

Willowbrook Police Department

2012 Annual Report



Accredited Since 1991

Willowbrook Police Department

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LETTER TO THE VILLAGE MAYOR, BOARD OF TRUSTEES, BUSINESS COMMUNITY AND RESIDENTS

To the Village Mayor, Board of Trustees, Business Community and Residents of the Village of Willowbrook.

On behalf of the men and women of the Willowbrook Police Department, I am presenting you with the 2012 Annual Report. This report allows us to present an overview of the accomplishments of the officers and staff. It also provides awareness of the public safety challenges and how the department is able to manage the available resources to efficiently deliver police services. The report will also give a quantitative snapshot of the activities the officers are involved in and conduct each day. The department continues to strive for excellence with respect to community service and business partnerships through developing relationships. Recognizing inherent trust and high quality police presence are signatures of the Willowbrook Police Department. These attributes of the Willowbrook Police Department have been nationally recognized by the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies having been one of the few police departments awarded the status as a Meritorious Flagship Police Department.

The department greatly values the feedback from our citizens and how they perceive the quality of services they receive. In the village's annual citizen survey, 89% of respondents reporting felt their level of safety and security living in the village and officers' attitude and behavior were good to excellent. I believe this speaks volumes of the persons who make up this organization and the values they possess.

The accomplishments made by our staff and officers would not be possible without the continued support and leadership of the Mayor, Village Board and Village Administrator. I would like to personally express my sincere appreciation to each member. It is because of your attention and commitment the Willowbrook Police Department continues to be a leader in Dupage County.

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MISSION & VALUES

We Value Our Community

We will work in partnership with our community to ensure that the Village of Willowbrook continues to be a safe and pleasant place to live and work.

We Value Service to Our Citizens

We will serve to reassure our citizens of their personal safety and the safety of their property, to provide an exceptional level of assistance, and to otherwise positively enhance the overall quality-of-life within the Village.

We will work to resolve the concerns of our citizens the first time, every time.

We Value Our Commitment to Improvement

We will continually review our work product to ensure that our level of service is of unmatched quality and constantly seek new and innovative methods of improvement.

