

The Black Hawk County Sheriff's Office

2003 Annual Report



***“Excellence In Law
Enforcement”***

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SHERIFF
BLACK HAWK COUNTY



Dear Citizens and Friends:

As with every year, the past 12 months have been very challenging. I am pleased to report that your Sheriff's Office has met these challenges. As we look forward to the coming years, we are able to gauge our needs based on the information contained in this report. I'm sure you will find it informative.

With each passing year, it seems that I continue to report our agency's resources dwindling and then attempt to illustrate the demands being placed on those resources. The year 2003 is no different. We have had to reduce staff and have worked very hard at reducing expenses. In doing so, however, rest assured that our primary focus and our paramount goal is to provide the best, most professional service possible to the citizens of Black Hawk County.

You will find that we have had a very busy year, and I hope you enjoy the report. Should you have any questions or comments, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Michael Kubik".

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Annual Statistics

"A" Offenses

Offense	2003	2002	2001
Arson	1	6	2
Aggravated Assault	9	9	7
Assault Domestic	36	23	77
Assault Simple	28	34	44
Burglary	110	139	117
Criminal Mischief	74	93	79
Drug Violations	87	85	77
Kidnapping	1	0	0
Murder	0	0	0
Robbery	1	3	2
Sexual Offenses	6	21	10
Thefts	167	155	129
Larceny Of Motor Vehicle	12	7	5

"B" Offenses

Offense	2003	2002	2001
Liquor Law Violations	31	24	30
OWI	120	97	91
Public Intoxication	17	29	17
Family Offenses	1	2	6
Runaway	29	25	25
Suspicion	54	51	45
Bad Checks	1	2	4
Trespass	11	8	19
All Other Offenses	254	240	179

 - Indicates Increase



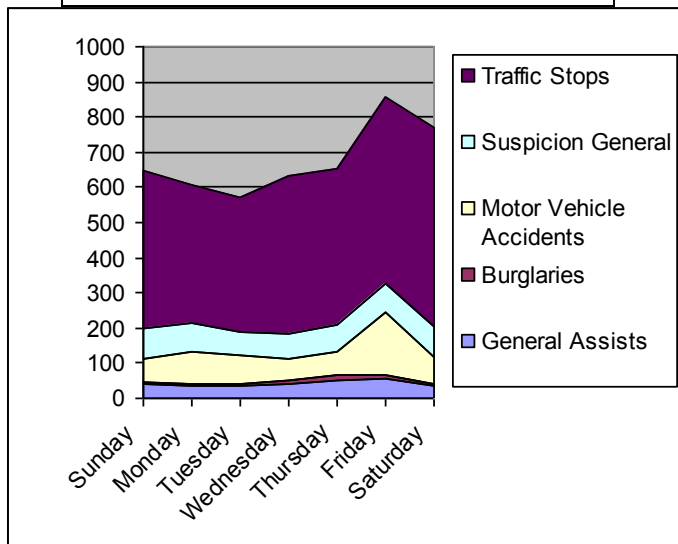
Annual Statistics (cont.)

Services	2003	2002	2001
Calls for Service	9,957	10,655	8,548
Arrests	2,991	2,793	2,900
Accidents (Fatal)	5	2	3
Accidents (PD)	201	222	189
Accidents (Injury)	46	45	71
Citations	4,268*	1,158	2,376
Warrant Services	787	691	708

