

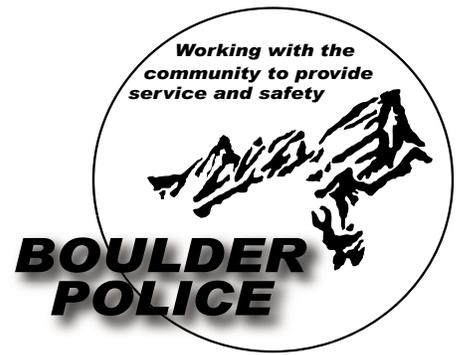
Boulder Police Department

*Annual
Report*



2004

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*Message from the
City Manager*

Having now served as Boulder's City Manager for over two years, I have been fortunate to have spent considerable time with members of our remarkable Police Department. Through ride-alongs with Patrol and Traffic officers, meetings with department members, visits to the Public Safety Building and even attendance at a Crime Scene Investigation training, I have been continually impressed with the quality of individuals serving the Boulder community in this capacity. And, as you know, Chief Mark Beckner and I are working closely to make certain that we have the resources and personnel to address our priorities in a safe and efficient manner.



In addition, I have come to better understand our community policing philosophy. I believe it is the best fit for Boulder, a community that offers unique challenges. From having a large population of college students that continually turn over, to a very active and involved citizenry, our residents expect as they should, a police force that is sensitive to our community's particular needs and strives to continually improve operations. I believe that we can all be very proud of the Boulder Police Department's hard working men and women, and I am honored to introduce the 2004 Annual Report.



Sincerely,
Frank W. Bruno
City Manager

As each new year rolls around, we like to take a look back to assess how we are doing as an organization.

Probably the most important component to our policing philosophy is to provide excellent police service. There are a number of ways to measure whether we are meeting this standard. One such way is to periodically seek feedback from the community we serve. In recent telephone surveys, the department scored very well in citizen assessments of the service we provide. Secondly, we conduct internal audits of our processes from time to time to seek out better and more efficient ways of conducting business. I believe our management staff is of the highest quality and continually seeks to keep abreast of contemporary policing and changes in how we police in America.



In recent years, accreditation of police departments, either nationally or on a statewide basis, has become more popular as another way to help ensure departments are adhering to the highest standards. In 2004, the Boulder Police Department sought and obtained Colorado Accreditation from the Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police (CACP). By being granted accreditation, the CACP is saying that the Boulder Police Department adheres to accepted and recommended police policies and practices in day to day policing activities. Not only must we have written contemporary policies, but we must adhere to those policies. The accreditation process includes an on-site evaluation of our practices by members of CACP. This is just one more way that we can ensure that we are doing what we can to provide professional, excellent police service to our community.

While accreditation certainly tops the list of accomplishments for 2004, it by no means is all we accomplished. In fact, during our annual management staff planning meeting at which we review the past years accomplishments, it was rather astounding to reflect back on all that had been achieved. For instance, we set as a 2004 goal to increase our 20% clearance rate for serious crime. For the year, we increased the clearance rate to an astonishing 29%. A nine percent increase in clearance rates is quite dramatic and places us above the national average. We also hired two criminalists to work out of our new lab facility for crime scene and evidence processing. This gives us additional processing capability without having to go outside the department. Already, this has helped us in clearing older cases that prior to this had been unsolved. We have also made changes to how we utilize our Records Management System and started the planning and design of an expansion of our building that will include a new indoor firing range. Once completed, the range will be the first time that we have had access to our own training facility for firearms.

These are just a sampling of the many accomplishments in 2004. What is especially satisfying is that we were able to excel during another year of budget constraints. I believe this can be attributed to the quality of the people working for the Boulder Police Department. They are a dedicated, committed group of people that are always trying to improve on the service we provide. Our ultimate goal, as always, is to continually work with the community to provide service and safety.

Sincerely,
Mark R. Beckner
Chief of Police

During 2004, the Boulder Police Department completed a

Officers Tony Guzman and Patrick Compton received the *Chief's Commendation* after

they were able to subdue a mentally troubled suspect who pointed an unloaded rifle at them. There were no injuries to the officers or suspect.

