

# COLUMBIA HEIGHTS POLICE DEPARTMENT

## *Annual Report*



**2013**



# Table of Contents

Letter from the Chief of Police .....	1
Organizational Structure .....	3
Police Employees in 2013 .....	4
Employee Highlights.....	5
Department Awards .....	7
Senator Al Franken Visit.....	8
Police Operations .....	9
Police Reserves .....	10
Wellness .....	11
2013 Police Department Budget Summary .....	12
2013 - Another Year of Crime Reduction.....	13
Community Oriented Policing .....	15
Awards in 2013 .....	19
Problem Oriented Policing.....	20
Youth Initiatives.....	22
Columbia Heights Police Give Back/CH Police Association.....	24





Dear Elected Officials and Community Partners,

I am pleased to present you with the 2013 Columbia Heights Police Department (CHPD) Annual Report, which summarizes the important work that was done by your police department this past year. The year 2013 was the fifth year since major philosophical changes were made in the police department, and the progress that has been made since that time, and the results of our important community partnerships, have continued to show encouraging results.

There are a number of policing strategies that guide American law enforcement, some being more reactive, others being more computer and data driven, and some being based on “hot spots” of crime and activity. The CHPD continued its use of a hybrid strategy that relied on Community Oriented Policing (COP) and Problem Oriented Policing (POP) in 2013 to reduce crime and areas of criminal activity, while building important community partnerships. The goals and objectives for 2013 which were memorialized in our Strategic Plan emphasized crime reduction, building community partnerships, and crime and violence prevention initiatives.

In COP our agency continued to seek out opportunities to partner with our citizens, schools, businesses, civic groups, non-profit partners, and other entities to exchange information, build relationships, and work cooperatively to solve crime and community problems. In addition to continuing to expand important projects like Neighborhood and Business Watch, supporting our important non-profit partners including SACA and the Alexandra House, and continuing to collaborate with and support our community’s schools and youth, we continued to raise the bar by finding even more ways to connect with our community. New in 2013 was a program called **“Coffee with a Cop”** where the police department met with residents in restaurants, the city’s library, and neutral community locations to have a dialogue about policing and how we can better serve our residents. The response to this program has been better than expected thus far, and reminds us that we have an engaged community that is willing to step up and partner with us to make Columbia Heights the best and safest community it can be. Other important initiatives that were new in 2013 included a **“Teen Academy”** that was hosted at Columbia Heights High School and partnered police officers with teenagers in an informational exchange and rapport building class that was enjoyed by all that attended, and will be used as a model for dialogue and information sharing into the future. Also new in 2013 was a **“Senior Academy”** where police partnered with some of our seniors to discuss issues affecting them, and to help them to better understand how to be safe in their community and the activities of their police department. Like the Teen Academy, this program was found to be both useful and enjoyable and will be repeated in the coming year. The CHPD also continued to put a lot of effort into prevention and education programs such as the Big Brothers/Big Sisters (BBBS) mentoring initiative, the Open Gym program, the Anti-bullying reading program, DARE, and our multi-cultural outreach programs that now have enjoyed years of success.



In POP our police department took problem-solving to the next level and continued to improve its ability to quickly identify crime trends, crime hot spots and problem people, and then work with our community and criminal justice partners to reduce and eliminate crime problems in Columbia Heights and Hilltop. Our staff is now well versed in utilizing crime data to detect crime, and then look past the numbers to determine exactly what is going on in an area and work with our community partners to reduce or eliminate the problem. Examples of our problem-solving methodology in action included a robbery of person in a neighborhood where over six officers worked in concert over a two-day period to investigate the offense, identify and arrest the offenders, and recover the victim's property. Other great examples of the police department's problem solving approach included prolonged investigations on narcotics and violent crime by our now year-round Street Crimes Unit (SCU) which made dozens of felony arrests in 2013, as well as a detailed and multi-jurisdictional investigation into a graffiti issue that challenged our community's sense of well-being and livability.

I am once again pleased to report that the efforts of your police department, assisted by our strategic partners, have again helped our community to see a crime reduction in 2013. This is the fifth straight year of crime reduction, with reductions in Part 1 crime, Part 2 crime, and the overall or combined crime rate. We know that crime is a community issue and not just an issue for the police, and there are many who deserve the credit for continuing to make this a safer community, yet we are thrilled to see the good things that are continuing to happen in regards to crime in our community.

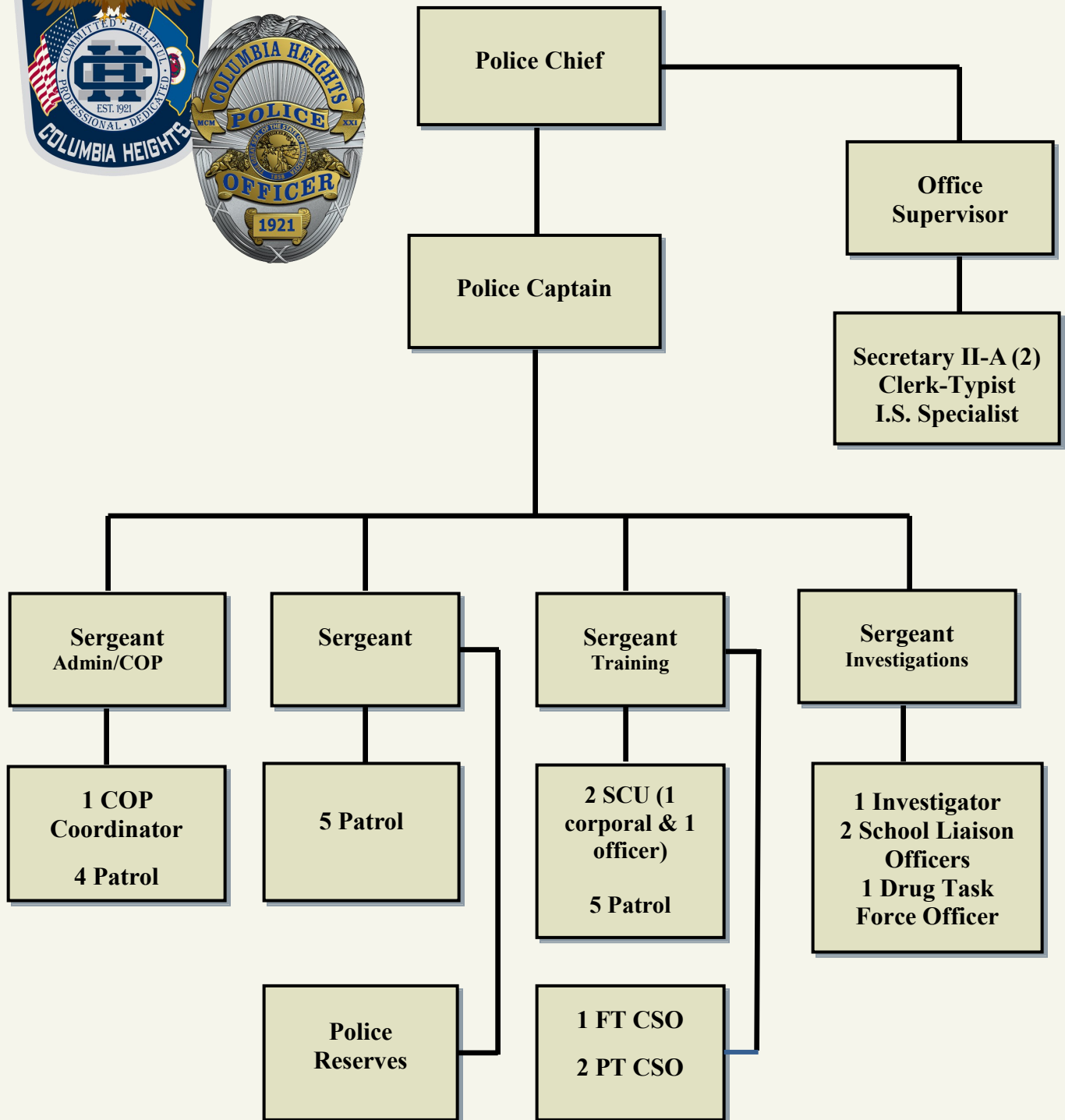
I am also pleased to report that your police department and its employees continued to receive awards and recognition for their work in 2013. Investigator Greg Sinn was awarded the ***Employee of the Year*** for the City of Columbia Heights in 2013 for his investigative accomplishments as well as his many contributions to employee wellness and training. School Liaison Officer Danielle Pregler was selected as the MN Juvenile Officers Association's (MNJOA) ***Outstanding Juvenile Officer of the Year*** for her work as a school liaison which included the Open Gym program, as well as administering the anti-bullying and BBBS programs for the City. In April, the department was notified that it had been selected to receive the Minnesota Literacy Council's ***Community Partnership Award*** for our work with the multi-cultural students at the Metro North Adult Basic Education Center. The police department was also surprised to receive the Columbia Heights School District's ***Above and Beyond Award*** at the 2013 Back to School Convocation. This prestigious award is the most significant that the department has received thus far, as it illustrates that we are living out mission and vision in a way that is having a positive impact in our community and with our youth.

