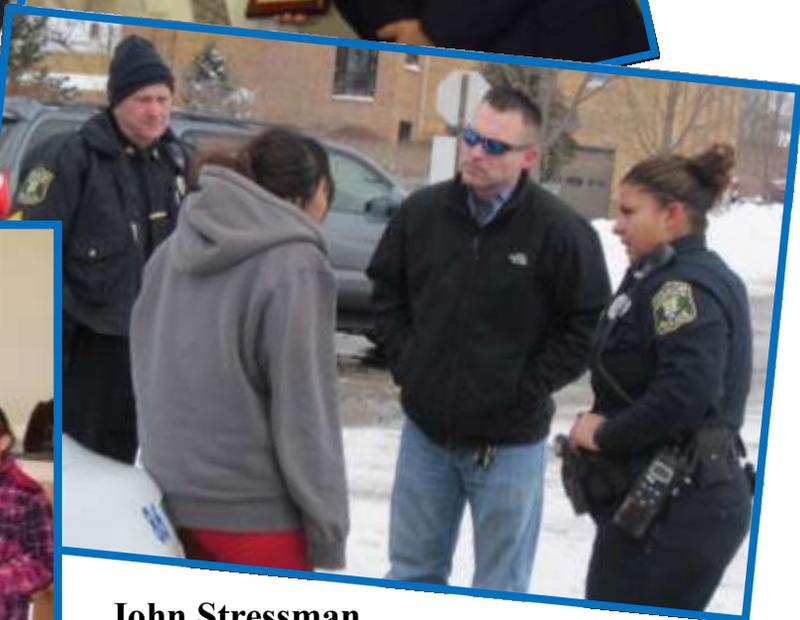


Mason Police Department

2014 Annual Report



John Stressman
Chief of Police

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Front cover photos (left to right): Chief Stressman, Sgt. Ed Hude and Human Resources Coordinator Kathy Revels honoring Sgt. Hude for his 40 years of service to the City of Mason; Chief Stressman congratulates Officer Racquel “Kelly” Flores after being sworn in; Officer Mark Reckling completes paperwork in his patrol vehicle; Officer Mark Reckling speaks to a suspect; Detective/Corporal Robert Mentink is congratulated by Chief Stressman on being named City of Mason 2014 Employee of the Year; Officer Bryan Keeler speaks to a suspect; Sgt. Ed Hude and Officers Mark Reckling and Kelly Flores speak to a suspect following a traffic crash; Sgt. Ed Hude and Officer Bryan Keeler pose with the McMeekin family from Mason who dropped off a “care” package for the officers who were scheduled to work on the holiday.

Most cover photos by James Duthie.

2014 Annual Report edited by Eileen Northrup.

Introduction



Chief John Stressman.

This year we are taking a new approach to the annual report. What we will endeavor to do is break down for the reader what our resources are committed to as it relates to calls for service and commitments of time and availability of officers during their shifts based on averages. For example, the report says we staff an average eight hour shift with 1.9 officers. That of course is impossible but the actual number of officers assigned to each shift per day, per week, per month and year ranges from one to three, most generally two officers per shift depending on numerous scheduling anomalies.

What I think you will find is that the officers and staff of your Mason Police Department work diligently to maximize their work performance and provide the community the highest quality service possible with the resources available. You will also see the department continues to be a pro-active organization, based on problem-solving and a community-oriented approach.

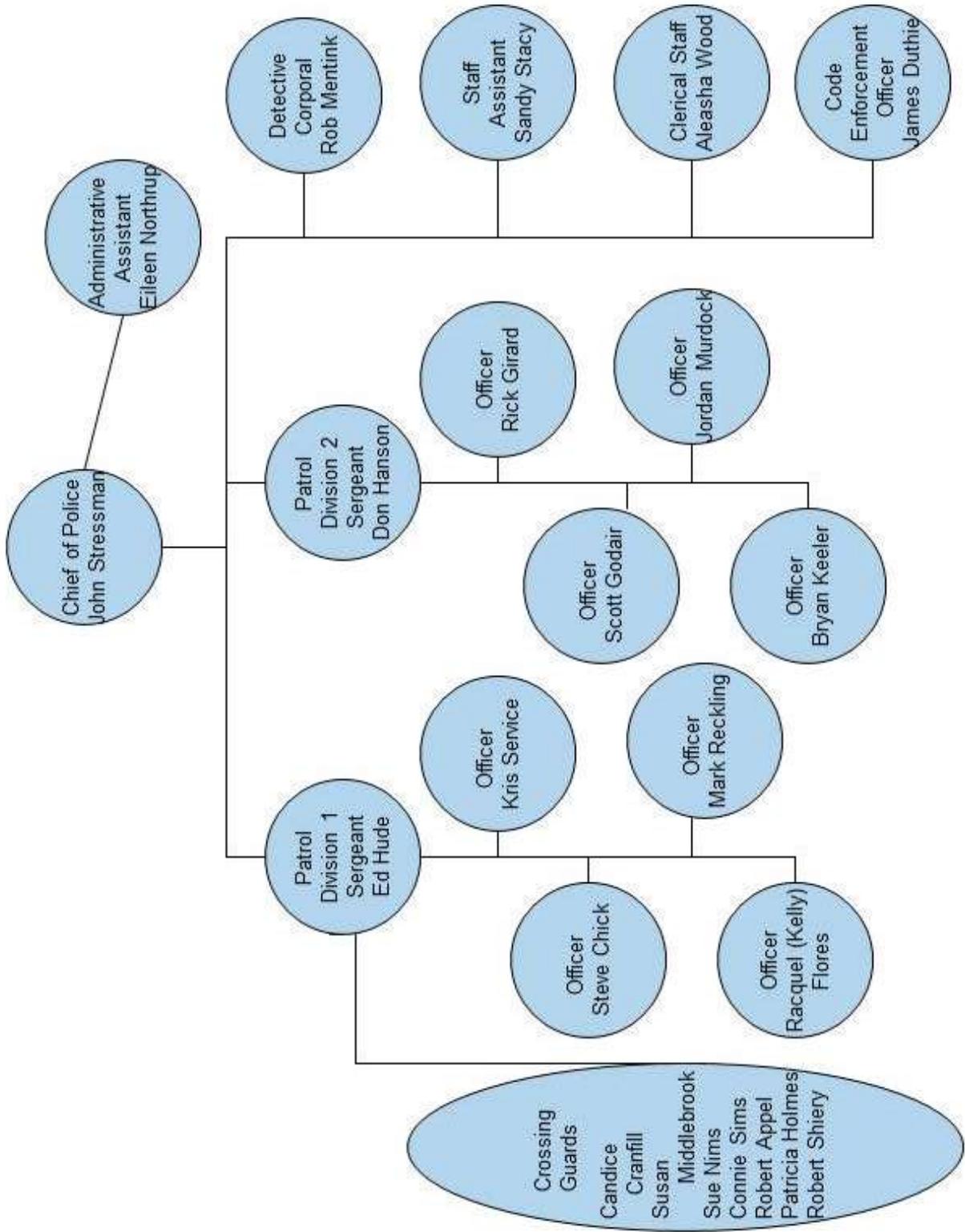
I believe the department has achieved the intended goal we state every year: to maintain the highest quality of life as possible for the Mason community. Mason is a great community for a number of reasons and we believe we are one.

The department also faced some serious challenges while working hard to protect our citizens—challenges that will continue into and through 2015. The most serious has proven to be the department's retention rate of patrol officers. In 2014, three officers resigned their positions with the department and two new officers joined our ranks. The third vacated position was not filled until January 2015. The conundrum now is, how do we retain personnel and maintain a consistent presence in the community; an issue needing to be addressed in 2015.

Another serious challenge is the victimization of our citizens by means of a battery of financial fraud techniques at the hands of scurrilous predators hiding in the underworld of anonymity, on-line. This problem is not going to get any better any time soon as technology and the various means of stealing identity and hacking into private accounts become more pervasive. Our least expensive tool and the means most available is public education. Information to those most likely to be victimized is essential and we are working to accomplish this through a variety of means (e.g., weekly crime report). Technology access is the other primary means. The department works with a number of agencies, state and federal, to address the issues we do not have the capacity to address. These relationships have proved to be productive and we will continue to cultivate as many resources as possible.

City of Mason Mission Statement

“Mason is a community founded upon a respect for our historic past while encouraging an atmosphere that values family, business, the environment, and art creating a sense of place for present and future generations.”



Ethics and Standards

Openness and transparency are philosophically the backbone of any law enforcement organization laying a foundation which establishes public trust. The Mason Police Department embraces the concept that our authority is derived from community trust and we value citizen evaluation of our performance and conduct with the utmost sincerity. Because of these core beliefs, the Mason Police Department’s citizen complaint process is in place.

