

**2010
ANNUAL REPORT**



**Aberdeen Police Department
Chief of Police
Robert H. Torgerson**

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Honorable Mayor William Simpson:

It is a pleasure to submit the 2010 Annual Report for the Aberdeen Police Department. As you view this information, I think it is important to recognize the extra effort, skills and abilities of the men and women that work in the Aberdeen Police Department.

2010 was a busy year to say the least; with that being said you should look at this report with even more pride for the accomplishments of the Aberdeen Police Department.

Calls for police service increased from 25,425 to 26,775 or by 5.31%. Each month of this year our officers responded to an average of 2,231 calls from our citizens for some type of police assistance. The type of calls varies from the very minor calls for assistance to the serious felony crimes. Serious felony crime saw an increase of 1084 to 1204 or 11.07%. These crimes include rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny, auto theft, and arson. The largest increase was in larceny (theft) crimes. Reported domestic violence crimes dropped from 681 to 413 or a reduction of 39%, while crimes with children saw a slight increase from 54 to 58 reported incidents or 7.41% higher than 2009.

In 2010 our officers made 7,220 traffic stops or a 34.53% increase and issued 5,874 citations, an increase of 31.5%. This increase can partly be attributed to a Washington State system called SECTOR (Statewide Electronic Collision and Ticket Online Reporting). This system allows officers to issue citations and investigate traffic accidents using an electronic scanning (bar code reader) tool that fills out the reports and citations for the officers, which is much faster than using a pen. A collision that took 30– 45 minutes to investigate can now be completed in approximately 15 minutes and a citation which took about 10 minutes to write can be completed in just a few minutes. We were also reinstated the use of motorcycles in the traffic enforcement in 2010. We sent Officers George Kelly and Jeff Weiss to a grueling two week motorcycle training school in Lynnwood and they have been exceptionally effective combating traffic violators as motorcycle traffic enforcement officers.

In 2010 the Aberdeen Police Department Investigations Division were assigned over 590 new felony cases for follow-up investigation. That is an average of about 49 new cases per month. On any given day an Aberdeen Detective manages 15 to 20 active cases, so staying busy is never a problem for the officers assigned to this Division. The investigations Division wrote and served numerous search warrants related to crimes they were investigating which resulted in the recovery of a lot of stolen property and the arrest of numerous wanted felons. Detectives also made many presentations to community business groups trying to educate them on such topics as crime prevention and reporting. What makes these statistics even more

impressive is that the Investigations Division is staffed by only 5 Detectives. (1 Detective Captain, 1 Detective Sergeant, and 3 Detectives)

The Aberdeen City Jail average daily population was over 22 persons in custody per day in 2010 which is 8,030 prisoner days. Our 18 bed facility is overcrowded on a daily basis. Our corrections officers are tasked the responsibility to process and care for our prisoners and this can be a daunting task. On a normal day they can expect to see highly intoxicated, belligerent, combative, mentally ill, infectious (STD's, scabies, open sore, contagious infections, etc) individuals who don't really want to be in jail. Jails are recognized as one of the highest liability areas for any community and we are fortunate to have a professional staff that understands in importance of their job. The good news is our corrections staff continues to be funded from a Bureau of Justice Administration Support to Rural Law enforcement \$859,000 grant we received in September 2009. Unfortunately we are the final year of that funding which will ends in August 2011.

In December 2010 we were notified by 'The Office of Community Orientated Policing' that we received a grant for the next 3 years to replace the 2 police officer positions that were loss through attritions. This grant is in the amount of \$583,000 for 3 years and requires that we maintain the staffing level for the 4th year.

In 2010 we had a number of officers that were injured or ill which reduced the amount of staffing time in the department through normal duties. The officers and staff that were injured were assigned to modified duties whenever possible. Previous reductions in staffing left some task undone, but with staff assigned to modified duties, we are able to get some of that work accomplished.

