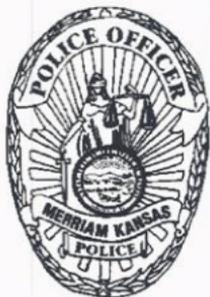


2001 ANNUAL REPORT



Celebrating 50 Years of Dedicated Police Service



1964



1969



1999

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New York City skyline on September 11, 2001

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

THE YEAR 2001 HAS BEEN ONE OF THE MOST ACTIVE AND UNUSUAL YEARS IN RECENT MEMORY. THE DEPARTMENT WENT THROUGH MANY CHANGES AND CHALLENGES, BUT FINISHED THE YEAR STRONGER AND BETTER PREPARED. FOR MOST OF THE YEAR THE DEPARTMENT FACED A MAN-POWER SHORTAGE. WITH FOUR OFFICERS SHORT IN THE PATROL DIVISION, OVERTIME AND REASSIGNMENTS WERE NECESSARY TO ENSURE A CONTINUED HIGH LEVEL OF SERVICE TO CITIZENS. A GREAT DEAL OF TIME WAS SPENT TRAINING NEW OFFICERS. BY YEAR'S END, FIVE NEW OFFICERS WERE INVOLVED IN THE DEPARTMENT'S FIELD TRAINING PROGRAM.

THE APRIL ELECTION BROUGHT A NEW MAYOR AND TWO NEW COUNCILPERSONS. IN JULY A NEW CITY ADMINISTRATOR WAS HIRED AND THEN LATER TERMINATED IN NOVEMBER. ON JUNE 1ST THE CODE COMPLIANCE UNIT WAS REASSIGNED TO COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT. ON SEPTEMBER 11TH THE NATION SUFFERED THE WORST TERRORIST ACT IN HISTORY IN NEW YORK, WASHINGTON D.C. AND PENNSYLVANIA. THE ENTIRE NATION WAS SHOCKED AND THE CITY OF MERRIAM PUT ITS EMERGENCY OPERATION PLAN INTO EFFECT. DURING THE WEEKS AFTER THIS CATASTROPHE OUR DEPARTMENT ANSWERED A NUMBER OF SUSPECTED ANTHRAX EXPOSURE CASES IN CONCERT WITH THE FIRE DEPARTMENT.

THIS IS A SPECIAL EDITION ANNUAL REPORT. 2001 MARKED THE DEPARTMENT'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY AND A SPECIAL SECTION HAS BEEN ADDED THAT TOUCHES ON THE DEPARTMENT'S FIRST TEN YEARS. A NUMBER OF HISTORIC PHOTOS WERE ALSO ADDED TO ILLUSTRATE THE DEPARTMENT'S RICH AND SUCCESSFUL HISTORY.

AS IN YEARS PAST, THIS ANNUAL REPORT IS DEDICATED TO ALL THOSE WHO SERVE AND HAVE SERVED THE MERRIAM POLICE DEPARTMENT. IT WAS CONSTRUCTED TO CHRONICLE THE EVENTS AND EXPERIENCES OF THE MERRIAM POLICE DEPARTMENT DURING 2001. IT IS SET UP AS A SERIES OF REPORTS LISTED BY INDIVIDUAL CATEGORY. THESE ACTIVITIES AND EXPERIENCES ARE ILLUSTRATED IN NARRATIVE FORM AND WITH STATISTICS, CHARTS AND GRAPHS.

THIS DOCUMENT WAS MADE POSSIBLE BECAUSE OF THE COLLABORATIVE EFFORT OF SEVERAL POLICE DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEES. AS CHIEF, I DEEPLY APPRECIATE THEIR EFFORTS AND WOULD LIKE TO THANK ALL THOSE THAT CONTRIBUTED TO THE FORMATION OF THIS IMPORTANT DOCUMENT.

MERRIAM POLICE CHIEF KENNETH SISSOM

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 CO-ACTIVELY 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 THE CITY WITH RESPONSIVE AND PROFESSIONAL SERVICES UTILIZING COMPASSION AND CONCERN. OUR MISSION IS ACCOMPLISHED WITHIN MORAL AND LEGAL STANDARDS THROUGH A PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN THE COMMUNITY AND THE EMPLOYEES OF THE MERRIAM POLICE DEPARTMENT.

NOTE:

*THE MISSION STATEMENT AND ORGANIZATIONAL VALUES WERE DEVELOPED BY A COMMITTEE OF MERRIAM POLICE OFFICERS WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF A GROUP OF CONCERNED MERRIAM CITIZENS.
THIS MISSION STATEMENT WAS ADOPTED JUNE 1993.*

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 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.

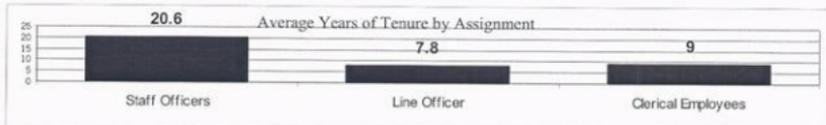
Merriam Police Department

Employee Roster



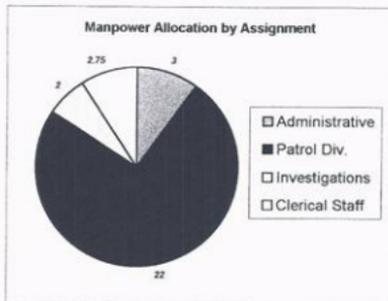
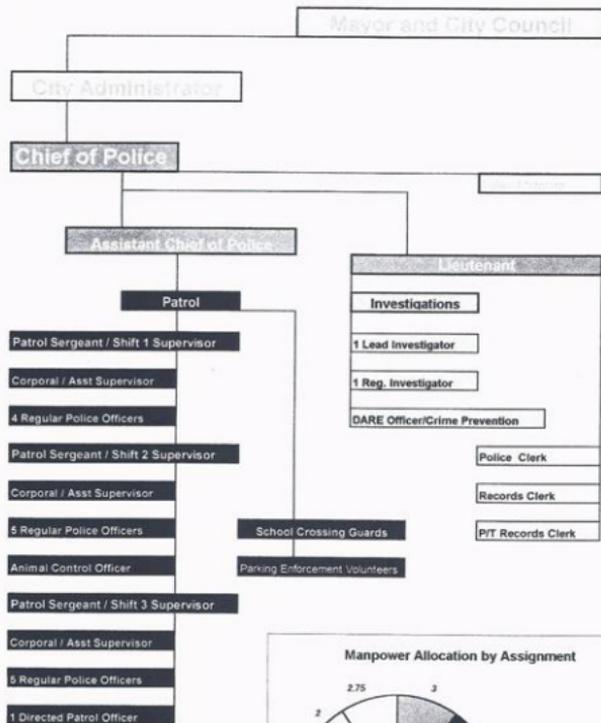
State Commissioned Police Officers (full-time)

Staff Officers	Roster as of 12/31/2001		Years Tenure
Chief of Police	KENNETH SISSOM	Administration	22
Assistant Chief of Police	BILL LIETZKE	Administration	21
Lieutenant	TIMOTHY BURNETT	Administration	19
Sergeant	ROBERT SMITH	Patrol	24
Sergeant	RANDY DAVIS	Patrol	20
Sergeant	ALBERT JONES	Patrol	18
Line Officers			
Corporal	DAN KELLERMAN	Patrol	17
Corporal	MIKE DANIELS	Investigations	14
Corporal	DARREN MCLAUGHLIN	Patrol	12
Corporal	TODD ALLEN	Patrol	5
Corporal	JOHN WALTON	Patrol	3
Master Police Officer	LARRY BIRT	DARE	13
Master Police Officer	CHARLIE SWEANY	Patrol	11
Master Police Officer	TODD SPARKS	Patrol	11
Master Police Officer	GERRY EICKHOFF	Patrol	10
Master Police Officer	TROY DUVANEL	Patrol	7
Police Officer	CHARLIE YOCUM	Patrol	24
Police Officer	JEFF MAGEE	Patrol	14
Police Officer	MELINDA COPELAND	Investigations	2
Police Officer	JASON REYNOLDS	Patrol	1
Police Officer	PAUL OLIVER	Patrol	<1>
Police Officer	MARK MESSBARGER	Patrol	<1>
Police Officer	CHRIS BROKAW	Patrol	<1>
Police Officer	JAY FLETCHER	Patrol	<1>
Police Officer	SHANNON GOODNIGHT	Patrol	<1>
Police Officer	OPEN	Patrol	N/A
Civilian Employees			
Animal Control Officer	DAVE THOMAS	Animal Control	14
Police Property Clerk	LISA ALDRICH	Clerical	10
Police Records Clerk	KAREN GIBSON	Clerical	9
Police Records Clerk	RONDA BRUMBAUGH	Clerical	3
Part-time Employees			
School Crossing Guard	GENE WRIGHT	Patrol	10
School Crossing Guard	CYNTHIA KNAPP	Patrol	4
School Crossing Guard	PAM STEEB	Patrol	3
School Crossing Guard	CAROL ALLEN	Patrol	2
School Crossing Guard	GERALD GAGNON	Patrol	<1>



Merriam Police Department

Organizational Chart



Merriam Police Department

Looking Back - 1950's



To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Merriam Police Department, this section was added to illustrate some of the history of the department's first ten years. The majority of the information listed in this section came from old council minutes and newspaper articles.

The 1950's was a very exciting time for Merriam and surrounding Johnson County. The city was formed in 1950 and in 1951 it formed its own full-time police department. During research a number of facts, illustrated by bullet-points below were uncovered. Collectively they paint a brief glimpse into the formative years of the city.