Awards and recognition are always nice, but what is more important is that we continue to do our best each day to ensure that Columbia Heights is an attractive and safe city to visit, work, and raise a family. To that end we will continue to commit ourselves to serving our community with our core values of ***Committed, Helpful, Professional, and Dedicated***, in 2014 and beyond.

Sincerely,

*Scott Nadeau*

ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE



## P O L I C E   E M P L O Y E E S   I N   2 0 1 3

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Serving From:</u>
Scott Nadeau	Chief of Police	04-21-08
Lenny Austin	Captain	02-15-95
John Rogers	Sergeant	06-12-86 Retired 03-29-13
Ted Fischer	Sergeant	10-30-92
Matthew Markham	Sergeant	08-31-98
Erik Johnston	Sergeant	12-02-02
Paul Bonesteel	Corporal/Street Crimes Unit	09-08-94
Lee Okerstrom	Corporal	03-23-98 Retired 08-21-13
Terence Nightingale	COP Coordinator	04-01-85
Gary Kallestad	Police Officer	04-17-89
Steven Korts	Police Officer	09-13-89
Joe Sturdevant	Police Officer	05-06-96
Dale Sorensen	Police Officer	09-11-97
Matthew Aish	Police Officer	08-30-99
Gregory Sinn	Investigator	06-05-00
Robert Harvey	Alt School Liaison/Patrol	01-07-01 Patrol 06-01-13
Jason Beckett	Police Officer	01-08-01
Jason Piehn	AHDTF/Patrol	04-04-05 Patrol 04-01-13
Danielle Pregler	Middle School Liaison	03-19-06
Erik Hanson	Police Officer/HS Liaison	02-05-07
Tessa Villegas	Police Officer	06-18-07 Last Day 04-29-13
Ronald Dietz	Police Officer	11-26-07
Andrew Carigiet	Police Officer	08-11-08 Last Day 04-05-13
Joseph Pikala	Police Officer	08-12-08
William Monberg	Police Officer	10-13-08
Maggie Titus	Police Officer	01-04-10
Justin Pletcher	Street Crimes Unit/AHDTF	05-24-10 AHDTF 10-21-13
Timothy Noll	Police Officer/Street Crimes Unit	11-19-12 SCU 10-16-13
Jacob Hilden	PT CSO/Police Officer	08-20-12 Patrol 05-14-13
Andrew Museus	Police Officer	05-13-13
Karen Olson	Office Supervisor	02-19-86
Elizabeth O'Brien	Records Technician	08-20-90
Carol Femling	Records Technician	10-26-09
Ramon Gomez	Clerk-typist	11-04-13
John Nichols	Information Systems Specialist	03-08-10
Jerry Wellman	Community Service Officer	01-25-06
Marcus Ottney	PT Community Svc Officer	08-27-12
Jacqueline Duchscher	PT Community Svc Officer	06-26-13
Jordan Trammel	PT Community Svc Officer	06-26-13

## EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHTS

## RETIREMENT: JOHN ROGERS

**Sergeant John Rogers** retired on March 29, 2013 after 27 years with the CHPD. During his career, Rogers was promoted first to Corporal, and then to Sergeant. His last assignment was as administrative sergeant supervising the day-shift patrol, and such functions as forfeitures and jail administration. During his tenure, Sergeant Rogers was responsible for writing several grants that provided the department with funding for equipment and personnel.



## RETIREMENT: LEE OKERSTROM



**Corporal Lee Okerstrom** retired from the CHPD on August 21, 2013. Okerstrom began his career here on March 1998, after working as an officer in Woodstock, Illinois. During his tenure, Okerstrom served as a Use of Force and Firearms instructor, and was the department's Reserve Unit coordinator.

## PROMOTION: JACOB HILDEN

**Jacob Hilden** began working as a part-time Community Service Officer during August of 2012. At the time, he was a law enforcement student whose goal was to work as a police officer in the future. Early in 2013, two police officer positions became available and Hilden was promoted to one of these spots after a competitive process which included a written test and interviews. His first day as a police officer was May 14, 2013.



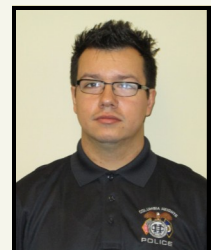
## NEW EMPLOYEE: ANDREW MUSEUS



The other officer hired in that process was **Andrew Museus**, who started his career with the CHPD on May 13, 2013. Prior to being hired here, Museus worked as a teacher in St. Paul for 12 years. He also served as a wrestling and cross country coach while employed there.

## NEW EMPLOYEE: RAMON GOMEZ

**Ramon Gomez** began working as a clerk-typist with the Police Department in November 2013, after having worked as a clerk at the city's Library for several years. His experience with customer service in that department, as well as his familiarity with the city, have been beneficial as he began his new position.





## EMPLOYEE HIGHLIGHTS CONT.

## NEW EMPLOYEES: JACKIE DUCHSCHERE AND JORDAN TRAMMEL

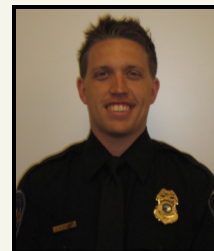


*Jacqueline Duchscher* and *Jordan Trammel* began working as part-time Community Service Officers during June of 2013. These two individuals are working towards a career in law enforcement. In their assignment as CSO's, they assist with such things as traffic direction, subpoena service, and jail transports. Both have been involved with the department's community outreach efforts.



## NEW ASSIGNMENT: JUSTIN PLETCHER

*Officer Justin Pletcher*, who had been working in the CHPD's Street Crimes Unit, was assigned to the Anoka-Hennepin Drug Task Force starting October 21, 2013. In his role with this multi-jurisdictional entity, Pletcher works drug and violent crime investigations.



## NEW ASSIGNMENT: TIM NOLL



With Justin Pletcher's assignment to the AHDTF, there was an opening in the SCU. *Officer Tim Noll* was named to this assignment, and he joined Corporal Paul Bonesteel in the SCU on October 16, 2013. The role of the Street Crimes Unit is to focus on specific areas in the city to target crime and nuisance issues using Problem Oriented Policing strategies.

## INTERNS

Three individuals served as interns for the CHPD in 2013, each of them completing about 100 hours of training and assisting on special projects. Their names are Todd Garnhardt, Jordan Trammel, and Guy Juran. Trammel later applied for and was hired as a part-time CSO with our agency.

## Mission Statement

The Columbia Heights Police Department is committed to active partnerships with the community in order to protect life and property, innovatively solve problems, and enhance the safety and quality of life in the communities we serve.

