

***FLORISSANT POLICE DEPARTMENT
2008 ANNUAL REPORT***



***William Karabas
Chief of Police***

A LETTER FROM CHIEF KARABAS

To the Citizens of Florissant,

The 2008 Annual Report briefly describes the department's organization, provides summary statistics, and highlights many of the programs offered by your police department.



This past year the city experienced a continuation of the increase in crime that started in late 2006. This increase was predicted by criminologists based upon a new generation of young people who commit the majority of crime, and the down turn in the nation's economy. In order to address the situation, the department has taken certain steps, like adding three more officers to the force, created a special squad to address problem areas, increased participation in our Neighborhood Watch Program, continued our participation in the DEA and FBI task forces, and re-aligned officers work schedules. All of these efforts are paying off in reducing crime.

The C.E.R.T. (Community Emergency Response Team) program continues to grow with some 175 of our citizens having been trained and equipped with emergency equipment. Our continued association with AARP by hosting their "Driver Safety Program" has helped many of our senior citizen drivers become better drivers and some receive a reduction in their insurance rates. The Citizen Police Academy opens up the department to our citizens on the operations and methods used to fight crime.

The dedicated men and women of your police department work hard every day to keep the city a safe place to live, work, and shop in. I am very proud of our officers and their unselfish efforts along with the elected officials and civic leaders that work together to make our community one of the nicest ones any where.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "William Karabas". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Chief William Karabas

MISSION STATEMENT

“The mission of the Florissant Police Department is to provide the highest quality police services to the people of the City of Florissant, by promoting a safe environment through police and citizen interaction, with an emphasis on integrity, fairness, and professionalism.”

Citizen Interaction

We recognize our community-policing role as a partnership with the Citizens of Florissant. We need and encourage the participation of every citizen in solving problems and improving the quality of life for our community.

Integrity

In order to achieve public trust and build upon our community partnership, we demand the highest level of integrity in ourselves. Integrity is defined as being honest, moral, upright, and sincere.

Fairness

We are committed to upholding the law in an ethical, impartial, courteous, and professional manner. We serve every member of our community equally, regardless of race, sex, creed, national origin, or social status.

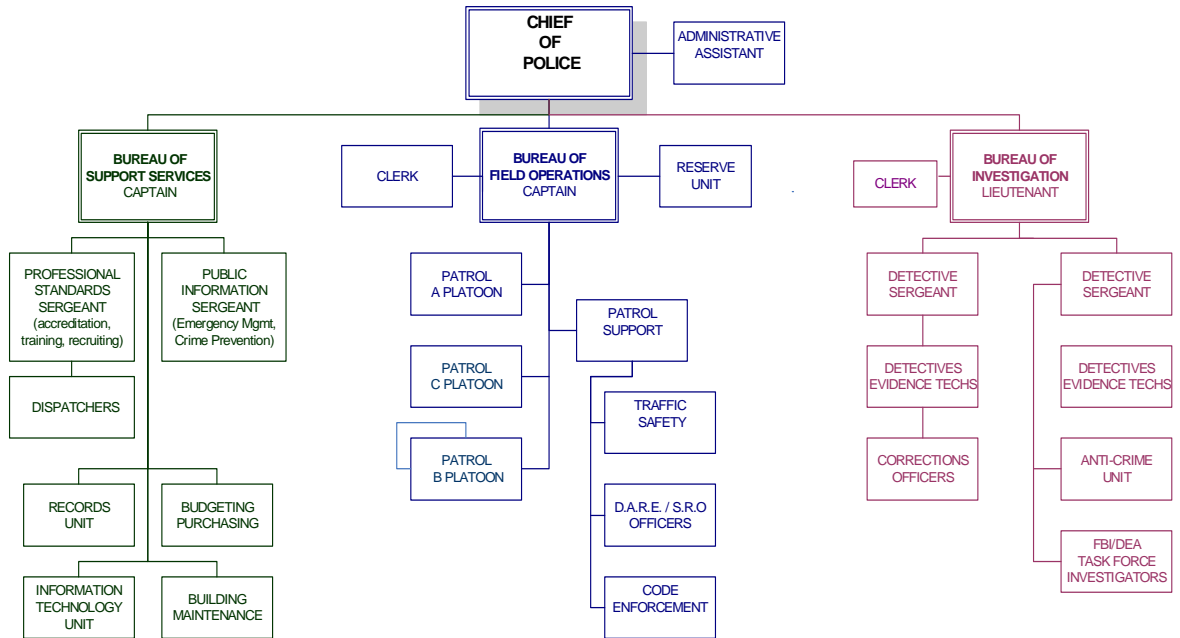
Professionalism

In order to insure the highest level of service to our community, we pledge to continually evaluate our programs and our performance. We promote organizational and individual standards of excellence. We encourage continuing education and training.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Mission Statement.....	2
Organization	4
Division Personnel.....	5
Bureau of Field Operations.....	10
Uniformed Patrol Unit.....	10
Canine Unit.....	10
Special Operations.....	11
Traffic Safety Unit.....	11
School Resource Officer Program.....	12
D.A.R.E Program.....	12
Safety Town.....	12
Neighborhood Preservation Task Force.....	13
Police Reserve Unit	13
Community Involvement.....	13
Police Explorer Post #9799	14
Bureau of Support Services.....	15
Communications Unit	15
Records Unit	15
Information Technology Unit.....	16
Accreditation	16
Internal Affairs.....	17
Department Training.....	17
Public Information Unit.....	18
Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).....	20
Additional Community Policing Programs.....	21
Bureau of Investigation.....	21
Criminal Investigation Unit.....	22
Evidence Technician Unit.....	22
Corrections Unit.....	23
Statistical Information	23
Crime.....	23
Adult Arrest.....	23
Motor Vehicle Crashes.....	24
Traffic Enforcement.....	24
Commendations.....	25

FLORISSANT POLICE DEPARTMENT



DIVISION PERSONNEL

The Florissant Police Department now employs eighty-nine full time police officers (83 male and 6 female) and twenty-one full time civilian employees (7 male and 14 female), for a total of 110 full time law enforcement employees (90 male and 20 female).

