

Memorandum

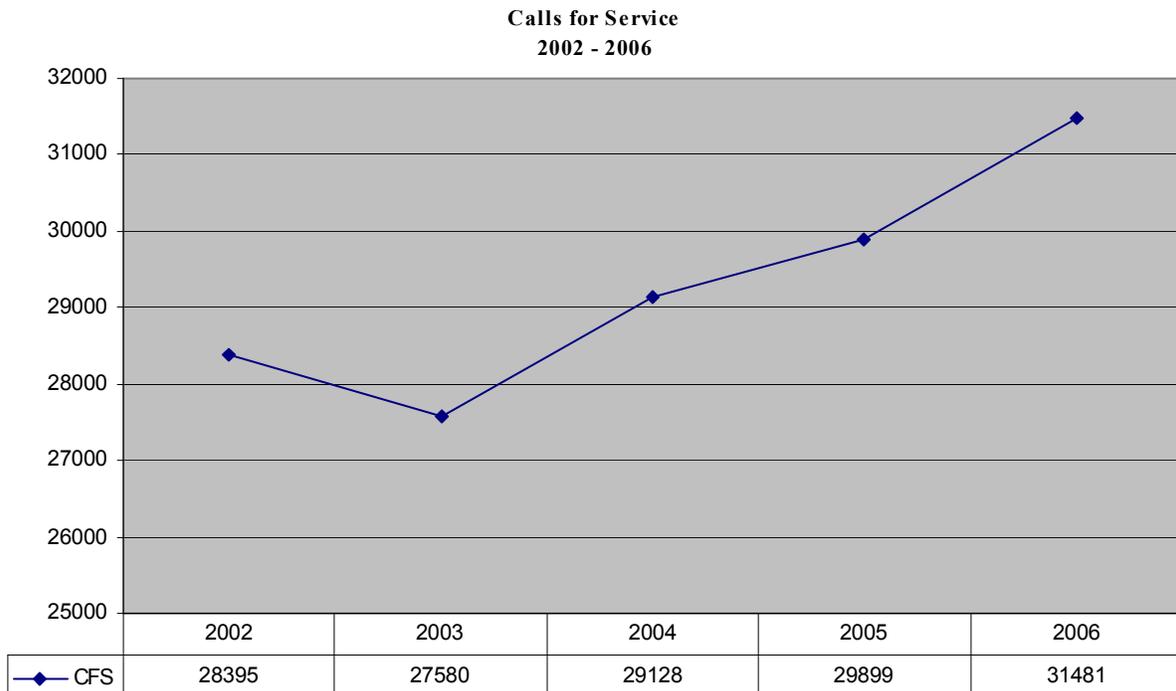
GULFPORT DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

To: Tom Brobeil, City Manager
From: G. Curt Willocks, Chief of Police
Date: March 2, 2007
Re: Police Department Annual Report for 2006