**DEPARTMENT AWARDS**

In 2011, the CHPD instituted a policy establishing procedures for a Recognition Award Program which covers formal recognition awards and peer recognition awards. The second annual awards program was held at the Columbia Heights Police Association's Holiday Party on December 8, 2013 at Murzyn Hall.

These were the recipients:

**MEDAL OF COMMENDATION: CAPTAIN AUSTIN,  
SERGEANT FISCHER, OFFICER KORTS,  
OFFICER PREGLER AND  
OFFICER PLETCHER**

On June 11, 2013, Officers Korts and Pregler responded to a domestic disturbance in the 4500 block of Polk Street on a report of a male who was out of control and yelling inside the residence. Dispatch remarks also indicated that the male suspect had put a gun to his head earlier in the week and threatened suicide and threatened to shoot his wife if she called 911. As the incident progressed, the suspect was holding his wife and three children in the home under duress, and they feared for their safety. Officer Pletcher, Sergeant Fischer and Captain Austin arrived to assist. The decisive actions of these officers led to the successful apprehension of the suspect and a safe resolution of a very dangerous incident. The suspect's wife told officers she was very grateful for what they did for her and her three young children.



**AWARD OF MERIT: SERGEANT MARKHAM**

In March 2013, Sergeant Markham presented a proposal to reach out to Columbia Heights youth in a new way that supports the department's Strategic Plan. Sergeant Markham developed and implemented the first CHPD Teen Academy, providing a safe and fun opportunity for students in the Columbia Heights High School to interact with police. This program also provided an opportunity for several CHPD officers to mentor local youth in a new and unique way. Several students from a variety of backgrounds participated in the academy and benefited greatly from their interaction with the CHPD. This program was a significant accomplishment that resulted in outstanding community service, therefore Sergeant Markham was presented with the Award of Merit.



**AWARD OF MERIT: OFFICER SORENSEN**



In September 2013, Officer Dale Sorensen presented a proposal to implement and lead the first CHPD Senior Academy, which provided an opportunity to interact with an often-overlooked, yet supportive, part of the community, our senior citizens. This program also allowed for CHPD officers to participate in outreach that is tied directly to the CHPD's Strategic Plan. This initiative was a significant accomplishment that resulted in outstanding community service, therefore Officer Sorensen was presented with the Award of Merit.

## AWARDS CONT. / SENATOR FRANKEN VISIT

### AWARD OF MERIT: OFFICER BECKETT

In mid-2013, Officer Beckett saw a story on a local news channel about a ten-year-old boy who had been seriously affected by a traumatic brain injury caused by being shaken as a baby. These injuries will prohibit this young boy from fulfilling his personal dream of becoming a police officer. Officer Beckett saw this, and was inspired to reach out to this young boy and his family, and invited him to become a police officer for a day with the Columbia Heights Police Department. The family accepted this opportunity and on November 5th, the young boy was given a chance to work with Officer Beckett for a day and share an officer's daily experiences. The young boy and his family were very thankful for the kindness that Officer Beckett showed during this experience. This event was a significant accomplishment that resulted in outstanding community service, therefore, Officer Beckett was presented with the Award of Merit.



### SENATOR AL FRANKEN VISIT

On 08/05/2013, the CHPD was proud to host a meeting headed by U.S. Senator Al Franken with partners to include Mayor Peterson, Anoka County Attorney Tony Palumbo, Anoka County Commissioner Kordiak, and representatives from the mental health community to discuss the bill that Franken had introduced that authorizes grants to police departments and courts for Crisis Intervention Technique (CIT) training. There was also discussion on how CHPD has developed and implemented mental health training for officers along with its collaborative efforts with Metropolitan State University, the Barbara Schneider Foundation, Lee Carlson Center, and Anoka County Human Services.





## POLICE OPERATIONS

**Chief of Police:** The Chief of Police is responsible for creating an organizational structure most conducive to maximizing resources for effective and efficient delivery of police services to the Cities of Columbia Heights and Hilltop. The Chief also ensures and maintains a work environment for employees that fosters professional growth, career development and mentoring. Scott Nadeau has been Columbia Heights' Chief of Police since April of 2008.



**Patrol Division:** The Patrol Division responds to all emergency and non-emergency calls for service. There are 13 patrol officers who are supervised by three shift Sergeants. The Sergeants are supervised by the Captain. The objectives outlined in the department's Strategic Plan form the guideline for the patrol function including an emphasis on patrol officers acting as problem-solvers, not just report-takers. Officers regularly attend training to expand their knowledge, to better serve the citizens and to resolve complicated issues.

**Investigations Division:** The Investigations Division reviews all police reports of criminal incidents, and these cases are assigned based on the type of crime and solvability. The Investigations Sergeant oversees one officer assigned to general investigation, two officers assigned as School Resource Officers at the Columbia Heights High School and Columbia Academy Middle School, and one officer who is assigned to the Anoka Hennepin Drug Task Force. The Investigations Division works closely with the Patrol Division and other law enforcement partners to ensure a successful resolution on cases. Investigators draft and execute search warrants and subpoenas for property, persons, records and other special evidence. The School Resource Officers work with the School District to ensure students and staff are functioning in a safe environment and accountable to applicable laws and school district rules. These officers serve an important function in building close relationships between youth and law enforcement, and are in a unique position to mentor at-risk youth.

**Street Crimes Unit:** This two officer unit which began operations in mid-2012 is an extension of a detail formerly known as the "Summer Initiative". The SCU is designed to focus on specific areas in the city to target crime and nuisance activity issues using problem oriented policing (POP) strategies.

**Community Service Officers (CSOs):** The Community Service Officers are uniformed civilians who function in a support role to the patrol division. There are one full-time and two part-time CSOs working under the direction of a Sergeant. Other duties of the CSO include:

- \* Code Enforcement
- \* Administering the winter parking detail
- \* Traffic control details
- \* Prisoner transports
- \* Inter-department delivery of mail
- \* Transporting of evidence

**Support Services:** The Support Services staff provides a variety of services important to the operation of the department. The Records Technicians handle daily report processing, data entry of police reports, and functions such as payroll and property/evidence. Along with the Clerk-Typist, they are responsible for public contact via phone and at the walk-up window in the Police Department's lobby. The Clerk-Typist's duties include subpoena and court notice tracking and background checks for gun permits and city employment and licensing. The Information Systems Specialist provides technical and IT support, and prepares crime statistics and analysis which is used as an analytical tool to assist police administrators, investigators and patrol. There are two full-time Records Technicians, one Clerk-Typist, an Information Systems Specialist, and a Police Office Supervisor.

## C O L U M B I A   H E I G H T S   P O L I C E   R E S E R V E S

The Columbia Heights Reserve Unit is a volunteer organization committed to assisting the Police Department and Columbia Heights-Hilltop communities with a wide variety of tasks and assignments. New Reservists are schooled through a field training program, including training on police skills, tactics and other duties. The Reserve Unit receives ongoing training in Use of Force and other areas throughout the year. The Reserve Unit has been in existence in Columbia Heights for approximately 50 years, and the CHPD is grateful to these dedicated volunteers for their assistance.



Police Reserves at their Annual Appreciation Dinner.

