



PAYSON POLICE DEPARTMENT

2012 ANNUAL REPORT



A message from the Chief of Police...

In summary for 2012, the Payson Police Department handled a total of 20030 calls for service, compared to last year; the police department handled a total of 20956 calls for service. This slight decrease could be explained in several ways. As we know, the population of the town of Payson has decreased slightly during the last year. Also, the Payson Police Department has been very short on patrol personnel in 2012, and oftentimes, officers generate on view activity, which results in a call for service. It is expected that once the Payson Police Department is at full staff, that the calls for service will meet or exceed the 2011 totals.

Another noteworthy topic is the slight increase in the Uniform Crime Reporting activity. There was a slight increase from 655 in 2011 for UCR reported crimes to 674 in 2012. This has a net result on the increase of the Index Crime Rate of .3%. The Index Crime Rate figure for 2012 is 43.1.

The overall increase to the Index Crime Rate can be explained by an increase in burglaries. This increase was recognized in the late fall and early winter months of 2012, where the department was seeing an increase in vehicular burglaries within the community. Fortunately, the dollar losses in these burglaries were not exorbitant.

Once again, the employees of the Payson Police Department have exceeded expectations due to the fact that staffing levels were so low for the majority of the year. Their dedication and sacrifice to serving our community is greatly appreciated.

2012 Index Crimes

(Details on page 3)

<i>Homicide</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Arson</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Agg. Assault/Assault</i>	<i>42</i>
<i>Rape</i>	<i>0</i>
<i>Burglary</i>	<i>155</i>
<i>Robbery</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Motor Vehicle Theft</i>	<i>18</i>
<i>Theft</i>	<i>317</i>

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NEW EMPLOYEES IN 2012



***Officer
Rory Vaughn***

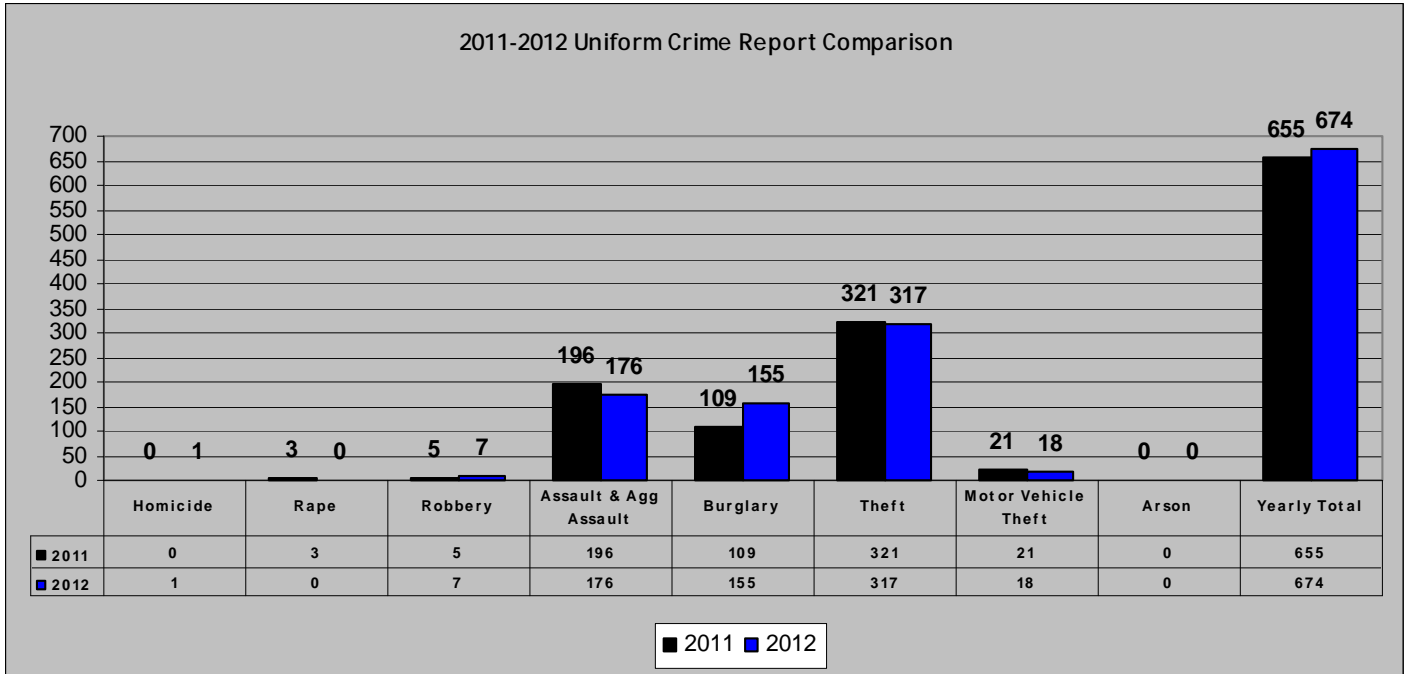
*The Payson Police
Department
struggled in 2012
with several
vacancies in the
communications and
patrol divisions*



