

INDIANOLA POLICE DEPARTMENT

2013 ANNUAL REPORT



The mission of the Indianola Police Department is to work in partnership with our community to protect life and property, and enhance the quality of life in our city through excellence in policing.

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Message from the Chief

I am pleased to present the 2013 Indianola Police Department Annual Report. This report is a synopsis of the various activities and duties performed by members of the Department as we strive to provide a safe and secure community.

This annual report serves a dual purpose. It affords the Department the opportunity to evaluate our successes and identify areas of needed improvement. It also provides the public we serve with information regarding the Department as we continue to develop and strengthen our community partnerships.

Moving forward into 2014, the Indianola Police Department will continue to provide excellent safety and protection for our citizens. We will work hard to fully involve the community, gaining their confidence and trust. Our continuing pledge is to serve our community with **Integrity, Professionalism, and Dedication.**

Dave Button

Chief of Police

Staffing Assignments (19 sworn, 6 civilian)

Chief – Dave Button began serving as Chief on July 29, 2013 after retiring from the Iowa Department of Public Safety. During his 28 year career with the DPS, Chief Button served as a State Trooper, Special Agent, Special Agent in Charge, and Assistant Director of the Division of Criminal Investigation. The Chief functions as the Chief Executive of the Department and serves as the final authority in all matters of policy, operations and discipline.

Captain – Brian Sher was promoted to the rank of Captain on October 20, 2013. Captain Sher is a 19 year veteran of the Department. The Captain is second in command of the Department under direct command of the Chief. The Captain oversees the Lieutenant, the detective division, the administrative assistant, and is responsible for administration and oversight of Department operations including the budget, scheduling, payroll and public information matters.

Lieutenant – Rob Hawkins was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant on December 15, 2013. Lt. Hawkins is a 13 year veteran of the Department. The Lieutenant is responsible for administration and oversight of the patrol division, the fleet, equipment and supplies, training and social networking.

Sergeants (3)

Day Shift (6:30 am – 4:30 pm) – Sgt. Ron Hamell is a 28 year veteran and supervises the four officers assigned to days. He is also responsible for GTSB, Neighborhood Watch, and in-car cameras.

Mid Shift (4 pm – 2 am) – Sgt. Scott Dwyer is a 16 year veteran and supervises the four officers assigned to mids. He is also responsible for coordinating the Department's Field Training program and internship program.

Night Shift (9 pm – 7 am) – Sgt. Rick Largesse is a 10 year veteran who was promoted to the rank of Sergeant on December 15, 2013. He supervises the three officers assigned to nights, and is also a firearms instructor.

Indianola Police Department 2013



Dave Button
Chief



Brian Sher
Captain



Rob Hawkins
Lieutenant



Ron Hamell
Sergeant



Scott Dwyer
Sergeant



Rick Largesse
Sergeant



Chris Marsh
Officer



Dan Defenbaugh
Officer



Brad Metcalf
Officer



Nic Dahl
Officer



Mesha Wagner
Officer



Justin Keller
Detective



Randal Schultz
Detective



Jason Siemens
Officer



Rich Peters
Officer



Slawomir Blondowski
Officer



Luke Buhrow
Officer



Brian Stern
Officer



Clint Dee
Officer



Pat Allsup
Admin. Asst.



Tammy Bruce
Clerical



Rachelle Baker
Clerical



Debbie Neer
Clerical

Police Budget

Salary/Wages Officers	\$1,252,900
Salary/Wages Clerical	\$132,800
FICA	\$24,100
IPERS	\$11,900
MFPRSI	\$346,100
Deferred Comp	\$17,700
Employee Assistance Program	\$500
Wellness Program	\$4,500
Health Insurance	\$299,900
Life Insurance	\$8,000
Worker's Comp Insurance	\$23,000
Uniforms/Clothing Allowance	\$17,500
Membership Dues/Subscriptions	\$600
Education/Training	\$15,000
Repair/Maint-Bldg/Grounds	\$5,000
Repair/Maint/Vehicles	\$12,000
Repair/Maint-Office Equip	\$2,100
Repair/Maint-Equipment	\$5,000
Telephone	\$6,000
Advertising & Legal Notices	\$1,100
Insurance-Auto	\$5,000
Insurance-General Liability	\$15,000
Insurance-Property	\$500
Legal Service Fees	\$1,000
Medical/Physical/Immunization	\$4,000
Prisoner Fees	\$2,000