Sergeant Robert Thomas, Officers Jeff Puttkammer, Michael Marquez, and Jason Duffy also received the *Chief's Commendation*. They safely apprehended car thieves who were driving a stolen vehicle that contained dangerous chemicals used to manufacture meth-amphetamine.

Detective Larry Gibson was granted the *Award of Excellence* for his selfless assistance to other officers, his numerous Spanish translations, and his strong rapport with members of Boulder's Hispanic community.

Detective Fred Patterson also received the *Award of Excellence* for his relentless efforts in the investigation and prosecution of a serious assault case.

Officer Michael Marquez was given the *Superior Tactics and Response (STAR) Award* after observing a suspect brandish a gun at some bystanders. Officer

Marquez subsequently took the suspect into custody without incident and was commended for his calm demeanor and quick thinking.

Officer Anthony DiGiovanni was awarded the *Medal for Lifesaving*. While off-duty, Officer DiGiovanni observed a man collapse and he administered CPR to the man until the fire department arrived. When the man was transported to the hospital, his heart had been restarted.

long term goal of achieving Professional Standards Accreditation through the Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police (CACP).

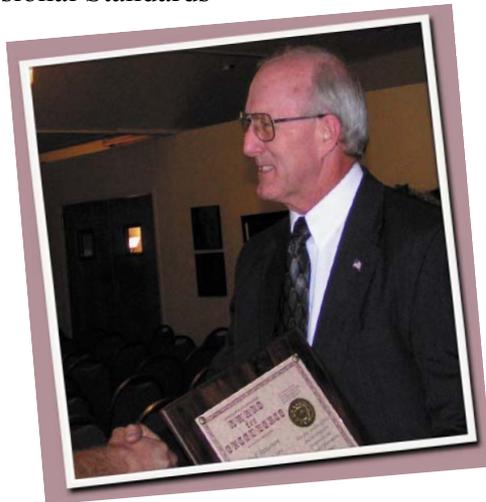


Accreditation is granted when an agency is able to show compliance with an accepted set of standards pertaining to police functions. The process included an application, a general information questionnaire, a self assessment, an on-site assessment and a final review and approval by the Professional Standards Committee of the CACP and Colorado Sheriff's Association.

The self assessment process involved a review and comparison of most of the established Department policies and practices against the approved Colorado Law Enforcement Professional Standards. The 180 identified standards dealt with areas ranging from "Oath of Office and Ethics" to "Special Operations".

The assessment review and a follow-up on-site assessment was conducted by Police Chiefs from the Central City and Evans Police Department. The Boulder Police Department met or exceeded each of the identified standards.

The benefit of this accomplishment to the citizens of Boulder rests in the knowledge that the way the Department operates as a law enforcement agency and provides service to the community meets or exceeds practices accepted by law enforcement professionals throughout the state.



The Boulder Bomb Squad responds to calls for suspicious packages and calls

regarding explosive devices. The squad is made up of four certified bomb technicians, and a commander, who oversees the daily operation of the squad.

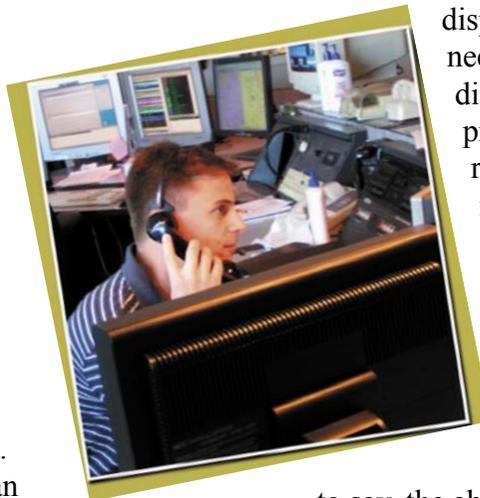
The Bomb Squad had a busy year in 2004. They participated in 162 events for a total of 1,670 hours. This included responding to call, and giving presentations to explain a Bomb Technician's job, their tools and the hazards of explosives.

In addition to their other duties the Bomb Squad Technicians participated in both off-site and Department training. All Bomb Squad Technicians attended an Environmental Protection Administrative class and were certified as HazMat Technicians and Weapons of Mass Destruction Technicians. They trained with the SWAT team, using the robot and explosives to enter locations. They also kept up with the necessary monthly training to keep their certification current and their knowledge and expertise up to the required expectations.

