



**Indio Police Department
Annual Report
FY 2006-07**

MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF

Chief of Police Bradley S. Ramos

“COPS COUNT”



My time as Chief of Police in Indio has been one of constructive change in service delivery. In the past five years, the members of the Department have: reduced crime; increased levels of service; added 37 police officer positions per a total of 87 officers; reorganized the department; added support staff in Code Enforcement, and Animal Control; established the Community Outreach Unit for business, residential, school outreach, and the Graffiti Task Force in conjunction with the Public Works Department. We are

currently realizing a 13% reduction in crime, and our response time to emergency calls for service has been reduced from 6 minutes in 2005 to 2.5 minutes in 2006. This is well below the national average of 3 minutes.

The main point that I want to make clear is that “*Cops Count*” and that cops are the most essential component of the equation when it comes to fighting and reducing crime. Although some researchers claim that fluctuations crime are due to socioeconomic factors, I believe cops are the most essential component in the crime fighting and crime reduction equation.

The City of Indio is experiencing its lowest crime rate while experiencing its most rapid growth in history. I don't know of any other city that has been as successful, especially given that the ratio of officers to residents is well below the standards of other cities our size in this State. Thanks to the men and women of the police department for their hard work and dedication.

The reductions in crime and disorder in Indio attest to the Department's innovative strategies and its consistent, compassionate, and constitutionally appropriate approach to law enforcement. While socioeconomic issues may have a slight bearing on the rise and fall of crime, the quickest way to impact crime is through a well-led, properly managed, and appropriately-resourced police force. That embraces risk-taking and not risk-adversity. This police agency will always include, accountability-focused, quality of life initiatives, and problem-oriented community policing that is transparent and accessible to the public, the media, and the profession.

I believe strongly that the single most important cause of crime is human behavior. One thing that I have learned and strongly advocate is that police officers, with proper resources and appropriate direction, can control behavior to such a degree that it will change behavior. I have seen nothing in the way of hard evidence to dissuade me from the simple truth that well managed cops on the street make the difference. *Cops Count*, as they are the essential catalysts in the reduction and prevention of crime. On a daily basis, Indio Police Officers are making a difference.

INDIO POLICE DEPARTMENT

VISION

The Indio Police Department will strive to be a leading law enforcement agency driven by high performance standards entrenched in integrity, ethics, and professional behaviors guided by the law enforcement code of ethics. A community free from crime and disorder remains an unachieved ideal; nevertheless, consistent with the values of a free society, it is the vision of the Indio Police Department to approach that ideal as closely as possible. In so doing, the Department desires to provide services that seek to enforce the law in a fair and impartial manner, keeping in mind, our real objective is to prevent and deter crime.