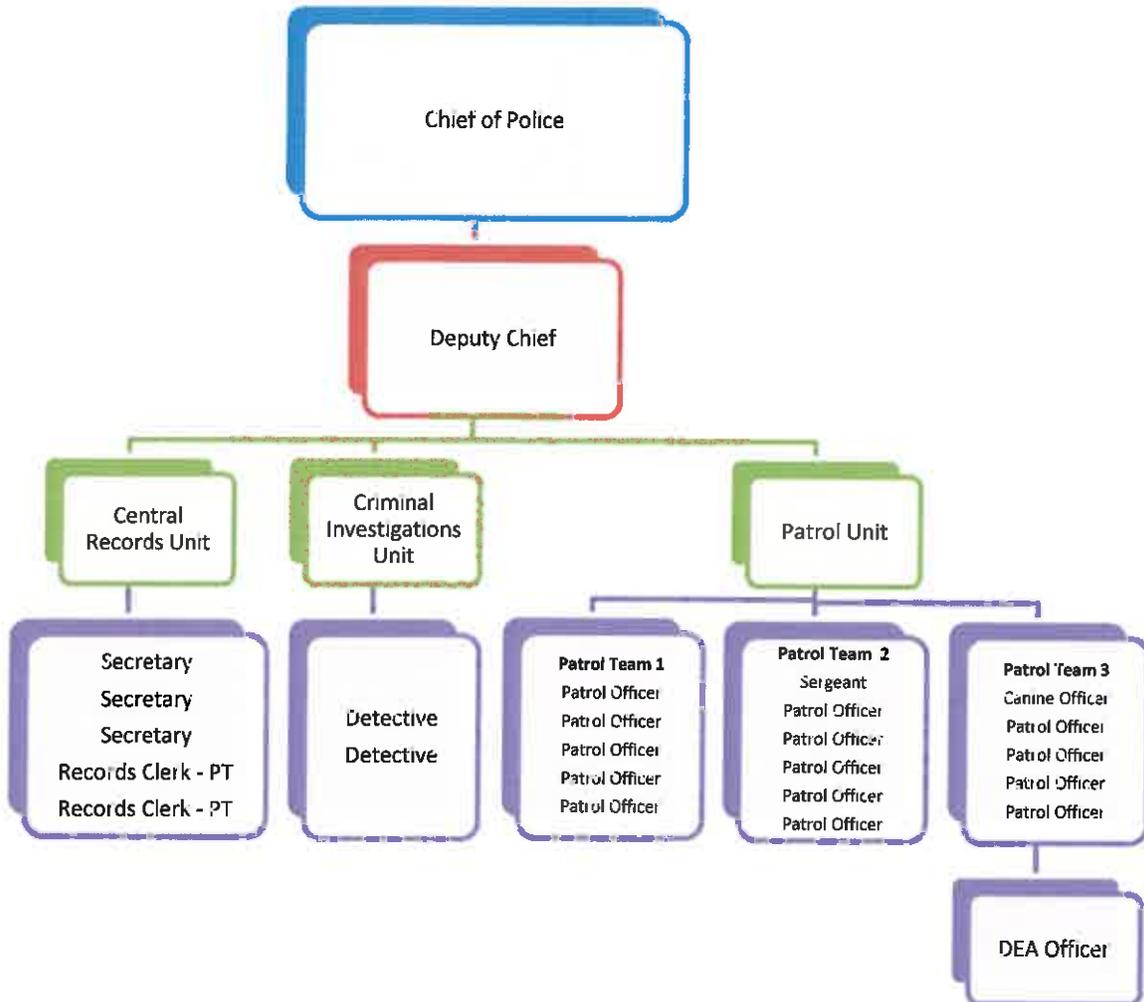
We Value Our Employees

We will, in order to engage in the process of continual and innovative improvement, strive to maximize the professional skills and potential of each employee through the development and retention of our members and by affording education, training, and unique, advanced career opportunities.

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ORGANIZATIONAL CHART



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RETIREMENTS / NEW HIRES

Commander John Barnacle retired April 1st, 2012.

Records Clerk Maria Castellano was hired January 4th, 2012

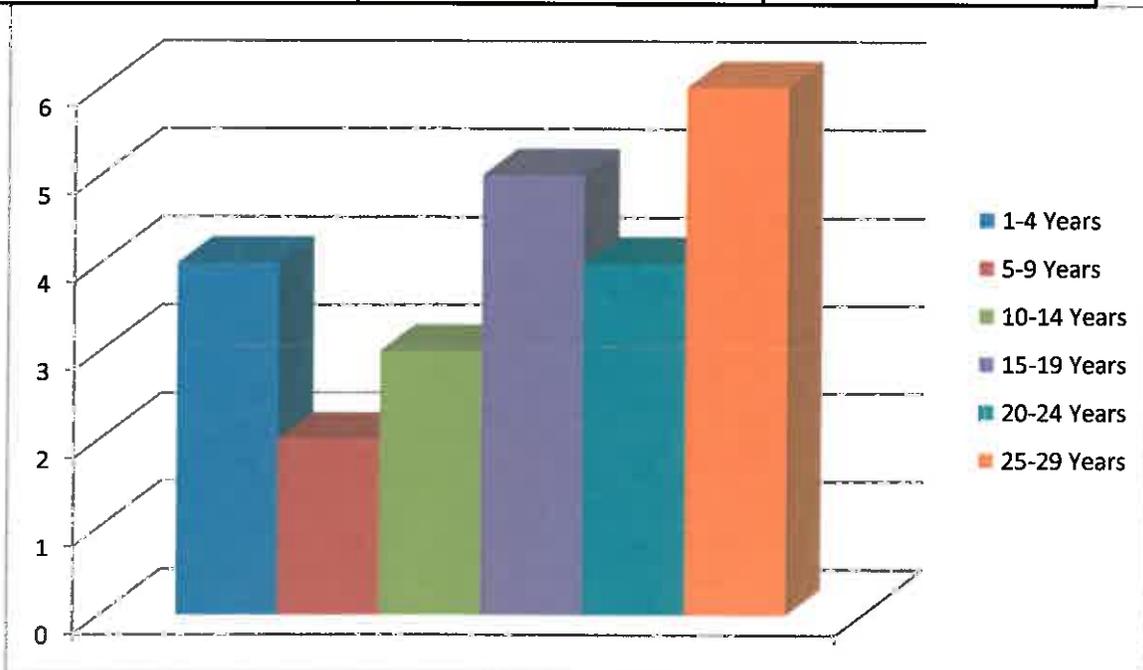
Records Clerk Bernadette Goers was hired August 9th, 2012