The communications center plays an integral role in the police department's ability to

serve the Boulder community. Dispatchers in the center are often the first point of contact for someone calling the Department needing police or other

emergency assistance. The dispatchers assess the calls for need and urgency and then dispatch the appropriate units to provide assistance. They are also responsible for recording all calls in the computer and tracking the locations of officers on calls.



In addition to handling calls, dispatchers also entered more than 28,000 traffic stops and other officer-initiated activity into the computer. Needless

to say, the ability to multi-task is essential for dispatchers.

Dispatchers occasionally take calls where immediate intervention is necessary even before responding units have arrived. All full-time dispatchers are trained in Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD), which includes medically accepted instructions for more than 40 different medical conditions. This enables them to provide a caller with instructions for such things as treating burns, clearing a blocked airway or delivering a baby until medical help arrives.

In September, the Department hired a civilian as the Communication Manager. It was the first time since the inception of the city's dispatch center that a civilian filled the position, which oversees all dispatch center operations and 28 employees.

Communications systems have become increasingly advanced and now require specialized skills to maintain. The department saw the need to hire someone with the technical knowledge and experience to help maintain the Boulder Police Communications Center's high level of service to the community. Lonna Donin was hired from AdCom911 in Adams County where she had been a dispatcher and supervisor. Lonna has had formal training in emergency response planning, homeland security, weapons of mass destruction, incident management and unified command.

Did you know...

that dispatchers handled 168,387 calls in 2004, including 32,693 9-1-1 calls. 77,392 of these calls were incidents dispatched to officers.

Although patrol officers use the department's two

Community Police Centers (CPCs) for routine business, the CPCs are actually staffed on a regular basis with civilian employees in order to make police services more available to the community.

The two CPCs, located on the Hill and on the Pearl Street Mall, are available from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

At the centers, community members can report minor crimes, make lost property reports, obtain information about laws and police programs or get fingerprinted for license and employment purposes.

The CPCs provide a valuable service to both the community and the police department.



The Boulder Police Department has used Crime Scene

Investigators (CSI) for 20 years to process crime scenes. The CSI program averages about 20 officers, detectives, and evidence personnel, who receive specialized training to process crime scenes as a collateral duty.

However, forensic science has evolved to the point that the expertise of full-time criminalists is needed. Consequently in July of 2004, the Department hired its first two Criminalists, Shelli Hisey and Kathy Bottone. Over 100 people applied for these positions, including four people with Doctorate degrees and 33 with Master's degrees.

The Criminalists bring a broad base of experience to the Department. Both have been in the field for eight years. Shelli has a Master's Degree in forensic science and Kathy has previous experience as a deputy



sheriff. They are both fingerprint examiners, AFIS (Automated Fingerprint Identification System) operators, shoe print examiners, and can do bloodstain pattern analysis. Shelli was the first person in Colorado to implement AVID, a \$50,000 instrument that enhances surveillance video tapes, and she teaches video classes for the FBI.

Shelli and Kathy can process major crime scenes from start to finish, using sophisticated equipment and a variety of techniques. However, most of their work is in the crime lab, processing and examining fingerprints, or processing evidence for trace evidence, such as DNA, or video tape enhancement. They have used their expertise in forensic science to identify suspects that may have otherwise avoided detection. Both Criminalists are a major asset to the Department and the Boulder community.



In addition to working recent cases in 2004, Detectives

were also successful in solving a series of sexual assaults in the Tantra Lake area that had occurred between 1993 and 1998. In June, a 36-year-old Glenwood Springs man was arrested in connection with these attacks. DNA linked the suspect to sexual assaults in other jurisdictions both in and out of Colorado. Boulder detectives obtained the suspect's DNA during a handshake. The suspect is currently awaiting trial in the Boulder County Jail.

Three arrests in August ended the serial burglaries occurring in the Aurora 7 and Martin Park Neighborhoods. Based on unique crime pattern characteristics Investigators cleared 138 burglaries which had occurred in the area between 2000 and 2004. Their arrests were the result of a department wide team effort by patrol officers, detectives, the Target Crime Team and the Narcotics Task Force.

