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Enforcement Branch

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Enforcement Branch 2014 Annual Report

PATROL

Since the last U.S. Census in 2010, the population of Clark County has risen at a rate of 6.0 percent.¹ In 2010, the census Clark County had 425,363 residents. In 2014, Clark County is estimated to have a population of 451,008 (211,760 who are serviced by the Sheriff's Office). Unfortunately, the Sheriff's Office has not kept pace with the population increase. Using 2014 numbers, Clark County ranks third from the bottom in comparison to all other counties in the state of Washington when measuring "commissioned officers per one thousand residents." CCSO has a rate of 0.61 officers per 1,000 residents. Some may argue that this is not the best measurement for determining the number of patrol deputies needed in a community. However, any way you look at it, the Clark County Sheriff's Office has too few deputies! On a positive note, the Board of Councilors added back eight deputy positions that had been reduced in 2010 due to the poor economy.

Calls for service dropped 2.7% for the year. Deputy initiated activity also dropped 2.2%. Viewing the graph below (Table 1), one can see that Priority 1 & 2 calls increased. These are the most serious kinds of calls where a victim's life and/or serious injury are at stake. Table 2 corroborates the information by displaying an increase in the Violent Crime Index. Also noted is a 19% rise in fraud, forgery, and ID theft crimes index.

Total Calls For Service, Patrol and Specialized Units								
Agency	Priority	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	% Change
CCSO	1	111	221	163	92	83	108	30.1%
CCSO	2	3568	3317	3365	3390	3188	3311	3.9%
CCSO	3	46608	42491	39488	40414	39768	37587	-5.5%
CCSO	4	25274	24791	23673	22686	21362	21655	1.4%
CCSO	5	10206	9261	8178	8048	7900	7698	-2.6%
	Other		591	1312	1289	994	977	-1.7%
Total		85767	80672	76179	75919	73295	71336	-2.7%

Table 1

¹ <http://quickfacts.census.gov/qfd/states/53/53011.html>

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2014	
Violent Crime Index	691	605	572	561	577	3%
Property Crime Index	4410	3574	3353	3078	2729	-11%
Fraud, Forgery, ID Theft Index	497	373	257	358	426	19%

Table 2

The table below (Table 3) illustrates the Top 10 locations of calls for service in unincorporated Clark County. Both Central and West precincts receive the highest ranking due to “walk-in” traffic and phone reports taken at the counter.

Top 10 CCSO Call Locations 2014					
Address	Name of Location	Precinct	Rank 2013	2014	# of Calls 2014
11608 NE 149th ST	Central Precinct*	Central	1	1	1005
505 NW 179th ST	West Precinct*	West	2	2	856
9000 NE HIGHWAY 99	Wal-Mart	West	3	3	287
12611 NE 99TH ST	Praire View Apts	Central	5	4	269
10804 NE HIGHWAY 99	Calhanns Mobile	West	4	5	250
2211 NE 139TH ST	Legacy Complex	West	9	6	250
7700 NE HIGHWAY 99	Fred Meyer Complex	West	8	7	249
7411 NE 117TH AVE	Fred Meyer Complex	Central	7	8	230
6811 NE 121ST AVE	Meadow Wood Apts	Central	6	9	217
9700 NE HIGHWAY 99	WINCO	West	10	10	201

Table 3

To provide context, Table 4 displays the calls during a 24 hour period and the frequency. For example, we average 111 dispatched calls for service a day agency-wide. That means on the average, a Clark County Deputy Sheriff is dispatched and responds to a call every 13 minutes.

