

# Oelwein Police Department Annual Report 2009



Jeremy P. Logan  
Chief of Police

**"In valor there is hope."**  
*—Tacitus*

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## Chief's Message

It is with great honor and respect that I begin my ninth year as Chief of Police of arguably one of the most professional, efficient and successful Police Departments in the State of Iowa.

The Oelwein Police Department strives to provide high quality police services to the community in a professional manner yet efficiently for the taxpayer. In 2009, the Oelwein Police Department had an annual per officer cost of approximately \$82,500 with a per capita cost of approximately \$140. The most recent Bureau of Justice Statistics figures available are from 2003. Using a conservative 2.5% cost of living increase each year through 2009, the national average calculates out to \$108,200 per officer and \$232 per capita in 2009. Please keep in mind, these figures are not the salaries of the officers. These figures are based on the number of officers divided out of the entire police budget. This covers everything from payroll, fuel, utilities all the way down to paper clips. This is calculated to display the efficiency, per officer, compared to the national average. These figures clearly demonstrate the fiscal responsibility taken by the Police Department, City Administrator, Mayor and the City Council; in providing quality services to our citizens.

The members of the Oelwein Police Department work vigilantly to ensure the safety of our citizens and those passing through.

The efforts to instill sound employment practices, ethical and equitable enforcement action, a strong commitment to continuing employee education with the strong support of the City Council and Mayor in developing an efficient and professional police department have all contributed to our success. More importantly, your police officers, who are members of this community; have accepted the challenges presented and continue to contribute to improving the quality of life for the citizens of Oelwein.

I hope that once you have completed the various aspects of this report, each citizen will have a more clear understanding about what the Oelwein Police Department does, who we are and why we do what we do. If you have a particular question or concern, browse this report for that topic and hopefully it will be addressed.

For example, I constantly receive feedback that people do not like and become frustrated with the lack of lobby space at the department and that the main door to the police department is locked with our employees having to do business through a small opening in the door. I agree. Unfortunately, that is the make-up of our building and with state guidelines, citizen safety, employee safety and building security; that is what we have to do for now. Due to our agency having a 24 hour a day 911 Communications Center, state guidelines mandate that our facility has to be kept secure to ensure that citizens do not have free access to other citizen's confidential information that is displayed in this room. As well, the security of our employees is paramount. We can't afford to have someone attempt to interfere with the Communications Center that dispatches officers to your emergency, pages the fire department and ambulance service to your emergency and that serves as a critical link in the communication chain for all emergency responders. It is our desire to have a more public friendly and user friendly facility. Until that day, we have to work with what we have and ensure that we follow state and national guidelines.

Those that know me understand I will not fluff this document up with a "100% everything is great" tone. It is not within me to paint a bright picture if there is not one to be painted. Every team, every family and every profession has their issues and obstacles to overcome. We are no different. Police Officers and Communications Operators are humans. We strive to perform & serve at a high level but we will make mistakes. It is what we learn from those mistakes and how we proceed from there that defines us. In our line of work, we are repeatedly asked to give everyone the benefit of the doubt. Yet, often when it comes time to give that benefit of the doubt to a Police Officer or

Communications Operator; it is not given so freely. Each year I present various challenges to my staff and 2010 will not be any different. This year however, I will add you the citizen to that challenge. I challenge each person to do what is right and help others when you can. I challenge each citizen to respect your neighbor and watch over your children. I challenge each citizen to, when/if you hear something about a Police Officer, you give them the benefit of the doubt. More often than not the story you hear is based on speculation, rumor and/or a grudge. I also challenge each citizen to reach out to your Police Officers and Communications Operators and greet them in a friendly manner. That greeting will go a long way to showing your civil servants that their efforts are appreciated. These people are just like you. They have families, friends and loved ones. The only difference is they routinely risk their well-being to protect your families, friends and loved ones.

I would also like to take this moment to thank the great people at the First Baptist Church in Oelwein. In 2009, we were blessed to have their members hold a fundraiser to raise money to purchase Automatic External Defibrillators (AEDS). Our department was in need of three more of these units to ensure each patrol unit had one in order to respond to ambulance calls where a person was in cardiac arrest. In the past six years our officers have three confirmed saves with these devices. Thanks to the kindness of the First Baptist Church and a donation made in the memory of Joan Hallberg by Dr. H. Hallberg and Family, we were able to purchase three new AED's.

