2011 Annual Report

Editor: Cathy Plevy
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<td>65</td>
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<td>Criminal Investigations Division</td>
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<td>Notable Arrests</td>
<td>67</td>
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<td>Internal Affairs Complaint Investigations</td>
<td>74</td>
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<td>Victim/Witness Assistant Statistics</td>
<td>75</td>
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<td>Gang Unit</td>
<td>76</td>
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<td>Tactical Enforcement Unit</td>
<td>78</td>
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<td>Notable Incidents</td>
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<td>Calls to Dispatch</td>
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<td>Coordination of Emergency Management Efforts</td>
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</table>
Messages and Statistics

Chief Ronald A. Ricucci

The purpose of this annual report is to provide information about your Police Department, about crime in the City of Takoma Park, accomplishments of the Department and to explain how everyone can make our community safer. The City of Takoma Park Police Department will continue to work to reduce serious crime in 2012 as we did in 2011. The department will work to target auto thefts, which was our number one crime in 2011. We will continue to provide high caliber service to our residents during these difficult economic times.

The City of Takoma Park Police Department will work diligently in 2012 to continue to make a positive change. We will continue to do all that we can to ensure a safe place to live and work for all of our residents and visitors. The City of Takoma Park appreciates the support by all members of the community. As your Chief, it is my job to earn and keep your trust by providing high quality police services. I remain committed to that task, as do the men and women who work for the Police Department. To view the report on-line, please visit www.takomaparkmd.gov.

Crime Statistics

Andrew Gucciardo, Crime Analyst

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRIME STATISTICS FOR THE CITY OF TAKOMA PARK – 2010 AND 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% Totals</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Justifiable Homicide*

For UCR purposes, only aggravated assaults are included in the totals

Uniform Crime Report (UCR) statistics for year-end 2011, as compared to year-end 2010, show a 13.5% decrease in Part 1 Crimes.
## 5-Year Average Percent Change

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>2008</th>
<th>2009</th>
<th>2010</th>
<th>2011</th>
<th>Average</th>
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<td>4</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>Agg. Assault</td>
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<td>45</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>43</td>
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<td>115</td>
<td>109</td>
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<td>32</td>
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<td>26</td>
<td>26</td>
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<tr>
<td>Auto Theft</td>
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<td>414.6</td>
<td>414.6</td>
<td>414.6</td>
<td>414.6</td>
<td>414.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>794</td>
<td>833</td>
<td>739</td>
<td>764</td>
<td>653</td>
<td>565</td>
<td>756.6</td>
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</table>
Total Part 1 Crime

-13.5% Change Between 2010–2011
## Total Part 1 Percent Change

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crime Category</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>% Change +/−</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homicide</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggravated Assault</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larceny</td>
<td>364</td>
<td>317</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auto Theft</td>
<td>63</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>653</td>
<td>565</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Breakdown of Crime by Area

Andrew Gucciardo, Crime Analyst

The following data represents the 2011 Part I crime statistics for the City of Takoma Park. Included is a monthly break-down of Part I crimes in each respective Ward, as well as a crime comparison of each Ward to the Total Part I Crime that occurred in Takoma Park. In reviewing the data, you will see that Ward 6 represents the most crime (29%), followed by Ward 3 (21%), and Ward 1 (17%).

Below is a bar chart that represents each Part I crime total and a pie chart that depicts the percentage of Part I Crimes committed in each Ward. This report was developed using Uniform Crime Report (UCR) data.
TOTAL PART I CRIME: BY WARDS
Jan – Dec 2011
Breakdown of Crime by Area – Cont.

PART I CRIME STATISTICS: WARD 1
JANUARY 1, 2011– DECEMBER 31, 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRIME</th>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
<th>Apr</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>Jun</th>
<th>Jul</th>
<th>Aug</th>
<th>Sept</th>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
<th>Dec</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homicide</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assault</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larceny</td>
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<td>4</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auto Theft</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>96</td>
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PART I CRIME COMPARISON
CITY OF TAKOMA PARK & WARD 1 TOTALS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRIME</th>
<th>Ward 1</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>% of Total Crime</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homicide</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assault</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larceny</td>
<td>57</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>18%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auto Theft</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>96</td>
<td>565</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

Ward 1 accounts for approximately **17%** of Part I Crimes in 2011.
Breakdown of Crime by Area – Cont.

**PART I CRIME STATISTICS: WARD 2**
**JANUARY 1, 2011 – DECEMBER 31, 2011**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRIME</th>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
<th>Apr</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>Jun</th>
<th>Jul</th>
<th>Aug</th>
<th>Sept</th>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
<th>Dec</th>
<th>Total</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homicide</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
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</tr>
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<td>51</td>
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<td>15</td>
<td>6</td>
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**PART I CRIME COMPARISON**
**CITY OF TAKOMA PARK & WARD 2 TOTALS**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>CRIME</th>
<th>Ward 2</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>% of Total Crime</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assault</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>12%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burglary</td>
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<td>109</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larceny</td>
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<td>317</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auto Theft</td>
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<td>77</td>
<td>16%</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>90</td>
<td>565</td>
<td>16%</td>
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Ward 2 accounts for approximately **16%** of Part I Crimes in 2011.
## Breakdown of Crime by Area – Cont.

### PART I CRIME STATISTICS: WARD 3

**JANUARY 1, 2011 – DECEMBER 31, 2011**

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<th>Apr</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>Jun</th>
<th>Jul</th>
<th>Aug</th>
<th>Sept</th>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
<th>Dec</th>
<th>Total</th>
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</thead>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<tr>
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<td>2</td>
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</tr>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>7</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>72</td>
</tr>
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<td>1</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>9</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>4</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>10</td>
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<td>9</td>
<td>119</td>
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</table>

### PART I CRIME COMPARISON

**CITY OF TAKOMA PARK & WARD 3 TOTALS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRIME</th>
<th>Ward 3</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>% of Total Crime</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homicide</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assault</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larceny</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auto Theft</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>23%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>119</td>
<td>565</td>
<td>21%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ward 3 accounts for approximately 21% of Part I Crimes in 2011.
Breakdown of Crime by Area – Cont.

**PART I CRIME STATISTICS: WARD 4**
**JANUARY 1, 2011 – DECEMBER 31, 2011**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRIME</th>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
<th>Apr</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>Jun</th>
<th>Jul</th>
<th>Aug</th>
<th>Sept</th>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
<th>Dec</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homicide</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larceny</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auto Theft</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>6</td>
<td>34</td>
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</table>

**PART I CRIME COMPARISON**
**CITY OF TAKOMA PARK & WARD 4 TOTALS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRIME</th>
<th>Ward 4</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>% of Total Crime</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homicide</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assault</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larceny</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auto Theft</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>34</td>
<td>565</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ward 4 accounts for approximately 6% of Part I Crimes in 2011.
Breakdown of Crime by Area – Cont.

PART I CRIME STATISTICS: WARD 5
JANUARY 1, 2011 – DECEMBER 31, 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRIME</th>
<th>Jan</th>
<th>Feb</th>
<th>Mar</th>
<th>Apr</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>Jun</th>
<th>Jul</th>
<th>Aug</th>
<th>Sept</th>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
<th>Dec</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homicide</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<tr>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
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<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
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PART I CRIME COMPARISON
CITY OF TAKOMA PARK & WARD 5 TOTALS

<table>
<thead>
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<th>CRIME</th>
<th>Ward 5</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>% of Total Crime</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td>Homicide</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assault</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>31%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larceny</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>10%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auto Theft</td>
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<td>77</td>
<td>1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>62</td>
<td>565</td>
<td>11%</td>
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Ward 5 accounts for approximately 11% of Part I Crimes in 2011.
# Breakdown of Crime by Area – Cont.

## PART I CRIME STATISTICS: WARD 6
**JANUARY 1, 2011 – DECEMBER 31, 2011**

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<th>Apr</th>
<th>May</th>
<th>Jun</th>
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<th>Sept</th>
<th>Oct</th>
<th>Nov</th>
<th>Dec</th>
<th>Total</th>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assault</td>
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<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
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<td>1</td>
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</tr>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>3</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Larceny</td>
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<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auto Theft</td>
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<td>1</td>
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<td>2</td>
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<td>4</td>
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<td>1</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>15</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>16</td>
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<td>13</td>
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<td>16</td>
<td>13</td>
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<td>164</td>
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</table>

## PART I CRIME COMPARISON
**CITY OF TAKOMA PARK & WARD 6 TOTALS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRIME</th>
<th>Ward 6</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>% of Total Crime</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Homicide</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>66%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>34%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assault</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>109</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larceny</td>
<td>92</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auto Theft</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>77</td>
<td>27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TOTAL</strong></td>
<td>164</td>
<td>565</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Ward 6 accounts for approximately **29%** of Part I Crimes in 2011.
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF

The Office of the Chief consists of the Chief of Police, one Captain, a Research/Policy Manager and, the Executive Assistant/Public Information Officer.

Speed Cameras:

Automated Speed Enforcement Technology

Automated enforcement is the use of technology to enforce traffic laws. To date, the most common form of automated enforcement implemented in the United States is red light cameras, which detect and photograph vehicles that commit red light violations. According to the Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS), approximately 300 communities in the United States use red light cameras.

Automated speed enforcement (speed cameras) is a less commonly used form of automated enforcement used to address vehicle speeds, automobile collisions and speed related injuries. Speed cameras detect the speed of motor vehicles and photograph vehicles exceeding a preset speed threshold. Jurisdictions use speed cameras to supplement traditional speed enforcement programs.

The use of automated speed enforcement does not eliminate the need for personnel. In particular, automated speed enforcement technology requires the hiring of trained personnel to set up, maintain, and monitor equipment.
There are three forms of speed monitoring systems: fixed pole, mobile, and portable camera units (PCUs). Both mobile and fixed speed camera systems consist of a radar antenna and a camera system. A mobile system is mounted in a marked van, which can be moved around to different pre-determined enforcement sites. Fixed pole cameras operate around the clock from a single location. Mobile camera systems require staffing by a trained operator, while fixed pole cameras require staff visits for the purpose of equipment monitoring and data downloads. PCUs can be moved around to different locations. The City of Takoma Park utilizes fixed pole and PCUs.

**Program Description**

State legislation authorizes the use of photo-radar speed monitoring on residential streets and school zones where the posted speed limit is 35 miles per hour or less. Vehicle owners are subject to a $40.00, non-moving violation citation if the vehicle speed exceeds the posted limit by 12 mph or more. (At the time of inception, the program issued violations for exceeding the posted limit by 11 mph or more). The citation is a civil penalty and is treated as a non-moving violation. The civil penalty is not recorded on the owner’s driving record by the State Motor Vehicle Administration, no “points” are assigned, and insurance providers are not notified.

Through provisions in a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Montgomery County, citations that were issued by the City of Takoma Park were processed by Montgomery County. Revenues from the citations were initially remitted back to the City of Takoma Park. However, in October 2009, this policy changed and citations are now processed by ACS Solutions directly with Takoma Park.

**Location of Fixed Pole Cameras**

Takoma Park’s Safe Speed Program started out utilizing four fixed pole cameras at four different sites. These fixed pole sites operate 24 hours per day, seven days per week. The fixed pole sites are located as follows:

- 7200 block of New Hampshire Avenue (southbound)
- 7100 block of New Hampshire Avenue (northbound)
- 500 block of Ethan Allen Avenue (westbound)
- 500 block of Ethan Allen Avenue (eastbound)
These automated enforcement locations were determined by traffic studies completed by ACS Solutions at different locations throughout the City, as well as through accident data obtained from the Maryland State Highway Administration and the Takoma Park Police Department’s records section. Thirteen sites were chosen for traffic surveys which assessed traffic volume and violation activity at each location. The surveys were taken over a two-hour time period, with three general timeframes. The times used were 7:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 3:00 p.m., with the locations being school zones and high traffic areas. The two locations with the most violations were chosen to have the automated units installed.