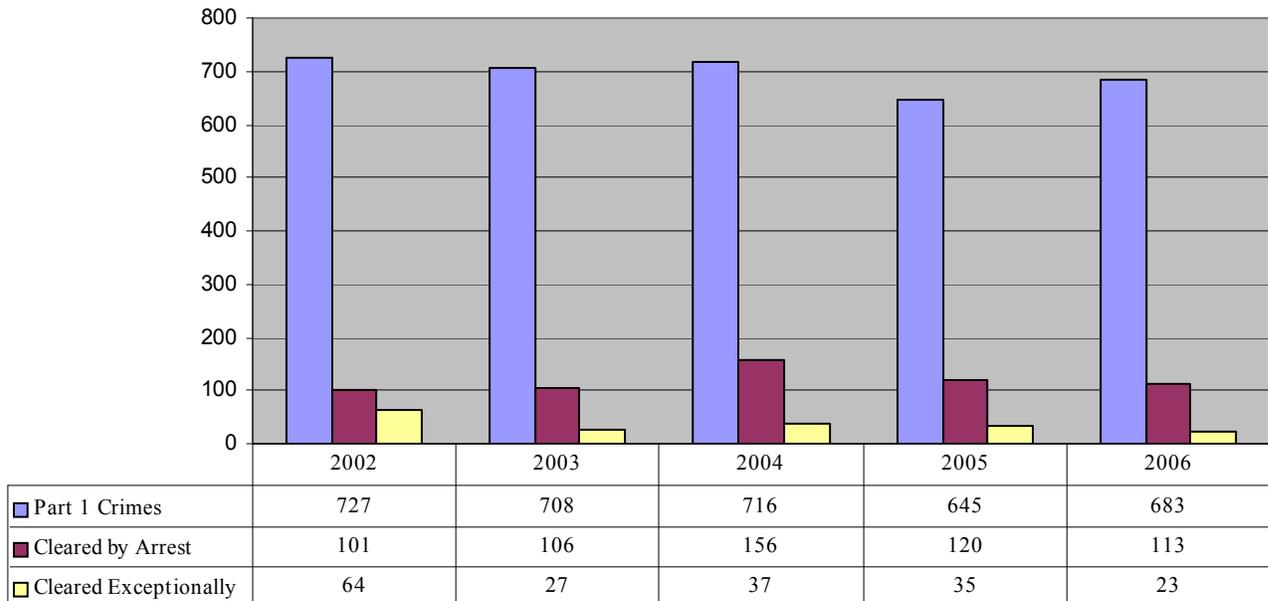
Attached, please find the Gulfport Police Department Annual Report for 2006.

The Gulfport Police Department is showing continual improvement in the delivery of our services to our citizens. While policing depends, necessarily, on many factors beyond our control, we constantly seek methods to enhance the well being of our community.

The following information will show that in 2006 our Calls for Service increased by 5.29%, while Part One Crimes increased by 5.89%. Despite the increase, we are still 6% lower than Part One Crimes reported in 2002. Our increase was due, in large part to Burglaries, both commercial and residential. Violent crime should a decrease of over 35%, however. Our pro arrest policy on Domestic Violence complaints resulted in 63% more arrests and may have had a significant impact on the prevention of violent crimes.



***Part 1 Crimes
2002 - 2006***



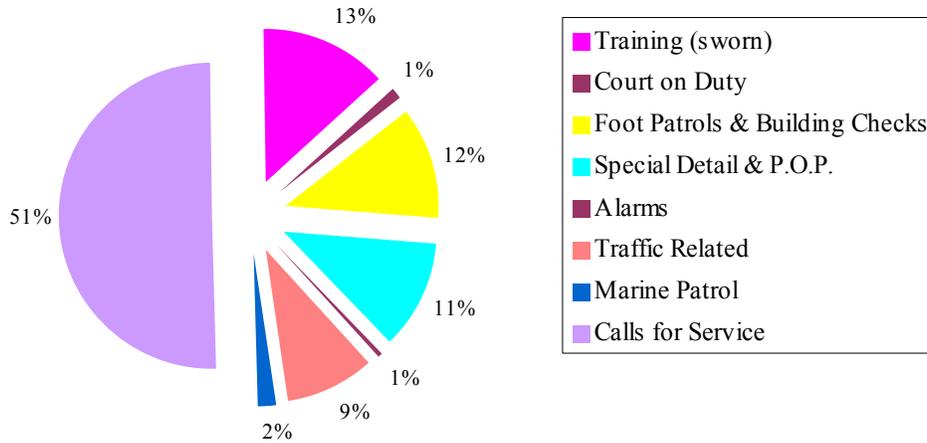
Both Patrol and Investigations Commanders have developed a strategy designed to specifically address the Burglary issue, concentrating on both prevention and apprehension. Heightened public interest will only help to contribute to the safety of our residents, businesses and their property.

The Police Department became fully compliant with National Incident Management System by training all personnel and amending our Written Directives to include the Incident Command System approach in 2005. In 2006 the Department of Homeland Security mandated additional requirements and the Department is on track to meet those requirements.

