The past year was marked by innovation and creativity as the members of the Springfield Police Department continued to utilize best practices, or develop new, and at times unique, solutions to combat rising crime rates. The net effect has been an increase in efficiency and effectiveness department-wide.

We focused efforts on people, places, or crimes through initiatives such as “Rollin’ Stolen” targeting serial property criminals, “hot spot” deployment plans targeting areas of increased crime, and the creation of the Family Violence Task Force to address the growing problem of domestic violence.

We have worked hard to fully engage the public, striving to educate and increase awareness of the causes of crime, as well as teaching and involving citizens on what they can do to help prevent crime from occurring in the first place.

We revitalized our efforts to utilize social media and traditional media throughout the year as part of our “Strategic Communication Plan” to reach the entire community, and created partnerships with specific areas of the community through crime prevention programs such as “Business Watch.”

In addition, we have a renewed emphasis on coordinating operations throughout the department, and with the other aspects of the criminal justice system, which has increased our ability to solve crimes and prosecute criminals.

As we reflect on the accomplishments of the past year, it is apparent that the future is bright in Springfield, Mo., and for the Springfield Police Department.

Sincerely,

Paul F. Williams, Chief of Police
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Message from the Chief</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Table of Contents</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reorganization of Department and Staffing</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inspections and Internal Affairs Unit</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniform Crime Report</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniformed Operations Bureau</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Patrol Deployment Plans</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daily Training</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DWI Enforcement</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motor Unit History</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Response Team</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Community Services Section</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investigations and Support Services Bureau</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Violence Task Force</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operation Crossfire</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Operation Rollin’ Stolen</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIS Property Section Relocation</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cyber Forensic Unit</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Internal Revenue Service Task Force Officer</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Springfield Regional Police and Fire Training Center</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteers in Police Service Program</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Citizens Police Academy</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63rd Police Academy</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lateral Academy</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Expansion of Social Media</td>
<td>32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leadership Council and Awards</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Promotions</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Leadership Training, Retirements, and New Hires</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Cover photo by Lt. Todd Revell*
In 2011, a two-year plan was created to implement the restructuring of the entire Springfield Police Department (SPD). 2012 saw widespread changes affecting all ranks. In 2013, the reorganization plan was nearly completed. Two additional captains were promoted to fill the Criminal Investigations Division and Support Services Division commander openings. The Public Affairs Officer (PAO) position was civilianized, moving a corporal to patrol, and a media professional was hired to fulfill and expand those duties, especially our social media presence. The Technical Services sergeant position was also civilianized which allowed the creation of a sergeant position to supervise the new Vehicle Theft Unit.

While there was no change to the authorized strength of the department, the number of lieutenants, sergeants, corporals and officers were adjusted to reflect the changes. The final stage of the department reorganization is scheduled to take place in early 2014. Actual department strength at the end of 2013 stood at 310, compared to an authorized strength of 331. Hiring was underway at the end of 2013 for the 64th Police Academy which was scheduled to begin in February of 2014 to fill those vacancies.

Turnover, and the continuing effects of a City-wide hiring freeze, impacted efforts to improve non-sworn staffing. At the end of 2013, 73.5 of the authorized 79.5 positions were filled.
The SPD believes that integrity, honesty and accountability are essential attributes of our officers and employees. To ensure public trust, the Inspections and Internal Affairs Unit (IIAU) is responsible for recording and investigating all complaints against the agency or its employees. IIAU accepts all complaints, even those made anonymously, whether received in person, by telephone, by mail or by electronic media. IIAU’s goal is to investigate all complaints objectively, impartially and professionally regardless of the nature of the complaint or where the complaint comes from, in order to protect the rights of citizens as well as our employees. The results of the investigations are then presented to the SPD Command Staff for a decision regarding the veracity of the allegations—and any discipline that might follow.