Even with the decrease in staffing and budget cuts the Aberdeen Police Department was able to maintain and surpass the requirements of the State of Washington for training of police officers.

The Aberdeen Police Records Section keeps our heart beating. On an annual basis these 3 staff members will manage over 6,600 warrants, 200 protection orders, enter approximately 16,500 reports, prepare over 1900 daily court dockets and still handle more than 125 phone call request from citizens requesting information and use over 600 reams of paper making copies of all the documents and reports. Everything we do is documented somewhere and this Division keeps this information safe and filed as we are required to do by Washington State Law.

Animal Control received 506 calls for animal related complaints from the citizens of Aberdeen in 2010 and removed from our community 300 stray or vicious animals. Animal Control is staffed by 1 Animal Control Officer plus a half time Shelter Custodian.

Everyone in Aberdeen knows our Parking Enforcement Officer, George Welch. He can be seen daily walking our downtown parking district boundaries enforcing parking violation. But he is probably known best because he does his job with a

ready smile and a friendly hello. George knows everyone on his beat and he epitomizes Community Policing at its best. George also handles citizen parking complains throughout the community and impounds abandoned and hulk vehicles.

This report was made possible by the extra effort and work of Officer Jeff Weiss, who put this together with the support from the different divisions and the specialists within the Aberdeen Police Department. The Aberdeen Police Department hopes this Annual Report will provide some insight on the actual activities, statistics and information about the Aberdeen Police Department accomplishments during 2010. For more details please review the rest of this report.

I would like to thank the Mayor, the city council and the citizens of our community for their continued support of the Aberdeen Police Department.

Sincerely,

Robert H. Torgerson

Robert H. Torgerson
Chief of Police

Statistical Information

FELONY OFFENSE	2008	2009	2010
Rape	4	6	6
Robbery	12	28	15
Aggravated Assault	23	34	31
Burglary	174	198	185
Larceny	744	734	898
Auto Theft	72	78	60
Arson	5	5	7
Total	1034	1083	1202

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE	2008	2009	2010
Domestic Incidents	329	281	213
Domestic Assaults	124	123	111
Court Order Violations	54	239	86
Criminal Mischief	6	38	3
Total	513	681	413

CRIMES W/CHILDREN	2008	2009	2010
Child Abuse	36	35	29
Sex Offenses	85	19	27
Assaults	0	0	2
Total	121	54	58

PATROL DIVISION

In 2010 the Patrol Division worked under the direction of Captain Dave Johnson, with the assistance of Lieutenant Scott Slyter and Lieutenant Kevin Darst. Our Patrol Officers proudly continued the admirable tradition of providing exceptional police services to our citizens, by providing first response to emergency and non-emergency incidents as well as actively addressing other community requirements.

The patrol division was comprised of several specialties and sub-sections consisting of 27 Commissioned Police Officers, 6 Corrections Officers, one Animal Control Officer, one part-time Animal control Custodian, and a Parking Enforcement Officer.

A few of the crucial specialty areas performed by Patrol Division members are: Firearms Instructor, Field Training Officer, Meth Clan Lab Team Member, Emergency Vehicle Operation Instructor, Vehicle Collision Investigator, SWAT, Motorcycle Enforcement Officer and Crisis Negotiator.

Patrol Commander: 1
Patrol Lieutenant: 2

Patrol Sergeant: 4
Patrol Corporal/LPO: 5
Patrol Officer: 12
Traffic Officer: 2
Patrol K-9: 1
Total Commissioned: 27
Corrections Officer: 6
Animal Control: 1.5
Parking Enforcement: 1

Calls For Services	2008	2009	2010
Dispatched Calls	22,495	25,425	26,775
Traffic Stops	5,123	5,367	7,220
Citations/Infractions	3,303	4,467	5,874

Aberdeen Police Traffic Unit

The Aberdeen Police Departments Traffic Unit is an integral part of the Patrol Division. The unit is staffed by two officers, Jeff Weiss and George Kelley. Between the two officers, they are responsible for community traffic and pedestrian safety services in the form of motor vehicle and pedestrian safety education, collision investigation, traffic law enforcement, enhanced emphasis patrols, and traffic and pedestrian monitoring.