In 2005 we developed a program to utilize our secure computer system to house our Written Directives, thus we have eliminated the 4" Manual of Directives, made them available to all employees via computer and the directives can be electronically searched by word or number. This procedure is much more effective than simple printed documents. Officers are alerted via email of changes and they electronically verify they have read and understand the new revision. This program has been well received after having been in place for 12 months and is much more efficient for our personnel.

Officers spend a significant amount of their time on service related activities, including increases in foot patrols and Problem Oriented Patrol (P.O.P) efforts.

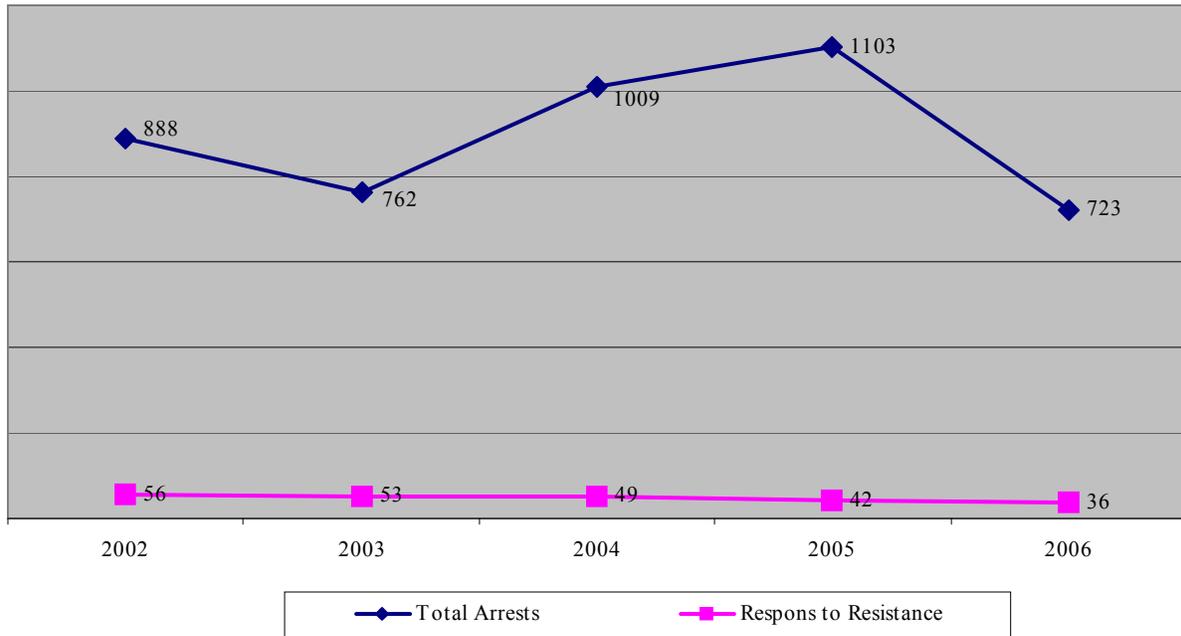
**2006
Man Hour**



The Gulfport Police Department utilizes a “Response to Resistance” report each time an officer uses force. Our Directive defines the use of force as anything from physical force up to use of deadly force. They are also required to report the use of mechanical restraints such as handcuffs if any force is necessary or if the suspect is not subsequently charged, i.e. in a situation where the subject is handcuffed for the officers safety and later determined not to be charged. GPD are required to file a Response to Resistance report anytime they point their firearm at a human being, use an impact weapon, OC spray or Taser.

