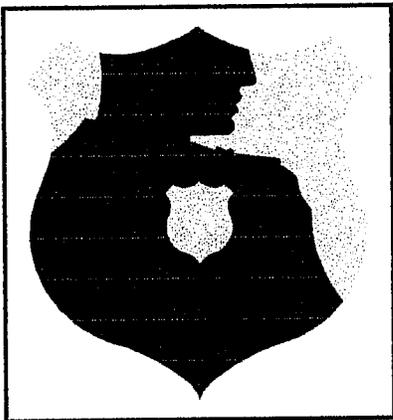
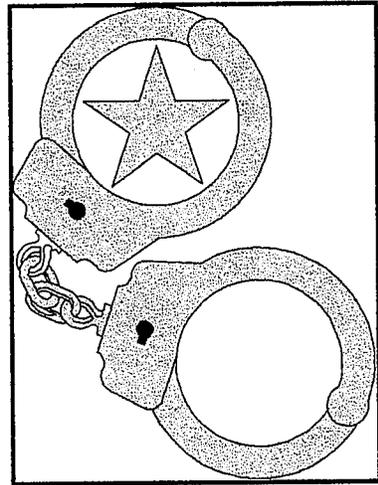


Merriam
Police
Department

1995



ANNUAL
REPORT

**PRESENTED AT THE
1996 ANNUAL MERRIAM
POLICE DEPARTMENT
MEETING, 02/06/96**



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Credits

The information provided in this 1995 Annual Report was compiled with the assistance of the following persons:

Bill Lietzke, Bob Smith, Steve Haynes, Dan Kellerman, Mike Daniels, Larry Birt,
Bob Schluben, Lisa Aldrich, Karen Gibson, Mike Scanlon
and Randy Rash.

INTRODUCTION



The City of Merriam continues to demonstrate that it is a progressively managed community. In 1995, much work was done to ensure that the city would continue to grow and prosper. The City has demonstrated that its primary mission is to improve the quality of life for its residents and businesses.

Merriam is widely known for the high quality level of service that is provided. This success is possible for two reasons; (1) professional city employees that are committed to excellence; and (2) the high degree of dedication and support they receive from the Mayor and City Council.

This document was compiled and organized by Chief Kenneth Sissom. It has been written to chronicle the 1995 events and experiences of the Merriam Police Department. It is written in a series of reports, listed by category. Its purpose is to illustrate the activities and provided services through narrative form, statistics, charts and graphs.

ORGANIZATIONAL VALUES

PARTNERSHIP:

We are committed to working in partnership with the community and each other to identify and resolve issues which impact the community, ourselves and the other professional agencies.

DEDICATION:

We are committed to providing the highest quality of law enforcement service to the community with the goal of enhancing the quality of life within Merriam.

RESPECT:

We are committed to the respect of individual rights, human dignity and the values of all members of the community and the department.

INTEGRITY:

We value the adherence to the rule of law, to the Constitutions of Kansas and of the United States, and to utmost honesty. We are committed to nurturing the public trust by holding ourselves accountable to the highest standards of professionalism and ethics.

COMMUNITY:

We value working with Merriam's diverse community to ensure the safety and security of our neighborhoods. We are committed to the highest level of communication and cooperation with both the residential and business communities of Merriam in an effort to reduce crime and increase the feeling of security and well-being within the city.

EMPOWERMENT:

We are committed to empowering our employees and the community to resolve problems by creating an environment that encourages solutions that address the needs of the residential and business communities.

ORGANIZATIONAL GROWTH:

We value the creation of an environment which focuses on solving problems through teamwork, participation, cooperation and enthusiasm, fostered by decisive, professional leaders who support creativity and innovation.

MERRIAM POLICE DEPARTMENT MISSION STATEMENT

We, the Merriam, Kansas Police Department, are a Community-Oriented Police Department. We are committed to providing the highest quality of police services by empowering our employees to work coactively with the community toward the goal of improving the quality of life within Merriam. We pledge to maintain the highest level of respect for an individual's rights and human dignity.

**Our purpose is to provide safety and security for all persons within our city with responsive and professional services utilizing compassion and concern. Our mission is accomplished within the moral and legal standards of our community, through a partnership of the community and the employees of the
MERRIAM POLICE DEPARTMENT.**

NOTE:

The Mission Statement and Organization Values were developed by a committee of Merriam Police Officers with the assistance of a group of concerned citizens in June, 1993.



The Honorable Irene French
Mayor, City of Merriam

Chief's Message

Dear Mayor French:

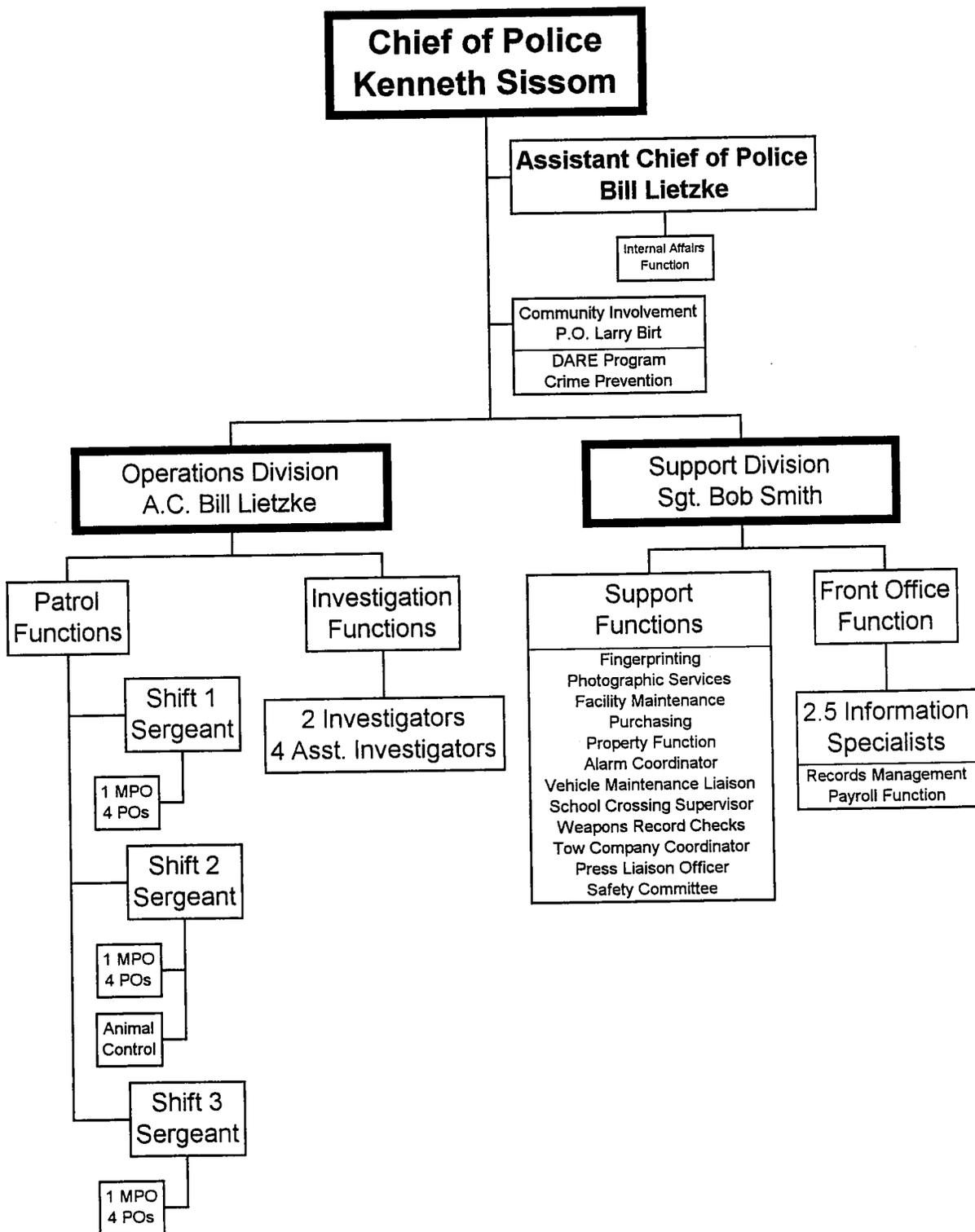
As communities across the country continue to share information on both successes and failures, one thing that becomes increasingly clear to everyone is the fact that crime prevention is a job that must be carried out by the entire community through partnerships between many organizations, agencies, citizens' groups and individuals, including the police. Individually, the police have no control over a variety of social issues in a neighborhood such as substance abuse, substandard housing, unemployment rates or poverty. All of our efforts as a community must be aimed at collectively improving these problem areas.

In recent years, many strides have been made to improve the living conditions of Merriam's residents. 1995 was no exception. I continually hear praise from citizens and business owners about the high level of service they receive from our city government. This high level of service is not something that we can order our employee to do — they must have the desire to do it. The employees in the police department are well educated and motivated. In the course of a year Merriam officers will make over 1,000 arrests, write nearly 4,000 traffic tickets and handle over 17,000 calls for service. Yet with all this activity, we rarely receive complaints from citizens and our department has one of the area's best records involving litigation against officers. This fact can only be achieved through excellent training, dedication and professionalism.