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YEARS OF SERVICE WITH THE VILLAGE OF WILLOWBROOK POLICE DEPARTMENT

| | | |
|---------------|------------------------------------|------|
| 25 - 29 Years | Officer Andrew Pelliccioni | 1985 |
| | Officer Mark Long | 1985 |
| | Support Services Deborah Hahn | 1986 |
| | Sergeant Arthur Svehla | 1986 |
| | Chief Mark Shelton | 1987 |
| 20 - 24 Years | Officer David Gaddis | 1987 |
| | Officer Theodore Kolodziej | 1988 |
| | Detective Mark Altobella | 1990 |
| 15 - 19 Years | Officer Scott Eisenbeis | 1990 |
| | Officer John Skiba | 1991 |
| | Officer John Handzik | 1993 |
| | Officer Daniel Polfiet | 1994 |
| | Officer Timothy Kobler | 1995 |
| 10 - 14 Years | Officer Robert Schaller | 1995 |
| | Officer Christopher Drake | 1997 |
| | Officer Darren Biggs | 2001 |
| | Officer Jose Chavez-Jimenez | 2001 |
| 5 - 9 Years | Detective Michelle Strugala | 2001 |
| | Support Services Laurie Schmitz | 2006 |
| | Officer Lauren Kaspar | 2007 |
| 1 - 4 Years | Support Services Lori Rinella | 2008 |
| | Officer Nicholas Volek | 2008 |
| | Support Services Maria Castellanos | 2012 |
| | Support Services Bernadette Goers | 2012 |



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CITIZEN LETTERS OF APPRECIATION

As Chief, I receive many calls, letters and emails recognizing the actions of the staff and officers. Below are samples of some of the letters I have received recognizing the individual efforts demonstrated each day by the officers of the department. A total of (56) letters were received for the year. Included in this report you will be able to read several letters showing the comments expressed relating to the understanding, compassion and appreciation from persons requesting police services and how the officers and staff demonstrated their commitment to excellence in service.

C O M P L E T E H O M E M A I N T E N A N C E



July 23, 2012

Mark Shelton
Chief of Police
Village of Willowbrook
7760 Quincy
Willowbrook, IL 60527

Dear Chief,

I want to tell you how helpful and patient Office Svehla is.

This past Friday, July 20th, one of my contractors called me and said his battery died and he needed a jump at the corner of Madison and Plainfield. Officer Svehla had already placed cones around my contractor's truck while he allowed me to position my car so I could do the battery jump. It must have taken at least five jumps before his truck would start. Officer Svehla then allowed the truck to leave so he could safely park the car away from the traffic flow.

All I can say is that he was extremely patient especially since it was at least 100 degrees on the pavement.

Thanks again for having a good man.

Sincerely,

UPKEEPERS, INC.


Thomas W. Molidor
President

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CITIZEN LETTERS OF APPRECIATION

Tue, Jan 17, 2012 07:24 AM

Dear officer Jose,

Thank you so much for the help you rendered to me February last year in that dreadful snow blizzard, you were an angel sent to me by God and I might have frozen to death in my car if you had not only helped me get my car safely off the main road but also scouted the area for accomodation for me. My family and I are really grateful for your assistance, may God bless you and your family, and may he continue to protect you and your fellow officers, keep up the good work.

Sarah

Dear Officer Tied,
1/2/2014
Thank you for your kindness and courteous assistance when I was involved in an automobile accident on December 7. You were very professional and helpful. You are an excellent representative of the Willowbrook Police Department.
Sincerely,
Dorothy

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DEPARTMENT LETTERS OF RECOGNITION

OFFICER JOSE CHAVEZ-JIMENEZ

On Wednesday, June 13th, 2012 Officer Chavez-Jimenez assisted the Illinois State Police Narcotics and Currency Interdiction Unit (NARCINT).

NARCINT seized over 1500 grams of methamphetamine at a local hotel.

Inspector Anderson from the Illinois State Police called the Willowbrook Police Department to state how extremely instrumental Officer Chavez-Jimenez was in assisting with interviews of Hispanic individuals, which subsequently led to the arrest.

OFFICER DANIEL POLFLIET

On Monday, September 10, 2012 at approximately 1353 hours Officer Daniel Polfliet was on patrol in the 6300 block of Kingery Highway. Officer Polfliet observed a male black subject matching the description of the offender involved in an armed robbery on September 6, 2012. The subject was subsequently taken into custody, positively identified and turned over to Detectives Altobella and Strugala.

DETECTIVE MICHELLE STRUGALA

On July 9, 2012, Detective Michelle Strugala was assigned to investigate a Theft Over \$300, Incident # 12-4364.

After several hours of investigation through "Leads On Line", along with the cooperation of the Westmont Police Department and several credit card companies, Detective Strugala was able to recover a watch valued at \$12,000.00 which had been pawned by the offenders.

