



JOHNSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT 2010 ANNUAL REPORT

JOHNSTON, IOWA

Department Mission

The mission of the Johnston Police Department is to guarantee a peaceful community through the enforcement of state and local laws, impartially and without prejudice, and to uphold the constitution of the United States. We are committed to the protection of human life, individual rights and personal property through continuous and professional service in order to achieve a safe, healthy, and self-reliant community. The Johnston Police Department is committed to serving the needs of the citizens by providing a pro-active approach to law enforcement while maintaining the professionalism and partnership the community has come to expect.

Letter from the Chief of Police



JOHNSTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

6221 Merle Hay Road
PO Box 410
Johnston, Iowa 50131-0410
515-278-2346

January 10, 2011

Honorable Mayor Paula Dierenfeld
Johnston City Hall
6221 Merle Hay Road
Johnston, IA 50131

Dear Mayor Dierenfeld and Citizens of Johnston:

It is a pleasure to present the Johnston Police Department 2010 Annual Report for your review. I want to first acknowledge the men and women of the department for their dedication, performance and professionalism. I also want to thank our elected officials, department heads, and the community for their support of the police department. This report reflects on the outstanding service that was provided to our community by the members of the Johnston Police Department.

In December of 2009 I accepted the position as Chief of Police following the retirement of Chief Doug Nichols. I inherited a well-managed police department. My primary instruction from the Mayor and City Council was to "take the department to the next level." To the casual observer that task might sound difficult to quantify, but to those who have stepped inside the department the difficulty of my assignment is understood.

My assignment is not made difficult for the lack of dedicated staff or community support for we have very dedicated, professional staff and we enjoy tremendous community support. I give the community high praise for the excellent job of providing the police department with the necessary tools to perform our jobs in the field. We have well-equipped, state-of-the-art patrol cars and the officers are well-trained and well-equipped. The primary tool that is lacking is a modern police station. The station is the tool by which we ensure the health, welfare and safety of employees, detainees and the general public who have the need to conduct business at the station. The current station is grossly lacking in these areas. Please refer to the section labeled "Looking to the Future" for details.

As a former grocery store that was built in the 1950's; it was remodeled in 1985 to house seven officers. Today, we have twenty-three officers and two clerical support staff in that same space.

In November 2010, the Mayor and Council approved a space needs study for police and fire services in our community. That report will be completed by early February 2011. As we move further into 2011, I hope to partner with the community, our elected officials, and staff to bring our need for a modern station into public view.

I have long believed that there is no nobler profession than that of providing safety and security to the community. My staff and I are committed to providing the best possible law enforcement and community policing services to the community we serve. We look forward to serving the community in 2011 and beyond.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Vaughn".

Bill Vaughn
Chief of Police

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History of the Police Department

The City of Johnston, Iowa, is young, having been incorporated just 40 years ago. Prior to 1968, the community was a portion of the unincorporated area of Polk County, and was held together by a sprawling school district that stretched into the corporate city limits of Urbandale and Des Moines, and to the north, nearly to Granger. The Des Moines River formed a natural boundary on the east.

During its early years, a number of Johnston residents began to fear that the city would begin to be “swallowed up” by annexations of Urbandale, Des Moines, and Ankeny. They feared that some day, their neighbors would be living in a different city. Thus, the idea was conceived to incorporate and give Johnston its own identity; talks began to prevent Johnston from becoming nothing but a memory.

After the first vote on incorporation failed in 1968, the founding citizens regrouped and started again. After several additions and corrections to the original plan, it was again put to the voters on June 23, 1969. This time the measure passed on a resounding 71-13 vote and Johnston was officially incorporated and on September 8, 1969, the first full city council was elected. Mr. Harold Southerwick was elected as Johnston’s first mayor and was officially sworn into office by then Justice of the Peace Don

Christenson. Thus began the growth to what all know as present day Johnston.

Several months later, Dennis McCarty was named as Johnston’s first Chief of Police and served in that capacity until 1975. During his tenure the police department grew to four fulltime police officers housed in several locations within the city. In 1987, the police department moved to the former Hy-Vee grocery store on Merle Hay Road where it remains today. From the four officers employed by Johnston in the early 70’s, to a force that had grown to eight in 1997, and to twenty-three sworn police officers in 2010, the department has grown to meet the needs of the community, which has grown to nearly 16,000 persons in 2010.

As the city has grown, so has the demand for increased police and fire services. A study is being conducted to assess the public safety needs of the community and need for a public safety facility that will enhance staff’s ability to serve the citizens of Johnston effectively well into the future. In the upcoming months, city leaders will review the public safety needs of the community and develop a plan to meet those needs, including the pared for the voters in 2011 and vows to keep the public they are sworn to protect informed every step of the way.

Community Policing Philosophy



The Johnston Police Department has adopted the philosophy that community problem solving begins with forming a partnership with the community. The police department and Johnston citizens can work together to solve crime-related issues and keep Johnston a safe place to live and work. This on-going commitment is demonstrated by department staff participating in local neighborhood associations, hosting crime prevention activities and sponsoring the many youth programs

offered through ***KidPower***. By working together, department staff is able to serve the citizens of Johnston for which they are sworn to protect.

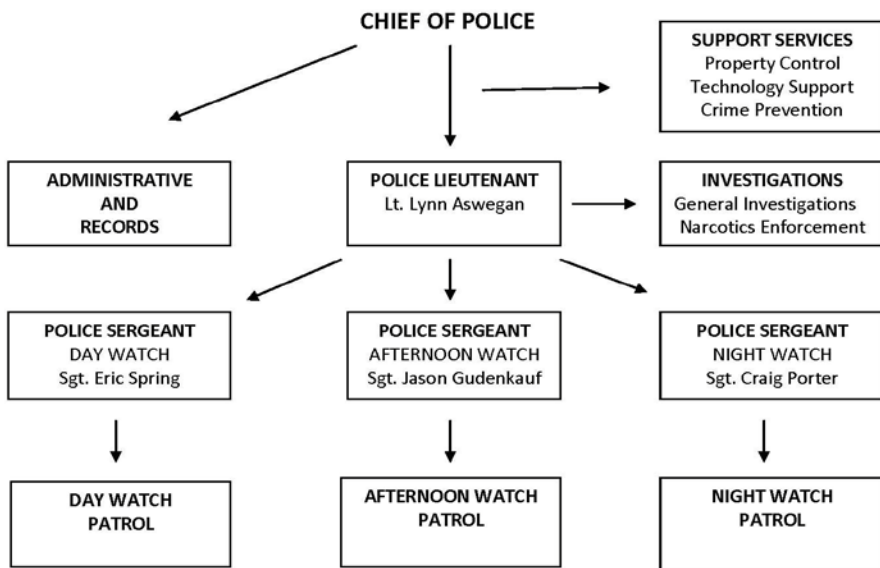
Personnel Listing

**CHIEF OF POLICE
BILL VAUGHN**

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
Debra Smith

RECORDS CLERK
(Currently Vacant)

COMMAND STRUCTURE



Chief of Police Bill Vaughn
 Patrol/Investigative Division Supervisor.....Lt. Lynn Aswegan

Patrol Division

Sergeant Craig Porter	Officer Samir Dzaferagic	Officer Steve Nore
Sergeant Eric Spring	Officer Zach Grandon	Officer Dan Steck
Sergeant Jason Gudenkauf	Officer Jessica Jensen	Officer Joe Siembieda
Officer Kenny Agan	Officer Rich Kirkeby	Officer Ryan Hanssen
Officer Jeremy Christensen	Officer Brad Lowe	Officer Matt Stringham
Officer Adam Criswell	Officer Scott Richmann	Officer (Vacant)

Investigative Division

Detective Travis Hamilton	Detective Tyler Tompkins	Detective Bryan Townes
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Office Support

Administrative Assistant Debra Smith
 Records Clerk Vacant

Patrol Division

The Patrol Division is the backbone of the police department and is under the direction of the lieutenant and three sergeants who are responsible for the Uniform Patrol Unit and Specialty Operations Unit. Both units are staffed with officers who have been trained in special patrol functions such as bicycle and ATV patrol functions. Although the two units take a different approach to serving the community, each works closely with the other to serve Johnston residents.