Animal Control/Humane Society	\$36,000
Printing	\$2,000
Computer/Technology Services	\$9,000
Towing (abandoned vehicles)	\$3000
Misc. Consulting Services	\$600
Misc Contractual	\$22,000
Vehicle Operating Supplies (Fuel)	\$50,000
Office Supplies	\$5,000
Civil Service Committee Expenses	\$2,000
H.T.L. Materials	\$1,000
Materials/Supplies	\$7,500
Postage	\$1,000
Miscellaneous	\$500
Vehicles	\$25,000
Computer Hardware/Software	\$7,000
Specialized Equipment	\$18,000
Buildings/Fixed Equipment	\$7,000
Transfer Out – STD	\$3,600
Transfer Out-HRA	\$23,300
Repair/Maintenance	\$6,000
Radio/Dispatch Services	\$81,400
Radio Equipment	\$3,000
Materials/Supplies	\$1,700
Computer Hardware/Software	<u>\$10,000</u>
TOTAL	\$2,540,800

Patrol Division

Patrol officers provide a law enforcement presence in the city 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. The patrol division for the Indianola Police Department is the most visible and is comprised of one lieutenant, three sergeants and eleven patrol officers. Sergeant Largesse serves as the Department's representative on the Metro Star tactical response team.

The sergeants and patrol officers are assigned to one of three 10 hour shifts. Day shift is 6:30 am – 4:30 pm. Mid shift is from 4 pm – 2 am, and night shift is from 9 pm – 7 am. During 2013, day shift hours were changed from 6 am – 4 pm to the current schedule. This ensures that each shift now overlaps, allowing officers an opportunity to exchange information, keeps more officers on the street instead of ending and starting shifts simultaneously, and reduces overtime. The lieutenant rank was created in 2013. The lieutenant works 1 pm – 10 pm. This schedule allows the lieutenant the opportunity to confer with the captain and chief regarding administrative matters, and also allows for one supervisor to be available to all three of the patrol shifts. On occasions when manpower is short, the lieutenant will be available to provide some additional coverage on the street, thus reducing overtime.

The patrol division utilizes five fully marked squad cars. One new car was purchased this year to replace the squad that was destroyed when a suspect fleeing other law enforcement agencies struck the Indianola car while exceeding 100 mph. Laptop computers in each squad are outdated and inadequate. The Department applied for a grant to replace the laptops and add body cameras to our equipment. The body cameras will be worn by each patrol officer recording audio and video when out of the field of vision of the fixed position cameras in the squad cars. The success of the grant application will not be known until February 2014.

Patrol officers are often the first on the scene at an emergency and life-saving equipment is vital. In 2013, the Department was awarded an automated external defibrillator (AED) through a grant, bringing the total number of AED's in squad cars to two. The Department was awarded a second grant that will go toward the purchase of an additional AED as we work toward the goal of having an AED in each squad car.

The Department has two patrol bicycles that had not been in service for several years. The bikes were repaired and put back into service in August. When adequate street coverage is available, officers are encouraged to ride the bikes throughout the community and trail system providing higher police visibility. The bikes also provide a stealth element to patrolling, and were used during a burglary surveillance operation.

When school resumed this fall, day shift patrol officers began stopping into each one of the community's school buildings unannounced. The officers check in with the school office, and then briefly walk through the hallways. This effort allows the officers to interact with students and staff in passing, increases our visibility at the schools, and serves as a deterrent to someone who may wish to cause a disturbance from either within or outside of the buildings as they do not know when an officer will be on site. Another addition to patrol duties that began in the fall was the city's new parking ban around Simpson College from 2 am – 5 am. Enforcement of this ban falls to the night shift. Warning tickets were issued for the first two weeks, until citizens became accustomed to the new ban. It is more effort for the officer, who has to physically examine windshields for parking passes, but overall the ban has been quite successful with very few citations being issued. All shifts have also been encouraged to stop in periodically at local businesses, school events, and athletic competitions to further increase our visibility and strengthen community relationships.

The Department has a speed monitoring trailer that can be stationed throughout the city. The trailer is well marked with IPD logos and provides a digital display of each vehicle's speed in an effort to remind drivers not to exceed the designated limit. Patrol officers are responsible for positioning the trailer each morning at a predetermined location and retrieving the trailer each evening.