Detective Strugala was able to obtain arrest warrants for the two offenders reference this complex theft.

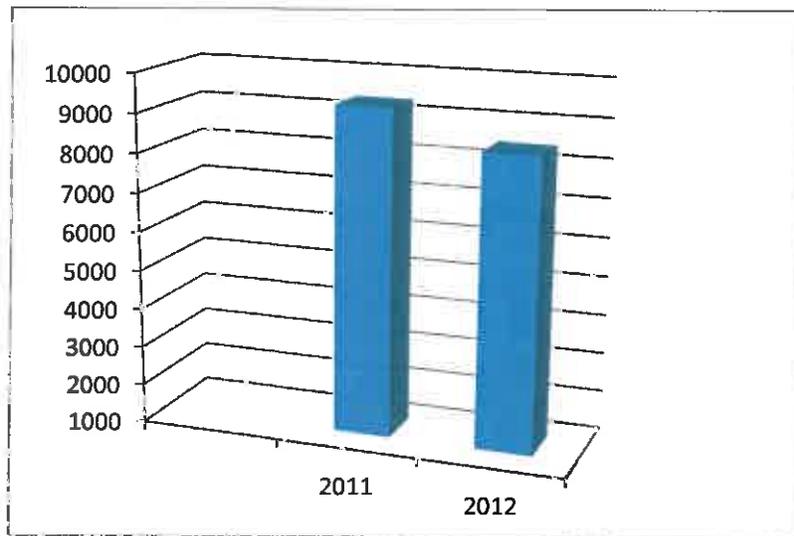
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TOTAL DISPATCH NUMBERS GENERATED BY SOUTHWEST CENTRAL DISPATCH

2011 = 9345

2012 = 8448



Total dispatch numbers do not reflect the total number of officer involvement activities.

Officers are able to make status changes utilizing different computer code changes in their in-car Mobile Data Terminals (MDT). By using the MDT's officers keep the radio traffic to a minimum and change their daily status activities without having dispatch numbers created which allow dispatchers to stay vigilant with other radio traffic.

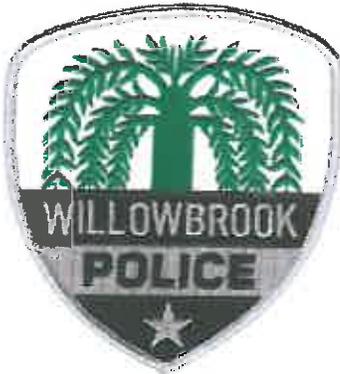
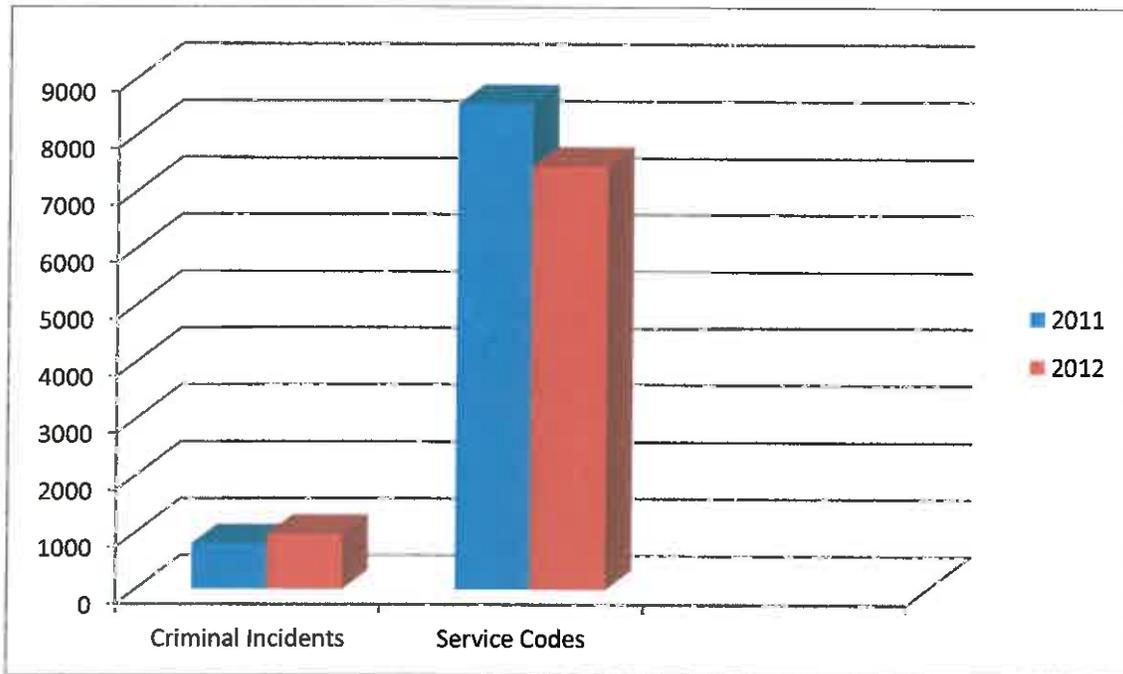