Prior to preparing this document I knew that our department was comprised of some of the most professional, ethical, sincere and compassionate police officers and communications operators in the State of Iowa. After compiling the information for this document, my beliefs were confirmed.

I would like to thank all of my staff for their devotion to protecting the residents of our community, and I'd like to thank our community leaders for allowing me the opportunity to lead this team as we pursue excellence in law enforcement in and for the community of Oelwein.

In the interest of improving our services to you, please contact me at 319-283-4311 with questions or comments about your Police Department or the Annual Report for calendar year 2009, or you can email me at [jlogan@oelweinpolic.org](mailto:jlogan@oelweinpolic.org).

Respectfully,

*Jeremy P. Logan*  
Chief of Police

**"The true measure of a man is how he treats someone who can do him absolutely no good."**

- Samuel Johnson (1709-1784)

## **Introduction**

The Oelwein Police Department is a well-trained and equipped police department. While the sworn section of the department is comprised of the Chief of Police and only ten Iowa Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) certified officers, the depth of knowledge, abilities and experience of the officers in the Oelwein Police Department to provide services and expertise beyond what would normally be expected in a town with a population of 6,792 residents. Our officers combine their over 150 years of experience, from extensive backgrounds with other agencies, the military and service with our department; to provide a high quality of service to the community of Oelwein and the surrounding area. Our officers continue to train in various disciplines and to work as a team in tactical situations, crime scene investigations, and critical incident management.

The Oelwein Police Department embraces the principles of Community Oriented Policing as an operational policy. We employ the principles of Problem Oriented Policing to engage and address specific issues in the City by bringing all of the resources government and private enterprise have to offer to find solutions that benefit the entire community.

## **Vision Statement**

Strive to ensure that those that reside in, work in or visits Oelwein, will be safe. We will work together to solve community and neighborhood problems while maintaining a high level of respect for all citizens and their constitutional rights.

## **Mission Statement**

To safeguard freedom by preserving life and property, protecting the constitutional rights of individuals, maintaining order and encouraging respect for the rule of law by the proper enforcement thereof.

To protect the public through proactive law enforcement & to promote a safe and secure environment for all to live.

To identify, address and resolve the root causes of community problems and concerns in concert with citizen groups and representatives through the use of community oriented policing strategies.

## **Our Values**

### **Service to the Community**

We value the opportunity to provide service in a manner, which is fair, courteous, responsive and efficient. An attitude of respect for the protection of the worth, dignity, and the rights of all we serve is the foundation of our department.

### **Integrity**

We value candor, honesty and ethical behavior in the members of our department. We are committed to upholding our positions of trust by maintaining the highest ethical standards as set forth in the law enforcement code of ethics.

### **Professionalism**

We value the spirit of professionalism, and have a clear sense of commitment, perspective and direction. We build professionalism by creating an empowering environment, one that encourages teamwork, innovation, self-evaluation and we promote a collaborative environment for sharing information, resources, assistance and expertise. We are proud of our profession and will ensure that our members are dedicated, highly trained and capable of handling the daily demands of the law enforcement profession.

### **Compassion**

Recognizing and responding with sincerity to the needs of those who are concerned for their safety, for those that require important information or for those who are temporarily unable to provide for themselves.

### **Excellence**

We strive for personal and professional excellence. We are committed to improving the community, earning their trust, respect and support through active partnerships, involvement and service.

### **Personal Responsibility**

We accept responsibility for personal performance, success and effectiveness as well as the success and effectiveness of the department.

## **Community Policing**

Community policing is a policing strategy and philosophy based on the notion that community interaction and support can help control crime and reduce fear, with community members helping to identify suspects and bring problems to the attention of the police. Often programs like DARE, Neighborhood Watch or foot patrols are mistakenly viewed as the sole answer/definition of Community Policing. Community Policing may incorporate these programs and many others into an overall strategy, but should not be viewed as the sole answer.

The Oelwein Police Department performs regular foot patrols of the downtown area and residential neighborhoods. We are actively involved in the DARE program and perform a variety of informative speaking engagements in order to educate the public. Just as important are the everyday contacts officers make and the conversations that rise from them. We strive to earn trust and confidence from the public so they feel more open to discuss concerns but also share what they observe or hear. Having a community that is willing to be constantly observant of their surroundings, magnifies our abilities to prevent and solve crime.

