HERMISTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

ANNUAL REPORT

2015

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Hermiston Police Mission Statement

Without fear or favor and in partnership with our diverse community, we will create and maintain a safe environment with the reduction of crime through problem-oriented and community-based policing strategies. The quality of life for those we serve takes precedent over our individual needs.

SERVING AND PROTECTING HERMISTON SINCE 1907

Inside this report:

Chief's Message

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Hermiston Police Officers and Oregon Senator Jeff Merkley

Hermiston Police Department
330 South First Street
Hermiston, Oregon 97838
Phone: (541) 567-5519
fax (541) 567-8469

Desires PHOTOGRAPHY

OUR COMMUNITY

Hermiston is a vibrant and growing community of over 17,000 residents located at the crossroads of the Pacific Northwest. Located near the intersection of Interstate 84 and Interstate 82, just minutes from a Columbia River port and the Washington state line, Hermiston is capitalizing on its strategic location as a transportation center and gateway to Oregon's favorable sales-tax climate.

Vision Statement

WE, THE EMPLOYEES AND OFFICIALS OF THE CITY OF HERMISTON, VALUING THE TRUST OF THE CITIZENS WE SERVE, TAKE RESPONSIBILITY FOR BUILDING A HIGH PERFORMING ORGANIZATION RECOGNIZED FOR THE FOLLOWING:

- Clean, well-maintained streets and properties, with vibrant, inviting public spaces that stimulate the intellectual and emotional needs of the entire community.
- A city organization and community offering physical safety and well being. We are respectful and supportive of our diverse societal and cultural needs, creating an environment where all individuals feel empowered to pursue their life's ambitions.
- A city organization that values mutual respect, cooperation and support, open and honest communications, a desire to continuously improve, and optimism for the future of our community.
- Building a work environment which considers exciting and innovative solutions where all employees feel a sense of pride in delivering a high quality product to our community.
- Providing effective communication between customers, employees and officials, focusing on superior customer service.
- Providing high value services through strong financial performance.

Hermiston Police Department
2015 Annual Report

Message From the Chief of Police

To the citizens we serve,

The City of Hermiston continues to amaze me with its incredible diversity, compassion, generosity, and reluctance to accept status quo. The city leaders make daily decisions based on what is best for the entire community and are not afraid to explore outside the box to enhance and promote this agriculturally based economy.

As your chief of police, I assume the responsibility of implementing policies and procedures consistent with observable best practices across the state and nation. I am blessed to have a dedicated staff of 26 full-time sworn officers and 13.5 support staff positions (some of those paid but mostly volunteer).

Law enforcement across the nation is rapidly changing and we have taken steps to get ahead of this. In 2015, we mandated the use of body cameras in our patrol division. This has been positive not only for the officers who believe in and support the use of the cameras for accountability purposes, but also for the public to know we are willing to hold ourselves to a higher standard of professionalism.

Hermiston continues to experience a relatively low violent crime rate which makes this community a great place to live. Statistics are not the 'be-all and end-all' of police work, but they do identify trends and can lead to organizational changes to ensure we are deploying our limited resources as efficiently as possible. This report provides many of those statistics we analyze, we encourage you to take a look at the hard work on display from the men and women who work here.

There are many challenges on the horizon for this department and law enforcement in general. Healthy communication with those we are fortunate enough to serve is at the pinnacle of what we do. We believe things like having approximately 60% of our officers trained in how to effectively communicate with persons in mental crisis and 23% of our officers fluently speaking more than one language are steps in the right direction to fostering healthy communication.