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INCIDENT CODE SUMMARY

| Year: | 2011 | 2012 |
|----------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Criminal Incidents: | 803 | 971 |
| Service Codes: | 8,542 | 7,477 |
| Total Incidents: | 9,345 | 8,448 |

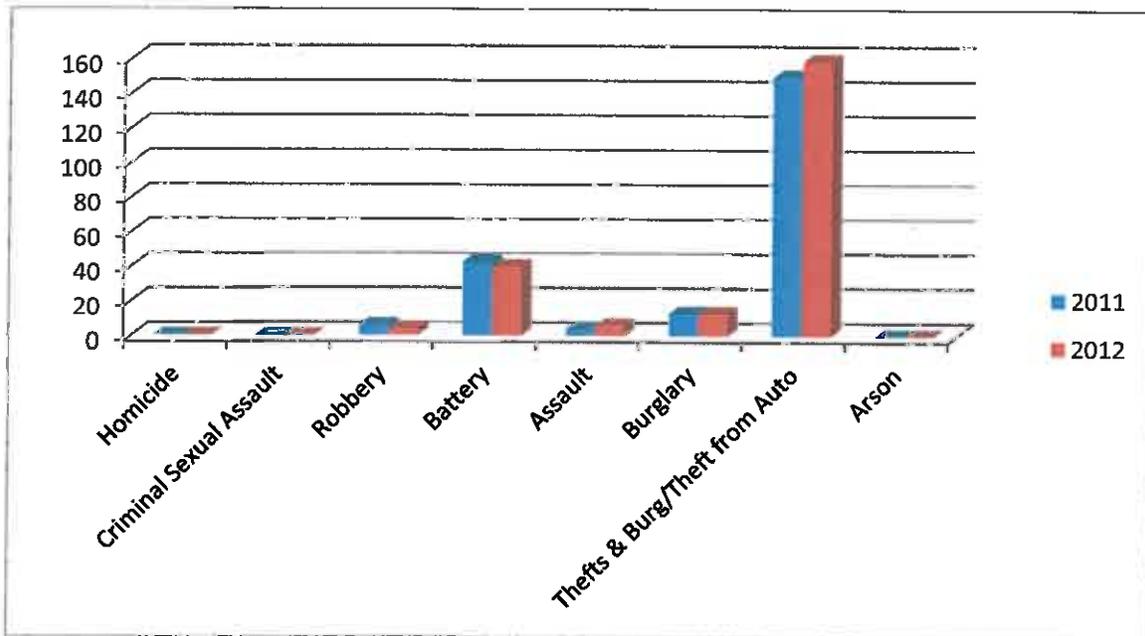


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INDEX CRIME COMPARISON

| Year: | 2011 | 2012 |
|-------------------------------|------|------|
| Homicide | 0 | 0 |
| Criminal Sexual Assault | 0 | 0 |
| Robbery | 6 | 4 |
| Battery | 43 | 40 |
| Assault | 4 | 6 |
| Burglary | 13 | 13 |
| Thefts & Burg/Theft from Auto | 150 | 159 |
| Arson | 0 | 0 |
| Total | 216 | 222 |



Detectives were assigned 229 total cases for further follow-up investigations.