	All Agency	Central	West
Total Calls For Service	195 Calls a Day / 1 Every 8 minutes	79 Calls A Day / 1 Every 17 minutes	70 Calls A Day / 1 Every 19 minutes
Dispatched Calls For Service	111 Calls a Day / 1 Every 13 minutes	47 Calls A Day / 1 Every 30 minutes	48 Calls A Day / 1 Every 29 minutes
Officer Initiated Calls	85 Calls a Day / 1 Every 17 minutes	32 Calls a Day / 1 Every 45 minutes	21 Calls A Day / 1 Every 67 Minutes
Violent Crime	3 Reports A Day / 1 Every 7 Hours	2 Reports A Day / 1 Every 15 hours	2 Reports A Day / 1 Every 18 hours
Property Crime	15 Reports A Day / 1 Every 2 Hours	7 Reports A Day / 1 Every 3 Hours	7 Reports A Day / 1 Every 3 Hours
DUI	1 Report A Day	1 Report Every 2 Days	1 Report Every 2 Days

Table 4

As one might imagine, calls for service do not come into the dispatch center at 13 minute increments evenly spaced out throughout the day and night. Table 5 is a bell curve that illustrates how calls come

into the dispatch center for a 24 hour period. Beginning at 0600 hours, the calls for service are very low. They continue to rise all day and peak between 1500 hours until 2300 hours. The calls then trail off and reach the lower level at 0559 hours. The way we staff our patrol replicates the bell curve; at 1500 hours, our swing shift personnel come on duty while day shift deputies are working until approximately 1800 hours. At 1900 hours, the graveyard deputies go in service.