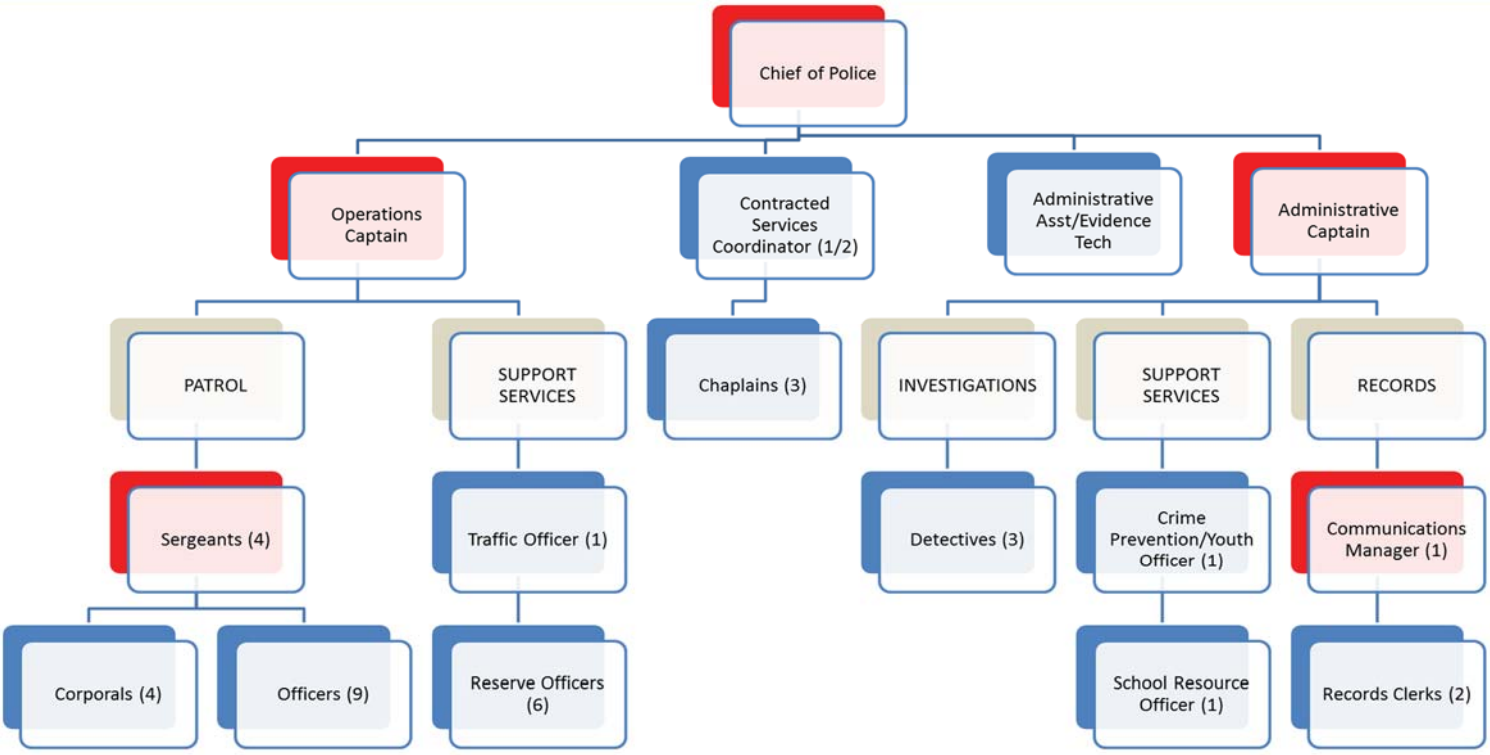
These continue to be exciting times for our department and for our city as we are now the largest of all eastern Oregon towns. I have a great deal of respect and adoration for our citizens and for the people who visit our inclusive community. I continue to be deeply honored to serve this community as the chief of police.

Sincerely,

Jason Edmiston

Jason Edmiston
Chief of Police
Direct Line: (541) 667-5107

HERMISTON POLICE ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



Department Administrators/Support Staff

Chief Jason Edmiston

Captain Travis Eynon - Administration

Captain Darryl Johnson - Operations

Sergeant Scott Clark

Amanda Hartsteen-Communications Manager

Sergeant Bryan Maess

Sergeant Bill Osborne

Sergeant Kelly Parsons

Betty Nava - Administrative Assistant

Chief Jason Edmiston

Operations Captain Darryl Johnson

Administrative Captain Travis Eynon

Sgt. Clark

Sgt. Maess

Sgt. Osborne

Sgt. Parsons

Communications Manager
Amanda Hartsteen

Administrative Assistant
Betty Nava

OPERATIONS DIVISION

Captain Darryl Johnson

Team A	Team B	Team C	Team D
Sergeant Bryan Maess	Sergeant Scott Clark	Sergeant Bill Osborne	Sergeant Kelly Parsons
Corporal Chris Martin	Corporal Bill Golter	Corporal Gene Wilson	Corporal Doug Gill
Officer Chris McMahon	Officer Mario Cobian	Officer Freddy Sotelo	Officer J. Carlos Balli
Officer Rodrigo Vega	Officer Nick Wallis	Officer Mike Ellwood	Officer Will Jons

(Motor) Officer Victor Gutierrez

(Cover) Officer Riley Studebaker

Operations Division

Patrol consists of four teams working 12 hour shifts. Each team has a sergeant responsible for overseeing the day to day operations of the shift. The sergeant is also responsible for monitoring crime trends and specific public safety concerns. Additionally, the sergeant manages the implementation of the goals and objectives of the Hermiston Police Department. The sergeants report to the captain who then reports directly to Chief of Police, Jason Edmiston.

Operations Division

In many police agencies across the United States, the Operations Division is often referred to as the backbone of the department. Officers within this division are the first line of defense in the struggle between good and bad. Police officers must be ready to handle every situation they encounter with quick thinking and even quicker actions.

Police officers enforce all state and local laws. In addition, they are tasked with and expected to properly handle emergency and routine calls for service, traffic crashes, and criminal investigations. In a typical day of work, police officers make public contacts, solve problems and disputes, write reports, testify in court, and act as a conduit of information in the area of crime prevention.

In 2015, the Hermiston Police Department Operations Division consisted of 19 sworn officers, each performing various functions. The structured breakdown of the operations division includes a captain, patrol sergeants, patrol officers, a cover officer and a motor officer. In 2015 changes were made within the patrol section of the department consisting of moving from an 8 hour work day to a 12 hour work day and working 28-day rotations for 13 rotations throughout the year.

Outside of the basic patrol functions and responsibilities, the operations division has the following specialty programs:

Field Training

The Hermiston Police Department has 11 sworn officers utilized to train new officers in an established 13-week program called the Field Training Evaluation Program or F.T.E.P. for short. This year, the program was utilized for two hired officers. The first officer began working for H.P.D. September 29th, 2014, completed the police academy on February 23rd, 2015, then finished the F.T.E.P. on May 30th, 2015. The second officer began working November 3rd, 2014, completed the police academy on May 20th, 2015 and completed the F.T.E.P. program on June 11th, 2015.