Complaints against the department and its members are scrutinized thoroughly. Some are initiated by dissatisfaction with officer conduct or a service rendered; some are rooted in disagreement or lack of understanding of procedural issues; and others originate internally during incident reviews. One way or another, the complaints are investigated, resolved and the complainants apprised of the results by the Chief of Police. The following are the citizen complaints and their outcomes from 2014.

Internal Investigations are ordered if a sustained complaint could result in severe discipline or termination. Two (2) were investigated in 2014

Citizen Initiated	1	Administrative	1	Survey Response	0
Sustained	0	Sustained	0	Sustained	0
Not Sustained	1	Not Sustained	1	Not Sustained	0
Total Closed	1		1		0

Administrative Reviews are ordered for possible infractions of a lesser nature which may result in reprimand or remedial training. Eleven (11) were investigated in 2014.

Citizen Initiated	8	Administrative	3	Survey Response	0
Sustained	1	Sustained	0	Sustained	0
Not Sustained	7	Not Sustained	3	Not Sustained	0
Total Closed	8		3		0

2014 data reveals a significant increase in complaints made against the department and officers as compared to 2013. This follows two years of decrease reported during 2012 and 2013 with no identifiable behavior pattern to identify the cause.

	2013	2014	Difference
Internal Investigations	1	2	+1
Administrative Reviews	3	11	+8
Total	4	13	+9

Mason Police Department Mission Statement

To protect life and property, and all rights guaranteed by law, by preserving the peace, maintaining order, controlling crime, apprehending offenders, and enforcing the law.

Detective Bureau

Detective/Corporal Robert Mentink



Det. Robert Mentink.

In 2014, the Detective Bureau was assigned 32 new cases and carried over several cases from 2013. Three major cases continue to develop and are close to resolution in the beginning of 2015. Besides the 32 cases assigned, I have assisted patrol on multiple cases and directed the officers in the course of action for their investigations. In 2014, I worked closely with the Michigan State Police, FBI Lansing Field Office and several other local jurisdictions on joint investigations. I conducted three background investigations for new hires in 2014, two of which resulted in employment offers.

The outcome of many cases result in the cases being reviewed by a prosecuting entity, either the City Attorney’s Office or the Ingham County Prosecutor’s Office. The City Attorney’s Office is responsible for the review and prosecution of all misdemeanor local ordinance violations and authorization of civil infraction citations. In 2014, the Mason Police Department presented a total of 20 cases to the City Attorney’s Office, resulting in 11 arrest warrants and four case denials. The city’s diversion program accepted five defendants into the retail fraud diversion program, giving us an 80 percent prosecution rate for cases presented to the Mason City Attorney.

Respectively, the Ingham County Prosecutor’s Office reviews and prosecutes all violations of state law, felonies and misdemeanors. The Mason Police Department presented a total of 109 cases to the County Prosecutor, with 39 felonies and 48 misdemeanors being prosecuted. Six defendants were accepted into a diversion program and warrants were not issued. Of the 109 cases, only 20 were denied and did not result in prosecution, giving the department an 85 percent prosecution rate for cases reviewed by the Ingham County Prosecutor.



Recovered evidence.

In-Service Training

Sergeant Donald Hanson

In 2014, the Mason Police Department continued to train its patrol officers, investigator, clerical and command staff in a variety of relevant law enforcement topics. Much of the training provided was designed to assist both our agency and the community, but it was also intended to help develop employees as individual professionals. In total, over 1,000 hours were invested in law enforcement-related training. This was in addition to hundreds of hours of field training offered to two newly hired officers, with each spending approximately 14 weeks with a Field Training Officer (FTO).



For example, two new officers received a large amount of high-level, hands-on training and scenario-based training called “Tactical Encounters for Patrol Officers.” This training took place at Camp Grayling, Michigan and was financed primarily by our insurance carrier. Together, the officers shot approximately 1,000 rounds of .45-caliber ammunition using their service pistols, went through “shoot-no shoot” scenarios and other real-life situations to prepare them for their patrol duties.



I also had the opportunity to attend Michigan State University’s School of Staff and Command, a learner-driven, six-month program designed to teach supervisors and higher ranking officers executive level and problem solving skills, which are aimed at helping them learn to solve real-life problems law enforcement agencies face each year. Our insurance carrier also funded half the cost of the tuition.



To ensure as much of our training was done in an efficient manner as possible, the department continued its trend of partnering with other local agencies, such as the Ingham County Sheriff's Office, Stockbridge Police Department, Leslie Police Department, Lansing Township Police Department and Meridian Township Police Department. We also utilized the Michigan State Police Training Academy whenever possible, due to the high level of training offered and its convenient location in Lansing, Michigan.

The following are some of the various core-area law enforcement in-service trainings our employees attended in 2014:

- Legal Update
- Taser® Re-certification
- Firearms qualification and training
- Defensive tactics training
- Active violence training
- Report management training
- CPR and first aid training.

Below is a list of some of the various specialized and professional development type law enforcement in-service trainings that some of our employees attended in 2014:

- Advanced Roadside Impairment Driving Enforcement (ARIDE)
- Standard Field Sobriety Testing (SFST)
- Bullet Proof Mind
- Police Response to Fire Emergencies
- Domestic Violence Training
- Courtroom Testimony
- Sexual and Child Abuse Investigations
- Child Car Seat Technician Course
- Field Officer Trainer (FTO) Course Instruction.



In 2015 we expect to continue to see changes in our training needs and challenges in where and how to get employees, sworn and non-sworn, the highest level of training at a reasonable cost. That being said, the Mason Police Department has and will meet those challenges to ensure we have the highest level of professionals representing our agency.

Firearms Training

Detective Corporal Robert Mentink

The 2014 Firearms Training Program continued to train officers from the Lansing Township Police Department, Stockbridge Police Department and Leslie Police Department, alongside the Mason Police Department's officers. An agreement was reached with the Leslie Police Department to assign a firearms instructor to the training team. Steve Relyea will join the training team in 2015. Officer Relyea is retired from the Lansing Police Department and was a long time member and firearms instructor for the Special Tactics and Rescue Team (S.T.A.R.T.).

Each officer trains three to four times each year and fires 300 to 500 handgun rounds, 150 to 200 rifle rounds and 60 shotgun rounds during qualifications and training. The numbers vary due to some officers needing additional training and others being very proficient with a particular firearm. Mason officers spend an average of 16 hours per year training in firearms.



Two of the Lansing Township officers, trained in the program, were involved in a lethal force encounter where a suspect was mortally wounded. The Ingham County Prosecutor and the Michigan State Police investigator made very positive observations regarding the

involved officers' training and agreed that it was very clear the officers responded appropriately to the threat based on the comprehensive training received. The shooting was determined by the Ingham County Prosecutor to be justified use of force.

For 2015, several challenges will continue, including an increased cost of materials and supplies. The instructors will provide quality training to the officers of the Mason Police Department, as well as the area departments who now look to us for training standards.