In 2013:

- Reserve Officers volunteered a total of 1,327 Hours. These hours were logged at events including training, meetings and performing patrol services.
- Reserve Officers provided 1,105 hours of patrol services and special detail work. The Reserves assisted patrol officers with 93 various transport details during the year to include transports to jail and detox units. The Reserves also responded to call-outs to provide scene security and other assistance during critical events.
- The Reserves assisted at Columbia Heights High School Graduation and various sporting events. They participated in the department's All Hands Days, helped with flyer distributions, and provided traffic and crowd control at the annual Jamboree parade and carnival.
- The Reserves assisted with other Columbia Heights community activities:
 

Community Picnic	Global Academy 5K run
Walgreens Open House	National Night Out
- Reserves also participated in assisting partner agencies with these events:
 

Coon Rapids Parade	Blaine Triathlon
Robbinsdale Whiz-Bang Days	Hopkins Raspberry Days
- The Reserves have received training in the following:
 

Taser	Mental Health
Spring Use of Force	CPR/First Aid
Fall Use of Force	Performing Searches
Jail Procedures	Patrol Duties

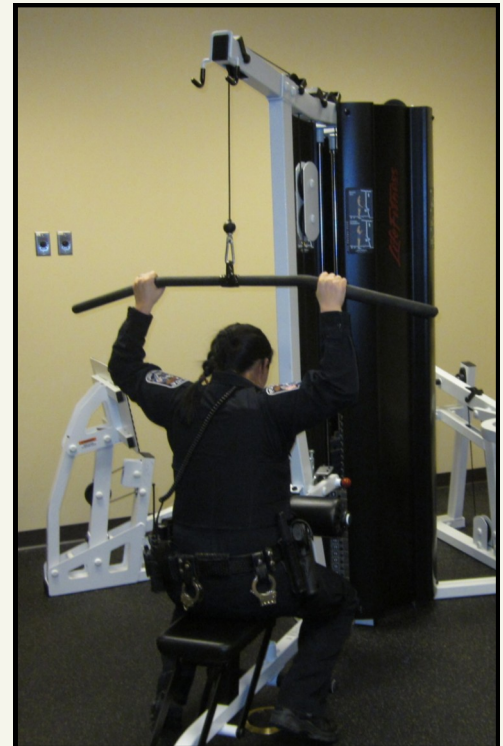


## POLICE RESERVES IN 2012 / WELLNESS

<u>Name</u>	<u>Serving Since</u>
Bob Schmidt	02/01/1996
Darin Bistodeau	06/25/1998
Brian Getty	01/11/2000
Tim Utz	04/16/2007
Omar Abshir	10/21/2010 – Resigned August 2013
Kevin Gominsky	10/21/2010
Marco Torunski	10/21/2010
Joe Scartozzi	06/02/2011 – Resigned February 2013
Olutola Ogundare	06/02/2011
Ryan Keyes	12/01/2011 – Resigned March 2013
Kelly Anderson	07/05/2012
Mir Ali	08/02/2012
Dan Reid	10/04/2012 – Resigned November 2013
Katie Wimberly	10/04/2012
Jake Skowronek	06/06/2013
Dan Stone	06/06/2013
Joel Kleven	11/07/2013
Ziad Alobaidi	11/07/2013

## WELLNESS

The CHPD's Wellness program continues to develop ways to promote the department's commitment to the health and well-being of its employees. At the end of 2013, Cooper Institute-trained Officers Sinn and Pletcher started to put their training and knowledge to work. In November and into December, these Wellness Coordinators sat down individually with every member of the department, officers and support staff alike, to have a face-to-face conversation about the department's Wellness program. Employees were informed of how to use their Wellness Coordinator as a tool. Using a multitude of approaches, Wellness Coordinators are able to personalize wellness programs of various types, including but not limited to diet, strength conditioning, flexibility, etc. In 2014, this program will continue to become stronger as the Wellness Coaches begin their in-depth annual meetings with all employees to help them in their efforts at healthy living. These meetings, as well as the ongoing efforts of the entire Wellness Committee, will use enthusiasm and synergy to attain the goal of improving the department's health in what will be both an individual and team effort.



## 2013 POLICE DEPARTMENT BUDGET SUMMARY

The Police Department's budget for 2013 was authorized at \$3,772,693. This budget is comprised of three main sections, the first being Personal Services which is by far the largest portion at \$3,407,536. This section includes all the line items related to the payment of the department's personnel. The CHPD has an authorized roster of 27 police officers, one full-time and two part-time Community Service Officers, and five Support Services employees.

The Supplies section is the smallest portion of the Police Department's budget, set at \$133,620 for 2013, which was two percent higher than in 2012. Office supplies, uniform items to include protective vests, computer equipment and general supplies are examples of the line items in this section.

Other Services and Charges is the third section of the budget, with a 2013 amount of \$231,537. This section also saw an increase of two percent over the 2012 amount. Other Services and Charges is made up of the line items for things like training, cell phones and building utilities, and maintenance of the department's vehicles. New to this year's budget was an amount of \$5,000 in the line item for Educational Reimbursement which was budgeted to cover tuition reimbursement to the department's employees who are enrolled in academic institutions. This addition reflects the value the department places on higher education for its employees and new requirements for promotion to supervisory positions.

The 2013 Police Community Programs budget was \$20,400, an increase of \$400 over the amount which had to that point remained consistent for several years. The Community Programs budget funds activities such as DARE (Drug Abuse Resistance Education), the Police Reserve program, crime prevention and outreach programs such as the Cops-n-Kids program serving the youth of the community, as well as National Night Out and Neighborhood Watch. Most of the funding for Community Programs comes from the city's liquor operations.

The Animal Control budget amount for 2013 was \$16,263.00, the same amount since 2010. The department's animal control services contractor for many years, Camden Pet Hospital, had notified us in September of 2012 that they no longer had the capacity to provide this service and wished to opt out of their contract, which would have been expiring in July 2013. After researching potential veterinary establishments, the department entered into an agreement with Brighton Veterinary Hospital for the period of January 1, 2013 to January 1, 2016. With this new contract, the city is experiencing considerable savings and increased efficiencies related to the handling of animals as Brighton Vet's facility is available to us on a 24-hour a day basis. Preliminary year-end numbers show that animal control related expenses for 2013 were at about \$8,500, or slightly over half of the budgeted amount.

The 2013 Police Capital Equipment budget was \$82,469, which included funds for the purchase of two marked vehicles for patrol use, various equipment for those vehicles and the related set-up costs. This year, for the first time in many years, the Ford Crown Victoria police vehicle was not available. The vehicle Ford offered for police use was an AWD V-6 non-turbo Police Interceptor in sedan and utility versions. The department purchased one sedan and one utility vehicle. The utility has additional room to be used to carry equipment and supplies, including entry tools and other bulky gear. There was no unmarked vehicle budgeted for or purchased in 2013.



2013 Ford Interceptor Utility Vehicle

## 2013 – ANOTHER YEAR OF CRIME REDUCTION

In 2013 there was an overall reduction in number of crimes reported, which follows a pattern that has been prevalent since 2008. The 2013 overall decrease in crime when compared to 2012 was 7%.

Part-I crime decreased in five out of the seven categories with the exceptions being arson and auto theft which both increase by one incident (*Figure-1*). Overall Part I crime decreased by 9% when compared to 2012 resulting in a reduction of 67 incidents. Even more significant was the drop of violent Part I crimes (homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault) which has decreased by more than 30% over the past five years.

