



2002 Merriam PD Annual Report

"A YEAR OF CHANGES"

The patch illustrated above was adopted by a committee of Merriam Officers to go with the new uniform adopted in 2002. It represents the historical significance that the railroad played on the formation of the City of Merriam. The previous patch had been worn by the department for the past 15 years.



In 2002, the Merriam PD started converting all marked patrol units to black and white. The first front-wheel-drive patrol car, a 2002 Chevrolet Impala, was also put into service.



In 2002, a variety of different police uniforms were worn by Merriam patrol officers. It was during this year that the department made the transition to a new uniform, featuring a grey shirt and black trousers with a grey stripe.

This is the first major uniform change for the Merriam Police Department in over 30 years.

Pictured from left to right: PO Mark Messbarger in the new summer hot weather uniform, PO Jeff Magee in the old summer hot weather uniform, Sgt. Randy Davis in the new short-sleeved uniform, Cpl. Darren McLaughlin in the old short-sleeved uniform.

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Message From The Chief

The subtitle of the 2002 Merriam Police Department's Annual Report is "A year of change." Several changes in our department are showcased in this document. You will find the first evidence of this by inspecting the cover.

In 2002, the Merriam Police Department adopted a new patrol uniform that is grey and black in color. This is the first significant uniform change in over 30 years. With the change in color a new uniform patch had to be designed. A committee of officers met and decided upon a historical theme for the new patch. They discovered that the City of Merriam's history could be traced back to the creation of the railroads in eastern Kansas. Had the railroad not decided to build a depot in Merriam at Johnson Drive and Kessler many years ago, the city would have likely not been formed. To commemorate this, a rendering of the steam engine, which is painted on the mural in the City Council Chambers.

Another change can be found in the appearance of the marked police cars. The officers wanted to revert back to the traditional "black and white" color scheme for patrol vehicles. In 2002, two Ford Crown Victorias and one Chevrolet Impala were ordered in black and white. They hit the streets with new reflective logo decals during early spring. The new Impala is the first front-wheel drive marked patrol vehicle for the Merriam Police Department. It was chosen because of better gas mileage, winter weather traction and economic pricing. More Impalas are scheduled to be purchased in 2003.

While the Merriam Police Department may now look different on the outside, I can assure you that what's on the inside has not changed. The men and women that wear the uniforms and drive the new police cars are as capable and dedicated and have performed admirably at the high standards set by the administration and the community. Some of the faces are new — five new officers were hired in 2001 and another three were hired and trained in 2002. I can assure you that this new breed of officer is no less skilled or enthusiastic as their predecessors.

During the year our most tenured officer, Sgt. Bob Smith, retired in October after 26 years of faithful service. His contribution will be missed. However, the department was fortunate as there were other tenured officers prepared to step in and take his place.

2002 was a good year. There were no serious officer injuries. There was a reduction in Part One Crimes and an increase in productivity. There were no police-related law suits or founded citizen complaints.

I look forward to 2003, and, as always, it has been a pleasure to be your chief of 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:

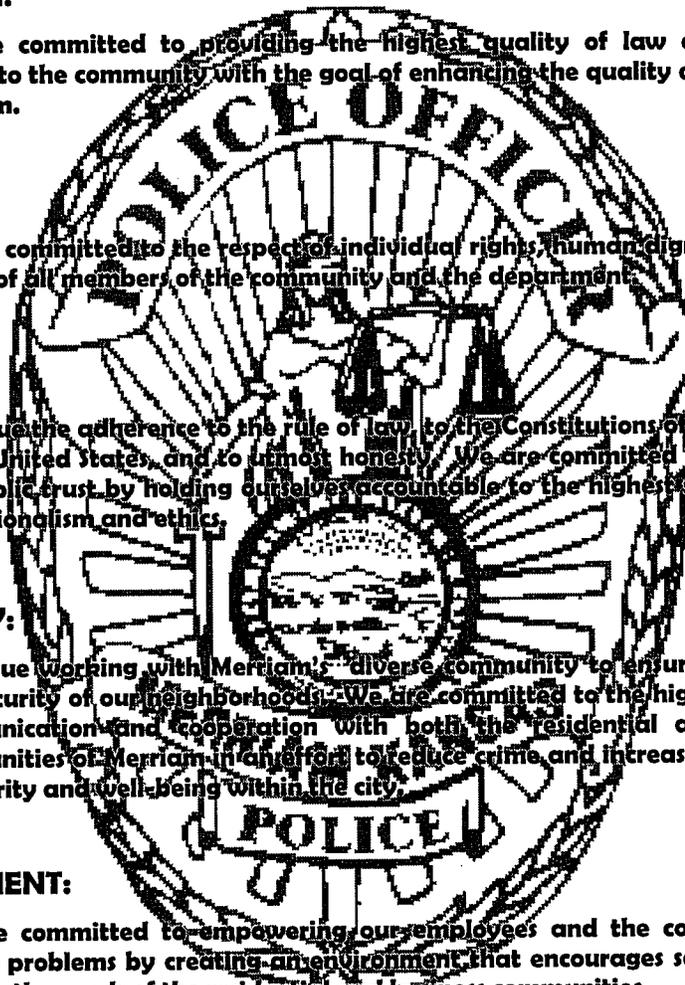
We value working with Merriam's diverse community to ensure the safety and security of our neighborhoods. We are committed to the highest level of communication and cooperation with both the residential and business communities of Merriam in an effort to reduce crime and increase the feeling of security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

EMPOWERMENT:

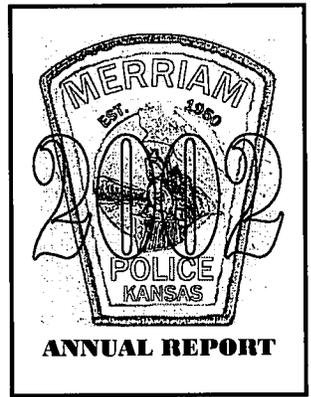
We are committed to empowering our employees and the community to resolve problems by creating an environment that encourages solutions that address the needs of the residential and business communities.

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.

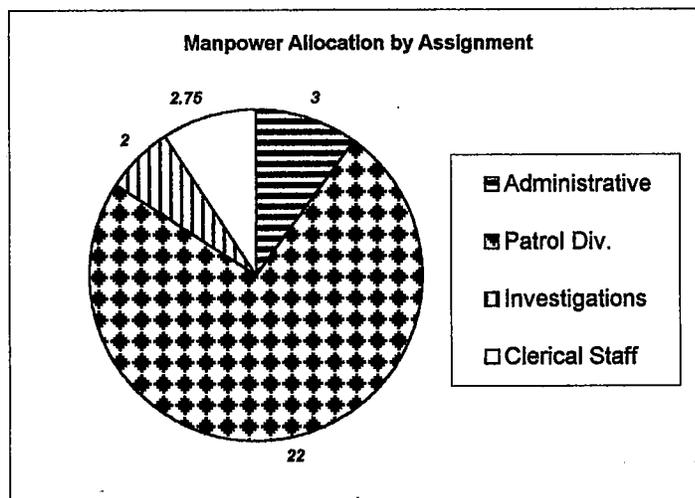
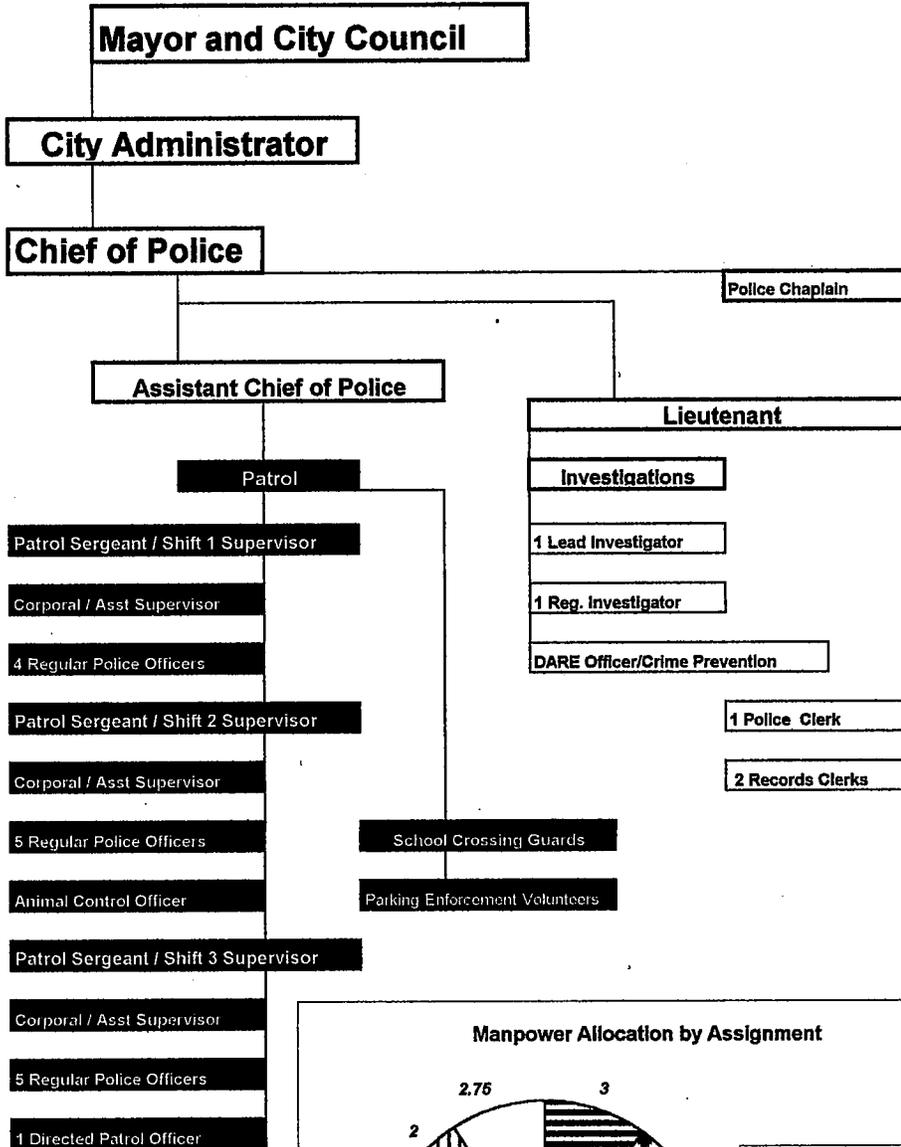
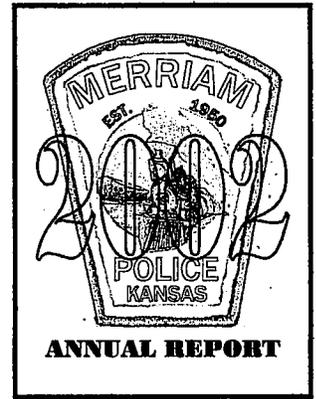