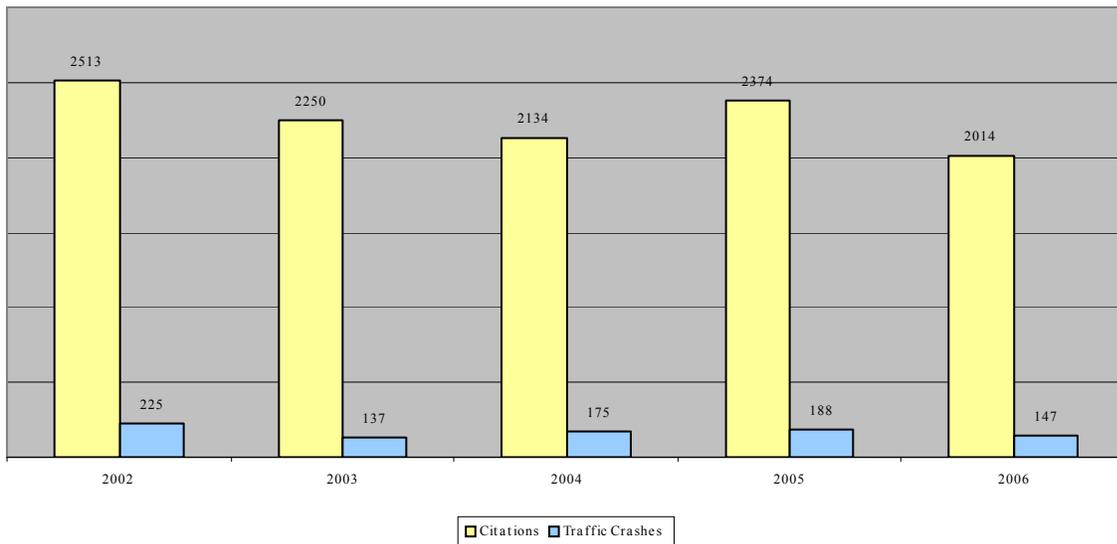
As noted in the chart below, the Use of Force continues to decline. It is my hope this trend will continue, however violence against police officers continues to rise nationwide and the force used is often dictated by the actions of the person being taken into custody.

*Arrests vs Response to Resistance
2002 - 2006*



In an urban, densely populated area like metropolitan Pinellas County, the safe and efficient movement of traffic is always an important issue. In 2006 much of our enforcement was focused on selective areas, such as high incident intersections, school zones and main thoroughfares. We saw a reduction in traffic crashes in 2006 to a level that we had not seen in several years past. Despite the decrease, Pinellas County is still among the most dangerous on the highways, especially for pedestrians and bicyclists.

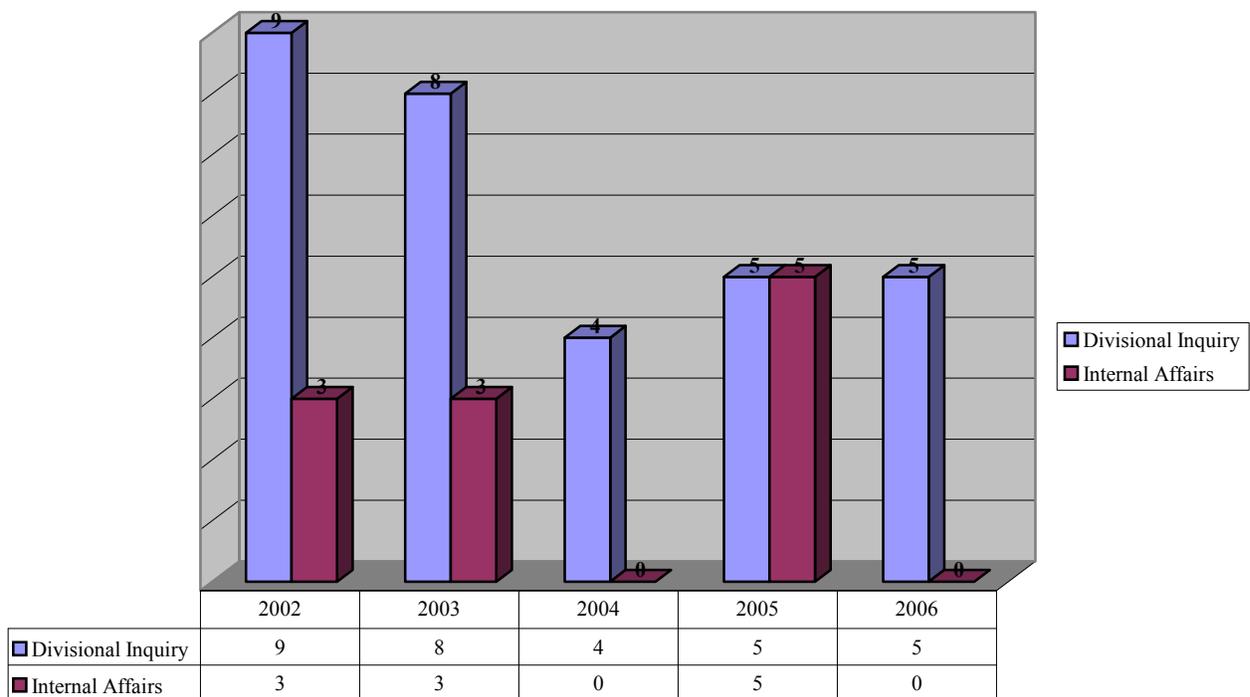
*Citations and Traffic Crashes
2002 - 2006*