As we look at cities comparable to Merriam and review the successes we have had compared with those cities, as well as the challenges that our city faces, we look with hope to the future and a recognition that Merriam continues to be a great place to live. We pledge to do everything we can to continue to make Merriam one of the finest cities in America.


Kenneth Sissom
Chief of Police

MERRIAM POLICE DEPARTMENT ORGANIZATIONAL CHART
 January 1, 1996



POLICE DEPARTMENT ROSTER			
12/31/95			
RANK	NAME	ASSIGNMENT	TENURE
Chief of Police	KENNETH SISSOM	Administration	16
Asst. Chief of Police	BILL LIETZKE	Administration	15
Sergeant	BOB SMITH	Administration	18
Sergeant	SYD TUBBS	Patrol	16
Sergeant	STEVE HAYNES	Patrol	15
Sergeant	RANDY DAVIS	Patrol	14
Average tenure for Staff Officers =			15.6 Yrs
Master Police Officer	TIM BURNETT	Investigations	13
Master Police Officer	AL JONES	Investigations	12
Master Police Officer	DAN KELLERMAN	Patrol	11
Master Police Officer	JOAN HUETTENMUELLER	Patrol	10
Master Police Officer	MIKE DANIELS	Patrol	8
Police Officer	CHARLIE YOCUM	Patrol	18
Police Officer	BILL TROUT	Patrol	12
Police Officer	JEFF MAGEE	Patrol	8
Police Officer	LARRY BIRT	D.A.R.E.	7
Police Officer	LORI VICTORINE	Patrol	7
Police Officer	DARREN MCLAUGHLIN	Patrol	6
Police Officer	CHARLIE SWEANY	Patrol	5
Police Officer	TODD SPARKS	Patrol	5
Police Officer	BOB SCHLUBEN	Patrol	5
Police Officer	GERRY EICKHOFF	Patrol	2
Police Officer	TOM LYNCH	Patrol	1
Police Officer	TROY DUVANEL	Patrol	1
Police Officer	STEVE GRIGSBY	Patrol	<1>
Average tenure for MPOs & P.O.s =			7.3 Yrs.
Animal Control Officer	DAVE THOMAS	Animal Control	8
Information Specialist 2	LISA ALDRICH	Clerical	4
Information Specialist 2	KAREN GIBSON	Clerical	3
Information Specialist 1	TRINA CANADY (Part-time)	Clerical	1

Average Age for Police Officers (All Ranks) = 34.8 Years

Education Level for Police Officers

Masters Degree - 1, Bachelors Degree - 14, Associates Degree - 4

Officers Per Thousand Population = 2.0



Department Staffing Levels

At the beginning of 1995, the Police Department's Patrol Division was fully staffed with 18 officers. This status lasted until March when an officer resigned to attend law school. The department lost the services of another officer for the entire month of April due to sick leave. A second officer resigned in September to take a position as Police Officer with the Kansas City, Missouri Police Department. During the month of December an officer was placed on light duty, due to pregnancy, and a sergeant was granted four weeks of maternity leave, under the Federal Family Leave Act.

During the year, two officers were hired to replace the officers that resigned. One attended the summer police academy and the other is currently in the winter academy (1996).

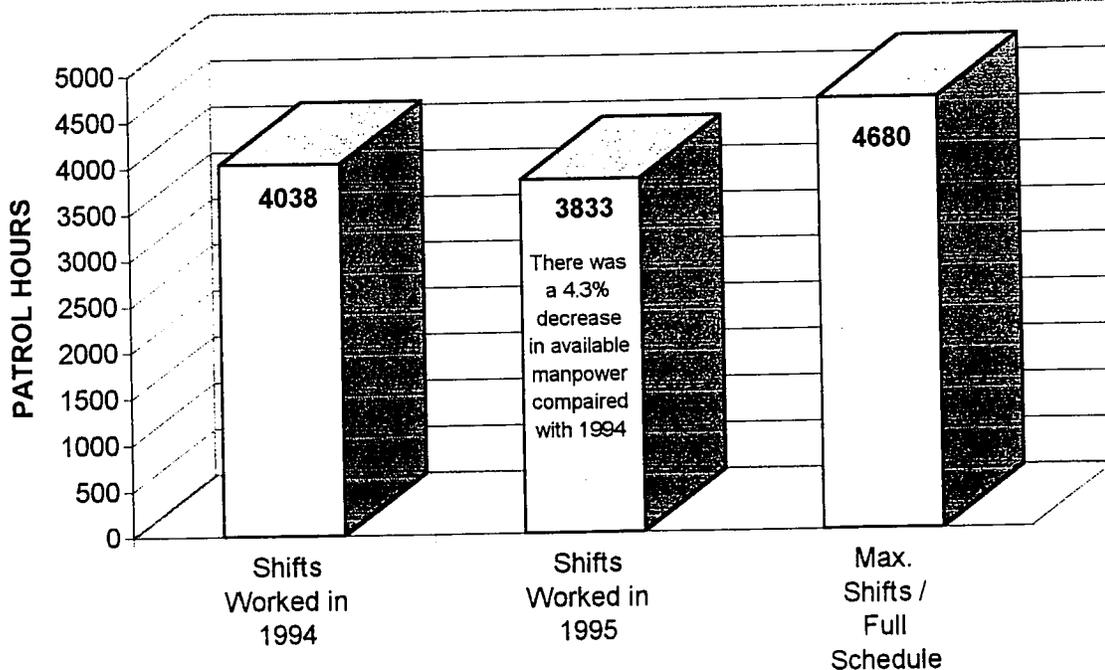
During the year, two college interns worked a total of 750 hours for the department. The College Intern Program allowed the city to receive the benefit of these hours, free of cost. Their free labor is valued at approximately \$6,000. Under program guidelines, they performed mainly clerical duties, ran errands, and assisted with the various studies that are performed by administration.

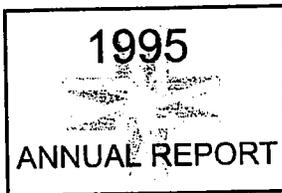
Shortages due to resignation, sick leave and vacation can seriously affect on the level of service that is offered by a department the size of Merriam. While some readjustments can be made to compensate for these losses (transfers from other units, overtime, etc.), the end result is still less than desirable.

During 1995 the Merriam City Council voted to authorize the hiring of an additional police officer in 1996. One of the primary factors in this decision dealt with the increasing need for officer replacement due to growing department tenure. Currently, there are ten officers that are eligible for four weeks of vacation per year. This amounts to almost 42% of the certified officers.

How do we measure staffing? If the three patrol shifts were fully staffed all year, 4,680 eight-hour shifts would be worked. When all the shifts worked in 1995 are counted, the total comes up to 3,833 shifts. This means that in 1995, only 82% of the total shifts were covered. In 1994, 86.2% of the shifts were worked.

What creates this shortage? Vacation, sick leave, injury leave, maternity leave, military leave, and shortages due to resignations and replacement training.





Financial Summary

How effective any police department can be will often depend on the amount of money that is available in their budget, coupled with how efficiently it is spent. The Merriam Police Department is no different in this respect.

In recent years the city has afforded an adequate amount of public funds to operate the police department. In the past three years there have been significant changes made in police operations that have had a profound effect, increasing the amount of public service provided.

These changes were made without any unreasonable increases in the budget. In some cases the budget line items were reduced. These reductions can only occur after close scrutiny is made concerning expenditures and spending practices.

Each year, during the budget process, a careful study is done to make sure there is a proper balance between efficiency and effectiveness as it relates to police operations and provided public services.

Merriam Police Department Budget Amounts

	1993	1994	1995	1996
Personal Services	914,457	958,223	1,000,483	1,039,442
Employee Benefits	313,881	314,407	320,290	365,797
Contractual Services	81,685	82,031	90,416	88,550
Commodities	65,339	63,922	64,885	66,385
Capitol Outlay	61,760	63,365	68,555	64,355
Budget Total	\$1,437,122	\$1,481,948	\$1,544,629	\$1,624,529

OVERTIME SAVINGS

In 1995 the department changed the patrol shift configuration from a "Wheel" schedule to a basic "5 and 2" schedule. This change was made to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of manpower allocation. Under this new system, an officer could be absent on any given shift and a replacement would not be required. This fact alone eliminated a large portion of overtime without affecting patrol strength or officer safety. It should be noted that the overtime savings came at a time when our patrol division force ran an average of 18% understaffed. With a full staff of officers, an even greater savings could be expected.

The savings in overtime due to the change in shift schedule systems is 28.2%.

OVERTIME HOURS	1994	1995
REPLACEMENT	1,138.5	880.5
REPORT WRITING	77.3	97.5
HOLIDAY O/T	804.5	480
LATE CALL	34.75	249
DOUBLE BACK	26	22
OTHER O/T	616.5	208.5
TOTALS	2,697.55	1,937.5
SAVINGS 95 vs. 94	=	28.2%



Annual Crime Statistics

Each year, police departments collect crime statistics in an effort to gain some insight of what has happened during the year. This information is used to plan for the coming year, in hopes of reducing crime. While it is difficult to accurately predict crime statistics, one thing is certain — the statistics will vary from year to year. This is especially true for small cities such as Merriam.