The first two weeks of the cameras’ operation were used as a public awareness period, with “warnings” only being sent to those drivers exceeding the posted speed limit by 11 mph or more. For the first nine months, the number of violations from the two speed cameras on New Hampshire Avenue supported the need for these systems. The camera in the 7100 block of New Hampshire Avenue (northbound) recorded 30,500 vehicles that were in violation of the 35 mph speed limit.

The camera in the 7200 block of New Hampshire Avenue (southbound) during the same time period, recorded 19,954 violations of the 35 mph speed limit. These numbers reflect only those violations that met the standard for approval, and citations were issued.

On October 1, 2009, the Maryland State Legislature in Annapolis raised the violation limit from 11 miles per hour over the posted speed limit to 12 miles per hour over the posted speed limit. From January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010, the speed camera in the 7100 block of New Hampshire Avenue recorded 16,647 violations of the 35 mile per hour speed limit with threshold increase. The camera in the 7200 block of New Hampshire Avenue, during the same time period, recorded 9,092 violations of the 35 mile per hour speed limit.

From January 1, 2011 through December 31, 2011, the violations went up from the previous year, partially due to the fact that construction projects were taking place along New Hampshire Avenue which shut down several lanes at a time.

During the 2011 period, the violations for the northbound New Hampshire Avenue camera were recorded at 19,055 violations. The violations for the southbound New Hampshire Avenue camera were recorded at 11,364 violations.
**Refer to graph #1 for violation comparisons by year and location**

Traffic collisions along the roadways that were selected for speed camera enforcement were the City Council’s main focus when approving the installation of the speed cameras. Crash data collected from reports during the years 2007 and 2008 on New Hampshire Avenue, as well as along Ethan Allen Avenue, were compiled; speed appeared to be a factor in most of these collisions.

During 2007 and 2008, 413 accidents were recorded along the stretch of New Hampshire Avenue within the City limits. These collisions included property damage and personal injuries. The data collected for Ethan Allen Avenue during the same time period reflected 31 accidents, which appeared to be quite a large number for a two-lane roadway.

The number of collisions on these two roadways has been greatly reduced since the installation of the speed cameras. State roadway improvements, including new barriers and signals, were also made to protect pedestrians. The number of collisions along New Hampshire Avenue has been reduced from the 413 collisions in 2007 and 2008 to 10 collisions in 2011. The number of collisions along Ethan Allen Avenue has been reduced from 32 collisions to one collision in 2011 (with no collisions reported for 2010).

**Refer to graph #2 for collision comparisons by year and location**

In 2010, the Police Department looked at two other areas of concern, not only because of collisions that had occurred, but the potential for more serious collisions due to the amount of pedestrian traffic in the area. The 900 and 1000 blocks of University Boulevard had already experienced eight collisions in 2010 and, with the bus stops, apartments, and businesses in this area, the Department requested a speed survey to be conducted along University Boulevard.

The results of the speed survey along the 900 and 1000 blocks of University Boulevard recorded 112 vehicles exceeding the posted speed limit by 12 miles per hour or more.

In March 2011, a portable camera unit (PCU) was placed in the 900 block of University Boulevard. As is standard policy, a two-week warning was given to increase public awareness, a press release was given to the media outlets, and the location of the PCU was broadcast on the City’s website.
From March 2011 through December 2011, this camera recorded 10,567 violations of the posted 35 mile per hour speed limit. These are actual citations that were approved to be mailed out.

Collisions were reduced from eight collisions in 2010 to one collision in 2011.

The Police Department also looked at the 900 and 1000 blocks of East West Highway. This area is similar to University Boulevard with heavy pedestrian and vehicular traffic, bus stops, and businesses. The amount of collisions reported for 2010 was 19 collisions. A speed survey was conducted and, in a 24-hour period in March 2010, there were 1,323 vehicles recorded traveling at a rate of speed of 12 or more miles per hour over the 30-mile per hour posted speed limit.

The East West Highway camera took over a year to be fully operational. The State Highway Administration required new equipment and had new regulations that had to be met before they would grant the permit for the camera.

Finally, in October 2011, the speed camera went into operation in the 900 block of East West Highway (westbound). The standard two-week warning period was provided to increase public awareness, a statement was released to the media outlets and the new site was broadcast on the City’s website.

Once the warning period ended, 1,126 citations were issued for violations of the posted 35 mile per hour speed limit.

Accident data for this location showed two collisions in 2011, which occurred prior to the installation of the speed camera. More accurate analysis will be done at the end of 2012 to evaluate the success of this camera location.

The department is currently assessing the 7400 block of Carroll Avenue as another possible site for a speed camera system.

One police officer and one civilian employee direct the program for the City. Anyone with speed camera questions can call the Safe Speed number of 301-891-7138 and leave a message and someone will get back to you as soon as possible. Any further questions may be directed to Chief Ronald Ricucci at 301-891-7104.
Accident Count

- 2007/2008
- 2009
- 2010
- 2011

(5001/5002) 400/500 blk. of Ethan Allen Ave: 2007/2008 - 2, 2009 - 0, 2010 - 1, 2011 - 3, 0
(5005) 900 blk. of University Blvd: 2007/2008 - 0, 2009 - 0, 2010 - 8, 2011 - 1
(5006) 900 blk. of East West Hwy: 2007/2008 - 0, 2009 - 0, 2010 - 0, 2011 - 19, 2
Grants:

**FY2011 State Aid for Police Protection**

Each year the Department provides information to the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention to support its funding under the State Aid for Police Protection Program. The formula grant provides funds to the City in return for amounts budgeted for police expenditures, actual expenditures for public safety, and levels of staffing and equipment that the agency maintains on hand. The information provided is used to determine the City's share of the overall amount appropriated by the State for the year's program allocation. For both FY 2011 and FY 2012, the City received $261,254 through the program.

**FFY2011 Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) Grant**

The Department applied for and received a direct award amount of $11,159 in FY 2012 under this program of the BJA. This award has been used to cover the salary of the part-time research and policy development position. The position's duties include looking at cutting edge developments in law enforcement to assess the feasibility of applying new programs or technologies in the Takoma Park Police Department. The position's responsibilities also include review of existing directives to ensure that they are up to current law enforcement standards.

**FFY2010 State Homeland Security Grant Program**

The Department receives pass through funding originating from the Department of Homeland Security provided to the State, then awarded to Montgomery County. The portion of the award earmarked specifically for law enforcement purposes is then sub-awarded to major municipalities based on a ratio of the number of officers the municipality provides in its department to the number of officers employed within the entire county. In October 2011 the Department was informed that its share of the FFY2010 funding would be $7,540, which represents a decrease of approximately 1/3 of the amount received in the previous year. Expenditures under this grant program must be for equipment or other items specified in the Federal Approved Equipment List (AEL) promulgated by the Department of Homeland Security, which consists mostly of emergency management equipment and supplies, as well as anti-terrorism equipment. The department has tentatively identified that the funding will be used to replace filters for breathing respirator masks issued to departmental personnel. The existing supply of respirators has
reached the expiration of its intended shelf life. The expenditure will also support the inter-operability of this type of equipment with that used by the County police force.

**FFY2011 Bulletproof Vest Partnership (BVP) Award**

The Department has applied for and been awarded funding from the Bureau of Justice Assistance to be used to help offset the costs of providing ballistic armor to its police officers. The Department issues armor that meets standards promulgated by the National Institute of Justice and is designed to protect against the types of threats most likely to be encountered by law enforcement professionals. A large number of units were due for replacement in 2011-2012, so the amount awarded was somewhat higher than in past years. The agency award in FFY2011 was $8,742 and can be used within the subsequent three year period. In accordance with requirements of the program that are new this year, the Police Department has implemented a policy requiring the wearing of the body armor by all uniformed patrol officers.
International Walk to School Day:

On October 5, 2011, students in Takoma Park joined students from around the globe by walking to school. Chief Ricucci gave brief remarks at Takoma Park Elementary School and Piney Branch Elementary School.

Heading Towards Zero Deaths

On August 5, 2011, Takoma Park Police participated in an aggressive traffic safety effort aimed to cut fatalities in Maryland’s deadliest month. Takoma Park Police joined other law enforcement agencies throughout Maryland to crack down on speeders and impaired, distracted, or aggressive drivers. During the month of August, traffic safety enforcement operations were elevated as a part of a statewide effort called Toward Zero Deaths, a high-profile initiative to continue working toward Maryland’s ultimate goal of zero traffic fatalities.

During the weekend of August 5-7, at various times and places, Takoma Park Police directed 25 hours towards this initiative, and issued the following:

State Tickets: 17
Warnings: 7
Criminal Citations: 1 (Controlled Dangerous Substance (CDS) in a vehicle)
Safety Equipment Repair Orders (SERO): 3
Driving While Intoxicated (DWI): 1

Chief Ricucci stated he was very pleased with the enforcement efforts. During this period of stepped up enforcement, there were no accidents, which is the ultimate goal.
Takoma Park 5K Challenge – May 1

Takoma Park and the Safe Routes to School 5K Challenge received a full write-up on Michelle Obama's Let's Move website blog in May 2011. You can find her write-up at [http://www.letsmove.gov/blog/2011/05/09/community-running-festival-gets-kids-moving-keeps-them-moving](http://www.letsmove.gov/blog/2011/05/09/community-running-festival-gets-kids-moving-keeps-them-moving). The event, which supports walking and bicycle health and safety activities at area schools, was a huge success with over 700 registrants.
Chief's Click it or Ticket Campaign:

The statewide 2011 Chiefs’ Challenge - Click it or Ticket, which emphasizes safety restraint enforcement, ran through the month of May. The Department issued a total of 478 seatbelt violation tickets.

During this campaign, officers focus on enforcement of the state’s seat belt laws. Officers stand at various places throughout the City during the campaign in order to issue tickets to any person not wearing a seatbelt or who does not have their child properly restrained.

Citizens are reminded that the driver, front seat passenger, and all other occupants under the age of 16 must wear a seat belt or be restrained by a child safety seat. The penalty for this violation is $25.00. A child under the age of 8, less than 4’9” tall, and weighing less than 65 pounds should be secured in an approved child safety seat if the vehicle is registered in Maryland. The penalty for this violation is $60.00.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, “Click it or Ticket” is one of the most successful seat belt enforcement campaigns ever, helping to increase the national seatbelt usage rate.
Nationwide Prescription Drug Take Back Day

On April 30 and October 29, the Takoma Park Police Department participated in the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Nationwide Prescription Drug Take-Back Day. The campaign gave the public an opportunity to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. They were given the option of bringing their prescriptions to the Takoma Park Police Department. The service was free and anonymous – no questions asked. There was a large turn-out for both events in Takoma Park.

Other participants in this initiative included the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy, the American Association of Poison Control Centers, the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America, D.A.R.E. America, the Federation of State Medical Boards, the U. S. Health Resources and Services Administration, the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the National Association of Attorneys General, the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives, the National Association of Boards of Pharmacy, the National District Attorneys Association, the National Sheriffs Association, and the Partnership@drugfree.org.
Collection of Toys for Children of Domestic Violence

During the week of December 12-16, Takoma Park Police partnered with Ana Valdez, resident of Takoma Park and domestic violence survivor, to collect toys for children of domestic violence through her organization, Angels Against Domestic Violence, Inc., a/k/a Angel’s Project, which is based in Silver Spring, Maryland. Toys were presented to the children at her organization’s Christmas gathering on December 17.

Takoma Park Police and Angels Against Domestic Violence, Inc. thank everyone for their generous donations/gifts for children of domestic violence that were collected during the holidays. Below is a note from the organization’s Executive Director, Ms. Ana Valdez:

"In the name of Angels Against Domestic Violence and all the children who enjoyed your gifts at the holidays, I want to thank Takoma Park Police for their help in coordinating this initiative and for their contributions. I would also like to thank all the people who made the dreams of all of our children come true, with such generous contributions. Because of this collaboration, parents were able to talk to their children about how important it is to work with the police in preventing domestic violence. Thank you so much and I hope this holiday will bring peace to you all." ~ Ana Valdez
New Officer

On August 15, Private Jon Goldin was sworn in as a Takoma Park Police Officer.

