



Windsor Heights Police Department

Phone: (515) 277-4453

1133 66<sup>th</sup> Street

Fax: (515) 271-8160

Windsor Heights, Iowa 50324

[www.windsorheights.org](http://www.windsorheights.org)

To: Honorable Mayor & City Council Members through City Administrator

From: Dennis W. McDaniel, Chief of Police

Date: November 12, 2014

Re: Police Department Monthly Report for October '14

## Monthly Summary

Patrol Summary: The month of October saw a decrease in calls for service but an increase in arrests. In total the police department logged 733 calls for service, of which 261 were traffic stops; we took 126 case reports and made 138 arrests. A complete listing of comparison crime data between 2013 & 2014 is attached for your review.

### *Points of interest from Patrol this month:*

On October 8<sup>th</sup> a WHPD Officer conducted a traffic stop on a vehicle that was speeding on 70<sup>th</sup> Street. During the traffic stop it was discovered that a passenger in the vehicle was armed with a handgun. The passenger did not have a permit for the concealed handgun. Officers safely seized the handgun and ammunition from the passenger. The passenger was arrested for illegally possessing a handgun. Proactive traffic enforcement not only makes for safer roadways, it also plays a significant role in discovering more serious crimes.

This month officers also had a successful apprehension of two subjects who fled on foot. Two male individuals were reported by Hy-Vee as shoplifters. The two individuals were located by a patrol officer. When they were approached by the officer the two subjects fled on foot. The responding officer chased one of the subjects down in a foot pursuit and took him into custody. The other suspect was located minutes later and taken into custody.



### *Canine (K-9) Unit*

Officer Canada and Argos traveled to Manhattan Kansas for the Heart of America Canine Association trials October 5<sup>th</sup> through the 11<sup>th</sup>. The trials are a series of tests and events that K-9 teams must pass to re-certify with the Heart of America Canine Association [This is critical in establishing probable cause in the field and throughout the court process.]. The tests simulate real life scenarios that police K-9 teams' face. These tests include: tracking, obedience, live gun fire scenarios, article/evidence searches, building searches, area searches, narcotics, and handler protection. The narcotics section certifies the K-9 team on multiple illegal drugs including methamphetamine, marijuana, cocaine, ecstasy, and heroin. Officer Canada and Argos had the fastest successful building search out of the group of K-9 teams at the trials and completed all of their trials successfully.

Officer Canada and Argos did not have any street deployments in October due to the trials, training, and much earned vacation.



Investigations Summary: In October investigators were assigned 7 new cases for investigation, 3 cases were cleared by arrest, 0 cases became inactive, 0 cases were cleared exceptionally, and 0 cases were unfounded. Investigators also made 6 arrests, issued 0 arrest warrants, wrote 1 search warrant, and issued 0 subpoenas. Presently there are 16 open cases that investigators are actively carrying over for further follow up into the next month.

October focused on the investigation of two theft cases, two unlawful uses of credit card cases, and two sex abuse cases. In each of these cases, investigators worked towards a successful resolution through the cooperation with area law enforcement, the issuance of court orders, and/or the arrest(s) of those responsible.

In the first part of October, Detective Pearson took over a patrol officer's investigation of an aggravated theft from a local merchant. During this incident a suspect punched a loss prevention employee in the face after they were approached for shoplifting. Detective Pearson identified the suspect in this incident through interviews with various witnesses. The suspect was avoiding detectives during this investigation but was ultimately located and arrested.

Detective Pearson began work on a second theft case in the month of October involving over \$1,000 worth of merchandise being stolen. Both Detective Pearson and Detective Woods worked diligently to identify the suspects involved in this incident. Detectives spoke to multiple parties involved in this case and used publicly accessible information to recover all of the property known to be stolen. They also arrested five individuals for their involvement. Additionally, this investigation cleared cases in two neighboring jurisdictions.

