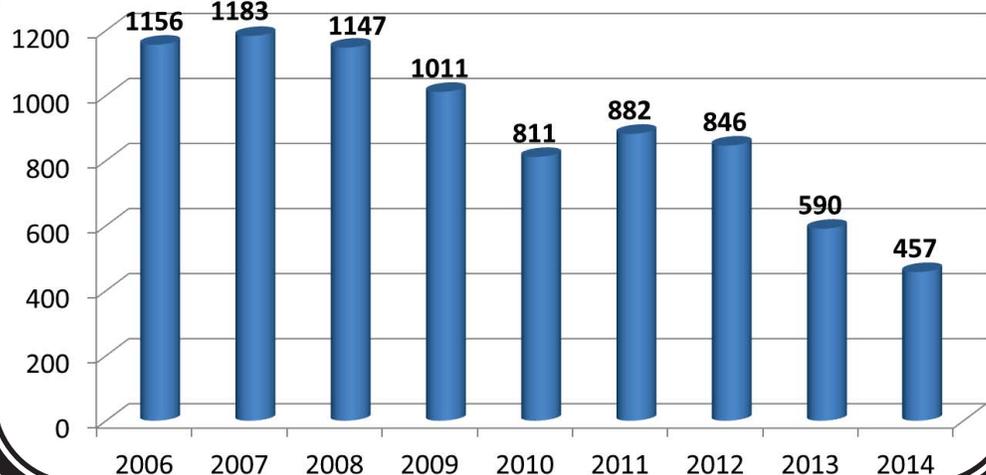


“In short, fewer people are choosing to engage in disorderly behavior, resulting in less arrests. This, too, is a positive for the quality of life here in Hartford.”

MONTHLY ADULT ARRESTS



ANNUAL ADULT ARRESTS



2014 Juvenile Arrests

Juvenile arrests have largely mirrored the trends we have been experiencing with adults. We experienced a **24%** drop in Juvenile Arrests from 2013 to 2014.

The 2014 total was **46%** below the nine-year average.

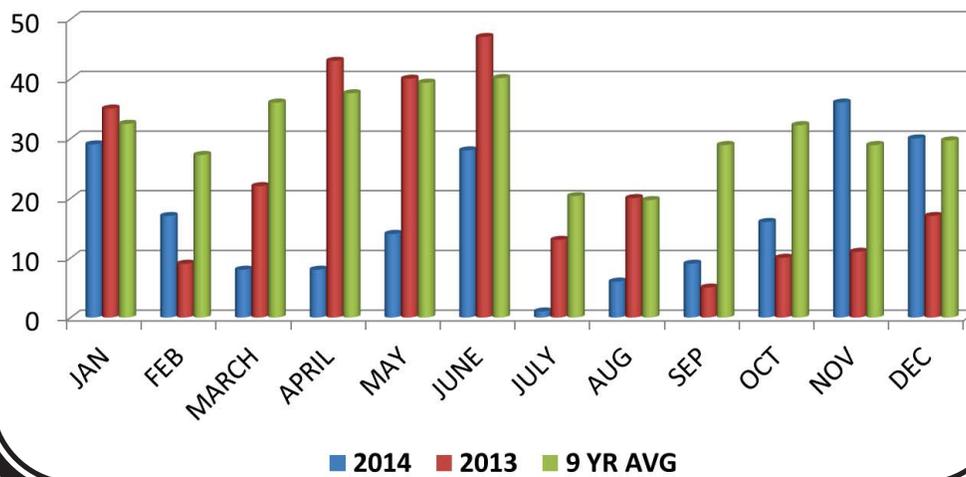
Once again, with the minor exception to the rule in 2008, we have experienced a consistent reduction in the number of juvenile offenders requiring arrest on almost an annual basis.

Compared to the nine-year

high in 2008, the total number of Juvenile Arrests has dropped a total of **59%**.

