



# MANAGER'S QUARTERLY

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

<i>New Era - Denver 911</i>	2
<i>Denver Fire Dept.</i>	2
<i>Denver Sheriff Dept.</i>	3
<i>DPD Crime Summary</i>	4
<i>Reported Offenses</i>	5

### The Manager of Safety is responsible for oversight of the following:

- Public Safety Budget
- Denver Police, Fire and Sheriff Departments
- Cadet Program
- Safety Recruitment
- Hiring, Promotions and Discipline
- Communications Center (Denver 911)
- Safe City Office
- Community Corrections
- EEO and Records Management
- Crime Prevention and Control Commission

The Manager of Safety issues special police commissions and, as de-facto sheriff for the City and County of Denver, also issues concealed weapons permits.

## MESSAGE FROM MANAGER OF SAFETY

Now that we are in the new year, it is only natural to look back at our past accomplishments, to take advantage of the lessons learned from our endeavors, and to look forward with enthusiasm to the goals we have set for 2010.

One of those goals was to begin publishing a quarterly community newsletter of which this is the first. All of our other goals are based upon the premise of continuing to stress professionalism and accountability throughout all Safety agencies and providing quality safety services to the people of Denver while doing so within the budgeting limitations which continue to affect us all.

The progress made by the Department of Safety has been considerable this past year. There has been positive change in processes and procedures, enhanced community participation in safety initiatives, and national recognition for systemic revisions to the police disciplinary system, yet as always, there is still much to do. With the constant challenges that we all face, we must keep up the pace of our past endeavors and set even more ambitious goals for necessary change.



Alvin J. LaCabe, Jr.  
Manager of Safety

**On behalf of the Department of Safety,  
We Wish You a Happy, Productive and Safe New Year!**

## POLICE DEPARTMENT CELEBRATES 150 YEARS

In December 2009, the Denver Police Department (DPD) proudly celebrated its 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Wilson Sisty was elected as the first law enforcement officer in 1859. Sisty's responsibility as marshal was to bring order to the saloons, gambling halls and houses of questionable repute which dominated the newly-formed city and to prevent the vigilante justice that had grown from the lack of any formal law enforcement.

Denver is currently served by over 1,500 uniformed officers who are supported by 250 civilians in responding to calls for assistance, enforcement of criminal and traffic laws and investigation of crime. Modern law enforcement has progressed to include crime analysis, prevention and evaluation of its response to the needs of the community. The DPD Data Analysis Unit and the crime analysts based in each district track crime statistics and look for trends in criminal activity. This information is then used to direct the Department's resources and to educate the public on preventative measures.

As any television viewer knows, the work conducted by crime scene investigators and the crime lab are essential to modern police work. While other departments rely on the state for analysis of crime scene evidence, the DPD has had its own Crime Lab since the 1960's. Longstanding practices of handwriting, fingerprint and ballistic analysis take place alongside state of the art DNA analysis. Recognizing the value of the lab, Denver voters approved bond funds for construction of a new crime lab which is currently in the design phase.



Under the leadership of Chief of Police Gerry Whitman, and Manager of Safety Al LaCabe, the Denver Police Department has become a national model in terms of progressive policies, ingenuity, and best practices in law-enforcement. The Department has certainly come a long way since prospector Bill Sisty pinned on a badge and became the first of Denver's long line of the "finest".

## A NEW ERA AT DENVER 911



For the past thirteen months, Denver Police and Denver Health professionals have been collaborating in an effort to streamline processes, eliminate redundancies and improve call processing times for a citizen who calls Denver 911 in their time of need.

Specifically, when the call required both Police and Medical assistance, this required two different Emergency Communications professionals and two different organizations; the 911 Operator (Denver Police) who was responsible for the police aspect of the call, followed by the Paramedic Dispatcher (Denver Health) who provided the medical triage assistance.

After several well orchestrated studies, the team began finding opportunities which would decrease the overall call processing times for the customer. We are happy to report that those times have decreased by over 40%. In September of 2009, a group of ten 911 Operators took part in a pilot program, expanding their scope of work to include the required elements of medical triage. This allowed one individual to handle a call requiring both police and medical assistance from start to finish with no interruption in service for the customer.