## **Criminal Activity/Crime Solving**

Oelwein is not any different than other communities our size. All communities experience property crimes, drug related offenses and assaults on persons. The Oelwein Police Department is vigilant in their efforts to enforce and deter this activity. A recent book about Oelwein portrayed our community as having a severe drug problem. That part was accurate. Our community, like thousands of communities across the country, experienced many issues with the manufacturing, sale and use of methamphetamine. We were not alone in this problem and that is important for all citizens to understand. Where we stand out is that our community took a multi-faceted approach towards solving that problem.

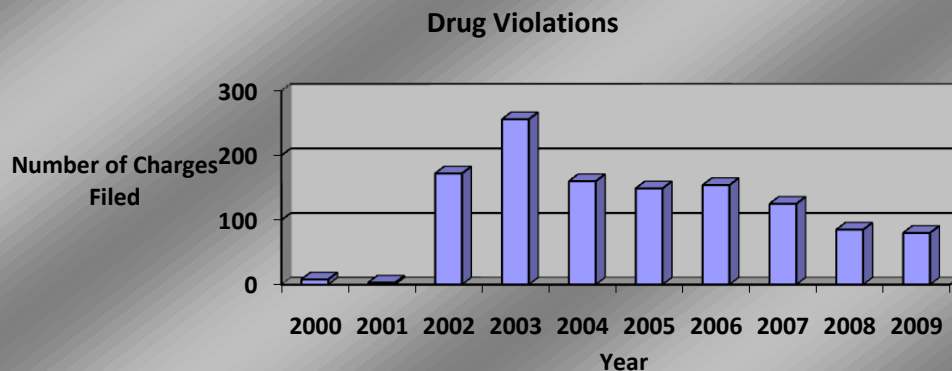
The Oelwein Police Department was a major contributor in the success of curbing the manufacturing, sale and use of methamphetamine in our community and the surrounding area. We did not hide the problem. We took the unique approach of putting it out there for all to see so that all involved would see that we recognized the problem and that we were addressing it aggressively. While we took an aggressive approach towards solving this problem, we did not and would not violate the rights of individual citizens. Our officers educated themselves on how the product was being manufactured, sold, transported and used. They then utilized that information to see what areas of the law we needed to further educate ourselves on to apprehend violators. It was and is our belief that the common law abiding citizen would understand a temporary interruption in their day if we approached them on a minor law violation. The common law abiding citizen would understand and respect that they were not doing anything else wrong and would be sent on their way shortly. The common law abiding citizen understood and respected the fact that in order to enforce laws equitably, we had to approach all persons with similar violations, not just those that we thought might be involved in a drug violation. The common law abiding citizen understood that this brief encounter with law enforcement was a reasonable approach towards initiating investigations that would improve the quality of life for the citizens of Oelwein. If you were a citizen that did not have a headlamp on your bicycle at 9:00 p.m. at night, you were warned and advised of the violation. If you were a citizen that did not have a headlamp on your

bicycle at 1:00 a.m., was known to be involved in the manufacturing or sale of methamphetamine, was nervous when the officer spoke with you, had an odor of the product on you and/or had other indicators of drug use; you were subsequently legally searched and arrested for the violation. We will not apologize for making our community safer in a professional and ethical manner. We will not tolerate the systematic breakdown of our community by those that feed off of addicts. We will not apologize for making our community a hostile place for those involved in the drug market. We did all of this in an ethical and legal manner and I am proud of our departments efforts. With that being said there is still work to be done and we continue to improve on those efforts.

Our Mayor and City Council should be credited with their approach to the issue. They implemented a plan to clean up the community by re-constructing downtown, utilizing reasonable but strict enforcement of nuisance violations, seeking employment opportunities for our citizens and for having the knowledge and patience to allow our officers to aggressively seek out and enforce the drug laws.

Our department is fair and consistent in our enforcement of the laws. While some may question the need to address minor violations, our belief is that, "if we address the little problems, we may prevent the big problems." If you keep an area clean, well lighted and secure, you deter a burglar. If you let a drug dealer/user understand that we will constantly be watching you until you give up your behavior or leave our community, you make them less apt to wanting to behave that way in your community.