In 2010, Officer Jeff Weiss and Officer George Kelley attended a grueling two week motorcycle training school in Lynnwood, Washington and became State certified as motorcycle officers. With the use of motorcycles and electronic ticketing, they were able to increase visibility on the Aberdeen Streets while enforcing the traffic laws and identifying problem areas.

The traffic unit reviews and takes appropriate action on citizen traffic related concerns, and speeding vehicle complaints are tracked so that the departments speed monitoring trailer can be effectively deployed to trouble locations.

The traffic unit with the help of uniformed patrol officers wrote 5,874 traffic citations in 2010.

- 4,417 Traffic Infractions
- 928 Criminal Citations



K-9 Apprehension Team

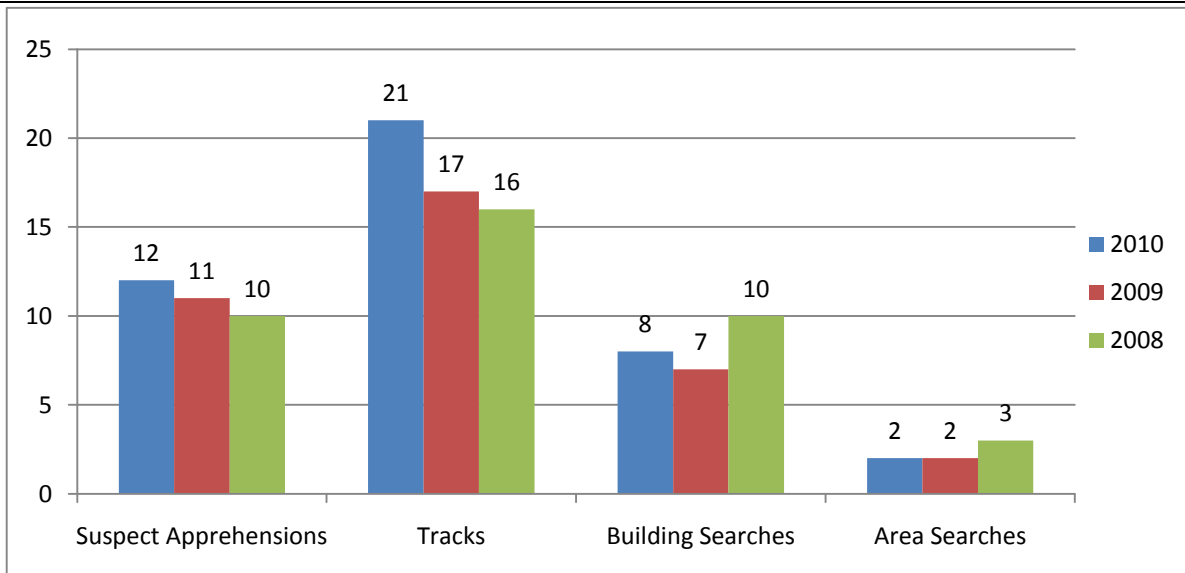
Officer Steve Timmons and K9 Nitro completed their 6th year as the Aberdeen Police Department's K9 apprehension team. This team is strongly supported by the Tamaki Foundation.

In 2010, the K9 team completed 126 hours of training, bringing their total training hours to 1,064.25. The team was applied on 33 occasions with 12 successful suspect apprehensions and two evidence recoveries. The K9 team also stayed busy through their routine patrol efforts by conducting 728 traffic stops, issuing 528 infractions/citations, and responding to 760 calls for service.

The K9 team conducted three public demonstrations at the Grays Harbor County fair along with two safety talks at Raindrop pre-school for the 3 and 4 year old pre-school classes. The K9 team attended the Spring K9 seminar in Yakima and a Tactical K9 camp at Fort Discovery.