Each employee received CPR and National Academy of Emergency Dispatching (NAED) training, certifying them to handle medical emergency calls. Each call was monitored to ensure compliance to the NAED protocol and quality standards and the processing time matched that of an experienced Emergency Medical Dispatcher. This 90-day pilot proved to be a great success; so much so that the organization will be eliminating the 911 Operator position and will introduce the Emergency Communications Operator position to the Center in 2010.

The first class of Emergency Communications Operators is scheduled to begin on January 18, 2010, and all tenured employees will be trained and transition into the new classification over the course of the year.

## DENVER FIRE DEPARTMENT

Jim Sestrich was appointed as the new Fire Chief on September 16, 2009. Chief Sestrich and his new command staff are dedicated to providing quality, timely and professional emergency services to those that live in, work in, and visit the City and County of Denver.



During 2009, the Denver Fire Department responded to a record number of incidents. Now more than ever before, the Department is being challenged with difficult economic times and a greater demand for service due to homeland security threats. The Department has been able to maintain basic services to the citizens through the dedication and commitment of the Denver Fire Department team. Reorganizing, setting priorities, and refocusing on the Department's mission have been a major factor in the continued success of the organization.

The Fire Prevention and Investigation Division provides many services which ensure that public and private occupancies are safe. On top of normal code enforcement activities, they provide safety education talks, evacuation drills, a nationally-renowned juvenile firesetters program, carbon monoxide and smoke detector programs, and other services that are specific to the seasonal demands in the community. Our Fire Prevention and Investigation Division has been a leader in the fire service industry by implementing cutting-edge technology with a computerized inspection program, allowing increased efficiency. In addition, the Division certifies the licensing of all life safety system installers who provide services in Denver.

As a leader in the fire service, the Department provides training to other agencies, both public and private. This includes structural firefighting, aircraft fire/crash training, hazardous materials, and technical rescue, just to name a few. This is in addition to maintaining the certifications and the disciplines of the Department's own emergency response staff.

*Continued on Page 3*

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## The Denver Fire Department *Continued from Page 2*

The Department remains committed to promoting diversity within our ranks, striving to recruit and promote applicants who reflect the diverse demographics of our community.

In conjunction with the Mayor's Greenprint Denver initiative, the Department is implementing ecologically friendly practices which include facilities evaluation and recycling of uniforms and firehouse supplies such as light bulbs and batteries.

It is imperative that the Denver Fire Department continues to stay current with the ever-changing challenges which are occurring within the safety community on a national and local level. Total commitment from the Fire Department team will ensure that they are prepared to act professionally in mitigating incidents in an effective and efficient manner. Because of the fire fighter's pledge for excellence, citizens can rest assured that they are well protected in their community.

# DENVER SHERIFF DEPARTMENT

## Programs

Most people may be under the belief that the Denver Sheriff Department is merely a department that deals with and only incarcerates offenders. While the Denver Sheriff Department does, in fact, incarcerate many people charged with many different types of crimes, it also operates many different programs which incorporate both consequences for crimes committed and service to the community. One such program is the Juvenile Offender Work Program (JOWP). This program has been in existence since 1993 and has proven to be an invaluable option for the juvenile court judges in Courtroom 191J. When juveniles are charged with minor offenses and report to court, the judge may sentence them to a certain number of days on this program in lieu of paying a fine. This program is supervised by two Denver Deputy Sheriffs all while the juveniles perform meaningful community service such as shoveling sidewalks for elderly citizens, lawn mowing, graffiti removal as well as working on various projects for Denver's Public Works and Parks and Recreation Departments, City Council and the Mayor's Office. This program has saved the city millions of dollars over the last 17 years in addition to teaching the juvenile offenders to take responsibility for their actions and the value of becoming productive members of the community.



