2009 Annual Public Safety Report
July 19, 2010

The 2009 Annual Public Safety Report summarizes yet another year of success by the men and women of the Aurora Police Department, who strive every day to keep Aurora one of the safest cities of its size, not only in the state of Colorado, but also in the United States.

The more than 770 civilian and sworn members of the Aurora Police Department have partnered with our citizens, school districts, non-profit organizations and businesses to achieve an overall reduction in crime and a continued increase in quality of life, despite the difficult economic environment. We greatly appreciate the sacrifices and continued support from the community to assist us in building and maintaining a great city.

On behalf of the Department, I extend our appreciation and thanks to our many partners at the City of Aurora who supported our efforts in 2009: the City Manager and staff, the Mayor and City Council members, and the many city employees who work side by side with us daily. It is because of their dedication and professionalism that we are able to provide excellent service to the citizens of the City of Aurora.

Finally, I offer my thanks and praise to every member of the Aurora Police Department. As evidenced in this report, their performance, dedication and commitment to our city is extraordinary.

Daniel J. Oates
Chief of Police
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Section One: Introduction

IN BRIEF

Average City Growth
3,000 Residents per year

District Size (square miles)
District 1 - 19
District 2 - 100
District 3 - 53
City: 154

The individual sums exceed the total due to GIS mapping that has the districts covering some areas outside the City of Aurora.

DISTRICT POPULATION

District 1 – 116,302
District 2 – 81,724
District 3 – 116,300
City: 314,326

The purpose of this report is to provide an accurate view of the City of Aurora’s crime and traffic related issues during the reporting period. The report examines the state of crime relative to cities of similar size, as well as a review of 2007, 2008, and 2009 crime trends in Aurora. The final sections of the report examine specific initiatives completed in 2009, initiatives projected for 2010 and honors bestowed upon our Officers and the Department.

1.1 Population 314,306

Over the past 25 years the population of the city has grown by approximately one third, with an average growth rate of approximately 3,000 per year. This statistic is important when assessing the crime rate for the city. Additionally, the land mass of the city has also grown from 147 square miles in 2005 to 154 in 2009, impacting the department’s response times to citizen requests for service.

These population estimates reflect numbers created by the City’s Planning Department. Population estimates reported by the FBI for Crime Statistics are developed by the U.S. Census Bureau and are not always in agreement with calculated estimates provided by the City.
1.2 Aurora Police Department Demographics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Commissioned Officer Demographics (635 Total)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>544</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>85.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1.3 Department Guiding Principles

The Department expects that every member will work to continuously improve the quality of life in Aurora and will strive:

1. To reduce crime and the fear of crime;
2. To partner with the community to identify and solve problems;
3. To operate the Department with maximum efficiency.

The monthly “Crime, Quality of Life and Traffic” (CQT) meeting continues to provide a valuable communication instrument for the entire Department and an opportunity for the Chief of Police and Executive Staff to ensure that the Department’s principles are being followed. This strategy meeting serves a dual purpose in that operational Commanders are required to discuss areas where they are succeeding and those where they are not. It also provides a forum for all Department units to offer assistance to solve problems and put more eyes on the crime and policing challenges that affect the city. CQT meetings continually help units align their operations with the Department and City mission and goals.

Section Two: Uniform Crime Reporting System

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) annually publishes the “Crime in the US” report, which relies on data collected and reported on by participating agencies. Additionally, the report adheres to the established Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) standards. The UCR aims to create consistency in reporting for all participating agencies nationwide.

The Aurora Police Department voluntarily participates in the UCR system. For the purposes of this report, the focus will be on the seven major crimes reported in UCR, which are the only crimes reported nationally to the FBI and the only measures to compare one city’s crime trends to another. The seven major crimes are categorized into two groups: Violent Crime (including Murder, Forcible Sex Assault [Rape], Aggravated Assault and Robbery) and Property Crime (including Burglary, Larceny and Motor Vehicle Theft). The Total Major Crime or Index Crime is an aggregate of the total Violent Crime and Property Crime, providing an overall view of major crime in an area.
The UCR system counts each victim of murder, sex assault and aggravated assault as an individual crime occurrence, whereas only incidents of robbery, burglary, larceny and motor vehicle theft are counted. This means that a double murder occurring at the same time in the same location is treated as two murders but a robbery in which a store clerk and three customers are the victims is only counted as one robbery. The FBI collects data continuously but publishes its final report on crime for a given year in the fall of the succeeding year. The 2009 FBI report will not be available until mid 2010.

