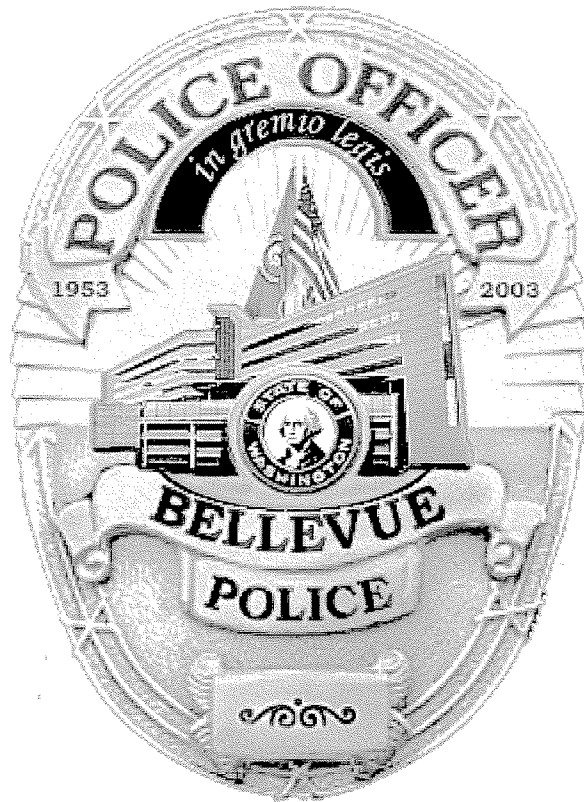


BELLEVUE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Operations Division

Mid-Year Report 2004



James Montgomery
CHIEF OF POLICE



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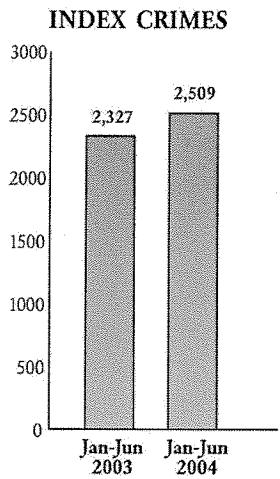


Police Operations Division

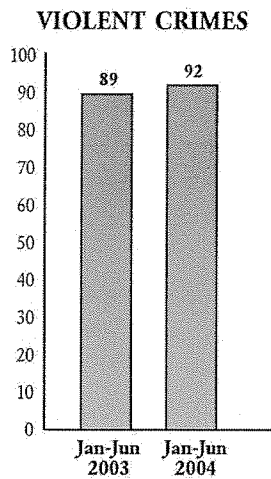
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VISION: Community, Trust, Safety



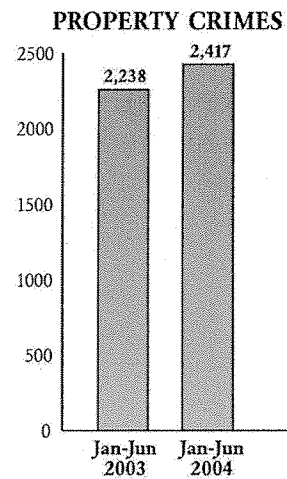
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Homicide, Sexual Assault, Robbery, Aggravated Assault, Burglary, Theft, Auto Theft, Arson



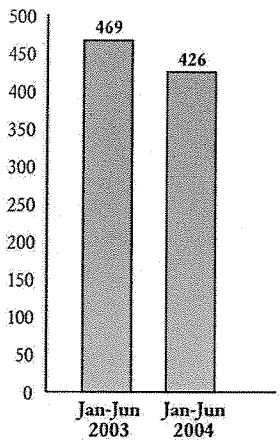
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Homicide, Sexual Assault, Robbery, Aggravated Assault



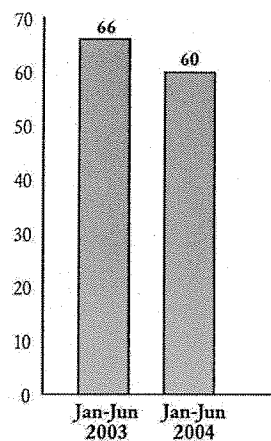
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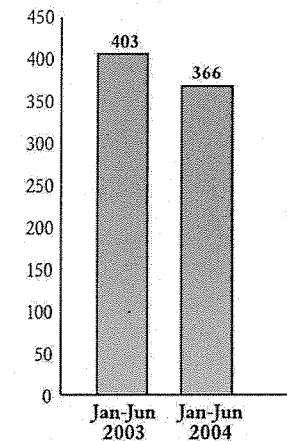
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VIOLENT CRIMES CLEARED