- November 24, 1950: The first Merriam City Council meeting was held. Mr. Carl Looper was appointed Town Marshal, without pay. Each new councilman was commissioned as "law enforcement officers" for the city. During the meeting the issue of police badges was discussed.
- December 5, 1950: At a special council meeting sample police badges were shown and a decision was made on the specific model that would be ordered. The city council also agreed to use the traffic laws that were recently adopted by the "recently adopted" city of Fairway. They also decided to set the official speed limit of the city at "25 miles per hour."
- December 12, 1950: During the regular council meeting, Ordinance #6 was passed, setting up provisions for Merriam's "City Marshall." Two-hour parking fines were also set at \$1.50.
- December 19, 1950: At a special council meeting the following persons were officially appointed as "volunteer" law enforcement officers in Merriam, They were C.L. Curry, Joe Pfiumm, Harold Arnsperger, Bennie Williker and Frank Mueller — badges to be issued at a later date. The Walnut Grove Trailer Camp made application for the 1st beer license for 1951 (Note: This license was later revoked due to problems with the licensee.)
- December 26, 1950: At a special council meeting the first Public Drunkenness ordinance was passed.
- January 2, 1951: Two Merriam councilmen attended a meeting at the Phillips Hotel in Kansas City, Missouri, in regard to "atomic bomb education."
- February 20, 1951: Johnson County Undersheriff Darrell presented a Q&A session for the city council on Police Procedure and Management. He made the suggestion that the council set up its own police department. Any police hired by the city should be sent to "police school," held twice a month at the court house.
- April 23, 1951: City Marshall Carl Looper was asked by the council to make contact with "Mr. Poffinbarger" (Deputy Sergeant with the Johnson County Sheriff's Department) to discuss police jobs.
- May 14, 1951: City Marshall Carl Looper presented two police officer candidates for the council to consider. The first was Perry Sarver, who is described as having 1 year experience as an officer and 3 years in the military. He also would come to the job with a police motorcycle with lights and siren. The second candidate is John Conner. He offered 6 years of experience with the KCMOPD with 1 year as a plain-clothed officer. He also worked 4 years with the railroad police. He has his own car with a police light. According to the



Photo of early Merriam Police Chiefs Badge

MERRIAM POLICE CHIEFS PAST AND PRESENT

PERRY SARVER
1953 TO 1955

JACK R. SHERMAN
1955 TO 1956

JACK DODSON
1956 TO 1962

JOSEPH "MIKE" DONAHUE
1962 TO 1966

DOUGLAS M. HAYNES
1966 TO 1977

DONALD M. LEMOS
1977 TO 1979

JAMES R. BROWNING
1979 TO 1992

KENNETH R. SISSOM
1992 TO PRESENT

minutes, both men were hired, making them the first full-time Merriam police officers.

- ♥ July 9, 1951: The city council approved the purchase of a tear gas gun for the department.
- ♥ June 16, 1952: The council authorizes hiring an additional officer named Richard Bales. They also approved to install a shortwave radio in the city marshal's personal car.
- ♥ February 9, 1953: Merriam hires Perry Sarver as its first police chief. One of the conditions of employment would be that the city would furnish a residence as part of the salary. They allowed the chief to use the "rock house" located at 61st and Kessler. He would be allowed to use the house until the Interstate was built. (NOTE: It is believed that this is the same house that George Merriam built for himself and his family in the 1800's. This is the same man that the city is named after.)
- ♥ April 13, 1953: Paul Pflumm and Glenn Rushton, both volunteers with the Merriam Fire Department are given special commissions to assist the police department with joint arson investigations.
- ♥ May 25, 1953: Police department given authorization to purchase a department riot gun, not to exceed \$50, and a revolving red light for a patrol car.
- ♥ July 13, 1953: At a council meeting the first Merriam police car accident was discussed. The damage was listed at \$116. The mayor announced that the sheriff will be charging a fee for dispatching. The fee is \$20 per month for the 1st car and \$10 for every additional car in service.
- ♥ October 26, 1953: It was during this meeting that the mention of round-the-clock policing for Merriam was discussed for the first time.
- ♥ January 6, 1954: The salary for police officers was raised to \$250 per month. Part time officers were to be paid \$1.10 per hour.
- ♥ January 11, 1954: Police Chief Sarver presented the very first Annual Report of the police department to the city council. He also made a request to purchase a new 1953 patrol car.
- ♥ January 25, 1954: The city council appoints Charles Crawford and Wallace Little as "reserve night officers," apparently in an attempt to get closer to 24-hour policing for Merriam.
- ♥ June 28, 1954: Police Chief Sarver presents his 1955 Operating Budget to the city council. It includes \$14,040 for salaries, \$1,800 for gas and oil, \$600 for uniforms and equipment and \$1,500 for a new patrol car. A new Ford police car was purchased later for \$2,073.
- ♥ November 8, 1954: The council was asked to authorize the purchase of one pair of General Electric walkie-talkies for traffic enforcement purposes. The cost was \$450 to \$785. The new salary structure for the police department was discussed. It was as follows: Police Chief - \$350, Asst. Police Chief - \$300, 2nd Class Police Officer - \$275, 3rd Class Police Officer - \$260 and "Auxiliary Men" - \$1.10 per hour.
- ♥ January 10, 1955: Raymond Ice is hired as the Assistant Chief / Captain. Albert Curtis is hired as probationary police officer.
- ♥ March 28, 1955: At a regular council meeting, twenty-eight Merriam residents show up to oppose the house at 5924 Grandview Street being sold to "colored people" The minutes of the meeting went on to state, "It was not their desire to have colored residents in the area." The council advised the residents that legally colored persons are as entitled to own the property as white persons.
- ♥ April 6, 1955: The citizens of Merriam elect a new mayor - Robert B. Carberry. The roster of the police department at that time was as follows: Chief Perry Sarver, Assistant Chief Raymond Ice, Patrolman Carl Smith, Patrolman Albert Curtis. It was noted in the roster that the police chief also served as the building inspector.
- ♥ May 9, 1955: Chief Perry Sarver is terminated by the council. Mayor Carberry apparently promised the police chief job to Assistant Chief Raymond Ice. The council did not agree and the assistant chief was not promoted. This embarrassed Mayor Carberry as he gave his word to Officer Ice. He officially offered the council his resignation as mayor. According to records, no one would take him up on it and no action was taken. Unfortunately this left the police department without a police chief



Mayor Robert B. Carberry
1955 to 1957

for a few weeks.

- ♥ May 23, 1955: An executive session of the city council was held and Mayor Carberry recommended that Jack Ralph Sherman be appointed as police chief. He was appointed on a 3 to 2 vote. Prior to being hired as chief, Sherman had 3 years experience as a deputy with Johnson County Sheriff's Department. He apparently was "relieved of his duty" by the sheriff, possibly due to unauthorized political activities.
- ♥ June 4, 1955: Mayor Carberry calls for the reorganization of the police department.
- ♥ June 27, 1955: Joseph "Big Mike" Donahue is hired as a regular patrolman. (NOTE: He works up through the ranks and becomes police chief in Merriam in 1962. He is later terminated for his involvement in a gambling scandal in 1968.)
- ♥ October 10, 1955: The police department takes delivery on a new 1956 Plymouth Police Duty automobile. (NOTE: This vehicle needs a complete engine replacement in December 1955).
- ♥ January 9, 1956: Johnson County Sheriff Norman E. Williams presents a problem with the radio system to the city council. He requests that the city changes radio frequency with the GE Radio System. Three new auxiliary (reserve) police officers are hired. They are Robert Holmes, Ralph Reed and Robert Stegauer. The council rejects the resignation of Patrolman Carl Smith. This matter was later discussed in executive session.
- ♥ February 13, 1956. The police department hires Bill Dixon as probationary police officer. He later resigns on April 23, 1956, to take another job. He is replaced at that time by Auxiliary Officer Robert Holmes.
- ♥ May 28, 1956: Police Chief Sherman hires Jack Dodson upon recommendation of Johnson County Sheriff's Captain Lynn Thomas.
- ♥ June 25, 1956: Chief of Police Jack R. Sherman resigns his position.
- ♥ July 9, 1956: Jack Dodson is appointed as the new chief of police. A new police car is ordered from Beck Dennis Chevrolet in Olathe, Kansas.
- ♥ August 13, 1956: The department hires Charles Braselton as regular patrolman. A group of men are also appointed as auxiliary officers. This group includes: Donald G. Ross, James Flavin, Robert W. Hale, Donald L. Dolton, Charles O. Burk and Vega M. Howell. Joseph "Big Mike" Donahue was promoted to sergeant.
- ♥ August 12, 1957: Chief Dodson gives the council a full report about a police chase involving Sgt. Joseph Donahue. The driver of the chase was apprehended but the sergeant was injured during the chase.
- ♥ September 9, 1957: The first Driving Under the Influence of Drugs and/or Alcohol ordinance was passed.
- ♥ December 9, 1957: The chief of police salary was raised to \$450 per month. Sergeants were raised to \$360 and regular officers were paid \$320 per month, effective 1/1/58.
- ♥ January 18, 1958: The Merriam Community Association offers to pay the city \$25,000 for the City Hall building on 58th Terrace, between Merriam and Kessler. The council begins to look for another sight for City Hall. One councilman expressed an interest in the new City Hall being near the "Turkey Creek Expressway," otherwise known as I-35.
- ♥ May 12, 1958: A discussion took place at the council meeting about traffic enforcement revenues being down for the year. It



Early photo of a Merriam Officer directing traffic at the scene of an injury accident at "63rd and Antioch Road"

Merriam Police Activity Report
July 1955

79 Arrests: including traffic, AWOL,
Auto Theft, burglary, parole
violation and one sex pervert.

1 Runaway returned to parent

Recovered Property = \$1,580

4 Traffic Accidents involving \$840 in damage

2 Traffic Injuries

1 Stolen Car recovered

1 Stolen Bicycle recovered

Cleared -1 home burglary

5,130 miles patrolled

Submitted by Chief Jack R. Sherman

was concluded that "traffic in the city was well behaved in past months" which was credited to an effective police department. "The municipal court took in \$273 during April alone."