In the middle of October, a patrol officer was called to a local residence for a minor that had gone missing. During the initial parts of this investigation officers became concerned that a kidnapping situation couldn't be ruled out and continued taking the necessary steps escalating the need for immediate personnel resources. Detectives and executive staff were notified and the department began coordinating efforts with multiple Midwest jurisdictions to locate/recover this individual. During the Amber Alert process, Officers and Detective Pearson continued to work the situation at their level. Through their efforts and the diligent efforts of the Polk County Communications Center, the victim was located and taken out of harm's way in a nearby Midwestern state.

The juvenile was returned that night (into the morning) to the parent's residence. Detectives continued to work throughout the night and into the following morning and afternoon speaking with witnesses and collecting forensic evidence. During the subsequent follow-up investigation in the days that followed, detectives collaborated with investigators from another state to process a crime scene and retrieve evidence. The suspect was arraigned to be transported (extradited) back to Iowa and was ultimately charged with Sex Abuse 3<sup>rd</sup> degree in the Polk County court system. Additional referrals, counseling, interviews, and court hearings have followed.

Also in the month of October, detectives continued to work a multi-jurisdictional fraud case. This case has resulted in multiple search warrants from multiple agencies involved as well as various cooperative efforts among all lead investigators, the Polk County Attorney's Office, and federal agencies. This case will continue to be investigated to its conclusion.

Other investigative efforts in October focused around investigator interviews and summations of a dynamic relationship in which one party is alleging sex abuse.

Information was collected in October regarding criminal activity from a person's credit card. This case was unique as our agency has taken an assisting role to an out-of-state agency, investigating one of the persons related to this case. Detectives have exchanged information and continue to investigate the criminal elements within our jurisdiction.

The cases managed by the Investigations section are those that go beyond the typical resources and timeframes available for officers assigned to the Patrol Division. These cases are difficult to solve, often require coordination with outside organizations or jurisdictions, and many times involve additional subpoenas, search warrants, surveillance, or technical expertise (examples would be burglaries, identity thefts, fraud/forgery, sexual assaults, serious crimes against persons, death investigations, etc.). Cases that result in a status of suspended have been reviewed and investigated where neither identifiable suspect(s) nor probable cause exists for an arrest.

Additionally, multiple times a month, investigators from the Windsor Heights Police Department collaborate with neighboring jurisdictions to reduce criminal intentions through the use of technology and meetings and also share intelligence information.

Training Summary: In the months of September and October, in-service trainings were split between firearm night qualifications and precision driving. Two groups of officers alternated training topics so all officers were covered by four training dates throughout September and October. On October 15<sup>th</sup> officers participated in precision driving training at the DMAACC Driver Training Center. Driving Instructor Meyer conducted the training. Precision driving encompasses all police driving skills - from low speed backing and parking to high speed response and vehicle pursuits. This training is also very important as patrol officers spend most of their time behind the wheel – often time multi-tasking with divided attention.

On October 29<sup>th</sup> officers attended night fire training and handgun night qualifications at the Des Moines Police Department's indoor shooting range. Firearms Instructors Pearson and Metzger conducted low light training drills that focused on the officers' ability to utilize their sidearm in low light and no-light situations. This training is crucial as many officers work their shifts in the dark or enter into low light areas during the course of their duties.



This month Chief McDaniel, Lt. Meyer and Lt. Kendig attended and Officer Involved Shooting and Critical Incident Training. The training was hosted by the Marshalltown Police Department and taught by Bevel, Gardner and Associates. The material covered investigation of critical incidents involving police officers.

On October 23<sup>rd</sup> Detective Woods spent the day at a local road safety workshop in Ames Iowa. This workshop put out information regarding the Iowa Department of Transportation's capabilities and tools for traffic enforcement on Iowa's roadways.

