



***COLORADO SPRINGS  
POLICE DEPARTMENT  
2012 ANNUAL REPORT***





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POLICE DEPARTMENT  
Peter Carey  
Chief of Police

Honorable Mayor, Members of City Council, and Citizens of Colorado Springs:

2012 proved both an exciting year for CSPD and a challenging one. I'd like to reflect on some of the year's key events and share my appreciation of everyone's efforts at CSPD.

This year tested both the resolve and competence of the police department. The heroism and dedication of our employees, both civilian and sworn, during the Waldo Canyon Fire will remain with me as some of my proudest days as a police officer and your Chief.

During the evening of June 26<sup>th</sup> and the ensuing long weeks after, I was impressed and thankful for the devotion to duty demonstrated during this historic and unprecedented fire. Officers worked a minimum of 12 hours days dealing with the extraordinary task of evacuating thousands, guarding the affected areas and then safely helping families return to their homes. Thousands of calls for service relating to the fire were handled by our Public Safety Communications Center. All of this was in addition to keeping the rest of the city safe. One of our employees lost his home in the fire and many others were evacuated, yet everyone came to work as soon as possible to handle the vast responsibilities.

Just prior to this, we experienced a hail storm of epic proportion. Within a two-hour period, over 600 calls for service were received, to include people trapped in their vehicles that were partially submerged in the freezing waters. Officers risked their lives to save dozens of citizens.

While we struggled to catch our breath following this storm and the Waldo Canyon Fire, we tragically lost Officer Matt Tyner in the line of duty. As a department and a family, we did our best to help his family and friends carry the heavy load of his loss. In honor of Matt's unique teaching abilities, coupled with his passion for training officers, Tyner Hall was "christened" at our Training Academy.

2012 saw many technological changes in our department. A new Mobile Field Reporter, Law Enforcement Records Management System and NeoGov were implemented in an effort to make our jobs more effective.

And, if that wasn't enough, there was another major change you endured that involved our Command Staff. Mayor Bach appointed me to officially serve as your Chief and Mark Smith and Vince Niski were promoted to Deputy Chiefs to replace our former DCs who retired. The transition was handled smoothly and successfully.

Thanks to each one of you for treating each other and our community as they deserve to be treated. Your responsiveness to citizens and your excellence in the way you get your work done inspires me every day.

Sincerely,

Peter Carey  
Chief of Police



*"Safeguarding our Community as our Family"*

705 South Nevada Avenue  
Mailing Address: Post Office Box 2169 • Colorado Springs, Colorado 80901-2169





Steve Bach  
Mayor



Dear Colorado Springs Police Department Employees:

Thank you for your tireless service this year to the Colorado Springs Police Department, our City and our citizens. We are privileged to have a conscientious and dedicated police force that is committed to "Safeguarding our Community as our Family."

The loss of Officer Matt Tyner, a valued member of our CSPD family, continues to be felt deeply by us all. Officer Tyner served the CSPD with valor for 13 years and made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty on July 24, 2012. We honor his memory and will never forget his service.

With the recent wildfires and flooding, this is indeed a difficult time in our history, but CSPD has always risen to the challenge. Every one of you served with distinction in tough circumstances, working long days and nights to ensure public safety throughout the region. As events unfolded, you responded with enormous professionalism and focus. Your impressive evacuation of almost 30,000 citizens without incident during the 2012 Waldo Canyon Fire is to be especially commended.

Among your numerous noteworthy accomplishments are the Community Service Officer (CSO) and Community Advancing Public Safety (CAPS) programs. The outstanding CSO team has increased threefold in just a few months, meeting or exceeding the needs of the community. The innovative CAPS program, begun in 2011, has increased public safety while giving citizens an opportunity to serve. Thanks to the many volunteers and CSPD personnel who work together, Colorado Springs is a safer place to live.

Your ingenuity and willingness to solve big problems with unique solutions is evident in many other areas as well. Our downtown security cameras have been a real force multiplier, leading to numerous drug busts and arrests. Your Homeless Outreach Team continues to be a nationally-recognized leader in dealing with the true scope of homelessness in our community.

Thank you again for your outstanding service and continuing dedication to our great city.

Sincerely,

Steve Bach  
Mayor

30 South Nevada Avenue, Suite 601 • TEL 719-385-5900  
Mailing Address: Post Office Box 1575, Mail Code 610 • Colorado Springs, Colorado 80901-1575



SCOTT HENTE  
PRESIDENT



Dear Colorado Springs Police Department Employees:

2012 held many triumphs and tribulations for your department and for the City. The Waldo Canyon Fire, one of the most destructive wildfires in our history, taught us the importance of community and of service. The efforts and dedication shown by your sworn and volunteer workforces during this calamitous time helped us gain strength as a community. And, amidst the recovery efforts, another great tragedy was suffered—the loss of beloved Police Officer Matt Tyner. We lost a member of our family, and our community lost a friend. As we mourned the loss of Officer Tyner, the words of Maya Angelou came to mind “A great soul serves everyone all of the time. A great soul never dies. It brings us together again and again.”

And, through these tragedies, your resilience and commitment to one another and our community shone through. Your innovative programs—the Community Crime Prevention classes; the “Most Kids Don’t” program which celebrates youth in our community who make positive choices every day; your preventive child safety campaign “Take 25” in order to raise awareness of the issues surrounding missing and exploited children; the Victims’ Right “Fun Run” to build public awareness about the challenges faced by crime victims; and your Community Advancing Public Safety volunteer program which has brought more than 58,000 volunteer hours in areas such as crime prevention and education and public safety advocacy—and the collaborative partnerships that are built through these programs, help Colorado Springs continue to be in the forefront as one of the nation’s safest large cities.

Furthermore, your outstanding efforts in public safety communications led to being honored as a “Colorado Center of the Year” by the Colorado Association of Public Safety Communications Officials and the National Emergency Number Association. This is a well-deserved honor, congratulations.

On behalf of City Council, and the citizens that we represent, thank you to all of you for your exceptional work and outstanding contributions in 2012. You should all be proud of such a prolific year.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Scott Hente".

Scott Hente, President  
Colorado Springs City Council

# COLORADO SPRINGS POLICE DEPARTMENT COMMAND STAFF



*Peter Carey  
Chief of Police*



*Vince Niski  
Deputy Chief  
Operations Support*



*Mark Smith  
Deputy Chief  
Patrol Operations*



*K. "Thor" Eells  
Commander  
Metro Vice, Narcotics & Intelligence*



*Brian Grady  
Commander  
Professional Standards*



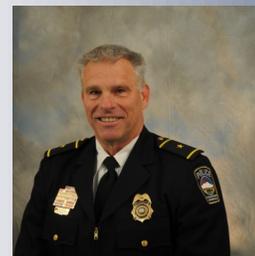
*Tish Olszewski  
Commander  
Investigations*



*Fletcher Howard  
Commander  
Falcon*



*Sue Autry  
Commander  
Management Services*



*Skip Arms  
Commander  
Specialized Enforcement*



*James "Pat" Rigdon  
Commander  
Gold Hill*



*Kirk Wilson  
Commander  
Sand Creek*



*Rafael Cintron  
Commander  
Stetson Hills*

## PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS DIVISION

### Internal Affairs

The Internal Affairs Unit is tasked with investigating serious complaints against members of the Police Department, conducting background investigations on applicants, presenting Critical Incident Reviews to staff, monitoring the Early Intervention Program and inspecting units within the department for compliance with policy. The Unit consists of one lieutenant, three investigative sergeants, a Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies (CALEA) Accreditation Manager, a Senior Public Communications Specialist, a Senior Office Specialist, a Community Relations Unit and a Background Unit.

In 2012, the Police Department received 17 Level II (serious) complaints, compared to 22 in 2011 and 23 in 2010. The Level I (less serious) complaints in 2012 totaled 240, compared to 241 in 2011 and 200 in 2010.

The Internal Affairs Unit conducted three Critical Incident Reviews and responded to two uses of deadly force by police officers in 2012. The purpose of the Critical Incident Reviews is to examine critical incidents to determine if policy, training or equipment needs should be addressed. The District Attorney's office reviewed each officer-involved shooting and determined each was justified.

### Planning, Grants and Research Unit

During 2012, the Planning, Grants and Research Unit applied for a total of 19 grants from local, state and federal agencies. These

grants resulted in over one million dollars in funding, which allowed the department to purchase equipment, fund personnel and implement programs that were not included in the department budget.

A few examples of grant-funded activities in 2012 are the:

- ◆ Victim Advocacy Program, which is funded largely through Victim Assistance and Law Enforcement (VALE) and Victims of Crime Act (VOCA) grants
- ◆ Internet Crimes against Children (ICAC) Unit and statewide ICAC Task Force
- ◆ Metro Crime Laboratory, which received funding through the DNA Backlog Reduction Program and Coverdell Grant to purchase software and obtain necessary equipment validation, as well as funding for crime laboratory staff to attend training
- ◆ DUI Enforcement activities, which receive supplemental funding through the High Visibility Enforcement (HVE) Grant and Law Enforcement Assistance Fund (LEAF)
- ◆ Motor Vehicle Theft Task Force, which receives supplemental funding from the Colorado Auto Theft Prevention Authority (CATPA)

The Planning, Grants and Research Unit provides data analysis and research to help inform organizational decision-making. The unit provided analytical support for the development of the patrol schedules for 2013 and provided project management and oversight of the patrol staffing study, which was performed by a consultant.

A few examples of research topics in 2012 are:

- ◆ Pursuit and Tactical Vehicle Intervention
- ◆ Garrity Advisements
- ◆ Expansion of the Community Service Officer (CSO) Program
- ◆ Mandatory Rotation Policy
- ◆ Video Surveillance Cameras in the Downtown Area
- ◆ Less Lethal Ammunition
- ◆ Mental Health Collaboration

The Planning, Grants and Research Unit monitors the State's Legislative Session; and in 2012, reviewed over 500 proposed bills for potential impact on the department. As the proposed changes were signed into law, the Planning, Grants and Research Unit prepared bulletins to advise officers of pertinent law changes.

### Training Academy



- ◆ Throughout 2012, the Training Academy facilitated three days of Standard Field Sobriety Testing for sworn officers. This standard of training related to DUI enforcement is required by Colorado Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) for all new officers, but it is not a standard for current officers. By extending this training to current officers, CSPD exceeded the minimum standard to better safeguard our citizens concerning the detection and prosecution of DUI drivers.
- ◆ On May 31, the 59<sup>th</sup> Lateral Recruit Class graduated from the Training Academy. The class consisted of six lateral recruit officers.
- ◆ During the months of May, June and July, the Training Academy facilitated the three week International Association of Chiefs of Police Leading in Police Organizations (LPO) course. The course was attended by internal and external sworn and civilian supervisors.
- ◆ On July 19, the 60<sup>th</sup> Recruit Class graduated from the Training Academy. The class consisted of 13 CSPD recruits. Through a partnership with the Department of Defense (DOD), CSPD also graduated two DOD officers who subsequently became Colorado POST certified.
- ◆ As part of ongoing training, the 2012 In-Service Program provided training to sworn officers in the areas of foot pursuit tactics, use of force, tactical vehicle intervention and stress-induced scenario training. Officers also recertified in the use of the taser, baton and CPR.
- ◆ To assist the department with the transition to a new records management system, the Training Academy building was utilized to conduct numerous classes regarding the Mobile Field Reporting (MFR) system and the Law Enforcement Records Management System (LERMS). This training was also extended to the Fountain Police Department, the City of Colorado Springs Municipal Court staff and members of the Office of the District Attorney.
- ◆ On August 30, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Community Service Officer (CSO) class graduated from the Training Academy. This class consisted

of 13 CSO recruits. Part of the class included five retired CSPD officers who brought over 140 years of combined experience to the CSO program.

