

PACIFICA POLICE DEPARTMENT 2012 ANNUAL REPORT



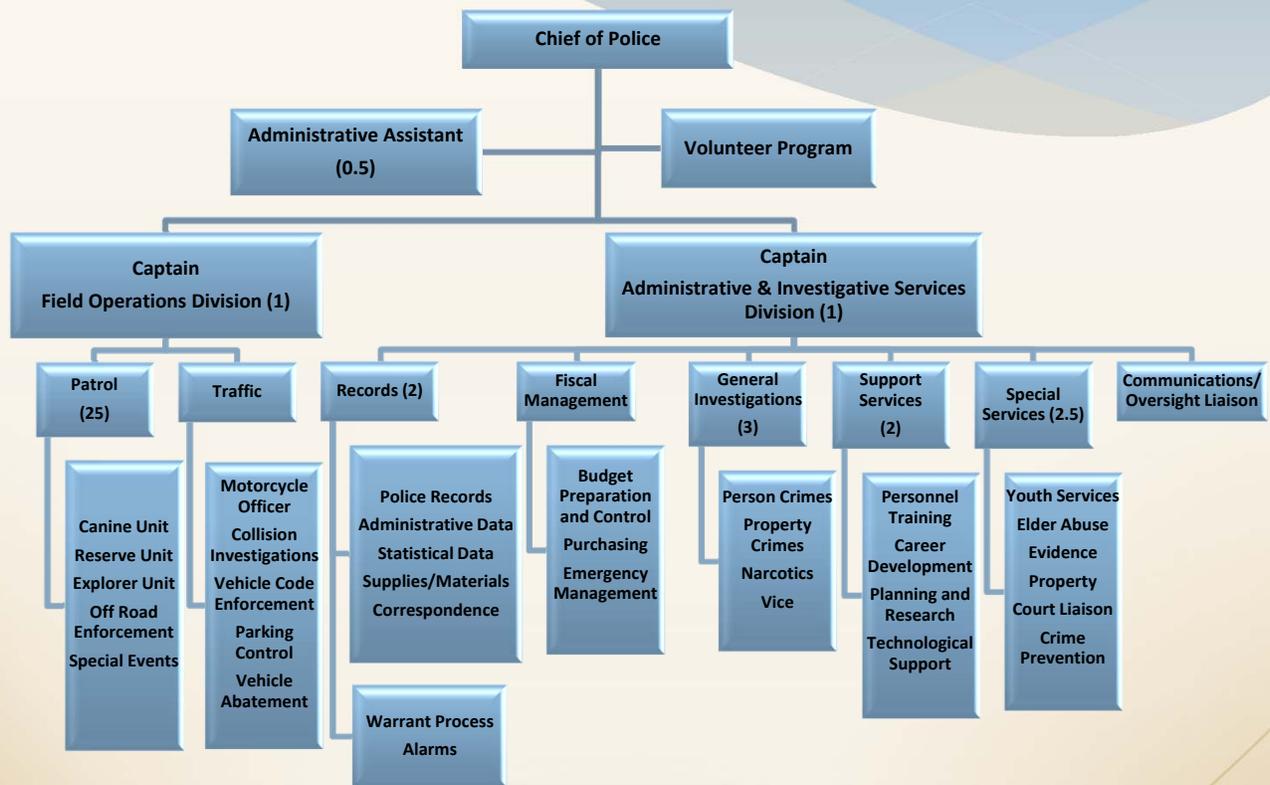
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Annual Report photos courtesy of Melissa Mondragon



Organizational Chart



Message From Chief Jim Tasa



This has been a challenging year for the Pacifica Police Department filled with emotional highs and lows. During the year, personnel have been faced with the on-going talks of the department being outsourced to another agency. This has left the employees with the feeling of instability and insecurity. As a result, the department has seen employees leave and go to other agencies.

While the outsourcing of the department has resulted in some emotional lows, we recognize that our personnel are our greatest asset. The continued dedication and loyalty of our employees allows us to provide a service to the community that is unmatched. Collectively, the employees of the department have over 400 years of historical knowledge, experience and service to the City.

During the past year, we have continued to be faced with challenging economic times. Our staffing levels have been reduced, yet we continue to provide the high level of service our citizens have come to expect. We have expanded our volunteer group within the department, which includes a number of highly talented individuals that allow us to perform some tasks and services we might not otherwise be able to offer.

The department did see an overall increase in crime during the year, however this was not isolated to the City of Pacifica as there was an increase nationally in both violent crimes and property crimes. While the department did see an overall increase in crimes, this year the city was recognized as being one of the top 100 safest cities in America.