MISSION

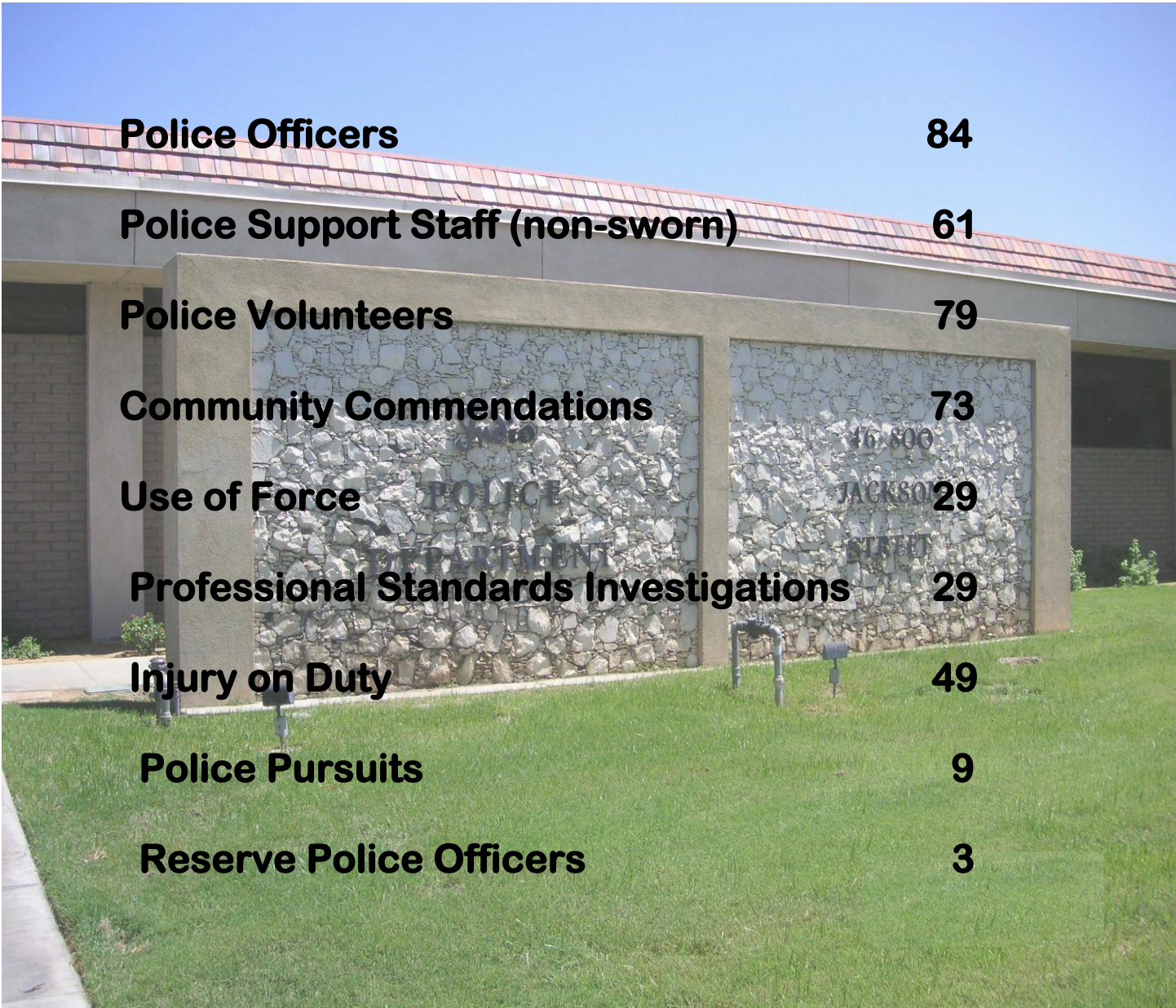
Our Mission, in partnership with the community, is to safeguard and improve the quality of life in Indio by using traditional and non-traditional policing methods that promote trust and confidence in the Indio Police Department.

MOTTO

“Our Community

Our Commitment”...

Annual Department Statistics



| | |
|--|-----------|
| Police Officers | 84 |
| Police Support Staff (non-sworn) | 61 |
| Police Volunteers | 79 |
| Community Commendations | 73 |
| Use of Force | 29 |
| Professional Standards Investigations | 29 |
| Injury on Duty | 49 |
| Police Pursuits | 9 |
| Reserve Police Officers | 3 |



ADMINISTRATION

The administrative responsibility of the Indio Police Department lies within the Office of the Chief of Police. Assisting the Chief of Police in directing the department is the executive staff members; Captain / Division Commander of Field Services, Captain / Division Commander of Investigative Services, and Captain / Division Commander of Support Services. The Chief's support staff includes an Administrative Officer and the Executive Assistant.

The Chief of Police directs Public Relations, Media Relations, Air Support, Professional Standards reviews, Police Staff representation to the City Council & Commissions, Indio Youth Task Force, management of grants, projects and reports to the City Manager's office, employee recruitment and development, and representation on various Law Enforcement Boards and Community Boards.

The Office of the Chief continues to promote Community Policing by maintaining and developing partnerships. The department's commitment is effective law enforcement services for our community through its dedication to safeguard and improve the quality of life in the City of Indio.

- Received and replied to 73 formal community and business letters of commendation.
- The Chief of Police is the Chairman of the Coachella Valley Chiefs Association and President of the Riverside County Chiefs Association.
- Attended 53 community meetings to present current department services and crime prevention programs.
- Computerized Statistics known as "COMPSTAT" continues to be the innovative tool by the Chief's direction in the Part -1 crime reduction and with the support of staff and community programs.
- Continued department representation at City Council meetings, City Commissions, Youth Advisory Council, and City Committees, and Community Events.



FIELD SERVICES DIVISION

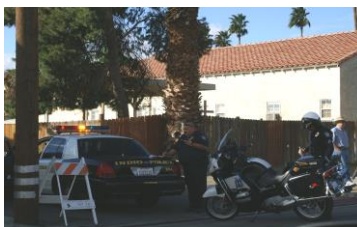
Police Officers from the Field Services Division are generally the first contact for anyone seeking police services, particularly during an emergency or if a victim of a crime. The division provides services to the community 24-hours a day, 365 days a year.

The Field Services Division Commander leads Patrol Operations, Reserve Police Officers, and Traffic Services which includes Motors and Commercial Vehicle Enforcement, Community Service Officers, School Resource Officers, Youth Accountability Team, Community Outreach / Graffiti Team, Field Training Program and the Police K-9 Unit.

