

Progress



As I take on the challenges of being Boulder's newest police chief, I reflect on this past year with a sigh of relief. We have accomplished so much. For a department who has traditionally experienced little movement in upper management, 2014 has been truly remarkable.

We take pride in the numerous employees who have chosen to make the police department their homes. Employee longevity, sometimes more than 40 years, is commonplace and proves we have dedicated employees who value

what we have to offer. This kind of commitment is difficult to find and I consider it a compliment to have high quality employees who stay for much of their careers. On the other hand, it can prove frustrating for those people who want to move upwards in the department. In that sense, 2014 has been an historical year with multiple retirements and promotions.

Progress comes in many shapes and sizes and our department encompasses a variety of those. With our new supervisors on board, we have high expectations as we advance into the future. The goal of increasing our police force continues as four more positions were added this year, as well as one additional commander. We maintained our commitment to refine community policing by providing appropriate training and will work further to enhance this again next year. This strategy supports livable neighborhoods and vibrant business districts. We responded to the community's concerns about bears and trash and added additional employees to our Code Enforcement

Unit who focus specifically on those issues. Our collaboration with Mental Health Partners to implement a grant funded early intervention program called EDGE (Early Diversion, Get Engaged) has teamed police officers with mental health clinicians to proactively provide immediate mental health resources to those in need. Our Flood Response Field Guide was expanded to a more comprehensive manual for emergency responders to use to establish priorities for protecting life, property and critical infrastructure. We continually explore new technology and believe 2015 will be a noteworthy year as we proceed with body worn cameras and cell phones for officers.

I look forward to what 2015 brings. With skilled staff and community support, we will remain diligent in our efforts to solve crime and protect residents and visitors alike as they enjoy and live in this beautiful city.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A7 TS' with a flourish.

Chief Greg Testa



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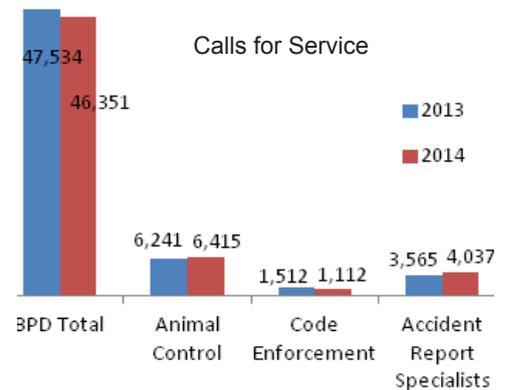
2015 January

Communication

Simply put, communications is a key factor of good policing. It's a crucial element for us to respond to the public's concerns in a safe, timely and useful manner. Effective radio communication often means the difference between success or disaster. However, there are other ways we communicate that may not be so obvious.

Two of our detectives, Ruth Christopher and Kristin Weisbach, were lucky enough to be approved for a two-week Spanish immersion program to Costa Rica in May of this year. They paid for half the cost of their trips out of their own pockets. They attended six hours of class each day, explored San Jose and San Pedro and lived with a host family and three other students. They were able to enjoy some of their time by visiting a volcano, nature preserve and coffee plantation as well as some time on the beach. They both agreed the trip was exhausting but well worth the time as their abilities to speak Spanish have greatly improved.

The Community Services Unit hosted their Second Annual Camp 911 this summer. This program gives students an opportunity to explore the different facets of law enforcement as well as time to speak with officers on an informal basis. School Resource Officers are also an integral part of fostering relationships with students, faculty and administrators in our schools. Though they enhance security, they are also advocates, mentors and liaisons who provide guidance to students and support them both inside and outside the school environment.



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2015 February

Innovation

The Boulder Police Department (BPD) prides itself on its efforts in innovation. One example is our partnership with the Colorado Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and the placement of a DNA lab in the building. The lab benefits every agency in the county and focuses on processing DNA from property crimes, which allows other labs to focus on testing DNA for other serious crimes such as sex assaults and homicides. One of the advantages for BPD is that CBI will give priority to our DNA evidence. The other is allowing agencies from nearby cities to have their evidence processed here which will save them time and money.