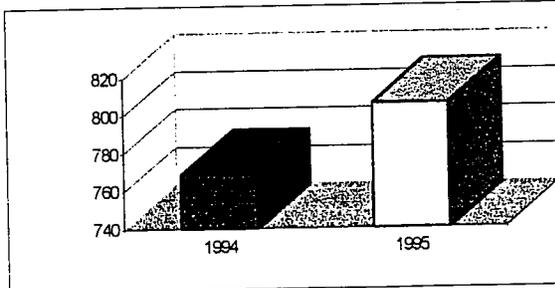
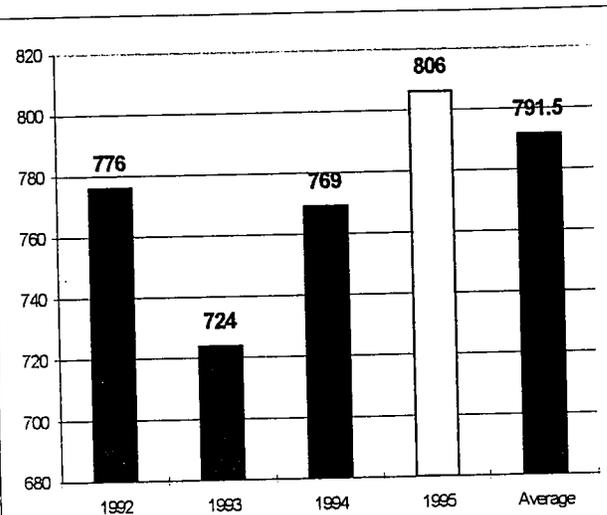
There are many factors that can alter crime statistics and cause this variance. These factors include economic conditions, weather, incursion of drugs, gangs, organized crime, and the increase

or decrease of police law enforcement or presence in the community.

The most dramatic increases in 1995 were in the categories of minor thefts, aggravated assaults and batteries. While this is distressing, it should be pointed out that during the same year there was a remarkable decrease in nearly all categories of burglaries. The reasons for these changes in statistics are not readily known.

A complete breakdown of reported crimes is listed on the following page.

CRIME IN DETAIL	1992	1993	1994	1995	Average
Murder	1	0	0	0	0.25
Rape	2	6	7	5	5
Robbery	9	5	4	7	6.25
Agg. Robbery	4	14	11	11	10
Agg. Assault	21	25	13	27	21.5
Burglary to Auto	156	129	173	146	151
Burglary to Residence	66	63	62	39	57.5
Burglary to Business	28	34	40	34	34
Burglary to Storage	18	25	8	22	18.25
Agg. Burglary to Residence	21	10	12	8	12.75
Agg. Burglary to Business	1	2	1	0	1
Theft over \$500	58	65	74	83	70
Theft under \$500	335	287	288	346	314
Auto Theft	52	57	71	71	62.75
Arson	3	2	4	5	2.25
Agg. Arson	1	0	1	2	1
TOTALS	776	724	769	806	791.5



Part 1 Crimes	1994	1995	Difference
Murder	0	0	No Change
Rape	7	5	28.6% Decrease
Robbery	15	18	16.6% Increase
Aggravated Assault	13	27	207% Increase
Burglary	296	249	15.9% Decrease
Theft	362	429	15.7% Increase
Auto Theft	71	71	No Change
Arson	5	7	28.6% Increase
Totals	769	806	4.6% Increase

Future Crime Trends

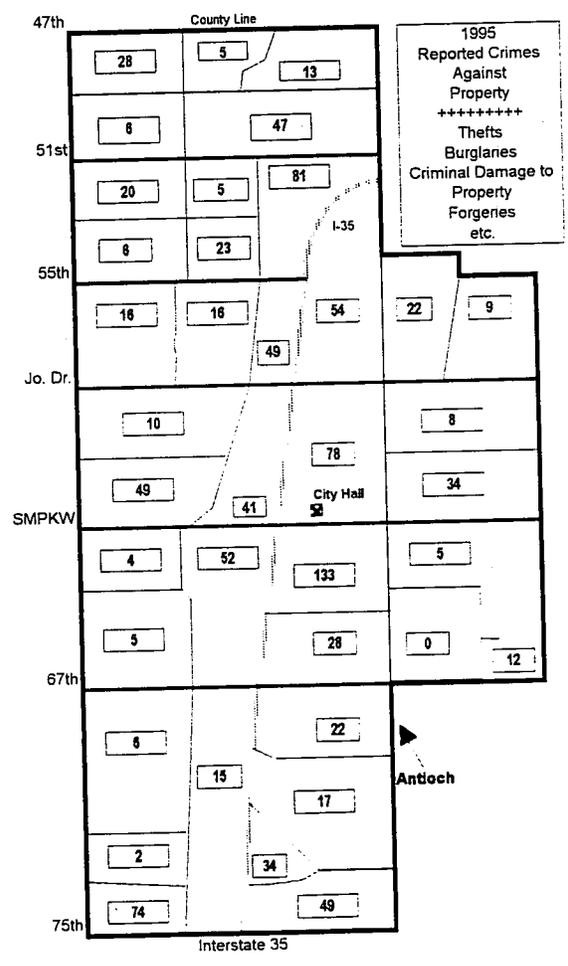
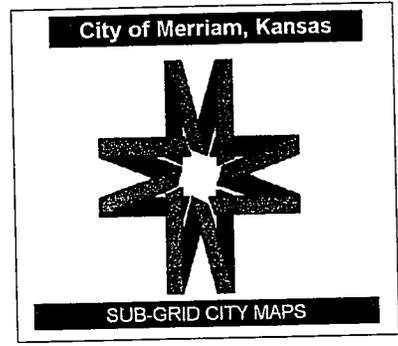
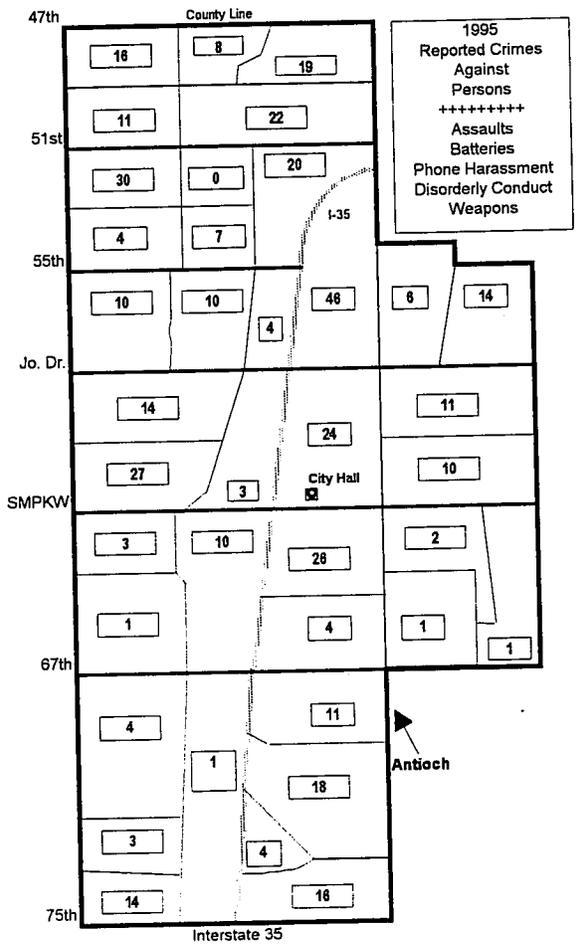
Minor Thefts - It is believed that we will continue to see an increase in minor thefts. The increase of drug availability will be one cause. Drugs being sold today are cheap compared to the 1970's and 1980's. Crack cocaine and methamphetamines can be purchased for less than \$20. As more people get hooked on these drugs, the more they will rely on stealing to feed their addiction.

Casinos moving into the area are believed to have had an influence on theft activity. During the year we have seen internal thefts at companies located in Merriam that are being committed by persons who are compulsive gamblers. An increasing presence of pawn shops and check cashing businesses in the Kansas City Metro Area also validates this belief.

1995 Reported Crime

TYPE OF CRIME	TOTAL
Agg. Arson	2
Arson	5
Agg. Assault	16
Agg. Assault D/V	9
Agg. Assault LEO	2
Agg. Battery	18
Agg. Battery D/V	2
Agg. Battery LEO	1
Agg. Burglary to Residence	8
Agg. Criminal Sodomy	1
Agg. Indecent Liberties	4
Agg. Intimidation Victim	1
Agg. Robbery	11
Assault	7
Assault D/V	2
Att. Burglary to Residence	2
Battery	42
Battery D/V	104
Battery LEO	5
Burglary to Auto	146
Burglary to Business	34
Burglary to Residence	39
Burglary to Storage	22
Child Abuse	1
Child In Need of Care	12
Criminal Discharge of Firearm	1
Criminal Damage Over 500	44
Criminal Damage Over 500 D/V	1
Criminal Damage Under 500	200
Criminal Damage Under 500 D/V	19
Criminal Deprivation of Property	12
Criminal Possession of a Firearm	2
Criminal Threats	13
Criminal Threats D/V	9
Criminal Trespass	13
Criminal Trespass D/V	15
Criminal Use of Financial Card	1
Criminal Use of Weapon	11
Cruelty to Animals	1
Disorderly Conduct	38
Disorderly Conduct D/V	18
D/V = DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INVOLVED	

TYPE OF CRIME	TOTAL
Endangering a Child	1
False Impersonation	1
Falsely Obtaining a Prescription	1
Forgery	20
Furnishing Alcohol or CMB to a Minor	3
Harassment by Phone	38
Harassment by Phone D/V	18
Interference with Parental Custody	2
Intimidation of a Victim/Witness	1
Kidnapping	1
Kidnapping D/V	1
Lewd and Lascivious	2
Littering	2
Minor in Possession of Alcohol or CMB	10
Failure to Obtain a Tax Stamp (Drugs)	1
Nuisance / Barking K9	1
Obstruction of Legal Process	29
Possession of Controlled Substance	52
Possession of Drug Paraphernalia	13
Possession of Marijuana	12
Possession of Stolen Property	9
Possession of Stolen Auto	1
Rape	5
Robbery	7
Sale of Narcotics	1
Sexual Battery	1
Stalking	3
Theft of Lost or Mislaid Property	7
Theft of Services	5
Theft Attempted	3
Theft Attempted Auto	12
Theft Auto	71
Theft D/V	2
Theft Over 500	83
Theft Under 500	346
Theft Under 500 D/V	4
Unlawful Restraint D/V	1
Violation of a Court Order	2
Worthless Check	5
Yard Farming	2
TOTALS	1673



Starting in 1995 the police department began using a different grid system on all reports. Prior to 1995 the city was divided into ten separate grids, using major streets or city limits as boundaries. For crime pattern studies these grids were too large. More specific information was needed. A new Sub Grid system was adopted.