PROPERTY CRIMES CLEARED

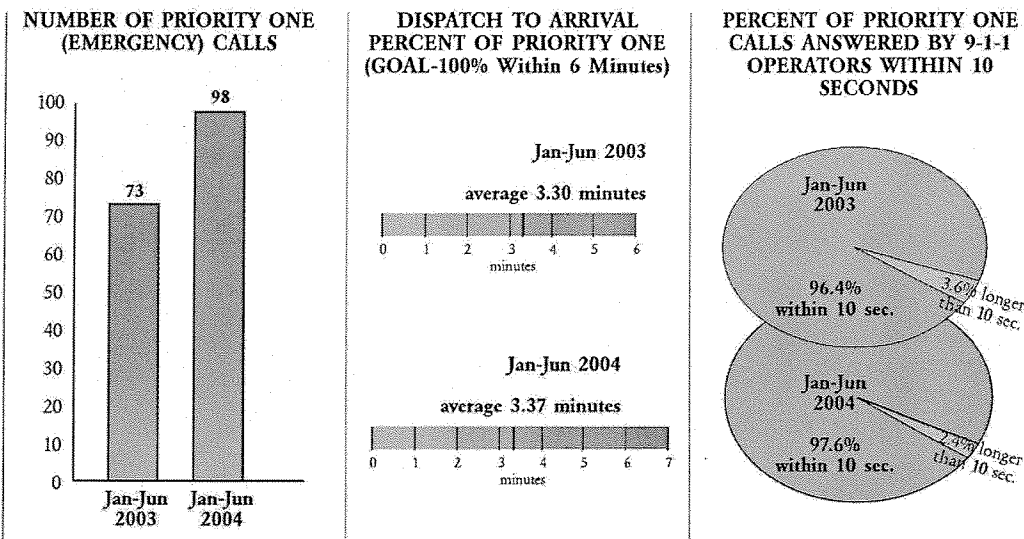
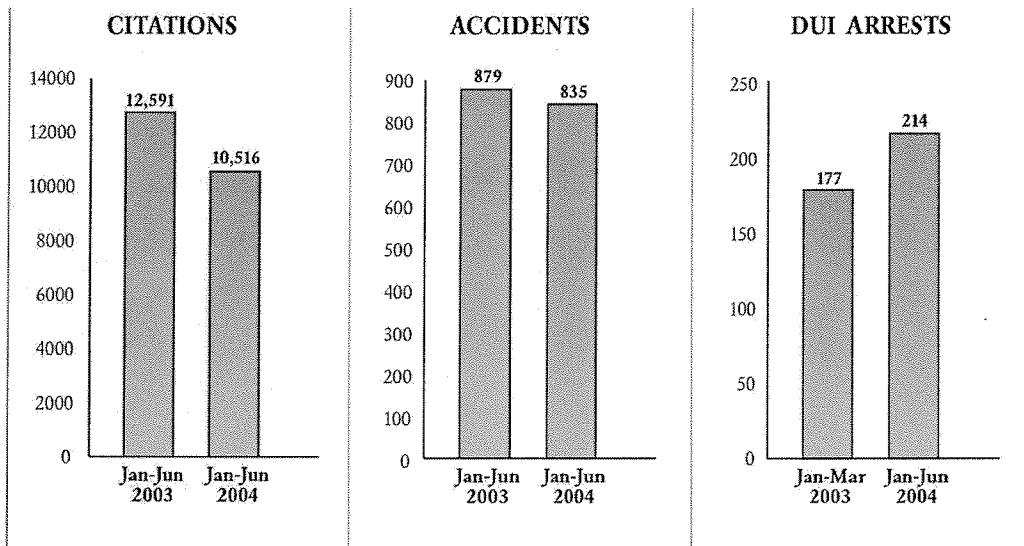


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Police Operations Division

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 VISION: Community, Trust, Safety



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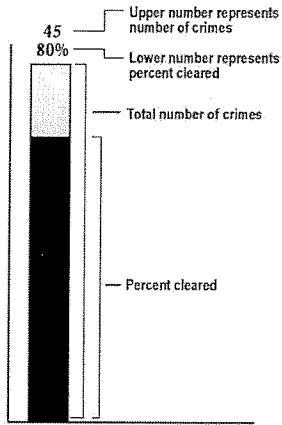
Police Operations Division

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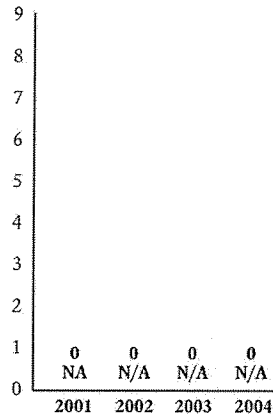