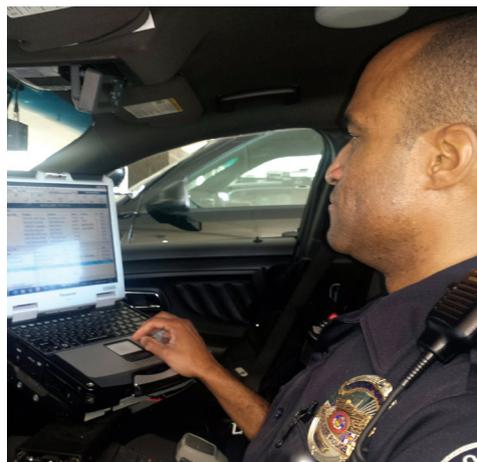
Our department also uses robots mainly for bomb removal and disposal and surveillance. Cameras attached to the robot are useful to assess situations. Armed with a claw to grip devices or weapons, it can be moved to a safe location for detonation or safe removal. Most importantly, these robots help keep our officers out of harm's way.



Another advance in technology is the recent placement of Automated External Defibrillators (AEDs) in many of our police vehicles. This gives officers immediate access to a life-saving tool rather than waiting for up to 10 minutes for emergency medical units to reach victims. If an AED shock is delivered to a person within the first three to five minutes after their heart stops, the odds of survival are 60 to 70 percent.

BPD is also replacing laptops with tablets in our police vehicles. This smart ergonomic design allows for easy input, even with gloved hands. It also provides portability and durability with a large screen for easy reading.

Our Citizen's Academy participants get to observe and use some of our new technology during their training as they learn to process crime scenes and study investigative techniques. This may include fingerprinting and retrieving blood, hair and fiber samples.



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2015march

Compassion



Detective Steve Faber has been recognized several times this year for his outstanding work with victims of crime, members of the community and a variety of community agencies who partner with the Boulder Police Department.

Earlier this year, the Elder Justice Coalition of Boulder County presented Steve with their Elder Abuse Awareness and Prevention Recognition Award, which recognizes those whose efforts have contributed to enhancing the safety, security and dignity of elders in Boulder County. Detective Sgt. Jim MacPherson, in his letter nominating Steve for the award, said "Steve Faber has sought to help the elderly and disabled. He has forged very strong relationships with HHS and

particularly the case workers with Adult Protective Services."

Team members with Adult Protective Services were very complimentary of Steve's work, saying, "When our team thinks about ways to describe Steve, we think of the following: friend, intelligent, methodical, determined, caring, stubborn, feisty, driven, thorough, kind, thoughtful, and extremely compassionate...he is not only working for justice but to truly improve lives however he can."

The Safehouse Progressive Alliance for Nonviolence also awarded Steve their "Outstanding Law Enforcement Award" in recognition of his service to promote a safe, just and equitable world for victims and their families.

Steve was also nominated for the Beth Haynes Memorial Award, given annually by the Boulder County Domestic Violence Task Force. Other members of the department were also nominated, including Officers Wilcox, Logue and B. McNalley.

The Boulder Police Department's Animal Control Unit showed compassion and tenacity with their efforts to reunite a lost beagle with his owner. TJ was a long way from his Fort Collins home. He'd been missing for seven weeks and although his owner posted fliers and called local animal shelters to ask them to keep an eye out for TJ, he had given up hope of ever seeing his dog again.

Meanwhile, animal control officers were notified about a stray dog in north Boulder. Officers responded daily to the area, attempting to coax the frightened and dirty beagle mix to come to them. But TJ was too afraid to go near humans, and no amount of cajoling or treats worked. All efforts – including a dog trap – were unsuccessful.

After a month of wandering, animal control officers received a report that TJ had been hit by a car and was seriously injured. Officers found the dog huddled under a bush, not far from the road. They found his microchip and contacted TJ's guardian in Fort Collins, who was speechless that his beloved dog turned up after being lost for so long.

TJ was reunited with his owner and, although he's a little worse for the wear (his rear leg was amputated after the accident), he's living a happy life with his grateful owner, who gave kudos to the officers of the Animal Control Unit for their tenacity in not giving up on his dog.