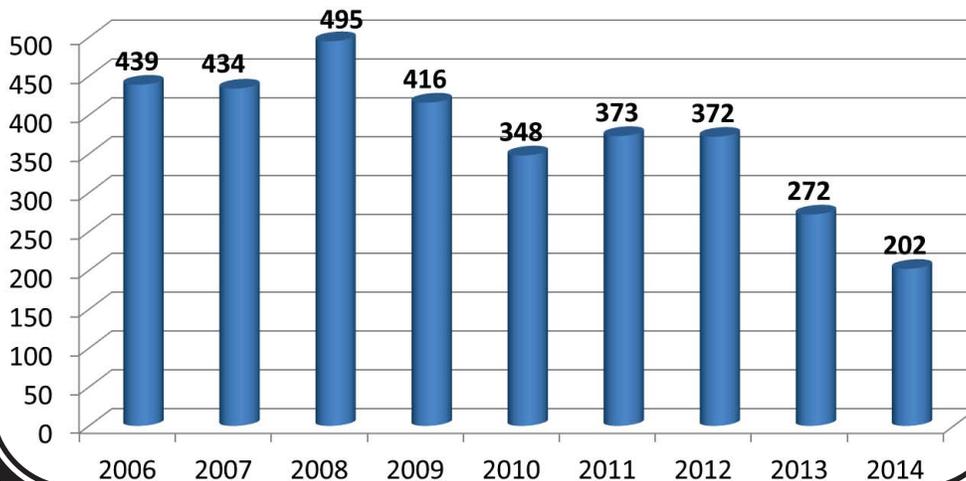


MONTHLY JUVENILE ARRESTS

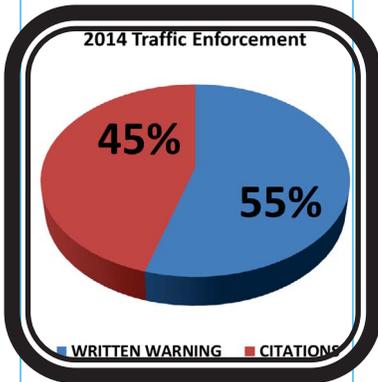


“Compared to the nine-year high in 2008, the total number of Juvenile Arrests has dropped a total of 59%.”

ANNUAL JUVENILE ARRESTS



2014 Traffic Citations



Traffic citations were down 31% from 2013 and 30% down from the nine-year average.

However, the upticks in the totals in 2009 and 2010 were largely due to additional traffic grant enforcement efforts in addition to regular patrol enforcement. When

2014 is compared directly to non-grant enforcement years, the total is 21% below the average.

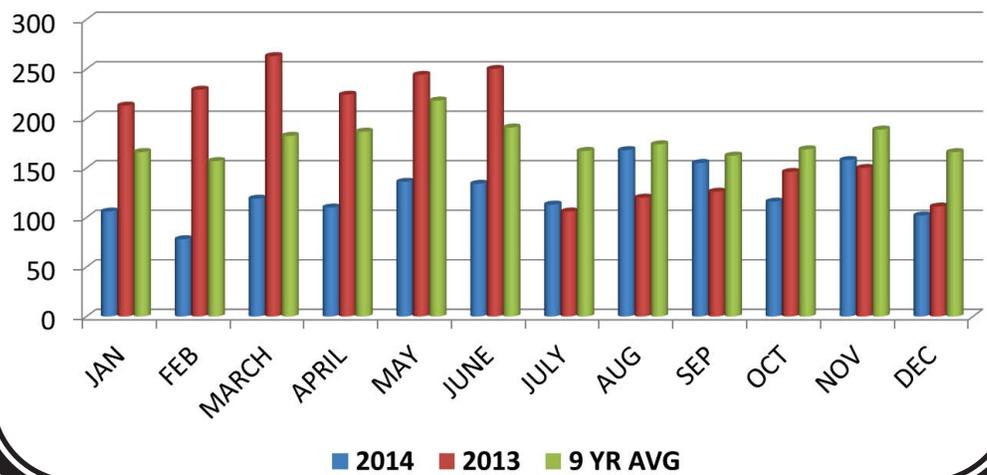
By way of reference, 1,800 Written Warnings were issued for traffic violations in 2014.