Merriam Police Department Employee Roster



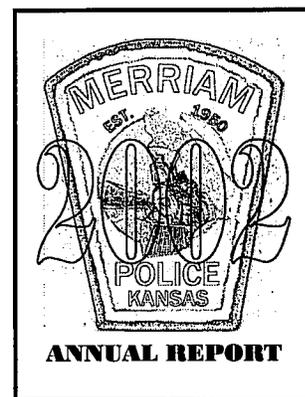
Staff Officers		Roster as of 12/31/2001		Years Tenure
Chief of Police	KENNETH SISSOM	Administration		23
Assistant Chief of Police	BILL LIETZKE	Administration		22
Lieutenant	TIMOTHY BURNETT	Administration		20
Sergeant	RANDY DAVIS	Patrol		21
Sergeant	ALBERT JONES	Patrol		21
Sergeant	MIKE DANIELS	Patrol		15
Line Officers				
Corporal	DAN KELLERMAN	Patrol		18
Corporal	DARREN MCLAUGHLIN	Patrol		13
Corporal	TODD ALLEN	Patrol		6
Corporal	JOHN WALTON	Patrol		6
Corporal	OPEN	Patrol		0
Master Police Officer	LARRY BIRT	DARE / Patrol		14
Master Police Officer	TODD SPARKS	Patrol		12
Master Police Officer	GERRY EICKHOFF	Patrol		11
Master Police Officer	TROY DUVANEL	Patrol		8
Police Officer	CHARLIE YOCUM	Patrol		25
Police Officer	JEFF MAGEE	Patrol		15
Police Officer	JASON REYNOLDS	Patrol		2
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	PHILLIP LEWIS	Patrol		<1>
Police Officer	CHAD HODGE	Patrol		<1>
Police Officer	PHILIP LOFFLIN	Patrol		<1>
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	DORIS BENLON	Patrol		<1>
School Crossing Guard	REBECCA MARTIN	Patrol		<1>

Organizational Chart



Merriam Police Department

Part One 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 2002:

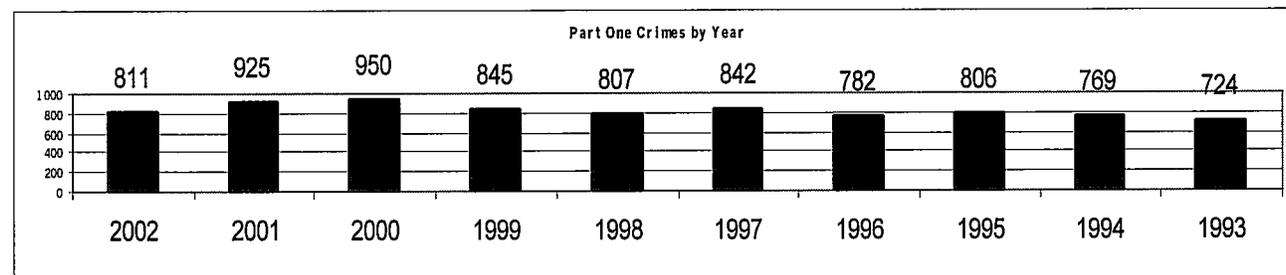
As predicted above, there were fluctuations in crime rates when 2002 is compared to the previous year, although the rates are very similar. While most types of crimes remained stable, there were categories with notable changes. There were increases noted in rapes and arsons, although the numbers are small. More importantly there were also significant decreases in robberies, burglaries and thefts.

These changes tend to imitate regional (Kansas City Metro-wide) trends. Theoretically, increased patrols and adequate staffing will improve statistics concerning property loss, like robberies and thefts. There was emphasis to increase patrols in 2002.

PART ONE CRIMES:

Each year, we are required to report Part One Crimes to the Kansas Bureau of Investigation. Part One Crimes are those crimes that are the most serious or most commonly occurring crimes in America. The 2002 statistics have been compiled and there was a 12.4% decrease in these crimes, compared with the 2001 statistics. The Part One Crimes are listed below and a more complete breakdown of all crimes can be found on the following pages.

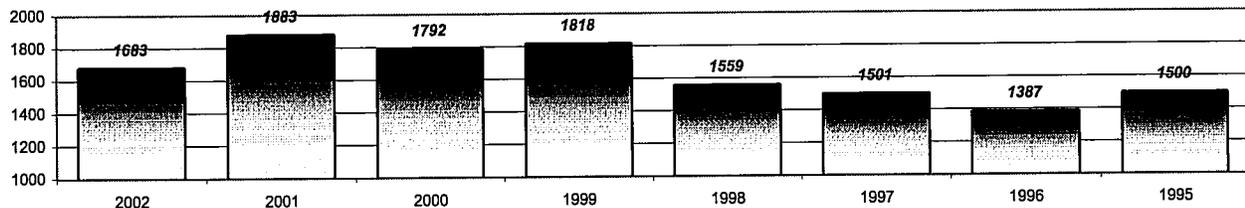
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
MURDER	0	0	1	1	0	0	0
RAPE	7	6	9	6	5	4	6
ROBBERY	12	9	11	9	23	30	13
AGG. ASSAULT	18	37	31	23	26	32	20
BURGLARY	256	256	303	236	306	360	331
THEFT	429	431	376	454	490	403	342
AUTO THEFT	68	98	72	113	98	92	91
ARSON	3	5	4	3	3	2	8



2002 REPORTED CRIMES IN MERRIAM, KANSAS

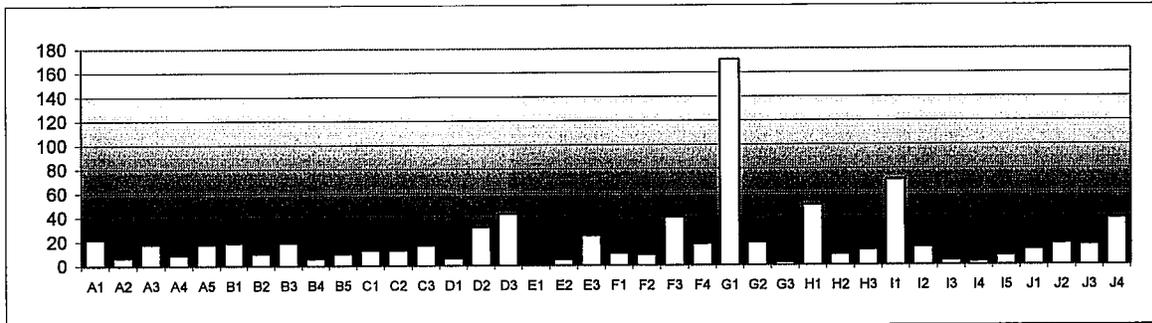
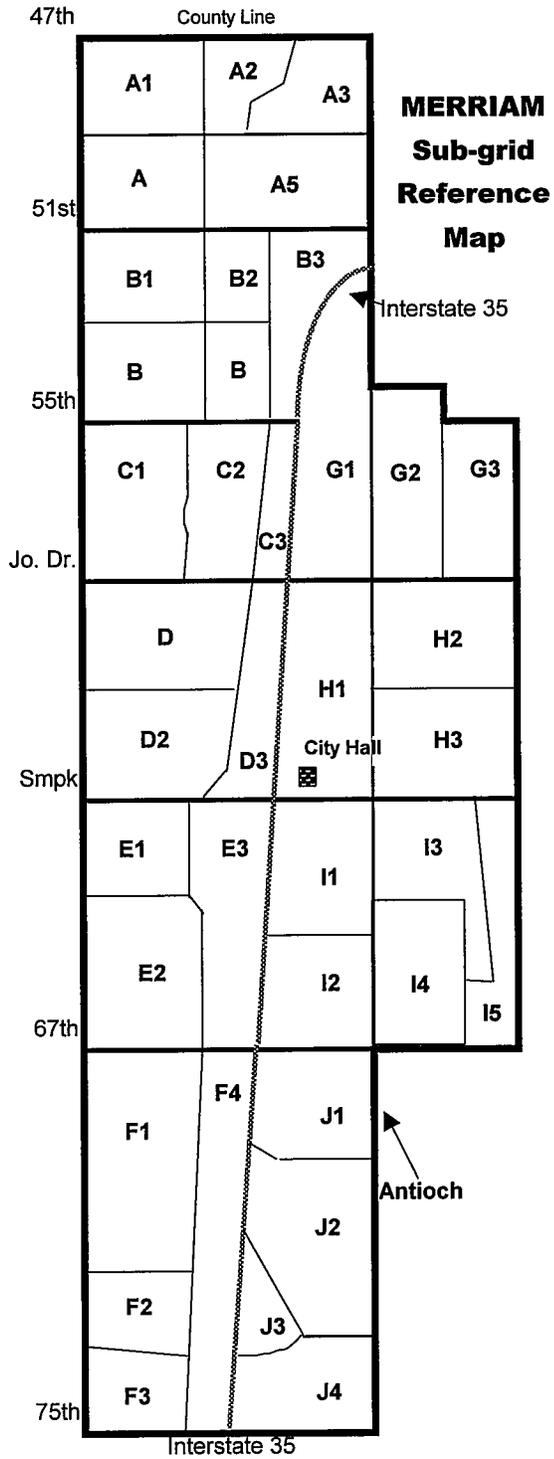
TYPE OF CRIME	1999	2000	2001	2002	TYPE OF CRIME	1999	2000	2001	2002
Aggravated Arson	1	1	1	1	Forgery	289	196	90	75
Arson	2	2	3	7	Furnishing Alcohol/Beer to Minor	2	3	0	1
Aggravated Assault	9	14	19	2	Gasoline Drive Off	0	0	30	70
Aggravated Battery	14	12	14	18	Habitual Traffic Violator	16	8	0	0
Aggravated Burglary	4	11	12	9	Harassment by Phone	47	23	30	22
Aggravated Sodomy	1	1	0	1	Murder / Manslaughter	1	2	0	0
Aggravated Indecent Liberties	3	5	4	5	Indecent Liberties with a Child	1	0	0	1
Aggravated Kidnapping	1	2	0	0	Indecent Solicitation of a Child	2	1	2	0
Aggravated Robbery	6	15	20	10	Identification Theft	0	0	5	5
Aggravated Sexual Battery	1	0	0	0	Intimidation of a Victim/Witness	0	0	1	2
Assault	3	6	6	8	Kidnapping	0	2	5	1
Attempted Murder	1	0	0	0	Lewd and Lascivious Behavior	3	4	1	5
Attempted Theft	5	3	3	2	Littering	3	2	2	7
Battery	99	107	128	124	Minor in Possession of Alcohol	10	14	19	23
Burglary to Auto	162	209	269	257	Obstructing Legal Process	17	11	24	25
Burglary to Business	22	20	23	15	Prescription Fraud	9	6	3	1
Burglary to Residence	38	37	42	54	Controlled Substance Possession	77	31	44	43
Burglary to Storage Area	10	31	13	6	Drug Paraphernalia Possession	9	7	16	16
Child In Need Of Care	19	36	49	12	Drug Possession / Intent of Sale	4	4	1	3
Child Abuse	0	2	0	0	Possession of Stolen Property	13	23	35	20
Computer Trespass	1	2	1	0	Possession of Tobacco/Minor	4	0	3	16
Counterfeiting	0	3	6	3	Prostitution	1	1	2	0
Criminal Damage - Felony	30	28	42	33	Rape	6	5	4	6
Criminal Damage - Misdemeanor	111	81	122	87	Robbery	3	8	10	3
Criminal Deprivation of Property	2	0	12	13	Sexual Battery	7	7	4	1
Criminal Discharge of a Weapon	0	0	2	0	Theft of Lost or Mislaid Property	46	73	64	68
Criminal Threats	20	36	33	15	Theft of Services	11	13	4	6
Criminal Trespass	12	15	19	23	Theft of Auto	115	98	92	92
Criminal Use of a Financial Card	5	7	17	22	Theft of Auto (Attempted)	9	16	13	4
Criminal Use of a Weapon	4	2	3	0	Theft - Felony	86	66	67	82
Cruelty to Animals	2	0	1	0	Theft - Misdemeanor	369	411	335	261
Disorderly Conduct	43	46	71	52	Violation: Court Protection Order	13	11	9	10
Escape From Custody	0	1	0	0	Worthless Check	0	0	2	2
Falsely Reporting a Crime	1	0	1	0	Other Crimes Not Listed Above	7	11	28	32
False Writing	6	0	2	1	Open	0	0	0	0
TOTAL OF CRIMES REPORTED PER YEAR						1818	1792	1883	1683