- ◆ On October 31, the training of the 61<sup>st</sup> Recruit Class began. The class consisted of 35 recruits who are scheduled to graduate in April 2013. During this class, the Training Academy partnered with the National Strength and Conditioning Association (NSCA) in structuring a strength and conditioning program for the recruits.
- ◆ In December, the Training Academy facilitated a “Train the Trainer” course regarding the transition to an upgraded taser system (X2). The department will complete the transition to the new taser in 2013.

## Community Relations Unit



The Community Relations Unit coordinates quarterly meetings with CSPD staff and four community groups: Southern Colorado Ministerial Union, Faith-Based Group, Community Advisory Committee and the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Group. The groups addressed issues within the community and engaged in open dialogue with Chief Carey and other command staff. Topics included:

- ◆ The revitalization of the downtown area, focusing on improving public safety through the use of surveillance cameras. Also discussed was the return of street lights within the City and the community perception of increased crime on the west side of the City.
- ◆ Groups voiced their concerns with the passing of Amendment 64 (Recreational Use of Marijuana). Concerns included impaired drivers, increased crime and the potential availability of marijuana to school-aged children.

The Community Relations Unit provided safety briefings to military service members at Fort Carson, Peterson AFB, Schriever AFB and the Air Force Academy. Presentations included topics such as crime prevention, traffic safety education and personal safety.

In 2012, the Community Relations Unit coordinated two classes of the Citizens' Academy, graduating 46 citizens. The Colorado Springs Police Department Citizens' Academy educates citizens about the department's duties and responsibilities, policies and procedures and the various units within the department through a series of 12 classes. In addition to helping citizens better understand the Police Department, it also helps the Police Department better understand citizens and their concerns.

Several of these graduates have become volunteers with the Community Advancing Public Safety Program (CAPS), the official volunteer program of the Police and Fire Departments.

The Community Relations Unit provided oversight of the Explorer Program, providing 35 teenagers with insight into the law enforcement profession. The cadets received training in law enforcement and provided over 3,500 hours of volunteer services to the

community at a savings of \$76,596 to the City of Colorado Springs. The Explorers assisted the department at the Territory Days, Balloon Classic and Spring Spree annual events.

During the Christmas season, the Explorers and Explorer Advisors delivered gifts to over 220 children in the Colorado Springs area.

### **Accreditation Program**

The department has been accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, Inc.  (CALEA) since July 1991. Each award lasts for three years, at which time the department must undergo an independent evaluation process. The CSPD was last accredited in 2011 and was recognized for “Excellence” through the “Gold Standard” assessment process, one of CALEA’s most prestigious awards. The department has been working diligently to update its policies and document its compliance with the over 400 CALEA standards in preparation for the on-site assessment in the spring of 2014.

Accreditation reduces the CSPD’s liability by verifying the department performs in a lawful and procedurally appropriate manner. It is important that the CSPD engage in the requirements of the standards, as reflected in its policies and procedures. The department has reviewed and updated the CSPD General Orders within the last year to stay current with our evolving environment, the Strategic Goals of the City and legal updates.

Two CALEA accreditation goals are to promote superior public safety services and to recognize professional excellence. In striving to provide the best service possible with fewer resources, the CSPD demonstrates public accountability and transparency while emphasizing excellent delivery of our core police

service. It is important that each member of the CSPD continue to deliver superior customer service and keep our community safe.

Accreditation provides our community with a standard of police professionalism and a method to remain current in the law enforcement field. We should all feel a sense of accomplishment for maintaining nationally accepted standards of performance for over 20 years and into the future.

### **Background Investigations Unit**

In 2012, fourteen hourly investigators assigned to the Background Investigations Unit completed 41 civilian background investigations, 65 Citizens’ Academy background checks, 103 sworn background investigations and over 500 preliminary background investigations for sworn positions. Having a dedicated Background Investigations Unit allows the department to conduct thorough background checks for prospective Police Department employees.

### **Early Intervention Program**

The CSPD utilizes the Early Intervention Program (EIP) to monitor and identify trends before they become issues. The program monitors use of force incidents, complaints and traffic accidents. If a trend is identified, a review is conducted to determine if any additional administrative action is warranted. In 2012, there were 26 reviews initiated that did not result in any additional administrative actions.

### **Inspections Program**

The department uses an inspection process to ensure policies and procedures are followed.

Additionally, the department identifies outdated processes or high-risk actions to ensure it operates in the most efficient and safest manner possible. The department conducts inspections of each unit during the three-year CALEA Accreditation process.

### Officer Down 2012



*Matthew Tyner*  
*April 28, 1970 - July 24, 2012*

Officer Matthew (Matt) Tyner served honorably with the Colorado Springs Police Department from January 21, 1999 until his untimely death on July 24, 2012.

Matt excelled in every aspect of his work, regardless of where he was assigned. His biggest impact – *next to making friends with anyone and everyone* – was his desire to learn as much as he could about any topic and then share that knowledge with others. As the Lead Instructor for the CSPD’s Arrest Control Program, Matt wasn’t satisfied with the curriculum and took it upon himself to improve it so that each recruit received the best training possible. Matt had the unique ability to bring those lessons to life.

By 2011, Matt was responsible for instructing the majority of our sworn personnel with over 1,750 hours in arrest control. Additionally, he

served as the Training Academy Lead Defensive Tactics Instructor from 2003 to 2011. During his life, Matt proved to be both a strong warrior and a kind mentor. His dedication to his job and his fellow workers inspired us all. He touched more lives in the short time he was with us than most do in a lifetime.

Among other commendations, Matt was awarded the Medal of Valor for the extraordinary heroism and courage he displayed while assisting hundreds of residents evacuate during the Waldo Canyon Fire. Matt was also awarded the Police Cross posthumously for his enforcement actions taken while protecting our community, which ultimately claimed his life.

On July 24, while assigned to our Specialized Enforcement Motorcycle Unit, Matt was conducting traffic enforcement near Austin Bluffs Parkway and Silver Drive when he was involved in a fatal collision and died in the line of duty.





# OPERATIONS SUPPORT BUREAU

## INVESTIGATIONS DIVISION

### **SPECIAL VICTIMS SECTION**

The Special Victims Section is one of four sections within the Investigations Division. The section is commanded by a lieutenant and includes two Crimes Against Children Units, a Domestic Violence Unit, an Adult Sexual Assault Unit, a Forensic Interview Unit and a Crimes Against Elders Unit. There are three sergeants, 17 detectives, four forensic interviewers and two office specialists assigned to the section. One sergeant supervises both the Domestic Violence Unit and Adult Sexual Assault Unit, and another has responsibility for the Crimes Against Children Unit, the Forensic Interview Unit and the Crimes Against Elders Unit. One of the office specialists provides the primary administrative support to the section. Additionally, the Special Victims Section is supported by two civilian cold case investigators, Department of Human Services caseworkers, interns (criminal justice students), TESSA and a variety of volunteers.

### **Crimes Against Children Units (CACU)**

Each of the two Crimes Against Children Units include one sergeant and five detectives. In addition, four investigative specialists and two office specialists support the unit, with one of the office specialists assigned exclusively to work juvenile runaway and missing persons reports, while the other provides administrative support.

The detectives initiate and conduct follow-up investigations of cases involving felony sexual assault, incest, felony child abuse, homicides of young children and other serious

or sensitive offenses. They attend Child Protection Team meetings where they become involved directly in the placement of children. Additionally, the detectives work closely with the investigative specialists, who conduct forensic interviews with child victims and witnesses of physical abuse and sexual assault.

The Crimes Against Children Unit staff also interfaces and collaborates with the Department of Human Services, Probation, and hospital personnel, specifically the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE). The two Crimes Against Children Units responded to 124 immediate callouts in 2012.

The office specialist assigned to runaways and missing persons is responsible for conducting follow-up investigations and research on all reports. The office specialist locates, verifies and cancels reports as necessary and reports to a supervisor any suspicious circumstances, medical/mental conditions and concerns, or if the runaway is endangered. The office specialist is also responsible for Colorado Bureau of Investigation validations on runaways and missing persons and completes supplemental reports on all cases investigated. There were 892 runaway cases reported during 2012.

### **Domestic Violence Unit (DVU)**

The Domestic Violence Unit is staffed by a sergeant and three detectives and supported by the administrative office specialist. The detectives conduct follow-up investigations regarding felony crimes associated with domestic violence, including attempted mur-

der, felony assault, kidnapping, sexual assault and stalking.

During 2012, approximately 300 cases were investigated by the Domestic Violence Unit detectives. The DVU team responded to 24 immediate callouts and conducted investigations on many attempted murder cases.

### **Adult Sexual Assault Unit (ASAU)**

The Adult Sexual Assault Unit consists of a sergeant and four detectives with support provided by an administrative office specialist. The detectives conduct follow-up investigations of felony sexual assaults involving adult victims and teens age 16 and over who are not victims of family-related sexual assaults.

The ASA Unit responded to 12 immediate callouts for violent sexual assaults during 2012, as well as supported the DVU detectives in responding to multiple attempted murder strangulation cases.

Within the ASA Unit, two civilian cold case investigators, working under a grant, reviewed hundreds of cases with new information leading to several arrests. Although the grant has ended, DNA analysis results are still being received with more arrests possible.

### **Forensic Interview Unit (FIU)**

The Colorado Springs Police Department Investigations Division, Special Victims Section, is responsible for conducting criminal investigations as they relate to domestic violence, adult sexual assaults, crimes against the elderly and crimes against children, both physical and sexual.

One of the key roles in conducting these

investigations involving this special victim population is that of a forensic interview with the victims, primarily children, the elderly and adults with developmental delays. These interviews are conducted by four specially-trained Investigative Specialists assigned to the Forensic Interview Unit (FIU).

In addition to conducting forensic interviews, the FIU also supplements the investigative process by preparing written documents of their interviews, evidence collection, pre-screening both internal and outside agency referrals, courtroom testimony and a wide variety of other tasks which are critical to criminal investigations.

Not only do the Investigative Specialists conduct interviews with child victims of physical and sexual abuse, they are often called upon by internal units within the CSPD to conduct interviews with those children that have witnessed a violent crime, including homicide.

In 2012, the Investigative Specialists assigned to the FIU conducted nearly 1,000 interviews with victims and witnesses to these horrific crimes. The results of these interviews set the foundation for the criminal investigation that follows. The Investigative Specialists have been, and continue to be, a contributing factor in the successful prosecutions of those who perpetrate crimes on the City's special victims population.

### **Crimes Against Elders Unit (CAEU)**

The Crimes Against Elders Unit is staffed by one detective with support provided by the administrative office specialist. This detective conducts follow-up investigations of felony crimes associated with adults over age 60 such as attempted murder, felony assault and criminal negligence, among other

charges. The detective assembles and presents completed investigations to the District Attorney's Office for the filing of criminal charges and participates in the prosecutorial phase of investigations. The detective works with Adult Protective Services on Department of Human Services' referrals and criminal investigations, as well as collaborates with community partners for victim safety and offender accountability.

## **VIOLENT CRIMES SECTION**

### **Victim Advocacy Unit**

The CSPD Victim Advocacy Unit (VAU) has become an integral part of our investigative response to crimes covered by the Victims Rights Act. The unit has grown to three full-time grant-funded advocates and a VAU Coordinator. Additionally, the VAU has an amazing cadre of approximately 30 VAU volunteers, without which they would not be able to provide the level of service that has been attained.

The unit continues to increase its services to the victims of our community and has continued to exceed goals set for victims served. As an example, the total number of immediate responses for victim assistance and law enforcement funded advocates in 2012 was 153, which is a 144% increase when compared to the 61 immediate responses provided by advocates in 2011. Victim Advocates and volunteers, for both Victim Assistance and Law Enforcement and Victim of Crimes Act grants, assisted approximately 4,500 crime victims in person, by telephone or by mail during the year, far exceeding their grants goals.

Advocacy services included crisis counseling and support, referrals to community services, assistance with victim compensation applica-

tions and personal victim advocacy. The level of dedication and commitment exhibited by our advocates is commendable.