The full time civilian employees include 9 police dispatchers, 5 correction officers and 1 administrative assistant, 5 police clerks and 1 custodian.

Ten new officers and three civilian employees were hired in 2008 to fill vacant or new positions.

New Employees for 2008

Name	DSN	Position	Date of Hire
Michael Arthur	570	Police Officer	01/09/2008
Steve Neuhauser	569	Police Officer	01/16/2008
Barb Hale	571	Dispatch	02/05/2008
Mark Lorthridge	574	Police Officer	06/30/2008
Daniel Howard	575	Police Officer	07/16/2008
Amel Topcagic	576	Police Officer	07/21/2008
Christopher Rohlfing	577	Corrections	08/06/2008
Steven Michael	578	Police Officer	08/06/2008
Richard Burns	580	Corrections	10/02/2008
Jon Bugh	581	Police Officer	10/27/2008
Jeff Seerey	582	Police Officer	12/01/2008
Nathan Davis	583	Police Officer	12/03/2008
Anthony Mocca	584	Police Officer	12/22/2008

In addition to the retirement of three employees, five others left the agency to accept positions in the private sector or with Federal agencies.

Resigned/Retired Employees for 2008

Name	DSN	Position	Date of Hire/Last Date	Terms
Mary Pat McMahon	211	Dispatcher	02/21/1975 – 03/01/2008	Retired
Walter Thomas	229	Police Officer	10/01/1977 – 09/15/2008	Retired
Frank Patterson	465	Custodian	05/03/1999 – 12/11/2008	Retired
David Corbett	408	Police Officer	08/21/1995 – 01/28/2008	Resigned
Ryan Eaton	549	Police Officer	07/06/2005 – 06/14/2008	Resigned
Mieszko Blek	501	Corrections	03/26/2001 – 06/26/2008	Resigned
Kyle Tesson	500	Police Officer	03/05/2001 – 07/03/2008	Resigned
Tim Eagan	551	Police Officer	08/15/2005 – 11/14/2008	Resigned

Police Department Rank Structure for 2008

Chief of Police	1
Captains	2
Lieutenants	5
Sergeants	10
Police Officers	71
<u>Total</u>	<u>89</u>

Bureau of Field Operations Officer Assignments

Captain	1
Lieutenants	4
Sergeants	6
Patrol Officers	43
Canine (K-9)	3
Neighborhood Preservation	1
Traffic Unit	3
School Resource Officers (S.R.O.)	4
D.A.R.E.	2
Detached	3
<u>Total</u>	<u>70</u>

Bureau of Investigation Officer Assignments

Lieutenants	1
Sergeants	2
Detectives	8
Anti-Crime Unit	2
Evidence Technicians	2
<u>Total</u>	<u>15</u>

Bureau of Support Services Officer Assignments

Captain	1
Sergeant – Communications Supervisor	1
Sergeant – Public Information Officer	1
Information Technology	1
<u>Total</u>	<u>4</u>

PERSONNEL SERVICE

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	DSN	DATE OF HIRE
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Over 35 Years of Service

Richard Miller	Sergeant	171	01/26/1970
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25-29 Years of Service

Dennis Cordia	Lieutenant	241	01/02/1979
Claudia Pennington	Communications	262	03/19/1979
John Foster	Captain	244	03/26/1979
Darlene Trent	Police Clerk	304	05/21/1979
Gary Thieme	Police Officer	260	12/03/1979
Thomas Reinbold	Sergeant	266	01/02/1980
Jeffrey Oberreither	Police Officer	270	01/30/1980
Gary Schlottach	Police Officer	282	10/13/1980
Michael Mahaffy	Sergeant	283	11/17/1980
Kevin Boschert	Sergeant	286	11/02/1980
Timothy Fodde	Lieutenant	287	12/01/1980
Kathleen Ross	Police Officer	288	12/01/1980
John Stanczak	Police Officer	293	03/16/1981
Jeffrey Peters	Sergeant	295	06/08/1981
John Harmon	Communications	307	02/01/1983
Jerome Burke	Captain	308	03/28/1983

20-24 Years of Service

James Arnold	Police Officer	316	04/02/1984
Lori Bethmann	Police Officer	320	10/01/1984
Michael Layton	Sergeant	326	07/17/1985
Sean Fagan	Lieutenant	328	08/22/1985
Kirk Lawless	Police Officer	344	04/06/1987
Vincent Godfrey	Sergeant	346	07/20/1987
Richard Hart	Police Officer	354	09/05/1988
Robert Swanick	Police Officer	355	09/12/1988

15-19 Years of Service

Daniel Biermann	Detective Sergeant	360	05/30/1989
Timothy Green	Police Officer	361	06/05/1989
Randy Boden	Lieutenant	362	08/14/1989
Timothy Lowery	Detective Lieutenant	363	08/14/1989
David Houghton	Police Officer	365	11/27/1989
Richard Kohnen	Police Officer	370	02/15/1991
Scott Sachs	Sergeant	371	06/27/1991
Brian Bethmann	Police Officer	383	01/27/1993
Sharon Crawford	Communications	387	06/14/1993

