

Tomball Police Department

Annual Report 2008



“Pride, Professionalism, Integrity”

**Tomball Police Department
400 Fannin Street
Tomball, Texas 77375**

Message from the Chief

On behalf of the dedicated men and women of the Tomball Police Department, I present the 2008 Annual Report which highlights the exceptional efforts of those sworn "to protect and to serve" the citizens of our wonderful city. In spite of significant challenges such as natural disaster and a national recession, this has been a great year for Tomball!



I strongly believe there is nothing more important than working together, as a community, to ensure that we maintain a safe environment in which families can flourish, businesses can profit, and visitors can have fun. The members of the Tomball Police Department take serious their responsibilities, and are committed to this community. We are not satisfied with simply doing our part to maintain the high quality of life enjoyed in this great city, but instead strive to improve on a daily basis.

We are fortunate to be part of an exceptional community that is lead by an outstanding group of civic leaders, maintained by a committed team of public employees, and made up of caring and compassionate individuals, who together bring real meaning to the saying – "Tomball...it's a wonderful life!"

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Mission Statement

The mission of the Tomball Police Department is to protect and serve the Citizens of Tomball. As members of the Tomball Police Department, we dedicate ourselves to provide fair, impartial and ethical police service to all members of the community, with the highest degree of integrity, professionalism and respect.



Oath of Honor

On my honor, I will never betray my profession, my integrity, my character, or the public trust. I will always have the courage to hold myself and others accountable for our actions. I will always uphold the constitution, my community, and the agency I serve.



Commanding Officer: Captain Rick Grassi

Patrol Services Division

Patrol - Reserves - Traffic - S.R.T. - K9 - P.S.O.
Sworn: 32 Non-Sworn: 2

Patrol Services



The Patrol Services Division has the primary responsibility for the protection of the Citizens of the City of Tomball. It is the policy of this department to staff, equip and maintain a uniformed patrol component to engage in a wide variety of law enforcement activities. The primary goal of the Patrol Services Division is to protect the community and promote public safety through proactive policing services to reduce crime and traffic accidents.

To address this goal, the Patrol Services Division utilizes:

- > District Oriented Policing methods;
- > Crime Awareness Programs;
- > Field Interview Data Capture;
- > Proactive responsive public safety programs;
- > High-Profile and Covert Surveillance.

Reserve Unit

The Reserve Unit is an organizational component of the Patrol Services Division. Their members are sworn officers who volunteer their time to help protect and serve the City of Tomball. The Reserve Unit is comprised of a small number of very hard working police officers whose duties include:

- > Providing police presence, maintaining the peace and directing traffic, during city functions;
- > Provide crowd control and protection for Tomball Independent School District athletic functions;
- > Assist in the service of arrest warrants and processing of persons arrested during due-diligence arrest efforts.

Public Safety Officers

The Tomball Police Department implemented a Public Safety Officer program to assist sworn officer personnel in the overall functions of the City of Tomball Jail. The Public Safety Officers perform specialized law enforcement work in the care and security of prisoners. Duties include admitting and booking inmates, ensuring security of inmates by frequent jail checks, and preparing the inmates for transport to other security facilities.

S.R.T. *Strategic Response Team*



The Tomball Police Department's Strategic Response Team (SRT) consists of eight Police Officers who provide specialized services in support of the Tomball Police Department's mission as an ancillary duty. The main goal of the SRT is to provide protection and safety for innocent civilians and police personnel during high-risk incidents.

Strategic Response Team Mission Statement

The mission of the Tomball Police Department's Strategic Response Team is to deliver mental, physical and tactical preparedness in the face of crisis situations. The Strategic Response Team trains and deploys as a unit focused on trust, discipline and teamwork. In doing so, the Strategic Response Team stands ready to defend from harm and oppression, those who work, live and recreate in the community. The foundation of the Strategic Response Team is built on Honor, Integrity and Ethics. The Team's mission will be conducted with the utmost professionalism and excellence.



Traffic

To focus on traffic enforcement and minimize traffic accidents, the Tomball Police Department maintains a specialized traffic enforcement position to target high risk traffic accident areas throughout the City of Tomball. In 2008, the City of Tomball experienced a 28% decrease in motor vehicle accidents. This is partly due to completion of the Tomball Expressway.

Narcotic K9 Unit



In an effort to detect and reduce the amount of illegal drugs being transported through the City of Tomball, the Tomball Police Department maintains a Narcotic K9 Unit. Since its inception, the Narcotic K9 Unit has been instrumental in removing several pounds of drugs from the streets of Tomball.



Commanding Officer: Captain Rickey Doerre

Criminal Investigations Division

Investigations - Communications - Records
Technology - Personnel - Community Partnership
Sworn: 8 Non-Sworn: 11

Criminal Investigations Division



Investigations Unit

- > Follow up on cases not initially cleared by Patrol Division;
- > Recognize and document patterns of crime;
- > Conduct Surveillance;
- > Coordinate with and assist other agencies;
- > Gather and disseminate information to other Divisions and agencies;
- > Interview suspects, witnesses, victims and arrested persons;
- > Initiate narcotics cases;
- > Work with all confidential informants;
- > Conduct undercover and special operations;
- > Maintain records and interviews with listed sexual offenders residing in Tomball.

Property and Evidence

- > Preserve and maintain all evidence;
- > Bar-code, package, record and store evidence for court and/or future use;
- > Submit items to the Harris County Medical Examiner's Office: evidence, narcotics, etc.;
- > Maintain chain of custody and a high level of security with all evidence storage procedures.;
- > Purge evidence, narcotics and property associated with adjudicated cases in accordance with court orders.

Crime Scene Investigations

- > Process and document Major Crime Scenes;
- > Collect, preserve and develop all evidence;
- > Assist in the identification, apprehension and prosecution of suspects.

Personnel

- > Complete all background investigations and fulfill requirements for hiring process on all new applicants to the Tomball Police Department;
- > Career Development - Provides employees with the opportunity for individual growth, development, and personal job satisfaction at all levels of employment.

