The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department will build problem-solving partnerships with our citizens to prevent the next crime and enhance the quality of life throughout our community, always treating people with fairness and respect.

We value:

- Partnerships
- Open Communication
- Problem Solving
- People
- Our Employees
- Integrity
- Courtesy
- The Constitution of North Carolina
- The Constitution of the United States

"Building Partnerships to Prevent the Next Crime"
The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department experienced significant achievement and enormous loss in 2007. In this annual report — my last as Chief of this fine organization — we highlight a few of our accomplishments, our innovative new programs and the tragedy that marked the year.

On March 31, Officer Sean Clark and Officer Jeff Shelton were fatally shot. They were the first Charlotte-Mecklenburg police officers slain in the line of duty in more than a decade. It was a difficult time for me personally and for every other member of our police family, but the incredible support we received from the community helped in our healing.

As I look back on my eight years as Chief, I am proud of how much we have accomplished together. The partnerships we developed, the initiatives we introduced and the tremendous work the men and women of this department do every day, all contribute to our successes.

In 2007, our overall violent crime rate dropped to its lowest level in more than 25 years. But we still face significant challenges, particularly with property crimes. Our property crime rate rose slightly again in 2007. We are taking steps to combat that trend, but this is an issue we must tackle together. We are targeting chronic offenders, but the District Attorney will need more resources to prosecute them. At the same time, the community must increase its preventative efforts.

I hope this report will help you better understand the combination of enforcement and community problem-oriented policing we use to address crime and quality of life issues in Charlotte-Mecklenburg. I also hope it will move you to join with us as we embark upon challenges that the police department cannot overcome alone.

I thank you for the encouragement given to me during my tenure and the tremendous outpouring of support given to the entire department after our loss in March. We dedicate this report to Officer Clark and Officer Shelton. Their sacrifice will never be forgotten.

Officer Bryan D. Albertson
Officer Thomas Bisignano
Officer Leon Augustus Carr II
Officer Jeffrey S. Cashion

Officer William S. Cook
Officer Valerie Gordon Cousin
Officer Charles A. Fahrenholz
Officer Mitchell T. Manivong

Officer Marc E. Mowery
Officer Andrew D. Philips

Sergeant Lawrence R. Powell

Many Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department employees also serve in the United States military. The department would like to thank them for their service to our country and specially recognize those who were deployed for active duty in 2007:

Officer Bryan D. Albertson
Officer Thomas Bisignano
Officer Leon Augustus Carr II
Officer Jeffrey S. Cashion

Officer William S. Cook
Officer Valerie Gordon Cousin
Officer Charles A. Fahrenholz
Officer Mitchell T. Manivong

Officer Marc E. Mowery
Officer Andrew D. Philips

Sergeant Lawrence R. Powell

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department would like to congratulate the following employees on their retirement and say thanks for their many years of committed service:

Officers

Officer Jack M. Brown, 21 years
Officer Sylvia B. Connor, 28 years
Officer James M. Cowell, 8 years
Officer Charles L. Decker, 30 years
Officer Michael J. Dugan III, 27 years
Officer Donald Ebanks, 16 years
Officer James E. Godwin, 26 years
Officer Christopher A. Goodwin, 22 years
Officer William E. Hodge, 26 years
Officer Jeffrey R. Hoelscher, 8 years
Officer Elizabeth A. Joye, 15 years
Officer Susan A. LaGray, 28 years
Officer Gerald L. Miller Jr., 21 years
Officer John C. Montgomery, 13 years
Officer James M. Sanders, 27 years
Officer James A. Smallridge Jr., 30 years
Officer Lyndell J. Taylor, 10 years
Officer Barry B. Wallace, 28 years
Officer Douglas B. Wright, 27 years

Sergeant Thomas E. Burnette, 29 years
Sergeant Michael L. Gaines, 25 years
Sergeant Randy L. Hagler, 28 years
Captain Jeffrey A. Baker, 26 years
Captain Fuma D. Blighes, 29 years
Captain Elizabeth L. Buchanan 29
Captain David R. Haggis, 29 years
Captain John R. McElwee III, 29 years
Captaiin Sean T. Moulah, 28 years
Major Marc V. Deluca, 29 years
Deputy Chief Kenneth D. Williams, 28 years

Civilians

Telecommunicator Karen S. Allman, 29 years
Office Assistant Barbara S. Baker, 28 years
Systems Applications Specialist James J. Breslin, 24 years
Records Technician Sue C. Brown, 22 years
Telecommunicator Anne B. Causey, 25 years
Communications Supervisor Linda F. Clontz, 26 years
Investigative Technician Katherine P. Espinosa, 8 years
Communications Supervisor Rachael B. Proctor, 31 years
Customer and Revenue Service Assistant Sabreina D. Gilliam, 27 years
Communications Supervisor James N. Smith, 33 years

In 2007, our overall violent crime rate dropped to its lowest level in more than 25 years. But we still face significant challenges, particularly with property crimes. Our property crime rate rose slightly again in 2007. We are taking steps to combat that trend, but this is an issue we must tackle together. We are targeting chronic offenders, but the District Attorney will need more resources to prosecute them. At the same time, the community must increase its preventative efforts.

I hope this report will help you better understand the combination of enforcement and community problem-oriented policing we use to address crime and quality of life issues in Charlotte-Mecklenburg. I also hope it will move you to join with us as we embark upon challenges that the police department cannot overcome alone.

It has been a great honor to serve this fine community and work with the dedicated professionals of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department. I have no doubt that together you will continue to make this a wonderful place to live and raise a family.

I thank you for the encouragement given to me during my tenure and the tremendous outpouring of support given to the entire department after our loss in March. We dedicate this report to Officer Clark and Officer Shelton. Their sacrifice will never be forgotten.
Charlotte Quick Facts

Population:
- 683,215 City of Charlotte
- 874,753 Mecklenburg County
- 752,997 Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department jurisdiction

Total Square Miles:
- 287 City of Charlotte
- 543 Mecklenburg County
- 438 Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department jurisdiction

- America’s 21st largest city
- 640 daily departures from Charlotte-Douglas International Airport
- 2nd Largest Banking Center, SNL Financial
- Headquarters to eight Fortune 500 companies
- 5th among MarketWatch’s Best Cities for Business (2007)
- First in BET's Best Cities for Black Families (2007)

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department is the largest law enforcement agency in Mecklenburg County and the largest police department between Washington, D.C., and Atlanta.

- Its 1,638 sworn officers police a community of 752,997 residents. Another 1.6 million people visit the Charlotte area each year.
- The CMPD’s 466 civilian personnel and more than 400 volunteers provide critical services, including 911 communications, records and property control, crime scene and laboratory analysis and crime reporting.

Source: CMPD; Charlotte Chamber of Commerce; Charlotte Regional Visitors Authority; Population and square mileage according to Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Commission.

Arrests in 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Adult 18 &amp; Older</th>
<th>Juvenile Under 18</th>
<th>Total Arrests</th>
<th>Annual % Change from 2006</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>-2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>-36.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>189</td>
<td>594</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggravated Assault</td>
<td>1,582</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>1,817</td>
<td>-11.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary</td>
<td>727</td>
<td>413</td>
<td>1,140</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larceny</td>
<td>1,468</td>
<td>616</td>
<td>2,084</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle Theft</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>-2.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arson</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>-16.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Aggravated Assault</td>
<td>2,083</td>
<td>813</td>
<td>2,896</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forging/Counterfeit</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>-22.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fraud</td>
<td>461</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>464</td>
<td>-21.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Embezzlement</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>-3.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stolen Property</td>
<td>547</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>686</td>
<td>-4.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vandalism</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>527</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weapons</td>
<td>870</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>930</td>
<td>-3.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prostitution</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>-4.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sex Offenses</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drugs</td>
<td>3,340</td>
<td>424</td>
<td>3,764</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gambling</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-33.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offenses against the Family</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-66.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Driving While Alcohol/Drug Impaired</td>
<td>2,027</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2,040</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liquor Violation</td>
<td>267</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>296</td>
<td>22.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disorderly Conduct</td>
<td>681</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>1,061</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Non-Traffic Arrests</td>
<td>7,875</td>
<td>974</td>
<td>8,849</td>
<td>-9.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>23,419</td>
<td>4,742</td>
<td>28,161</td>
<td>-1.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: CMPD; Charlotte Chamber of Commerce; Charlotte Regional Visitors Authority; Population and square mileage according to Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Commission.
Medal of Valor

Sgt. Graham Brown, Officer David L. Artieri

Officers were attempting to arrest two murder suspects from inside a motel room. SWAT officers threw a “flash-bang” through a window. Sgt. Brown and Officer Artieri covered the room as other officers headed in. When one of the suspects started shooting, Brown and Artieri returned fire, fatally wounding the shooter and protecting the lives of their fellow officers.
Property Index Crime includes burglary, larceny, vehicle theft, and arson.

2007 rate (7,821 crimes per 100K Population)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Captain</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Central Division</td>
<td>119 E. Seventh St., Suite 2B</td>
<td>(704) 336-5729</td>
<td>Jeff Estes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eastway Division</td>
<td>3324 Eastway Dr.</td>
<td>(704) 336-8535</td>
<td>Mike Smathers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Freedom Division</td>
<td>4150 Wilkinson Blvd.</td>
<td>(704) 336-8333</td>
<td>Brian Cunningham</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hickory Grove Division</td>
<td>5727-A N. Sharon Amity Rd.</td>
<td>(704) 567-9198</td>
<td>Glen Neimeyer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Independence Division</td>
<td>9315 - G Monroe Rd.</td>
<td>(704) 847-1477</td>
<td>Pete Davis</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Metro Division</td>
<td>601 East Trade St.</td>
<td>(704) 336-8300</td>
<td>Bruce Bellamy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Tryon Division</td>
<td>4045 North Tryon St., Suite B</td>
<td>(704) 336-8398</td>
<td>Johnny Jennings</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North Division</td>
<td>10430 R Harris Oaks Blvd.</td>
<td>(704) 432-3801</td>
<td>Andy Leonard</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Providence Division</td>
<td>3500-400 Latrobe Dr.</td>
<td>(704) 943-2600</td>
<td>Martha Dozier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steele Creek Division</td>
<td>1750 Shopton Rd.</td>
<td>(704) 336-7800</td>
<td>John Williams</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Division</td>
<td>8050 Corporate Center Dr., Suite 100</td>
<td>(704) 744-4835</td>
<td>Roderick Golding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Westover Division</td>
<td>1540 West Blvd.</td>
<td>(704) 432-2442</td>
<td>Sherie Pearall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University City Division</td>
<td>8401-120 University Executive Park Dr.</td>
<td>(704) 432-3900</td>
<td>Freda Lester</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

CMPD Patrol Divisions

Central Division
Eastway Division
Freedom Division
Hickory Grove Division
Independence Division
Metro Division
North Tryon Division
North Division
South Division
Providence Division
Steele Creek Division

Violent Index Crime includes homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

2007 rate (960 crimes per 100K Population)

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<td>4150 Wilkinson Blvd.</td>
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<td>Hickory Grove Division</td>
<td>5727-A N. Sharon Amity Rd.</td>
<td>(704) 567-9198</td>
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<td>Freda Lester</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Violent Index Crime Rates
Per 100,000 Estimated Jurisdiction Population

Lowest rate in 15 year period was in 2007
(960 crimes per 100K Population)

* 1993 rate is calculated based on the combined population estimates and the combined Index Crime totals reported by the Charlotte Police Department and the Mecklenburg County Police Department.

Chief’s Award for Excellence in Policing
Officer Brian J. Cloninger, Detective Douglas Moore, Officer Carolynne Piers, Detective D.S. Spears, Police Attorney Bruce McDonald, Kenny Desner (Charlotte Fire Department), Hale Carter (CFD), Bart Massay (CFD), Sandra Bisanar (City Attorney), James Bjornlode (Environmental Department), Lynn Lathan (Health Department), Tim Walker (Electrical Inspector), Robert Mahoney (Code Enforcement)

In an effort to reduce calls for service, address quality of life issues and bring the Economy Inn on Wilkinson up to code, Officers Cloninger and Pierce enlisted help from other City and County agencies. After several verbal warnings and written citations, the hotel was closed by Charlotte Fire Department inspectors.
Statistical Review

The key variables that put crime numbers into perspective—and allow more accurate comparisons from year to year—are growth and population. Put simply, the larger a community, the more opportunities there are for victimization. That is why crime rates (the number of crimes per 100,000 citizens) provide a more complete picture of the potential for victimization, successes and crime problems that need more attention.