Often it is hard for people to overcome past impressions. From time to time we hear that our agency is not enforcing the drug laws. That is simply not true. In 2002, our agency took a strong approach to the enforcement of drug violations and as the chart below indicates, the Oelwein Police Department was proactive and effective in our efforts. The goal is to see the numbers of arrests go down as you continue your efforts. We have seen that. As well, the arrests do get harder to come by as those offenders seek out new ways of concealing their behaviors. We continue to investigate those activities and will continue to adapt to the "new ways of doing business" by the offenders.



**"The significant problems we (society) face cannot be solved at the same level of thinking we were at when we created them."**

- Albert Einstein (1879-1955)

## Community Investment

The members of the Oelwein Police Department are proud of the community in which we live and serve. We understand that only by being involved, in various aspects of our community, can we effect positive change and foster an environment of helping others.

Each year, every officer performs at least one “Community Project”. Officers choose areas that they would like to become involved in or activities that they feel can be used to benefit others. In 2009, officers performed the following Community Projects:

### Police v. Firemen Blood Drive

Police Officers and Firemen challenge each other to see who can involve the most people in donating blood. The Oelwein Police Department is proud of this event and the good natured fun involved in the contest. The event is organized annually by Officer Jesse Paul and the American Red Cross.



### Bowling with Full Circle Services

Police Officers spend the day bowling with clients from Full Circle Services. Officer Jay Tommasin annually participates in this day where members, of the Full Circle Services, spend the day bowling. This activity allows the clients of Full Circle Services to interact with Officers in a social environment.



## “Playing the Beat”

Officer Ted Phillips volunteers his time with the Oelwein Middle School Band Program. Instead of walking the beat, Officer Phillips is “Playing the Beat” with the band students. Officer Phillips utilizes his passion for playing the drums to build bridges and interact with teens at the school. He assists with the classes and assists students with their lessons. Officer Phillips enjoys this positive interaction with the teens and it allows the students to see police officers in a different light.



Officer Brandon DeJong organizes this great event. Area law enforcement and citizens mark their calendar each year to participate in this activity which benefits children in need.

## Poker Run for St. Jude's Children's Hospital

Annually, the Oelwein Police Department sponsors a Motorcycle “Poker Run” to raise funds for St. Jude's Children's Hospital.



## Forever Changed

The Oelwein Police Department teamed with the Oelwein Middle School and Senior High School to arrange for a presentation from Tom Melin of Forever Changed Productions.

Tom is a paraplegic as a result of driving while he was drunk in 1996. Students were shown an emotional video detailing Tom's life before and after his accident. Following the video Tom came out to talk about his accident with the simple advice that what he has to say "may just save your life." Through these types of presentations and interactions, officers of the Oelwein Police Department hope to decrease the use of alcohol under the legal age and prevent persons from drinking and driving. Officer Corey Hagerman organized this event as a way of opening dialogue with area youth.



## Community Projects

Other community projects performed were:

**A Child is Missing Program implemented in Oelwein.** Effective October 19, 2009 upon receipt of missing persons calls, the Oelwein Police Department will make its first phone call to a toll-free number that rings in Fort Lauderdale, Florida—the national headquarters of the A Child Is Missing Alert Program. The call, answered 24/7 365 by an Information and Mapping Technician, initiates a rapid process of information gathering and use of sophisticated mapping systems. A Child Is Missing then launches potentially thousands of calls within minutes with an alert message detailing the missing person's description, last known whereabouts, and pertinent information. This alert message will also include an Oelwein Police Department phone number for use by anyone with information relating to the missing person. Sgt. Chet Reagan organized this program for the Oelwein Police Department.

### **Student interaction:**

Sgt. Ronald Voshell and Sgt. Chet Reagan attended various Oelwein High School classes to discuss an array of topics. Both officers enjoy the interaction with students and having the opportunity to answer the questions and concerns of our youth.

### **Police History:**

Officer Bruce Barker organized a display, during Police Memorial Week, that promoted the Oelwein Police Department and its great history.

## **School Liaison/School Safety**

Oelwein officers take the safety of our children seriously. Officers regularly patrol the areas in and around the schools before, during and after classes. The community of Oelwein is fortunate to have an excellent school system. Our officers periodically visit the schools to speak to classes on various topics as well as teaching the DARE Program.

The Oelwein Police Department completed its sixteenth year of teaching DARE at the Oelwein Middle School and Sacred Heart School. The program has allowed for positive interaction between the department and youth as well as guiding the students on making positive choices in their life.