Communications & Records



Communications

A fast and accurate communications system is vital to our public safety mission. Receiving and dispatching citizen calls for service, and providing a communications link between officers and the department is the primary responsibility of the Communications Division. It is the policy of this department to provide, maintain and staff a professional Communications Division responsible for the following:

- > Receiving and dispatching all Police and Fire calls for service;
- > Answering all emergency 9-1-1 calls and dispatching proper emergency personnel;
- > Maintaining connection between the public and the Police;
- > Maintaining constant communication with field personnel;
- > Maintaining the Computer Aided Dispatch System and entering all computer generated material into various national, state, and local systems.

Records

The Records Division is responsible for collecting, disseminating, maintaining, filing and controlling departmental records through the use of automated electronic and hard file records keeping systems. The Records Specialists are also responsible for maintaining, filing and controlling the following records:

- > Incident Reports;
- > Accident Reports;
- > Supplemental Reports;
- > Arrest Packets;
- > Open Records Requests.



F.B.I. Partnership

F.B.I. Greater Houston Regional Forensics Laboratory

The Tomball Police Department is an active member in the F.B.I. Regional Computer Forensics Laboratory. Detective Rose Hubbard successfully completed all of her required coursework in digital evidence and is a Certified Examiner. Thus far, the department has received training and equipment in return for our participation. Armed with knowledge and expertise, Detective Hubbard provides digital evidence preservation and training to our officers and detectives.

S.R.O. *School Resource Officer*



In an effort to provide Tomball Independent School District (T.I.S.D.) students with a safe and secure learning environment, T.I.S.D. and the Tomball Police Department partner in the School Resource Officer (S.R.O.) program. The S.R.O. enforces federal, state and local laws on T.I.S.D. property. The S.R.O. acts as a liaison between T.I.S.D. and Tomball Public Safety Agencies, ensuring open lines of communication and fostering a cooperative spirit.

While enforcement and instruction are fundamental duties of the S.R.O., the ability to connect with students on a personal level, via after school programs, are instrumental in developing both the S.R.O. and individual students' leadership and growth potential.



T.P.O.A. *Tomball Police Officers Association*

The Tomball Police Officers Association (T.P.O.A.) is a non-profit organization consisting of members of the Tomball Police Department. The organization provides assistance to sworn and non-sworn members of the Tomball Police Department in the form of arranging benefit fundraisers for employees following illness or loss. The T.P.O.A. also reaches out to the community through annual scholarships to high school seniors and the "Shop with a Cop" program.

The T.P.O.A. is entirely funded by member and community support.

Police Chaplains

The Tomball Police Department implemented a Chaplaincy program consisting of two chaplains - Gary Crowe and Scott Benjamin. The chaplains are trained and prepared to provide a wide variety of services to officers, their families, and other members of the department and/or community as needed. Both chaplains are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year to respond to crisis. In addition to email and cell phone communication, a "Chaplain Box" has been installed in the department for private, anonymous or non-emergency requests.

Both Police Chaplains also work closely with Tomball Fire Chaplain, Tara Dorroh, to help provide city-wide assistance to those in need of spiritual, emotional or situational advice and assistance.

Technology



Modern day policing goes above and beyond officer patrolling the city in police cars readily available to respond to citizen's calls for service. In this day and age, effective law enforcement is technology driven.

The Tomball Police Department has taken an aggressive stance in regards to the technology implemented to take proactive measures on crime, response times and community assistance within the City of Tomball.

In 2005, the Tomball Police Department provided a greater level of convenience to the community, as well as the ability to expand the communication capabilities with local law enforcement officials by implementing a community based interactive website, www.tomballpd.com. Since its inception, the Tomball Police Department website has offered a variety of information about departmental activities, statistics and contact information. The site also allows the community to interact with the Tomball Police Department from the comfort of their own home or office with the capabilities of reporting crimes, comments on officer activities, traffic complaints, vacation watch requests and sex offender searches. The website also allows individuals involved in motor vehicle accidents the opportunity to obtain accident reports online.

The Tomball Police Department created a virtual office of technology inside the patrol vehicles to provide patrol officers with all the tools and information needed to increase their field patrol effectiveness. Each patrol unit is equipped with a Mobile Data Computer (MDC) and recently upgraded Digital Video Recording (DVR) Camera systems which electronically transmit videos from the vehicle to the Police Department each time the patrol unit parks at the station.

Although technology will never take the place of a police officer, it proves to be a highly cost-effective aid in proactively fighting crime within the community.



Police Department Upgrades

In 2008, the Tomball Police Department completed several important and necessary upgrades thanks to the support of the Mayor, City Council and Citizenry. The completion of these projects transformed the Tomball Police Department into a more modern and functional organization.



Firing Range

The new firing range opened on July 12, 2008. This facility replaced an outdated range and brought the Tomball Police Department “up to date,” with state of the art equipment. The range is located behind Tomball Volunteer Fire Station #2 on Holderreith.

**Photo courtesy of Anna Schumann and Tomball Potpourri.*

Crime Scene Processing

The Crime Scene Investigations team received a processing room complete with new forensic equipment. The newly acquired space and equipment have enabled CSI to more efficiently perform their duties.



Evidence and Property Room

In 2008, the Tomball Police Department created a new Evidence and Property Room. The room has increased space and security, and has allowed Detective Jones, our Evidence and Property Custodian, to streamline the process of cataloging, storing and purging evidence.

Server Room Expansion

The Tomball Police Department Server Room was expanded and upgraded to include a separate dedicated climate control system to regulate the rooms’ temperature and humidity level. This also created room to walk between and service the multiple machines, without a risk of compromising surrounding servers, and also allows for expansion.



Keyless Entry

In 2008, the Tomball Police Department installed a new keyless entry system on all exterior and select interior doors. This system allows employees to unlock doors by placing a keycard near a sensor. The East Door was set up to automatically open when triggered in order to increase officer safety while transporting prisoners.

2008 Awards Recipients

Rookie of the Year: Officer Jason Welch

Eligibility: Any sworn officer with less than two-year's service with the department who has consistently demonstrated exceptional competency and job performance ability within their first two years of employment.



Officer of the Year: Detective Brandon Plagens

Eligibility: Any non-supervisory sworn officer of the department who over the course of the award period made significant, consistent and/or lasting contribution(s) to the department or its public safety mission to protect and serve the community.

Supervisor of the Year: Sergeant Ron Stewart

Eligibility: Any supervisory member of the rank of Police Sergeant or above who demonstrates exceptional professional competency and a dedicated commitment to both the department and to subordinates under his or her supervision.