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	DSN	DATE OF HIRE
<u>10-14 Years of Service</u>			
Timothy Fagan	Detective Sergeant	395	08/18/1994
Stephen Weiersmueller	Information Technology	429	06/23/1997
Richard Pfaff	Detective	426	07/07/1997
Shiela Linhardt	Secretary	435	07/08/1997
Philip Busby	Police Officer	438	08/18/1997
Rev. Harold Strauss	Police Chaplain	447	08/23/1998
Rev. Ed Lowe	Police Chaplain	449	08/23/1998
Fr. Rich Rath	Police Chaplain	453	08/24/1998
Allen Jones	Communications	457	11/30/1998
Kathy Anderson	Police Clerk	458	12/08/1998
<u>5-9 Years of Service</u>			
Rev. Thomas Nofles	Police Chaplain	470	08/03/1999
Patrick O'Fallon	Police Officer (K-9)	474	10/18/1999
Matthew Thompson	Police Officer	475	10/25/1999
Elizabeth Vance	Communications	478	12/08/1999
Matthew Stringer	Police Officer	481	02/14/2000
Peggye Fowler	Police Clerk	484	06/23/2000
Shaun Kummer	Police Officer (K-9)	430	07/03/2000
Meaghan Fagan	Communications	487	08/28/2000
Tonya Elliott	Corrections	491	09/19/2000
Tyrone Perry	Police Officer	492	09/25/2000
Michael Cameron	Police Officer	495	10/16/2000
Scott Cork	Detective	496	10/16/2000
Dustin Owen	Detective	497	10/24/2000
Craig DeHart	Police Officer	498	11/06/2000
Dennis DeHart	Detective	499	12/04/2000
Edward Sharp	Police Officer	503	07/30/2001
Christopher Shilling	Police Officer	505	09/04/2001
Amy Boller-Stotler	Detective	507	12/03/2001
Rev. Theo Triplett	Police Chaplain	508	03/06/2002
Andrew Quinones	Police Officer	431	05/06/2002
Kyle Lewis	Detective	509	05/06/2002
Shawn Reiland	Detective	511	09/30/2002
William Karabas	Chief of Police	512	11/01/2002
Andrew Haarmann	Police Officer	513	01/06/2003
Fr. Jack Dempsey	Police Chaplain	515	01/02/2003
Garrett Fritch	Police Officer	516	03/28/2003
Neil French	Police Officer	524	10/01/2003
Daniel Bateman	Communications	525	11/03/2003
Rev. Robert Klostermann	Police Chaplain	527	12/01/2003

NAME	ASSIGNMENT	DSN	DATE OF HIRE
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Less than 5 Years of Service

Jarrold Coder	Police Officer	528	02/02/2004
Andrew Hale	Police Officer	529	02/02/2004
John Reihm	Police Officer (K-9)	530	01/29/2004
Lessie Shanley	Police Officer	533	07/19/2004
Jacob Schmidt	Detective	534	07/19/2004
Michael Keifer	Detective	535	08/16/2004
Jason Staats	Police Officer	538	10/18/2004
Andre Reece	Detective	539	11/22/2004
Andrew Gerwitz	Police Officer	540	11/22/2004
Lisa Smallegan	Corrections	542	12/27/2004
Justin Spradlin	Police Officer	543	01/24/2005
Jeremy Blanton	Police Officer	544	02/23/2005
Matthew Krah	Police Officer	545	03/07/2005
Fr. Bill Baier	Police Chaplain	546	04/30/2005
Jason West	Police Officer	547	05/30/2005
David Rohlfing	Detective	548	05/30/2005
Fr. Bruce Smith	Police Chaplain	550	07/15/2005
Shaunta Peebles	Police Officer	552	08/15/2005
Chris Bockelmann	Police Officer	553	09/12/2005
Mark Pounders	Detective	554	12/12/2005
Patrick O'Neill	Police Officer	555	01/02/2006
Timothy Sweeso	Police Officer	557	06/26/2006
Michelle Arthur	Clerk	558	10/09/2006
Douglas Newsom	Police Officer	559	12/04/2006
Grant West	Police Officer	560	12/07/2006
Kim Bowder	Transcription's	561	12/11/2006
Mike Vernon	Corrections Officer	562	03/05/2007
Brandi Ferrara	Dispatcher	428	08/13/2007
Freddie Lee	Police Officer	563	09/17/2007
Gary Niemann	Police Officer	564	12/11/2007
Kim Berry	Police Officer	565	12/26/2007
Christopher Easton	Police Officer	568	12/26/2007

BUREAU OF FIELD OPERATIONS



Captain Jerry Burke commands the Bureau of Field Operations (BFO). The Bureau of Field Operations is the largest and most visible component of the Florissant Police Department. It is comprised of the uniformed men and women who patrol the city 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

UNIFORMED PATROL

A Lieutenant commands each patrol platoon of officers and oversees two Sergeants and 14 Police Officers. These officers are responsible for the around the clock public safety needs of the City. The patrols are divided strategically through eight patrol areas called sectors. Two of the platoons rotate between the day and afternoon watches every twenty-eight days, while the third platoon works a permanent midnight watch. Patrol Officers remain in



permanent sector assignments allowing officers to develop a working knowledge of their beat and enhances their ability to prevent crime and have community involvement.

Under the Community Policing philosophy, officers on each patrol platoon may be assigned to Bicycle Patrol as staffing permits. These officers have received special training in safety and patrol techniques and are used to supplement the beat officers. Their bright blue and yellow uniforms are highly visible in the neighborhood shopping centers, parks and are used in specific patrol areas.

CANINE UNIT

The Canine Unit expanded to three teams in 2008 with the addition of Officer John Riehm and his canine partner, "Arko". The acquisition of Arko was made possible by the Ben Roethlisberger Foundation. The unit also includes Officer Shaun Kummer with his partner "Rex" and Officer Patrick O'Fallon with his partner "Bach."