Index Offense Rates per 100,000 Estimated Population

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offense</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>Annual % Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>728,143</td>
<td>752,997</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homicide</td>
<td>11.4</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>-12.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
<td>47.7</td>
<td>37.2</td>
<td>-22.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>440.4</td>
<td>423.8</td>
<td>-3.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggravated Assault</td>
<td>535.1</td>
<td>489.2</td>
<td>-8.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary</td>
<td>1,865.3</td>
<td>1,719.5</td>
<td>-7.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larceny</td>
<td>3,866.5</td>
<td>4,291.3</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle Theft</td>
<td>981.9</td>
<td>799.3</td>
<td>-18.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arson</td>
<td>47.5</td>
<td>51.5</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violent index</td>
<td>1,034.5</td>
<td>960.2</td>
<td>-7.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property index</td>
<td>6,761.3</td>
<td>6,861.6</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INDEX TOTAL</td>
<td>7,795.9</td>
<td>7,821.8</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Employees Recognized for Performance

Every year, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department recognizes employees who distinguish themselves through heroic actions and outstanding performance or service. Throughout this report you will find the stories of some of those honored in 2007 in the following categories:

- **Gold Police Cross:** awarded to any member of the department killed in the line of duty and presented to that person’s family.
- **Silver Police Cross:** awarded to employees who are seriously injured by assault or other overt acts in the performance of their duties.
- **Life Saving Award:** recognizes employees for saving a human life.
- **Chief’s Award for Excellence in Policing:** recognizes exceptional problem-solving initiatives that have effectively addressed serious community concerns.
- **Medal of Valor:** presented to employees who have shown gallantry and bravery by preserving life or property while risking death or serious injury.
- **Medal of Merit:** presented to employees who have demonstrated extraordinary actions in response to an emergency or routine event.

In their report, the assessors wrote that they “did not identify any significant problems or issues and found the agency to be in compliance with all applicable mandatory and other than mandatory standards.”

“Not only does CALEA help create tried and tested policies, they ensure we are in compliance with our own directives,” said Sgt. J.D. Cox, accreditation supervisor. “This process of taxing the agency by allowing us to take an in-depth look into our operations and test their effectiveness.”

department Earns Accreditation A Second Time

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department underwent reaccreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies.

Worldwide, only 754 law enforcement agencies are accredited by CALEA, an international organization whose team of assessors determines whether an agency meets 750 professional standards. CALEA, a non-profit corporation, encourages law enforcement agencies to voluntarily demonstrate their commitment to excellence.

CMPD first gained the highly-prized recognition in 2004, and must go through an evaluation process every three years. In late 2007, assessors spent six days examining all aspects of the department’s policies and procedures, management, operations and support services.

In their report, the assessors wrote that they “did not identify any significant problems or issues and found the agency to be in compliance with all applicable mandatory and other than mandatory standards.”

“Not only does CALEA help create tried and tested policies, they ensure we are in compliance with our own directives,” said Sgt. J.D. Cox, accreditation supervisor. “This process of taxing the agency by allowing us to take an in-depth look into our operations and test their effectiveness.”
Employee of the Year

Michael P. Bedard

As Facilities Manager, Bedard spearheaded the physical changes required for the department’s redistricting – meeting an ambitious timeline and saving money in the process. He also saved CMPD money through improved monitoring of cell phone accounts. He is the person people call when they need something. And his exemplary customer service makes him a vital and valued part of the organization.

Life Saving Award

Officer Shawn McMichael and Officer Brad Upchurch

These officers responded to a call about a man sleeping on a bench in the Center City. When they arrived, the officers quickly realized the man was unconscious and had no pulse. The officers began CPR and their quick thinking saved his life.

You can use cmpd.org to...

1. Report A Crime
   Online reporting is a convenient way to report non-emergency crimes, such as larceny, harassing phone calls, theft from auto or property damage.

2. Learn How To Become An Officer
   Find out what it takes to become a CMPD officer. Get information about how to volunteer. Or sign up to ride-along with a police officer and see what it’s like to patrol the area near where you live.

3. Sign Up For Email Alerts
   Receive emails notifying you of crime alerts and neighborhood meetings in the patrol division where you live or work. You can also sign up to receive news releases.

4. Figure Out Who To Call
   Use an interactive map to determine the patrol division where you live and how to reach the officers responsible for your patrol division.

5. Learn How To Prevent Crime
   Get tips on how to keep thieves from breaking into your vehicle and how to stay safe in parking lots.

6. See Charlotte’s Most Wanted
   You may hold the clue to locating one of Charlotte’s most wanted fugitives. Rewards are given through Crime Stoppers for information that leads to an arrest.

7. Map Crimes In Your Neighborhood
   Use the Community Crime Information System to find out how many crimes and what type of crimes are occurring near where you live, work or shop.

8. Get Crash Reports
   Check your route for wrecks before you head out. Find out where in Charlotte-Mecklenburg police are working crashes, so that you can avoid those areas. Or if you’ve been in a wreck lately, you can get a copy of your wreck report for a small fee.

9. Review Crime Statistics
   Is Charlotte really as crime-ridden as it looks on the evening news? View violent crime and property crime statistics to find out the truth about Charlotte-Mecklenburg’s crime rates.

10. See Missing Persons
    Have you seen me? Look at photographs and read about people reported missing in Charlotte.

Arresting the Most-Dangerous Suspects

A man wanted for murder in Raleigh called home from a 704 telephone number. Police traced the number to a phone booth outside a Charlotte convenience store. That’s when CMPD’s Violent Criminal Apprehension Team (VCAT) took over.

All it took was a phone call.

VCAT officers went inside the convenience store with a picture of the fugitive—and someone remembered him. The man had gone in, bought Marlboro Reds and asked for change to use the telephone. He was with a woman in a purple Jeep Cherokee who stopped there regularly.

VCAT officers started driving through nearby apartment complexes. In one, they found a purple Jeep Cherokee. The officers ran the license plate, learned which apartment the owner lived in, and staked out that apartment.

Eventually, a man came out and smoked a cigarette. He looked like the suspect but had highlights in his hair. The officers called Raleigh, whose detectives confirmed the suspect had colored the front of his hair.

Later, several people came out of the apartment and got into the Cherokee. Police followed and then a marked patrol car pulled over the Cherokee. The suspect was arrested and returned to Raleigh for prosecution.

“That is a case where we used old school police work and had a bit of luck on our side,” said Sgt. Steve Winterhalter. “But that’s the kind of work we do.”

The three-year-old Violent Criminal Apprehension Team expects to make its 1,000th arrest this year, said Capt. Michelle Hummel. Just last year, the team apprehended 239 people wanted for murder, attempted murder, robbery, rape, drug charges and other felonies.

The team arrested a man wanted in the rape of an 86-year-old woman. They tracked down an armed, serial bank robber. They captured a career criminal accused of attacking a police officer with a deadly weapon. And they took into custody a suicidal man wanted for the attempted murder of his girlfriend.

VCAT officers practice making a felony traffic stop and safely arresting a dangerous fugitive.

The team also works with the Hornet’s Nest Task Force, a group of local, state, and federal officers which tracks and arrests federal fugitives. When they work with the Task Force, they can make arrests out of state, Winterhalter said.

VCAT first started as a team that served warrants on armed robbery suspects. Now other units request the 10-officer team when they need a violent offender arrested.

First, they have to find them.

Arresting the Most-Dangerous Suspects
The SWAT Team was searching a home for a robbery suspect when the suspect began shooting through the walls. After a short pause, Officer Cotton saw the man fire from a second-story window. He returned fire, wounding the suspect and protecting his fellow officers from additional gunfire.

Cody manages employees who design and implement computer applications. She’s designed applications that give officers greater access to information in the field, positively impacting their safety and their ability to serve the community. Her understanding of department needs and her ability to develop cost-effective solutions helps make CMPD a leader and innovator in public safety technology.

VCAT officers investigate the target before starting their search. They determine where the wanted people and their families live, where else they might stay and who might know where to find them. They study the person’s criminal record and learn whether he or she is known to carry a weapon or fight police.

Hummel said the team has quickly become a vital part of the CMPD.

“The Violent Criminal Apprehension Team is trained to take violent criminals into custody the safest way possible,” she said. “They are taking dangerous people off the streets and doing it in a way that ensures community safety.”
Diversity in Recruiting Charlotte’s Finest

Members of the 153rd Recruit Class finished the 25-week academy and became Charlotte-Mecklenburg police officers on March 14, 2008. Here are a few of their stories:

A Kindergarten Dream Come True

Beatrice Andres was the only girl on the Chapel Hill High School wrestling team and now she studies Jiu Jitsu Martial Arts. She’s no wimp. But that doesn’t mean the 22-year-old Swiss native enjoyed fist fighting her police academy instructors, getting doused with pepper spray or shocked with a Taser.

“They do it because they care for us, which is kind of hard to understand now,” Andres said during her 21st week at recruit school. “Women are taught not to take charge, but it’s coming easier now,” Andres said with a smile. “The more yelling we do, the easier it gets.”

In college, she studied criminal justice and psychology – a mix she expects will be helpful on the job. She enjoyed learning to shoot guns at the academy. Even though she had no experience, she became among the most proficient in her class. She said driving lessons were great fun too, but she was ordered to do pushups once after she did “a backwards double doughnut.”

Learning to be loud, demanding and aggressive was the hardest part of recruit school, she said. “Women are taught not to take charge, but it’s coming easier now,” Andres said with a smile. “The more yelling we do, the easier it gets.”

New Unit Tracking Computer Crime

A wealthy California man thought he was buying a Mercedes off eBay. But once he wired $60,000 to a Charlotte man, he never heard another thing about the car.

After a few days, he called police. And CMPD’s Cyber Crimes Unit tracked down the supposed seller. “He never even had a Mercedes. He just had a picture of the car,” said Sgt. Walt Suarez. “He used the $60,000 to buy a car, furnish his apartment and buy his love interest some jewelry.”

Suarez said the Cyber Crimes Unit, which was created in 2007, could spend all of its time pursuing Internet fraud cases. But the five-person team also investigates computer hacking, e-mail threats and child pornography. And they are responsible for analyzing data from all electronic evidence obtained by the department.

Suarez said they examine cell phones, computers, and video surveillance recordings gathered as evidence in homicides, robberies, sex offenses and other investigations.

They can spend weeks, he said, going through thousands of e-mails and computer files searching for relevant evidence. They trace Internet Protocol (IP) and e-mail addresses to identify senders. They study cell phone records to determine where a suspect or victim was and who they spoke to before or after a crime.

Detectives Solving Old Sex Assault Cases

Donald Pruitt will spend nearly 50 years in prison for a series of rapes. So will Ardis Ray Fuller.

Pruitt and Fuller were convicted after CMPD’s Sexual Assault Cold Case Unit used a combination of old-fashioned investigating and new DNA technology to link them to unsolved attacks.

Since it was created in January 2006, the Sexual Assault Cold Case Unit has reviewed nearly 200 cases. Detectives Troy Armstrong and Marsha Dearing review unsolved case files, submit biological evidence for testing and follow leads. They solved 39 cases dating back to 1987 and cleared 15 by arrest. Seven of those arrested were serial rapists.

Pruitt had been in prison on unrelated charges for nearly 13 years and was being considered for parole when CMPD charged him with five rapes.

He broke into homes while his victims were sleeping and attacked them. The women, who ranged in age from 16 to 60, did not know him.

Fuller raped three Charlotte women in a 10-month period, including a 16-year-old held at knifepoint in her grandmother’s backyard.

Alyssa Layne, a counselor who works with sexual assault victims, said the vast majority are relieved to learn about an arrest in this case, though it does bring a flood of emotions.

“Years after an assault, they will wake up at night and be afraid,” she said. “Now they can really tell themselves that person is no longer out there.”

Detecting Cyber Crimes

The Cyber Crimes laboratory is outfitted with about $100,000 worth of high-tech equipment purchased primarily with grant money.

“As we become more and more dependent on computers, we’ve got to have a unit to combat computer crimes and mine through computers, cell phones and other electronics to find important evidence,” Suarez said. “Every unit is asking us to do some type of electronic analysis for them.”

Recruiting Fact

Recruits move across the country – and the world – to become Charlotte-Mecklenburg police officers. In 2007, the Department received more than 700 applications and graduated 105 officers from its academy.

Police Training Officer of the Year

Officer Rollin E. Mackel

Officer Mackel has a passion for sharing his knowledge of police work. He uses every call for service as a training opportunity. He teaches young officers how to investigate cases and ask the right questions – and he makes sure they get exposed to a wide variety of situations on all shifts.

Chief’s Award for Excellence in Policing

Sgt. William A. Roger Jr., Officer Michelle Butler, Detective Thomas G. Ledford, Officer R.C. Phelps, Officer Kenneth R. Sims, Officer Michael S. Smith, Officer Gresham T. Wilhelm, Marlene Hall (UNCC Director of Public Safety)

To combat the usual rise in police calls at the start of the UNC Charlotte school year, his team set out to enforce the laws related to social activities, promote personal safety/home security, and reduce the opportunities for robberies and other crimes. They held community meetings, conducted door to door campaigns and handed out crime prevention literature. Robberies dropped 75 percent and a serial robbery suspect was arrested.
Under the curfew, offenders are required to stay home during certain hours, typically “Dusk to Dawn” — between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. Officers check to make sure program participants are home when they are supposed to be. The judges who order offenders to wear an electronic monitor set restrictions. Some offenders are on house arrest. Some must abide by a curfew. Others are prohibited from going into certain areas or businesses.