The sub grids are setup as neighborhood or business districts. As an example, Eideweiss, Antioch Hills and Sharom Estates are all setup as separate Sub-Grids.

The two maps listed on this sheet show 1995 crime statistics broken down into Sub-Grids. In reviewing these grids it is easy to see that some areas are more prone to crime than others. Armed with this information, officers can now be more effectively directed to patrol certain areas in an effort to prevent crime.



Patrol Activity Statistics - I

Police patrol activity is a difficult thing to measure. Activity levels are usually measured under three headings: 1) Calls for Service; 2) Report Writing; and 3) Self-initiated Activities / Random Patrol.

CALLS FOR SERVICE

Each time that a citizen calls the dispatcher and requests some type of service it is recorded and later tabulated. This data can be used to indicate how much the police department is depended upon by its citizenry. It is also used to determine the level of activity that is encountered on each shift, during each day of the week. This information is used to determine planning for staffing needs.

In 1995, Merriam Police Officers responded to **17,049** calls for service. This represents a **4.8%** decrease in calls for service. Calls for service have declined each year since 1991. The reason for this decrease is not known. A check of previous years' calls for service statistics will show the trend toward a fluctuation in calls for service.

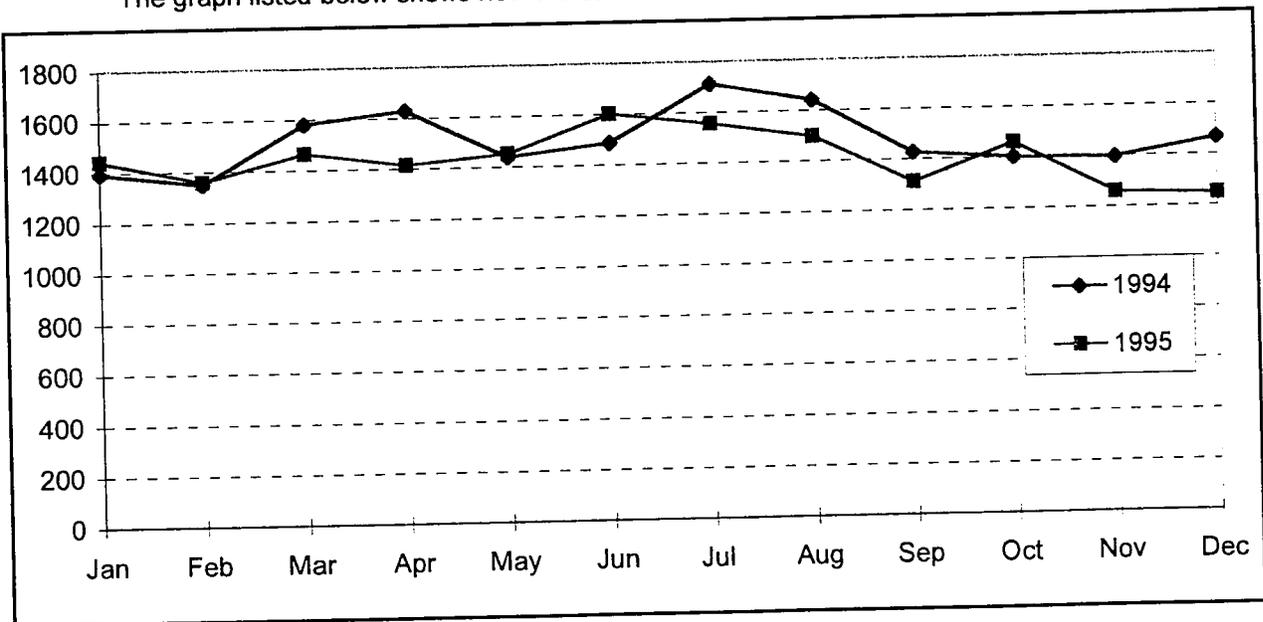
1995 = 17,049

1994 = 17,922

1993 = 18,152

1992 = 18,959

The graph listed below shows how the calls for service come in from month to month:



REPORT WRITING

Writing police reports takes a large portion of time from an officer's shift. The amount of time can vary, depending on the number of calls and the type of activities that may require a report. Officers are required to keep a log of the number of minutes they spend writing reports on each shift. This data is used to evaluate the level of each officer's report writing performance.

In 1995, Merriam officers spent 2,943 hours engaged specifically in report writing activities. During the same year, officers wrote 3,406 reports. This represents a slight decrease over 1994 (see below):

1995 = 3,406

1994 = 3,439

1993 = 3,628



Patrol Activity Statistics - II

SELF INITIATED ACTIVITIES / RANDOM PATROL

An officer's self-initiated activity is measured in four categories. These categories include: a) patrol miles driven per shift; b) number of arrests made; c) traffic enforcement; and d) completion of special assignments.

AJ PATROL MILES

Each patrol officer is limited in the maximum number of patrol miles they should drive per shift. This is considered a reasonable number of miles to cover their patrol districts during an eight-hour shift. If officers drive much beyond this number, we find that they are not doing an effective job in their patrol. Under the Community-Oriented Policing philosophy, we encourage officers to get out of their patrol vehicles and interact with the public. To ensure this, it helps when there is a limit placed on their mileage.

In 1995, Merriam Police Officers drove **165,093** patrol miles on the city's streets. This is a **5.1%** decrease in the number of miles driven, when compared with 1994. This decrease is consistent with our directives regarding Community-Oriented Policing coupled with a reduction in staffing during 1995.

BJ ARRESTS

In 1995 the Merriam Police Department made **1,249** arrests. This is a **25%** increase over 1994. Out of 1,249 arrests, 124 or 10% were for felony charges, 550 or 44% were for misdemeanor or traffic charges and the remaining 575 or 46% were for failure to appear or other arrest warrants.

There was a significant increase in drug possession and sales arrests, which has caused the largest portion of this increase. During the year there were 50 cases of on-view arrests that involved charges of domestic violence. There were also three cases where Merriam officers were victims of assaults or batteries.

CJ TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

In 1995, Merriam Police Officers wrote **4,373** summons to appear in Municipal Court. This number represents a **5.85%** decrease over 1994. Community-Oriented Policing may be partially responsible for this reduction. Under C.O.P. philosophy there is a reduced emphasis placed on traffic enforcement. While the department feels that traffic enforcement is an important function, it needs to be moderated to become just one of the many police department obligations. Patrol staffing level is another reason there was less traffic enforcement in 1995 — less officers will write less tickets. There were plans to affect more "directed traffic enforcement" in 1995. This could not be done due to staffing problems.

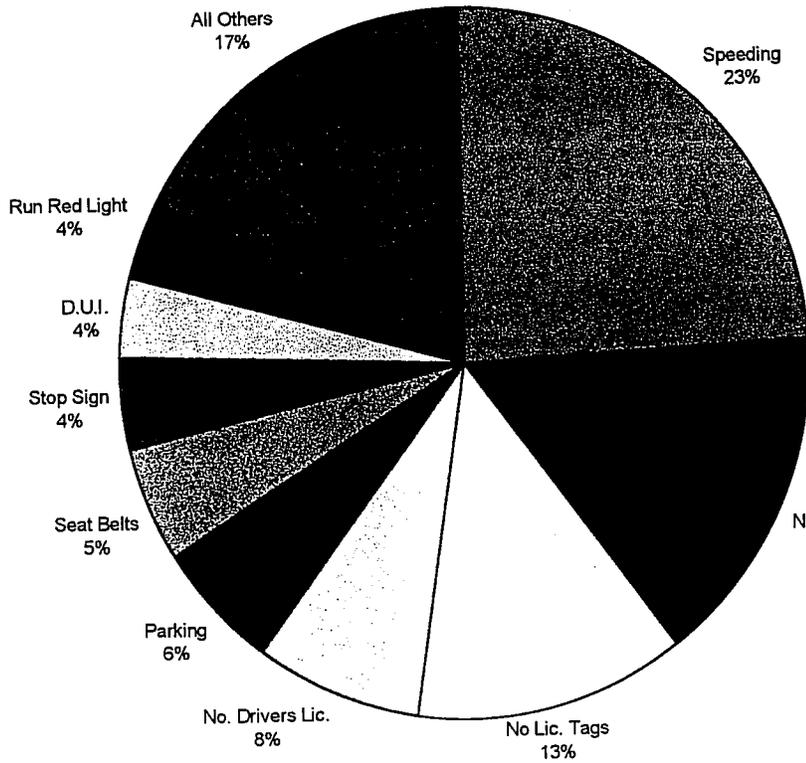
During the year the department arrested 155 persons for driving under the influence of drugs or alcohol. This is a 22.2% decrease. The majority of D.U.I. arrests were made on the midnight shift. Unfortunately, this shift ran short 9 out of 12 months in 1995. Of the 155 persons arrested, 124 (80%) submitted to blood or breath testing. The average blood/alcohol level was .16 (twice the legal limit, which is .08). Only five persons tested below .08% BAC. Twenty-three, or 15%, of the persons arrested were involved in motor vehicle accidents.