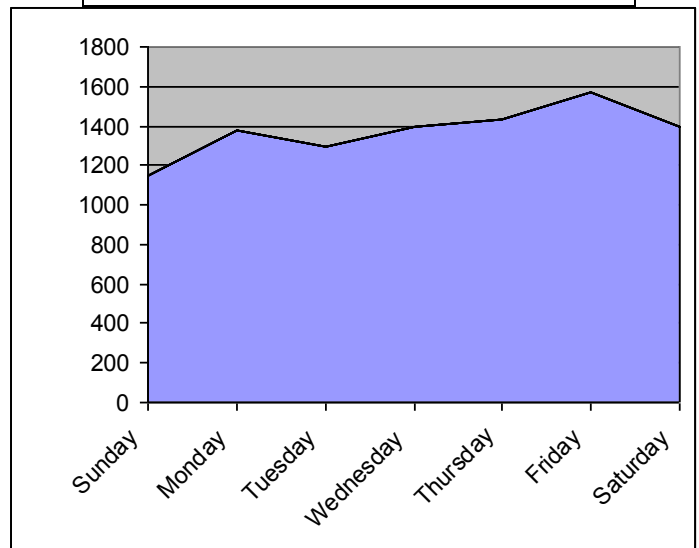
* - due to a change in accounting for citations issued, this number reflects a much larger increase than is actual. In years past, with special enforcement efforts (when more citations are issued), not every ticket was entered individually. Now each ticket is counted by itself, not as an incident.

 - Indicates Increase

Notable Offenses by Day of the Week



Frequency of Calls for Service by Day



Administrative Division



Although this year saw slightly less calls for service than previous years, our arrests, warrant services, citations issued, and civil papers served have all increased dramatically.

Each year, we are able to proudly boast that our agency remains one of the most responsive and proactive agencies in the state of Iowa. Yearly, we are able to develop programs and services that meet the needs of our citizens. These programs and services are in addition to the already professional "law enforcement" responsibilities that our office is known for.

The Senior's Safe Cell Phone Program continues to grow strong, and to date, we have provided over 2,300 cellular telephones to seniors who need the service. As a reminder, we receive donated cell phones from the public, reprogram and redistribute them to senior citizens from Black Hawk County. The program has been so well received that we found it necessary to partner with other agencies to help arrange for donations and distribution of the phones. The Cedar Valley Volunteer Center, East High School's Leadership Class, and Exceptional Person's Incorporated, have all aided in providing this much needed and sought after service to our citizens.

The importance of our program is only punctuated by the understanding that we continue to draw back on the number of sworn officers we have at the Sheriff's office. With our senior population having this immediate connectivity, they are aiding us in being more proactive and improving our response times to accidents and incidents of need in our county.



The Black Hawk County Sheriff's Office continues to set the standard of performance in many of our ventures. The continual increase in Methamphetamine and Meth labs in our county caused us to implement a tank lock program three years ago. We saw an average of 5-15 thefts of anhydrous ammonia each week. Today, (three years after placing the locks on our tanks) Black Hawk County has not had a single theft from a locked tank for three years. Our program has been so successful that we were able to secure federal funding to implement a similar program statewide. The Black Hawk County Sheriff's Office continues to be intimately involved in the statewide program.



Patrol Division



In 2002, nearly every facet of our patrol enforcement increased. Although the public did not call quite as many times in 2003, our staff continued to make more arrests, detect more drunk drivers, and respond to more thefts than last year.

Additionally, this year saw several changes in staff moving from shift to shift, and an increased focus on homeland security, specifically in the area of emergency response.

Through two Federal Grants offered by the US Department of Justice, the Black Hawk County Sheriff's Office is able to provide for additional overtime for Homeland Security Enforcement and for replacement of forward deployed Reservists and National Guard members from the Sheriff's Office. Additionally, the Sheriff's Office is working with other agencies through the Black Hawk County Emergency Management Agency to procure equipment which would otherwise be coming from taxpayer funding. The equipment specifically targets the marked improvement and deployability of the Tactical Response Team.

All this federal funding aids the Sheriff and the Sheriff's Office in offsetting a large cut in funding and reduction in available resources as a result of the budget crisis being felt by all county agencies. The Black Hawk County Sheriff's Office continues to be aggressive in the seeking out and writing of grants to further aid the County Board of Supervisors in keeping taxes low and services high.