2.1 Reporting Methodology

Two reporting methods are utilized in this report: volume and rate. Volume represents the actual number of crime incidents reported in accordance with the UCR. While the volume of crime in a specific area is critical to strategic planning and identifying trends, this statistic does not provide a comparative measure.

The rate of crime interprets the volume in terms of population. A rate provides a method for comparison of data between different agencies. For the purposes of this report, rates are stated as volume (or UCR incidents) per 1,000 citizens in the population.

Section Three: Crime in Comparative Cities

The City of Aurora compares to 40 other similar sized municipalities that participate in the UCR system. The city is grouped with jurisdictions servicing a population between 250,000 and 499,999. Because city growth dictates who is included in the group, the composition of the group can change each year. As a result, our comparisons are restricted to a one-year historical view. Within this section, the report analyzes rates of crime in accordance with the UCR rules. Some comparisons may not list all 41 cities because some cities do not report all of their data to the FBI.

3.1 41 City Officer Staffing Comparison
3.2 41 City Population Comparison

### 2008 Comparable City Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City</th>
<th>Population</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mobile, AL</td>
<td>251,041</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fort Wayne, IN</td>
<td>251,194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lincoln, NE</td>
<td>251,550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chandler, AZ</td>
<td>253,076</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Henderson, NV</td>
<td>256,091</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glendale, AZ</td>
<td>256,659</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plano, TX</td>
<td>265,739</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Buffalo, NY</td>
<td>270,289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Paul, MN</td>
<td>276,083</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Newark, NJ</td>
<td>279,788</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anchorage, AK</td>
<td>280,068</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Orleans, LA</td>
<td>281,440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lexington, KY</td>
<td>281,473</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corpus Christi, TX</td>
<td>286,558</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stockton, CA</td>
<td>293,073</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverside, CA</td>
<td>299,384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pittsburgh, PA</td>
<td>309,757</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Aurora, CO</strong></td>
<td><strong>316,323</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toledo, OH</td>
<td>317,401</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bakersfield, CA</td>
<td>326,046</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cincinnati, OH</td>
<td>332,608</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anaheim, CA</td>
<td>333,746</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tampa, FL</td>
<td>336,911</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santa Ana, CA</td>
<td>339,674</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Average</strong></td>
<td><strong>341,943</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Louis, MO</td>
<td>356,204</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wichita, KS</td>
<td>362,602</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arlington, TX</td>
<td>375,836</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minneapolis, MN</td>
<td>376,753</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Colorado Springs, CO</td>
<td>378,403</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tulsa, OK</td>
<td>382,954</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Raleigh, NC</td>
<td>388,661</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oakland, CA</td>
<td>401,587</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Miami, FL</td>
<td>427,740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cleveland, OH</td>
<td>433,452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Virginia Beach, VA</td>
<td>434,163</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Omaha, NE</td>
<td>437,238</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kansas City, MO</td>
<td>451,454</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mesa, AZ</td>
<td>456,821</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Beach, CA</td>
<td>467,055</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sacramento, CA</td>
<td>467,065</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fresno, CA</td>
<td>475,723</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
3.3 One Year Comparable Cities View (2008)

3.3.1 Violent Crime Rate

![Violent Crime Rate Graph]

3.3.2 Property Crime Rate

![Property Crime Rate Graph]
3.3.3 Total Major (Index) Crime Rate

3.4 Comparative Summary

In 2008 for the category of Violent Crime, the City of Aurora ranked 11th lowest of the 41 cities. This is an improvement over 2007 when Aurora was ranked 9th lowest of 38 cities. In 2008 Aurora had a Violent Crime rate of 5.13 UCR incidents per 1,000 in population which was below the 41 city average of 8.42. In 2007, the rates were 5.48 and 9.16 respectively.

