

2010 ANNUAL REPORT

FEBRUARY 21, 2011

CHIEF'S MESSAGE



Police Chief Randy Boeldt

INSIDE THIS REPORT

CHIEF'S MESSAGE	1-2
CALLS FOR SERVICE	2-3
ARRESTS	3
GRANTS	4
FINANCE	4
MUNICIPAL COURT	4-5
COMMUNITY SERVICE	5

Reflecting back on 2010, I think it only appropriate to begin with a quote from Hugh Prather: "Just when I think I have learned the way to live, life changes." And so it was, when the bank robber pointed the gun and announced "This is not an April fool's joke, this is a robbery!" The lives of four bank employees changed forever as well as the mindset of members of the Elkhart Lake Police Department. Who would have ever thought that something like this would happen in Elkhart Lake? How many bank alarms have we responded to, only to find out that they were set off by employee error?

As one would expect, this event stretched the resources of our small department; But, with the

help of an assortment of agencies (who use a lot of acronyms), we were able to follow this investigation through fruition. Assisting were the SSD (Sheboygan Sheriff's Department), FBI (Federal Bureau of Investigation), ATF (Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms & Explosives), MOCIC (Mid-States Organized Crime Information Center), NICB (National Insurance Crime Bureau), MCBS (Milwaukee County Bomb Squad), FDL SO (Fond du Lac County Sheriff's Office, WCSO (Washington County Sheriff's Office), and MEG Units (Multi-jurisdictional Enforcement Groups) from both Sheboygan and Washington Counties. We were also assisted by a private individual, Gary Markevitch (GM for the purpose of this report) who provided valuable video evidence from his home security system. This was truly a life changing experience and one of those rare moments when everything just fell into place. Had it not been for this true team effort, we might still be working on this case and in all likelihood, Jeffrey McCord, would be running out of cash about this time.

Change continued as I attended

an administrator training session for Badger TraCS. This is the State of Wisconsin's automated traffic citation software available to all Wisconsin law enforcement agencies at no charge. The software allows officers to issue computer generated citations, warnings, traffic accident forms, drunk driving forms, and the new traffic data collection form, (2011 state law) right in the squad car. The form is printed in the squad and given directly to the person involved. This data is then transferred into the police department computer system via a thumb drive. In the near future, we will be able to import all the data directly into our records management system eliminating data entry for those records.

In December I began training for a new county-wide software system called Spillman. The Elkhart Lake Police Department currently utilizes a records management system software program called Fors. Every other agency in the county has been using a program called Paragon. At the time Paragon was implemented it was not financially feasible for our department to

(Continued on page 2)

CHIEF'S MESSAGE CONTINUED

join the others because of a requirement that we connect to the system via phone lines. Under Spillman we will utilize both the internet and cellular technology (in the squads) to connect to the county wide system. The software is being paid for though tax dollars at the county level so there will be no cost bore by the Village other than incidentals which have already been budgeted for. The positive side of the program is that we will be able to do county wide searches to see if any county law enforcement agency has had contact with any particular person. Likewise,

access to county wide data will also enable us to recognize crime trends that are occurring throughout the area. In addition to increased information sharing, we will also benefit by data being stored and backed up on county servers for a securer environment.

The go live date for the program has been scheduled for the end of March 2011 and officers will be attending training between now and then.

As my law enforcement career winds down one thing has become obvious: "There are no permanent changes because change itself is permanent." - Ralph Woods-

Randy Boeldt

CALLS FOR SERVICE

In 2010, the Elkhart Lake Police Department handled 639 calls for service. This figure is a slight decrease from the 673 calls for service handled in 2010. This may be attributed to the down turn in the economy which adversely effects tourism. Included in the calls for service were several cases of interest, the following is a brief synopsis of those cases.

As mentioned on page one of this report, the Elkhart Lake Police Department investigated a bank robbery at the National Exchange Bank. This was the first bank robbery in the history of Elkhart Lake and Chief Boeldt spent nearly a month working that robbery.

Then in early May, the Elkhart Lake Police Department executed a drug search warrant at 224 A East Rhine Street. The Department had received information that a large quantity of drugs from California were being shipped to the apartment on a regular basis, inside of metal grills. Seized from the apartment were various drugs and drug paraphernalia as well as \$3,600 in cash. (see photo) As a result of the investigation, the two residents of the apartment were both charged with felony and misdemeanor drug violations. The depart-

ment also applied to federally seize the money and were subsequently awarded \$2880.00 (80%) to be used on our war on drugs.