In 1996 the police department will hire an additional police officer. One of the many duties this officer will have includes traffic enforcement. At various times this officer will be assigned to address specific traffic problems in the city. An increase in enforcement should occur in 1996.

On the following page there is a breakdown of the types of citations that were written in 1995, along with the citation per month chart.

Patrol Activity Statistics - III

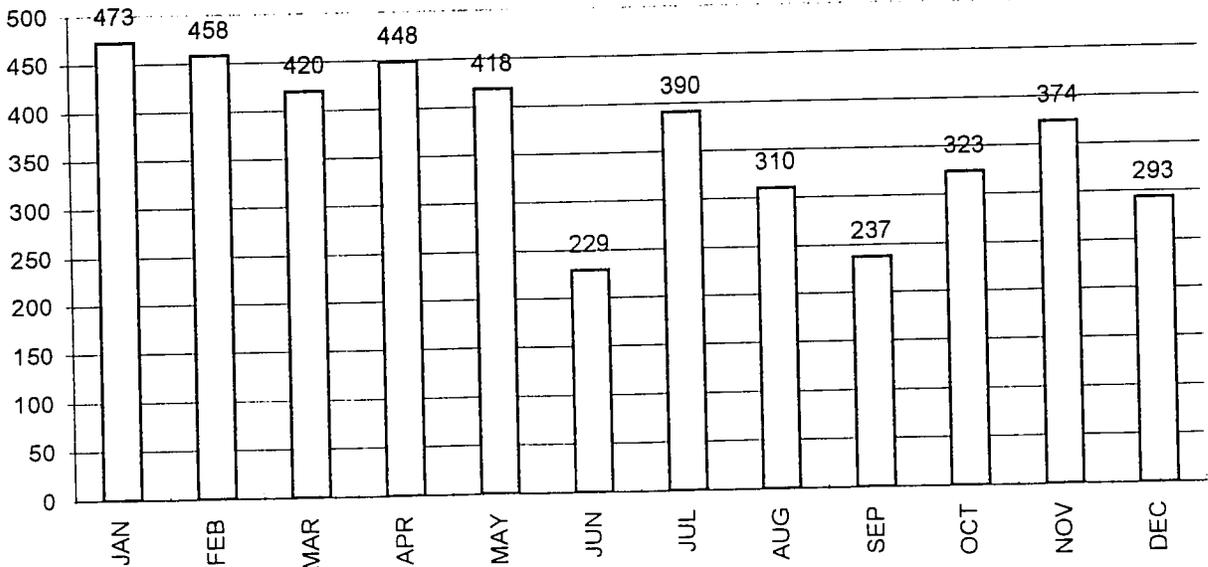
Percentage of Citations - By Type



Violation Totals

- Speeding - 1,071
- No Insurance - 689
- No Tags - 562
- No Drivers License - 348
- Parking Violations - 257
- No Seat Belts - 242
- Stop Sign - 183
- D.U.I. - 155
- Run Red Light - 160
- Open Container - 59
- RRXing - 37
- Drug Possession - 26
- Weapons Violations - 16
- All Others Not Listed - 663

Citations Per Month - 1995





Traffic Accident Summary

One of the fundamental duties of any police department is to investigate motor vehicle accidents. In 1995 the Merriam Police Department investigated **783** traffic accidents. This represents an **8.5% decrease** in accidents. In 1995 there were **145** injury accidents. This was a **37.3% decrease** over 1994.

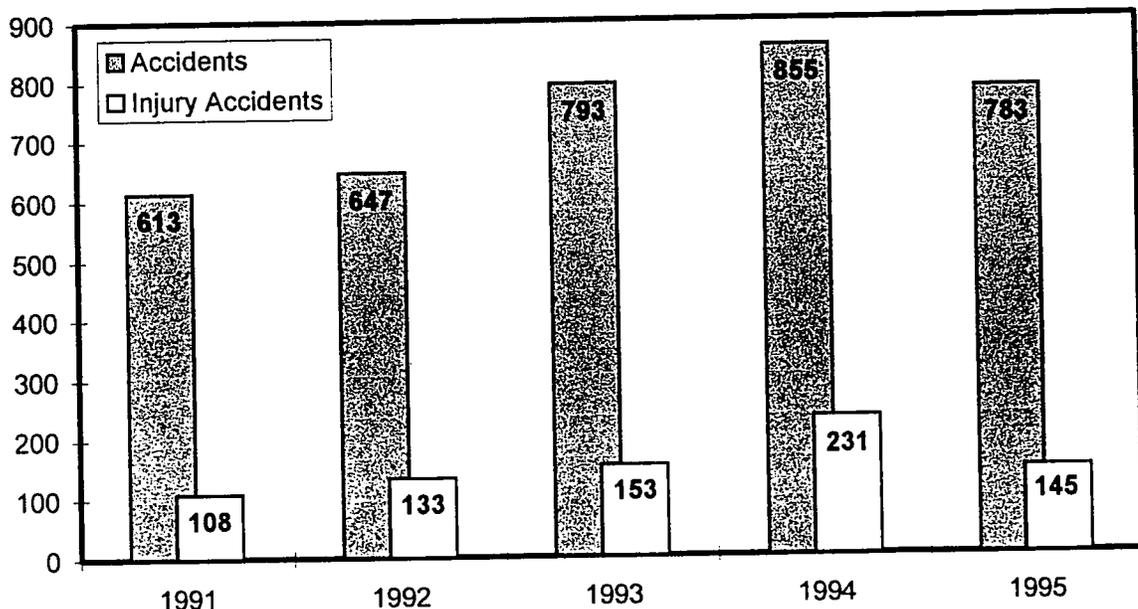
Nearly one-third of the reported accidents were minor damage or occurred on private property. The Kansas Department of Transportation does not require a report for these types of accidents. The Merriam Police Department has a short-form accident report that is completed in these cases. These short-form reports are primarily done to benefit the driver's insurance company with claims processing.

For the second year in a row, Merriam has not had any traffic fatalities occur.

The spreadsheet listed below shows the main problem traffic accident areas in Merriam:

PROBLEM AREAS - BY STREET	ACCIDENTS	INJURY INVOLVED
SHAWNEE MISSION PARKWAY	177	49 or 27.0%
JOHNSON DRIVE	94	17 or 18.0%
INTERSTATE 35 (Includes all ramps)	64	8 or 12.5%
ANTIOCH ROAD	63	17 or 26.9%
75TH STREET	57	13 or 22.8%
MERRIAM DRIVE	45	13 or 28.8%
67TH STREET	25	6 or 24.0%
TOTALS	525	123 or 23.4%
Private Property or Minor Accidents	244 or 31.1%	
Accidents Involving More Than 2 Drivers	61 or 7.7%	

Accident Rates / Past Five Years





Investigations Unit Summary - I

Information provided by Assistant Chief Bill Lietzke

The Merriam Police Department Investigations Unit is comprised of two full-time investigators, both having the rank of Master Police Officer. The Unit is supervised by the Assistant Chief, who assigns cases and is responsible for the day-to-day operations. With the exception of case assignments, the officers who work as investigators do their jobs independently and without the need for much supervision. It is considered an honor to be selected to work in this unit.

ACTIVITY SUMMARY

In 1995 this unit was assigned to investigate **618** criminal cases. This represents a **18.5%** increase in assigned cases over 1994. As this unit gathers more experience, they have increased efficiency in their case load management and are able to take on a greater number of cases. The two primary investigators can expect to be assigned 4.5 additional new cases each week. When the investigators are on vacation, the cases are stacked.

Below is a listing of the most common types of crimes that were investigated by the unit in 1995.

- ◆ 134 THEFT CASES
- ◆ 54 BURGLARY CASES
- ◆ 50 VEHICLE THEFT CASES
- ◆ 28 TELEPHONE HARASSMENT CASES
- ◆ 23 CRIMINAL DAMAGE TO PROPERTY CASES
- ◆ 20 ASSAULT CASES
- ◆ 16 ASSAULT CASES
- ◆ 11 ROBBERY CASES

UNIT PERSONNEL

In 1995 the Investigations Unit started using a call out team concept to increase the effectiveness of the unit. When a major crime occurs that requires immediate on-scene investigation, one of two teams are then called out. The two teams are equally trained and on a rotational call out schedule. They train and work as a team. The two primary investigators are team leaders. The teams are assigned as follows:

TEAM ONE

- MPO Tim Burnett
- PO Darren McLaughlin
- PO Lori Victorine

TEAM TWO

- MPO Al Jones
- MPO Mike Daniels
- PO Bob Schluben

In 1995, investigators were called out on 25 occasions. This resulted in 89 hours of investigative overtime.