Investigators also cleared more than 127 Criminal Trespass cases with the arrests of two separate suspects. One of the men arrested is currently in the Department of Corrections after admitting responsibility for more than 100 of the cases. The other suspect is going through the court process.

With other arrests throughout the year, detectives also cleared a series of 64 auto theft and criminal trespass complaints and a series of 30 burglaries.

Did you know...

that investigators cleared, through arrest or other means, 29 percent of their cases in 2004. This is up from 20 percent in 2003 and exceeds national averages for case clearance rates.

The alcohol-related death of a

C.U. student in September increased concerns about alcohol abuse among youth and the efforts of various organizations throughout the city to address problems related to alcohol. For its part, the police department dedicated a significant amount of time and money to alcohol education and enforcement throughout the year.

As part of their education efforts, officers taught 24 Licensed Establishment and Server classes to more than 800 people. These classes are designed to educate servers and business owners of the importance of identifying people who are of legal drinking age and those who are not, to minimize the serving of alcohol to those under the legal drinking age.

Officers also spent time outside of bars on the Hill and the Pearl Street Mall participating in the "How drunk is drunk" alcohol education program. Volunteer participants tell the officer how intoxicated they think they are and whether or not they would drive at their current level of intoxication. They then take a portable breath test and are given the results and education about what the numbers mean in relation to their level of intoxication. Officers also provided education for high school students during the spring.

As a follow up to classes offered for servers, officers conducted compliance check of the establishments to see if they were following the law. Of 185 compliance checks, underage patrons were served 22 times. More than 70 people were cited for having a fraudulent identification.

As part of their enforcement efforts, one officer is assigned full time as a DUI officer. Officers made 970 DUI arrests throughout the year and participated in several saturation patrols in conjunction with state-wide enforcement efforts.

The police department believes the two-pronged approach through education and enforcement is most effective in addressing concerns about alcohol. The department will continue its efforts in 2005.

Since 2001 more than 200 laptops

The Boulder Police Department's Master

have been taken in burglaries surrounding the University of Colorado campus. To combat this growing problem, an innovative laptop registration program was developed in 2004. While Department members continued to work on the laptop burglary cases, an aggressive campaign to register laptops was also put into place. Department

members, working with investigators from the University, began aggressively registering laptop computers in September.

By December, the number of laptops taken in burglaries had been greatly reduced. By the end of 2004 no registered laptop is known to have been taken in a burglary.