In the category of Property Crime, the City of Aurora remained ranked 9th lowest of the 41 cities, with a rate of 33.70 UCR incidents per 1,000 in population as compared to the average of 45.54. In 2007, the rates were 38.33 for Aurora with a 48.87 average.

The overall view of crime in Aurora places the city 8th best with a UCR rate of 38.83 major crimes per 1,000 residents. This is below the average of 53.96 incidents. In 2007, Aurora was 11th best with a UCR rate of 43.81 UCR incidents compared to the 38 city average rate of 57.25 incidents.
Section Four: City of Aurora Summary 2008 – 2009

This section of the report compares the compiled crime data reported to the FBI for 2008 to the finalized data for 2007 submitted to the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI). The intent is to provide an overview of the crime reduction efforts of the Police Department during the last calendar year. In addition to the seven major crimes, statistical reporting of traffic enforcement is included.

4.1 Reporting Methodology

This section of the report focuses on the actual volume of UCR crime incidents that occurred in Aurora during 2009 as compared to 2008, rather than rates per population.

4.2 Calls for Service

In 2009, the Public Safety Communications Department (PSCD) received 557,255 telephone calls from citizens requesting police assistance. From those calls, the PSCD dispatched calls for service to police officers 234,275 times (42% citizen calls) which is an increase of 19% from 2008. In addition, officers initiated action on 167,890 occasions (1.5% more than 2008). In total, the Department handled 402,165 service calls in 2009, an increase of 30% in the number of calls from 2008. Although activity initiated by officers was up over 2008, calls from citizens went down and that reduced the total for 2009. The remaining calls were determined to be non-police related.

These figures only represent those incidents where street officers were either dispatched to a call or the officers notified the PSCD of activity. They do not include incidents reported in other manners, such as desk reports.

4.3 Assessment of Crime in Aurora

In this section of the report, the volume of actual UCR crime incidents for 2007, 2008, and 2009 are compared. Additionally, this section reviews the Police Department’s traffic enforcement efforts.
4.3.1 Violent Crime

In 2009, the City of Aurora made progress in reducing crime in two of the four Violent Crime areas, showing an overall decrease of 5.4%.

During 2009, the incidents of aggravated assault attributed to non-fatal shootings decreased 30.0%, representing a decrease of 12 incidents from the previous year. The total number of shooting victims decreased by 15, for a total percentage decrease of 30.6%. Non-fatal shootings are not reported as an independent category under the UCR, but are an indicator of crime and a high priority focus for the Department.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Violent Crime</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>% Chg</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Murder</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>22.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sex Assault (Rape)</td>
<td>193</td>
<td>218</td>
<td>13.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery Incidents</td>
<td>554</td>
<td>551</td>
<td>(0.5%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggravated Assault</td>
<td>880</td>
<td>747</td>
<td>(13.1%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Violent Crime Totals   | 1,625| 1,538| (5.4%)|

### IN BRIEF
2008 National Crime Volume
Violent Crime Down 1.9%
- Murder Down 3.9%
- Rape Down 1.6%
- Agg Aslt Down 2.5%
- Robbery Down 0.7%

4.3.2 Property Crime

In 2009, the City of Aurora made significant progress in reducing crime in all Property Crime areas, showing an overall decrease of 4.9%.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property Crime</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>% Chg</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Burglary Incidents</td>
<td>2,220</td>
<td>2,073</td>
<td>(6.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larceny Incidents</td>
<td>7,201</td>
<td>6,945</td>
<td>(3.6%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MVT Incidents</td>
<td>1,328</td>
<td>1,202</td>
<td>(9.5%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Property Crime Totals  | 10,749| 10,220| (4.9%)|

### IN BRIEF
2008 National Crime Volume
Property Crime Down 0.8%
- Burglary Down 2.0%
- Larceny Down 0.3%
- Motor Vehicle Theft Down 12.7%
4.3.3 Total Major Crime

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total Major Crime</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>% Chg</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Major Index Crimes</td>
<td>12,374</td>
<td>11,758</td>
<td>(5.0%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The combined total part-one crime index for the City of Aurora was reduced by 5.0%. Overall, the total number of crimes dropped from 12,374 in 2008 to 11,758 in 2009. This continues the downward trend from 2007 which had 13,682 Major Index Crimes.