- Handled 70,113 total calls for service in 2006. 49,652 of the calls were in response to calls for service and 20,461 were self-initiated. This is an average of 192 calls a day.
- Made 2,888 adult arrests and 385 juvenile arrests.
- Average response time is less than 2.5 minutes to priority Emergency 911 calls.
- Implemented the Commercial Vehicle Program to help regulate and educate commercial traffic in the city and educate the drivers.
- Graffiti Task Force was created and, to date, over hundred arrests have been made.
- Established A Police Officer Recruitment Program.

Because of the growth of the city a sixth patrol beat was added to help with the service coverage. The six beats are patrolled with a Police Officer assigned to each beat. A Police Sergeant serves as the Field Supervisor with the assistance of a Police Corporal in the field. Police Lieutenants serve as the Watch Commander performing duties both in the station and field. Patrol officers work 12-hour shifts.

A Police Storefront was opened on Miles Avenue in Old Town. The new office provides a police presence downtown and facilitates communications with the Old Town merchants. The Police Storefront is also utilized as a police command post during Festivals and special events in Old Town. The Community Outreach Team and Traffic Services operate out of the Old Town Police Storefront.



INVESTIGATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

The Investigative Services Division's responsibility is to conduct thorough and comprehensive investigations leading to the arrest and successful prosecution of offenders and the recovery of stolen property.

The Investigative Services Division Commander's responsibilities include: Detectives; Special Enforcement Team; CV Narcotics Task Force Officer; CV Auto Theft Officer; CV Gang Task Force Officer; CV Majors Narcotics Officer; Training and Recruitment, Background Investigations; Accounting/Purchasing; and Professional Standards. A Police Lieutenant position was added to assist the Captain with operations of the division.

The Investigative Services Division and support personnel were moved into a new modular building with ergonomically correct work stations and ample work space for all staff. The additional building space is located on the east side of the Police Station.

- Detectives cleared 70.9 % of reported Part 1 Crimes and 29.1 % of reported Part 2 Crimes in 2006.
- Detectives closed 237 cases in 2006.
- An internship program was created to assist the Crime Analysis Unit and provide real world work experience to young people interested in a Law enforcement career.
- In 2006, Investigators completed 131 backgrounds of which 48 were candidates for employment and 14 were businesses, and ran 346 Live Scan fingerprint checks.
- The new Indio City Code Fine and Penalty was approved by the City Council.



SUPPORT SERVICES DIVISION

The Support Services Division is comprised of several services that deliver a highly developed communication system and other specialized support services.

Services such as Property and Evidence, which is one of the most sensitive functions of any Police Department, and the Records Bureau, which processes thousands of police reports, are part of the Support Services Division. A new 911-Dispatch Communications Center with state of the art communications equipment was relocated into a new modular building. The Communications Center is located on the north side of the Police Station.

The Support Services Division Commander's responsibilities include: 911-Dispatch Communications Center; Animal Care Center / Animal Control Services; Records Bureau; Crime Analysis Unit; Information Technology Support; Property and Evidence Bureau; Facility Management; and Code Enforcement Unit.



- The Records Bureau area was remodeled with ergonomically correct work stations for each Records staff person.
- Information Technology service center was created in the department to service computers and digital technology.
- A second Communications Supervisor was hired.
- Support Services Captain is currently developing a Verified Response Program for alarms to free up patrol time by reducing false alarm calls for service.
- Property and Evidence area installed a new security alarm system that is monitored 24-7.

TRAINING and RECRUITMENT

On-going training of police department employees is of critical importance. Employees attend courses to maintain and improve their law enforcement knowledge and skills.

A Sergeant, under the direction of the Investigative Services Division Commander, manages Training and Recruitment. The Training Sergeant coordinates quarterly in house training and coordinates attendance at California Peace Officers Standards and Training seminars. Recruitment is also a responsibility of the unit which works closely with the Human Resources office to hire top notch employees.

- All police officers are trained quarterly in the use of less than lethal weapons including pepper ball, electronic control devices, and bean bags.
- All Police Officers have been trained and issued Electronic Control Devices.
- The 40 caliber Glock handgun was adopted as the department's primary duty weapon for all Police Officers. The department purchases and issues the handguns to each Police Officer and provides training in house.
- 13 Police Officers were hired in 2006.
- 35 Support staff were hired in 2006.



TRAFFIC SERVICES

The Traffic Services Unit was established to reduce accidents, property damage and loss of life through education and enforcement. The unit investigates traffic collisions, enforces traffic violations and assists patrol staff as needed.

A Sergeant, under the direction of the Field Services Commander, is assigned to supervise Traffic Services. Currently, the Traffic Services unit consists of four Motor Officers, and a Commercial Enforcement Officer.