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## Denver Justice Center

After years of enduring overcrowded jails and courts which resulted in unsafe conditions for inmates, sheriffs and the public, Denver voters approved a bond issue for construction of a new Justice Center in 2005. When completed, a new jail and courthouse will provide a more efficient criminal justice system for the city. The portion of the complex featuring a Post Office and parking garage on 14<sup>th</sup> Avenue between Delaware and Elati Streets has already been finished.

Within the new Justice Center, the Van Cise-Simonet Detention Center is slated for opening some time in April/May of 2010, and will replace the Pre-Arrestment Detention Facility (City Jail) downtown as well as portions of the Denver County Jail on Smith Road. Currently, the two jails have a combined rated capacity of 1,792 beds and in the past have frequently housed over 2,000 inmates. The new Detention Center will have a capacity of 1,500 beds and will handle the intake, booking and release of all inmates prior to sentencing. This state of the art facility will eliminate overcrowding and provide a safer environment for deputies, inmates and visitors alike. Inmates serving sentences will continue to be housed at the Denver County Jail which is already benefiting from a newly completed kitchen and bakery. Construction of the new housing at the Denver County Jail is scheduled to begin this summer.

The Detention Center will also hold an arraignment courtroom as well as a preliminary hearings courtroom. In the summer of 2010, all other County and District courtrooms handling criminal matters will be moved from the City and County Building to the Lindsey-Flanigan Courthouse within the new Justice Center with its newly finished 29 courtrooms. An underground tunnel will allow inmates to be securely moved to and from the new Courthouse, eliminating the need to transport inmates by bus from the existing jails and limiting contact with the general public in the courthouse halls. Additional information on the Denver Justice Center may be found at [www.denvergov.org/](http://www.denvergov.org/)

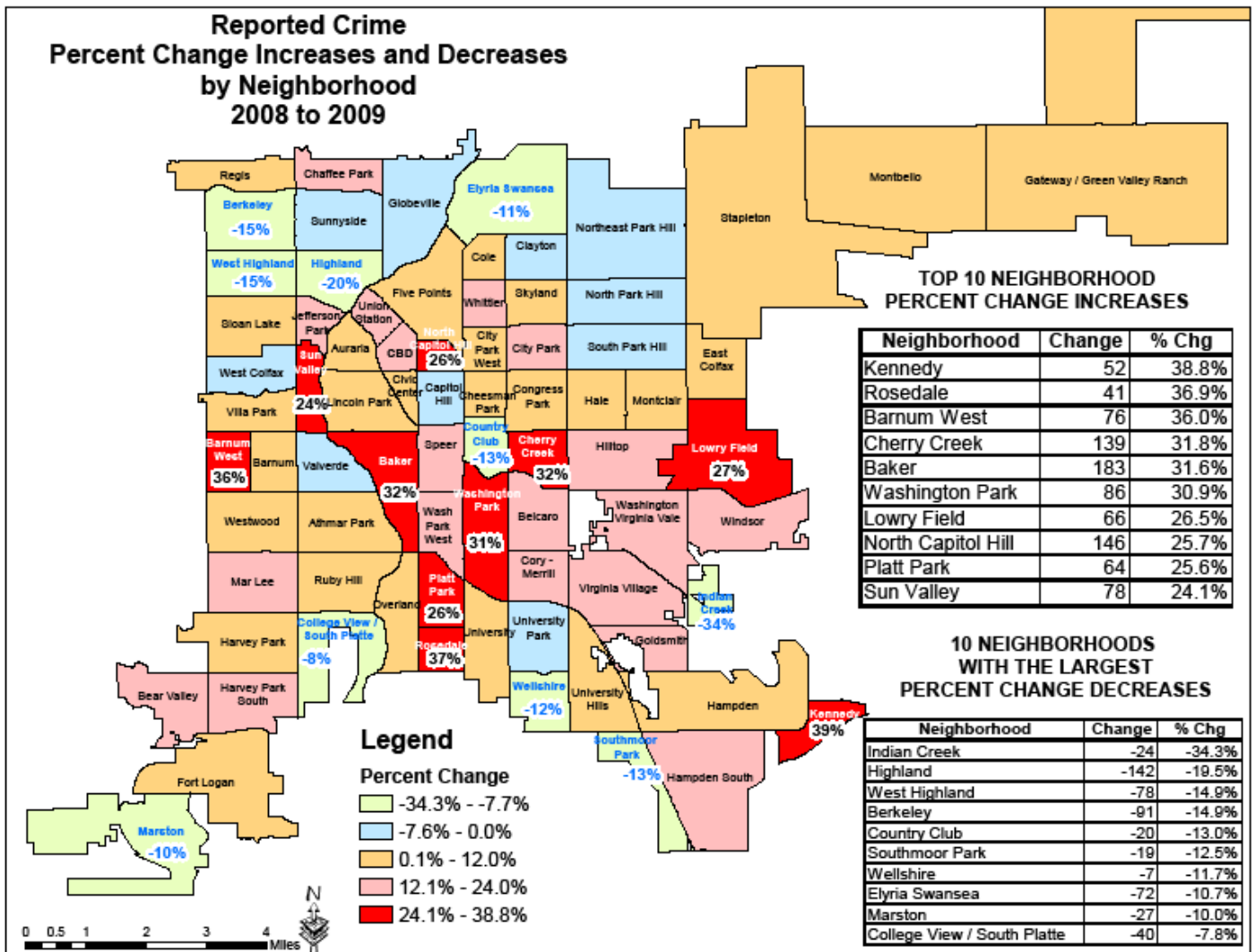
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# DENVER POLICE DEPARTMENT CRIME SUMMARY