With the program, participants have a small electronic monitor locked around their ankle. Every few minutes, it uses GPS technology to document its location. Officers are notified if a participant is somewhere he is prohibited from going. And once a day, the locations are compared to crime reports. If a participant was near a crime scene, investigators will know it.

“They prevent people from committing new offenses,” said Superior Court Judge Yvonne Mims Evans, a supporter of the programs. “I don’t think they like it, but it does keep them out of trouble.”

Fifty-six suspects were on curfews in 2007 and another 78 were ordered into the program but remained in jail. Eleven people who violated their curfews were ordered back to jail. Judges put 22 people on electronic monitoring in 2007. They included violent juveniles and adults accused of robbery, serious assault or numerous property crimes. Another 28, who remained in jail, were ordered to wear an electronic monitor if they bonded out.

Monitoring costs $6 a day and has been paid for with a federal Justice Assistance Grant. Scheppergrell said the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Foundation, which raises funds to continue and expand electronic monitoring.

Policing Is Different in the U.S.

Michael Frazer always wanted to be a police officer in the United States.

That’s why the Sierra Leone native was so excited in 2006, when he became a U.S. citizen. He was just a year away from earning a criminal justice degree at UNC Charlotte and he had made it a step closer to becoming an officer.

While in college, Frazer worked for Wachovia, opening bank accounts over the telephone. Until he entered the academy, he had no experience with police work.

“It’s a whole lot different from anything else I’ve ever experienced,” he said. “Some days are harder than others, but I’m enjoying it.”

Guns aren’t widespread in West Africa, so Frazer had almost no experience with them when he entered the academy. And although he has always exercised, he said a police recruit workout is different. He lost a few pounds while in the academy.

Frazer, 27, and his family moved from Sierra Leone in 1997 while the country was at war. Policing is very different there, he said. The force is unorganized. Officers garner little respect and have been known to take bribes. Frazer’s mother lives in Raleigh and his sister in Florida. His father still owns a business in Sierra Leone and now that the war has ended, he travels between the states and Sierra Leone, which is a bit smaller than South Carolina.

Frazier has not been back since he left at age 16, though he hopes to go this year. Frazer spoke English in school in Sierra Leone and knows the language well. But he also speaks a tribal language, called Krio, with his family and other natives of Sierra Leone.

He chose police work, he said, because despite what he saw growing up, he believes it’s a way he can help people who may not have the power to help themselves.

Eventually, he would like to work in criminal investigations.

Charlotte-Mecklenburg police are knocking on doors and using high-tech equipment in an effort to keep accused criminals out of trouble while they wait for their cases to go to court.

The Dusk 2 Dawn and Electronic Monitoring programs target suspects who’ve bonded out of jail and have a history of repeat offenses or fall into the age group (16-21) most likely to offend again, said Sgt. Dave Scheppergrell, who oversees the programs.

Officers ask judges to order curfew or monitoring as a condition of bond.

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Sergeants Scheppergrell and Evans were instrumental in developing and implementing the Dusk 2 Dawn Curfew program, which targets robbery suspects released on bond prior to trial. Fox took the lead in addressing legal issues and Cook coordinated with judges asked to impose the curfew.

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Officer Michael Frazer works in the Steele Creek Division.
Chief’s Award for Excellence in Policing

Sgt. Bryan Miller, Officer Jeff Brown, Officer Donna Burgess, Officer Michael Carter, Officer Alex Cruz, Officer W.D. Dotson, Officer Shannon Goodwin, Officer Andrew Harris, Officer Altonio R. Rivers, Detective Charles H. Witherspoon Jr., Pat Barker (Nuisance Abatement), E. Nadine Ford (Code Enforcement), Police Attorney Mark Newbold

Police officers partnered with Archdale/Nations Ford area business leaders, concerned residents and community activists to promote new investment, attract new businesses and revitalize the area, while eliminating problem tenants. As a result, plans for new shopping complexes and homes have given the area a new identity and will ultimately provide future economic growth potential.

“Life Saving Award

Officer Darrell J. Brown, Officer Silas T. Davis, Officer Robert Lyons, Officer Lynn Stewart

A driver leaving an uptown parking deck crashed into a concrete wall outside the Bobcat’s Arena. Officers Brown and Stewart ran to the car and found the driver not breathing. They pulled him from his car, while Officer Lyons assisted with traffic and crowd control and Officer Davis located a defibrillator. Officer Davis administered a shock that restored the man’s heartbeat – and ultimately saved his life.

Monica Nguyen, supervisor of the analysis unit, works with a hotspot map. Each patrol division has identified hotspots and is focusing extra attention on them.

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From Presidential Planes to Charlotte Streets, Langford Keeps Watch

Ben Langford flew to Moscow, Cairo and Hong Kong with members of Congress and other dignitaries.

He kept a watchful eye as President George W. Bush boarded Air Force One.

Now Langford is patrolling Charlotte-Mecklenburg’s streets.

The 28-year-old former Air Force captain was among the more than 100 officers who joined CMPD in 2007.

“This is a great city,” said Langford, who was elected president of his recruit class. “I looked at different departments but as soon as I saw this city and talked with (CMPD), I didn’t bother with anybody else.”

Langford served six years in the Air Force, where one of his assignments was in the 89th Security Forces Presidential Aircraft Security Section at Andrews Air Force Base. He oversaw the airmen who guarded Air Force One, Air Force Two and smaller planes in the fleet.

Since CompStat began, patrol officers have been doing more field interviews, more traffic stops and more searches. Sennett said those numbers made a difference in the 2007 crime rates.

“You believe we had seen some of these increases, our property crime would have gone up more than it did and violent crime would have gone up instead of down,” he said. “We had people in the places they needed to be.”

Recruiting Fact

More than a quarter of the 2007 recruits had been enlisted in the military and more than half had earned bachelor’s degrees with a wide range of academic majors including criminal justice, international relations, psychology, social work, engineering and child development.
Chief’s Award for Excellence in Policing
Officer Marco Aires, Officer Travis Lee Archer, Officer Stephen H. Begley Jr., Officer C. Travis Childs, Officer Brian S. Carey, Officer Tricia Edwards, Officer Donald Eubanks, Officer Rafael Hernandez, Officer B.P. Matthews, Officer R.B. Reese, Officer Aaron B. Skipper, Officer Jeffrey Wheaton, Candace Inge (Charlotte DOT)

This team worked to cut down foliage, upgrade lighting, reduce speed limits and raise awareness in the North Sharon Amity Road area. Their work decreased crash rates by 40 percent, cut auto thefts by half, reduced robberies by 63 percent and decreased traffic fatalities.

Chief’s Award for Excellence in Policing
Officer Steven A. Selogy, Todd J. Collins, Chris Crawford

Officer Selogy forged a partnership with Crawford Management, a potential buyer, and Merchant Patrol to decrease crime and refurbish the Sandhurst Apartments. His work resulted in drug seizures, arrests and evictions. That combined with improvements to the property has made Sandhurst a safer, cleaner home for the residents.

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Officers are using statistics in a new way to determine where crimes are occurring most frequently and how to best address them.

Using Computer Analysis to Focus Our Efforts

Each patrol division studies where and when crimes are happening in their response areas using our internal crime mapping system. They then determine where to direct resources and how to spend their time. Finally, they meet every other month with Deputy Chief Jerry Sennett to plan what they can do to better address the crime issues.

“We are using the technology to our advantage by identifying the crime hot spots,” said Sennett, who introduced CMPD’s version of Computer Statistics (CompStat) in early 2007. “This enables us to more efficiently and effectively deploy our resources and tackle the problems in those areas.”

Working with the Research, Planning and Analysis Division, each patrol division identified three hotspots for crime on which to focus extra attention in 2008.

Analysts map every crime in a patrol division and then compare those to the locations where officers conducted interviews, made traffic stops and arrests. They look at where known offenders live and how to best monitor them. They also look at staffing and whether the appropriate number of officers was deployed during the days and hours they were needed most.

At CompStat meetings, Sennett questions officers who work in hotspots about the trends they see. He wants to know what they are doing to address the issues.

Capt. Glen Neimeyer, who supervises the Hickory Grove Division, said the program is holding Majors and Captains accountable.

Feedback from that meeting and the others was used to create the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department’s strategic plan. That plan is expected to be adopted later this year, after a new police chief arrives.

Public Affairs Director Julie Hill, who coordinated the forums, said that at nearly every meeting, the department was able to engage people who hadn’t connected before with police in their neighborhoods. That alone, she said, made the forums a success.

“*It reminded people of the broader definition of community safety,*” she said. “*It’s not just crime. The lion’s share of issues were quality of life issues.*

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police officers discuss crime in the Hickory Grove Division.
Tackling Gangs From Every Angle

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police in 2007 saw a decrease in both adult and juvenile gang crimes for the first time since the department began tracking it. Also, the percentage of documented gang members under age 16 was down significantly compared to three years earlier.

But Capt. Steve Willis, who oversees the Gang Unit, says those numbers are no reason to get complacent. He believes many gang-on-gang crimes don’t get reported to police – so the statistics may be somewhat deceiving.

That’s why the Gang Unit is continuing to educate young people and parents about gangs and their recruitment tactics. Detectives are teaching school-age students to resist gangs and helping those already involved to get out. The department is tracking gang members and their activities and officers are arresting violent members.

“‘It’s not illegal to be in a gang in North Carolina and no state law addresses gang crimes,’” said Willis. “‘We are enforcing all laws that we can apply.’”

Committing a crime to benefit a gang doesn’t carry extra prison time in state court, though police and others are lobbying the state legislature to change that.

Fran Cook, director of Gang of One, CMPD’s gang violence reduction initiative, said 2,885 kids received gang resistance training last year, but teaching kids to say “no” is not enough.

“Joining a gang – in Charlotte at least – is a choice,” said Cook. “So we want to make sure young people know about other options. To say ‘no’ to gangs means saying ‘yes’ to something else.”

Gang of One’s network of agencies connects young people with clubs, churches, job programs and sports leagues.

In 2007, the program won grant funding to hire three people: a hotline manager, a program manager and a gang educator. Cook said the new staff will allow police officers to spend more time investigating gang crimes.

Also in 2007, Charlotte-Mecklenburg police became the western North Carolina manager of GangNet, a statewide database of intelligence information on gang members and their associates. Officers in Mint Hill, Huntersville, Pineville, Cabarrus County, Union County and at more than 140 other agencies across the state track gang members and their activities through the database.

The GangNet database includes details on gang members’ tattoos, nicknames, hangouts, vehicles and arrests. It also documents a gang’s graffiti and hangouts.

“It’s sort of an electronic filing cabinet,” said Detective Joel McNelly, the department’s GangNet administrator.

Detectives query the database when trying to identify crime suspects, he said. All CMPD officers can search GangNet, even from their patrol cars.

The database has information about 2,000 gang members and associates. Statewide, more than 6,400 are listed.

“Officers are out there confronting gang members more often. They are having face-to-face conversations with most of the people in GangNet,” Willis said. “With identity comes a better ability to conduct investigations.”

Mobility Through the Crowd

CMPD’s Segways raise their rider 8 inches off the ground, putting an officer a full head above the crowd. They quietly move the officer two- to three- times the walking speed. And the odd-looking personal transporters serve as a great conversation starter, too.

“People are curious about it,” said Sgt. Jim Hollingsworth, who is heading the department’s Segway program. “It encourages interaction with the community much more than a bike or foot patrol. If you ride it through a neighborhood, people are going to come out and talk to you. For community policing, it’s superior.”

The department bought 22 Segways in 2007, using asset forfeiture funds and federal grant money. Each costs $5,500.

Unveiled on July Fourth, they are used to patrol large crowds and areas where police cruisers can’t easily maneuver.

Officers are patrolling the Central Division on Segways most every day. They also are being used to keep watch in parks, greenways, shopping centers and high-crime areas across Charlotte-Mecklenburg.

About 100 officers have been trained on Segways, which are electric-powered and have a top speed of 12.5 mph.

Depending on the terrain and the weight of the rider, the Segways can travel about 15 miles or 3 hours before their battery must be recharged.

CMPD’s Bird’s-Eye View

Sky Watch makes it easy to monitor large crowds, spot disturbances and direct officers on the ground.

The mobile tower can lift an officer 21 feet above the ground and provide a $360-degree view of the area below. The cabin is heated and air-conditioned and has tinted windows that can be opened. Spotlights, floodlights and a blue light attached to the outside of the tower can quickly seize a crowd’s attention.

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police bought the Sky Watch at the end of 2007 using a $52,000 Justice Assistance Grant. It is used at special events like Speed Street, July Fourth and New Year’s Eve celebrations. Sky Watch also is used for surveillance in crime-prone areas.