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2015 April

Partnership



Community policing is one of the cornerstones of our philosophy at the Boulder Police Department, and we are always looking for ways to partner with community members, business leaders and other agencies to provide effective public safety services.

When Mental Health Partners approached us about partnering police officers with mental health counselors for a new project, it didn't take us long to say "sign us up." The project is called EDGE, which is short for Early Diversion, Get Engaged, and it provides crisis intervention resources to members of the public who would benefit from referrals to mental health services versus being arrested.

Officers have embraced the program, calling on EDGE clinicians to assist with a variety of calls involving people with mental health issues. The clinicians are often able to help de-escalate situations, and ultimately they get people connected with mental health and substance abuse resources. Participants agree to take part and in return, are diverted out of the criminal justice system and into

programs which may truly benefit them in the long run.

Another successful partnership has been developed by members of the Neighborhood Impact Team (NIT) and the sororities and fraternities on University Hill. The Kappa Kappa Gamma sorority was so impressed with NIT officer Andrew Kirshbaum that they created a special award and named it in his honor for his work as the sorority's police liaison.



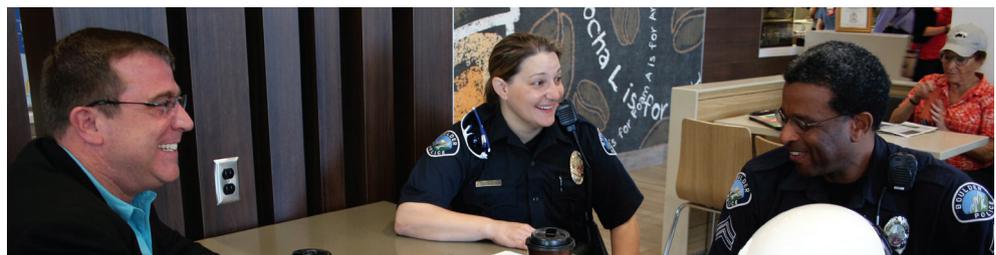
It's called the Kirshbaum-Clement Award, and it will be awarded annually to one member of the sorority who distinguishes herself in her efforts of service either to the sorority or one of its members, philanthropy or community service or another notable cause.

Despite some initial skepticism about working more closely with the police department, Officer Kirshbaum was able to forge a strong relationship between sorority members and himself, becoming their "go-to guru" when they needed help or simply had questions and wanted advice.

The relationship has benefitted the police department too, as sorority members have sometimes provided valuable information related to cases under investigation.

Sometimes the best relationships get started over coffee. That was our experience when McDonald's invited us over for "Coffee with a Cop" both to celebrate the grand opening of the new restaurant in the Twenty-ninth Street shops, and to give members of the public a chance for some casual conversation with officers.

About a dozen BPD officers participated, and restaurant-goers told us they appreciated the opportunity to get to know the people who protect them, and to ask questions about issues which are affecting them.



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2015 May

Justice



Photo courtesy of Daily Camera

On March 31st, 2014, a 30-year-old developmentally disabled man was severely beaten in his home. Aaron Tuneberg was rushed to the hospital, where he later died of injuries sustained after being beaten with a baseball bat and a golf club.

The two suspects, 18-year-old Austin Holford and 18-year-old Luke Pelham, now face First Degree Felony Murder charges and Second Degree Murder with a Deadly Weapon charges.

Police identified both suspects immediately, and arrested Holford after finding him sleeping in a van. Pelham, who called 9-1-1 to report the assault, was arrested a short time later.

During the call to Dispatch, Pelham claimed that he wasn't involved in the attack. He said he saw someone in Tuneberg's building carrying a baseball bat and heard what sounded like an assault, and said he wanted to report it because he was concerned. He waited an hour to call police.

Investigators found that both Pelham and Holford were responsible for the assault which cost Tuneberg his life. Police believe they attacked him over an Xbox video console.

Holford pleaded guilty to Second Degree Murder, First Degree Assault and Aggravated Robbery.

A prolific criminal was targeting convenience stores and fast-food restaurants during a string of armed robberies in Boulder in the last few weeks of 2013. From December 9th through January 1st, 2014, there were 11 armed robberies in Boulder. One business, Lolita's Market & Deli, was hit twice by the suspect who, during one of the robberies, confronted a pregnant cashier with a gun before taking off with cash from the register.