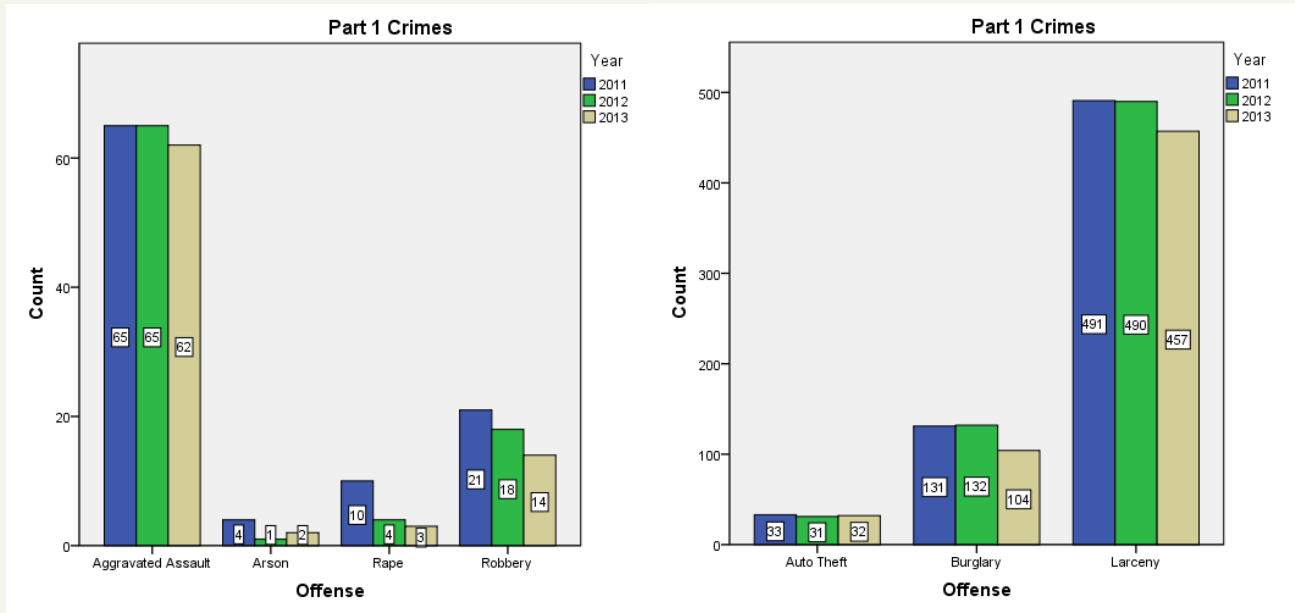


Figure 1. Part-I Crime: 2011-2013 (Anoka County RMS)

While Part-I crime remained relatively stable in 2013, arrests for those crimes went up by 28% (*Table 1*). In particular, the arrest numbers for larceny doubled even though the offenses decreased by 7%. 47 of these arrests were related to shoplifting. This increase may have occurred for a multitude of reasons; however the Business Watch Program has helped garner a better relationship with our business partners. In addition, while robbery once again decreased in 2013, the number of robbery arrests went up. More of these incidents are now being investigated by CHPD investigators and the Street Crimes Unit, while in the past they had typically been routed to the Anoka County Sheriff's Office Criminal Investigation Division.

Arrests: Part 1: 1/1 to 12/31 for 2011 - 2013					
	2013	2012	2011	1yr % Chg	2yr % Chg
Homicide	0	0	0	0%	0%
Rape	0	1	2	-100%	-100%
Robbery	4	3	9	33%	-56%
Aggravated Assault	28	37	33	-24%	-15%
<b>Total Violent Crimes</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>41</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>-22%</b>	<b>-27%</b>
Burglary	7	10	9	-30%	-22%
Larceny	75	37	83	103%	-10%
Auto Theft	3	4	4	-25%	-25%
Arson	1	0	0	---	---
<b>Total Property Crimes</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>69%</b>	<b>-10%</b>
<b>Total Arrests</b>	<b>118</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>140</b>	<b>28%</b>	<b>-16%</b>

Table 1. Part-I Crime:2011-2013 (Anoka County RMS)

## CRIME REDUCTION CONT.

Arrests: Part 2: 1/1 to 12/31 for 2011 - 2013					
	2013	2012	2011	1yr % Chg	2yr % Chg
Other Assault	73	71	62	3%	18%
Forgery/Counterfeiting	4	4	9	0%	-56%
Fraud	0	1	0	-100%	0%
Embezzlement	0	0	0	0%	0%
Stolen Property	3	14	10	-79%	-70%
Vandalism	25	31	39	-19%	-36%
Weapons Violations	5	9	13	-44%	-62%
Prostitution	0	0	0	0%	0%
Other Sex	1	0	0	---	---
Narc Drug Laws	119	148	142	-20%	-16%
Gambling	1	0	0	---	---
Family/Children	5	1	5	400%	0%
DWI	74	75	62	-1%	19%
Liquor Laws	38	35	38	9%	0%
Disorderly Conduct	111	118	138	-6%	-20%
Other	380	353	451	8%	-16%
<b>Total Arrests</b>	<b>839</b>	<b>860</b>	<b>969</b>	<b>-2%</b>	<b>-13%</b>

Part-II crime showed an increase in the other assault category. This would correlate with the slight increase that was observed in the other assault offenses and the Domestic Abuse Lethality Program that is within Anoka County. *Table 2* shows the Part-II crime arrests over the past three years.

The number of calls for service (CFS) in 2013 remained similar to 2012. A decrease of 17 CFS brought the 2013 total of calls in Columbia Heights to 14,268. Calls for service include all types of calls to police. In addition to crimes, these can be medicals, suspicious activity, or even questions citizens might have.

Table 2. Part-II Crime: 2011-2013 (Anoka County RMS)

The final graph shows a comparison of crime rate percent decrease experienced from 2007 through 2012 in Columbia Heights, Anoka County, and the State of Minnesota. While crime rates are down overall, the percentage of decrease is larger in Columbia Heights as seen in *Figure 3*.

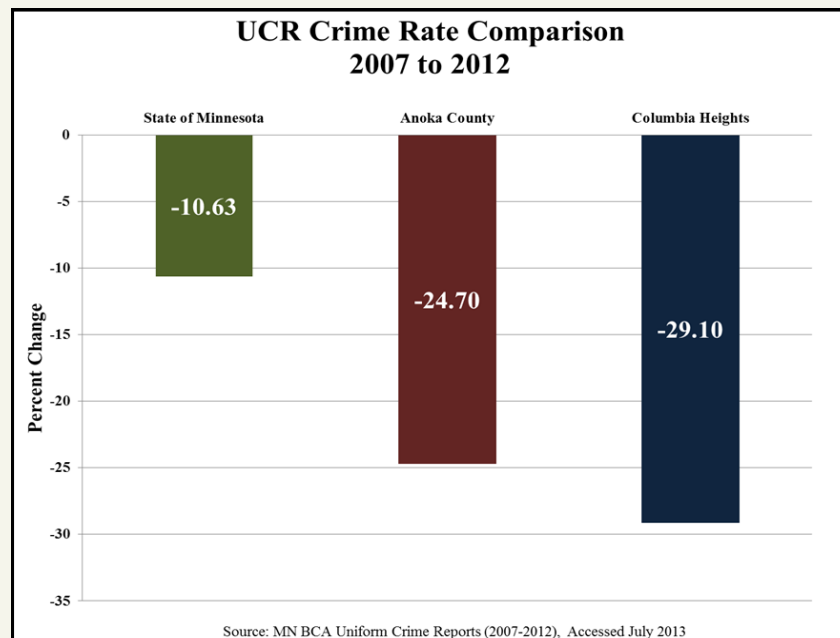


Figure 3. Combined UCR Crime Rate Percent Decrease



## COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING

The police department continued its community policing philosophy in 2013, honing existing programs like Neighborhood Watch and Business Watch, while initiating new ventures for community contact like Coffee-with-a-Cop. Utilizing all members of the department has allowed officers choices for connecting with people in programs and events such as a picnic, National Night Out, and the Domestic Assault Response Team.

### Community Picnic

In July, the police department sponsored a community picnic at Huset Park. In keeping with the city's interest to reach out to the community and to better keep residents informed, various departments of the city government were on hand to speak with the public. Representatives of the police and fire departments, along with the public works, community development, and recreation departments answered questions from the attendees. The Columbia Heights Library had staff to inform people about upcoming events. The police department displayed the next generation of smaller, all-wheel drive Ford sedan and SUV vehicles.



Officer Danielle Pregler plays a game with children alongside other officers promoting prevention literature.

The police department had tables set up with officers highlighting Neighborhood Watch, Youth Outreach, Drug Task Force, and ways of communication with the department through Facebook, Twitter, and the CHPolice.com website. Lasershot and Taser demonstrations were conducted inside Murzyn Hall.

The weather was near perfect with air temperature about 80 degrees which helped draw out at least 250 people to talk and eat. The police department promoted bicycle safety through child bicycle helmet drawings. Other entities that set up tables at the picnic for the first time at a department hosted picnic were the Sister Cities Program and the Mississippi Watershed Management Organization.