The Uniform Patrol Unit currently has two patrol territories, as well as additional officers who act as rovers to ensure effective coverage for the city and to provide back-up for territory cars. There are three separate shifts with a sergeant assigned to each shift.

The Patrol Division is responsible for the initial response to all of complaints or calls for service requested by Johnston residents. The Unit operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Officers are responsible for the protection of life and property; helping to maintain peace, order and safety for all citizens, and routine patrol of neighborhoods and businesses, as well as traffic enforcement. Select officers also perform additional duties such as Technical Accident Investigations (A.I.), Drug Recognition Experts (D.R.E.), Field Training Officers (F.T.O.) and a Bicycle/ATV Patrol Team.

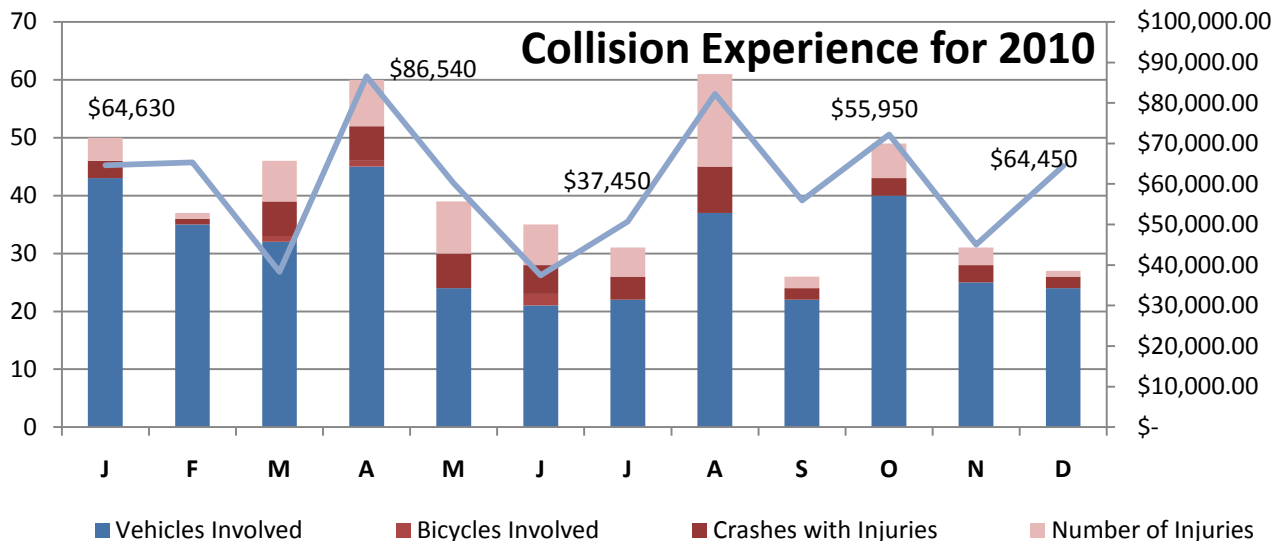
Technical Accident Investigations: (A.I.)

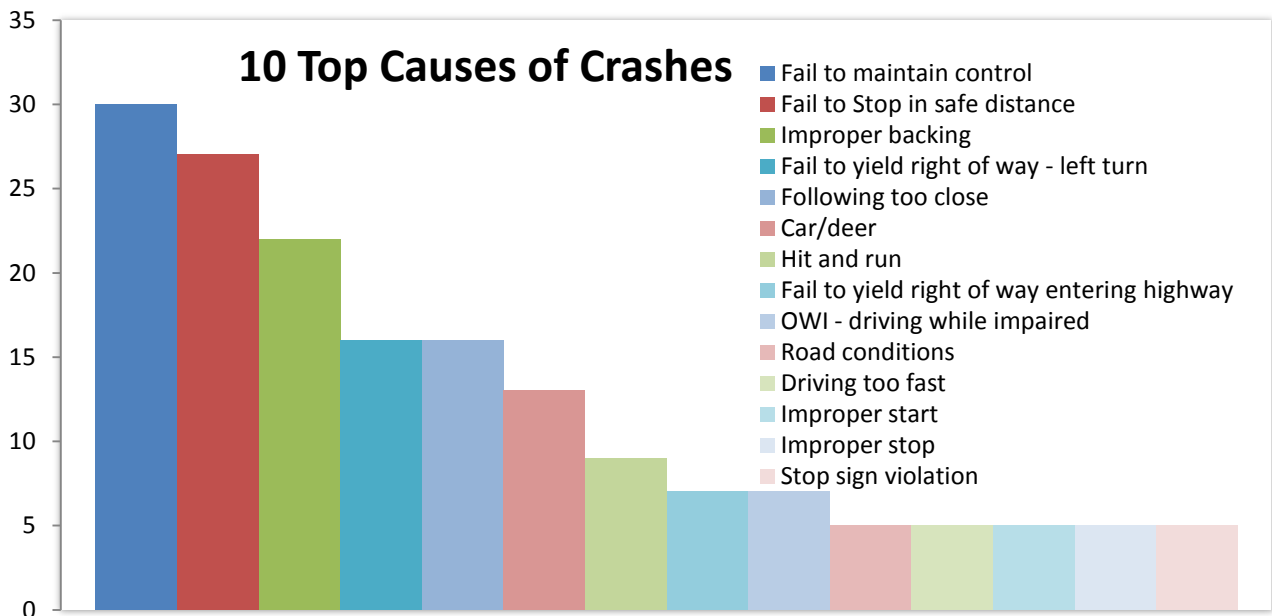


The Johnston Police Department has a number of officers whom have received advanced training in

traffic accident investigations. These officers have access to many technical tools and computer software to assist them in forensically analyzing major traffic crashes. These investigators have the ability to reconstruct car crashes to determine those areas where accidents can be prevented – making the streets of Johnston safer.

Sergeant Craig Porter can be contacted for further information about this program. He can be reached by telephone at (515)278-2345 or by email at cporterdre@police.ci.johnston.ia.us.





Drug Recognition Experts: (D.R.E.)

The Drug Recognition (DRE) program was first conceived in the early 1970s by members of the Los Angeles (CA) Police Department as a means to detect and successfully prosecute persons who were operating motor vehicles while under the influence of drugs other than alcohol. The DRE program is now an international program used by law enforcement agencies to reduce the incidence of drug impaired driving. A recent governmental survey found that of those who died in motor vehicle crashes in 2009, one-third had some type of drug in their system at the time of their death.

The Johnston Police Department has been involved in the DRE program since its Iowa introduction in 1992. In 2010, there about 140 DREs in the state of Iowa and three are employed with the Johnston Police Department: Sgt. Craig Porter, Detective Travis Hamilton, and Officer Jessica Jensen.

Because of the specialized training involved in the program, these officers are frequently called

upon to assist local law enforcement agencies with assistance in identifying the drug impaired driver. During the 2010 calendar year, drug influence



evaluations were conducted on twenty-three drivers in Johnston and surrounding agencies. Johnston DREs also provided three classes to local educators in the identification of the drug impaired student in partnership with the Heartland Area Education Agency.

Sergeant Craig Porter can be contacted for further information about this program. He can be reached by telephone at (515)278-2345 or by email at cporterdre@police.ci.johnston.ia.us.



Field Training Officers (F.T.O.)

The Johnston Police Department provides additional training to new officers after they have completed basic training at the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy. Working with Johnston's Field Training Officers (FTO's) new recruits are

oriented in internal policy and procedure, criminal law, state codes, police patrol operations, and community awareness through an intensive one-on-one oversight program. At the conclusion of the 12 week training program,



probationary officers are ready to operate on their own.