Refuse to be a Victim Seminar

On February 26, Chief Ricucci held a Refuse to be a Victim Seminar. This crime prevention and personal safety seminar was hosted by Janice Hart of the Front Royal, Virginia Police Department. Refuse to be a Victim is a seminar that teaches easy to understand methods you can use to increase awareness and prevent criminal confrontation. The seminar was extended to four hours so more time could be spent on topics that residents had requested. The seminar focused more on Takoma Park issues as a result of resident input.
Capital One Bank Robbery/Shooting on January 28

On March 24, the Montgomery County Grand Jury cleared the Takoma Park Police officers involved in the shooting at the Capital One Bank, located at 1181 University Boulevard, which occurred on January 28. Acting Lieutenant Tyrone Collington, Corporal Thomas Black, and Private First Class David Quante returned to duty immediately. Chief Ricucci thanked Chief Thomas Manger and the detectives from the Major Crimes Division of the Montgomery County Police Department for their excellent investigation. He also thanked State’s Attorney John McCarthy and his staff for their handling of the case. The cooperation among law enforcement agencies once again served the residents of Takoma Park and Montgomery County in an outstanding manner. In Chief Ricucci’s words: "There were many heroes on that cold, snowy day who played a role in saving the hostage. These three officers were a part of a team effort involving the Takoma Park, Prince George's County and Montgomery County Police Departments."
Hurricane Irene

Over the weekend of August 27-28, the City of Takoma Park suffered the chilling effects of Hurricane Irene. The hurricane's strong wind and rain knocked down trees, took down wires, and blew transformers that provide vital electricity. Over a period of eight hours, two-thirds of the City went dark, 90% of our traffic lights were knocked out, and many of our roads were blocked by downed trees and electrical wires. During this troubled period, a group of City employees once again demonstrated their commitment and dedication in their service to the residents of Takoma Park. Chief Ricucci said, "I consider it a privilege and honor to have had the opportunity during these very difficult and dangerous times to work with such an outstanding group of people. Through the efforts of these dedicated public servants, we were able to persevere under very trying conditions. Each one of these individuals in their various roles made a vital contribution in providing service to our residents. I would like to commend the following people who worked Saturday night for their outstanding efforts.

Todd Bolton (Arborist) and Troy Fingal (Public Works) - These two individuals responded to every downed tree and electrical wire in the City, where they set up blockades and taped off the areas to protect the public.

I want to thank Bobby Phillips who came in Saturday night and took care of leaks on the 2nd floor.

I want to commend the Police Department's Team 4, under the able leadership of Corporal Thomas Black, whose members included the following officers: Private
First Class Matthew Barber, Private First Class Ernest Atwell, Private First Class Abigail Gaines-Brown, and Private Jon Goldin. And, with the valuable assistance of Detective Rick Cannatella, who was working a detail, he was able to also provide his tree-cutting skills.

In the dispatch center, Mr. Darrell Mathew and Ms. Danyelle Gallop held the fort through numerous resident calls and unbelievable demands from the field.

In the Command Center in Gaithersburg, representing the City of Takoma Park, was Lieutenant Tyrone Collington and Crime Analyst Andrew Gucciardo, who provided the entire City with valuable intelligence concerning Pepco, the weather and Montgomery County services.

Last but not least, the Police Department's Public Information Officer, Cathy Plevy, who throughout the night and all day Sunday, continued to provide to the media and City residents continual updates and valuable intelligence. Keeping the community informed during this difficult crisis was a tremendous task.”

Safety at Metro Stations

Safe Takoma, Inc., in partnership with the Metro Transit Police, promoted "Safety at Metro Stations" by distributing a variety of informational brochures, safety whistles, and safety-related incentives on August 1 at the Takoma Metro Station.

The Takoma Park Police Department participated in the event, along with several other public safety institutions, to support locally-based Safe Takoma, Inc. and to assist in stressing the importance of personal safety during use of public transportation. Takoma Park Police Department personnel distributed brochures on safety topics and were available to answer any safety concerns that citizens may have had.
False Alarm Reduction Section – Burglar Alarms

The Takoma Park Police Department adopted the ordinance pertaining to alarms that is followed in Montgomery County. The Montgomery County alarm law was adopted because of concerns over police officer safety and to eliminate the misuse of police resources. Unfounded alarm calls also reduce the Police Department’s effectiveness and undermines our ability to respond to more critical calls. Because of issues with the alarm companies, the Department’s protocols were changed to reflect that Takoma Park Police will respond to ALL burglar alarms regardless of alarm status with the County. Alarm status can be followed up after.

*If you would like to find out if your alarm is registered, please contact the following:*

Department of Police  
False Alarm Reduction Section  
P.O. Box 7135  
Gaithersburg, MD 20898-7135  
(p) 240.773.6300  
(f) 240.773.6303  
[http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/police](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/police)

**Alarm User Registration**

- Every burglar alarm system must be registered with the False Alarm Reduction Section (FARS) before the system is placed into service. Registration does not apply to either fire or car alarm systems.

- It is your alarm/monitoring company’s responsibility to provide you with burglar alarm registration information at the time of sale or installation of your alarm
system. Every alarm/monitoring company that conducts business within
Montgomery County must be licensed by the FARS and must provide their license
number and registration number to the Emergency Communications Center
operators when requesting dispatch to an alarm activation.

- If you do not have an alarm/monitoring company, you may obtain registration
information directly from the FARS.

- A non-refundable $30 registration fee must be paid with each initial registration.
A separate registration must be obtained for each alarm user and/or location.
Registrations must be renewed on a biennial (every two years) basis at a cost of
$10. Failure to renew when required will result in no “free” false alarms and the
imposition of an additional $100 charge for every false alarm.

- Alarm registrations are not transferrable from one alarm user to another or from
one location to another. However, if you change alarm companies, mailing
address, or contact person information, you are not required to re-register your
alarm system. You are required, however, to advise the FARS in writing of said
change(s).

- You and your alarm company must notify the FARS when there is a relocation or
change in ownership of a property.
K9 Officer Diesel  
2003 - 2011

Rest in Peace

"Diesel was born in Hungary on May 5 2003. He had many accomplishments and received many awards as a Police Officer in Takoma Park. He apprehended well over a dozen "bad guys" and recovered countless amounts of narcotics ranging from inside vehicles, hotel rooms as well as hidden outside by the people who were selling them. Although all of his apprehensions were good, and just as important as the next, the two that I will always remember was when he captured the suspect who robbed the Eastern Carry-Out and the suspect who kept burglarizing the Game Exchange in Silver Spring. The Silver Spring incident led to search warrants which closed several other cases for Montgomery County. This was all due to Diesel's tracking and apprehending skills and his love for working.

The part of the job Diesel loved most was performing K9 demonstrations. Diesel loved the attention from the children; I always suspected that Diesel believed he was an over grown 2-year old child. He, along with the other K9's, Ryker and Ace, as well as the late great K9Shadow, are all very smart partners. When Diesel would locate drugs in a vehicle and was rewarded, he would strut back to our car
with his chest poked out and start barking; he was always a show off and he loved everyone as much as they loved him.

Diesel’s biggest accomplishment was when he captured my heart. He was not only a great Officer, he was my best friend and my “dude.” We not only worked together - we lived life together. We were never apart whether it was in uniform or at home. There aren’t any words that could ever describe the devastation of losing Diesel.

Diesel’s alarm clock was when he would hear me in the morning stir my first cup of coffee. No matter which one of his three beds he was in, he would come running because he knew it was time to go do what he did best and that was either going to work or enjoying a day off and being a best friend.

Thank you to everyone for all your kind thoughts, words and prayers - and thank you for understanding and respecting the pure pain that myself and my family are experiencing. I feel completely broken inside and have never in my life suffered such an ache in my heart - but it is comforting knowing how everyone, including those who are scared of dogs, loved Diesel. His life and career ended with dignity just as he deserved.

Please remember K983.”
“Diesel first came to me in August 2004. Within his first year, he made nine felony apprehensions with me. The one that was his best was the following:

Montgomery County put out a “police in trouble” call about a mile out of the City. I was monitoring that Channel and responded to assist. Upon arrival I was met by a Montgomery County Sergeant who advised me that one of their guys initiated a traffic stop on an MS-13 gang member and was violently attacked by the assailant who then fled with a machete in hand.

I deployed Diesel and he began a strong track for about a half a mile through a neighborhood south of University Boulevard. Upon arrival at University Boulevard, I anticipated losing the track because of the "hard surface" of University Boulevard. However Diesel pressed on, which is unusual for K9's. I began to doubt Diesel but reverted to my training where we were always taught, "Trust your Dog..." - so that is what I did.

I requested assistance stopping traffic and crossed six lanes of traffic during the height of rush-hour. Diesel continued at lightning speed and proceeded across several backyards on the north side of University Boulevard. We then came to a six foot wooden fence and Diesel attempted to vault the fence. I then assisted him over the fence to continue the track. We continued through three more back yards and two more 6-foot fences (which is again unusual for K9's). We then scaled a 3-foot fence and came to the rear of a house where Diesel switched from "ground scenting" to "air scenting" which indicates the assailant is close by.

Montgomery County Police (MCPD) set a perimeter on the house and searched the house with negative results. Some MCPD Officers were looking at me now like I was crazy, since we were now over a mile from the location of the attack on the officer. I looked down at Diesel and remembered again what was instilled in me by my Master Trainer, Chief Bill Castle..."Trust your Dog!"

So as MCPD cleared, I recast Diesel several more times and received the same response. So I conducted a grid search of all smaller structures on my own with Diesel. I approached a shed in the rear of the target house and I attempted to get a peek inside. Before I could even see inside I could smell the sweat of the assailant inside. I then got visual confirmation of his presence inside. I requested MCPD respond back and an apprehension was made by Diesel after all verbal commands were ignored by the suspect.
On a personal note, Diesel was at home for the birth of my daughter. I bought him a shirt that read, "I am the big brother." HE LOVED THAT SHIRT!!!!!!! If I would take it off of him he would go find it and carry it around until I would put it back on him. I swear he knew what the shirt said... remember?? Trust your Dog.

Diesel was always very loving toward children. Wherever my daughter would be in the house Diesel would not leave her side. He would never lie down; he would sit very proudly standing guard next to her. I don't think Diesel slept for the first three months (just like me). He undoubtedly loved her and thought it was his job to protect her. To this day, she still asks about "her Diesel" So his time with her didn't go unnoticed despite the age. She still has pictures of them together in her room and asks about him frequently.”

Cpl. Doug Malarkey and K9 Diesel
Robo-Calls and A Child is Missing Program

A Child Is Missing was created because no community-based program existed for locating missing children, the disabled, and elderly (often with Alzheimer's) during the crucial first hours of disappearance.

A child goes missing every 40 seconds in the United States. Your child has a 1 in 42 chance of going missing. A Child is Missing is devoted to assisting law enforcement in the search and early safe recovery efforts of children, the elderly, disabled persons, and college students via a rapid-response neighborhood alert program utilizing high-tech telephone systems.

A Child is Missing can place 1,000 calls in 60 seconds, can process multiple cases simultaneously, and can work without jurisdictional boundaries. Their success stories are astounding.

On March 24, 2009, Takoma Park Police formalized an agreement with A Child Is Missing Alert Program. The non-profit organization’s alert system is operated nationwide and utilizes sophisticated computer-mapping systems and trained technicians. The alert system is highly localized and can be used when an AMBER Alert is not warranted, or it can be used in tandem with AMBER Alerts and thereby increasing the effectiveness of both. This program is a free service to law enforcement and a valuable investigative tool.

If you are in the national registry database (and you are if you have a published phone number), then your number is automatically in the database for A Child is Missing program. There are two ways you can remove yourself from that database. You can call your phone company and have your number unpublished. Or you can contact A Child is Missing at 1.888.875.2246 or visit their website at www.achildismissing.org and request that your name and number be removed from their database.
Statutory Mandates - 2011

The Department employs one Research/Policy Manager to keep abreast of the General Orders of the Department, as well as any change in laws that affect police departments.