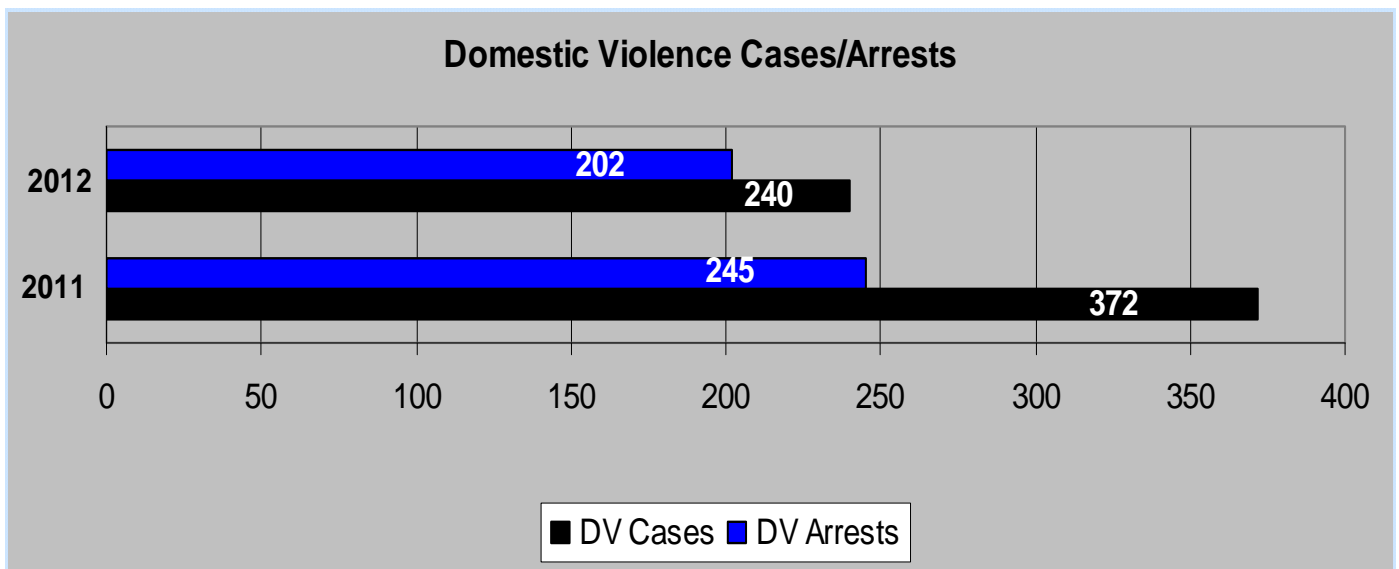
***Dispatcher
Rebecca Knauer***

In 2012 the Payson Police Department formed a “hiring committee.” This committee was made up of a police sergeant, a dispatcher, a civilian employee, and 3 police officers. In years past, the Payson Police Department would have an average of 30 police applicants in a normal hiring process. After the committee was established and a hiring process began, the total number of applicants was 166, very much exceeding our expectations. This was the most successful hiring process in the history of the Payson Police Department. We completed this process with 45 eligible applicants.

UNIFORM CRIME REPORTING



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



PATROL DIVISION



At the beginning of 2012, the Patrol Division had 13 officers and 4 patrol sergeants. However, during the year, Patrol lost 2 patrol officers and 1 sergeant. Due to these losses, other divisions in the department had to move in to cover vacant shifts. The department was able to bring on 1 certified officer later in the year, and 1 sergeant was transferred back to patrol. By the end of 2012, the Patrol Division had 12 officers of the allotted 17 and 4 sergeants covering Payson.