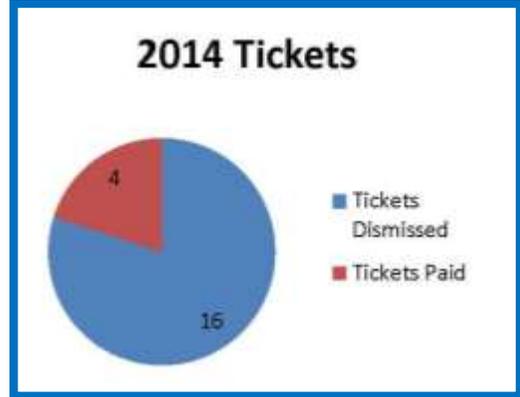


Code Enforcement

James Duthie

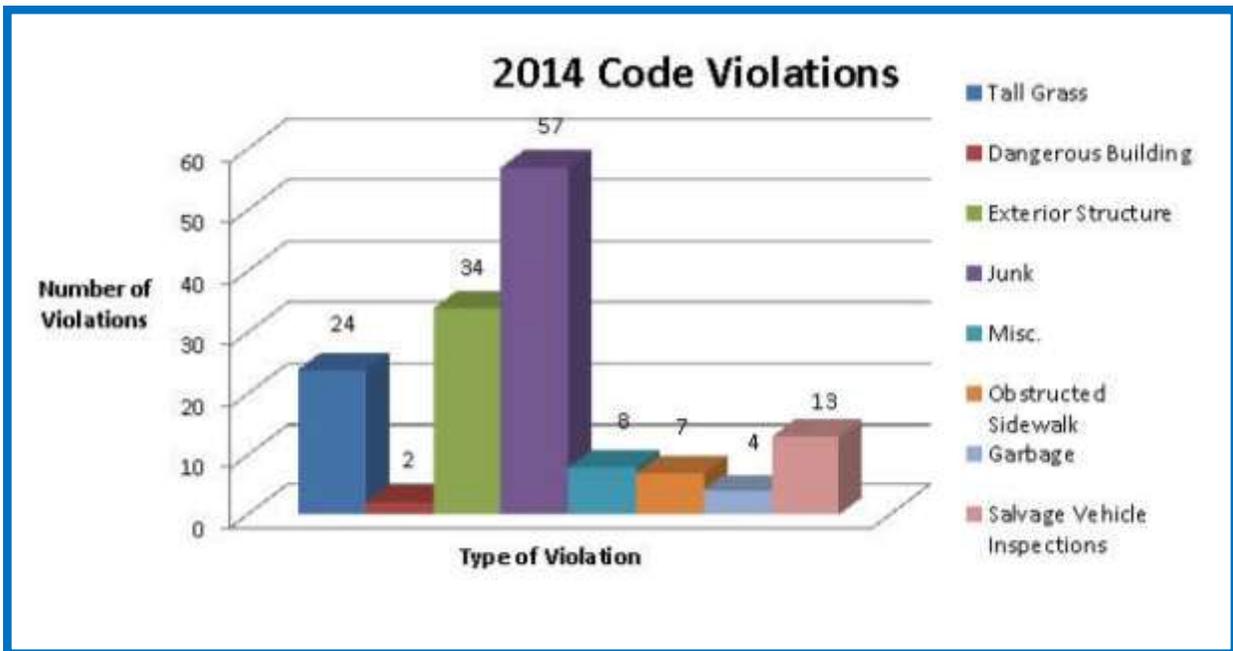
The year 2014 proved to be another busy year for code enforcement within the city.

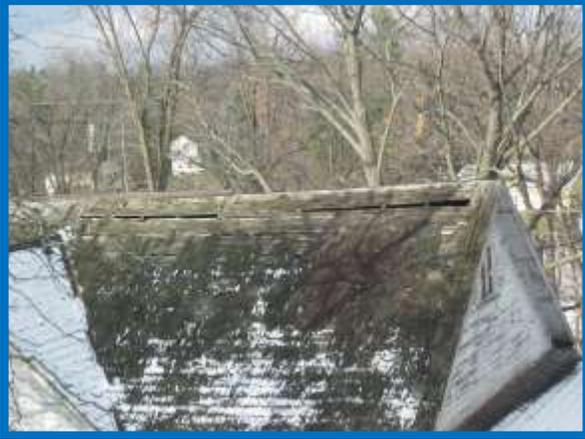
Twenty tickets were written. Of those, 16 were dismissed due to compliancy. The magistrate from 55th District Court ordered four fines to be paid due to non-compliancy with local ordinances. These reports remain open as further citations may be forthcoming.



I initiated 129 complaints which involved 143 code violations and 13 salvage vehicle inspections were completed. Nearly every complaint required multiple follow up visits to resolve the issue.

We seem to have turned the corner on taking down dead, hazardous ash trees that have succumbed to the emerald ash borer. There were still seven hazardous tree complaints this year.





Deteriorated roofs were still a concern. Several complaints involved a lack of protective treatments (peeling paint or exposed surfaces) on houses, garages and sheds. This also included some downtown businesses.

As in the past, there are several people I'd like to thank. They have all made my job easier and have helped me achieve my objectives.

- Granger
- Habitat for Humanity
- Chief Stressman
- David Haywood, City of Mason Director of Zoning and Development
- City of Mason Departments of Public Works and Parks and Cemetery
- 55th District Court Magistrate Blumer and court clerks

A majority of property owners made good faith efforts to make their properties code-compliant.



My goals for 2015 include continuing to monitor progress on existing complaints whose owners have shown good faith efforts but are not yet compliant. I will continue to seek out new violations and will enforce or ticket those who show little or no progress.



Before and after photos of a barn in need of repainting.

Committed Patrol Expenditure

Chief John Stressman

Data compiled by Sergeant Don Hanson

Traditionally, a huge emphasis of the police department’s annual report is the number of crimes and non-criminal incidents the department has investigated. The data comes from its report management system and the State of Michigan’s Incident Crime Report. Although extremely important information to the community, what the data does not reveal is the time commitment expended from the start of the incident through the necessary follow-up required to insure the matter is concluded. The data below reports the total number of 2014 activities recorded through the 911 Dispatch Center CAD (Computer Aided Dispatch) to be 4,927.

INCIDENT TYPE	NUMBER
ABANDONED VEHICLE	9
ADMINISTRATIVE DUTY	182
BURGLARY ALARM	118
HOLD UP ALARM	3
OTHER ALARM	3
ANIMAL COMPLAINT	22
ASSAULT	29
MEDIC ASSIST-POLICE	1
POLICE ASSIST	14
ATTEMPT TO LOCATE	8
LIQUOR LAW INSPECTION	43
BURGLARY/HOME INVASION	28
BUSINESS CHECK	4
CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT	14
FALLEN AND CAN'T GET UP	6
CIVIL COMPLAINT	16
CHECK AREA	25
CHECK SUBJECT	137
CHECK VEHICLE	3
CODE VIOLATION	1
COMMUNITY MEETING/EVENT	5
COURT	15
SCHOOL CROSSING GUARD	1
CRIMINAL SEXUAL CONDUCT	6
ENDANGERED PERSON	9

INCIDENT TYPE	NUMBER
DELIVER MESSAGE	2
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	2
DOG COMPLAINTS	36
DOMESTIC	14
NARCOTICS INVESTIGATION	30
INTOX SUBJECT	4
911 HANG UP CALL	10
ESCORT	1
FIRE ALARM	7
FIGHT	29
FIREWORKS COMPLAINT	12
FIRE OR SMOKE IN A HOSPITAL	1
CAR FIRES, DUMPSTER, ILLEGAL	9
CASE FOLLOW UP	240
FOOT PATROL	8
FRAUD	41
SMOKE INVESTIGATION	3
STRUCTURE FIRE	5
FAIL TO PAY	1
HARASSMENT COMPLAINT	44
TRAFFIC HAZARD	55
HIT AND RUN ACCIDENT	28
HOT RODDING COMPLAINT	2
JUVENILE COMPLAINT	30
LARCENY	77

INCIDENT TYPE	NUMBER
LARCENY FROM AUTO	12
LARCENY FROM BUILDING	1
LIQUOR LAW VIOLATION	1
LOCK OUT COMPLAINT (AUTO)	4
MALICIOUS MISCHIEF	7
MALICIOUS DESTR OF PROP	48
MEDICAL RESPONSE—C	1
MEDICAL RESPONSE	112
MINOR IN POSSESSION	4
MISSING PERSON	13
MOTORIST ASSIST	84
NEIGHBOR COMPLAINT	8
NOISE COMPLAINT	32
OBSCENE ACTIVITY	6
OFFICER INIT WARRANT ARRES	21
OPERATING UNDER THE INFLU	1
OPERATING WHILE INTOXI	16
PANHANDLING	4
PARKING COMPLAINT	30
NUISANCE PARTY VIOLATION	2
POLICE ASSIST	10
PERSON REQUIRING A PBT TEST	177
PROPERTY DAMAGE ACCIDENT	156
PEACE OFFICER COMPLAINT	7
PERSONAL INJURY ACCIDENT	14
PIN IN ACCIDENT	3
PPO/BOND CONDIT VIOLATION	8
PRIVATE PROPERTY PROP DAM	9
PROBATION VIOLATION	19
ANY TYPE OF PROG ASSIGNED	2
PROWLING COMPLAINT	3
PICK UP FOUND PROPERTY	29
RUNAWAY	15

INCIDENT TYPE	NUMBER
RECKLESS DRIVING COMPLAINT	25
RETAIL FRAUD	32
SCHOOL WALK THROUGH	8
SECURITY CHECK	41
SHOTS FIRED COMPLAINT	5
SPECIAL ASSIGNMENT	10
STALKING COMPLAINT	4
SUBPOENA SERVICE	24
SUICIDE/SUICIDAL SUBJECT	10
CHECKING A SUSP. PERSON	51
SUSPICIOUS SITUATION	32
CHECKING A SUSP VEHICLE	36
TROUBLE WITH SUBJECT	69
THREAT COMPLAINT	36
TRAFFIC CONTROL	5
TRAFFIC STOP	1,842
TRANSPORTS	32
TRASH/LITTERING COMPLAINT	3
TRESPASSING COMPLAINT	4
TRUANCY	1
STOLEN VEHICLE COMPLAINT	10
UNKNOWN INJURY ACCIDENT	4
UNKNOWN TROUBLE	14
UNWANTED SUBJECT	28
UTILITY WIRES DOWN	26
VEHICLE MAINTENANCE	1
VEHICLE/VIN INSPECTION	3
VISUAL PROPERTY CHECK	1
WARRANT ARREST/PICKUP	111
WEAPONS COMPLAINT	11
WELFARE CHECK	126
REPORT TOTAL	4,927