### **Robbery Unit**

The CSPD Robbery Unit is one of four investigative components that make up the Violent Crimes Section. The unit has expanded from two investigators and an analyst in 1998 to its current strength of six detectives, one sergeant and one full-time analyst. They are tasked with investigating over 500 robberies annually in Colorado Springs. The Robbery Unit is the primary investigating entity of all robberies within the City's jurisdiction. Team members enjoy the unique opportunity to operate as a combined high-level, specialized investigative unit and a street team.

One investigation that exemplifies the work done by the unit began on April 3, 2012. Over a four-month period, the Robbery Unit investigated a suspect who was believed to have committed at least five armed robberies. As the investigation progressed, a vehicle was sought that detectives believed was involved. This location had a very good video system and detectives were able to gather still-shots depicting the suspect's getaway car. Detectives located the car parked at a motel near Fountain and Academy Boulevards. Surveillance was established and eventually a man drove away in the vehicle and was stopped by detectives. Based on evidence gathered throughout the pattern, the driver was taken into custody and the detectives were able to charge him with five robberies. The subject had previously been arrested by the Robbery Unit in 1999 for nine armed robberies, some of which were very similar to the latest pattern. During follow-up, detectives recovered a fully-loaded Hi-Point .40 caliber handgun and several items

clearly seen in the recent videos during the robberies.

### **Homicide Unit**

The CSPD Homicide Unit consists of 12 detectives (including Cold Case and Adult Missing Persons) and two sergeants. In 2012, the unit responded to 22 homicides, solving all but one. The unit maintains an excellent clearance rate as exemplified by the 96% clearance rate in 2012. This is typical of the CSPD Homicide Unit and is exceptional compared to the National Average which is maintained at approximately 55%.

There are many talented investigators assigned to the unit. During one particular murder, detectives found it necessary to utilize all available resources and techniques to bring the investigation to its conclusion. In this investigation, detectives responded to an address where a body was discovered. The suspect was quickly identified and determined to be an ex-boyfriend. The suspect had fled the state to an unknown location. Detectives worked tirelessly to track the suspect when it was determined that he was in Utah and had attempted to steal an airplane, presumably to flee the country. As officers surrounded the airplane, the suspect took his own life, ending the investigation. As in every investigation, the detective's number one goal is to bring the families of victims some semblance of closure. As is shown in their clearance rate, our Homicide Unit is second to none.

### **Major Assault Unit**

The CSPD Major Assault Unit consists of four dedicated detectives who are assigned to a homicide sergeant. This is a relatively new unit that has quickly shown its value to our agency and to our community. Detectives

within the Assault Unit primarily investigate 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Assaults. Prior to the Assault Unit being established, these cases were assigned to homicide detectives.

Since the Assault Unit has been established, each detective maintains a typical case load of over 15 investigations at any given time. The investigations they have conducted have solved assaults that may not have otherwise been solved. One investigation that exemplifies this is an investigation where patrol responded to a stabbing. When officers initially investigated the call for service, the victim was intoxicated and unable to give good suspect information.

Based on detectives' investigation, a link was established to five other major assaults with multiple victims. Detectives conducted a thorough follow-up, which was time consuming and utilized multiple investigative techniques. In the end, three individuals were charged with 12 felonies, solving five separate investigations. Based on their successes, many 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Degree Assaults are being solved. The Assault Unit has proven to be an exceptional asset to the CSPD Investigations Division.

## **TECHNICAL INVESTIGATIONS SECTION**

### **Financial Crimes Unit**

The Financial Crimes Unit consists of six detectives and one sergeant and is responsible for investigating pattern/serial financial crimes throughout the entire City. These crimes include identity theft, counterfeiting, check and credit card fraud, Internet and mail scams and certain highly-complicated theft and embezzlement cases. Financial cases often involve dozens or even hundreds of victims, as well as multiple suspects and

sophisticated criminal networks that operate across multiple jurisdictions. The unit relied on two volunteers to help with data entry, tracking counterfeit bills, sending out victim letters and other tasks associated with unit objectives.

During 2012, approximately 3,000 felony cases were referred to the Financial Crimes Unit. Each detective carried an active case load of 90-95 cases for the year; and as a unit, made 335 arrests. The unit investigated 15 pattern crimes that involved criminal organizations.

The Financial Crimes Unit routinely works with other units within the department; and as a result, clears many cases that stem from cross-over crimes such as burglaries, car break-ins, motor vehicle thefts and mail thefts. These cases can evolve into more violent crimes, including homicides, felony assaults, robberies and illegal drug distribution.

### **Pawn Unit**

The Pawn Unit is housed with the Financial Crimes Unit and also has geographic responsibility for the entire City. The pawn detective is responsible for completing pawn shop inspections and reviewing pawn shop transactions to ensure that pawn shops are fulfilling their reporting requirements in compliance with municipal and state regulations. The pawn detective is also responsible for following-up on pawn cases, as well as some financial crimes investigations.

An office specialist and several volunteers assist the pawn detective with data entry and monitoring of the day-to-day pawn transactions.

In 2012, the pawn detective monitored 45 pawn shops and 45 precious metal dealers in the Pikes Peak region, worked 62 pawn-related cases, wrote 33 arrest affidavits, recovered 37 stolen guns, recovered \$8,730 in stolen property and made 372 contacts with pawn shops and precious metal dealers.

With the switch to LERMS (Law Enforcement Records Management System) in 2012, the reporting process for pawn shops changed. The pawn detective worked extensively with the shops to incorporate the new process.

The Pawn Unit was also busy in 2012 developing a legal hearing process to consider the pawn shops' rights to contest disposition of stolen/found property before it was returned to its owner.

### **Computer Forensics Unit**

The Computer Forensics (CF) Unit supports the department by conducting forensic analysis on all types of digital media and is staffed by two full-time detective examiners. The CF Unit is also part of the Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force and supports the initiative with forensic analysis and technical expertise.

In 2012, the unit conducted 1,152 forensic analyses of digital media for criminal cases ranging from financial crimes to homicides. Through a federal grant, this unit procured a single-purpose mobile forensics van to perform computer forensics triage in the field. This vehicle has allowed the unit to work more efficiently in the field, particularly while conducting search warrants.

## **Internet Crimes Against Children Unit**

The Internet Crimes Against Children Unit is tasked with investigating crimes involving the exploitation of children on the Internet. The unit is staffed by two full-time detectives who conduct criminal investigations and provide training and technical support for the Colorado Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC) Task Force. These detectives are supervised by the ICAC sergeant, who also serves as the ICAC Task Force commander for the state of Colorado.

The Colorado Springs Police Department is one of 61 nationwide ICAC Task Force lead agencies and is partially funded with a federal grant provided by the Department of Justice, Office of Juvenile Justice/Delinquency Prevention. The Colorado ICAC Task Force includes 75 federal, state and local law enforcement agencies around the state and part of more than 3,000 agencies around the United States that actively work to rescue children being exploited on the Internet and strive to educate citizens about the Internet.

The ICAC Unit conducted 135 investigations resulting in 39 arrests in 2012. The Colorado Task Force accounted for 151 arrests and 982 investigations. Twelve of the ICAC Task Force cases were taken to federal court. Eight of those cases were CSPD ICAC cases.

During 2012, the CSPD ICAC Unit was involved in specifically identifying 14 children who were rescued from sexually abusive environments.

The ICAC Unit provided technical assistance 588 times to Task Force members. The Colorado ICAC Task Force made 520 presentations to 20,187 attendees in 2012.

### **ICAC Case of Interest**

The CSPD ICAC Unit arrested a suspect for the distribution of sexually exploitative images and videos of children in 2012. ICAC detectives and the Computer Forensics Unit searched the suspect's trailer and recovered digital devices for analysis. During the on-site analysis of the computer, media images of the suspect's children were found. The suspect was questioned about the images and confessed to a pattern of abuse on a 12-year-old female and 7-year-old male. The abuse was unreported prior to the discovery of the images by the forensic analysts. This case is currently being moved to federal court.

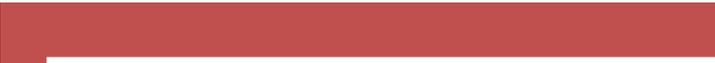
## **Registered Sex Offender Unit**

The Registered Sex Offender (RSO) Unit is responsible for monitoring and tracking offenders who reside within the City limits. The RSO Unit is staffed by two detectives and one administrative support personnel who are tasked with monitoring 1,198 registered sex offenders in Colorado Springs.

The RSO Unit conducts compliance checks to verify the offender's correct address to maintain the federal and state reporting requirements. The unit is supported by the School Resource Officer Unit/Sex Offender Team, and together they completed 1,646 compliance checks. The RSO Unit also made 24 felony arrests, 16 misdemeanor arrests and filed 23 felony arrest warrants and 13 misdemeanor arrest warrants.

## **METRO CRIME LAB SECTION**

The Metro Crime Lab started 2012 without a DNA Technical Leader Position and a Forensic Chemist position. A DNA Technical Leader, Erica Currie-Fraser, was hired in September of 2012 and a Forensic Chemist,



Jian “Jack” Chen was hired in October. Jack Chen worked hard to get the Chemistry Unit up and running, while Erica Currie-Fraser worked at getting proficient with serology and DNA analysis. DNA casework will again be open to the Colorado Springs Police Department and El Paso County Sheriff’s Office in January 2013.

During 2012, the Metro Crime Lab assisted with more than 34 homicide investigations, 21 attempted homicides, 13 sexual assaults and 16 deaths of undetermined origin cases, as well as having assisted in warrant executions, arsons, vehicle searches, fingerprint processing and infant deaths.

The lab was awarded the 2012 Backlog Reduction Grant and is currently updating the 3130 Genetic Analyzers.



## MANAGEMENT SERVICES DIVISION

### Community Advancing Public Safety (CAPS) Volunteer Program

The City's Police and Fire Departments joined forces in 2011 to enhance and expand a public safety volunteer program. In 2012, over 58,900 hours of volunteer service were provided, helping to build a stronger and safer community.

Program highlights include the Public Safety Cameras volunteer team who support the department's Gold Hill Division, the volunteer Ambassadors who support public safety initiatives in the downtown and west-side retail areas, and the on-call Incident Support Team who respond to emergent needs during a major incident.

A Volunteer Appreciation event is held each year to recognize all the CAPS volunteers for their service and to announce the *Volunteer of the Year* Award winner. Pictured are Chief Pete Carey and Commander Pat Rigdon congratulating the 2012 *Volunteer of the Year*, Robert "Scotty" Scott.



### Human Resources

The Human Resources (HR) Section is

responsible for providing services to 918 full-time employees and 40 temporary employees. CSPD HR provides services such as employee relations, payroll, recruiting selection, performance management, sworn promotional processes, leave processing, policy interpretation and civil service compliance. Some of the HR initiatives for 2012 included:

- ◆ Oversaw the promotional process for the rank of commander in 2012.
- ◆ An Academy began January 2012 with 14 new recruits and a Lateral Academy began March 2012 with six lateral police officers.
- ◆ Recruited for an October 2012 Academy, receiving over 2,000 applications and ultimately hiring 32 officers and two laterals.
- ◆ Assisted patrol with the recruitment and hiring for the new CSO program. In 2012, seven new hourly CSOs were added to the program.
- ◆ Assisted CSPD Finance with the Waldo Canyon Fire Audit to ensure accuracy of reported data for reimbursement.
- ◆ The new performance management system, NeoGov, was rolled out in 2012, to include training of all supervisors. This new system automated our performance evaluation process.
- ◆ Worked closely with City HR to complete the Job Analysis Questionnaires for the 2012 Compensation Study.
- ◆ Implemented major changes to the sworn hiring process, including a new written test, bringing the Physical Abilities Test (PAT) in-house and restructuring the oral boards.

The Court Liaison Unit saved the department

over \$600,000 through work hours and court compensation costs by monitoring officer court appearance time through callouts (on and off duty).