As depicted in the pie chart,

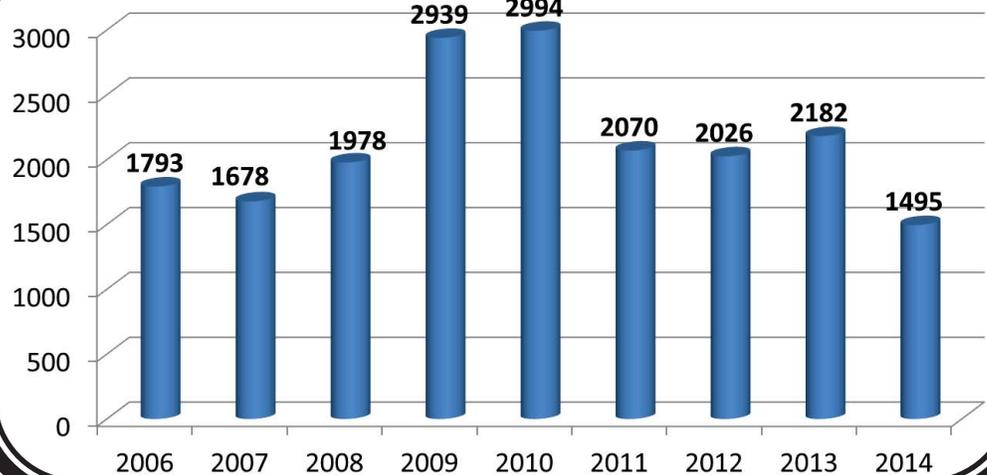
enforcement of violations was dealt with fairly evenly due in large part to the specifics of the given situation.

“...enforcement of violations was dealt with fairly evenly due in large part to the specifics of the given situation.”

MONTHLY TRAFFIC CITATIONS



ANNUAL TRAFFIC CITATIONS



2014 Municipal Citations

In 2014 municipal violations also continued on a downward curve. **33%** fewer citations for municipal violations were issued in 2014 than in 2013.

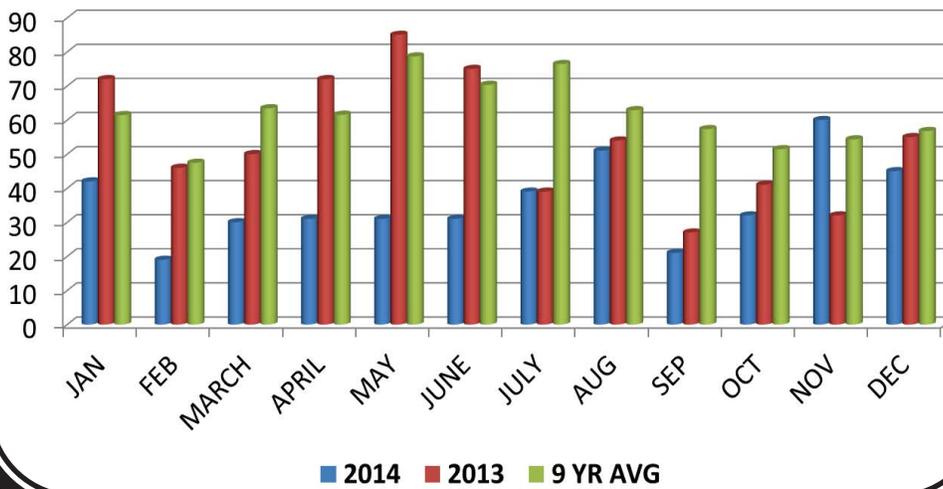
This activity category is also trending downward, with an average of 742 municipal citations written in a year.

2014 totals were **42%** below the nine year average.

This is also a positive indication that incidents warranting this type of enforcement action have been reduced substantially.