Grant funding continues to be a priority for the department as it allows us to provide programs to the community that we might otherwise not be able to fund and allows us to purchase equipment we might otherwise not be able to purchase. Funding this year has allowed us to continue many alcohol and traffic enforcement programs as well as the purchase of a command trailer.

I hope you find this annual report to be informative as you gain a glimpse of your police department. Thank you for your continued trust and support in our agency and for allowing me to serve as your Police Chief.

Field Operations Division



The Field Operations Division, led by Captain Joe Spanheimer, contains the bulk of the department's personnel. Both patrol and traffic services fall within the Field Operations Division and are staffed with uniformed officers. Patrol officers are the primary contact for citizens within the community.

Patrol services contain several units and programs on an as-needed basis to accomplish a specific mission. These programs include, but are not limited to the Traffic Unit, the Canine (K-9) Unit, the Police Reserve Unit, and the Police Explorer Unit. In addition to these programs, specially trained patrol officers participate in the San Mateo County Gang Task Force.

TRAFFIC UNIT

The traffic unit of the Pacifica Police Department is a small division, but a very busy one. It consists of one Sergeant whose collateral duty is as the Traffic Supervisor and officers who participate as-needed in various grant-funded operations. The Traffic Unit has sought and received many state and federal grants for equipment and overtime for traffic related duties. We also participated in countless Avoid the 23 Campaigns and we have received grants for DUI enforcement and Click it or Ticket programs to promote safety.



The Traffic Unit also contains a traffic sergeant and a team of dedicated officers who are specially trained in accident investigation. This team is available to respond 24 hours a day in the event of a fatal accident or major injury on the streets of Pacifica.

K-9

The Pacifica Police K-9 Unit consists of a K-9 Supervisor and one K-9 team. The team is comprised of Officer Cris Serrano and K-9 “Janyk.” Former K-9 handler Sergeant Duane Wachtelborn acts as the K-9 unit supervisor.

The K-9 unit is responsible for assisting the patrol division with the apprehension of criminal suspects. “Janyk” has received extensive training in searching for hidden criminal suspects and discarded evidence. Officer Serrano and “Janyk” have been responsible for numerous arrests.

The keen sense of smell that the K-9 has is also used for non-apprehension purposes such as searching for missing or lost persons. The K-9 team uses their popularity with the public to promote education and positive citizen-police relations. The K-9 team conducts many demonstrations throughout the year to educate the community regarding the uses of the police K-9, as well as to foster a good relationship between police and community.



SWAT AND HOSTAGE NEGOTIATION

The Pacifica Police Department is part of a multi-jurisdictional Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team with the Daly City and Colma Police Departments. In 2012 Sergeant Duane Wachtelborn and Officer Dave Evans logged over 120 hours of SWAT activity consisting of both training and actual operations. Training and skill development remains at the forefront of the SWAT Team. Sergeant Wachtelborn and Officer Evans take active roles in the team’s training. The department also has a cadre of trained hostage negotiators able to deal with situations involving barricaded subjects or other critical incidents that may arise. They train with the SWAT team and regularly deploy with the team.



RESERVE POLICE OFFICERS

Reserve Police Officers are a special category of police officer authorized by state law to augment full-time, paid police officers. They are volunteers who donate their time to supplement the regular patrol force. They apply for a variety of reasons and come from a broad spectrum of society. Many have successful careers outside of law enforcement and choose to volunteer out of a sense of civic pride while others use their experiences to help in their consideration of a career in law enforcement.

Reserve officers have peace officer powers only when on-duty. At all other times, they have the same rights and responsibilities as any citizen, but not peace officer powers. The duties assigned a reserve officer depend on the level of training they have received. Reserve officer training is presently divided into three levels set by the state and is provided through community colleges. The College of San Mateo provides the first two levels of training in this county, although reserve classes at any college's state-approved program is acceptable. The completion of each level of training increases the responsibilities that a reserve officer may be assigned. The last level of training is equal to a basic police academy for a reserve officer and may allow the department to utilize the reserve officer in any capacity it desires.

The Pacifica Police Department generally uses reserve officers to assist full-time officers in their daily patrol duties as well as with special assignments such as traffic control, transportation, parades, picnics, surveillance and special recreation or school events. All safety equipment and initial uniform allowance are provided by the department.

The department has authorization for up to 30 reserve officers. Applications are accepted continuously. Applicants go through the same extensive screening process as full-time officers and must then complete a minimum of 200 hours of in-field training. During this training, the reserve officer works the streets of Pacifica with a Field Training Officer.