All Calls For Service By Hour - Year 2014

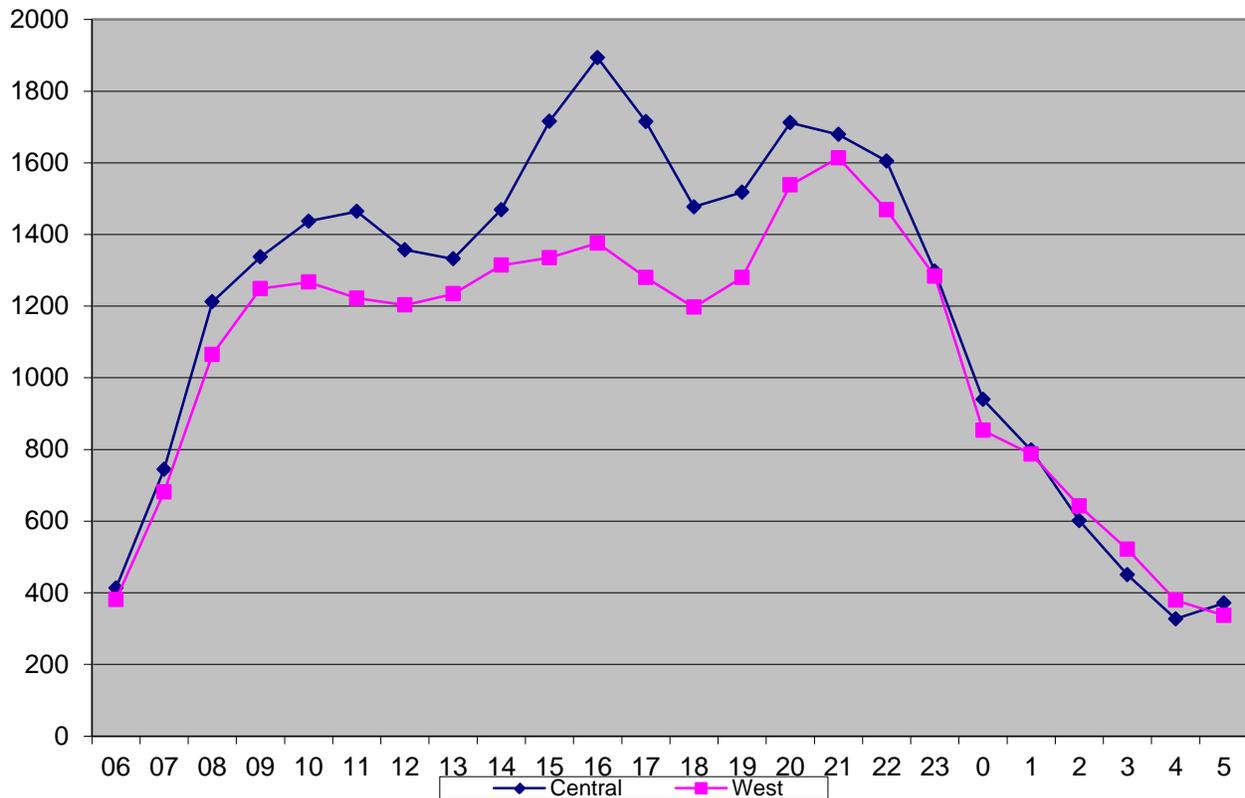


Table 5

RESPONSE TIMES

We continually monitor our performance regarding response times to call for service. The value in evaluating such performance gives us feedback regarding staffing levels, deployment distribution geographically (beat sizes, boundaries, and configuration), and prioritization of tasks and services. We continue to strive to make progress in lowering our response times for those most critical of calls. In reviewing Table 6, we can see that we lowered our response time in Priority 1, 3, and 4 calls. We were slower responding to Priority 2 and 5 calls. As we analyze the data further, we find that the change in our call response (both lower and higher), is not statistically significant. Therefore, we are achieving our goal.

ALL CCSO											
	2009	2010	+/- Chng	2011	+/- Chng	2012	+/- Chng	2013	+/- Chng	2014	+/- Chng
Priority											
1	0:05:33	0:05:23	0:00:10	0:05:55	0:00:32	0:05:03	-0:00:52	0:04:22	-0:00:41	0:04:42	0:00:20
2	0:07:50	0:07:36	0:00:14	0:08:06	0:00:30	0:07:55	-0:00:11	0:08:08	0:00:13	0:07:29	-0:00:39
3	0:11:11	0:06:09	0:05:02	0:05:03	-0:01:06	0:05:43	0:00:39	0:05:51	0:00:08	0:06:28	0:00:37
4	0:20:27	0:10:52	0:09:36	0:08:09	-0:02:42	0:10:44	0:02:35	0:11:17	0:00:33	0:11:26	0:00:09
5	0:17:23	0:04:28	0:12:55	0:03:01	-0:01:27	0:02:54	-0:00:06	0:03:17	0:00:23	0:02:57	-0:00:20

Table 6

CALEA

The Sheriff’s Office strives to maintain the highest of professional law enforcement standards. To achieve this goal, the Sheriff is committed to maintaining its accreditation status through CALEA (Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies), a nationally recognized accreditation organization. To be successful, this unit needs to constantly monitor and obtain proofs of compliance and organize and maintain the numerous files to show compliance with these professional standards. Often times, General Orders need to be revised to keep the agency in compliance with the latest in professional law enforcement model policies.

Under the leadership of Sgt. Fred Neiman, the Clark County Sheriff’s Office achieved re-accreditation in March of 2014. In doing so, we were awarded “Reaccreditation with Excellence,” CALEA’s highest level of recognition.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

The Community Outreach Unit is staffed by one Sergeant and one Support Specialist II. The Outreach Unit is responsible for monitoring and tracking community events and ensuring consistency in outreach efforts. The Outreach Unit actively participates in many of the various outreach activities, crime prevention efforts, and community collaborations which have taken place. Many of these outreach efforts are ongoing programs such as Seniors and Law Enforcement Together (S.A.L.T.), the Disabled Parking Volunteers, Explorers, and the Business and Security Managers Group. The Outreach Unit also puts on the Citizen’s Academy and assists VPD with the NOW (Neighbors on Watch) program. Other outreach efforts include presentations to various groups including schools, Boy Scouts, service organizations, and other citizen groups. Additionally, many deputies conduct outreach activities as part of their day to day work in patrol or wherever they are assigned within the Sheriff’s Office. All branch employees of the Sheriff’s Office contribute to the outreach efforts of the agency.