In 2013, IIAU investigated 24 Class I or Class II complaints that came from outside the department. Examples of external complaints are lack of service, improper procedure, bias-based policing, excessive use of force and discourtesy. IIAU also investigated 18 administrative complaints, which are complaints originating from within the department, and 91 miscellaneous complaints. Miscellaneous complaints are those either centered around the guilt or innocence of the involved party rather than misconduct, or involving individuals not employed by the SPD, or addressed directly by the involved employee’s supervisor at the complainant’s request, as well as complaints containing no allegation of misconduct that requires further investigation.

In addition, the SPD continues to utilize the Citizen Complaint Resolution Process (CCRP). This process allows the complainant to speak to the officer and his/her supervisor in a confidential setting. The intent is to facilitate a better understanding of the issues for both the citizen and the employee. During 2013, the SPD resolved 12 complaints through CCRP.
The SPD's 2013 crime reporting through the *Uniform Crime Report* (UCR) showed an overall rise in reported crime in Springfield of 3 percent. This is slightly above the 2.2 percent increase per year averaged over the last decade.

Crimes against persons increased by over 18 percent. Although there was a 25 percent decrease in homicides (from 16 to 12), robberies increased by nearly 12 percent, aggravated assaults were up by 11 percent and reported rapes nearly doubled.

It must be noted that effective Jan. 1, 2013, the Department of Justice changed the definition of rape with the goal of a more comprehensive statistical reporting of this crime nationwide. Due to the definition change, more sexual assault cases are now classified as rape. While the perception will be that rapes increased significantly in the last year, the reality is the new definition has given us a truer perspective on the number of sexual assaults that had actually been occurring in our community.

The increase in robbery was driven by residential robberies, commonly referred to as “home invasions,” which increased by 66 percent. The SPD has found that the majority of these crimes occur in relation to drug activity, often with the suspect(s) and victim(s) knowing one another. Investigators were able to clear 45 percent of robbery cases, up from 34 percent. The department, along with the Greene County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office (GCPAO), continues to target Springfield's most violent repeat offenders in an operation known as “Crossfire.” Last year, 20 violent criminals were targeted in the operation. As a result, seven of those targets are currently in prison, or jail, and 10 have been charged or have charges pending.
The department continues to battle the ongoing methamphetamine problem in Springfield, often the nexus to violent criminal behavior. Last year, SPD narcotics investigators seized a total of 22.56 pounds of methamphetamine, a significant (1,000 percent) increase in meth seizures from the year before.

Incidents of aggravated assault accounted for 64 percent of the year’s total crimes against persons. Analysis of these crimes determined the majority of aggravated assaults to be the result of domestic violence situations. In 2013, the SPD partnered with numerous community organizations to create the *Family Violence Task Force*. The group has been working to reduce domestic violence in the area while also encouraging more reporting of these types of incidents by providing high-quality educational opportunities for officers, prosecutors, and the general public. Working with the GCPAO, the SPD also initiated additional enforcement efforts to address repeat offenders.

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<tr>
<th>2012-2013 UCR CRIMES WITH CLEARANCES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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<td><strong>Crime Type</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>Homicide</td>
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<td>Rape</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robbery</td>
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<td>Aggravated Assault</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Violent Crimes &amp; Clearances</td>
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<tr>
<td>Burglary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Larceny/Theft</td>
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<td>Stolen Vehicle</td>
</tr>
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<td>Total Property Crimes &amp; Clearances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Part 1 Offenses</strong></td>
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Overall, property crimes increased only slightly (a little over 1 percent), in large part due to increased community awareness and crime prevention initiatives undertaken by the department, as well as increased enforcement and investigative efforts. In 2013, the SPD partnered with the GCPAO to target 25 repeat property offenders in an operation titled “Rollin’ Stolen.” The result of the year-long operation saw nine of the offenders remanded to the custody of the Department of Corrections, while 12 of the targets are in the Greene County Jail awaiting trial or sentencing. Those remaining on the list are currently under investigation or have outstanding warrants issued for their arrest.
While incidents involving larceny/theft remained steady over the last year, burglary (up 4 percent) and auto theft (up 9 percent) continue to increase. To combat these issues, the department has created a new Vehicle Theft Unit to focus on the investigation of such crimes, while freeing up other investigators to concentrate on burglary investigations. As a result, clearance rates of both of these crime types increased by 4 percent (to 12 and 20 percent respectively). The SPD is actively seeking to educate the public on avoiding becoming the next victim of auto theft. Analysis of these crimes indicate that many times victims have left cars running unattended or have left a key somewhere inside an unlocked vehicle.