The department has five dedicated FTO's and a sergeant who oversees the program. If two officers are in one patrol

car, chances are one of them is currently taking part in the Field Training Program.

Sergeant Eric Spring can be contacted for more information about this program. He can be reached at (515) 278-2345 or through his email at espring@police.ci.johnston.ia.us.

Bicycle Patrol/ATV Unit



In the late 1990's the City of Johnston began a population explosion from 8,000 citizens to its present total of more than 17,000. Along with this growth, the city has expanded its park and trail

system. More than 30 miles of recreational trails connecting Johnston to inter-urban trail systems throughout the Des Moines Metropolitan area were added. In addition, plans are underway to construct an additional 29 miles of trails by 2025. This presents obvious patrol issues as many miles of these trails are located in areas not readily accessible by traditional police vehicles.

In 2005, the Johnston Police Department partnered with several area corporations and was able to fully fund a Bicycle Patrol Unit. This unit consists of officers who have received several hours of specialized training in the



area of police patrol operations and techniques while patrolling the city on bicycle/ATV. The unit has proven to be very successful and officers quickly learned that not only could they patrol hard to access areas during the day, but were also effective in night patrol operations in neighborhoods where stealth was a key to effective law enforcement.

Field Operations



Field Operations represent the specialty areas within the Uniformed Patrol Division that are outside the norm of daily police patrols. These operations include School Resource Officer (SRO) activities, animal control operations, special traffic enforcement programs sponsored by the Governors Traffic Safety Bureau (GTSB), and others.

Speed Monitoring Trailer



The department utilizes a portable speed monitoring trailer to educate drivers and enforce speed limits. The monitor is designed to help make drivers aware of their driving speed as they travel through the city. The equipment can be set up in

any Johnston neighborhood where viable complaints have been received regarding speeding vehicles. When deployed, it is highly likely there are enhanced enforcement efforts in

the area. During the summer months the unit is in constant use throughout the community. Concerns about a particular speeding issue can be reported by submitting a complaint form found on the city's website at www.cityofjohnston.com/docs/documents/excessivespeed.pdf.

Speed monitoring trailer activity for 2010.

- May 18 to May 25, 2010 – 5500 Block NW 93rd Street.
- May 28 to June 1, 2010 – 8400 Block NW Beaver Drive.

- June 17 to June 23, 2010 – 6000 Block of Pioneer Parkway.
- June 24 to June 29, 2010 – 6800 Block of NW Beaver Drive.
- June 30 to July 6, 2010 – 5500 Block NW 93rd Street.
- July 7 to July 12, 2010 – 9400 Block of Newgate Drive.
- July 14 to July 19, 2010 – 5700 Block Greendale Road.
- July 21 to July 26, 2010 – 6300 Block NW 94th Street.
- July 28 to August 8, 2010 – 5600 Block NW 62nd Avenue.
- August 11 to August 16, 2010 – 7100 Block NW 86th Street.
- August 18 to August 23, 2010 – 6000 Block NW 100th Street.
- August 25 to August 30, 2010 – 9000 Block Windsor Parkway.

- September 1 to September 7, 2010 – 5700 Block Foxboro Road.
- September 8 to September 13, 2010 6300 Block NW 97th Street.
- September 15 to September 20, 2010 – 6100 Block NW 93rd Street.
- September 22 to September 27, 2010 – 9800 Block Catalina Circle.
- September 29 to October 4, 2010 – 8300 Block of Chamberry Blvd.
- October 6 to October 11, 2010 – 6000 Block of Foxboro Road.
- October 13 to October 18, 2010 – 6300 Block of Pioneer Parkway.
- October 20 to October 26, 2010 – 6600 Block of Peckham Street.
- October 27 to November 1, 2010 – 9400 Block of Newgate Drive.

Animal Control Operations

Patrol officers are responsible for responding to all animal control issues. If the complaint involves a deceased animal on public property, the patrol officer completes a pick-up order and forwards the information to the public works department who responds and ensures proper disposal. If the complaint involves an animal at-large, patrol officers respond to the location and secure the animal in a patrol car. Animals that are sick, injured, aggressive or less than 10 weeks of age are immediately transferred to the Animal Rescue League (ARL). Other animals are transported to the public works facility in hopes of locating the proper owner.

At the public works department, the animal is held in a secured indoor climate controlled building and provided with food and water for up to three days. During that time, public works employees care for the impounded animals during their regular work hours and patrol officers conduct regular checks during evening and weekend hours. If an owner has not been

located or claimed the animal within three days, the animal is transferred to the ARL.

The City of Johnston maintains an online database that contains information and a photograph of each animal held at the public works facility. Residents are encouraged to browse the City of Johnston website to view the latest animals that have been found. A total of fifty canines and eighteen felines were impounded in 2010.

The police lieutenant investigates vicious animal or animal bite complaints. Upon completion of the investigation, a recommendation is submitted to the police chief and city manager to determine if the animal's actions warrant being declared as a vicious animal. In 2010 a total of 12 animal bite complaints were investigated and one canine was declared as being a vicious animal.



GTSB Funded Traffic Programs

The Johnston Police Department has received federal grants administered by the Iowa Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau (GTSB) for the purpose of improving traffic safety since 1996.

The funding has provided the police department with equipment, training and overtime funds to improve traffic safety. Some of the purchased equipment has included preliminary breath testing instruments, video recording equipment, and radar units for the department's fleet of patrol vehicles. A portion of the funding has also been used to provide the community with a child safety seat installation clinic at the annual Green Days celebration in Johnston.

In the fiscal year 2011, the Johnston Police Department will receive up to \$17,250.00. These funds will be used to purchase a radar unit and three preliminary breath testing instruments,



obtain materials to educate the public about traffic safety, provide advanced training to selected officers, and fund overtime hours for increased traffic enforcement.

Despite a growing population and a greatly increased road use rate since 1996, the City of Johnston has maintained a low overall traffic

crash rate, lessened the overall severity of crash injuries, and has not experienced a traffic fatality since 2004. This is a fact in which all Johnston citizens can be proud.

In addition to the normal traffic enforcement programs conducted by the department during 2010, 177.75 hours of overtime was funded by GTSB funds. This extra patrol effort resulted in:

- Three arrests for operating while intoxicated (OWI).
- 13 additional contacts with suspected OWI suspects.
- Two arrests for public intoxication.
- Arrests for having an open container of alcohol in a motor vehicle.
- Six arrests for possession of alcohol by persons under the legal age.
- 71 speeding citations.
- 102 speeding warnings.
- Five stop sign/traffic light citations.
- Six stop sign/traffic light warnings.
- Two seat belt citations were issued.
- Seat belt warning.
- One child safety seat warning.

Investigations

The investigations unit is comprised of two full-time detectives who are responsible for following up on all case complaints that require extended investigation. The department's lieutenant serves as the unit commander and oversees all investigations. The lieutenant handles all call-out requests and reviews all police department reports, determines the investigative priority and assigns follow-up to the detectives.

The investigation unit works closely with local, state and federal agencies including the Polk County Medical Examiner's Office, Fusion Intelligence Center, Department of Public Safety (DPS/DCI), Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms (ATF), United States Postal Inspectors (USPIS), Department of Human Services (DHS), Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) and the

United States Secret Service. The unit also is an active participant in the Division of Criminal Investigations Internet Crimes against Children (ICAC) task force.