In December of 2009, the Oelwein Police Department and the Oelwein Community Schools partnered to provide a guest presentation to all Middle School and High School classes. The presentation started with a video of a man that explains his childhood and then goes on to explain how he started drinking as a youth and later in life, due to this alcohol dependency that was developed at a young age, he was driving after he had been drinking and he was involved in a car accident. This accident left him paralyzed and in a wheel chair for the rest of his life. After the dramatic video, Tom Melin came out from behind the curtain in his wheelchair. Tom spoke with the children at great length and gave them a real life example of what can happen if they drink and drive.

The Oelwein Police Department has one certified instructor and has trained officers in the area of responding to critical incidents in a school setting.

The Oelwein Police Department also has one officer that volunteers his time with the band department. This officer is an avid drum player and utilizes this passion to build bridges and interact with the Middle School youth.

## Oelwein Police Department Summary of Incidents in 2009

The Oelwein Police Department Communications Center received 7,582 calls for service in 2009.

There were 157 reported traffic accidents with 16 of those in which a person was reported to be injured.

Officers assisted 73 motorists that were broken down, stuck in the snow or having other mechanical issues.

Officers responded to 62 alarm calls at businesses and residences.

The Oelwein Police Department received 168 theft reports and 55 reports of burglary.

Our agency responded to 98 domestic disturbance calls and investigated 34 violations of no contact orders.

Other statistics of interest:

Criminal Mischief	181
Animal complaint	407
Nuisance Abatement	90
Sexual Abuse	12
Trespass Violations	30
Underage drinking	15

Other statistics not accounted for in the 7,582, but are worthy of noting, are:

Oelwein Police Officers conducted 166 residential house checks while persons were on vacation or in the hospital. If a person is going to be gone for 30 days or less, whether it be on vacation, in the hospital or other reason; that person may contact our department to conduct a vacation watch. Officers will, each night, walk around the residence to ensure the residence is secure.

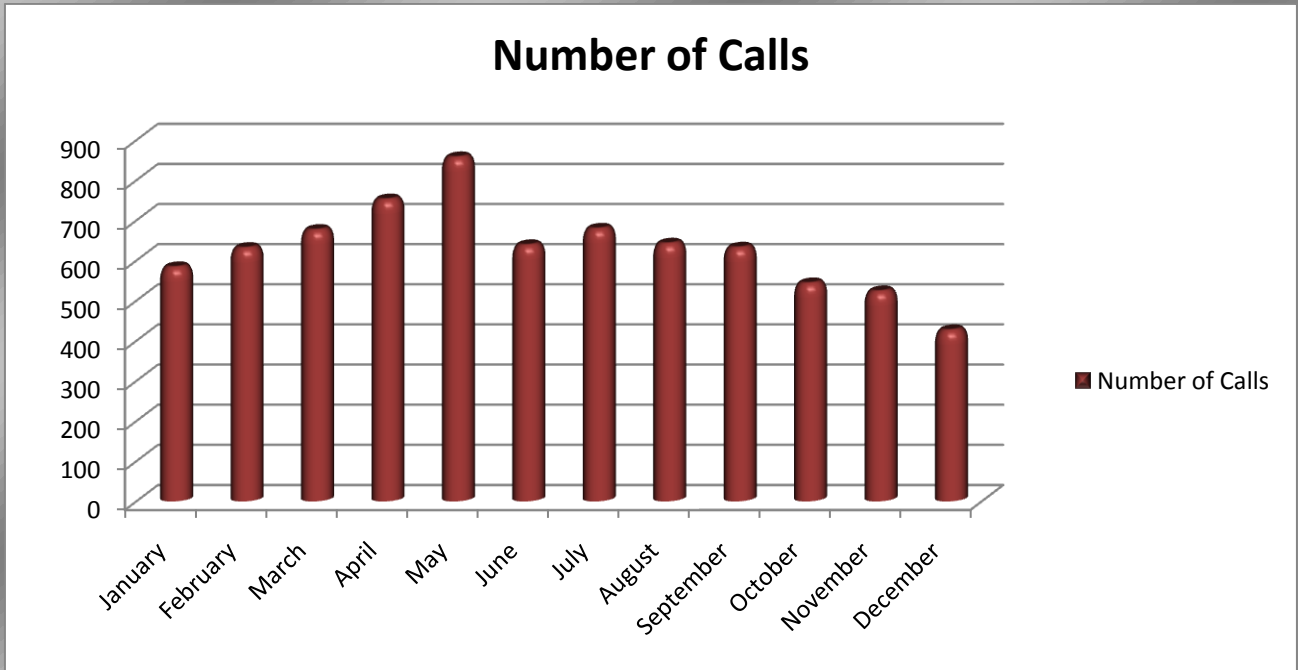
Oelwein Police Officers continue to exit their patrol cars and perform foot patrols in the downtown business district as well as in the residential neighborhoods. Officers performed 371 business district foot patrols and 153 residential foot patrols.

