



Office of Mayor Lawrence J. Morrissey

PRESS RELEASE

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Rockford, IL: July 10, 2009 - The Rockford Police Department has published and released the following reports: 2008 Use of Force Report and the 2008; and the Bias-Free Policing Report; and the second quarter crime stats. These documents can be located on the City of Rockford's website; <http://www.rockfordil.gov/government/police/index.cfm>

On March 21, 2009 the Rockford Police Department received Law Enforcement Accreditation Status by the Commission on Accreditation Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc. (CALEA). As part of the accreditation process, the department completes a yearly detailed analysis of any Use of Force incidents mandated by policy. An in-depth analysis was conducted to compare the data collected in 2007 to the data collected in 2008. The final report has been published and is available for viewing on the City of Rockford's Website.

Based on our in-depth Use of Force analysis the Department implemented an early warning system to better track officer conduct and to improve supervisory oversight. Our policy now reflects the requirement of supervisory oversight and command at qualifying use of force incidents. Since 2006, there has been a significant downward trend in the number of Use of Force Complainants. The complaints dropped 33% from 2006 to 2007, dropped again by 45% from 2007 to 2008 giving the Department an overall 63% decrease in the number of use of force complaints from 2006 to 2008.

The Department has also seen a decline in crime for the second quarter of 2009. The Crime Data Comparison for the second quarter from 2008 to 2009 shows a significant decrease in property crimes both in NIBRS and the I-UCR Index Crimes.

In 2004, Illinois began collecting and assessing traffic stop data. The Illinois Department of Transportation is responsible for collecting the data from police agencies and Northwestern University's Center for Public Safety is assisting in the analysis of the data. The Rockford Police

Department examines the data for the department by analyzing the stops, outcome of stop, and searches of Caucasian and Minority drivers. Northwestern also examines the same data for all Police Departments in the State of Illinois. Northwestern University's Center for Public Safety has developed a benchmark for police agencies statewide based on the 2000 census. The 2008 Annual report on Rockford Police Department Traffic Stops summarizes data from 10,068 traffic stops which occurred from January 1, 2008, to December 31, 2008. The report also analyzes the demographics of the community and how it relates to patrol areas.

The Department strives for improvement through personnel development, policy enhancement and responsiveness to citizens in order to provide effective and efficient police service to all.

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