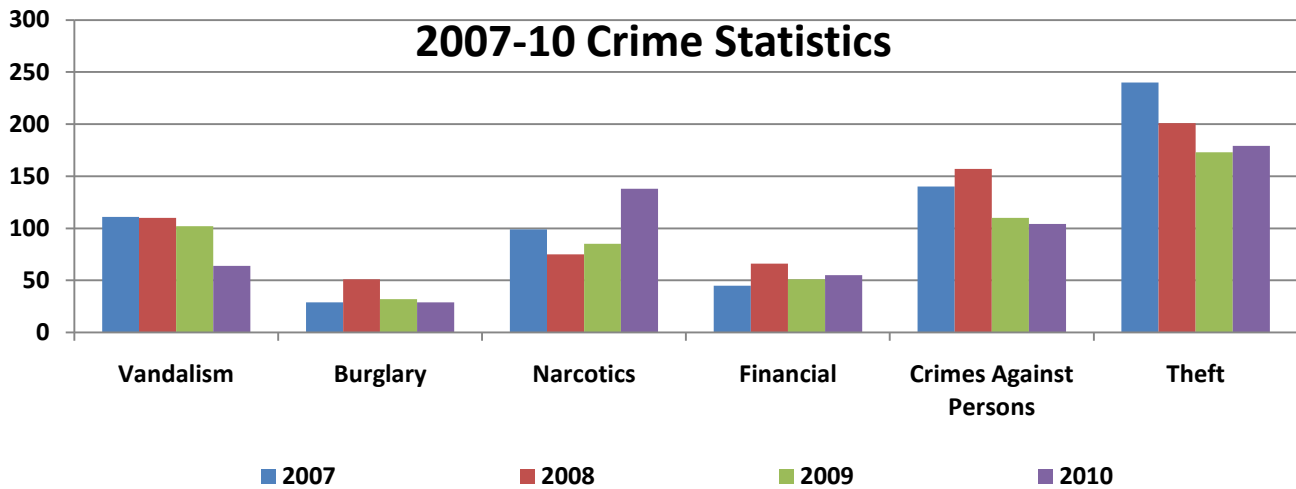


Investigators were assigned a total of 159 cases in 2010 which covered a variety of felony and misdemeanor complaints:

- Robbery - 3
- Burglary - 12
- Theft - 50
- Assault - 3
- Death investigation - 3
- Harassment - 13

- Fraud - 20
- Narcotics - 2
- Missing persons - 15
- C.H.I.N.A - 2
- Criminal mischief - 3
- Fire - 1

- Child/Adult abuse - 3
- Pornography/Sex crimes - 11
- Child custody dispute - (1)
- Animal Bite - 12
- Outside Agency Assist - 2
- Other - 3



In addition, the investigations unit monitors all registered sex offenders who list a residential address within the city limits of Johnston. Monthly updates are conducted and email notifications are sent out to various community groups and organizations, as well as posted in the public lobby of the police department and on the police department's Facebook page. Investigators also conduct random and unannounced physical checks on registered sex offenders; a photograph is taken and employment, phone and vehicle information is updated.

Investigators have received specialized training in a number of areas including photography, evidence collection, interviewing and surveillance. In 2010 investigators also received over 450 hours of specialized training in the following areas:

- Child abduction investigation
- Child fatality and abuse investigations
- Immediate data recovery and analysis
- Basic data recovery and acquisition
- Cyber investigations (basic)
- Cyber crime investigation (advanced)
- Financial investigative techniques
- Advanced financial crime investigations
- Basic fire/arson investigations
- Sex crimes investigators conference
- Identity theft investigations
- Writing search warrants
- Fundamentals of crime scene investigations
- Basic crime scene investigations
- Interview and interrogation techniques

Mid-Iowa Narcotics Enforcement Task Force (MINE)

Since February 1992, the police department has been an active participant in a metro-area narcotics taskforce, Mid-Iowa Narcotics Enforcement



Task Force (MINE). The police department has one detective assigned full-time to the taskforce which conducts extended investi-

gations throughout central Iowa including Polk, Dallas, Warren, Jasper, Poweshiek and Marion Counties on activity involving narcotics and prostitution. The taskforce received 171 case investigations in 2010, 33 of which were initiated by the Johnston Police Department.

The taskforce includes 30 sworn officers from 19 different agencies including the Polk County Sheriff's Office, Jasper County Sheriff's Office, Dallas County Sheriff's Office, Warren County Sheriff's Office, Poweshiek County Sheriff's Office, State of Iowa Department of Narcotics Enforcement, Urbandale Police Department, West Des Moines Police Department, Johnston Police Department, Clive Police Department, Des Moines Police Department, Ankeny Police Department, Indianola Police Department, Grinnell Police Department, Knoxville Police Department, Newton Police Department, Pella Police Department, Drug Enforcement Agency and the Iowa National Guard.

The taskforce operates under a board of directors comprised of commanders, sheriffs and police

chiefs from the participating agencies. A sheriff's captain serves as the taskforce commander along with two sergeants who



oversee daily activities and investigations. The taskforce works closely with local, state and federal agencies including the Fusion Intelligence Center, Department of Public Safety (DPS/DNE), Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms (ATF), Department of Justice (DEA) and the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI).

The taskforce investigator has received specialized training in a number of areas including:

- DEA drug investigations school
- Money laundering investigations training
- Conspiracy investigations
- Tactical entry
- Clandestine tactical entry
- Highway drug interdictions
- Clandestine laboratory school
- Executive leadership training
- Task force commander and leadership management training
- Safeguarding privacy, civil rights & civil liberties
- Criminal intelligence operations
- Interview and interrogation training

School Resource Officer



the Johnston Community School District to

At the start of the 2007 school year, the Johnston Police Department began a partnership with

assign a full-time police officer at the school district. The officer acts as a deterrent to school policy violations, criminal activity, and works to prevent school violence. The officer serves the law enforcement needs of nearly 3,000 students attending the high school and the two middle schools.

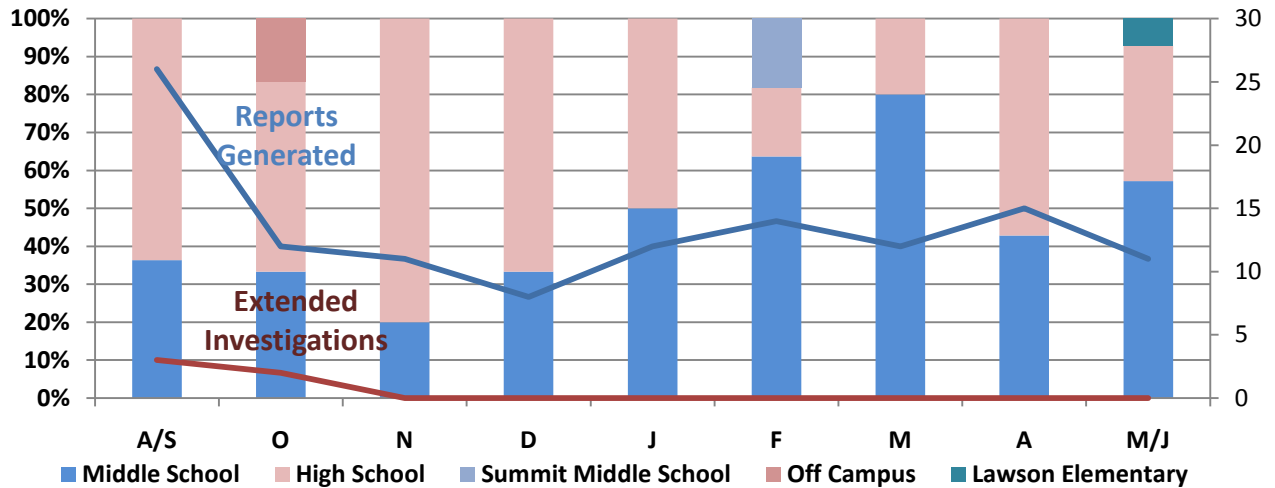
The direct benefit to these students has exceeded all expectations, students in grades

eight through twelve have direct access to a law enforcement officer who is specifically trained to handle all types of school-related issues.

During the 2009-10 school year, the School Resource Officer (SRO) handled 369 incidents ranging from minor school policy violations to criminal investigations.

Officer Kenny Agan serves as the SRO for the department. Officer Agan may be reached at (515) 278-2345 or via email at kagan@police.ci.johnston.ia.us. Follow Officer Agan on his Twitter account at <http://twitter.com/jpdsro>.