The Pacifica Police Department is always looking for qualified applicants who desire to volunteer a minimum of 16 hours a month. Many of the department's present full-time officers came from the reserve organization and were sent to an academy for further training by the department when selected.

Applicant Requirements:

- High school graduate or equivalent
- Weight proportional to height
- Visual acuity minimum of 20/100 corrected to no less than 20/30
- Acceptable driving record
- No record of felony criminal conviction/misdemeanor that could affect credibility as a witness in court
- Not employed in security or investigations fields unless it is clerical or technical in nature
- Reside within 40 air miles of Pacifica
- Must work a minimum of 16 hours per month

For more information on the Pacifica Police Reserve Program or to obtain an application, contact the Reserve Coordinator through the main business line (650) 738-7314.



POLICE EXPLORER SCOUTS

The Pacifica Police Department has an active Police Explorer Scout Post. Exploring is a Learning for Live Organization, a branch of the Boy Scouts of America. It's purpose is to provide a program of character building, citizenship, training, and fitness.

Law Enforcement Explorer Posts offer programs in the area of law enforcement and criminal justice, and provide Explorers with practical training and hands-on experience.

If you are a young man or woman 14 to 20 years old, live in the City of Pacifica and are interested in a career in law enforcement or have an interest in helping your community, consider joining Pacifica Police Explorer Post 126. Come into the station to obtain an application form or call the main business line at (650) 738-7314 and ask to speak to the Explorer advisor.

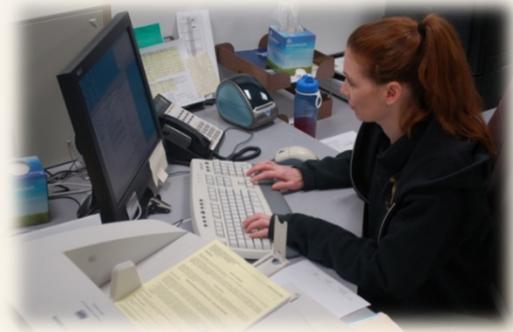


CRIME PREVENTION

The crime prevention officer position has experienced fluctuations in staffing levels, generally based on grant funding. In the mid 1970s, officers were part of an integrated North County program to lower the burglary rate. In the late 1970s, the department had six Crime Prevention/Suppression Officers funded by a federal grant, with directions to lower the burglary rate and narcotics use. Several officers served throughout the years, only to have the programs cut more than once for fiscal reasons. In the early 1990s the program started again, including new curriculum such as the Citizen Academy and Crime Watch on the local TV channel, along with traditional programs. In the mid 1990s, the program was once again cut out of the budget due to fiscal reasons.

Currently, the crime prevention volunteer is responsible for coordinating all crime prevention programs within the City of Pacifica. These programs include Neighborhood Watch, National Night Out, Red Ribbon Week, home/commercial security inspections and plan review.

The crime prevention officer also is in charge of the permit process for all taxicab companies that operate within the City of Pacifica.



VOLUNTEERS

The Pacifica Police Department currently has a sizeable volunteer staff. Volunteers assist in the Records Department, the CERT program, the Abandoned Vehicles program and perform other valuable services for the department. These dedicated men and women consistently donate their time and effort to help the department run more efficiently.



Disaster Preparedness

Personnel assigned these responsibilities prepare and maintain an operational emergency management plan for all city departments for use in managing a major disaster. Disaster exercises are conducted within the city in conjunction with the San Mateo County Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services. Personnel assigned to emergency preparedness are trained in the Standard Emergency Management System (SEMS) and National Incident Management System (NIMS) used throughout the State of California.

The police station will serve as the main command center for the City of Pacifica in the event of a major emergency. Representatives from the city's various departments will set up operation in the room designated as the Emergency Operations Center (EOC).

Department representatives will coordinate command, planning, operations, logistics and finance efforts with each other and utilize the resources of the police station – communications systems, back-up power sources, secure facility, trained emergency personnel – until the emergency is under control.

The EOC is equipped with dedicated emergency phone lines, computer/audio-visual equipment, mini-kitchen, amateur radio operator space, city maps and operations plans, among other resources.



Administrative and Investigative Services Division



The Criminal Investigative Division, led by Captain Dan Steidle, is responsible for the investigation and follow-up of all serious offenses that are not solved by the Field Operations Division. Examples of these types of crimes are homicide, armed robbery, rape, burglary and auto theft. Assigned officers also conduct all investigations that require traveling outside of Pacifica and handle undercover surveillance, undercover investigation and stakeouts of suspects and problem locations identified throughout the city.