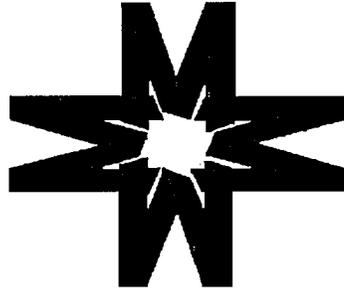
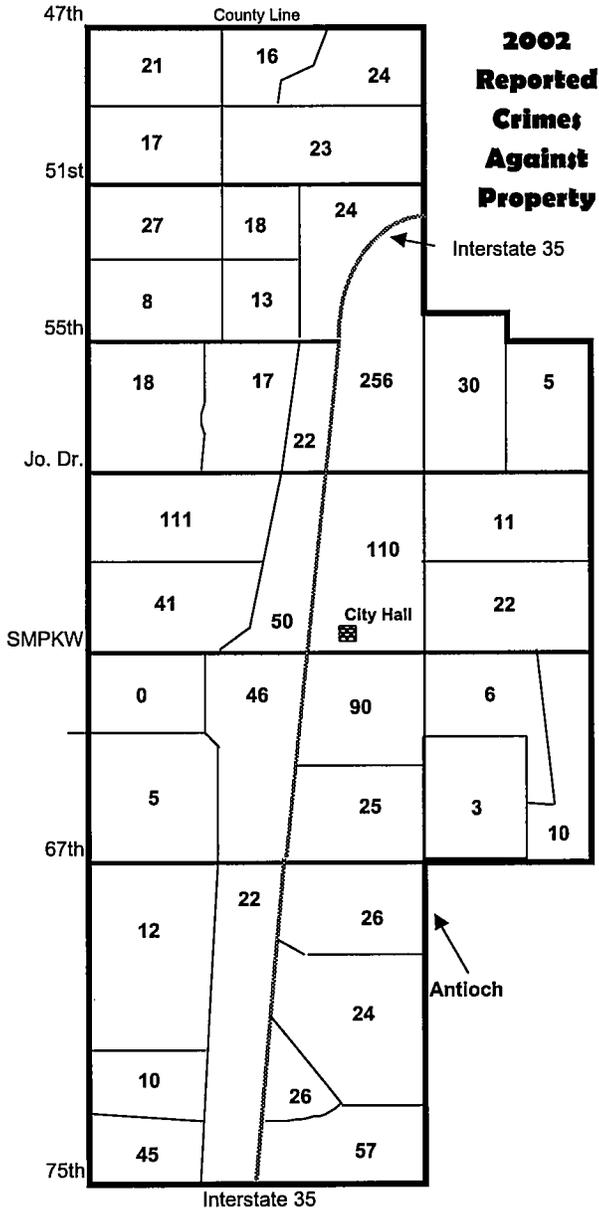
Reported Crimes by Year



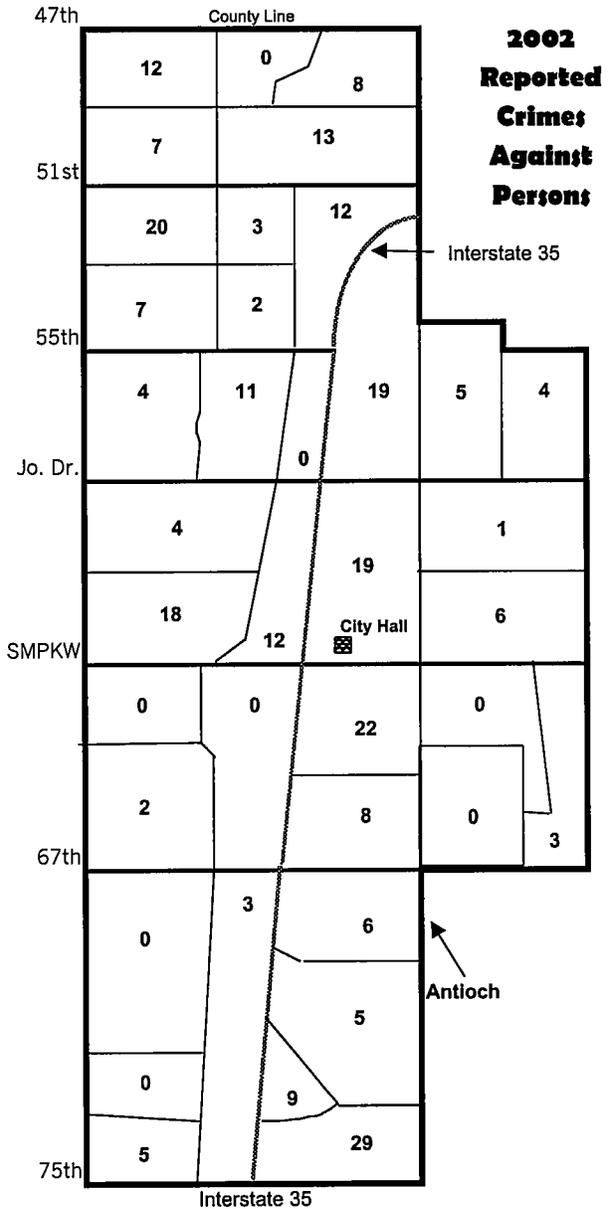
**Part One Crimes / 2002
By Location**

Grid	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
A1	49	27	18	15	21	22
A2	13	10	6	6	7	7
A3	18	18	10	10	18	18
A4	18	9	6	19	13	9
A5	52	26	13	35	24	18
B1	45	20	12	27	28	19
B2	20	4	4	9	2	10
B3	56	28	34	27	20	19
B4	12	16	4	3	11	6
B5	12	7	4	7	10	10
C1	11	5	14	8	5	13
C2	21	5	12	9	8	13
C3	36	25	23	25	22	17
D1	28	9	11	10	10	6
D2	58	35	45	38	43	32
D3	50	68	42	41	23	43
E1	1	1	2	1	1	0
E2	2	2	3	1	10	5
E3	36	38	52	41	47	25
F1	23	10	10	14	14	10
F2	5	3	6	2	3	9
F3	66	47	42	39	50	40
F4	15	21	18	24	5	18
G1	20	58	150	159	180	171
G2	18	11	6	10	13	19
G3	9	1	13	9	2	2
H1	105	65	86	71	68	50
H2	12	9	11	6	9	9
H3	36	25	37	28	25	13
I1	168	73	84	103	64	71
I2	38	45	29	30	16	15
I3	7	1	4	4	3	4
I4	0	0	0	0	0	3
I5	10	9	12	4	8	8
J1	17	12	14	24	26	13
J2	28	15	13	11	14	18
J3	21	15	19	31	46	17
J4	83	48	51	49	56	39





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



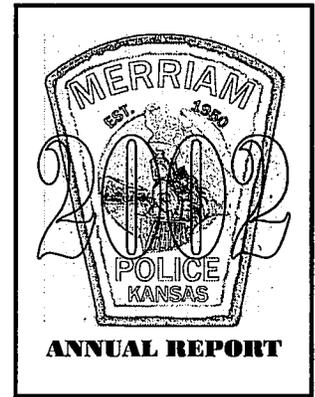
These two Merriam maps illustrate crimes that were reported by victims in Merriam.