New Law Changes Traffic Citation Trial Date Procedure Effective January 1, 2011

If you receive a traffic citation in Maryland, a new law has changed what you are required to do in response to that citation. The new law requires that you must:

1. Request a trial date, time and place established by the District Court; or
2. Request a hearing regarding sentencing and disposition in lieu of a trial, (meaning you do not dispute the truth of the facts as alleged in the citation, but you wish to be heard regarding sentencing); or
3. Pay the full amount of the pre-set fine.

The law requires that you make one of these three choices and notify the District Court within 30 days of receiving the traffic citation. (Instructions are printed on your copy of the citation). If you do not make one of these three choices within the allotted time frame, the MD Motor Vehicle Administration will be notified and may take action to suspect your driver’s license.

The law does not apply to traffic citations for “must appear” offenses. The Court will automatically notify you of a trial date. For further information, visit www.mdcourts.gov/district or call 1.800.492.2656.

New Law Sends Drivers Message - Put the Phone Down Effective October 1, 2011

GOVERNOR MARTIN O’MALLEY ANNOUNCES MARYLAND REACHES RECORD LOW TRAFFIC FATALITIES

BAN ON TEXTING AND DRIVING STRONGER WITH NEW LAW

On September 30, 2011, Governor Martin O’Malley announced that Maryland reached a record low number of victims killed in traffic collisions in 2010 – 496 fatalities. The previous low was in 2009 with 550 people lost, a nine percent
decrease. “The efforts of law enforcement, educational outreach and better engineering to reduce fatalities on our roads have achieved positive results,” said Governor O’Malley. “But for those who lost loved ones in traffic crashes last year, 496 victims are still far too many. Our new law strengthening the texting while driving ban is another step toward continuing to reduce traffic deaths.”

Beginning October 1st, if you are thinking of picking up your phone and reading emails at a red light, don’t. The prohibition of texting and driving became law two years ago, but did not exclude reading texts. That loophole is now closed. Maryland’s Texting While Driving Law took effect on October 1, 2011 and prohibits all drivers in Maryland from using an electronic device to write, send, or read a text message while operating a motor vehicle in the travel lanes of the roadway. The law does not apply to texting 9-1-1 or using a global positioning system.

“We have seen dramatic declines in traffic fatalities in Maryland in recent years and we want that trend to continue,” Maryland State Police Superintendent Colonel Marcus L. Brown said. “That is why police officers across Maryland are working hard with state and local agencies to inform and educate our citizens about the dangers of texting and cell phone use while driving. We know these activities can be major distractions to drivers and can have deadly consequences.”

The texting law is a primary enforcement law and the activity is a misdemeanor crime. A first offense carries a fine of $70 and a second offense fine is $110. According to the US Department of Transportation, an estimated 800,000 vehicles nationally were driven by someone who used a hand-held cell phone during their drive last year. The AAA Foundation for Traffic Safety reports that 67 percent of drivers admitted to talking on their cell phones within the last 30 days, and 21 percent of drivers indicated they had read or sent a text or e-mail message. That figure rose to 40 percent for drivers under the age of 35.

The first texting while driving law took effect October 1, 2009 and the hands-free cell phone bill became law one year later. From the time each law took effect, police officers from 76 Maryland police departments who use the State Police Electronic Traffic Information Exchange system have issued 587 warnings and 379 traffic citations for driving while texting. Police have issued 4,021 warnings and 5,227 citations for failure to use a hands-free cell phone while driving. Included in those numbers are 325 warnings and 240 citations for texting and 1,859 warnings and 2,905 traffic citations for cell phone use issued by the Maryland State Police.
Reporting of Information Effective April 12, 2011

On April 12, 2011, the Governor signed into law Senate Bill 652/House Bill 507, which subsequently was enacted under the Annotated Code of Maryland, Public Safety Article § 3-508. This law requires Maryland law enforcement agencies that issue their officers electronic control devices (ECD/Taser) to report certain information regarding the use of those devices on an annual basis to the Governor’s Office of Crime Control and Prevention (GOCCP). In response thereto, the Department’s Use of Force Report form and General Order 617B, Secondary Weapons, were amended to require the collection and recording of information concerning each discharge or firing of an ECD/Taser at a person (excluding training exercises). The first report to the GOCCP, covering CY 2012, is due by March 31, 2013. Subsequent annual reports will be due by March 31st of the year following the calendar year for which the data has been collected. The law further requires the report be (1) provided to the local governing body or chief executive officer of the jurisdiction served by the law enforcement agency, and (2) made available to the public on request.

In accordance with SWAT Team Activation and Deployment report requirements contained in § 3-507 of the Public Safety Article, Annotated Code of Maryland, which became effective July 1, 2009, details of the department’s two Emergency Response Team deployments during the period July 1 - December 31, 2011 were collated for submission to the GOCCP by January 15, 2012.

Race Based Traffic Stops Effective July 1, 2011

An Act concerning Vehicle Laws - Race-Based Traffic Stops became effective July 1, 2011 under § 25-113 of the Transportation Article, Annotated Code of Maryland. This law essentially is a resumption of the same statute that was in effect from 2001 thru December 31, 2009 and requires all law enforcement agencies to report details about what prompted each traffic stop, search or arrest, as well as information about a motorist’s race, ethnicity, age, and gender. The aim of the law is to provide information about the pervasiveness of racial profiling. The law further describes a standardized format into which the compiled calendar year data is to be reported to the Maryland Justice Analysis Center by March 1st of the following calendar year.
American Legion Post 41 Selects Police Officer of the Year (2010) from Takoma Park Police Department

Corporal Michelle Holmes was selected as Police Officer of the Year (2010) by the American Legion Post 41 in Silver Spring.

Takoma Park Police Department 2010 Officers of the Year Announced; Other Award Recipients

The 2010 Officers of the Year were Corporal Michelle Holmes and Detective Private First Class Joseph Butler.

Corporal Michelle Holmes served 13 years with the Baltimore City Housing Police Department, where she went through the ranks to Patrol Division Lieutenant. She left that department in June 2001, when it merged with the Baltimore City Police Department. Corporal Holmes joined the Takoma Park Police Department on June 3, 2001 and was assigned to a squad in the patrol division. She was assigned to the Takoma/Langley Crossroads area, which is both a residential and commercial area, and one of the busiest areas in the City. Corporal Holmes was promoted to Corporal in 2008; in 2010, she became the full-time traffic officer. This position was designed as a way to curb traffic violations and in turn reduce the amount of traffic collisions that occur in the City. Corporal Holmes has handled this position with the same dedication and enthusiasm she displayed when she was first assigned to a patrol beat. From May 1, 2010, to December 31, 2010, Corporal Holmes issued 2,847 State citations for violations of Maryland Traffic laws. She
also issued 105 warnings, 405 City citations, 112 Safety Equipment Repair Orders, 545 reports, handled 540 calls for service, made 10 in-view arrests, and 12 warrant service arrests. She has handled the majority of serious motor vehicle collisions, as well as some minor collisions. She also supplemented regular patrol squads when they were short-staffed. Corporal Holmes has worked diligently with the Safe Routes to School program, which is a traffic enforcement program that concentrates on speed enforcement in school zones, pedestrian safety and enforcement of the requirement for vehicles to stop for the flashing red lights on school buses. Corporal Holmes works very hard to make the streets of Takoma Park safe for every type of commuter, whether they are walkers, drivers or bicyclists.

Detective Private First Class Butler took the Oath of Office with the Takoma Park Police Department on March 18, 1998. He successfully completed his field training on June 22, 1998. Detective Private First Class Butler worked successfully in the patrol division until his transfer to the Criminal Investigations Division (CID) of the Takoma Park Police Department on February 14, 2010. His teamwork, persistence and efforts to take felons off the streets, to ensure the safety of others, are outstanding.

Detective Private First Class Butler proved his excellent organizational and case management skills early on. He was assigned 94 cases during 2010, ranging from robbery, burglary, sexual assault, child abuse, theft from auto, and many other cases, which required extensive investigation. Despite his heavy workload, Detective Private First Class Butler managed to investigate each case thoroughly, complete the investigative reports and submit all cases, leaving on a handful of cases that were assigned at the end of the year. During 2010, Detective Private First Class Butler ended the year with a 55% closure rate and had a total of 52 arrests. This was a major accomplishment considering that this was his first year in CID as an investigator.

Detective Private First Class Butler was assigned to an area in Takoma Park which was plagued with numerous residential burglaries and robberies. He played an essential role as the lead investigator in making several arrests throughout the year. During the months of February and March when the City was experiencing a rash of residential burglaries, Detective Private First Class Butler was able to develop three suspects after they used a victim’s credit card from a burglary that had occurred. Detective Private First Class Butler has brought much talent and skill to CID and is recognized for that dedication and commitment.
The 2010 Civilian of the Year was Ms. Lakyia Coles, Administrative Services Division. Ms. Coles hails from New York and began her career at the Takoma Park Police Department as an Intern in 2003, where she quickly moved into a full-time, permanent position. Ms. Coles is the Police Administrative Specialist, handling such duties as logistics and payroll. In addition, she is also part of the Crime Scene Technician Unit, where her work in processing evidence has been invaluable to the Criminal Investigations Division. Ms. Coles covers a myriad of other responsibilities, including finger-printing and filling in for Crossing Guards when they are short-staffed. She also serves as supervisor to the Crossing Guard staff. Ms. Coles improves overall employee morale within her division, and in the department as a whole. She regularly looks for ways to improve in her area. Even with all of her current responsibilities, Ms. Coles routinely will drop whatever she is doing to assist in the Communications Division when there is a lot of activity. Ms. Coles contributes significantly to the department’s visions and goals through her extraordinary efforts, outstanding performance and dedication to duty. Congratulations to Ms. Coles!

There were a variety of other awards that were given out at the Takoma Park Police Awards Banquet, which was held on June 10, 2011.
2011 Recruiting and Background Investigation
Report for the Hiring Process for the Takoma
Park Police Department

POSITIONS POSTED: Police Officer (entry level and lateral)

APPLICATION PROCESSES: 2

SOURCES OF ADVERTISEMENT: Gazette (Montgomery County and
Prince George’s County), International Chiefs of Police (IACP)
website

APPLICATIONS REQUESTED: 164

APPLICATIONS RECEIVED: 88

ENTRY LEVEL TEST (APRIL):
   PASSED: 9
   FAILED: 14
   FAILED TO APPEAR: 7

POLYGRAPH EXAMINATIONS: 11

PSYCHOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS: 10

MEDICAL EXAMINATIONS: 2

NEW HIRES: 1

ESTIMATED COST TO INCLUDE: $8,310
   EXAMINATIONS, ADVERTISING, U.S. MAIL, ETC.
2011 Arrest Report

Andrew Gucciardo
Crime Analyst
The charts shown above represent a 2011 to 2010 comparison of arrest origin. When a subject is arrested the individual provides a home address. This data was used to determine what area the arrested subjects migrated from. In both 2011 and 2010, the majority of subjects arrested in the City of Takoma Park were not residents of the City.
The charts shown above represent all subjects arrested for Part 1 offenses. Part 1 offense categories include: Homicide, Rape, Robbery, Assault, Burglary, Larceny, and Auto Theft.
The charts shown above compare 2011 to 2010 for subjects arrested on drug related charges. In 2011, there was a 6% drop in residents of Takoma Park who were arrested on drug charges. The largest increase occurred with arrested subjects from all other jurisdictions at 11%.
The charts shown above represent a 2011 to 2010 comparison on the types of drug charges arrests were made for. In 2011, there was a 10% increase in marijuana related arrests while liquor violations dropped 11% compared to 2010.
The majority of subjects arrested in the City of Takoma Park have a prior criminal record. According to the Bureau of Justice Statistics (BJS), 70.7% of criminals reoffend within 3 years after they are arrested. Over the last two years, 80% of the subjects arrested in Takoma Park had a prior criminal history.
The chart shown above represents all arrests made in 2011 according to the six wards within the City of Takoma Park. Ward 6 constituted for the majority of arrests at 48%. The next closest was Ward 1 with 13% of total arrests made in 2011.