OPERATIONS DIVISION (cont.)

Special Events

The Operations Division oversees and participates in numerous special events throughout the calendar year. In 2015, patrol officers assisted with the following: Martin Luther King Jr. March, Cinco De Mayo Celebration, the 4th of July Fireworks display, Funfest Celebration, Takin' It to the Streets - 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament, Umatilla County Fair Parade, Umatilla County Fair and Rodeo, the 7th Annual Christmas Toy Run, and numerous funeral escorts in the city throughout the year.

Grants

Over the last several years, the Hermiston Police Department has continually sought out alternative sources of funding and/or equipment to accomplish tasks in an effective and efficient manner. A total of $14,420 was granted to the Hermiston Police Department's Operations Division for officers to work in an overtime capacity. HPD officers have continued their success in utilizing grant funding in 2015, operating under two separate grants: an Oregon Impact High Visibility Enforcement/ Impaired Driving Grant and the Oregon Department of Transportation Speed Enforcement Grant.

Directed Patrol Requests/Vacation Home Check

In an attempt to be as receptive as possible to the wants and needs of our community, the Hermiston Police Department offers Directed Patrol Requests and Vacation Home Checks. Directed Patrol Requests address specific complaints regarding traffic and/or criminal related issues. During a 2-week period, officers direct patrol and document their efforts in the specified area. Officers completed fifty requests in 2015. Vacation House Checks can be requested by a Hermiston citizen if they will be out of town for a protracted period of time. A request form with information regarding their residence, absence and contacts is completed for officers to check during the specified period they will be absent. In 2015, officers facilitated twenty-eight vacation home checks.

Police Motorcycle

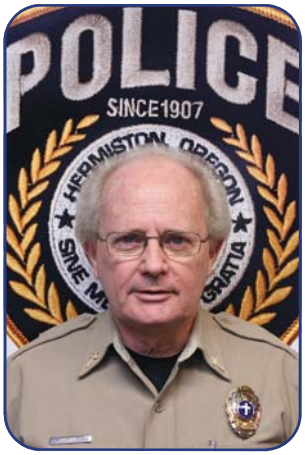
The traffic unit currently has Officer Victor Gutierrez who is certified to operate the police motorcycle and enforce traffic laws. The motorcycle is utilized for special events during the year in addition to traffic enforcement.

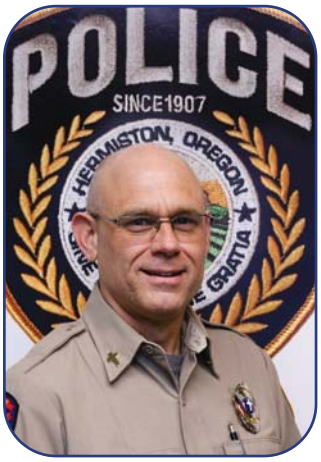
In 2015, Officer Gutierrez also assisted in teaching a seatbelt and distracted driving diversion course, partnering with Safe Communities, a local group consisting of members from different areas in our community concerned with promoting traffic and pedestrian safety.

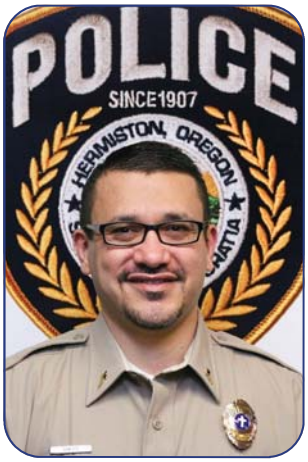
CHAPLAIN PROGRAM

Chaplain Terry Cummings Chaplain Hector Ramirez

Chaplain Greg Griffitts







In 2012, a chaplain program was established at the Hermiston Police Department. The Hermiston Police Department Chaplain Program is a non-denominational, ecumenical ministry established for the purposes of providing spiritual and emotional support to all members of the department, their families and members of the public. The chaplains in the program are volunteer clergy and participate without financial compensation.

Chaplain Program Mission Statement

The Hermiston Police Department Chaplain Program (HPDCP) shall exist to provide biblically-based chaplain services, both personal and professional, to all law enforcement and emergency services personnel and their families within Hermiston. HPDCP is not a church. This is a Christian ministry that exalts the Lord Jesus Christ and is not in the business of seeking converts to any particular church group or denomination. HPDCP is non-denominational in emphasis, providing unrestricted service regardless of personal faith or beliefs.

It is our mission, while in contact with the community, to care for the troubles and those who have endured loss, been victimized by the events and tragedy that have left them abandoned, helpless, and without hope.
We provide professional training for our chaplains and consistent care and counseling for our officers. A healthy officer is identified by a healthy community.