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's Top 10 Critical Incidents of 2003



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 fifth year that the Annual Report has featured the "Top 10 Critical Incidents." These incidents are listed in chronological order as they occurred in 2002.

#1 Date: 1/30/02 **Time:** N/A **Offense:** SEVERE WINTER ICE STORM

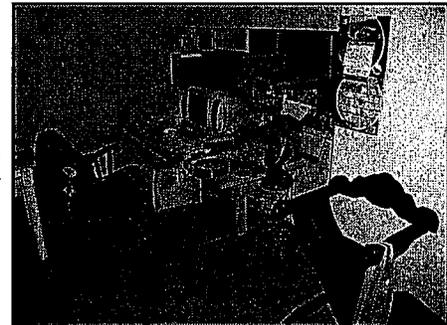
Location: Entire City of Merriam

Narrative: On this evening, Merriam police were very busy responding to "the worst ice storm in recent memory." Off-duty officers were called in to assist motorists, direct traffic in intersections that had no power and to block roads due to downed tree limbs or power lines. There were massive power outages throughout the city. Six Merriam 24-hour businesses were closed due to loss of power. Shawnee Mission Medical Center lost power then lost 1 of their 2 major generators. They stopped taking additional patients after midnight. Our dispatch worked with portable generators and no lights throughout the night. By 1:30 a.m., three-fourths of Merriam was without power. At 5 a.m. there was no power to the intersections of 75 and I-35, Johnson Dr. at Slater, Antioch & Merriam, Antioch at 57th, 56th Terrace, 55th Terrace and 63rd and Mastin. A small power station went out in Shawnee, which threw the entire Merriam/north Shawnee area off the power grid. It reset itself several times causing surge problems. The department responded to numerous burglar and robbery alarms due to power fluctuations. There was also a fractured gas main in the 8200 block of West 58th Street. Storm damage from this storm was estimated to be nearly \$800,000. *A photo series of the ice storm follows this section.*

#2 Date: 2/7/02 **Time:** 11:30 **Offense:** CHILD PORNOGRAPHY

Location: 8700 Block of West 65th at the Antioch Gardens Apartments

Narrative: On February 5, the MPD received information from a US Postal Inspector in New Jersey about an investigation they had instituted involving a Merriam resident, who had been corresponding with them via internet, concerning child pornography. After extended contact it became apparent that the Merriam man was using his 5-year-old daughter as the subject of the photos. Merriam took over the investigation and obtained a search warrant. This warrant was served on February 7th and the apartment was searched for illegal child pornography. Evidence involving the case was seized and the man was arrested. The case was investigated and later in the year the suspect was sentenced to 24 years in prison. The District Attorney's Office tagged this case as the worst child pornography case that they had ever prosecuted.



#3 Date: 3/28/02 **Time:** 11:55 **Offense:** DRUG POSSESSION FELONY ARREST

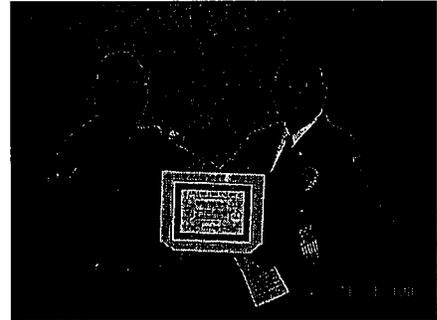
Location: Homestead Village at 6451 East Frontage Road

Narrative: A group of suspects were found to be in possession of a large amount of marijuana in their room and their vehicle. Of the four suspects, the female juvenile went to JIAC and the 3 other males went to county jail. Later, Merriam Officer Jeff Magee recognized one of the three arrested males as looking like the photo of a murder suspect posted on a bulletin board in the police department. A sergeant from the jail was notified and a copy of the wanted poster was sent to the jail. Later, the jail verified that the man did give a false name and that he was wanted for homicide in Ford County, KS.

#4 Date: 7/3/02 **Time:** 22:38 **Offense:** SUICIDAL JUVENILE

Location: Johnson Drive at Interstate-35

Narrative: Merriam officers received information that a young woman was making statements that she wanted to kill herself by jumping off of a bridge. She was reportedly at Texaco, 8801 Johnson Drive, when she made the statement. Officer Jeff Magee was on I-35 when he received the call. He quickly drove to the area and the 17-year-old woman was setting on the I-35 bridge railing over Johnson Dr. with one leg over the rail. He drove up slowly with no lights. He exited the car, crept up to the woman and then tackled her as she leaned forward to jump. She was safely taken into protective custody and later transported to KU. Her family had been looking for her due to her depression. (NOTE: Officer Jeff Magee later received the Lifesaving Award for his performance in this incident. He was also recognized by the Merriam City Council during their November City Council Meeting.)



#5 Date: 7/31/02 **Time:** 16:30 **Offense:** FORGERY

Location: Hampton Inn on West Frontage Road

Narrative: The Hotel DEA Task Force was called by our Hampton Inn reference suspicious activity believed to be selling of drugs. The task force went in with 6 officers and an Army K-9 to do a knock and talk. They found no drugs in the room, but they did locate \$15-20,000 in cash and hundreds of fraudulent checks ready to be cashed by several area banks. The men who rented the room had numerous fake ID's. It was later decided that the Secret Service would handle the investigation, and a MPD detective was called out to assist. We took all four suspects from the room to county jail.

#6 Date: 8/5/02 **Time:** 16:30 **Offense:** UNATTENDED DEATH

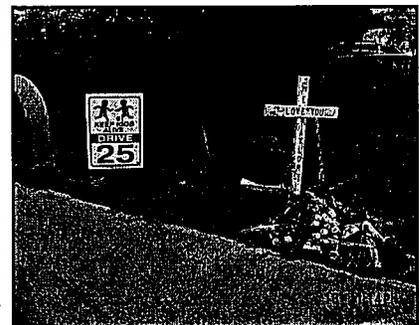
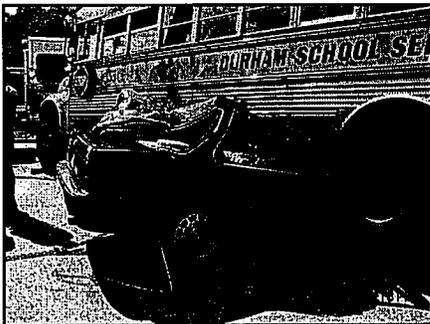
Location: 10210 Kings Cove #202

Narrative: The resident was found by maintenance after they detected a foul smell from the apartment area after receiving complaints from neighbors. The 47-year-old man had not been seen for over 2 weeks and it is believed that he had been dead for that long. Decomposition was severe. The Investigations Unit and other department evidence technicians were called out to handle the scene processing. Merriam officers also personally notified the next of kin in Platte County, Missouri. An autopsy later was inconclusive. The man did suffer from epilepsy, but had no other illnesses. The death was ruled as from natural causes. There were no signs of foul play.

#7 Date: 8/15/02 **Time:** 15:08 **Offense:** FATALITY ACCIDENT

Location: 5600 Merriam Drive

Narrative: A 16-year-old high school student was driving his Honda Accord northbound on Merriam Drive when he decided to pass his friend driving a truck going the same direction. The student had to accelerate to a relatively high rate of speed to catch up to his friend and pass him in the right lane. He passed his friend in the 5700 block of Merriam Drive. As he approached the drive to the Durham bus lot, a school bus pulled out to turn left onto southbound Merriam. The student's Honda slammed into the bus roadside, just in front of the rear tires. The impact took the roof off of the car and smashed the driver, killing him on impact. The MPD was assisted by KHP and Lenexa traffic units.



#8 Date: 8/18/02 **Time:** 15:50 **Offense:** AGGRAVATED ROBBERY

Location: 6850 Antioch at the 7-11 Convenience Store

Narrative: A man walked in to the 7-11 store armed with a handgun. He was wearing a stocking on his face and a red KC Chiefs hat. The suspect robs the clerk and then runs north toward Peppertree Apartments. A jogger happened to see his getaway car waiting for him and remembers the suspect vehicle's license plate. Merriam Police locates this witness/jogger who gives the police the vehicle information. The police go to the suspect's house in Overland Park, but no one was home. The officers talk to his neighbors and they inform the officers that it looked like the couple that lives at the suspect's house and they had loaded up for a picnic and probably went to a park. MPD officers start checking parks, and locate the suspects picnicking in Antioch Park. The officers also find the BB gun, hat, and stocking in a trash can nearby. The man admits to trying to rob the Merriam Drury Inn yesterday and robbing the Doll Cradle in Shawnee. The suspect was taken to jail.

#9 Date: 10/18/02 **Time:** 10:40 **Offense:** DISTRIBUTION OF DRUGS

Location: 7400 W Frontage at the Hampton Suites Hotel

Narrative: The motel had previous contacts with a foreign man, described as suspicious acting. They notified the FBI about the incident who told them to call back if the man returned. About one week later, the man returned and told them he would be back to check in and that he was expecting a package. The FBI task force contacted the MPD. We responded and stopped the suspect on 75th Street after he had checked into the motel. He was found to be in possession of a 'Schedule 1' drug called "KHAT". He had over 200 lbs. of this plant based drug in boxes in the van he was driving, as well as an additional 30 pound box, which was later recovered from the Hampton Inn, where it had been delivered by Federal Express. Another man was found to be involved and both men were taken to jail. They were both citizens of Somalia. The drug Khat is chewed and has an intoxicating affect. It is controlled by state and federal law.