VIOLENT CRIMES

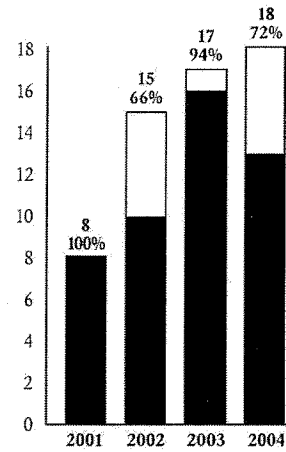
EXAMPLE



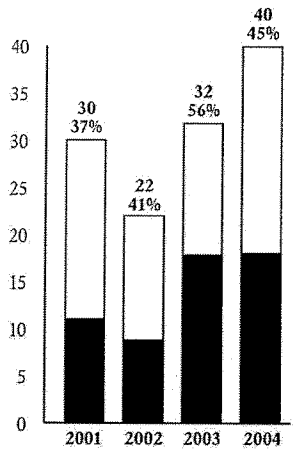
HOMICIDE



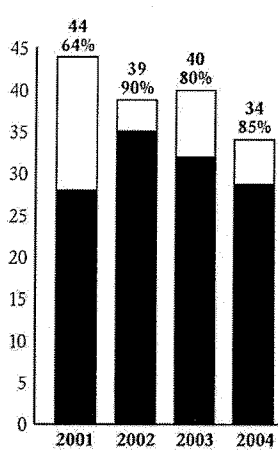
RAPE



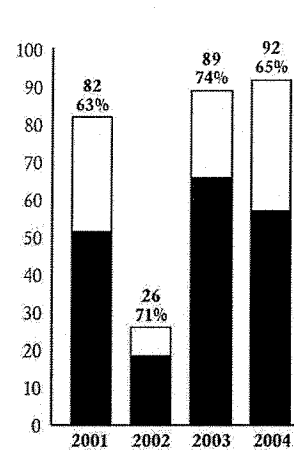
ROBBERY



AGGR. ASSAULT



TOTAL VIOLENT CRIME



Mid-Year 2004

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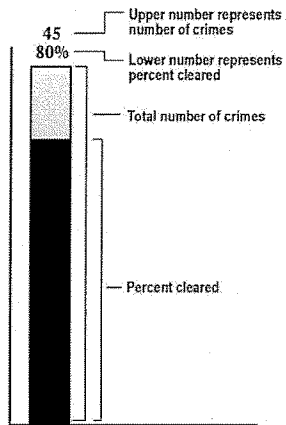
Police Operations Division

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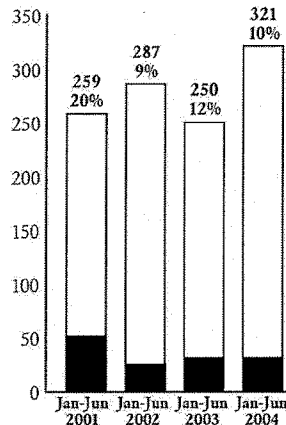


PROPERTY CRIMES

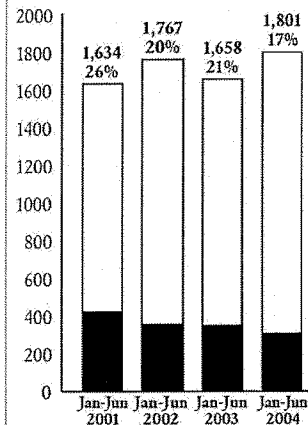
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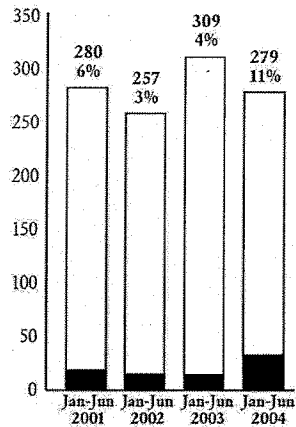
BURGLARY



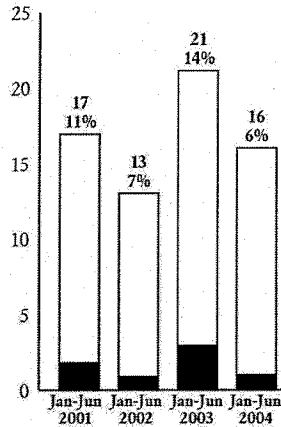
LARCENY



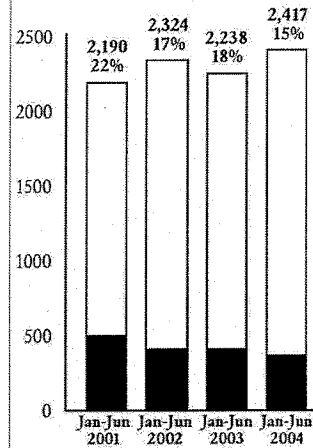
MV THEFT



ARSON



TOTAL PROPERTY CRIME



Mid-Year 2004

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PATROL SECTION
Mid-Year Report 2004
Major Bruce Vestal, Section Commander

UNIFORMED PATROL

PATROL ACTIVITY		
First Half Comparisons	2003	2004
DUI Arrests	110	127
Traffic Stops	12,002	10,297
NOI's	2,776	2,386
Criminal Traffic Cites	485	411
	2003	2004
Felony Arrest Calls	265	191
Misd. Arrest Calls	749	616
Felony Arrests Observed	91	88
Misd. Arrests Observed	399	275
Warrant Arrests Observed	274	214
Warrant Arrests Received	137	104
	2003	2004
CR's	6,036	5,735
Average CR's/Officer	64.7	61.6

- Several new faces were added to the command ranks of the Patrol Section: Major Bruce Vestal, Captain Mike Johnson, Lt. Autumn Fowler, Lt. John Manning, Lt. Mark Jordan, Lt. Pat Arpin, and Cpl. Dion Robertson.
- Lt. Dan Hatten accepted a job as the Chief of Police in Hutchinson, Minnesota.
- After a successful, injury-free pursuit and shots fired inside a busy Bartell Drug store, Officer Derrick Isackson successfully apprehended an armed robbery suspect. Officer Isackson was later awarded the Police Medal for his outstanding performance at this incident.
- Patrol and Traffic successfully combined forces to manage security at the overpasses and underpasses in our city when President Bush came to town.
- This winter, a snow and ice storm created some significant traffic problems in the city. Patrol officers and supervisors worked closely and effectively with the Transportation Department to manage this event.
- This Spring, patrol officers responded to Newport High School because a student was armed with a gun in the hallway, threatening to kill himself. Traffic officers secured the perimeter and patrol officers quickly moved in to secure the scene. The student with the loaded gun was apprehended without incident.
- Patrol officers assisted Kirkland PD, Mercer Island PD, and the FBI during the kidnapping of a young girl from Mercer Island. The suspects made arrangements to pick up their ransom money at the Factoria Square Mall. Bellevue Officers set

up on the area and participated in the pursuit when the suspect fled. The suspect was ultimately stopped and taken into custody near Monroe. The young girl was found unharmed, in the suspect's vehicle, by a Bellevue officer.