The Traffic Services Unit conducts several enforcement and educational services in the community including the Walking Safe Program, Seat Belt and Child Car Seat inspections, DUI Awareness, Monthly Safety and DUI Check Points. The Unit also enforces jay walking and suspended license laws.

The Traffic Services Unit continued to participate with the Valley Motor Enforcement Team / V-MET. Motor Officers from Indio, Cathedral City, Palm Springs, and Desert Hot Springs combine resources to address particular traffic issues in each community.

- Issued 12,630 Hazardous Traffic Violation Citations.
- 2,359 Vehicles were towed because the drivers had a suspended or no license or the vehicle violated City noise standards.
- Traffic Services six member staff operate out of the Indio Police Storefront in Old Town on Miles Avenue.
- Fully equipped Commercial Enforcement Unit purchased and placed into service. Purchase was funded with vehicle tow release fees.
- 11 DUI and Safety check points were conducted.
- 10 Joint V-MET operations were conducted.
- 14 Community traffic presentations were made.



PUBLIC RELATIONS SERVICES

The Police Department's Public Relations Services continues to encourage open communications with the community and develop partnerships to address the causes of crime and other community issues affecting the quality of life.

The Public Relations Services Unit is under the direction of the Chief of Police and is managed by the Administrative Officer. The programs and services provided include: participating in business relations; media relations (PIO); crime prevention; Neighborhood Watch; Crime Free Multi-Housing; Adopt a School; Valley Crime Stoppers; Community Meetings; Schools; Youth Programs; and the Youth Advisory Council.



- Crime Stoppers has awarded \$3,400 in rewards for the arrest of suspects or recovery of stolen property in Indio.
- 5 additional Neighborhood Watch groups have been added. There are a total of 34 Neighborhood Watch groups in Indio.
- 42 rental properties are active in the Crime Free Multi-Housing Program.
- 693 Media requests were addressed in English and Spanish.
- 30 Graffiti Task Force presentations were made to educate the community on how we address the problem and the service the task force is providing.