### **Fiscal Services**

CSPD's Fiscal Services Section staff works closely with the City's Finance and Budget Offices to ensure taxpayer dollars are properly managed. Following the City's established budget development guidelines and funding allocations, CSPD's Fiscal Services Section works with CSPD Command Staff to develop an annual budget that allows the department to efficiently meet its organizational goals. This budget is then tracked closely throughout the year to ensure compliance with our contractual obligation to the community.

During 2012, the Fiscal Services Section managed \$91 million in expenditures and contracts, tracked approximately 30 grants, and processed \$4.4 million in revenues collected for fines and fees.

### **Technology Implementations**

The department implemented a new Records Management System referred to as LERMS in the spring of 2012. This was a Commercial Off the Shelf System (COTs) application purchased from New World Systems, a leader in Public Safety Systems. The system includes a Field Reporting application that is used by officers for writing reports and managing case loads of detectives, as well as providing the catalyst to implement Electronic Case Filing with the DA's Office. This allows for an expedited process in cases being filed for the Courts.

When changing out a major system, other systems are often affected. One of these areas

is related to citizens reporting crime through the CSPD Internet site. CopLogic is a vendor that provides this type of service, and this system was also implemented along with LERMS so that cases submitted by citizens are easily interfaced from CopLogic into the records system, thereby increasing investigative information for cases and providing service to citizens for quicker insurance claim submissions.

### **Records and Identification Section**

The Records and Identification Section includes 38 highly-trained Office Specialists and Police Fingerprint Technicians dedicated to providing exceptional customer service to citizens and the law enforcement community. Supervisory and support staff consists of six supervisors, two temporary employees and a Records Manager. The section is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week to offer support and advice to not only CSPD officers, but also regional law enforcement personnel.

In a cooperative and mutual cost saving partnership with the El Paso County Sheriff's Department, the Records and Identification Section provides staff to photograph and fingerprint all persons booked into the El Paso County Criminal Justice Center. This partnership has the added benefit of offering CSPD officers access to regional arrest information and criminal history information.

The Section provides fingerprinting services to the public at the Police Operations Center six days a week from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. To better meet the needs of citizens, the hours of fingerprinting were expanded to include the Stetson Hills Substation in 2012. The Section is also fortunate to have a well-trained cadre of professional volunteers who willingly give their time to assist paid staff in providing fingerprint service to the public. In 2012, a

renewed focus on increasing volunteer participation and expanding the services performed by volunteers was undertaken.

It is the responsibility of the Records and Identification Section to accurately process information related to persons required to register as sex offenders. This registration data is used throughout the department by officers to ensure that the offenders are in compliance with the terms of their sentence. In 2012, the Records Section staff processed 2,792 registrations.

In addition to the fingerprinting and registration duties, the Section is also the official repository for all police-generated reports and information.

Through the implementation and application of value stream improvement methodologies, 2012 saw the launch of several new initiatives to reduce costs, enhance service levels and create workflow efficiencies. These include expanded fingerprint services, electronic release of reports, the ability to accept credit/debit cards and the initial deployment of an e-citation system to electronically process tickets.

### **Evidence Unit**

During 2012, the Evidence Unit received 62,964 new items of evidence and property. There were approximately 88,222 transactions. Transactions include, but are not limited to, items signed out to the CSPD Lab, Colorado Bureau of Investigations, officers/investigators, the District Attorney's Office, outside agencies and the return of any of these items back to storage.

The Evidence Unit dispositioned 29,075 items. Disposition includes the return of items to the rightful owner, destruction,

donation/department use and sale at public auction per City Code. Items auctioned through City Utilities resulted in revenue to the City totaling \$47,471.

2012 Evidence Unit highlights include the conclusion of a comprehensive audit conducted by the City Auditor's Office, the hiring of a new Evidence Supervisor, approval to hire two additional Evidence Technicians, the cessation of gun auctions, and the training of five new Evidence Technicians by five veteran Evidence Technicians.

## Impound Facility

Throughout 2012, the department continued to see an increase of impound vehicles in all major categories: traffic, abandoned, evidentiary, etc. To cap off the year, in October, outgoing Impound Unit Supervisor Jennifer Taylor transferred to the Evidence Unit and incoming Supervisor Joe Thornburg took over the reins of the Impound Facility.

Some significant statistics for the year:

Total number of vehicles impounded	4,206	
Total number of vehicles released	3,190	
Money received (tow fees, impound fees, storage)		\$ 624,166.
Money received (auction of titled vehicles)		\$ 448,235.
Money received (auction of no-titled vehicles)		\$ 179,781.
Money received (auction of bicycles)		\$ 2,615.
<b>Total:</b>		<b>\$ 1,254,797.</b>

## Fleet/Supply

With City Council's approval of a 2012 Supplemental Budget, the Colorado Springs Police Department received approximately \$1.2 million in funds to purchase 50 vehicles. The purchase ran a wide gamut of vehicles to include:

### Vehicle Type

Harley-Davidson Motorcycles (8 ea.)  
Ford Expedition SUVs (5 ea.)  
Dodge Durango SUVs (11 ea.)  
Dodge Charger patrol cruisers (26 ea.)

### Assignments

Motor Unit  
Tactical Enforcement Unit  
K-9 & patrol sergeants  
Sand Creek, Falcon, Gold Hill &  
Stetson Hills Patrol Divisions

The purchase contract was let in June 2012, and the vehicles were accepted over a several month long period between August and November. Outfitting the vehicles with special equipment (decals, lights, sirens, etc.) began almost immediately. Due to the total number of vehicles purchased and other priorities, fielding the new vehicles would extend into the first quarter of 2014.

In addition, the Fleet Unit worked very closely with City Fleet and the City IT Radio Shop to convert nine marked police cruisers in support of the department Community Service Officer (five each marked vehicles for civilian use) and the Victim Advocacy Unit (four each marked vehicles for volunteer use) expansions. The conversions proved to be a very cost-effective alternative to purchasing additional new vehicles.

In a departure from the current marking of police cruisers with blue decals over a white body, the department tried a new color scheme of black decals over a white body on the 26 Dodge Chargers and 11 Dodge Durango K-9 and patrol sergeant SUVs in an attempt to enhance the public's visibility and identification of marked police first responder units.

Towards the latter part of year, the department purchased one black Dodge Charger and decaled the unit in a white color scheme.



This is an ongoing attempt to make the patrol cruisers and other first responder vehicles more visible to the public.

## METRO VICE, NARCOTICS AND INTELLIGENCE DIVISION

The Metro Vice, Narcotics and Intelligence Division (Metro VNI) is a multi-agency law enforcement partnership involving the El Paso County Sheriff's Office, Colorado Springs Police Department, 4th Judicial District Attorney's Office, Teller County Sheriff's Office, Woodland Park Police Department, Fountain Police Department, the Drug Enforcement Administration, the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms, the Federal Bureau of Investigation and FBI Safe Streets. Metro VNI is also a member of the Rocky Mountain High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA), whose mission is to support the national drug control strategy of reducing drug use in this nation.

Metro VNI Street Teams and assigned Federal Task Forces conduct in-depth investigations of street level enforcement activity, major drug trafficking organizations and gangs involved in drug trafficking and money laundering operations throughout El Paso and Teller Counties. This includes the sharing of criminal intelligence information with all federal, state and local law enforcement agencies. Street Teams are primarily responsible for general narcotics, vice and prostitution investigations throughout the 4th Judicial District.

Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) Task Force officers routinely work complex conspiracy narcotic investigations, as well as undercover investigations. These investigations often involve Title III investigations that require coordination with other federal, state and local law enforcement agencies. Much of this coordination requires the members to travel out of Colorado Springs and El Paso County.

The following two cases are just small examples of the excellent results from the team effort put forth between the federal task force officers and the Street Teams of Metro VNI:

Between May 2011 and June 2012, agents with the Metro VNI Division initiated what would become a lengthy investigation into a Colorado Springs-based heroin trafficking organization. During the course of their investigation, detectives made a series of undercover purchases and identified several individuals associated with the organization. In March 2012, investigators from the Drug Enforcement Administration Colorado Springs Resident Office (CSRO) Group II and FBI Safe Streets Task Force began an independent investigation into a regional heroin organization. The ensuing investigation quickly revealed links to the local group operating in Colorado Springs. Additionally, rumors had surfaced that the Colorado Springs-based heroin organization was responsible for distributing heroin to local high school students. Through a series of undercover purchases, federal investigators identified several co-conspirators, vehicles and locations utilized by the organization.

On June 5, 2012, the investigation culminated with the arrest of five key members of the heroin organization. Those arrested were found to be in possession of approximately two pounds of heroin, cocaine, firearms and United States currency. In furtherance of the investigation, on June 6, investigators with Metro VNI, DEA and the FBI conducted reversal operations targeting street level heroin distributors and users in Colorado Springs. During the operation, eight adults

and one juvenile were arrested for criminal attempt to possess a Schedule I controlled substance. Additionally, four individuals posing as heroin customers engaged an undercover officer in a threatening manner. Nearby officers quickly detained the four involved individuals and later learned that they were rival heroin distributors intent on robbing the undercover officer. All four were later charged with attempted robbery and conspiracy.

In total, this operation resulted in 19 arrests, the seizure of two pounds of heroin, three ounces of cocaine, three handguns, two vehicles, and \$14,500 in U.S. currency. Of the 19 arrested, eight were under the age of twenty-one.

During 2012, Special Agents and Task Force Officers of the DEA Colorado Springs Resident Office (CSRO) conducted a series of enforcement actions leading to the seizure of large amounts of methamphetamine and drug proceeds. With the assistance of the Police Department's Community Impact Team (COMMIT), a wall-off stop was executed on a suspect from one of these investigations, leading to the seizure of a half-pound of methamphetamine from a vehicle. A search warrant on a residence was then executed that resulted in the seizure of eight pounds of methamphetamine, ten pounds of liquid methamphetamine, \$50,478 in drug proceeds, and a loaded .40 caliber handgun. The liquid methamphetamine was one of the first seizures of the drug in liquid form that has been recovered in our area and could be the start of a new emerging drug trend.



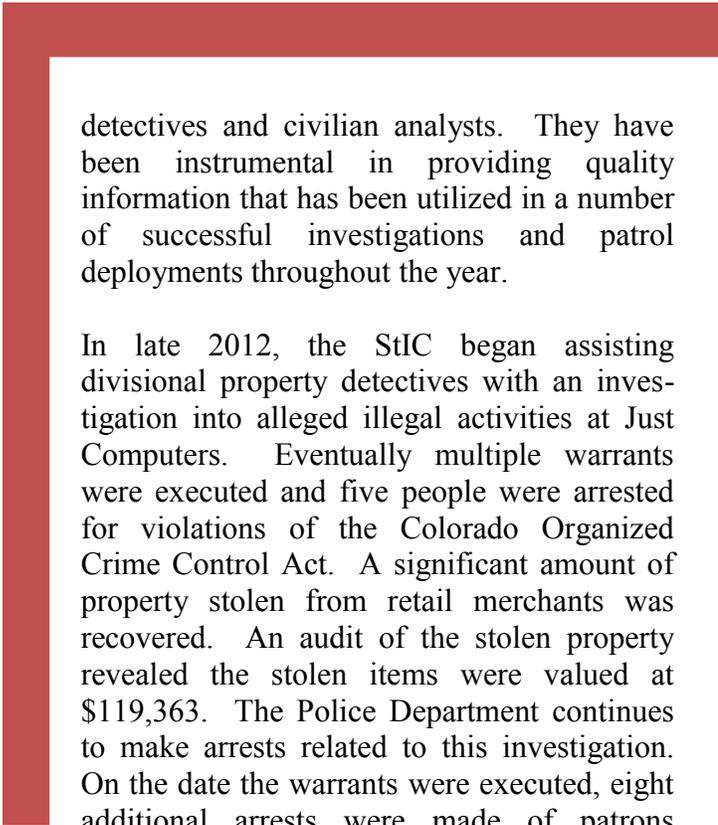
Metro VNI's Special Enforcement Unit (SEU) is primarily responsible for compliance and enforcement audits of the liquor and medical

marijuana industries, to include criminal investigations. Detectives also conduct general narcotics investigations and operations as available and provide support to other narcotics teams.