TRAFFIC

Motor Unit:

- In January, Officer Denny Naumec filled a vacant motor position.
- In March, the entire motor unit was re-certified at the WSP track.
- In April, several motor officers attended the NAMOA conference in Vancouver, BC.
- In May, motor officers participated in escort duties during the "Chief for a day" charity event for terminally ill children.
- At the end of June, Officer Jason Deaner transferred to the SET team. His replacement is forthcoming.
- The motor unit continued to coordinate the police department response to all special events. Both the July fourth fireworks display and the Bellevue Arts and Crafts Fair had good turnouts this year. Traffic officers did an extraordinary job of traffic control during record setting heat at the Arts and Crafts fair.
- This was the second year of the Seafair Half Marathon race and it went extremely well. There are plans to expand it to a full marathon next year.

First half Activity Comparisons	2003	2004
DUI Arrests	42	87
NOI's	7,863	6,911
Parking Citations	769	651
Misd. Arrests	97	78
Felony Arrests	10	19
Accidents Investigated	520	562

Collision Investigators:

- In March, Officer Doug Demetre received an award from M.A.D.D. for his previous year's DUI enforcement. DUI enforcement is up for the year.
- Also in March, BPD participated in a DUI emphasis on St. Patrick's day.
- In April, officers investigated a serious car vs. Metro bus collision. An elderly male, who was the "at fault" driver died approximately one month later.
- A "slick top" enforcement vehicle was approved for the second night shift officer.
- In April, the police department teamed up with the transportation department to conduct a pilot test program for opticom units in marked police vehicles. The goal is to provide greater safety to both police officers and the public and to reduce response times to emergency calls for service.

Types of Accidents	2003	2004	% Change
Property Accidents	652	628	-4%
Injury Accidents	187	199	6%
Persons Injured	230	253	10%
Pedestrian Accidents	18	17	-6%
Bicycle Accidents	5	14	180%
Fatal Accidents	2	1	-50%
Deaths	2	1	-50%
Hit and Run	99	105	6%
DUI Accidents	7	23	229%

*The significant increase from 2003 to 2004 is a result of increased staffing and additional DRE applications.

Courts and Custody

- During the first six months of 2004 PSO VanWieringen investigated 25 gas thefts with collective losses of approximately \$670. As a result of his efforts approximately \$370 has been paid back to the victims.
- The change in laundry service that was instituted in 2003 has been a great success, saving the Department several hundred dollars a month.
- The PSO's continue processing and entering follow-up information on all fingerprint cards since phase II of the LiveScan project was not implemented the first half of this year as expected. When it is implemented the Officers will be entering the requisite information at the time of booking. The PSO's will still be involved with the process to ensure quality control.
- The entire Courts and Custody unit continues to be actively involved in the planning of the new Custody facility that will be located in the new City Hall / Police Headquarters building.
- Approximately 1,275 persons were processed in our current Custody Facility the first half of this year.

Our prisoner population housed at the contract jails was robust the first half of the year. The chart below shows our ADP (Average Daily Population) in each of our contract jails. Our contract amounts are 27 beds for Yakima and 10 beds for Issaquah.

2004	King Co	Yakima Co	Issaquah	Renton	All Jails
January	9.0	29.1	13.8	0.6	52.5
February	12.8	27.1	16.1	0.9	57.0
March	14.1	32.7	16.2	1.3	64.4
April	9.8	30.4	18.7	0.6	59.4
May	13.2	32.6	19.0	0.4	65.2
June	11.4	31.0	16.1	0.6	59.1

Court Liaison Officer

- The court liaison program continues to be a great success.
- Officer Dentz has continued working with his volunteer and the property room to create better efficiencies for the disposition of evidence. Due to these efforts the backlog was caught up with about the beginning of the second quarter of this year.
- The use of CD's and .WAV files instead of cassette tapes instituted by Officer Dentz last year has been very successful and has worked well for our Department as well as the outside agencies.

Crowd Control Unit

- In March 2004, the Crowd Control Unit was called to assist in the City of Bothell. Bothell had requested mutual aid for a potentially large number of persons protesting the trial of a female Reverend of the United Methodist Church who was admittedly a homosexual. The unit performed a security detail at the church during the planned arrest of several protestors; the arrests went smoothly.
- During the first six months of 2004, the unit had three training sessions covering a variety of related topics. Several members of the team attended the Basic Riot Control School in Spokane hosted by the WSCJTC.

Explosives Unit

Between January and June 2004, the Bellevue Explosives Unit responded to 20 calls for service on the greater Eastside including:

City	Calls
Bellevue	14
Kirkland	3
Mercer Island	2
Medina	1

These calls for service included:

- Found Military Ordnance
- Suspicious Packages
- Surrendered explosive powder and Ammunition (commercial)
- Unexploded Improvised Explosives
- Disposal of Fireworks and Ammunition
- Hoax Devices
- Post blast bombing of a vehicle.

In addition, Bomb squad members completed 5 "bomb sweeps" at high profile events, (Meydenbauer Center and Microsoft Campus in Redmond)

During the first half of this year the Bellevue Explosives Unit was approved for and will be obtaining two federal grants for a new Explosives vehicle and a Robot.

FTO-Corporal Program

The FTO-Corporal Program is responsible for the initial practical street training of new officers and the monitoring, mentoring and evaluation of these officers during their year of probation.