#10 Date: 12/10/02 **Time:** 01:55 **Offense:** AGGRAVATED BATTERY, KIDNAPPING

Location: 9900 Block of West 51st Place, Overbrook Apartments

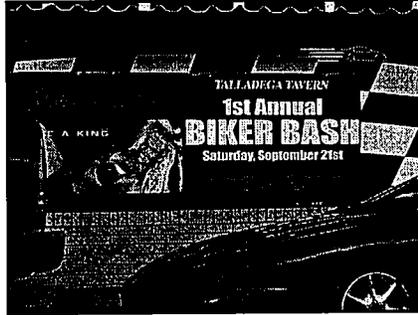
Narrative: An Overland Park woman's purse was stolen earlier in the day at another location. She believed that the man that stole it lives at Overbrook Apartments. She sent her brother and two of his friends, to the apartment to retrieve the purse and exert some vengeance. They enter the residence unannounced. They then push, hit and shove the victims inside the apartment around, taking T.V.s, V.C.R.s and other belongings from the apartment. They beat up a male occupant and took his wallet and keys from his person. They then walked two other men outside where they hit one of them in the head with what he thinks in a gun. The other man ran off into the woods. The suspects then left the area. Officers investigating the incident were able to obtain a possible address in Overland Park. With the assistance of the Overland Park Police, the suspects were all arrested and later charged with a multitude of offenses. *(Note: One of the victims in this case was arrested on 12/31/2002 for committing a string of auto burglaries. He too was taken to jail.)*

Other 2002 Misc. Police Photographs

Officers restraining a combative prisoner.



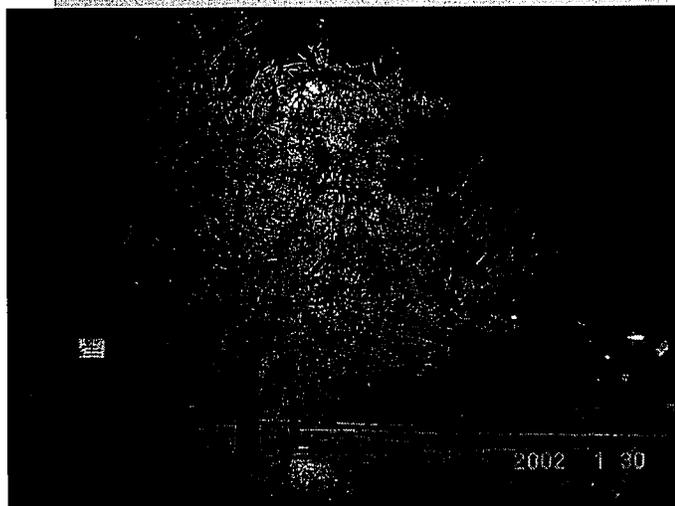
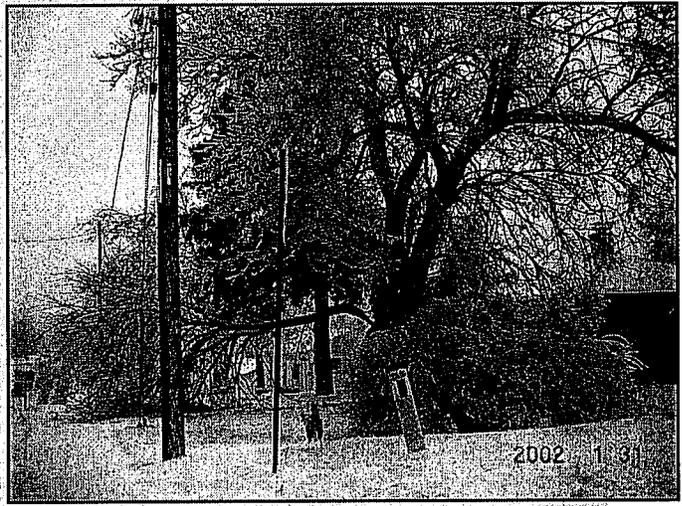
Outdoor alcohol event planned by an area bar.



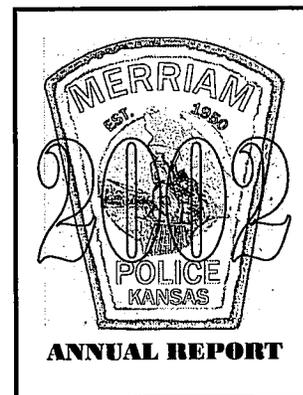
Police vehicles parked outside a suicide scene.



2002 1 31



Merriam Police Department Administration Unit



Introduction:

The Administration Unit of the Merriam Police Department is responsible for a variety of different and important functions of the department. There are three persons assigned to this unit. Chief Kenneth Sissom, Assistant Chief Bill Lietzke and Lieutenant Tim Burnett, all veteran officers with over twenty years of service.

- ★ The Police Chief's primary duty is the overall responsibility of the department. He works as the liaison with all elected officials, community leaders and residents. He is in charge of the budget and all department spending. It is his job to manage issues involving department liability and risk management. He also makes final decisions concerning employee hiring and terminations.
- ★ The Assistant Chief of Police is second in command and takes the helm whenever the chief is out of the office. He is also the commander of the patrol unit which takes up a majority of his time. To be successful, he must be familiar with contemporary police tactics and operations. He is responsible for handling citizens' complaints, internal affairs, department training, and manpower allocation.
- ★ The Lieutenant is responsible for overseeing the front office function and its three full-time clerical employees. The position requires close supervision and an above average level of legal knowledge concerning public records, property and evidence management, and community relations. He is also the direct supervisor over the department's two investigators and is a member of the Kansas City Metro Squad.



Asst. Chief Bill Lietzke-Chief Ken Sissom-Lt. Tim Burnett

2003 Personnel Update: 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 reported as a rebuilding year for the police department. Five new officers were hired during that year. In 2002, three new officers were hired. All required police academy training. They graduated and were placed in the department's Field Training Program. All succeeded and are currently assigned to patrol. As the year ended, the department was only short one officer. A hiring process is under way and a new officer should be on board by February.

Personnel Changes in 2002:

- 👮 In April, Officer Phillip Lewis was hired as a police officer. He filled an opening that developed in 2001 when Officer Robert Holland resigned. Officer Lewis has a Bachelor degree in Architecture from KU. He is single, 27-years-of-age and he grew up in the Olathe area. He had no law enforcement experience.
- 👮 In May, Officer Chad Hodge was hired to replace Officer Melinda Copeland, who left the department to become a full-time mom. He had some police experience from the Johnson County Sheriff's Department and had previously worked at Gold Bank as a Personal Banker. Officer Hodge grew up in Shawnee, graduating from Maranatha Academy. He is single and 26-years-of-age.
- 👮 Also in May, Officer Philip Lofflin was hired to replace Master Police Officer Charles Sweany, who left law enforcement and moved to the Chicago area to begin a new career in construction. Officer Lofflin recently graduated from Baker University and had a broad background in security, working for the Shawnee Mission School District. He is also single, 22-years-of-age and he grew up in Merriam.

Personnel Update (Continued)

From May until November of 2002, the department was fully staffed, although three officers were in the academy or field training. In late October, the department was given official notice of the retirement of Sgt. Robert L. Smith. Sgt. Smith, otherwise known as "Too Tall", was hired as police officer on January 21, 1977. He was promoted to Corporal in 1979 and then to Sergeant in 1981. He worked as shift supervisor or administrative sergeant from 1981 though 2002, when he retired. Sgt. Smith had the longest tenure of any employee in the city at the time of his retirement. He was given a retirement reception on October 26, 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 aspects of routine police work that the Merriam PD tracks and 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 2002 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.

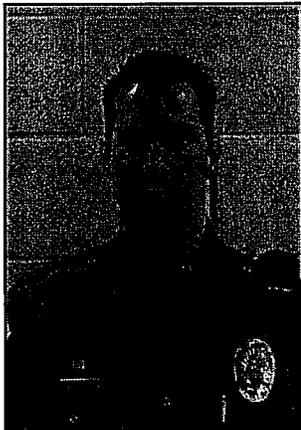
During 2002, there were six police pursuits in which Merriam officers were involved. Each pursuit was carefully scrutinized to see if it was in compliance with department policy. In those cases where it was found that the officers were not in compliance, the officers received counseling and/or retraining. None of these pursuits involved injury accidents.

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.

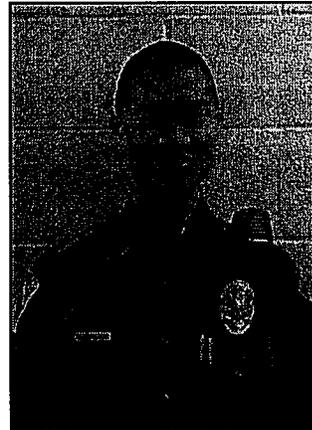
During 2002 there were 24 incidents where an officer had to use force to effect an arrest, which is six more cases than in 2001. In 16 of these cases, officers had to use various empty hand control techniques to effect the arrest. In two cases officers pointed the Taser electronic device at an assailant and they immediately surrendered. In the remaining six cases officers felt compelled to draw and point their service weapons at persons during the process of arrest. These suspects either were or were thought to be armed at the time. There were no weapons fired during any of these incidents and all were safely arrested. The number of use of force incidents in Merriam is extremely low when it is compared to the fact that the department made 1130 arrests.