CODE ENFORCEMENT UNIT

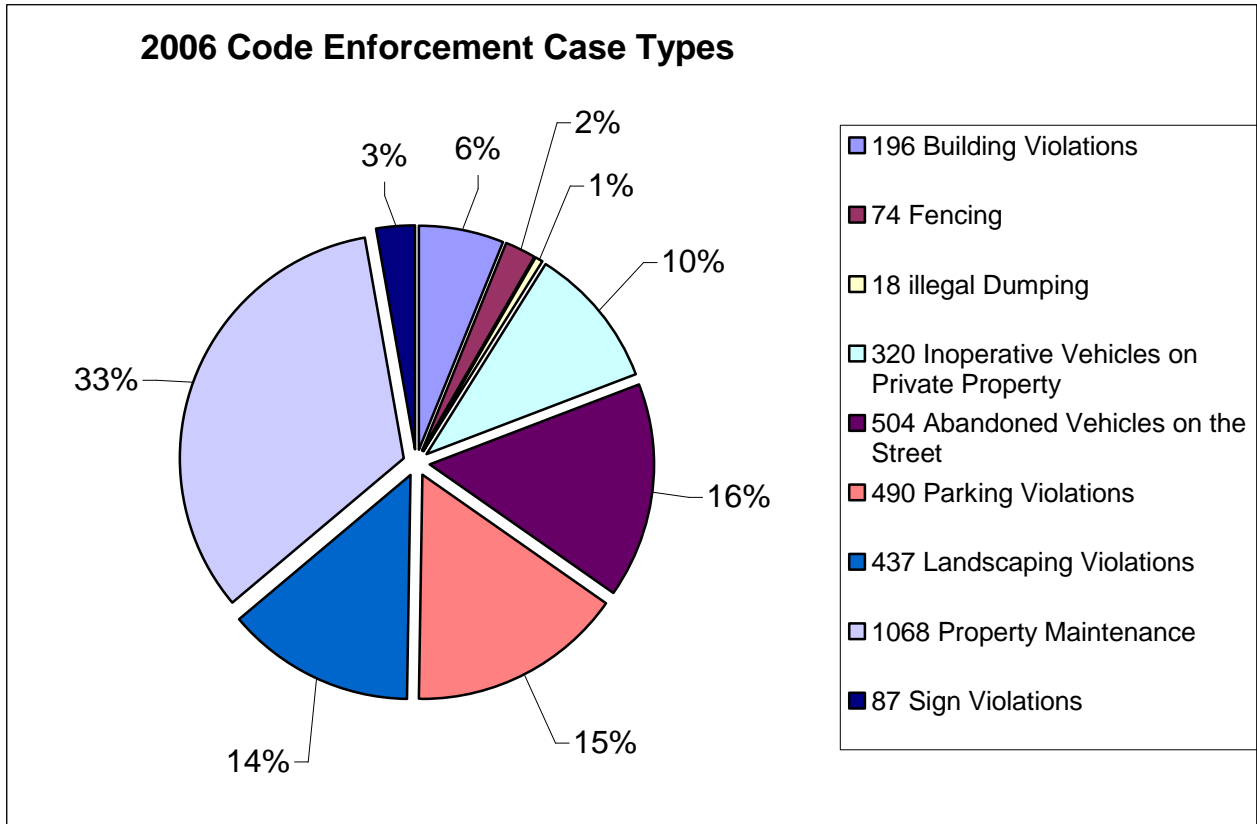


The Code Enforcement Unit enforces the City's Municipal Codes relating to public health, safety, and the environment.

A Sergeant, under the direction of the Support Services Commander, is assigned to supervise the Code Enforcement Unit. Code Enforcement is accomplished through education and prosecution of violators who do not comply after warnings and citations are issued. In order to help code enforcement with the daily retrieval of abandon items and trash in the public right of ways, four part-time Neighborhood Improvement Technicians were hired.



The Code Enforcement Unit recognizes the importance of keeping neighborhoods and businesses attractive and therefore healthy.



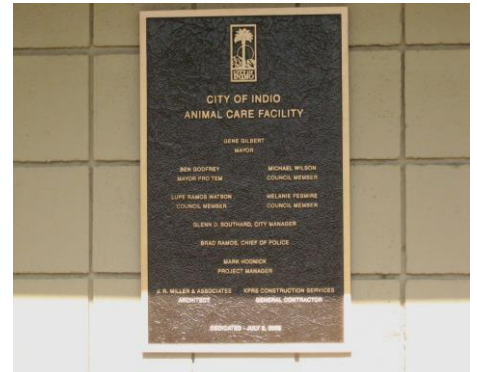
ANIMAL CARE CENTER & ANIMAL CONTROL

The Indio Police Department operates and manages the Animal Care Center facility and provides Animal Control services for Indio residents. The Animal Care Center staff has given several community presentations to various groups and organizations on the care and spaying/neutering of animals. The center has aggressively promoted and advertised pet adoptions at festivals, on TV programs, and at community publications in the Coachella Valley.

The Animal Care Center, in its first year of operation, prepared a comprehensive Strength – Weakness – Opportunities – Threat report that was presented to the City Manager and City Council. As a result, the City Council approved \$302,370 in additional funding to help with operational needs.

A new partnership was established with the Animal Action League. The Animal Action League provides low cost spray/neutering services. They have a mobile unit which is stationed at the Animal Care Center at various times throughout the year for the public.

- Animal Care Center Volunteer program was started.
- Animal Adoption presentations are done on the CBS-2 Morning News every other Wednesday.
- Petfinder.com posts information and photos of the centers adoptable animals.
- 406 dogs adopted and 120 dogs reclaimed. 293 cats adopted and 13 cats reclaimed.



VOLUNTEER SERVICES

- CHIP volunteered 8,525 hours in 2006.
- Cadets volunteered 6,031 hours in 2006.
- Police Chaplain Unit is managing a trauma intervention program with community volunteers called *Support Seven*.
- The value of Volunteer hours from Chaplains CHIP'S and Police Cadets for 2006 is \$ 289,768.

The Indio Police Volunteers are dedicated citizens who have decided to make a difference in our community and have chosen the police department as the means to do that. The Volunteers are directed and supervised by the Administrative Officer. Volunteer Services include Citizen Patrol/Citizens Helping Indio Police, Police Cadets, Police Chaplain Unit, and Air Support.

A State of California survey indicated that each hour of law enforcement volunteer time is valued at \$ 19.74. The thousands of dollars saved through volunteer time, the citizens of Indio benefit a higher quality of life and a safer community.

Our volunteers serve as ambassadors for many positive community events and activities. Volunteers help in all areas of the police department.



***Citizen Patrol
C.H.I.P.***



***Police Cadet Program
Post 150***



CHAPLAIN Program

AIR SUPPORT DIVISION

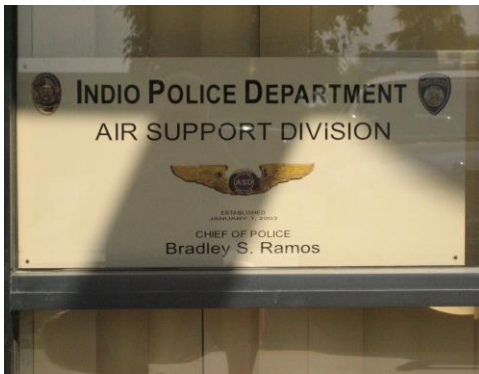
The Indio Police Department - Air Support Division (IPD-ASD) provides volunteer air support services for transportation, enforcement and observation needs. ASD is under the direction of the Chief of Police.