(Note 2010 Arrests by Ward data does not exist for comparison purposes.)
National Night Out

Maryland Governor Martin O'Malley attended the Takoma Park Police Department's National Night Out at the Piney Branch Elementary School on August 2. The Takoma Park City Government and Takoma Park Police Department were honored to have Governor O'Malley attend our event. It was another successful event, giving citizens and residents a chance to see our cars, bikes, and various equipment, as well as a chance for them to talk to officers and ask questions.
Community Outreach Program (COP)

Pfc. Carla Magnaye

The Community Outreach Program (COP) was implemented in April 2011 as a pilot project to assess the need and value for Takoma Park residents. It has proven to be a successful program, and Officer Carla Magnaye has been assigned as the full-time sworn officer to oversee and perform the duties and responsibilities of COP.

Objectives

The overall objective of COP is to improve the quality of life for residents of Takoma Park through education on safety and crime prevention and through strengthening the relationship between the community and the Police Department. Accomplishing this objective includes, but is not limited to, tasks such as:

♦ Providing presentations on safety and crime prevention to community groups.
♦ Offering free services to the community to assist them in strengthening personal and property security (security surveys, house checks, VIN etching, etc.)
♦ Attending community meetings at which residents address crime and safety concerns.
♦ Attending community events to represent the Police Department.
♦ Keeping open lines of communication with several program directors of youth and elderly groups in the community.
♦ Coordinating small- and large-scale events on crime prevention and safety hosted by the Police Department.
♦ Attending training and conferences on crime prevention, safety and security topics.
Highlights

Outreach Meetings

- Property managers/leasing supervisors for Edinburgh House, Deauville Apartments, Park Ritchie, Franklin Apartments, Parkview Towers, Maple View Apartments, Essex House, Victory Towers and Hampshire Towers
- Gregory Clark, assistant director of Takoma Park Recreation Department
- Paula Lisowski, coordinator for the Recreation Department’s Senior program
- John Webster, supervisor of New Hampshire Avenue Recreation Center
- Tarek Maassarani, director of Crossroads Youth Opportunity Center
- Lucy Neher, director of Takoma Park Safe Routes to School
- Edwin Monge, director of security at Washington Adventist University
- Walter Hawkings, director of security at Washington Adventist Hospital
- Wolfgang Mergner, advocate for senior issues/topics in Takoma Park
- Pat Rumbaugh, coordinator of “Takoma Plays”
- Jo Reyes, owner of The Green Commuter

Community Meetings

- Property managers for apartment complexes at 641 Houston Avenue, 8508/10 Flower Avenue, 8624/26 Flower Avenue, and 1001/3/5 University Boulevard in reference to crime prevention on the property
- Property owners for the apartment complex at 6444 5th Avenue in reference to quality of life and crime prevention on the property
- New resident of Takoma Park in reference to quality of life issues in her neighborhood, personal safety, and home security
- Takoma Park Recreation Committee monthly meetings

Presentations

April 14 Career Day, Eastern Middle School
April 18 Personal Safety, Smart Decision-Making, and Drugs/Alcohol at Don Bosco High School
April 21 Round-table discussion and presentation on Making the Right Choices for teen group at Takoma Park Community Center
April 28 Apartment safety and security for residents at Parkview
Towers

May 12  COP Seminar: city-wide crime statistics, victimization, and personal and residential security

May 16  Discussion group with the “Sisterhood” group at Crossroads Youth Center: Female Roles in Gangs

May 17  “Kidz City” group at Takoma Park Recreation Center – Intro to the Police Officer & Their Duties

May 17  General safety presentation for babysitting class hosted by TPVFD

May 24  “Kidz City” group at Takoma Park Recreation Center: General Safety Practices

May 25  Career Day at Rolling Terrace Elementary School

May 26  “After school” group at Takoma Park Community Center: General Safety Practices

May 31  Kidz City” group at Takoma Park Recreation Center: Lying, Cheating, Stealing

June 2  “After school” group at Takoma Park Community Center: Lying, Cheating, Stealing

June 14  “Kidz City” group at Takoma Park Recreation Center: Bike & Crosswalk Safety

June 22  Discussion group with the “Brotherhood” group at Crossroads Youth Center: Drugs & Alcohol and Legal Aspects/Ramifications

August 16  General safety for students at Bright Horizons Child Care Center (Silver Spring)

November 7  Senior Citizen six-series workshop for the Recreation Department: Home Safety & Security

November 21  Senior Citizen workshop: Security on the Go

November 29  Senior Citizen workshop: Identity Theft

December 7  Senior Citizen workshop: Internet Safety

December 12  Senior Citizen workshop: Frauds & Cons

December 14  Senior Citizen workshop: Phone Scams

December 19  General safety and security for residents at Victory Towers

Events (presence)

April 25  Takoma Park Easter Egg Hunt

May 1  Takoma Park Safe Routes to School 5K race

May 22  “Bike to the Market” day in Old Town

June 5  Jazz Festival
June 30  Annual cookout at Franklin Apartments (7620 Maple)
June 30  “Seniors Picnic” hosted by the Recreation Department at Heffner Park
July 7   “Chalk Day” at Forest Park hosted by Takoma Plays
August 1 “Safety at Metro Stations” event at Takoma Park Metro hosted by Safe Takoma, Inc.
September 11 Folk Festival
September 24 Takoma Park Play Day hosted by Takoma Plays
October 2 Street Festival

Events (host)
May 25   “Take 25” (Child safety awareness)
August 2 National Night Out
September 10 V.I.N. etching & Watch Your Car program event
October-
December  Citizens’ Police Academy

Training
May 26   Bike Rodeo train-the-trainer course hosted by Takoma Park Safe Routes to School
June 6-10 Commercial Crime Prevention hosted by MCCPI
June 27   Dashboard/MOMS program training course hosted by MCP
August 24 Bone Builders train-the-trainer course hosted by MC Health and Human Services
December 12-16 Basic Instructor School hosted by MPTC

Miscellaneous
- Conducted several residential security surveys
- Coordinated with patrol commander to assign officers to attend various community events throughout the City
- Sent outreach email to principals of primary and secondary schools in Takoma Park
- Provided information to residents who have requested information on COP and its programs and services
- Provided the Maryland Community Crime Prevention Institute (MCCPI) steering committee with an interest letter to join their committee – formally voted into the committee on November 29
Programs

The following programs are currently being offered for City residents:

- **Caring About Residents Everyday (CARE):** On March 1, Chief Ricucci announced a new program called Caring About Residents Everyday (CARE). This program is directed at our residents who live alone with special needs, or just need to be checked on each day. The program is similar to a Sheriff's Department program currently in Warren County, Virginia, which was in operation when I was Police Chief in Front Royal, Virginia. Because of various weather events during 2011, Pepco outages, and the urging of a City resident led the Chief to announce this program. Residents who need to be checked on will register with the Police Department. They will call us once each day between 12:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. If they don't call, we will call them. If they do not answer, we will send a patrol officer to check on their welfare. This program is to protect those in need and bring a sense of peace to those friends and relatives who care, but who are not close enough to check themselves. CARE is another way we can give back to the community and take care of those in need. Please contact Corporal Cynthia Conrad at 301-891-7140 to register for this program.

- **Child Safety Seat Program:** If you are unsure if your child's safety seat is installed properly, please come down to the station so that an officer can ensure proper installation.

- **Citizens' Advisory Board:** A group of residents who live within the City and who meet on a regular basis to discuss community issues and how the Police Department can be of service.

- **Citizens on Patrol:** Residents who participate in neighborhood watch usually participate in this program as well. Small groups are designated to certain areas of the community to patrol the area on foot at least one time a week.

- **Citizens' Police Academy:** A program in which members of the community are educated in different functions and components of the Takoma Park Police Department.
• **“Click-It or Ticket” Campaign**: A campaign during the month of May to raise awareness of the importance of wearing a seatbelt and using the proper child safety seats while operating or riding in a motor vehicle.

• **Community Notification List**: A “listserv” in which citizens can enroll and have the option of receiving crime alerts and events hosted by the police department through email and/or text message. If you would like to be added to the police department’s listserv, please contact Cathy Plevy at 301-891-7142 or by email at cathyp@takomagov.org. In addition, the Department also has a Facebook and Twitter page.

• **“Celebrate Safe Communities” Awareness Program**: Used to promote programs in which citizens can actively participate to ensure safer neighborhoods. Usually conducted during the month of October, which is National Crime Prevention Month.

• **Home Security Surveys**: Survey of the strengths and weaknesses of security measures of a residence (fences, locks, alarms, etc.). It is conducted by an officer trained in completing security surveys. The officer provides information on how to reinforce the weak security measures.

• **House Checks**: Service offered to residents who will be away on vacation for a lengthy period of time (usually one week or more). A police officer responds to the residence on a daily basis to ensure no crime (such as burglary) has occurred to the residence.

• **Internship Program**: Anyone interested in offering their services to the Police Department and/or would like to complete community service/internship hours at the Police Department are encouraged to apply for our internship program.

• **“Move It!” Awareness Program**: It attempts to educate residents to move their vehicles out of the roadway in the event of an accident, and exchange driver, vehicle, and insurance information with each other.

• **“National Night Out” Community Event**: Annual event in August intended to bring members of the community together and to raise awareness on crime prevention. It includes food, activities, and informational tables.
• **Neighborhood Watch Program:** A program in which groups are established based on residents’ specific neighborhoods. Each group acts as an extra set of eyes and ears for the Police Department within its neighborhood and reports all suspicious activity immediately to the Police Department. Most groups have informal “get-togethers” monthly or six times a year to strengthen the sense of community.

• **Operation Identification Program:** Residents mark all their valuables with a specific ID number and write down all serial numbers of valuables to be kept by the police department. A sticker is provided to participants to display on their doors/windows to notify individuals of their participation in the program, also making it less desirable for criminals to burglarize those residences. It is a proven, cost-effective way to deter criminals from burglarizing citizens’ homes.

• **Ride-Along Program:** Provides residents the opportunity to ride in a marked police cruiser alongside a patrol officer to observe the daily duties of an officer.

• **Safer Seniors Program:** A way for the Police Department to reach out to the elderly population within the community. It is a way to encourage the elderly to address their concerns and to request the assistance of the Police Department in attempting to resolve those concerns. It includes seminars, by request, on being a “safer senior” in current society.

• **Security Surveys (Residential/Commercial):** Survey of the strengths and weaknesses of security measures of a residence or retail business (fences, locks, alarms, etc). It is conducted by an officer trained in completing security surveys. The officer provides information on how to reinforce the weak security measures.

• **“Take 25” Awareness Program:** Celebrated in the month of May and nationally recognized by the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. It raises awareness of child safety and encourages parents to take 25 minutes of their time to educate their children in the importance of personal safety. On May 25, the Takoma Park Police Department took part in this campaign by having an informational table set up in the police department lobby between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Officer Carla Magnaye, the Department’s Community Outreach Coordinator, was
available that day to answer questions and had available informational kits and brochures in English and Spanish to all interested members of the community. In addition, free child ID kits and free fingerprinting for children was offered. There was a large turn-out.

- **V.I.N. Etching Program:** On September 10, the Takoma Park Police Department hosted a V.I.N. Etching Event. V.I.N. (Vehicle Identification Number) etching is a security technique in which your vehicle’s V.I.N. is permanently etched into all the glass panes of the vehicle. It is a proven vehicle-theft deterrent, as criminals tend to avoid vehicles that have been etched because it is harder for “chop shops” to make profit off V.I.N.-etched vehicles. Attendees were also able to enroll in the "Watch Your Car" program and immediately receive the program decals that need to be affixed to their vehicle.

- **Watch Your Car Program:** It is a way for police officers to ensure your vehicle is not being driven by an unauthorized driver. A sticker will be provided to participants to display in their vehicle window, so both officers and criminals know you are participating in the program.