- ♥ January 12, 1959: The Merriam Police Department gets its first traffic radar unit from Monument Engineering for \$1,295. It was finally purchased and put into service for the first time in November 1959.
- ♥ April 27, 1959: The Johnson County Sheriff informs the council that he plans to discontinue charging for dispatch services. The police department is given authorization to purchase a new police car from Mission Motors Ford for \$970.
- ♥ May 11, 1959: At the May city council meeting, a slate of police employees is offered for re-appointment by the council. This slate included Chief Jack Dodson, Sgt. Charles Brazelton, Sgt. Joseph "Big Mike" Donahue and Police Officer Harold Luther. Councilman Edwin Durham moved to disapprove the appointment of Sgt. Donahue, stating that "although capable, Sgt. Donahue acted in a manner unbecoming an officer, which is detrimental to the city." He further stated that "the city could not afford a violent man on the force." A vote was taken and the motion passed 5 to 2. Chief of Police Jack Dodson pleaded with the council to reconsider Donahue's appointment. No further action was taken.
- ♥ June 8, 1959: Officer Harold Luther was approved to be sent to a weeklong Peace Officer's Training School, held at Kansas University. This school was held from July 27th through August 1, 1959. (NOTE: There was no police academy in 1959. This was probably the only formal training that Officer Luther received as a Merriam officer. Today officers receive 14 weeks of basic training and 12 weeks of field officer training, before they are allowed to work alone.)
- ♥ June 16, 1959: At the council meeting, after a lengthy discussion involving various opinions, Sgt. Joseph "Big Mike" Donahue is reappointed for a year on a 4 to 3 vote.
- ♥ December 29, 1959: The city council approves plans for General Obligation Bonds in the amount of \$275,000 for a new City Hall and surrounding park land (Vavra Park), located at 62nd Terrace and Eby Street.



Conclusion: The 1950's were busy times for the City of Merriam and for Johnson County. A number of other cities were formed during this time in the county. Each were concerned about annexation, new laws, new inexperienced city councils and other officials. Many valuable and expensive lessons were learned through trial and error. The city of Merriam was born during this era and suffered many growing pains in the process.

A search was made to find out what happened to the city's first police officers. Unfortunately, no further information could be found about the first city marshal, Carl Looper. The same is true for the city's first police officers, Perry Sarver and John Conner. Raymond Ice, Albert Curtis, Carl Smith, Bill Dixon, Robert Holmes, Harold Luther and even former Chief Jack R. Sherman — all faded into history.

Charles Brazelton worked as a sergeant with the Merriam Police Department until 1964 when he left the department and went to work for the Johnson County Sheriffs Department. He worked there for twenty years, retiring as a lieutenant in 1984 at the age of 64. He passed away in 1994.

Jack Dodson served as the police chief from 1956 through 1962. In that year he took a police chief's job in Great Bend, Kansas, where he worked until 1966. He then moved back to the Kansas City area where he took a job as park patrolman for Kansas City, Kansas Parks and Recreation. He retired in 1977 at the age of 56. He passed away in 1987.

Joseph "Big Mike" Donahue continued working as sergeant into the 1960's. In fact, he was promoted to captain in 1961 and was appointed to chief of police in 1962. He worked in this position until 1967, when he was terminated for his involvement in a gambling scandal. After this he eventually started a successful private investigation company called the "Kansas City Bureau of Investigation." He later received a commendation as a member of the Security Task Force for the 1977 Republican Convention in Kansas City, Missouri. Mr. Donahue continued to work until health forced his retirement in 1996. He died that same year.

Merriam Police Department

Crime Statistics



INTRODUCTION:

The collection of crime statistics is required by the Kansas Bureau of Investigation. The information collected is used for local, state and federal databases to compare rates with previous years to get a picture of the amount and types of crimes that are happening in a given area.

Within the police department, we use statistics to develop patrol strategies 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 a suburban city like Merriam.

There are many factors that can alter crime statistics which cause this variance. The factors can include economic conditions, weather, incursion of drugs, gangs, organized crime, development of new businesses and the increase or decrease of law enforcement presence in the community.

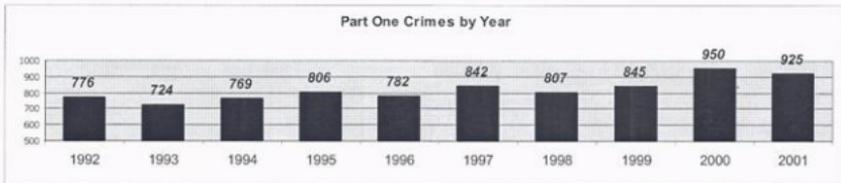
CRIME RATES FOR 2001:

As predicted above, there were fluctuations in crime rates when 2001 is compared to the previous year. While most types of crimes remained stable, there were categories with notable changes. Aggravated assault, aggravated robberies, batteries, auto burglaries and vandalisms increased dramatically over 2000. A number of neighboring cities have also shared in the increases in these types of crimes. These types of crimes could be an indication that the urban core is expanding into a greater portion of Johnson County. To many criminals, Johnson County is considered a "target-rich environment" due to the large number of retail businesses and greater personal wealth among its citizens.

PART ONE CRIMES:

Each year, we are required to report Part One Crimes to the Kansas Bureau of Investigation. The 2001 statistics are listed below. There was a 2.7% decrease in Part One Crimes when compared with the 2000 statistics. The Part One Crimes are listed below and a more complete breakdown of all crimes can be found on the following pages.

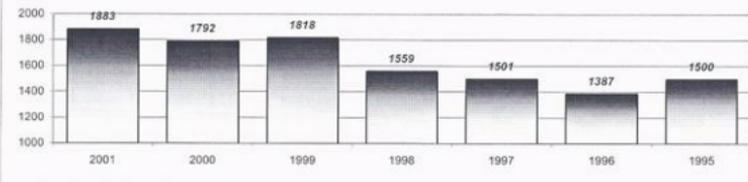
	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
MURDER	0	0	0	1	1	0	0
RAPE	5	7	6	9	6	5	4
ROBBERY	18	12	9	11	9	23	30
AGG. ASSAULT	27	18	37	31	23	26	32
BURGLARY	249	256	256	303	236	306	360
THEFT	429	429	431	376	454	490	403
AUTO THEFT	71	68	98	72	113	98	92
ARSON	7	3	5	4	3	2	4



2001 REPORTED CRIMES IN MERRIAM, KANSAS

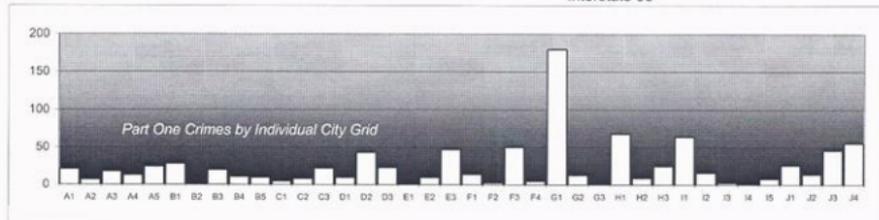
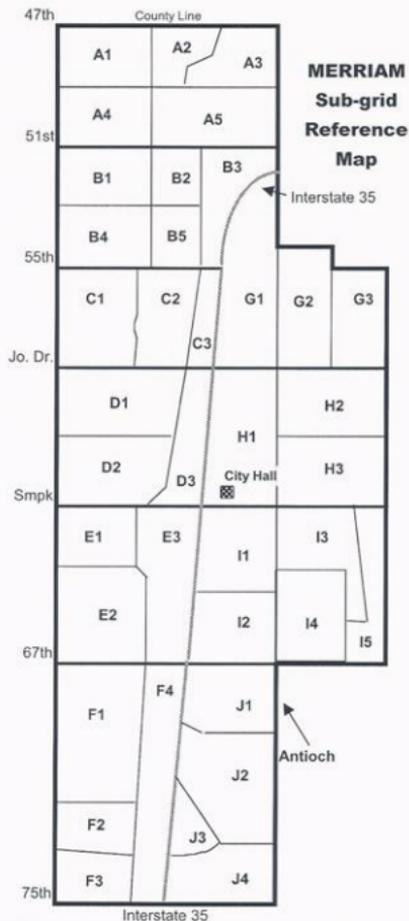
TYPE OF CRIME	1998	1999	2000	2001	TYPE OF CRIME	1998	1999	2000	2001
Aggravated Arson	1	1	1	1	Forgery	131	289	196	90
Arson	4	2	2	3	Furnishing Alcohol/Beer to Minor	7	2	3	0
Aggravated Assault	19	9	14	19	Gasoline Drive Off (New 2001)	0	0	0	30
Aggravated Battery	12	14	12	14	Habitual Traffic Violator	19	16	8	0
Aggravated Burglary	10	4	11	12	Harassment by Phone	37	47	23	30
Aggravated Sodomy	1	1	1	0	Murder / Manslaughter	1	1	2	0
Aggravated Indecent Liberties	2	3	5	4	Indecent Liberties with a Child	2	1	0	0
Aggravated Kidnapping	3	1	2	0	Indecent Solicitation of a Child	0	2	1	2
Aggravated Robbery	7	6	15	20	Identification Theft (New 2001)	0	0	0	5
Aggravated Sexual Battery	1	1	0	0	Intimidation of a Victim/Witness	1	0	0	1
Assault	5	3	6	6	Kidnapping	2	0	2	5
Attempted Murder	0	1	0	0	Lewd and Lascivious Behavior	4	3	4	1
Attempted Theft	0	5	3	3	Littering	3	3	2	2
Battery	104	99	107	128	Minor in Possession of Alcohol	12	10	14	19
Burglary to Auto	187	162	209	269	Obstructing Legal Process	17	17	11	24
Burglary to Business	32	22	20	23	Prescription Fraud	3	9	6	3
Burglary to Residence	52	38	37	42	Controlled Substance Possession	42	77	31	44
Burglary to Storage Area	22	10	31	13	Drug Paraphernalia Possession	7	9	7	16
Child In Need Of Care	25	19	36	49	Drug Possession / Intent of Sale	0	4	4	1
Child Abuse	3	0	2	0	Possession of Stolen Property	8	13	23	35
Computer Trespass	0	1	2	1	Possession of Tobacco/Minor	0	4	0	3
Counterfeiting	0	0	3	6	Prostitution	0	1	1	2
Criminal Damage - Felony	24	30	28	42	Rape	9	6	5	4
Criminal Damage - Misdemeanor	101	111	81	122	Robbery	4	3	8	10
Criminal Deprivation of Property	15	2	0	12	Sexual Battery	2	7	7	4
Criminal Discharge of a Weapon	6	0	0	2	Theft of Lost or Mislaid Property	31	46	73	64
Criminal Threats	29	20	36	33	Theft of Services	11	11	13	4
Criminal Trespass	16	12	15	19	Theft of Auto	72	115	98	92
Criminal Use of a Financial Card	5	5	7	17	Theft of Auto (Attempted)	5	9	16	13
Criminal Use of a Weapon	1	4	2	3	Theft - Felony	60	86	66	67
Cruelty to Animals	1	2	0	1	Theft - Misdemeanor	316	369	411	335
Disorderly Conduct	53	43	46	71	Violation: Court Protection Order	7	13	11	9
Escape From Custody	2	0	1	0	Worthless Check	2	0	0	2
Falsely Reporting a Crime	1	1	0	1	Other Crimes Not Listed Above	0	7	11	28
False Writing	0	6	0	2	Open	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OF CRIMES REPORTED PER YEAR						1559	1818	1792	1883