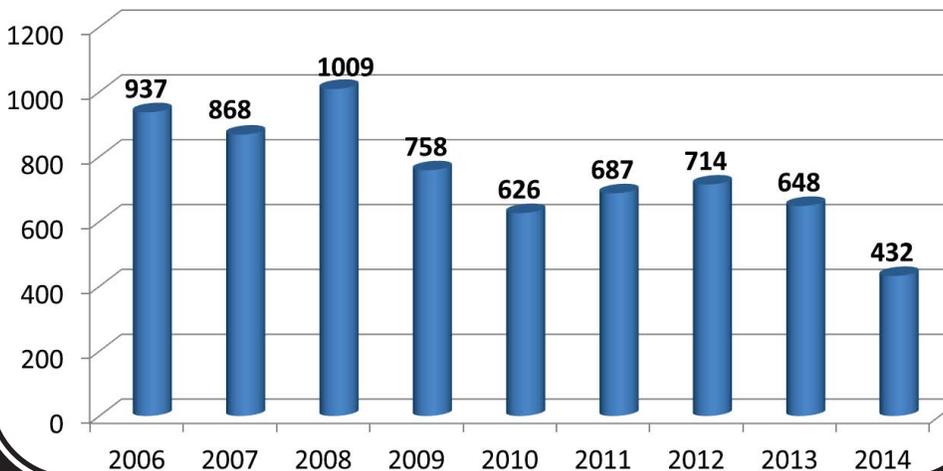


MONTHLY MUNICIPAL CITATIONS



"In 2014 municipal violations also followed a downward curve."

ANNUAL MUNICIPAL CITATIONS



Hartford Police Department K-9 Unit



“K-9 Officer Cash is currently working at a 94% accuracy rate.”

In 2014, the total amount of drugs seized by our K-9 Unit was down from 2013. However, the K-9 unit did seize one car and recover one stolen firearm last year.

Marijuana remains the most prevalent illegal drug encountered by the K-9 Unit. This year, heroin detection dramatically increased. In heroin cases, the amounts on hand are significantly smaller than what we routinely find with marijuana. This is largely due to the fact that these individuals usually only buy what they are going to use and use it almost immediately.

K-9 Officer Cash is currently working at a 94% accuracy rate. This is an impressive number. The average in the industry is in the mid 80% range. This success stems from his initial training and the routine training that is ongoing on a daily basis to keep his skills sharp.

Officer Cash was deployed much more frequently in 2014 than in past years. The number of deployments in 2014 was up by 25% over 2013. Remarkably, 81% of these deployments resulted in Officer Cash finding something illegal.

The K-9 Unit patrol vehicle and equipment are in good repair and operating smoothly. There is currently just over 51,000 miles on this vehicle.

Thanks to the amazing generosity of Quad Graphics and the Citizens of Hartford, our K-9 Unit equipment continues

to be among the finest in the state.



2014 Police/School Interactions

In 2014 we continued our long-standing working relationships with both our public and private schools. We continued our "Adopt-A-School" program where each officer has a school that becomes their school for the year. They then make it a point to visit the school regularly and seek to build positive relationships with the children and staff.

As you can see from these charts, the need for the full-

time Police School Liaison Officer at H.U.H.S. continues to be evident. The police contacts at the high school in 2014 were higher than all of the Joint #1 schools combined.

Roughly 26% of the total police contacts with Joint #1 Schools in 2014 were responses to calls originating from the schools for police services. The Patrol division has been readily able to cover calls for police services generated from these elementary schools, and will continue

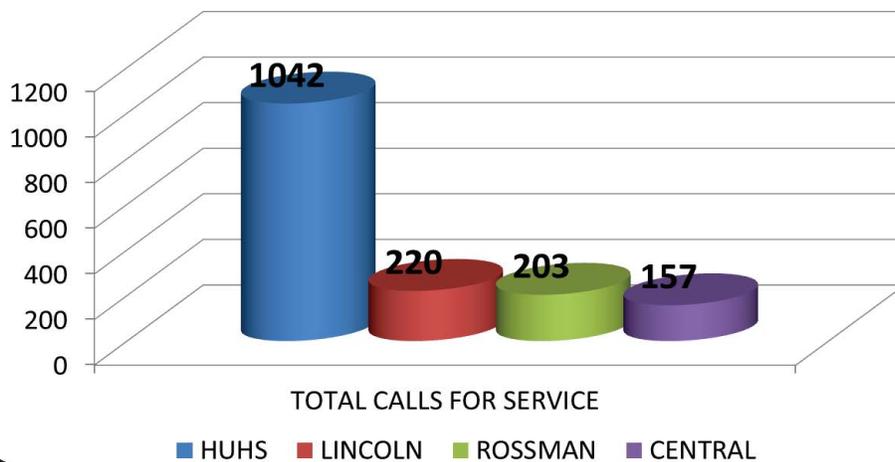
to do so for the foreseeable future.