- During the first six months of 2004 the department averaged approximately 13 Patrol and 4 Traffic FTO's and had 9 Corporals.
- The FTO's trained 10 Student officers while the Corporals monitored and mentored 18 Probationary officers.
- The Corporals also trained several of the student officers, conducted over 160 critical incident and other forms of briefing training for their squads and worked as supervisors when their lieutenant was not on-duty.
- Corporal Randy Hall completely rewrote the FTO manual, created a new critical task manual, created a new police identification card and ensured each member of the police department was photographed and supplied with the new ID card.
- Corporal Deffenbaugh worked with legal advisor Kyle Aiken and started a monthly review of the Law Enforcement Digest which is sent to each member of the department.

K9

- During the first six months of 2004 the K9 Unit responded to 828 calls, conducted 221 hours of training and made 14 Felony arrests, and 6 misdemeanor arrests.
- Officer Stoutt and his dog Max are cross trained to locate narcotics.
 - During the first six months they have conducted searches resulting in 10 hits on for narcotics.

Hostage Negotiators

- During the first six months of 2004 the negotiators worked with the SWAT team on two successful operations. One involved suspects wanted out of Montana for Manslaughter, the other involved suspects wanted for robbery.
- Negotiators also assisted patrol on two suicidal subject calls. One of them involved a jumper on the NE 8th overpass above I-405.
- The team coordinated regional HNT training, attended by multiple departments, in January with the National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI).
- We lost one team member (Lt. Hatten) who left for another department. A new team leader (Lt. Flores) was selected to replace him. In addition, two other team members were promoted to Lieutenant, giving the team three patrol lieutenants, one detective, one SRO, one CALEA officer and one patrol officer.

SET (Special Enforcement Team)

- During the first half of 2004 SET officers made a total of 48 arrests including 16 Felony arrests.
- The team logged over 800 hours of surveillance time and over 1500 hours of intelligence gathering time.

- The SET Team was formally committed to two additional years of service (through 2006)
- SET was involved in the arrest of several suspects for Bank Robbery and several weeks later arrested several more suspects for the Bank Robbery and a crime spree they had been on in King County which included Kidnapping and Robbery.
- SET investigated and successfully concluded a series of sexually motivated assaults in the Crossroads area.
 - The suspect was arrested and confessed based on information obtained through many hours of surveillance. He was charged with nine counts of assault.
- SET was involved in the arrest of several subjects who had attempted to defraud the PACCAR Corporation of over \$200,000. After an extended surveillance at a warehouse in Sea-Tac the suspects finally arrived to pick up merchandise and were arrested. These subjects were connected to a ring of identity thieves out of California. A subject that originally drew the attention of the team in October 2003 and had been arrested several times was sentenced to one year in prison for auto theft and VUCSA crimes.

The officers assigned to the unit are Lt. Jerry Litzau, Detective Jason Deaner, Officer Danny Young, Officer Chris Nygren, Officer Jeff Christiansen, and Officer Brenda Johnson.

SWAT

- During the first six months of 2004, the SWAT Team served five high risk search warrants.
 - One of these search warrants was for property crimes involving persons with violent criminal backgrounds.
 - Two of the warrants involved persons wanted for violent crimes, and the other two warrants were drug-related.
- The SWAT team was also involved in three operations.
 - The first operation of the year was an assist call from the FBI who had located a team of bank robbers in one of our hotels; the subjects barricaded themselves for a few hours before surrendering.
 - The second operation involved three strong armed robbery suspects who refused to exit their residence or answer their phone. A warrant was served and the suspects were placed into custody.
 - The third operation was a dignitary protection detail with the U.S. Secret Service during the visit of Lynn Cheney, the wife of the Vice President of the United States.

INVESTIGATION & COMMUNITY SERVICES SECTION
Mid-Year Report 2004
Major Bill Thomas, Section Commander

Strategic Plan Progress
GOALS

- A. Continue to educate the community on how we operate and why.**
- Two Citizen Academies per year.
 - Outreach forums with the Latino Community.
 - Crime Prevention talks, Block Watch and Business Watch.
 - Talks with community when sex offender notices are released.
 - Human Service Commission ex-officio member.
 - Bicycle Officer talks and tours of the station.
 - Safety fairs and National Night Out Against Crime.
 - DARE and School Resource Officer talks and meetings with the community.
- B. Seek honest and effective feedback from the community.**
- Annual City of Bellevue phone survey.
 - In-house known customer mail survey.
 - Web site input offered through email to citizens to give input.
 - Feed back from citizens at academies, community meetings, and crime prevention programs.
- C. Encourage community/police problem solving.**
- Crime prevention and crime analysis are coordinating their efforts to where the problems are happening.
 - Crime analysis updates patrol on trends, mo factors, etc.
 - Top 5 program started with Patrol, advising of most actor characters.
 - Patrol district Officers assigned to the same district for a year, and the same supervisor.
 - Patrol stresses POP and added a COP portion on their quarterly evaluation.
- D. Partner with King County for a Transit Center Community Station.**
- Plans and lease are set for this project.
 - Earliest opening date will be mid-2005.
- E. Build partnerships with community to identify service needs, changes or additions.**
- Partnerships with community through community stations at Crossroads, Factoria and Spiritwood.
 - Crime prevention outreach programs.
 - Community academies and forums.