The teams of officers with their canine partners serve a supplemental patrol function on their platoons and are available to perform narcotics detection, explosive materials/bomb detection, building searches, crowd control, and missing person searches. All three teams are graduates of the St. Louis Police Department's Police Canine Academy where they continue to receive in-service training. All dogs have current certifications in the North American Police Work Dog Association (NAPWDA) and Bach has a certification from the Missouri Police Canine Association.



The Canine Unit accomplished the following in 2008:

- Two (2) explosive call outs
- 12 canine demonstrations
- 141 building and 245 vehicle searches for narcotics
- 128 tracks for suspects
- 109 building searches for suspects
- Seven (7) suspect apprehensions, (4 non-bite surrenders and 3 bite apprehensions)
- 34 canine deployments resulting in arrest to other agencies

SPECIAL OPERATIONS

Specially trained officers whose functions include Traffic Safety and Code Enforcement support the patrol officers. These officers are under the command of a Lieutenant and include:

TRAFFIC SAFETY UNIT

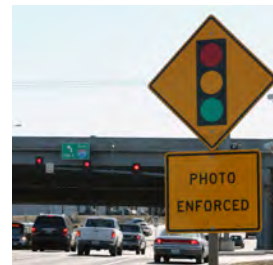
Officers assigned are highly trained crash investigators, including two accident Reconstructionists and one Drug Recognition Examiner. During 2008, the department investigated 1,717 crashes with the Traffic Safety Officers investigating those crashes involving injuries as well as crashes involving 1 fatality. One (1) reconstruction report was completed and 250 leaving the scene cases were investigated. Traffic Safety Officers serve as ad hoc members of the Mayor's Traffic Commission. They also meet regularly with officials and engineers of the St. Louis County and Missouri Departments of Transportation to address safety concerns on county and state maintained roadways. Safety officers also coordinate many of the department's traffic safety enforcement programs including sobriety checkpoints, highway safety grants, and special campaigns. The Missouri Department of Highway Safety awarded the Traffic Unit \$19,872 in 2008 for two selective enforcement programs, Driving While Intoxicated, and Hazardous Moving Violation offenders.



Florissant continues to participate in the "Keep Kids Alive, Drive 25" program with stepped-up enforcement in residential areas which was implemented in 2005. The goal of this campaign is to reduce speeding on residential streets, where the speed limit is commonly 25 mph. Speeding in neighborhoods continues to be a primary concern reported by residents across the city.

Another program offered by the Traffic Safety Unit is the Speed Check Radar Trailers, which were deployed in neighborhoods throughout the city in 2008. These trailers were updated in 2008 with the purchase of two new high-tech models. These units alert motorists to their driving habits creating awareness of speeding and are equipped to generate traffic studies used to determine enforcement activities.

Since May of 2006, the City of Florissant has contracted with American Traffic Solution for installation and maintenance of a Red Light Violation Camera System, which were installed at signalized intersections. Selections of intersections were based on statistically high accident locations. An additional intersection was added in 2008, bringing the total of intersections with this system to six (6) and 14 cameras.



SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER PROGRAM

The Florissant Police Department has formed partnerships with school districts which fund 75% of the costs of providing School Resource Officers (S.R.O.) for the academic school year. Four (4) officers are now assigned full-time to the School Resource Officer Program at Hazelwood Northwest Middle School, Cross Keys Middle School, McCluer High School, and McCluer North High School. The officers' duties include but are not limited to safety and security on and around campus, an educational resource, and administration.

The S.R.O. officers coordinate with the beat officers to alert them to issues affecting the school campus and the surrounding neighborhoods. S.R.O. officers handle off campus problems such as student parking in residential areas, students smoking near campus, and student trespassing.

D.A.R.E. PROGRAM

Two officers were assigned full-time as D.A.R.E. Instructors. Our D.A.R.E. program was taught to nearly 800 5th and 6th grade students in the 20 public and private elementary schools. To date over 13,700 students have graduated from the 10-week program. In addition, the officers provided safety and anti-drug programs to students in Kindergarten through 4th grade.

These officers also provided Gang Resistance Education and Training (G.R.E.A.T.) for 7th graders at Cross Keys Middle School and five parochial schools. The goal of this program is to reduce the pressures to join gangs. Students are taught conflict resolution, cultural sensitivity, and the negative influence gangs and drugs have on their lives.

SAFETY TOWN

The Florissant Police Department, in cooperation with the Rotary Club of Florissant, conducted the nationally recognized Safety Town Program. The facility, Duchesne Elementary School, was provided by the Ferguson-Florissant School District. Instructed by the D.A.R.E. Officers, this program educates 4 to 6 year old children about important safety issues such as bicycle and traffic safety, school bus safety, stranger danger, tool and toy safety and playground safety.

NEIGHBORHOOD PRESERVATION TASK FORCE

The Neighborhood Preservation Task Force is comprised of a Florissant Police Officer, a Health Department employee, and a Building Inspector. The unit allows a coordinated approach to addressing nuisance properties and vehicles. The result is the elimination of multiple complaints by more efficiently working together to solve problems. The unit works not only to enforce code violations but to assist residents in finding the resources to address the problems.

Where no other alternative exists, the unit prepares cases for criminal prosecution, executes abatement search warrants issued by the Municipal Court and takes appropriate action to remove nuisance, abandoned or derelict vehicles; property owners who refuse to maintain their property to City Code; and, locates out of town property owners whose local rental properties create a nuisance or fail to meet code.

POLICE RESERVE UNIT

The Florissant Police Reserve Unit is comprised of five (5) volunteer non-commissioned personnel who are appointed by the Chief of Police. A commissioned Sergeant assigned to the Bureau of Field Operations serves as liaison between the unit and the Chief of Police.