Additionally, when we look closer at these contacts, we see that 67% of all police/school contacts in 2014 were police department generated outreach contacts by way of either the Dare Program, the Walk and Talk Program, or the Adopt-A-School Program.

We are all very fortunate to have such safe school systems here in Hartford!

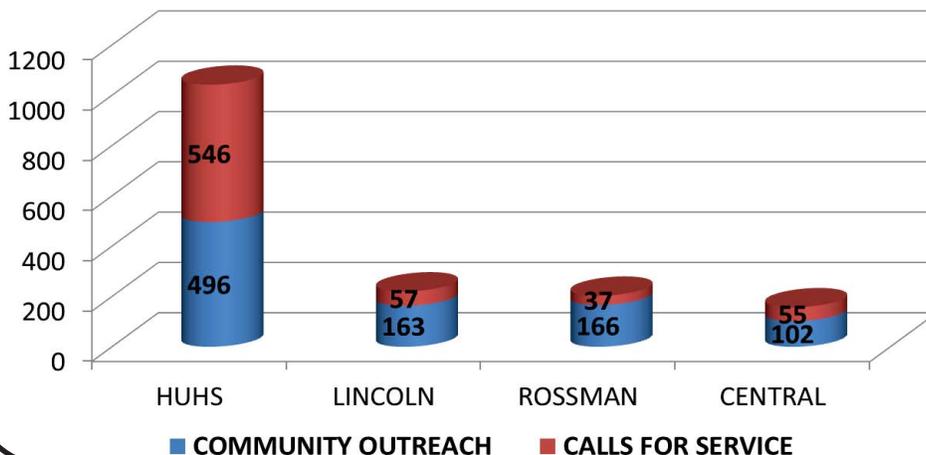


2014 POLICE CONTACTS BY PUBLIC SCHOOL



“67% of all police/school contacts in 2014 were police department generated outreach contacts”

2014 POLICE/SCHOOL CONTACTS ANALYSIS



2014 At a Glance



JANUARY



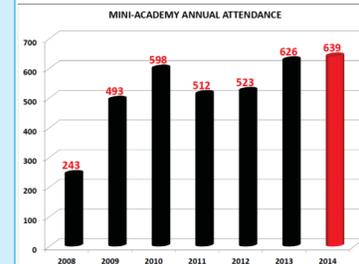
Explorer Post 9910 Captain Shawn Whealon was Honored as the Wisconsin Explorer of the Year.

FEBRUARY



The Hartford Police Department welcomes their first Part-Time "Floater" dispatcher. Former Communications Officer Karen Opichka returns to H.P.D. in this new capacity.

MARCH



H.P.D. hosts the largest Mini-Academy to date. 639 local, county, state, and federal law enforcement officers join our officers for a week of top-notch training.

APRIL

H.P.D. welcomed our second part-time "floater" dispatcher in David Zirbel. Communications Officer Zirbel is a full-time dispatch Supervisor with the Dodge County Sheriff's Department.

MAY



H.P.D. hosts the 2014 Washington County Law Enforcement Memorial Service at the Washington County Fair Grounds. The H.P.D. Honor Guard makes their first official appearance.

JUNE

On June 9, 2014 Sgt. Jim Zywicki was honored with the National Law Enforcement Exploring's Distinguished Advisor Award at the national competition held at the University of Indiana.



Samantha Walters began her tour of duty with the Hartford Police Department.

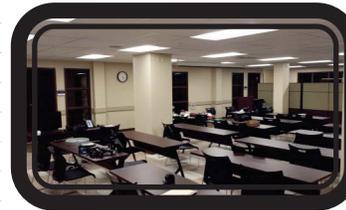


NOVEMBER



JULY

Phase II of the City Hall/Police Department was completed and we vacated our department and took occupancy of a portion of the completed first floor accommodations.



Officer Chris Terrell and Communications Officers Sarah Shaw and Meridan Flint began their tours of duty at the Hartford Police Department.

AUGUST



On August 20, 2014, Daniel Bartelt was found guilty of the 1st Degree Intentional Homicide of

Jessie Blodgett.

SEPTEMBER

We presented our annual C.I.P Presentations to the Common Council.

