



Proudly Serving the Community Since 1969

Crofton Police Department Annual Report 2007

Welcome to the Crofton Police Department Annual Report for 2007. The Crofton Police Department is dedicated to Fairness, Integrity and Service to the citizens of Crofton. This report details some of the highlights of the Crofton Police Department's activities for the year 2007. Our Agency invites any questions or public comments, and they may be directed to me at our Police Station, located at Town Hall at 1576 Crofton Parkway, Crofton, Maryland 21114. I am proud of the accomplishments of our Officers and Agency this past year and look forward to improving our service to the community in the future.

William H. Booth
Chief of Police

Staffing

Our agency has an authorized patrol staffing of 6 officers, including a Chief, Sergeant, two Corporals and two Officers. All of our officers are Maryland Police Training Commission Certified and are required to maintain their certification through annual training. Our officers receive this training through the Anne Arundel County Police Academy and are held to the same high standards of training and conduct as that of the County Police Officers.

Calls For Service

During 2007, the Crofton Police Department responded to 4,809 calls for service. Additionally, officers issued 563 Traffic Citations, 443 Written Warnings, 173 Parking Citations, and 47 Maryland Safety Equipment Repair Orders. Officers made 47 Adult and 4 Juvenile Arrests.

Crofton Police Officers wrote 267 Police Reports. A breakdown of our UCR part I crimes for the year 2007 are as follows:

Murder	0
Robbery	1
Arson	0
Burglary	10
Assault	16
Rape	0
Theft	43
Stolen Auto	14
Theft from Vehicle	32

Our Annual Crime Statistics are available of our web site, along with a month by month breakdown for the current year.

Initiatives

This year our Agency has attempted to improve our service to the community through several changes and improvements in the areas of technology and equipment. We have also been aggressive in seeking alternative sources of funding to improve our capabilities to provide the best service possible to the citizens of Crofton. Some of our improvements and initiatives include:

1) Automated External Defibrillator

Implementation of AED (Automatic External Defibrulators) in our patrol vehicles. These tools allow officers to apply a shock to cardiac arrest patients during CPR. Studies have found that the use of AED's, along with CPR and prompt response by paramedics can dramatically increase a persons chance of surviving a heart attack. Our officers have

these units available in our patrol vehicles and a unit is kept in a conspicuous location at Town Hall.

2) **Ballistic Vest Grant**

The Crofton Police Department received a grant from the Bulletproof Vest Partnership to fund the replacement of 3 of our Ballistic Vests. These vests have a service life of approximately 5 years, and 3 of our officers had vests that were at the end of their service life. The grant was for \$525.00 and is a matching grant in that it will pay for one-half of the replacement costs for the vests.

3) **Pedestrian Enforcement Grant**

The Crofton Police Department was awarded a \$1500.00 Highway Safety Grant to conduct Pedestrian Safety Enforcement Initiatives within Crofton. This grant will provide funding through October of 2008, and may be increased if we use all of the additional funding.

4) **Taser**

In July of 2007 we purchased a Taser X-26 electronic protective device. All of our officers have received training in the use of this less than lethal device, which incapacitates combative individuals by using an electric shock. Numerous agencies in the area and across the country are using these devices with great success. Studies have shown a decrease in injuries to officers and suspects through the use of these devices. Although controversial and there have been several publicized deaths of suspects by officers using these devices, there has been no link to the devices causing these deaths, and Taser International has successfully defended all lawsuits related to this device. The Taser provides an alternative to the use of deadly force, and provides a tool for officers to subdue aggressive individuals with less chance of injury to any parties involved.

5) **Mobile Data Computer Grant**

The Crofton Police Department received a \$10,500 grant from the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention for the purchase of a new Mobile Data Terminal Laptop and the hardware to mount this unit in our third vehicle. We will now have 2 laptops available for our officers to use in patrol functions, which will ensure that each officer will have access to a computer during the times when we have more than one officer working. These laptops provide our officers with access to the Anne Arundel County Police Department's Communication Section and provide our officers with information regarding calls for service and access to Motor Vehicle Records during traffic stops. This will enhance the service our officers provide to our community and provide for additional safety for our officers in their dangerous tasks.

6) **Victim Witness Assistance Database**

In order to comply with the latest Maryland Legislation regarding services to victims of crime, our agency has instituted a program to ensure that victims of crime receive timely notification of their rights through the mailing of pamphlets to all victims of crime reported to our agency. We also capture the names and addresses of all victims who received this information to ensure compliance with Maryland's laws regarding providing assistance to victims of crime.

7) **TRIAD/ SALT**

On April 5, 2007 the Crofton Police Department entered into a commitment with the Anne Arundel County Police Department, Anne Arundel County Fire Department Annapolis City Police and Fire Department, Anne Arundel County Sherriff's Office, Anne Arundel County Department of Aging, Anne Arundel County State's Attorney's Office and the A.A.R.P. to provide services to prevent victimization. As members of the Senior Advisory Council (SALT) our agency is committed to ensure the safety of our older citizens. This signing was attended by representatives of all of these agencies and County Executive John Leopold, and was a re-commitment of the original signing of the agreement in 1994.

8) **E-Mail Notification of Crime Alerts**

We have instituted the notification of our citizens of timely information regarding crimes and incidents in Crofton through the use of e-mail. Citizens who have provided me with their e-mail addresses receive periodic notifications of crimes and incidents, along with descriptions of persons were are looking for and crime prevention information.

Services

The Crofton Police Department provides additional services to it's citizens and community, above and beyond the traditional law enforcement services expected of all agencies.

1) **Home Checks**

The Crofton Police Department conducts premise checks for residents who are away from their residences for extended periods. In 2007, our officers conducted these checks at 164 Residences.

2) **Fingerprinting**

The Crofton Police Department conducts fingerprinting for citizens Monday through Thursday from 3 Pm until 3:30 PM. The fees are \$7.00 for residents and \$9.00 for non-residents per card. Last year we provided this service to 178 people.

The Crofton Police Department strives to provide the highest quality of service to its citizens and continues to seek ways to improve our abilities to serve our community. If you have any questions or comments regarding our agency, please feel free to contact me at any time at 410-721-2301 or by e-mail at whbooth@comcast.net. I look forward to providing service to you in the upcoming year and beyond.

Chief William H. Booth