Reserve Officers have been selected and screened for appointment in the same fashion as a candidate for the position of commissioned police officer. Reserves received training at the St. Louis County & Municipal Police Academy. In-service training is conducted monthly in areas such as firearms, first aid/C.P.R., legal updates, and enforcement techniques. Reserve officers are required to participate in a minimum of 20 hours of department activities each month. This includes, ride-along with commissioned officers, court details, meetings, and assistance with special events such as the Valley of the Flowers, Fall Festival, and the Fourth of July celebration.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The Florissant Police Department has engaged in community policing practices for many years. In fact, the department encouraged officers to initiate activities such as foot patrols and citizen contacts long before such activities became vogue law enforcement practices. This tradition of community involvement has formally developed to include every component of the organization. Our community policing activities are the foundation by which we carry out our mission.

Florissant Police Officers are regularly engaged in community projects to improve the quality of life in the City of Florissant. A major 2008 project was the coordinating and assisting M-Fuge Mission, Chaminade Preparatory High School, Code Enforcement Team Officers, the Senior Citizen Office, Health Department, Parks Department and Community Development and Housing office with identifying and correcting housing code violations, general clean-up of properties owned by senior, disabled or indigent residents. Once again over 20 project sights were identified and given assistance as needed.

POLICE EXPLORER POST #9799



The Florissant Police Department sponsors a Boy Scouts of America Explorer Post, which is designed as a career development program for men and women between 14 and 21 years of age. Four commissioned officers serve as Post Advisors.

In addition to a ride-along program, members of the Post assist in many assignments such as parking lot control at the Valley of Flowers Festival and the 4th of July fireworks display, crime prevention presentations and youth related programs. The highlight for the year was the Post's participation in the 2008 National Law Enforcement Explorers Conference held in Fort Collins, CO. The conference hosted nearly 800 Law Enforcement Explorer Posts from around the United States and included seminars and competition events for explorers. One of the teams from the Florissant Post finished 5th best in the nation for their efforts in the Traffic Accident Investigation competition.



(Pictured above from left to right are Explorers Patrick State, Chris O'Fallon (holding plaque), Zach Weber, and Nick Osmer.

Persons interested in participating in the Post can contact Post Advisors, Officers Patrick O'Fallon, Andy Haarmann, Jeremy Blanton, or Andrew Hale at 314-831-7000.

BUREAU OF SUPPORT SERVICES

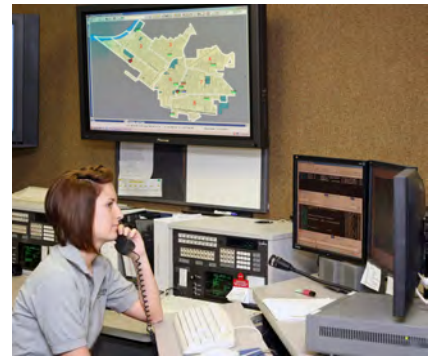


The Bureau of Support Services is responsible for those operations that support the patrol and investigative efforts of the department. The Bureau of Support Services has been under the command of Captain John Foster. The functions under his command include the Communications Unit, Records Unit, Information Technology, Professional Standards, Internal Affairs, Training, Recruitment, and the Public Information Unit.

COMMUNICATIONS UNIT

The Communications Unit serves as the 9-1-1 Public Safety Answering Point for all public safety needs of the City of Florissant. In 2008 the Communication Unit handled 31,229 9-1-1 calls for emergency assistance and dispatched 41,658 calls for police service. The Communications Center routes all fire and medical emergency calls to the North Central Fire Alarm system to insure that the appropriate fire or emergency medical units are dispatched with police units.

The Communications Unit was staffed by nine full-time dispatchers and one part-time dispatcher. A minimum of two dispatchers are assigned around the clock to insure that calls are promptly handled.



The Communications Unit is equipped with a fully integrated Computer Aided Dispatch (CAD) System that links communications records to the department's Records Management System and mobile computers in the police vehicles. The mobile units are equipped with Global Positioning Satellite technology that pinpoints the location of units in the field allowing dispatchers to locate and dispatch the closest unit to priority calls.

RECORDS UNIT



The records unit is staffed by a full-time staff of three clerks who insure the processing, maintenance and distribution of police reports and other records. Police reports are dictated by officers in the field and the clerical staff transcribes the dictated reports into the department's Records Management System (RMS). During 2008 the clerical staff transcribed 5,417 reports.

The record room is available to the public Monday through Friday, excluding holidays, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Open police reports may be obtained at the police department by a mail. The processing charge is \$10 per report.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY UNIT

The Florissant Police Department utilizes technology to assist and supplement staffing wherever feasible. A civilian, Steve Weiersmueller, is responsible for maintaining many computers and software packages utilized by the department.

In addition to computer aided dispatching, an integrated records management system, and a cadre of office programs, the department utilizes mobile computing to make the officers in the field more efficient. The mobile computers in police vehicles have access to the various department systems as well as regional arrest and warrant information, state drivers and vehicle license information including the ability to view drivers' license photographs and arrest photos, enhancing the officers' ability to identify offenders.

The department internet web-site provides citizens and other law enforcement agencies with easy access to information and department resources. Information readily available on our web site includes news of department activities, press releases, annual reports and the ability to file on-line requests and comments which are routed directly to the appropriate staff members.

This was a very productive year for Information Technology in the police department. New equipment was implemented, several systems were upgraded, and numerous training sessions were held with employees to bring them up to speed with updates and new programs.

A major implementation during 2008 was Mobile Ticketing. Mobile Ticketing allows officers to enter citations into the mobile computers in their patrol cars, printing a copy for the violator. Mobile ticketing reduces clerical data entry because the officer's entry uploads the information directly to court docketing and statistical software systems simultaneously.

ACCREDITATION

The department is internationally accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. Florissant is one of only 27 state, county or local law enforcement agencies in Missouri fully accredited by CALEA.