Lt. Meyer, Lt. Kendig and Officer Gillett went to the Des Moines Police Academy for training on October 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. The curriculum pertained to police response to disasters in the first fifteen minutes of the event. Chief McDaniel and Lt. Meyer attended the executive training day on October 30<sup>th</sup>. The course was taught by DPREP, LLC. This is a company that specializes in training emergency response agencies in how to prepare and respond to disasters. Chief McDaniel worked closely with command staff from the Des Moines Police Department to bring this training opportunity to the Metro. Plans are already being discussed to hold an additional three day training course for first-line supervisors and mid-level commanders that will be the primary officers responsible for initial implementation of the incident command system during a major event.

October 24-29 Chief McDaniel traveled to Orlando Florida for the annual International Association of Chiefs of Police conference. More than 10,000 police chiefs and administrators attend this conference annually to share lessons learned, discuss emerging law enforcement issues, review existing best practices, and network/share resources. This year Chief McDaniel attended continuing education sessions focused on Community Oriented Policing, managing problem employees and morale killers, getting back to the fundamentals of policing, a chief's role in civil rights allegations, police officer suicide prevention, public policy and community alignment, decreasing public resources and increasing public demand, policing in the 21<sup>st</sup> century, and the Police Executive Research Forum's annual town hall meeting.

Reserve Program: Applicants completed their oral board interviews on October 21<sup>st</sup>. Background investigations will continue into November.

Community Outreach Summary: Community awareness and services for the TCSC focused on public interaction through various planning meetings and one special event in the month of October. Traffic & Community Safety Coordinator Amanda Woods was involved in 5 hours of outreach to the public. As the department strives to partner with the community to provide education and service, Officer Woods worked with the Safe Kids of Iowa, Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau, Special Olympics of Iowa, and the Community Education Council. Additionally, Woods assisted with criminal investigations and further facilitated events during planning meetings.

In October, Officer Woods was appointed as the department's second Detective. This was somewhat of a "battlefield promotion" by Chief McDaniel during the middle of a resource intensive investigation. For the last several months Officer Woods has repeatedly demonstrated unselfish work, personal sacrifice, and commitment to the department's core values. She has consistently been assisting with investigations out of need for a second fulltime investigator and has regularly facilitated successful case outcomes. Officer - now Detective - Woods will remain the department's Traffic & Community and Safety Coordinator with her primary daily functions focused on interactions with the community; however, she will be assigned a regular investigative caseload that may take priority to other assigned events based upon agency needs for efficient and effective law enforcement action. The greater issue at the root of this resource void will be addressed thoroughly in the proposed budget requests for FY16.

This month Detective Woods participated in a local road safety workshop hosted by the Department of Transportation. This workshop provided additional knowledge about resources through the DOT such as a GTSB trailer for safety checkpoints. They also offered accident investigation assistance for commercial vehicles. The DOT is taking a new look at road safety through the use of designing new roads or by helping existing ones with grant funding.



October hosted another evening for “Tip a Cop” at Buffalo Wild Wings as part of the Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run fundraiser. The TCSC and other department members collected over \$1,500 in funds to be used for athletes who participate in the Special Olympics of Iowa. Good luck athletes! We enjoy making your ‘games’ a memorable experience!

In October’s WH churches meeting church representatives discussed having a thanksgiving meal at the Lutheran Church and wanting to help the community with various service projects. The committee discussed making quilts as fundraisers, helping out the food pantry, or helping the police association with “Shop with a Cop” in December.

At October’s Clive School meeting, Detective Woods walked through the school with Polk County Emergency Management representatives emphasizing where to go and what to do in the case of a tornado. Emergency planners created some great discussion with school staff and went back later in the afternoon during an actual drill. At the Clive School Safety meeting, Detective Woods met with teachers, the interim principal, and other staff to discuss limited access to the building, fire drills, active shooters, radio communications, and recapped the tornado drill.

During October’s SafeKids Coalition meeting the committee discussed media messages for the month to include: farm safety, pedestrian safety, and fire safety. The committee received cards to hand out in conjunction with those topics. The fit station was also discussed and a committee member advised that, on average, 25 – 35 seats are being checked monthly.