- Crime Free Multi-housing programs at apartment complexes.
- Attend Bellevue Downtown Assoc. meetings and meetings with other individual businesses.
- Attend Chamber of Commerce and Factoria Business Assoc. meetings.
- Network with ICMA and Benchmark Cities for best practices.

F. Enhance internal process for budget development and review.

- Gain input and suggestions from employees at monthly meetings.
- Gather suggestions from employees for review at management retreat.
- Work with police finance manager on budget review and process.

G. Evaluate current BPD statistics for effectiveness in justifying BPD budget priorities.

- This is accomplished with evaluating and review of performance measures in the budget document.
- Performance measures scorecard- presentation and review by Council.
- Comparison of programs and measures with ICMA and Benchmark cities.

NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES UNIT

Mid-Year Highlights

Community Stations

The annual safety fair at Factoria mall was another big success with the public along with the officers/volunteers who worked on it. The station officers have done a very good job in handling community meetings with the citizens and businesses i.e. block watches and working with groups in their neighborhoods to solve problems.

Bicycle Officers

Bike officers Tarantino, Collins, and McIvor have been very successful in their proactive approach in dealing with problems and people who are causing problems at various locations in the city including: the Downtown Park, Transit Center, Bellevue Square, Crossroads Park, etc. These contacts have resulted in numerous arrests for offenses including VUCSA, warrants, theft/psp, trespass, fraud, etc. Bike Officers Tarantino and Collins, along with Major Vestal and Officer Carlson, received a commendation for an incident that occurred on 5/27/04 for taking a subject into custody. This subject was suicidal, had access to a weapon, and wanted to commit suicide by cop.

Commendations

Officer Mangione (Crossroads Station) received the Commanders Award for his role in the robbery/officer involved shooting that occurred in Jan. 2004.

Officer Wood (Factoria Station) received a commendation for assisting a citizen who fell off her boat on a complaint that was reported on 6/15/04.

SCHOOL SERVICES UNIT

DARE

From January to June 2004, Officer Bob Oliver, our sole DARE Officer, spent time in the classroom teaching the DARE curriculum, supplemental lessons and interacting with the children. He also spent numerous hours providing informational and fundraising presentations for the DARE program.

Classroom hours: 342
Supplemental hours: 8
Interaction hours: 172

SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

MIDDLE SCHOOLS

The middle school numbers from January to June 2004 show a marked decrease in activity this year due to the fact that Officer Lisa Piculell is the primary middle school SRO and she has been working only part-time due to her commitment with the U.S. Coast Guard and Homeland Security. The other SROs and the patrol section have been doing their part in responding to calls for service at the middle schools as needed.

During this time period, Officer Piculell spent a total of 185 hours on campus. During this time, she handled 69 calls, met with students/staff/parents 156 times, took 2 criminal CRs and 5 non-criminal CRs and mediated 7 incidents. She made no arrests and handled no gang, weapons or drug-related incidents.

HIGH SCHOOLS

Sammamish HS: Officer Tom Baker handled 181 calls, met w/ students/staff/parents 88 times, took 37 criminal CRs, 2 non-criminal CRs and mediated 8 incidents. He made 2 felony arrests and 7 misdemeanor arrests. Officer Baker handled 1 weapons-related incident, 1 gang-related incident and 4 drug incidents.

Interlake HS: Officer Mike Fry handled 369 calls, met w/ students/staff/parents 710 times, took 14 criminal CRs, 8 non-criminal CRs and mediated 69 incidents. He made 1 misdemeanor arrest. Officer Fry had 1 gang-related incident, 1 drug incident and no weapons-related incidents.

Bellevue HS: Officer Gary Hromada handled 232 calls, met w/ students/staff/parents 237 times, took 20 criminal CRs, 5 non-criminal CRs and mediated 27 incidents. He made 3 misdemeanor arrests and 1 felony arrest. Officer Hromada had 1 weapons-other incident, and no gang-related incidents.

Newport HS/Tyee MS: Officer Greg Mills handled 205 calls, met w/ students/staff/parents 560 times, took 18 criminal CRs, 7 non-criminal CRs and mediated 9 incidents. He made 6 misdemeanor arrests and 1 warrant arrest. Officer Mills handled 1 weapons-related incident and 8 drug-related incidents; there were no gang-related incidents.

Robinswood HS/MS: Officer Mike Munko handled 418 calls, met w/ students/staff/parents 365 times, took 4 criminal CRs, 8 non-criminal CRs and mediated 144 incidents. He made 1 felony arrest and 2 misdemeanor arrests. Officer Munko handled 1 gang-related incident and 10 drug incidents; there were no gang-related incidents.

January through June 2004 Totals for High Schools:

Total calls	1474
Meetings w/ students/staff/parents	2116
Criminal CRs	95
Non-Criminal CRs	35
Mediations/Interventions	264
Misdemeanor arrests	19
Felony arrests	4
Warrant arrests	1
Gang incidents	3
Weapons-firearms	2
Weapons-other	1
Drug incidents	25

CRIME PREVENTION

Mission

To protect the citizens and business owners through preventive education and diligent investigation of fraud and economic crimes committed in the City of Bellevue.

Organization

The Unit is comprised of three detectives supervised by a Lieutenant, who also supervises the Crime Analysis Unit and Crime Prevention. The unit primarily investigates crimes of fraud, forgery, extortion, embezzlement and counterfeiting.