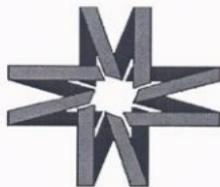
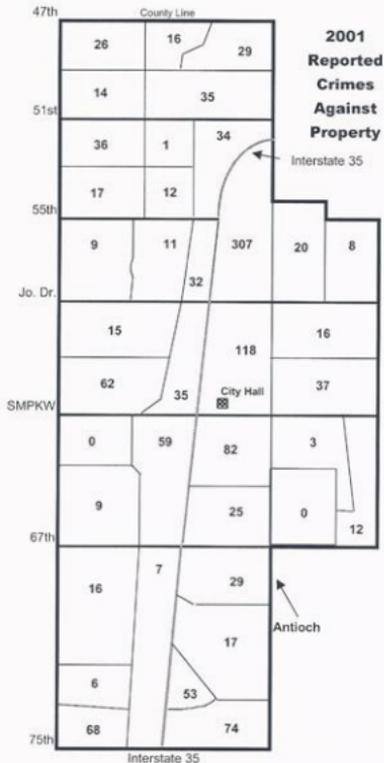
Reported Crimes by Year



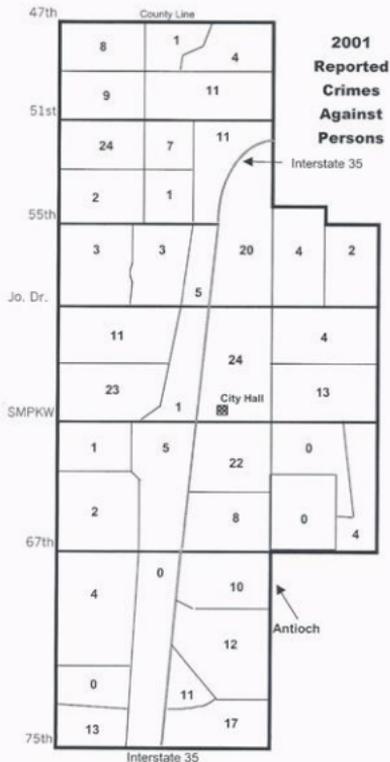
Part One Crimes / 2001
By Location

Grid	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
A1	49	27	18	15	21
A2	13	10	6	6	7
A3	18	18	10	10	18
A4	18	9	6	19	13
A5	52	26	13	35	24
B1	45	20	12	27	28
B2	20	4	4	9	2
B3	56	28	34	27	20
B4	12	16	4	3	11
B5	12	7	4	7	10
C1	11	5	14	8	5
C2	21	5	12	9	8
C3	36	25	23	25	22
D1	28	9	11	10	10
D2	58	35	45	38	43
D3	50	68	42	41	23
E1	1	1	2	1	1
E2	2	2	3	1	10
E3	38	38	52	41	47
F1	23	10	10	14	14
F2	5	3	6	2	3
F3	66	47	42	39	50
F4	15	21	18	24	5
G1	20	58	150	159	180
G2	18	11	6	10	13
G3	9	1	13	9	2
H1	105	65	86	71	68
H2	12	9	11	6	9
H3	36	25	37	28	25
I1	168	73	84	103	64
I2	38	46	29	30	16
I3	7	1	4	4	3
I4	0	0	0	0	0
I5	10	9	12	4	8
J1	17	12	18	24	26
J2	28	15	13	11	14
J3	21	15	19	31	46
J4	63	48	51	49	56





**City of Merriam, Kansas
Sub-Grid Maps**



These two Merriam maps illustrate crimes that were reported by victims in Merriam.

The top map illustrates the number of "property" crimes, including burglaries, thefts, forgeries, frauds and vandalisms.

The bottom map illustrates the number of "persons" crimes, which include murders, rapes, robberies, assaults and batteries.

NOTE: Some minor crimes such as disorderly conduct are not represented on these maps.

Merriam Police Department

Top 10 Critical Incidents



INTRODUCTION:

Each year, officers of the Merriam Police Department respond to thousands of calls ranging from motorist assists and animal calls to aggravated assaults, kidnappings and deaths. This is the fourth year that the Annual Report has featured the "Top 10 Critical Incidents" of the year. These incidents are listed in chronological order as they occurred in 2001.

Date: 1/13/01 **Time:** 04:30 **Offense:** AGGRAVATED ASSAULT

Location: 6500 block of Southbound Interstate 35

Narrative: A Merriam officer on patrol witnessed the occupants of a vehicle on I-35 shooting a firearm at the front of Aristocrat Motors. About ten shots were heard resulting in six windows being shot out. Rounds struck two vehicles parked inside and two others parked outside. Two officers were on the scene on I-35, when the suspect vehicle drove by in the opposite lanes firing three more rounds either at or near the officers. The officers had to dive into the ditch to avoid being shot. The vehicle fled the scene and the case is still unsolved. One officer suffered a sprained left knee. The damage estimates are at least \$10,000.00 to Aristocrat Motors.

Date: 1/23/01 **Time:** 01:32 **Offense:** AGGRAVATED ROBBERY

Location: 8801 Johnson Drive

Narrative: A man entered the Starmart and approached the clerk, demanding money. The suspect then struck the clerk with his 6" revolver causing a cut above the right eye. After the money drawers were both opened, he had the clerk lay on the floor and took all the bills from the registers. We were at the store within 20 seconds after the call, but the suspect was long gone due to the clerk lying on the floor for a few minutes to make sure the suspect had left. The same suspect had robbed two other stores in Kansas City, Kansas previously the same night. A composite drawing was constructed and distributed to all convenience stores in the area.

Date: 6/25/01 **Time:** 03:34 **Offense:** AGGRAVATED ROBBERY

Location: 6800 block of Antioch / Pepper Tree Apartments

Narrative: The victim was in bed when two men wearing bandanas over their faces entered his apartment. They told him to stay calm as they removed his television, computer, cordless telephones, cordless drill, a coin collection, and other items from the apartment. They then left in an unknown direction. There was no forced entry as the victim was unsure if he locked his patio door. The suspects were armed with unknown type handguns.

Date: 8/5/01 **Time:** 12:49 **Offense:** FATAL VEHICLE ACCIDENT

Location: 9900 block of Shawnee Mission Parkway

Narrative: A motorcyclist was eastbound on Shawnee Mission Parkway when he struck a car turning from westbound Shawnee Mission Parkway to Robinhood Ln. Witness statements indicate the motorcyclist had been traveling at a high rate of speed prior to the collision. The motorcyclist was transported to the hospital by Med-Act where he was pronounced dead. The car driver was transported to SMMC and released with minor injuries.

Date: 8/12/01 **Time:** 00:00 **Offense:** OFFICER INJURY AT ACCIDENT SCENE

Location: 7100 block of Northbound Interstate 35

Narrative: At around 2345 hours we responded to a serious injury accident involving a drunk driver. The Highway Patrol responded and handled the accident. While Merriam officers were assisting, another accident occurred involving a Dodge Neon rear-ending a pickup truck. During the accident the pickup truck struck a Merriam officer as he pulled one of the victims out of the trucks path. He suffered a bruised knee.



A residential burglary scene...



Date: 8/31/01 **Time:** 13:09 **Offense:** BANK ROBBERY

Location: 5800 Antioch – Hen House / United Missouri Bank

Narrative: A man in his 40's walked up to the bank clerk during mid-day with a normally crowded grocery store in the background. He produced a note in a plastic baggie demanding money. The clerk emptied the drawer and the other clerk's drawer and handed the suspect the money. Witnesses obtained a vehicle description. The FBI was called in to investigate. The description and method of operation matched other robberies in the KC Metro Area.