After three years of double-digit declines, Denver experienced a 6.9% increase in total reported offenses in 2009. Theft from Motor Vehicles (stealing valuables from cars) was a significant problem, rising 29%. Citizen-oriented prevention efforts aimed at reducing valuables left in cars – especially GPS devices, music devices, laptops, and purses/wallets – assisted Denver Police in bringing this increase down from higher peaks earlier in 2009. Citywide statistics and a neighborhood map showing the percentage change from 2008 provide more detail (below).

Neighborhood and other crime statistics are available online at [www.denvergov.org/sopa](http://www.denvergov.org/sopa).



## REPORTED OFFENSES IN THE CITY AND COUNTY OF DENVER

TYPE OF OFFENSE		JAN-DEC, 2008		JAN-DEC, 2009		CHANGE	
		#	%	#	%	#	%
PART 1 PERSONS	Homicide	47	0.1%	38	0.1%	-9	-19.1%
	Sexual Assault	337	0.9%	409	1.0%	72	21.4%
	Robbery	1,097	3.0%	1,063	2.7%	-34	-3.1%
	Aggravated Assault	1,698	4.6%	1,749	4.4%	51	3.0%
SUBTOTAL		3,179	8.6%	3,259	8.3%	80	2.5%
PART 1 PROPERTY	Burglary	5,243	14.2%	4,862	12.3%	-381	-7.3%
	Larceny (Except Theft from MV)	4,971	13.5%	5,263	13.3%	292	5.9%
	Theft from Motor Vehicle	5,860	15.9%	7,571	19.2%	1,711	29.2%
	Auto Theft	3,736	10.1%	3,569	9.1%	-167	-4.5%
	Arson	124	0.3%	140	0.4%	16	12.9%
SUBTOTAL		19,934	54.1%	21,405	54.3%	1,471	7.4%
<b>PART 1 TOTAL</b>		<b>23,113</b>	<b>62.7%</b>	<b>24,664</b>	<b>62.5%</b>	<b>1,551</b>	<b>6.7%</b>
OTHER CRIMES AGAINST PERSONS	Other Assaults	1,798	4.9%	2,027	5.1%	229	12.7%
	Other Sex Offenses	660	1.8%	651	1.7%	-9	-1.4%
	Offenses Against Family/Children	351	1.0%	315	0.8%	-36	-10.3%
SUBTOTAL		2,809	7.6%	2,993	7.6%	184	6.6%
PUBLIC DISORDER CRIMES	Criminal Mischief	5,477	14.9%	5,758	14.6%	281	5.1%
	Prostitution/Commercialized Vice	11	0.0%	10	0.0%	-1	-9.1%
	Disorderly Conduct	748	2.0%	901	2.3%	153	20.5%
	Curfew and Loitering	0	0.0%	25	0.1%	25	NA
SUBTOTAL		6,236	16.9%	6,694	17.0%	458	7.3%
DRUG/ALCOHOL OFFENSES	Drug Abuse Violations	1,932	5.2%	1,795	4.6%	-137	-7.1%
	Liquor Law Violations	0	0.0%	11	0.0%	11	NA
SUBTOTAL		1,932	5.2%	1,806	4.6%	-126	-6.5%
WHITE COLLAR CRIMES	Forgery/Counterfeiting	151	0.4%	191	0.5%	40	26.5%
	Fraud	1,470	4.0%	1,523	3.9%	53	3.6%
	Embezzlement	53	0.1%	45	0.1%	-8	-15.1%
SUBTOTAL		1,674	4.5%	1,759	4.5%	85	5.1%
ALL OTHER CRIMES	Stolen Property	6	0.0%	14	0.0%	8	133.3%
	Weapons	292	0.8%	266	0.7%	-26	-8.9%
	All Other Offenses	817	2.2%	1,239	3.1%	422	51.7%
SUBTOTAL		1,115	3.0%	1,519	3.9%	404	36.2%
<b>PART 2 TOTAL</b>		<b>13,766</b>	<b>37.3%</b>	<b>14,771</b>	<b>37.5%</b>	<b>1,005</b>	<b>7.3%</b>
<b>GRAND TOTAL</b>		<b>36,879</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>39,435</b>	<b>100.0%</b>	<b>2,556</b>	<b>6.9%</b>