Despite the increases shown in the report, Springfield remains a safe place to live and work. By working together, our department and the community are reducing the fear of crime and the occurrence of crime and improving the quality of life in neighborhoods citywide.
In late 2013, Uniformed Operations Bureau (UOB) commanders developed a process that would direct patrol resources to “hot spots” of criminal activity, by expanding the use of the department’s crime analysis software program (Command Central). Looking at crime within the city by using the program, patrol deployment plans are developed, which direct officers, during non-committed time, to parts of the city where clusters of crime have been identified. The plans informed officers of what type of criminal activity was occurring, and provided specific directions as to the type of enforcement action to be conducted. The plans included detailed maps of crime reports within the areas, as well as special bulletins from Crime Analysis or information from Criminal Investigations.

Patrol lieutenants were tasked with researching crime trends in their assigned areas of the city, and developing a two-week deployment plan specifically for their squads. At the end of the two-week period, the lieutenants would document what enforcement action had taken place and include statistics to determine what effect these directed enforcement efforts may have had on crime in those particular areas.

Lieutenants began their first deployment plans on Nov. 1, 2013. In some of the first plans, a significant drop in crime was observed, while others did not experience any change. Much of the effort was dependent upon the availability of officers not committed on calls for service. The overall positive aspect of these plans were that all involved were made more aware of the crime trends in their assigned areas, resulting in a more focused, orchestrated use of discretionary time. This effort is consistent with the department’s and citizens’ expectations of crime reduction.
As an example, one of the first plans conducted was in the area of Ingram Mill Road, bordered by Lone Pine to the west, Sunshine to the north and Battlefield to the south. In the 30 days prior to implementation, this area had 13 thefts from vehicles and nine stolen vehicles. During the two weeks of the plan, third shift patrol officers spent as much non-committed time as possible in this area.

Once the plan ended, a review showed a significant drop in the amount of reported crimes: two thefts from vehicles and two stolen vehicles. In addition, during the two weeks the plan was in effect, the area experienced five thefts from vehicles and no stolen vehicles.

UOB captains briefed the entire command staff on the plans as they began and on the results after they ended, in a coordinated effort to highlight the “hot spots” in the city, and focus additional department resources on the issues as needed.
In the fall of 2013, the SPD started conducting additional training on critical policies, such as pursuits and resistance control. This training is conducted by the watch commanders during shift briefings and includes a written test for each officer. The watch commanders were also tasked with creating a “Tip of the Week” on a rotating schedule. The tips of the week have included topics related to barricade situations, computer aided dispatch, canine operations, drug cartels and processing juvenile offenders.
The Missouri Department of Transportation (MoDOT), Division of Highway Safety provided $100,000 in grant money to SPD specifically for DWI enforcement activities in 2013. SPD officers worked over 2,190 hours related to the DWI grant. These directed enforcement efforts yielded 190 DWI arrests, 903 traffic citations, 41 drug arrests, 33 felony arrests, five stolen vehicles recovered and 63 fugitive apprehensions. Beyond the regularly scheduled DWI overtime shifts, five DWI checkpoints and two saturation operations were conducted. Three of the checkpoints were interagency cooperative efforts between SPD and the Greene County Sheriff’s Department. The most successful of which took place on Oct. 26, yielding 18 DWI arrests.