Wayne Stovall Police Service Award: Officer Craig Swinghammer

Eligibility: Any sworn or non-sworn member of the department who, in their official capacity, unselfishly places service above self in his/her work activities which support the community and/or better the quality of life for our citizens.



George Olin Police Leadership Award: Sergeant Keith Bitz

Eligibility: Any sworn member of the department who demonstrates exceptional leadership attributes of loyalty, honesty, integrity, professionalism and/or ethical conduct.



Civilian of the Year: Administrative Assistant Angela Fagg

Eligibility: Any non-sworn civilian member of the department who over the course of the award period made significant, consistent and/or lasting contribution to the department or to the department's mission to protect and serve the community.

Police Volunteer of the Year: Christine Lee

Eligibility: Any member of a police volunteer program, VIP's or Police Reserve, who unselfishly demonstrated a significant volunteer commitment to the department through their time, their talent, their presence or their service.



Chief's Unit Citation of Merit: Tomball Police Officers' Association

Eligibility: Any division or organization within the department which has been recognized by the Chief for consistent outstanding service to the citizens of Tomball, as well as members of the Tomball Police Department.

Community Based Programs

Volunteers in Police Services

Effective crime prevention requires the active support of citizens - a partnership between the police department and the community. Private and public agencies have realized for decades the value of volunteers in enhancing their workforce. The volunteers play a vital role in the department's vision to engage the community in a problem solving partnership to reduce crime and positively affect the quality of life in the community.

In an effort to enhance police services, The Tomball Police Department implemented the Volunteers in Police Services Program. The program has been designed to combine the professionalism and experience of department personnel with the creativity and enthusiasm of community volunteers, by offering volunteer opportunities within the department to citizens. The Tomball Police Department has made volunteers an integral component of the support services program.

In 2008, the Tomball Police Department partnered 41 active volunteers, following the graduation of the 2008 Citizen's Police Academy and VIPS training course.

Over the past year, the tasks and duties of the volunteers have broadened to meet the needs of the police department and the community. The duties of the volunteers may vary according to their level of clearance and job task training. Volunteers have the opportunity to perform a multitude of functions for the agency such as:

- > Knightwatch / Daywatch
- > Handicap Parking Enforcement
- > Technical Support
- > Special Projects / Events Assistant
- > Warrant Detail / Administrative Assistant
- > Assistance in Disaster
- > Records Assistant
- > CALEA Certification
- > Investigations / Detective Assistant
- > Motor Pool Service

The VIPS program began its cooperative partnership with the Tomball Police Department in 2004 with 12 initial members. Since inception, membership has steadily increased over the years to 41 active volunteers who have graciously donated a total of 7,695 hours of their personal time to benefit the citizens of our community. On average, the members of the VIPS program donate approximately 1,539 hours per year to the citizens of our community.



Citizens' Police Academy & Youth Police Academy

These community based programs are designed to create transparency within the department, allowing greater insight into the world of modern policing. This joint effort, combined with the cooperation and involvement with the community resulted in two separate Citizen Academies that have achieved great success. All academy graduates are provided with instruction, demonstration and hands on guidance in many of the following law enforcement activities:

- > Felony and "routine" patrol stops;
- > Crime Scene Investigation;
- > Building Clearing;
- > Simunition and live fire house activities;
- > F.A.T.S. (Fire Arms Training Simulator);
- > DWI Scenarios;
- > School related crime;
- > Trauma in Law Enforcement;
- > Dispatch function and Communications;
- > Accident Investigations.



This inclusion of the community into what police department personnel experience on a daily basis was both a worthwhile and fulfilling opportunity for both the department personnel and the community as a whole. Graduates of the Tomball Citizens' Police Academy have the opportunity to grow with the Tomball Police Department by becoming members of the Volunteers in Police Services.



Hurricane Ike - September, 2008

In September, 2008, Hurricane Ike devastated much of Southeast Texas. Citizens of Tomball and the surrounding area suffered property damage, and many were without electricity and basic supplies for weeks. The Tomball Police Department was the location of the Emergency Operations Center for the City of Tomball, and FEMA designated the City of Tomball as a "Point of Distribution" for ice, water and non-perishable food, which brought thousands of people into our community. The Tomball Police Department was responsible for traffic and crowd control at the P.O.D. site, as well as escorting several trucks into Tomball as they delivered those necessities.

The Tomball Police Department was also called upon by the Galveston and Jamaica Beach Police Departments in their time of need. Officers from our department traveled to Galveston and Jamaica Beach to assist those police departments in their "worst hour." This was a unique opportunity for the Tomball Police Department to make a positive impact on many people throughout the area.



Blue Santa & Shop with a Cop

During the Tomball Police Officers' Association's (TPOA) annual "Shop with a Cop" program, twenty under privileged or "at risk" children were taken on a \$200.00 shopping trip to Wal-Mart, and each child is escorted by his/her own Tomball Police Officer. The Tomball Police Department also implemented a holiday "Blue Santa" program. In this program, Blue Santa, with the help of CPA alumni members, went out to pay visits to a segment of our citizenry who are often left behind during the holiday season: residents of retirement and assisted living centers and in-patients of Tomball Regional Hospital. Santa and his helpers were there to bring happiness and joy to less fortunate citizens during the holiday season.



Blue Days of Summer

The Tomball Police Department's "Blue Days of Summer," is a community outreach to several local subdivisions and apartment complexes. This outreach effort is spread over a two-week period to allow Home Owners' Association coordinators a better opportunity to choose the dates of their event. Members of the Tomball Police Department and Volunteers in Police Services serve hotdogs and drinks to citizens and provided child fingerprint ID kits to families in an effort to create and foster strong lines of communication between the citizens of Tomball and the police department.

Salute to Law Enforcement

The Tomball Police Department participates in the annual "Salute to Law Enforcement" event which is held for law enforcement agencies working together to support the strengths of our communities. Each year, this event brings together approximately 100 agencies, over 200 officers and more than 140 exhibits. Tomball Police Department's participation in this event allows us to showcase our officers, equipment, departmental services and display a unified law enforcement effort and event for the citizens and community we serve.