4.4 Assessment of Traffic Enforcement Efforts

The Police Department continued its focus on traffic enforcement to increase safety on Aurora’s roadways. The Department’s 10 member Motorcycle Enforcement Team (M.E.T.) concentrated on speed enforcement efforts in high-violation areas. The Department took advantage of Federal funding opportunities to conduct five DUI checkpoints and participated in two seatbelt enforcement campaigns. During the course of 2009, traffic officers, along with other members of the Department, participated in one Presidential, one First Lady, and one Vice-Presidential escort, as well as handling traffic control for the Colorado Colfax Marathon, Fourth of July City Fireworks event, the annual Harley Toy Run, and the Household Chemical Roundup.

4.4.1 Top 5 Accident Locations

The Department continues to focus efforts on reducing the number of injury-causing accidents on Aurora’s roadways. Primary attention is given to those intersections with the highest volume of accidents. In 2009, there were no fatal accidents at the top 5 accident locations.
4.4.2 Total Traffic Accidents

In 2009, there were 19 fatalities associated with traffic accidents, which is an increase of one over 2008. Injury accidents were down by 18.2%, while overall accidents were down 2.1%.

4.4.3 On-Line Non-injury Accident Reporting

Citizen’s use of on-line (kiosk) reporting from non-injury accidents decreased by 1.1% in 2009.

4.4.4 Traffic Summons Productivity

Traffic summons productivity showed a decrease in both parking and all other traffic summonses. The issuance of non-parking violations dropped by 3.5% for Municipal and State summonses. Parking citations showed a decrease of 4.0%.
Section 5: Victim Services Unit

The Aurora Police Department Victim Services Unit is comprised of five (5) full-time employees. During 2009, Victim Services made 10,944 victim contacts, to include mailing of victim right brochures and letters, as well as phone contacts and in-person crisis intervention contacts and interviews.

The Victim Services Unit relies heavily on its volunteers. In 2009, the Unit trained 12 new volunteers. The Victim Advocate volunteers donated 1997.25 hours of service to victims, witnesses and families of victims in the City of Aurora, as well as doing office work, and attending monthly meetings and Unit events.

In 2009, the Victim Services Unit worked with the ARC of Aurora to establish a Collaborative Team to address the system response to crime victims with developmental disabilities. Eight members of the Aurora Police Department are on this team and attended a National Conference in October of 2009.

Victim Services has continued to expand their services to victims of Identity Theft. They have established a process to contact victims whose cases have been inactivated at the Law Enforcement level. The unit now contacts these victims and provides resources and recovery information in hopes of preventing further victimization.

A Victim Services volunteer conducted the first Victim Satisfaction Survey in Aurora. The results were extremely helpful in shaping future goals and objectives of the Unit.

On October 12, 2009, the Victim Services Unit hosted a candle light ceremony in recognition of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. Victims who lost their lives in Domestic Violence incidents in 2008 were remembered and a short synopsis of each of their cases was given. Attendees were educated on the dynamics of Domestic Violence and the resources available to those in need of assistance.
Major Case Resolutions

Aarone Thompson – On September 28th, 2009, Aaron Thompson was found guilty of Child Abuse Resulting in Death in addition to 30 other various counts involving Aarone and the other children living in the household. In November of 2009 he was sentenced to 114 years in prison. Aarone’s remains have not been found. Lead Investigator was Crimes Against Children Det. Randy Hansen.

Rodney Morales – On October 23rd, 2009, Harry Williams was convicted of 1st Degree Homicide in the death of Aurora City Code Officer Rodney Morales in October of 2008. He is now serving a life sentence without the possibility of parole. Lead Investigator was Major Crimes/Homicide Det. Gretchen Fronapfel.