- 800 hours donated by ASD.
- The value of Volunteer hours for 2006 is \$ 15,792.
- ASD has five Pilots, five Flight Officers, and Five Ground Support Staff.
- Eight Aircraft valued at 3 million dollars are available for use in the program by the Air Support Volunteers.

The Air Support Division has flown police department staff and detectives to law enforcement meetings or criminal investigations in a variety of locations in California. Air Support has helped search for missing persons and helped with traffic control during special events. Air Support also assists with aerial observation during the Coachella Valley Music Festival, Stage Coach Festival, Tamale Festival, and The Date Festival. Additionally, Air Support has provided help for aerial photographs for criminal investigations and other City projects.

The IPD-ASD takes great pride in being available 24-hours a day to provide this highly specialized service. The unit maintains offices near the Bermuda Dunes Airport. The ASD Pilots provide their own aircraft and maintenance. The city pays for fuel and oil expenses during a flight mission.

Pilot requirements include a minimum of 700 hours as Pilot in Command, an Instrument Rating, FAA approved Bi-Annual Review and Medical Certification.



Average Activities in a 24 hour period

192

Total calls for Service per day

4

911 Emergency Calls
High Priority Response

2.5 minutes

Response time to
reported in progress
emergency crimes.

8.9

Arrests per day

42

Volunteer Hours



41

Police Reports

58

Hazardous Citations

INDIO BY THE NUMBERS

Stats for the Year / 2006 Crime and Arrest Information

REPRESSIBLE CRIMES

| | |
|------------------------------------|------------|
| BURGLARY | 908 |
| GRAND THEFT | 486 |
| BURGLARY/THEFT FROM VEHICLE | 555 |
| PETTY THEFT | 375 |
| ROBBERY | 154 |
| MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT | 714 |



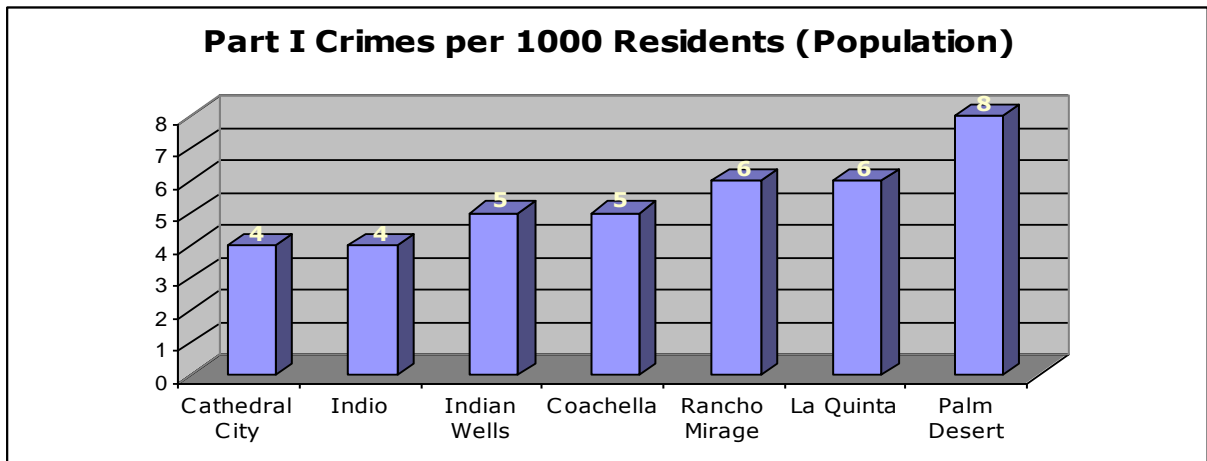
CRIMES PER 1000 Population

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Population</u> | <u>C/Per</u> |
|-------------|-------------------|--------------|
| 2002 | 55,000 | 4 |
| 2003 | 57,000 | 6 |
| 2004 | 59,100 | 6 |
| 2005 | 66,539 | 5 |
| 2006 | 80,000 | 4 |