The Department continues to enjoy employees who act in a professional manner and who work hard to provide excellent service. Despite that fact, however, ours is a business that demands a high performance level and that our services are always delivered in a manner that reflects the highest ethical and professional standards. Officers can make mistakes. If an officer is accused of serious misconduct, it requires an Internal Affairs Investigation by a certified investigator. A minor performance issue is typically assigned to the employees immediate supervisor and is called a Divisional Inquiry. Both type inquiries can result in serious discipline.

Complaints on personnel must be frequently examined to monitor the power that our City has given us. In 2006 there were only five complaints filed on Department personnel. I am especially proud of the fact that of those five investigations, only one was initiated by a citizen, our own supervisory staff initiated the others. Corrective action ranged from a verbal warning to termination. Proactive supervision, excellent field training and a stringent hiring process ensures that our citizens can have faith in our officers.

Complaints Against Employees



In 2006, the Department reviewed 54 applicants to fill 4 positions. In 2006, the City and the Fraternal Order of Police entered into a new collective bargaining agreement that significantly improved salaries and benefits for our personnel. Hiring standards continue to increase while the workplace becomes more and more competitive. Many who apply for law enforcement jobs are simply unrealistic in their expectations, fail to recognize the importance of previous poor decisions or have poor driving, criminal or employment histories. Despite a

reduced number of qualified applicants throughout Pinellas County, it is the position of the Gulfport Police Department that our most important task is the hiring and training of officers.

In 2007 we have the following expectations,

- Implementation of Burglary prevention/apprehension strategies will result in a lower rate of burglary for 2007.

- DUI enforcement will continue to increase through proactive and highly visible enforcement.

- Continue enforcement of applicable bicycle violations to further reduce related crashes.

- Full implementation of a Selective Enforcement Team (SET) to address short term tactical issues with a quick and concerted response.

- Maintain State Accredited status.

None of our accomplishments could have occurred without each of our employees working as a team and being unafraid to seek better ways of working. This is a service-oriented profession and it continues to challenge even the most energetic. The profession is ethics driven and gets more and more complicated over time. I am proud to work with men and women who rise to the challenges they face everyday.

Please convey my appreciation to members of the City Council, without whose confidence and support we could not begin to succeed. I appreciate the leadership and support of your office and that of my fellow Directors and all City Employees in assisting us in every way to accomplish our mission.

Cc: All Police Department Personnel via Email

PRIMARY VALUES OF THE GULFPORT POLICE DEPARTMENT

- ◆ The Gulfport Police Department believes that a major responsibility is to preserve and advance the principles of Democracy.
- ◆ The Gulfport Police Department places its highest value on the preservation of human life.
- ◆ The Gulfport Police Department believes that the prevention of crime is its number one operational priority.
- ◆ The Gulfport Police Department will involve the community in the delivery of its services.
- ◆ The Gulfport Police Department believes it is and must be accountable to the community it serves.
- ◆ The Gulfport Police Department is committed to professionalism in all aspects of its operations.
- ◆ The Gulfport Police Department and its employees will maintain the highest standards of integrity.



This Department has adopted a written statement of core values in order to insure daily adherence to the Mission of the department. The values of this department are the responsibility of every employee, every day.