Highlights

- A business suffered an embezzlement of funds at the hands of its bookkeeper. The employee issued herself extra payroll checks each month over a three year period with a loss to the company of over \$270,000. Case closed with arrest and filing of charges.
- A major airline suffered a fraud where the owners of a travel agency used discount coupons to reduce the funds sent to the airline for plane tickets then pocketed those funds, costing the airlines \$627,000. The case is still under investigation.
- Another case is the fraud of an elderly man by his felon niece (caregiver) to the tune of over \$150,000. This is a difficult case to work, as the victim is senile and has a limited memory. Case under investigation.
- The victim company manages funds for various large organization. The suspect was hired by the company in 1995 and eventually became the controller in 2003. In 2004, it was discovered that he had been issuing unauthorized checks to himself from the company account and has admitted to the theft of over \$211,000. Suspect was arrested and a search warrant was obtained for his bank records.
- The Crime Prevention Detective was assigned to do background investigations and to date has completed 13. Detective Felt also scheduled the 7th annual law enforcement memorial day at Bellevue square. The event involved 9 other agencies and easily was visited by several thousand people.
- The Crime Analysis Unit has been busy tracking sex offenders, issuing crime bulletins and publishing analysis reports on trends for burglary and auto crimes. The yearly customer survey was completed by Teri Studham.

VIOLENT CRIMES UNIT

Investigations Section

Mission

The mission of the Violent Crimes Unit is to help ensure, through thorough criminal investigations and the timely prosecution of offenders, the safety of all persons within the City of Bellevue.

Organization of the Violent Crimes Unit

The Violent Crimes Unit (VCU) is comprised of one lieutenant, six detectives and one civilian Domestic Violence Victim Advocate. Three of the detectives are assigned, trained and experienced in the investigation of: *homicide; robbery; rape and other sex offenses; assaults and other crimes of violence*. Additionally, three detectives are assigned, and uniquely trained and experienced, in the field of *domestic violence and special assault investigations*. These priority fields of investigation include child and elder abuse and neglect, sexual assaults on children and all domestic violence related

offenses. VCU detectives also investigate reports of "missing persons", both adult and juvenile.

The civilian Domestic Violence Victim Advocate is specially trained in assessing and providing for the needs of the victim with immediate safety being the priority. The advocate will inform the victim of community-based resources, explain the criminal justice process and serve as an essential liaison between the victim and the City of Bellevue's Prosecutors Office.

Through a rotating "on-call" schedule, VCU detectives are available to respond to crime scenes 24 hrs/day, 7 days a week. They provide expertise in evidence identification and collection, interview/interrogation techniques, crime scene dynamics and search warrant application.

Detectives also provide in-house training to other sections with the Bellevue Police Department, as well as to Bellevue Fire Department personnel and to the staffs of city hospitals, in the area of criminal forensics.

Domestic Violence Statistics

<u>Offense</u>	<u>2003</u>	<u>2004</u>
Verbal	335	277
Misdemeanor	304	227
Felony	56	21
<u>% Decline from 2003 to 2004</u>		<u>%</u>
Verbal		17%
Misdemeanor		25%
Felony		62%

In 186 of the cases in 2004, there were juveniles present. This is 35% of the cases. Drugs and/or alcohol were present in 114 of the cases. This is 22% of the cases. The most active day of the week for domestic violence calls was Sunday. The most active district was 4. In 71% of the cases, the suspect was male.

PROPERTY CRIMES UNIT Investigations Section Mid-Year Report----2004

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Property Crimes Unit is to protect the property interest of the Bellevue community through the prevention and investigation of crimes against property and the prosecution of those responsible for these types of crimes.

The Property Crimes Unit of the Bellevue Police Department Investigations Section is responsible for the investigation of all crimes against property to include, but not be limited to; residential and commercial burglary, auto theft, auto prowl, arson, acts of vandalism and all major thefts. The Unit is currently comprised of six detectives and one supervisor.

Property Crime Unit Highlights

We were called upon to investigate a residential burglary in which a number of expensive items were stolen. One of those items was a \$15,000.00 prized viola of a young girl. Using the description of this unique item we were able to identify a potential suspect who had possession of the viola in Spokane. While coordinating with Spokane County police officers we developed a confidential informant who gave us enough information to arrest the suspect outside his Spokane home. Subsequent investigation, interviews and a search warrant revealed that the suspect would come over to Bellevue to commit "high end" residential burglaries and then take the stolen property east of the mountains to sell in Eastern Washington and Idaho. We cleared a number of our burglaries as a result of this investigation, recovering numerous pieces of stolen property, to include the young girls viola.

For a short period of time we were suffering from a series of MV prowls, garage burglaries and nighttime burglaries of occupied residences in the south end of our city. We subsequently developed enough information to serve arrest and search warrant in an apartment in Seattle. While serving that warrant we obtained evidence that tied this group to over 100 crimes in the greater Seattle area. We recovered over \$200,000.00 dollars worth of stolen property and returned it to the rightful owners and have charged three individuals with a multitude of crimes.

We received a report of a questionable action/possible fraud complaint. Upon investigation we learned that suspects living in the San Francisco area had stolen the "identity" of a Bellevue business and were attempting to take delivery of almost \$200,000.00 worth of fraudulently ordered audio/visual equipment. We took the lead in this investigation and subsequent to some undercover work and surveillance of the suspects in and around the Sea-Tac area we foiled this relatively complex plan and made our arrests. Using our case file the F.B.I. has opened an investigation into this group committing similar crimes and will charge them federally.