In addition, SPD received grants from MoDOT earmarked for equipment related to the battle against impaired driving. Ten new preliminary breath test (PBT) units were purchased and issued to patrol officers. This increased the number of PBTs available to assist officers with DWI investigations to 52. In August, SPD transitioned to a new type of evidentiary breath instrument, after using the same type of instruments for most of the past two decades. Four new Intoximeter ECIR II units were received from the Missouri Safety Center, bringing to SPD the latest in breath-alcohol testing technology.

Finally, SPD assisted in the creation of the Central Ozarks Regional DWI Task Force (CORDTF). The CORDTF is comprised of 22 agencies, including municipal, county and state law enforcement, and is coordinated by the regional MoDOT representative. Member agencies are as far north as Cedar County and extend south to the Arkansas state line. The CORDTF is designed to function as a “superagency,” funded by individual agency MoDOT DWI grants, which will provide for the combining of resources,
equipment, and personnel to more effectively combat impaired driving in the region. This combined effort will allow smaller member agencies, which may not ordinarily be able to implement a large scale sobriety checkpoint, to provide enforcement and education never before seen in their communities. In addition, the CORDTF has allowed for a greater cooperative spirit and partnership between area agencies and officers, which will serve to bolster the overall DWI enforcement effort.

In September 2013, SPD hosted a Drug Recognition Expert (DRE) School at the Springfield Regional Police & Fire Training Center. Three additional SPD DREs were certified raising the total number of DREs to eight. With the increasing prevalence and abuse of illicit drugs and prescription narcotics, SPD has made “Driving Under the Influence of Drugs” investigations a priority, both in enforcement measures and crash scene investigations.
Motor Unit History

The SPD Traffic Services Section began with the assignment of a single officer, designated by a distinctive white uniform shirt, to direct traffic at the intersection of Jefferson Avenue and Saint Louis Street in 1918. By the late 1920s, the traffic-related focus of the department had grown and the SPD Motorcycle Unit was formed with a total of eight motorcycles in use.

In 1933, SPD motorcycle officer, Tom Persell, gained national notoriety when he was kidnapped by Bonnie and Clyde. Fortunately, Officer Persell was released unharmed in Joplin several hours later. Throughout the remainder of the 20th century, motorcycle officers were integral in deployment for enforcement of traffic violations, response to motor vehicle crashes, and use in parades and dignitary escorts.

SPD has continued to emphasize utilizing motorcycle units in the 21st century. Eight Harley Davidson motorcycles are assigned to the Traffic Services Section, with 13 traffic officers certified to ride. In addition, three officers assigned to patrol and community services are certified and routinely use the motorcycles in some of their duties. The Traffic Services Section has committed to making motorcycles a primary traffic vehicle. Whenever the weather allows, the motorcycle units are in service. In 2012, motorcycle officers logged 34,000 miles, while riding over 50,000 miles in 2013.
The motorcycle officers of the SPD Traffic Section are often times involved in highly visible public events. Two such events took place in 2013. In February, First Lady Michelle Obama visited Springfield. In October, motorcycle officers facilitated the escort of a fallen soldier, Sgt. Joseph M. Peters (son of an SPD employee), to the National Cemetery near Lake Springfield.

The Missouri Division of Highway Safety provides grant funding to SPD to conduct focused Hazardous Moving Violation (HMV) enforcement on a regular basis. The vast majority of the grant-funded HMV enforcement is conducted by motorcycle units. In the 2012/2013 grant period, 3,316 traffic stops were made with 3,088 citations issued. Officers also made eight felony arrests, and 22 fugitives were taken into custody during the enforcement efforts.
The SPD Special Response Team (SRT) is a highly trained, highly skilled tactical unit which has shown to substantially reduce the risk of injury and loss of life to citizens, police officers, and suspects, when called upon to assist in the resolution of critical incidents.

In 2013, the SRT successfully handled 198 operations, including 98 unknown/high-risk search warrant services and eight barricade situations. This year the SRT began a partnership with the United States Marshals Service Fugitive Task Force to assist in the apprehension of fugitives across the region. The task force focuses on violent and sex offenders. The addition of SPD personnel, assigned on a rotating basis from the SRT, greatly increased the ability of the task force to be successful in its mission. The SRT and SPD were recognized for their efforts after the members of the task force from SRT were able to successfully arrest fugitives and clear cases 68 times in 2013.