Criminal Investigative Division personnel assist the San Mateo County Narcotics Task Force when necessary. While personnel are assigned to the Task Force, they remain the responsibility of the Criminal Investigative Division supervisor and commander.

JUVENILE SERVICES

The Juvenile Officer is responsible for investigating the majority of crimes against children, including physical and sexual abuse and child neglect, as well as all missing persons cases and crimes against dependent adults. Juvenile Services receives and processes all juvenile arrests, meets with parents and juveniles to assist with family issues and makes appropriate referrals to other agencies. The Juvenile Officer also acts as a liaison between the police department and other local, county and state juvenile-related agencies

EVIDENCE

A forensic technician provides technical support in the collection, preservation, photographing and processing of evidence, and also provides expert testimony in both municipal and superior court. The property clerk, under the supervision of the forensic technician, manages lost and found property, along with evidence.



Records Division

The Records Division consists of a Records Supervisor, a Records Clerk and two volunteers. This division handles routine business calls made to the department during typical business hours. Personnel prepare, maintain and process all files and written documents required by law and internal policy. Records personnel process:

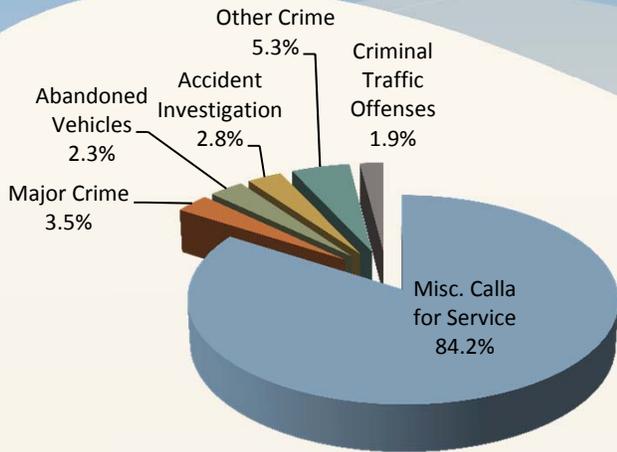
- report requests for citizens and various outside agencies
- permit applications
- citations
- subpoenas
- victim letters
- clearance letters
- records checks
- vehicle releases
- juvenile records sealing
- fingerprints
- court dispositions
- transmittal of monies



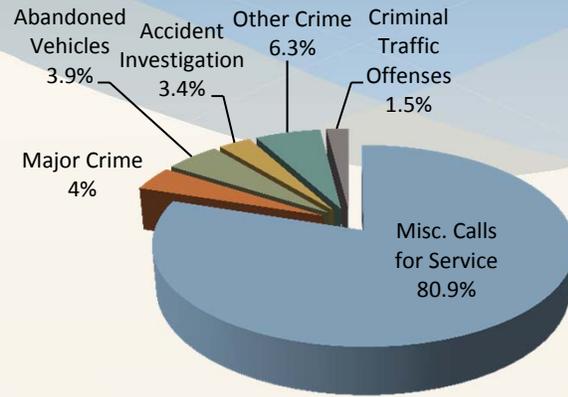
The Records Division is responsible for preparing monthly false alarm billing, as well as updating and managing alarm permits.

In addition to these tasks, personnel order and maintain supplies, prepare reports and department documents for laserfiching, maintain computerized records systems and submit state-mandated statistical data on a monthly basis to the U.S. Department of Justice and FBI. The Records Division offers assistance and referral to the approximately 8,000 citizens who come into the police facility each year.