Phillip Lewis



Chad Hodge

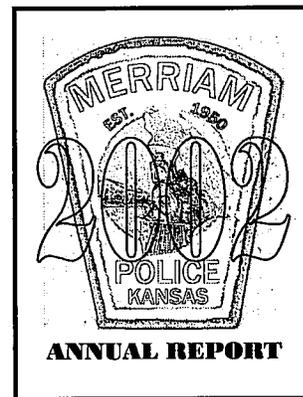


Philip Lofflin

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆
☆ **MPD FACT** ☆
☆ The Merriam Police Department has an excellent record ☆
☆ regarding litigation and liability. The dollar amount ☆
☆ paid out compared to the number of arrests is probably ☆
☆ among the lowest in the metro area, for cities of similar ☆
☆ size or larger. It has been over 26 years since a Merriam ☆
☆ police officer has been involved in an officer-involved ☆
☆ shooting situation that required them to fire their service ☆
☆ weapon. ☆
☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

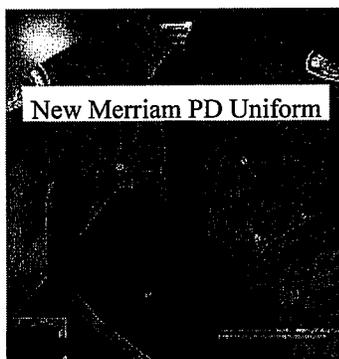
Merriam Police Department

\$\$ Budget Expenditures \$\$



INTRODUCTION:

The budget of the police department represents the largest of all the different departments of the city. In 2002, the total police department budget was \$2,418,745. 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 87% (\$2,109,440) is dedicated to employee salary and benefits. Below is a breakdown of expenditures by major category.



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

During 2002, the Merriam Police Department spent \$2,109,440 which represents 87.2% of the approved budget. Below is a breakdown by section:

PERSONAL SERVICES

Budgeted = \$2,109,440 Spent = \$1,911,327

CONTRACTUAL SERVICES

Budgeted = \$102,774 Spent = \$91,950

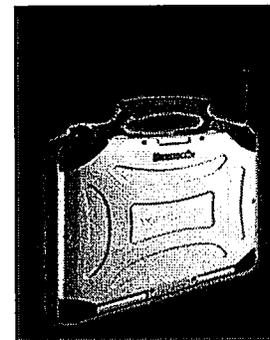
COMMODITIES

Budgeted = \$140,531 Spent = \$108,198

CAPITAL OUTLAY

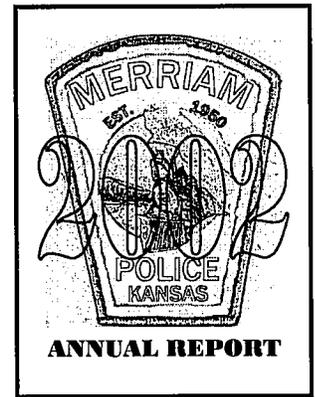
Budgeted = \$66,000 Spent = \$61,538

Of the total 2002 Budget, \$245,732 was returned to the fund balance to carry over to 2003.



2002 Chevrolet Impala

Merriam Police Department Patrol Division Report



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 2002, the Merriam Police Department received 15,600 primary and backup calls for service. This is a 7% reduction in the number of calls handled as in 2001. There is a chart below that represents a breakdown on the number of calls for service by year since 1993. 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	YEAR	CALLS
1993	18,152	1996	15,253	1999	18,824
1994	17,792	1997	14,964	2000	16,757
1995	17,049	1998	16,629	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 2002, patrol officers drove approximately **146,000** miles while patrolling the city streets of Merriam.

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.

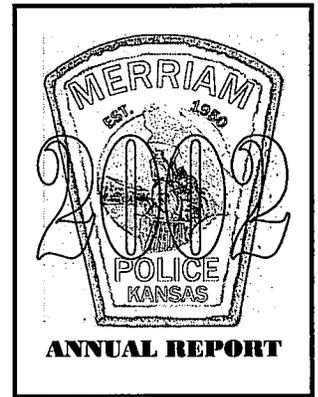
During the course of a year many police reports are written to properly document suspicious activity, criminal acts or accidents. On the average over one-fourth of a district officer's regular shift is dedicated to writing police reports.

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.

OTHER PATROL FACTS FOR 2002:

- ☆ *The average officer drives 36.6 miles during their 8-hour shift.*
- ☆ *During an average shift the patrol officers will handle 4 calls for service each.*
- ☆ *Each patrol officer will be expected to write between 1 and 2 reports per shift.*
- ☆ *During an average day patrol writes 22 traffic citations and makes 5 arrests.*

Merriam Police Department Motor Vehicle Accidents



INTRODUCTION:

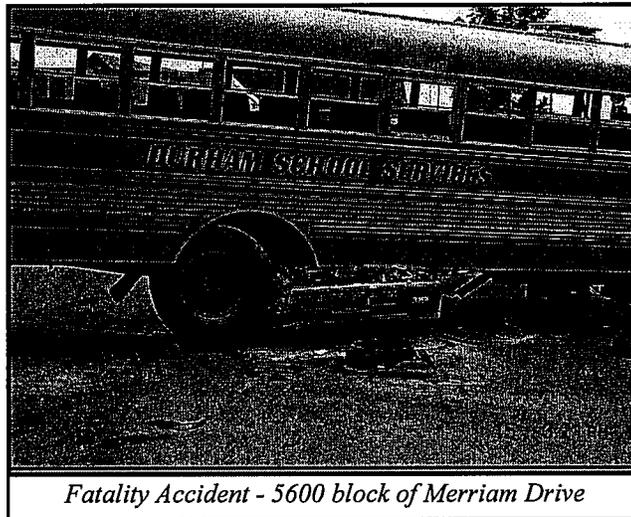
One of the fundamental duties of any police department is to investigate motor vehicle accidents. The City of Merriam has 65 miles of roadway within its borders; of that, roughly 3 miles consist of interstate highway. According to a recent study by the County Economic Research Institute, Inc. (CERI), "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. In 2002, the Merriam Police Department increased traffic enforcement efforts to address high accident locations. Specific city locations were targeted where teams of officers spent 1 to 2 hours writing traffic citations to all observed violators. Numerous citations were issued in short periods of time. This accounted for some of the 5% increase in ticket productivity. This practice will be continued in 2002 with hopes that it will begin reducing accidents.

ACCIDENT RATES:

In 2002, **546** state accidents were investigated by the Merriam Police Department which is very similar to the number of accidents worked in 2001.

In 2002, there was only one reported fatality accident in Merriam. This accident occurred in August in the 5600 block of Merriam Drive. The accident was worked by the Kansas Highway Patrol's specially trained Accident Investigation Unit. They were assisted by Merriam officers and members of the Accident



Fatality Accident - 5600 block of Merriam Drive

Interstate 35.

Diagram and Reconstruction Team from the Lenexa PD (see Top Ten Critical Incidents section, page 10 for more details).

- Of the 546 accidents, 18 involved arrests for driving while under the influence of drugs or alcohol.
- Of the total, 115 accidents involved drivers or passengers who reported some level of bodily injury.
- One third of the injury accidents occurred on

Top 15 Worst Intersections in Merriam in 2002

75th Street and I-35

56 Accidents

63rd & I-35

38 Accidents

I-35 at 67th Street

27 Accidents

63rd & Eby Street

23 Accidents

75th Street and Frontage Road

18 Accidents

Johnson Drive & Merriam Drive

17 Accidents

63rd & Antioch Road

16 Accidents

63rd & Slater Street

12 Accidents

75th Street and Switzer Street

11 Accidents

55th and Knox Street

10 Accidents

Johnson Drive and I-35

9 Accidents

I-35 at Antioch Road

9 Accidents

63rd & Mastin Street

8 Accidents

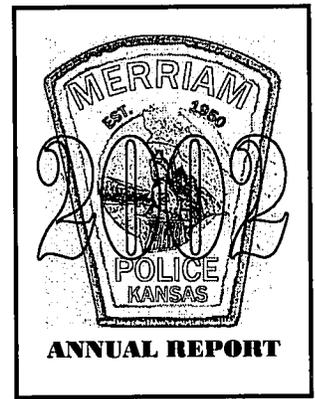
75th Street and Antioch Road

7 Accidents

Johnson Drive and Antioch Road

5 Accidents

Merriam Police Department Traffic Enforcement Efforts



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. In 2002, traffic stops went up nearly 12%. In the same year crime went down over 12%. Traffic stops and citations are important because they reinforce vehicle law compliance and increase traffic safety.

In 2002, a special effort was undertaken as a result of citizen complaints and the frequency of accidents. Certain areas were targeted for intense enforcement. These areas included Johnson Drive, both east and west of I-35, the interstate highway and along Merriam Drive.

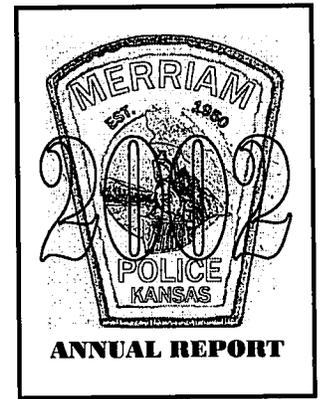
The chart listed below illustrates the level of enforcement activities in Merriam.

TRAFFIC STANDARDS:

For the past six 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.

	Assorted Speeding	Stop Sign	Drunk Driving	No Insurance	Expired or No Tags	No Drivers License	Traffic Signal	No Seat Belts	Assorted Parking	All Others	Monthly Totals
JAN	238	20	7	139	54	72	29	24	26	38	647
FEB	278	20	16	130	35	43	31	58	22	77	710
MAR	333	15	14	138	38	63	33	35	23	36	728
APR	261	25	18	102	25	38	30	18	31	74	622
MAY	261	12	5	105	31	40	22	23	19	46	564
JUN	253	16	13	121	27	44	29	43	18	40	604
JUL	225	15	10	138	52	52	30	85	17	56	680
AUG	247	16	16	131	34	35	30	64	18	89	680
SEP	255	11	15	120	36	43	39	38	15	72	644
OCT	204	18	6	131	46	46	41	57	17	56	622
NOV	321	25	13	175	63	66	46	42	15	76	842
DEC	194	15	13	120	58	40	24	20	16	115	673
2002	3070	208	141	1550	499	582	384	507	237	833	8016
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.

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.