The Red (full-time) Team for SRT is currently staffed at six members. Five new members were selected to the SRT Blue (part-time) Team in the fall of 2013 bringing the amount of Blue Team members to 18. An integral part of the SRT is the Crisis Negotiations Team, which is supervised by a police sergeant. Staffing needs with this critical component were addressed during late 2013 and three new negotiators were selected and began training to serve in the unit.
The Community Services Section (CSS) expanded the number of crime prevention programs offered to the community in 2013. Stemming from the successful Neighborhood Watch program, CSS established and implemented Business Watch and Apartment Watch. Crime prevention officers began training participants of Business Watch to look out for one another in their business community. From 33 different businesses, 85 owners, managers and staff members learned how to prevent crime, what to do if a crime occurs and how to report incidents, as well as learning the concepts of Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED). Officers also began training management and staff of apartment complexes who committed to becoming Apartment Watch members. In this program, participants also became educated on crime prevention and ways to create safer living environments, and then are encouraged to share those insights with the residents of the complex. Two complexes signed on for the Apartment Watch program in 2013, and more are expected to follow in 2014.

City Utilities employees also participated in a training program developed by the crime prevention officers for organizations with a large number of employees out in the community. Emphasizing the “See Something? Say Something!” catch phrase utilized throughout the SPD umbrella of crime prevention programs, “The Watch” training instilled in each of these workers that they have the potential to be very valuable resources to our department as extra sets of trained “eyes and ears” on the streets, and in our neighborhoods.
Family Violence Task Force

The department’s efforts to reduce domestic violence moved into high gear in 2013. The effort was spurred by a noted increase in aggravated assaults in 2012 that continued into 2013. Further analysis determined the root cause for many of those assaults was domestic violence. The department took a bi-furcated approach, with the development of a community Family Violence Task Force as we reexamined traditional and non-traditional enforcement efforts in order to address the issue.

The Family Violence Task Force launched a comprehensive outreach campaign providing access to information and resources on domestic violence. The strategy involved providing proactive information and education for family members and others touched by domestic violence. The program was developed around the concept of the “The Three R’s of Domestic Violence.”

- How to Recognize It
- How to Respond to those who may be involved in abusive relationships
- How to Refer them to help

With assistance from the City of Springfield’s Office of Public Information and Civic Engagement, the Family Violence Task Force unveiled a public awareness media campaign in late summer of 2013. They created a public service announcement titled “Will You Help?” which was distributed to local media outlets and posted on the SPD website. In conjunction with the video, the department utilized the SPD website by posting a link to various community service organizations that offer assistance to victims in domestic violence situations.
In October, the Family Violence Task Force hosted two days of training on the issue of domestic violence featuring nationally recognized expert, Mark Wynn, who led the Nashville, Tenn. Police Department’s Domestic Violence Unit in the 1990s. Day one of the seminar provided no-cost training to 70 police officers and prosecutors from around the area. The second day was directed to the public and resulted in nearly 150 community members attending an eight-hour training block, culminating in a panel discussion which featured Wynn and local experts.
“Operation Crossfire” continued in 2013 by focusing investigative efforts on a list of individuals frequently involved in violent crime. This collaborative effort involves the Violent Crimes Unit, Special Investigations Unit, the Narcotics Unit and the Crime Analysis Unit, along with the essential assistance of the Greene County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office, The Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco Firearms and Explosives (ATF), and the U.S. Attorney’s Office.