SRO Activity by School Building



Suburban Emergency Response Team (SERT)

SUBURBAN EMERGENCY RESPONSE TEAM



In 2007 the Johnston Police Department teamed up with the other metropolitan police departments from West Des Moines, Urbandale, Clive, and Altoona to create a team

of specially trained officers to handle special threat situations that may occur in their communities. In early 2010 the Dallas County Sheriff's Department, as well as the Ankeny Police Department, also joined the organization, Suburban Emergency Response Team, SERT.

The team is supervised by a West Des Moines police lieutenant and two Johnston officers have been assigned to the team. Officers assigned to the team work normal duty assignments in their

communities, and are on 24 hour call-out status for SERT. In the event of a dangerous situation, officers respond with equipment and are capable of supervising, staffing, and controlling the incident.

The response team has historically been assigned to serve high-risk search warrants, respond to armed subjects who may be in a fortified location, carry out dignitary protection details, monitor special events and to conduct searches. This unit also serves as a ready response for issues of civil disorder and can be deployed for special events. In short, the team handles high-risk incidents which carry the potential for serious injury or death, which are lessened through the utilization of specialized tactics and equipment.

Officer Training



The department's curriculum includes an annual in-service training where all sworn personnel attend 16 hours of instruction on a variety of mandatory state and federal requirements. These include CPR, hazardous materials, blood borne pathogens, incident command, legal updates, workplace harassment, ethics, ethnic diversity and firearms training. The in-service training is hosted by the Des Moines Police Department and is held at Des Moines police academy on Army Post Road. Participation in the training allows the department to fulfill annual mandatory officer training as required by Iowa law. In addition, newly sworn officers are also required to attend 13 weeks of training at the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy followed by 12 weeks of field training instruction as described in this report.

The police department works closely with other agencies and training entities to provide additional training for officers. These organizations include the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA), Midwest Counterdrug Training Center (MCTC), Iowa Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), National White Collar Crime Center (NW3C), Iowa Department of Public Safety (DPS), National Association of Field Training, US

Department of Justice, Iowa Crime Prevention Association, US Department of Homeland Security, Fire Service Training Bureau, National Association of School Resource Officers (NASARO), High Tech Crime Institute (HTCI), Fox Valley Technical College, National Association of Technical Investigators, National Association of Property Room Managers, Northwestern University, in addition to others. In 2010, the department utilized these organizations to obtain more than 2,400 hours of instruction in a variety of law enforcement related training.



Officers undergo extensive firearms training a minimum of three times a year and have attended an ongoing series of specialized training in active shooter response specifically related to school terrorism. Officers also received training in motor vehicle inspections, child safety seat installation and crime free multi-housing. As a result, the department has set up programs to provide these specialized services to the community.

Several officers have received instructor certification in a variety of topics including defensive tactics, drug recognition, field sobriety, ASP restraint, less lethal munitions, oleoresin capsicum (Mace), weapons armory, pursuit intervention, bike patrol and firearms. These certifications allowed the department to provide over 530 hours of in-house training in 2010 by utilizing the expertise of department staff.

Support Services

The Support Services Unit supports the mission of Uniformed Patrol and Field Operations Units of the department. The unit is comprised of both sworn officers and civilian employees and is responsible for a variety of duties, ranging from meeting the public, maintaining records, maintaining custody of evidence, and ensuring the department's patrol fleet is operational at all times.

Administrative/Records



The Johnston Police Department employs one full-time administrative assistant, and one part-time

records clerk. The area is staffed Monday - Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Staff is responsible for many tasks including;

- Front desk service requests
- Releasing impounded vehicles
- Scheduling fingerprint appointments for Johnston residents
- Processing traffic citations and accident reports
- Completing criminal records checks
- Answering and directing telephone calls
- Processing subpoenas

Property and Evidence

The property and evidence section of the support services unit is under the control of one sworn officer and one police sergeant. Oversight is provided



by the lieutenant and chief of police. The officer and sergeant are trained evidence specialists and are responsible for the logging in, chain of custody, safekeeping, and release or court-ordered destruction of each piece of property or evidence collected. The Johnston Police Department is responsible for thousands of items of evidence and works meticulously to insure the integrity of each item. It is the policy of the department to insure all property and evidence is

handled in strict accordance with the Code of Iowa and each piece is routinely audited to ensure compliance.

A sampling of the nearly 2000 items entered into evidence in 2010 includes:

- 270 drug/drug paraphernalia entries
- 36 lost and found property incidents
- 40 firearms/ammunition entries
- 70 entries for misc. tools
- 17 lost/stolen bicycles
- 33 alcohol type items
- 79 cellular phones or handheld electronic items
- 28 jewelry items

Technology

Great strides have been made in the area of computerization and technology, not only in the private sector but in public safety operations, as well.

Police radio communications have advanced so that officers have the ability to communicate not only locally, but state-wide, and in some cases nationwide. In addition, technology has advanced so that nightfall is no longer an asset to criminal activity. Officers with the Johnston Police Department have night vision and thermal imaging devices that allow them to see into the darkness.

The department was awarded a federal grant in early 2009 for the implementation of an

advanced thermal imaging system, enabling officers to see heat signatures of objects, people and other sources. It detects extremely small differences in



temperature so officers can readily distinguish people from their immediate surroundings. Needing no light to operate, the thermal imager generates high-quality images on the darkest nights, even through smoke and fog. While darkness and camouflage can defeat night vision equipment, suspects cannot hide from a thermal imager; their own body heat gives them away.

Advances have also been made in the area of video monitoring. When installed in areas of known criminal activity, officers have the ability to forensically enhance the video to bring criminals to justice.

Laptop computers, located inside patrol vehicles, allow officers to be electronically dispatched. The use of a global positioning system (GPS) allows the responding officer to be directed to the location of the caller. Patrol cars are equipped with in-car cameras that allow the recording of audio and video footage of contacts with the public in an effort to protect the constitutional



rights of both members of the public and the officer. Officers have specialized software that allows them to clearly see

images of every square inch of Johnston with the stroke of a computer key. This ability allows the officer to have access to the layout and terrain of each call they are dispatched to in an effort to serve Johnston in the most efficient and safest way possible.

One area in particular where the Johnston Police Department leads the field is in the area of video forensics. In 2006, the police department was awarded a federal grant which provided the department with specialized computer equipment along with the training to forensically enhance digital and analog videos to assist with the identification and prosecution of persons suspected of crimes. The department utilizes this equipment not only for its own investigations, but for agencies around the entire state. In 2010, specially trained officers used this equipment to analyze forty-seven video images for area agencies which resulted in the arrest of several suspects.

Pictometry 360 Software



As noted, the Johnston Police Department utilizes specialized software that allows officers to view high-resolution images of every square foot of

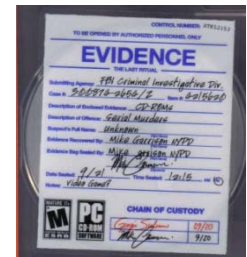
the city. This software, Pictometry©, was funded with a federal grant obtained by Polk County Emergency Management officials in 2009, and distributed to other governmental bodies within Polk County.

Johnston and other metropolitan communities have purchased an add-on to the core program called Pictometry 360©. In the upcoming months, officers will photograph the interiors of local schools and install the imagery into the Pictometry© core program. This capability will give officers and other first responders immediate access to interior images of the schools in a two-dimensional 360° panorama. These images will aid officers and firefighters in planning and responding to incidents within the district's school buildings.

Evidence Software Upgrade

As Johnston has continued to grow, crime has also increased. It is no longer best practice to simply log evidence on a spreadsheet and then cross it off as it is returned to an owner or destroyed by orders of the court. The sheer volume of items and the ever-changing statutes of the Code of Iowa related to evidence and property handling enabled the department to justify the purchase and development of specialized software designed to streamline record keeping abilities. In early 2010, the

department began exploring options to upgrade its record keeping ability related to items of evidentiary value. After months of research, FileOnQ, Inc. was selected as the most useful



program. By partnering with the City of Urbandale and the Iowa Department of Defense and making a joint purchase, several hundred

dollars was saved by combining training costs with the other agencies.