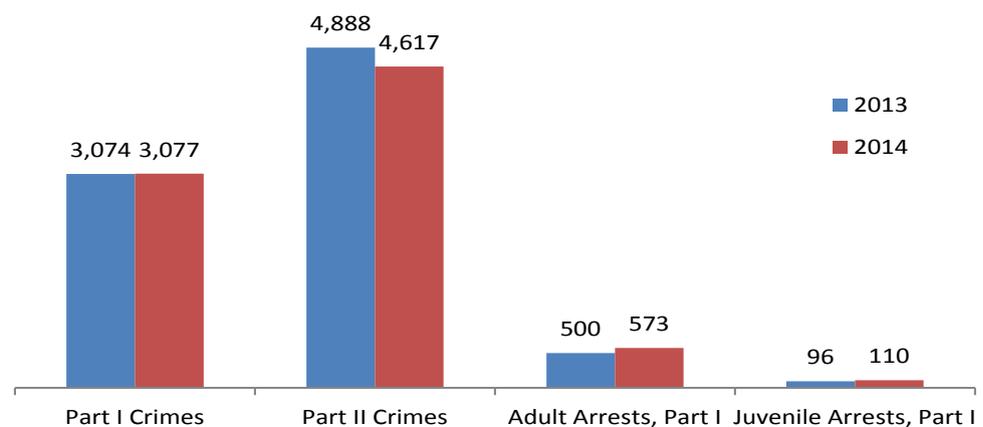
The description of the suspect, and his methods, were similar in many of

these cases. The suspect would enter the business, display a handgun and demand cash before fleeing in a waiting vehicle. No one was ever injured, but plenty of people were frightened.

Detectives, patrol officers and plain-clothes officers worked together for weeks to try to identify the suspect. A break in the case came when police recognized the getaway vehicle, which led them to the driver, who admitted to his involvement in the robberies. The driver also revealed the name of the suspect, Alishan Yapoujian.

Boulder police arrested Yapoujian on January 1st, 2014. Ultimately 12 robberies were cleared with that arrest and the arrest of three others. Later in the year, Yapoujian was convicted of Aggravated Robbery charges and sentenced to 16 years in prison.

Serious Crime and Arrests



Part I Crimes: Serious crime including aggravated assault, homicide, rape, robbery, etc.
 Part II Crimes: All other crime including fraud, simple assault, liquor offenses, etc.

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2015 June

Leadership



Although it's difficult to say goodbye to people we work with for so many years, we look forward to the energy and ideas that come with our new supervisors. That being said, 2014 has been a remarkable year in the way of promotions. With the retirements of Chief Beckner, Deputy Chief Hayes, Commander Weiler, several sergeants and an additional commander's position added to our budget we had 16 people advance in the department. After years with little opportunity for progression, this is truly extraordinary. This type of transition is important to maintaining a strong and healthy organization.

Congratulations to Chief Greg Testa, Deputy Chief's Curtis Johnson and Carey Weinheimer, Commanders Greg Lefebre, Katie McEldowney, Tom Trujillo, Jack Walker and Kerry Yamaguchi and Sergeants Joel Burick, Patrick Compton, Vinnie Gallerani, Robin Holdstock, Nick Smetzer, Robyn Vanderleest and Brannon Winn and Dispatch Supervisor Brad Riggin. We are proud to have them join the supervisory ranks.

Chief Beckner's last award ceremony proved to be one of the department's largest. Multiple awards were given for efforts demonstrated during the September 2013 flood.

Chief Beckner received an award on behalf of the department from the Special Olympics Committee for the many years we have participated in the events they sponsor. The U.S. Department of Defense gave awards to Ed Burke, Mike Heath and Teri Hamilton for assisting them during the flood.

Awards for Excellence were given to Vinnie Gallerani and Mike Heath. The Chief's Commendation was presented to Janee' Boswell, Suzanne Graff, Dave Hayes, Curtis Johnson, Chris Kastanek, Kim Kobel, EJ Leverock, Ted McEldowney, Lynn McPherson, Ray Medford, Paul Reichenbach, Shane Rodgers, Nick Smetzer, Brad Snedeker and Carey Weinheimer.