Chief’s Award for Excellence in Policing

Officer Kathryn Pierce

Officer Pierce, the Independence Division’s Gang Coordinator, identified 38 members of the IMOBB gang and completed 49 submissions to GangNet. She taught other officers how to use the gang tracking system to investigate cases. Because of her expertise, she’s been called to help Homicide and Vice identify suspects and their associates.

Chief’s Award for Excellence in Policing

Detective Daney Hernandez

For three years, Detective Hernandez has been a regular guest on Radio Libre, a Spanish-language radio station. The hour-long show, which is on every two weeks, has covered topics including domestic violence and traffic safety.
Bait Cars Nab Thieves

Two teenagers in a stolen car talk about its full tank of gas. They plan to drive it to school the next day. Then they see a police car in the distance. "Just play it cool," one says.

Suddenly, the car’s engine stops and its doors lock. The teens have just been busted by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department’s new Bait Car Program. A more than six-hour standoff followed.

In November, auto theft detectives began catching thieves using four vehicles equipped with a camera, microphone, GPS, and a special device that allows police to remotely cut the engine and trap the suspects.

Detectives leave the vehicles in parking lots – sometimes with the keys inside and sometimes not. When a thief opens the door, a silent alarm notifies police and an officer is dispatched. When the officer spots the vehicle, he calls the CMPD Communications Center and a hidden video camera records the thief’s actions and words. At the next stop light or stop sign, it happens:

“In one click of a mouse, the engine stops and the doors lock,” said Auto Theft Sgt. Richard Tonsberg. "Then officers do a regular traffic stop.”

CMPD officers using bait cars netted 12 arrests between November and the year’s end, Tonsberg said.

Nationwide Insurance donated the four vehicles to the police department. Asset forfeiture money – cash confiscated from drug dealers – was used to purchase the equipment. In 2008, Nationwide is planning to team up with Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police to promote and expand the program.

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\text{WARNING: POLICE BAIT CARS IN USE IN THIS AREA}
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The B.E.A.R. Moves Officers Into Place

Safety moving citizens out of danger and Special Weapons and Tactics team officers into place got easier in 2007, when the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department unveiled the B.E.A.R.

The Ballistic Engineered Armored Response and Rescue vehicle is bullet-proof, can be driven through fences and carries 12 to 14 people, said Sgt. Eric Peterson, who heads the S.W.A.T. team.

Mostly, Peterson said, the $305,000 vehicle is used to safely move an arrest team into place and evacuate bystanders from a dangerous scene. The B.E.A.R. also can be parked close to a home or building to allow negotiators to safely talk with a suspect.

The B.E.A.R. was paid for with federal Homeland Security money and is available for use by law enforcement agencies in the region.

Bait Cars Nab Thieves

Two teenagers in a stolen car talk about its full tank of gas. They plan to drive it to school the next day. Then they see a police car in the distance. “Just play it cool,” one says.

Suddenly, the car’s engine stops and its doors lock. The teens have just been busted by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department’s new Bait Car Program. Pretty quickly, they figure out what’s happening.

“Man… They did this right,” one of them says as he realizes he’s caught.

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The B.E.A.R. safely gets citizens away from danger and officers closer to it.
CMPD Crime Lab Helps Solve Hundreds of Cases a Year

In a secure laboratory on the fourth floor of police headquarters, a group of 20 forensic scientists are testing evidence. Unlike what you see on television, their work is slow and sometimes tedious.

But this critical arm of the department solves or proves thousands of cases a year, ensuring that officers are arresting the right people.

The CMPD Crime Laboratory analyzes firearms and ammunition, toolmarks, shoe and tire impressions, fingerprints, illegal drugs, fire debris, DNA and questioned documents. Established in 1969, it is accredited by the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD).

The lab staff works with nearly every division of the department as well as other municipal, state and federal law enforcement agencies in Mecklenburg County to effect the arrest and successful prosecution of criminals.

These folks know their weapons

Examiners in the Firearms and Toolmarks Section study bullet and cartridge cases collected from a crime scene to determine what type of firearm shot them. They test guns for operability and restore serial numbers. They study gunshot residue to determine from what distance a weapon was fired. They also compare impressions made by shoes, tires and tools.

They often can determine whether two bullets were fired from the same gun. They also use the Integrated Ballistics Identification System (IBIS) database to compare evidence and test-fired bullets and cartridge cases to thousands of others collected from across the Southeast.

Bullet and cartridge cases collected from crime scenes in recent months have been used to link one gun to seven armed robberies in Charlotte, Matthews and Concord.

Examiners can take digital images of fingerprints and search those against a database of everyone arrested in the state. They also have the ability to access an international fingerprint database.

A single latent fingerprint was used earlier this year to convict a 40-year-old Charlotte man in a home-invasion style robbery. Prosecutors said the fingerprint was the only thing that positively connected the suspect to the case, which involved him and two others forcing their way into a house and holding two women at gunpoint while they stole $15,000 worth of property.

If someone left their mark, they will find it

Examiners in the Latent Prints Section use powders, chemicals and alternative light to find hidden or invisible fingerprints on surfaces. They also maintain thousands of suspect fingerprint cards to compare with fingerprints lifted from crime scenes.

Examiners can take digital images of fingerprints and search those against a database of everyone arrested in the state. They also have the ability to access an international fingerprint database.

In 2007, officers working with neighbors and city officials forced two hotels to shut down and they continue to work to get others cleaned up or closed.

“Our goal is not to shut them down,” said Pat Barker, CMPD’s nuisance abatement coordinator. “Our goal is to make the problem go away. People have to live near these hotels.”

After police spent three years working with the Star Choice Hotel on Independence Boulevard, city officials took the owner to court in February 2007 and a judge ordered the business to close. The hotel has since been sold.

Officers were called to the Star Choice 559 times in three years – and made more than 100 arrests there, said Officer Brian Scharf, a community coordinator assigned to that area. Undercover officers at the hotel were repeatedly offered drugs or sex in exchange for money. And once, 50 police cars had to be sent there after officers responded to a large fight and found 200 teenagers and young adults on the property.

The hotel’s troubles spilled into a nearby neighborhood, too. A homeowner in Echo Hills told police he was doing yard work when a woman offered him sex for money. He refused and the cases were closed.

In 2007, city officials also closed the Knight’s Inn in north Charlotte after finding no working fire alarm system and rats and roaches in garbage-fouled rooms. About a month after a man was fatally shot at the Toll House Motel on Morehead Street, officers raided it and arrested its owner and six others. The owner has since agreed to sell.

As they dealt with individual cases, CMPD staff also spent much of the year working with city leaders on an ordinance to make it easier to regulate hotels and motels and to combat those that breed crime. The new ordinance limits hourly rentals, requires guests to show appropriate identification and requires some hotel records be available to police.

“Now that they have minimum standards, I think we will see them police themselves,” said Detective Charles Witherspoon Jr., who worked on the ordinance. “They have a document they can look at and say, ‘This is what I have to do to comply.’ As a business, nobody wants to be abated.”

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agree that he’s ready for whatever may come.

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Pineville Police Sgt. Daniel Martin said Austin received
meal. Sometimes he’ll ride with officers on patrol.

“He knows what a police officer goes through at critical
incidents and after a shooting. He understands the stresses
and strains police work puts on a marriage,” said Foy.
“Those are advantages Rich has that I wouldn’t.”

Austin has attended seminary, though he is not yet
ordained. He’s earned a master’s degree in Music and is
working toward a master’s in Christian Education.
Volunteering as a police chaplain seemed like a natural fit,
he said.

Austin takes his cues from the officers. Some want to talk
about religion or to pray with him. Others just want to vent.
He lets them know he faces many of the same struggles
they do and that he is there to listen and to help. He said
his main goal is to make sure the officers find a healthy way
to cope with stress.

“They care so much about what they need to be doing for
others, they sometimes forget to take care of themselves,” he said.

www.pinevillencpolice.com

www.ipcd4cops.org

These scientists search for a perfect “match”

Analysts in the Xenology/DNA Section identify bodily fluids.
They also analyze blood, semen and saliva for DNA, which
could identify a certain individual. They compare evidence
to known samples from a victim or suspect to determine
whether a “match” exists.

They also use local, state and national databases as they
attempt to identify unknown DNA profiles. The profiles can
link suspects to a specific crime scene or link multiple cases.

DNA analyzed by the CMPD lab and entered into a national
database for comparison led investigators to charge a man
with a series of stranger rapes dating back to the late
1980’s and early 1990’s. The suspect, who was in prison at
the time of his arrest but eligible for parole, pled guilty early
this year and was sentenced to nearly 50 years in prison for
the sexual assaults.

They can be sure it’s illegal

The scientists in the Chemistry Section identify illicit drugs,
determine alcohol levels in blood and analyze fire debris for
accelerants. Much of their work is done at the request of
prosecutors in preparation for trial.

The chemists study markings on pills and conduct chemical
tests to determine whether an item is a drug and exactly
what type it is. If a suspect refused or wasn’t able to take
an alcohol breath-test, they analyze the person’s blood
to determine how much alcohol is in it. They also test items
taken from suspected arson cases for traces of gasoline,
paint thinner and other ignitable liquids.

After the CMPD Crime Laboratory analyzed hundreds of
prescription pills confiscated during a search, officers were
able to upgrade drug charges from possession with intent to
sell to trafficking, which is a more serious felony. If
convicted, the suspect will face additional time in prison.

He knows what’s real

The Questioned Documents Examiner analyzes documents
for origin or authenticity. Most often, he examines
handwriting to determine whether or not the writing on a
questioned document matches the known writing of a
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“Those are advantages Rich has that I wouldn’t.”

Internal Affair Sgt. Rich Austin
volunteers as a Chaplain for the
Pineville Police Department.

Sergeant Ministers to Pineville Officers

When CMPD Chaplain Rev. Hugh Foy was looking for
someone to help him begin a volunteer chaplain program
for the Pineville Police Department, Sgt. Rich Austin seemed
like an obvious choice.

Austin has relied on his faith much during his 18-year police
career, which began with the Pineville Police Department in
1990. He understands the stresses of the job. He also has
led a dual career in ministry serving as a music and youth
director for several churches.

“I try to bridge that gap between law enforcement and
faith,” said Austin, who is assigned to Internal Affairs
at CMPD.

Austin said some officers are more comfortable opening up
to another officer rather than a member of the clergy. He
typically counsels them in a casual setting, often over a
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Why television’s CSI makes real forensic scientists cringe

• Proper crime scene attire is unflattering protective
  gowns and latex gloves, not leather pants and heels.

• It would take 40 people about 6 months to do the work
  one CSI does in an hour.

• It takes days – not an hour – to get DNA results.

• You can’t pick a bullet cartridge or casing up off the
  ground and immediately determine the manufacturer
  and model of the gun that shot it. In real life, it is much
  more complicated.

• If a database search detects a possible fingerprint or
  DNA match, the computer doesn’t automatically pull up
  the person’s name, address, criminal record and
  photograph. In real life it is much more complicated.

• CMPD technicians drive their own vehicles. Crime Scene
  Technicians drive CMPD white and blue utility vans.
  None of them carry handcuffs or guns or drive around
  in police-issued Hummers.

Forensic Facts

Handwriting analysis was used in juvenile court to prove
that a 15-year-old wrote a note in crayon threatening to kill
fellow students and classmates at his private school. The
examiner compared samples of the young man’s
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Prioritizing Calls For Your Emergencies

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Some crimes – larceny, harassing phone calls, theft from auto, property damage, communicating threats and ID theft – can be reported online at http://www.cmpd.org. Click on “Report A Crime.”

Recruiter Makes Time for the Sick

Officer Darlene Anderson chose policing. Her other passion found her.

Anderson took a class at church called “Discovering Your Spiritual Gifts.” The results of a lengthy questionnaire inspired her to consider getting involved in the “Ministry of Mercy.” And that’s what led her to Hospice.

Since 2005, Anderson has volunteered with Hospice & Palliative Care. She’s braided a dying woman’s hair. She’s washed another’s blanket. She’s picked up medications, provided Thanksgiving dinners and most importantly perhaps, just offered her friendship.

“Companionship can change their outlook,” Anderson said.

Anderson, a 21-year police veteran who works in the recruiting unit, has visited with one woman for more than two years. The 87-year-old suffers from heart problems and can’t care for herself like she once did.

Another patient was very close to death before Anderson met her. She died just a few days after Anderson quietly introduced herself and held the woman’s hand.

Some patients have families who need help with errands or just a short break. Others have no relatives to offer companionship or care. Anderson spends about three hours a week helping her patients.

“Providing care to those in need is my passion and purpose. I love it,” she said. “It’s not something I chose. God was preparing me for a long time without me knowing it.”

Anderson has completed 12 hours of Hospice training. She also has a master’s degree in counseling and a PhD in Christian counseling.

Anderson said she’s always looked out for her three sisters. She helped care for her grandfather in his final days. Shortly after he died, her mother fell ill. She cared for her for nine months until her death. Then Anderson helped a close friend with terminal cancer.

As she cared for sick loved ones, Anderson would often ask, “Why me?”