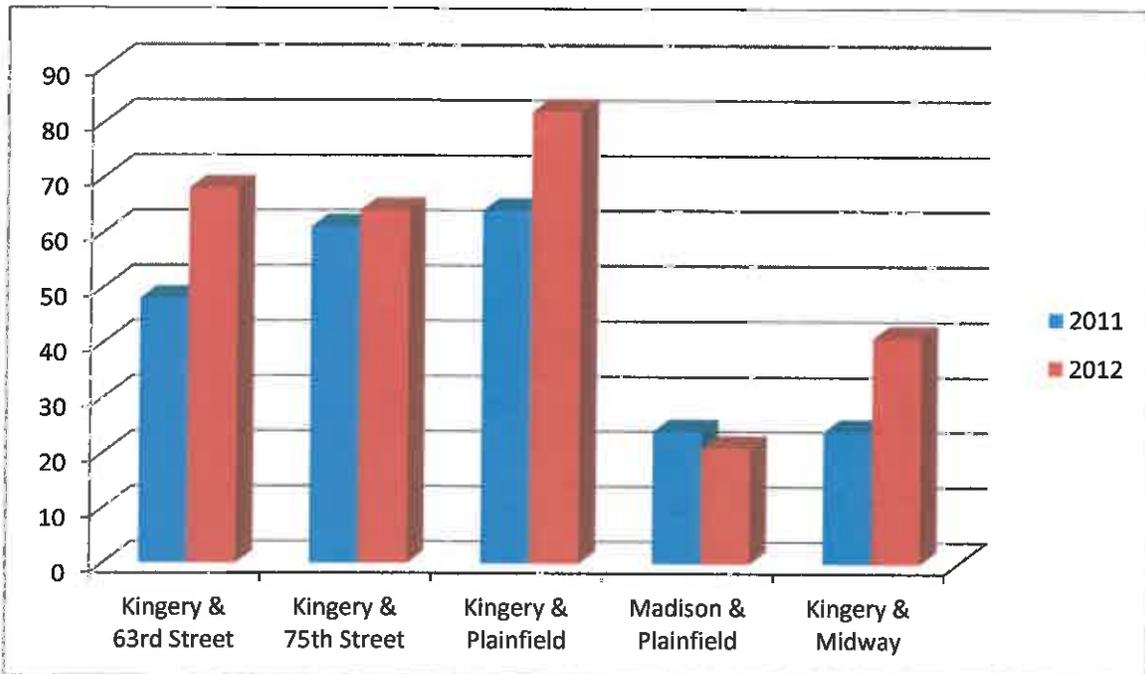


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TRAFFIC ACCIDENT ANALYSIS

| Location | 2011 | 2012 |
|---|------|------|
| Kingery Highway & 63 rd Street | 48 | 68 |
| Kingery Highway & 75 th Street | 61 | 64 |
| Kingery Highway & Plainfield Road | 64 | 82 |
| Madison Street & Plainfield Road | 24 | 21 |
| Kingery Highway & Midway Drive | 24 | 41 |



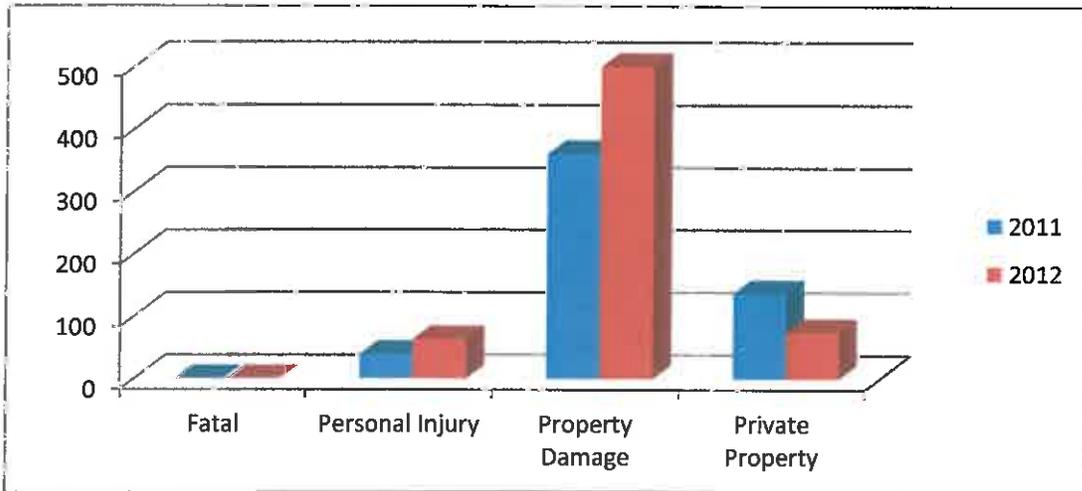
In relation to Willowbrook traffic volume, Kingery Highway incurred a higher volume of traffic in 2012 due to road construction occurring on other major north/south roadways.