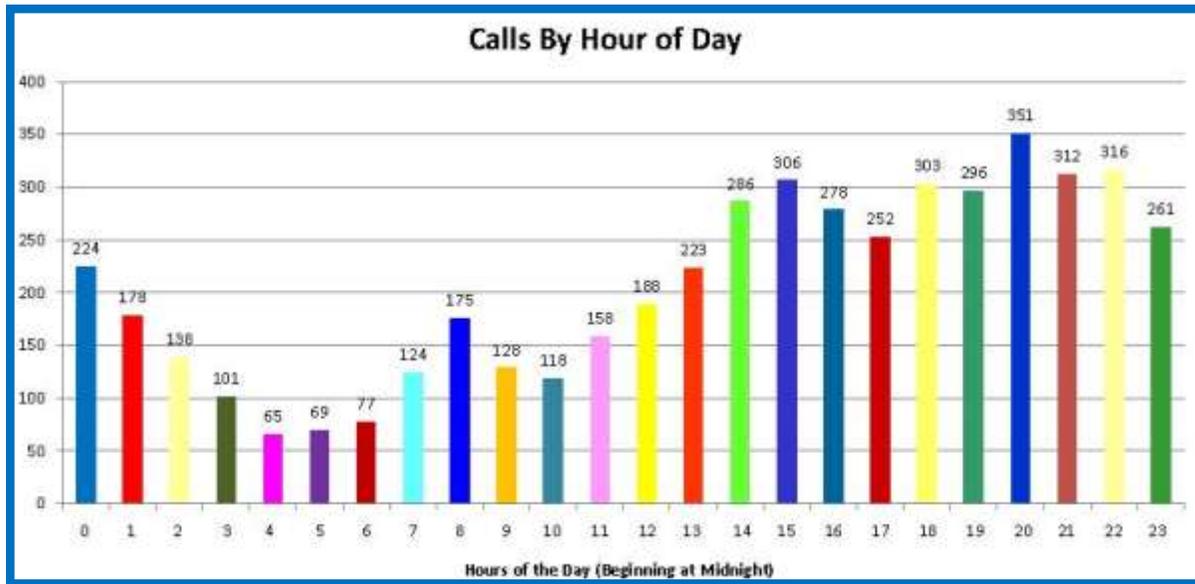
Breaking down this data further reveals the following:

2014 total calls for service	4,927 (Ingham County 911)
Average calls per month	411
Average calls per week	95
Average calls per day	13.5
Average calls per shift (3 shifts)	4.5
Average calls per hour (24 hour patrol)	.56

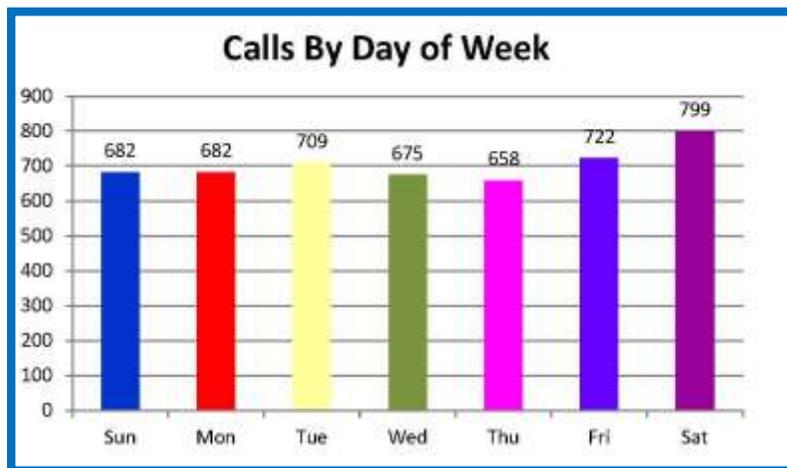
Next are the number of calls for service for 2014 by day of the week and the hour of the day.

Hour	1-Sun	2-Mon	3-Tue	4-Wed	5-Thu	6-Fri	7-Sat	Total
0	53	24	37	21	26	22	41	224
100	41	13	21	28	14	17	44	178
200	35	17	22	14	17	11	22	138
300	25	13	13	7	13	11	19	101
400	15	8	14	7	2	7	12	65
500	10	11	10	13	9	6	10	69
600	14	6	17	2	13	9	16	77
700	12	23	16	22	12	17	22	124
800	42	19	21	15	16	20	42	175
900	11	21	27	19	22	16	12	128
1000	8	16	15	14	24	23	18	118
1100	15	34	27	21	21	20	20	158
1200	20	28	31	31	21	31	26	188
1300	20	46	41	30	31	24	31	223
1400	27	37	38	43	45	58	38	286
1500	32	37	52	49	53	52	31	306
1600	26	43	34	50	44	43	38	278
1700	37	32	45	29	34	41	34	252
1800	40	43	43	53	46	38	40	303
1900	36	52	32	40	45	43	48	296
2000	48	49	46	54	44	48	62	351
2100	43	39	43	41	37	55	54	312
2200	38	38	32	44	39	59	66	316
2300	34	33	32	28	30	51	53	261
Total	682	682	709	675	658	722	799	4,927

The graphs below more clearly reflect the volume of calls as they relate to the hours of the day and day of week. The first graph documents how calls increase in number after noon, peaking in the late evening hours, then tapering off abruptly in the second and third hours after midnight. The minor spike at 8:00 can be attributed to the beginning of the work day when over-night incidents, undetected at the time, are noticed.



The second graph underscores how the end of the work week impacts reported incidents and calls for service. Thus, the demand for service requires an increase in the committed hours of patrol.

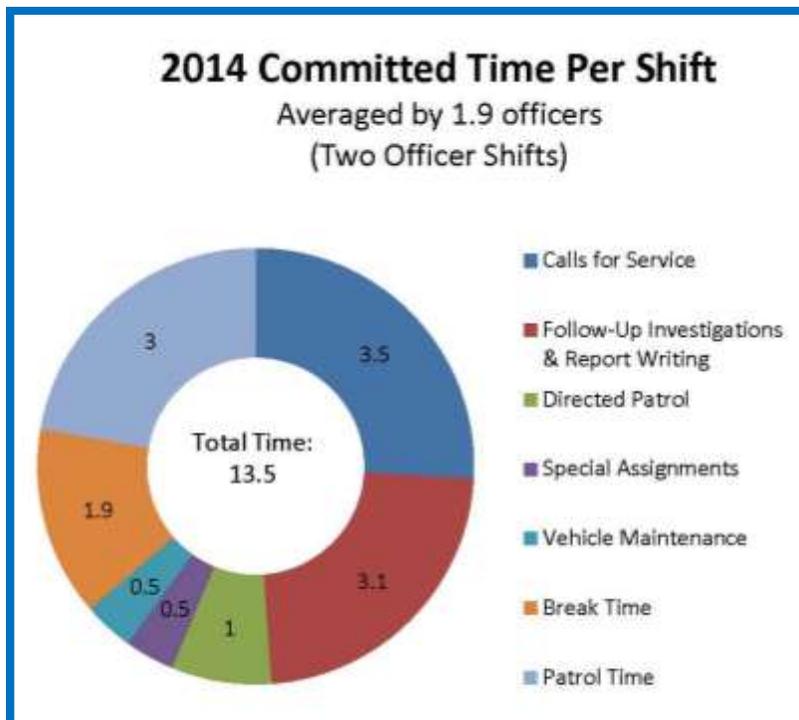


The Mason Police Department currently has eight allocated patrol officer positions staffing three shifts (21 per week). This equates to 1.9 officers per shift (51.2 hours), excluding leave time for a variety of factors. Based on this staffing level, according to a random sampling using both the Mason Police Department Report Management System and 911 CAD data, the department’s 2014 average time per call for service expended is 47 minutes (committed time per incident). With 4.5 calls per shift, 3.5 hours (210 minutes) is committed to calls for service per eight-hour shift. Officers also perform the following committed time per shift:

- 3.1 hours follow-up investigation and report writing (including court time)
- 1 hour directed patrol (schools, traffic complaints)
- 0.5 hours per shift special assignments (i.e., community event policing)
- 0.5 hours per shift vehicle maintenance and shift preparation
- 1.9 hours authorized break time

Finally, officers are expected to patrol the entire city at some point during their shift. The City of Mason has (according to the Department of Public Works) 45 miles of streets and roads. Average patrol speeds appropriate for safe observation from a moving vehicle is 15 miles per hour equaling a three-hour minimum patrol time commitment per shift.