In 2012, Patrol responded to 13,493 calls for service, which resulted in 940 adult arrests and 228 juvenile arrests. The total Calls for Service was down by 1,153, as compared to 14,646 in 2011. The adult and juvenile arrests were slightly down in 2011,

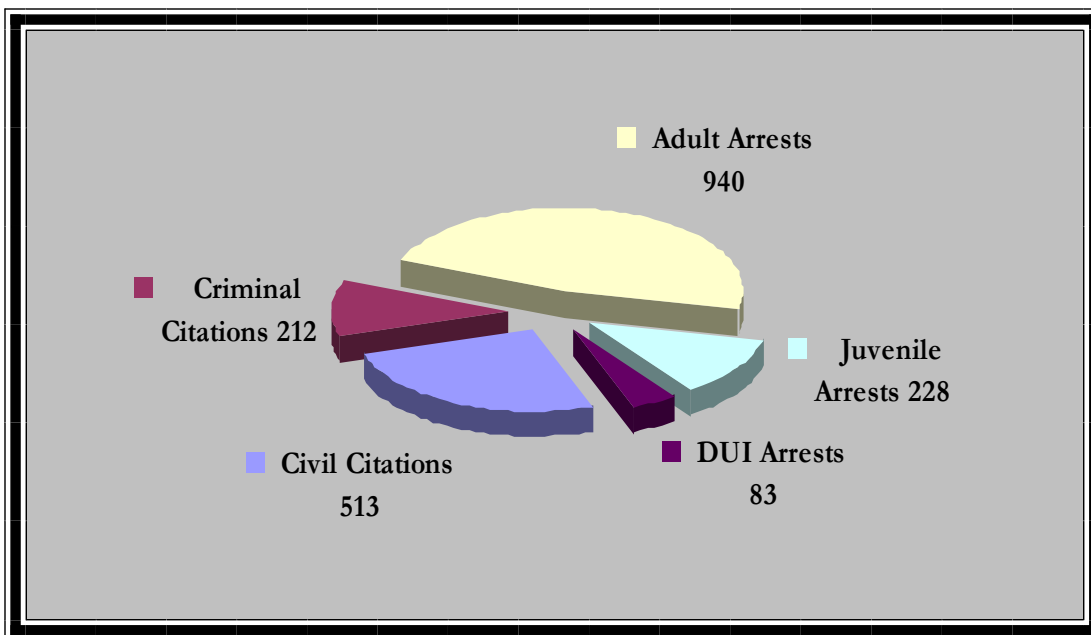
which were 1033 adult arrests and 280 juvenile arrests.

In the latter part of 2012 the Payson Police Department conducted a hiring process that will result in bringing the additional manpower needed in 2013 once they have attended a police academy and complete the required field training. The current 12 officers are looking forward to the additional officers to be fully staffed in the patrol division.

According to the most recent statistics from the US Census Bureau and the Arizona Department of Commerce, there are 15,301 residents living within the town limits of Payson. This breaks down to 1 officer/sergeant per 950 residents.

During 2012, there were 285 non-injury accidents, 57 injury accidents, and 1 fatal accident.

PATROL STATISTICS 2012



The patrol division not only handles calls for service, but is also proactive in traffic enforcement, saturation patrols, warrant arrests, and at times, is called upon by the Investigation Division if they are in need of additional manpower.

INVESTIGATIONS & NARCOTICS DIVISIONS

During 2012, the Investigations and Narcotics Units remained staffed with three general detectives and one narcotics investigator throughout the largest portion of the year.

During this time, the General Investigations Unit conducted 233 criminal investigations. The unit investigated one homicide, which was determined to be an ongoing domestic violence case in which a homicide was committed and then the suspect immediately took their own life.

The General Investigations Unit was also challenged with a rash of burglaries during the latter part of the year. Fortunately, these burglaries were of vehicles, and many of them did not involve damage to the victims' vehicles. It appears from the yearly statistics that this is the driving force behind the increase in the burglary rate during the last year. Fortunately, these were cases in which the perpetrator simply searched the unsecured vehicles and stole items of minimal value. Progress has been made in the investigations of these burglaries; however, the suspects have not been charged as of this time.

The Narcotics Division continues in a battle against the use of methamphetamine within our community. Along with that, unfortunately we have identified a growing heroin problem in the community as well, and have had several overdoses from heroin which, without medical intervention, would have been fatal in nature.

The Narcotics Division investigated 74 crimes and made 39 arrests during 2012.

The department hopes that as manpower improves, we may be able to add an additional detective to the Narcotics Division. We believe this would make us more efficient and be able to more thoroughly investigate the growing narcotics crimes that are persistent within our community.



COMMUNICATIONS

The Communications Center is in operation 365 days a year, 24 hours a day. Our staff is responsible for answering all 9-1-1 emergency phone calls, non-emergency phone calls, the dispatching of police, fire, and volunteer units. They are also responsible for the dispatching of other town departments after hours, holidays and weekends. In addition, our staff also handles the dispatching for other surrounding fire departments which include Hellsgate, Tonto Village, Christopher/Kohl's, Beaver Valley, Whispering Pines and Houston Mesa. The Center handled a total of 20,030 calls for service in 2012.