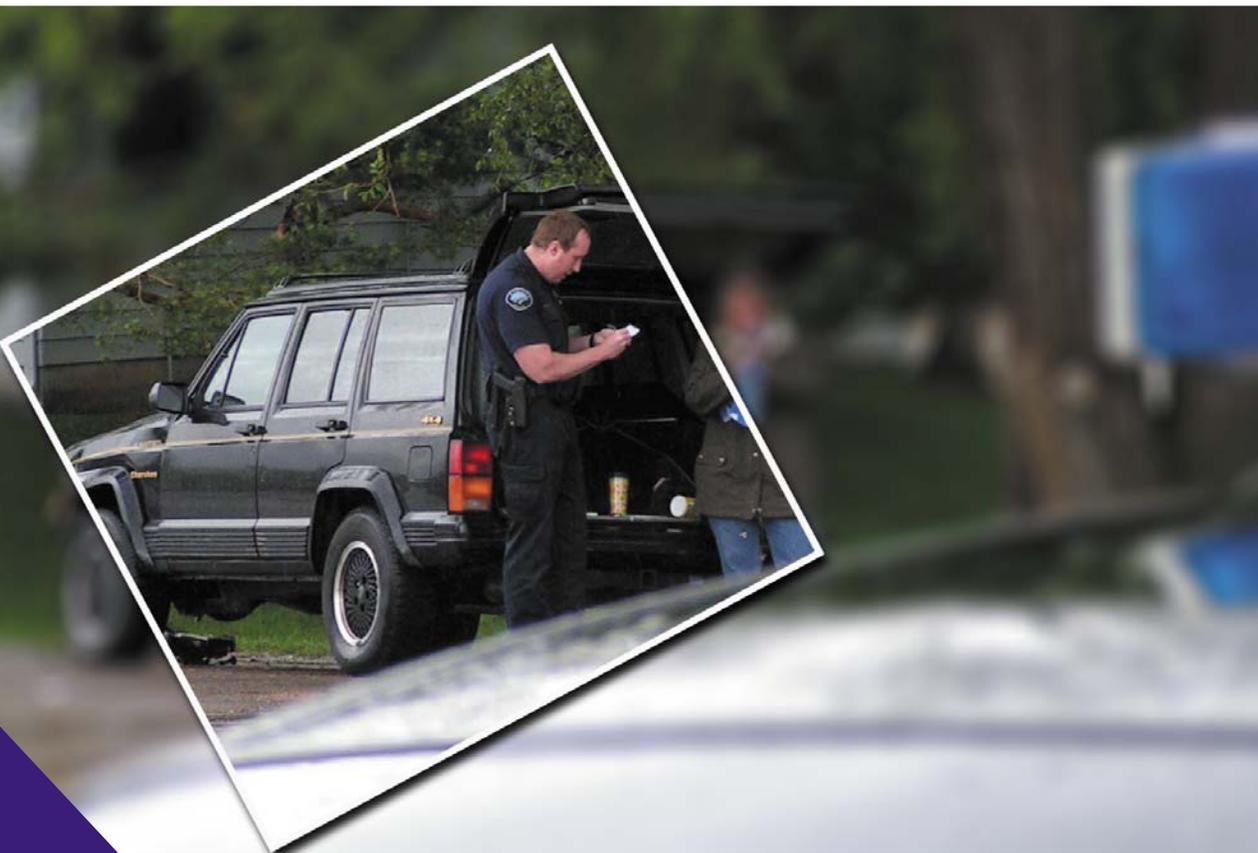


Police Officer ("MPO") program was developed in the early 1990s to recognize the comprehensive experience and knowledge that senior officers contributed to the department. Over time, however, it was recognized that the program was in need of change based on the needs of the citizens and the Department.

In early 2004, Chief Mark Beckner charged a committee comprised of a cross-section of officers to evaluate the MPO program with the goal to construct a more competitive position and to develop criteria that exemplified excellence in the department. Following extensive research into other Colorado MPO programs and input from officers, the committee presented a modified program structure to management staff. The new program provides more stringent selection criteria which include written testing, peer assessments, and specific requirements for collateral duty involvement. As well, a new MPO must rate above-average on performance evaluations and carry a minimum of ten

years of law-enforcement service.

The new program will commence in early 2005.



Officer and Detective of the year

Officer's Association has taken great pride in naming the **Officer of the Year** honoring the professional accomplishments and community service of Boulder's finest officers.

The 2004 Officer of the Year award went to Karl Veitch. With over 20 years as a police officer, Karl's assignments have included patrol, field training and crime scene investigations.



Nominated by Commander Greg Testa for his accomplishments, Greg stated, "Karl is best known for his expertise in traffic investigations and for his steadfast commitment to the public, to his fellow officers, and to the department. He is a leader, and a role model for other officers, and he is one of the most experienced traffic investigators in the department."

The 2004 **Detective of the Year** award went to Detective Chuck Heidel. Detective Heidel has been with the Boulder Police Department for just over 21 years. His career assignments have included patrol and narcotics. Chuck was assigned to the Detective division in 1997 and has served as a member of the Major Crimes Unit since its inception in 1999.

Nominated by Sergeant Kerry Yamaguchi for his perseverance, dedication, and expertise in the investigation of a series of sexual assault cases that occurred in Boulder from 1993 through 1998. Chuck was instrumental in the subsequent 2004 arrest in those cases.

Since the mid 1970's, the Boulder Police

Promotions

In April, dispatcher Ted McEldowney was promoted to Communications

Supervisor. Ted came to the police department from the corporate world in April 2002, joining his sister who is a sergeant in patrol. Ted had served as a trainer for new dispatchers, and since his promotion, has revamped the dispatch training program, enhancing the overall classroom training portion.