Of the 15.2 hours of staffing, 13.5 hours is committed time, leaving only 1.7 hours, or .85 hours per officer, for uncommitted activity during an optimally staffed shift.

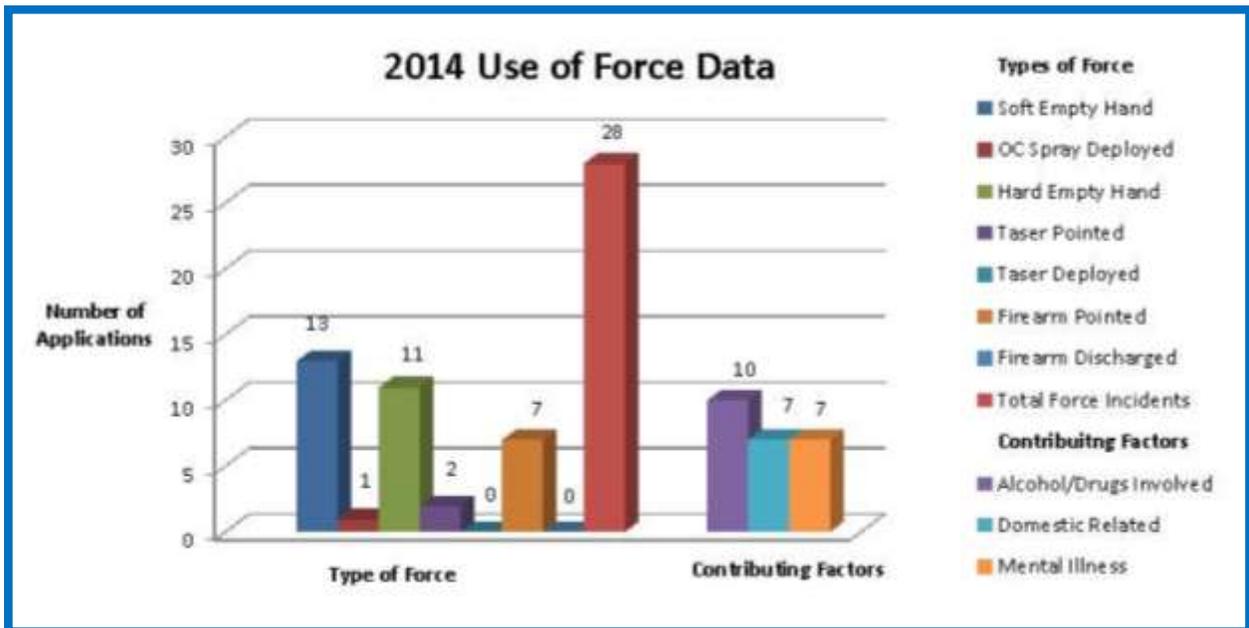


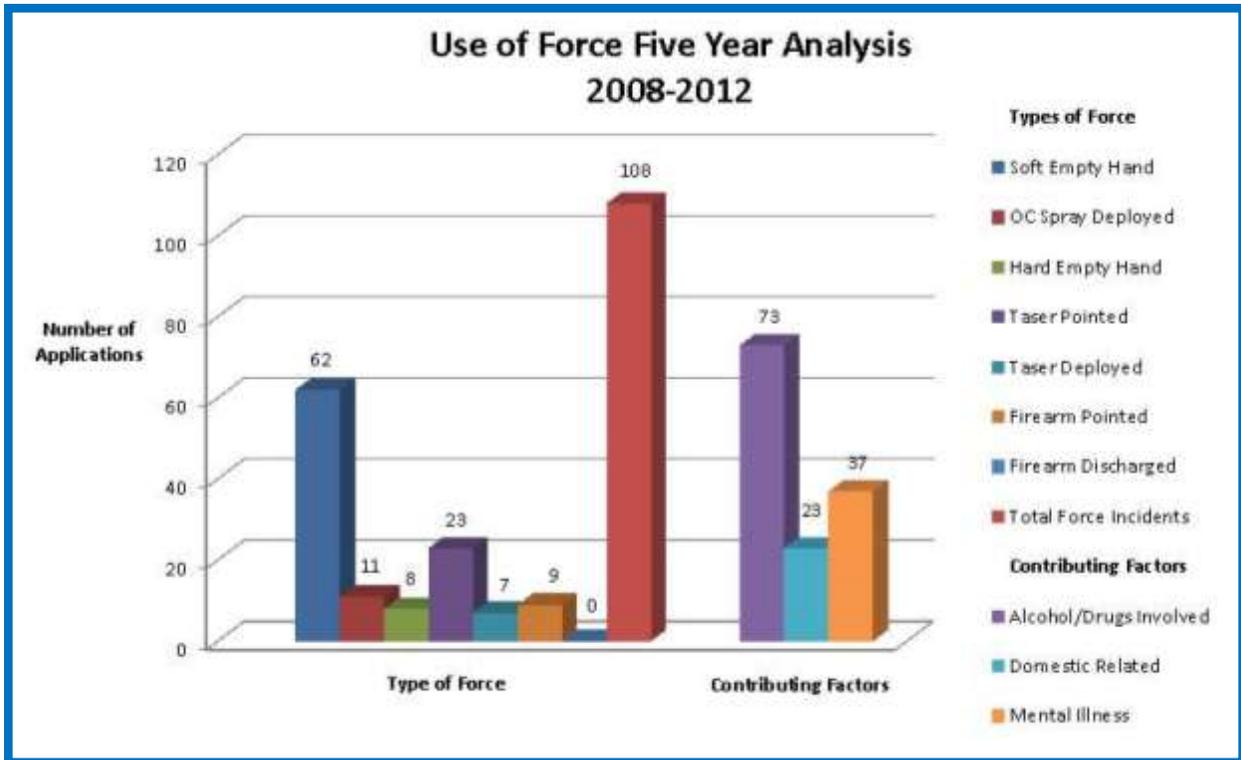
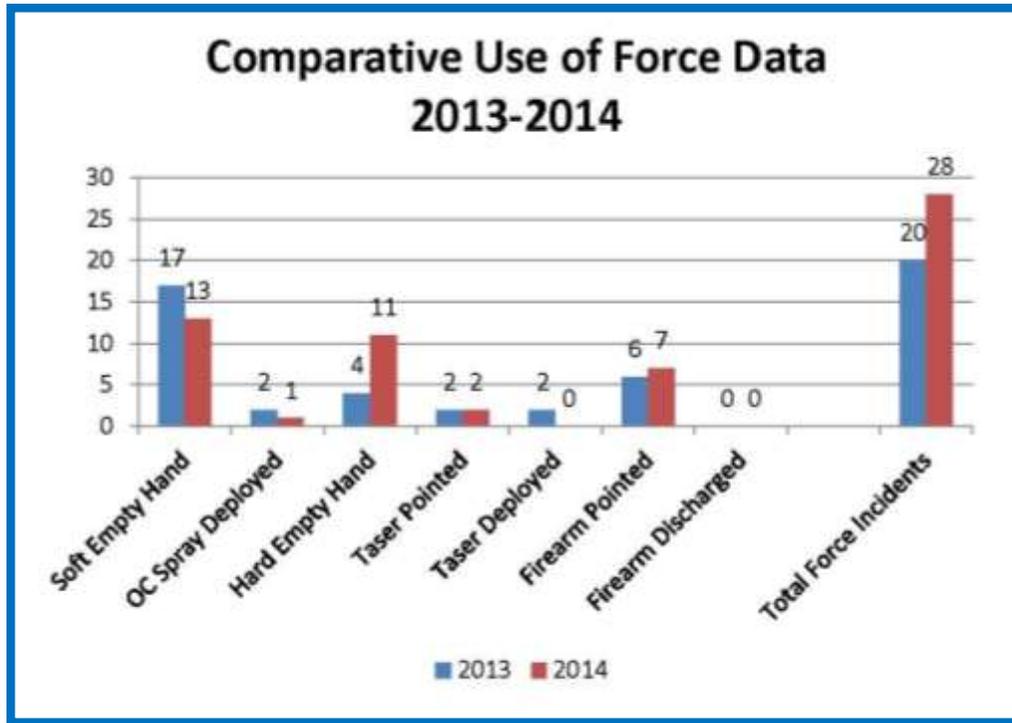
Use of Force

Sergeant Don Hanson

The Mason Police Department documents and tracks every incidence of force applied by an officer to verify justification, proper application, contributing factors and to plan future training needs. In 2014, officers of the department were involved in 28 “use of force” incidents. Keep in mind, more than one officer is sometimes involved, and more than one type of force may be applied during an incident. Case law guiding law enforcement use of force requires it be “objectively and reasonably” applied based on the facts and circumstances facing the officer at the time the force was applied. (Graham vs. Connor 490 U.S. 386 (1989)). In 2014 we show an increase in two areas: Hard Empty Hand Control, strikes and takedowns, almost all of which were takedowns to prevent further escalation and violent subject control and Pointing of Firearms, directly attributed to an increase in subjects illegally possessing firearms and in possession of illegal firearms during more serious crimes. All told, six firearms were seized in 2014 while being possessed or carried illegally (CCW) and/or while being used during violent crimes by suspects. Fortunately, no MPD officers fired their handguns in the line of duty in 2014, other than training in a controlled environment.