The department was initially accredited in March of 2001 and must undergo reaccreditation every three years. The department's last reaccredited was in March 2007. During the reaccreditation process the department must demonstrate continued compliance with 460 standards developed by CALEA members and staff to foster "best practices" in the delivery of law enforcement services.

The Sergeant assigned to supervise the Communications Unit also maintains the accreditation files and is responsible for the recruiting and training coordination functions. The department is active in the Missouri Coalition for Law Enforcement Accreditation, working with other accredited agencies to improve the accreditation process.

INTERNAL AFFAIRS

The Chief of Police designates a commander to act as the Inspector of Police and that function currently rests with the Commander of the Bureau of Support Services. Most allegations of misconduct are handled by the immediate supervisor of the employee but allegations that are serious or criminal in nature are referred to the Inspector of Police for investigation. The objective of the process is to insure confidence and trust in the police department.

During 2008 the department investigated 10 allegations of misconduct involving nine different employees including five sworn officers, one corrections officer, and three dispatchers. The allegations included:

- 7 Violations of department rules or regulations;
- 1 allegation of improper arrest which was unfounded; and,
- 2 allegations of excessive force, one of which was unfounded and one of which was non-sustained.

The Inspector of Police also reviews all "Use of Force" incidents to insure compliance with department policy and procedure as well as to determine if additional training is warranted.

During 2008 the department affected 5,939 adult arrests. There was no lethal force used during 2008. Officers found it necessary to use some degree of less-lethal force to affect only 36 of those arrests as well as one juvenile arrest. That equates to force being used in slightly over one half of one percent of the adult arrest made.

The following is a review of the use by force by type:

• Firearm discharge	0
• TASER	26
• Impact Weapon	0
• OC/Pepper Spray	1
• Physical Force	6
• <u>Canine Bite</u>	<u>3</u>
• Total Use of Force Arrests	36

Utilization of the TASER has resulted in a reduction of injuries to both arrestees and officers. No arrestees were injured in 2008 and only one officer suffering a minor thumb injury.

DEPARTMENT TRAINING

To support the department's mission, the training goal of the department is to continually improve professionalism of the officers and staff. The Peace Officers Standards and Training (P.O.S.T.) Commission require all police officers in the state of Missouri to complete a minimum of 48 hours of P.O.S.T approved continuing education every three years.

During the year of 2008 officers of the Florissant Police Department completed 2,747 hours of continuing education. That averaged 33.50 hours per officer. The aforementioned hours included 1 hour of racial profiling and 4 hours of firearms training for each officer. The training providers included the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy, St. Louis County Municipal Academy, Missouri State Highway Patrol Academy, Federal Law Enforcement training Center, Missouri Police Chief Association, and Missouri Safety Center.

In-service training was provided for all reserve and sworn officers in Bias-Based Profiling Issues, Use of Force and Weapons Proficiency; Weapons of Mass Destruction Awareness, Dealing with the Mentally Ill, Handling Blood borne Pathogens, Defensive Tactics, Evidence Procedures and Prisoner Handcuffing & Control, and Ethics.

Other specialized areas of training included Arson Investigation, Accident Reconstruction, Standardized Field Sobriety Testing Instructor, Firearms Instructor, Field Training Officers, Advanced Crime Scene Investigation and Crisis Intervention. In addition, all officers are trained, and required to qualify with duty weapons including pistol, patrol rifle and the TASER.

Live-fire shooting is conducted in the Department's mobile firearms training unit, which is a fully self-contained range in a 60-foot trailer, as well as outdoor ranges operated by the Missouri Department of Conservation and the Berkeley Police Department.



PUBLIC INFORMATION UNIT

The Public Information Unit, staffed by a Sergeant, is responsible for statistical analysis, crime prevention programs, media relations, and public information, all of which are key elements in the Florissant Police Department's efforts toward the prevention and reduction of crime. Programs and activities of the Public Information Unit include:

Crime Analysis

The Public Information Officer is responsible for the collection, analysis, and dissemination of statistics on crime and calls for service. This information is used to establish directed patrols and the review of beat structure.

Crime data is transmitted to the Missouri State Highway Patrol and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, both of which compile extensive reports on crime in Missouri and the United States.

Security Surveys/Business Seminars

The Public Information Unit can arrange for a police officer to survey your home or business and assess the security of the site. Findings and recommendations are provided to reduce the chances of being victimized.

Neighborhood Watch

The Neighborhood Watch Program assists residents to protect themselves, their homes, and neighborhoods, by training them during neighborhood meetings. Residents are shown how to secure their property, how to identify and report suspicious activity, and how to be good neighbors.

Over the years the program grew stagnant with little active participation from the citizens. Efforts to revitalize the Neighborhood Watch Program began in 2008 with the development of presentations at ward meetings and public gatherings to gain new membership. These presentations were met with much enthusiasm with a significant resurgence of interest in active membership.

Regularly scheduled monthly Neighborhood Watch meetings are now held at the Florissant Police Department to help promote new membership, show crime trends, and discuss strategies neighbors can use to deter criminal activity and present crime prevention topics for attendees.

During 2008 a new monthly Neighborhood Watch newsletter was instituted and is posted monthly on the police department's website. The newsletter provides citizens and Neighborhood Watch members with crime statistics as well as crime prevention tips and other pertinent personal safety information.

F.P.D. Roll Call Show

Televised on Channel 10, the local government cable access channel, this program is produced by the Public Information Officer to highlight department programs, safety tips, crime trends, and public safety issues such as emergency preparedness.

Website www.florissantmo.com/police.htm

The site is maintained and updated by the Public Information Officer with the assistance of the City of Florissant Informational Technology department. The site includes information about the Department, monthly Neighborhood Watch Newsletter, monthly crime statistics, current schedule of events, upcoming citizen training programs such as C.E.R.T. and the Citizen Police Academy, emergency preparedness information, as well as providing links to other crime prevention related sites.