**"Good people do not need laws to tell them to act responsibly, while bad people will find a way around the laws."**

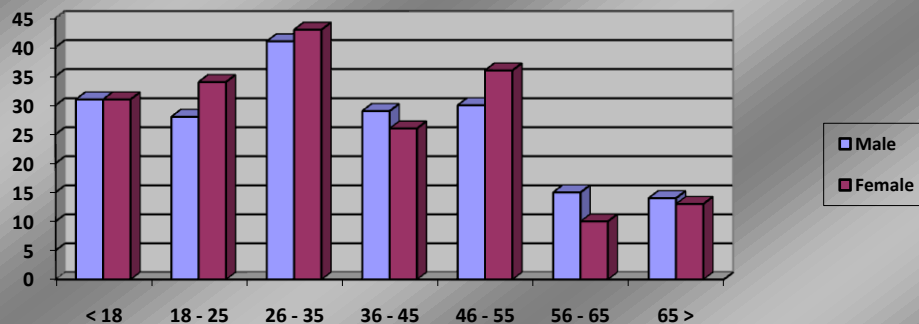
- Plato (427-347 B.C.)

## Oelwein Police Department Summary of Incidents by Month

The following chart displays a summary of incidents by the month in which they occurred. In 2009, the month of May received the highest number of incidents.



## Victim Information by Age



These statistics reflect all reported crimes where there was a citizen victim. Crimes ranging from theft, criminal mischief, burglary, assault, domestic assault and other various crimes are reflected. As the chart above indicates, the age group of 26 to 35 experienced the most persons victimized by crime in 2009. Approximately 5.6% of our citizens reported being a victim of a crime in 2009. Only 1.7% of our senior citizens reported being the victim of a crime.

## Oelwein Police Department Summary of Arrests in 2009

The Oelwein Police Department strives to be professional, courteous and equitable in the enforcement of the law. In 2009, the Oelwein Police Department filed 628 criminal charges against persons.

In 2009, officers filed 80 drug charges for the manufacturing of methamphetamine, delivery of methamphetamine, delivery of marijuana, possession of methamphetamine, possession of marijuana, possession of illegal prescription drugs and possession of precursors (items used to manufacture methamphetamine). The Oelwein Police Department continues to work with local, county, state and federal agencies to ensure aggressive enforcement and prosecution of drug violations.

Other notable criminal charges filed:

Assault	36
Assault on a Police Officer	05
Burglary	10
Child Endangerment	01
Criminal Mischief	18
Disorderly Conduct	32
Domestic Assault	34
Enticing a Minor	01
False Imprisonment	01
Going Armed with Intent	02
Operating While Intoxicated	26
Sexual Abuse 3 <sup>rd</sup> Degree	01
Theft	27
Violation of No Contact Order	20
Willful Injury	04