RegJIN

The Regional Records Management System (RMS) replacement is a multi-jurisdictional effort involving over 40 agencies in Oregon and Washington. The system will replace the records management and

electronic police reporting systems of the participating agencies, combining them into one integrated system. The issues involved are complex and labor-intensive. It is critical that the Enforcement Branch is an active participant in the development of the system. To such end, the Core Team Member position was established to ensure communication and continuity throughout the life of the project. Many agency members participated as trainers and implementers as the project evolved. RegJIN is scheduled to go live on April 14, 2015.

RESERVES

In 2014, the 31 reserve deputies volunteered 4,086 hours of patrol. When adding in training, community service, and search and rescue, the men and women of the Reserve Unit, in total, volunteered 8,598 hours. They did so commonly placing themselves in harm's way, and subjecting themselves to sights and smells and experiences that are not easily forgotten.

The Reserves are proud to serve next to, and in support of, the men and women who do this work day in and day out. As their partners on patrol, the Reserves witness countless acts of everyday heroism and courage, beyond what the community will ever know. In so doing, the volunteers hope to add to the safety of the full time Deputies, and to add to the overall safety of the community in which we all live.

SEARCH & RESCUE TEAMS (SAR)

Clark County benefits from having a vast resource pool of Search & Rescue organizations to assist the Sheriff's Office and our local community in emergency situations. The volunteer groups are dedicated teams who stand ready to respond in a moment's notice. These individuals volunteer their time and effort to assist in search & rescue missions covering a broad variety of incidents that include missing children, missing Alzheimer patients, overdue boaters, hikers, berry pickers, hunters and on occasion, an evidence search. Many hours are spent training and participating in joint operations with other search and rescue groups preparing their teams to effectively contribute in missions that require cooperation and teamwork.

In 2014, search and rescue teams responded to 23 missions. 14- events were related to missing children and adults, 5- evidence searches, and 3- human remains recovery. 12 of the calls were for mutual aid assistance in locations outside of Clark County.

REVIEW OF 2014 GOALS

In reviewing the stated goals for 2014, I have attached two significant achievements.

1. The acquisition of a mobile evidence/crime scene support processing van for MCU and TDU.

The Sheriff's Office took possession of our evidence/crime scene support truck on December 30, 2014. It was used the next few days at our first shooting of 2015.

2. Detectives (MCU) to supplement patrol by responding to each suicide and questionable death investigation.

The Major Crimes Unit was extremely busy this year but responded to each and every suicide and suspicious death investigation.

NEW GOALS FOR 2015

1. Rebrand CCSO Patrol Vehicles

The newly elected Sheriff is looking to rebrand and designate a new era; build pride in who the deputies are and what they represent.

2. Close Public Access at Central Precinct

Central Precinct, located at 11608 NE 149th Street in Brush Prairie, opened in 1995 and was intended to be a temporary location for deputies while a new precinct was built. Funding was never approved for the new location, which has since become the permanent home for about 40 deputies and one support staff. The forty-one year old building was originally constructed as a manufacturing facility, and Central Precinct occupies what used to be the office portion of that business.

Even with some cosmetic upgrades over its history, the precinct does not have a community room, waiting area, or even a public restroom. The stairwell to the second story does not meet fire codes, and the upstairs briefing room only allows for nine occupants at any one time. While deputies will continue to meet at the precinct, the facilities are not adequate to meet the needs of the growing population that live in the area of Clark County east of Northeast 50th Avenue.

3. Plan for Construction of a New Boat House

The Sheriff's Office maintains a boat house on the Columbia River. It is in dire need of repair and updating. The boat house can moor only one vessel and it is too small for our patrol boat. Due to the inadequate space inside the boat house, deputies are housed several miles away. This extends emergency response time, limits CCSO exposure to the boating community, and ultimately reduces the time deputies spend on the water. Rather than making costly repairs to the current building, we could partner with the Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife (who need a place to moor their vessel) and build a new building and share the cost.

4. New Central Precinct Process

We need to determine the needs of the Sheriff's Office for a newly built Central Precinct.

5. Increase Recruitment and Hiring

The Sheriff's Office has approximately 40 openings agency-wide. Recruitment efforts for diverse candidates need improvement.