

Oelwein Police Department Annual Report 2010



Jeremy P. Logan
Chief of Police

"In valor there is hope."
—Tacitus

Table of Contents

	Page
Message from Chief of Police Jeremy Logan	4
Introduction	6
Vision Statement	6
Mission Statement	6
Values	7
Community Policing	8
Criminal Activity/Crime Solving	8
Community Investment	9
Community Projects	9
School Liaison/School Safety	11
Citizens Police Academy	12
Summary of Activity	13
Incidents	13
Incidents by Month	14
Victim Information	14
Arrests	15
Traffic Enforcement	16
Special Units	17
Reserve	17
Police K-9	17
Bike Patrol	17

Special Response Team (SRT).....	18
Communications Center	19
Quality Through Training.....	20
Closing.....	21

List of Charts

Drug Violations	08
Incidents by Month	14
Victim Information	14
Traffic Enforcement - Warning Compared to Citation	16

Chief's Message

It is with great honor and respect that I begin my tenth year as Chief of Police of arguably one of the most professional, efficient and successful Police Departments in the State of Iowa. This paragraph is the same way I began last year's annual report, other than the year, because I truly feel that way. Rarely a day goes by that I do not realize that the Community of Oelwein and I are fortunate to have such a professional and dedicated group of people serving us.

The Oelwein Police Department continues to strive to provide high quality police services to the community in a professional manner yet efficiently for the taxpayer. In 2010, the Oelwein Police Department had an annual per officer cost of approximately \$84,566 with a per capita cost of approximately \$143. The most recent Bureau of Justice Statistics figures available are from 2003. Using a conservative 2.5% cost of living increase each year through 2010, the national average calculates out to \$110,905 per officer and \$237 per capita in 2010. 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.

In 2010, the Oelwein City Council took the appropriate steps of hiring a consulting firm to conduct a Space Needs Analysis of the department. This study encompassed surveying the department's functions and needs and quantified the average and reasonable space needed to perform those functions. The study confirmed what many have known for quite some time, our officers have been providing exemplary services in not so exemplary conditions. The study found that due to the extreme shortage of space, the officers are working in conditions that are not conducive to effective and efficient law enforcement practices. The report indicates that the present space allowed for the police department is approximately 20% of what is actually needed. This report is on file at the Oelwein City Hall.

In an effort to provide insight as to how our department operates and to whom we are, the Oelwein Police Department, in 2010, conducted its first Citizen's Police Academy. This course provided fifteen citizens with the opportunity to learn about our department and to receive demonstrations and hands on experience in traffic stops, tactical entry, defensive tactics, firearms and many other areas of law enforcement. These citizens were given insight as to the steps an officer goes through in making decisions. The members of the Oelwein Police Department felt honored to be a part of this great program and plans are in the works for a future academy.

We continue to strive to provide the best community based law enforcement services. With that being said, I re-state (because I feel it is important) a comment and my challenge from last year's annual report. 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 same 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 2011 will not be any different. As I did last year, this year I will challenge you as a citizen. I challenge you, the citizen, to do what is right and help others when you can. I challenge you, the citizen, to respect your neighbor and watch over your children. I challenge you, the citizen, to be a part of positive change in the community and in society. I challenge you, the citizen, to make time to volunteer in your community and promote the good things about where we live. I challenge you, the citizen, to, when/if you hear something about a Police Officer; take a moment to reflect on what you have heard and give them the benefit of the

doubt. More often than not the story you hear is based on speculation, rumor and/or a grudge. Police Officers and Communications Operators are very special people yet they are just like you. They have families, friends and loved ones. The only difference is they routinely miss out on family events and risk their well-being to protect your families, friends and loved ones.

I would also like to take this moment to again thank the great people at the First Baptist Church in Oelwein. In 2010, we were blessed to have their members hold a fundraiser to raise money to purchase a speed trailer. With the money raised in this fundraiser and by utilizing grant funds from the Governor's Traffic Safety Bureau, we were able to make that purchase and utilize this trailer in various locations in the community. Our department felt that this tool would be useful in reminding the public of the speed limit in high traffic areas. The device displays your vehicles speed to advise you what speed you are driving in a particular speed zone. It also will allow our agency to keep statistical data on problematic locations. In the short time we have had this device, a notable improvement has been noted in the areas it was located.