**"A people that values its privileges above its principles soon loses both."**

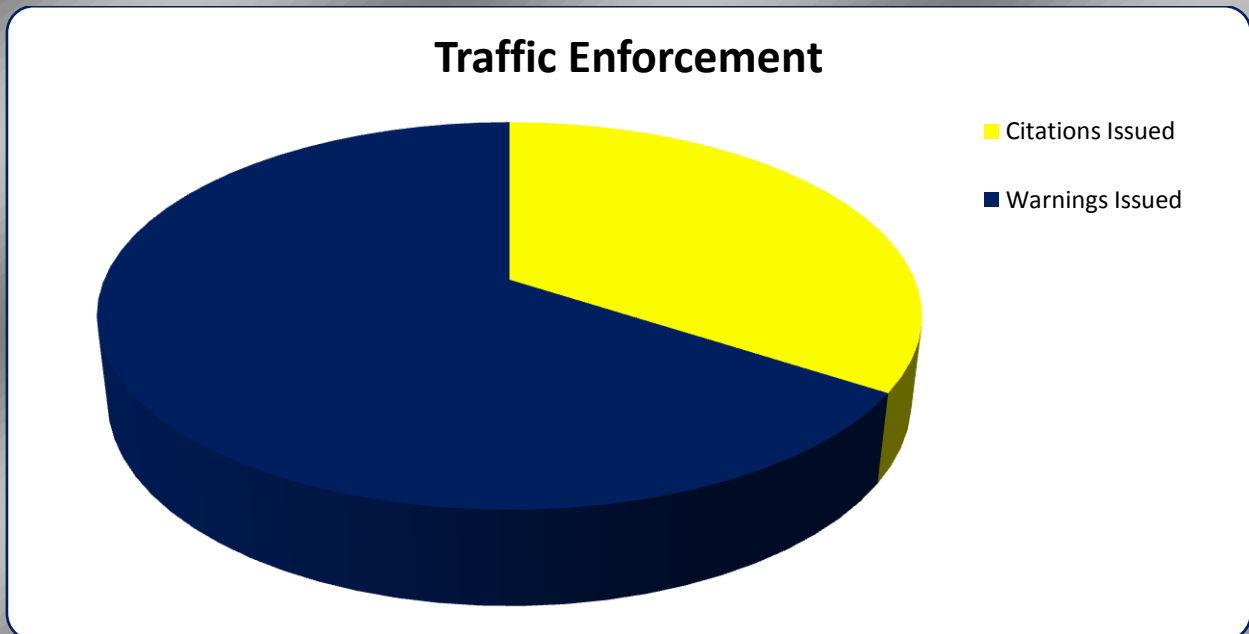
- Dwight D. Eisenhower (1890-1969)

## Oelwein Police Department Summary of Traffic Violations in 2009

The Oelwein Police Department continues its efforts to enforce our traffic laws through education and citation. Our goal is to decrease traffic violations to protect all citizens. Our agency is fair and impartial in our education/enforcement efforts. In 2009, the Oelwein Police Department issued 994 warnings for various traffic violations. That is compared to only 516 traffic citations. That figures to be 1.9 warnings issued compared to citations. Our officers issued nearly two times as many warnings as they did citations. The chart below allows for comparison.

The warning to citation ratio is an interesting statistic as a person considers our officers efforts. Contrary to public perception about all law enforcement, our officers are fair and take pride in their enforcement efforts and understand that many times education by communication and a warning may go further than a citation. Factors that are taken into consideration are the seriousness of a violation, time and day of the violation, location, and the number of times a person has been previously warned amongst other factors.

Our officers issued 239 warnings for speed while issuing 196 citations. Officers also issued 74 warnings for seat belt while issuing 48 citations.



# Oelwein Police Department Special Units

## Reserve Unit

The Oelwein Police Department is very fortunate to have a great group of volunteers that form the Oelwein Police Department Reserve Police Officer Unit. These volunteers are carefully screened and go through extensive training. Each Oelwein Police Department Reserve Officer is certified through the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy and has full authority as a peace officer.

In 2009, the Oelwein Police Reserve Unit worked over 2,000 hours of volunteer time. These officers work many weekend shifts, assist with special events, surveillance and search warrants. Enough can't be said about the asset these members are to the Oelwein Police Department.

## Police K-9

The Oelwein Police Department has a dual purpose Police K-9 that is trained in the detection of controlled substances, officer protection and offender apprehension. This unit is a valuable tool that often acts as a deterrent just by mere presence. The Police K-9 is not only a great tool for the Police Officers to utilize during the course of their duties, it is also a great community relations tool. Police K-9 "Hawk" loves children and has a great demeanor around people. The K-9 Handler is Sgt. Ronald Voshell who spends many hours training with "Hawk" to ensure proficiency in their duties.



## Bicycle Patrol

The Oelwein Police Department utilizes a bicycle patrol for random routine residential and downtown patrols as well as during special events. Our agency utilizes full-time officers as well as reserve officers for this valuable tool.

The bicycles utilized are specially equipped with emergency lights and are official police equipment.



## Special Response Team (SRT)

The Oelwein Police Department has several members trained in working together as a Special Response Team (SRT). The SRT is utilized for high risk search warrants, high risk arrest warrants, barricaded subjects and other critical incidents. Our team serves the citizens of Oelwein and is also utilized by area law enforcement agencies to assist with their critical incidents. This team trains regularly and is provided with special equipment to ensure their safety and the safety of those that they seek to protect/rescue. Developing a team such as this is a slow process and we are attempting to locate funds to further and properly equip the members to provide the highest possible quality of service from a team like this. Our agency is proud of these members and are grateful that they are willing to sacrifice and risk so much to ensure our safety.