CHPD staff accepting the MN Literacy Award.

### Cultural Outreach

In 2013 the police department continued its relationships with the various cultural backgrounds residing in the city. The class talks at the Adult Basic Education Center spanned through the year with 11 classes reaching 170 students. Ten different officers participated by answering questions of the 98 percent multi-cultural student base. Recognizing the positive influence, the Minnesota Literacy Council's Community Partnership Award was granted to CHPD for its teaching those unfamiliar with American law enforcement. A ceremony in May was held at the Loft Literacy Center in Minneapolis.

A March event connected with the School District's parents at the monthly information breakfast. Two officers gave presentations on child safety topics to the largely Hispanic audience.

In April, select officers presented police perspectives at the Islamic Center of Minnesota where Church of All Nations coordinated an inter-faith gathering as a community builder to share common hopes and dreams between parents, teens, and police. One hundred people were present.

In September, two officers interacted with attendees of a Latino Arts Festival at Columbia Heights High School. The School District sponsored event had dance, music, food and activities. Two hundred people filtered through the five-hour long Saturday event.



Corporal Bonesteel helps a child take a swing at a piñata donated by the Police Association.



## COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING CONT.

### Rental Property Outreach

Efforts to reduce crime and disorder at residential rental property maintained a consistent pace through 2013. Rental licensing increased through the year, ending with a total of 929 licensed rental properties. There was much in-person, telephone, and email communication between police and owners which strengthened the strategic relationship leading to problem prevention. Four department-hosted quarterly training presentations were attended by a total of 194 owners and managers. Presenters this year included:

- Director David Bartholomay, Mediation Services for Anoka County
- Officers Korts and Sorensen, Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design
- Attorney Mary Dobbins, Top 10 Legal Mistakes by Landlords
- Vice President Tony Karels, Rental History Reports

Only one action plan to address disorder on one rental property was indicated this year. The plan, developed jointly by police and property owner, was successful in eliminating the problem. Crime mitigation plans have been helpful in recent years to reduce or remove chronic problems, highlighting the power of this important partnership.

The police department tracked violations of the city's property maintenance code relative to the Crime Free/ Drug Free/Disorderly Use provision. A total of 184 letters were sent to rental owners advising them of violations due to their tenant's behavior, a ten percent decrease from 2012. Owners were required to evict a total of 32 tenants in 2013, the same number as last year.

Police also advised some owners of repeat problems occurring on their property. Completing its fourth year, the Repeat Nuisance Call Service Fee ordinance saw cause to send 160 letters to property owners throughout the city for certain disturbances and nuisances. Nearly all of the incidents involved rental property. Thirty of those letters were invoices for \$250.00 to the owner because of a third or subsequent violation occurring within one year's time. Overall, there was a 27 percent decrease in CSF letters sent compared with 2012.

### Neighborhood Watch

The 2013 goal to increase Neighborhood Watch groups by ten actually netted 23 new leaders. Including attrition, the year ended with 104 block captains, a nine percent increase over 2012's total. The effort continues to reach more residents wanting to be involved in neighborhood security. Interested persons should call the police department; becoming a block leader is easy and is particularly helpful with reducing residential burglaries.

Neighborhood Watch training topics were offered in the Spring and Fall covering what to do should you find yourself in an active shooter environment, and a general personal safety presentation. Almost 100 attended the two sessions. A May appreciation dinner was held at the station thanking those for taking on the responsibility of block leader. The dinner was also a time for block captains to better understand their roles and connect with liaison officers. The officers assigned as Neighborhood Watch liaisons were Officers Sturdevant, Beckett, Titus, Dietz and Pikala, along with Community Policing Coordinator Terry Nightingale. (picture unset with caption: Officer Sturdevant instructs residents on personal safety at a December training).



Officer Sturdevant instructs residents on personal safety at a December training.

## COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING CONT.

**National Night Out**

Quick Facts for 2013:

- 58 total gatherings were planned in Columbia Heights and Hilltop.
- 17 officers were involved.
- 1,310 residents participated as per police count. 718 pounds of food was collected from residents for donation to S.A.C.A.

National Night Out in August continues to be the focal point for crime prevention awareness as residents share in the success of another year of crime reduction.

Mayor Peterson and Council Members Bruce Nawrocki and Donna Schmidt participated, as well as the fire department and Anoka County Public Health Emergency Preparedness. Anoka County sent an emergency meal hand-out sheet encouraging residents to think about what they would or could make for their family in case of a disaster that traps them at home.

Rain hampered some parties with six ending before an officer arrived and two holding their event on a different day. Some of the messages broadcast to party participants included a 25-year low crime rate, department initiatives, connections, outreach, and opportunities. This was also the tenth year that food was collected during National Night Out to support SACA. One connection following National Night Out was the annual police softball fundraiser for Southern Anoka Community Assistance.



Officer Nightingale with Council Member Bruce Nawrocki (seated) pose with new Neighborhood Watch members hosting their first NNO gathering in the 4300 block of Madison Street.

**Business Watch**

Expansion of Business Watch met its 2013 goal with another 25 businesses signing up to be connected to police in order to keep problems at bay in our business community. Largely a communication platform, crime alerts and other helpful information were sent via email to the member businesses through the year.

Also, two training sessions were offered to Business Watch members. A Spring-time meeting covered what to do should you find yourself in an active shooter environment and the Fall training related a crime discipline known as Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design. Both sessions were conducted by trained CHPD officers.



Officer Harvey (background) and Chief Nadeau speak with McDonald's customers at the department's first Coffee-with-a-Cop in September.

**Coffee-with-a-Cop**

In September, officers started visiting with residents at local businesses over a cup of coffee. Coined "Coffee-with-a-Cop", the department is able to answer the community's questions in a casual, approachable, and comfortable atmosphere. Newspaper and magazine articles about our program prompted inquiries from interested police departments like Richmond, VA, and Omaha, NE. (picture inset: Officer Harvey (background) and Chief Nadeau speak with McDonald's customers at the department's first Coffee-with-a-Cop in September).



## The Columbia Heights Police Honor Timeless Ideals

### Committed

The CHPD is committed to excellence in its delivery of law enforcement services.

We will adapt to the changing needs and of our community and continue to seek opportunities to serve in a manner that exceeds expectations.



### Professional

The employees of the CHPD will hold themselves to the highest professional standards, utilizing the best practices in law enforcement to carry out our duties with honor, valor, compassion, and integrity.

### Sir Robert Peel's Policing Principles

- The basic mission for which the police exist is to prevent crime and disorder.
- The ability of the police to perform their duties is dependent upon public approval of police actions.
- Police must secure the willing co-operation of the public in voluntary observance of the law to be able to secure and maintain the respect of the public.
- The degree of co-operation of the public that can be secured diminishes proportionately to the necessity of the use of physical force.
- Police seek and preserve public favour not by catering to public opinion but by constantly demonstrating absolute impartial service to the law.
- Police use physical force to the extent necessary to secure observance of the law or to restore order only when the exercise of persuasion, advice and warning is found to be insufficient.
- Police, at all times, should maintain a relationship with the public that gives reality to the historic tradition that the police are the public and the public are the police; the police being only members of the public who are paid to give full-time attention to duties which are incumbent on every citizen in the interests of community welfare and existence.
- Police should always direct their action strictly towards their functions and never appear to usurp the powers of the judiciary.
- The test of police efficiency is the absence of crime and disorder, not the visible evidence of police action in dealing with it.

~Sir Robert Peel- 1829

### Helpful

Employees of the CHPD will be helpful in meeting the needs of our community and the people that we have contact with. We are mindful that we draw our authority from the public, and it is our mandate to assist others and be helpful whenever possible.



### Dedicated

As a group we are dedicated to making our community safer, to the honest and fair treatment of all our community members, and adhering to the ideals of the United States Constitution and our professional Oath of Honor.