It is with great pride that I prepare and present this document as I believe it displays that our Police Department is comprised of some of the most professional, ethical, sincere and compassionate police officers and communications operators in the State of Iowa.

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 2010, or you can email me at 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 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 is beyond what would normally be expected in a town with a population of 6,692 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 visit 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

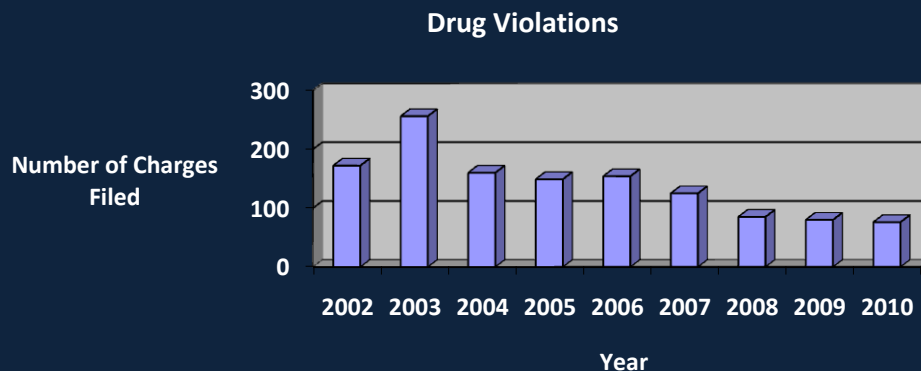
Community policing is a policing strategy and philosophy based on the notion that community interaction and support can help control crime and reduce fear, with community members helping to identify suspects and bring problems to the attention of the police. Often programs like DARE, Neighborhood Watch 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.

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. It is our goal to see the number of drug arrests decline each year in hopes that reflects people conforming to the community's attitude towards that crime.



"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 2010, 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.



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.



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.

Other community projects performed were:

"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.

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 seventeenth 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.

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

Student interaction:

Sgt. Ronald Voshell and Officer Chet Reagan attended various Oelwein 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.



Oelwein Police Department Citizen's Police Academy 2010

In 2010, the Oelwein Police Department partnered with Northeast Iowa Community College (NICC) to provide a Citizen's Police Academy. The purpose of this activity was to build and improve on community relations while providing citizens with courses that allowed them to learn various aspects of law enforcement.

The Academy provided members with class room hands on and ride-along experience. The officers and citizens involved provided positive feedback each week and the Oelwein Police Department will shortly begin planning a 2011 session.



Oelwein Police Department Summary of Incidents in 2010

The Oelwein Police Department Communications Center received 8,126 calls for service in 2010.

There were 167 reported traffic accidents with 24 of those in which a person was reported to be injured.

Officers assisted 81 that were broken down, stuck in the snow or having other mechanical issues.

Officers responded to 70 alarm calls at businesses and residences.

The Oelwein Police Department received 155 theft reports and 60 reports of burglary.

Our agency responded to 124 domestic disturbance calls and investigated 17 violations of no contact orders.

Other statistics of interest:

Criminal Mischief	140
Animal complaint	107
Nuisance Abatement	128
Sexual Abuse	18
Trespass Violations	30
Underage drinking	10

Other statistics not accounted for in the 8,126, but are worthy of noting, are:

Oelwein Police Officers conducted 151 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.