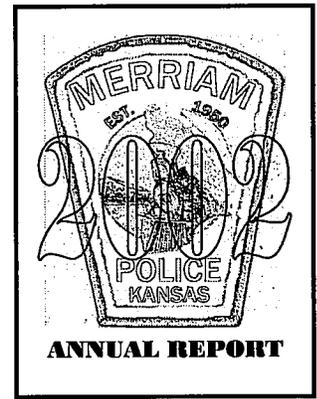
2002 Call-Out Teams

- 1 - Cpl. Dan Daniels & PO Jason Reynolds 2- MPO Troy Duvanel & Cpl. Todd Allen
3 - Cpl. Darren McLaughlin & MPO Todd Sparks 4 - Cpl. Dan Kellerman & Cpl. John Walton

Many cases throughout the year (2002) were fully investigated by patrol and did not require assignment. Investigations staffing was not at full strength the entire year due to patrol shortages, transfers and promotions. Because of this there was not a Special Assignment officer for the entire year. With shortages, a number of property crimes that could have been investigated, were not, because of staffing shortages.

	2002	2001	2000	1999
Total Assignments:	262	360	355	413
Burglary	59	68	62	58
Theft	36	58	67	89
Forgery	17	14	59	75
Theft (auto)	18	22	32	22
Robbery	12	21	22	7
Battery	15	30	13	28
Felony Sex Offenses	14	10	12	13
CDP	5	17	9	14
Criminal Threat	1	10	9	12
Harassment by Telephone	5	10	4	16
Unattended death	12	12	6	5
CINC	6	14	5	6
Hit & Run	1	3	4	2
Kidnapping	1	2	3	0
Arson	1	0	1	1
Assault	1	10	3	3
Involuntary Manslaughter	0	0	2	0
All other	31	59	42	62
Investigation by Patrol	27			

Merriam Police Department Animal Control Unit



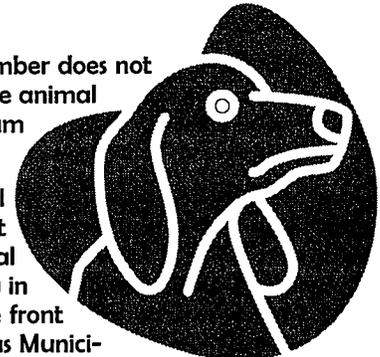
INTRODUCTION:

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 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 2002, the Animal Control Officer received 1,352 requests for service. This number does not include 197 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 2002 were 1,549. This activity is very close to being the same as in 2001.

In 2002, Officer Thomas spent more of his time patrolling the city looking for animal problems and violations than in previous years, due to better staffing in the front office. There were times where he assisted the department with other non-animal control duties such as filling-in as school crossing guard, directing traffic and working in the police department's front office, answering the telephone or helping out at the front window. The Animal Control Officer also helps out in the Municipal Court, serving as Municipal Court Bailiff.



In October, the Merriam Animal Control Officer attended training at the Kansas Animal Control Association Conference in Wichita, Kansas. This training provided updated professional information to keep him current in practice and technique. A complete listing of Animal Control Statistics is listed below.

Year	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002
Service Requests	1382	1403	1409	1361	1352
Enforcement Actions	201	215	212	183	181
Animal Impounds	204	197	171	205	207
Investigations	837	846	822	794	783
Reports Written	702	698	703	593	547
Patrol Miles Driven	8979	9213	8274	6937	7133

- During 2002, Merriam residents registered 611 dogs and 164 cats with the office of the City Clerk. This represents a 14% increase in registered dogs from 2001 to 2002.

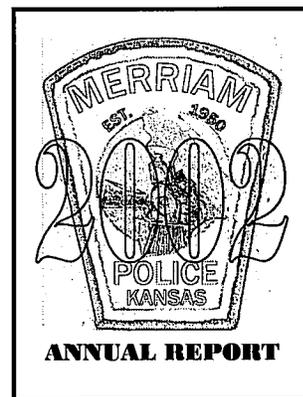


- All stray animals picked up by animal control are taken to Animal Haven, located at 9800 W. 67th Street. Their hours are Monday through Friday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., and weekends from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. They can be called at 913-432-7548.

- The animal control officer is on duty from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., weekdays. All animal calls received at other times are handled by police officers or neighboring city animal control officers.



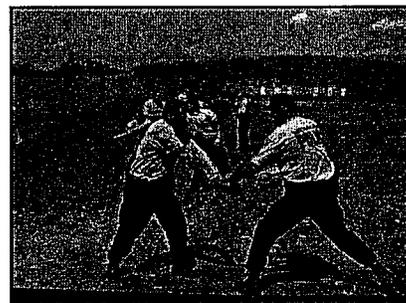
Merriam Police Department Support Functions



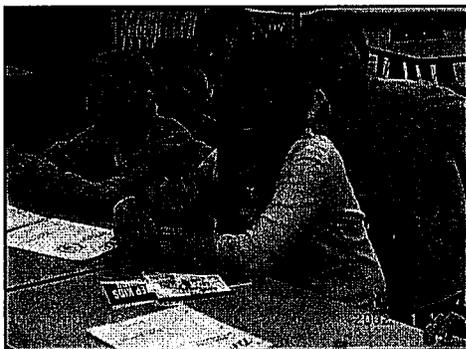
INTRODUCTION:

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.

- ❑ **IN-SERVICE POLICE TRAINING PROGRAM** – The State of Kansas mandates that each police officer receives a minimum of 40-hours of in-service police training. The assistant chief is responsible to coordinate the training -- most of which is conducted in-house by department certified officers. In 2002, MPD officers received training in firearms proficiency, defensive tactics such as the GRASP and CLAMP technique, use of the collapsible baton, the Taser device and pepper spray mace. They were certified to give CPR and utilize the Automatic Electronic Defibrillators. All department training officers receive their training certification from reputable outside training conferences.



- ❑ **PATROL FIELD TRAINING PROGRAM** – A sergeant is responsible for supervising three training officers and managing all new-recruit training. The total program is twelve to fourteen weeks in length, where the recruit is given one-on-one training and supervision from specially trained master police officers. Officers must successfully complete this program in order to make it through the probation period.
- ❑ **DRUG ABUSE RESISTANCE EDUCATION (DARE) PROGRAM** – Master Police Officer Larry Birt is assigned to conduct the DARE program in the city's four elementary schools. This officer spends a portion of time in each school during the school year. When available this officer also attends recess, lunch periods, PTA meetings and other events to complete the DARE mission.



2002 DARE Facts:

- *DARE is taught in 53 different classrooms in four Merriam schools.*
 - *Approximately 1,125 students received Merriam DARE instruction.*
 - *155 students in the 6th Grade became DARE Graduates.*
 - *In Kansas, DARE is taught by 253 certified officers from 122 agencies across the state. More than 132,000 students were taught in 2001.*
- ❑ **DARE SUMMER CLINIC PROGRAM** – In June 2002, the Merriam Police Department sponsored a summer clinic which involved a series of special daylong field trips. Eleven Merriam youths 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 trip to Worlds of Fun, the Kansas City Zoo and the Lakeside Nature Center. These kids also were involved in activities at the Merriam Community Center, a movie at Merriam Cinemark Theater and they were taken on a fishing trip. Officer Birt was assisted in this clinic by community volunteer Dennis Young. 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.
 - ❑ **SPECIAL WEAPONS TEAM** – In 2000, the department formed a team of 8 officers that are specially trained and equipped to respond to high-risk calls that need a special approach. A full array of lethal and less-than-lethal weapons are at their disposal. They are trained to handle armed situations, catastrophes, crowd control, and other situations. They are expected to retain a higher level of physical fitness and firearms proficiency skill.

- ❑ **BICYCLE PATROL FUNCTION** – During the temperate seasons certain specially trained officers were assigned to patrol specific high-risk areas of the city on patrol bicycles. These areas include schools, parks and high crime area. This has proven to be a crime deterrent and a good community-policing tool.
- ❑ **SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD UNIT** – There are five school-crossing locations within the city. Part-time uniformed employees assist school children crossing the streets at these locations twice per day (one-hour in the morning and one-hour in the afternoon). This unit, supervised by the Assistant Chief, is responsible for child pedestrian safety. These guards also assist the department during the Turkey Creek Festival.
- ❑ **PARKING ENFORCEMENT UNIT** – Because of the large number of retail businesses, coupled with the existence of the Shawnee Mission Medical complex, the city of Merriam has many handicapped parking spaces and fire lanes. A volunteer program was set up in 2000 to give patrol some assistance in enforcing these areas. During 2002, John Willits, a former police reserve officer, worked for the MPD as a non-paid volunteer. He was assigned to work with the police department to help enforce handicapped and fire-lane parking violations throughout the city. He worked a few hours each week checking parking lots for these violations. Vehicles found in violation were ticketed. When a driver/owner of the vehicle could be located a verbal warning was given. In 2002, 74 citations were issued along with 41 warnings. Of these 74 citations, 50 were in the Shawnee Mission Medical Complex, 20 were in Merriam Town Center, 2 were in K-Mart and the remaining two were written in other areas. Of the 74 citations, 57 were for handicapped violations and 17 were fire lane citations.
- ❑ **POLICE CHAPLAINCY PROGRAM** – The department has a chaplaincy program in place. The chaplain, Mike Jacob, is a local chaplain and Merriam resident who works at the Shawnee Mission Medical Center. He volunteers his time to offer spiritual guidance to police employees. One of his primary responsibilities is to assist officers with death notifications and with dealing with grieving citizens. He is also the chaplain for the Fire Department.
- ❑ **DOCUMENT ARCHIVAL PROGRAM** – In late 2000, the city purchased state-of-the-art Laserfische archival equipment to be used to electronically store city official documents. This includes all police reports. In 2002, the MPD part-time records clerk Ronda Brumbaugh was made a full-time employee. Approximately one-fourth of her time is spent archiving police related files. During 2002, she archived 3,519 reports. The goal of this program is to reduce file storage needs and be able to archive these documents in a storage medium that does not degrade with years of storage.
- ❑ **CALL-OUT EVIDENCE TECHNICIAN PROGRAM** – The MPD has a group of 8 officers who have received special training in evidence collection and processing. These trained technicians are assigned to the Patrol Unit and are utilized while on duty to keep off-duty investigators from having to be called out. This has reduced overtime in 2002. These officers can also be called out on serious crimes to work as a team of investigators or in cases where there is a large or complex crime scene, for maximized effectiveness.
- ❑ **PROPERTY AND EVIDENCE MANAGEMENT** – Currently, Lisa Aldrich, the Police Clerk is assigned as the property and evidence custodian. She is responsible to properly log, computerize and store all recovered property and evidence. She is responsible for the safety and security of this evidence and must be available to respond to municipal and district court to testify concerning evidentiary chain of custody. She is responsible for destroying evidence when it is no longer needed for court, disposing of other property by appropriate means and seeing that property is returned to the lawful owners.
- ❑ **HOUSE WATCH PROGRAM** – Each year, a number of vacationing Merriam residents will register their homes with the police department for extra patrol. The Merriam House Watch Program is a crime prevention program that is designed to reduce house burglaries and give extra piece of mind to citizens while they are away from home. The citizen completes a simple form and officers spend designated time checking these residences while the owners are away. There were 50 house watch requests in 2002.
- ❑ **POLICE RIDE-ALONG PROGRAM** – This is a community relations program that allows citizens to ride with a police officer on his or her normal patrol shift. The citizen signs up for 2, 4, 6 or 8 hours on any desired shift. They must complete a simple form and a brief records check is made before authorization is given. The patrol



shift supervisors coordinate with the citizens to schedule their ride-a-long visits. Persons under the age of 15 must have a responsible adult with them on the ride-along. Advanced notice is required. In 2002, there were 49 ride-along requests.