Unit Citations were awarded to our Animal Control and Code Enforcement Units and a Citizenship Award was given to Bart McCoy.

Congratulations to all of the awards recipients! Well deserved!



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2015 July

Dedication



There are countless stories of Boulder police officer's dedication to solving crime. One of them took four years, patience and a great amount of perseverance. Another entailed a lot of planning and undercover work.

It took nearly four years and there were those who thought the case was so cold that it would never be solved, but the patient dedication of the Boulder Police Department's Detective Section finally paid off when, in May 2014, detectives identified the suspect accused of assaulting Sgt. Jim Byfield on University Hill back in October 2010. After DNA confirmation by the Colorado Bureau of Investigation, Herbert Joseph Vallier was arrested on June 2, 2014.

On October 16th 2010 Byfield was responding to a domestic violence call in the area when he heard a call on the radio about a male suspect slashing tires on police cars. Byfield headed to the scene and confronted the suspect, who tried

to run away. Byfield chased the suspect and when he caught up to him, the suspect attacked Byfield, causing serious injuries that included a concussion, a broken collar bone and a broken elbow.

That night, the suspect got away and although detectives worked the case for several years, nothing panned out as far as leads and no one with any information would talk.

Fast forward to the fall of 2013, when Detective Kurt Foster received a tip from Crime Stoppers that turned out to be just the break investigators were looking for. The tipster knew the suspect and shared significant information with detectives that ultimately led Foster and Detective Jeremy Frenzen to Santa Barbara, CA, where the suspect was living.

Buccal swabs taken from the suspect matched DNA taken from the scene of the assault, and 37-year-old Herbert Joseph Vallier was arrested on suspicion of Second Degree Assault.

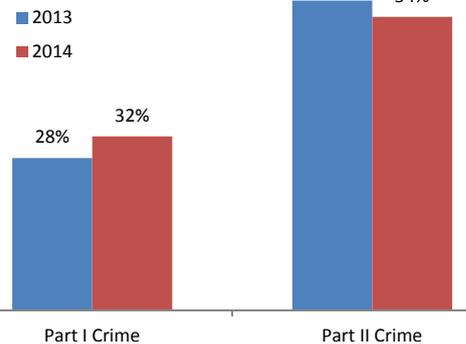
Vallier pleaded guilty and was sentenced to one year in jail.

Months of dogged undercover work paid off in May 2014 when BPD arrested ten people in connection with a major drug dealing operation. The drug operation was headquartered in Central Park, and negatively affected the safety and well being of the Boulder community.

The suspects were sneaky – they purchased marijuana at a local medical marijuana dispensary then repackaged it to sell to buyers in the downtown Boulder area. Buyers included two underage high-school students.

Officers had come close to shutting the ring down a couple of times, but the dealers were cagey and managed to skirt the law. That changed on a warm summer afternoon when after an undercover sting operation – involving between 30 to 40 uniformed and plainclothes officers – swarmed in and arrested six of the suspected dealers. Four others were arrested in the following days, effectively shutting down an organized drug distribution network that had been operating in Boulder for at least a year.

Clearance Rates



Part I Crimes: Serious crime including aggravated assault, homicide, rape, robbery, etc.

Part II Crimes: All other crime including fraud, simple assault, liquor offenses, etc.

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2015 August

Service



The Boulder Police Department strives to fulfill its mission statement, "Working with the community to provide service and safety." One recent example of exemplary service is Officer Jenny Paddock's recent City Value Award of Respect for her work with the homeless population. She was nominated by the Honorable Judge Linda Cooke. This was a great honor and we are proud of her diligent efforts.



Many of our behind-the-scenes employees include Records Information Specialists who greet visitors, provide general information, copies of reports, fingerprints and direct customers to other divisions. Our dispatchers are the first point of contact for those who call and need police assistance.