The graphs shows the level of force applied and the exacerbating factors most frequently involved in the resistance which, in many cases, more than one of the three influences are involved.





Confiscated Firearms



August 3, 2014 – Officers were called to a house for an intoxicated man with a gun. It was a domestic-related incident. The subject was located and arrested for CCW, possession of a firearm while intoxicated, OWI and resist and obstruct police. The loaded Hi-Point 9mm pistol was in his waistband when located and arrested.



March 12, 2014 – A driver was stopped for a traffic violation. An investigation revealed he was in possession of 22 grams of marijuana and an illegally possessed and loaded Glock 9mm pistol. He was arrested for CCW and possession of marijuana.



April 27, 2014 – Officers were investigating several suspicious subjects at a local business. While conducting a field contact, an officer discovered one of the subjects was in possession of a loaded Ruger 9mm pistol. The pistol was seized and the suspect was charged with CCW.



October 26, 2014 – Officers were called to an apartment after a subject discharged a firearm. The subject had fired a Springfield .45 through a wall and into a common area. The pistol was seized and the case was forwarded to the prosecutor's office for reckless and careless discharge of a firearm.

August 27, 2014 – An officer observed and stopped a fugitive. While effecting the arrest, he also located a loaded and stolen Glock .45 pistol in the fugitive's pants. The suspect was arrested for CCW, felon in possession of a firearm and possession of a stolen firearm.



Staff Highlights

The Mason Police Department experienced personnel changes during 2014.

In February, Officer Racquel “Kelly” Flores joined the department. Originally from Bay City and a graduate of Ferris State University, Kelly replaced Officer Todd Thie who chose to leave law enforcement and accepted a position in the City’s Department of Public Works.



Officer Racquel “Kelly” Flores with Chief Stressman.

The department also welcomed Bryan Keeler to its ranks as a patrol officer in March. A graduate of Kellogg Community College, he joined us after working for the Barry Township Police Department. He replaced Officer Dan Anderson who left us to further his career with the Eaton County Sheriff’s Department.



Officer Bryan Keeler with Sgt. Ed Hude, Chief Stressman and City Administrator Marin Colburn.

Both officers successfully completed the department’s intense 14-week Field Training Program.



Sgt. Don Hanson.

Sgt. Don Hanson is a proud graduate of Michigan State University’s School of Staff and Command. Classes began in January, 2014 and the graduation ceremony was held in June at the Michigan State Police Training Academy. Sergeant Hanson’s successful completion of the School of Staff and Command is consistent with the Mason Police Department’s commitment to identify and develop leadership, management and supervisory candidates who are dedicated to the professionalism and growth of the police department and profession as a whole.

For many years, Sergeant Ed Hude has volunteered his time to the Michigan chapter of the American Radio Relay League, representing the interests of the amateur radio community in the U.S. In December, Governor Rick Snyder signed legislation, sponsored by Senator Rick Jones, requiring uniformity and compliance as it relates to amateur radio antennas and antenna mounting structures. An award was presented to Sen. Jones for his assistance in getting this important legislation signed. Michigan is now the first legislative body in the nation to create an advisory board to help mediate and provide assistance in any disputes that may arise due to amateur radio antenna or tower structure installations.



Left to right: Dale Williams, Great Lakes Director, ARRL, Sgt. Ed Hude, State Government Liaison for Michigan, ARRL, Senator Rick Jones, Larry Camp, Section Manager for Michigan ARRL, and Butch Hedges, Local Government Liaison, ARRL.



Sgt. Ed Hude with Chief Stressman and Human Resources Coordinator Kathy Revels.

Also in December, Sgt. Hude was recognized for 40 years of outstanding service to the City of Mason.



Det. Rob Mentink with Chief Stressman.

Also in December, Detective/Corporal Robert Mentink was honored as the City of Mason's 2014 Employee of the Year.

Congratulations to all on their outstanding achievements!

Staff Services Report

A day at the service desk at the Mason Police Department involves a variety of tasks to be performed daily. A citizen approaching the service desk may see one or two people seated at work stations. Sandy Stacy and Aleasha Wood are responsible for a large volume of business, including:

- dispatching officers to the service desk to handle walk-in complaints;
- relaying calls for service to the 911 Dispatch Center which complainants may have reported to the service desk;
- performing preliminary breath tests (PBTs) for probationers of the 55th District Court;
- entering data and retaining records of warrants, personal protection orders and conditional bonds;
- processing and tracking court-ordered restitution payments;
- processing pistol permits;
- processing requests for local background checks for pre-employment;
- filing and maintaining department reports;
- monitoring and supervising a highly confidential state and national electronic information network;
- receiving and documenting reports of progress of diversion program participants;
- receiving and processing insurance requests for accident and incident reports;
- processing requests from the city attorney for reports and issued tickets; and
- entering, tracking and maintaining records for all citations issued by the Mason Police Department, including civil infraction and parking tickets.



Evidence Manager Sandy Stacy and Aleasha Wood.

Other responsibilities, much more labor intensive include:

- performing background checks of Concealed Pistol License applicants, involving time-consuming data extrapolation from multiple RMS servers;
- processing pistol purchase permits and firearms registrations;
- processing of financial restitution requests through the District Court as provided for by appropriate state statutes and tracking payments;
- processing all Freedom of information Act (FOIA) requests involving police department records;
- tracking and submitting crime data (monthly, quarterly and annually) to the state and federal law enforcement;
- managing and tracking the department's electronic reporting system and paperless records retention system;
- processing and completing required paperwork for warrant requests by the department investigator;

- processing non-digital fingerprint records for pre-employment applications for private employers; and
- hosting and communicating with training entities and the OWI court using City Hall facilities.

As the department’s Evidence Manager, Sandy is responsible for processing into our records management system any items that are obtained through a criminal investigation, taken for safe keeping or are lost and found. After proper documentation is completed, each item is categorized and stored.

Service desk personnel work diligently to ensure the department’s records and office support operates efficiently, allowing the officers and command staff the ability to concentrate on operational tasks. It is Sandy and Aleasha’s belief that everyone approaching the front desk should be greeted with a smile and friendly disposition. Sandy and Aleasha serve and assist everyone that walks in, calls or sends any type of correspondence to the Mason Police Department. Service desk personnel are the first impression a visitor encounters and it is crucial the visitor’s mind be at ease, even when circumstances are difficult. Both Sandy and Aleasha strive to establish a strong, ethical and supportive environment, for the officers and community alike.

Sealed Bid Bike Auction

In September, Sandy coordinated a sealed bid bike auction. Unclaimed bikes were put up for sale between September 8 and 19, 2014. A total of 23 unclaimed bikes were available for purchase. Pictures were posted on the City of Mason’s website and on a board that was placed in the lobby of City Hall. The auction was also publicized in the Community News. Nineteen bikes were sold, raising a total of \$366.



This was the third such auction held. It was a great success and we hope to hold more in the future.



Bikes available at the auction.

Performance Surveys

Performance surveys mailed out in 2014 totaled 306. This is comparable to 303 in 2013. Citizens returned 78 completed surveys in 2014 for a return rate of 25 percent. All completed surveys were reviewed by Chief Stressman and follow-up was assigned when necessary.

Respondents' Feedback	Yes	No	Sometimes
"Do you read the Mason Police Department's weekly report in the Ingham County Community News or Mason Today?"	43	26	2
If so, do you find it a useful source of information as to Police Department activities and crime in the community?"	43	5	1
Positive Responses	19		
Negative Responses	4		

Some of the comments in this section include:

"I think it's a great source of info and it's always worth a few good laughs on some of the events being reported."

"It is not accurate by any means. Some are like storytelling and by this I mean absolutely incorrect! Laughable."

"I'm glad it is in there, like knowing what is happening in our community!"

"I had contact with two officers. One in Dec. 2014 in person and Jan 2015 by phone. Both officers were very informative, polite and very helpful. I have no complaints at all. They were very nice people and professional. Good job."