In September, Records Supervisor Rebecca Kilpatrick was promoted to Records Manager. At the same time, Rebecca celebrated 25 years with the department. Throughout her years here, Rebecca worked as a clerk typist, records clerk, and records supervisor before attaining her current position overseeing the Records and Information Services section. Rebecca has received numerous awards for her participation in various committees throughout the years. The most memorable for her is the Employee Recognition Award she received 1993, because she was nominated by her peers

In November, Andrea Hunt was promoted from Records Specialist to Records Supervisor, filling the position left vacant by Rebecca's promotion. Andrea started at the police department in 1999 as a data control specialist and cross trained into Records and Information Services in 2002. She has worked on special projects such as maintaining the sex offender list and the training of new employees. Andrea is a second-generation city employee, following her mother, who worked for Municipal Courts and retired after 30 years with the city of Boulder.

Did you know...

that Crime Scene Investigators worked over 1,000 hours processing cases, fingerprints and lab requests.

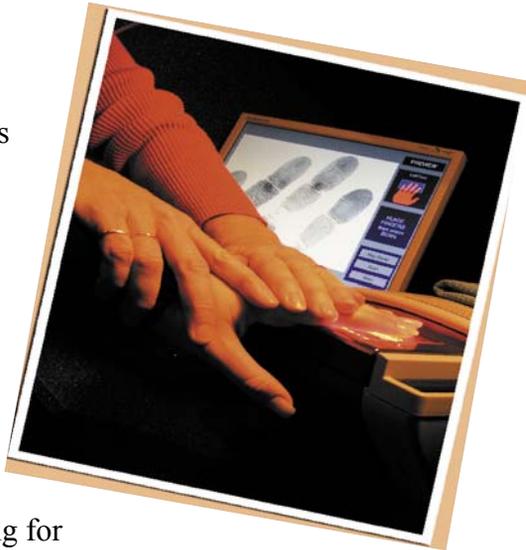
Records and Information Services

They say a picture is worth a thousand words, and Renée McCoy knows that

it may take much more than a thousand words to make a worthy picture. McCoy is the sketch artist for the police department and is often called on to turn a description given by a victim or witness into an image that can be shown to the community.

(RIS) plays an integral role in the service the police department provides to the community. This section serves as the custodian of all police records and is generally the first point of contact for people coming into the police department.

For the community, RIS provides such things as copies of police reports, releases for impounded vehicles, and



fingerprinting for licensing purposes. RIS also serves a vital role internally. Records Specialists provide support to officers, detectives and other staff by running requested computer and statistical queries, entering warrants and other information into the computer, and completing data entry of information from all police reports and summonses.



McCoy completed 42 composites in 2004 and the department received quality tips on about one third of those images.

This is a high average for composite work. McCoy also works in the Records and Information Services unit of the police department. Her background is in art and she is a certified composite artist for the United States Secret Service.



and supporters showed support for the 2004 Special Olympics, held in



Greeley, by raising more than \$13,000 for the organization through special events. This far exceeded the department's goal of raising \$10,000.

To meet their goal, officers traded in their handcuffs and badges for serving trays and menus at Boulder restaurants for the "Tip-A-Cop" charity event. Turley's, LePeep, The Buff and Red Robin restaurants offered officers shifts during which they could "work" for tips to support Special Olympics Athletes. The officers raised \$6,740 during this event.

Department members and other supporters also participated in the Law Enforcement Torch Run, a 1,500 mile statewide run. Boulder's 7.5 mile leg of the run with the Flame of Hope brought a record-breaking 133 participants



and The Boulder Police Department had the largest law enforcement representation at the Opening Ceremonies on June 5. The Torch Run event raised more than \$3,200.

The remainder of the money raised came from other smaller events and through

private donations.

One robbery every 8.8 days

One arson every 16.7 days

One theft every 2.7 hours

One sex assault every ten days

One auto theft every 2.12 days

One fraud or forgery every 1.2 days

The Boulder Crime Clock



One burglary every 14.7 hours

101.8 arrests every week

1,611 traffic summonses issued every month

One aggravated assault every 3.9 days

Did you know...

that police officers arrested 591 adults and 141 juveniles, for a total of 732 arrests in 2004.