By the end of the year, seven of the 20 targets on the list were in custody. Ten additional targets have charges pending. Those charges include first-degree burglary, robbery, weapons offenses, and felony assaults. Only three remain without any charges pending. The Violent Crimes Unit sergeant and the Special Investigations Section sergeant have created a new target list for 2014 as we continue this successful project.
In March, the Property Section of the Criminal Investigation Division developed a target list of criminals heavily involved in property crimes in Springfield. The list, which was named “Rollin’ Stolen” at the suggestion of one of the detectives, contained the names of the selected persons along with information such as physical descriptors, addresses, associates, types of crimes committed, vehicles, etc. The list was provided to officers in the field so they might be aware of active criminals and assist with proactive enforcement actions.

The list was also given to the Greene County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office, and that office was very cooperative throughout the year by promptly reviewing and filing cases against suspects on the list when cases were submitted. Twenty-five people appeared on the list throughout the year.

At the end of the year, nine of these criminals were in the Missouri Department of Corrections, 12 were in the Greene County Jail, two were being investigated by the U.S. Secret Service (based on our initial cases), one had nine active warrants out for his arrest, and the final suspect had nine charges pending against her with the Greene County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office.
All supervisors and detectives in the Property Crimes Unit and the Financial Crimes Unit, along with two investigative support specialists and an administrative assistant, moved into the newly renovated and renamed CIS Property Building at 319 E. Chestnut Expressway on March 5, 2013. The building had been vacant since August 15, 2012, when the previous occupants, the Springfield/Greene County Emergency Communications Department, moved into a new location. The interior of the building was gutted and completely remodeled with new flooring, ceilings, lighting, electrical wiring and fresh paint. Furniture and new workstations were also purchased and installed on both floors of the building. All of this was done at no cost to the taxpayers, as SPD was able to use federal forfeiture funds for the entire renovation cost. Prior to the move to the CIS Property Building, the Property Section had been housed in various offices throughout the South District Station (SDS). Vacating that space also allowed the SPD Traffic Unit to consolidate all of their operations under one roof at the SDS.
In an effort to improve security and provide better facilities for the Cyber Forensic Unit, space was identified on the lower level of the South District Station (SDS), and a new office was constructed to house this unit. The construction began in October 2013 and was completed in November 2013. We were able to utilize federal forfeiture funds to pay for all the costs.

After the Cyber Forensic Unit moved to the SDS, child crime investigators also moved to the SDS and combined with the Cyber Forensic Unit to form the Child Victim/Computer Forensics Unit. This unit is now part of the CIS-Persons Section. This change was made to distribute manpower more evenly among units in CIS, and was a logical fit due to the frequent involvement of computer forensic analysis in the investigation of crimes involving child victims.
The SPD entered into a new task force agreement with the Internal Revenue Service-Criminal Investigations Section (IRS-CIS) in 2013, resulting in a SPD narcotics investigator being assigned to the task force.

The mission of the task force is to develop and assist with criminal investigations and asset forfeitures of illegal narcotic activities within the Springfield Field Office. Those involved in the illegal sale and distributions of narcotics often launder their drug proceeds through legitimate and illegitimate businesses. The criminal investigations into complex drug enterprises, and the flow of money within these organizations, are time-consuming and often incur several hundred hours of investigative time. This task force agreement with the IRS-CIS will provide funds to assist the department with the expenses incurred by these investigations, and will result in the possibility of federal money laundering and tax-related charges, while also allowing the department to share in illegal assets forfeited by those involved. The task force enables the SPD to draw on the investigative resources of the IRS-CIS for complex narcotic investigations.
2013 was the first full year using the new Springfield Regional Police and Fire Training Center. During the year, the Training Section continued to move toward the goal of being the region’s main source for law enforcement training.

We hosted 38 specialty schools, a 39 percent increase from 2012. The schools included training related to firing range and armorer courses, interview and interrogation, ethics, and specialized investigations to name a few. We trained 1,025 total students, a 42 percent increase from 2012, with 700 coming from outside agencies and 325 from within the SPD.