- **Youth Outreach Program:** A way for the Police Department to reach out to the youth population within the community. It is a way to allow positive interaction between police officers and the youth. It is also a way to educate the youth in various safety topics and making the smart choices. It includes weekly visits to various youth programs within the City and presentations, by request, at local schools.
Citizen’s Police Academy


The Police Department conducted a Citizens’ Police Academy, which is an integral part of the City of Takoma Park Police Department’s community outreach efforts. The course is designed to educate citizens on the required duties and obligations of a police officer, and it provides a glimpse into all aspects of the Takoma Park Police Department that make it run smoothly on a daily basis. The primary goals of the Citizens’ Police Academy are to give citizens the opportunity to meet and interact with the City’s police officers and the Police Department’s civilian staff. The academy also engages citizens in practical activities and scenarios that police officers frequently experience so that they have a better understanding of the job.

The academy commenced on October 6 from 7-9:30 pm, and continued to run every Thursday night, for ten consecutive weeks, ending on December 15. Sessions were held at the Takoma Park Community Center and participants were strongly encouraged to sign up for the optional “Ride-Along” with an officer and “Sit-In” with a dispatcher.

Students were required to complete eight out of the ten classes to be eligible for graduation. Those eligible for graduation received a Certificate of Completion. Those who did not, received a Certificate of Participation.

The first class graduated on January 31, 2012.
CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

The Criminal Investigations Division (CID) consists of one Commander, one Supervisor, three investigators, a Victim/Witness Coordinator, Crime Analyst, Property/Evidence Clerk, and Tactical Enforcement Unit (TEU) officers.

During 2011, 310 cases were assigned for investigation. Out of the 310 cases assigned for investigation, 126 cases were closed, 16 were exceptionally cleared, 131 were suspended, 68 arrests were made, 55 arrest warrants were obtained, and 7 search warrants were obtained and executed. The unit as a whole had a 45.8% closure rate. This compares to 292 cases assigned in 2010, where 78 cases were closed, 37 cases were exceptionally cleared, 177 cases were suspended, 80 arrests were made, 28 arrest warrants were obtained, and 34 search warrants were obtained and served, with a closure rate for the unit as a whole of 39.4%. During 2011, there was a 14% increase in the closure rate from 2010.

### 2010 CID STATISTICS – Unit as a Whole

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cases Assigned</th>
<th>Cases Closed</th>
<th>Cases Ex-Cleared</th>
<th>Suspended</th>
<th>Arrests</th>
<th>Arrest Warrants</th>
<th>Search Warrants</th>
<th>Closure Percentage</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
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<td>292</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>177</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>39.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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### 2011 CID STATISTICS – Unit as a Whole

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cases Assigned</th>
<th>Cases Closed</th>
<th>Cases Ex-Cleared</th>
<th>Suspended</th>
<th>Arrests</th>
<th>Arrest Warrants</th>
<th>Search Warrants</th>
<th>Closure Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>310</td>
<td>126</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>131</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>45.8%</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Overall Percentage (%) Increase/Decrease from 2010 to 2011

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cases Assigned</th>
<th>Cases Closed</th>
<th>Cases Ex-Cleared</th>
<th>Suspended</th>
<th>Arrests</th>
<th>Arrest Warrants</th>
<th>Search Warrants</th>
<th>Closure Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5.8% Increase</td>
<td>38.1% Increase</td>
<td>66.8% Decrease</td>
<td>26% Decrease</td>
<td>15% Decrease</td>
<td>49% Increase</td>
<td>39.4% Decrease</td>
<td>14% Increase</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Notable Arrests:

During 2011, several significant arrests were made, as described below.

**Home Invasion (Takoma Avenue)**

On January 18, officers responded to the 7800 block of Takoma Avenue for a burglary in progress. The victim (juvenile) was home alone and heard loud knocking on the front door. She then heard loud banging coming from the side
kitchen door and saw several males trying to kick in the door. She yelled and the suspects fled. Officers responded and located two of the five suspects. The suspects were juveniles and were charged with Conspiracy to Commit 1st Degree Burglary and Destruction of Property.

Robbery (New Hampshire Avenue)

On February 13, at 2:15 p.m., an officer responded to the station lobby for the report of a Robbery. The victim advised that on February 12 at 11:30 p.m., he exited Mogotillo’s Restaurant located in the 7600 block of New Hampshire Avenue to wait for a cab. A suspect with a knife ordered him to a van after covering his head with a shirt. The suspects removed the victim’s wallet and cell phone. The victim advised there was also a female in the back of the van with her head covered. The victim was driven to Beltsville, Maryland and dropped off in a park. The victim’s credit card was used at the IHOP Restaurant in the 7400 block of New Hampshire Avenue. A detective responded and obtained a photo from the surveillance and created a flyer. Upon seeing the flyer, another officer remembered stopping a subject matching the suspect’s description on a traffic stop. The detective obtained a copy of the driver’s Motor Vehicle Administration photo and matched it with the photo in the flyer, which was a positive match. The detective obtained a warrant for the suspect.

Commercial Armed Robbery (New Hampshire Avenue)

On February 28, at approximately 1:12 p.m., an officer responded to the Check Cash located in the 6900 block of New Hampshire Avenue for the report of a Commercial Armed Robbery. Two subjects entered the business pretending they were interested in purchasing a cell phone from a case located in the lobby, in an attempt to have the employee leave the secured cash area. The suspects then produced handguns and forced the employee back into the cash room and stole over $20,000. Fleeing the scene, they pepper sprayed the victim. Detectives responded, processed the scene, and obtained video surveillance. Upon completing and posting the flyers, one of the detectives was contacted by Prince William County, Virginia detectives. The victim worked closely with them and the Federal Bureau of Investigation identifying the subjects involved. This investigation closed out several other robberies throughout several agencies. The detective closed out this case with six arrest warrants.
Commercial Breaking & Entering (University Boulevard)

On March 1, officers responded to the 1300 block University Boulevard for the report of a commercial burglary located by the Fire Department. The suspect threw a rock through a window and removed the television. A K9 officer and his partner responded for a track. Another officer took photographs of the scene. On March 3, an officer was on routine patrol in the area of New Hampshire Avenue and Sligo Creek Parkway and observed a subject wearing the same clothing as in the flyer created by the detective from the prior attempt burglary in the 7500 block of New Hampshire Avenue. The detective interviewed the subject and he admitted to the Burglary. The detective obtained a warrant, charging him with 2nd Degree Burglary, Malicious Destruction of Property, Theft over $500, and Theft $1,000 to under $10,000.

Copper Theft (Merwood Drive)

On March 25, an officer responded to the 1200 block of Merwood Drive for the report of a theft. The owner advised that copper valued at $1,000 was stolen from his residence. The victim’s residence is equipped with video surveillance. A detective, new to the unit at the time, saw a posting on the Montgomery County Web Board of Copper Thefts and took over the investigation. The detective worked with Montgomery County Police and Hyattsville City Police and developed a suspect. The detective compared two photos and obtained a warrant for the suspect, charging him with Theft over $1,000 and Malicious Destruction of Property.

Residential Breaking & Entering (Wabash Avenue)

On June 25, officers responded to the 700 block of Wabash Avenue for the report of a Residential Burglary. A detective conducted an investigation, checking the Pawn Data Base and receiving a positive hit, developing a suspect. Upon further investigation into the suspect’s history, the detective discovered that the suspect had pawned several items indicative to burglary. The victim was able to identify the items pawned. The detective obtained a warrant for the suspect, charging him with 1st Degree Burglary and Theft $1,000 to under $10,000.
Residential Breaking & Entering (Sligo Creek Parkway)

On June 25, officers responded to the 600 block of Sligo Creek Parkway for the report of a Residential Burglary. The suspect broke a window to gain entry. A soda bottle was located outside of the window and impounded for processing. An officer processed the window and collected latent prints while another photographed the scene. A detective was able to link this case with the Residential Burglary in the 700 block of Wabash Avenue with the same suspect.

Residential Burglary (Elm Avenue)

On August 9, at approximately 3:35 p.m., an officer responded to the 400 block of Elm Avenue for the report of a Residential Burglary. Entry was made through the basement door and property was stolen. A detective who was investigating two burglaries in the area, responded to the pawn shop located in the 6300 block of New Hampshire Avenue. An employee of the pawn shop advised that the items stolen were pawned there and provided the detective with the suspect’s name, pawn list and a copy of the surveillance video. A detective obtained a warrant for the suspect, charging him with 1st Degree Burglary, Malicious Destruction of Property and Theft $10,000 to under $100,000.

Residential Burglary (Elm Avenue)

On August 9, at approximately 8:35 p.m., officers responded to the 1000 block of Elm Avenue for the report of a Residential Burglary. Entry was made through the kitchen door and property was stolen. Two detectives in the area responded to the pawn shop located in the 6300 block of New Hampshire Avenue. An employee of the pawn shop advised that the items stolen were pawned there and provided the detective with the suspect’s name, pawn list, and a copy of the surveillance video. The detective obtained a warrant for the suspect, charging him with 1st Degree Burglary, Malicious Destruction of Property, and Theft under $1,000. The detectives were able to connect the suspect to three burglaries by checking his pawn history. The detectives notified the Police Department’s Tactical Enforcement Unit of the open warrants. The suspect was arrested at a nearby restaurant where he thought he was meeting a female. The same suspect was linked to a Residential Burglary, in the same manner that occurred on August 12 in the 7300 block of Takoma Avenue.
Commercial Breaking & Entering (Larch Avenue – Don Bosco Cristo Rey)

On August 21, at 2:49 a.m., officers responded to Thirteenth Avenue at Elson Place for the report of suspicious subjects in the Hillwood Manor Park. One of the officers attempted to approach the subjects who fled into the wooded area and into Sligo Creek Parkway (water). The subjects were later located in a vehicle. In the vehicle were large amounts of snacks and beverages. When questioned by officers, one of the suspects admitted that they broke into Don Bosco Cristo Rey School. A detective responded, interviewed the subjects, and convinced them to write an apology letter to the school. The three subjects were charged with 2\textsuperscript{nd} Degree Burglary, Malicious Destruction of Property, Theft under $500, and Trespass/Damage Property.

Strong Arm Robbery (Elm Avenue/Poplar Avenue)

On September 23, at 2:30 a.m., officers responded to Elm Avenue and Poplar Avenue for the report of a Strong Arm Robbery. A detective conducted his investigation and developed his suspect through cell phone records. He also learned that one of the officers had stopped the suspect in the area the night of the robbery. He interviewed the juvenile suspect and charged him with Robbery, Retaliate Witness, Conspiracy to Commit Robbery, Conspiracy to Commit Retaliate Witness, Theft under $100, and Conspiracy to Commit Assault 2\textsuperscript{nd} Degree.

Aggravated Assault (Erskine Street/13\textsuperscript{th} Avenue)

On September 23, officers responded to the area of the 100 block of Lee Avenue for the sound of shots fired. While responding to the call, an officer observed a green minivan, from prior shots fired calls at eastbound Sligo Creek Parkway traveling at a high rate of speed. He conducted a traffic stop on Erskine Street at 13\textsuperscript{th} Avenue. The passenger bailed out of the vehicle holding a handgun. While fleeing, the officer advised that the suspect pointed the handgun in his direction. The suspect was apprehended and both suspects were arrested. It was believed that the subjects were involved in several shots fired calls in multiple jurisdictions and suspects in an Attempt Armed Carjacking and Attempt Armed Robbery in Prince George’s County. The gun later came back stolen in Virginia. Two detectives responded and attempted to interview the subjects along with Montgomery County Police and an officer from the gang unit. A detective later obtained a search warrant for the vehicle and an arrest warrant for one subject for Theft under $1,000 (handgun) and another for Firearm Possession with a Felony Conviction.
Residential Burglary (Houston Avenue)

On November 9, at 7:51 p.m., officers responded to the 8200 block of Houston Avenue for the report of a Residential Burglary. The door was pried open by an unknown tool and items stolen. A detective checked the pawn data base and received a positive hit on the television stolen. The items were pawned at King Pawn, located in the 6800 block of New Hampshire Avenue. The victim identified the property and a detective obtained an arrest warrant for the suspect and obtained a confession.