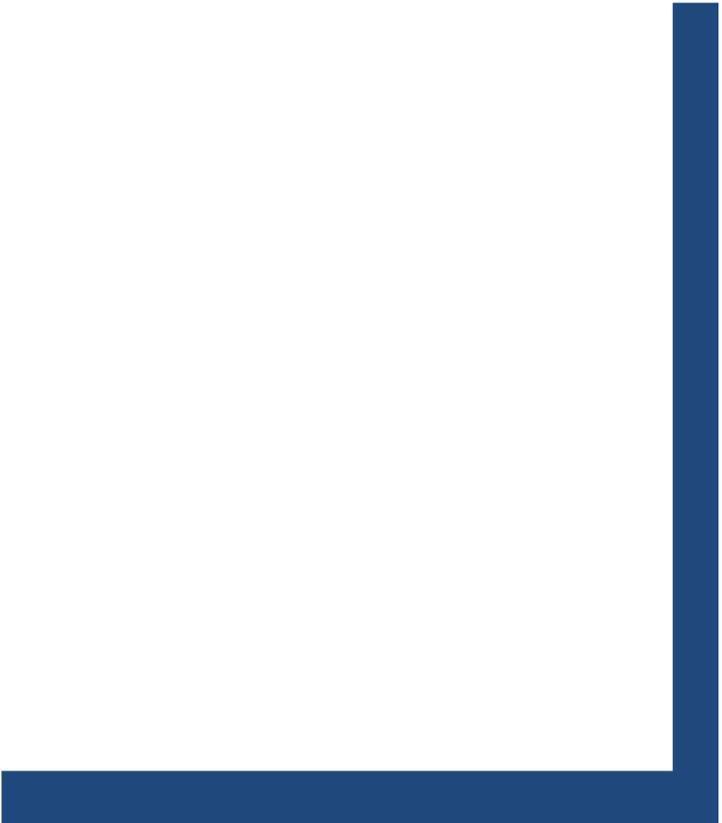
As part of the SEU, liquor compliance and enforcement is conducted by a team of two specialized detectives: one detective from the Colorado Springs Police Department and one detective from the El Paso County Sheriff's Office. The primary goal of the liquor enforcement team is to monitor and enforce the possession, sale and distribution of alcoholic beverages within El Paso County, covering a total of 852 license holders. This unit works in cooperation with the City and County Clerk's Offices, City and County Attorney's Offices, City Liquor Board, the Board of County Commissioners and the Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Board. The unit also maintains a close liaison with the Colorado Department of Revenue's Liquor Enforcement Division.

In support of the philosophy of Intelligence-led Policing, the Strategic Information Center (StIC) was established in 2011 to collect, analyze, investigate and disseminate accurate and timely information regarding criminal activity or other threats in support of the operational, strategic and tactical functions of the Colorado Springs Police Department. StIC personnel consist of intelligence



detectives and civilian analysts. They have been instrumental in providing quality information that has been utilized in a number of successful investigations and patrol deployments throughout the year.

In late 2012, the StIC began assisting divisional property detectives with an investigation into alleged illegal activities at Just Computers. Eventually multiple warrants were executed and five people were arrested for violations of the Colorado Organized Crime Control Act. A significant amount of property stolen from retail merchants was recovered. An audit of the stolen property revealed the stolen items were valued at \$119,363. The Police Department continues to make arrests related to this investigation. On the date the warrants were executed, eight additional arrests were made of patrons attempting to visit the store while police were on scene. These arrests included charges for Counterfeiting, Theft, Failure to Appear and others. This case was an excellent example of cooperation amongst multiple agencies utilizing StIC coordination to have a positive impact on reducing repeat criminal activity.



## SPECIALIZED ENFORCEMENT DIVISION

### Tactical Enforcement Unit



The Tactical Enforcement Unit (TEU) consists of a full-time 12-officer/one-supervisor team that is highly trained and equipped to handle most any high-risk situation. In 2012, TEU deployed on 128 tactical operations that required their expertise, skills and equipment. Ninety-one of the operations were high-risk search warrant executions and joint operations with narcotics detectives, major crimes investigators, FBI, DEA and ATF agents.

The combined tactical operations resulted in:

- ◆ 95 felony and 27 misdemeanor arrests
- ◆ The seizure of over \$682,339 in narcotics
- ◆ The seizure of \$217,184 in property

Weapons seized included:

- ◆ 40 rifles
- ◆ 27 handguns

TEU also responded to 26 critical incident callouts that included situations such as barricaded suspects, hostage situations, or warrants where the danger level prohibited officers from conducting typical warrant

service.

When TEU is not involved in tactical operations, the assigned officers work the Fugitive Apprehension Detail where they made:

- ◆ 212 felony arrests
- ◆ 52 misdemeanor arrests



TEU officers also assist patrol officers in all patrol divisions with handling various calls

for service. TEU provides training and puts together several classes and schools throughout the year. The schools include an annual Special Weapons and Tactics (SWAT)-oriented school for other police agencies in the region, in addition to a SWAT school that is designed to enhance the tactical abilities of CSPD patrol officers and detectives when they respond to a critical incident. In addition, TEU has been active in instructing Rapid Emergency Response to the recruit officers at the Training Academy, as well as various other units within the department and other In-Service training blocks of instruction. TEU officers also put on an Advanced Sniper School, continuing with this class that was first introduced by the unit in 2011.

TEU is responsible for security at various high profile events such as visits by dignitaries. TEU conducted eight high-profile security details in 2012, to include two security details at Colorado College and the U.S. Air Force Academy for President Barack Obama. The unit was also active in the community conducting building risk assessments for a number of City and private buildings, together with assisting with setting up crisis plans to enhance the safety of the employees in these different businesses. TEU officers also took an active role in interacting with various members of the community by conducting static displays, as well as unit familiarization presentations throughout the year.

### CANINE UNIT (K-9)

The Colorado Springs Police Department's Canine Unit includes nine officers with their canine partners and a sergeant.



The Canine Unit supports the patrol divisions, but is available to assist any element of the Police Department or other outside agencies. Special qualifications of canines are their sense of smell, night vision, sensitive hearing and ability to serve as a deterrent to violence against officers. The canine teams are utilized for field searches, suspect tracks, article searches, handler protection and building searches on a consistent basis. They also supplement the TEU by providing assistance on high-risk search warrant executions, barricaded suspects and hostage situations.

The canine teams are used for un-cooperative suspect apprehension and to deter a suspect from attempting escape. The canine teams



are also utilized to assist the TEU in locating suspects who have secreted themselves within a structure. The Canine Unit was involved in all TEU operations during 2012.

In 2012, the Canine Unit saw the retirement of Canine TJ, Canine Gunnar and Canine Kona. Two of these canines were retired due to injury-related issues and were replaced with Canine Broc, Canine Jovi and Canine Diesel. Five of the canine teams are dual-purpose patrol and narcotics certified. As a result,

many resources within the department, as well as other local and federal law enforcement agencies, use these canine teams for special skills. Two of the new canines will be trained for patrol and narcotic detection.

The Canine Unit experienced a change in unit trainers. Officer Andrew Genta was named as the head trainer.



Officer Brian Kelly  
and Canine TJ

The following are some highlights:

In 2012, the Canine Unit:

- ◆ Answered 3,834 calls for service
- ◆ Conducted 72 building searches
- ◆ Conducted 128 field searches
- ◆ Conducted 55 scent detections
- ◆ Made 135 misdemeanor arrests
- ◆ Made 273 felony arrests
- ◆ Made 37 burglary arrests
- ◆ Made 17 robbery arrests
- ◆ Made 77 canine suspects located
- ◆ Made 13 canine contacts
- ◆ Made 33 recovered firearms
- ◆ Made 38 narcotic related arrests
- ◆ Seized \$1,114,720 in property and US currency for forfeiture

### Regional Explosives Unit

The Colorado Springs Regional Explosives Unit is an ancillary unit and includes members from the Colorado Springs Police Department and the El Paso County Sheriff's Office.



In 2012, the Explosives Unit has one full-time coordinator, and the remainder of the team includes officers and deputies with other full-time responsibilities with their respective agencies. The unit is the primary responding bomb squad for Homeland Security in the South Central Region which encompasses five counties: Chaffee, El Paso, Lake, Park and Teller, as well as the Colorado Springs Metropolitan area. However, due to the limited number of geographically positioned certified bomb squads within the state of Colorado, the Colorado Springs Regional Explosives Unit provides services to approximately 33 counties in the southern part of Colorado.

In 2012, The Colorado Springs Regional Explosives Unit conducted 95 operational deployments, up from 90 in 2011 and 78 in 2010. These operations included:

- ◆ Suspicious packages
- ◆ Pipe bombs
- ◆ Chemical bottle bombs
- ◆ Found explosives
- ◆ Recovered military ordnance
- ◆ Hoax devices
- ◆ IEDs
- ◆ Support for the El Paso County SWAT team and the Colorado Springs Tactical

Enforcement Unit. During 2012, the Unit also provided support to the Colorado State Patrol, Transportation Security Administration (TSA), FBI, ATF, Secret Service and Ft. Carson EOD.

2012 was also a national election year, and visits by several candidates and VIPs kept the Explosives Unit busy providing security and explosives-related sweeps and subject matter expert input into protection details.



During 2012, the Explosives Unit continued to focus on training and mission response in the Pikes Peak area and South Central Homeland Security Region (SCR).

The Regional Explosives Unit is seen as a leader in the civilian EOD community due to the dedication of personnel within both agencies that have given their time and dedication to make the Colorado Springs Regional Explosives Unit a highly successful and progressive team. The Explosives Unit also credits its success to its partnerships with a multitude of local, state and federal agencies that all collaborate to help the unit meet and exceed expectations and goals.

### Community Impact Team

During 2012, the Community Impact Team (COMMIT) continued its mission to proactively investigate and interdict gang-related crime. The unit consists of one sergeant and six detectives. COMMIT continued to work in partnership with the FBI Safe Streets Task Force, ATF Task Force and the Drug Enforcement Administration to enhance their ability to target local and regional criminal gang activity and subse-

quently pursue federal prosecution. Several cases were considered and prosecuted by the US Attorney's Office involving narcotic and firearms offenses committed by active violent gang members. COMMIT routinely assists the Violent Crimes Unit with homicide and serious assault investigations.

Working in partnership with federal agencies, local agencies, as well as CSPD specialized units, several significant investigations occurred during 2012, which targeted violent criminals and gang members and culminated in the dismantling of:

- ◆ Cocaine trafficking organizations
- ◆ Methamphetamine trafficking organizations
- ◆ Firearm criminal enterprises resulting in the seizure of 92 firearms
- ◆ \$503,004 in illegal narcotics seizures
- ◆ \$14,532 in US currency seized
- ◆ 129 felony arrests
- ◆ 86 misdemeanor arrests

An important component of COMMIT's mission statement is education, as well as prevention. COMMIT detectives conducted several presentations throughout the year for various community organizations regarding gang presence and activity within the City of Colorado Springs. These presentations provided a venue for information sharing and nurturing community partnerships to prevent gang recruitment and reduce gang crimes in the City. This includes COMMIT's ongoing development of Teen Court and partnerships with the military and its education into gang activity and recognition.

## Waldo Canyon Fire



The Waldo Canyon Fire started approximately four miles northwest of Colorado Springs, Colorado on June 23, 2012. The fire was active in the Pike National Forest and eventually progressed into the northwest area of Colorado Springs, covering a total of 29 square miles and 18,247 acres. Over 32,000 residents were evacuated during the fire, including those from Colorado Springs, Manitou Springs and Woodland Park, several small mountain communities along Highway 24, and parts of the United States Air Force Academy. A total of 347 homes (all in northwest Colorado Springs) were destroyed by the fire. U.S. Highway 24, a major east/west road, was closed in both directions. The Waldo Canyon Fire was declared a National Disaster and was the most expensive fire in Colorado State history. The Waldo Canyon Fire was declared 100% contained on July 10, 2012.