A new running track and obstacle course was designed, and construction began in late 2013. The new track will be used for recruit applicant testing, training during the academy and in-service training upon completion in early 2014.
The Volunteers in Police Service (VIPS) program made key changes by creating a volunteer application and brochures, waivers, and establishing internal procedures to identify and fill volunteer positions in the department. The volunteer application can now be easily downloaded from the SPD website. Four new VIPS participants successfully joined the program. They have been involved in a variety of activities, such as creating an itemized list of all the books in the Training Unit’s library, assisting in taxicab license applications, assisting police records in administrative tasks, and assisting the CIS Property Unit by conducting follow-up research on cases. Additional volunteer positions such as a domestic violence advocate, a home/business security evaluation position, and a motorist assist program, have been identified and will be implemented in 2014.

The volunteer program also enrolled all department volunteers, including the Handicapped Enforcement Action Team (HEAT), cadets and the chaplains, into the President’s Volunteer Service Award program. This program bestows presidential recognition on citizens who volunteer to make their communities a better place. In the first nine months of enrollment in the PVSA, our volunteers logged 3,194.5 hours of service, worth over an estimated $60,694.55 in monetary value. These volunteers will be recognized in annual awards presentation beginning in 2014. 

The Cadet Program graduated nine new members in 2013.
Citizens Police Academy

On Oct. 23, the SPD held a graduation ceremony for 16 citizens from the 2013 Citizens Police Academy. The participants met from 6-9 p.m. each Wednesday evening at the Springfield Regional Police and Fire Training Center for 11 consecutive weeks. They covered topics such as crime scene processing, investigations, narcotics and gangs, defensive tactics, firearms use, and traffic and DWI enforcement. The group also participated in two field trips, one to the SPD range and another touring the Springfield-Greene County 911 Emergency Communications department, Police Headquarters, the Calaboose and the South District Station (SDS).
Sixteen recruits started the SPD’s 63rd Police Academy on Feb. 11, 2013, and 14 recruits graduated on Aug. 2, 2013. The Training Section provided the recruits with 1,019 hours of basic training, and those completing the training had an overall cumulative grade point average of 87.6 percent.

Training staff instructors taught 78 percent (789 of 1,019 hours) of the academy's classes. 9 percent (92 of 1,019 hours) of the classes were taught by SPD personnel not assigned to the training section and thirteen percent (138 of 1,019 hours) were taught by non-SPD personnel to include contract instructors.

This was the first full academy class held at the Springfield Regional Police and Fire Training Center. The state-of-the-art facility was utilized in many new ways and the benefit of quality training was immediately recognized.
Three new officers were hired and trained through the SPD lateral hire program during 2013. Each of them received 160 hours of academy training.

The 6th Lateral Academy had two attendees: Trenton Herr and Thomas Gross.

Margaret “Mardi” Morton was the sole graduate of the 7th Lateral Academy.
Social Media

The SPD Public Affairs Officer and command staff fully embraced the SPD Strategic Communications Strategy, approved in December 2012, utilizing the newly-launched Facebook, Twitter and YouTube accounts in 2013.

Both Facebook and Twitter proved to be valuable resources for getting information out to the public in a timely manner when the department went on emergency status for motor vehicle crash response, when crashes caused traffic delays or lane closures, while newsworthy crimes were taking place, and when detectives needed the public’s assistance while investigating a case.

Social media has also been used by the department to promote events such as Coffee with the Chief and National Night Out, bringing awareness to programs the department has in place to engage citizens in public safety initiatives, and giving recognition to sworn and non-sworn personnel who have received compliments from citizens for their work.

The pages have also allowed citizens to ask questions or make statements publicly or privately and get quick feedback, and many have expressed how grateful they are in having the opportunity to approach the Police Department with questions in such an open manner.

The department’s social media presence increased throughout the year, engaging a growing audience of interactive citizens. In 2013 the SPD Facebook page grew from 1,100 likes to over 4,800 and our Twitter account went from 1,500 followers to over 3,000 followers. We anticipate these numbers will continue to grow as we actively seek to engage the citizens of our city.
Leadership Council and 2013 Award Recipients

**Meritorious Service Award**

*Officer Jon Brewer* – On Jan. 30, 2013, Officer Brewer was responsible for saving a woman who was trying to commit suicide by locking herself in a running car inside the garage of a home. Officer Brewer gained entry into the house and locked car, and rescued the woman.