While the jury is still out as to if the national trend of increased demands and increased calls for service will trickle down to the local level, the Black Hawk County Sheriff's Office continues to monitor trends and examine our own statistics. We take the safety and security of our citizens very seriously. It is hoped that through our continued efforts in law enforcement, public visibility, professional attitude, responsiveness to citizen's needs, and our willingness to persevere through tight budgets and difficult funding periods, we will be able to remain focused on our agency's motto: ***"Excellence in Law Enforcement"***.

	2003	2002
<i>Calls for Service</i>	9,957	10,655
OWI	120	97
Thefts	167	155
MVA-Property	201	222
Drug/Narcotics	100	105



Civil Division

The Civil Division, like many other divisions of the Sheriff's Office continues to face the demands of an ever changing legal and court system. The challenges of civil law and law enforcement continue to be reflected in the Civil Division's annual statistics.

The Civil Division has also been victim of budgetary cutback and restraints. They lost one deputy during this last year and did not replace the position in an effort to aid the county in providing a balanced budget.



The Civil Division is unique among the divisions of the Sheriff's Office, in that it is only one of two Iowa Code mandated services for the Sheriff to provide. This unique status is not lost on the deputies that serve in the Civil Division. As is evident by the annual increases in services and statistics, these deputies continue to focus on serving the public in this significant and important (although, often overlooked) function that they provide to our taxpayers.

Services	2003	2002
Executions	3,585	3,132
Real Estate Sales	187	152
Condemnations	0	1
Writ of Attachment	4	0
Abandoned Vehicle/OWI	0	0
Garnishments	3,304	3,023
260A Levy	8	2
260B Levy	10	4
Cash Register Levy	15	16
Demand	114	39
Security Lien	1	1
Papers Served	16,959	16,497
Unserved	1,912	1,634
Total Processes	22,647	21,368

Deputies working in the Civil Division are commanded by a Captain and supported by one Sergeant. Civil Deputies are trained extensively in the proper execution and service of civil processes. The Sheriff's Office is responsible to the courts and acts as an officer of the court for the service of these actions.

As well as working closely with the courts, there is also a very close working relationship with the Black Hawk County Attorney's Office. Deputies serve subpoenas to witnesses summoned for criminal proceedings, as well as helping the Attorney's Office with fine collections. The Civil Division is a statutory responsibility unique to the Sheriffs in the state of Iowa.



Investigations Division



2003 marks the first year in three years that we have seen a decrease in our UCR (Uniform Crime Report) crime index. This year, burglaries were much lower than in the past couple of years, and yet, investigations continue to be very aggressive on burglaries and thefts in hopes to further eliminate these crimes.

We are quite proud of the reduction in offenses reported in 2003, yet remain vigilant with our investigations to yet further reduce those numbers. Black Hawk County citizens can rest assured that their community (rural or metro) is one of the safest places to live and work in the state of Iowa.

With this as our goal, the investigations division will not rest until a case is solved. The Investigations Division continues to rally behind one of the highest case closure ratings in the entire Midwest.

Two officers assigned to the Investigations Division have been added to a regional Anti-Terrorism Task Force coordinated by the Federal Bureau of Investigations, the United States Marshal's Service and the Department of Homeland Defense. For the first time in the history of the Sheriff's Office, our agency has been forced to recognize the important role that our officer's play in the global responsibility of law enforcement and protection of American citizens. Through these efforts and additional information shared through this task force, Black Hawk County truly remains on the forefront of preventative law enforcement and vigilance in the protection of our citizens.

Offense	2003	2002
Assaults	73	66
Burglary	110	139
Criminal Mischief	74	93
Drug Violation	87	85
Drug Equipment	13	20
Kidnapping	1	0
Robbery	1	3
Sexual Offenses	6	21
Thefts	167	155



Jail Division

The Jail Division is like any of the other divisions of the Black Hawk County Sheriff's Office, in that when increasing demands or increased efforts are made, the Jail is the recipient of the result.

Jail bookings, jail transports, and a constant increase in the average daily population of our facility are the most glaring results of the increased vigilance of all other divisions.