Did you know...

that over 6,800 pieces of property were reported stolen in Boulder in 2004.

Each day, the city of Boulder is protected and patrolled by district, traffic and

DUI officers. All have the goals of both enforcing laws and proactively working to prevent law violations.

District officers are assigned to specific areas of the city, as well as the Hill and the Pearl Street Mall. They provide uniformed police service to the community. These are the officers that patrol throughout the city and interact with the community, either through dispatched calls or self-initiated activity. They also work proactively with the Boulder County Homeless Shelter, Boulder County Safehouse, Downtown Merchants Association and various neighborhood associations. The department handled more than 14,600 police reports in 2004 and these officers handled most of them.

Traffic officers patrol Boulder's streets and provide a frequent reminder that traffic laws are being enforced. Officers in this unit use motorcycles and unmarked cars that often catch violators by surprise. The officers work self-directed patrol and also concentrate their efforts on problem areas reported by members of the community. Oftentimes, the officer's presence in an area reminds people to obey the speed limit and other traffic laws. The unit, which includes four civilian traffic accident specialists, handled the majority of the 4,180 traffic accidents in 2004, including three fatal accidents. The department wrote more than 19,300 traffic summonses. Most of those were issued by the traffic unit.

The department has one full-time DUI officer who patrols the city looking for drunk drivers. The officer also handles DUIs stopped by district cars so that they can return to their district duties more quickly. In 2004, officers arrested 970 people for DUI. That is almost three every day. Other officers assist during saturation patrols, where extra officers are added for DUI enforcement. These are often planned around holiday weekends but do occur at other times as well. Still other officers assist with alcohol education activities that encourage sober driving.

In 2004 the Boulder Police Department

developed and put into action the Target Crime Team (TCT) to supplement its patrol and detective units. Made up of five officers, and a Sergeant, this team does not work one specific shift, but rather adjusts its times and days off to focus enforcement in areas that it is needed.

The team is designed as a street crimes response unit. It is made up of non-uniformed officers; not undercover, but rather out in the open, on the streets, actively looking for in-progress crimes and known suspects in other crimes. TCT members work in areas where there have been identified crime patterns. The Team was responsible for numerous arrests throughout the year, including the apprehension of a serial burglar in July and many perpetrators wanted on warrants.

Because members of the team are not uniformed, they have had occasion to walk up on a crimes being committed, easily making the apprehensions.

The TCT is another example of the Boulder Police Department's ability to think of new ways to protect the community and beat the criminals at their own game.



The Victim Services unit of the Boulder Police

Department is responsible for providing crisis intervention to victims of crime and tragedy within the city of Boulder.

Victim Advocates are trained volunteers. They are on call 24 hours a day, seven days a week and respond immediately to the scene of a crime, accident, victim's home or the police department at the request of an officer. Advocates also follow up with victims of other crimes within 72 hours.

Victim Advocates work closely with detectives during the investigation process, as well as with other organizations such as Safehouse, MESA and the Domestic Abuse Prevention Project.

In 2004, Victim Advocates and Victim Services staff worked with over 1,200 victims and witnesses of crimes and critical incidents, helping victims regain control over their situation.

"When I leave the call...

the knowledge that I may have, in some small measure, diminished someone's distress or isolation is a very powerful and rewarding feeling."

- Stephanie, current Victim Advocate

"Volunteer service," this phrase means

many different things to different people. For volunteers at the Boulder Police Department it can mean "a chance to get out there and really make a difference," or "a job for my heart," or "a great way to give back to my



community." For millions of Americans, volunteering is the key to healthy, fulfilling and meaningful lives.

Whatever the motivation, in 2004, the Department was fortunate enough to have over 85 volunteers that contributed a total of 3,525 hours to the Department and the community. This included such jobs as, writing tickets to handicapped parking violators, providing support and crisis intervention to victims, helping staff special events, assisting in the editing and publication of the annual report, following up with victims of non-violent crimes, tracking pawn information, and working with Records and Information Services, Property and Evidence staff, and Community Services Officers.

As of 2004, the Independent Sector has determined the value of volunteer time to be \$17.55 per hour. This translates into a value of \$61,863.75, or roughly the equivalent of two full time employees!