Accident Report Specialists are trained to handle accidents so officers can deal with law enforcement related calls. The two newest divisions of the police department, Animal Control and Code Enforcement, are integral to our commitment to provide the community with a well-rounded customer service base. Together employees of these sections, along with members of Personnel, Training, Victim Services, and Property and Evidence provide essential services to the department and the community.



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2015 September

Heroism

Heroism isn't just about law enforcement and other first responders. Sometimes extraordinary circumstances can turn ordinary people into heroes, and that's exactly what happened on August 22, 2014 at Baseline Rd. and Foothills Pkwy. when a semi truck carrying a full load of sand flipped onto its side, burying two vehicles – and their occupants – underneath tons of sand. Two other vehicles were also involved in the collision, and were partially buried.

Although several people managed to get out of their cars on their own, one vehicle was buried so completely that it wasn't visible at all. The driver was trapped and frightened, with no way to escape.

The first police officers and firefighters on the scene knew there was no time to waste and they began frantically digging through the sand with their bare hands, trying to reach the man who was trapped. Other drivers, nearby neighbors and passers-by ran to help the police officers, some using their bare hands and others bringing shovels, buckets and other tools seemingly out of nowhere, in order to reach the trapped driver.

When rescuers had removed enough sand from the top of the car, firefighters from Boulder Fire-Rescue began the work of cutting away the roof of the car in order to free the man. While several firefighters focused on the extrication, another firefighter laid down on the roof of the car just so he could calm the

trapped driver. The firefighter talked to the driver during the entire rescue, so that he would understand what was happening and not be afraid.

Firefighters successfully extricated the man, who was conscious and talking, and got him the medical help he needed.

Although several people were taken to the hospital that night, including the driver of the semi-truck, no one was seriously injured.

There were many heroes in the area of Baseline & Foothills that night in August, some wearing uniforms and others who just happened to be in the right place at the right time. Their selfless actions saved someone's life.

Running toward danger is the opposite of how human beings innately react, yet that's exactly what police officers do when someone's safety is being threatened.

Twenty years ago, running toward danger cost Officer Beth Haynes her life. She was killed in the line of duty when she responded to a domestic violence call at an apartment complex just before 1 a.m., right about the time Beth was going off duty.

She was the first officer to arrive and as she exited her patrol car she confronted the armed suspect, 36-year-old Ali Kalamy, and

exchanged gunfire with him. She tried to take cover behind another car but Kalamy jumped onto that car and fired down on her, shooting her before she had time to roll under the vehicle for protection and before back-up officers had arrived to help.

Beth was killed during the exchange of gunfire. Kalamy was wounded in the leg and chest, and committed suicide a short time later as officers converged on him.

Every April 16th, the Boulder Police Department remembers Beth's ultimate sacrifice with a moment of radio silence at 10 a.m. This year marked the 20th anniversary of Beth's death.