As initial attack efforts were underway on June 23, the Colorado Springs Emergency Operations Center (CSEOC) was activated and a mandatory evacuation was ordered for the Cedar Heights neighborhood. Fifteen CSPD officers responded to the Cedar Heights community and performed door-to-door evacuation notifications at nearly 213 homes, evacuating over 400 residents. The

Colorado Springs Fire and Police Departments, along with the Office of Emergency Management (OEM), developed further evacuation zones and management action points based on fire behavior. At this time, numerous CSPD personnel were assigned to evacuation teams, the CSFD Incident Command Post and the CSEOC.

The first American Red Cross (ARC) shelter was opened at Cheyenne Mountain High School, in coordination with the Colorado Springs Community Animal Response Team (CART). CSPD employees assumed a leadership and management role for the CART and worked extremely hard to make certain that those who were evacuated had a secure and safe place to shelter their pets.

The weather conditions continued to be hot and dry with erratic winds causing the fire to spread rapidly to the northwest and south. During mid-afternoon, southern Mountain Shadows was issued a mandatory evacuation order, bringing the total number of Colorado Springs evacuees to approximately 2,300. CSPD officers once again were called into action and conducted door-to-door evacuations and established a perimeter with traffic control points and a security patrol for both the Cedar Heights and southern Mountain Shadows neighborhoods.

As the fire continued to grow over the next few days, CSPD officers maintained 24-hour security patrols and perimeter control in both southern Mountain Shadows and Cedar Heights. A CSPD Incident Command Post (ICP) was eventually permanently established at the Falcon Division, where all law enforcement operations were conducted. Additional CSPD personnel, both sworn and civilian, were assigned to CSEOC to support the law enforcement operations and to plan for future evacuations and staffing needs.

Shortly after 4:00 p.m. on June 26, the Waldo Canyon Fire reached the top of Queen's Canyon. Queen's Canyon was the management action point for mandatory evacuation; and therefore, a mandatory evacuation of northern Mountain Shadows/Peregrine



was issued by Mayor Bach at 4:21 p.m. At the same time, the weather was becoming more problematic

as a large thunderstorm column was developing to the west of northern Mountain Shadows. Winds were becoming strong and gusting hard. Between 5:07 p.m. and 5:11 p.m., the thunderstorm column collapsed and 65 mile per hour winds drove the fire rapidly east and downhill into Colorado Springs. Active fire within the northern Mountain Shadows/Peregrine area led to additional mandatory evacuations of several adjacent neighborhoods during the evening hours, including north Rockrimmon, southeast Rockrimmon, south Pope's Valley and Kissing Camels. On June 26 alone, the fire grew from 4,500 acres to 15,622 acres, with 1,516 acres within the Colorado Springs City limits.



On that unforgettable night, over 100 CSPD officers, with the assistance of some of our

law enforcement partners, rapidly deployed to the northern Mountain Shadows neighborhood and safely evacuated nearly 28,000 citizens. In extremely dangerous and incredibly challenging conditions, CSPD officers heroically conducted door-to-door evacuations, rescued citizens that were unable to evacuate on their own, controlled and directed thousands of vehicles away from the fire, and assisted firefighters by protecting structures and putting out flames.



Officers tirelessly worked throughout the evening, in elements that were unprecedented, to provide safety and security to all the evacuated families. Once evacuations were complete, CSPD officers maintained security patrols inside the evacuated area and changed the security perimeter and traffic control points to contain the entire evacuated perimeter, which had grown immensely.

In the days following the fire engulfing the northwest part of the City, CSPD received much needed support and assistance maintaining the fire perimeter and performing roaming security patrols within the perimeter from many law enforcement partners, including the Colorado National Guard. A 12-hour shift for all sworn officers and the Communications Center personnel





was implemented to provide adequate coverage for the Waldo Canyon Fire and also to continue to provide law enforcement services to the rest of the City. Tragically, two victims died in the fire and the CSPD Violent Crimes Unit initiated a death investigation. Violent Crimes Unit detectives were also tasked with locating numerous citizens that were unaccounted for or had been reported missing. Both the CSPD ICP and the CSEOC remained fully staffed and continued 24-hour operations.

After June 26, the fire only grew by a few hundred acres and no additional evacuations were needed. As evacuated neighborhoods were made safe, citizens whose homes were not destroyed were allowed to return home and the security perimeters were adjusted accordingly. By July 7, all evacuated areas were declared safe. Because of Chief Carey's concern for the safety and security of residents of Mountain Shadows, CSPD continued a limited number of check points and security patrols for several weeks after the fire.

The Waldo Canyon Fire was an historic event that demanded the best from all members of the Colorado Springs Police Department. CSPD employees displayed their unwavering dedication to the citizens of Colorado Springs, and to the organization. The Waldo Canyon Fire tested the department's ability to respond to a catastrophic event, and because of the commitment and quality of CSPD's employees, the organization provided the Colorado Springs community with excellent service at a time when it was needed the most.





# PATROL OPERATIONS BUREAU

## PUBLIC SAFETY COMMUNICATIONS CENTER



The Colorado Springs Public Safety Communications Center is responsible for answering 911 calls, as well as non-emergency calls for police, fire and medical services within the City of Colorado Springs. In addition, the Center also answers all 911 cell phone calls in El Paso County. In 2012, this amounted to over 600,000 incoming phone calls. Those calls resulted in over 270,000 police calls for service and over 50,000 fire and medical calls for service.

The Center's allotted staffing includes 37 Emergency Response Technicians, 44 Public Safety Dispatchers, one Tape Specialist, one Training Coordinator, six Supervisors and one Manager. The Center operates under a 24/7 flexible staffing module that allows for higher staffing levels during peak call volume times. The Center has spent much of 2012 putting new employees through an extensive training program in order to attempt to reach its full staffing levels. This effort will continue in 2013.

April is the time when the center celebrates National Telecommunicator Week. This year, Public Safety Dispatcher Ronda Steckler and Emergency Response Technician Anne Marie

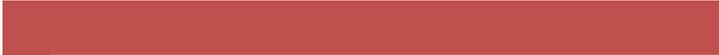
Springfield were recognized as the 2012 Telecommunicators of the Year. Public Safety Dispatcher Jason Shald was awarded the Walt Mercer Morale Award and Public Safety Dispatcher Jenna Chavez was awarded the Kathy Fiorillo Leadership Award. All of these employees were recognized by their peers for their commitment to professionalism, excellence, teamwork and leadership.

The Center remains an Accredited Center of Excellence through the International Academy of Emergency Dispatch and will be up for reaccreditation in 2013. Employees continue to work hard in between accreditations making sure they maintain their protocol compliance scores and keep up with all of the continued education and training required for reaccreditation.

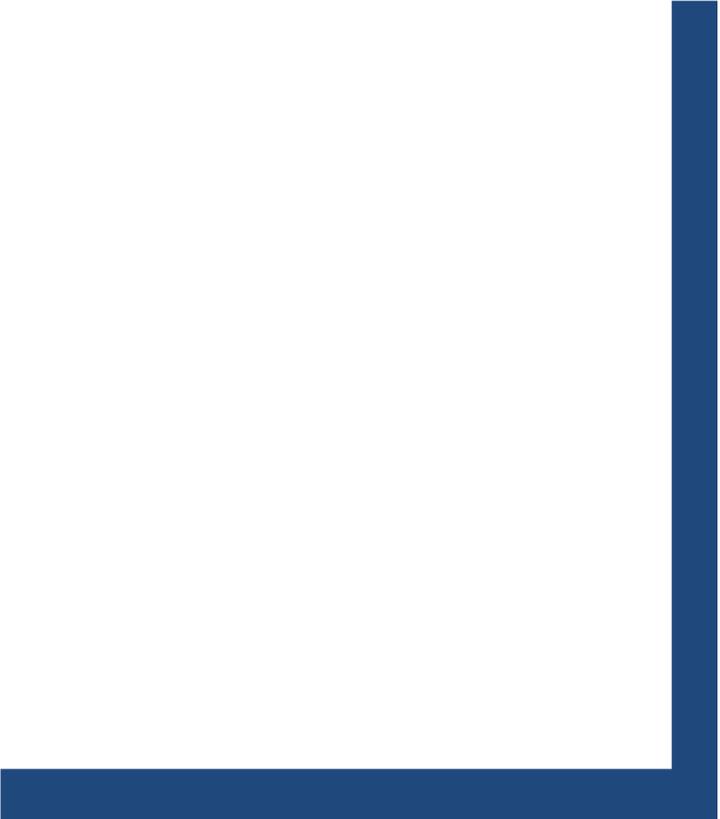
In October of 2012, the Center was recognized as Colorado's Communication Center of the Year by the Colorado Association of Public Safety Communications Officials (APCO) for their work during the Waldo Canyon Fire.

2012 was also a year that was dedicated to specific training in regards to missing and exploited children. The Center is now recognized as a 911 Call Center Partner with the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children.

2012 was a pivotal year that saw the Communication Center handle a fire unlike Colorado had never seen. Each and every employee showed their dedication to the job by showing up early, staying late and pulling together as a team to accomplish a common goal.



The Colorado Springs Public Safety Communications Center continues to lead the industry by being in the forefront of efficient, timely and accurate emergency communications. The Center is dedicated to remaining focused on 911 policy, emerging technologies and educational opportunities.



## FALCON DIVISION



### Community Service Officer (CSO) Program

During 2012, the Falcon Division spearheaded the expansion of the department's Community Service Officer (CSO) Program. CSOs are non-sworn, unarmed, civilian employees who handle a variety of police-related calls for service. Examples of their duties include initiating police reports, tagging abandoned vehicles and providing traffic control at traffic accident scenes. At the beginning of 2012, the program consisted of two full-time CSOs, both working at the Falcon Division. In April, two more full-time CSOs were hired, and in August an additional 14 part-time CSOs joined the department. Shortly thereafter, CSOs began working in all four patrol divisions located throughout the City. The goal of the CSO program is to provide responsive, personal service to crime victims, as well as to free up sworn police officers to respond to higher priority calls for service.

CSOs attend a four-week training academy and take classes in subjects such as ethics, problem solving, statutory requirements,

communication skills, report writing and data base familiarization. They are taught self-defense and de-escalation skills for personal safety. Upon completion of the training academy, CSOs complete a five-week field training phase. Once training is completed, each CSO begins working independently.



From January 1 to September 30, 2012, the four full-time CSOs initiated 322 police reports involving a variety of crimes. From October 1 to December 31, 2012, the CSO Unit as a whole initiated 1,042 case reports while handling approximately 1,550 calls for service.

## **“Leading in Police Organizations” (LPO) Training**

During 2012, Lieutenant David Edmondson of the Falcon Division continued to serve as the department’s primary instructor for the “Leading in Police Organizations” training course. This intensive course is a comprehensive program that covers 30 police leadership, supervision and management related topics.

The content is divided into four areas that are taught sequentially over three weeks. The course explores leadership at four different levels:

- ◆ The Individual System (Leading Individuals)
- ◆ The Group System (Leading Groups)
- ◆ The Leadership System (The Leaders)
- ◆ The Organizational System (Leading Organizations)

Lt. Edmondson is a state level instructor utilized by the Colorado Association of Chiefs of Police to teach the LPO course locally and at other venues in the state. In 2012, Lt. Edmondson coordinated a local course that was attended by 14 CSPD supervisors and 16 supervisors from outside agencies. He also taught two additional LPO courses in Pueblo and Castle Rock.