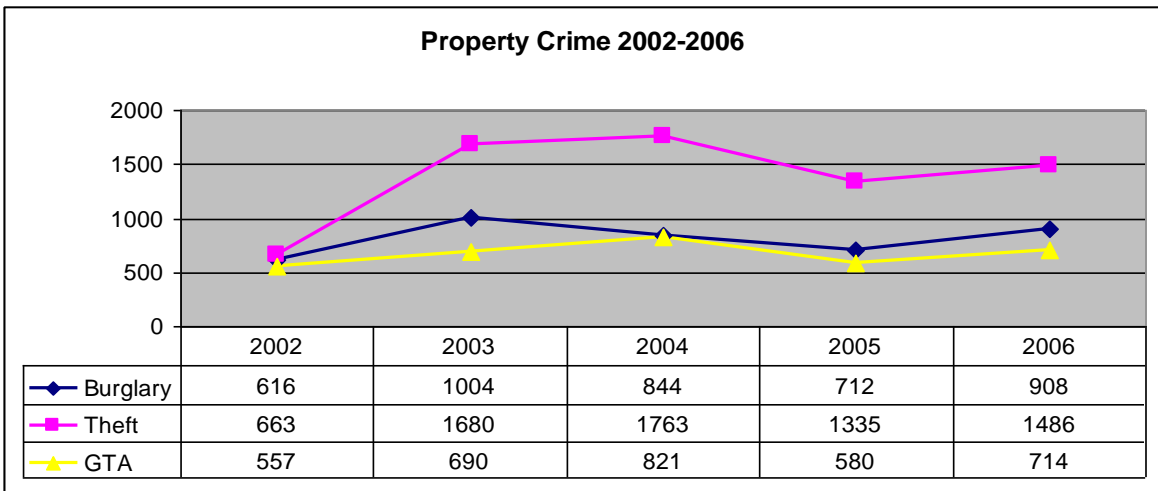
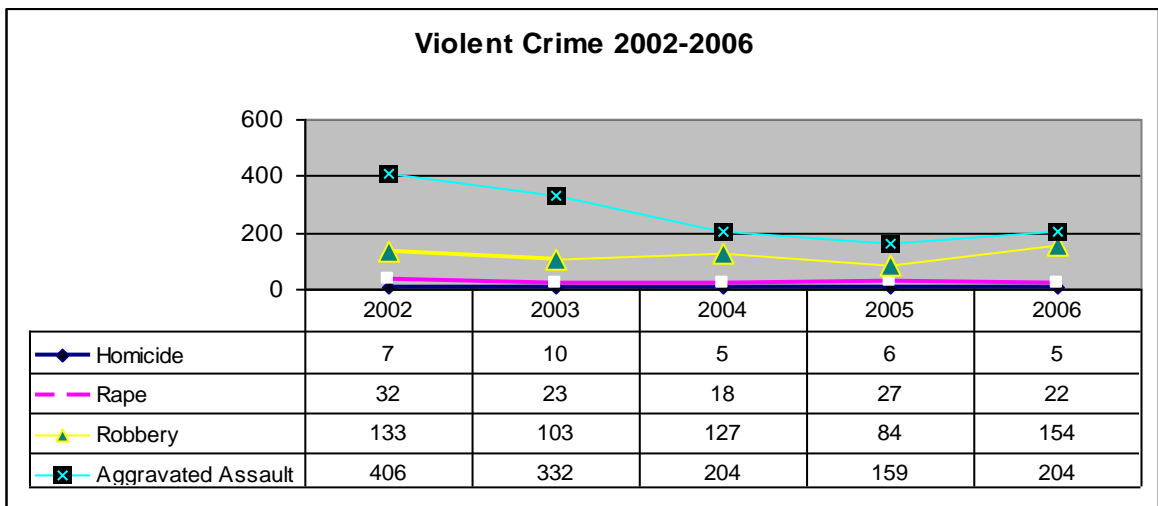
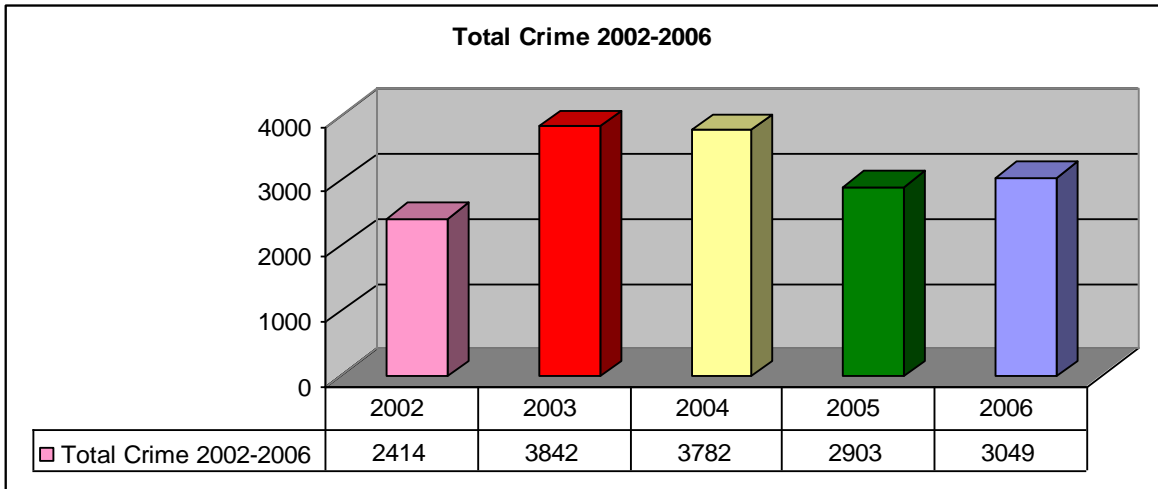