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TRAFFIC ACCIDENT SUMMARY

| YEAR | 2011 | 2012 |
|------------------|------|------|
| Fatal | 0 | 0 |
| Personal Injury | 39 | 63 |
| Property Damage | 360 | 505 |
| Private Property | 137 | 75 |
| Total | 536 | 643 |

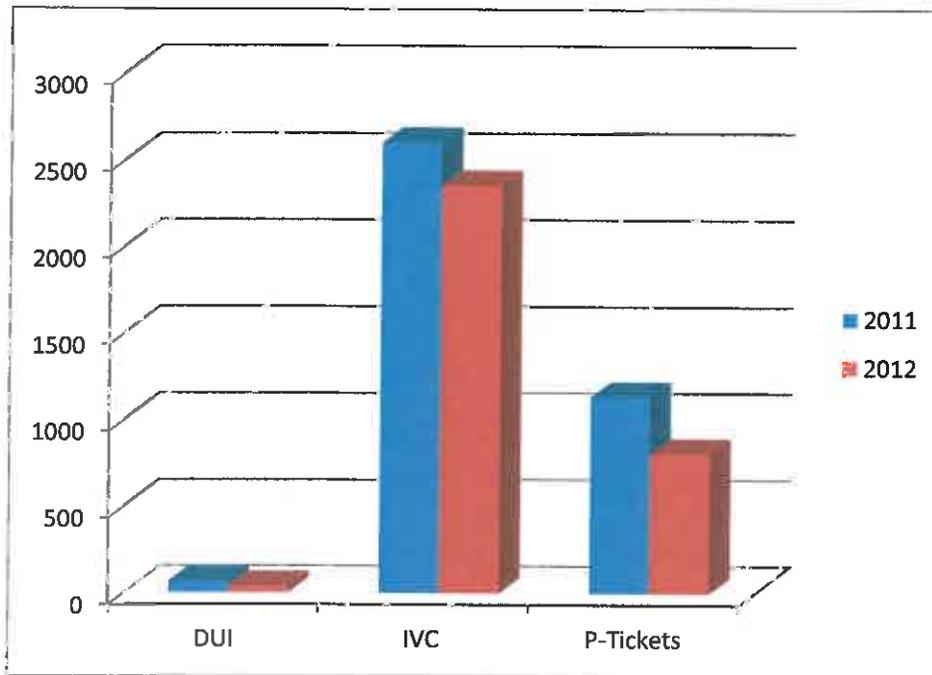


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TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT SUMMARY

| YEAR | 2011 | 2012 |
|--------------------------------------|------|------|
| DUI | 67 | 38 |
| IVC Traffic Citations | 2600 | 2352 |
| Compliance/Parking Ordinance Tickets | 1134 | 806 |



Officers who are trained to review red light camera violations logged over 270 hours in 2012.

In 2012 the department closed (7) vehicle seizure arrest cases. The offenders arrested had committed the offenses of Driving Under the Influence (DUI) and Driving While License Revoked (DWLR). The possible penalty for such offenses may include the awarding, by a judge, of the vehicle to the arresting department. An approximate total of \$15,000 was received from these vehicle seizures.

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CANINE

The Willowbrook K-9 Unit is made up by Officer Dave Gaddis and his partner Icha. They also assist with the Felony Investigative Assistance Team (FIAT). Officer Gaddis is also the Assistant K-9 Coordinator.

The K-9 Unit participated in over (290) hours of training which included school locker searches, offender tracking and narcotics searches. The K-9 Unit had (7) successful offender tracks which involved the crimes of burglary, retail theft and other offenses. The K-9 Unit discovered (6) hidden narcotics locations within vehicles during arrest incidents. In addition, Willowbrook Investigators and State Investigators conducted a search warrant in which the K-9 Unit assisted. Investigators recovered narcotics and seized other various assets as a result of this search.

The Willowbrook K-9 Unit has conducted various community demonstrations which are always positively received and greatly appreciated. Icha assists neighboring departments, when available, which keeps her vigilant in her trained specialties. Icha has proven to be a valuable resource to the community.



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NEW ASSIGNMENTS

In February Police Officer Nick Volek was selected to represent the department as a member of Northern Illinois Police Alarm System (NIPAS). As a member he was assigned to the Mobile Field Force. NIPAS currently has (93) agency members. The assignment and agreement provide another resource for mutual aid in case of a large civil unrest incident. The officer's training and resources are an invaluable addition to the police department assets.



Officer Dan Polfliet was assigned as the Peer Jury Liaison. The Peer Jury Program is a positive, court diversion process that is for the non-violent first time juvenile offender. Peer Jury is a positive approach to juvenile crime that often has a greater impact on the juvenile offender than court. Numerous juveniles receiving this sentence have gone on to have no further negative police interaction. The juveniles have responded positively and have become productive youths in our community.