**Lifetime Achievement Award**


*Officer Tom Savard* – over 23 years of distinguished service, 1990 – 2013.

*Officer Dennis Shook* – over 24 years of distinguished service, 1989 – 2013.

**Citizen Service Commendation**

*Steve Hoerning* – For his assistance to an officer during a traffic stop of homicide suspects.

*Raven Kidd* – For her assistance in reporting and identifying a suspicious subject with a gun near a middle school.

*Kenneth Rose* – For his assistance in detaining a suspect in a purse theft from an elderly victim.

**Citizen Service Citation**

*Penny Speake* – For her invaluable assistance to the Community Services Section and Special Investigations Section.

*Cora Scott* – For taking on the duties as an interim Public Affairs Officer and her assistance in the department’s strategic communications effort.
Promotions

Major
Captain Jim McCulloch, promoted 7/14/13

Captain
Lieutenant Greg Higdon, promoted 7/14/13
Lieutenant Vance Holland, promoted 8/25/13
Lieutenant Ben King, promoted 8/25/13

Sergeant
Corporal Eric Wahlquist, 7/28/13
Corporal David Stone, 12/1/13

Non-Sworn
Crystal Higdon – to Police Services Administrator 2/10/2013
Tracy Mills – to Investigative Services Specialist Supervisor 4/7/2013
Matt Robinson – to Police Services Supervisor 1/27/2013
Leadership Training Graduates

Senior Management Institute for Police (PERF)
Major Kirk Manlove

Missouri Command College (MPCCF)
Captain Vance Holland and Lieutenant Grant Dorrell

Leadership Springfield (Chamber of Commerce)
Sergeant Todd Revell

Leadership in Police Organizations (IACP)
Captain David Millsap, Lieutenants Roger Moore, Scott Umbarger and Shawn Williams, Sergeant Chris Wells

Retirements
Major Bob Brown, DSN 662, Hired 1/22/90, Retired 5/17/13
Sergeant Andrew Barksdale, DSN 704, Hired 2/18/91, Retired 1/4/13
Officer Chris Willett, DSN 679, Hired 1/22/90, Retired 1/26/13
Officer Wayne Woods, DSN 720, Hired 2/18/91, Retired 9/6/13
Quartermaster Bob Turan, DSN 865, Hired 5/17/95, Retired 4/12/13
Police Services Administrator Sherry Royal, DSN 688, Hired 9/10/90, Retired 1/17/13
Latent Print Examiner Don Hampton, DSN 603, Hired 5/11/87 Retired 7/19/13
Web Designer Iris Hardison, DSN 857, Hired 11/14/94, Retired 5/30/13
New Hires

6th Lateral Academy hired 1/7/13
Thomas Gross
Trenton Herr

63rd Academy hired 2/11/13
Daniel Carlson
Wesley Harbin
Oliver Hoedel
David Hubert
Clinton Laws
Patrick Lightwine
Jordan Louderbaugh
Clint Musser
Landon Nash
Kyle Powers
Zachary Pugh
Tim Sisco
Bradley Southard

7th Lateral Academy hired 11/25/13
Mardi Morton

Non-Sworn Employees
PSR Viviana Giraldo, hired 2/18/13
PSR Samantha Beavers, hired 3/4/13
PSR Lauren Rosendale, hired 4/3/13
PAO Lisa Cox, hired 4/30/13
PSR Lori Everett, hired 7/8/13
PSR Karen Otsby, hired 7/8/13
PSR Amie Davis, hired 7/22/13
Quartermaster Assistant Evan Nicholson, hired 7/30/13
PSR Robert Saab, hired 8/5/13
PSR Ashley Dawson, 10/28/13
PSR Joseph Dosanjh, hired 10/20/13