REPRESSIBLE CRIME ARRESTS

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|
| BURGLARY | 88 |
| GRAND THEFT | 19 |
| BURGLARY/THEFT FROM VEHICLE | 9 |
| PETTY THEFT | 88 |
| ROBBERY | 37 |
| MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT | 97 |
| ALL OTHER ARRESTS | 2,534 |



CRIME STATISTICS





Indio Police Department **Achievements**



- **Police Storefront was opened in Old Town on Miles Avenue.**
- **A sixth beat was created to better serve the area north of I-10.**
- **16 new police volunteers were recruited.**
- **A new state of the art communication 911 / Dispatch Center and Special Services Division offices were expanded into new modular building facilities at the Jackson Street Police Station.**
- **A Commercial Enforcement Program with a new police vehicle and dedicated officer was implemented using vehicle tow release fees.**
- **2006 Part 1 crime statistics showed reductions in six areas. - 17% homicide, - 25% rape, - 3% burglary, - 15% theft, - 1% auto theft, and - 9% property crime.**
- **Recruitment program implemented. New brochures and video were created to help market the career opportunities available in Indio.**
- **A new five year Franchise Tow Agreement provides \$ 925,000 in additional revenues over the term of the agreement.**
- **Code Enforcement worked on 60 in poor condition with city staff and obtained 90% compliance.**
- **Animal Care Center received additional funding mid-year to expand the services.**
- **Computerized Statistics program known as “COMPSTAT” continues to be a great tool for crime reduction in our community.**

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Staff continues to volunteer time in various areas of our community by helping at events or fund raisers with the Indio Youth Task Force, California National Guard Cadet Program, Adopt a School, Social Clubs, Police Cadet Program, City Festivals, Chambers of Commerce Events, Police Honor Guard, CV Parks and Recreation District, Kids Clubs, CV Boys and Girls Club and Santa Claus Gifts for Kids.



ANNUAL RECOGNITION

The Indio Police Department is proud to recognize and acknowledge the excellent service of all members of the organization. Our Annual Awards and Chief's Breakfast is attended by members of the department and their families every March. The following members were recognized for their exemplary service in 2006. Other awards are given for Meritorious Service, Distinguished Service, Golden Bear finger print award, Auto Club and California Highway Patrol auto theft recovery award.

Officer of the Year

Detective Daniel Marshall

High Achiever of the Year

Police Officer Byran Traynham

Employee of the Year

Senior Records Specialist Diana Digioia

Volunteer of the Year

CHIP Robert Pease

Police Cadet of the Year

Police Cadet Kalia Fain

Indio Police Department

We thank you for your time, support, interest, and efforts in making your police department the best in the Coachella Valley.

“Our Community, Our Commitment...”



WWW.INDIOPD.ORG

Indio Police Department Frequently Called Phone Numbers

| | |
|--|-----------------|
| Emergencies (Police, Fire or Ambulance) | 911 |
| Non-Emergency Dispatch | (760) 391- 4051 |
| Main Phone Number (24-hours) | (760) 391- 4057 |
| Chiefs Office | (760) 391- 4035 |
| Code Enforcement | (760) 391- 4123 |
| Animal Care Center | (760) 391- 4135 |
| Animal Control (stray or vicious animals) | (760) 391- 4051 |
| Graffiti Removal Hot Line | (760) 391- 4143 |
| Business Licenses | (760) 391- 4197 |
| Indio Fire Department (Business) | (760) 347- 0756 |
| Indio Water Authority (Business) | (760) 391- 4038 |
| City Hall | (760) 391- 4000 |
| Coachella Valley Crime Stoppers (Anonymous Tips) | (760) 341-STOP |
| Indio Senior Center | (760) 341- 4170 |
| Special Events Office (Garage Sales & Event Permits) | (760) 391- 4175 |
| Indio Golf Course | (760) 391- 4049 |

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