## **Adopt-A-School**

Mayor Steve Bach and his wife Suzi hosted a “Call to Action” for the Adopt-A-School program on March 29, 2012. This meeting was held at Fire Station 8 on Airport Road. The Adopt-A-School program collaborates with Ft. Carson personnel to provide mentoring and tutoring to students in local schools. In 2012, military personnel and CSPD command staff members interacted

with students from 35 local schools. CSPD participation in the program was coordinated by Falcon Division Commander Fletcher Howard.

## **“Kids First” Safety Fair**

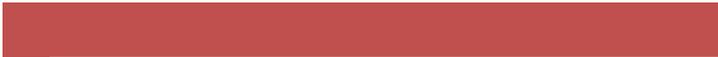
In August, the Falcon Division Citizens’ Advisory Committee sponsored the “Kids First” Safety Fair at Chapel Hills Mall. Many vendors and agencies participated in this community event. CSPD Crime Prevention Officers gave presentations, facilitated fingerprinting of children and performed child car seat safety checks. The event included visits from Smokey the Bear, McGruff the Crime Dog and Sparkey. Equipment displays were also provided by CSPD’s Tactical Enforcement Unit, K-9 Unit, Bomb Unit and Community Service Officers. Other agencies, including the Colorado Springs Fire Department and American Medical Response also participated.

## **“Take 25 Campaign” and KidPower of Colorado**

The “Take 25 Campaign” encourages parents of children to take 25 minutes out of their day to speak with their kids on safety issues and/or other topics that the kids want to discuss. The event was co-sponsored by the 4th Judicial District Attorney’s Office and the Falcon Division of CSPD. KidPower of Colorado also participated. Stickers and information on child safety was distributed during the event and was attended by approximately 250 kids and their parents.

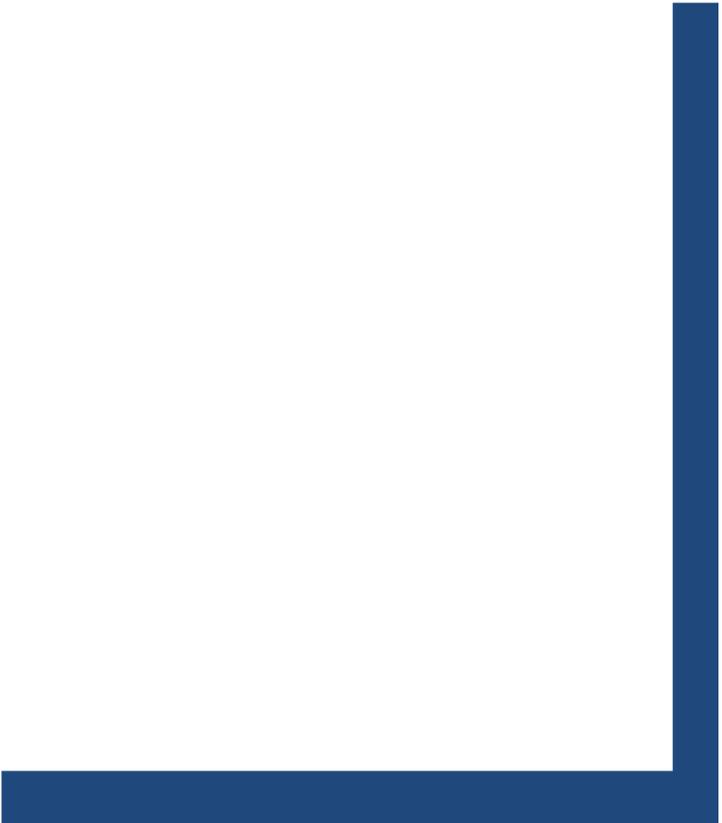
## **DUI Enforcement**

The CSPD DUI Unit includes eight full-time officers dedicated to the enforcement of DUI



laws and the apprehension of impaired drivers who represent a considerable traffic safety risk to the to the citizens of Colorado Springs. This important function is supported by two Colorado Department of Transportation and National Highway and Traffic Safety Administration grants focused on reducing impaired driving and impaired driving related accidents.

In 2012, CSPD officers made approximately 1,734 arrests as part of its DUI enforcement efforts. The officers assigned to the DUI Unit made 800 of those arrests and 143 arrests were made by officers working high-visibility patrols funded by grants. This productivity earned CSPD the Colorado State “Heat is On” second place award for DUI arrests in 2012.



## GOLD HILL DIVISION



### Public Safety Cameras

The safety and vibrancy of downtown Colorado Springs has long been a focus of the Colorado Springs Police Department. In 2012, a substantial step was taken in leveraging technology to assist our personnel in this endeavor. Thirteen public safety video cameras went live in 2012. This was following a several month process of public input and research in order to find the best possible solution for the needs of Colorado Springs.

The cameras were placed at strategic points around the Tejon Street corridor and Acacia Park. Locations were determined by crime and calls for service data. The system uses a combination of pan/tilt/zoom (PTZ) and fixed placement cameras to provide the best coverage possible. The PTZ cameras allow an operator to move the cameras to best capture the criminal or suspicious activity that they are observing.



The Public Safety Camera System has been almost exclusively staffed with a dedicated group of volunteers. These valuable members of the organization have undergone an extensive background check and training to be part of this exciting program. The volunteers have also been flexible and have signed up for shifts to include late night and early morning shifts.



The true impact of the cameras is yet to be determined. However, the officers assigned to the areas that contain cameras have already used the images captured by the cameras as valuable evidence in several criminal investigations ranging from narcotics sales to assaults. The camera system has been well received by the downtown merchants and there are already several inquiries about expanding the system with the use of public/private partnerships.

### West Colorado Avenue

In 2012, the area known as “No Man’s Land” began to receive a lot of attention due to escalating concerns from business owners and residents. This unique area along West Colorado Avenue contains many areas of unincorporated El Paso County mixed with areas that are in the City limits of Colorado Springs. For years, jurisdictional issues have presented problems regarding enforcement strategies for the officers and deputies who work the area.

In response to the concerns, CSPD has been an active partner in the “Avenue Task Force” or ATF. This group includes business owners, residents, law enforcement officers and elected officials. These individuals came together to identify and proactively address specific problems.

As a result of its involvement in the ATF, CSPD has forged a strong partnership with the El Paso County Sheriff’s Office and Manitou Springs Police Department. The three agencies continue to share information and conduct joint enforcement in the area. In addition, the Gold Hill Division has assigned two officers to permanently patrol the Colorado Avenue corridor. These two officers, the Westside Service and Enforcement Team (WEST), engage the community to better understand the problems and problem areas. They are highly focused on quality of life issues and disorder crimes that tend to be the subject of many concerns. They conduct foot and bike patrols in addition



to traditional vehicle patrols. The Homeless Outreach Team also dedicates time each week to the Colorado Avenue area in order to stay on

top of many of the homeless camps and issues that affect the area.

### **Impact Team**

In 2012, the Gold Hill Division was home to the CSPD Impact Team. This team was primarily focused on commodity metal investigations (such as copper) and consisted of three detectives and a sergeant. Commodity metal theft was an issue that negatively affects all of Colorado Springs. In

2011, the monetary loss to the community due to commodity metal theft was 2.25 million dollars. The Impact Team formed valuable relationships with our local scrap metal businesses. These relationships led to the formation of systematic ways to track individuals who were selling suspected stolen commodity metal on a regular basis and developed an element of trust between the metal dealers and the Police Department. This effort, along with intensive investigations led to the arrest of 97 individuals and the clearance of 105 cases. The monetary loss was cut nearly in half from 2011 to 2012.

## SAND CREEK DIVISION



### **Fountain and Chelton Partnership**

In 2012, apartment managers in the area of Fountain Boulevard and Chelton Road approached the Colorado Springs Police Department requesting help coordinating a meeting between stakeholders in the area and the Police Department. The managers wanted to discuss issues in that area and share ideas about how to reduce crime and improve quality of life.

Sand Creek Division Crime Prevention Officer Lori Torrini organized the first meeting that took place on October 24 at the Colorado Springs Police Department Sand Creek Division. The group shared ideas and issues about the Fountain and Chelton area, which has traditionally been a high call for service area for law enforcement. The group agreed to meet regularly and work with each other, law enforcement and other agencies in order to reduce crime and improve the quality of life for the citizens living and working in the area.

The Sand Creek Division continued to facilitate the meetings that led to the forma-

tion of the Fountain and Chelton Partnership. The group is organized in a manner that should benefit everyone in the area and leave options open for how much or how little individuals or businesses would like to be involved. The Partnership is working with the State of Colorado on paperwork to form an official non-profit Neighborhood & Business Organization that will have a Board of Directors and voting members who will pay dues. Money collected will be used for improvements in the area as approved by the group. The Partnership also includes those who would like to be involved without the commitment of paying dues or being on the official membership roster. Anyone from the area is welcome to attend meetings and provide input to the group and keep informed.



The City of Colorado Springs has many other neighborhood and business organizations, but this is the first time anyone has tried to form a group in the Fountain and Chelton area. Although still in its infancy, response has been favorable and the group continues to build its structure as an organization.

### **Casa Grande Project**

From January 1 to June 25, Sand Creek officers responded to 92 calls for service at Casa Grande Bar, the majority of which were disturbances or weapons related calls. Shift

III officers initiated a Problem-Oriented Policing Project to address the problems at this bar.

CSPD resources were utilized such as StIC, VNI, Crime Prevention, Espanol Service Program (ESP) translators, DUI officers and more to conduct research and plan deployments. Deployments were conducted and involved on-duty patrol officers, overtime patrol officers, DUI officers (paid for by a DUI grant), VNI detectives, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Agency (ICE) agents and ESP volunteer translators. Officers were in marked and unmarked vehicles and also patrolled the area on foot in an attempt to identify criminal activity.

As a result of seven deployments, ESP volunteers assisted with 45 Spanish translations where 32 traffic tickets were issued, 10 DUI arrests were made, 18 Field Interview Report (FIR) cards were completed, 11 liquor violations were found, three narcotic seizures were conducted, two people were arrested on misdemeanor warrants, and one person was arrested on a felony warrant. ICE Agents participated in the project and officers arrested a suspect who had been wanted for several homicides in Mexico. Officers generated calls for service while working the project, but once the project was completed, data showed calls for service declined significantly. In October 2012, there were three calls for service; and in November 2012, there was only one call for service. Neighbors living in the area, bar patrons and surrounding business owners were pleased with this response. This is an example of how officers can be proactive to serve the citizens of this community and address problems instead of just being reactive.

## Hail Storm

The evening of June 6, Colorado Springs was hit with what Mayor Bach called a 100-year storm. Within a two-hour period starting around 7:30 p.m., 911 received 600 calls for help. Approximately 40 rescues were carried out; many of those rescued were trapped in or on top of their vehicles. Power had been cut to much of the City including the Sand Creek Substation. The intersection of Chelton and Santa Rosa near The Citadel Mall was hit particularly hard. This intersection quickly filled with four to six feet of hail and rain and submerged vehicles, some with occupants.



Several officers and citizens had to wade or swim through strong currents of freezing water and hail to rescue victims from vehicles.

Officers braved not only the ice-cold water, but also the inability to see what was below the water. The hail floating on top made it

impossible to see obstacles such as curbs, mailboxes, etc. At some points, the hail was so large and fell with such force, officers risked injury from being hit in the head and face. While ignoring the pain of being pelted with hail, officers continued to pull people out of, or off of, vehicles being flooded in the rising icy river. In one case, the hail was freezing solid around a citizen as he and the officer attempted to get out of the flooded intersection. The officer had to use a pan to dig the hail from around them to slowly work their way to safety.



Several citizens also showed their community spirit. Residents in the flooded area allowed strangers to come into their homes for warmth and provided towels, blankets, warm drinks and food. In another flooded intersection, a group of Biker Church members provided traffic control for hours, under the eye of a Sand Creek sergeant, keeping other citizens safe.

Numerous awards and commendations were presented to Sand Creek officers and citizens for their heroic efforts to save citizens from injury or worse.