With the new software officers are able to print an adhesive barcode that can be affixed to the evidence - making tracking and audits much more

streamlined for the department's evidence custodians. Savings will also be realized in the reduction of staff hours required to track, catalogue, and maintain an unbroken chain-of-custody with each and every item of evidence or property under the control of the department.

Radio Signal Enhancement Project



When Officer Agan began working with the Johnston Community School District in late 2007, it was discovered that the radio system had several deficiencies. He was not able to communicate by radio from all parts of the school building.

Working with the district, a local firm was contracted to conduct an audit of radio system's signal strength in the district's school facilities. It was discovered a portion of a system originally

installed in the late 1990's had stopped functioning. In addition, those parts of the system still working, were found to be out of adjustment due to remodeling projects over the past several years.

With the help of the contractor and the school district, the problems were eliminated. Officers can now enter school buildings and have clear radio access to other officers and emergency responders.

Community Relations

There has been a growing trend in law enforcement around the country to change the way police are traditionally viewed. The main focus of this new philosophy has been to get the police "out of the car" and "into the community." This new philosophy has been termed *Community Oriented Policing*.

Community policing is comprised of three key components:

Community Partnerships

Collaborative partnerships between the law enforcement agency with the individuals and organizations they serve to develop solutions to problems and increase trust in police.

Organizational Transformation

The alignment of organizational management, structure, personnel, and information systems to support community partnerships and proactive problem solving.

Problem Solving

The process of engaging in the proactive and systematic examination of identified problems to develop and rigorously evaluate effective responses.

The Johnston Police Department has been working diligently for the past several years to develop programs to meet established community policing goals.

Crime Prevention Programs



The department has strived to make improvements in providing new and innovative crime prevention programs. This is

accomplished by augmenting standardized programs with programs tailored to fit the needs of Johnston. The department is dedicated to a proactive approach to community safety. Officers truly believe it is their job to help educate the

public on ways to develop a safer community. They have partnered with the Johnston Public Library and Johnston Community Education to provide several classes to all ages. The following programs were offered in 2010:

- 2 new *Neighborhood Watch* programs
- *Bicycle roundup* – bike safety event
- *Kid Power* crime scene investigation camp for kids
- Initiated a new bicycle registration program
- *Busted in a Good Way* ice cream giveaway program for youths demonstrating good bicycle safety skills.

- Bicycle helmet giveaway programs
- *KidPix* program, making child identification cards for parents to provide law enforcement information in the event of an emergency
- Official judges of the Johnston Cub Scouts Pine Wood Derby
- Tours of the police facility to youth organizations
- Providing a *Safe Senior* class to residents of McAuley Terrace and the AHEPPA Apartment complex.

Kid Power

Kid Power is a community-based project that includes several programs focused on enhancing the safety and life skills of the children in the community. In 2010, the project supported a variety of programs:

Johnston Bike Round-Up

Sponsored by the Community Crime Prevention Council, 52 kids and 23 parents participated. 18 bike helmets were given away.

Public Safety Booth at Green Days

Officers spoke with kids about general safety, including stranger danger, bike safety, home-alone, and personal safety.

Kid Pix

62 participants were photographed and identification cards produced.

DNA Kits

74 kits were distributed that allow parents to collect information regarding their children.

Bike Helmets

Bike helmets were fitted and given to 32 riders with no helmets.

Safety CSI Class

Crime scene investigation class taught at the library. The one-day class provided information about Internet safety and provided students with the opportunity to solve a fictional crime. Participants lifted fingerprints, developed

footwear impressions, and interviewed witnesses and suspects.

Safety Day at Family Video

75 kids received bike safety, home alone safety and Stranger Danger Training.

Safety day at Walgreens

Participated in safety awareness day. Distributed safety information and photographed children for Kid Pix.

CODE 411

A total of 515 fifth grade students from all five elementary schools took part in the Code 411 program. They received instruction on making good decisions/choices when it comes to drugs, alcohol and tobacco, internet safety, bullying and crime and kids. Code 411, provides new methods for officers to educate by presenting young persons with real-life information affecting their community and demonstrating ways to avoid peer pressure and other factors that often lead them into making poor decisions.

Child Safety Seat Checks

The department has assisted parents with 34 proper child safety seat installations since the program was started in 2008.

Johnston School Purple Party

The police department participated in this school-wide event by staffing a booth with kid safety handouts. Approximately 1500 safety items were distributed to students.

Drug and Alcohol Compliance Checks

Johnston remains committed to keeping drugs and alcohol out of the hands of area youth. As part of this continued resolve random compliance checks are conducted throughout the city each year. The results of those 2010 compliance checks are:

- Random checks on all 26 licensed alcohol establishments - 6 violations discovered.
- Random checks on all 13 tobacco permit holders - 2 violations discovered.

In addition to the checks, department staff also routinely conducts training for local retail employees on the latest changes to Iowa law, and methods of detecting fraudulent identification cards. In 2010, forty-nine local retailers attended the training sessions.

For further information about these programs, contact Officer Rich Kirkeby at (515)278-2346 or via email at rkirkeby@police.ci.johnston.ia.us.

Miscellaneous Services

The department also provides many other services for the community that most do not notice.

Fingerprinting services are provided at no charge to residents and Johnston businesses. In 2010, 359 persons were assisted. Services are available by appointment only, Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays between noon and 1:00 p.m. Please call the police department during business hours at 278-2345 to schedule an appointment.

Officers with specialized training will insure child safety seats are installed to the most current manufacturer's specifications for no charge.

Officers are available by scheduling an appointment on Monday – Fridays between the hours of 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

On a fee basis, the department conducts salvage vehicle inspections for all persons living within Polk County. In 2010, 234 salvage/theft examinations were performed.

These services are provided on an appointment-basis. Please call the police department during business hours, Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 pm., excluding holidays, at 278-2345 to schedule an appointment.

Technology Enhancements

2010 saw some exciting changes for the department, most notably were increased transparency and the ability to more effectively communicate with the public through social networking and interactive websites.

Crimereports.com



City of Johnston subscribes to CrimeReports.com, an online crime reporting service. The service is an extension of the department's commitment to community policing and their goal to provide open transparency in government. The online program provides up-to-date information on recent crime activity in the city and surrounding member communities. Viewers can access City of Johnston crime information online, and see a breakdown of

recent crime by type. By accessing the crime map, residents can stay on top of crime, and help prevent crime in their neighborhoods.

Joining the program enables the police department to further enhance the exchange of information with the community, including schools, neighborhoods and businesses. A safe community requires more than just a police presence; it requires information sharing and a strong police community partnership.

E-LERT Program

The Johnston Police Department offers an electronic crime prevention notification program that allows residents and businesses in the community to receive email notifications of any law enforcement related alerts the Johnston Police Department distributes regarding activity. The Johnston Police have integrated this crime prevention tool with the City of Johnston website and the email notification system is called the Johnston Community Crime E-LERT Program.

When the police department notices a spike in crime that involves a particular neighborhood or business area, or when they have crime prevention information to distribute in a timely manner, the information is sent by email to

residents and merchants who have registered for the service from the city's website.

The E-LERT message includes a PDF, read-only announcement on police department letterhead that contains the alert information.



Interested persons can sign up to receive E-LERTS on the city's website and selecting the option from the left navigation pane.

Social Media



Johnston Police Department has launched a Facebook page to inform and interact with residents. Staff use the page to post information on current crime trends, as well as other programs and resources available through the police department that the community may not be aware of. The police department is working to expand and develop the page to provide current and up-to-date information so that it becomes a "fan" favorite and a useful resource to the community.

Find us by searching for the Johnston Police Department on Facebook.com.