Date: 9/18/01 **Time:** 03:50 **Offense:** DRIVE-BY RESIDENTIAL SHOOTING

Location: 8401 W. 55th

Narrative: Unknown suspects driving a dark colored small vehicle drove by just as the victim was getting up to go to work. The suspect fired nine rounds of 9MM-handgun ammo into the residence. The victim had seen them drive by several times before firing the shots. The suspect vehicle was last seen westbound on 55th. The police recovered three bullets and two shell casings from the scene. This incident is believed to be gang related.

Date: 9/30/01 **Time:** 14:30 **Offense:** UNATTENDED DEATH

Location: 6000 block of Grandview

Narrative: Police were called to the scene of a dead body. His sister, who rents the apartment, found the victim wrapped in a sleeping bag on the floor. She claims that the victim was last seen alive around 0530 hrs. When she came home from work, she found him dead. He didn't have any serious medical problems. She claimed that the victim was an alcoholic and could have possibly been abusing his medications. (NOTE: The same reporting person was found dead at the same location several days later. It is believed that her death was a suicide.)



Corporal Darren McLaughlin assists Det. Troy Duvanel on a drug search warrant.

Date: 9/30/01 **Time:** 18:00 **Offense:** AGGRAVATED ROBBERY

Location: 5828 Antioch

Narrative: An 18-year-old clerk was closing at Verizon by herself on a Sunday evening. Just prior to closing, a man in his late teen's or early 20's entered the store. He put socks on his hands to conceal his fingerprints and told the clerk to empty three cash registers and the unlocked safe. The suspect then tied her up with packing tape and hit her in the face several times. He fled the building leaving the victim in the back room.

Date: 10/16/01 **Time:** 12:30 **Offense:** SUSPICIOUS POWDER SUBSTANCE

Location: 9510 W. 67th Street

Narrative: We were dispatched to the above business reference suspicious powder on the floor of one of the women's restrooms inside of the handicap stall. Upon investigation of the scene and talking to the management / employees, the powder was probably baby powder or similar substance. As a precautionary step, the fire department suited up in their Haz-Mat gear and collected the powder. We placed it in a triple bag sealed system and placed it in the property room for possible future examination. (NOTE: This was the first of several possible Anthrax calls that were handled by the police and fire departments as a result of public paranoia from national terrorist attacks on September 11th.)

Officer Charles Yocum diagrams the scene where a woman suffering from mental problems attempts to commit suicide by ramming her van into a large piece of construction equipment at the East Frontage construction sight.



The woman also had her three small children in the car. Luckily no one was injured due to airbags, seatbelts and child safety restraints. The woman was taken to an area psychiatric center.

Merriam Police Department

Administration



PERSONNEL REPORT:

The most critical function of the administrative division is personnel. Maintaining staffing levels is important to ensure high quality service delivery. The year 2001 was a rebuilding year for the police department. Staffing in the patrol division was at its lowest level in some time. While there were an unusual number of openings, the department was very lucky to have qualified applicants apply. In fact, of the five new officers hired in 2001, four of them had already received police academy training. This fact saved the City of Merriam over \$48,000 in salaries.

Personnel Changes in 2001:

- In January, Officer Paul Oliver and Mark Messbarger were hired as regular police officers. Both officers had previously attended the police academies out of state. They were both immediately assigned to field training until April, when they were assigned to patrol.
- Officer Chris Brokaw was hired in late April to fill an existing vacancy. He had just graduated from the Western Missouri Regional Police Academy in Independence, Mo. His field training was concluded in August 2001.
- In June, Officer Mark Osterhaus left the department during his probationary period. He was replaced by Officer Jay Fletcher who had recently moved to Johnson County from Fort Collins, Colorado. He worked there as a sheriff's deputy and attended the police academy in Greeley, Colorado. He completed his field training in November 2001.

In August, Officer Barry Martens left the department to take a similar position with the Shawnee Police Department. Barry was replaced by Shannon Goodnight who was hired the same month. She had been a dispatcher with the Lenexa Police. Later that month she started in the police academy's 65th class. The first class to attend the new police academy facility at Johnson County Community College. In November, Officer Goodnight finished first in her class academically.



Chief Kenneth Sissom



Officer Paul Oliver

The Five Officers That Were Hired in 2001



Officer Mark Messbarger



Officer Chris Brokaw



Officer Jay Fletcher



Officer Shannon Goodnight

As the year ended, Officer Goodnight was still assigned to field training.

One of the goals for 2001 was to get the department up to full staffing. As the year came to an end only one opening in patrol remained. Plans are underway to fill this opening during the first part of 2002.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS:

Another function assigned to the administrative division is professional standards. This function is assigned to the assistant chief who conducts internal investigations of department personnel when necessary. He is also charged with making sure that proper procedures are followed by all officers.

There are three incident categories that the department seriously investigates. They are:

Officer Complaints: When a citizen makes an official complaint against an officer it is documented and investigated by the officer's supervisor. If the complaint is serious in nature or can not be resolved by the supervisor, it is forwarded to the office of the assistant chief. He conducts the investigation and forwards the results of this investigation, with a recommendation to the police chief. During 2001 there were no serious officer complaints investigated. Minor complaints were either unfounded or resolved to the satisfaction of the complaining party.

Vehicle Pursuits: The department has a very strict vehicle pursuit policy. When an officer engages in a pursuit it is closely monitored by the on-duty supervisor. They have direct authority to discontinue a pursuit at any time. ALL vehicle pursuits are investigated by the on-duty supervisor and the assistant chief to make sure they are in strict compliance with written department policy.

During 2001 there were four pursuits initiated by Merriam officers. All of these pursuits were found to be in compliance with pursuit policy. None of the pursuits involved accidents or vehicle damage.

Use of Force Incidents: As with pursuits, officers are required to report all use of force incidents. A specific report is used that details the circumstances that led up to the force incident. It also documents the amount of force used and the results. All of these reports are reviewed by the on-duty supervisor and forwarded to the administrative division where they are reviewed by the assistant chief and ultimately the chief of police.

During 2001 there were **18** incidents where an officer had to use force to effect an arrest, which represents one fewer incident than 2000. The number of use of force incidents is extremely low when it is compared to the fact that the department made **996** arrests.

(NOTE: The Merriam Police Department has an excellent record of near litigation-free operations. It is probably among the lowest in the KC Metro Area, for cities of similar size or larger. It has been over 25 years since a Merriam police officer has been involved in an officer-involved shooting situation that required them to fire their weapon.)



Police Academy Recruit Shannon Goodnight learning defensive tactics when use of force is required in an arrest situation.

HIRING PROCESS FOR POLICE:

One of the best ways to keep officer complaints down to a minimum is to hire the very best applicant available. Each year the Merriam Police Department will conduct at least two hiring processes. With the dwindling job market, fewer persons have been applying for advertised jobs. Police officer jobs are hard to get, not because they are few, but because the hiring standards are much higher than most other jobs. The Merriam Police Department has a stringent hiring process. This process involves four different stages. These include: 1) Application, 2) Written Exams, 3) Background and Polygraph Investigations, 4) Administrative Interview and 5) Health Screening and Psychological Examination. *(Note: In 2001 the department conducted three hiring processes due to high turnover in 2000/2001.)*

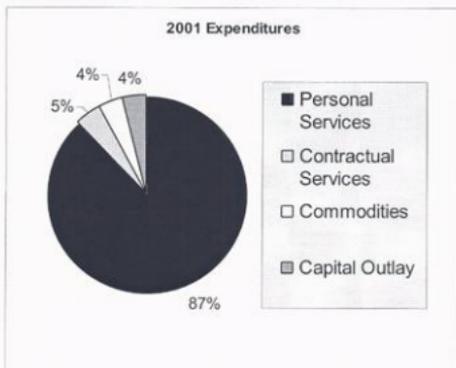
Merriam Police Department

\$\$ Budget Report \$\$



INTRODUCTION:

The budget of the police department represents the largest of all the different departments of the city. In 2001, the total police department budget was \$2,384,764. This amount includes all projected costs of personal services, contractual services, commodities and capital outlay purchases. It also includes increases due to added compensation. Of the total budget, over 92% (\$2,202,851) is dedicated to employee salary and benefits. Below is a breakdown of expenditures by major category.



During 2001, the Merriam Police Department spent \$2,151,949 which represents 90% of the approved budget. Below is a breakdown by section:

PERSONAL SERVICES

Budgeted = \$2,110,060 Spent = \$1,886,988

CONTRACTUAL SERVICES

Budgeted = \$100,325 Spent = \$96,851

COMMODITIES

Budgeted = \$87,119 Spent = \$86,699

CAPITAL OUTLAY

Budgeted = \$87,260 Spent = \$81,411

Of the total 2001 Budget, \$232,815 was returned to the fund balance to carry over to 2002.



These items represent a small sample of the updated equipment needed to respond to traffic violations, crimes and other police emergencies.

Merriam Police Department

Patrol Activities



INTRODUCTION:

Patrol is the largest and most visible unit of the police department. Twenty officers or 76.9% of the commissioned force are assigned to patrol the streets, respond to calls for service and proactively enforce federal, state and municipal laws within the city limits. In addition to routine patrol duties, these officers spend a lot of time each year going to court trials and hearings, and attending training classes. The majority of the police department's work is done by these dedicated officers.

CALLS FOR SERVICE: The primary duty of any police department is answering calls for service. A police officer must be ready to respond 24-hours a day. In 2001 the Merriam Police Department received approximately the same number of calls as in 2000. During the year, patrol officers responded to 16,781 primary and backup calls for service. In 2000 officers responded to 16,757 calls. There is a chart below that represents a breakdown on the number of calls for service by year since 1992. Please note the fluctuation from year-to-year. There are many factors that could attribute to this fluctuation. They include overall crime rate, increase in retail businesses, inclement weather, road construction, etc.