Tomball Police Officers' Association - Keith Bitz Fund Raiser

In October, 2008, The Tomball Police Officers' Association hosted a fund raiser for Sgt. Keith Bitz as he awaited a liver transplant. The fundraiser was held on Sunday, October 12th at VFW Post #2427, and was a huge success. Businesses and Citizens in the Tomball area donated and raised over \$80,000.00 in a two week period, only a month after Hurricane Ike devastated the area. This amazing event was proof that Tomball truly is the "Hometown with a Heart."

Tomball Night and National Night Out

Tomball Night is an annual tradition in the City of Tomball and National Night Out is an annual nation-wide community outreach. The Tomball Police Department utilizes these events to create and strengthen ties to the community. In 2008, the Tomball Police Department introduced the "Police Station Jumper," in an effort to encourage children to communicate freely and openly with members of the department.



Second Saturdays at the Depot

The City of Tomball began "Second Saturdays at the Depot" in the summer of 2008. On the second Saturday of each Month, the City hosts a daylong event at the train depot which includes several activities including a movie shown outdoors at night fall.

Originally intended as a "Summer" event, its success lead to this continuing as a year-round event. The success of "Second Saturdays at the Depot" led to the weekly Saturday "Walk Tomball" event which has also seen great success.



"Go Texan Day" Trail Riders Reception

In preparation for the annual Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, the City of Tomball welcomes the Sam Houston Trail Riders and hosts a reception for them at the Train Depot. The Tomball Police Department facilitates traffic control and road closures, and assists with greeting the riders.



Holiday Parade

The Tomball Police Department plans and facilitates the City of Tomball's annual Holiday Parade. Department personnel spend a significant amount of time preparing for the annual Holiday Parade, from planning road closures, to securing adequate manpower from a pool of patrol officers, reserve officers and VIPS volunteers.

In addition to providing traffic control and security, the Tomball Police Department participates in the parade, with the Color Guard marching in the parade.



Stats at a Glance 2008

- > There were an estimated 453 Part I index offenses reported in Tomball in 2008.
- > During 2008, Tomball Police Officers made 1636 arrests.
- > Tomball officers cleared 49% of all index crimes by arrest. The statewide average for all law enforcement agencies was 18%.
- > There were 41 Violent Crimes reported in 2008, up 36.7% from 2007.
- > The offense of Larceny-Theft accounted for 70.9% of all index crimes.
- > There were 23 aggravated assaults reported in 2008, up 53.3% from 2007.
- > There were 20 motor vehicle thefts reported in 2008, down 13.0% from 2007.



Crime Analysis



Crime Measurements

The City of Tomball Police Department participates in the Uniform Crime Reporting (UCR) Program. UCR makes possible the measurement and analysis of crime index.

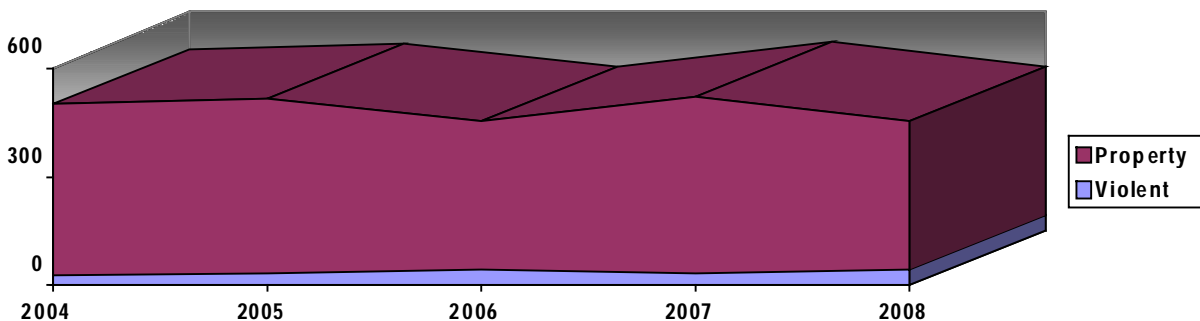
Crime Index

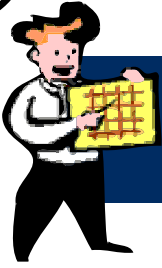
Uniform Crime Reporting is the reporting of seven index crimes. The crimes in this group are all serious, either by their nature or because of the frequency of their occurrence. These crimes can be categorized as violent crimes or property crimes. Violent crimes include murder, forcible rape, robbery, and aggravated assault. Property crimes include burglary, larceny-theft and motor vehicle theft.

Index Crimes 2004 - 2008

	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Murder	1	1	0	2	0
Rape	1	5	7	6	7
Robbery	10	9	9	7	11
Aggravated Assault	15	14	27	15	23
Burglary	94	61	62	64	71
Larceny-Theft	373	387	322	403	321
Auto Theft	16	25	26	23	20
Totals	510	502	453	520	453

Index Crimes 2004 - 2008





Crime Trends

Crime trends are analyzed using two separate methods, crime volume and crime rates. Crime volume is the collective sum of the seven indexed crimes. By comparing the volume of indexed crime from year to year, trends can be evaluated.

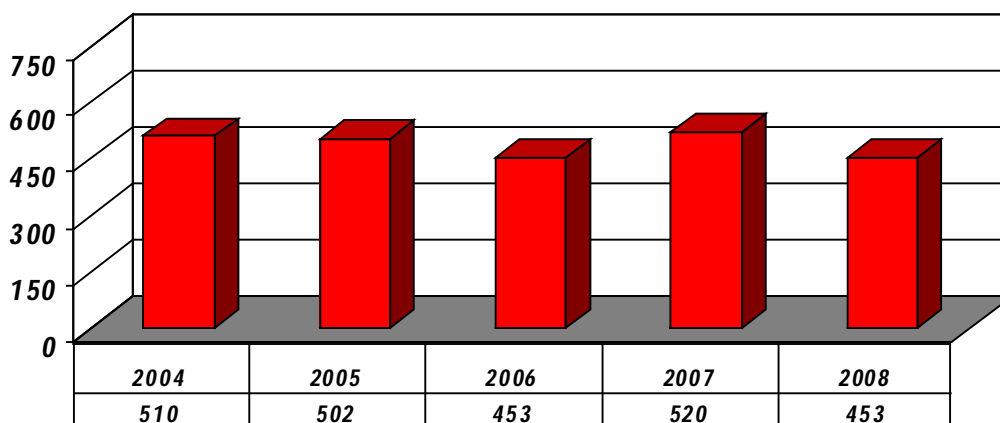
Crime rates on the other hand, are compiled to compensate for the changes in population and show the number of people affected by crime in a given population. Crime rates are usually expressed in the number of crimes per 100,000 residents.

