

# WILLOWBROOK POLICE DEPARTMENT

## 2006 ANNUAL REPORT

The Willowbrook Police Department endeavors to serve the community and citizens with effectiveness, efficiency and care. Through positive and continuing partnerships with our residents, we are meeting the high level of expectations and safety which is requested of the community. Constant consideration and attention to professional service is the standard which we are committed to uphold.

### ADMINISTRATION

Our police department's positive interaction with the residents and dedication to individual programs has been very well received by our citizens. Our youth Photo-Identification program continued and was used at open houses, community events and local businesses. Over One Thousand Two Hundred (1,200) glow necklaces were distributed between the schools and local residents over the Halloween Weekend. The police department conducted numerous station tours and demonstrations to Cub Scout packs and local child care facilities. Homeowners groups and other businesses partnered with the department for educational presentations on gang awareness, identity theft and overall safety topics. The relationships made between the police department and the community leaders is instrumental in our community working together to make it better. The continued efforts and proactive involvement allow us to work together.

Our Child Restraint Technicians installed forty six (46) individual car seats at the police department. In addition, they participated in Safety Check Points throughout DuPage County and again represented the department at the Chicago Auto Show in conjunction with the Child Passenger Safety Team of Illinois in promoting child safety restraint.



The Senior Willowbrook Adults Connected (SWAC), which is the senior citizen forum, saw another expansion in attendance. Informative prevention information was discussed and pertinent topic speakers were provided at a forum for our seniors to become more involved and learn about programs available to them. This invaluable, positive relationship has developed and become an asset to our village.

The police department was able to have an officer join the DEA Interdiction Task Force. This opportunity will benefit the department in resources and in experience and expertise in various fields.



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New handguns were purchased for the entire department. Glock 45 and 40 caliber handguns with mounted stream line flashlights were purchased to replace the existing weapons. The added feature of the flashlight provides the utmost in officer safety and the illumination capabilities afford the officers greater versatility in their tactics to perform their duties with officer safety being paramount.

In February, the reorganization of the department in relation to the CALEA assessors' recommendation and village board direction created the ranks of Deputy Chief of Administration and Deputy Chief of Operations. The establishment of these two positions allows for the division of chain of command between the commanders and the chief of police. These positions have been very positive in the restructuring of the police department and the delegation of responsibilities and authority.

### OPERATIONS

Service codes decreased in 2006 just slightly with 8,928 as compared to 9,059 last year. In terms of index crimes, which are crimes of murder, criminal sexual assault, robbery, battery, burglary, thefts, motor vehicle thefts, and arson there was an increase of just eleven (11) incidents. Violent crimes were minimal in comparison with all reported crimes.

The patrol division continued with its high profile awareness of traffic enforcement in the areas of seat belt enforcement and parking violations. The department was awarded various enforcement grants to enforce and heighten public awareness and conduct safety checks throughout the Village. In regards to the total number of tickets, Illinois Vehicle Code tickets decreased by 303 and Driving Under the Influence enforcement decreased by eleven (11). However, Compromise tickets increased by 683 citations and parking tickets increased by 400. In conjunction with traffic enforcement, the department seized thirteen (13) vehicles which resulted from suspended or revoked drivers operating their vehicles when their privileges had been removed by the courts.

The overall number of traffic accident occurrences decreased by eleven (11) accidents this year. The intersections of Kingery Highway and 75<sup>th</sup> Street and Kingery Highway and 63<sup>rd</sup> Street again incurred the highest amount of accidents. Personal injury accidents decreased by ten (10) and property damage accidents also decreased significantly by forty seven (47).



The Canine Unit became active and very well received by the community. Canine handler, Officer Dave Gaddis, and our canine, Icha, have become a popular addition to the department. Numerous requests for demonstrations and appearances have been given and well received with outstanding reviews and comments throughout the entire area. The canine and officer have been extremely active in assisting our officers along with surrounding communities including federal and state assistance with searches and tracking incidents. The canine unit is a valuable tool for the detection of narcotics and a deterrent

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to possible offenders. This resource is both an efficient and effective addition to our police department.

### CADET PROGRAM

Our police Cadet Program, under the leadership of Commander John Barnacle, represented the department well. They assisted in parking and security functions for Gower School functions and with the Five Seasons Event which sponsored a DEA agent who broke a Guinness World Record. They also have assisted the Kiwanis and Chamber of Commerce at various events. In July, they attended the 2006 National Explorer Conference in Arizona where they participated in specialized competitions and were awarded Second Place overall in White Collar Crime Competition. These young individuals serve and represent our department respectfully while receiving training in the field of law enforcement.



### RECOGNITION

During the past seven years that I have been the Chief of Police, the department has experienced changes and improvements. On behalf of the department, I wish to thank the President and Board of Trustees for their support, advice, and guidance. I also wish to thank my staff, Deputy Chief Pat Foley, Deputy Chief Mark Shelton, the commanders, officers, and civilian staff for their work, dedication, and cooperation this past year. It is only through their efforts that the challenges were overtaken and the successes achieved for the department. I specifically wish to recognize the Village Administration for their patience and advice in dealing with issues during this past year. The philosophy of the department is changing to meet future law enforcement challenges. An emphasis on patrol visibility, enforcement of risk-taking behaviors, and personnel issues will strengthen the department for the future. This change will prepare the members of the department to meet future issues which will arise.

Ed Konstanty  
Chief of Police