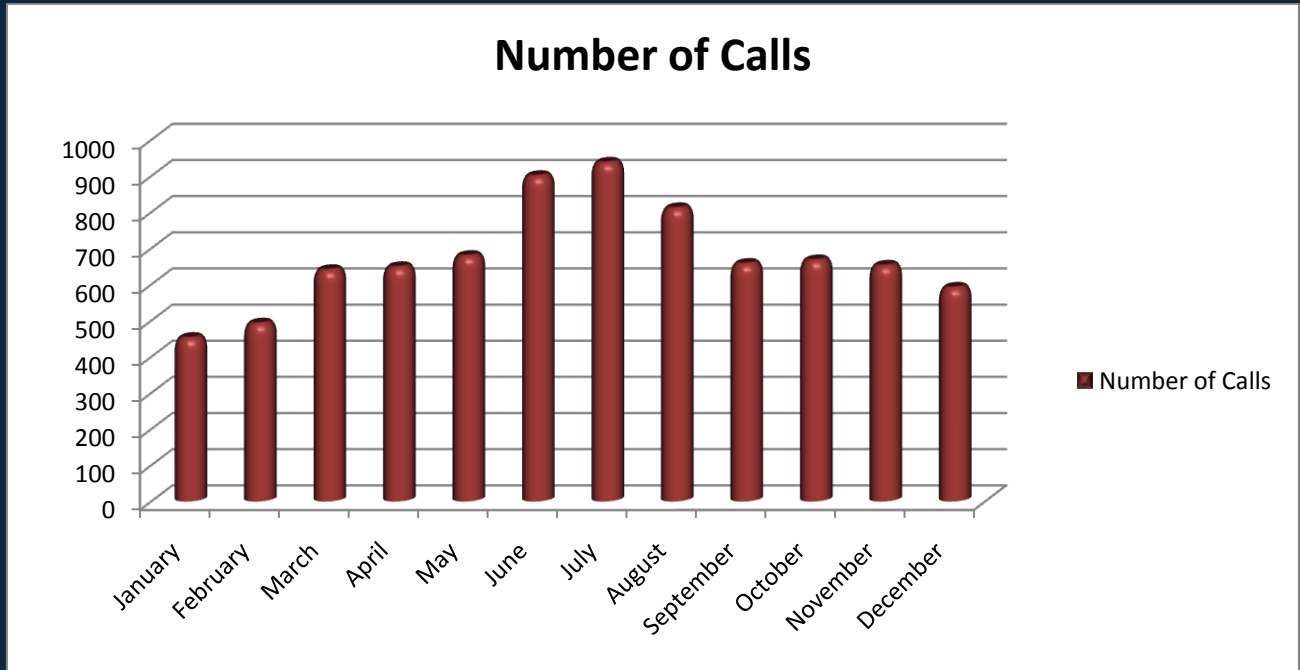
Oelwein Police Officers continue to exit their patrol cars and perform foot patrols in the downtown business district as well as in the residential neighborhoods. Officers performed 294 business district foot patrols and 119 residential foot patrols.

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

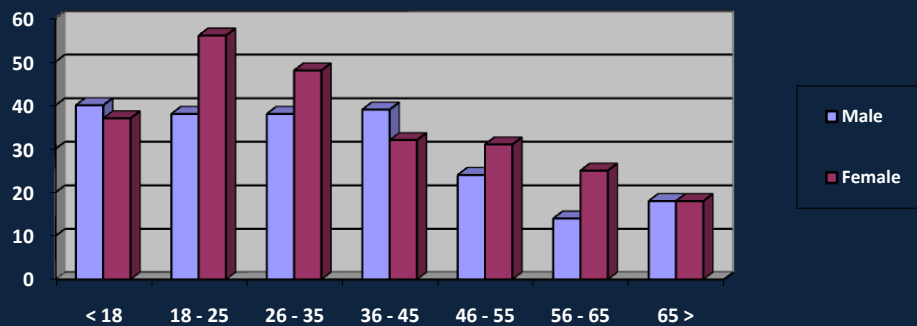
- Plato (427-347 B.C.)

Oelwein Police Department Summary of Incidents by Month

The following chart displays a summary of incidents by the month in which they occurred. In 2010, the month of July 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 18 to 25 experienced the most persons victimized by crime in 2010. Approximately 6.7% of our citizens reported being a victim of a crime in 2010. Only 2.3% of our senior citizens reported being the victim of a crime.

Oelwein Police Department Summary of Arrests in 2010

The Oelwein Police Department strives to be professional, courteous and equitable in the enforcement of the law. In 2010, the Oelwein Police Department filed 693 criminal charges against persons.