The Center continued to function in 2012 with a shortage of 4 dispatch positions. Three Dispatch Trainees were hired in 2012, two of which resigned their positions shortly after being hired. One trainee (hired in 2011) did not successfully complete their training. We also lost the services of 2 volunteers who assisted in the Center by answering non-emergency phone calls and completing clerical tasks. Also leaving the Dispatch Center was Communications Manager Sgt. Dean Faust who retired in September. We ended the year with our remaining staff, which includes the Communications Supervisor, 5 dispatchers, 1 reserve and 1 volunteer.

Senior Staff Members: Irma Bramlet, Communications Supervisor (21 years of service); Alison Murphy, Dispatcher/Shift

Leader/Training Supervisor (14 years of service).



L to R: Dispatcher Jill Van Camp

& Communications Supervisor

Irma Bramlet

RECORDS DIVISION

The Payson Police Department Records Division plays a very important role in the circle of law enforcement. Prompt and accurate processing and dissemination of the police reports and associated paperwork is an integral part of the judicial process.

The Records Division is staffed with two Record Clerks, Beth Lacey and Celena Ortiz, and a Records Administrator, Kathy Klein. They provide assistance to the officers, those working within our judicial system, and to the general public. In addition to their normal duties in 2012, Beth and Celena have also been providing part time coverage at the vacant Administrative Secretary desk and in Dispatch. There are also a few dedicated Volunteers who assist with filing and various duties.

In 2012, the Payson Police Department received 20,030 total calls for service. Payson Police Department officers responded to 13,493 of these calls. Many of these calls require the completion of a police report and, this year, the Records Division transcribed and processed approximately 820 reports per month. There are many additional functions of this division to include responding to requests for police reports from many sources.

Records Staff L to R:

Beth Lacey

Celena Ortiz

Kathy Klein



DARE

DARE is a program that is taught at the elementary and middle school level, teaching children to make wise decisions and the dangers of drug abuse. The Payson Police Department has been teaching the DARE program for 22 years and currently has two officers teaching to the 5th grade at Julia Randall Elementary School.

In 2012, 84 students graduated the DARE program and were recognized for their hard work during the 10-week course. The students were honored by having a graduation and pizza party for their tremendous work and efforts. Family and friends attended the graduation to honor their children and to give positive reinforcement for what their children learned throughout the course.

The Payson Police Department would also like to thank Wells Fargo Bank, Payson Regional Medical Center and Pizza Factory for their contribution to the DARE program.

The DARE program curriculum is undergoing a change, and the DARE officers are looking forward to teaching the program to future students.

Officer Matt Zimmerman is one of the Payson Police Department's DARE officers. He is shown here teaching D.A.R.E. in one of Payson's elementary schools.



SPECIAL RESPONSE TEAM

The Payson Police Department's Special Response Team (SRT) mission is to enhance officer safety through the use of teamwork, specialized equipment and training. The SRT members, which are selected by the chief of police, must possess skills and attributes that fit the missions of the team, and of the department. The following are the selected members of the SRT:



Donald Garvin	18 year -Team Leader
Matt Van Camp	14 years - Operator/Equip. Specialist
Chad DeSchaaf	7 years - Operator/Breecher
Jason Hazelo	5 years - Operator
Lorenzo Ortiz	4 years - Operator
Brandon Buckner	1 year - Operator
Justin Deaton	1 year - Operator
Matt Zimmerman	1 year - Operator (not shown)

Each member of the SRT has a primary role at the police department. Primary responsibilities include patrol officer, sergeant, or detective, and becoming a member is a commitment in addition to their primary responsibilities.

The SRT completes monthly training specializing in the area of less-lethal munitions, advanced building search tactics, specialized weapons and equipment training, and team approaches to resolving high-risk incidents

The SRT works closely with the Payson Police Department's negotiation unit, K-9 unit and the Special Enforcement Officer Division (SEO.) This year, a majority of the SRT calls dealt with assisting the Special Enforcement Officer Division and the Gila County Narcotics Task Force with drug related search warrants.

The team is investigating the possibility of adding a paramedic to the team. This would improve emergency medical treatment to persons involved in missions with the SRT.