Special Olympics meeting – the committee recapped past fundraisers, discussed how they could help the upcoming Des Moines Polar Plunge. They also discussed volunteers being needed for the dunk tank (Dunk-A-Cop) at the Iowa Wild tailgate party.



Detective Woods provided instruction to a new substitute crossing guard for Clive Elementary School this month. Children grades K - 6<sup>th</sup> grade cross 73<sup>rd</sup> Street daily under the direction and supervision of a crossing guard that the police department employs.

At the Community Education Executives meeting the executive board went over minutes from the last meeting and crime reports within WH, Clive, WDM & Urbandale and made an agenda for the next meeting to include stats from the Iowa youth & WDM schools. This information will prepare and guide the Community Education Committee to make more informed decisions.

The TCSC also worked with patrol officers during this year's Beggar's Night and handed out 50 Halloween bags. Each bag contained glow sticks, reflective zipper pulls, and education materials for the evening. It was a successful evening and all bags were snatched up quickly.

The TCSC assisted with other duties to include working with investigations on three cases, participated in one search warrant, and conducted an employment background check. She also disseminated reliable and relevant information to the public: Woods distributed 24 social media messages and was needed to supplement patrol staffing 26 hours in the month of October.

Automated Traffic Enforcement: The Automatic Traffic Enforcement program continued with its mobile deployments targeting flagrant violators on our roadways (speeders >11mph over the posted speed limit). The intent of this program is to change driver behavior. The TCSC deployed automated enforcement equipment 453 hours in the month of October. There were 280 citations issued with 20 violations being rejected during final processing.

There were 4 citations contested and 3 citations brought before an administrative review hearing. The administrative review board determined 4 citations to be liable, 0 were found not liable, and 0 were listed as an 'other' status. An 'other' status is a typical result of a party first contesting a citation but then choosing to pay it prior to the administrative review hearing.

An ATE software and processing center transition was completed towards the middle of this month. The department's vendor (Gatso USA) has brought the daily task of event processing in-house, whereas before they were using a third party vendor. Now that the new software is up and running and the processing center change-over has occurred, we anticipate this transition will allow for quicker processing time of violations from capture to the time a citation is issued. Our goal is to shrink the duration of time a vehicle owner has to wait to receive notice of his/her violation - ideally changing driver behavior that much sooner.

As always, if you have any suggestions or questions on the programming my department offers, concerns with policing activities we engage in, or thoughts on how we may better serve you, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Dennis W. McDaniel  
Chief of Police  
[dmcdaniel@windsorheights.org](mailto:dmcdaniel@windsorheights.org)







# TRAFFIC SAFETY CAMERA UPDATE – OCTOBER 2014



Speeding Citations Issued	271
Speeding Citations YTD	5200
Speeding Citations Program to Date	10,634



Monthly Violations Detected-Mobile	362
Total Violations YTD	7,196
Total Violations Program to Date	16,480
Monthly Hours Deployed-Mobile	453
Total Hours Deployed YTD	6873.5
Total Hours Deployed Prog to Date	16,456.5



Citations Paid Last Month	\$26,645
Vendor Amount Received	\$9,975
City Amount Received	\$16,670
Citations Paid YTD	\$249,930
Vendor Amount Received	\$93,675
City Amount Received	\$156,255
Citations Paid Program to Date	\$509,895
Vendor Amount Received	\$190,875
City Amount Received	\$319,020



QTR

Speeding Trend Over Last Qtr.	-- mph
Speeding Citations-Previous Qtr.	↓ 42.75%
Cited Drivers Avg. Speed Over Limit	-- mph



Citations issued are below average during software & processing center transition period. Enforcement deployments resumed. Camera focus adjustments were made for better image quality. Quarter averages are incomplete with a partial deployment month using new software.