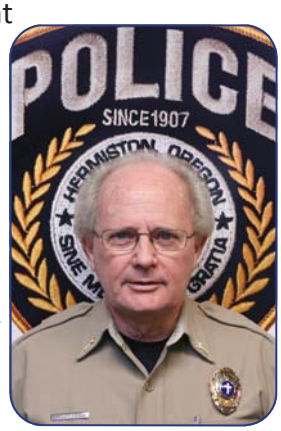
The chaplains provide a support for the officers in house either by counseling, prayer, one-on-one meetings or just their presence. They assist officers (and other first responders) with call-outs for death notifications, support for victims of crime, they ride along with officers on shift, as well as, participate in different trainings. In addition to assisting officers within the department, our chaplains participate in city events and other safety-oriented community groups. In 2015, our chaplains collectively completed a total of 1888 hours in house or attached to day to day incidents. In addition to those hours, the chaplains participated in 142 hours of community-related activities, bringing the grand total hours worked by our chaplains to 2030 hours. Their assistance and presence has repeatedly made a difference in the Hermiston Police Department and the City of Hermiston.

SERVICES COORDINATOR

Chaplain Terry Cummings

In 2014, the Hermiston Police Department developed the position of a Services Coordinator to coordinate chaplain services and the new mentorship program called, “It’s Just Dinner” (IJD).

IJD is a program that assigns juveniles from the Hermiston Community Accountability Board (CAB) to be paired with a set of volunteer mentors from the Hermiston community. These at-risk teenagers who are assigned to the IJD and their paired mentors meet at a local restaurant for the dinner to acquaint themselves with each other. The mentor couple does their best to build a relationship with that teen by being positive role models and giving guidance and direction in different areas of their lives. The goal is to provide the family AND the juvenile another resource for guidance. The dinner and costs is provided by the city of Hermiston.



The Services Coordinator also tracks and maintains records of the approved mentor couples and the activity of those actively assigned. In 2015, Chaplain Terry Cummings completed 1269 hours, part of which can be attributed to the CAB and “It’s Just Dinner” programs.

Administrative Services Division

Captain Travis Eynon

Investigations | School Resource Officer

Records | Code Enforcement *

Crime Prevention Officer/ Youth Officer

The Administrative Services Division is distinctly different than the Operations Division. The Administrative Services Division is made up of both sworn and non-sworn staff. Records, investigations, School Resource, Code Enforcement and Crime Prevention/Youth Services are specific sections within the Administrative Services Division.

Most officers assigned to the Administrative Services Division usually have the luxury of time to methodically work their assignments. This is a much different dynamic than for most officers assigned to the Operations Division. On the other hand, arduous investigations, strategic planning, analysis, presentations and facilitating meetings are a large part of the work the officers and other employees within the Administrative Services Division do.

The Hermiston Police Department Administrative Services Division is made up of the following: (1) Captain, (3) Detectives, (1) Crime Prevention/Youth Services Officer, (1) School Resource Officer, (1) Communications manager, (2) Records clerks, and (1) *Code Enforcement Official.

There are a few changes this year in the Administrative Services Division. The youth services officer started working nearly full time in the five elementary schools. The focus of this position is early intervention with any youth activity with a nexus to future juvenile delinquency (ie…. truancy/attendance and behavior issues). *In addition, code enforcement moved to the parks and recreation department in July. This is part of a larger effort to involve all city departments in the code enforcement and city beautification process.

INVESTIGATIONS

Detective Robert Guerrero	General Investigations
Detective Randy Studebaker	General Investigations
Detective Leonard Stokoe	B.E.N.T.

Detective Guerrero

Detective Studebaker

OVERVIEW

The detective division of the Hermiston Police Department works in support of the patrol division. The administrative captain assigns cases to the detectives that require specialized, extensive, or out-of-the-area follow-up investigation, regional major crimes team activities, follow-up investigations in the local area for crimes committed outside of Hermiston, and other cases as deemed appropriate. Detectives also work in cooperation with other agencies including local, state and federal law enforcement, as well as non-law enforcement entities such as the Department of Human Services Child Welfare and Adult Welfare programs. Some of the investigations assigned can span for months to years.

Detective Randy Studebaker

Detective Studebaker was hired by the Hermiston Police Department in 2012, and was assigned to the investigations section not long after. He has previous experience in the military police and as a special agent with the Air Force Office of Special Investigation, where he conducted felony criminal and counterintelligence investigations. His previous civilian law enforcement experience consists of employment as a deputy sheriff, patrol sergeant, and canine handler. He is also trained as a deputy medical examiner and crisis negotiator.

Detective Robert Guerrero

Detective Guerrero has been assigned to the investigations section since November, 2014. He has over fifteen years of experience in law enforcement to include duties as patrol, canine handler, detective sergeant, and deputy medical examiner with over nine (9) years of combined experience in criminal investigations with the Blue Mountain Enforcement Narcotics Team and the Umatilla/Morrow County Major Crimes Team.

INVESTIGATIONS

Detectives Studebaker and Guerrero share the responsibility of investigating crimes for the Hermiston Police Department and often assist each other with open cases. The Hermiston Police Department detective division also hosts a monthly intelligence sharing meeting for all surrounding local, state and federal law enforcement agencies.

In 2015, Detectives Studebaker and Guerrero worked several types of investigations, including but not limited to the following:

1. Murder
2. Attempted murder
3. Robbery
4. Sexual Abuse
5. Familial offenses
6. Kidnapping
7. Sexual Exploitation
8. Human Trafficking
9. Cases which required forensic interviews or polygraph examinations.
10. Cases involving significant events or chronic offenders, with incidents such as auto theft, burglary, theft, etc.

Child Abuse/Neglect:

- Child physical abuse reports frequently come into the Hermiston Police Department. Examples of these cases in 2015 included investigations of injuries to children, inadequate living conditions and an investigation of an 11 year old girl with mental health issues who was severely malnourished and not receiving minimal care from her legal guardian.