Now, she said, she knows why.

http://www.hpccr.org

Chief’s Award for Excellence in Policing

Capt. George Andrew Leonard, Sgt. James A. Wilson, Officer Kim Simma, Linda Morris Fox, Darrellyn Kiser

Because of this team’s research, City Council approved an ordinance requiring pawn shops to fingerprint anyone pawning property. The law helps police because clerks can now positively identify suspects who pawn stolen property.
For Emergencies Only

Call 911 in an emergency, when someone is being threatened.

Don't hang up: If you call 911 and the operator hangs up, you will get a message saying you have the correct telephone number. Stay on the line, hang up, and calling again only plays a recording at the end of the game, adding precious seconds to your wait time. Operators must evaluate all calls, even hangups.

Don't hang up even if you didn't mean to dial 911. Stay on the line and let the operator know it was a mistake. Hang up for real on a dead line, and all 911 calls can be time-consuming for operators and police officials.

Answer the questions: Operators need to get specific information in a hurry. Stay calm and answer the questions. Let the operator direct the conversation.

Know where you are: Operators cannot always know where you are. If possible, know the address or general location from where you are calling.

If you witness an emergency, be mindful that if you are one of the first to see a fire or wreck, chances are someone has already called 911. If possible, and if you desire, let the operators hang up for you for cell phones, use your cell phones before you dial.

The Scoop on Cell Phones

Not all cell phones are equipped with Global Positioning System (GPS) technology, but all phones have 911 system capability. Even those without technology can be provided to a near location. Depending on the phone, the system can determine the nearest cell phone tower or, at its location, within a few hundred yards. To get even a near location, however, it takes allIsn't it real time? 20 seconds.

Fast Facts

- 911 operators answered 1,666,960 calls in 2007
  - Average wait time: 55 seconds
- CRU technicians answered 89,127 calls in 2007
  - Average wait time: 55 seconds
- Police operators answered 38,707 reports from telephone interviews.
  - Average wait time: 3 minutes, 21 seconds
- 311 operators answered 1,666,960 calls in 2007.
  - Average wait time: 55 seconds
- CMPD telecommunicators answered 919,245 calls to 911 in 2007.
  - Average wait time: 55 seconds
- 911 emergency calls to 911 in 2007.
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- Most 911 calls are processed within 68 seconds.
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After he graduated college, Caviness estimate that more than 200 Charlotte kids, mostly middle school age, have been on Trips for Kids outings. They usually ride and picnic at mountain biking parks in Charlotte and Davidson.

When Club Genesis opened on Monroe Road, Providence Division officers immediately noticed a spike in calls for service, reporte...
Officer David E. Jones III

Officer Jones located and detained the man accused of fatally shooting Officer Jeff Shelton and Officer Sean Clark. Jones had heard a description of the suspect as he drove toward the area where officers were searching. When he arrived, he spotted someone matching the description and quickly detained him.

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department posthumously awarded Clark and Shelton with Gold Police Crosses. The crosses were presented to their families during Police Week in May 2007. The names of Clark and Shelton will be added this May to the N.C. Peace Officers Memorial and the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial during National Police Week.

"Thank you for making the streets safer than they were yesterday."
— Theresa Myers, UNC Charlotte student

"We should not wait until an officer is being carried into a church before we remember to salute you."
— Sue and Sergio Gigante

"Hold your heads up high and be proud of Jeff and Sean because they are looking down upon all of you watching your backs as you answer calls."
— Officer Jeff Collins to North Tryon Division officers

"To the men and women in blue who serve our wonderful city every day — Your community loves you, appreciates you, and now mourns with you."
— Pat Matthews, East Charlotte

"There is no more admirable a profession than that of a police officer."
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The Fallen Are Never Forgotten.

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Arson Detective Takes Kids Outside

Detective Keith Caviness was working as a bicycle officer in 2000 when he started taking inner-city kids mountain biking on the weekends.

At first, Caviness was fixing unclaimed bicycles from Property Control and Evidence for the trips. Now his program is part of the national Trips for Kids organization. Its kids ride top-of-the-line mountain bikes donated by businesses and individuals in the area.

“Tired of kids in Charlotte never really had a chance to experience being in the woods. But all kids like to ride bicycles.”

Caviness estimates that more than 200 Charlotte kids, mostly middle school age, have been on Trips for Kids outings. They mostly ride and picnic at mountain biking parks in Charlotte and Davidson.

They talk about the experience after the ride. “They usually say they didn’t think they’d be able to do the hill,” Caviness said. That’s when he sneaks in the lesson for the day: Believe in yourself.

Caviness said his father instilled in him the responsibility to promise to himself that he’d use the hours he used to spend at school to volunteer. Since then, he’s become a mentor to four high school students and a Big Brother to a 10-year-old boy.

http://www.tripsforkidscharlotte.org

Arson Detective Keith Caviness helped create the Charlotte chapter of Trips For Kids. He also volunteers with Big Brothers Big Sisters.
Prioritizing Calls For Your Emergencies

The CMPD Crime Reporting Unit (CRU) used to answer nearly 400,000 telephone calls a year. From questions about garbage pickup to water bills, this team of specially-trained investigative technicians used to get them all.

CharMeck 311 changed that. The city’s customer service line greatly reduced the number of non-essential calls handled by the CRU. The community is learning to dial 311 for issues that aren’t emergencies, which allows CMPD’s experts to stay focused on taking police reports related to non-emergency crimes.

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http://www.hpccr.org

Officer Darlene Anderson visits at least weekly with an 87-year-old woman who suffers from heart problems.

Medal of Valor

Officer Jonathan S. Cerdan

Officer Cerdan was responding to a domestic-violence call when a woman jumped from a vehicle and ran toward him screaming for help. Her husband had a butcher knife and was threatening to kill her and himself. Officer Cerdan put the woman in his car. The husband then jumped into his own car and attempted to ram the police cruiser. The man was arrested a short time later. Officer Cerdan’s actions likely saved the woman’s life.

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Handwriting analysis was used in juvenile court to prove that a 15-year-old wrote a note in crayon threatening to kill fellow students and classmates at his private school. The examiner compared samples of the young man’s handwriting with the note to determine the same person authored both. The teen was convicted.
In a secure laboratory on the fourth floor of police headquarters, a group of 20 forensic scientists are testing evidence. Unlike what you see on television, their work is slow and sometimes tedious.

But this critical arm of the department solves or proves thousands of cases a year, ensuring that officers are arresting the right people.

The CMPD Crime Laboratory analyzes firearms and ammunition, toolmarks, shoe and tire impressions, fingerprints, illegal drugs, fire debris, DNA and questioned documents. Established in 1969, it is accredited by the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors (ASCLD).

The lab staff works with nearly every division of the department as well as other municipal, state and federal law enforcement agencies in Mecklenburg County to effect the arrest and successful prosecution of criminals.

These folks know their weapons

Examiners in the Firearms and Toolmarks Section study bullets and cartridge cases collected from a crime scene to determine what type of firearm shot them. They test guns for operability and restore serial numbers. They study gunshot residue to determine from what distance a weapon was fired. They also compare impressions made by shoes, tires and tools.

They often can determine whether two bullets were fired from the same gun. They also use the Integrated Ballistics Identification System (IBIS) database to compare evidence and test-fired bullets and cartridge cases to thousands of others collected from across the Southeast.

Bullets and cartridge cases collected from crime scenes in recent months have been used to link one gun to seven armed robberies in Charlotte, Matthews and Concord.

Detectives haven’t yet found the gun or arrested a suspect, but firearms examiners have determined that shots fired at each business came from the same weapon.

If someone left their mark, they will find it

Examiners in the Latent Prints Section use powders, chemicals and alternative light to find hidden or invisible fingerprints on surfaces. They also maintain thousands of suspect fingerprint cards to compare with fingerprints lifted from crime scenes.

Examiners can take digital images of fingerprints and search those against a database of everyone arrested in the state. They also have the ability to access an international fingerprint database.

A single latent fingerprint was used earlier this year to convict a 40-year-old Charlotte man in a home-invasion style robbery. Prosecutors said the fingerprint was the only thing that positively connected the suspect to the case, which involved him and two others forcing their way into a house and holding two women at gunpoint while they stole $15,000 worth of property.

Bill Mckiray, a firearms examiner, compares cartridge cases from a gun to those found at a crime scene.

CMPD Crime Lab Helps Solve Hundreds of Cases a Year

In 2007, officers working with neighbors and city officials forced two hotels to shut down and they continue to work to get others cleaned up or closed.

“Our goal is not to shut them down,” said Pat Barker, CMPD’s nuisance abatement coordinator. “Our goal is to make the problem go away. People have to live near these hotels.”

After police spent three years working with the Star Choice Hotel on Independence Boulevard, city officials took the owner to court in February 2007 and a judge ordered the business to close. The hotel has since been sold.

Officers were called to the Star Choice 559 times in three years—and made more than 100 arrests there, said Officer Brian Scharf, a community coordinator assigned to that area. Undercover officers at the hotel were repeatedly offered drugs or sex in exchange for money. And once, 50 police cars had to be sent there after officers responded to a large fight and found 200 teenagers and young adults on the property.

The hotel’s troubles spilled into a nearby neighborhood, too. A homeowner in Echo Hills told police he was doing yard work when a woman offered him sex for money. Neighbors routinely found crack pipes and other drug paraphernalia in their yards. And police found items stolen from an Echo Hills break-in inside a Star Choice Hotel room.

“I found spent shell casings in front of my house and used condoms in the street,” said Echo Hills resident Julie Swobodinski. “As soon as they closed (the hotel), all that was gone. There is no way it was any kind of coincidence.”

In 2007, city officials also closed the Knight’s Inn in north Charlotte after finding no working fire alarm system and rats and roaches in garbage-fouled rooms. About a month after a man was fatally shot at the Toll House Motel on Morehead Street, officers raided it and arrested its owner and six others. The owner has since agreed to sell.

As they dealt with individual cases, CMPD staff also spent much of the year working with city leaders on an ordinance to make it easier to regulate hotels and motels and to combat those that breed crime. The new ordinance limits monthly rentals, requires guests to show appropriate identification and requires some hotel records be available to police.

“Now that they have minimum standards, I think we will see them police themselves,” said Detective Charles Witherspoon Jr., who worked on the ordinance. “They have a document they can look at and say, ‘This is what I have to do to comply.’” As a business, nobody wants to be abated.”

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Chief’s Award for Excellence in Policing

Detective Dennis Simmons

Simmons worked with officers in the North Tryon Division to obtain DNA from suspected burglars. He then used the samples to set up a real time database for officers. Requests for comparison now can be made through the database without bogging down the Crime lab.

Chief’s Award for Excellence in Policing

Officer Doug Callaghan, Detective Billy Carey, Officer Luke Donahue, Officer Terrance Gerardi, Officer Brian Scharf, Detective Mark Temple, Detective Riza Verson, Detective Charles Witherspoon, Management Analyst Mike Beck, Pat Barker (Nuisance Abatement) and attorneys Mark Newkirk, Shah Khan Mujeeb and Anna Schleunes

This team built a nuisance abatement case against the Star Choice Hotel, which resulted in a judge ordering the hotel to close in early 2007. The property has since been sold.
Bait Cars Nab Thieves

Two teenagers in a stolen car talk about its full tank of gas. They plan to drive it to school the next day. Then they see a police car in the distance. “Just play it cool,” one says.

Suddenly, the car’s engine stops and its doors lock.

The teens have just been busted by the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department’s new Bait Car Program. Pretty quickly, they figure out what’s happening.

“Man… They did this right,” one of them says as he realizes he’s caught.

In November, auto theft detectives began catching thieves using four vehicles equipped with a camera, microphone, GPS, and a special device that allows police to remotely cut the engine and trap the suspects.

Detectives leave the vehicles in parking lots – sometimes with the keys inside and sometimes not. When a thief opens the door, a silent alarm notifies police and an officer is dispatched. When the officer spots the vehicle, he calls the CMPD Communications Center and a hidden video records the thief’s actions and words. At the next stop light or stop sign, it happens:

“In one click of a mouse, the engine stops and the doors lock,” said Auto Theft Sgt. Richard Tonsberg. “Then officers do a regular traffic stop.”

CMPD officers using bait cars netted 12 arrests between November and the year’s end, Tonsberg said.

Nationwide Insurance donated the four vehicles to the police department. Asset forfeiture money – cash confiscated from drug dealers – was used to purchase the equipment. In 2008, Nationwide is planning to team up with Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police to promote and expand the program.

The B.E.A.R. Moves Officers Into Place

Safety moving citizens out of danger and Special Weapons and Tactics team officers into place got easier in 2007, when the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department unveiled the B.E.A.R.

The Ballistic Engineered Armored Response and Rescue vehicle is bullet-proof, can be driven through fences and carries 12 to 14 people, said Sgt. Eric Peterson, who heads the S.W.A.T. team.