Personnel Recognition

Members of the Johnston Police Department excel in the field and are proud of their achievements. Through their work, they have been recognized for service to the community and its residents.

West Des Moines Elks Lodge Officer of the Year



In January Officer Samir Dzaferagic accepted an award from the West Des Moines Elks Lodge #2752 for his outstanding service to his community. Officer Dzaferagic began his career in

law enforcement in 2005 and is a member of the bicycle patrol unit. Officer Dzaferagic is a graduate of Grand View College with a degree in criminal justice and minor in sociology. He is also a collision investigator and is also a crime prevention officer for the department.

Officer Dzaferagic was nominated by his peers and shared the award with several other Des Moines area officers.

Commissioner's Special Award for Traffic Safety

On March 25, 2010, Johnston Police Officers Jessica Jensen and Steve Nore were recognized by then-Commissioner of the Iowa Department of Public Safety, Eugene Meyer for their work in promoting traffic safety.

Each year the Iowa Department of Public Safety recognizes outstanding contributions to traffic safety by individuals with the Commissioner's Special Award for Traffic Safety. The award ceremony was held as part of the annual Governor's Highway Traffic Safety Conference in Coralville.

Selection is based on a commitment to traffic safety and service provided beyond routine duties, creativity of approach, and effectiveness of a traffic safety program or campaign. To be considered for an award, individuals must have contributed in a leadership role to traffic safety issues through promotion and awareness in his or her expertise.

Officer Nore works the afternoon shift, while Officer Jensen works overnights. Both were nominated for the award in part because of the knowledge and leadership abilities each demonstrated in keeping impaired drivers off of Iowa's roadways.

Mayoral Recognition

On January 18, 2010, two officers were recognized by Mayor Dierenfeld and the Johnston City Council for their outstanding performance and dedication to the residents of Johnston.



Officer Joe Siembieda was recognized for his exemplary performance as detective for the department. During his five year tenure as detective, Siembieda demonstrated

his knowledge, expertise and professionalism in his assignments. He excelled in many areas of investigation and continually worked to improve service to the community. Siembieda

has been with the force 18 years and will continue his role as uniformed patrol in the department.

Officer Matt Stringham was commended for his prompt and meritorious actions during the events of December 21, 2009, that included



using excellent judgment in keeping himself and others safe. He maintained communication with other personnel and was able to prevent the situation from escalating. Stringham has been on the force for nearly 13 years.

Retirements



The Johnston Police Department saw the retirement of Sergeant Mike Martin on December 31, 2010. Sergeant Martin began his career in law enforcement with the Decatur County Sheriff's

Department in 1979, and accepted employment

in Johnston ten years later. Martin was on the job for only a short time before being promoted to the rank of Sergeant. Martin had the opportunity to work every shift and was able to get acquainted with the many people he was sworn to serve. Most recently, Sergeant Martin was assigned to the day shift.

Promotions



With the retirement of Sergeant Martin, Officer Jason Gudenkauf was promoted to the rank of Sergeant.

Sgt. Gudenkauf began his law enforcement career in 1999 with the Marshalltown Police Department where he became a certified Field

Training Officer. Gudenkauf joined the Johnston Police Department in December 2004 and serves as field training officer, firearms instructor, member of the bike patrol unit and a certified rifle instructor for the department. Sgt. Gudenkauf is also a member of the Suburban Emergency Response Team (SERT). Voicemails for Sgt. Gudenkauf can be left at (515) 252-1375, or via email at jgudenkauf@police.ci.johnston.ia.us.

Program Support

The Johnston Police Department benefits from the support of various agencies and organizations throughout the community.

- **Van Dee's Ice Cream Shop** – this local retailer has supported the *Busted in a Good Way* program by providing ice cream treats to local youth who are identified with good bike riding and safety habits. Officers write a “ticket” that can be redeemed for an ice cream treat at the local vendor.
- **Pioneer Hi-Bred** – Supported a grant to purchase and implement Pictometry Critical 360™ software.
- **John Deere Financial** - Supported a grant to purchase and implement Pictometry Critical 360™ software.
- **Wells Fargo** - Contributed to the Johnston Police Department to support the department's Kid Power Program.
- **Pioneer Hi-Bred** - Contributed to the Johnston Police Department to support the department's Kid Power Program.

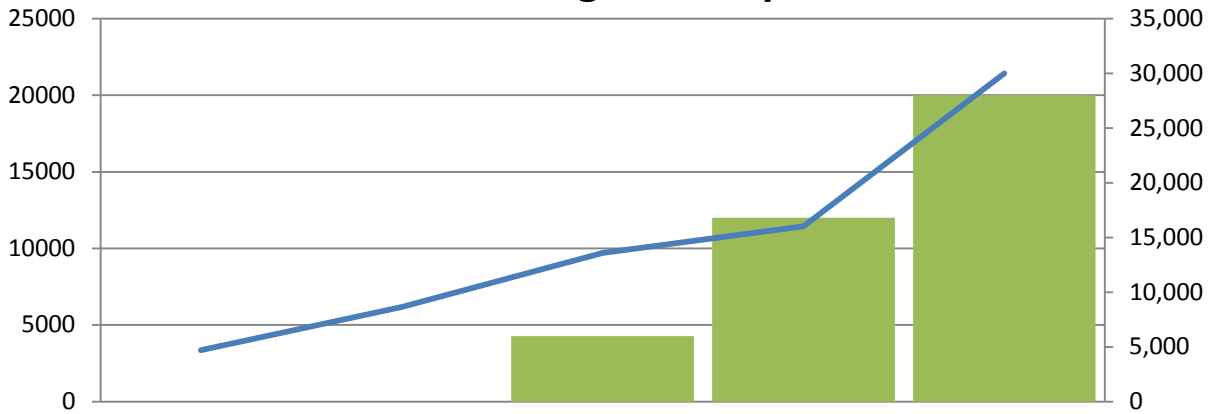
The Need for a New Police Station

In the 1980's the City of Johnston acquired property at its current location on Merle Hay Road for city operations. The existing grocery store was remodeled to house city offices, public library, police station, and council chambers.

Johnston has grown from a population of less than 5,000 to more than 16,000 since the early 1980's. The police department has grown from a staff of seven in the mid 1980's to a staff of 23 officers and two support staff in 2010. Over the years, crime has increased with population growth. While minor thefts, vandalisms, and animal control issues may have been the most common crimes of the 1980's, today crime has increased to include robberies, sexual assaults, and homicides.

The space necessary for police operations has changed dramatically. In 2008, a space needs assessment demonstrated the need for additional space to allow for adequate investigation, detention, and storage areas. In that study, it was determined that 18,000 square feet was needed, compared to the existing 5,200 square feet currently housing the department.

Police Calls Increasing with Population Growth



The following information provides an overview of the issues impacting the day-to-day operations of the department and its staff. This information summarizes the role of the police department facilities and attempts to convey the inadequacies facing the department.

Security



As described, the current police facility was originally constructed as a grocery store. While the facility has served the community well, it has become inadequate in several areas:

- Inadequate prisoner detention/processing facilities.
- Inadequate evidence/property storage and processing area and associated health hazards.
- Lack of confidential interview and properly equipped interview rooms.
- Inadequate and unsecured safety features in reception area.
- Lack of modern staff locker room facilities.
- Lack of parking and protection for city owned vehicles.

As with all law enforcement agencies across the United States, Johnston officers are sworn to investigate crimes in an effort to bring justice to those who violate the laws of the State of Iowa

and the ordinances of the City of Johnston. While the vast majority of illegal actions taken against the public are minor offenses, there is an increasing number of crimes that require additional support and investigation. When a crime occurs the accused is placed into custody and transported to a place of detention. The Johnston Police Department does not have a detention area – normally, the first stop for anyone accused of a crime. Johnston police officers detain offenders in their patrol cars or areas of the department that are not fully secured for this type of detention. During detention, the officer prepares the necessary reports and other documents required by the courts. In addition, the fingerprinting and photographing associated with the “booking” process are also completed. When these tasks are done, the accused is then transported to the Polk County Jail where they are detained pending a court appearance.