DECEMBER

The Hartford Police Department received a generous donation of a prescription drug drop box from the Hartford Lions and the Hartford Rotary Club.

OCTOBER

Emergency Communications Center training program materials were submitted to the Association of Public-Safety Communications Officials (A.P.C.O.) for the Project 33 certification review process.



2014 Captain Tom Horvath Retires

On September 14, 1987, Tom Horvath worked his first shift as a member of the Hartford Police Department. After 27 years with the department, he retired on January 1, 2015.

When he began his tour of duty, he may have turned on his radio to hear the top song in the country, "Walk Like an Egyptian" by the Bangles.

It was the year that disposable contacts were invented, and the year of the first 3-D video game.

In 1987 the average cost of a new home was only \$92,000, and the average income was \$24,350.

A new car averaged about \$10,305, and a gallon of gas was just \$0.89. A dozen eggs were \$0.65, and a stamp was just \$0.24. 1987 was also the year that Fox Broadcasting company made its prime-time television debut.

It was also the year that Tonka introduced "Pound Puppies," and Coleco rolled out the "Talking Alf Story Telling Alien."

1987 was the year that Predator, Full Metal Jacket, and the original Robo Cop lit up silver screen across the country.



It was the year that movie stars Hillary Duff and Zac Efron were born.



Ronald Reagan was in the White House, and Tommy Thompson was in the Wisconsin

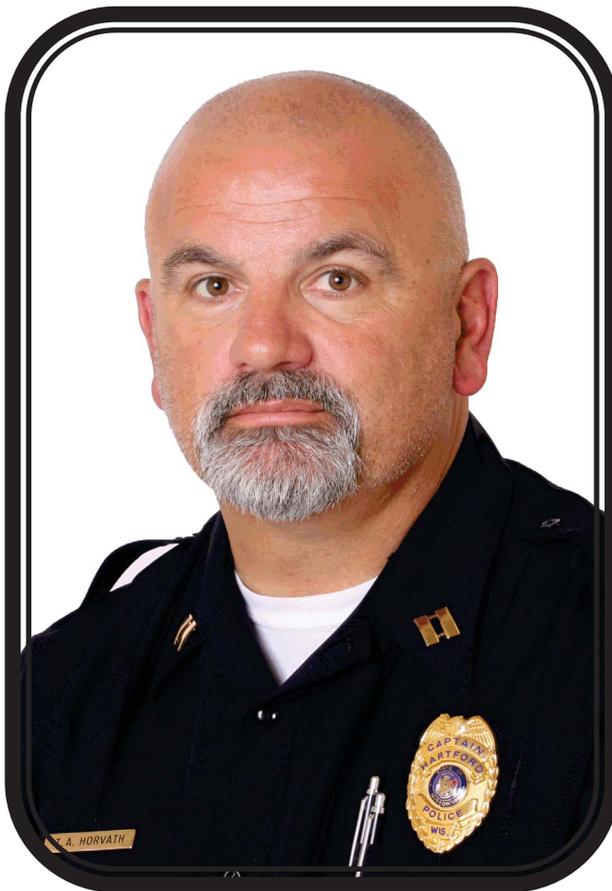
Governor's mansion.

Over the 27 years Tom spent with the Hartford police Department, many things changed. Tom served as a Patrol Officer, a Sergeant, a Lieutenant, and earned the rank of Captain by the time he retired.

Tom played a major role in the development of our one-of-a-kind Mini-Academy program. He also was active in the system-wide restructuring of our operational model here at H.P.D. Last, but certainly not least, Tom worked hard to prepare and execute the police department's remodeling project.

However, one thing that never changed was Tom's commitment to keeping the citizens of Hartford safe. Tom embodied the finest ideals of law enforcement in our community and his contributions to our agency will be part of the fabric of the Hartford Police Department for many years to come.

On behalf of all of the staff here at the Hartford Police Department, we would like to say "Thank You" and wish you Godspeed in the next chapter of your life.



Tom embodied the finest ideals of law enforcement in our community

2014 Crime Prevention Programs



Crime Prevention remains a priority for the Hartford Police Department. As part of those efforts, we have specially trained officers to conduct residence security checks and to perform other crime prevention duties. It is our belief that the only acceptable offense is the one that never takes place.