Crime Volume

During the calendar year 2008, there were a total of 453 index offenses in the City of Tomball. In 2008, crime index decreased by 12.9% when compared to 2007. The offense of theft accounted for 70.9% of all index crimes.

Tomball Crime Volume by Offense				
Violent Crimes	Offense	2007	2008	% Change
	Murder	2	0	- 200%
	Rape	6	7	+ 16.7%
	Robbery	7	11	+ 57.1%
	Aggravated Assault	15	23	+ 53.3%
	Violent Crime Totals	30	41	+ 36.7%
Property Crimes	Burglary	64	71	+ 10.9%
	Theft	403	321	- 20.3%
	Auto Theft	23	20	- 13%
	Arson	0	0	No Change
	Property Crime Totals	490	412	- 15.9%
Index Crime Totals		520	453	- 12.9%

Overall Part I Crime
2004-2008

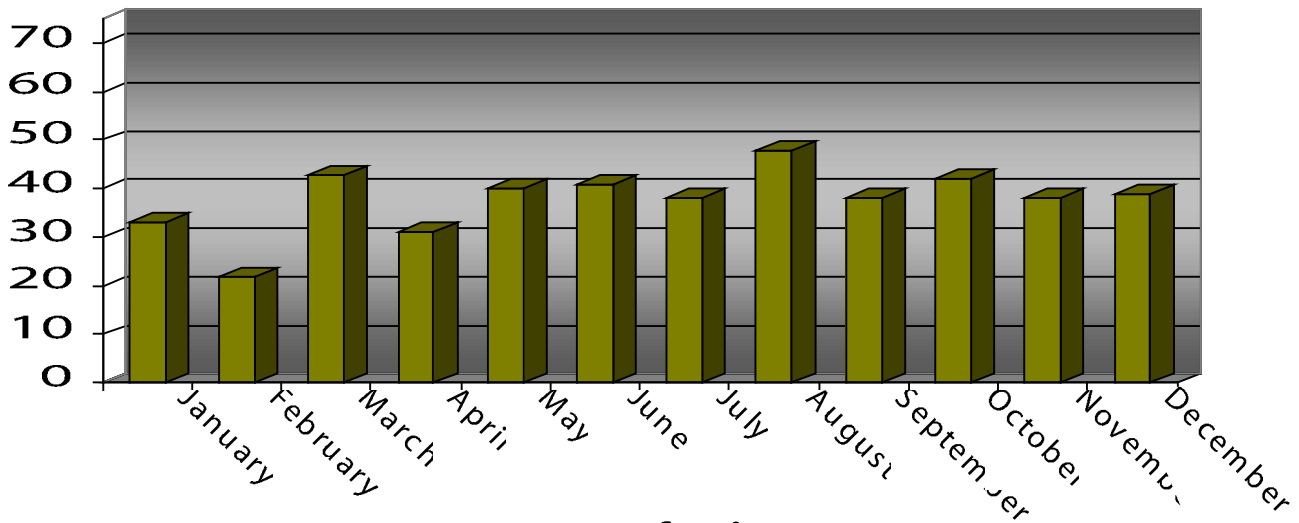


Annual Crime Trends



In 2008, the highest month for crime was August, with 48 index crimes reported. The lowest month of reported crime for 2008 was February with 22 index crimes reported.

Index Crimes by Month 2008

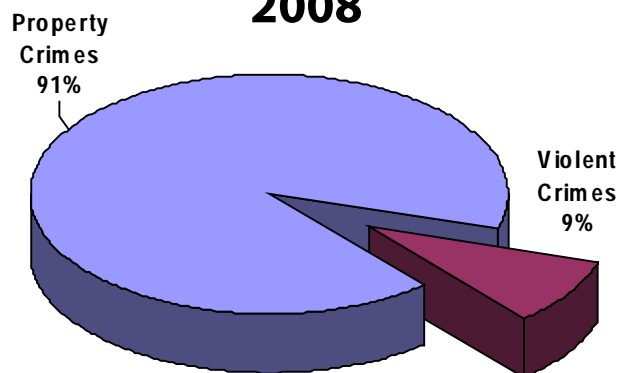


Type of Crime

Crime analysis usually looks at the two categories of crime mentioned before: Violent Crimes (or crimes against persons) and Property Crimes.

In 2008, 9% of the Crime Index was made up of violent crimes and 91% was property crimes. The statewide average is 11% violent crimes and 89% property crimes.