**"All that is necessary for evil to triumph is for good men to do nothing."**

English philosopher Edmund Burke

## **Oelwein Communications Center**

The community of Oelwein is fortunate to have a 24 hours E-911 Communications Center.

This Communications Center receives several thousand calls per year. By having this center, the citizens of Oelwein and the surrounding area are provided with more efficient service to their needs and a quicker emergency response time.

In April of 2009, the Fayette County E-911 Board authorized and installed new radio equipment in the Oelwein Communications Center. This upgrade allows our center to be effective in its efforts and to provide a higher quality of service to the community and surrounding area.

Unfortunately, the Fayette County E-911 Board has decided to stop short of the completion of the upgrade by not updating the Emergency 911 phone system. The Oelwein Communications Center has the oldest 911 telephone system (seventeen years old) in the State of Iowa. The board has chosen not to update this critical equipment citing funding concerns. Instead, the board voted to upgrade the Fayette County Sheriff's Department 911 System. This system that they are upgrading was last upgraded within the past seven (7) years. The Oelwein Police Department fully supports the Fayette County Sheriff's Department Communications Center and their efforts in maintaining their equipment.

Even though the citizens of Oelwein represent approximately one-third of the population of Fayette County and therefore closely represent one-third of the revenue raised for the Fayette County 911 system, the board feels the funding of only one Communications Center is the direction that should be taken. The Fayette County Sheriff and the Oelwein Police Chief have previously went on record with this board to protest this type of funding plan. Both parties have stated that the funding of both centers allows for a more efficient and safer system for the citizens of Oelwein and all of Fayette County.

It is understood that funding is tight from year to year. It is the belief of the Oelwein Police Department that before funding new projects or adding to your system, you maintain what you have. For the safety of all citizens, the plan to eliminate funding for the Oelwein Communications Center is flawed and without consideration for the citizens of the lower one-third of the county.

With all of that being said, we are extremely fortunate to have the committed Communications Operators that we have and for all that they do to provide a professional and effective emergency response.

## **Quality Through Training**

The Oelwein Police Department, in its efforts to provide professional training in an efficient manner, has on-staff several State and Nationally certified trainers/instructors. Our agency has persons certified to instruct officers within our department, with other agencies and at the Iowa Law Enforcement Academy. Areas in which we have instructors are:

- 1) Firearms (handguns & shotgun) – Two on-staff instructors
- 2) Rifle – One on-staff instructor
- 3) Defensive Tactics – Two on-staff instructors
- 4) DARE – One on-staff instructor
- 5) Defensive Driving – One on-staff instructor
- 6) Taser – One on-staff instructor
- 7) Tactical Approach to an Active Shooter – One on-staff instructor
- 8) Radar – One on-staff instructor
- 9) ASP Tactical Baton – One on-staff instructor
- 10) Use of chemical spray – One on-staff instructor

The benefits of having a well trained police department is displayed each day as officers proactively seek out those persons in society that make the choice to not follow the law.

The Oelwein Police Department also has on staff two officers that are certified in the investigation and dismantling of methamphetamine laboratories. These officers are critical in identifying and securing hazardous materials utilized in the “meth cooking” process. By having these officers trained in this area, our agency is better equipped to quickly, efficiently and safely protect our citizens from this horrific problem.

The Oelwein Police Department also has two officers that are trained and certified in the scientific verification and certification of marijuana. These officers have attended extensive training in order to have the ability to scientifically and legally certify evidence that we have collected that is believed to be marijuana. By having these officers on staff, we are able to quickly process evidence and save the expense of shipping/transporting the evidence to the Iowa Division of Criminal Investigations Lab for testing.

## **Closing**

As you can see from this report, the Oelwein Police Department is a professional and ethical organization that is comprised of employees that are strongly committed to serving the community of Oelwein.

Our officers can not perform the function of service and protection without the assistance from those that reside here. The progress made by law enforcement, to maintain order and safety within a community is directly tied to the assistance and support that agency receives from it citizens.

Each citizen is encouraged to be a part of the solution and to support your police department.