Citizen Volunteers



The Auxiliary volunteers of the Florissant Police Department provide an opportunity for citizens of the community to assist law enforcement in the delivery of programs and information to the community. Our volunteers are proud representatives who are dedicated to providing excellent service through relationships that build trust, creates a safe environment, and enhances the quality of life in our community. In offering their time, skills and services, these citizen volunteers help supplement and support officers and civilian personnel by allowing them to concentrate on their primary duties.

Some activities the volunteers have been involved in; the annual Kansas City Life Baseball Card Giveaway Program, Bicycle Rodeos, Missouri Law Enforcement Special Olympic T-shirt Sales, Veteran's Day Parade, Florissant Valley Jaycee's 5K Run, MOCHIPS Child Fingerprint Program, and the American Cancer Society Relay for Life Benefit.

Citizen Police Academy

The Citizen Police Academy is a unique opportunity for citizens to experience a glimpse of the training a police officer receives in the Police Academy. Areas of instruction include Constitutional and Criminal Law, First Aid/C.P.R., Juvenile Procedures, Patrol Procedure, Evidence Collection and Processing, and Cinetronics Firearms Training. It is an eight-week educational citizen involvement activity designed by the Police Department as part of our C.O.P.S. Program. The goal of this class is to promote understanding between citizens and police officers regarding their respective needs and concerns. By promoting this understanding it is hoped that citizens and police will work together. The department held one academy session during 2008.

Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T.)

The Public Information Unit manages C.E.R.T. training as a partnering effort between emergency services and the people they serve. The goal is for emergency personnel to train citizens, community organizations, and businesses in basic response skills. C.E.R.T. members are then integrated into the emergency capability for their area.



The program consists of 21 hours of training, one night a week for six weeks. Emergency Responders such as firefighters, emergency medical personnel and law enforcement personnel from your community will teach this course. Two sessions were held in 2008. Over 170 citizens have completed C.E.R.T. training since 2004.

If a disastrous event overwhelms or delays the community's professional response, C.E.R.T. members can assist others by applying the basic response and organizational skills that they learned during training. These skills can help save and sustain lives following a disaster until help arrives. C.E.R.T. skills also apply to daily emergencies. This training is provided free of charge.

Florissant C.E.R.T. is aligned with the North County Citizen Corp Coalition. Participating with this coalition allows Florissant to take advantage of additional instructors, training sessions, and will allow residents to attend any C.E.R.T. training offered in the North St. Louis County area through the coalition.

In September 2008, members from the Florissant C.E.R.T. program participated in a mock disaster, an earthquake scenario, sponsored by the North County Citizen Corp Coalition. The exercise was designed with four stations with the primary focus on administering first-aid, as each station required participants to apply some level of first-aid skills, triage, transporting injured players, and setting up and maintaining a staging area for injured players.



Additional Community Policing Programs

The department also hosted or conducted many other programs that directly impact the community we serve. Among the many programs offered, the Public Information Officer is charged with coordinating the following programs:

- Coordinates the police intern program for High School and College students
- Coordinates with the Police Chaplains
- Public Information Unit is the host distributing point for the Kansas City Life Insurance Baseball Card Give-Away Program
- Bicycle Rodeo and Safety Clinics
- Child Fingerprinting & Identification
- Sponsorship of the AARP "Driver Safety" Program
- Provide Free Firearm Trigger Locks
- Sponsorship in the American Cancer Society Relay for Life
- Participation in the Missouri Special Olympics Fund Raising efforts
- Serve as collection point for the Kurt Warner's Warm Up (winter coats)

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION



Lieutenant Timothy Lowery has been the commander of the Bureau of Investigation (BOI). The Bureau of Investigation is responsible for the follow-up investigations on all reported crimes, investigation of vice and narcotics, the collection, processing, and storage of evidence, and the detention of prisoners. During 2008 Lieutenant Lowery attended the Federal Bureau of Investigation National Academy for professional management development.

CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION UNIT

Eight detectives and two sergeants are assigned to conduct follow-up investigations. The Detectives work in teams of two and investigate crimes committed in their specialized field such as burglary, crimes against persons, crimes against property, etc. Detectives routinely initiate investigations into liquor violations, drug activity, vice, and any other criminal offenses discovered to be occurring in the city.

In 2008 the BOI cleared 1,163 of the 2,673 offenses investigated. That represents an overall clearance rate of 43.5%. There was a clearance rate of 58% for serious crimes such as Robbery, Burglary, Sex Offenses and Assaults.

All of the investigators are also members of the Major Case Squad of Greater St. Louis. The Florissant Police Department continues to take a strong lead in Squad activities. Lt. Lowery serves as a Deputy Commander and several of the Squad Supervisors are from the Florissant Police Department.

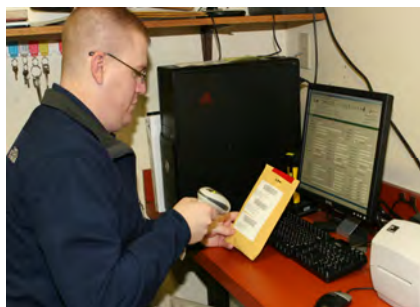
A detective assigned to the BOI is specially trained to handle crimes and status offenses committed by youths under the age of 17. They maintain close ties with the Family Court of St. Louis County and various youth service groups. The Juvenile Detective is specially trained in the investigation of child abuse and neglect. The Juvenile Detective maintains all juvenile records and gang intelligence information.