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2015 October

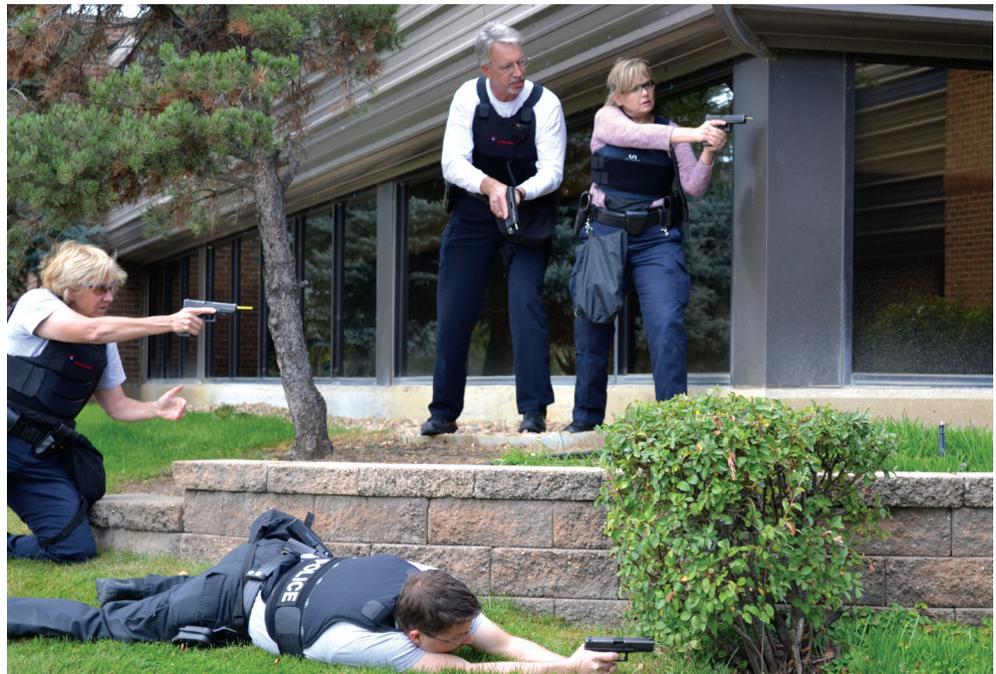
Expertise

Boulder Police have a wide variety of expertise and a glance at our calendar will tell you how imperative training is to us for maintaining high levels of skill and knowledge.

Trainings give officers the ability to respond instinctively to typical situations by using consistently proven techniques. Police must master a baseline of skills including use of equipment, communication and self-management and the proper use of firearms. They must also know policies and procedures, traffic law, how to conduct searches and what to do as a responder to a major crime scene or incident.

Some officers are trained as crime scene investigators (CSI). This can be a tedious process where they identify and gather evidence, photograph scenes and package and label evidence. We also have officers who are designated as Drug Recognition Experts. Their training is extensive and includes ways to determine if an individual is under the influence of a drug or drugs other than alcohol or suffering from an illness that produces a similar impairment. They also learn how to identify the different categories of drugs which induce certain signs and symptoms.

Our detectives have a vast amount of knowledge and are designated to investigate specific types of cases. They include major crimes, domestic violence, vehicle thefts, arson, forgery and identity theft, just to name a few. Their trainings are broad and include classes about



sex offenders, child abuse, robberies and computer forensics.

The Boulder Police Department is also fortunate to have its own shooting range. This allows for more frequent firearms training for our officers. It is also utilized by other departments who don't have their own ranges. In addition, we have a Civilian Firearms Course for use by police department employees only.

Training expands to our non-commissioned personnel as well, who often take classes to enhance their areas of expertise. In 2014, over 500 trainings were attended by department members. We believe training is inherent to our commitment to keep the community safe and are continually seeking ways to improve.



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2015 November

Giving



Most of you have heard of the “ice bucket challenges” that people are doing for good causes. This fall, the Northglenn Police Department challenged the Boulder Police Department to raise money for the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund by participating in an ice bucket challenge. Boulder Police Chief Greg Testa accepted, but decided that being doused with a bucket of water wasn’t enough of a real challenge...so he talked Boulder Fire-Rescue into spraying down participants from one of their bucket trucks. (Which Boulder Fire-Rescue gladly did!)

Employees from the police department, the City Manager’s Office, Public Works, Energy Future, Open Space & Mountain Parks, the City Attorney’s Office, Communications, plus Parks & Rec participated, and raised more than \$1,000 which will be contributed to the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial Fund.

Chief Testa challenged other chiefs to take the challenge, including: Sheriff Joe Pelle; and the police chiefs from

Longmont, Erie, Lafayette, Louisville and the University of Colorado.

A big thank you to everyone who participated, and to Boulder Fire-Rescue for the assist.

Employees of the Boulder Police Department always find time to give back to the community in some way. Last year, events like the Law Enforcement Torch Run, Tip-a-Cop and the Polar Plunge (Go Copsicles!), helped raise more than \$12,000.00 for the Special Olympics program, benefitting more than 14,000 athletes.

Santa always stops in at police headquarters when he comes to town, and the kids in our department family look forward to seeing him when he visits. Officer Ron Perea started the event a few years ago to encourage department employees to donate toys for the Community Services’ Share-a-Gift program. Dozens (and dozens) of children participated, sharing Christmas wishes and posing for pictures. Between \$400 and \$500 worth of toys were collected and donated.



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2015 December



**BOULDER
POLICE**
DEPARTMENT
2015 Calendar
2014 Annual Report