## Swimming the English Channel

On July 25, Sand Creek Officer Katie Benoit was successful in swimming the English Channel in



13 hours and 13 minutes. While the route Officer Benoit was aiming for was 21 miles, she said her actual swim was closer to 36 miles. What makes this open-water swim particularly challenging are the variable conditions of the water – from mirror smooth to winds of 25-31 miles per hour and wave heights in excess of six feet, cold water that averages 57-64° F in July, strong tides that pull swimmers off course, together with the chance of running into jellyfish, seaweed and debris. When asked by a reporter why she would put herself through such an ordeal, Officer Benoit laughingly replied, “I never asked myself why.”

By completing the English Channel swim, Officer Benoit joined an exclusive marathon swimming club known as the Triple Crown of Open Water Swimming. She previously completed swims across the Catalina Channel in California and the Manhattan Island Marathon Mile, a swim around Manhattan Island.

## Shooting/Pursuit

On Saturday, April 7, at approximately 9:15 a.m., a citizen notified CSPD of a suspicious vehicle, stating there were several male parties inside the vehicle sitting in front of businesses in a strip mall. Officers were dispatched to the area; and upon arrival, the suspect vehicle fled from the parking lot. Officers attempted a traffic stop on the vehicle, at which time it accelerated to a high rate of speed. A pursuit was initiated and during the pursuit, an occupant of the suspect

vehicle fired numerous rounds at pursuing officers from an assault rifle. The suspect continued to fire over 20 rounds, striking at least one police vehicle and one citizen's vehicle throughout the pursuit. The general route the suspect vehicle took was on main roads that are highly traveled by citizens. The suspect vehicle drove through the parking lot of several businesses where two CSPD officers on foot returned fire, striking the suspect vehicle. Eventually, a CSPD officer used a police vehicle to strike the suspect's vehicle. The suspect vehicle left the roadway, went through a wooden privacy fence and a chain link fence before coming to rest in the back yard of a residence. Two adult suspects were taken into custody. A third suspect was located and taken into custody during a check of the area a short time later. An assault rifle was recovered at the scene of the crash.

The preliminary investigation determined the three suspects were driving a vehicle that had been reported stolen in Colorado Springs. The investigation further determined the suspects were preparing to commit an armed robbery at a local business. All three suspects were initially arrested for charges including Attempted Murder of a Peace Officer, Attempted Aggravated Robbery and Felony Vehicular Eluding. During this incident, there were no injuries to members of the public or officers.

### **Traffic Stop Leads to Multiple Charges**

On June 1 at 10:22 p.m., Officer Marcus Yanez was on routine patrol when he saw the same vehicle he had stopped for fictitious plates earlier in the year, with the same plate and same driver. It appeared to Officer Yanez that the vehicle was still displaying fictitious plates and the driver still did not have a driver's license. Officer Yanez conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle and contacted the

driver who admitted he had warrants and still did not have a driver's license. Officer Yanez secured the male in his cruiser while he confirmed the warrants and driver's license status. When Officer Yanez returned to the suspect vehicle to secure the driver's door, he noticed live ammunition in the front seat of the vehicle. Officer Yanez returned to his cruiser and asked the male if he was a convicted felon. The male admitted he was. Officer Yanez contacted ATF and was instructed to impound the vehicle. During an inventory search, Officer Yanez recovered a loaded handgun, approximately 30 grams of methamphetamine and \$1,300 in currency. Additionally, numerous items of stolen property were recovered. Due to this self-initiated activity, Officer Yanez successfully removed a twice-convicted felon in possession of a handgun from the streets of Colorado Springs, along with narcotics and stolen property.

### **Community Animal Rescue Team**



During the 2012 Waldo Canyon Fire, June 24 - July 4, Sand Creek Crime Prevention Officer Lori A. Torrini acted as the CART/AER Branch Director.

The City of Colorado Springs Community Animal Response Team (CART) was active

24 hours a day, seven days a week during the Waldo Canyon Fire, running a companion animal shelter concurrently with the American Red Cross Shelter at the Cheyenne Mountain High School.

In addition, CART staffed the Animal Emergency Response function at the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) 24/7 during this same time period. One to three people staffed the EOC 24/7 and anywhere from four to 20 people staffed the shelter 24/7. The CART team accommodated cats, dogs, birds, turtles, reptiles, guinea pigs, hamsters, and rabbits during the deployment and provided resources for equines. The team was responsible for the safety, security and supervision of 145 civilian volunteers who cared for 155 animals at the CART shelter during the 10-day deployment.



CART volunteer Carmen Sourell  
with 4-year old Oliver

## STETSON HILLS DIVISION



The Stetson Hills Division serves a population of approximately 120,000 citizens and covers approximately 64 square miles.

The Stetson Hills Area Command provides police services to northeastern Colorado Springs. Patrol services provided include, but are not limited to, the following:

- ◆ Patrolling City streets while responding to emergency calls and taking care of other police service needs
- ◆ Addressing traffic safety concerns through education, identifying engineering issues and enforcement
- ◆ Providing crime prevention programs to include safety assessments, public awareness presentations and Neighborhood Watch
- ◆ Division detectives conduct investigations involving persons and property crimes
- ◆ GangNet supervisors and officers actively participate in activities targeting gang issues
- ◆ Citizen Advisory Committee members work with police personnel to address community concerns

In 2012, Stetson Hills Division personnel

responded to the following calls for service:

- ◆ 12,726 Priority 1 (highest priority) calls for service
- ◆ 4,731 Priority 2 calls for service
- ◆ 21,954 Priority 3 calls for service
- ◆ 22,208 Priority 4 calls for service
- ◆ Calls for service totaled 61,619 representing 23% of the total calls for service citywide

### Calls for Service

Stetson Hills officers responded to a variety of calls for service. The following are just a few examples of the different types of calls:

- ◆ On January 30, officers from the Sand Creek Division were notified of a missing at-risk 26 year-old female. Officers searched houses, attempted to trace her cell phone, and contacted the local media for assistance. The female was not located and the search was halted due to lack of leads. On January 31, Officer James Waters was dispatched to Goodwill Industries to follow-up on the missing girl. Officer Waters began developing information and was eventually able to locate the missing girl. It was determined that as Officer Waters was developing information, different people were contacting the suspect and informing her of Officer Waters' progress. That scared the suspect into dropping the female off outside of a local Burger King restaurant. Officer Waters interviewed the girl and established enough information to arrest the suspect for a variety of charges.

- ◆ On July 14, Officer Christian McEvoy became involved in an investigation involving a personal robbery. Officer McEvoy was able to develop suspect information even though there was very little information provided by the victim. He conducted photo line-ups to positively identify the suspect, obtained an arrest warrant, obtained a full confession from the first suspect, and took him into custody. During the confession, Officer McEvoy developed a level of trust with the suspect; and as a result, he was able to identify the second suspect involved in this investigation. Officer McEvoy again conducted a photo line-up to positively identify the second suspect and was able to get an arrest warrant for Aggravated Robbery. Both suspects were taken into custody without further incident.

- ◆ On September 7, Officer Clarence Moore was dispatched to an identity theft call for service. The victim advised she had allowed an adult relative to move in with her since he and his live-in girlfriend had fallen on hard financial times. Soon after moving in, the victim noticed the male and female suspect were purchasing expensive items. Since it appeared they could afford to pay rent elsewhere, she asked them to move out. After the suspects left, the victim discovered the suspects had stolen items, to include credit cards and had used the cards to make purchases. Officer Moore worked with the victim and soon discovered over \$10,000 in credit card transactions had occurred. Officer Moore worked diligently on the investigation tracking down surveillance video and other evidence. Officer Moore obtained an arrest warrant for both the male and female suspect, which led to the arrest of both soon after. During the arrest, the suspects were still in possession of one of

the victim's credit cards.

- ◆ On September 15, officers from the Stetson Hills Division were sent to Copper Mountain Road to investigate a domestic disturbance where a male party had assaulted his wife and then discharged a shotgun in the backyard of the residence. While en-route to the residence, information was received that the male party was an avid hunter, had a large number of shotguns, rifles and handguns and was barricaded in the house. It was further discovered that the male suspect was a Vietnam veteran who suffered from PTSD and had been drinking heavily. As officers were arriving on scene, it was confirmed that the involved female party was outside the home leaning against the house. Officers arrived and were able to convince her to come to their location and away from the home. Once officers had ensured the female's safety, they were able to contain the suspect, who was still inside the home, utilizing excellent containment positions that allowed them to see the suspect's residence. On two separate occasions, officers observed the suspect moving inside the residence with a long gun in his hand. Officers assigned to the front containment positions situated themselves using vehicles and shields and ensured the suspect did not escape containment. After negotiating with the suspect, he was eventually taken into custody without further incident.

### **Traffic Enforcement**

In 2012, members of the Stetson Hills Division:

- ◆ Issued approximately 7,850 traffic citations
- ◆ Made 451 DUI arrests

## Criminal Investigations

Throughout 2012, the Stetson Hills Property Detective Unit worked diligently to solve multiple crimes. The following are statistical results and narrative descriptions of some of their cases:

◆ Cases Assigned	501
◆ Cases Cleared	436
◆ Cases Unfounded	12
◆ Cases w/Exceptional Clearance	20
◆ Cases Closed / No Arrest	31
◆ Cases Still Open	2

- ◆ In March 2012, a burglary pattern emerged in the Stetson Hills area where a well-dressed white male would approach homes with advertising flyers in-hand to determine if anyone was home. Neighbors were not suspicious of the person due to his manner of dress and he appeared to be a salesperson. If no one was home, the suspect would force entry through a back door and steal jewelry and prescription pills. The suspect's photograph was captured by a home surveillance camera and a witness stated he was driving a purple VW convertible.

Patrol officers identified the suspect who was later stopped by an EPSO deputy on October 31. Investigators responded to the traffic stop and recovered a significant amount of stolen jewelry. Subsequent interviews with the suspect resulted in the filing of 15 Burglary cases. During the investigation, detectives learned the suspect had also stolen \$15,000 from an at risk adult by stealing and forging her checks. The suspect pled guilty to Burglary, Theft and Identity Theft.

- ◆ On September 14, Detective Garcia received a call from officers at the Sand Creek Division advising they had a female

suspect in custody who he had been investigating. The female said she wanted to speak with Detective Garcia about another suspect he was investigating for residential and motor vehicle burglaries. Detective Garcia interviewed the female and learned she had been involved in burglaries, the sale of methamphetamine and other crimes. That same day, two search warrants were conducted and several guns were recovered to include a WWII era M-1 carbine along with two grams of methamphetamine and a \$5,000 Walmart hand-held computer pricing machine.

On September 18, Detective Koch contacted Detective Garcia and advised him the Violent Crimes Unit had detained the male suspect he was looking for while investigating another incident. The male suspect was brought to the Stetson Hills Division where Detective Garcia interviewed him concerning the burglary, the sale of the carbine and his escape from Community Alternative of El Paso County, an alternative residential sentencing option. The suspect admitted involvement in some of the crimes.

Having interviewed the suspect on previous occasions, Detective Garcia had established a good rapport with him. The suspect advised Detective Garcia that he had information about a homicide, including names of witnesses. Violent Crimes Unit detectives were contacted and conducted an interview with the suspect. The detectives said all the information the suspect provided concerning the homicide/missing person case was verified and later substantiated by another witness.

- ◆ In December 2012, Detective Laurich investigated a crime pattern involving



vehicle burglaries in which the victims' stolen checks were being cashed shortly after the commission of the crime. During the investigation, four suspects were identified. Detective Laurich worked with Sand Creek and Gold Hill property detectives, as well as the Metal Theft detectives, to share information about the suspects. Detective Yeager connected the suspects to metal thefts and Detective Jacobsen and Detective Wohlbach connected the group to vehicle burglaries, motor vehicle thefts and identity thefts citywide. Eventually eight felony cases were solved as a result of the citywide investigation.