"The officer was very nice and extremely professional. "

Respondents' Feedback	Good	Fair	Poor
"The police coverage around my neighborhood/business is:"	58	15	1
"The image of the Mason Police Department within the community is:"	67	7	1
Number of Written Suggestions/Comments	31		

Some of the comments in this section include:

Negative:

"We were told that someone from Ingham County Animal Control would come see us. That did not happen."

"The first two officers I met @ the station were somewhat dismissive of my concern regarding the bldg. on Mason Street. I think the officers should assume that there may be citizens that know something about improper use of a building. Overall, though, the two officers, [clerical staff] and [code enforcement] got the job done. The building is being torn down! Bravo!!

Positive:

“I was really impressed with this young officer’s interaction with my young son. He was very personable and put this 16-year-old at ease. I appreciated his interaction with both of us.” *(Comments from mother.)*

“I certainly realize the amount of trivial calls that the Mason police have to respond to. I appreciate the info on neighborhood car 7 garage thefts. I’m careful—but I also am more attentive to the neighborhood as well. I also think it is good for residents to see the large amount of tax dollars going to pay for police response to shoplifting @ Meijer, trouble in the halfway house by the jail, & trouble at what was supposed to be the Angel House for abused children, but instead seems to be a facility for troubled/violent youth and adults. If not for the Weekly Report, I would not be aware of what the force has to deal with.”

“The follow through was amazing and I feel the officer that helped me went above and beyond to make me feel safe. If he is any indication of what the rest of the staff is like, I live in a very lucky city. Thank you for your service.”

“Came to your dept. with a complaint. I’m from out of town. Top notch service in all aspects.”

MASON POLICE DEPARTMENT
Performance Survey

Recently you had occasion to come in contact with personnel of the Mason Police Department. In an effort to provide the highest level of service possible, and with quality of life issues and security of utmost concern, we are interested in your input as to the performance of the Department member(s) you had contact with and the service provided by the Department itself. Your feedback would be greatly appreciated and invaluable to us for future planning and for identifying areas we need to improve in.

Please take the time to help us by completing this questionnaire and returning it to us in the self-addressed envelope we have provided. It is through interaction and open communication with the community that we learn how effective a job we do and what level of confidence Mason residents have in our ability. Thank you for your help. I look forward to your reply.

John Stressman, Chief of Police

Please answer the following questions by checking the appropriate response.

If your initial contact with the Department was by telephone, was the call-taker courteous and professional?	Yes ___ No ___
Was the number you called: 911 ___ or 517-676-2458 ___	
At approximately what time? _____ A weekday? ___ or a weekend? ___	
Were the responding officers courteous, respectful, and professional?	Yes ___ No ___
Were the responding officers professional in appearance?	Yes ___ No ___
Did the officers appear knowledgeable of the law and how he/she applied it to your situation?	Yes ___ No ___
Were you informed about what the Department could or will do for you?	Yes ___ No ___
Were you informed about the legal or procedural process as it applies to your situation?	Yes ___ No ___
Overall, were you satisfied with the initial response of the Department?	Yes ___ No ___

Depending on the type of complaint, you may have been contacted by a detective. If so, please answer the following questions by checking the appropriate response.

Were you contacted in a reasonable period of time?	Yes ___ No ___
Was the detective courteous, respectful, and professional?	Yes ___ No ___
Did the detective do a good job investigating your complaint?	Yes ___ No ___

Do you read the Mason Police Department's weekly report in the Mason County Community News or Mason Today? Yes ___ No ___

Do you find it a useful source of information as to Police Department activities and crime in the community? Yes ___ No ___

Comments: _____

Please answer the following by checking the appropriate answer.

Police coverage around my neighborhood/business is: _____
Good ___ Fair ___ Poor ___

Image of the Mason Police Department within the community is: _____
Good ___ Fair ___ Poor ___

Should we contact you for further clarification? If so, please write in your name and phone number below: Name: _____

Home number or email address we may contact you at: _____

Additional comments or suggestions: _____



MISSION STATEMENT

The Mason-Capital Area Prescription Drug Task Force mission is to raise awareness of our country’s fastest growing narcotic problem—prescription drug abuse. Through networking with medical professionals, legislators, public safety, courts, civic groups, schools, families and friends we advocate prescription medication practices that enhance family and community safety.

The Mason Capital Area Prescription Drug Task Force and its membership represent area law enforcement, 55th District Court, Ingham County Health Department, Community Mental Health Authority of Clinton, Eaton and Ingham Counties, Mason Public School District, medical and pharmaceutical professionals and Mason State Bank.

The group has been chaired by Mason Police Chief John Stressman since its inception and Officer Kris Service is the department’s liaison. Our goal, simply put, is to educate our target groups about the proliferation and abuse of prescription medications, now a national epidemic.

Because prescription opioid abuse is the leading cause of overdose deaths, over all other illicit drugs combined, and is the fastest growing precursor to heroin addiction, the Task Force continues its work to educate about and prevent the proliferation and abuse of prescription opioids and psychotropic medications.



In the Spring of 2014, the Task Force sponsored a media contest to design a poster, a logo, a website and a 30-second public service announcement video. The contest was open to students in the capital area. Winners received cash prizes.

The primary challenge of 2014 was getting our message out to the largest possible audience. The task force decided to invite WILX Channel 10 Media Account Executive Becky Peña to assist us in broadcasting the public service announcement that was created for the Task Force through the 2014 media competition. The Task Force was also made aware of funding opportunities provided by the Mason Area Community Fund (MACF) and, subsequent to a



Winner of the media contest (left to right): Paige Morris (logo), Adele Gregoire (video), Macey Lewis (poster) and Jennifer McCullen (web page).

budget provided for prime time, maximum viewership of a broad WILX audience, achieving all of the Task Force objectives of getting our message of education and prevention to all our targeted audience groups. The feedback is terrific and is leading to more funding opportunities through district and statewide prevention programs.

In 2014, the Task Force also received a \$400 contribution from Ralph Hansel of the Mason Antiques Market from the proceeds of an auction. The contribution will be directed toward operating costs of the task force, such as letterhead, envelopes and printing a poster.

The Task Force continues to participate in the Prescription Drug Take Back program pioneered by the Mason Police Department, with funding and coordination from the Ingham County Health Department’s Drug Take Back program. The purpose of this program is to keep medications out of the water systems, landfills, and off the streets where they are used illicitly. The community response to having a location to discard prescription and over-the-counter medications for disposal has been so tremendous that the Take Back program can now assess the best, most cost-effective means of spending grant dollars to facilitate it. In 2014, approximately 385 pounds of discarded prescription drugs were destroyed through the take back program.



Top: Officer Service near the drug drop box. Right: Boxes of discarded prescription drugs ready for disposal.

The Mason Capital Area Prescription Drug Task Force will continue getting its message out to the capital area in 2015. We also intend to help facilitate the use of opioid antagonists, specifically known as Naloxone, by law enforcement responding to opioid overdose as a life-saving measure. This is made possible through the enactment of Senate Bill 1049, which became effective on January 12, 2015.



presentation highlighting the award-winning PSA, a \$2,000 grant was awarded by the MACF.

With the MACF grant, increased by \$1,000 from MPD forfeiture funds, WILX provided another matching contribution of \$3,000, providing a total \$6,000 budget to air the Task Force’s PSA and one created by the Families Against Narcotics Support Group (an 80/20 split of funds). The

Technology Improvements for 2014

Sergeant Edward Hude



Sgt. Ed Hude.

During the 2014 calendar year the following technological changes took place within the Mason Police Department.

We purchased five used L3 Mobile-Vision Flashback-2 DVR units from the East Lansing Police Department. The initial cost for each was \$100.00, or a total of \$500.00. The units were sent back to the L3 Mobile-Vision factory to have the firmware and software checked and updated. There were two that were functional; however, three needed additional repair. The average cost for each unit was approximately \$230.00.

This move was made as several of the Flashback-1 units had malfunctioned and the factory was no longer accepting Flashback-1 units for repair. The current replacement price for a new DVR unit with the State of Michigan contract pricing is \$4,495.00 for each DVR unit, plus shipping. The Flashback-2 units will have another 2-3 years of factory service available. The initial investment of \$500.00 and approximately \$1,500.00 in factory service upgrades amounts to approximately \$2,000.00 for the five units purchased from East Lansing PD. The investment resulted in considerable savings considering once again that a single new DVR unit costs \$4,495.00. It should be anticipated that the DVR units will need to be replaced in future budgets. The support for the current L3 Mobile-Vision server is good through September of 2015.

Another change within the department was the purchase of five midgrade level Panasonic Toughbook computers with additional 8GB of RAM added. Also purchased were new docking stations and mounts for the patrol cars. The new computers were necessary to accommodate the new 911 computer aided dispatch (CAD) system. The new computers will also allow for the police reporting system to operate more efficiently from the patrol cars. We are currently working with a vendor to add electronic citations for state offenses and electronic vehicle crash reports. The docking stations and mounts are manufactured by Havis and offer greater flexibility.