DHS/CPS Cross Reports:

- Under Oregon law, child protective services are required to report all suspected incidents of child abuse or neglect to law enforcement, and visa versa. The vast majority of these complaints are unfounded or not criminal in nature, however, it is absolutely crucial that each report be reviewed and investigated accordingly to ensure the safety of children and determine if a crime has been committed.

Violent Crimes:

- Many violent crime cases are forwarded to the detectives for follow up and review. Violent crimes this year investigated by the detectives have included murder, assault, shooting and stabbing incidents, and robberies.

Sexual Crimes:

- At any given time the detectives have many open investigations involving sexual offenses. In the vast majority of these cases the suspect and victim know each other. Many of the cases are reported long after the crime was committed and physical evidence is gone, so they require extensive interviews and other investigative techniques. Significant investigations this year have resulted in the arrest of several suspects for sexually abusing children.

INVESTIGATIONS

Investigations - B.E.N.T.

The mission of the Blue Mountain Enforcement Narcotics Team (BENT) is to combine resources from local agencies/entities to combat controlled substances and the crimes associated with the drug culture. The BENT team targets drug trafficking organizations (DTO's) with the ultimate goal of dismantling or disrupting the DTO.

The BENT team primarily operates in Umatilla and Morrow Counties, but on occasion does participate in investigations outside the immediate area.

BENT is currently comprised of (1) Hermiston Police Department Detective, (2) Oregon State Police Detectives, (1) Oregon State Police Supervisor, (1) Umatilla County Sheriff's Office Detective,(1) Morrow County Sheriff's Office Detective, (1) Pendleton Police Department Detective, (1) Pendleton Police Department Supervisor, (1) Milton-Freewater Police Department Detective, (1) Boardman Police Department Detective and (1) Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation Police Department Detective. The BENT team is also supported by the Federal Bureau of Investigation with (1) special agent assigned full-time and by the Drug Enforcement Administration with (1) special agent assigned part-time to the team.

B.E.N.T.
DRUG TASK FORCE

Crime/ Patrol Statistics

Incident Type	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Avg	Normal Range	2015	% Change Avg-'15	% Change '14-'15
Homicide	0	1	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0-1	1	100%	100%
Rape	3	5	4	3	9	2	4	5	2	4	2-7	4	0%	100%
Robbery	7	12	11	11	9	14	8	7	14	10	7-13	4	-60%	-71%
Aggravated Assault	23	55	37	35	41	30	12	4	8	27	13-41	12	-56%	50%
Burglary	152	165	126	111	116	154	124	95	75	124	97-151	53	-57%	-29%
Larceny	642	751	552	517	546	614	563	617	388	577	493-660	413	-28%	6%
Auto Theft	74	75	53	45	29	64	59	72	34	56	39-73	36	-36%	6%
Arson	2	5	3	2	2	0	4	1	2	2	1-4	1	-50%	-50%
TOTAL	**903**	**1069**	**786**	**724**	**753**	**879**	**775**	**801**	**523**	**801**	**682-921**	**524**	**-35%**	**0%**
TOTAL VIOLENT	**33**	**73**	**52**	**49**	**60**	**47**	**25**	**16**	**24**	**42**	**26-59**	**21**	**-50%**	**-13%**
TOTAL PROPERTY	**870**	**996**	**734**	**675**	**693**	**832**	**750**	**785**	**499**	**759**	**644-875**	**503**	**-34%**	**1%**
POPULATION	*15025*	*15410*	*15780*	*16080*	*16210*	*16745*	*16995*	*17240*	*17345*			*17520*		

Hermiston Police Department 2006-2015 Crime Stats
10-year Trends

Incident Type	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	Avg	Normal Range	2015	% Change Avg-'15	% Change '14-'15
Total Incidents	24489	25712	32785	31685	34036	25909	24690	24218	23099	27403	23475-31330	23237	-15%	1%
Calls for Service	14237	15634	14867	13486	13919	15677	14990	14953	12129	14432	13195-15669	10032	-30%	-17%
Officer Initiated Activity	10252	10078	17918	18199	20117	10232	9700	9265	10970	12970	8900-17040	13205	2%	20%
Traffic Stops	5630	4761	6899	7348	5817	4721	4776	4840	5236	5559	5147-5970	6596	19%	26%
Case Investigations	3849	4022	3679	3186	2791	2954	2762	2626	2888	3195	3083-3308	3160	-1%	9%
Total Arrests	1388	1591	1478	1392	1268	1327	1326	1360	1277	1379	1344-1413	1348	-2%	6%
Misdemeanor Arrests	813	948	1049	995	909	927	900	937	888	930	912-947	1029	11%	16%
Felony Arrests	575	643	429	397	359	400	426	423	389	449	424-474	319	-29%	-18%
Total Citations	8223	8050	8335	8906	7428	6670	5994	5582	6053	7249	6606-7892	6743	-7%	11%
POPULATION	*15025*	*15410*	*15780*	*16080*	*16210*	*16745*	*16995*	*17240*	*17345*			*17520*		