Year	Calls	Year	Calls
1992	18,959	1997	14,964
1993	18,152	1998	16,629
1994	17,792	1999	18,824
1995	17,049	2000	16,757
1996	15,253	2001	16,781

AN AVERAGE PATROL SHIFT: There are three different shifts being operated by the patrol division. The day shift runs from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., the evening shift is from 3 p.m. to 11 p.m. and the midnight shift operates from 11 p.m. to 7 a.m. Each shift has a different activity level and type — the day shift has more traffic related problems, the evening shift has more disturbances and retail thefts and the midnight shift has the majority of business and auto burglaries and more problems related to alcohol use.

When an officer is not answering a call for service they are responsible for patrolling their district to promote high visibility and to prevent or detect crimes. The City of Merriam has 65 miles of streets within its 4.5 square miles. During 2001, patrol officers drove approximately 154,000 miles while patrolling the city streets of Merriam. This is a 9% increase over 2000.

There are no two 8-hour patrol shifts that are the same. Each will have different types of calls and varying degrees of activity. Each police officer must come to work prepared to handle many different types of calls and activities, from traffic accident investigations to conducting surveillances, working burglaries, making arrests, directing traffic and being involved in a community meeting.

During the course of a year many police reports are written to properly document suspicious activity, criminal acts or accidents. On the average over one-fourth of a district officer's regular shift is dedicated to writing police reports.

All police reports are now being written on computers, either in the station or on one of the department's six in-car laptop computers. In the past the officer would handwrite the report and then a records clerk would later type the data into the records management system. This duplication has been eliminated with the new system.

Patrol Q & A

1. *How many miles does the average officer drive during his or her shift?* 39 miles
2. *What is the average number of calls for service that shift officers will have to handle during an 8-hour shift?* Days = 15 calls, Evenings = 20 calls, Midnights = 10 calls
3. *There are many different kinds of police reports. What is the most commonly written report and how many are written during the year?* The most common report written is offense reports. 1,882 offense reports were written in 2001. Also written were 996 arrest reports, 735 traffic accident reports and approximately 1,000 other miscellaneous reports.

Merriam Police Department

Vehicle Accidents



INTRODUCTION:

One of the fundamental duties of any police department is to investigate motor vehicle accidents. The City of Merriam has 65 miles of roadway within its borders; of that, roughly 3 miles consist of interstate highway. According to a recent study by the County Economic Research Institute, Inc. (CERI), "An average of 142,630 vehicles pass along Interstate 35 (both northbound and southbound) south of the interchange at 75th Street on an average weekday. This is the highest traffic volume at any location in the county." Also listed in the same study is the intersection of Shawnee Mission Parkway and Antioch. Over 50,000 cars use this intersection on an average weekday.

With the types of roadways that run through Merriam, coupled with the high number of businesses and general drive-through traffic, the problem of traffic accidents is a full-time challenge.

ACCIDENT RATES:

In 2001, 543 accident reports were written by the Merriam Police Department. This represents a 35% decrease in accidents over 2000. The reason this decrease is so dramatic is that during 2000 a change in report taking procedures took place in the department. It was decided early in the year that the department would no longer take accident reports that were not required by the State of Kansas. Previous to this change accident reports were taken in all cases where requested. The majority of the private property reports were taken for the benefit of an insurance company. A survey of area police departments was made and it was discovered that Merriam was one of the last departments still taking private property accident reports. The department will still respond and investigate hit and run accidents on private property, or any accident that involves injury or the possibility of drug or alcohol involvement.

In 2001 there was only one reported fatality accident in Merriam, the first since 1999 which had three fatality accidents (see Top Ten Critical Incidents section, page 13, for more details).



Overturned Tractor Trailer, 75th and I-35

The majority of the accidents occur at intersections. The 15 worst intersection accident locations in Merriam are listed in the box below.

Johnson Drive and Merriam Dr. 11 Accidents	Shawnee Mission Parkway and I-35 - 35 Accidents	I-35 at Antioch Road 4 Accidents
Johnson Drive and I-35 14 Accidents	75th Street and Antioch Road 12 Accidents	I-35 at Johnson Drive 22 Accidents
Johnson Drive and Antioch Rd. 19 Accidents	75th Street and Frontage Road 11 Accidents	I-35 at Shawnee Mission Parkway - 15 Accidents
Shawnee Mission Parkway and Antioch Road - 22 Accidents	75th Street and I-35 15 Accidents	I-35 at 67th Street 13 Accidents
Shawnee Mission Parkway and Eby - 17 Accidents	75th Street and Switzer Street 7 Accidents	I-35 at 75th Street 19 Accidents

Merriam Police Department

Traffic Enforcement



INTRODUCTION:

Traffic enforcement has always been a large part of the everyday duties of a Merriam police officer. Statistics and studies have shown that when more traffic enforcement is done, there is a reduction of accidents. Other recent studies have also shown that crime rates in general will decrease when officers are out stopping motorist violators. Many high profile cases like the bombing of the Federal Building in Oklahoma City were solved by an officer making routine traffic stops.

The chart listed below illustrates the level of enforcement activities in Merriam.

TRAFFIC STANDARDS:

For the past five years there has been a minimum traffic violation standard in existence. Each officer is expected to write at least two tickets per shift and 50% of the tickets written should be for moving violations. This standard was adopted in conjunction with the community-policing philosophy. Traffic complaints are very commonly heard at neighborhood gatherings throughout the city. They routinely request speed and other traffic enforcement.



Top Photo - Master Police Officer Todd Sparks preparing to run traffic radar on Antioch Road.
Bottom Photo - Corporal Dan Kellerman checking the accuracy of the department's Intoxilyzer

TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT WENT UP 10% IN 2001

	Assorted Speeding	Stop Sign	Drunk Driving	No Insurance	Expired No Tags	No Drivers License	All Traffic Signal	No Seat Belts	Assorted Parking	All Others	Monthly Totals
JAN	235	20	7	109	41	26	14	16	11	55	534
FEB	163	10	9	76	32	22	14	15	16	74	431
MAR	228	8	4	100	30	26	18	22	9	40	485
APR	348	12	9	144	43	48	11	44	4	174	837
MAY	332	14	7	167	47	54	16	45	12	61	755
JUN	272	17	9	121	52	40	21	67	22	110	731
JUL	243	7	7	113	40	37	20	70	24	71	632
AUG	224	13	10	127	40	41	20	64	20	233	792
SEP	232	12	6	105	44	40	20	46	16	90	611
OCT	208	15	7	108	41	48	19	36	12	263	757
NOV	216	17	12	130	54	65	30	40	31	104	699
DEC	42	6	11	60	27	21	8	1	30	34	240
2001	2743	151	98	1360	491	468	211	466	207	1309	7504
2000	2470	274	116	1284	520	449	327	264	259	741	6704
1999	2847	289	125	1569	648	462	337	342	258	865	7742
1998	2571	268	122	1352	643	456	359	131	107	734	6743

Merriam Police Department

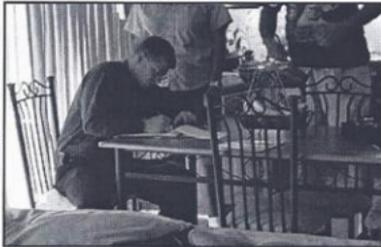
Investigations Unit



INTRODUCTION:

The investigations unit is comprised of two full-time investigators; a lead investigator and a patrol officer assigned to investigations. Lieutenant Tim Burnett is the unit supervisor. He assigns cases and is responsible for day-to-day unit operations.

The lead investigator is assigned to the unit as part of his or her regular duty. They hold this position until reassigned. More permanency in the position allows the officer to become proficient in all types of criminal investigations. They are also able to gain close working relationships with other agency investigators, which makes his or her job more effective. The second officer is assigned from the patrol division. They will work in investigations for one to three years. This opportunity gives some latitude in the police officer's job assignment and helps to train them to be more proficient in their patrol assignments, once returned to that unit. All officers assigned to this unit are required to be independent, available for call out, and very reliable. There is very little supervision of their daily activities due to the nature of their assignment.



Detective Troy Duvanel interviews two residential burglary victims—September 2001

In addition to the two full-time investigators, there is a group of dedicated officers trained as evidence technicians. They work normal patrol shifts. If a crime is reported that requires evidence recovery, these specially trained officers are called to assist. This keeps us from calling out investigators and reduces overtime. It also helps by cross-training officers in different skill areas.

INVESTIGATIONS CALL OUT TEAMS — These four two-person teams share call out responsibilities:

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. CPL. MIKE DANIELS - PO MELINDA COPELAND | 3. CPL. TODD ALLEN - MPO TROY DUVANEL |
| 2. CPL. DAN KELLERMAN - CPL. DAVE WALTON | 4. CPL. DARRIN McLAUGHLIN - MPO TODD SPARKS |

2001 Investigations Unit Report:

The investigative unit conducted direct investigations on 360 cases in 2001. This is a 1.4% increase from last year. While the rate from one year to the next was similar, it should be noted that the unit worked at half strength from August through December due to serious department manpower shortages.

Many cases were also investigated by the patrol division depending on the seriousness or circumstance of the criminal situation. The largest increases in case assignments were noted in batteries, assaults, vandalism and unattended deaths. Case assignments on forgeries and auto thefts were down. Below is a breakdown of assigned cases by classification:

Crime	2001	2000	Crime	2001	2000	Crime	2001	2000
Burglary	68	62	Sex Offenses	10	12	Arson	0	1
Theft	58	67	Vandalism	17	9	Assault	10	3
Forgery	14	59	Criminal Threat	10	9	Manslaughter	0	2
Theft (Auto)	22	31	Juvenile Cases	14	5	Phone Harass.	10	4
Robbery	21	22	Hit & Run	3	4	Deaths	12	6
Battery	30	13	Kidnapping	2	3	All Others	59	42

Merriam Police Department

Animal Control Unit



INTRODUCTION:

The function of animal control has been a responsibility for the Merriam Police Department for many years. The Merriam Police Department has one full-time employee that is assigned to take care of all animal related problems. Handling these problems requires special training and equipment. It is a difficult and technical job requiring special skills and the desire to work with animals. The department's current animal control officer has over 20 years of municipal animal control experience.