Fraud & Organized Crime Unit Crime Prevention & Crime Analysis Mid-year 2004 summary

Mission

To protect the citizens and business owners through preventive education and diligent investigation of fraud and economic crimes committed in the City of Bellevue.

Organization

The Unit is comprised of three detectives supervised by a Lieutenant, who also supervises the Crime Analysis Unit and Crime Prevention. The unit primarily investigates crimes of fraud, forgery, extortion, embezzlement and counterfeiting.

Highlights

- A business suffered an embezzlement of funds at the hands of its bookkeeper. The employee issued herself extra payroll checks each month over a three year period with a loss to the company of over \$270,000. Case closed with arrest and filing of charges.
- A major airline suffered a fraud where the owners of a travel agency used discount coupons to reduce the funds sent to the airline for plane tickets then pocketed those funds, costing the airlines \$627,000. The case is still under investigation.
- Another case is the fraud of an elderly man by his felon niece (caregiver) to the tune of over \$150,000. This is a difficult case to work, as the victim is senile and has a limited memory. Case under investigation.
- The victim company manages funds for various large organization. The suspect was hired by the company in 1995 and eventually became the controller in 2003. In 2004, it was discovered that he had been issuing unauthorized checks to himself from the company account and has admitted to the theft of over \$211,000. Suspect was arrested and a search warrant was obtained for his bank records.
- The Crime Prevention Detective was assigned to do background investigations and to date has completed 13. Detective Felt also scheduled the 7th annual law enforcement memorial day at Bellevue square. The event involved 9 other agencies and easily was visited by several thousand people.
- The Crime Analysis Unit has been busy tracking sex offenders, issuing crime bulletins and publishing analysis reports on trends for burglary and auto crimes. The yearly customer survey was completed by Teri Studham.

CRIME ANALYSIS UNIT

Investigations Section

Staffing: The CAU, established in 1983, is currently staffed by one detective, one part time crime analysis technician, and three civilian volunteers.

Mission: The unit's primary mission is to collect, analyze, and then disperse relevant crime information. From a daily torrent of reports, bulletins, FIRs, teletypes, etc., our CAU personnel filter out irrelevant information and pass along on the distilled intelligence to the appropriate officers, administrators, and more than 50 outside agencies. The main instrument for information distribution is the CAU Bulletin.

EASTSIDE NARCOTICS TASK FORCE

Activity Highlights

January-June, 2004

February

Bellevue Detective Ramos opened a joint cocaine investigation with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and the Seattle Police Department (SPD). SPD had been trying for a long period of time to infiltrate a group in the West Seattle and Burien areas known as the West Seattle Mafia, that was heavily involved in the distribution of cocaine in those areas but had been unable to penetrate the group. Detective Ramos had developed an informant (eastside related) who was supplied by this group, and when he checked some of the names given to him by this informant through the Western States Intelligence Network, he discovered that SPD had information on the same people. Ramos contacted SPD and the joint investigation began.

This joint investigation ended in March with the arrest of five suspects, the seizure of approximately three pounds of cocaine, two marijuana grow operations (one in Seattle and one in Port Orchard), three vehicles seized, and the West Seattle Mafia Drug Trafficking Organization dismantled.

Other narcotics investigations may be started as a result of information obtained through this investigation.

February

ENTF received an anonymous letter giving information that there was prostitution being conducted at a massage parlor on Northup Way in Bellevue. Issaquah Detective Horn was assigned the investigation. He was able to establish probable cause for 3 arrests and a search warrant at the Dragon Springs Massage Parlor.

In March, a search warrant was served at the business and 4 arrests were made: 2 for Offer and Agree to a Sex Act for Money, and 2 for Promoting Prostitution and Money Laundering. The owner of the business, a Bellevue resident, was one of the subjects arrested for promoting and money laundering. The others arrested had various immigration status from China. The prostitutes were brought in from Los Angeles and rotated through the Bellevue business every 10-14 days and replaced by new people.

March

ENTF received another anonymous letter giving information that there was another massage parlor in downtown Bellevue bringing in Asian women from Los Angeles and rotating through every 10-14 days for acts of prostitution. Detective Horn had developed contacts with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) from the first massage parlor investigation, so he contacted them with the information. Together it was determined that the male operating this business was a federal fugitive. After further investigation a search warrant was served on the business and a residence in Seattle.

As a result of this investigation, 4 people were arrested: one for Offer and Agree to a Sex Act for Money, 3 for Promoting Prostitution and Money Laundering. Two of the males arrested were federal fugitives and deserters from the Chinese Army. One has already been deported. Approximately \$90,000 cash, three vehicles and a boat were seized.

May

Bellevue Detective Lofink had been investigating an methamphetamine distributor for 18 months. Lofink had conducted search warrants and made arrests on a number of people who were supplied by this individual but had been unable to arrest the supplier. One evening he and detective Hershberger surveilled the subject and were able to develop probable cause and arrest him that night. They recovered 2 pounds of meth and \$9,000 cash.

Detective Lofink was able to obtain information from this subject and begin new investigations. In June, Lofink conducted 3 investigations deriving from this suspect:

- Undercover purchase of 1 pound of meth and the arrests of two suspects.
- Search Warrant with the recovery of one pound of meth and the arrest of one suspect.
- Undercover purchase of one pound of meth, a consent search of the suspects stash house for a total recovery of 11 pounds of meth and the seizure of \$40,000 cash and the arrest of the supplier of the original suspect.
- The result: dismantling of what appears to be the major Drug Trafficking Organization for methamphetamine in the Seattle area.