The Jail has had additional issues to deal with in the deployment of several officers who are also in the Reserves or National Guard. The loss of these officers continues to put a strain on an already tight budget and staffing schedule.



The Jail boasts a 272 bed direct supervision facility. Administrated in such a way as to further save taxpayer money, up to 50 inmates can be supervised by one officer. The Jail offers many services and programs for the inmate population in hopes that we can reduce repeat offenders to our facility. Programs such as the G.E.D. attainment, bible study, Alcoholics Anonymous, Narcotics Anonymous, church programs, as well as, medical and mental health services are just some the programming that the jail offers to an inmate.

In addition to the many weeks of on-the-job and field training that they are subjected to, our jail officers receive additional training above a certified peace officer and are required to attend a 120 hour Direct Supervision Jailing Academy. Through their efforts, the Black Hawk County Jail remains one of the most advanced jailing facilities in the Midwest.

	2003	2002	2001
Average Daily Population	262	261	250
Jail Bookings	8,193	8,164	7,439
Jail Transports	902	787	761



Special Services Division



The year 2003 brought new (upgrading) technology, not only to the Black Hawk County Sheriff's Office, but also to the vast network infrastructure. This network uses both a local and a wide area network to maintain and disseminate criminal records and criminal justice information systems.

The public safety technology "upgrade" converted previous technology of 25+ years, to today's "Windows Environment". As well, this "upgrade" allows for many advancements in

database management, file and information sharing, and statistical records collection as required by law.

New fiber-optic technology was also implemented, by allowing the expansion of the wide area network to better serve other public safety agencies in Black Hawk County. This technology will not only greatly improve network speed, but also improves data security and has reduced monthly operational costs considerably.

The Special Services Division is responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of one the area's largest wide area networks, reaching from Cedar Falls to La Porte City. Throughout the state, departments and agencies (large and small) look to the Black Hawk County Sheriff's Office for advice and as an example of how to continue to integrate new, cutting edge technology. This technology ultimately benefits both the citizen and the officer, by speeding up the paperwork and documentation generated by a case, and returning that officer to the field expeditiously.



Community Services



The Community Services effort of the Sheriff's Office has impact in many of the divisions and in statistics that have been illustrated throughout this annual report. The focus of Community Services is one of "partnership" with the citizens that we serve.

Providing needed services such as 911 emergency cellular phones or public education about methamphetamine, or child safety education, Community Services provides a effort that hopes to reduce the future demands on the rest of the agency.

One of the most anticipated and most talked about advances for the Sheriff's Office has been the introduction and recent implementation of the new drug education curriculum DON'T (Drugs Offer No Tomorrow). Community school districts that partner with the Sheriff's Office were given the option to move away from the DARE curriculum and field our new program. All agreed to move. The effort has been well documented and intensely monitored, as several other law enforcement agencies have expressed interest in moving to this curriculum as well.



The first class began in Dunkerton, and will graduate in January 2004. By all accounts, the first impressions of the program have been very positive.

The Sheriff's Office also looks for other ways to partner with our citizens and for the first time in several years, the Black Hawk County Neighborhood Watch has been on the increase. The County currently has two very strong Neighborhood Watch Associations, and a third has just started in the Sylvan Acres area (Northwestern corner of the county). Two more groups have expressed interest in starting additional groups and the Sheriff's Office stands ready to assist them in helping us to fight rural crimes in our county.



Finally, with the help of the Cedar Valley Volunteer Center, the Black Hawk County Sheriff's Office has partnered with Home Depot, Target Distribution Center, and Woolverton Printing to provide a Child's Safety Program to all the kindergarten students in the Waterloo Community School District. In this program, every kindergartener is fingerprinted and has their picture taken, they receive safety information and brochures and get to talk one-on-one with law enforcement officers on the importance of such things as stranger danger, gun safety, and helpful resources like calling 9-1-1.