ACO ACTIVITY SUMMARY:

During 2001, Animal Control Officer Dave Thomas handled **1,361** requests for service. This number does not include 171 calls that were handled by the patrol officers during those times when the animal control officer was not on duty. The total number of animal calls received in Merriam in 2001 were 1,532.

In 2001, Officer Thomas spent the majority of his time patrolling the city looking for animal problems and violations. At times he has also assisted the department with other non-animal control duties such as filling-in as school crossing guard and working in the police department's front office, answering the telephone or helping out at the front window. Officer Thomas also acted as Municipal Court Bailiff during 2001.

In October, Officer Thomas attended training at the Kansas Animal Control Association Conference in Manhattan, Kansas. This training provided updated professional information to keep him current in practice and technique.

It should also be noted that this year, ACO Thomas was off work for approximately two months due to major surgery. This fact accounts for some of the changes in statistics when comparing 2001 with previous years (see below).

Year	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
Service Requests	1319	1382	1403	1409	1361
Enforcement Actions	197	201	215	212	183
Animal Impounds	189	204	197	171	205
Investigations	801	837	846	822	794
Reports Written	669	702	698	703	593
Patrol Miles Driven	9057	8979	9213	8274	6937

- During 2001, Merriam residents registered 520 dogs and 148 cats with the office of the City Clerk. This represents a 34% decrease in registered dogs from 2000 to 2001. The number of registered cats in 2001 is similar to 2000.
- All stray animals picked up by animal control are taken to Animal Haven, located at 9800 W. 67th Street. Their hours are Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and weekends from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. They can be called at 913-432-7548.
- The animal control officer is on duty from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. All animal calls received at other times are handled by police officers or neighboring city animal control officers.

Merriam Police Department

Support Unit Functions



INTRODUCTION:

In addition to responding to calls for service, working traffic accidents and traffic enforcement, the Merriam Police Department is involved in a number of other functions that directly impact and help to serve the public. A synopsis of these services are listed below.

FINGERPRINTING SERVICES:

Each year there are a number of requests from residents and business persons to be fingerprinted. The department provides this function, by appointment, for a small fee. During 2001, fingerprints were taken on 31 persons. This service is provided to Merriam residents or those connected to Merriam businesses only.

COLLEGE INTERN PROGRAM:

The Merriam Police Department has had an agreement in place with three state universities to participate in a College Intern Program. In this program, the department works with Criminal Justice Degree students from Kansas University, Kansas State University and Washburn University. During their internship these students spend a specified number of hours working in all parts of the department. In this experience the interns learn about what goes on in a functional police agency and the department gets the benefit of free labor to help with statistical studies, clerical assignments or other duties. While the program was in place, there were no interns in 2001.

ALARM ORDINANCE MANAGEMENT:

2001 marked the sixth full year that the Merriam Police Department managed the Alarm Ordinance. During the year, police officers responded to 389 false burglary and robbery alarms. This represents

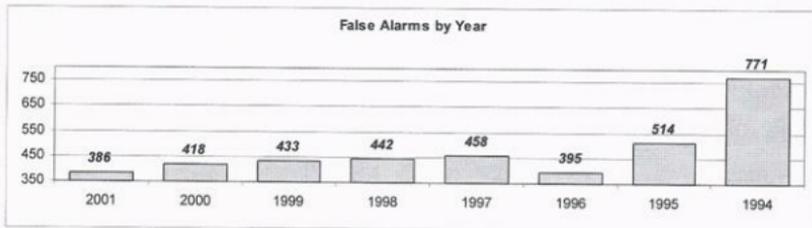
a 7% decrease over 2000. The primary purpose of an alarm ordinance is to reduce false alarms by making business and home owners more responsible for their alarm systems. The ordinance appears to be working here in Merriam. A chart has been prepared below that illustrates this fact.

In Merriam 473 individual businesses and homeowners have registered their alarms. This is a high number for a city of this size.

Of the 389 false alarms there are a certain number that have resulted in a fine owed by the business or home owner. The alarm ordinance fines, once fully collected for 2001, will total \$11,242.

The top ten false alarm locations (this includes all alarms, both police and fire) were:

#1 Shawnee Mission Medical Center	21
#2 First National Bank of Onaga	19
#3 Chevy's	19
#4 Furr's	17
#5 Johnson County Library	15
#6 Lee Company	12
#7 Home Depot	12
#8 Georgetown Apartments	11
#9 Chili's	11
#10 Builder's Resource	9



Merriam Police Department

Community Policing Update



INTRODUCTION:

In 1992 a decision was made to change the style of policing in Merriam. For the past eight years the police department has been involved in the transition towards Community Policing. This contemporary philosophy helps to get the community more involved in the policing process. Each year the Merriam Police Department is involved in a number of activities that are designed to bring officers closer to a larger number of citizens. The results include greater cooperation among citizens and the police. This closer relationship helps to foster greater public confidence which improves their quality of life.

COMMUNITY POLICING EFFORTS:

The Community Policing philosophy is supported at every level of the Merriam Police Department. Each employee has been trained and is familiar with this philosophy. Each employee is encouraged to look for ways for the department to improve its interaction with the public. This empowerment makes the department more effective.

In addition to the overall practice by employees, the Merriam Police Department engages in a number of specific efforts that promote and support the philosophy of Community Policing.

WHAT IS COMMUNITY POLICING?

- ◆ 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 at a basic level of police service delivery, moving away from specialization toward generalized police service delivery at the neighborhood level;
- ◆ Getting the neighborhood 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; and
- ◆ Involving and empowering police employees at the lowest level to problem solve.

COMMUNITY INTERACTION:

During 2001, members of the police department interacted with a number of residents to facilitate communication and partnership.

1. NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH: Meetings were held throughout the year during various neighborhood meetings and block parties.
2. NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AGAINST CRIME—2001: The Merriam Police Department organized another successful National Night Out Against Crime event. This year it was held on August 7th. During this national event, Merriam officers met with approximately 250 residents in twelve different residential areas to help educate them on how to make their homes, apartments and neighborhoods safer from crime. This is three more neighborhoods than were involved in 2000.

The residential areas involved in the National Night Out in 2001 are listed below:

**Sherwood Forest
6600 Eby Drive area
Wellington Woods
Merriam Hills
Antioch Gardens Apts.
Sunflower Towers
Edelweiss Condominiums
Hocker and Knox area
60th and Hardy area
Switzer Meadows
56th and Perry Lane area
Antioch Hills**

RIDE ALONG PROGRAM:

For the past several years, the police department has offered a program where interested citizens can ride along with uniformed officers in an effort to bring citizens and officers closer together to bridge some of the communication gaps. This program has also been used by a number of high school students as part of a school assignment and by those interested in entering the law enforcement field.

CHAPLAINCY PROGRAM: The Merriam Police Department has had a Chaplaincy Program in existence since 1994. Quentin Jones has been the MPD chaplain since the beginning. Unfortunately during 2001, Chaplain Jones left the department to pursue other professional interests. In his place, the department appointed Mike Jacob as the Police Department Chaplain. He is also the chaplain for the Merriam Fire Department. As chaplain, Mike Jacob offers moral support to police employees. He will also accompany a police officer when he or she must deliver death notifications to a victim's family members. This practice has benefited many Merriam families since 1994.

CRIME PREVENTION EFFORTS:

In addition to his assignment as the DARE officer, Officer Larry Birt is also assigned to take care of normal crime prevention needs of the city. Some of these crime prevention efforts are listed below:

Security Survey Program:

Officer Larry Birt is a Certified Crime Prevention Officer. Part of his assignment includes conducting security surveys on homes and businesses in Merriam. This service is offered free of charge, by appointment, and is designed to provide tips that make these homes and business facilities more crime resistant.



House Watch Program:

For several years the MPD has provided a house watch program for residents who are on vacation. If a resident completes the required house watch form, an officer will check their home each day while they are gone. This increases security for these vacant homes and it gives the residents peace of mind while they are gone, knowing that their property is being watched. In 2001 there were 43 house watch requests.

MPD Crime Alert Program:

From time to time there is a need to communicate with a neighborhood or business area to inform affected persons about a crime wave or unusual event that has happened in the area. When people are better informed they can help the police to reduce further incidents of crime. What is important is that this information be communicated quickly and accurately. It can be sent by mail, fax or by door to door flyers.

OTHER COMMUNITY POLICING EFFORTS:

Block Party Attendance:

Each year Merriam officers attend neighborhood block parties to get closer to the public. At these parties officers are able to answer police related questions, inquire about recent community problems and give crime prevention advice. Officers attended block parties at 69th and Eby, 70th and Slater, 72nd and Grandview and 51st Terrace and Knox.

Open House:

Twice during the year the police department was involved in City Hall open house events to allow the public access to the police facility and to answer questions about police equipment, tactics and procedures.

Memorial Service:

On September 22, 2001, the police department was involved in a Public Safety Memorial Service to honor the police and firefighters that lost their lives during terrorist attacks in New York City, Washington D.C. and Pennsylvania.

Merriam Police Department

Annual Drug Forfeiture Report



INTRODUCTION:

This is a new feature of the Annual Report. On October 27, 2000, Kansas Attorney General Carla J. Stovall sent a letter to all police departments in the state. In this letter, Attorney General Stovall alerted all local law enforcement agencies that they are required to file an annual report concerning state asset forfeiture proceeds that were received or spent during the past year.