Type of Crime 2008

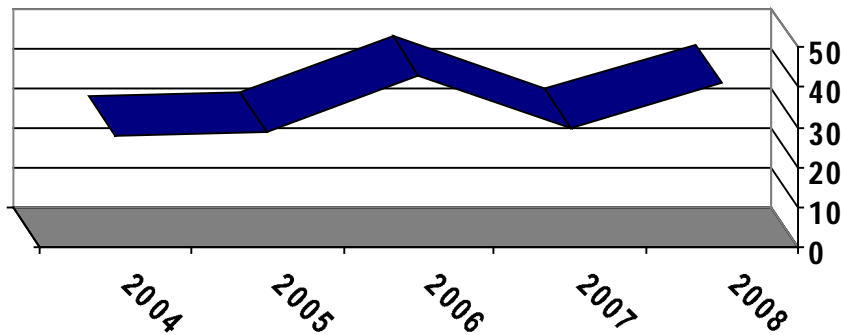




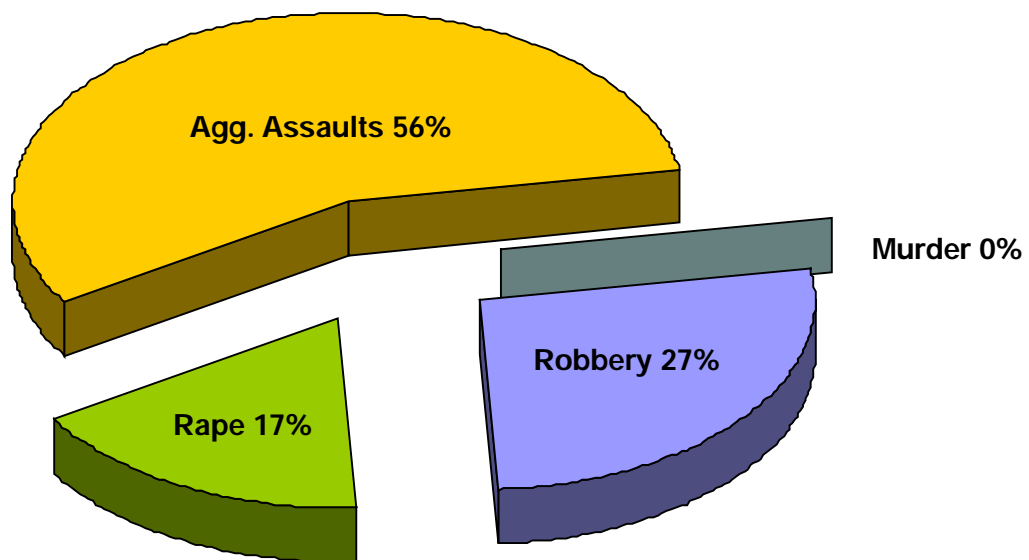
Violent Crimes

Violent Crimes involve an element of personal confrontation between the perpetrator and the victim. Because of their nature, violent crimes are considered to be serious crimes. During 2008, there were 41 Violent Crimes were reported.

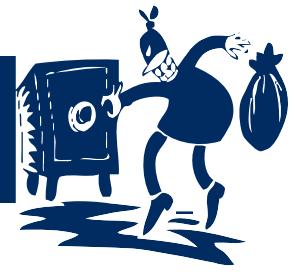
Violent Crimes 2004 - 2008



Violent Crimes by Offense 2008

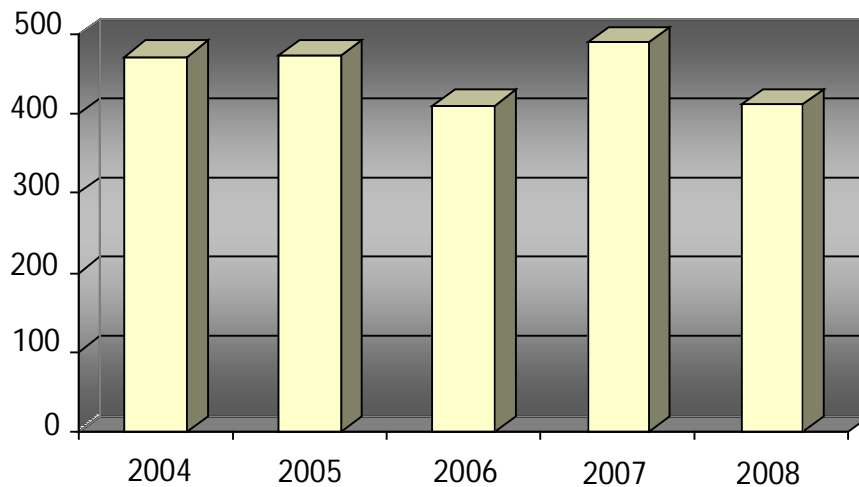


Property Crime

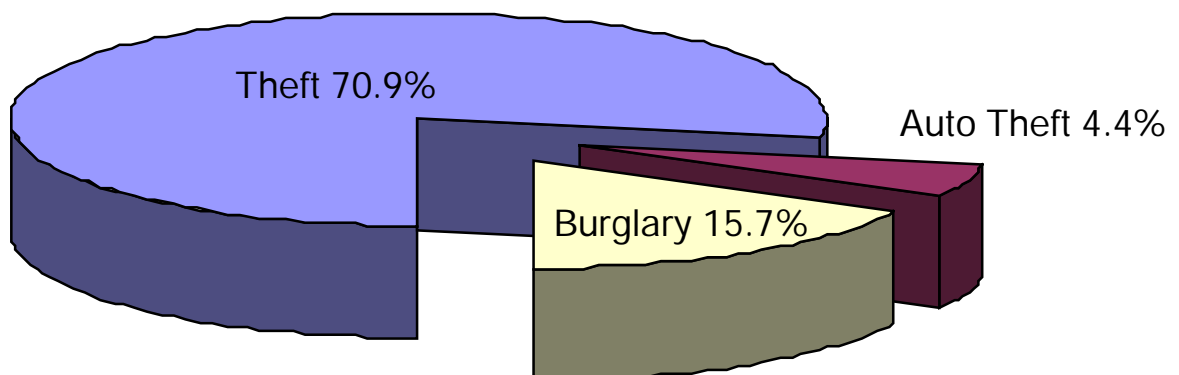


The number of Property Crimes occurring during 2008 was 412. Property Crime decreased by 15.9% compared to 2007. Theft accounted for 70.9% of the Property Crime, followed by burglary at 15.7%, then auto theft at 4.4%.

Property Crime 2004 - 2008



Property Crime by Offense 2008





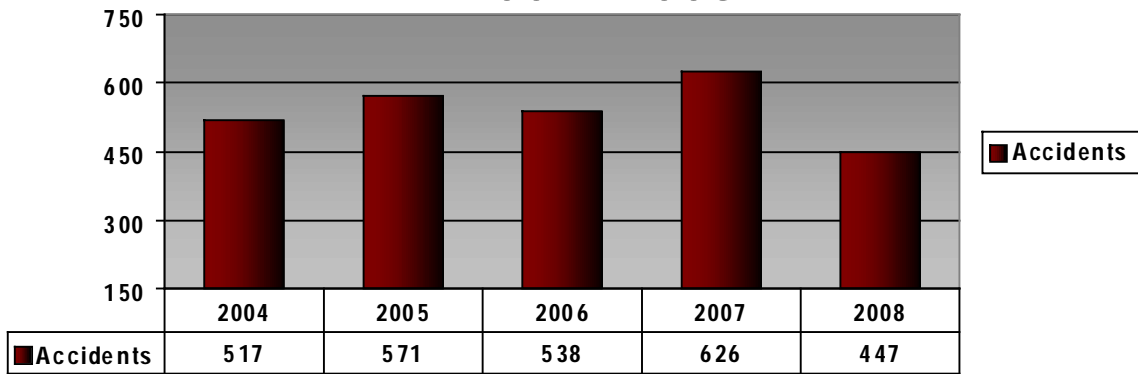
Traffic Safety

Motor Vehicle Accidents

In 2008, the Tomball Police Department continued to take proactive measures to enhance traffic safety by conducting targeted traffic enforcement programs that focused on the type of moving violations which contribute to motor vehicle crashes.