On August 10, we received a report of a burglary to a room at the Osthoff Resort. The reporting person, a 72-year-old female, had stayed at the resort on July 29th and noticed that her expensive jewelry was missing the following morning. Thinking she may have forgotten the jewelry at home, she did not report the crime immediately. Eleven days later the burglary was reported and the investigation began. The complainant reported \$57,515.00 in jewelry was taken from inside her room; Nothing else was missing, nothing else was disturbed. We were able to determine that there was no sign of forced entry to the room and the computerized key log for the room showed no one entered the room, other than the victim. The victim felt that the door may not have closed properly when she left for dinner on the evening on July 29th. Because the room had been rented after the victims

stay, there was no way to obtain fingerprint or DNA evidence and the case remains open today.

On October 11, Chief Boeldt took a report of a despondent elderly female who threatened to drown herself in the lake. Chief Boeldt, with the aid of binoculars, located the woman in the water several hundred yards from shore. At the time of the call, the police boat was out of the water, so the Elkhart Lake Fire Department was paged to assist with their water rescue equipment. Before firefighters could arrive, Chief Boeldt was able to flag down the only boat on the lake which was driven by Zachary Wolf (Trustee Wolf's son). Zachary Wolf transported Chief Boeldt to the area where the woman was located and the Chief had to dive into the cold water to assist the woman who was suffering from hypothermia. The Chief pulled the woman to the boat and assisted both Zachary Wolf and his friend, Adam Schleh, in



Drug Money Seized

CALLS FOR SERVICE CONTINUED

(Continued from page 2)

getting the woman into the boat. The woman was taken to shore and then transported by ambulance to the hospital where an Emergency Detention hold was placed on the woman.

The three charts to the right illustrate call volume based on the day of the week, month, and year. As can be expected in a tourist community, Friday and Saturdays are the two busiest days of the week and the summer months have the most activity.

Day of The Week	Number of Calls
Monday	75
Tuesday	87
Wednesday	85
Thursday	89
Friday	105
Saturday	115
Sunday	83

Month	Number of Calls
January	41
February	32
March	32
April	40
May	68
June	81
July	112
August	74
September	36
October	56
November	36
December	31

Year	Number of Calls
2010	639
2009	673
2008	598
2007	610
2006	601

ARRESTS

The Elkhart Lake Police Department had 435 arrests in 2010 for various offenses. The majority of these offences (239) were traffic related. In addition to the traffic citations that were issued, there were also 304 traffic warnings. These figures equate to a ratio of approximately 44% of offenders stopped are issued citations versus 56% of the violators receive warnings.

Included in the traffic citations were 17 drunk driving arrests and two absolute sobriety offenses (not a drop law). The chart adjacent to this column shows the age, sex, offense number, and level of intoxication of the drunk driving offenders. You will notice that there were six refusals for first time offenders. Those who refuse a chemical test at the request of law enforcement have their driver's license revoked for one year and there is a 30 day waiting period to obtain an occupational license. The offenders still face the drunk driving charges, and if convicted, can face an additional revocation period. In turn, if those same drivers would have taken the test and been over the limit, they would have had their license revoked for a period of six to nine months, depending on their in-

Age	Gender	Offense	Reading
21	Male	2nd	.21
22	Male	1st	.18
23	Male	1st	Refusal
24	Male	1st	.19
24	Male	1st	.20
26	Female	1st	Refusal
28	Female	2nd	.08
34	Male	3rd	.17
38	Female	1st	Refusal
39	Male	6th	.209
47	Male	1st	Refusal
53	Female	1st	Refusal
54	Male	3rd	.37
56	Male	1st	Refusal
58	Male	1st	.17
60	Male	1st	.13
66	Male	1st	.23



toxication level, and they would have been eligible for an occupational license immediately.

In addition to the traffic citations, there were a wide variety of other charges incorporated into the 435 arrests. Some of the most significant charges included: armed robbery, eluding, 23 disorderly conduct, seven urinating in public, 54 boating citations and 43 various drug violations.

GRANTS

In 2010 the Elkhart Lake Police Department received additional funding through three grants and several donations. The largest bequest came through the Smaller Police Agency Crime Imitative which was administered by the Wisconsin Office of Justice Assistance. This grant awarded the Elkhart Lake Police Department \$9,750.00 used for the purchase two digital in-car video systems. The video technology purchased is so advanced that the entire digital video system is integrated into a rear view mirror complete with color monitor.

The department was also awarded an Intoximeter Alco-Sensor FST portable breathalyzer (PBT) from the Bureau of Transportation Safety. This unit will allow the department to utilize the state of the art devise while on bicycle

patrol without sacrificing the PBT in the patrol car.

The last grant the department received was for the purchase of two thermal printers and two head-rest printer mounts to be used in conjunction with TraCS, the automated traffic citation software. (Photo to the right) The department began to utilize the printers in January, which are valued at approximately \$600 each, including the headrest mounts.