A new Toughbook computer system and docking station in a patrol vehicle..

During the month of December, the department purchased 12 officer-assigned body cameras through L3 Mobile-Vision. The units have a drop-in charging port which also serves as the data download point. The data will then download to the same server as the police car videos.

Lastly, a camera and recorder system was installed at the rear door of the department. Often individuals will come to the rear door of the department and would knock on the windows and doors. Now, upon walking up to the back door, there is a small, mounted panel with a camera and a button. When the button is pressed, a signal in the Squad Room sounds and alerts officers that someone is at the back door. On the inside of the back door is a small recorder with a monitor and a speaker system to converse with the person on the outside. This significantly improves the safety of the officers by knowing who is on the other side of the door before they open it.



The newly installed back door camera.



Sex Offender Registry

Officer Steven Chick



As the Sex Offender Coordinator for the Mason Police Department, one of my many responsibilities is to keep track of convicted sex offenders who reside within the city limits of Mason. In 2014, the state of Michigan implemented a new program called OffenderWatch, which makes it easier to track offenders not only in Michigan, but across the nation as well. The department currently monitors nine registered offenders.

My duties include making sure the offenders are compliant with their obligations; pay their annual administration fee and register/verify their information with the Mason Police Department. This must be done annually, bi-annually or quarterly depending on the severity of the crime for which they were convicted. Information to be verified includes their place of residence, phone numbers, email addresses, employment and vehicles owned or used.

I also conduct random residence checks on the offenders. This involves making contact with them in person at their reported residence to confirm they actually reside there. I also confirm all the other information reported as factual. I remind registrants of the rules and regulations of their registry and answer any questions they may have. They are given additional contact information should they have questions when I am not available.

One of the requirements of being a registered offender includes not residing within 1,000 feet of any school or prohibited properties. This may include parks and daycare centers. As the Sex Offender Coordinator, I make sure that offenders moving into Mason abide by this requirement. They often contact me to verify if a certain address falls within that prohibited distance.

To view a list of offenders residing within the City of Mason or in the area where you live go to: http://www.communitynotification.com/cap_main.php?office=55242/

Child Car Seat Inspections

The Mason Police Department continues to participate actively in the child car seat restraint program. In 2014, Officer Kelly Flores achieved her certification to participate in the program. The Chief of Police approved the purchase of additional seats expected to last throughout 2015.

With the anticipated arrival of additional seats, the department is planning an event in May of 2015 at the Ingham County Fair grounds. For further information, contact Officer Kris Service or Officer Kelly Flores.



Officers Volunteering in the Community



Officer Chick poses with his mentee from the Shop With a Cop program along with Santa and Mrs. Claus.



Officer Service delivers a basket to a senior in Mason.



Officer Flores poses with her mentee from the Shop With a Hero program.

Some of the comments received:

“Dear Police Dept. I want to thank-you so much for the lovely Christmas basket . . . I know it was from a lot of people and a lot of effort went into it . . .”

“To Everybody Involved: I want to especially thank all involved with the food & gift box for seniors. You made my day & my Christmas that there was someone out there who really cared . . . the holidays are hard & depressing.”

“Dear Friends: A note of thanks for the wonderful box . . . How special I feel to once again be on your list of recipients . . .”

2014 Motor Vehicle Pursuits

Department policy controls motor vehicle pursuits and requires an annual audit and report by the Chief of Police of all motor vehicle pursuits involving the use of Department-owned vehicles—whether by Mason police personnel or by Mason police personnel assisting other police agencies. After any pursuit, supervisors are required to complete a review of each incident for compliance to procedures and report the findings to the Chief of Police.

In the calendar year of 2014, department personnel were not involved in any pursuits.

2014 Annual Traffic Safety Report

Of the total 288 traffic crashes reported in 2013—258 which were investigated—there was no discernable pattern or grouping indicating an established traffic problem. The Department continues its practice of aggressive traffic enforcement, which not only deters crash-causing driver behavior, but also is an excellent deterrent to criminal enterprise.

Traffic Crash Types	2013	2014
Personal Injury Crashes	42	15
Crashes Causing Fatalities	0	0
Crashes on Public Property	160	148
Crashes on Private Property	35	42
<u>Hit & Run Crashes</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>14</u>
Total Reported Traffic Crashes	267	219

2014 Cases Submitted to the Michigan State Police Laboratory

The chart below tracks the number of department evidence submissions to the Michigan State Police Laboratory as part of ongoing criminal investigations. The Ingham County Prosecutor’s Office requires toxicology results before considering prosecution in most all cases, especially those involving driving offenses (i.e., operating while impaired by drugs and or alcohol) when test results are the result of a search warrant.

CASE TYPE	NUMBER
BIOLOGY	2
BLOOD ALCOHOL	10
TOXICOLOGY DRUG	4
CONTROLLED SUBSTANCES	12
CRIME SCENE—BLOODSTAIN PATTERN ANALYSIS	1

CASE TYPE	NUMBER
FIREARMS—FUNCTION—WEAPON	1
FIREARMS—IBIS	1
LATENT PRINTS	8
TOTAL	39

2014 Michigan Incident Crime Reporting (MICR) Statistics

The table below represents Mason Police Department data as reported to MICR.

INCIDENT TYPE	2013	2014	INCIDENT TYPE	2013	2014
SEXUAL PENETRATION PENIS/ VAGINA CSC 1ST	1	0	FORGERY/COUNTERFEITING	2	2
SEXUAL PENETRATION PENIS/ VAGINA CSC 3RD	1	1	FRAUD FALSE PRETENSE/ SWINDLE/CONFIDENCE GAME	6	2
SEXUAL PENETRATION ORAL/ ANAL CSC 1ST	1	1	FRAUD CREDIT CARD/ATM	9	4
SEXUAL CONTACT FORCIBLE CSC 2ND	0	1	FRAUD IMPERSONATION	4	2
SEXUAL CONTACT FORCIBLE CSC 4TH	0	2	FRAUD WIRE	2	0
ROBBERY	1	0	FRAUD BAD CHECKS	2	0
NONAGGRAVATED ASSAULT	50	29	EMBEZZLEMENT	5	1
AGGRAVATED/FELONIOUS ASSAULT	3	4	STOLEN PROPERTY	1	0
INTIMIDATION/STALKING	4	8	DAMAGE TO PROPERTY	35	21
ARSON	0	1	RETAIL FRAUD THEFT	28	27
BURGLARY FORCED ENTRY	19	6	RETAIL FRAUD REFUND/ EXCHANGE	0	1
BURGLARY ENTRY WITHOUT FORCE (INTENT)	7	5	VIOLATION OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE	28	18
BURGLARY ENTRY W/OUT AUTH. W/OR W/OUT FORCE	6	2	SEX OFFENSE OTHER	1	3
LARCENY POCKETPICKING	0	1	FAMILY ABUSE/NEGLECT NON- VIOLENT	2	3
LARCENY THEFT FROM BUILDING	8	11	FAMILY OTHER	1	0
LARCENY THEFT FROM MOTOR VEHICLE	42	18	LIQUOR VIOLATIONS OTHER	10	8
LARCENY THEFT OF MOTOR VEH PARTS/ACCESSORIES	1	2	OBSTRUCTING POLICE	10	9
LARCENY OTHER	47	21	ESCAPE/FLIGHT	0	22
MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT	11	1	OBSTRUCTING JUSTICE	65	55

INCIDENT TYPE	2013	2014
WEAPONS OFFENSE CONCEALED	2	5
WEAPONS OFFENSE EXPLOSIVES	2	0
WEAPONS OFFENSE OTHER	4	3
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	16	11
PUBLIC PEACE OTHER	4	5
HIT AND RUN MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT	17	17
DUIL OR OUID	23	17

INCIDENT TYPE	2013	2014
HEALTH AND SAFETY	6	9
TRESPASS	7	5
CONSERVATION	0	1
VAGRANCY	0	3
JUVENILE RUNAWAY	8	7
MISCELLANEOUS CRIMINAL OFFENSE	5	0
AGENCY TOTALS	507	375

2014 Arrests

DESCRIPTION	NUMBER
AGGRAVATED ASSAULT	7
DISORDERLY CONDUCT	2
CONCEALED WEAPONS	4
LARCENY FROM BUILDING	2
LIQUOR VIOLATION OTHER	1
NON-AAGGRAVATED ASSAULT	1
OBSTRUCTION POLICE	25
OBSTRUCTION OF JUSTICE	39
OUIL/OUID	14
REATIL FRAUD	2
VIOLATION OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE ACT	1
TOTAL	98