Hermiston Police Department 2006-2015 Patrol Statistics
10-year Trends

Records Department

Communications Manager Amanda Hartsteen

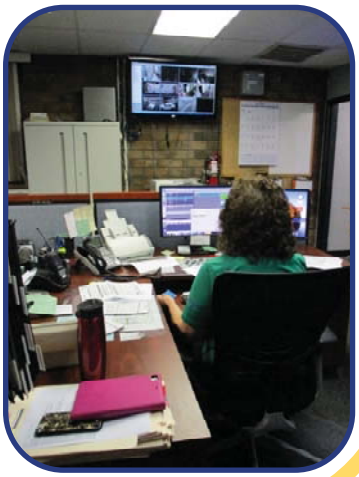
Tracy Johnson Sandra Warner

Our records department consists of two records persons and a communications manager. The records department staff maintains records and other associated duties for the police department in addition to helping citizens who visit the police department public lobby which is open during the business hours of 8 am to 5 pm, Monday through Friday .

Statistics

During 2015, the Records Division processed:

- 1776 RIMS CAD incidents. This includes phone calls made directly to our records personnel and lobby walk-ins.
- 2279 requests for information. This does not include requests from the District Attorney's Office or City Prosecutor.
- 1059 case reports were sent to the Umatilla County District Attorney's Office (to include the juvenile department) electronically using pdf files as the format.
- 292 non-criminal fingerprinting appointments
- 105 sex offenders registered or re-registered
- 763 subpoena notices for officers to appear in court
- 1152 warrants entered in RIMS
- 6743 citations entered



School Resource Officer

Officer Tim Miears

Class Instruction

During the calendar year 2015, our School Resource Officer (SRO) Officer Tim Miears had the opportunity to positively influence young minds ranging from kindergarten age to seniors in High School. Our SRO views these interactions, no matter how small or minute, as an opportunity to bridge the gap between law enforcement and children.

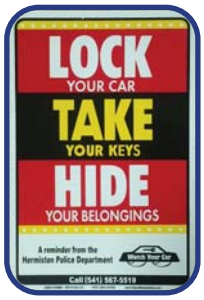
Class Instruction

Number of classes:	8
Number of students:	785
Total Incidents for 2015:	195

CRIME PREVENTION OFFICER

Officer Erica Sandoval

Crime Prevention is the attempt to reduce victimization and to deter crime and criminals through education efforts, recognition of risks of criminal behavior, and taking action to eliminate or reduce these occurrences. The Hermiston Police Department's Crime Prevention program fulfills its responsibility on a consistent basis to our community in our efforts to reduce crime, enforce law, and maintain criminal justice by creating community based programs to reduce the incidents of risk factors correlated with criminal participation and the rate of victimization.



It is equally important to keep working on trying to change perceptions of the community regarding criminal activity and incorporating the entire community in preventing it. The Hermiston Police Department utilizes crime prevention throughout the agency. Officer Erica Sandoval is the assigned police officer to the crime prevention office. Crime Prevention education is supported by administration and patrol officers with everyday education to our citizens and businesses in crime prevention tips and information. Crime Prevention Officer (CPO) Sandoval is able to communicate effectively in English and Spanish reaching out to Hermiston's diverse population.

The Hermiston Police Department's efforts can be seen in several of its programs and events within our community such as Neighborhood Watch, Business Watch, the Incident Rental Property Card Program, National Night Out, promotion of correct safety belt and child seat restraint use, participation in five committees (Cinco de Mayo, Healthy Communities Coalition, Safe Communities, Hispanic Advisory, Faith-based Advisory), various crime prevention trainings and presentations available to citizens, public and private agencies, and increased involvement by citizens and their community leaders. The CPO also participates in city-wide events like Hermiston's Treats on Main, Walmart's Trunk or Treat, FunFest, Hermiston's Cinco de Mayo, Home Depot Safety Days, Head Start special functions and Fiesta Foods Health and Safety Fair.

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

Neighborhood Watch is one of the oldest and best-known crime prevention concepts in North America. In the late 1960s, an increase in crime heightened the need for a crime prevention initiative focused on residential areas and involving local citizens. While the modern day concept of the program rose to prominence in response to an increasing burglary rate, the roots of the Neighborhood Watch can actually be traced all the way back to the days of Colonial settlements, when night watchmen patrolled the streets. The modern version of Neighborhood Watch was developed as a result of the multiple requests from sheriffs and police chiefs around the country who were looking for a crime prevention program that would incorporate citizen involvement and address the increasing number of burglaries taking place, especially in rural and suburban areas. Endorsed by the National Sheriff's Association, USA on Watch, the Neighborhood Watch program strengthens the security of our community by providing extra "eyes and ears" looking for suspicious or criminal activity in our neighborhoods. The Hermiston Police Department and Hermiston citizens have embraced this concept. The Hermiston Police Department has supported several groups in our community with training and information encouraging neighbors to create strong bonds between themselves and their neighbors. The Hermiston Neighborhood Watch Program consists of organized, self-sufficient groups of citizens supported by the Hermiston Police Department throughout the City of Hermiston that have chosen to take a stand against crime and suspicious activity in their neighborhoods.