Mostly, Peterson said, the $305,000 vehicle is used to safely move an arrest team into place and evacuate bystanders from a dangerous scene. The B.E.A.R. also can be parked close to a home or building to allow negotiators to safely talk with a suspect.

The B.E.A.R. was paid for with federal Homeland Security money and is available for use by law enforcement agencies in the region.

Medal of Merit

Officer Gregory W. Hester

Officer Hester, a SWAT sniper, responded to a call about an officer being shot. After a more than six-hour standoff, Hester spotted the suspect at a back door with a gun in his right hand. The suspect then ran out the door and fired a shot. Hester fired back incapacitating the man and ending the threat to officers.

Chief’s Award for Excellence in Policing


What began in 2001 as a case of a missing 16-year-old girl ended in 2007 as a complicated investigation into a violent criminal organization. This team dismantled the organization, which was victimizing teenage girls and forcing them into prostitution and drug addiction. Its two leaders are now serving life sentences.

The B.E.A.R. safely gets citizens away from danger and officers closer to it.
I. Tackling Gangs From Every Angle

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police in 2007 saw a decrease in both adult and juvenile gang crimes for the first time since the department began tracking it. Also, the percentage of documented gang members under age 16 was down significantly compared to three years earlier.

But Capt. Steve Willis, who oversees the Gang Unit, says those numbers are no reason to get complacent. He believes many gang-on-gang crimes don’t get reported to police – so the statistics may be somewhat deceiving.

That’s why the Gang Unit is continuing to educate young people and parents about gangs and their recruitment tactics. Detectives are teaching school-age students to resist gangs and helping those already involved to get out. The Department is tracking gang members and their activities and officers are arresting violent members.

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In 2007, the program won grant funding to hire three people: a hotline manager, a program manager and a gang educator. Cook said the new staff will allow police officers to spend more time investigating gang crimes.

Also in 2007, Charlotte-Mecklenburg police became the western North Carolina manager of GangNet, a statewide database of intelligence information on gang members and their associates. Officers in Mint Hill, Huntersville, Pineville, Cabarrus County, Union County and at more than 140 other agencies across the state track gang members and their activities through the database.

The GangNet database includes details on gang members’ tattoos, nicknames, hangouts, vehicles and arrests. It also documents a gang’s graffiti and hangouts.

“It’s sort of an electronic filing cabinet,” said Detective Joel McNelly, the department’s GangNet administrator. Detectives query the database when trying to identify crime suspects, he said. All CMPD officers can search GangNet, even from their patrol cars.

The database has information about 2,000 gang members and associates. Statewide, more than 6,400 are listed.

“Officers are out there confronting gang members more often. They are having face-to-face conversations with most of the people in GangNet,” Willis said. “With identity comes a better ability to conduct investigations.”

II. Mobility Through the Crowd

CMPD’s Segways raise their rider 8 inches off the ground, putting an officer a full head above the crowd. They quietly move the officer two- to three- times walking speed. And the odd-looking personal transporters serve as a great conversation starter, too.

“People are curious about it,” said Sgt. Jim Hollingsworth, who is heading the department’s Segway program. “It encourages interaction with the community much more than a bike or foot patrol. If you ride it through a neighborhood, people are going to come out and talk to you. For community policing, it’s superior.”

The department bought 22 Segways in 2007, using asset forfeiture funds and federal grant money. Each costs $5,500.

Unveiled on July Fourth, they are used to patrol large crowds and areas where police cruisers can’t easily maneuver. Officers are patrolling the Central Division on Segways most every day. They also are being used to keep watch in parks, greenways, shopping centers and high-crime areas across Charlotte-Mecklenburg.

About 100 officers have been trained on Segways, which are electric-powered and have a top speed of 12.5 mph. Depending on the terrain and the weight of the rider, the Segways can travel about 15 miles or 3 hours before their battery must be recharged.

Sky Watch makes it easy to monitor large crowds, spot disturbances and direct officers on the ground.

The mobile tower can lift an officer 21 feet above the ground and provide a 360-degree view of the area below. The cabin is heated and air-conditioned and has tinted windows that can be opened. Spotlights, floodlights and a blue light attached to the outside of the tower can quickly seize a crowd’s attention.

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police bought the Sky Watch at the end of 2007 using a $52,000 Justice Assistance Grant. It is used at special events like Speed Street, July Fourth and New Year’s Eve celebrations. Sky Watch also is used for surveillance in crime-prone areas.
Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police officers are using statistics in a new way to determine where crimes are occurring most frequently and how to best address them.

Each patrol division studies where and when crimes are happening in their response areas using our internal crime mapping system. They then determine where to direct resources and how to spend their time. Finally, they meet every other month with Deputy Chief Jerry Sennett to plan what they can do to better address the crime issues.

“We are using the technology to our advantage by identifying the crime hot spots,” said Sennett, who introduced CMPD’s version of Computer Statistics (CompStat) in early 2007. “This enables us to more efficiently and effectively deploy our resources and tackle the problems in those areas.”

Working with the Research, Planning and Analysis Division, each patrol division identified three hotspots for crime on which to focus extra attention in 2008.

The first year CMPD used CompStat:
- Field Interviews were up 111 percent
- Raids and Searches were up 30 percent
- Property crime rate was up 1.5 percent
- Knock and Talks were up 162 percent
- Guns Seizures were up 7 percent
- Violent crime rate was down 7.2 percent

Analysts map every crime in a patrol division and then compare those to the locations where officers conducted interviews, made traffic stops and arrests. They look at where known offenders live and how to best monitor them. They also look at staffing and whether the appropriate number of officers was deployed during the days and hours they were needed most.

At CompStat meetings, Sennett questions officers who work in hotspots about the trends they see. He wants to know what they are doing to address the issues.

Capt. Glen Neimeyer, who supervises the Hickory Grove Division, said the program is holding Majors and Captains accountable.

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police officers are using statistics in a new way to determine where crimes are occurring most frequently and how to best address them.

Your Input Shapes Our Work

Chief Darrel Stephens and other members of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department met with residents from every police division over four months to talk about community priorities.

More than 2,000 people attended the 15 Safe Community Forums. Some nights more than 300 people were there. Together they identified dozens of issues — some specific to particular neighborhoods and others affecting all of Mecklenburg County and beyond.

“We were very pleased with the response,” Stephens said. “I think the attendance was the combination of interest in the redistricting project and the strong effort we made to ensure the community was aware of the forums. The key thing that was reinforced in the meetings was that organized neighborhoods were more effective at resolving problems in a shorter period of time.”

Traffic, juvenile crime, gangs, property crime and quality of life issues such as overgrown yards, boarded-up houses and abandoned vehicles came up repeatedly during the series of meetings.

About 150 people met with nearly 100 police officers at a final meeting in May to talk about what the department and Charlotte-Mecklenburg residents can do to tackle the issues.

Feedback from that meeting and the others was used to create the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department’s strategic plan. That plan is expected to be adopted later this year, after a new police chief arrives.

Public Affairs Director Julie Hill, who coordinated the forums, said that at nearly every meeting, the department was able to engage people who hadn’t connected before with police in their neighborhoods. That alone, she said, made the forums a success.

“*It reminded people of the broader definition of community safety,*” she said. “It’s not just crime. The lion’s share of issues were quality of life issues.”

Deputy Chief Jerry Sennett speaks to residents about police priorities in their community.

Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police officers discuss crime in the Hickory Grove Division.

Chief’s Award for Excellence in Policing

Officer Marco Ares, Officer Travis Lee Archer, Officer Stephen H. Begley Jr., Officer C. Travis Childs, Officer Brian S. Carey, Officer Tricia Edwards, Officer Donald Eubanks, Officer Rafael Hernandez, Officer R.P. Matthews, Officer R.B. Reese, Officer Aaron B. Skipper, Officer Jeffrey Wheaton, Candace Inge (Charlotte DOT)

This team worked to cut down foliage, upgrade lighting, reduce speed limits and raise awareness in the North Sharon Amity Road area. Their work decreased crash rates by 40 percent, cut auto thefts by half, reduced robberies by 63 percent and decreased traffic fatalities.
Recruiting Fact

More than a quarter of the 2007 recruits had been enlisted in the military and more than half had earned bachelor’s degrees with a wide range of academic majors including criminal justice, international relations, psychology, social work, engineering and child development.

From Presidential Planes to Charlotte Streets, Langford Keeps Watch

Ben Langford flew to Moscow, Cairo and Hong Kong with members of Congress and other dignitaries. He kept a watchful eye as President George W. Bush boarded Air Force One.

Now Langford is patrolling Charlotte-Mecklenburg’s streets. The 28-year-old former Air Force captain was among the more than 100 officers who joined CMPD in 2007. “This is a great city,” said Langford, who was elected president of his recruit class. “I looked at different departments but as soon as I saw this city and talked with (CMPD), I didn’t bother with anybody else.”

Langford served six years in the Air Force, where one of his assignments was in the 89th Security Forces Presidential Aircraft Security Section at Andrews Air Force Base. He oversaw the airmen who guarded Air Force One, Air Force Two and smaller planes in the fleet.

He once flew to South America with then-House Speaker Dennis Hastert. He also flew with foreign dignitaries, Nancy Pelosi and other members of Congress. He and his team guarded the aircraft wherever they went.

His team often spoke with the passengers, Langford said. “Almost everybody would at least say thanks to us,” he said. “Most everybody was really nice. It was good to see that they hadn’t lost touch.”

After two years at Andrews outside Washington, D.C., Langford went home to Mississippi and taught Air Force ROTC at the University of Southern Mississippi. He then decided to leave the military and become a police officer. He and his wife moved to Charlotte just before he entered the academy.

“You’ve always wanted to do law enforcement,” he said. “Like the Air Force, it’s centered around service. I don’t want to have a job just to make money. This gives me the opportunity to really interact with people.”

Life Saving Award

Officer Darrell J. Brown, Officer Silas T. Davis, Officer Robert Lyons, Officer Lynn Stewart

A driver leaving an uptown parking deck crashed into a concrete wall outside the Bobcat’s Arena. Officers Brown and Stewart ran to the car and found the driver not breathing. They pulled him from his car, while Officer Lyons assisted with traffic and crowd control and Officer Davis located a defibrillator. Officer Davis administered a shock that restored the man’s heartbeat – and ultimately saved his life.

Chief’s Award for Excellence in Policing

Sgt. Bryan Miller, Officer Jeff Brown, Officer Donna Burgess, Officer Michael Carter, Officer Alex Cruz, Officer W.D. Dotson, Officer Shannon Goodwin, Officer Andrew Harris, Officer Altonio R. Rivers, Detective Charles H. Witherspoon Jr., Pat Barker (Nuisance Abatement), E. Nadine Ford (Code Enforcement), Police Attorney Mark Newbold

Police officers partnered with Archdale/Nations Ford area business leaders, concerned residents and community activists to promote new investment, attract new businesses and revitalize the area, while eliminating problem tenants. As a result, plans for new shopping complexes and homes have given the area a new identity and will ultimately provide future economic growth potential.

“You have to know what’s going on. You can’t put it off on anybody else,” he said. “You are responsible and you should be.”

Neimeyer said the program also has helped line officers understand why they are being asked to do certain things – and sparked some creativity on their part. Recently, he said officers came to him for permission to patrol on bicycles at night in an area prone to burglaries.

“When you go to those meetings, you get a good idea of what the command staff wants and expects,” said North Tryon Officer Stephen Fischbach, who is a community coordinator in one of his division’s hotspots. “It also allows us to see where our efforts need to be focused.”

Since CompStat began, patrol officers have been doing more field interviews, more traffic stops and more searches. Sennett said those numbers made a difference in the 2007 crime rates.

“I believe if we hadn’t seen some of these increases, our property crime would have gone up more than it did and violent crime would have gone up instead of down,” he said. “We had people in the places they needed to be.”
Monitoring Accused Offenders

Officers, Courts Team Up to Keep An Eye on Accused Criminals

Charlotte-Mecklenburg police are knocking on doors and using high-tech equipment in an effort to keep accused criminals out of trouble while they wait for their cases to go to court.

The Dusk 2 Dawn and Electronic Monitoring programs target suspects who’ve bonded out of jail and have a history as repeat offenders or fall into the age group (16-21) most likely to offend again, said Sgt. Dave Scheppegrell, who oversees the programs.

Officers ask judges to order curfew or monitoring as a condition of bond.

“They prevent people from committing new offenses,” said Superior Court Judge Yvonne Mills Evans, a supporter of the programs.

“I don’t think they like it, but it does keep them out of trouble.”

Under the curfew, offenders are required to stay home during certain hours, typically “Dusk to Dawn” — between 6 p.m. and 6 a.m. Officers check to make sure program participants are home when they are supposed to be.

The judges who order offenders to wear an electronic monitor set restrictions. Some offenders are on house arrest. Some must abide by a curfew. Others are prohibited from going into certain areas or businesses.

With the program, participants have a small electronic monitor locked around their ankle. Every few minutes, it uses GPS technology to document its location. Officers are notified if a participant is somewhere he is prohibited from going. And once a day, the locations are compared to crime reports. If a participant was near a crime scene, investigators will know it.