NARCOTICS AND GANG TASK FORCES

The Florissant Police Department cooperates in Federal Investigative Task Forces targeting regional drug and gang related activities. One investigator is assigned full-time to a Drug Enforcement Administration (D.E.A.) Task Force and another investigator is assigned full-time to a Federal Bureau of Investigation (F.B.I.) Violent Crime Task Force, targeting gang related crime throughout the St. Louis area.

EVIDENCE TECHNICIAN UNIT

Two Detectives are assigned as Evidence Technicians. They are responsible for processing major crime scenes for evidence. Both are highly trained in the collection of fingerprints, blood evidence, trace tissue, and fiber samples. During 2008 the ETU handled property and evidence from 1,913 cases and handled 4,200 individual pieces of evidence. The police department utilizes a state of the art property control bar code system. The system allows evidence technicians to efficiently track, control, and manage seized property.



Evidence technicians utilize a fully digital photography lab, as well as a forensic video lab. These labs allow the technicians to read, isolate, enhance, and print evidence located on videotape, digital disc, and film. Technicians use a special ultra-violet light crime-scope camera to locate latent fingerprints and footprint evidence.

During 2008 146 latent fingerprints were submitted to the Automated Fingerprint Identification System, (A.F.I.S.) at the St. Louis County Crime Laboratory for identification purposes with positive identifications on 32 suspects. The remaining submissions remain in A.F.I.S. for comparisons to suspects entered in the future.

CORRECTIONS UNIT

Five full-time Corrections Officers are assigned to the BOI process and supervise detainees who are being held in the department's holding facility on charges ranging from misdemeanors to serious felonies. These non-commissioned officers handled the processing and detention of 5,939 prisoners arrested by officers of the department in 2008.

All arrestees are photographed into the regional IRIS mug-shot system and fingerprinted into the Live Scan automated fingerprint system that electronically transmits the fingerprints to the Missouri State Highway Patrol's AFIS database.

STATISTICAL INFORMATION AT A GLANCE

The Florissant Police Department voluntarily reports all crime reports to the Uniform Crime Reporting Program of the Missouri State Highway Patrol. These statistics are subsequently forwarded to the Federal Bureau of Investigation for inclusion in the FBI's annual report "***Crime in the United States***"

<i>Crime Reports – Part I Offenses</i>					
Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Murder/Homicide	0	0	4	0	0
Sexual Assault/Rape	2	3	4	4	9
Robbery	37	60	36	51	74
Aggravated Assault	26	34	20	39	61
Burglary	161	179	190	239	361
Larceny/Theft	867	857	826	992	1,105
Vehicle Theft	124	124	117	168	199
Arson	2	0	2	13	8

<i>Crime Reports – Part II Offenses</i>					
Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Simple Assault	449	407	427	418	480
Property Damage	337	404	360	426	429
Sex Offenses	23	10	26	24	13

<i>Total Reported Offenses</i>					
Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Part I	1,219	1,257	1,199	1,506	1,817
Part II	809	821	813	868	922
TOTAL Parts I & II	2,028	2,078	2,012	2,374	2,739

ADULT ARREST SUMMARY

Adult arrests include all persons 17 years of age or older.

<i>Arrest 2004 – 2008</i>					
Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Total Adult Arrests	6,052	5,780	5,720	4,808	5,939

MOTOR VEHICLE CRASH SUMMARY

<i>MOTOR VEHICLE CRASHES</i>					
Year	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
NO INJURY	1,084	1,452	1,338	1,404	1,353
INJURY	286	316	388	380	363
FATAL	3	1	5	1	1
TOTAL CRASHES	1,373	1,769	1,731	1,785	1,717
LEFT THE SCENE	215	229	293	236	250

THE TOP 5 HIGH VEHICLE CRASH LOCATIONS IN 2008

1. State RT AC (New Hallsferry) – City Limits
2. U.S. Highway 67 at Washington
3. U.S. Highway 67 between State RT AC – Cougar Dr
4. State RT AC (New Hallsferry) near south city limits
5. U.S. Highway 67 from Cold Water Creek to N. Waterford

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY

Traffic Safety remains a primary concern of the department. While officers assigned to the Traffic Safety Unit investigate crashes and take a leading roll in special traffic enforcement campaigns, it is the responsibility of all patrol officers to enforce traffic safety ordinances. During 2008 the department issued 18,047 citations, most for traffic related violations. These included 303 arrests and citations for offenses involving driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

The City of Florissant also contracts with American Traffic Solutions for the management and maintenance of a Red Light Violation Camera System designed to identify and cite violators of electric traffic signals, using 13 cameras at the six intersections having the significantly highest number of crashes caused by red light violations. The cameras capture vehicles that enter the intersection only after the traffic signal changed to a red light before the vehicle reached the stop bar painted on the pavement.

Every violation is reviewed by an officer before being issued to the violator. In 2008 there were 12,219 red light violations reviewed resulting in 9,869 notices of violation being sent to motorists who violated these electric signals. Examples of some of the most egregious examples of these violation scan be seen on the department web site.

COMMENDATIONS

The following employees were commended for their service to the department and the community during the year of 2008:

Letters of Commendation



***Officer Michael Arthur
Dispatcher Dan Bateman
Officer Chris Bockelmann
Officer Mike Cameron
Officer Jarrod Coder
Detective Scott Cork
Officer Tim Eagan
Officer Ryan Eaton (2)
Officer Chris Easton (2)
Officer Garrett Fritch (3)
Officer Tim Green
Officer Shaun Kummer
Officer Kirk Lawless (2)
Detective Kyle Lewis
Officer Doug Newsom (2)
Officer Gary Niemann
Officer Patrick O'Neill
Detective Dustin Owen
Officer Mark Pounders
Detective Andre Reese
Detective Shawn Reiland
Officer David Rohlfing
Officer Kathy Ross
Officer Ed Sharp
Detective Jason Staats
Detective Amy Stotler
Officer Tim Sweeso
Officer Grant West***