Javad Marshall Fields and Vivian Wolfe – On May 7th, 2009, Robert Ray was convicted of 1st Degree Homicide in the deaths of Javad Marshall Fields and Vivian Wolfe. On June 8th, 2009, Ray was sentenced to death. Javad Marshall Fields was killed to keep him from testifying against Ray in a homicide trial. Vivian Wolfe was Marshall-Fields’ girlfriend and was with him at the time of his death. Lead Investigator was Major Crimes/Homicide Det. Gretchen Fronapfel.

The Patterson Case – On March 24th, 2009, Pamela Patterson was found murdered in her home in Aurora. Her 3 and 4 year old daughters were missing. Investigators feared that the two girls might be with their father, Brian Patterson. An Amber Alert was issued, and the Aurora Police Department partnered with the Rocky Mountain Safe Streets Task Force, the Rocky Mountain Child Abduction Team, the Colorado Department of Public Safety, and the Colorado Bureau of Investigation in a frantic hunt for Brian Patterson and his daughters. The Colorado State Patrol and the Thornton Police Department located Mr. Patterson and conducted a high risk traffic stop. Mr. Patterson shot himself but the two little girls were rescued from the vehicle physically unharmed.
COPLINK

During late April of 2009, the Aurora Police Department went live with COPLINK, a new statewide network designed to empower officers and deputies to fight crime in the smartest of ways – through state-of-the-art data sharing and analysis.

In 2008, the Colorado Information Sharing Consortium (CISC) was formed by public safety leaders from across the state. It currently has 42 members and is growing. The CISC achieved its critical breakthrough in late April of 2009, when, for the first time, they achieved full data linkup between many of the Front Range and Western Slope agencies. The vision is that eventually all 154 police departments and 62 sheriffs’ offices in Colorado, along with every police officer and deputy, will be on-line.

COPLINK is a data search engine that links criminal records from participating law enforcement agencies. It allows street cops and investigators to analyze information regarding individuals, property, vehicles and incidents from various state and local law enforcement records. For example, investigators can identify suspects on bits of information such as height, weight, hair color and style or the placement of a tattoo, scar, or piercing. A vehicle might be identified by make, model, color, style, body damage, license plate or even partial license plate information.

By utilizing COPLINK, investigators can spot trends quicker and generate leads faster to solve crimes, sometimes in minutes rather than weeks or months.

Online Crime Reporting

In 2009, there were 53,412 police reports generated. Included in that number were 2,225 criminal (non-traffic) reports made online by the “Online Officer.” In comparison, in 2008, there were 55,714 police reports generated and of those, 1,778 were online reports. Although the percentage of online reporting remains small, those numbers combined equate to over 4,000 reports that patrol officers did not have to take and instead, were able to use that time for other policing concerns. In late 2009, the online crime reporting system was enhanced by giving citizens the opportunity to add a supplemental report to burglary reports taken by police officers. If the citizen did not have the all details as to what was taken in the burglary they can now add that information online (e.g. serial numbers and stolen items not discovered until a day later).

Other features were added to the updated Police Department website during 2009. The Media Relations Unit is now utilizing Twitter. Followers can link to the website where more in-depth information about news, emergencies, safety information and traffic can be found.
Metro Gang Task Force

The Metro Gang task Force (MGTF) is comprised of Federal, State and Local Law Enforcement entities tasked with targeting gang-related violence and/or drug activity.

In 2009, the Metro Gang Task Force (MGTF) provided investigative assistance with a violent group of individuals from the Money Stacking Kings gang, which was responsible for numerous stolen vehicles and burglaries up and down the Front Range. Active surveillance and investigation led to MGTF agents obtaining search warrants and the recovery of a stolen vehicle, electronics, weapons and other stolen items.

MGTF arrested eighteen members of the Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13) gang after a lengthy investigation. Twenty-nine individuals were charged across several states. Large amounts of methamphetamine and cocaine were recovered, as well as smaller amounts of heroin. Also seized were sixteen firearms and eighteen thousand dollars in cash.