K-9 UNIT

In 2012 the K-9 Unit was subject to limited use for many months due to the lack of a functioning vehicle. This created periods of time in which the canine was unable to be with his partner on a regular basis, as well as limiting call-out availability. The department was able to retrofit one of the newer fleet vehicles for K-9 usage and it is now up and running. With the newer vehicle we were able to implement much needed updates to the vehicle equipment and we now feel much better that the unit will not suffer many more periods of downtime due to equipment issues. This will increase the effectiveness of the team as well as increase deployment opportunities.

Even with the unexpected downtime in 2012, the unit deployed 23 times in various capacities including vehicle narcotic sniffs, building narcotic sniffs, building searches, area searches, and criminal apprehensions.

The team's goal for 2013 is to increase its role in combating the growing illegal drug problem in the area by working closely with both the Special Enforcement Unit and the Special Response Team.



*K-9 DEX in a mock
take-down. Officer
Bryan Watson wears a
bite suit for a public
presentation*



PUBLIC RELATIONS

The relationship between the Payson Police Department and the community is critical. Members of the Payson Police Department participate in several community policing programs to facilitate proactive approaches to address crime and/or safety related issues in the community. Some of the Community Policing Programs the Payson Police Department hosts are:

- ⇒ Drug Awareness
- ⇒ National Night Out (NNO)
- ⇒ Block Watch
- ⇒ Watch Your Vehicle Program
- ⇒ Vehicle Vin Etching
- ⇒ Click it or Ticket Campaign
- ⇒ Torch Run for Special Olympics
- ⇒ Drive Hammered Get Nailed Campaign
- ⇒ Bicycle Safety

Additionally, members of the Payson Police Department respond to requests from teachers to speak to students ranging from kindergarten to the high school level on a variety of educational topics. Many Community Policing presentations are formatted with civic organizations such as The Boy Scouts of America, Optimist Club, and Kiwanis Club.

Anyone interested in a Community Policing Program or a Public Relations detail can simply call the Payson Police Department at (928) 474-5177 to schedule a program.



*Chief Donald
Engler at the 2012
National Night
Out.*

VOLUNTEERS IN POLICING PROGRAM

2012 was another busy year for the Payson Police Department Volunteers In Policing Program. 42 committed local citizens are currently listed on our roster, contributing a total of over 9100 hours of their time to our police department and to the residents of this community during 2012. Several volunteers reached contribution milestones ranging from 7,000 to 10,000 hours. You realize just how amazing those numbers are when it is put in the prospective of an employer paying \$ 10.00 dollars per hour to an employee for 9100 hours. The wage cost alone (Not counting other employee contributions) is \$96,000 dollars. You can now imagine just how grateful we are for our volunteers, who since the start of the volunteer program, have donated over 129,000 total hours.

As in years past, our volunteers continue to help the Payson Police Department provide the following important and life saving programs to our citizens:

- Guardian Angel Program
- P.A.T.H. Program
- Vacation Home Watch
- Sex Offender Notifications
- Patrol Functions (To include Handicapped parking violations, speed enforcement, parades, etc.)
- Funeral Escorts

Numerous administrative positions in the Payson Police Department include:

- Reception
- Property / Evidence
- Office clerk

*Volunteers L to R:
Lynn Eivens
Sandy Lumsden
Margaret Holmes
at the 2012
Halloween Trunk or Treat*



ALARMS

The Payson Police Department responded to 424 alarms in 2012. Of the 424 alarms, 249 were commercial alarms and 175 were residential. Only 1 of the total calls was an actual burglary case. 423 were false alarms.

By December of 2012, the Payson Police Department had 197 active Residential alarm permits and 184 active Commercial alarm permits.



*For more information about
alarm permits, please contact*

Sgt. Jason Hazelo

jhazelo@paysonaz.gov



RESOURCES

Emergency.....	9-1-1
Non-Emergency.....	928-474-5177
Administration.....	928-474-5242 X220
Fax.....	928-474-4558
Web.....	www.paysonpolice.com
Chief Donald Engler.....	dengler@paysonaz.gov
Investigations - Sherwood Eldredge.....	seldredge@paysonaz.gov
Volunteers in Policing - Joni Varga.....	jvarga@paysonaz.gov
Animal Control - Don Tanner.....	dtanner@paysonaz.gov
Records - Kathy Klein.....	kklein@paysonaz.gov
Facility Tours - Chief Engler.....	dengler@paysonaz.gov
Watch Your Car - Joni Varga.....	jvarga@paysonaz.gov
Vehicle Impounds – Kim Becker.....	kbecker@paysonaz.gov
D.A.R.E. Jason Hazelo.....	jhazelo@paysonaz.gov
Silent Witness.....	928-HOT-TIPS (468-8477)

Visit the Town of Payson website at www.paysonaz.gov

