

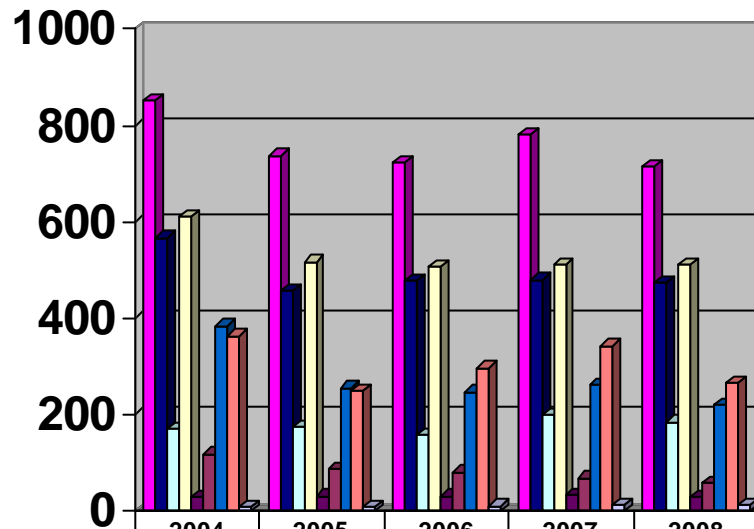
Annual Report



For The Year 2008



Traffic Analysis for the Year 2008



■ Total Reported Accidents	852	737	723	780	715
■ Non-injury Accidents	566	456	477	480	473
□ Private Property	169	173	156	198	184
■ Crash Reports Taken	610	517	507	510	510
■ % No report Taken	28.5	29.8	30	32	29
■ Injury Accidents	117	87	81	68	58
■ Intersection related	383	255	247	262	220
■ Accidents with Citation	362	249	297	342	266
■ Traffic Enforcement Index	7.05	7.29	9.51	10.43	12.14

Accidents

The number of reported accidents increased by 47 in 2007 after a six-year low in 2006. In 2008 a new low was set at 715. This decrease was across the board with all numbers lowered. Injury accidents are at an eight-year low after being significantly reduced by 23 the last two years.

Reported accidents and the number of crash reports (OH1) submitted will always vary. Officers responding to a scene may find no accident when they arrive or the drivers may decide they do not require an OH1 report to be completed. Both of these situations happen quite frequently. In this years survey we looked at what percentage rate accident reports were not taken and since 2003 the department has averaged



around 30 percent.

There was no actual count of vehicles conducted by ODOT in 2008. A count was conducted in 2004 by the Ohio Department of Transportation and included in a major study of the SR 79 corridor from Kaiser Dr. to Meritor. The count ranged from 15,100 vehicles per day at Kaiser to 34,100vpd at Meritor. Many improvements were suggested by ODOT and are under advisement.

Intersections related accidents accounted for 220 of the 715 reported accidents in 2008. The majority occurred in those intersections on Hebron Rd. Hebron Rd. accounted for 277 of the total accidents in 2008. The next highest roadway was South 30th St. with 85, followed by Hopewell Dr. with 29.

Traffic Enforcement Index

The Traffic Enforcement Index was developed by the International Association of Chiefs of Police to measure the effectiveness of traffic enforcement programs in reducing accidents. It represents the number of traffic violation convictions for hazardous moving violations, in relation to the number of accidents involving personal injury and/or death. There were no fatal accidents reported in 2007.

The IACP has determined through research that a TEI of 25 in urban areas results in a most effective enforcement to accident ratio. For a rural area, a TEI of 15 is considered most effective. Using the index on an annual basis allows law enforcement agencies to evaluate the quality of their traffic enforcement efforts and establish effective patrol strategies.

$$\text{TEI} = \frac{\# \text{ Of Convictions For Hazardous Moving Violations (Heath 2008) } 704}{\# \text{ Of Accidents Involving Personal Injury/Death (Heath 2008) } 58} = 12.14$$

As the formula above demonstrates the TEI for 2007 for the city was 12.14, a poor number for a rural or urban area, but it is the highest since 2003 when we began using the formula. According to the number of injury/fatal accidents in 2008 (58) the department should have been around 907 convictions of hazardous moving violations to obtain a TEI of 15, and around 1510 to obtain a TEI of 25.

25 (desired TEI) multiplied by 58 (total injury/fatal accidents) = 1450 (represents the number of HMV convictions needed to maintain the desired TEI)

1450 divided by .96 (conviction rate) = 1510 HMV (citations needed to obtain desired TEI) The conviction rate for HMV citations filed by our department remains around 96% in Licking County Municipal Court.

It takes an average of 2.5 man hours to make a traffic arrest according to research of national statistics, so;



1510 multiplied by 2.5 = 3775 man hours needed of unassigned time for traffic law enforcement.

510 (crash reports taken) multiplied by 2.5 = 1275 man-hours needed for accident investigation.

Add 3775 + 1275 = 5050 man-hours to obtain the desired TEI.

5050 divided by 2080 (the number of work hours in a year) = 2.43 officers on duty at all times required to obtain the desired TEI.