Having no detention cell in the city’s police department impacts the security of the facility in many ways, including the safety of the detainee and officer, as well as any member of the public or staff present in the building.

Other safety and security issues exist in the current facility, including:

- No sally port – a secured garage area that detainees can be moved from a squad car to a holding cell.
- No holding cells – no “jail” cell to secure detainees
- No sight or sound segregation between males/females/juveniles
- Lack of adequate security measures including: alarms, reinforced locks, detention, cells, etc.

- Lack of communication capabilities when dealing with a combative individual.
- Lack of audio recording in detention areas.
- Lack of a modern fingerprint capturing station for detainees and civilians.
- Current configuration does not provide adequate segregation between functional areas of the station.

Property/Evidence Room

As indicated previously, while what was more than adequate for the police department in the mid 80’s has proven itself quite the opposite as the department moves into the twentieth-first century. Increased population has brought increased crime and the need to hire additional officers. Evidence and property storage, handling, and processing has become an issue. In fact, several outside agencies have expressed their concern regarding lighting, size, capacity,

ventilation, security and access control of the property room. They include:

- Polk County Attorney’s Office
- Director, Iowa Department of Public Safety.
- Director of Public Safety, Iowa State University.
- Members of the Chief’s Advisory Board.

Storage Space/Air Quality Issues



Courts nationwide have upheld the requirement that evidence collected as a result of a criminal investigation needs to be maintained by the agency and in many cases for decades. This creates obvious storage issues, not only because of limited space, but also because

evidence in long-term storage is a health hazard in nature. Items often contain bodily tissues and other airborne particles that require constant and effective air exchange with the outdoors. This prevents the inhalation of any hazardous airborne contaminants by those entering city hall. Another serious health issue is associated with

marijuana storage - Aspergillus mold. This mold is specifically associated with rotting marijuana. Naturally occurring moisture contained in marijuana plants causes the plant to decay. As it decays, aspergillus spores are released into the air to form a potent toxin that is known to cause serious illness and even death when ingested by humans.

Neither the long term storage areas, nor the narcotics storage areas contain an air exchange system, or any specialized type of humidity control. As a result, the same air in the evidence room is ventilated to the rest of the building, including staff offices, public areas and council chambers.

Evidence Handling



Officers have set procedures for the packaging and handling of evidence. These procedures mandate that after any evidence is legally obtained, officers are to package it in a specific manner prior to its submission to the department's certified evidence custodian. This

means officers must handle all evidence directly before its submission, regardless of its type. The area where evidence is packaged has a crude ventilation system constructed by public works staff. It has no emergency backup, no measure of effectiveness, and no filtration system. It is simply flexible ductwork vented to the outside of the building using a crude hand-made hood.

To meet the current requirements for ventilation, the department must adhere to the standards as set forth by the International Association for Property and Evidence (IAPE) as recommended

by the United States Department of Health, Centers for Disease Control (CDC).

- Ventilated in a manner that controls heat, cold, humidity, and offensive odors.
- Special consideration should be given to DNA related storage areas to control heat/humidity that tends to degrade biological evidence. Room temperature in a controlled environment (60 to 75 degrees, with a relative humidity that does not exceed 60%.
- Narcotics should be stored independently in a manner that insures that noxious fumes are removed from the building, and not recirculated into the building's HVAC systems. The proper design should include a "negative pressure" option that changes the air in the storage area approximately 10 to 12 times per hour.
- The HVAC systems ducts and registers should be constructed to prevent unauthorized entry or contamination.

The current HVAC system does not meet these standards.

Evidence Processing Areas

Johnston now sees crime at a much higher level and a much greater frequency. As a result, staff has been forced to do a large amount of evidence processing in-house to alleviate some of the costs and lengthy delays by using an outside source or the state's crime lab. Department staff has the ability to detect and lift fingerprints, use macro-photography in crime scene analysis, create foot/tire castings, forensically detect and collect bodily fluids using advanced ultra-violet lighting, and conduct many other forensic applications. Staff was forced into this role not by a want, but rather by necessity. During major crime investigations, it was realized that it could take months to receive test results from the Iowa

Department of Criminal Investigations Criminalistics Laboratory. Not because of the time it took them to actually perform the requested tests, but because of the length of time it took to actually get to Johnston's cases because of the backlog of cases being processed.

Many of the forensic tests performed are basic, but necessary, to quickly provide detectives with facts. As all police officers and most civilians know, the initial portion of any investigation is the key to successful prosecution. More often than not, documentable facts derived from evidence analysis enable many crimes to be solved quickly.

Interview Rooms

Many times throughout the day officers require a need to meet with members of the public and detainees in a confidential manner. With the current building configuration this is not possible

during much of the day. Officers have access to just two small rooms to conduct confidential or discrete meetings with the public. Both of these rooms have serious flaws, including windows that



open to the outside public, both are used for multiple purposes such as equipment storage, and

neither have any form of sound proofing. It is often possible to hear conversations in the rooms from other areas within city hall. Obviously this is not an ideal condition and the following issues are also a detriment to the work of the department.

- Both rooms are situated next to an improvised detention area.
- Both rooms are used for conversations with victims, suspects, witnesses, and informants.
- There are no confidential interrogation rooms.
- The switch to activate interview recording equipment is on the other side of the facility.
- Officers often are forced to delay investigations while the rooms are in use.

Investigation Area Deficiencies

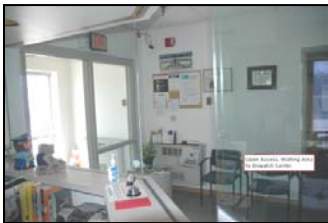
The Johnston Police Department has three officers assigned to investigative duties on a full time basis. Two of them share a common space originally designed as small break room for grocery store employees; the third is assigned to MINE. The space is so limited that detectives are often required to move to areas outside the building for confidential meetings. In addition, as with the rest of the department, space for

maintaining required records and files take away for operational space



necessary to solve crimes.

Dispatch/Reception Area Issues



The dispatch/reception area is located at the front of the police department. It contains only minor and somewhat cosmetic

security features that have the potential of exposing support staff to harm if a disgruntled person should happen to enter the building seeking to harm staff.

In addition, members of the public standing at the reception window could have a limited view of confidential information as it is being processed by staff.

Space issues arise when a member of the public comes into the police station seeking to file a report or gain information from speaking to an



officer. If the interview rooms are in use, the individual is directed to another area of the building, which

can sometimes lead to some awkward situations with the public and staff.

As technology has emerged in law enforcement, records staff have been forced to cope with limited space because of the addition of computer equipment and standard office utilities. The building was not designed to handle the electrical needs required to support the technology. As a result, wire management is a constant issue and the tangled wires and cables require ongoing efforts to maintain.

Staff Area Inadequacies

Another issue impacting the department is the lack of dedicated space for staff and their daily operations.

Officers who are reporting to work may be totally unaware of any situation occurring in either the prisoner processing or interview areas. As they enter the facility, and on-duty officers are dealing with a combative individual inside the building, the off-duty officer reporting to duty can easily walk into a dangerous situation. This has occurred in the past; fortunately no injury resulted.

The fact that the men's locker room and ammunition storage areas lie immediately adjacent to the booking area also creates obvious problems. Weapons, although secured, are in view of offenders. This creates a serious risk to building security and poses a risk to employees, public and detainee safety.



Female officers lack a dedicated locker room and use the staff restroom for their dressing and uniform needs. There is no dedicated shower area for either gender to decontaminate in the event of exposure to blood borne pathogens or other chemical exposures. Detainees have to use employee restrooms.

In the designed area known as the "squad room," a large table serves the purpose of a firearms cleaning station, office supply closet, meeting area, and break room. There is no separate area for equipment maintenance, staff meetings, or office storage area.



Johnston Police Department

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