In 2010, officers filed 76 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	29
Assault on a Police Officer	03
Burglary	12
Child Endangerment	05
Criminal Mischief	18
Disorderly Conduct	49
Domestic Assault	23
Enticing a Minor	00
False Imprisonment	00
Going Armed with Intent	01
Operating While Intoxicated	36
Sexual Abuse 3 rd Degree	05
Theft	36
Violation of No Contact Order	08
Willful Injury	01

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

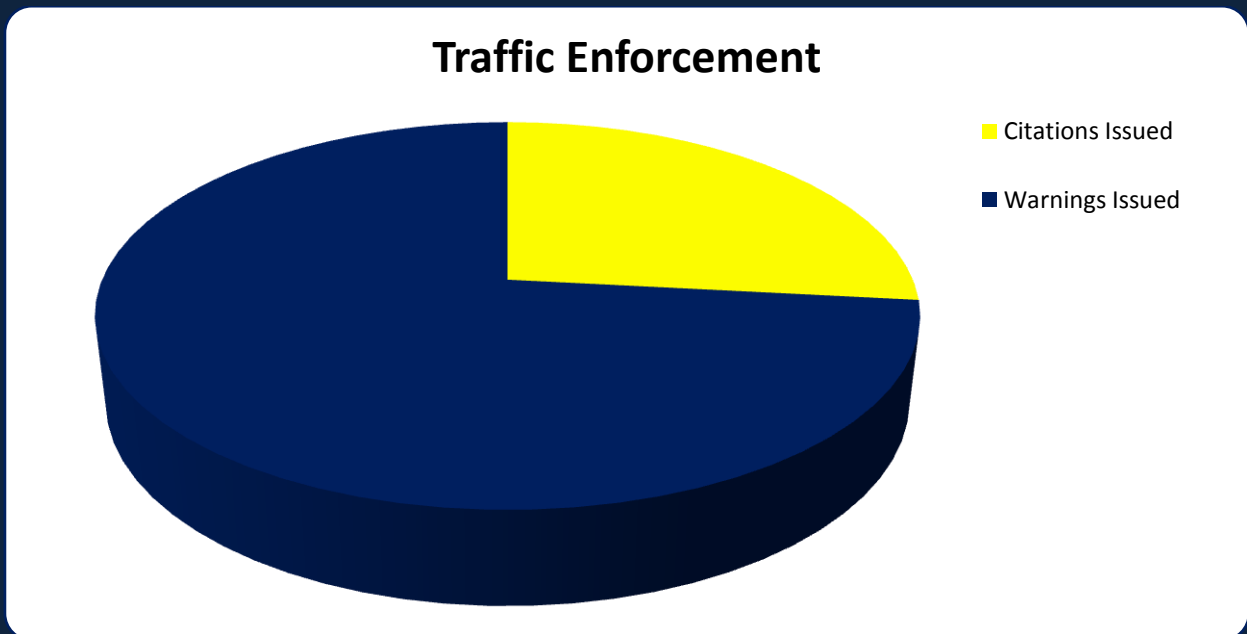
- Dwight D. Eisenhower (1890-1969)

Oelwein Police Department Summary of Traffic Violations in 2010

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 2010, the Oelwein Police Department issued 1,343 warnings for various traffic violations. That is compared to only 489 traffic citations. That figures to be 2.7 warnings issued compared to citations. Our officers issued nearly three 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 349 warnings for speed while issuing 174 citations. Officers also issued 69 warnings for seat belt while issuing 26 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 2010, 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. In 2010, we utilized forfeiture asset money, money seized from person's selling/manufacturing controlled substances, to provide much needed equipment for this team. We continue to research funding options to acquire more safety equipment. Our agency is proud of these members and we 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. Of those several thousand calls, in 2010; 1,622 E-911 calls came into this Communications Center. 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.

Unfortunately, when the communications equipment was upgraded in 2009, the Fayette County E-911 Board 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 (eighteen 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 and spend nearly \$200,000 on upgrading the fire radio systems throughout the county. The Fayette County Sheriff's system that they upgraded was last upgraded within the past eight (8) years and the fire communications/paging system was upgraded within the previous six (6) years. The Oelwein Police Department fully supports the Fayette County Sheriff's Department Communications Center and their efforts in maintaining their equipment. Their Communications Staff does an outstanding job.

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 gone 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 – Two on-staff instructors
- 9) ASP Tactical Baton – One on-staff instructor
- 10) Use of chemical spray – One on-staff instructor
- 11) Field Sobriety Test – 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.

The Oelwein Police Department also has two officers that are trained and certified in the use of the Computer Voice Stress Analyzer (CVSA). This equipment has and will allow for more efficient criminal investigations by detecting deception or honesty in persons.

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't perform this 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 its citizens.

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