Below is a breakdown of the teams 2010 statistics:

- Suspect apprehensions: 12
- Evidence Recoveries: 2
- Tracks: 21
- Building Searches: 8
- Area searches: 2



The K9 team is in good health and looks forward to providing an effective service for the citizens and law enforcement officer of the City of Aberdeen and Grays Harbor County.

Corrections

The City of Aberdeen Jail Facility is operated by the Aberdeen police Department. It is designated by city resolution as a thirty-day holding facility. The facility has 18 beds and a maximum combined capacity of 25 male / female inmates.

The facility was staffed in 2010 by 6 full-time Correction Officers thanks to a Bureau of Justice Administration Support to rural law enforcement grant.

In addition to the Aberdeen City Jail, the city houses inmates at the City of Forks jail. Due to cost saving measures and changes to the Aberdeen Jail, the city housed only 1 prisoner at the Forks Jail saving revenue for the City of Aberdeen.

Total 2010 Bookings: 2,337

Total Prisoner Days: 8,030

Average Daily Population: 22

ANIMAL CONTROL

The Animal Control Unit is staffed by one full-time Animal Control Officer, and a part-time shelter custodian. Animal Control responded to 506 Calls for service in 2010, compared to 518 in 2009. During 2010 the City of Westport continued its Animal Control Services contract with Aberdeen. The following represents the City of Aberdeen.

- Notice of infractions 19
- Criminal Citations 0

- Warnings 157
- Euthanized 74
- Escaped 1
- Released 78
- Redeemed 75
- Returned 9
- Adoptions 85
- Impounds 300

Average daily shelter population 11

PARKING ENFORCEMENT

Parking Enforcement Officer George Welch responded or took on-view action to 255 Service Requests that included:

- 389 parking infractions
- 103 parking Service Requests
- 37 vehicle impoundments
- 32 citizen complaints
- 7 Hulk Forms for abandoned vehicles on private property

Officer Welch works closely with Code Enforcement Officer Ray Olson for abandoned vehicles on private property.

Aberdeen Police Explorers

The Aberdeen Police Explorer Post #13 continued strong throughout 2010, although the year did bring some transition to the post. Co-Advisor Officer Tim Fellows resigned to take a position in Camas, WA leaving one post advisor. The post also recognized a loss of two Senior Explorers who were responsible for the leadership of the post for the past few years.

During 2010 our post averaged seven Explorers ranging in age from 15 ½ to 20 years of age. Members logged over two hundred ride hours with officers on patrol. The Explorers assisted our police department by providing security at the Splash Festival and the Downtown Trick or Treat. Our Explorers further assisted the City of Hoquiam by providing overnight security at the Olympic Stadium during the Convoy of Hope. During the month of December the Explorers assisted the City of Montesano with the annual Festival of Lights.

The post continued to meet weekly throughout 2010 covering a wide variety of training topics. During the course of the year our Explorers saw an increase in the

opportunity to assist the Aberdeen Police Department S.W.A.T. Team during training exercises.

The Explorers enjoy the variety of training and clearly demonstrated a retention and working knowledge of our procedures and practices at the Oregon Law Enforcement Explorer Challenge held in Salem, Oregon in August. The Aberdeen Police Explorers won four awards including first place in domestic violence and building searches; second place in building searches; and third place sharp shooter award. I was extremely proud of our Explorers who received compliments from other advisors/judges at the challenge for their professionalism.

Gary Sexton has served as the Explorer Advisor over the past nearly eight years and continues to enjoy such a rewarding experience. The Aberdeen Police Explorer Post serves our community not only in the services the post provides, but also in the services/experiences the members receive. The Aberdeen Police Explorer Post is a positive demonstration of the Aberdeen Police Department extending our hand to our community.

INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

The Investigations Section is a subdivision of the Aberdeen Police Department Operations Division. The section is responsible for conducting primary and follow-up investigations that are usually of a felonious nature. The detectives are on call 24-hours a day, seven days a week to respond to serious crimes as needed within the city limits of Aberdeen. Detectives also provide assistance to outside agencies upon request.

The section is staffed by a Captain, Detective Sergeant, three Detectives, and an Evidence Specialist. During 2010, over 590 cases were assigned for follow up investigation by Aberdeen Detectives. That is an average of 49 new cases per month. During 2010, Aberdeen Detectives carried an average of 15 to 20 active cases throughout the year.

A case of note during 2010 involved a series of armed robberies of persons involved in the trafficking of Oxycontin. The investigation led to the concurrent serving of two high risk search warrants by the Aberdeen SWAT team. One of the warrants was served in the Elma area while the second involved a residence in Aberdeen.

The property room received and processed approximately 2550 property and evidence items in 2010. Included in this were 46 weapons and 319 packages of controlled substances. During this same year, the Aberdeen Police Department continued its cooperative efforts with Stafford Creek Prison by donating 41 seized bicycles to their refurbishing program.

The section wrote and executed numerous search warrants many of which resulted in the recovery of stolen property, the arrest of numerous wanted felons, and the seizure of assets. The successful application of search warrants throughout the year was a result of ongoing team work between the Patrol and Investigations Sections.

As part of the Aberdeen Police Department goals for 2010, the Investigations Section participated in numerous public presentations to community and business groups. These presentations covered topics such as crime prevention and reporting, crime statistics, Investigations Section capabilities, and numerous other investigative topics.

During 2010, members of the section received continuing in-service training relevant to their investigative functions. This ongoing education is crucial to the development of the Detectives, the effective operation of the Section, and the Aberdeen Police Department as a whole.

As with other Aberdeen Police Officers, Aberdeen Detectives are assigned other specialized duties to include appointments to the department SWAT team, Force Training Unit, and the Domestic Violence Response Team.

The Aberdeen Police Department Investigations Section is strong and looking forward to pursuing the department's mission and goals in 2011, as it successfully did during 2010. The section continues to strive and is dedicated to professional and effective police services to the citizens of the City of Aberdeen.

Aberdeen Police Evidence Section

During the year, approximately 2,550 property and evidence items were received and processed.

This amount includes 46 weapons received: 21 handguns, 25 long guns and numerous related ammunitions.

The above total of 2,550 items includes 319 packages of controlled substances, primarily methamphetamine, heroin, marijuana, Oxycontin and miscellaneous other pills.

The Aberdeen evidence room receives evidence generated by Drug Task Force cases within our city limits. The figures above include their 21 cases from 2010, which totaled 116 packages. We also stored \$2,149.00 seized cash from the DTF. They brought in 5 firearms for storage as well.

Hundreds of Aberdeen and Drug Task Force items were processed and packaged for the state crime lab, toxicology lab, computer forensics and latent print labs. The evidence section works closely with the APD Investigations section and the prosecutor's office on these felony cases.

In 2010 we continued with the Bicycles from Heaven program with the Stafford Creek Corrections Center, donating 41 bikes through the Lions Club for their retraining program.

Our ongoing purge process continued with our notifications from the Superior and Municipal courts and the Grays Harbor County Prosecutor's Office. In addition, past felony and misdemeanor cases were reviewed and disbursed. This includes destruction of hazardous and illegal items.

In 2010 we continued our participation with the on-line Property Bureau for our auction items. This program streamlines the auction process for many police departments nationwide. They pick up and deliver items to their Seattle area site for review and placement on their website.

The evidence room and its procedures successfully passed its yearly audit on October 19, 2010.

Drug Task Force

The Drug Task force is a combined effort between the Aberdeen Police Department, Hoquiam Police Department and the Grays Harbor Sheriff's office. One sergeant and three detectives representing each of the agencies staffed the drug task force in 2010. In addition, one Aberdeen Police Department Investigative Specialist was assigned as support staff.