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INTERNAL AFFAIRS INVESTIGATION

As an accredited law enforcement agency, the Willowbrook Police Department annually releases the department's Internal Affairs Investigations summary for the prior year. During 2012 there was one officer complaint for rudeness which was found to be unsubstantiated.

| 2011 Allegations | Sustained | Unsubstantiated | Unfounded | Exonerated | Suspended | Total |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|------------|-----------|-------|
| Conduct Unbecoming | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rudeness | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Unintentional Contact | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Allegations | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

| 2012 Allegations | Sustained | Unsubstantiated | Unfounded | Exonerated | Suspended | Total |
|-----------------------|-----------|-----------------|-----------|------------|-----------|-------|
| Conduct Unbecoming | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Rudeness | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Unintentional Contact | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Total Allegations | 0 | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Sustained The investigation disclosed sufficient evidence to clearly prove the allegation made in the complaint.

Unsubstantiated The investigation was unable to discover sufficient evidence or clearly prove the allegation made in the complaint.

Unfounded The investigation found that the allegation did not occur or failed to involve department personnel.

Exonerated The allegation did occur, but the acts were justified, lawful and proper.

Suspended The investigation failed to reveal, after all known leads have been exhausted, the identity of or the involvement of a department member, in any part of the allegation; but there still remains a possibility that with new evidence, the allegation can be substantiated.

Policy Failure The investigation revealed the acts did occur; however the employee was acting in accordance with established department policy.

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UPGRADED POLICE FACILITY

In 2012 the department underwent some facility upgrades. All of which were paid for through D.E.A. assigned officer's asset forfeiture funds. A new polymer floor was installed throughout the patrol room, lockup / booking room area and the squad room.

The patrol area, supervisors' area and front office areas had all the wallpaper removed and was then painted. This upgrade was well needed and gives the department façade and working areas a fresh and professional finish.



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OFFICERS' TRAINING

We invite the opportunity in this constantly changing field of law enforcement to develop new officer safety, public safety awareness techniques and training. Keeping updated with new training is an on-going activity with all departments. The Willowbrook Police Department prides itself on having its officers provided with professional and the most efficient procedures to stay sharp and focused on their job assignments.

Areas of training and certification included Tactical Police Driving, Law Review Updates, Breathalyzer Re-certification, Acting Patrol Officer In Charge, Canine Operations, Juvenile Law, Homicide Investigation and Evidence Technician Certification.

Officers completed over (400) hours of training in 2012. Most of this training was conducted by Northeast Multi Regional Training (NEMRT), the mobile training unit which is state certified.



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CADET PROGRAM

The Cadets provided over 1000 hours in assistance to the Village and the Police Department with events and assorted projects including:

- Underage Tobacco Enforcement
- Underage Alcohol Enforcement
- Family Fun Fest – Gower Middle School
- St. Baldrick's Celebration – Kerry Piper
- Pet Parade - LaGrange P.D.
- Daisy 5K Run – Clarendon Hills P.D.
- Front office duties due to staff shortage
- Burr Ridge Police Department Open House
- Distributed Flyers reference Residential Burglary
- Halloween (Handed out Glow Sticks)

The Cadets also conducted over (150) hours with the Ride-Along program, and participated in over (82) hours of training covering the following topics:

- History of Law Enforcement
- Traffic Stops
- Burglary
- Building Searches
- Search and Arrest
- Bomb Search
- Domestic Disputes
- Crime Scene Investigations



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CHILD PASSENGER SAFETY SEAT PROGRAM

The Willowbrook Police Department's certified child passenger safety seat technicians assist at numerous fire department open house events and many other community events. In addition, they help and assist residents identify unsafe or incorrectly installed child safety seats, along with providing instruction on the correct installation of child seats.

Our technicians assisted with many installations and actually installed (56) child passenger safety seats during 2012.



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SENIOR WILLOWBROOK ADULTS CONNECTED

Once again, the Willowbrook Police Department continued its successful senior citizen forum in 2012 called Senior Willowbrook Adults Connected (SWAC). Three times a year, seniors gather with members of the police department and are provided informative topics regarding telephone and computer fraud, ruse burglaries and general crime prevention tips that are helpful to our elderly citizens.

In the spring the police department has a bingo event which is also held in conjunction with some crime prevention or community programs. The event has grown each year with 2012 being the highest attended yet. Over (100) seniors attended and enjoyed a fun-filled afternoon of bingo, good fellowship and snacks.