Threats (Manor Circle)

On November 16, an officer responded to the unit block of Manor Circle for the report of threatening text messages. A subject known to the victim and her daughter was sending text messages threatening their lives. The victim advised there was a protective order on file for the subject, and he had been previously convicted of threatening and harassing them in the past. A detective kept constant contact with the victim and the suspect’s probation officer. The detective obtained a warrant for the suspect, charging him with Harass, A Course of Conduct, Telephone Misuse, Obscene, Obscene Language Over Phone, Telephone Misuse-Repeat Calls, and Electronic Mail Harass.

Larceny (Commercial; University Boulevard)

On December 1, an officer responded to Walgreens for report of a theft. The employee advised that a subject stole a box of diapers and fled the store. The officer advised that this was the third report taken, with the same suspect. A detective reviewed the video surveillance from all three incidents and determined that the same suspect was responsible for the thefts. The detective contacted Prince George’s County Police and was advised of the name and a photo of a subject they had identified, conducting the same thefts in their jurisdiction. The detective compared the photos and confirmed the suspect’s identity with the assistance of another detective. The detective obtained a warrant for the suspect, charging him with Theft Scheme Less than $1,000, Assault 2nd Degree, and Malicious Destruction of Property.
**Destruction of Property (Takoma Avenue – Montgomery College)**

On several occasions, officers responded to Montgomery College in the 7600 block of Takoma Avenue for the report of vandalism. A subject was spray painting “Death to America” and “Long live death for America long live Islam” on bathroom walls and other walls around the college. A detective responded and met with College Security and was informed of the suspect’s identification. The detective obtained an arrest warrant for the suspect, charging him with 12 counts of Malicious Destruction of Property.
Internal Affairs Complaint Investigations

The Takoma Park Police Department's policy directives require investigations of all complaints against the Department or its employees, and that annual statistical summaries of such investigations by the internal affairs function be made available to the public. The following is a summary of complaints filed for calendar year 2011.

Twenty-one formal complaints were recorded, with all subjected to internal affairs investigations. Thirteen complaints were submitted by citizens and the other eight were generated internally by employees, the Chief of Police or the Command Staff. There were no complaints referred anonymously. Subjects of the complaints included a total of 12 sworn officers, some of whom were involved in more than one complaint. Two civilian employees were the subjects of four complaints (three against one employee and one against the other employee).

Two of the 21 formal complaint investigations remained in a pending status at year-end (i.e., a disposition had not been made). Eleven were completed with determinations that the complaints were unfounded; eight resulted in findings of improper conduct and disciplinary measures warranted. The disciplinary measures taken included: (a) one termination from duty; (b) a one-day suspension from duty; (c) three written reprimands; (d) three verbal counselings; and (e) one implementation of a work action plan.

Residents are reminded that the process for making a complaint against a police employee is detailed on the City Police Web Page and in flyers available to the public in the Police Department lobby.
VICTIM/WITNESS ASSISTANT STATISTICS

The needs of victims within the service area of the City of Takoma Park vary in degrees depending on the type and extent of each individual crime. Some victims may require as little as the basic information given by a police officer or an informational brochure, while others may need many hours of support and assistance provided by police officers, the Takoma Park Police Department Victim Assistant, and other related service providers.

The Victim Assistant, a civilian police employee, can initially come in contact with a victim very soon after an officer responds to a scene, especially if the victim has need of emergency services such as issues of personal safety, emergency shelter, or crisis counseling. Most victims are contacted in person, by telephone and/or by mail by the Victim Assistant to offer information, accompaniment to court or to offices of other agencies. Referrals for additional needs such as counseling, medical care, support groups, and compensation are given to victims, as needed.

In 2011, the Victim Assistant worked with approximately 1,028 victims of reported crimes. These cases involved most Part I crimes, as well as cases of domestic violence, assault, identity theft, unattended deaths, runaways, and sex assaults.

Ongoing support and services continued for victims of incidents that occurred in previous years, as needed.
Gang Unit:

During calendar year 2011, Montgomery County, Maryland continued to experience the growth and impact of gangs, which is mirrored in all jurisdictions in the Washington metropolitan area. Takoma Park was fortunate to receive the Congressional Earmark, Bi-County Grant Award, which has enabled the Takoma Park Police Department to reorganize its criminal street gang efforts in prevention, intervention, and suppression. As a result of implementing a multi-agency approach with Montgomery County and Prince George's County Police Departments, a significant impact has been made towards gang analysis, awareness, and abatement.

Gangs and gang participation has steadily increased over the past three years, with the most significant increase in 2010. Prior to 2008, Montgomery County reported that it had active gangs with over 1,000 members and associates. In 2010, the numbers increased to 42 active gangs with over 2,000 members and associates, marking a 17% and 100% increase, respectively.

Analysis

For 2011, it was projected that Montgomery County, including Takoma Park, would experience a dramatic increase in gang-related incidents while the number of active gangs and members would remain consistent with 2010. This increase in gang-related incidents is directly related to the reorganization of the Montgomery County Police Gang Unit and the direct participation of Takoma Park Police in the deployment. Incidents which were previously not identified as gang incidents are now being captured for analysis and investigation.

Awareness

The propensity of gang members to commit violent crimes has raised public awareness of gangs and created a community perception of a gang epidemic. To reduce the public perception of fear and to qualify the gang problem, members of the gang unit have made over 144 presentations to schools, community associations, and law enforcement. Awareness building and community
involvement was additionally increased by the development of a “TipSoft” tip line for the Police Department. Due to increased tips and requests for presentations to schools and community groups, it can be assumed that gang awareness has increased during the last year. Another awareness and prevention effort is the parental letter program. When juveniles are contacted on the street by gang officers and are either confirmed or suspected of gang involvement, an awareness letter is sent out to the parents. These letters explain the circumstances of the contact and offer the parent some gang prevention material. The officer’s information is also provided so that the parent has the opportunity to contact the police officer to discuss the event that occurred, or the material provided.

Abatement

The analysis of violent crime depicts a disturbing picture and shows that 40% of the homicides in Montgomery County over the past two years were gang-related. The greatest impact on this problem has been the prosecution of over 700 gang members. The State’s Attorney’s Office has a state wide gang prosecution team that has worked closely with the gang unit. Between local prosecution and three federal investigations, the police are sending a clear message to gangs that Takoma Park and Montgomery County have a zero tolerance and an all-crimes approach to gang involvement and activity.

The Montgomery County Police Department has just recently restructured and reorganized its gang unit for a more effective approach to gang suppression. The implementation is a result of best practices learned over the past several years. Funding and resources received from the bi-county grant is directly responsible for this change in deployment. The reorganization and multi-agency approach has yielded the recovery of several guns related to gang activity, the successful apprehension of suspects in four homicides, three rapes, and two major attempt murder incidents.

For 2012, the newly created Criminal Street Gang Unit (CSGU) will aggressively maintain partnerships with federal law enforcement while increasing working relationships with neighboring jurisdictions. Database and intelligence advancements through crime analysis will also be a key focus for 2012. Prevention, intervention, and suppression continue to be the tenets of the anti-gang efforts for the CSGU.
TACTICAL ENFORCEMENT UNIT (TEU)

The Tactical Enforcement Unit (TEU) consists of one supervisor and two investigators.

Members of TEU were involved in many activities in 2011, including:

- Assisting the Criminal Investigations Division (CID) in numerous cases involving the service of arrest warrants that CID members had obtained and arrest warrant extraditions from Maryland's Eastern Shore, Washington, D.C., and Kentucky.

- TEU members were temporarily re-assigned to the Patrol Division in January for a couple of months due to staffing issues.

- TEU worked with multiple jurisdictions closing not only Takoma Park cases, but Prince George's County, Montgomery County, and Washington, D.C. cases.

- TEU members were involved in the writing and service of numerous search warrants and several arrest warrants. The search warrants were served in Takoma Park, Montgomery County and Washington, D.C. and were for various crimes.

- TEU members were involved on several occasions with robbery investigations that required tracking cell phones and locating suspects.

- The most prevalent arrests for 2011 involved joint investigations with several jurisdictions for arrests from burglaries to robberies.

In 2011, TEU conducted 40 arrests, eight search warrants and four arrest warrants as follows:

- Warrant Services (12) – this included warrants for robbery, burglary, theft, and failure to appear on drug charges and traffic charges, among other crimes. A child abuse warrant was served for CID outside the City. A transport was done from Kentucky for a subject wanted for robbery by Takoma Park. A subject was transported from District of Columbia jail wanted for theft by Takoma Park and homicide by Prince George's County. A kidnapping warrant was served assisting
in a CID case. Burglary warrants were served in assistance to CID. A subject was located for a harassment case in the District of Columbia and was located and arrested at TEU’s request by the Metropolitan Police Department.

- Theft from Auto Arrests (2) – these arrests closed out numerous thefts from auto cases in Takoma Park, Montgomery County and the District of Columbia.

- Drug Arrests (18) – these include several possession with intent to distribute charges.

- Stolen Auto Arrests (3)

- Urinating in Public (1)

- Fleeing and Eluding (1) – juvenile arrest which initially was a destruction of property.

- Miscellaneous Arrests (3)

**Notable Incidents:**

There were several incidents involving joint investigations which involved a TEU member that assisted in major case in adjacent jurisdictions, including:

- Montgomery County had three arrests for armed robbery after the subjects were stopped by a TEU member in Takoma Park. The robbery occurred just outside the City limits near Piney Branch Road and University Boulevard and resulted in the beating and hospitalization of the victim. The cases later resulted in convictions.

- Montgomery County had a lookout that initially was for a rape, but was later found to be an assault and kidnapping. A TEU member located the suspect and he was arrested and charged by the Metropolitan Police Department.

- A serial burglar was identified by a detective in Takoma Park and TEU conducted a lengthy surveillance on the subject, eventually
tracking him to several areas to include Fairfax County, Virginia, Calvert County, Maryland, and the Hyattsville, Maryland area. The subject was linked to several burglaries in three jurisdictions and was eventually arrested as a result of the TEU/Montgomery County Park Police surveillance detail which closed burglaries in Fairfax County, Virginia and Calvert County, Maryland, and resulted in a search warrant by Maryland State Police on the subject’s vehicle in an attempt to recover stolen property.

- The City experienced an increase in residential burglaries in 2011, and a detail was worked by TEU to deal with the burglaries. There was also a theft from auto detail to address a rise in thefts from autos. The two juveniles who were arrested closed numerous thefts from autos in the City and in adjacent jurisdictions.

- TEU was involved in several drug investigations which closed down two problem locations -- one on Flower Avenue about which numerous citizen complaints were received and one in the 7400 block of New Hampshire Avenue after a tip was received. The location on Flower Avenue had numerous complaints which affected the neighborhood and had been an on-going problem and nuisance. Four search and seizure warrants were obtained as a result of the two investigations and four arrests warrants were obtained for the parties involved. The calls for service on Flower Avenue and complaints have stopped since the enforcement action was taken. The residents at the location who were causing the disturbance were subsequently evicted.

- TEU participated in the Transportation Security Detail with Montgomery County and other jurisdictions at the Takoma Metro Station.

**Training**

In 2011, TEU attended various training, as follows:

- Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) Drug Training for all TEU members.

- Israeli Point Shooting Class
- A detective prepared lesson plans for and taught at the Citizens' Police Academy

- Rifle Range/Regular Range

- Taser training/In-service

- ASP (baton) training/In-service

- Cell Phone Investigations

- Undercover Tactics training

- Basic Enhanced Instructor School

- Deadly Encounters Lessons Learned training
OPERATIONS/PATROL DIVISION

The Operations/Patrol Division consists of one Lieutenant, one Administrative Sergeant, four Sergeant Team Leaders, 10 Corporals (two who are K9 handlers), 18 Private First Class Officers (one who is a K9 handler), three Private Officers, and one Nuisance Abatement Officer.