Drug Task force Detectives opened 81 new cases during 2010, and closed 55 cases. The DTF initiated 20 search warrants and conducted three knock and talks. DTF investigators efforts identified, disrupted, and / or dismantled 15 major drug trafficking organizations working in and around Grays Harbor and the Olympic Peninsula region. During 2010 the DTF was also involved in five federal OCDETF investigations.

The predominant choice of drugs on the Harbor during 2010 was Heroin, followed by Methamphetamine.

INVESTIGATIONS:

Total Cases Opened	81
Total Cases Closed	55
Search Warrants	20
Knock and Talks	3
Arrests	76
Meth Labs (Active, Boxed, Dumps)	1
Meth Cases Other Than Labs	24
Marijuana ERAD Cases (Dealers)	21
Marijuana ERAD Cases (Growers)	21
DTO CASES (Identified, Disrupted, Dismantled)	15
OCDETF CASES ADOPTED	5

DRUGS SEIZED	UNITS	# UNITS	VALUE PER UNIT	TOTAL VALUE
Cocaine	Grams	3994.50	\$50	\$ 199,725.00
Marijuana	Plants	2409.00	\$1,500	\$ 3,613,500.00
Marijuana	Pounds	45.97	\$3,000	\$ 137,900.79
Heroin	Grams	26220.50	\$40	\$ 1,048,820.00
Crystal				
Methamphetamine	Grams	23274.00	\$80	\$ 1,861,920.00
Other				
Hallucinogens (Psilocybin, LSD)	Grams	9.50	\$20	\$ 190.00
Prescription Drugs (Oxycontin, etc.)	Grams	113.35	\$20	\$ 2,267.00
TOTAL VALUE SEIZED DRUGS:				\$ 6,864,322.79

ASSETS	SEIZED	VALUE OF SEIZURES	FORFEITURES	VALUE OF FORFEITURES
Real Property	1	\$ 110,000.00	0	\$ -
Vessels	0	\$ -	0	\$ -
Vehicles	15	\$ 160,500.00	25	\$ 23,225.00
Firearms	20	\$ 10,000.00	8	\$ -
Currency	18	\$ 82,563.00	27	\$ 49,745.00
Miscellaneous Property	32	\$ 40,425.00	63	\$ 6,704.00
TOTALS:	86	\$ 403,488.00	123	\$ 79,674.00

Special Weapons and Tactics

The Aberdeen Police Department Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT) Team, led by Commander John Green, served 3 high-risk search/arrest warrants in 2010.

The 6-member Entry Team participated in 461 hours of training in 2010. At the beginning of the year the team developed a comprehensive training deployment plan. Our plan consisted of focused monthly training on team and individual skills that culminated in reality based training events. We set the bar high with 22 team and

individual skills covered during the course of the year followed by quarterly training events. The training was a success and in addition to the team and individual skills, we conducted 3 reality based events in conjunction with our Marksmen and Hostage Negotiators. Our Entry Team consisted of Officer Steve Timmons, Officer David Parkinson, Officer Andy Snodgrass, Officer Bret Ellis, and Team Leaders Cpl. Dale Green and Cpl. Casey Wagonblast.

The 4-member Marksmen Team participated in 133 hours of training in 2010. The Marksmen Team began integrated training with the Entry Team in addition to the monthly qualifications and practices, to facilitate communications and compliment the Entry Team training. The monthly training involved cold barrel shots at known distances, moving and obscured targets, tactical movement, documentation and policy, as well as low light and cold weather conditions. Our Marksmen Team consists of Sgt Ross Lampky, Officer George Kelley, Detective Robert Green and Team Leader Officer Bruce Watts.

For the 3rd year in a row The Aberdeen Police Department SWAT Team was the only active tactical team in Grays Harbor County.