“Either way we win,” said Scheppegrell. “They are either going to follow the conditions or they will go back to jail.”

Fifty-six suspects were on curfews in 2007 and another 78 were ordered into the program but remained in jail. Judges put 22 people on electronic monitoring in 2007. They included violent juveniles and adults accused of robbery, serious assault or numerous property crimes.

Another 28, who remained in jail, were ordered to wear an electronic monitor if they bonded out.

Monitoring costs $6 a day and has been paid for with a federal Justice Assistance Grant. Scheppegrell said the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Foundation, which raises money for programs not covered in the budget, is raising funds to continue and expand electronic monitoring.

Policing Is Different in the U.S.

Michael Frazer always wanted to be a police officer in the United States. That’s why the Sierra Leone native was so excited in 2006, when he became a U.S. citizen. He was just a year away from earning a criminal justice degree at UNC Charlotte and he had made it a step closer to becoming an officer.

While in college, Frazer worked for Wachovia, opening bank accounts over the telephone. Until he entered the academy, he had no experience with police work.

“It’s a whole lot different from anything else I’ve ever experienced,” he said. “Some days are harder than others, but I’m enjoying it.”

Guns aren’t widespread in West Africa, so Frazer had almost no experience with them when he entered the academy. And although he has always exercised, he said a police recruit workout is different. He lost a few pounds while in the academy.

Frazer, 27, and his family moved from Sierra Leone in 1997 while the country was at war. Policing is very different there, he said. The force is unorganized. Officers garner little respect. And they’ve been known to take bribes.

Frazer’s mother lives in Raleigh and his sister in Florida. His father still owns a business in Sierra Leone and knows the language well. But he also speaks a tribal language, called Krio, with his family and other natives of Sierra Leone.

He chose police work, he said, because despite what he saw growing up, he believes it’s a way he can help people who may not have the power to help themselves.

Eventually, he would like to work in criminal investigations.

Officer Michael Frazer works in the Steele Creek Division.

Recruiting Fact

The 2007 recruits included former teachers, bankers, private investigators, electricians, college athletes, and military personnel. The graduates ranged in age from 21 to 47. They were born in eight different countries and speak nine different languages.

Chief’s Award for Excellence in Policing

Sgt. Lebraun Evans, Sgt. Dave Scheppegrell, Police Attorney Linda Fox, Assistant District Attorney Barry Cook

Sergeants Scheppegrell and Evans were instrumental in developing and implementing the Dusk 2 Dawn Curfew program, which targets robbery suspects released on bond prior to trial. Fox took the lead in addressing legal issues and Cook coordinated with judges asked to impose the curfew.

Chief’s Award for Excellence in Policing

Sgt. Steven Durant, Sgt. David Sloan, Officer Marco Ares, Officer David O. Collins, Detective Jim Hart, Officer William Iby, Detective Daniel Kilcoyne, Detective Kelly Linteau, Detective James A. McCreary III, Officer Andrew O’Brien, Officer Joseph Ruby, Officer Matthew Simms, Office Kevin Shy, Detective P.A. Speers, Detective J.J. Teague, Detective Mark Temple, Officer Steven A. Williams

This team’s four-month investigation into street racing in south Charlotte netted 33 arrests and 90 charges in connection with prearranged speed competition. As of April 2007, 30 defendants had pleaded guilty.
A Kindergarten Dream Come True

Beatrice Andres was the only girl on the Chapel Hill High School wrestling team and now she studies Jiu Jitsu Martial Arts. She’s no wimp. But that doesn’t mean the 22-year-old Swiss native enjoyed fist fighting her police academy instructors, getting doused with pepper spray or shocked with a Taser.

“They do it because they care for us, which is kind of hard to understand now,” Andres said during her 21st week at the training academy. “It’s getting us prepared for the streets. It makes sense.”

Andres has wanted to be a police officer since kindergarten. She graduated from Guilford College in May 2007 and was hired a few months later. She fluently speaks German, Swiss German, French and English, and is working on Spanish.

In college, she studied criminal justice and psychology – a mix she expects will be helpful on the job. She enjoyed learning to shoot guns at the academy. Even though she had no experience, she became among the most proficient in her class. She said driving lessons were great fun too, but she was ordered to do pushups once after she did “a backwards double doughnut.”

Learning to be loud, demanding and aggressive was the hardest part of recruit school, she said. “Women are taught not to take charge, but it’s coming easier now,” Andres said with a smile. “The more yelling we do, the easier it gets.”

In Recruiting Charlotte’s Finest

Diversity in Recruiting Charlotte’s Finest

Members of the 153rd Recruit Class finished the 25-week academy and became Charlotte-Mecklenburg police officers on March 14, 2008. Here are a few of their stories:

Officer Rollin E. Mackel has a passion for sharing his knowledge of police work. He uses every call for service as a training opportunity. He teaches young officers how to investigate cases and ask the right questions – and he makes sure they get exposed to a wide variety of situations on all shifts.

Officer Beatrice Andres works in the Central Division.

Officer Beatrice Andres works in the Central Division.

The Cyber Crimes laboratory is outfitted with about $100,000 worth of high-tech equipment purchased primarily with grant money.

Detectives Solving Old Sex Assault Cases

In 2007, the Department received more than 700 applications and graduated 105 officers from its academy.

Sgt. William A. Boger Jr., Officer Michelle Butler, Detective Thomas G. Ledford, Officer R.C. Phelps, Officer Kenneth R. Sims, Officer Michael S. Smith, Officer Gresham T. Wilhelm, Marlene Hall (UNCC Director of Public Safety)

Officer Michael S. Smith, Officer Gresham T. Wilhelm, Marlene Hall (UNCC Director of Public Safety)

To combat the usual spike in police calls at the start of the UNC Charlotte school year, this team set out to enforce the laws related to social activities, promote personal safety/home security, and reduce the opportunities for robberies and other crimes. They held community meetings, conducted door to door campaigns and handed out crime prevention literature. Robberies dropped 79 percent and a serial robbery suspect was arrested.

New Unit Tracking Computer Crime

A wealthy California man thought he was buying a Mercedes off eBay. But once he wired $60,000 cash to a Charlotte man, he never heard another thing about the car.

After a few days, he called police. And CMPD’s Cyber Crimes Unit tracked down the supposed seller. “He never even had a Mercedes. He just had a picture of the car,” said Sgt. Walt Suarez. “He used the $60,000 to buy a car, furnish his apartment and buy his love interest some jewelry.”

Suarez said the Cyber Crimes Unit, which was created in 2007, could spend all of its time pursuing Internet fraud cases. But the five-person team also investigates computer hacking, e-mail threats and child pornography. And they are responsible for analyzing data from all electronic evidence obtained by the department.

Suarez said they examine cell phones, computers, and video surveillance recordings gathered as evidence in homicides, robberies, sex offense and other investigations.

They can spend weeks, he said, going through thousands of e-mails and computer files searching for relevant evidence. They trace Internet Protocol (IP) and e-mail addresses to identify senders. They study cell phone records to determine where a suspect or victim was and who they spoke to before or after a crime.

The Sexual Assault Cold Case Unit has reviewed nearly 200 cases. Detectives Donald Pruitt and Marsha Dearing review unsolved case files, submit biological evidence for testing and follow leads. They solved 39 cases dating back to 1987 and cleared 15 arrests. Seven of those arrested were serial rapists.

Pruitt had been in prison on unrelated charges for nearly 13 years and was being considered for parole when CMPD charged him with five rapes.

Detectives Solving Old Sex Assault Cases

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He broke into homes while his victims were sleeping and attacked them. The women, who ranged in age from 16 to 60, did not know him.

Fuller raped three Charlotte women in a 10-month period, including a 16-year-old held at knife point in her grandmother’s backyard.

Alyssa Layne, a counselor who works with sexual assault victims, said the vast majority are relieved to learn about an arrest in this case, though it does bring a flood of emotions.

“Young after an assault, they will wake up at night and be afraid,” she said. “Now they can really tell themselves that person is no longer out there.”

New Unit Tracking Computer Crime

Detectives Solving Old Sex Assault Cases

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Medal of Merit
Officer Mike Cotton

The SWAT Team was searching a home for a robbery suspect when the suspect began shooting through the walls. After a short pause, Officer Cotton saw the man fire from a second-story window. He returned fire, wounding the suspect and protecting his fellow officers from additional gunfire.

Employee of the Year
Crystal Cody

Cody manages employees who design and implement computer applications. She’s designed applications that give officers greater access to information in the field, positively impacting their safety and their ability to serve the community. Her understanding of department needs and her ability to develop cost-effective solutions helps make CMPD a leader and innovator in public safety technology.

VCAT officers investigate the target before starting their search. They determine where the wanted people and their families live, where else they might stay and who might know where to find them.

They study the person’s criminal record and learn whether he or she is known to carry a weapon or fight police.

Hummel said the team has quickly become a vital part of the CMPD.

“The Violent Criminal Apprehension Team is trained to take violent criminals into custody the safest way possible,” she said. “They are taking dangerous people off the streets and doing it in a way that ensures community safety.”

VCAT officers practice searching an area where a dangerous suspect may be hiding.

Seeking Information

VCAT has created a most wanted list and a tip line – 704-336-VCAT. Visit cmpd.org and click on the VCAT link. It features photos of dangerous fugitives and information about what the public should do if they know where to find one of them.
Arresting the Most-Dangerous Suspects

A man wanted for murder in Raleigh called home from a 704 telephone number. Police traced the number to a phone booth outside a Charlotte convenience store. That’s when CMPD’s Violent Criminal Apprehension Team (VCAT) took over.

All it took was a phone call.

VCAT officers went inside the convenience store with a picture of the fugitive—and someone remembered him. The man had gone in, bought Marlboro Reds and asked for change to use the telephone. He was with a woman in a purple Jeep Cherokee who stopped there regularly.

VCAT officers started driving through nearby apartment complexes. In one, they found a purple Jeep Cherokee. The officers ran the license plate, learned which apartment the owner lived in, and staked out that apartment.

Eventually, a man came out and smoked a cigarette. He looked like the suspect but had highlights in his hair. The officers called Raleigh, whose detectives confirmed the suspect had colored the front of his hair.

Later, several people came out of the apartment and got into the Cherokee. Police followed and then a marked patrol car pulled over the Cherokee. The suspect was arrested and returned to Raleigh for prosecution.

“That is a case where we used old school police work and had a bit of luck on our side,” said Sgt. Steve Winterhalter. “But that’s the kind of work we do.”

The three-year-old Violent Criminal Apprehension Team expects to make its 1,000th arrest this year, said Capt. Michelle Hummel. Just last year, the team apprehended 239 people wanted for murder, attempted murder, robbery, rape, drug charges and other felonies.

The team arrested a man wanted in the rape of an 86-year-old woman. They tracked down an armed, serial bank robber. They captured a career criminal accused of attacking a police officer with a deadly weapon. And they took into custody a suicidal man wanted for the attempted murder of his girlfriend.

The team also works with the Hornet’s Nest Task Force, a group of local, state, and federal officers which tracks and arrests federal fugitives. When they work with the Task Force, they can make arrests out of state, Winterhalter said.

VCAT first started as a team that served warrants on armed robbery suspects. Now other units request the 10-officer team when they need a violent offender arrested.

First, they have to find them.

You can use cmpd.org to...

1. Report A Crime
   Online reporting is a convenient way to report non-emergency crimes, such as larceny, harassing phone calls, theft from auto or property damage.

2. Learn How To Become An Officer
   Find out what it takes to become a CMPD officer. Get information about how to volunteer. Or sign up to ride-along with a police officer and see what it’s like to patrol the area near where you live.

3. Sign Up For Email Alerts
   Receive emails notifying you of crime alerts and neighborhood meetings in the patrol division where you live or work. You can also sign up to receive news releases.

4. Figure Out Who To Call
   Use an interactive map to determine the patrol division where you live and how to reach the officers responsible for your patrol division.

5. Learn How To Prevent Crime
   Get tips on how to keep thieves from breaking into your vehicle and how to stay safe in parking lots.

6. See Charlotte’s Most Wanted
   You may hold the clue to locating one of Charlotte’s most wanted fugitives. Rewards are given through Crime Stoppers for information that leads to an arrest.

7. Map Crimes In Your Neighborhood
   Use the Community Crime Information System to find out how many crimes and what type of crimes are occurring near where you live, work or shop.

8. Get Crash Reports
   Check your route for wrecks before you head out. Find out where in Charlotte-Mecklenburg police are working crashes, so that you can avoid those areas. Or if you’ve been in a wreck lately, you can get a copy of your wreck report for a small fee.

9. Review Crime Statistics
   Is Charlotte really as crime-ridden as it looks on the evening news? View violent crime and property crime statistics to find out the truth about Charlotte-Mecklenburg’s crime rates.