UNIT TRAINING

During the year, officers assigned to investigations received specialized training. This training was designed to further the individual investigator's skills and abilities. Topics included are:



- ELDERLY ABUSE
- CHILD ABUSE INVESTIGATION
- HOMICIDE INVESTIGATION
- INTERNAL INVESTIGATIONS
- OFFICER INVOLVED SHOOTINGS
- CELLULAR TELEPHONE FRAUD
- ADVANCED SUSPECT INTERROGATION
- CHILD INTERVIEW TECHNIQUES
- PROFESSIONALISM
- FORENSICS

The amount of training that is provided for our investigators far exceeds the state mandated training requirements each year. Because their overall experience level may be less, it is more important for small departments to make an extra effort to maintain investigator skills at their highest level.

METRO SQUAD SYSTEM

The Merriam Police Department has been a member department of the Metro Squad for many years. The Metro Squad system is designed so that when small Kansas City Metro cities have a homicide, they can request the services of the Metro Squad. Within 24 hours, a dozen or more specially trained investigators will respond and launch an intense and focused investigation. This system has proven to be a very effective method to investigate homicides. Over the years, Merriam has taken advantage of the Metro Squad in a majority of the homicide cases that have been investigated.



Investigation Unit Summary - II

In order to be a member department you must have officers available that can be sent to other cities to assist them with homicide investigations. You must be willing to respond when requested and also be willing to cover officers' salaries and overtime.

In 1995, Merriam officers were involved in three Metro Squad homicide cases. Two were in Olathe and the third was in Kansas City, Kansas.

Being involved in actual homicide cases is a valuable training tool that prepares our investigators for the next homicide that occurs in Merriam.

METRO SQUAD TRAINED OFFICERS / MERRIAM

Assistant Chief Bill Lietzke

Sergeant Robert Smith

Master Police Officer Tim Burnett

Master Police Officer Albert Jones

Master Police Officer Mike Daniels

Police Officer Lori Victorine

Police Officer Robert Schluben

NOTEWORTHY AND HIGH PROFILE CASES FOR 1995

FEBRUARY 17: Investigators were called out to a reported attempted car jacking at 69th and Antioch. The victim was shot in the process of the crime. A two week investigation proved that the victim had fabricated the story and had inflicted the gunshot wound himself. Charges were filed.

FEBRUARY 21: An investigator was assigned to look into a reported rape at 73rd and Antioch. She claimed that she was followed by a man who had flagged her down in the intersection. When she got out of her car, she was attacked in the street. This occurred at 9 p.m. on a weeknight, but no witnesses could be found. After an intense investigation this case was cleared when the victim finally admitted that she had lied about the entire incident.

MARCH 17: The entire Investigations Unit was involved in the investigation of a double rape that occurred in the 8800 block of 62nd Terrace. This case is believed to be related to a series of rapes reported throughout the county. Numerous man-hours were spent on interviews and stakeouts. A possible suspect was developed, but at this time the information does not support charges. This case remains open.

MARCH 20: Investigators were called to the scene of a rape in the Sherwood Forest area. After much questioning and investigation, the victim admitted to lying to the police. She wanted to get her parents' attention because they were harassing her about her current boyfriend.

MAY 10: A large employee related theft was reported by Water District No. 1. This quickly became a case that had a great deal of media interest. After numerous investigative hours were spent on this case, it was turned over to the FBI.

JUNE 21: Investigators were called to the Mark Twain Drive-In Bank at 74th and Frontage on a bank robbery. The suspect was later apprehended in Missouri. Charges have been filed.

JUNE 29: A search warrant was executed at a business in the 5700 block of Merriam Drive concerning a child molestation case. Evidence to support charges was found and the business owner was charged and convicted in this case.

OCTOBER 30 : An investigator was assigned to check on a stalking complaint where the female victim was being continually harassed and followed by an ex-boyfriend. The victim was stalked a work, at home and even at social events. This case crossed several jurisdictional boundaries and involved three different police departments. The investigator located the suspect and developed a case against him. Charges are pending in this case.

NOVEMBER 18: Investigators were called to the parking lot of the Mark Twain Drive-In Bank on a street robbery. A man was reportedly robbed while he was trying to make a \$3,000 deposit from a nearby Overland Park business. After investigation and interviews, investigators found evidence that the crime did not occur. The man was charged with attempted theft and making a false police report.



Community Policing Partnership - I

This is the third year that the Merriam Police Department has been involved with Community-Oriented Policing. This philosophy has continued to grow, nationwide, and is becoming the benchmark for progressive law enforcement agencies.

In 1995 the department was involved in many important functions and activities that are directly related to Community-Oriented Policing. An increased effort was made to involve more police department employees in interacting with members of the community. Listed below is a description of some of these activities.

BUSINESS SURVEY PROJECT

In 1995 the police department completed its second Business Survey Project. During this project officers made personal contacts with 472 businesses in the city. Survey forms were left at the businesses with the encouragement that they be completed and mailed back to the department. 206 surveys were received and analyzed by the department. 89% of the businesses rated the department services at above average or excellent. A complete report of this project was completed and distributed in September, 1995. (NOTE: *The Merriam Police Department received a Certificate of Merit from the Koch Crime Commission for this project.*)

FAX ALERT PROJECT

During the year the police department formed the FAX Alert system. A collection of business FAX numbers, obtained during the Business Survey Project, made it possible to setup a computerized network of businesses that could be contacted by FAX whenever there is a need to make notifications about criminal activity for crime prevention purposes. During the year, four group FAX's were sent to business groups notifying them about theft and burglary activities. In one case the schools were notified about an exhibitionist on the same afternoon of the reported incident. (NOTE: *This new system was not setup until fall of 1995. More activity with this system should be expected next year.*)

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

The department has continued efforts of meeting with neighborhood groups to discuss crime pat-

terns and regional concerns. During the year, the department was in attendance at three organized Neighborhood Watch meetings.

COMMUNITY BLOCK PARTIES

Each year the department makes a special effort to attend community block parties that occur during the summer and fall. At these events one or more officers will stop by and mingle with residents. Crime prevention and educational materials are handed out. During the season, nine community block parties were visited by police officers.



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 1995

This is our fourth year of involvement in the National Night Out Against Crime which was held on August 1st. This event involves community gatherings to show solidarity against crime in their area. A police officer attends each area to exchange information and ideas. In 1995 officers attended three Night Out gatherings.

SECURITY SURVEY PROGRAM

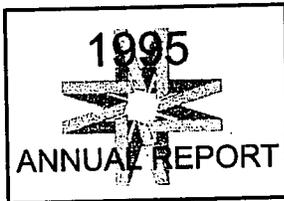
During 1995, Crime Prevention Officer Larry Birt completed 29 security surveys at businesses and homes in Merriam. Many of these requests came from the Business Survey Project. This activity is offered free of charge. It enhances public relations while it serves a crime prevention function.

RIDE ALONG PROGRAM

The police department offers a program where interested citizens can ride along with an officer during his or her normal shift. This program is offered to bring the citizens and the officers closer together and bridge some of the communication gaps through understanding. This program is used each year by high school students who are required to ride with an officer as part of a class assignment. Those persons interested in the field of law enforcement are also served by this program.

In 1995, 55 citizens were involved in the Ride Along Program.

(Continued on page 19)



Community Policing Partnership - II

LAW ENFORCEMENT EXPLORER PROGRAM

This is the third year that the Merriam Law Enforcement Explorer Program has been operated. There are eight active explorers who met on a monthly basis. During the meetings, explorers received training on C.P.R., fingerprinting, crime scene investigation and firearms safety. They directed traffic at the Turkey Creek Festival and helped with the Shop With A Cop Program at K-Mart.

OTHER COMMUNITY CONTACTS

- During 1995 the Police Chief met with P.T.A. members from South Park, West Antioch and Merriam Elementary Schools to discuss the department's commitment to the DARE Program and children's safety issues.
- In February the Police Chief addressed the monthly Merriam Chamber of Commerce Membership Meeting to discuss the Business Survey Project and available department services.
- Sgt. Steve Haynes met with the Merriam Historical Society in February at their regular meeting, to discuss police related topics.
- In March, Sgt. Steve Haynes conducted a free class on "Self Defense Strategies for Women" at the Merriam Community Center.
- In April, Sgt. Steve Haynes gave a presentation entitled, "Street Safe" to a group of citizens at the Shawnee Mission Medical Center.
- The Lee Co. held their second annual Health Fair in May. An officer was in attendance to distribute public relations handouts.
- The 10th Annual Turkey Creek Festival was held in May. Several police officers were present interacting with the public. A crime prevention booth was also manned.
- Shawnee Mission Medical Center asked the police department to participate in their Family Health Festival in October. Merriam officers again were present to hand out materials.
- In December, the police department was involved in the Shop With A Cop Program at K-Mart. Officers helped 25 needy area children shop for toys and clothing on a Saturday morning. K-Mart gave \$1,500 for this event.

COMMUNITY-ORIENTED POLICING DEFINITION:

Policing based on a set of established values which reflect beliefs clearly articulated to the community and throughout the department. A commitment to problem solving rather than simply responding to each incident as it is reported to the police.