These formulas are currently in use by the Ohio State Highway Patrol and the Ohio University Law Enforcement Education Program.

Conclusions

These recommendations were made in 2008 to increase the TEI:

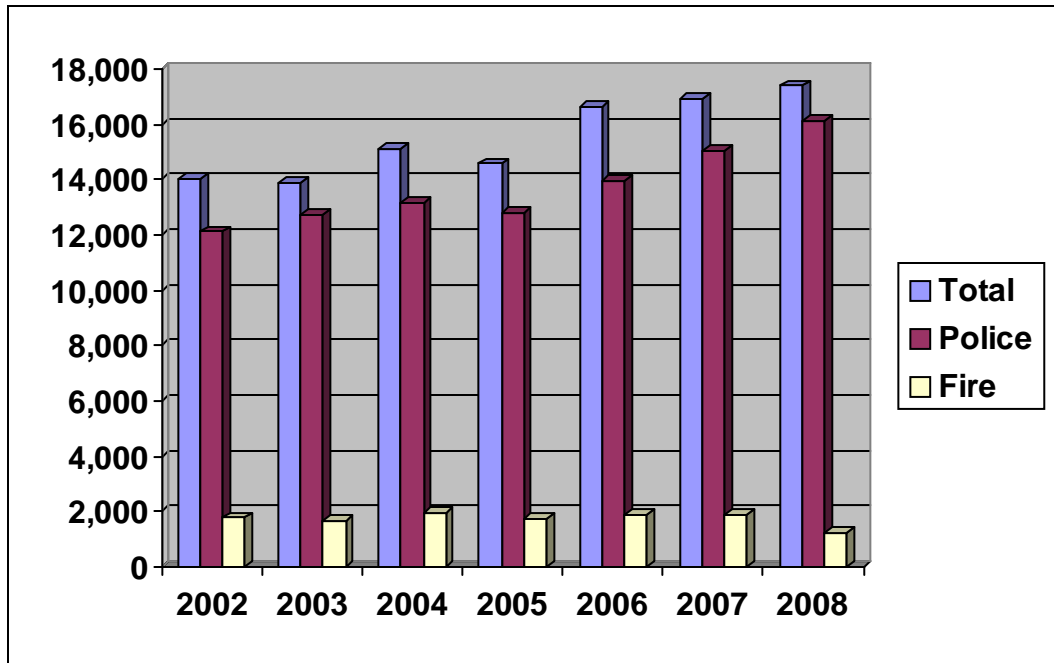
1. Seek grant funding for man-hours required to accomplish the goals.
No grant was obtained.
2. Explore the changes in traffic design on SR79.
The city contracted an engineering study of the roadway to improve safety and has plans to implement the recommended changes.
3. Ensure patrol officers are taking proper enforcement actions.
The percentage of accidents cited increased by 9% in '07 and 10% in '06.
4. Strongly encourage officers to take crash reports at every scene and issue a citation when fault can be determined.
The percentage of crash reports taken remained unchanged at about 70%.
5. Use overlap days to perform directed patrol during target times and in target areas.
Overlap days were sparse in 2008 and manpower levels remained lower than ever.

Recommendations

As in past years it is again a department goal to improve the TEI by following the recommendations above. Small gains were made in 2006, 2007, and 2008 as the numbers of accidents were reduced, and citations were increased. The TEI is at its highest level since the department began using the formula, but is still slightly below a satisfactory level. State Route 79 remains one of the busiest and dangerous stretches of road in the county. Of concern is the reduced number of crash reports that did not result in enforcement action. Our officers must remain dedicated to our goal, and each officer must do their part in taking enforcement action. The efforts of the officers have proven that aggressive patrol and citing of violators will result in a reduction of accidents making our roads safer.



CALLS FOR SERVICE 2008



Upon compiling 2004 calls for service report it was decided to revisit the reported statistics for the prior years of 2001 and 2002. This was done in an attempt to find trends or patterns, and account for the apparent drop in the calls for service. The 2001 and 2002 numbers were found to be incorrect and were corrected.

The 2006 calls for service (CFS) increased from the previous year to 16,653 total calls and were the highest number recorded up to that point. In 2007 the number of CFS rose to 16,929, and for the third year in a row 2008 calls increased to 17,385. Total police CFS also increased dramatically from 15,053 to 16,130. Patrol officers and detectives continued to strive towards the department goals and their efforts resulted in increased citations and arrests for 2008.

As a result of the fire department being dispatched by the County 911 center since May 22, 2008 the number of fire calls do not represent a true total of fire calls the fire department responded to in 2008.



Response to Resistance Report 2008

<i>Type of Force</i>	Open Hand	Chemical Agent	Baton	Taser	Firearm	Canine
	10	0	1	6	0	0
<u>Alcohol/Drug Use Suspected</u>	6	0	1	4	0	0
<u>Under Mental Stress</u>	4	0	0	0		
<u>Forced Was Used to:</u>	Effect Arrest 12	Control Prisoner 4	Defend Officer 5			

There were eight incidents reported each year in 2002-2004 but only four in 2005. For the year of 2006 incidents rose again to nine. A significant drop in the use of force occurred in 2007 so a thorough review of incident reports indicating resistance was conducted. Only three response-to-resistance reports were filed and the review held this number to be accurate. The year of 2007 can be considered an anomaly as it is below the average of 7.4 since 2002.