The total number of motor vehicle crashes during 2008 was 447, which is a decrease of 28.6% from 2007. For 2009, we will continue to monitor areas which often have a direct impact on collisions, and focus our efforts on the three "E's" of traffic, (enforcement, education, and engineering).

Motor Vehicle Accidents 2004 - 2008



Accident Locations:

In 2008, a majority of all reported accidents occurred on major thoroughfares. 32.4% of the total accidents reported occurred on Tomball's major traffic arteries, being SH 249, East & West Main St., and FM 2920.

- > Five Year Annual Average - 540 accidents per year;
- > 2008 Accidents were down 28.6% from 2007;
- > Speeding and Red Light Violations are our biggest enforcement challenge & greatest source of citizen complaints;
- > In 2008, 10,880 citations were issued, which is a 10% increase from 2007;
- > 51.5% of our citations were for hazardous moving violations that contribute to motor vehicle crashes;
- > Of the 447 Accidents, (51), or 11.4% were injury crashes, and 88.6% were non-injury.

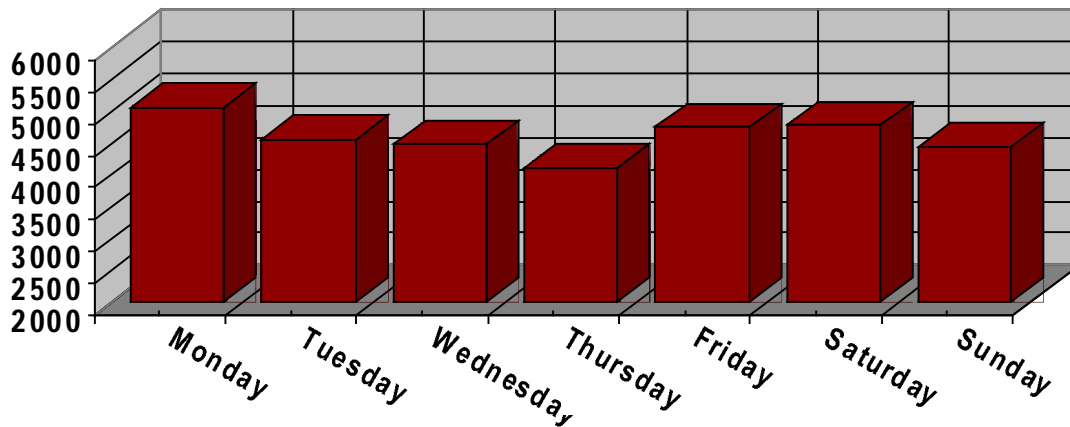
Calls for Service



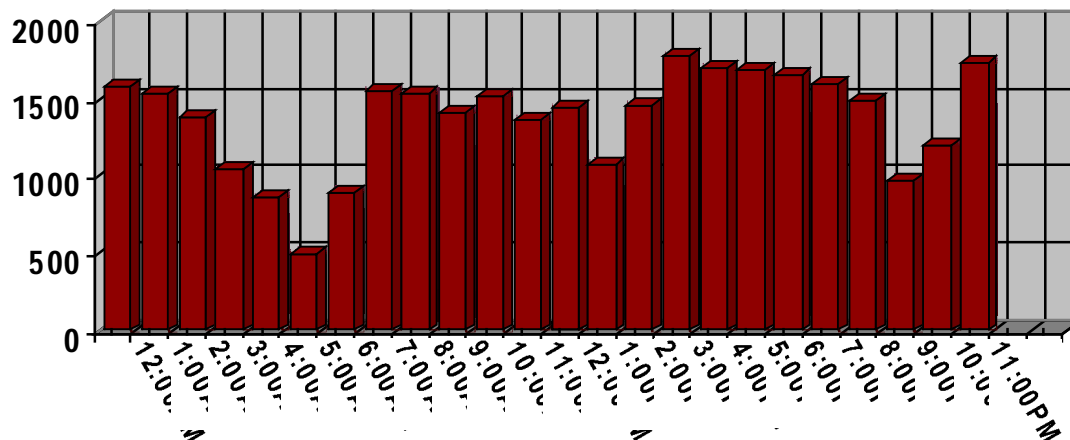
During 2008, the Tomball Police Department Communications Center logged 31,784 events containing officer activity. This number includes traffic stops, foot patrols, suspicious persons and citizen-generated calls for service requiring a police response. Of the 31,784 events logged, the top five activities included traffic stops, foot patrols, jail inspections, suspicious persons and information calls. Below you will find an additional breakdown of Tomball Police Department dispatch activities for 2008:

- > Tomball Police Officers completed 2,716 written reports.
- > Tomball Communications Specialists confirmed 1,679 warrants.
- > The Communications Specialists answered 37,252 citizen calls.
- > There were 8,159 dispatched Citizen Calls for Service.
- > The average call for service response time was 4 minutes 05 seconds.
The average response time in 2007 was 4 minutes, 18 seconds.

Calls By Day Of Week



Calls By Hour Of Day



Law Enforcement Personnel 2008

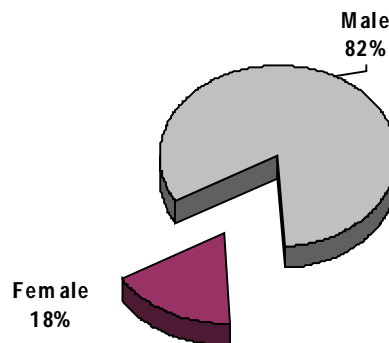
Commissioned Personnel

In 2008, the Tomball Police Department employed 40 full-time sworn officers. Of the 40 officers, 82% were male and 18% were female. The Tomball Police Department also employed 2 part-time sworn officers, as well as 3 Reserve Police Officers.