The **Care Bear Program**. This program provides donated stuffed bears to children facing traumatic times. The generosity of the individuals sponsoring this program truly provides our officers with tools to help children in their time of need.

The **Operation I.D. Program** involves the inscribing of a citizen's valuables with an identifying number that would facilitate the item's speedy identification and return should they ever be stolen. Both of these programs are done at no cost to the citizens who chose to participate.

The **Sex Offender Registration Program**. In this program our staff makes a residential visit to every registered sex offender in our city. They serve the individual with a form detailing the restrictions placed on their activities and ensure that they are in compliance with all their legal requirements. If an offender is determined not to be in compliance with their restrictions, charges against them are referred to the district attorney's office. This

program is not required by law, but we see it as an additional way to prevent potential criminal activity in our city.

The Hartford Police Department continued our affiliation with the "**Test My Teen Program**" in 2014. This service provides parents with an affordable way to test their teens for drug abuse. This can help families deal with these issues before they become criminal matters.



The **Police School Liaison Program**. We have Officer Eric Rasmussen assigned to Hartford Union High School during the school year. This officer serves as a resource to the school's staff and student body to facilitate the handling of police-related issues that may come up in that setting. This is a very successful program, and we hope to be able to continue our working relationship with the members of the school environment in the years to come.

The most basic crime prevention initiative is our "**Walk and Talk**" program. The value of this program is exceeded only by its simplicity. The Walk and Talk program involves our staff stopping at local businesses, parks, neighborhoods, and other locations throughout the city. The officers then leave their squad cars and take a walk. This gives the officers a chance to meet our citizens in a more

personal way than the squad car can provide. It helps them develop one-on-one relationships with the people of Hartford, build community partnerships that will help us do our job more effectively, and improve the quality of life for everyone who lives here.

We also continued our departmental **Bike Patrol Program** in the summer of 2014, and we currently have at least one officer trained for this specialized patrol on every shift. Staffing permitting, we assign an officer to patrol the streets, alleys, and parks of our city on one of our patrol bicycles. The bike patrol is utilized for park saturation patrol, surveillance of problem areas, and monitoring traffic. The two original bicycles in our fleet were funded completely by community donations in 2006.

We also kept our **Mounted Patrol** active in 2014. Officer Eric Rasmussen and his equine partner, Amber, are always a great attraction for kids and families. We are truly fortunate to be able to provide this type of very special patrol capability in a community our size.



2014 HPD Service Awards



**Communications Officer
Laura Jossart
Employee of the Year**



**Officer Scott Jagusch
Commendation**



**Detective Erik Engebretsen
Commendations**



**Sergeant Mike Cummings
Commendation**



**Sergeant Jim Zywicki
Commendation**



**Communications Officer
Sarah Shaw**



**Communications Officer
Samantha Walters**



**Communications Officer
Meridan Flint**

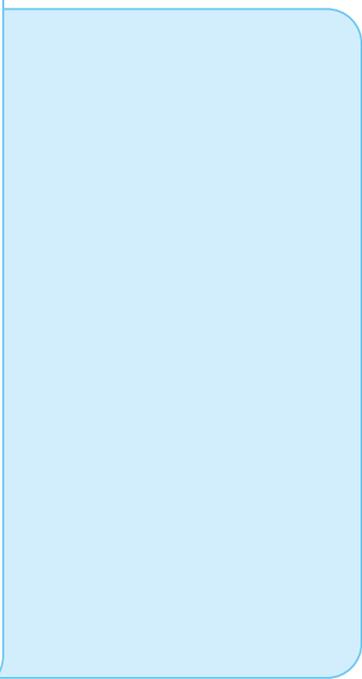
**E.M.D. Award Recipients Not
Pictured:**

**Communications Officer
David Zirbel**

**Communications Officer
Holly Buchda**



***“Crime Prevention
remains a priority for
the Hartford Police
Department.”***



Hartford Police Department

109 N. Main Street
Hartford, Wisconsin 53027

Phone: 262-673-2600



COMMUNITY
HPD
PROUD

A smaller, semi-transparent version of the Hartford Police Department badge is positioned behind the word "PROUD".