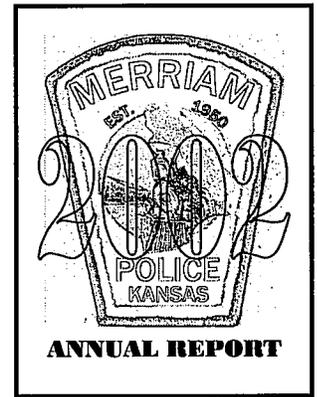
- **ALARM ORDINANCE MANAGEMENT** – Each year hundreds of business and residential burglar and robbery alarms are received by the MPD. As a result a city ordinance was adopted that regulates these alarms. When too many alarms are received the alarm owners can be fined. The purpose of the ordinance was to make these alarm owners more responsible for their equipment. One officer is assigned to keep track of the alarms that are received. Bills are sent out for having too many false alarms and this officer works with the alarm owners to reduce the incidents of false alarms. In 2002, there were 488 false burglary, robbery and fire alarms in Merriam. This represents a 22% increase over 2001. There are 510 individual businesses and homeowners that have registered their alarms with the MPD. The city collected \$8,388 in alarm fines. The #1 business with the most false alarms was Home Depot with 20 alarms. Others in the top ten are listed below:

#2 Chevy's Restaurant—15	#3 Anaco Transmission—15	#4 Georgetown Apts.— 12
#5 SM Medical Center—11	#6 Safehome—11	#7 Durham Bus Services—11
#8 Lucent Technologies—10	#9 Baron BMW—10	#10 Bank of Onaga—10

- **CITIZEN FINGERPRINT SERVICES** – The MPD provides fingerprint services for all Merriam citizens and businesspersons during normal business hours. Several times a year, individuals need their fingerprints taken for financial bonds, insurance business and other reasons. An on-duty officer or investigator completes this service by appointment.
- **OPERATION NIGHTLIGHT** – Corporal Todd Allen is assigned to be involved with Operation Nightlight. This is a county-wide program where police officers and juvenile probation officers are paired up to make unscheduled visits at homes of juveniles that are on strict residential probation. One or two nights a month the officer will check on Merriam youths that are involved in this program in cooperation with the Juvenile Court.
- **COLLEGE INTERN PROGRAM** – The MPD is on the college intern lists at a number of area universities in an effort to attract college interns. These non-paid volunteer interns work or observe the various aspects of the department. The department gets their free labor for statistical studies, clerical duties, etc. The intern gets the experience and college credit. In 2002, Kyle Samborski, a senior from Benedictine College in Atchison, Kansas, worked as intern during the Christmas holiday break and into 2003.
- **EXPLORER UNIT** – During the fall, 2002, the MPD re-chartered a Law Enforcement Explorer Post. Explorers are a group of youth between 14 and 20 years of age that are interested in the field of law enforcement. The group met twice per month from October through December to learn about law enforcement and public service. In return these Explorers will assist during events that require crowd management or traffic control. The Explorers Program is affiliated with Boy Scouts of America. Chief Ken Sissom is the Unit Coordinator and is being assisted by Recruit Officer Philip Lofflin, a former police explorer. The post receives a different topic of training at each meeting. It is instructed in a police academy style which makes it both interesting and informative. It is hoped that the department may be able to someday hire from this group of young people. The photo to the right shows one of the explorers going through the physical ability testing.
- **RESIDENTIAL AND BUSINESS CRIME PREVENTION SURVEYS** – The department's crime prevention specialist, Officer Larry Birt, has managed a program that encourages people to have their home or business checked in an effort to target harden them from burglars and other criminals. An appointment is set up with the officer. He meets with the resident, business owner or manager, and makes a full assessment of the building. A full written report of findings is provided with suggestions for improvement. This service is done free of charge.
- **TRAFFIC COUNT PROGRAM** – The MPD operates a radar equipped traffic speed and vehicle counter. This device is placed in areas where there are traffic complaints or accidents. The information is studied and used to increase enforcement and determine the scope and time or day of the traffic violation problem. Citizens having a problem with speeders in their neighborhood should call the department at 913-722-7762 and request extra traffic enforcement.



Merriam Police Department Community Oriented Policing



INTRODUCTION:

In 1992 a decision was made to change the style of policing in Merriam. For the past nine 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. Below listed is a report of some of the community policing that is being conducted in the city of Merriam in 2002.

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.

COMMUNITY INTERACTION:

During 2002, members of the police department interacted with a number of residents to facilitate communication and partnership.

BUSINESS SURVEY PROJECT—2002: The Merriam Business Survey is a project that is designed to improve public relations between the police department and the business community of Merriam. During the project, uniformed police officers were assigned to meet with all businesses within the city limits in an effort to foster a positive relationship. During their visits, they inquired about current problems being experienced by the business. They left a simple two-page business survey form and asked that the business owner or manager fill it out, rating the service level of the police department.

The 2002 Merriam Business Survey is the 4th public survey completed since 1993. Officers made personal contacts at 425 Merriam businesses. 143 or 44% of the survey forms were returned and analyzed. Of the surveys returned, 68% of them rated the department as "excellent." Another 27% of the surveys rated the department as "above average." Five percent of the respondents rated the department as average and there

were no below average or poor ratings.

One of the survey questions asked about the "biggest concerns" felt by businesses. In over 64% of the businesses that responded the problem of burglary and vandalism was mentioned.

When asked about suggestions concerning police services, 28% (largest group) indicated that they wanted "more frequent police patrols."

NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH: Crime prevention meetings were held throughout the year during various neighborhood meetings and block parties.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT AGAINST CRIME—2002:

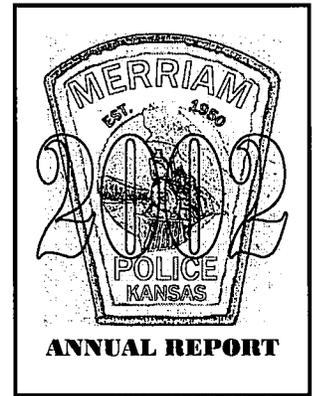
The Merriam Police Department organized another successful National Night Out Against Crime event. This year it was held on August 6th. During this national event, Merriam officers met with over 150 residents in seven different residential areas to help educate them on how to make their homes, apartments and neighborhoods safer from crime.



The residential areas involved in the National Night Out in 2002 are listed below:

- Sherwood Forest area**
- Sunflower Towers Apartments**
- Edelweis Condominiums**
- 60th and Hardy area**
- Antioch Hill area**
- Brookhaven Town Homes**
- New Milburn West area**

Merriam Police Department Annual Drug Forfeiture Report



INTRODUCTION:

This is a reoccurring 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 all future annual reports. Any questions concerning specific details should be directed to the Finance Department in the Administrative Services Department.

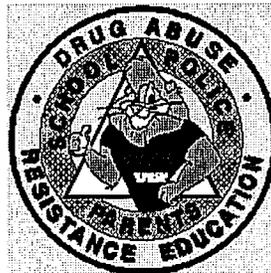
Drug Forfeiture Activities in 2002:

On January 1, 2002, there was approximately \$13,821 in the Merriam Special Law Enforcement Trust Fund.

During 2002 the Merriam Police Department received \$1,701.62 from drug forfeitures or drug taxes and \$405.78 in account interest — total = \$2107.40.

During 2002 the following purchases or expenditures were made with funds from the Special Law Enforcement Trust Fund:

- \$1,488.90 was paid out in legal expenses.
- \$1,581.77 was paid out to cover training conference expenses of the DARE officer.
- \$1,783.62 was paid out to upgrade the officer service weapons. Two additional shotguns were also purchased.
- One additional administrative laptop computer was purchased on 6/25/2002 for \$2,491.
- Three Motorola portable radios with UHF city frequencies installed were purchased for \$1,326.
- \$2,138.68 was paid out to purchase tactical handgun flashlights for all officers and battering rams for the tactical team.



- \$2,763 was expended from this fund to pay the 10% Law Enforcement Block Grant's matching funds for both the 2001 and 2002. The department received the 2001 LLEBG grant on 12/17/2001. All monies from this \$14,361 grant, including the match money was spent in 2002. The 2002 LLEBG grant was received on 8/30/2002. In 2002, \$9,355.28 was spend from this grant, including the 10% required match money.

- There was an additional \$230.17 spent from forfeitures on fees and postage in 2002.

During 2002, \$11,200 in cash and one vehicle was seized by the State of Kansas. The city should receive 75% of those proceeds once they have cleared the court process. An additional \$4,289 was pending and is in the process of city forfeiture. A majority of these funds should appear on the 2003 report.

Credits with carryover	\$40,793.00
Debits	\$37,819.56
Carryover on 1/1/2003	\$2,973.44
LLEBG 2002 Funds Remaining	\$2,315.72