### Columbia Heights Police Mission Statement

The Columbia Heights Police Department is committed to active partnerships with the community in order to protect life and property, innovatively solve problems, and enhance the safety and quality of life in the communities we serve.



## AWARDS IN 2013

### Minnesota Literacy Council Partnership Award

In May 2013, the CHPD was notified that it would be receiving the Minnesota Literacy Council Partnership Award for its collaborative work with the Metro North Adult Basic Education Center and their multi-cultural students. This award is given to community partners who have contributed in unique ways to adult literacy programs, and who have shown dedication by their strong concentration of service.

As part of its multi-cultural outreach program, CHPD officers have met with Adult Basic Education Center students who are new to the United States and are unfamiliar with American law enforcement to discuss policing and criminal justice issues, and answer questions about the criminal justice system that may have an effect on their personal lives. The criminal justice system can be very difficult to comprehend, especially for people who are new to the country. This forum provides an excellent opportunity for students and police to talk about the American criminal justice system in a relaxed and open setting.

Columbia Heights Police Chief Scott Nadeau said, "Multi-cultural outreach is one of the focuses of our 2013 Strategic Plan. This is a tremendous opportunity for our officers to work with our multi-cultural residents in a way that informs, gains trust, and builds the important partnerships we need to be successful in our community. I would like to thank the Metro North Adult Basic Education Center for their partnership in this important endeavor, and the Minnesota Literacy Council for recognizing our collaborative work with this award."

### Columbia Heights School District "Above and Beyond" Award

At the 2013 "Back to School Convocation", Superintendent Kathy Kelly awarded her "Above and Beyond" award to Chief Scott Nadeau and the Columbia Heights Police Department. This award typically goes to a teacher or other staff member with many years in the district who has given of themselves to benefit our community's kids.

Chief Nadeau said, "It is an honor for our community and our Police Department to have such a strong and collaborative relationship with the School District. The prestigious award that we were presented on August 28 is in many ways the most important award received to date, as it indicates a commitment to living out the values and mission of both of our organizations."

Chief Nadeau went on to say that, "the CHPD's partnership with the School District in regards to safety and threat assessment, mentoring, bullying and violence prevention, and youth education programs such as Teen Academy and DARE, demonstrate great examples of entities who have somewhat different missions understanding that by mutually supporting each other they can achieve much more than they would have been able to individually."

The CHPD is appreciative to the School District for their partnership, and thanks them for this honor.



### Employee of the Year Greg Sinn

Investigator Greg Sinn was awarded the *Employee of the Year* for the City of Columbia Heights in 2013 for his investigative accomplishments as well as his many contributions to employee wellness and training.

**MN Juvenile Officers Association Juvenile Officer of the Year Danielle Pregler**  
School Liaison Officer Danielle Pregler was selected as the MN Juvenile Officers Association's (MNJOA) *Outstanding Juvenile Officer of the Year* for her work as a school liaison which included the Open Gym program, as well as administering the anti-bullying and BBBS programs for the City.





## PROBLEM ORIENTED POLICING

The Columbia Heights Police Department continued to capitalize on the effectiveness of Problem Oriented Policing strategies in 2012 and into 2013. The problem solving practices that were implemented department wide in 2011 continue to be effective in focusing attention and resources on developing problems as they are identified. When making use of these practices, officers have been able to identify the need to include landlords, other departments and community members in the efforts to curb criminal activity and promote a healthy community. Many of these issues are being addressed and resolved before they develop into serious problems for both the police department and the community.

### Street Crimes Unit (SCU)

In 2012, the Street Crimes unit went from a summer initiative detail to a full time unit. The unit consists of two officers. Corporal Paul Bonesteel and Officer Justin Pletcher were assigned to this unit in 2012 and throughout most of 2013. In the fourth quarter of 2013, Officer Justin Pletcher was reassigned to the Anoka-

Hennepin Drug Task Force and has since been replaced by Officer Tim Noll. The primary goal of the SCU is to target lower-level crimes and to improve quality of life issues in and around identified problem areas. The SCU works closely with our department's investigators, as well as the Anoka-Hennepin Drug Task Force. The SCU utilizes non-traditional policing tactics such as plain-clothes details and unmarked vehicles in order to be more effective at spotting and addressing criminal activity. Furthermore, the SCU utilizes bike patrol and increased foot patrol in targeted areas during the summer months. The SCU maintains flexibility in order to respond to any needs that arise. An example



Officer Pletcher stands next to one of the unmarked Street Crimes Unit vehicles.

of this took place this summer when a resident became a victim of a car break-in. A few days later, the suspect made contact with our victim and attempted to extort money from her in exchange for returning her property. The SCU assisted patrol and the victim in arranging a meet. The suspect was ultimately arrested and miscellaneous stolen items were recovered, not only for this one victim but for others as well. In December 2013, a person came forward to report that they were a victim of a robbery and assault. The victim provided both suspect and vehicle information to police. The SCU checked various addresses in both Hennepin and Ramsey Counties and eventually determined where the suspect lived. The information gathered ultimately led to a search warrant and an arrest of the person responsible for committing this act.

The SCU has been highly effective, maximizing the flexibility this type of unit allows. Through proactive police tactics, such as warrant sweeps and surveillance, SCU continues to show effort and progress through both a high number of arrests and citations. However, SCU has also evolved into a progressive community asset, utilizing positive contacts within the diverse community of Columbia Heights and Hilltop to foster a healthy and growing relationship between police and residents. The Police Department has continued to see positive results from this unit, and since its inception SCU continues to focus on problem areas that patrol might not otherwise be able to address on its own. SCU has also done several narcotic investigations that have led to multiple search warrants and arrests in 2013. These arrests also resulted in sanctions as part of the Crime Free and Drug Free sections of the Property Maintenance code, and often resulted in the termination of tenancy in rental housing, as well as disorderly house charges for those properties that are not rentals. The end result of this work was a reduction of criminal activity from several neighborhoods in Columbia Heights.



**PROBLEM ORIENTED POLICING CONT.****Anoka-Hennepin Drug Task Force**

Columbia Heights continues to be a valued member of the Anoka-Hennepin Drug Task Force. Detective Piehn completed his commitment to the Anoka-Hennepin Drug Task Force during the second quarter of 2013, and while Columbia Heights Police were forced to deal with staffing issues during the third quarter, his position went unfilled. In October 2013, Detective Pletcher was assigned to the AHDTF for the remainder of the fourth quarter and continues to work there into the New Year. Even with the brief hiatus, both Anoka County and Columbia Heights alike were served well by the AHDTF and their continued pursuit of curbing the destructive nature of narcotics and the crimes associated with drug use. In 2013, the AHDTF executed a total of 138 search warrants, 13 of which were in Columbia Heights, and made an astounding 696 arrests. Some notable arrests made by the AHDTF include the suspect from Fridley who was imitating an officer while committing acts of sexual violence, a heroin dealer who was charged with murder in the third degree after the product he sold to a young female caused her premature death, and a long time pedophile who has abused numerous young boys over the last several years. Recently, Detective Pletcher was given information regarding a cocaine dealer who was selling their product in and around Columbia Heights. After investigating further, Detective Pletcher and the AHDTF were able to set up multiple operations that started in Columbia Heights and finished with the arrests of two separate drug dealers who were charged with First Degree Controlled Substance – Sales crimes. AHDTF has also recently targeted multiple convenience stores in the area that were selling the illegal and highly dangerous synthetic narcotics, resulting in the confiscation of hundreds of thousands of dollars' worth of illegal product, as well as the forfeiture of any proceeds earned from the sales of this felonious substance. Detective Pletcher and the AHDTF continue to strive for excellence and look forward to the challenges and successes of 2014 and beyond.