All files utilized in the creation of this report are dynamic. Dynamic files allow additions, deletions and/or modifications at any time, resulting in more complete and accurate records in the databases. Due to continuous data entry after reports are compiled, numbers may vary in previous or subsequent reports.

PREPARED TO DEPARTMENT OF SAFETY PUBLIC INFORMATION STANDARDS

Excludes runaways, traffic offenses, unfounded reports and non-criminal activity.

## City and County of

1331 Cherokee Street, Room 302  
Denver, CO 80204

Phone: 720-913-6020  
Fax: 720-913-7028

[www.denvergov.org/Safety](http://www.denvergov.org/Safety)

**We're on the Web!**  
**[www.denvergov.org/Safety](http://www.denvergov.org/Safety)**

For more information about the Manager of Safety's Office as well as links to other Department of Safety matters, please visit our website. However, while the denvergov website is undergoing its transformation, websites may not be available at all times.

## Important Contact Information

**City Services Information Line 311**

**Emergency 911**

### Manager of Safety Numbers

Manager of Safety (720) 913-6020  
Communications Center (720) 913-2000, option # 1  
Data Analysis Unit (720) 913-6014  
(Crime Mapping)  
Recruitment (720) 913-3390

[www.denvergov.org/safety](http://www.denvergov.org/safety)

### Denver Police Department Numbers

Non Emergency Dispatch (720) 913-2000, option # 1  
Chief of Police (720) 913-6527  
Information Desk (720) 913-6010  
Police Records (720) 913-6029

[www.denvergov.org/police](http://www.denvergov.org/police)

### Denver Fire Department Numbers

Fire Chief (720) 913-3491  
Denver Fire Department Headquarters (720) 913-3473  
Fire Prevention and Investigation Division (720) 913-3414  
Fire Data (Fire Reports) (720) 913-2415

[www.denvergov.org/firedepartment](http://www.denvergov.org/firedepartment)

### Denver Sheriff Department Numbers

Director of Corrections Office (720) 865-9567  
Pre Arraignment Detention Facility (PADF) (720) 913-7601  
(Also known as Denver City Jail)  
Denver County Jail (720) 913-3753  
Civil Process Division (720) 865-9556  
Impounded Vehicles (Denver only) (303) 295-4363

[www.denvergov.org/sheriff](http://www.denvergov.org/sheriff)

### Community Corrections

Main Number (720) 913-8250

[www.denvergov.org/communitycorrections](http://www.denvergov.org/communitycorrections)

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