Lakewood Police Department and the Denver Police Department received assistance from MGTF during the investigation of the Evil Minded Soldiers gang. Several search warrants were executed, eleven suspects arrested, and seven firearms as well as a variety of illegal drugs were seized.

Agents of the Metro Gang Task Force played a substantial role in the prosecution and conviction of Willie Clark for his role in the murder of Denver Bronco Darrent Williams. The agents secured vital information from criminal defendants in MGTF’s 2008 Rolling Thirties investigation and made these defendants and their information available to the Denver Police Department. Without these defendants and their information, the 2010 successful prosecution of Clark was highly unlikely.

Volunteers in Policing

The Department relies on the support of its volunteers who work in almost all areas of the of the organization, to include the Records Section, Property Unit, Training Academy, Pawn Detail, Law Enforcement Explorer Scouts, Neighborhood Watch and the Chaplain Unit. This year our volunteers contributed 24,063 hours to the Department, providing us with approximately $501,473 in services.
Vigilant Front Range Exercise

The Vigilant Front Range Exercise was designed to test varied facets of local emergency response capability. The exercise was held on May 15th, 2009 and lasted for twenty six hours. Forty agencies between Colorado Springs and the Aurora joined in testing their emergency plans in Communications, Intelligence, Counterterrorism, Incident Management, Public Information, Medical Triage as well as Medical Surge. Five hundred participants from Police, Fire, FBI, EMS, Military and Hospitals added to the realism; some for as long as nineteen hours. Two hundred volunteers played victims who had been horribly injured or killed by a terrorist explosion.

The scenario began with intelligence pre-event scenarios injected 30 days prior, culminating in a simulated attack on Peterson AFB in Colorado Springs at approximately 9 a.m. and Buckley AFB in Aurora at 6 p.m. on May 15\textsuperscript{th}. The exercise ended on May 16\textsuperscript{th}. Beyond the first response, players were challenged to conduct and successfully conclude an extensive investigation into the identification of the suspects, motives and future threats. University of Colorado Hospital and The Children’s Hospital were faced with casualty-laden helicopters as they responded to medical surge issues.

In the end, the lessons learned will serve our community for years to come.
Customer Service Initiative

The Customer Service Initiative was designed and implemented by Division Chief Ken Murphy in 2009. The goal was to evaluate crime victims' level of satisfaction with the response of the Police Department to routine investigations on routine calls as well as the follow-up. Eighty percent of police responses involve these routine calls.

The routine calls were entered into a computer system which randomly picked calls. APD volunteers called the victims of those crimes to ask a series of questions as to how the calls were handled and to take suggestions for improved service.

Thirty-five percent of the victims contacted responded to the survey. Ninety percent of respondents indicated overall satisfaction with the officer(s) who took their reports and the follow-up investigations when appropriate.

Suggestions for improved service from survey respondents are being carefully analyzed and will be acted on as the Customer Service Initiative continues into 2010.

Aurora Police
Department Crime Lab

In 2009, the Crime Lab handled 4,138 lab requests and 1,863 calls for service. Additions to the capabilities of the Lab in 2009 include a full-time computer forensics detective. New equipment was acquired to enhance audio forensics capabilities as well as a new computer and software to improve the capability to do video and photo enhancement.
Section Seven: Future Efforts

Youth at Risk Initiatives

Effective behavioral modification programs for juveniles who have been charged with misdemeanor crimes in the Aurora Municipal Court have been limited in the past. The same held true for children on the brink of involving themselves in criminal groups and activities.

In 2009, the Aurora Police Department partnered with two non-profit organizations in applying for federal grant monies to fund programs for at risk youth in our community. After being awarded those grants, Aurora Mental Health and the Mile Hi Council/Comitis initiated programs aimed at providing counseling, education and support services for at risk youth in our community. Municipal Court judges and police officers are now able to refer at risk youth as well as their families to resources dedicated to directing children’s lives in a positive direction versus a life of crime.