An increased focus on the city's neighborhoods as a basic level of police service delivery, moving away from specialization toward generalized police service delivery at the neighborhood level.

Getting the neighborhoods and business communities involved in solving the problem of crime in their areas and sharing some of the responsibility for a solution of problems, not just leaving it up to the city to solve problems.

Increasing the accountability of the police to neighborhood residents.

Involving and empowering of police department employees at the lowest level of the department to problem solve.



Support Division Summary

Police service to the community in Merriam is normally thought to mean police officers on the street in patrol or answering calls. There is another side of service that remains hidden to most of the community — administrative services. In 1995 the Merriam Police Department continued, and in some cases enhanced, the level of service provided to the citizens. A synopsis of these services is listed below.

POLICE REPORT PROCESSING

The responsibility of processing police reports is very important. It is imperative that each report be handled properly to insure quality and success. Having an organized and efficient operation has assisted us in this success. Each report is processed in the same manner. Once the report is written it is logged, entered into the in-house records management system and then properly filed away. During the processing, multiple copies of a file are made and sent to the Kansas Bureau of Investigation, District Attorney's Office or the Drivers License Bureau. Each year we get hundreds of requests from insurance companies for copies of files.

In 1995 the Merriam Police Department processed **3,628** individual reports. The processing of these reports are the responsibilities of two Information Specialist; one full-time and one part-time.

FINGERPRINTING SERVICES

In 1995, 85 citizens requested that the Merriam Police Department make an imprint of their fingerprints, all of which were non-criminal in nature. Persons are required to have themselves fingerprinted when they register for national residency, are bonded by insurance companies, or to apply for certain city licenses (masseuse permits, etc.). This service is performed for a fee.

BRADY BILL CHECKS

This is the second full year that the Merriam Police Department has been mandated to do background checks on all Merriam residents that wish to purchase a handgun. On 96 occasions, a FAX was received requesting a records check. An officer assigned to take care of this must run the persons' information on the N.C.I.C. and Kansas City, Missouri Police Department's computer to determine if there is any felony or unusual criminal record. An in-house records check is also done and this is all recorded by regulation. After 20 days these records must be destroyed by law. This duty is time consuming and must be kept up-to-date.

ALARM ORDINANCE MANAGEMENT

The Merriam Alarm Ordinance went into effect on January 1, 1995. In the first year **271** businesses and residences were registered as having a burglary or robbery alarm. The purpose of this ordinance was to help cut down on the false alarms that the police department was being dispatched to. In 1994 the Merriam Police Department responded to **771** alarms. In 1995 only **514** alarms were received. The passage of the alarm ordinance is responsible for a **34%** reduction in alarm calls. The business that had the highest rate of alarms went from 169 alarms in 1994 to 80 alarms in 1995. In 1996 the alarm ordinance will be managed by a joint effort between the Police and Fire Departments, with the assistance of the Administrative Services Department.



"In 1995 we saw a 34% reduction in alarm calls"



Drug Abuse Resistance Education

Part I

It has been six years since the Merriam Police Department began the DARE Program. For the past two years, the program has been operated without the benefit of any state or federal funding. This program continues to be the most impacting public relations program offered by the City of Merriam. The DARE Program plays an integral part in developing positive relations between the police department and the community.

PROGRAM INTRODUCTION

Project DARE stands for Drug Abuse Resistance Education. Its primary goal is to prevent substance abuse among children. This will be accomplished through the following objectives:

- ⊕ **To equip students with skills to resist experimenting with drugs.**
- ⊕ **To help students develop self-esteem.**
- ⊕ **To teach positive alternatives to substance abuse.**
- ⊕ **To develop student skills in risk assessment and decision making.**
- ⊕ **To develop "life skills" in a positive manner.**

For the past four years Officer Larry Birt has been assigned as DARE Officer. In full uniform, he conducts a series of structured classes in all four of Merriam's elementary schools. The primary target of the DARE Program is the sixth grade. Each sixth grader receives 17 weeks of specialized instruction. This grade level is targeted because studies have shown that children are more commonly faced with tough decisions about drug and alcohol use during sixth or seventh grade. The DARE mission is to arm these children with as much information as possible during this time to increase their chances of making the right choices.

During the school year Officer Birt spends four days a week, in the classroom. In addition to teaching classes, he participates in many recreation activities and joins with children during lunch periods. He is also involved with the various Parent Teacher Associations and attends those

meetings as well as other meetings with teachers and school officials.

1995 DARE ACTIVITY SUMMARY

In 1995, the department has continued to change the functions of the DARE Program. We have continued to ask the community to assist with support of this program. We received monetary support from local businesses to help pay for some of the materials and help support some of the after school functions at the end of the year. In 1995 we received \$2,475 worth of donations from private area businesses. This is a 77% increase over 1994.

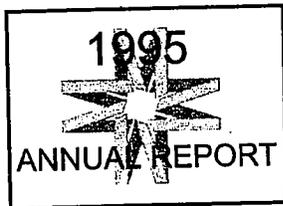
This past year Officer Birt made weekly visits to more than 60 classrooms (Kindergarten through Sixth grade) and to more than 1,250 students from South Park, Merriam, Crestview and West Antioch Elementary Schools.

From the four schools more than 160 sixth grade students graduated from the program. A graduation ceremony was held in each school where each graduate receives a certificate. In May the police department hosted a skating party for DARE graduates at Skateworld in Merriam. Over 120 graduates were in attendance. Pizza was provided and the entire evening was offered, free of charge, to reward them for their hard work completing the course of study.

During the summer months the Merriam Police Department sponsored four summer clinics for kids in fourth, fifth, and sixth grade. Each individual clinic ran for one week and was offered, free of charge in hopes of drawing those kids from families that could not afford to pay a fee.

SUMMER CLINICS OBJECTIVES

- ⊕ **To give area kids something to do during the summer in a structured environment.**
- ⊕ **To teach them a new skill or enhance a skill they already have and therefore help build their self-esteem.**
- ⊕ **To build on the relationship between the DARE. Officer and the students.**
- ⊕ **To teach them that there are alternatives to getting involved in delinquent behavior.**



Drug Abuse Resistance Education Part II

The clinics offered in 1995 were in volleyball and Tae Kwan Do Karate. More than 30 kids were involved in these clinics. The police department also received much appreciated assistance from the Merriam Community Center Staff.

As in past years the DARE Officer has been involved in training seminars concerning updates in the program and new teaching techniques. Continuing education plays an important part in the success of the DARE Program in Merriam. During 1995, Officer Birt attended meetings of local DARE Officers and with educators within the Shawnee Mission School District. He also participated in the 1995 Kansas DARE Officers Association Conference which was held in Overland Park, Kansas. During this conference he was elected to serve as Vice President for 1996.

DARE ESSAY CONTEST

Each year every student in the sixth grade class is asked to write an essay or poem where they relate

what they feel about what was learned in the DARE class that year. These essays are studied and the essay or poem judged to be the best from each school is selected. These students are rewarded during the graduation. The student's works are also sent the Kansas DARE Association to be entered in a state-wide contest. In 1995, Officer Birt contacted the Shawnee Mission Medical Center Foundation to see if they were interested in sponsoring a program to reward sixth grade students for writing excellence. They responded with a donation of \$1,125. Officer Birt converted this money into \$2,250 in U.S. Savings Bonds. Five students were selected from each school and given awards based on their poems or essays. The prizes ranged between \$100 and \$250. This new program provided a greater incentive for students which translated to a more effective learning experience. This program is expected to continue in 1996, depending on the generosity of the Shawnee Mission Medical Center Foundation.

1995 Winning D.A.R.E. Essays / Poems

D.A.R.E. ESSAY by Jami Comes, South Park School March 13, 1995

I feel that the D.A.R.E. program is essential to a student's education. Without it, many people would now be addicted to drugs or have been involved in some type of crime. The D.A.R.E. program helps students with the problems and complications they face every day. It also prepares them for the choices they might have to make in the future.

The D.A.R.E. program prepares students for peer pressure, how to say no to drugs and alcohol, and how to handle stress. D.A.R.E. showed me how to be the best person I could be by saying no to drugs, alcohol and violence. D.A.R.E. has taught me about the consequences of taking drugs or drinking alcohol.

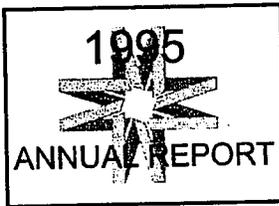
D.A.R.E. showed me how harmful drugs or alcohol would be to my mind and body if I took them. D.A.R.E. has also shown me how to make the right choices, with the best consequences, when I'm in a situation that involves violence or drugs. I have learned how much the media, radio, T.V., and the people around you have an influence on the way you act, dress, and your self image.

I have also learned the eight different ways to say no and when to use each one. D.A.R.E. has shown me how to be assertive and has taught many people how to express their opinion, but in a non-violent way. I have learned about the many alternative there are like playing basketball, riding your bike, or doing something with your friends. All these activities are better than taking drugs, or committing a violent act.

I know that getting involved in social activities and taking care of your responsibilities are two great ways to boost your self esteem. Because of all the information I have gathered from D.A.R.E., I have vowed to never use drugs or get involved in any kind of violence.