Hostage Negotiations

The Aberdeen Police Department Hostage Negotiation Team consists of four Commissioned police Officers, including the team leader Lt. Kevin Darst.

The HNT falls under the chain of command of the SWAT commander and the team leader is part of the leadership group for the incident. The team members responded to numerous situations throughout the year of 2010, where their skills as trained negotiators were utilized to help change the outcome of a dangerous situation.

They responded to suicidal subjects with weapons in very dangerous situations. The team is an integral part of the SWAT team and serves a valuable role in these dangerous situations.

The team continues to work towards continued education in the field of HNT, and they conducted training sessions of hostage call outs with the SWAT team.

SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS DIVISION

Police Administrative Sergeant Tom Schmidt manages the Special Assignments Division. Sergeant Schmidt is also the Public Records Officer and the Information Technology Administrator.

The Special Assignments Division is responsible for:

- The Records Section
- Facility Maintenance
- Information Technology
- Citizen Volunteer Unit

Records Section

Police Services Specialists provide support services to all sections of the Department, and other tasks necessary for the day-to-day operation of the Aberdeen Police Department.

The Records Section is staffed by three full-time Police Services Specialists; Theresa Oleachea, Elaine Mortimeyer, and Mendi Stump.

Records Personnel are responsible for all data entry into the police department records management system, as well as entering certain records into the State ACCESS system, which is the Washington Crime Information Center and the National Crime Information Centers combined. The records Section is also responsible for the filing and distribution of all reports generated by the patrol and investigations sections, including compiling reports for the courts.

Request for reports and Public Records Act requests have skyrocketed for the past few years. The requests are time consuming. Each piece of information requested must be examined for content. It must not contain exempted information; information that could jeopardize an on-going investigation; or exempted for other reasons. During 2010 the records section handled over 1,600 requests for information.

Some of the Statistics from the Records Section during 2009 include:

- Managing over 6,600 outstanding Aberdeen Municipal Court warrants with a combined value of over 10.9 million dollars. This includes searching for additional identifiers to add to each warrant, entering and filing all newly issued warrants into ACCESS, pulling all expired warrants from the files, and deleting them from ACCESS. Each warrant has an expiry date, and the cycle starts over after it is reissued.
- Managing and entering into ACCESS over 200 Protection Orders.
- Entering and filing the contents of approximately 16,500 reports annually into our Records Management System.
- Preparing over 1,900 reports for daily court dockets.
- Entering and filing 4,528 citations, including 973 non-traffic citations, 511 parking citation, 3,026 traffic citations, and 18 Animal Control citations.
- The Records Section does background checks on people applying for Concealed Pistol Licenses, Gun Dealer Licenses, Taxi Cab Permits, and Taxi Driver Permits.
- The Aberdeen Police Department uses an average of 600 reams of paper per year making copies, printing original reports, printing documents stored on the records management system, monitoring messages from the ACCESS printer, answering requests for reports and public documents, and writing response letters.

Police Volunteer Unit

The Police Volunteer Unit consists of 9 members from within the community, including the Department Chaplin, who continued providing a very valuable service to the

Aberdeen Police Department and the citizens of the City of Aberdeen. They are a group of very dedicated citizens volunteering their time to help ease the workload of the Aberdeen Police Department.

During 2010 the Police Volunteer Unit logged over 1850 hours of service within the Aberdeen Police Department, some of which involved:

- Performing vacation house checks
- Patrolling designated Handicap Parking Spaces
- Crime prevention activities and informational mailings
- Manning booths at job fairs, school and college functions, and at other informational settings
- Monitoring speed radar in school zones
- Cataloging recovered stolen and found bicycles
- Conducting tours of the Police Department for young students
- Transporting evidence to the State crime Labs in Olympia and Tacoma
- Patrolling the downtown alley ways for unlocked business buildings

All of the Aberdeen police Volunteers are to be commended for their dedication to the volunteer program and the fine jobs they do.