Expansion of the Photo Red Light System

The City of Aurora mounted Photo Red Light camera systems at four major intersections in 2006. The city has approved plans to expand the system to cover 10 additional intersections for the purpose of reducing the number and seriousness of accidents and injuries at additional intersections.

The new camera system has the capacity to provide higher quality photographs than the four existing cameras. They will also cover more lanes, capture photos of all the vehicles running a light, versus only the first one, and capture rolling right turns.

Expansion of the Aurora Police Website

We are continuing to improve our website, which was redesigned in 2008 and 2009. 2010 will see further innovation with Neighborhood Crime Reports at the fingertips of our citizens. We will also be implementing a new social media entity that will disseminate messages from the Police Department to subscriber’s phones, e-mail, and text reference traffic, safety, and news. Subscribers will be able to choose what types of messages they want to receive, and how they want to receive them.

Tactical Emergency Medical Service (TEMS) Project

In 2009, the Aurora Police and Fire Departments developed a pilot program designed to provide emergency medical care in the field during high-risk SWAT operations. In late 2009, six paramedics from the Police and Fire Departments were selected for the Tactical Emergency Medical Service (TEMS) and shortly thereafter, began training with Special Weapons and Tactics Team (SWAT). There are two important benefits to this program. An injured officer, civilian, or suspect will have access to rapid life-saving care by trained EMS professionals despite the hazards that would oftentimes delay such treatment. Secondly, this program is expected to reduce the impact that SWAT operations have on Fire Department resources. By assigning SWAT medics to SWAT operations there will no longer be a requirement for the Fire Department to stage for lengthy periods of time or respond to such incidents with a separate engine. This pilot program is expected to be operational in 2010. The evaluation of the program’s effectiveness and efficiency will be carried out by the Police and Fire Chiefs.
Section Eight: Conclusion

8.1 General Crime Trend Summary

Overall, the city had an exceptional year of crime reduction. Decreases that began in 2006 continued into 2007 and 2008 in all Major Crime Totals, even as the population continued to grow. When compared to the other 41 comparable cities, Aurora’s statistics continue to remain well below the average numbers.

8.1 Five Year Crime Summary

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Section Nine: Honors

**Distinguished Service Cross**
Sergeant Jim Lesnansky  
Officer Thomas Beach  
Office Megan Shenefelt  
Officer Jeremy Sexton

**Life Saving Award**
Sergeant Tim O’Brien  
Officer Edward Acuti  
Officer Jon Marek  
Officer Gene Salberg  
Officer Justin Shipley

**Meritorious Service Ribbon**
Agent Keith Booton  
Officer John Christy  
Officer Andrew Crowley  
Officer Tom Cramer  
Officer Steve Spanos  
Officer John Wilton  
Officer Jay Van Kam  
Officer David Wells  
Officer Paul Timmons  
Officer Jeremy Fink
Chief’s Unit Citations

**Sex Crimes Unit**
Captain Kevin Flynn, Sergeant Sue Baker, Agent Ron Hahn, Agent Keith Booton, Agent Maryann Trujillo, Officer Dave Cernich, Officer Tim King, Officer Megan Shenefelt, Administrative Assistant Jean Booton

**Professional Standards Unit**

**Property Unit**
Lieutenant Bret Jeans, Sergeant Pat Smith, Property Technician Maria Barrera, Property Technician Jerry Correia, Property Technician Stephanie Evans, Property Technician Guadalupe Gonzales, Property Technician Mike Mittleider, Manager of Internal Audit Ann Marie Isaac-Heslop, Senior Internal Auditor Daniel Pia, Programmer Analyst II James Moya
Colorado Attorney General’s Excellence in Law Enforcement Award

In November of 2009, Aurora Police Sergeant Joe Young was recognized for his exemplary 34 years of service to the State of Colorado as a Law Enforcement Officer by Colorado Attorney General John Suthers.

Sergeant Young was recognized for his leading role in the Aarone Thompson case as well as the Patterson homicide case in which an AMBER ALERT was issued for two young girls following the murder of their mother. His service on the SWAT team was recognized along with his overall devotion to Public Safety.