Canine (K9) Unit

In 2011, the Takoma Park Police Department K9 Unit responded to 63 calls, with an additional 132 calls for residential and commercial alarms.

As a unit, K9 responded to 25 mutual aid calls. The majority of the calls were to assist Montgomery County Police. Assistance was also given to Prince George’s County Police, the City of Hyattsville Police, Park Police and Maryland State Police. Calls for K9 assistance are typically for a burglary or robbery that either just occurred, or is occurring, or Controlled Dangerous Substance (CDS) car scans.

The following calls are for Takoma Park Police and mutual aid:

- CDS car scans .......................... 29
- CDS area searches ..................... 3
- Article searches ......................... 4
- Residential alarms ..................... 63
- Commercial alarms ..................... 62
- House/Building checks after burglary or open door .................... 19
- Burglaries ............................. 15
- Robberies ............................. 8
Tracks as a result from all service calls ... .25
School alarms .................................. 4
Bank alarms .................................. 3
Theft from Autos ............................... 3
1st Degree Assault with a gun ............. 1
K9 Demo, including Citizen’s Academy ... 2

Private First Class Atwell received 82 hours of K9 training. He was only in service from January 1 – July 7, 2011, when his former partner, K9 Diesel, passed away. He attended K9 school with his new partner, K9 Zoro, from September 2011 through the end of the year.

Corporal Largent received 147 hours of K9 training. He was out on injury from January 1 until the middle of May 2011. Upon his return, he and Corporal Pedersen trained for a period of time prior to his going back on the road.

Corporal Pedersen received 160 hours of K9 training.

The following are noteworthy accomplishments of the K9 Unit:

**Pfc. Ernest Atwell and K9 partner, Zoro**

- One K9 apprehension after track from stolen car and bailout
- One K9 apprehension after pursuit. Gun found in car
- One K9 apprehension after track for a burglary
Cpl. Keith Largent and K9 partner, Ace

- Located victim’s property taken during a robbery on a track
- K9 assisted apprehension of wanted person on a felony stop

Cpl. Kristian Pedersen and K9 partner, Ryker
- Two K9 assisted apprehensions for stolen motor scooter
- Seven arrests based off of a Controlled Dangerous Substance (CDS) scans of vehicles and property, including the issuance of two search warrants based on K9 alert

*Note:* Assaults in progress are not added as K9 calls since the majority of them are inside or unfounded.

The numbers in 2011 are lower than those that were submitted in 2010. This can be attributed to several factors, including: Montgomery County Police received its K9 support within its own agency at this time. It currently has approximately 20 teams. On any given shift, there are three to five teams working, which does not include Rockville City and Gaithersburg City. This directly affects the number of mutual aid call-outs.
On August 26, after several long years, and many hours of training, the Takoma Park Police Department unveiled its Emergency Response Team (ERT). This was one of Chief Ricucci’s visions for the Takoma Park Police Department. Lieutenant Richard Bowers, who shared this vision, had the determination and commitment over a long period of time to make this vision come true. The members of the team, Lieutenant Richard Bowers, Sergeant Richard Poole, Corporal Thomas Black, Private First Class Charles Hoetzel, Detective Rick Cannatella, Private First Class Jeffrey Demuth, and Private First Class David Quante all played a vital part in making this become a reality. The precision, professionalism, and discipline demonstrated by this team in executing successful entries are textbook examples of good police work. Chief Ricucci is very proud of each member of the team and Lieutenant Richard Bowers for his leadership in making this vision come true.

ERT had two forcible entry events, one on August 26 and the other on December 16, together with Montgomery County Police. For one of the entries, property was seized, and an arrest was made.
## CALLS TO DISPATCH

### 2010

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<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
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<th>10</th>
<th>11</th>
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<td>321</td>
<td>437</td>
<td>517</td>
<td>518</td>
<td>620</td>
<td>508</td>
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<td>656</td>
<td>715</td>
<td>670</td>
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<td>440</td>
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<td>323</td>
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<td>372</td>
<td>452</td>
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<td>475</td>
<td>766</td>
<td>957</td>
<td>794</td>
<td>943</td>
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<td>1,028</td>
<td>1,165</td>
<td>1,078</td>
<td>1,060</td>
<td>10,841</td>
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| Dispatched CAD Events | 486 | 528 | 556 | 582 | 656 | 655 | 674 | 657 | 581 | 652 | 534 | 548 | 7,109 |

Total for 2010: 1,342, 1,003, 1,322, 1,539, 1,450, 1,598, 1,614, 1,436, 1,609, 1,817, 2,690, 1,608, 17,950

**Other Self-Initiated Calls:** These types of calls are initiated by a police officer and given to dispatch, i.e., loiterers, suspicious subjects, parking, etc.

### 2011

**Computer Aided Dispatch(CAD) Events:** These types of calls are received by the 911 Dispatcher and then given to police officers, i.e., burglaries, alarms, 911 disconnects, etc.

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<th>11</th>
<th>12</th>
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<tr>
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<td>398</td>
<td>488</td>
<td>568</td>
<td>676</td>
<td>765</td>
<td>822</td>
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<td>576</td>
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<td>565</td>
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<tr>
<td>Traffic Stops</td>
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<td>729</td>
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<td>624</td>
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<td>478</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>875</td>
<td>860</td>
<td>937</td>
<td>1,028</td>
<td>1,436</td>
<td>1,494</td>
<td>1,487</td>
<td>1,554</td>
<td>1,200</td>
<td>1,030</td>
<td>1,043</td>
<td>1,235</td>
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</table>

| Dispatched CAD Events | 592 | 511 | 587 | 619 | 667 | 625 | 614 | 693 | 626 | 621 | 616 | 545 | 7,316 |

Total for 2011: 1,467, 1,371, 1,524, 1,647, 2,103, 2,119, 2,101, 2,247, 1,826, 1,651, 1,659, 1,780, 21,495
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

The Administrative Services Division consists of a Records Clerk, National Crime Information Center (NCIC)/Warrants Clerk, Logistics/Payroll Clerk, and Parking Enforcement Coordinator. The Administrative Services Division also includes eight crossing guards.

Audits:

On February 16, the Department was visited by the Maryland Department of Public Safety, Criminal Justice Information Systems (CJIS) Criminal History Records Information section in a routine biennial audit. Preparation for the audit helped the Department determine some problems with records collections in the arrest process that the Department was able to address. The audit compares information from fingerprint cards submitted by the Montgomery County Central Processing Unit on behalf of the Takoma Park Police Department from arrests by Takoma Park officers, to the actual records on file with this agency. Problems identified in the audit were brought to the attention of the Central Processing Unit (CPU) staff for improvement as necessary.

On May 11, the agency had its routine audit of National Crime Information Center (NCIC) procedures and records, conducted by personnel from the Maryland CJIS personnel. NCIC is the federal system that is the repository of stolen auto, stolen articles, wanted person, and missing person records, amongst several other types of law enforcement records. The audit examines Department procedures to ensure accuracy and timeliness of Department entries and removal of cleared records. The Department procedures were found to be sound, ensuring that an appropriate process for entering, reviewing, and managing the use of NCIC was well addressed; however, some records from the sample examined were found to be missing some data elements. The Terminal Agency Coordinator (TAC) has undertaken extensive re-training of communications staff who conduct the majority of the entries in order to improve on the error rate.

On July 8, the Department underwent a site visit and audit of juvenile arrest data to review compliance with the Federal mandates in the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act concerning the holding conditions of Juvenile offenders. Of the 53 records reviewed (a six month review), 10 records indicated possible procedural errors in the documentation. One-half of these were due to improper recording of data on report forms and the remaining were due to
incidents in which the juveniles remained in agency custody in excess of six hours, due to either delays in the response of the parents to take custody of the juvenile, or delays in response by Juvenile Justice authorities to authorize detention of the juvenile at a juvenile justice facility. The audit prompted renewed attention to proper procedures for juvenile detention guidelines, revision of agency recording forms to more accurately capture data to document the compliance, and re-training of operations personnel in compliance with the procedures.

On September 20, the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA) conducted a routine site visit and audit of records regarding the agency's use for funds awarded in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The BJA grant under that act was used by the Department to fund the part-time research and policy development position in the Office of the Chief. The agency received a favorable letter of report on the visit and audit, indicating use and records maintenance were within program requirements and sufficiently documented the activities under the grant.

On September 21, the Department completed its annual internal audit of Law Enforcement Information Exchange (LInX) usage required for participation in that system. The LInX network connects information contributed by agencies from their records management systems, allowing officers to make one query in the system to point them to various agency involvements throughout the region. It is a valuable tool and time saver for investigative efforts. Twenty-five Department accounts were audited (100%). Accounts must be disabled if the user is no longer employed by the Department, there is not a signed policy and rules acknowledgment on file for the user, the user has not been properly screened including a criminal background check, or the user has not attended required current LInX training. No accounts were required to be disabled for these reasons. The Department voluntarily disabled nine accounts due to user inactivity (mostly cases where a user had been transferred from investigative duties back to patrol duties). Departmental usage and queries were also audited in sufficient samples for each user to ensure that usage of the system is proper and for legitimate law enforcement purposes. Over the past year, the Department had obtained certification by two employees as instructors in the use of LInX. This has been extremely useful in maintaining training and certification of Department personnel and alleviating the need to send staff to outside agencies for training.
Coordination of Emergency Management Efforts

During 2011, staff from the Office of the Chief has been involved in many efforts supporting emergency management both at the City level and in coordination with Montgomery County. Captain Ed Coursey has been the primary liaison with the Montgomery County Emergency Management Group, which coordinates with the County Office of Emergency Management and Homeland Security to provide management policy formulation for the County and its municipalities. Additionally, the Policy Research and Development Manager also participates with Captain Coursey in monthly drills to maintain an agency capability to utilize the Web Emergency Operations Center (WebEOC) software which provides for information sharing and documentation of emergency management efforts during actual incidents. During the year, the agency has sought to improve depth in personnel capable of operating this system on behalf of the City and this now currently includes the Deputy City Manager, the Support Services Commander, and the Crime Analyst.

The staff of the Office of the Chief has participated in several exercises throughout the year including:

- A May 19 Montgomery County EOC (Emergency Operations Center) annual tabletop exercise simulating preparation and response to a severe hurricane event.
- An August 18 municipality-centered County exercise stressing issues of debris management and damage assessment.
- An October 19 full scale functional exercise in mass casualty management conducted by the National Capital Area hospitals known as Capital Shield. Our participation was in conjunction with the Washington Adventist Hospital staff in a simulated activation of their operations center.
- A Montgomery County tabletop exercise simulating emergency management of a major winter storm involving an EOC activation.

Additionally, Department staff under the direction of the Office of the Chief participated in actual preparatory steps and emergency management EOC activations supporting community preparedness for and response to the Hurricane Irene storm, one of the worst to hit the Takoma Park region in many years.

Finally, the Office of the Chief, in conjunction with the City's Information Systems staff, maintains the Takoma Park Alert (TP ALERT) system. This system
consists of a computer server with a back-up that operates the Roam Secure software that provides the ability to broadcast text alerts and e-mails to all subscribers to the system. It was provided to the City at no cost through an Urban Area Security Initiative grant, in which all Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments member jurisdictions received the system. Individuals subscribe via the Internet and list their text enabled devices and e-mail accounts for the system, and select special interest message groups to which they would like to enroll. In this way, individuals can update their participation as deemed necessary, relieving the City of having to actively manage each user account, which would be a burdensome administrative effort.

The system was used to distribute 30 alerts during 2011, most of which were for local traffic situations in Takoma Park. This figure does not include the more frequent pass through alerts that are sent via the Montgomery County system for County traffic items or for weather alerts such as storm warnings and watches. The two systems are somewhat interactive, and subscribers can opt into groups to receive the county alerts on various topics as well relieving the subscriber from having to enroll separately in both systems. There are currently 2719 subscribers to the TPAERT system, of which 393 subscribed during the 2011 year.