**All Hands Days**

The Police Department has continued to utilize the tactic of "All Hands Days" in which the Police Department partners with other criminal justice agencies to create saturation events during the summer months. In 2013, Anoka County Corrections and deputies from the Anoka County Sheriff's Office assisted us during these saturation details. During All Hands Days, police made several home visits of predatory offenders to assure that they are compliant. Columbia Heights Community Development also participated in the 2013 events. By working with other city departments, we were able to enforce additional issues to include building code violations and problem locations within the city. The department utilized marked squads, unmarked squads, bicycles, foot patrol, and officers in both plain clothes and department uniforms.

**POR Checks**

In 2013 the Columbia Heights Police Department initiated a program where Officers Noll, Dietz, Sturdevant, Korts and Investigator Sinn do home visits with predatory offenders to ensure that they are complaint with their registrations. Formerly, all POR checks were handled through one investigator, and this new procedure allows a distribution of the workload to enable officers to check offenders living in Columbia Heights and Hilltop more frequently. The number of offenders in the city averages around 50 and with this new program they are all getting checked three to four times in a year.

**Prescription Drug Take Back**

The Columbia Heights Police Department is pleased to announce that, in partnership with the Anoka County Sheriff's Office, it now offers citizens the ability to drop off unused prescription drugs. A Prescription Drug Take Back container is located in the lobby of the Columbia Heights Public Safety Center at 825 41st Avenue.

Prescription drug abuse is the nation's fastest-growing drug problem. While there have been decreases in the use of some illegal street drugs such as cocaine, nearly one-third of people aged 12 and over who have used drugs for the first time began by using a prescription drug non-medically.

There is no fee for this service. The Columbia Heights Police Department only accepts household prescription pills, capsules, caplets, and tablets. Citizens can drop off their unused prescription drugs during regular business hours.

## Y O U T H   I N I T I A T I V E S

### Bullying

In 2013, the CHPD once again partnered with the School District to conduct Anti-Bullying storybook readings to elementary students. The program started at Highland Elementary three years ago, and has since expanded to include Valley View Elementary. In this program, 18 officers and two support staff read books on bullying to 581 students at the two schools. Afterwards, the students ask the officer questions and this provides an opportunity to develop a positive rapport with the students in the District.

The CHPD's School Liaison Officers, Erik Hanson at the high school and Danielle Pregler at the middle school, have access to the School District's bullying report forms, and they work with school staff as an additional resource for students to intervene with bullying concerns and behaviors. The "See it-Text it" program continues to be a way for students and staff an opportunity to contact the School Liaison Officers with concerns.

### School Safety

The police department this year conducted an assessment of school safety concerns and presented a report to the School District with proposals to increase school safety. The report took into account the physical security of school buildings and suggestions for improving security within the school.

For 2014, the police department plans to collaborate with the Minnesota Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management to review the school Crisis Manual, and for further assistance in assessing the School District's emergency preparedness. Also, the police department will be conducting training with school staff focusing on threat assessment and response.



Captain Austin escorts Valley View students across the Walk Bridge at 49<sup>th</sup> Avenue NE and Central Avenue NE.

Beginning in the Fall of 2013, the police department partnered with the School District to improve safety and ease the flow of traffic from Valley View Elementary and Columbia Academy by directing traffic in the parking lots and adjacent streets before and after school. This has resulted in a safer environment for walking students, and less congestion for parents who drive to drop off and pick up their students.



Officer Pletcher on Hockey Day 2013.

### D.A.R.E.

This was the Columbia Heights Police Department's 23<sup>rd</sup> year of teaching D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) in the 5<sup>th</sup> grade classrooms at Highland and Valley View Elementary Schools. The curriculum was also instructed for the first time this year at North Park Elementary School, a Columbia Heights district school located in southern Fridley. This year, 270 students graduated from the D.A.R.E. program, where they learn to avoid drugs, alcohol and tobacco, and how to make good decisions.

## YOUTH INITIATIVES, CONT.

**Open Gym**

The police department hosts a weekly Open Gym every Tuesday at Columbia Academy for middle school students and at the Hylander Center for high school students. The Open Gyms are supervised by the School Liaison Officers at these schools, with assistance from other CHPD employees. In 2013, a total of 4,585 kids attended the Open Gyms. This program is very popular and many kids return week after week.



Open Gym at Columbia Academy.

**Big Brothers Big Sisters**

2013 marks the second year of bringing the Big Brothers/Big Sisters program to Highland Elementary. Columbia Heights is the only department in Anoka County involved in this program. Several CHPD employees have volunteered to become a "Big". After an application, interview and training process, these employees are matched with a student from the school, and develop a mentoring relationship by having lunch together, and reading, playing games or doing crafts. The police department plans to expand the program with other community partners to have a minimum of fifteen student matches.



Officer Nightingale with his "Little" Connor.



Chief Nadeau during the BB/BS Appreciation Party.



Officer Pletcher mentoring during Big Brothers Big Sisters.



## C O L U M B I A   H E I G H T S   P O L I C E   G I V E   B A C K

In 2013, CHPD employees found a variety of ways to give back to the community. On Friday, February 22, about 16 members of the department assisted with the Mayor's Fish Fry fundraiser which raised funds to build the Community Heritage Tower. The event took place at Murzyn Hall, and was a fun celebration of community pride.

On August 14, officers participated in the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Police and Fire Charity Softball Extravaganza. This event supports SACA, our local food shelf. This event raised \$750 in cash, 100 pounds of food and four bags of clothing.

Several of the department's employees are mentoring youth at Highland Elementary School through the Big Brothers Big Sisters program, and many others have been visiting elementary school classes to talk to them about bullying as part of the department's youth outreach.

Several members of the Columbia Heights Police Department participated in the "Movember" initiative to raise funds and awareness for men's health issues by growing facial hair. Officers were allowed to wear mustaches and neatly trimmed beards during November if they were pledging to raise money for this important cause. This year, the CHPD Movember team raised \$2,200.



Chief Nadeau and Sgt. Markham celebrating Movember.

On November 21, employees from all city departments were invited to join us in the Public Safety Center training room for an appreciation lunch to thank them for their partnership and dedication. Several police department employees paid for and prepared the delicious meal, and we had a great time visiting with our fellow city employees. To-go containers were made available for those who were unable to join us.

The employees of the Columbia Heights Police Department are dedicated to making a difference in our community, and are proud to be of service to our residents.

## C O L U M B I A   H E I G H T S   P O L I C E   A S S O C I A T I O N

The Columbia Heights Police Association (CHPA), a non-profit organization of current and retired employees of the Columbia Heights Police Department, was founded in 2008. The CHPA is funded through a combination of member dues, fundraising and private donations. The primary mission of the CHPA is to provide support to Columbia Heights law enforcement employees and their families. CHPA donations are made



when police officers are killed or injured in the line of duty, or the Police Department is presented with a need that cannot be funded through traditional means.

In 2013, the CHPA worked with a handful of area businesses and was able to sponsor five local families in need for the holiday season by assisting them with gifts, groceries and other holiday related purchases in its fourth annual Shop With a Cop event.

# COLUMBIA HEIGHTS POLICE DEPARTMENT

## Mission Statement

The Columbia Heights Police Department is committed to active partnerships with the community in order to protect life and property, innovatively solve problems, and enhance the safety and quality of life in the communities we serve.

## Core Values

### **C**ommitment

As a group we are committed to the honest and fair treatment of all our community members, while recognizing that each citizen has different needs and values.

### **H**elpful

Employees of the CHPD will strive to meet the needs of our community and the people that we have contact with. We are mindful that we draw our authority from the public, and it is our mandate to assist others whenever possible.

### **P**rofessional

The employees of the CHPD will hold themselves to the highest professional standards, utilizing the best practices in law enforcement to carry out our duties professionally and with integrity

### **D**edication

The CHPD is dedicated to excellence in its delivery of law enforcement services. We will seek opportunities to serve in a manner that exceeds expectations and adheres to the ideals of the United States Constitution and our professional Oath of Honor.