The Department partners with Simpson College to provide intern opportunities to criminal justice students. The students will spend part of a semester exposed to the daily operations of the Department, and spend a great deal of time primarily with the patrol officers. An additional service that the patrol officers provide is through the Department's ride along program. Citizens are allowed, after a background check and with supervisory approval, to spend a limited amount of time riding with the patrol officers in an observation role.

The activity of an officer, either self-initiated or through being dispatched to a call, is a call for service. The patrol shift had 7399 calls for service in 2013. In addition to enforcing traffic violations, patrol officers are the first officers on scene at reported crimes and disturbances. They are tasked with assessing each situation, identifying involved parties, securing evidence if available, gathering information and making arrests as each situation dictates. They also handle complaints from citizens who either phone in or walk in to the department wishing to speak with an officer. The majority of situations necessitate a written report that each patrol officer is responsible for completing. The cases that need further attention are either forwarded to the detective division, or are followed up with by the patrol officer.

Detective Division

The detective division was staffed by one detective sergeant and one detective during the first half of 2013. Additionally, one officer was assigned fulltime to the Mid-Iowa Narcotics Enforcement task force headquartered in Polk County. During the latter half of 2013, the detective sergeant was promoted to the rank of captain and now oversees the detective division. After a benefit analysis, the MINE task force officer was reassigned to the detective division resulting in two detectives now reporting to the captain. The MINE assignment was not replaced. The detective division worked 10 narcotics investigations in 2013, a number that should increase in the next year with the reassignment of the task force officer.

The detectives share office space which allows them to confer on labor intensive investigations and complex crimes. Duties of the detectives include following up on cases generated by patrol officers, coordinating with prosecutors, warrant preparation and execution, and performing as the lead officer on major crimes including sexual assaults, robberies, burglaries and financial crimes. Detectives are trained and are responsible for crime scene processing, interview and interrogation, and death investigations. The detective who was reassigned from the task force serves as the Department's primary narcotics investigator. The other detective has received extensive training and is a member of the Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) task force. He is proficient in examining computers and electronic devices for evidence germane to ICAC investigations. In 2013, the detective division investigated 12 ICAC cases, as well as 96 other cases. Detectives also consult with patrol officers regarding their investigations, and assist with preparation and execution of warrants on cases that are not assigned to the detective division.

Three unmarked vehicles are assigned to the detective division. Two used sedans were purchased in previous years. The third vehicle is an SUV which was repurposed after originally serving as a K-9 vehicle. During 2013, the Department was awarded a Cellebrite machine from the Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation. Only two machines were awarded throughout the state. A majority of suspects in criminal investigations utilize cellular telephones and similar devices. The Cellebrite enables the detectives to forensically examine phones for evidentiary purposes.

The detectives are also responsible for the control of evidence and the evidence room. During 2013 the process of clearing out the evidence room commenced. Officers identified evidence that was no longer needed for prosecution, and a list of that evidence was compiled by the detectives. Each piece of evidence will be documented as it is either returned to victims or destroyed through court order. This is a time-consuming and labor intensive process which the detectives work on when not involved in other investigations. In addition to the aforementioned duties, the detectives are also called upon periodically to supplement the patrol division by working as patrol officers when needed.

Training

In 2013, Lieutenant Hawkins assumed the role of training coordinator, responsible for scheduling in-service training, searching and scheduling training opportunities for officers, and tracking the training hours. In addition, the Department's administrative assistant sought training opportunities that positively impacted the civilian staff's role. The Iowa Law Enforcement Academy has established mandatory training requirements for all law enforcement officers in the state, and the Department exceeds those requirements. As a Department, officers received in excess of 900 hours of training in 2013.

The Department utilizes the expertise of its own officers during various training days. In 2013, Department officers instructed in the areas of firearms, CPR, ASP baton, Taser, defensive tactics, tactical entry and room clearing, and internet crimes. During the fall in-service, Indianola officers were joined by several members of the Carlisle Police Department who were invited to participate in the training. In addition, the Department participated in a mock bio hazard drill at Simpson College involving multiple agencies.