Types of Calls for Service



2011



2012

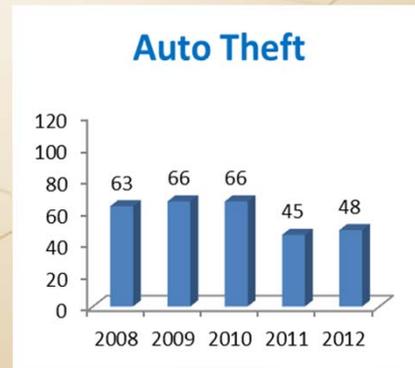
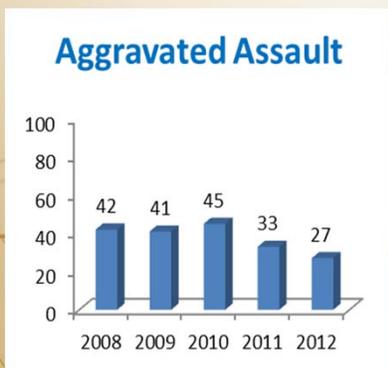
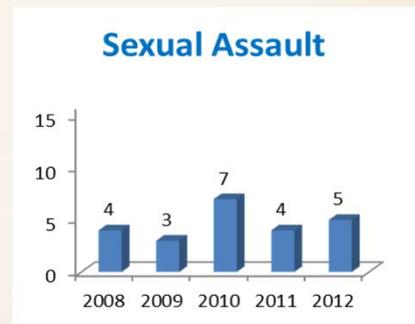
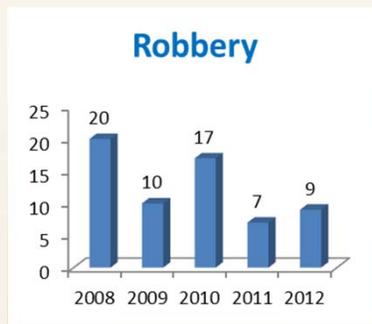
BURGLARY



Five Year Comparison

In 2011, the city experienced an overall decrease in crime. Part I crimes were reduced a total of 36.2%. The three areas that showed decreases that had the largest impact on the overall decrease were Robbery, 58.8% decrease, Auto Burglary, 58.7% decrease, and Residential Burglary, 40.0% decrease. There was however, a 68.4% increase in Commercial Burglary. Part II crimes showed an overall decrease of 8.3%. The largest decrease was in the area of Arson, which was 50%.

In 2012, the city experienced an overall increase in Part I crimes of 17.2% and an increase of 19.5% in Part II crimes. The three areas that affected the Part I crimes were a 115.6% increase in Commercial Burglary, 38.6% in Residential Burglary, and a 28.6% in Robbery. The two areas that caused an increase in Part II crimes were a 92.3% increase in Neglect/Abuse, Child or Elder and a 70.8% in Other Misdemeanors.



Five Year Comparison

PART I CRIMES	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Homicide	0	0	0	0	1
Rape	4	3	7	4	5
Robbery	20	10	17	7	9
Aggravated Assault	42	41	45	33	27
Res. Burglary	72	73	95	57	79
Comm. Burglary	20	22	19	32	69
Auto Burglary	339	354	363	150	179
Larceny	249	213	217	201	203
Auto Theft	63	66	66	45	48
TOTAL	809	782	829	529	620

PART II CRIMES					
Arson	3	6	6	3	3
Assault/All Other	240	238	210	215	217
Vandalism	351	322	238	216	227
Neglect/Abuse, Child or Elder	31	38	25	13	25
Other Felonies	135	157	138	157	141
Other Misdemeanors	372	350	273	212	362
TOTAL	1132	1111	890	816	975

ACCIDENTS					
Property Damage	341	343	336	245	259
Hit & Run	149	128	108	97	133
Injury	116	120	101	87	132
Fatal	1	2	0	3	0
TOTAL	607	593	545	432	524
TOTAL less Property Damage	266	250	209	187	265

Five Year Comparison

ARRESTS	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Adult - Felony	164	178	168	98	137
Adult – Misdemeanor	610	700	575	531	535
Warrant – Criminal	99	117	105	73	78
Warrant - Traffic	0	1	1	1	1
Juvenile - Felony	54	60	52	23	13
Juvenile - Misdemeanor	97	133	79	90	40
TOTAL	1024	1189	980	816	804

CALIFORNIA VEHICLE CODE					
Moving	2691	3971	3066	2660	2880
Non-Moving	2733	4073	2844	1990	1829
14601s	104	138	106	130	109
Drunk Driving	140	184	138	167	123
TOTAL (Citations only)	5424	8044	5910	4650	4709

MISCELLANEOUS					
Alarms False	409	488	477	431	429
Auto – Towed	190	119	37	40	93
Auto – Marked	644	462	443	347	596
Commitments	92	120	106	111	132
Marijuana Cites	47	61	38	14	12
Narcotics Violations	72	83	62	47	91
Cases Issued	7276	7239	6679	5201	3709
TOTAL Service Requests	21158	18693	17577	15293	15467

PACIFICA POLICE DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT

It is the mission of the men and women of the
Pacifica Police Department to protect and
serve the members of the community with the
highest level of commitment, ethics and
professionalism

PACIFICA POLICE DEPARTMENT

2075 Coast Highway – Pacifica, CA 94044-3038 – Tel (650) 738-7314 – Fax (650) 355-1172

www.cityofpacifica.org