In 2008 sixteen incidents required reports to be filed, well above the average. In nine instances where force was used the subjects were suspected of being under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs. In four instances the subject was believed to be under mental stress. There was no reported use of force against a minor or juvenile subject and one reported use of a taser was against a biting canine. Possibly 2008 may be proved as an exception by future analysis as we continue our annual reporting.

The number of incidents in relation to total number of arrests (606 persons arrested) is still relatively small.

All incidents were reviewed per procedure and substantiated as proper applications of force. There were no trends or patterns identified by this review that would require further action.



Pursuit Analysis 2008

DATE	TIME	INITIAL COMPLAINT	SUPECT ACTIONS	PURSUIT TERMINATION
2/3/08	1742	Impaired Driver, OVI	Slow Speed	Moving Roadblock
5/19/08	2155	Speed	High Speed, Evasive Action	Out of city, rammed by Newark PD
5/30/08	0209	Stolen Car	High Speed, Evasive Action	Lost sight, terminated
10/4/08	2350	Impaired Driver, OVI	Slow Speed	Eventually Complied
10/19/08	0020	Impaired Driver, OVI	Slow Speed	Eventually Complied
10/25/08	1531	Speed	High Speed	Stopped for traffic.

The total number of pursuits in 2008 was six compared to five in 2007 and six in 2006. He five-year average is 4.3 per year. Team sergeants conducted debriefings and their findings were forwarded to the Lieutenant and Chief. No injuries to innocent persons or property were noted. Only one violation of policy was noted and corrective measures were taken. No trends or patterns were detected that indicate a change needed in policy or procedure.



Complaints Against Employees 2008

A total of thirteen complaints were lodged against a department employee in 2008. All but one of the complaints concerned full-time officers and that one being lodged against a dispatcher.

Seven of the complaints were in regards to officer courtesy. Three were not sustained, two were unfounded, and one was closed because the complainant did not return calls. One complaint was sustained and the officer received discipline and remedial training to the satisfaction of the complaining party. That officer is no longer with the department as of this report.

The remainder of the complaints were for driving (1 unfounded), alleged improper enforcement action (3 not sustained), and failing to dispatch an officer (1 unfounded).

All complaints were investigated and reviewed according to policy and procedure.

An unfounded complaint is one found to have no basis to the allegation. A complaint not sustained is when there is no corroborating evidence to uphold the allegation. A sustained complaint is when the investigation revealed evidence to support the allegation.

In 2007 there were six complaints and that was two more than 2006. Employee complaints in 2006 were 3 less than the previous year. A total of 7 were received in 2005 and 12 in 2004. This trend is a result of our continuing endeavor to employ a customer service approach and our sense of accountability.



Review of Agency Practices for the Year 2008

Prohibition of Bias Based Policing

By Lt. John Mason

General Order 0154 strictly forbids bias based profiling by officers of this department. By definition, bias based profiling is the selection of individuals for enforcement measures based solely on a common trait of a particular group such as race or gender.

Officers of this department rely on strict adherence to articulable reasonable suspicion and probable cause. Our mission and values statements guide us in our endeavor to always do the right thing.

The department does not collect data on the race of all occupants in a stopped vehicle. We do record the race on any citations issued to the driver and/or occupants. The race of an individual is not recorded for all field interviews unless a card is submitted. These cards are provided to the officer for use in the field to record information, but are not required.

State statutes and the local courts control all asset seizure and forfeitures. Any seizure made by an officer of this department must be in accordance to General Order 0105 (Search and Seizure) as well. General Order 0154 also prohibits bias based profiling regarding asset seizure and forfeiture and seizure. All property forfeitures for this department are approved by or prepared by the Licking County Prosecutors Office.

A review of citizen complaints is conducted annually and no complaint or any part of a complaint contained any allegation of a bias based practice. In 2008 a citizen's survey was conducted and no complaints or allegations of bias were found in any returned replies.

The prohibition against bias based profiling is in General Order 0154 as stated above. This general order is covered for new officers during the stops and approaches section of the Field Training Program. Our Mission, Vision, and Values statements reinforce this message. Annual training including different legal aspects of the issue is conducted as part of the in-service training program.

After conducting a review of our training documentation and the citizen complaint review I find the current practices are sufficient. The department will continue this training and review procedure to insure that prohibited practices do not occur, and that proper discipline will take place in any instance it may be discovered.



Analysis of Grievances for the Year 2008

Date	Subject	Status	Comment
Jan 16, 2008	Denial of four hours of holiday pay.	Denied by Chief and Mayor.	No arbitration sought by grievant, closed.
Mar 16, 2008	Denial of overtime pay.	Resolution granted by Lt. Mason.	Grievance resolved.

Two grievances were filed in 2008 and the Chief and Mayor denied one. The employee did not seek the next step and the issue was closed. The other grievance was resolved by Lt. Mason after granting the sought after resolution.