Training that cannot be provided by our own officers is sought primarily through ILEA and the Midwest Counterdrug Training Center at Camp Dodge. A majority of the training involves minimum expense. Other training that was received by various officers in 2013 included Advanced Contraband Concealment, ALICE training, Responding to Victims of Stalking, OWI/Standard Field Sobriety Test refresher and Advanced Roadside Impaired Driving Enforcement. The Department also sent one officer to a shotgun armorer school. That officer now services and repairs all Department shotguns in-house.

Statistics

Type of Call	2012	2013	Diff	% Diff
Calls for Service	7128	7399	271	3.8%
Incident Reports	1025	1347	322	31.41%
Traffic Enforcement	1484	1963	479	32.27%
Vehicle Accident Responses	351	399	48	13.67%
Arrests	431	576	145	33.64%
Controlled Substance Cases	79	110	31	39.24%
Assault	106	74	-32	-30.18%
Burglary	183	113	-70	-38.25%
Sex Abuse	29	14	-15	-51.72%
Theft	272	376	104	38.23%
Domestic Disturbance	170	158	-12	7.05%
Criminal Mischief	142	147	5	3.5%
Arson/Fire	19	8	-11	-57.89%
Robbery	2	1	-1	-50%
Fraud/Forgery	74	115	41	55.40%

Traffic Enforcement

Citations/Warnings	1247	1338	91	7.29%
OWI	34	43	9	26.47%
Parking Tickets	452	597	145	32.07%

Motor Vehicle Accidents

Property Damage	250	297	47	18.8%
Personal Injury	21	17	-4	-19.04%
Hit and Run	61	64	3	4.91%
Unknown Injury	9	11	2	22.22%
Car vs. Deer	10	10	0	0%

Community

In 2013, the Indianola Police Department made strides toward establishing community policing as a Department philosophy rather than as an initiative. Community policing involves establishing and building partnerships with community groups and individuals alike. Collaborative efforts involving these groups and the Department build trust and lead to a safer and more secure community.

The Department worked on developing community partnerships by increasing our visibility and accessibility. Officers are encouraged to get out of the squad cars and into various businesses, or to briefly stop by community events. The Department displayed a squad car during Market on the Square Saturdays, visiting with people and allowing children to explore the inside of the squad. Patrol officers routinely stop into the various schools unannounced to visit with staff and students.

Communication between the Department and administration at Indianola schools and Simpson College was established prior to school resuming and has been ongoing. The bicycle patrol was reinstated allowing officers to be a presence throughout the town and on the extensive trail system. Officers have given talks to local service organizations such as Rotary and the ministerial association. The Department created a Facebook page and Twitter account, using social media to inform the community on safety issues and Department activities.

The Department began the process of establishing a Neighborhood Watch program in town, and will look to put it in place in 2014. The Department initiated a charity program in 2013. The Indianola Police Department Community Outreach Partners (IPD COP) is funded by donations from businesses and individuals. Through IPD COP, the Department purchased and delivered Thanksgiving and Christmas meals, and took some children Christmas shopping. Other events are planned for 2014 as this program will be a year-round outreach partnership assisting children and families in the community.

Highlights

1. In February, Indianola police officers were involved in the conclusion of a high-speed pursuit. An Indianola squad was positioned across a portion of the roadway on the east edge of town in an effort to slow down the fleeing vehicle before it entered the city. The driver chose not to avoid the squad car, slamming into the squad in excess of 100 mile per hour. The driver was killed and the squad car was obliterated. A child, unknown to be in the suspect's vehicle during the pursuit, was located inside the car after the collision, and was treated for non-life threatening injuries.
2. In a rare occurrence, Indianola experienced a robbery of a local pharmacy in 2013. The subject was apprehended within a half hour by the IPD. Also in 2013, a string of burglaries happened involving several downtown businesses over the span of a few days. The burglar was arrested, charged, and successfully convicted.
3. Personnel changes:
 1. New Chief of Police began serving July 29
 2. Retirement of Captain Tab Bartling after 29 years of service.
 3. Detective Sergeant Brian Sher promoted to Captain
 4. Sergeant Rob Hawkins promoted to newly created Lieutenant rank.
 5. Officer Rick Largesse promoted to Sergeant
 6. Officer Clint Dee hired
4. Indianola Police one of two departments state wide to receive Cellebrite machine from DCI ICAC unit.
5. Indianola Police receive \$1000 grant from Theisen's toward AED purchase
6. Indianola Police receive AED from grant application with Iowa Heart Association