It is important to be drug free, because drugs can harm not only a person's mind and body, but their family and the people around them. It is also just as important to be violence free. Someone who is violent and under the influence of drugs can harm many people, including themselves. They can hurt the victim, and the victim's family and friends. It is important to be both drug free and violence-free because both can hurt a person to the extent of maybe dying, killing themselves, or killing another.

Taking drugs is a poor choice to make if someone wants to stay healthy and safe. So, I encourage everyone, children, teenagers, and adults to stay drug free and violence free! D.A.R.E. has been so much fun this year. I want to thank Officer Birt for helping us learn and making the learning fun! Thanks...



Drug Abuse Resistance Education Part III

DARE by Amanda Forbes, Crestview School, March 16, 1995

I am driving down a dark street where the lamps above me and the moon are my only source of light.
 In the alley, I see some teenagers. They are smoking and drinking. They are leaning on a big, brick buildings of downtown, for they are very weak and weary.
 As I pass them, they stop talking and they look up at me. They have scars and scratches on their arms, legs and faces. They have rings under their eyes, for they are tired but unable to sleep. Their clothes are ripped and dirty. Their sunken eyes are bloodshot.
 As I drive by, I get a sick feeling in my stomach. I roll up the windows of my car, for I smell smoke and beer which is brought in by the chilly, night breeze.
 I kind of feel sorry for them, they have ruined their lives.
 It makes me feel good, though, that I'm not there right now, smoking and drinking, in that cold dark alley.
 I have a family to take care of, I have a job. I **don't** have time to ruin my life.
 That's what I'm thinking about, right now. All my family and friends who love me are waiting at home for me. They would be so disappointed and ashamed if they saw me looking like those kids I saw.
 I drive home, slower than before. I turn on my radio and listen.
 I finally get home. I walk in the front door to meet smiling faces, those that belong to my family and friends. I am glad I don't do drugs!!

**A POEM FOR DARE
by Victoria Downey**

March 14, 1995

I learned a lot in DARE this year,
 like don't do drugs and don't drink beer.
 Those things can make you do dumb stuff,
 like taking a cigarette and having a puff.
 No one wants to die very young,
 or get cancer in a lung.
 Drugs can make you faint or pass out,
 they can make you angry and shout.
 If you were to shoot into your veins,
 you'd loose a lot of precious brains.
 No one ever wants to be dumb
 so come on, just don't do them!
 Drugs can make you loose your mind,
 they will hit you from behind.
 It will roll over you like a bunch of rocks,
 and you'll never know what hit you
 'till you are in a black box.
 People crying all around,
 but you lie there quiet and sound.
 Don't do drugs, do you get the point?
 Don't do crack or smoke a joint.
 So the point today is clear,
 we want to see you back next year.

DARE by Shannon Judge

May 12, 1995

Twinkle, twinkle little star,
 how I wonder, what you are?
 Not so long ago when I was small
 nursery rhymes said it all.

As I grew bigger,
 life changed too.
 Sesame Street taught me
 all that was new.

Then came boys
 and going out;
 That's what life
 was all about.

Now, I'm twelve
 and this is clear;
 DRUGS and GANGS

fill the world with fear.

I watch the news
 and what I see
 makes me want to lock the doors
 and lose the key.

But, now there's hope
 in the form of DARE;
 It brings up people
 who really care.

They teach us what's wrong
 They show us what's right
 They help to ease
 the pain and the fright.

So twinkle, twinkle little star,
 I still wonder - what you are?
 Life goes on and so will I.
 Reaching for that diamond in the sky.

Drug
Abuse

DARE

Resistance
Education



Drug Enforcement Project - I

THE "NEW" DRUG PROBLEM

Recent studies from the Drug Enforcement Agency have proven that aggressive drug enforcement efforts will reduce crime. The Kansas City Metro Area has experienced a very large increase in the use and manufacture of methamphetamine in the past two years. The latest report from the D.E.A. lists the Greater Kansas City Area as having "the second highest number of clandestine labs for the manufacture of methamphetamine in the United States". The State of California holds the first place slot.

While this drug has been around for a long time, new innovative production techniques have made it easy and cheap to produce. It is quickly becoming the drug of choice in our area. As a result of this increase, a majority of the drug offenders arrested in Merriam during 1995 were in possession of methamphetamines.

This fact presents a danger for area police officers. People under the influence of this drug are extremely paranoid, violent and difficult to deal with safely. A higher percentage of those arrested by the Merriam Police Department are under the influence of drugs or alcohol and many times both.

During the first part of 1995, a group of interested officers started researching ways to improve the effectiveness of the department's efforts to deal with community drug problems. In the past we have relied upon the Johnson County Sheriff's Department and their Special Investigation and Drug Unit (S.I.D.), to deal with our drug problems. In recent years, due to increasing drug problems county-wide, the S.I.D. Unit has become too busy to adequately address our drug problems. With drug use on the rise, the department needed to step in and take a more aggressive posture.

INCREASED ENFORCEMENT

For years Merriam has had its share of problems connected with drugs. Without constant attention, these problem locations are likely to grow out of control and contribute to the general decline of our

neighborhoods.

After researching the various types of drug investigation techniques, it was decided that the Merriam Police Department could conduct drug investigations on a limited basis. While not ideal, this approach would benefit the citizens of Merriam. There are two steps to this approach:

1) INCREASED OVERALL ENFORCEMENT. Enforcement was stepped up by regular beat officers. Officers were trained to look for suspicious activity that could be linked to drugs in their districts. Officers were taught to use drug offender profile techniques to search for persons transporting or selling drugs.

2) DRUG INTELLIGENCE UNIT. Much of the investigative work done by this voluntary unit is done in addition to their regular patrol duties and on a part-time basis. The group collects intelligence information from several different sources, including information from citizens, other officers, in-

formants and through area surveillance. In the more active drug house locations, the department will investigate to acquire a search warrant. Once enough intelligence information and evidence is gathered, a search warrant is obtained.

In 1995, Merriam Police Officers investigated 136 drug offenders. During arrests, these offenders were found in possession of:

- cocaine and crack cocaine;
- hash and hashish oil;
- methamphetamines;
- marijuana and;
- illegal prescription drugs.

In addition to the illegal drugs, officers have found weapons, stolen property, mobile phones, pagers, police scanners and paraphernalia which included syringes, electronic and mechanical scales, crack bottles, glass vials and plastic container baggies of all sizes. In 1995 the Merriam Police Department filed charges in 108 of the 136 cases for possession or sale of drugs. Charges are still pending on





Drug Enforcement Project - II

many of the remaining 28 cases.

DRUG HOUSES

In addition to the overall increase in drug enforcement by beat officers, suspected drug houses are now being investigated by our department. The Drug Intelligence Unit has been collectively investigating 35 reported or suspected drug sales locations within the city. Each of these locations have been investigated by this unit in 1995. Since these investigations began, the department has been successful in moving or effecting the arrest of the parties responsible for the activity in 20 of the locations. This leaves an estimated 15 active drug house locations, in Merriam.

DRUG ARREST EXAMPLES

A] During the last six months of 1995, three residential search warrants were served at suspected drug houses in Merriam. Recovered in two of the searches were varying quantities of marijuana and methamphetamines. In the third location, a small quantity of drugs were found along with a large quantity equipment and paraphernalia that are used to produce methamphetamines.

B] Officers looking for a stolen motorcycle observed a 1982 GMC truck with a motorcycle lying in the rear bed. The truck was stopped and an inquiry was made. The officer involved in the stop recognized several items in the truck bed, in plain view, that are used to manufacture methamphetamines. The D.E.A. was called to the scene. They identified the materials as a portable methamphetamine lab. Inside the truck, officers found two loaded handguns and \$231 in cash.

C] A known cocaine/marijuana dealer was stopped for suspicious activity, on the midnight shift. During the stop, officers located a small

quantity of marijuana, some paraphernalia that would indicate drug dealings, some drug dealing records and \$1,050 in cash.

D] A routine traffic stop on the evening shift, for expired license plates created suspicion when the driver did not have a license or proof of insurance. As his behavior became more suspicious the officers conducted a pat down. A crack pipe was found in his back pocket. The vehicle was then searched and \$563 in cash was found hidden in the vehicle. In the vehicles truck, officers found a bucket of "cooking methamphetamine" with a street value of \$115,000. Officers later found out the man had been released from prison nine days earlier. He had served time for drug smuggling.

E] A traffic stop for no license plate was made on the midnight shift. The driver was found to have an active arrest warrant from Mission, KS. The vehicle was searched, incident to the arrest. A gun was found under the seat along with \$5,370 in cash. A drug dog later located an ounce of methamphetamines hidden in the cars' steering wheel.

FORFEITURE SUMMARY

As a side benefit to taking drugs and drug offenders off the streets, the State and Federal Asset Forfeiture Laws enable police departments to seize money, guns, vehicles and in some cases, even real estate. The aggressive drug arrest activities in 1995 have resulted in the department seeking the forfeiture of \$13,414 worth of cash and vehicles. The profits of these forfeitures can be used by the department to assist in future drug enforcement and prevention efforts.

Below listed is a summary of the cash and items in the process of forfeiture by the police department.

VEHICLES		CASH	
1982 GMC TRUCK	\$1800	U.S. CURRENCY	\$231
1984 OLDSMOBILE	\$2200	U.S. CURRENCY	\$1050
1985 CHEVROLET	\$2200	U.S. CURRENCY	\$563
TOTAL	\$4200	U.S. CURRENCY	\$5370
		TOTAL	\$7214