10. See Missing Persons
    Have you seen me? Look at photographs and read about people reported missing in Charlotte.

Life Saving Award
Officer Shawn McMichael and Officer Brad Upchurch

These officers responded to a call about a man sleeping on a bench in the Center City. When they arrived, the officers quickly realized the man was unconscious and had no pulse. The officers began CPR and their quick thinking saved his life.

Employee of the Year
Michael P. Bedard

As Facilities Manager, Bedard spearheaded the physical changes required for the department’s redistricting—meeting an ambitious timeline and saving money in the process. He also saved CMPD money through improved monitoring of cell phone accounts. He is the person people call when they need something. And his exemplary customer service makes him a vital and valued part of the organization.
Worldwide, only 754 law enforcement agencies are accredited by CALEA, an international organization whose team of assessors determines whether an agency meets 750 professional standards. CALEA, a non-profit corporation, encourages law enforcement agencies to voluntarily demonstrate their commitment to excellence. CMPD first gained the highly-prized recognition in 2004, and must go through an evaluation process every three years. In late 2007, assessors spent six days examining all aspects of the department’s policies and procedures, management, operations and support services.

In their report, the assessors wrote that they “did not identify any significant problems or issues and found the agency to be in compliance with all applicable mandatory and other than mandatory standards.”

“Not only does CALEA help create tried and tested policies, they ensure we are in compliance with our own directives,” said Sgt. J.D. Cox, accreditation supervisor. “This process benefits the agency by allowing us to take an in-depth look into our operations and test their effectiveness.”

### Department Earns Accreditation A Second Time

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department underwent reaccreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies. Worldwide, only 754 law enforcement agencies are accredited by CALEA, an international organization whose team of assessors determines whether an agency meets 750 professional standards. CALEA, a non-profit corporation, encourages law enforcement agencies to voluntarily demonstrate their commitment to excellence. CMPD first gained the highly-prized recognition in 2004, and must go through an evaluation process every three years. In late 2007, assessors spent six days examining all aspects of the department’s policies and procedures, management, operations and support services.

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### Employees Recognized for Performance

Every year, the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department recognizes employees who distinguish themselves through heroic actions and outstanding performance or service. Throughout this report you will find the stories of some of those honored in 2007 in the following categories:

- **Gold Police Cross**: awarded to any member of the department killed in the line of duty and presented to that person’s family.
- **Silver Police Cross**: awarded to employees who are seriously injured by assault or other overt acts in the performance of their duties.
- **Life Saving Award**: recognizes employees for saving a human life.
- **Chief’s Award for Excellence in Policing**: recognizes exceptional problem-solving initiatives that have effectively addressed serious community concerns.
- **Medal of Valor**: presented to employees who have shown gallantry and bravery by preserving life or property while risking death or serious injury.
- **Medal of Merit**: presented to employees who have demonstrated extraordinary actions in response to an emergency or routine event.

### Statistical Review

The key variables that put crime numbers into perspective -- and allow more accurate comparisons from year to year -- are growth and population. Put simply, the larger a community, the more opportunities there are for victimization. That is why crime rates (the number of crimes per 100,000 citizens) provide a more complete picture of the potential for victimization, successes and crime problems that need more attention.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Index Offense Rates per 100,000 Estimated Population</th>
<th>2006</th>
<th>2007</th>
<th>Annual % Change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Population</td>
<td>728,143</td>
<td>752,997</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homicide</td>
<td>11.4</td>
<td>10.0</td>
<td>-12.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
<td>47.7</td>
<td>37.2</td>
<td>-22.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>440.4</td>
<td>423.8</td>
<td>-3.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggravated Assault</td>
<td>535.1</td>
<td>489.2</td>
<td>-8.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary</td>
<td>1,865.3</td>
<td>1,719.5</td>
<td>-7.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larceny</td>
<td>3,866.5</td>
<td>4,291.3</td>
<td>11.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle Theft</td>
<td>981.9</td>
<td>799.3</td>
<td>-18.6%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arson</td>
<td>47.5</td>
<td>51.5</td>
<td>8.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Violent index</td>
<td>1,034.5</td>
<td>960.2</td>
<td>-7.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Property index</td>
<td>6,761.3</td>
<td>6,861.6</td>
<td>1.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INDEX TOTAL</td>
<td>7,795.9</td>
<td>7,821.8</td>
<td>0.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Index Offense Rates per 100,000 Estimated Population

Population: 728,143  752,997  -12.6%
Homicide: 11.4  10.0  -22.0%
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Violent index: 1,034.5  960.2  -7.2%
Property index: 6,761.3  6,861.6  1.5%
INDEX TOTAL: 7,795.9  7,821.8  0.3%
Property Index Crime includes burglary, larceny, vehicle theft, and arson.

2007 rate (7,821 crimes per 100K Population)

Property Index Crime Rates
Per 100,000 Estimated Jurisdiction Population

Central Division
119 E. Seventh St., Suite 2B
(704) 336-5729
Capt. Jeff Estes

Eastway Division
3024 Eastway Dr.
(704) 336-9335
Capt. Mike Smathers

Freedom Division
4150 Wilkinson Blvd.
(704) 398-6733
Capt. Brian Cunningham

Hickory Grove Division
5727-A N. Sharon Amity Rd.
(704) 567-9198
Capt. Glen Neimeyer

Independence Division
9315 - G Monroe Rd.
(704) 841-1477
Capt. Pete Davis

Metro Division
601 East Trade St.
(704) 336-8300
Capt. Bruce Bellamy

North Division
4045 North Tryon St., Suite B
(704) 336-8398
Capt. Johnny Jennings

North Tryon Division
10430-R Harris Oaks Blvd.
(704) 432-3801
Capt. Andy Leonard

Providence Division
3500-400 Latrobe Dr.
(704) 943-2600
Capt. Martha Dozier

Steele Creek Division
1750 Shopton Rd.
(704) 336-7800
Capt. John Williams

South Division
8050 Corporate Center Dr., Suite 100
(704) 544-4835
Capt. Roderick Golding

Westover Division
1540 West Blvd.
(704) 432-2442
Capt. Sherie Pearsall

University City Division
8401-120 University Executive Park Dr.
(704) 432-3900
Capt. Freda Lester

* 1993 rate is calculated based on the combined population estimates and the combined Index Crime totals reported by the Charlotte Police Department and the Mecklenburg County Police Department.

Violent Index Crime includes homicide, rape, robbery, and aggravated assault.

Violent Index Crime Rates
Per 100,000 Estimated Jurisdiction Population

Lowest rate in 15 year period was in 2007 (960 crimes per 100K Population)

Highest rate in 15 year period was in 1993 (8,346 crimes per 100K Population)

**Chief’s Award for Excellence in Policing**

Officer Brian J. Cloninger, Detective Douglas Moore, Officer Carolyn Pierce, Detective D.S. Spears, Police Attorney Bruce McDonald, Kenny Desner (Charlotte Fire Department), Dale Carter (CFD), Bert Massay (CFD), Sandra Bisanar (City Attorney), James Bjornestad (Environmental Department), Lynn Lathan (Health Department), Tim Walker (Electrical Inspector), Robert Mahoney (Code Enforcement)

In an effort to reduce calls for service, address quality of life issues and bring the Economy Inn on Wilkinson up to code, Officers Cloninger and Pierce enlisted help from other City and County agencies. After several verbal warnings and written citations, the hotel was closed by Charlotte Fire Department inspectors.
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MEDAL OF VALOR
Sgt. Graham Brown, Officer David L. Artieri

Officers were attempting to arrest two murder suspects from inside a motel room. SWAT officers threw a “flash bang” through a window. Sgt. Brown and Officer Artieri covered the room as other officers headed in. When one of the suspects started shooting, Brown and Artieri returned fire, fatally wounding the shooter and protecting the lives of their fellow officers.
Charlotte Quick Facts

Population:
- 683,215 City of Charlotte
- 874,753 Mecklenburg County
- 752,997 Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department jurisdiction

Total Square Miles:
- 287 City of Charlotte
- 543 Mecklenburg County
- 438 Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department jurisdiction

- America’s 21st largest city
- 640 daily departures from Charlotte-Douglas International Airport
- 2nd Largest Banking Center, SNL Financial
- Headquarters to eight Fortune 500 companies
- Fifth among MarketWatch’s Best Cities for Business (2007)
- First in BET’s Best Cities for Black Families (2007)

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department is the largest law enforcement agency in Mecklenburg County and the largest police department between Washington, D.C. and Atlanta.

- Its 1,638 sworn officers police a community of 752,997 residents. Another 1.6 million people visit the Charlotte area each year.
- The CMPD’s 466 civilian personnel and more than 400 volunteers provide critical services, including 911 communications, records and property control, crime scene and laboratory analysis and crime reporting.

Source: CMPD; Charlotte Chamber of Commerce; Charlotte Regional Visitors Authority; Population and square mileage according to Charlotte-Mecklenburg Planning Commission.

### Arrests in 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Offense</th>
<th>Adult 18 &amp; Older</th>
<th>Juvenile Under 18</th>
<th>Total Arrests</th>
<th>Annual % Change from 2006</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Murder/Non-Negligent Manslaughter</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>-2.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rape</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>-36.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
<td>405</td>
<td>189</td>
<td>594</td>
<td>0.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aggravated Assault</td>
<td>1,582</td>
<td>235</td>
<td>1,817</td>
<td>-11.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burglary</td>
<td>727</td>
<td>413</td>
<td>1,140</td>
<td>4.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larceny</td>
<td>1,468</td>
<td>616</td>
<td>2,084</td>
<td>4.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle Theft</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>217</td>
<td>-2.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arson</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>-16.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Aggravated Assault</td>
<td>2,083</td>
<td>813</td>
<td>2,896</td>
<td>3.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forgerly/Counterfeit</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>124</td>
<td>-22.5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fraud</td>
<td>461</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>464</td>
<td>-21.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Embezzlement</td>
<td>96</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>113</td>
<td>-3.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stolen Property</td>
<td>547</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>686</td>
<td>-4.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vandalism</td>
<td>270</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>527</td>
<td>4.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Weapons</td>
<td>870</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>930</td>
<td>-3.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prostitution</td>
<td>196</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>-4.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sex Offenses</td>
<td>225</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Drugs</td>
<td>3,340</td>
<td>424</td>
<td>3,764</td>
<td>12.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gambling</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>-33.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Offenses against the Family</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>-66.7%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Driving While Alcohol/Drug Impaired</td>
<td>2,027</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>2,040</td>
<td>4.9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Liquor Violation</td>
<td>267</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>296</td>
<td>22.3%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disorderly Conduct</td>
<td>681</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>1,061</td>
<td>5.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Non-Traffic Arrests</td>
<td>7,875</td>
<td>974</td>
<td>8,849</td>
<td>-9.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>23,419</td>
<td>4,742</td>
<td>28,161</td>
<td>-1.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Medal of Valor

Detective David H. Turner

Detective Turner was having lunch at a Subway, when a man came inside and said someone was robbing the Domino’s Pizza a few doors down. The suspect had a gun pointed at employees. Turner went into the restaurant with his gun drawn and ordered everyone to the floor. Even the suspect complied. He was arrested without incident.
The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department experienced significant achievement and enormous loss in 2007. In this annual report – my last as Chief of this fine organization – we highlight a few of our accomplishments, our innovative new programs and the tragedy that marked the year.

On March 31, Officer Sean Clark and Officer Jeff Shelton were fatally shot. They were the first Charlotte-Mecklenburg police officers slain in the line of duty in more than a decade. It was a difficult time for me personally and for every other member of our police family, but the incredible support we received from the community helped in our healing.

As I look back on my eight years as Chief, I am proud of how much we have accomplished together. The partnerships we developed, the initiatives we introduced and the tremendous work the men and women of this department do every day, all contribute to our successes.

In 2007, our overall violent crime rate dropped to its lowest level in more than 25 years. But we still face significant challenges, particularly with property crimes. Our property crime rate rose slightly again in 2007. We are taking steps to combat that trend, but this is an issue we must tackle together. We are targeting chronic offenders, but the District Attorney will need more resources to prosecute them. At the same time, the community must increase its preventative efforts.

I hope this report will help you better understand the combination of enforcement and community problem-oriented policing we use to address crime and quality of life issues in Charlotte-Mecklenburg. I also hope it will move you to join with us as we embark upon challenges that the police department cannot overcome alone.

It has been a great honor to serve this fine community and work with the dedicated professionals of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department. I have no doubt that together you will continue to make this a wonderful place to live and raise a family.

I thank you for the encouragement given to me during my tenure and the tremendous outpouring of support given to the entire department after our loss in March. We dedicate this report to Officer Clark and Officer Shelton. Their sacrifice will never be forgotten.
The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department will build problem-solving partnerships with our citizens to prevent the next crime and enhance the quality of life throughout our community, always treating people with fairness and respect.

We value:
- Partnerships
- Open Communication
- Problem Solving
- People
- Our Employees
- Integrity
- Courtesy
- The Constitution of North Carolina
- The Constitution of the United States

"Building Partnerships to Prevent the Next Crime"