One of the donations received was a police bicycle from Wolf Cycle in Sheboygan. The police department formed a partnership with the business, whereby Wolf Cycle took our used police bicycle and replaced it with a brand new bicycle at no charge. It is anticipated that this relationship



Headrest Printer

will continue into the future with bicycles being replaced on a regular basis.

The Elkhart Lake Historic Race Circuits is also helping to keep Elkhart Lake Police Officers safe. The group has donated \$1000 toward new bullet proof vests which will be matched federally through the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant Act. This donation will enable the Elkhart Lake Police Department to outfit three police officers with the latest in technological advanced bulletproof vests.

BUDGET / FINANCE



In September of 2009 the police department began the budget process for 2010. At that time, the Finance Committee directed all department

heads to keep the 2010 budgets at the same level as the previous year. Not only did the department manage expenses to same level as 2009, but we also came in below that level.

Expenses for 2010 totaled \$334,293 which was approximately 2.5% below the

budgeted amount of \$342,972. Included in the expenditure amount was \$1,500 in Chamber Money that the Village Board awarded to the three full-time police officers. (split three ways) This was a one time gift that the officers received in lieu of pay increases for the year.

MUNICIPAL COURT



In 2010, The Elkhart Lake / Town of Rhine Municipal Court handled 301 cases. You will notice that this number is lower than the 435 arrests previously reported. This is due in part to municipal courts only have jurisdiction over ordinance violations; All criminal charges are heard in circuit court. Likewise, arrests that occur late in the year are scheduled to be heard in January of the following year.

One thing that continues to plague the court is the non payment of fines. Currently there are 285 outstanding tickets for a total of \$54,687.05 owed to the court.

When this occurs the court utilizes three methods to help facilitate the collection of those unpaid fines. One method used is to suspend the

(Continued on page 5)

MUNICIPAL COURT CONTINUED

(Continued from page 4)

violators drivers' license for a maximum period of two years or until the fines are paid. Another method is the Tax Refund Intercept Program, where liens are placed on future tax refunds of the violators. The last technique used is a collection agency.

The Court currently has 124 citations on file in the Tax Refund Intercept Program for a total of \$26,522.42 due the court. Likewise, there are 105 tickets on file with the Stark Collection agency for a total of 17,627.05.

The Elkhart Lake / Town of Rhine Municipal Court is funded through revenue generated when violators pay their citations. Every citation that passes through the municipal court system generates \$23 in revenue which offset court expenses.

This year the court had revenue of \$7,050.87 versus expenditures of \$8,057.92 for a net loss of \$1,007.44. This loss can be explained on two factors that occurred in 2010. One of the issues was a \$800 software support fee. Up until this time, the Elkhart Lake Municipal Court had been utilizing the court software system without paying an annual support fee. There had been an agreement in place with the software vendor, that no fees would be charged until a new Windows based program was completed. The software company was sold and the new owners implemented the support fee, even though the Windows based version had not debuted. The second factor was due to our Clerk of Courts / Police Clerical position, going over 600 hours in a 12 month period. When this occurs, the State of Wisconsin requires municipalities to pay into the

Wisconsin Retirement System on behalf of the employee. This requirement added \$145.94 of additional expense into the courts budget. The employee who reached the 600 hour plateau has since left for a full time position elsewhere, but the court could potentially fall into the same situation with her replacement.

One thing to keep in mind when considering the net loss for the court is the fact that when we held court in Circuit Court, the Sheboygan County Clerk of Courts took \$5.00 from each forfeiture paid. In 2009 this would have equated to a \$1505 loss in revenue vs the \$1007.44 loss we experienced in Municipal Court. The department also saves in travel time and gas expense by holding court in Elkhart Lake. Likewise, the violators also benefit because the fines in municipal court are approximately 1/2 the cost of fines in circuit court.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

The department continued to participate in community service programs throughout the year. Those programs included TRIAD (seniors, and police working together), Sheboygan County Crime Stoppers, Sheboygan County Traffic Safety, Sheboygan County Swat Team (Officer Meeusen) and the LTC Police Science Advisory Board.

Likewise, the department continued to offer several community programs. These services included drug education and awareness classes (DARE), boating safety classes, and acting as a drop off/collection site for unused or old pharmaceutical drugs.

The department also partnered with the Elkhart Lake Glenbeulah School System to provide school district parents with free, confidential, drug testing kits purchased with crime prevention funds.

In addition to those efforts, our Safe Ride Program continued to be a huge success until the taxi service went out of business. Since that time a new taxi service has been established and it is anticipated that the Safe Ride Program will resume in time for our busy summer season.



Milwaukee Bomb Squad Member