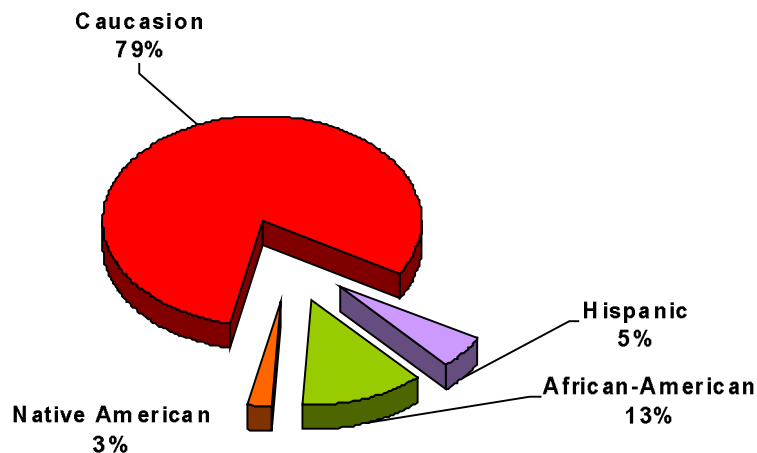
Civilian Personnel

The Tomball Police Department employed 14 civilian employees in 2008, which included 1 Administrative Assistant, 2 Records Specialists, 9 Communications Specialists, and 2 Public Safety Officers whose duties include assisting patrol in field operations and the jail facility. Of the 14 civilians employed last year, 71% were female and 29% were male.

Percentage of Male and Female Sworn Officers



Ethnicity of Sworn Officers



Uniform Crime Reporting Offenses

Offenses in Uniform Crime Reporting are divided into two groups designated as Part I and Part II offenses. Offense and arrest information is reported for the Part I offenses, while only arrest information is reported for Part II offenses.

Part I Offenses

Criminal Homicide - (a) Murder and non-negligent manslaughter: All willful felonious homicides as distinguished from deaths caused by negligence. Excluded are attempts to kill, assaults to kill, suicides, accidental deaths and justifiable homicides. Justifiable homicides are limited to: the killing of a person by law enforcement officer in the line of duty; and the killing of a person in the act of committing a felony by a private citizen; (b) Manslaughter by negligence: any death which the police investigation established was primarily attributable to gross negligence of some individual other than the victim.

Murder and Non-Negligent Manslaughter - The willful (non-negligent) killing of one human being by another. This includes any death due to injuries received in a fight, argument, quarrel, assault, or commission of a crime. Suicides, accidental deaths, assaults to murder, traffic fatalities and attempted murders are not included.

Justifiable Homicide - The killing of a person by a law enforcement officer in the line of duty; or the killing (during the commission of a felony) of a felon by a private citizen.

Manslaughter by Negligence - The killing of another person through gross negligence.

Forcible Rape - The obtaining of carnal knowledge of a female, forcibly and against her will.

Robbery - The taking or attempting to take anything of value from the care, custody or control of a person or persons by force or threat of force or violence and/or by putting the victim in fear.

Aggravated Assault - An unlawful attack by one person upon another for the purpose of inflicting severe or aggravated bodily injury. This type of assault is usually accompanied by the use of a weapon or by means likely to produce death or great bodily harm.

Burglary - The unlawful entry of a structure to commit a felony or theft. This includes breaking and entering with intent to commit a larceny; housebreaking; safe cracking, and all attempts at these offenses.

Larceny / Theft - The unlawful taking, carrying, leading, or riding away of property from the possession or constructive possession of another. This includes pocket-picking, purse-snatching, shoplifting, theft from motor vehicles, theft of motor vehicle parts and accessories, theft of bicycles, theft from buildings, theft from coin-operated machines, and all thefts that don't fit into the above mentioned categories.

Motor Vehicle Theft - The theft or attempted theft of a motor vehicle, which is defined as a self-propelled vehicle that runs on land surface and not on rails.

Glossary of Terms

Adult - In Texas, an adult is a person 17 years of age or older.

Cleared by Arrest or Exceptional Means - For Uniform Crime Reporting purposes, an offense is cleared by arrest or solved when at least one person is arrested, charged with the commission of an offense and turned over to court for prosecution. In certain situations, police are not able to follow these three steps, and if the following four conditions can be met, the offense can be cleared exceptionally: (1) the investigation has definitely established the identity of the offender; (2) there is enough information to support an arrest, charge, and turning over to the court for prosecution; (3) the exact location of the offender is known so that he could be taken into custody; (4) there is some reason outside the police control that prevents the arresting, charging, and prosecuting of the offender.

Crime Index - The sum of seven index offenses used to measure the extent, fluctuation and distribution of a crime in a given geographical area. Crime classifications used in the Crime Index are: murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft and motor vehicle theft. While arson is also an index offense, it is not part of the Crime Index.

Crime Rate - The number of offenses per 100,000 inhabitants. To calculate a crime rate, divide the population by 100,000 and then divide the number of offenses by that answer. The crime rate is useful in determining the relative frequency of crime without regard to fluctuations in population.

Index Crime - A crime for which reports of offenses committed are collected. Index crimes are murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary, larceny-theft, motor vehicle theft and arson.

Juvenile - In Texas, a juvenile is a person 16 years of age or under.

Non-Violent Crime - Property crimes; the index offenses of burglary, larceny-theft and motor vehicle theft.

Personal Weapon - The use of hands, feet, fists and teeth as a weapon to commit a crime; also termed strong-arm weapon.

Strong-Arm Weapons - The use of hands, feet, fists and teeth as a weapon to commit a crime; also termed personal weapon.

Violent Crime - Consists of the Index Offenses of murder, forcible rape, robbery and aggravated assaults. Also referred to as crimes against persons.



Acknowledgements

This Annual Report was compiled from data submitted by the Records Division by members of the Tomball Police Department and from data generated from calls for service. The information was gathered and compiled by Captain Rick Grassi, and formatted by Angela Fagg.

This Report is modeled after the Texas Department of Public Safety Annual Crime in Texas Report. As such, format, crime analysis and definitions have been similarly established in this report.