Neighborhood Watch

On Tuesday, August 4th, 2015, the 32nd Annual National Night Out was conducted throughout the United States. It is a unique crime/drug prevention event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch involving citizens, law enforcement agencies, civic groups, businesses, neighborhood organizations, and local officials from over 15,000 communities from all fifty states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities and military bases worldwide. In all, over thirty-five million people participated in the National Night Out.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT is designed to:

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness;
- Generate support for, and participation in, local anti-crime pro grams;
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Several Hermiston neighborhoods celebrated the 2015 National Night Out throughout the city with their neighbors, friends, and families with visits from City leaders, Hermiston Police Administrators and officers and Hermiston Fire and Emergency Services Administrators and staff. The largest stop was hosted by the this year's Treasure Hunt winners, the South Family, in the SW Joshua Court area, which included an ice cream social dished out by Hermiston's own city councilors and other leaders.

Community Accountability Board

Officer Erica Sandoval

The Hermiston Community Accountability Board (C.A.B.) began in September of 2008, holding its first Board meeting in October of 2008. The Hermiston C.A.B. creation began in early 2008 as a result of several conversations between the Hermiston Police Department, the Hermiston School District, and the Youth Violence Roundtable group. The C.A.B. was put in place to process first-time juvenile offenders with minor violations and some misdemeanors, adjudicate their cases, and offer a variety of sanctions. The Board's job is to interview the offender, review the case, and determine reasonable requirements which the community can expect of the offender as consequences for irresponsible behavior. These requirements may include community service hours, report writing, topic research, restitutions, and counseling. One of the goals of the Board is to impress on the offender the connection between the offender's behavior and its effects upon the community and the offender.

The Board is made up of five members, with a minimum of three members present for an operational board. The Board is guided by a Hermiston Police Officer Erica Sandoval.

The Board is comprised of:

- Two members representing the Hermiston School District
- Two members representing the Hermiston City Council
- One citizen (at large) of Hermiston

Through this program, the juvenile will be held accountable for their criminal actions by imposing swift and appropriate consequences. It allows the parent/guardian(s) to share responsibility in the minor's actions. The counseling helps the juveniles and their families find solid healthy solutions to everyday problems.

SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM

The Hermiston C.A.B. has proven every year to be working in lowering recidivism in juvenile crime. Since its inception in 2008, the C.A.B. has maintained a high success rate continuing to average close to 90% of children completing program. Juvenile crime has continued its trend downward and at least a portion of this trend can be attributed to the success of our C.A.B. program along with other mentoring programs attached the C.A.B., focusing on at-risk youth. This year the C.A.B. saw 11 juveniles with 91% success rate (10 of 11 completed).

BUSINESS WATCH

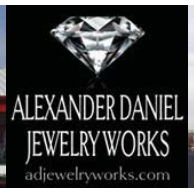
Business Watch is a networking system with participating area businesses who have partnered with the Hermiston Police Department to assist in Crime Prevention. The network is connected by an electronic database which provides the Hermiston Police Department and the businesses a connection to disseminate important crime prevention, recent crime trends, and training opportunities. It also allows an avenue for businesses to communicate with the police department to address general questions, request crime prevention tips or training, learn current crime trends and any other pertinent information.

The Hermiston Business Watch network consists of one-hundred and fifty-five business partners. Hermiston Police Department administration and officers support the program by responding to Business Watch member questions, soliciting new members and maintaining current information on current members. The network's success has gone beyond the City of Hermiston's boundaries with inquiries to join from businesses in surrounding areas.

The Hermiston Business Watch has continued its success with its ability to interact with our citizens and the members of the Hermiston Police Department and working together to prevent crime in our community.

Members of Hermiston Business Watch

Together we are making a difference.



CODE ENFORCEMENT

The City of Hermiston employs one part-time code enforcement official. Code enforcement is primarily tasked with enforcement of city ordinance violations with a specific emphasis on areas of blight.

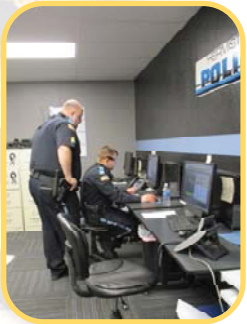
One of the primary tools used by code enforcement is the abatement ordinance. After code enforcement has made an effort to gain voluntary compliance with ordinance violations, the next step is official service of an abatement notice. Once a property has been officially posted for abatement the property owner has seven days to bring the property into compliance. If, after seven days, the property has still not been brought into compliance, the city will use a contractor to enter the property and bring it into compliance. The owner is then billed for the cost of the contractor's services. If the bill is not paid, the city will then place a lien on the property until the bill is paid in full. This has been a very effective tool both in gaining voluntary compliance and in bringing derelict properties into compliance. This in turn improves the overall livability of the city.