In her letter the Attorney General cited K.S.A. 60-4117 (d)(2) which states that "an agency shall compile and submit annually its special law enforcement trust fund report to the entity that has budgetary authority over such agency."

According to state law the following information must be included in this "annual report":

- A) The type and approximate value of the forfeited property received;
- B) The amount of any forfeiture proceeds received, and
- C) How any of those proceeds were expended.

While the amount in Merriam's Special Law Enforcement Trust Fund is listed in each Monthly Finance Report that is distributed to the City Council, the specifics concerning what the money is spent on and other particulars are not listed in this report.

In order to ensure that the Merriam Police Department stays in conformance with K.S.A. 60-4117, this section will be included in future annual reports. Any questions concerning specific details should be directed to the Finance Department in the Administrative Services Department.



Drugs and paraphernalia recovered during a drug search warrant at a Merriam hotel.

Drug Forfeiture Activities in 2001:

On January 1, 2001, there was \$17,852 in the Merriam Special Law Enforcement Trust Fund according to the Finance Department.

During 2001 the Merriam Police Department received \$189.00 from drug forfeitures or drug taxes and \$826.08 in account interest.

During 2001 the following purchases or expenditures were made with funds from the Special Law Enforcement Trust Fund:

- \$832 paid to the Johnson County Government as a 10% match for a grant to help fund the Juvenile Assessment Intake Center.
- \$1,150.09 paid out to cover updated training of the DARE officer and his attendance at the National DARE Convention in Los

Angeles, California, and his involvement in the Kansas DARE Conference in Wichita. This covered conference expenses, motel, meals and travel expenses.

- \$1,784.36 was expended from this fund to pay the 10% LLEBG Grant matching funds for equipment purchases, which included ballistic shields and helmets for patrol, Taser weapons and some computer equipment.

There was an approximate balance \$13,821 in the Special Law Enforcement Trust Fund at the end of 2001. This amount does not include LLEBG grant funds placed in this account.

During 2001 an additional \$3,368 was pending and is in the process of forfeiture. A portion of these funds will appear on the 2002 report.

Merriam Police Department

D.A.R.E. Update



INTRODUCTION:

The Merriam Police Department has participated in the Drug Abuse Resistance Education Program since 1990. This important Community Policing program provides students from kindergarten through high school with the skills necessary to recognize and resist pressures to experiment with drugs and to avoid gangs and violence. Lessons emphasize self-esteem, decision making, communication skills, the consequences of drug abuse, conflict resolution and positive alternatives to drugs.

Merriam's DARE Program is taught with varying intensity in all elementary grades, but it specifically targets 6th grade students in our four elementary schools. Studies have shown that children at this age are more likely faced with their toughest decisions about drug and alcohol use. The DARE mission is to arm children with as much information as possible during this time, to increase their chances of making the right choices.

YOUR DARE OFFICER:

Master Police Officer Larry Birt has been assigned as DARE Officer for the past ten years. In full uniform, he conducts DARE classes at all four of Merriam's elementary schools. In addition to teaching, Officer Birt participates in many recreational activities and often interacts with children during lunch periods and at other times during and after school. He is involved with the Parent Teacher Associations. He attends their meetings and other meetings with teachers and school officials.

SUMMER CLINIC:

In June 2001, the Merriam Police Department sponsored a summer clinic which involved a series of special week-long field trips. Thirteen disadvantaged Merriam children from the fifth and sixth grades were involved this year in the free summer clinic. They were taken on several short field trips in the Kansas City Area which included a tour of the new Kansas Speedway in Kansas City, Kansas, a trip to the Kansas City Zoo, the Lakeside Nature Center and Science City. These kids also were involved in activities at the Merriam Community Center and were taken on a fishing trip and a day at Worlds of Fun. Officer Birt was assisted in this clinic by community volunteers. The funding for these field trips was made possible through grants from Merriam Feed and Seed and the Merriam Optimists. Transportation was provided by the Broadway United Methodist Church.



DARE FACTS:

- 1) DARE is taught in 53 different classrooms in Merriam schools
- 2) Approximately 1,125 students received DARE instruction in 2000.
- 3) In the 6th grade class, 155 students completed the DARE Program.
- 4) Each year all DARE students are required to write a DARE essay or poem. These essays are graded and the best essay/poem winner from each school is selected. The 2001 DARE Essay winners this year were:
 - Hayley Buehler - Crestview School
 - Hannah Croissant - South Park School
 - Rory Fockelmann - Merriam School
 - Hina Bajrackarya - West Antioch School



6th Grade Student Jeremy Payne in DARE Class

Merriam Police Department

Training Unit Update



INTRODUCTION:

In order for a police officer to perform correctly he or she must receive an adequate quantity of professional training. This is even more important today, due to the litigious society that exists. From the day an officer starts his or her career here at Merriam, until retirement or resignation, training will be a large part of the job.

- **POLICE ACADEMY:** The State of Kansas mandates a certain minimum level of training for all police officers that work in the state. New officers have up to one year to attend a state certified police academy, where they must have a minimum of 400 hours of training. All new uncertified Merriam officers attend the police academy at the Johnson County Police Academy, held at the Johnson County Community College. There they receive 512 hours of training. This will be increased to 560 hours in 2002.
- **FIELD TRAINING PROGRAM:** Once a new officer has graduated from the academy, they must successfully complete a structured 12-week Field Training Program at the department. It is during this training that the classroom instructions that the new officer received in the academy is put to practical use.
- **IN-SERVICE TRAINING REQUIREMENTS:** All other officers, regardless of rank or tenure, must receive a minimum of 40 hours of qualified in-service law enforcement related training each year. This training is generally provided by the department and officers receive overtime pay for most training.

IN-SERVICE TRAINING IN 2001:

Every certified police officer on the department received 40 hours or more of in-service training in 2001. Most of the classes were taught by certified department training officers which saves the department a lot of money. Below is an outline of the type and scope of training offered during the year:

- **Firearms Training** - The Merriam Police Department has not fired a weapon in the line of duty since 1977, but firearms proficiency is still a high priority. The department still conducts traditional range training during the year and each officer is required by the Kansas Law Enforcement Training Center to pass qualification at least once. In the past few years MPD has broadened firearms training to include FX Simulation Training. This training involves the use of specially converted handguns that shoot non-lethal paint projectiles. Armed with these weapons, officers

can engage in simulated training scenarios including armed disturbances, car stops, building searches with armed occupants, etc. The officer being trained can encounter persons acting as "criminal participants" in real life training scenarios that could include lifelike shooting exchanges. With this kind of training an officer can practice his or her shooting skills as well as their judgment skills. In 2001, a major training exercise was held at the Crestview Elementary School where officers armed with FX simulator weapons searched the building for an armed subject. This training will help prepare for school shooting situations, should they occur.

- **Defensive Tactics Training** - Officers must be properly trained to protect themselves during risky encounters with the public. This includes incidents involving arrests with persons who physically resist. Each year department certified training officers teach other officers in the use of defensive tactics tools, such as the police baton and O.C. pepper spray.



Active shooter training held in July 2001 at the Crestview Elementary School.

Officers are also trained in special hand-to-hand ground fighting techniques called GRASP and CLAMP. These holds and maneuvers help an officer to quickly gain control over a resisting prisoner using a minimum level of force to prevent injury. Officers are also shown how to employ a technique called the Lateral Vascular Neck Restraint (LVNR) in those cases when extreme resistance is experienced and the assailant must be quickly incapacitated. The better that an officer masters these various techniques, the less likely they are of being injured themselves in a scuffle. There will also be fewer injuries sustained by prisoners, which equates to less liability for the department and city.

- Fitness For Duty Program** - For the past three years, the police department has had physical ability standards in place to ensure that all officers working the streets are physically fit for duty. Each year, officers under the rank of lieutenant must pass a specially tailored physical ability course conducted at the public works facility. Officers that are able to complete this course within the maximum allowed time are deemed as fit for duty. To further reinforce the importance of maintaining physical fitness, all officers are required twice a year, to complete a physical fitness assessment that includes a one-and-one-half mile run, push-ups, weight and stretch measurement, etc. Officers that are found to be less than fit for duty are placed on light duty until their fitness level improves.

Anti-Terrorist Training - On September 11, 2001, the department's training emphasis switched priorities as we prepared to respond to any terrorist act that might occur in or near the city. Right after the World Trade Center incident occurred, officers from the day shift activated the city's Emergency Operation Plan. This was done to practice the plan. After this exercise, each shift was given refresher training based on this exercise. Other training resulting from the terrorist incident included Response to Anthrax Related Calls. During October and November Merriam officers responded to nearly a dozen suspected anthrax related calls. The department administration also attended a number of terrorist briefings put on by the FBI.

- Other Provided Training in 2001** - Below is a listing of all training that was provided to officers during the year.

- Foot Pursuit Procedures
- Sex Crimes Investigations
- Rapid Deployment / Active Shooter Training
- Baton Certification Training
- Lateral Vascular Neck Restraint Techniques
- MPD Policies and Procedures
- Building Search and Felony Car Stop Training
- Night Firing Firearms Training
- Patrol Rifle Training
- Patrol Situational Training (FX Training)
- Defensive Tactics - GRASP
- Defensive Tactics - CLAMP
- Contemporary Issues in Diversity
- Firearms Certification Range
- Physical Fitness for Patrol
- Shotgun Certification Range
- Customer Service in Difficult Times
- Taser Use and Procedures
- NCIC 2000 Procedures
- Domestic Violence Procedures
- Dispatch Communication Protocol
- Interview and Interrogation Techniques
- Hot Topics in Police Liability



The Police and Fire Department Mobile Command Vehicle in operation during the School Shooting Training at