Property **BEFORE** code enforcement action

Property **AFTER** code enforcement action

Hermiston Police Training

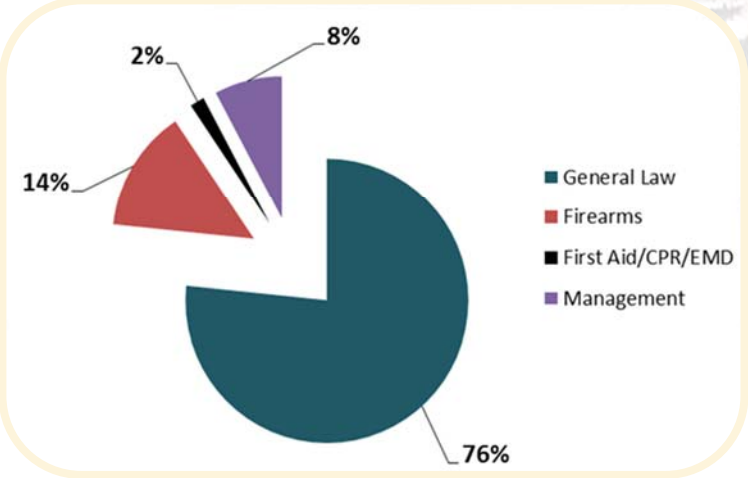
DEPARTMENT TRAINING



The Hermiston Police Department personnel participated in 7254 hours of training during the 2015 year. This total is a combination of hours spent attending classes, as well as performing the duties of class instructor. These training hours include training completed by the Hermiston Police Department Supervisors, Police Officers, Reserve Police Officers, Records Clerks, Administrative Assistant/Evidence Technician and Department Chaplains. It also includes the employees in special assignments, and inactive or retired employees.

The table below is a summary of the training hours completed by the various divisions within the Hermiston Police Department (*This does not include instruction training hours).*

TRAINING CATEGORY	GENERAL LAW	FIREARMS & USE OF FORCE	CPR & FIRST AID	MANAGEMENT CLASSES	TOTAL HOURS
Supervisors	889.50	187.00	32.00	537.50	**1646.00**
Police Officers	3870.50	747.00	76.00	24.00	**4717.50**
Reserve Police Officers	677.00	80.00	12.00	0.00	**769.00**
Records	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	**6.00**
Admin. Asst. Evidence Tech.	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	**0.00**
Chaplains	115.50	0.00	0.00	0.00	**115.50**
OVERALL TOTALS:	**5558.50**	**1014.00**	**120.00**	**561.50**	**7254.00**



Hermiston Police Department
Reserve Program

Reserve Coordinators
Corporal Doug Gill and Officer Tim Miears

Reserve Officer Scott Wrightson
Reserve Officer Rob Schaefer
Reserve Officer Jared Zumwalt
Reserve Officer Betty Nava
Reserve Officer Terry Wilson
Reserve Officer Jake Best

Reserve Police Officer Unit

The reserves are community volunteers that donate their personal time to the department to assist us as volunteer police officers. They are extremely valuable to the department in that they are able to augment the department for special events, community events, school events, prisoner transport and to assist by riding with patrol officers as a back-up unit. The reserve officers also provide the department with a pool of personnel from which to recruit full-time officers. The program also provides persons considering a law enforcement career the opportunity to gain first-hand experience as a police officer.

The Hermiston Police Reserve unit consisted of six who volunteered a total of 880.75 hours in the year 2015.

HERMISTON POLICE RIDE ALONG PROGRAM

The Hermiston Police Department is a community oriented policing agency that supports and encourages our community members and officer to interact on a regular basis. One of the opportunities available is the department's Ride Along Program. The Ride Along Program provides a way for our community members to ride with on-duty patrol officers as they work their shift. The rider gets a first-hand look at the daily activities of officers on patrol. From dog call to fight calls, theft reports to traffic violations, the rider is in the passenger seat with a front row view of how the calls are handled. This program is a great way not only to get more familiarized with the type of calls officers handle several times a day but also, allow the ride along to talk one on one with their police officer and get to know them first-hand. The program may also be the first step in those seeking to pursue a career in law enforcement or join our reserve officer program.

In 2015, community members participated in the Ride Along Program a total of 234.25 hours with nearly every patrol officer involved.

HERMISTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

2016 GOALS

Customer Service

Provide police services consistent with the vision and values of our community based policing organization, and serve as ambassadors of the city of Hermiston with an increased presence of employees at city meetings and functions. Place an emphasis on service delivery to our customers through the establishment of observable, measurable, targeted, and specific performance objectives for each employee of the department.

Predictive Policing Strategies

The department will utilize any policing strategy or tactic that develops and uses information and advanced analysis to inform forward-thinking crime prevention. This includes utilization of available intelligence/data and deployment of resources implementing a zero-tolerance stance for all incidents involving elements of criminal activity in a timely and targeted fashion specific to each shift or assignment. The continual nuturing of existing healthy partnerships established through Neighborhood Watch, Business Watch and the Community Accountability Board will be critical.

Address Traffic Issues

Provide for a structured approach in dealing with the traffic related issues experienced in the city by utilizing engineering, education, and enforcement strategies in dealing with these problems. Targeted enforcement of traffic along the Highway 395 corridor will be the priority of patrol.

Livability Issues

Focus on those issues which impact the livability of the citizens we serve will be a high priority. This includes noise complaints, animal complaints, controlled substance enforcement, and all code issues including areas of blight consistent with the Broken Windows Theory of policing.

The officers and staff of the Hermiston Police Department would like to express its heartfelt thanks and appreciation for the opportunity and privilege to serve Hermiston and its citizens. None of which would be possible without the continued support and encouragement of the following people:

Mayor David Drotzmann

Councilors:

Rod S. Hardin Jackie C. Myers

Doug Primmer Manuel Gutierrez

John Kirwan Lori Davis

Douglas Smith Clara Beas-Fiztgerald

The citizens of Hermiston

Thank you to Silvia Balli of Desires Photography and Wendy Parsons of Wendy Parsons Photography for their contributions to our annual report.